

Meet Circular Ring 2: French wearable taking on Oura with cutting-edge features



BY SOFIA CHESNOKOVA · JANUARY 7, 2025 · 2 MINUTE READ



Picture credits: Circular

Circular, the Paris-based smart ring pioneer, unveiled its next-generation Ring 2 at CES 2025, setting its sights on the premium health wearables market currently dominated by [Oura](#), which recently secured \$200M at a valuation of \$5.2 bn. The \$380 device will reach consumers in early 2025 following a January crowdfunding campaign, bringing FDA-cleared ECG functionality and AFib detection to users' fingertips.

How Circular elevates heart health monitoring

Founded in 2019 by [Amaury Kosman](#) and [Laurent Bsalis](#), Circular fills a market gap for user-friendly wearables that blend advanced health monitoring with elegant design. Kosman, the company's CEO, focuses on enhancing human capabilities through technology. His experience as a marathon runner has shaped his vision for optimising personal health and performance. The Ring 2's cornerstone is its FDA-cleared AFib detection algorithm, a significant leap in wearable health technology. This feature monitors heart rhythm continuously, providing vital insights for users with cardiac concerns or those focused on preventive health. In other words, the ring is a discreet health companion, delivering real-time data for informed cardiovascular wellness decisions. Amaury Kosman, Co-Founder and CEO, said, "With the Circular Ring 2, we've reimaged what a smart ring can be — combining advanced health technology with timeless design and unmatched durability. We're thrilled to introduce a product that's as beautiful as intelligent." While the Oura Ring 4 has introduced advanced sensors and comfort features, Circular's second-generation ring aims to set new standards in heart health monitoring while offering sophisticated design and colour options.

Precision fit, metrics, and smart features

Circular introduces an innovative Digital Ring Sizing feature, allowing users to find their perfect fit using just their smartphone. This solution addresses a common challenge in the smart ring market by ensuring comfort and accurate readings before purchase. The Circular Ring 2 also combines enhanced sensors for precise health metrics with an impressive eight-day battery life. Its premium titanium construction provides durability and sleek aesthetics, while IP68 water resistance ensures protection during daily activities like hand-washing and showering. Furthermore, the companion app features a refined, luxurious interface with improved usability. Its refined sensors deliver precise ECG readings for heart rhythm monitoring, while AI technology provides personalised health insights based on user data. Future updates will introduce more advanced AI capabilities.

AI and smart features shape the future of wearable tech in 2025

The wearable technology landscape promises developments in AI, advanced sensors, and user-centric designs in 2025. Emerging technologies such as gesture control and enhanced connectivity with other smart devices could further transform users' interactions with their wearables.

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RoboForce grabs \$10M for AI robots solving human labour shortages in high-risk industries



BY ABHINAYA PRABHU · JANUARY 7, 2025 · 2 MINUTE READ



Picture credits: RoboForce

Milpitas-based [RoboForce](#), an AI robotics startup building the world's most advanced Robo-Labor system, has grabbed \$10 million in early-stage funding. The investment came from Nobel Laureate Myron Scholes, co-founder of Softbank VC (SBVC) Gary Rieschel, and Carnegie Mellon University.

With this funding, RoboForce has emerged from stealth. Also, the company will deploy its Robo-Labor this year for early customers, for whom [robots](#) can fulfill labour shortages in harsh outdoor conditions, complete the most hazardous tasks in dangerous work environments, and maximise project efficiency and cost savings.

Who is behind the company?

RoboForce was founded in 2023 by Leo Ma, previously a co-founder of the Nasdaq-listed company Cyngn and worked at Baidu USA. The team comprises top tech leaders from CMU Robotics, Michigan Robotics, Amazon Robotics, Tesla Robotics, Google, [Waymo](#), Apple and [Microsoft](#).

First-of-its-kind AI robotic workforce system

With 1mm accuracy in performing fine motor skills like picking, placing, pressing, twisting and connecting, the Robo-Labor has all-terrain mobility, precise manipulation, learning, communication, and safety compliance capabilities. The company's robots are unparalleled in the construction field of Automation.

the emerging field of AI robotics.

As per the company, these systems deliver \$300K worth of value at only \$100K, operating 24/7 with the same or higher efficiency as human labour. Deployed in just four weeks, compared to the 52-week recruitment and training process that delays 43% of projects, these systems save 90% of the time.

Use cases

The end use applications for RoboForce are diverse. The startup's target industries include solar, space, manufacturing and mining, sectors which the U.S. Bureau of Labor found were among the most impacted by injuries and loss of labour due to unsafe summer temperatures and other work-related hazards.

RoboForce's first customers are developing commercial and utility-scale solar projects and are struggling to hire and retain skilled workers, due to extreme temperatures in remote locations where most large scale solar projects are being developed.

By providing robots that can withstand harsh and extreme environmental conditions throughout a years-long project duration, the company is helping solar developers complete the construction and installation of large-scale projects faster or on schedule, and at a reduced cost. This way, it pushes critical sustainability and renewable energy developments across the finish line faster than ever for immediate impact.

"At RoboForce, our mission is to create robotics for humanity to boost the world's economy with the power of Robo-Labor. We are building the most advanced Robo-Labor system to take on the most tedious, physically demanding, and dangerous jobs that humans shouldn't have to do. We are dedicated to creating the leading high-intelligence 'super worker' system to redefine the future of industrial labour, making it safer, efficient, and more sustainable," said Leo Ma, founder and CEO, RoboForce.

"Labour shortages and decarbonisation are the two largest trends that are happening at a global scale, and RoboForce is uniquely positioned to address both," said Myron Scholes, Nobel Laureate for Economic Science, investor, and the Frank E. Buck Professor of Finance, Emeritus at Stanford's Graduate School of Business. "RoboForce has a great team working on innovation very valuable for the world."

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