



TAHI JANUARY 2006 NEWSLETTER



Welcome to TAHI in 2006

Mike Windsor

Market Communications Group leader

Welcome to the first TAHI newsletter of 2006. We hope the newsletter is proving a valuable source of information to you, but we are always open to your feedback - either positive or negative - and willing to make changes, so if you feel so inclined please email mike.windsor@digitalliving.ltd.uk

We are always keen to place relevant stories from our members or non-members, so if you have something to say please let us know.

2006 will be an exciting year for TAHI as we continue to bring all the forces for change in our businesses together to help achieve a quantum leap in the 'Connected Home' market. The Commercialisation activity is at the forefront of TAHI's strategy, bringing together suppliers, customers and government, both local and central, to identify opportunities and solutions. We will continue to provide information through the newsletter, bulletins and through attendance at conferences both in the UK, continental Europe and the USA. We will also host two or three conferences in the UK aimed at stimulating the market and bringing together parties.

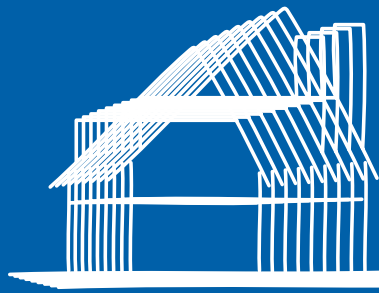
Existing members will have received notification that subscriptions are due and we would request that this is dealt with as a matter of urgency. Organisations looking to join TAHI should contact me (email above) and I will arrange for details to be sent to you. Membership gives your organisation a real opportunity to network with other members and to help set the agenda for TAHI in 2006. Already, TAHI can demonstrate the effectiveness of membership through the strategic partnerships formed and through its links to government departments.

The AGM is scheduled for March 22nd in London and we are close to confirming the location as we go to 'press'. We will of course notify all members by separate email, but if you are not a member and would perhaps like to attend, please email me.

There is no better time to benefit from TAHI membership to help you meet your organisations goals in 2006. Hope to see you soon.

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DEVELOPERS' CONFERENCE

TAHI is planning to stage a Developers' Conference to explore the role of the construction industry in advancing connected home services.

The aim is to bring planners, architects and builders into the TAHI loop to promote a two-way dialogue. For TAHI's part, we will flag up the benefits of the connected home to developers and explain how TAHI can furnish them with essential knowledge of technology solutions.

The hope is to build on existing relationships and develop new ones. TAHI members are invited to nominate contacts in companies and organisations who would benefit from attending the conference.

Developers are seen as key in the mission to deliver interoperability, straddling the sectors of homes, entertainment, community and energy.

The conference will take place in London this spring – the date and venue will be confirmed shortly.

Meanwhile, please email your contacts for the invitation list to mike.windsor@homeridersystems.co.uk or helenlynas@btconnect.com.

OVERVIEW OF TRIALS REPORTS

Summary reports of the Equipment Management and Service Aggregation trials will soon be available. It means that 30 months of pioneering work on systems interoperability in the connected home will be condensed into two 20-page documents, making the projects more accessible.

The reports look at the aims and objectives of both trials, give an overview, explain technical successes and identify priority areas for future attention.

The trials pinpointed exciting opportunities, showing both service providers and the users of services the scope of what the future will bring. The philosophy of the TAHI Open Architecture is also explained.

The summary reports will shortly be posted on the TAHI Website



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BT REDCARE - M2M WHITE PAPER

A white paper on M2M monitoring and tracking has been produced by the BT redcare Group and is available on Harbor Research's website <http://harborresearch.com/website/> (free registration required).

BT redcare <http://www.redcare.bt.com/> is the UK market leader in security and fire alarm monitoring with over 400,000 buildings connected to their service.

This paper raises many important points. It examines how use of real time machine data within an enterprise can evolve and lead to greater added value for the business. In the redcare Group's case, it also shows how a particular provider's services have developed and in what ways they can be improved to add even more customer value. In addition to all this, the East End project illustrates the significant role that M2M services have in the future social development of empowered and safer communities.

"HIDDEN WIRES" ARTICLE ABOUT TAHI

Look out for coverage of TAHI in the February newsletter of HiddenWires <http://hiddenwires.co.uk/>

The article will alert readers to TAHI's Commercialisation programme, as well as explaining TAHI's aims and trials work.

HiddenWires describes itself as the UK and European resource for custom install home automation and home entertainment. Aimed at designers, installers, suppliers and users of smart home technology, it provides a wealth of news, articles, case studies and events, as well as helping to locate suitable products and services.



