

Move over, new building inspector bot is here

New buildings here may soon have a high-tech inspector, like the one on the right, rolling up to their doorsteps armed with laser scanners and high-tech cameras that can spot the tiniest cracks and defects.

Named QuicaBot – short for Quality Inspection and Assessment Robot – it can move autonomously to scan a room in about half the time that a manual inspection to pick up defects and uneven surfaces would take.

The new building inspector is a robot invented by scientists from Nanyang Technological University (NTU), and co-developed with Singapore's national industrial developer JTC and local start-up CtrlWorks.

It was developed in one year at the NTU Robotic Research Centre and was supported by the National Research Foundation Singapore.

Professor Chen I-Ming, director of the NTU Robotic Research Centre and co-leader of the project, said the robot has already done well in simu-



PHOTO: NANYANG TECHNOLOGICAL UNIVERSITY

lated environments.

For the next phase of development, QuicaBot will be test-bedded at suitable locations within JTC's industrial developments such as JTC Space @ Gul.