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## Gizmo

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A robot designed to fight tunnel fires has been built in Italy. Mounted on a ceiling rail, the torpedo-shaped bot can patrol tunnels at up to 100 kilometres an hour, and uses infrared sensors to detect fires and aim its high-pressure water jets. Co-developer Bruno Siciliano at the University of Naples, says the work was prompted by the 1999 Mont Blanc tunnel fire in France, which killed 39 people.

A prosthetic hand has been made using just a glove, a piece of elastic and some chalk plaster powder. Rezia Molfino at the University of Genoa, Italy, designed the hand as a low-cost prosthetic for people in developing countries. It is created by dipping the glove in wet plaster. Elastic threaded through each finger and attached to the wearer's shoulder allows them to open and close the hand by moving their shoulder.

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