



Continental Automated
Buildings Association

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

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

1173 Cyrville Road, Suite 210
Ottawa, ON K1J 7S6

Tel: 1. 613.686.1814
Fax: 1.613.744.7833
US/Canada: 1.888.798.CABA

Web: www.caba.org
E-mail: caba@caba.org

CABA LAUNCHES CONNECTED HOME USER INTERFACE STUDY

December 23, 2008

The Continental Automated Buildings Association, through its Connected Home Research Council, is launching a consumer market study that will examine the benefits and attributes of a fully unified user interface for managing home functions.

The market study will make a comprehensive attempt at prototyping a user interface. The dual purpose of the research will be to develop a holistic control system for the consumer's home; and to provide intelligence to CABA's Connected Home Research Council members, in order for them to develop new product concepts.

"This study is of great significance to our efforts to expand the connected home concept," said David Dollihite, Vice President of Product Development, Direct Energy and Chair of CABA's Connected Home Research Council. "It will help CABA Research Council members determine how consumers want to access connected home services and assess where new market and product opportunities exist."

CABA's user interface research project aims to identify various services that simplify the consumer's life in the home. The market study will determine how consumers can manage home energy, control home security, pay bills, access entertainment on demand and content from the Internet using a unified user interface.

The report will also examine a wide breadth of consumer tolerances for the technology: including motivators and barriers towards interface acceptance; how much consumers are willing to pay; their intent to purchase select products and services through an interface; and the capacity for customization, personalization and seamless integration within a Web 3.0 environment.

Companies participating in the user interface project include Direct Energy, Whirlpool Corporation, Trane, Energy Eye, Exceptional Innovation/Lifeware, Best Buy and Zensys/Z-Wave Alliance.

"I am delighted that CABA is undertaking such vital collaborative research on behalf of the industry," said Ronald J. Zimmer, CABA President & CEO. "Opportunities for collaborative research between industry members exist wherever there are common technical or market objectives. Collaborative market research projects are a very cost-effective route for developing market-driven technology solutions, and we are pleased that so many companies have begun to leverage our multi-client research capacity in this uncertain economic period. We know that our user interface research will result in tangible and actionable findings."

About CABA's Connected Home Research Council

CABA's Connected Home Research Council, formerly the Internet Home Alliance, is a cross-industry network of leading companies engaged in collaborative research to advance the connected home space. The Council's research projects enable participating companies to gain important insights into the connected home space and leverage those insights into viable new business opportunities. The Connected Home Research Council is part of the Continental Automated Buildings Association (CABA), a not-for-profit industry association that promotes advanced technologies for the automation of homes and buildings. For more information about the Council, visit www.caba.org/connectedhome.

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.

Media Contact:

Rawlson O'Neil King
Communications Director, CABA
king@caba.org
613.686.1814 x225
888.798.CABA (2222)