



mobility@work – A European Community for Mobility at the Workplace

Advances in miniaturisation in combination with the availability of low power computing devices and a ubiquitous wireless connectivity make a broad range of innovative solutions possible. Ambient Intelligence (AMI) is the European catch phrase for an appealing vision, where today's conscious usage of a computer system will be substituted by a proactive ICT environment allowing the users an unobtrusive access to a pervasive knowledge space which in turn leads to ICT empowered users. AMI certainly has a great potential to revolutionise the way work is performed and it may lead to completely new work environments.

While mobile information processing has already started to conquer the workplace, mobile innovation has only just begun.

Objectives

The mobility@work community is a self organizing group of experts from different areas all over Europe aiming to shorten the innovation path of the mobile workplace revolution. Currently, several trends with a narrow focus and with marginal connections are being developed independently from each other. On one hand, several problems have already been solved whereas on the other hand, there exist solutions which are not really suitable for practical applications. The community will foster the exchange of knowledge between the different stakeholders, for example between users and developers from different disciplines moving towards a systemic innovation. Among others, this exchange will allow to efficiently introduce new trends into practice or to communicate real world problems from industry to science, thus increasing the competitiveness of industry. Beside a technical exchange, the community will also stimulate the innovation process on a political level. The overall goal is to raise the interest in new ways of working and workplace design, to create a lobby, and to link national initiatives to the European perspective. We want to guide the process of Europe's transformation towards the most competitive knowledge-based society of the world.

Members

The community is open to new members and different interest groups will benefit from participation, e.g.:

- **Users** (e.g. industry, health, service, business):

Solving problems; achieving more with less effort; higher productivity; active participation in the innovation process; articulating wishes; getting help identifying problems; getting the support of the best players in Europe

- **Researchers** (e.g. public, private, Integrated Projects):
New ideas for research; understanding the practical implications of own research; finding the best partners on an interdisciplinary scale; obtaining confidence by industry
- **Developers** (e.g. software companies, integrators)
Making new business; getting access to innovation; better competition on a globalized market; supporting problem-solving; finding the best partners
- **Associations** (e.g. interest groups, lobbies, unions, work associations)
Finding the right contacts; understanding how people will benefit from new technologies; early participation in the creation of new trends
- **Policy makers** (European, national, regional and local)
Helping to make sustainable decisions; understanding trends; early monitoring problems; discussing solutions with multiple dimensions; understanding how to efficiently support the innovation process
- **Others** (e.g. financial, society, ...)

Network

The community will be a "Think-Tank" bringing together the experts from different domains, exploring innovation and bottlenecks, and building bridges between different interests in the area of mobile work. Common activities like workshops, knowledge exchange, projects etc. will make mobility@work a win/win platform and will help to build up trust between partners of different interests. One vision is to initiate "living laboratories" where new technologies and workplace arrangements could be tested and validated in real environments.

Contact:

Chair:
Dr. Hans Schaffers
hans.schaffers@telin.nl
Tel: +31 (0)53 4850418

Vice-Chair:
Dr. Michael Boronowsky
mb@tzi.de
Tel.: +49 (0)421 2187272

Telematica Instituut
P.O.Box 589
7500 AN Enschede
The Netherlands

TZI – Universität Bremen
P.O.B. 33 04 40
D-28334 Bremen
Germany
