

## Robot technology exhibition debuts

By Jamil Khan

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DUBAI: Students and trade visitors with an interest in robotic technology thronged the Meydan Hotel Dubai on Tuesday to witness The RTEX 'Robot Technology Exhibition. A robot competition, workshops and seminars were the main attraction at the exhibition.

The exhibition was inaugurated by Engr Essa Al Maidoor, Deputy Director General of Dubai Municipality and President of the Society of Engineers – UAE.

The RTEX Exhibition is the first event in the Middle East and North Africa (Mena) exhibiting the latest innovations in Robotics and Automation. With over 30 exhibitors including Dubai Customs, Lockheed Martin, Electrolux, Society of Engineers – UAE and many more, RTEX is design to provide a platform for companies to exhibit their products and present the latest RT advancements.

Alongside the RTEX Exhibition, the Managing Smart Cities 2015 - Robotic Technology & ICT Conference organised by the Society of Engineers - UAE also opened at the event with over 200 delegates from various sectors including governments, ministries, engineering and architectural offices, consultants, contractors, universities, and other individuals who want to learn more about the importance of project management in smart and sustainable cities, innovative robot services and the role of robotics in sustainable development.

"RTEX Exhibition and the Managing Smart Cities Conference are important tools to provide education and awareness about the significance of robotics and automation in the UAE especially that His Highness Sheikh Mohammed Bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, launched a strategy to transform Dubai into a 'Smart City' in March last year.

The Smart City strategic plan is based on the ideas of Communication, Integration and Cooperation. Smart City investment strategies are integral to the growth of engineering, telecommunication, media and technology companies and living standards for citizens across Mena.

This year, Dubai was crowned the Mena Smart City of the Year. It is an indication that the UAE is one of the pioneers of advanced, cutting-edge technologies in the Mena Region and Dubai government's latest initiatives will make its Smart City project one of the best in the world, Al Maidoor added.