

Friendly Lovot Robot Visits CES

Written by Marco Attard
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Japanese robot maker Groove X returns to CES to show off Lovot-- a lovable pint-sized robot designed to be a friend for the friendless, or simply an adorable companion, complete with soft and warm body.



Recently launched in Japan, the Lovot rolls around on wheels and has two flipper-like arms. At first glance it looks less sophisticated than more famous robot pets, such as the Sony Aibo, but Groove X says the Lovot is actually more advanced. According to the company, the Lovot carries no less than 50 on-board sensors and multiple CPUs, including one on-board the charging dock. The result is a robot able to learn room layouts and recognise faces, allowing it greet its owners when they come back home.

The robot is also huggable-- the body is not only covered in fuzzy cloth but is also warm, with fans keeping the internal components at a temperature Groove X describes as "sun-warmed puppy belly." Lovot flaps and waves its arms to demand for attention, and users can customise

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the eyes and other interactions via companion app. The app also allows users to look at the world through Lovot's eyes, making it a potential, not to mention adorable, security guard.

As mentioned earlier, Lovot is currently available in Japan. Groove X would like to bring it to the West but requires further investment to do so, explaining its presence at CES.

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