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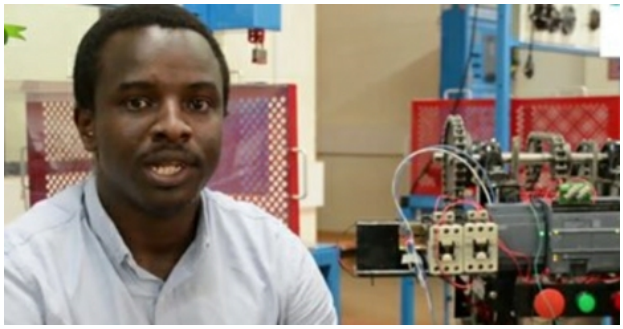
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DeKUT becomes the 2nd in the world to publish on Digital Triplet Technology (Industry 4.0).

Digital Twin Technology is a virtual model of a process, product or service. This pairing of the virtual and physical worlds allows analysis of data and monitoring of systems to head off problems before they even occur, prevent downtime, develop new opportunities and even plan for the future by using simulations. The data collected can then be used to create a 'twin' which can accurately predict how these processes, products or services work. This has become a staple in modern engineering and is used to drive innovation and performance. As Digital Twins gain more attraction and their adoption in industry increases, there is a need to integrate such technology with machine learning features to enhance functionality and enabledecision making tasks. This has led to the emergence of a concept known as Digital Triplet; an enhancement of Digital Twin technology through the addition of an 'intelligent activity layer'. This is a relatively new technology in Industry 4.0 and research efforts are geared towards exploring its applicability, development and testing of means for implementation and quick adoption.



Rona – An Artificial Intelligence powered Bot that provides Credible, Accurate and Verified Information on COVID – 19

The developer of Rona, Brian Ndegwa, is a 2nd Year student here at Dedan Kimathi University of Technology (DeKUT) pursuing B. Sc in Information Technology. According to Brian, time had come for Rona. He was growing tired of misinformation which was going round regarding COVID-19 causing a lot of anxiety and panic among people. His friends were also affected by this and that got him thinking of what could be done. He examined the existing solutions; the WHO Bot and the 719 Helpline in Kenya and in his view, these solutions were not as user friendly. In light of this, he decided to build Rona. The chat interface of Rona came about given Brian's observation that most people love chatting and it would be a great idea if they could get clarification on questions through a friendly chat. To ensure he was coming up with what was really needed as was his aim, Brian shared the first draft design of Rona with some of his friends, lecturers and also the Dean, School of Computer Science and IT at the University, Dr. Kennedy Malanga. With the useful feedback from these quarters, Brian built the first version of Rona. Since its inception on March 30th, Rona has served 2000+ users distributed across different countries, but most of them coming from Kenya. 8000+ messages have been relayed on the platform, which has continuously made Rona very efficient, since as it is with

Artificial Intelligence (AI) systems, they get better with usage. To give more value, I have been improving Rona and currently, the bot has a new feature that allows users to perform a 5 Minute self test and know their likelihood of having the virus, based on the symptoms they have" – Brian Ndegwa, Rona Developer.



Partnering with the County Government of Laikipia to Combat the COVID-19 Pandemic

Since the emergence of this pandemic, the country has recorded a total of 396 cases. Due to the emerging number of cases, the University has partnered with Laikipia County Government to train innovators on mass production of Personal Protective Equipment (PPEs) to help combat the spread of Coronavirus. "The University seeks to fill in some gaps existing in the fight against the virus and the network of entrepreneurs under innovation programme had come in handy as it may help with the local production of ventilators and this will enhance the survival chances of patients in critical condition." Stated the Vice Chancellor. The partnership works on mass production of ventilators and hand sanitizers. The protective equipment's are designed to protect the medics from contamination while handling patients and unlike most of the protective equipment offered in the market is cost effective and reusable.



Meet Julliet Mukuria who has conquered the mountain more than 10 times

Julliet Mukuria, a graduate at the Institute of Tourism and Hospitality Management who has conquered the mountain for more than 10 times through the Climb to Educate Platform. She explains some of her challenges and experiences throughout the journey. Julliet stated that through the program, she has been able to interact with others well and thereafter selected as a secretary to be an instructor in training. Julliet also encourages people to make an effort of climbing the mountain as it will help them learn various skills in life such as the art of patience and perseverance as well as team building.



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