

ASIMO Heads to the Swiss Alps to Champion Science

Lausanne, Switzerland, May 29-30, 2010 - ASIMO made its way to picturesque Lausanne this weekend to attend a major festival celebrating science and robotics. ASIMO was invited to the two-day event, held at the EPFL (École Polytechnique Fédérale de Lausanne), to act as a science ambassador at the opening of a new state-of-the-art learning center.

The festival had been organized by the university to engage with prospective science students and attracted nearly 30,000 visitors.

Over 300 interactive workshops and scientific demonstrations were held during the weekend, including nine performances of ASIMO. These allowed the visitors and university staff to hear the history and vision of Honda's research into humanoid robotics and see ASIMO's latest capabilities for themselves.

Commenting on the overwhelming reception to ASIMO's visit, François Launaz, General Manager of Honda Automobiles Suisse SA, said:

“The reaction to ASIMO was quite extraordinary. Each performance was fully booked and the sound of cheering – from all ages – rang out around the auditorium on ASIMO's every move. Such was the level of interest we organized an additional demonstration.

“Most satisfying however was the reaction of children to ASIMO, who had attended the festival with their families. To see the faces of our future scientists and engineers light up as ASIMO entered the stage was incredibly rewarding. Many had spent the day in workshops designing and creating their own robots. So to then see close-up the world's most advanced humanoid robot, their imaginations were on fire about what is possible; the power of dreams indeed.”