

Press Release January 29th, 2019

The Circle welcomes a new apprentice: Hotel robot Robi finishes his traineeship



After an extensive testing phase, in which Robi - the hotel robot for the 25hours Hotel The Circle in Cologne - had to prove himself, his actual training is now beginning. The next three years will see Robi, a machine equipped with artificial intelligence, further refine his abilities as a host. He is already fulfilling the most important task – entertaining the guests – to the satisfaction of his boss, General Manager, Nils Jansen who said, "Robi greets all visitors in the lobby and asks whether they have had a good trip and asks where they are from. He also asks, "Do you want to take a selfie with me?" A guided tour of the hotel with information about the different room categories and the sauna is also no problem for Robi. He will take guests to see the meeting rooms on the ground floor and tell them everything there is to know about the space: from the opening times of the NENI Deli to the shop ("Do you need a gift for your loved ones?"). Our human machine also speaks two languages. Robi is able to easily communicate in German and English. He is even a master of nonverbal communication (he's an excellent dancer)!

But there's so much more to this likeable robot. Robbi introduces the NENI Restaurant and the Monkey Bar and will even show guests the available room categories in the hotel on request. But Robi also proves to be proficient outside the four walls of his hotel. Just like his human colleagues he can provide theatre and restaurant tips, describe the route to the airport, provide information about events and functions, and be called upon as a guide. Any visitor who is interested in the special history of the hotel building, the Gerling Quartier in the Friesenviertel

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or the interior designers from Studio Aisslinger, can look forward to Robi's insights. Jansen adds, "Trainee Robi is a quirky addition for us, and he still has a lot to learn. He can't replace a real human, though."

Robi was built by his "robot father," Ulrich Reiser of mojin robotics, who manufactures and produces all his components near Stuttgart. This robot was originally developed in 1998 by the Fraunhofer Institute for Manufacturing Engineering and Automation IPA in Stuttgart. Robi is the fourth generation of the Care-0-bot 4 series: A user-centred design with its high mobility and expressiveness, made possible by the patented ball-and-socket joint, give the robot its unique characteristics. The smart robot's autonomous navigation software allow it to reliably guide guests throughout the hotel. Robi will also be able to order a taxi or reserve a table at NENI in the near future. These and other wishes and questions from the guests will be passed on by the hotel staff to mojin, who will then program the requested features accordingly.

Press material about Robi and The Circle can be found [here](#).

For more information about all of the 25hours Hotels, visit: 25hours-hotels.com

25hours Hotels videos: youtube.com

Press and image material: 25hours-hotels.com/company/presse/bilder

About mojin robotics

Mojin robotics brings intelligent robotics technologies into everyday environments to increase productivity and enable a natural interaction with the digital world. Mojin was founded in 2017 as a spin-off of the Fraunhofer IPA and provides solutions for the service sector, e.g. for trade, hospitality, museums and hospitals.

About 25hours Hotels

25hours is a recent hotel concept which features personality combined with a charming and relaxed service, and which is seeking to find contemporary answers to the demands of urban, cosmopolitan travellers. The brand focuses on individuality, authenticity and character, and designs each of its hotels in partnership with various designers and in a unique style, under the motto 'Know one, know none'. The 25hours Hotel Company was founded in 2005 by Stephan Gerhard, Ardi Goldman, Christoph Hoffmann and Kai Hollmann, and today operates 13 hotels in German-speaking countries as well as in Paris. 2020 will also see more openings: The 25hours Hotel Florence and the 25hours Hotel Dubai. The 25hours Hotel Company formed a strategic alliance with

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AccorHotels in 2016, and now also pursues hotel projects around the globe.

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