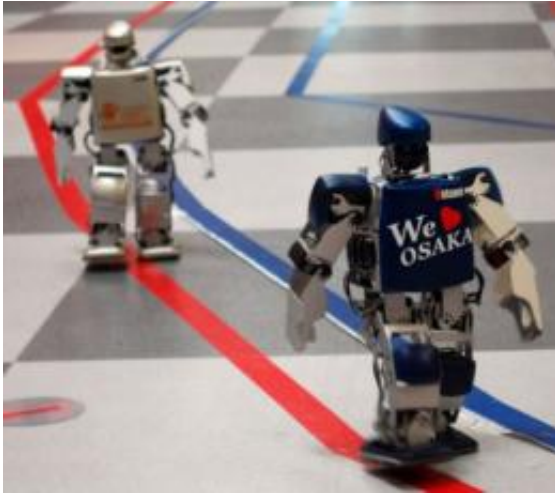


# Robot marathon kicks off in Japan (Update)

24 February 2011



Video footage from a camera in its head can be seen at <http://www.ustream.tv/channel/robovie-pc>.

A wide view of the race can be seen live at [here](#).

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A humanoid robot named "Robovie-PC" (R) leads in a race against other robots during the world's first full-length marathon for two-legged robots, in Osaka.

The world's first full-length marathon for two-legged robots kicked off in Japan on Thursday, with the toy-sized humanoids were due to run 42.195 kilometres (26 miles) over four days.

The machines began the non-stop race on a 100-metre (109-yard) indoor track in the western city of Osaka after doing knee bends or raising their hands to greet spectators.

The bipedal robots -- the tallest of which measures 44 centimetres (17.6 inches) -- must complete 423 laps to reach their goal.

The "Robo Mara Full" race is organised by Vstone Co., a [robot](#) technology firm based in the western industrial city, in cooperation with the Osaka prefectural government.

Competitors are allowed to change batteries and the so-called servomotors which control the robots' speed and other functions.

Robovie-PC from Vstone led the race at the start.

APA citation: Robot marathon kicks off in Japan (Update) (2011, February 24) retrieved 29 November 2020 from <https://phys.org/news/2011-02-robot-marathon.html>

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