

Robot Signage?

Written by Bob Snyder
30. 01. 2016



Chihira Junco, speaks 3 languages, begins work at a tourist information center opening at Aqua City Odaiba in Tokyo Waterfront City—and makes history.

She's the world's first tourist information android. But probably not the last. **Robot signage is here and will develop into a special category of digital signage product.**

Toshiba's Chihira Junco looks like a human being, like an attractive young lady. She has smooth arm and hand movements, and-- with Toshiba's unique speech synthesis technology--she can speak Japanese, English and Chinese.

When visitors use the trilingual terminal installed in the tourist information center to seek help, Chihira Junco provides sightseeing information, even gesturing as she speaks.

The nearby input terminal has an "airborne display" that incorporates leading-edge technology to project a touch panel into the air.

In between helping visitors, Chihira Junco uses her spare time to provide advertisements for

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shops and to introduce special events being held.

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