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MEDIA COVERAGE

Satellite Showcases – AV Magazine, January 1, 2006

BT's research and development division is showcasing its products and services to clients without making them travel. Adastral Park near Ipswich, Suffolk, where over 3,000 scientists are developing BT products they hope will be part of our everyday lives, is the largest IP management and network test bed in Europe. There they showcase set-ups such as the home of the future, the hospital of the future and the bank of the future. Now they are able to reach customers around the world through a videoconferencing suite which acts as a hub, reaching out to other satellite sites around the globe. The London satellite showcase is up and running, and by March this year other sites will be working in Watford, Cardiff, Edinburgh, Belfast and Dublin.

(This is a summary of the article.)

The year Britain bought into the digital life – Sunday Times, December 18, 2005

Home networks came of age in 2005, as ever more families acquired their second or third computer, then twigged that a simple-to-set-up and relatively cheap wireless router would instantly transform their individual machines into one home network.

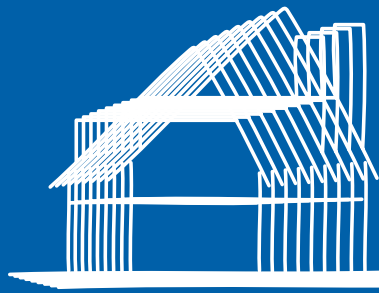
WiFi is the ideal digital dogsbody, no longer merely a means of checking office e-mails while watching Scrubs on the sofa. By linking all your computers at speeds of up to 108Mbps — far faster than broadband — it will ferry music, video and documents from room to room.

Full article <http://www.timesonline.co.uk/article/0,,2103-1937427,00.html>

Hotel Services Wired in room – Daily Telegraph, December 1, 2005

When regular customers check into the Mandarin Oriental in Manhattan they get more than a smile from the concierge and a mint on their pillow. The Mandarin, along with other high-end hotels has installed new computer systems that keep track of guests' preferences and change room conditions automatically. The system sets preferred room temperatures, loads most frequently dialled numbers onto the phone, personalises the music, alerts the maid when the minibar is low and puts personal welcome messages on the TV.

Nick Price, chief technology officer for the Mandarin Oriental Hotel Group, which recently spent \$112 million to upgrade its hotel in Hong Kong, said: "The technology backbone is no longer an afterthought. Technology is up there with the spas, rooms and food and beverage."



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It provides a glimpse of what networked homes may look like over the next decade. Vamsi Sistla, director of broadband and digital home media at ABI Research said: "In the next 5 to 10 years smart home networking and remote connectivity will move beyond the niche market and into homes.

All Together Now: How the spread of broadband has driven home networking – ERT Weekly (formerly Electrical and Radio Trading), December 1, 2005.

An increasing number of homes are becoming networked, as multiple PCs become commonplace and home media centres are growing in number and appeal. As this market grows, independent retailers should keep up to date with the technical advances and be able to provide consumers with practical information on how to network and what kinds of products are available.

Neville Ebanks, county manager UK and Ireland for US Robotoccs believes wireless networking will become mainstream after 2008, when forecasters say 12.7 million or 47 per cent of UK households will have broadband connections. Neil Truckell, of Acoustic Energy says major drivers will be genuine user benefits in a simple-to-use package. "Products/technologies that need an understanding of rocket science are destined to remain niche. It's down to your mum – if she can use a product and enjoy it without picking up the instruction manual, that is the key to mass market success." Home networking has moved on past the techno-geeks and is now for everyone.

Home networking products look set to be an industry mainstay for retailers, who should be educating themselves about the technology and the user benefits, especially before the larger retailers jump on board.

(This is a summary of the article.)



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FUTURE EVENTS

Integrated Systems Europe 2006

February 1-3
Brussels
<http://www.iseurope.org/>

Smart Home Show 2006

March 2-5
Birmingham NEC
<http://www.smarthomeshow.co.uk/>

HDI (Hi-Fi, Digital, Install) Show

2-5 March
Moscow, Russia
http://www.hifishow.ru/index_eng.php

Med-e-Tel

April 5-7
Luxembourg
www.medetel.lu

Integrated Systems China

April 12-14
Shanghai
<http://www.is-china.com/>

Install @ Palme

April 23-25
Dubai
<http://www.install-online.com/>

Connections 2006

May 2-4
California
<http://www.parksassociates.com/events/conn2006/home.htm>

INSTALL China

May 31 - June 3
China International Exhibition Hall
Beijing, China
<http://www.is-china.com/>

Cedia UK Expo

June 20-22
London
<http://www.cedia.co.uk>

e/home 2006

October 19-21
Berlin
<http://www.ehome-berlin.de>