TAHI

The Application Home Initiative

August members' newsletter

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I am pleased to report that the activities TAHI has set in motion over the last three years are all moving ahead well: The trial projects are now progressing into their initial roll-out stage and into the homes of real people while the Working Groups, as can be seen from this newsletter, are addressing the issues that we in TAHI feel are most important.

Not least among them is the TAHI Open Architecture (TOA). This is moving from the theoretical to the practical and the Technical Working Group, led by Graham Nicholls, is acting with the trial projects and the core TOA team to deliver a useful document by the end of this year.

Meanwhile another project, being carried out by the Market Intelligence Group, involves building flexible business models to assess the effects of delivering aggregated services. This work will be immensely valuable to many TAHI stakeholders.

Looking to the future, the TAHI board is actively evaluating how to build our existing projects into Europe-wide implementations. We are examining how we can leverage the work of the TOA and Modelling Groups and make sure they become part of EU projects and standards initiatives.

TAHI is changing as it achieves its goals in the UK and seeks to move projects into implementations both in the UK and Europe. These are some of the things that we will be discussing with you at the Open Forum for TAHI members in October at Wallingford.

Ashley Pocock
Chairman of Tahi

Service Aggregation Trial Update

The overall trial, which now comprises three elements, is progressing well.

The SMART end-user trial, which is being implemented by Severn Trent Water in association with Leicester City Council, will start its internal trial this month and will then be installed in 50 homes in the Leicester area.

At its core is the ability to provide accurate energy and water usage data on an "as needed" basis via the provision of a broadband connected set-top box.

The user experience will be enhanced by the provision of specific content from two of the contributors as well as the ability to surf the web, and send and receive emails. For more information contact Mike Windsor

Contact us

To include your news and views in the TAHI newsletter, please email or call Mike Windsor on +44(0) 1491 829 317 or +44(0) 7733 263423.

Coming Up

A TAHI members' meeting is being planned for this autumn. Details of the date and venue will be sent out by email

The SMART trial is being augmented with 'The Demonstrator' programme. This project is designed to provide additional 'stretch' and to demonstrate greater connectivity in the home, giving many trial members an opportunity to test their products and services.

It is expected that it will provide opportunities for further development and evaluation after the trial has formally ended.

The third element of the trial is the production of a number of White Papers and Research Articles in such as areas as health provision within Europe and legal aspects of aggregated services.

The next SA meeting is scheduled for the 18th August and all those involved will have received a calling notice.

Future in Europe

TAHI's involvement in Europe promises exciting opportunities. We are keen to involve TAHI members in this work and to use the drive into Europe to show the benefits of TAHI as an organisation.

TAHI is defining a whole new pattern that will open up the delivery of services to the home and the technologies and equipment involved.

Our aims are closely aligned with those of the UK Government, the DTI and the EU Commission. In fact, many of their objectives align closely with TAHI's aims.

TAHI board director Terry Williams of Advantica is responsible for our interests in Europe and he and I have attended a number of meetings that are important for the future of the Framework Programmes and other projects in NAVSHP (Networked AudioVisual Systems and Home Platforms).

There is ongoing work to identify what the NAVSHP area should do in FP7 (EU Framework Programme 2007-2010).

We are also involved in the NAVSHP New Media Council Initiative (N2MCI) which aims to show what "European Technology Platform" will be needed to support the expected state of the art home and audio visual systems from 2010.

The work entails assessing what technologies will get developed, where the problems will be, and defining where the FP7 funds should be directed.

TAHI members are encouraged to contact Terry and myself if they have views on where technology is going and if they perceive any previously unseen requirements for the utopian future.

Interestingly, the budget for FP7 is likely to be around twice the 18 billion Euros of FP6.

Stephen Pattenden

Equipment Management meetings

For further information please contact Mike Patterson

- **Multi Home Trial review of inputs**
  Sept 1, Homeportal, Haywards Heath.

shortly.

TAHI Board meeting
August 19, teleconference. If you would like to raise any matters please contact Stephen Pattenden

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The Connected Home Forum
September 16/17
Central London
Discussions and workshops on key issues.

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ib2004 - the intelligent buildings event
September 23/24 2004.
BRE Watford
Europe's premier intelligent buildings event
Organised by BRE and i&i limited (i&i is a TAHI member)

Building Performance 2004 and PropIT
October 6-7, 2004
National Hall, Olympia, London
The property and construction industry meets IT solutions for connected buildings.

OSGi 2004 World Congress
October 11-15, Barcelona

CEN/CENELEC/ETSI Conference
November 3-4, 2004, Brussels
Dedicated to standardisation of transportation means.

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net-at Home 2004
Nov 30 – Dec 3, Nice
The largest international conference and exhibition for the connected home markets, including SmartHouse Forum on Nov 30.

International CES
Jan 6-9, 2005, Las

Vegas

- **Steering Group**
  Sept 16, venue tbc
- **Trial Workshop**
  Sept 22, Advantica, Loughborough

University's SA Challenge

Dr Xi (Jack)Chen and Dr Seng Kwong Chong, Research Fellows involved with the TAHI DTI-funded SA and EM projects.

A TAHI research programme to create a flexible link between aggregated services and the connected home is moving towards its
final phase at De Montfort University, Leicester. The team conducting the Service Aggregation (SA) Trial has already developed a prototype infrastructure which can collate information from a virtual home and allow this data to be interrogated by a service provider.

The next stage in the 18-month programme will potentially involve all TAHI SA partners in a test bed system, demonstrating a generic infrastructure that readily enables the delivery of aggregated services and accommodates future service changes.

Once implemented, the programme will mark a significant advance in the development of the TAHI Open Architecture.

The programme is being conducted by the internationally regarded Mechatronics Research Centre at the Faculty of Computing Sciences and Engineering. It is the latest in a series of collaborative projects involving major industrial partners, which have been funded by the Department of Trade and Industry, the European Commission, the Royal Commission and the Research Council.

For further information contact Mike Windsor.

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