

# World's First as NEC Robot joins Hutt Valley Chamber of Commerce

**Wellington, 5 May 2011** - He's just 38 ½ cm tall, weighs the same as the average three-month-old New Zealand baby boy, can speak multiple languages, blushes when you cuddle him and now, PaPeRo will become the first ever robot in the world to join a Chamber of Commerce.



**PaPeRo**, an abbreviated name from **Partner-type Personal Robot**, is a prototype robot researched and developed by global Japanese technology giant NEC Corporation to investigate the relationships between people and robots. Development work has focused on PaPeRo being able to live and work as a companion for humans, particularly children and the elderly. Business-wise, on-going uses may include a simplified version for teleconferencing.

NEC New Zealand Ltd ("NEC NZ") is the local subsidiary of NEC Corporation in New Zealand, with offices in Wellington and Auckland to provide the latest technologies and solutions to the NZ market. Glen Cameron, Head of Research and Development for NEC NZ says, "We're really excited to be joining the Hutt Valley Chamber of Commerce at this time, when the association is focused on positioning this region as New Zealand's Technology Valley. It's the perfect opportunity for PaPeRo and NEC to meet and network with, and learn from like-minded businesses."

Helen Down, President of the Hutt Valley Chamber of Commerce, agrees, "We're delighted to welcome PaPeRo to our organisation. While he may not be a starter for our famous Golf Tournament, I'm sure he will quickly make the most of the great networking, business advice and mentoring opportunities available to him."

Kiwi PaPeRo is currently on a "working holiday" from NEC in Japan and has been visiting local schools and organisations to showcase NEC's leading innovations in biometric technologies such facial recognition, object and image detection, video analytics, noise-cancelling speech recognition, speech synthesis, and ultrasonic and touch sensors.

PaPeRo will be appearing at the upcoming **Tech After 5** event, hosted by the Hutt Valley Chamber of Commerce in partnership with leading technology companies NEC, WeITec, GNS and Industrial Research Ltd at the **IRL Building, 69 Gracefield Road, Lower Hutt on 10th May 2011, 5.30pm-7.30pm.**

Also on display will be the latest in innovative communication technologies for business and education from NEC including visual displays and digital signage, biometrics, and communications and network solutions.

To register for this event, or for additional information on PaPeRo and other NEC innovations, please contact:

**Glen Cameron**

Head of Research and Development  
NEC New Zealand Ltd  
Ph: 04 381 1111  
Email: [glen.cameron@nec.co.nz](mailto:glen.cameron@nec.co.nz)  
Web: [www.nec.co.nz](http://www.nec.co.nz)

## **About NEC Corporation**

NEC Corporation is a leader in the integration of IT and network technologies that benefit businesses and people around the world. By providing a combination of products and solutions that cross utilize the company's experience and global resources, NEC's advanced technologies meet the complex and ever-changing needs of its customers. NEC brings more than 100 years of expertise in technological innovation to empower people, businesses and society. For more information, visit NEC at [www.nec.com](http://www.nec.com) .

## **About NEC New Zealand (NEC NZ)**

NEC New Zealand is the local subsidiary of NEC Corporation, headquartered in Tokyo, established in New Zealand since 1982. As a leading solutions and service provider of IT and network, telecommunication, and identity solutions, NEC NZ's commitment to quality, reliability and value has seen it through more than 25 years of innovation in New Zealand.

With innovation at the heart of the organisation, NEC's state-of-the-art technologies and technical expertise has enhanced the lives of the people in New Zealand through various ways every day:

- Sorts over 700,000,000 mail items per year
- Provides call connections for over 2 million customers, averaging 100 connections per second, totalling 8.6 million daily transactions
- Displays the key advertising messages you see on New Zealand's most geographically diverse digital signage network
- Scans the finger and palm prints of people the law enforcement agencies have apprehended to protect our safety
- In partnership with Juniper Networks, provides protection for your mobile devices, including Smartphones, via the PULSE MSS Smartphone Security Suite.

**For more information, visit [www.nec.co.nz](http://www.nec.co.nz)**

### **Press Contact at NEC New Zealand:**

Ms Liang Wells

DID : + 64 4 381 6261

Email : [liang.wells@nec.co.nz](mailto:liang.wells@nec.co.nz)