

# Human-Like Robot 'Nadine' Who Has a 'Personality, Mood and Emotions' Unveiled in Singapore

By **AVIANNE TAN**

Dec 31, 2015, 2:44 PM ET



Social, human-like robots "Nadine and "EDGAR" were developed by scientists from Nanyang Technological University in Singapore.

Scientists at Nanyang Technological University in Singapore have unveiled "Nadine," a socially intelligent, human-looking robot complete with "her own personality, mood and emotions," according to a university news release.

The humanoid "receptionist" was presented at a new media showcase Tuesday at NTU, where her human creator, professor Nadia Thalmann, predicted that "physical social robots such as Nadine are poised to become more visible in offices and homes in future."

Nadine was created to be a doppelganger of Thalmann, according to NTU's news release, which said the "humanoid" has "soft skin and flowing brunette hair. She smiles when greeting you, looks at you in the eye when talking, and can also shake hands with you."

The bot "can be happy or sad, depending on the conversation" and she "also has a good memory" with the ability to recognize people she's met and remember what those people have said before, NTU said. The university added that "Nadine is powered by intelligent software similar to Apple's Siri or Microsoft's Cortana."

**[Watch NASA's Humanoid Robot Valkyrie Boogie Down](#)**

**[World Mourns hitchBOT the Hitchhiking Robot Decapitated in Philadelphia](#)**

**[Meet the Robot Olympics Winner That Could Save Lives](#)**

**[Investigation Launched After Robot Kills Worker at Volkswagen Plant](#)**

"As countries worldwide face challenges of an aging population, social robots can be one solution to address the shrinking workforce, become personal companions for children and

the elderly at home, and even serve as a platform for healthcare services in future," Thalmann said, according to the NTU news release.



Nanyang Technological University/Facebook

PHOTO: Social, human-like robots "Nadine and "EDGAR" were developed by scientists from Nanyang Tec... [more +](#)

"This is somewhat like a real companion that is always with you and conscious of what is happening," she added. "So in future, these socially intelligent robots could be like C-3PO, the iconic golden droid from '[Star Wars](#)', with knowledge of language and etiquette."

A video posted to NTU's Facebook page shows Nadine recognizing Thalmann and engaging in conversation with her. The video had over 25,000 views as of this afternoon.

Another robot named "EDGAR" was also unveiled by NTU, which described him as a "tele-presence robot" that can copy and project the upper-body movements and facial expressions of its human user, deliver speeches by "by autonomously acting out a script," and track "people he meets to engage them in conversation."



### Nanyang Technological University, Singapore

College & University · 205,590 Likes · December 29, 2015 at 8:00pm ·

Liked

My Avatar, my double: Developed by #NTUsg scientists, EDGAR is a telepresence robot that can mimic your facial expressions and gestures, so you can interact with others without being physically present. <http://bit.ly/NTUbots>

183 Likes · 3 Comments · 16 Shares

Like

Comment

Share

Though hundreds of social media users have made similar comments about the robots being "creepy," "scary," and "potentially dangerous," many experts believe these fears will go away over time as the technology becomes more popularly used.

"A yew years ago, people's biggest worry about technology was privacy, now it's robots taking over the world," said Carlos Guestrin, a professor of machine larning at the Computer Science & Engineering Department of the University of Washington.

Guestrin told ABC News that he believes "we're far from developing human-like technology that could have a negative impact" and that as advances in AI in the near future will likely have "a more positive impact."

"Self-driving vehicles are making vehicles safer, automation and smarter devices are making homes safer," he said. "I think AI, especially those that can see and understand emotions, will be helping us with a wide range of tasks and making a lot of lives better."