# EXPO 2025 Osaka, Kansai, Japan

Application for Participation in the "Future Society Showcase Project Exhibition, Smart Mobility Expo: Robot Experience"

**Application Guidelines (First Entry)** 

## **Call for Applications**

The Japan Association for the 2025 World Exposition (hereinafter referred to as "the Association") will implement the "Robot Experience" as part of the "Smart Mobility Expo", in which various next-generation robots will be implemented and demonstrated at the venue as part of the "Future Society Showcase Project."

Applications are invited for robots that can be implemented and demonstrated at the Expo site. Details are as follows.

#### **Eligibility**

The Robot Experience invites a wide range of participants from companies (including SMEs and start-ups), educational, academic and research institutions (universities, research centres, etc.), national and government-related organisations (independent administrative corporations, etc.), international organisations, local authorities, NGOs, NPOs, various associations, and individual groups.

#### Implementation and demonstration area

This project is expected to cover the entire Expo site, including the food courts, indoor areas, plazas, corridors under the Grand Ring, and busy spaces at various locations. However, these plans are subject to change when taking into account the characteristics of the participating robots.

The Association will match the submitted robots with the implementation and demonstration areas in which they will operate and make individual adjustments towards implementation.

∇ Artist's impression of the implementation and demonstration area
Food court



#### **Envisioned Robots**

The Association plans to implement and demonstrate a wide variety of robots that can contribute to the vision of future society, so it has not set any restrictions on the kind of robot at this first stage but will be looking for autonomous robots that can be demonstrated and operated at the venue.



In food courts, autonomous robots that carry large numbers of plates and equipment while avoiding obstacles and people can reduce manpower and minimise the need for direct contact.



#### **Reception and Guidance**

At the Expo site, a robot equipped with a voice conversation function performs guidance duties. Equipped with autonomous movement functions, the robot can also lead the way at destinations.



Robots that carry people and move automatically to destinations within the Expo site enable visitors to travel to their destinations with efficiency.

# Delivery

Robots that store packages and deliver them to Expo distribution centres and retail outlets can save labour and reduce contact with delivery personnel.

# Transportation of goods

Load carrying robots move autonomously or follows behind a person, enabling a small number of people to carry out various transport tasks at the Expo site.



#### Interpretation

Multilingual support is provided to visitors from overseas by robots equipped with Al automatic translation functions. A camera and display also allow the robot to be operated from a distance.



Robots perform unmanned cleaning and disinfectant spraying of the Expo site. The robots are equipped with autonomous mobility functions to efficiently.

#### Assistance and walking support

The robot can support visitors who need assistance, such as the elderly and disabled, by moving the robot and operating its arms through Al functions and operation from a remote location.



#### Security

Security robots that automatically analyse video and audio from sensors and cameras will efficiently patrol the Expo site. They provide 24-hour security, including automatic detection of accidents, fires and other emergencies.

# **Forms of Participation**

The Association wants as many people as possible to participate, so the following three forms of participation are available.

Form of Participation	Demonstration Period	Remarks
① Entire period	All 184 days of the Expo	There is a possibility that you may be asked to start operating before the exhibition period.
② Monthly	Any one month during the Expo period	It is possible to participate for multiple months.
③ Weekly	Any week during the Expo period	It is possible to participate multiple weeks. %However, at least 7 days of operation is necessary.

## How to Apply for the First Entry:

Fill in the entry sheet with information about the participant and the robot to be operated and send the document via email to: <a href="mailto:robot\_project@expo2025.or.jp">robot\_project@expo2025.or.jp</a>.

\*If the file size exceeds 5 MB, please use a file delivery service.

The costs of preparing and submitting the documents shall be borne by the applicant. An acknowledgement of receipt will be sent to the sending email address within five working days.

#### Selection of Robots:

Selection of the submitted robots will be carried out by a selection committee of external experts and others. The committee will not be open to the public and will not respond to enquiries about the selection process.

#### Criteria for Selection:

- Is the robot sophisticated enough to be put into practical use in public spaces now or in the near future, and does it give a sense of a future in which we coexist with robots?
- Does it have functions and capabilities that increase convenience for users and operators, such as eliminating inconvenience for visitors to the Expo?
- · Is the robot expected to increase productivity and create new markets?
- · Are appropriate ethical and safety measures taken?
- Are the owners or users of the participating robots acting in a socially inappropriate manner?

# Application Period:

From 14:00 on Friday, 19 January 2024 to 23:59 to Monday, 30 September 2024. (\*Applications will close when participants have been selected for all the available openings.)

The Association will match the robots entered with the implementation and demonstration areas in which robots be operated and make individual adjustments towards implementation.

The content of the operation, the implementation and demonstration area, the form of participation and the period of implementation will be decided at any time based on the agreement between the Association and the participants.

<sup>\*</sup>Applying for the first entry does not guarantee that the robot will be implemented and demonstrated at the Expo site. Please note that the robot may be rejected if the robot's functions do not match the conditions of the respective implementation and demonstration area.

#### Important Notes on Participation, Implementation and Demonstration:

- The Association will bear the costs of call for applications, site rental fees, storage warehouse rental fees, implementation and demonstration area decoration, spectator organisation personnel, and security.
- Other expenses (labour costs, equipment costs, transportation costs, travel expenses, accommodation expenses, insurance, etc.) are to be borne by the participants.
- Participants are responsible for the safety management of the implementation and demonstration.
- Participants are required to carry out risk assessments to ensure safety when operating in the Expo site with a large number of visitors.
- Participants are required to take out facility liability insurance and workers' compensation insurance for operating personnel.
- If it is found that appropriate measures have not been taken, your application may be revoked.
  - General Enquiries About the Project:

We will only accept enquiries made by email (to: robot\_project@expo2025.or.jp). Enquiries made in person, by telephone, or by fax will not be accepted.

In your email, please use the subject line: 'Question\_Robot Experience\_ (name of company/organisation)\_(date sent)' and state the nature of your question.

The applicants listed on the entry sheet will be notified of the results by email in due course, irrespective of whether they are selected or not.