

18/07/2016

Dog lead that trains blind people to handle guide dogs

by Beatrice Credi - 2016.07.18



Dogsim is a hi-tech dog lead that simulates the behaviour of a guide dog. It's a latest-generation tool designed to enable blind and partially sighted people to practice and understand the movements, control, distance and posture needed, before having their own real animal. According to the French foundation VISIO, which funded the project, the tool is useful for two reasons. Firstly, it makes the encounter between the human and the animal less stressful. Contact between the two can initially be complicated because of the person's lack of experience of managing a dog and the animal's lack of trust in the owner.

Secondly, it saves time for trainers because, when the dog arrives, the new owner already knows some of the basics, thanks to Dogsim.