



Continental Automated
Buildings Association

**Your Information
Source
for
Home & Building
Automation**

**North America's
Home & Building
Automation Association**

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ALLIANCE LAUNCHES OPEN BUILDING INFORMATION XCHANGE (oBIX)

December 12, 2003

The Continental Automated Buildings Association (CABA) and an alliance of leaders from the building automation, HVAC, security, IT and facility management industries announced today the formalization of efforts to create guidelines for sharing data and control across facility systems. These guidelines, called oBIX™ (Open Building Information Xchange), employ XML/Web services to enable open systems capabilities and enhanced operations.

The alliance's definitive goal is to evolve the oBIX guidelines into a standard protocol for building systems. Although not currently an industry-wide standard, these defining efforts put forth by oBIX will allow building professionals to enjoy such benefits as enterprise-wide facility management and open systems integration based on Information Technology (IT) standards.

Ronald J. Zimmer, president and CEO of CABA, said, "The knowledge and control oBIX puts in the hands of facility managers gives the oBIX guidelines the potential to become the standard of choice to unify operating data from diverse systems. CABA is pleased to offer our support in the formative stages of the evolution of oBIX."

"Input from diverse constituencies will accelerate acceptance and provide a sound platform to develop products," said Paul Ehrlich, Trane manager of new product development and chair of oBIX. "Broad industry support for oBIX should create the momentum required for a robust and operationally effective standard."

Key oBIX milestones include a press conference to be held January 26, 2004, at the AHR Expo in Anaheim, CA, and endorsement of and participation in the XML Symposium scheduled for January 27, 2004, at the Anaheim Hilton Hotel. Those interested in becoming involved in oBIX should visit www.oBIX.org.

About CABA

The Continental Automated Buildings Association (CABA) is a leading industry association that promotes advanced technologies in homes and buildings in North America. More information is available at www.caba.org.

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