

Other standards, such as IEEE 1394, HAVi and UPnP, have been extended. The IFA demo shows working prototypes, proving that the participating companies and other parties in the industry can now easily apply these standards in consumer products.

The demonstration of HomeNet2Run at the IFA also shows that a home with a network offers many opportunities for a wide range of new combinations of previously distinct Broadcast, Internet and Telecommunications services. This opens a significant opportunity for the European industry to advance in information technology and consumer electronics. Collaborating in the context of HomeNet2Run has stimulated strategic partnering between manufacturers of electronic equipment, network operators and service providers, in order for this opportunity to be exploited.

The HomeNet2Run partners – all representatives of the European consumer electronics industry, telecom equipment manufacturers and information technology companies – are convinced that jointly providing architectures for the interconnected home is a major step forward. Being equipped with competitive technology will put European industry in a good position in this digital age. The evolution towards interconnected homes will strengthen the European consumer electronics industry, as well as related industries that produce and distribute digital services and content.

HOMENET2RUN



HomeNet2Run:
**Interconnect
your home!**

Partners

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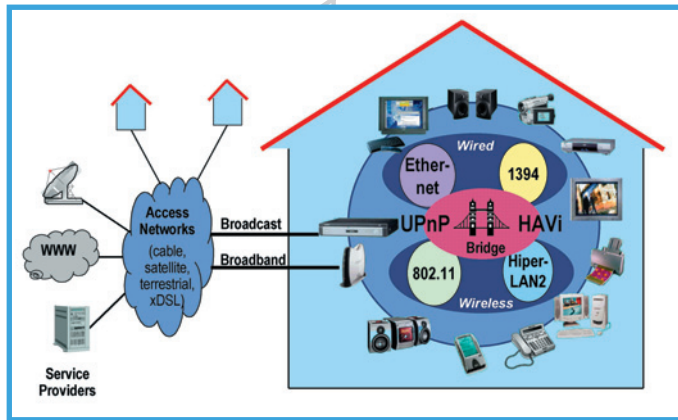


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HomeNet2Run

HomeNet2Run: Interconnect your home!



Enjoying the benefits of a home network

In an interconnected home, people will have the freedom to access their music, pictures and movies on any device they like, in every room. It will become possible to make a connection between home networks, so people can even access their content away from home. To make this possible, it is important that products from different brands work well together. Now, leading brands in the European consumer electronics and information technology industries demonstrate the results of their joint research efforts. Their research consortium, called HomeNet2Run, demonstrates innovations proving that a smoothly operating home network has come closer to reality.

The Interconnected Home

People currently already have networks in their home: the power network, the phone network and a satellite or cable network connection for their television.

These networks use different wired and wireless network technologies with different transmission speeds. None of the existing technologies can provide a total solution. However, by connecting the separate clusters, an integrated home network can be built. To make this possible, two challenges have to be addressed.

The first challenge is to physically connect the existing network clusters. In HomeNet2Run, well-known brands have developed bridges. At the IFA in Berlin, HomeNet2Run demonstrates bridging between the world's most popular wired networks (Ethernet and IEEE 1394) and wireless networks (IEEE 802.11 and HiperLAN2).

Seamless room-to-room connectivity can now become a standard feature where consumers can connect all their devices to the home network.

The second challenge is to make consumer electronics devices (television, radio, CD player) share content with the PC. HomeNet2Run also demonstrates bridges that connect a standard for home stereo equipment (Home Audio/Video interoperability, HAVi) with a standard for the PC (Universal Plug & Play, UPnP). HomeNet2Run has also developed solutions to connect home consumer devices to the Internet (they have been enabled for Internet Protocol). This allows people,

for example, to watch Internet video streams on their TV. HomeNet2Run enables seamless access to services from the Broadcast, Internet and Telecommunications worlds.

In summary, HomeNet2Run has provided solutions to the consumer electronics and information technologies industries that will enable room-to-room and home-to-home connectivity of consumer electronics and PC devices. This will give consumers the freedom to enjoy their content in their home any way they want. It also gives them seamless access to the services of the broadcast, Internet and telecommunications worlds. By enabling access of content from someone else's home, HomeNet2Run makes it possible for people to enjoy content together.

Benefits of collaboration

In the process of developing the interconnected-home architecture, various standards and solutions have been tested and, where necessary, improved. European standards, such as HiperLAN2, Digital Video Broadcasting (DVB) and Multimedia Home Platform (MHP), have been progressed significantly.

