



1
00:00:05,040 --> 00:00:10,240

Kids and adults alike came face-to-face with cutting-edge robotics at the Robot Rocket

2
00:00:10,240 --> 00:00:11,440

Rally.

3
00:00:11,440 --> 00:00:16,390

The three-day event was hosted by Florida's Kennedy Space Center Visitor Complex and pulled

4
00:00:16,390 --> 00:00:22,130

together new robotic technology provided by NASA, universities, high schools and private

5
00:00:22,130 --> 00:00:23,380

industry.

6
00:00:23,380 --> 00:00:30,090

The goal: encourage kids to pursue careers in "STEM" fields of science, technology, engineering

7
00:00:30,090 --> 00:00:32,140

and math.

8
00:00:32,140 --> 00:00:37,891

One of the rally's star attractions was a full-size mockup of Robonaut 2, or R2, complete

9
00:00:37,891 --> 00:00:39,190

with legs.

10
00:00:39,190 --> 00:00:44,520

The torso of the real R2 is already on the International Space Station, and its legs

11
00:00:44,520 --> 00:00:49,210

are due to travel there later this month on a cargo resupply flight.

12
00:00:49,210 --> 00:00:54,760
They're set to fly aboard the Falcon 9 rocket
on SpaceX-3, the third flight under the Commercial

13
00:00:54,760 --> 00:00:58,079
Resupply Services contract.

14
00:00:58,079 --> 00:01:02,870
Mock-ups of R2 formed the centerpiece of the
rally, with crowds gathering to see demonstrations

15
00:01:02,870 --> 00:01:07,470
of the torso and a completed version, including
legs.

16
00:01:07,470 --> 00:01:12,400
Those will be launched on SpaceX-3, and once
it has those legs, it will be able to move

17
00:01:12,400 --> 00:01:17,470
from one location to another and start helping
the crew with some tasks that the crew really

18
00:01:17,470 --> 00:01:18,510
shouldn't have to do.

19
00:01:18,510 --> 00:01:24,380
Things like cleaning handrails, measuring
the airflow, taking inventory.

20
00:01:24,380 --> 00:01:30,290
Also on display were tiny Cubesats – satellites
small enough for a child to hold in his hand.

21
00:01:30,290 --> 00:01:36,159
They're part of the Small Spacecraft Technology
Program at NASA's Ames Research Center in

22

00:01:36,159 --> 00:01:37,790

California.

23

00:01:37,790 --> 00:01:43,760

One just like these, called PhoneSat 2.5, also is set to launch on SpaceX-3.

24

00:01:43,760 --> 00:01:47,979

It tests the capability of a smartphone to handle the basic needs of a spacecraft.

25

00:01:47,979 --> 00:01:53,799

As the name implies, there's a phone inside the satellite, which we use for the avionics

26

00:01:53,799 --> 00:01:56,830

and all the processing and communications for the satellite.

27

00:01:56,830 --> 00:02:02,700

And we're learning that they can, that a phone can work pretty well in space to do the things

28

00:02:02,700 --> 00:02:05,090

that a spacecraft needs to do.

29

00:02:05,090 --> 00:02:10,810

NASA's Regolith Advanced Surface Systems Operations Robot is better known as RASSOR.

30

00:02:10,810 --> 00:02:16,040

Developed by Kennedy's SwampWorks laboratory, it's designed to act as a mining, excavating

31

00:02:16,040 --> 00:02:17,219

robot.

32

00:02:17,219 --> 00:02:23,799

It's an enabling technology for NASA in that it would allow us to collect and mine, ah,

33
00:02:23,799 --> 00:02:28,060
water on the moon or Mars, or maybe even other things like asteroids.

34
00:02:28,060 --> 00:02:29,230
With its rotating drums, RASSOR attracted questions from adults and kids alike.

35
00:02:29,230 --> 00:02:30,430
They ask lots of questions.

36
00:02:30,430 --> 00:02:35,439
They always want to know, "Well, when is this going to go," "Has this already been there?"

37
00:02:35,439 --> 00:02:37,099
And they seem to get really excited about it.

38
00:02:37,099 --> 00:02:40,120
So I think it really builds awareness.

39
00:02:40,120 --> 00:02:45,739
Virginia Tech Robotics brought along Charli, a small humanoid robot, and the crowd-pleasing

40
00:02:45,739 --> 00:02:51,189
DARwin-OP -- which was short on stature but long on charm as it walked and kicked a red

41
00:02:51,189 --> 00:02:53,230
tennis ball.

42
00:02:53,230 --> 00:03:00,680
iRobot showed off two of its designs, the 110 FirstLook and the 510 Packbot.

43
00:03:00,680 --> 00:03:05,060

It was all designed to give kids a chance
to get up close to new technologies -- and

44

00:03:05,060 --> 00:03:08,719

get them excited about a future in robotics.

45

00:03:08,719 --> 00:03:12,959

Humanoid robots are something that everyone
can identify with, because they're very much

46

00:03:12,959 --> 00:03:13,959

like a person.

47

00:03:13,959 --> 00:03:14,959

Especially children.