ATR demonstration

A demonstration was given in January of a prototype version of the ATR project, to provide automatic interpreting of telephone calls.

This 15-year project was launched by the Japanese Ministry of Posts and Telecommunications in 1984. Little has been revealed of its progress, but in January the prototype was demonstrated at a three-way link-up between the ATR (Advanced Telecommunications Research) institute in Kyoto, Japan, and researchers from Siemens AG, Munich and the Carnegie Mellon University in Pittsburgh, USA. It is now understood that it may be 2008 before a practical system can be brought into operation.