



Continental Automated
Buildings Association

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

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

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CABA Launches “Aging in the Connected Home” Research Study

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The Continental Automated Buildings Association has launched a collaborative research study entitled “Aging in the Connected Home” to examine and determine potential product, service, program, and business opportunities based on the needs and expectations of American seniors.

By 2030, 71 million Americans will be over age 65 and studies show that over 90 percent of seniors want to live out their time in their own homes, yet in many cases, seniors must move to assisted living or nursing homes due to incompatibilities with their needs and the home environment. As a consequence, home health care for the elderly is one of the fastest growing industries in the U.S.

CABA’s research project will help organizations understand the opportunities in home health care, new home building, retrofit or remodeling, technology and communications solutions, and myriad services that will generate significant value creation by helping seniors remain in their homes longer. Companies participating in CABA’s “Aging in the Connected Home” research project include: Ascension Health, Ingersoll Rand/Trane/Schlage, TELUS Corporation, and UnitedHealth Group. Sandy Bates, a social innovation consultant, is conducting the research.

The project will endeavor to determine how connected home technology can be applied to several household functions such as medical support, communications, exercise and fitness, food preparation, and health and wellness. Areas of consideration involve understanding the various inputs and outcomes of specific tasks and activities within living spaces that affect the aging adult as they move about a home and take care of basic necessities.

“CABA members believe aging and homecare presents some of the most daunting challenges facing Baby Boomer retirees,” said Ronald J. Zimmer, CABA President & CEO. “But we also firmly believe that these challenges can be met with the effective and efficient use of connected home technology. Our members will therefore continue to build upon the strong research findings we have already conducted in this area.”

In May 2007, CABA completed a “Senior Living” research study that investigated the 51+ demographic and their interests in staying safe, comfortable, and independent in their own homes as they age. The previous study included a telephone survey among 600 Baby Boomers focused on ranking home features and options when choosing a new home. Based upon the findings of that study, CABA undertook a think tank on real world opportunities in an aging population, which directly led to the initiation of its new “Aging in the Connected Home” research project.

CABA expects the study to be completed by October 2011. The study is a major initiative of the CABA Research Program, which offers a range of opt-in technical and advisory research services designed to provide industry stakeholders with collaborative research and R&D opportunities. For more information, please see www.caba.org/research. Organizations can purchase the report by contacting CABA at 888.798.CABA (2222) or 613.686.1814 (x 226).

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 <http://www.caba.org/>.

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