



Press release CeBIT 2010

Connected Living presents model house of the future: turning vision into reality

Berlin/Hannover, Germany, March 04, 2010 – At the CeBIT's Future Parc at stand A30 in Hall 9, the Connected Living Innovation Centre will demonstrate how a variety of different electronic devices can be connected with the help of software-based digital assistants, on a manufacturer-independent basis. The goal is to create a home network which integrates and controls all sorts of appliances via one platform. In a futuristic model house equipped with kitchen, living room, gym and „visions room“ CeBIT visitors can view and test how living in the future could feel like.

Up until 6 March 2010 guests of the fully networked home will have the chance to discover how the principle of „connected living“ can save them money and time and make their lives healthier and safer as well as more comfortable and sustainable. Most importantly, the user of tomorrow can individually manage all household devices and services by himself – no systems administrator or technical know-how necessary.

However, to make the connected home work, all appliances must speak the same language. This is why the Connected Living partner network utilizes a uniform standard for home networking. Devices should be able to communicate through the same open platform, connecting automatically with each other. Visitors to the stand can personally plug new devices into the network, i.e. a washing machine, and see how the system recognises them with the help of intelligent digital assistants.

Within the 400 square meters (4,300 sq. ft) of exhibition space, visitors may begin their tour in the kitchen. They meet, among others, a digital cooking assistant which supports them in preparing a customized healthy and – if desired – low calorie meal. The "4 Star



Cooking Assistant" demonstrates how easy shopping and cooking will be in the future. The digital „butler“ suggests personalised recipes from databases and generates a shopping list of ingredients, which can then be transferred to a mobile device and taken to the supermarket. The kitchen assistant also helps with individual cooking steps and configures the stove.

Time to move on for some exercise – in the fitness room visitors can use the hometrainer. While pedaling, the health assistant monitors their medical data like heart rate or blood pressure and suggests a personal training program. To make their workout more entertaining occupants can take virtual bike tours through the cities of Berlin and New York with Google Maps Street View in front of them on the TV screen. They can even cycle with virtual or real partners who may live miles away, but can be talked to over internet phone.

Finally, residents can control and monitor the house via wireless communication and the Internet on his PC, laptop or TV from the living room. Similar to an operating system, the so-called Connected Living Home Service Platform (HSP) brings together all household devices. Not only does it list all their context and status information as well as possible error messages, but it also gives an overview of the various software-based assistants. What's more, it enables users to develop their own assistants and integrate them into the network on a simple plug & play basis.

Once a person leaves the house, the networked home can still be managed and monitored by a smart phone. The Home Service Platform allows occupants to keep an eye on every part of the network. For instance, from their TV screen, they can check on the roast in the oven and operate the temperature, set the start time of their washing machine or discover they accidentally had left the door of the freezer open in the cellar. The energy assistant informs about current heating and lighting costs and gives tips to save energy. The HSP also assists occupants with the interactive entertainment program by suggesting



customised films, music, learning software or internet sites and enabling them to talk about the content with their online friends.

The „visions room“ of the futuristic house invites visitors to its multi-touch table provided by Connected Living partner ART+COM Technologies. Here, described on the table, they can try out which gadgets and devices can be connected to the network, presenting an additional value for the user. A digital picture frame demonstrates how a play station recognises it instantaneously as its output device. Which friends are online and what are they playing? High scores and screenshots are displayed directly on the digital picture frame. The little frame can also serve as a display for other information like room temperature or heating costs.

At so-called „partner stands“ some of the companies behind the products introduce themselves and allow visitors insights into practical applications within the context of „connected living“ and the vision of enhanced comfort and a sustainable lifestyle. Deutsche Telekom will present a home gateway which gathers various key data like health-related information (diabetes), text-to-speech application or energy consumption. This data can then be viewed via different devices – for example through a picture frame, TV or internet radio.

The AOK Health Insurance Federation will team up with BodyTel and ART+COM Technologies to present their vision for health and safety in a networked home. They will demonstrate electronic systems that can collect medical data of chronically ill or elderly people at home and send that data to doctors or relatives in case of an emergency. Visitors also learn about a software-based diet assistant which helps them maintain balanced nutrition and about fun fitness programs for children and teenagers.

The company Dr. Riedel Automatisierungstechnik will explain a domestic energy



management system that can help saving up to 30 percent on energy costs. This system coordinates the various domestic appliances as well as room control devices for heating and ventilation.

The DAI laboratory at Berlin Technical University will show how intelligent and autonomous assistant robots not only can help organise business processes but also optimise everyday chores. They are being developed under the name of ARTHOS (Autonomous RoboT for Household Services).

About the Connected Living Innovation Centre:

The Connected Living Innovation Centre stands for the vision of a networked home in a networked world. It develops cross-industry solutions and promotes the development of innovative solutions for intelligent home networking. By creating a common platform, a growing number of devices can be integrated into the home network, resulting in additional value for the user. Connected Living encourages cooperation between companies and research institutions for the joint invention of new technologies and interoperability standards for the intelligent networking of consumer electronics, telecommunications, IT equipment, building services engineering and so-called "white goods". The goal is to include players from the fields of communication, household and consumer electronics, heating and air conditioning, health care and prevention, energy and efficiency, home automation, security and privacy and media, knowledge and recreation. The technological basis for Connected Living is provided by SerCHo (Service Centric Home), a project promoted by the German Federal Ministry for Economics and Technology (BMWi) and has successfully passed its field tests.

The Connected Living Innovation Centre was founded in summer 2009 and initiated by the Berlin Technical University/DAI laboratory. Presently, the organisation has 25 members



but expects to increase its number to 35 members by the end of this year.

Members of Connected Living include:

aizo, Alcatel-Lucent Deutschland, AOK, ART+COM Technologies, BodyTel, Borderstep Institut, Bundesdruckerei, Telemedizinzentrum Charité, Cisco, co2online, Condat, Deutsche Messe, DAI-Labor/TU Berlin, Deutsche Telekom, EnBW, EWE, Fraunhofer IZM, Loewe Opta, MERGSYSTEMS, Miele, MSR Office, Orga Systems, ProSyst, Riedel Automatisierungstechnik, Vattenfall

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