



**July 2010 Sneak Peek...the go-anywhere VGo robot!**



• **Product Design**

• **Product Forecasting**

• **Engineering**

• **Prototyping**



# Redefining videoconferencing by mobile virtual presence...



## Applications

The VGo offers unprecedented flexibility with practical applications in business, manufacturing, medical, and educational roles.



**VGo**  
Active Presence Robot



## Initial prototype

The core system was initially tested for viability within a basic housing design. This served as a reference for size reduction goals.

VGo Communications, Inc. (formerly North End Technologies) hired the Helix Design team to help them develop their flagship videoconferencing robot, the "VGo." Our primary focus was to enhance the interaction between robot and person (or group of people) through careful consideration of aesthetics, ergonomics, and preliminary engineering, with final implementation and production to be handled by VGo.

VGo provided Helix with core requirements and components specifications, utilizing their initial functioning prototype as a basis for development. The Helix team explored various directions while maintaining critical factors such as line of sight, sensor placement, and chassis requirements. Integrated cable management and internal component access for service and repair were also considered.

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## ...and designing a robot of surpassing beauty and balance.



**Alternate concepts**  
Multiple sketch concepts were developed to evaluate potential form directions.



**Chosen direction**  
This sweeping form—suggesting a light and inviting presence—was chosen for refinement.

**Early mock-ups**  
Volume studies were completed to quickly evaluate scale and proportions.



**Prototype**  
A functional prototype with machined foam housings was developed for initial testing.

The VGo active presence robot required a level of balance and beauty that would set the product apart from competitors within the same market segment. VGo accomplishes this with a lighter-than-air presence, fluid lines, and sweeping curves. The product looks and functions as a cutting edge high tech product, but at a fraction of the cost of other commercially available robots.

Bringing teams together from great distances has always been a costly and time-intensive endeavor. VGo serves as an intuitive and elegant avatar to interact with from anywhere in the world.

Helix Design has a passionate team of seasoned industrial designers and mechanical engineers who excel at developing products that look great and perform exceptionally well. Working in a wide variety of markets and industries allows us to introduce new materials and processes to our clients that help to further distinguish their products and brands. We offer full-service product development services including product forecasting, industrial design, mechanical engineering, and rapid prototyping. We invite you to call the Helix Design sales team @ 603.644.1408 when you are next faced with a critically important product development need!

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