

ABU ROBOCON NEWS

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Team Report from NEPAL

Tribhuvan University, Institute of Engineering (IOE), Pulchowk Campus has been participating in ABU ROBOCON since 2002. Here's the team report from the Robotics Club.



Team Instructor: Er. Ramesh Chaudhary

Team Leader: Dinesh Twanabasu

Team Members: Dinesh Twanabasu, Saroj Thapa, Suraj Amatya and16 students.

After returning from ABU ROBOCON 2007 Hanoi, the ROBOCON team immediately started working for the next one. This year the enthusiasm and anticipation for the competition is even higher as it will be held in our neighboring country, India. So a large group of students turned up to join this project.

As we don't have a faculty dedicated to robotics and automation, our knowledge in robotics was only limited at the beginning. To begin with we studied the mechanism of old robots and understood the basic mechanism.

The toughest part was to choose the right material for mechanical components and basic design of the robots. We searched different algorithms and navigation techniques and studied many journals and technical papers related to robotics. After hours of searching the internet, we finally got an idea what our robot would look like.

However, finalizing the robots' design was also challenging. Some of the designs were more than simple and others too complicated that implementation of the model seemed almost impossible. So we decided to follow "KISS", "Keep It Simple Stupid" a popular phrase among robot hobbyists.

Then we visited junkyards in town looking for parts such as rare ICs, steel channels and so on. The parts unavailable here had to be imported from abroad. It was as if assembling robots from scraps.

We were divided into different groups respectively looking after sensors, programming & interfacing and driver circuits. Each group, after going through a research and experiment, did a presentation in front of

other group members to share the results.

In a short time the bond between the team members grew very strong. It maybe natural because we work together into midnight after lectures everyday.

It has been a great experience and a test of our theoretical knowledge in practical field. We have learnt how a system is completed working as a team. ROBOCON has been a great learning curve for us to prepare ourselves for our professional career too. It has made us optimistic about our capability to make a better future and contribute for the development of our country.

We wish all other participating teams are having a great time preparing for the ABU ROBOCON. We are looking forward to the competition in Pune.







Members Robotics Club of IOE working on their robots



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