

# Engineering Newswire 35: Gag Gifts Sold As Bomb Detectors

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Today on [Engineering Newswire](#) [1], brought to you by [Pivot Point](#) [2], the leading designer and manufacturer of non-threaded fastener solutions, we're sweeping the sky with inspection robots, exploring hidden tombs with autonomous robots, and using gophers to detect bombs in the Middle East. This episode features:

- James McCormick has been found guilty of fraud after selling his gopher novelty golf ball finder as a device capable of finding explosives, drugs and people from planes, under water, underground and through walls.
- [University of California, San Diego's](#) [3] Nick Morozovsky has developed the [SkySweeper Power Line Inspection Robots](#) [4], using off-the-shelf electronics and plastic parts printed on an inexpensive 3D printer.
- [BIOROB](#) [5] recently demonstrated the [Salamandra Robotica II](#) [6], a snake-like robot that can swim, crawl and walk. The robot helps them explore how the nervous system - specifically in the spinal cord - works.
- An autonomous robot, known as [Tlaloc II](#) [7], will travel through an unexplored tunnel beneath the Aztec Temple of the Plumed Serpent, aiding in archeological discovery and tactical digging procedures.

For more information on Clevis Cotter & Slic Locking Pins, visit:

<http://www.pivotpins.com/index.html> [2].

Do you have story ideas? Comment below and we'll cover them in an upcoming episode.

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### Links:

[1] <http://www.pddnet.com/topics/engineering-newswire>

[2] <http://www.pivotpins.com/index.html>

[3] <http://www.ucsd.edu/>

[4] [http://www.jacobsschool.ucsd.edu/news/news\\_releases/release.sfe?id=1352](http://www.jacobsschool.ucsd.edu/news/news_releases/release.sfe?id=1352)

[5] <http://biorob.epfl.ch/>

[6] <http://biorob.epfl.ch/salamandra>

[7] <http://www.archaeology.org/news/806-130419-mexico-teotihuacan-robot>

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