



October members' newsletter

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When the head of energy services at Leicester City Council approached Severn Trent Water about improving communications with its householders and encouraging them to save energy, it did not take a great leap of the imagination to see how well this might fit with some of TAHI's aims.

If an interactive system could be established for water and energy use, customers could benefit from the wider range of on-line services being developed and promoted by our Service Aggregation (SA) trial participants, including Severn Trent

Water, Extrada, Vision Radio, the Ergonomics and Safety Research Institute of Loughborough University, FoodWare, HomeRider Systems and Leicester City Council.

It is a prime example of how businesses and academic institutions in TAHI can collaborate with each other and with other bodies to advance networked applications and services in the connected home.

Of course, it is undoubtedly challenging to embrace the combined aims and interests of large companies, local authorities, several businesses and academic institutions.

The timetable has slipped, but with great effort from all involved, we are now about to mail out to a sample of households in Leicester, inviting them to take part in the trial.

We want to install a broadband internet service which they will access via their television sets, allowing them to view their energy and water use and to receive advice on ways of saving. The portal for this is being developed to include access to other services the households might find of use.

The academic interest in the trial is to test the acceptability of the system design and the impact of the communications on customer behaviour. We are optimistic that we will be able to share some initial findings before the year is out.

George Archibald
TAHI Board Member

Pull together at TAHI Conference



Don't forget to confirm your attendance at this year's TAHI Conference on November 16 and 17.

The free event offers a great opportunity to develop your thinking, your work and your contacts book, with updates on the latest industry developments, news about the future direction of TAHI and some first class networking.

To extend our contacts even further this year, all TAHI members are invited to bring along colleagues or others in related organisations.

As befits our mission of pulling together to advance the connected home, the venue of the conference is the award-winning River and Rowing Museum in Henley-on-Thames, Oxfordshire. We have reserved overnight accommodation on a first-come first-served basis.

To confirm your place or order extra free tickets please contact [Stephanie Collins](#) at HomeRider Systems

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

- TAHI Conference**
 Nov 16 and 17
 River and Rowing Museum,
 Henley on Thames
- [OSGI 2004 World Congress](#)**
 October 11 - 15
 Barcelona, Spain
- [LonWorld Exhibition and Conference](#)**
 October 20-21,
 Shanghai, China
- [CEN/CENELEC/ETSI Conference](#)**
 November 3-4, 2004, Brussels

Dedicated to standardisation of transportation means.

Do you have a moment?

Many TAHI members will be aware already that the Equipment Management trial is conducting a series of experiments in support of the field testing in occupied homes of interoperable domestic equipment from a number of manufacturers.

This research takes a number of forms including a questionnaire, devised by Heriot-Watt University, which addresses consumer perspectives on the Future Home and in particular it focuses on displays within the home in relation to detailed aspects of household energy and water use.

We would very much appreciate your help in completing the questionnaire, as well as distributing it to friends and family so that we can achieve a good sample size for analysis.

Each member of TAHI will be asked to distribute blank questionnaires to between five and ten other households and then to collect and return them for analysis. No specialist knowledge is required and they should take less than ten minutes to complete.

The results will be fed back into the TAHI trials. Please contact Professor [Marcus Newborough](#) or his colleague [Georgina Wood](#) for more information.

TAHI at Net-atHome 2004



TAHI will be making its mark at this year's Net-atHome conference and exhibition. We are a Silver Sponsor of the premier international event, underlining our commitment to advancing the connected home markets.

- [net-atHome 2004](#)

Nov 30 – Dec 3,
Nice, France
SmartHouse Forum, Nov 30.

- [The Smart Home Show](#)

April 14-17, 2005
NEC Birmingham

The involvement of TAHI members in EU projects such as TEAHA and SmartHouse will be on show, and there is still room on our stand for TAHI members to display information about their companies. Contact secretariat [Stephen Pattenden](#) of Telemetry Associates for more information.

Mike Windsor of HomeRider Ltd, and Graham Nicholls of Extrada Ltd will be representing TAHI with Stephen at the event.

TEAHA and TAHI – working together for a global solution

TAHI has a close working relationship with TEAHA (The European Application Home Alliance), a European Commission funded project addressing networked home-control and audio-visual applications.

Together they share the TOA (TAHI Open Architecture) work on service delivery. The principles outlined in TOA have been used as foundation material to create an architecture that will enable secure and affordable service delivery into the connected home.

TEAHA's goal is to define a suitable middleware platform that will allow seamless interworking of the whole variety of devices at home, from the cheapest to the most expensive. TEAHA also plans to find very low cost network solutions to encourage uptake by the makers of domestic appliances and home entertainment goods.

TEAHA's project is divided into two 36-month phases. Work began earlier this year on the first - developing and providing components and interoperability specifications. The second phase will validate seamless networking and create awareness through full scale trials in Europe, including the UK.

In addition to its work with TAHI to present an acceptable global solution to the connected home, TEAHA has alliances with other organisations including the CENELEC Smarthouse Initiative, The Digital Living Network Alliance (DLNA), The ZigBee Alliance, The OSGi working group, The Japanese Ubiquitous Open Forum Platform (UOPF), and the Chinese Intelligent Grouping & Resource Sharing (IGRS).

Visit www.teaha.org for more information.

Preview of tomorrow's devices at Connected Home Forum

We are on the threshold of an exciting new era. That was the message of Graham Nicholls,

chairman of TAHI's technical working group and CEO of Extrada Ltd, speaking at the Connected Home Forum in London last month.

He analysed the likely form of devices for tomorrow's connected home, predicting they will be unrecognisable to today's consumer. And he examined the way they will converge and the necessary considerations to ensure they operate together seamlessly as more devices are added.

Consumers will be able to subscribe to services, view and interact with content, control their devices and see their latest billing status for each service through Web, WAP and PDA, he said.

To see the whole presentation, please visit the VKP website. Go to Service Aggregation, then White Papers and Research and click on Documents.

TAHI newsletter archive

Back editions of the TAHI newsletter can now be viewed online on the VKP website. To see last month's copy go to <http://vkp.leeds.ac.uk/Drive/gotofile.jsp?doc=361779&file=361781> and insert your user name and password.

Please contact [Tamsyn Stanton](#) at HomeRider Systems if you have any accessing problems.

THE APPLICATION HOME INITIATIVE LIMITED

Mail Address: Church Farm Barn, Rickingham, Diss, Norfolk IP22 1EG United Kingdom

Telephone: +44 (0) 1379 890 442

Facsimile: +44 (0) 1379 890 052

Mobile: +44 (0) 7802 886 775

website: www.theapplicationhome.com

email: stephen@tahi1.com

Registered Office: 8th Floor, Aldwych House, 81 Aldwych WC2B 4HN UK.

Registered in England and Wales No: 4339869