

SerCHo interconnects home networks via digitalSTROM

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A new process makes intelligent home networks affordable at last

digitalSTROM – a new process for transmitting digital information via existing power lines – and SerCHo – a research project for home networking funded by the Federal Ministry of Economics and Technology (BMWi) as part of "next generation media" – announced today that they are to cooperate with one another.

The objective of this cooperation is to integrate the digitalSTROM technology into the intelligently networked house of the future. It makes it possible to provide the services developed by SerCHo for each and every appliance via the power line without setting up an additional network

As part of the SerCHo project, a new approach to home networking is under development with the aid of software-based "personal assistants". These assistants, for example the energy-saving, communications or cooking assistant, support the occupant in all fields of living according to personal preferences. In addition to this they ensure that devices from the fields of information technology, telecommunications, entertainment electronics, house technology and domestic appliance technology that have been isolated to date, become individually linked.

digitalSTROM provides the basis for the SerCHo services to be integrated affordably in the entire house without any new cables. The intelligent electric standard is intended to enable a 6 x 4 mm integrated high volt chip to be installed in every electrical device.

Devices equipped with this tiny, so-called dSID chip, can communicate with each other via the power circuit and cooperate with the other electrical devices via plug&play in a single system. Above all, by using SerCHo services via digitalSTROM the communication gap that has existed to date between entertainment electronics and telecommunications on the one hand and building technology and household appliances on the other, is closed in the simplest and cheapest manner. Further advantages of the dSID chip are the low power consumption in standby mode (0.3 watts, a tenth of the amount the adapter of a mobile phone requires), measurement of power consumption and a variety of integrated convenience functions such as the individual control and dimming of lights or holiday simulations.

This year the DAI laboratory of the Technical University in Berlin and digitalSTROM want to jointly create the basis for a new generation of assistant services in the intelligent House of the Future.

The first devices equipped with digitalSTROM are to be available as of 2009. Already now, the interaction of digitalSTROM and SerCHo services are being tested in the SerCHo showroom of Berlin Technical University. On the occasion of the Ambient-Assisted-Living Congress currently taking place in Berlin, the cooperation partners are presenting themselves to the public for the first time and invite those participants in the congress, who are interested, to a guided tour of the showroom.

About digitalSTROM:

digitalSTROM® is the new standard for electric intelligence, whereby power and information are controlled via the existing power line. digitalSTROM.org is a non-profit organisation founded in Zurich in July 2007 at the Swiss Federal Institute of Technology (ETH) in Zurich. The "digitalSTROM.org" Alliance® was founded with the objective of developing a global standard for "electric intelligence". An alliance of companies, organisations and research facilities is working together to network electrical devices via the existing power lines for the sake of energy efficiency, user convenience and safety.
www.digitalstrom.org

About SerCHo:

SerCHo (Service Centric Home) is pursuing the objective of realising an interdisciplinary development and applications environment with which it is possible to integrate diverse network-based services in a home network, which should be available to customers. SerCHo is part of the next generation media research programme of the Federal German Ministry of Economics and Technology. Bearing the Internet of Things in mind, which was declared to be a brilliant project at the IT summit, pioneering perspectives for the internet-based networking of our living and working worlds are pointed up in a total of 11 projects, which contribute towards raising efficiency and the quality of life and which also involve new opportunities for growth and employment.

www.sercho.de

www.nextgenerationmedia.de

Contact:

Ute Rosin

rosin@mmb-institut.de

Tel.: 030/91705038