2012 Award, Portugal

Wi-GO
Luis de Matos

This project was selected as laureate of the **2012 International Award** and of the **2012 Innovation Makers Award**.
After both in-depth evaluation and selection process, the international jury awarded the project wi-GO. After 10 days of competition and more than 1200 votes, Altran Innovation Makers have also chosen to reward the project wi-GO by Luis de Matos.

Theme
Innovation and technology promoting social inclusion

The theme chosen by Portugal in 2012 was "Technology and innovation for social inclusion".
Social inclusion refers to the range of means and actions implemented to prevent individuals from being excluded from the advantages available in society. This exclusion may be caused by several factors: a lack of education, insufficient financial resources, physical limitations or other handicaps, geographic origin, social class, age or racial prejudices. The idea is to access goods and services in a system offering advantages to everyone and not just the most wealthy. The project targets the following fields: communication / education / training employment / health and hygiene / mobility / accommodation and the environment.

Laureate
Wi-Go

Wi-GO, a project aiming to integrate people with reduced mobility in today's society, won the 2012 Altran Foundation for Innovation Award in Portugal.
Reduced mobility not only concerns people with any order of paralysis but also elderly people. They need to simplify their life, even more when they go to supermarkets.
Wi-GO is an intelligent shopping cart designed to follow and assist people with a disability or those with reduced mobility – like the elderly or pregnant women with strollers – in an independent and safe manner.

For these people, this car will bring numerous advantages and a huge comfort since they don't have to worry about pushing a traditional shopping cart. Through the use of image recognition and sensor advanced technology, wi-GO is able to identify the right person and follow the user's movements. The prototype, which is able to operate in supermarkets, airports or industries sites, was developed by IS2you, a spin-off of the University of Beira Interior (UBI).

Solutions already exist to help people with reduced mobility such as "scooters" that are available in supermarkets. However, it implies to leave the wheelchair and get on the scooter, which is not convenient. Unlike other existing tracking devices, no special piece of clothing or body sensors are requested to use wi-

GO, thanks to its movement sensors and the Microsoft's Kinect sensor.
In the future, wi-GO shopping cart will be outfitted with an electronic tablet and software that can be customised to the client's needs such as providing a shopping list, guiding the user on the best way to reach products, advertising specific promotions…

Altran's support

Within the support awarded to wi-GO, consultants from Altran Portugal helped Luis de Matos to develop his project, to find potential investors, to build a communication plan and provided a technological support or training.