

# Gadgets and gizmos galore at world's top IT fair

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A visitor tests an interactive 3-D book explorer at Fraunhofer stand at the 2013 CeBIT technology trade fair in Hanover, Germany, on March 5, 2013. CeBIT is open from March 5-9.

From a glove that can be used as a mobile phone to a remote-controlled spy helicopter: this year's CeBIT, the world's top high-tech fair, showcases a bewildering array of gadgets.

For geeks in [cold climates](#), China-based firm Winnershine Technology

has just the thing: a glove that can be used as a mobile phone while keeping your hands toasty warm.

Connected to your smartphone via bluetooth, the earpiece is in the thumb of the woolly green glove, with the speaker in the little finger, allowing you to make calls without getting your hands cold. Yours for a snip at \$12.50.

Equally nerdy is the smartphone-controlled golf ball developed by Woddon Industrial Limited.

No need for golf clubs: simply download the app to your smartphone, then wave your device as if swinging a club. The ball judges the speed and angle of the "swing" and moves accordingly.

Woddon also showcases their latest line in remote-controlled spy devices.

Budding James Bonds can choose between flying saucers, helicopters or airships and pilot them using a smartphone, taking pictures or real-time video of their unsuspecting target.

The latest "iConCopter", due out in a couple of months, has a maximum range of 50 metres (165 feet) and is likely to retail at around 299 euros (\$390), said sales manager Harry Chen.

But not all gadgets at the CeBIT, the self-styled Davos of high-tech, are so frivolous.



German Chancellor Angela Merkel holds a tapping proof BlackBerry mobile device at the stand of Secusmart as she tours the CeBIT high-tech fair during the opening event of the world's largest computer expo, in Hanover, Germany, on March 5, 2013. Poland is this year's partner country of the fair, running from March 5 to 9.

Taiwan-based PenPower Technology is wowing crowds with its text-reading and translating scanning pen.

Sleek-black and scarcely bigger than a normal ballpoint pen, the device scans text from a sheet of paper and transmits it instantly to a smartphone before offering to translate it into more than 20 languages.

Launched last month, the futuristic pen recognises a host of [Asian languages](#), including Japanese, Chinese and Korean, and costs around 130 euros, said manager Shin Kuo, who believes it is a unique application.

Another world first is claimed by video card manufacturer Sprengs.

Everyone likes to add a personal touch to a birthday card but the New York-based firm has gone a step further by allowing users to upload videos or a photo slideshow to the inside of an ordinary greeting card via a USB port.

The cards are available for between 25 and 45 euros depending on the size of the screen.



People are seen at the booth of German telecommunications giant Deutsche Telekom during the press preview day of the CeBIT high-tech fair, in Hanover, Germany, on March 4, 2013. Poland is this year's partner country of the fair running from March 5 to 9, 2013.

Also pulling in the crowds on [CeBIT](#)'s first day was the "Cookoo" watch

unveiled by Bluetrek Technologies from Hong Kong.

The Cookoo looks—and functions—just like a normal watch but is linked to the smartphone in your pocket and notifies you when you have received an email or when one of your Facebook friends has updated his or her status.

The Cookoo can also take pictures, which are transferred to your [smartphone](#), and allow you to skip songs playing on your MP3 player without the hassle of taking it out of your pocket.

Launched in January, the watch retails at 129 euros, said sales manager Willy Vong.

One of more unusual computer accessories on show is a mouse in the shape of the iconic yellow three-wheeled van from cult British TV comedy classic "Only Fools and Horses".

But for the ultimate in pointless but fun gadgets that no self-respecting nerd should be without, UK-based Satzuma is hard to beat.

Large crowds gathered around its stand at the opening of the show to coo over a tap-shaped shower radio or alarm clock shaped like a directors' clapper board that sleepy users have to snap down to stop the wake-up call.

Satzuma also unveiled a personal drink-chiller. The can-sized red fridge plugs neatly into your laptop or desktop and keeps your beverage cold all day, enthused sales executive Michaela Grill.

"Cold beer all day and you need never get up from your desk," she said.

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