

Musk wants machines to be controlled by thought

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A company with a \$100 million mission to create “superbrains” is recruiting scientists and engineers to press on with its mysterious sci-fi agenda.

Neuralink, which was founded by the billionaire entrepreneur Elon Musk, aims to develop ways of linking human brains with computers, to beat diseases such as cancer and to develop telepathic communication.

“We’re building a team of multi-disciplinary experts and doers who are dedicated to changing the world,” the company said on its website.

Mr Musk, the co-founder of the electric car Tesla, has raised \$27 million from investors but until now details of Neuralink’s goals were kept secret. Its

aim is to create “brain-to-machine interfaces” (BMIs) that could help to repair brain injuries such as lesions caused by cancer, or the effects of a stroke or epilepsy.

Mr Musk hopes that it will also develop BMIs that would allow people to communicate with each other brain to brain, without speech or the written word, and to connect to the digital world through the power of thought.

Tim Urban, a writer for the technology website Wait But Why, said: “Your car will pull up to your house and your mind will open the car door. You’ll walk up to the house and your mind will unlock and open the front door. You’ll think about wanting coffee and the coffee maker will get that going... None of this stuff will take any effort.”

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