

# Robots that paint, clean HDB blocks to be tested shortly

The Outobot moving up for a paint job



ST VIDEO: KEVIN LIM

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Robots may soon take over cleaning and painting high-rise buildings here, thanks to a new automated gondola system co-developed by Singapore electronics company Elid Technology International and Nanyang Technological University (NTU).

Called the OutoBot, the locally built system was launched yesterday as a commercially ready product after two years of research and development, with the aim of improving productivity while enhancing workplace safety.

The robot was developed in response to a 2015 call by the Housing Board for proposals to automate the painting of building facades to enhance worker safety and productivity. It will soon be tested on selected public housing blocks in consultation with HDB.

The robot requires only two workers for the washing or painting of a building facade, instead of the usual five.

One worker will operate the robot remotely while the other performs the role of a safety officer, but both do not have to be on the gondola.

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