Social Aspects of Cooperating Objects Technologies

International Workshop
November 1-2, 2006 | Technical University Berlin

Objectives

The workshop is organized in the framework of the IST-Coordination-Action "Cooperating Embedded Systems for Exploration and Control featuring Wireless Sensor Networks" (Embedded WiSeNts). It complements Embedded WiSeNts´s work on technological aspects and application scenarios as well as appropriate visionary considerations with an analysis of social aspects.

The central goal of the workshop is to identify and discuss the grand challenges emerging on the social side of the cooperating objects technologies, and related technologies like ubiquitous and pervasive computing.

The workshop aims to create awareness of this challenges and to trigger the systematic treatment of the social aspects starting from early stages of design and development of these systems as contrary to the pure "ex post" technology implications assessment.

The workshop not only concentrates on the negative, or unintended, effects of the technology but also on new possibilities emerging from knowledge about the social impact of technology, or its social embeddedness, respectively.

To achieve these goals, it covers a wide range of relevant social aspects within the following four thematic areas:

1. What are the expected implications for market structures and the basis of legal governance, especially concerning questions of privacy and security?

2. What do we know about user expectations and emerging practices of usage, and which methods are suitable to assess them?

3. What are the possibilities of designing human-machine-interaction in a reasonable way, especially when technical autonomy has to be balanced with the requirements of human intervention?

4. What are the possibilities of managing large scale distributed systems, if the involvement of humans is considered?

Further Information and Registration

Internet:: www.embedded-wisents.org/workshop

Email: toepfer@ztg.tu-berlin.de

Program

Wednesday | November 1, 2006

Introduction

Prof. Dr. Adam Wolisz
Telecommunication Networks Group , Technical University Berlin
Welcome Note: Introducing "Embedded WiSeNts" and Aim of the Workshop

Prof. Dr. Werner Rammert
Centre for Technology and Society, Technical University Berlin
Rationale and Organization of the Workshop

Dr. Marcelo Pias
Computer Laboratory, Digital Technology Group, University of Cambridge
Cooperating Objects and Wireless Sensors: The Impact of the Technical Visions on Society.
A Framework for Discussion

Panel 1: Grand Challenges. A Review of Recent Surveys

Prof. Albert Kündig
Swiss Federal Institute of Technology Zurich
Title to be submitted

Prof. Dr. Lorenz Hilty
Department for Technology and Society, EMPA St. Gallen
Social and Environmental Aspects of Pervasive Computing

PD Dr. Ernst Andreas Hartmann
Head of Socio-Economic Section, VDI/VDE Innovation + Technik GmbH
Ubiquitous Computing - Developments and Impacts

Panel 2: Governing Risk, Privacy, Accountability and Trust in Cooperating Objects Environments

Dr. Martin Meints
Independent Center for Data Protection Schleswig-Holstein, Kiel
Technical Concepts of Ubiquitous Computing and Potential Legal Consequences

Stephan J. Engberg (requested)
Priway - Security in Context
Title to be submitted

Dr. Ralf Lindner
Fraunhofer Institute for System and Innovation Research, Karlsruhe
Trust in a World of Ambient Intelligence

Thursday | November 2, 2006

Panel 3: Assessing User Expectations and Anticipating Practices of Use

Somaya Ben Allouch
Department of Communication Science, University of Twente
Ambient Intelligence in Private Spaces. The Confrontation of Design and Use

Prof. Dr. Dorothea Kübler
Microeconomics, Faculty of Economics and Management, Technical University Berlin
Ubiquitous Computing and Economic Experiments - A Perspective

Dr. Matt Jones
Future Interaction Technology Lab, Department of Computer Science, Swansea University
Mobile Interaction Design

Dr. Monika Buscher
Sociology Department , Lancaster University
Designing Ubiquitous Computing: Palpability and Participation

Panel 4: Calibrating the Distribution of Agency in Human-Machine-Interaction

Prof. Dr. Werner Rammert
Center for Technology and Society, Technical University Berlin
Distributed Agency and Control in Socio-Technical Constellations: How to Balance the Cooperation between Humans and Objects?

Dr. Mireille Hildebrandt
Center for Law, Science, Technology and Society Studies, Free University Brussels
Distributed Agency and Legal Responsibility. Speculations about the Legal Implications of Autonomic Computing

PD Dr. Michael Decker
Institute for Technology Assessment and System Analysis, Karlsruhe
Autonomous Controlling of Sensors and Actors. Lessons learned from Human-Robot-Interaction

Panel 5: Managing Complexity in Socio-Technical Networks of Cooperating Objects and Humans

Prof. Dr. Johannes Weyer
Sociology of Technology, Department for Economics and Social Science, University Dortmund
Managing Complexity. Risks and Challenges of Hybrid Systems

Dr. Leon Hempel
Center for Technology and Society, Technical University Berlin
Organizing (Visual) Surveillance: CCTV, Image Processing and Data Management in Public Transport

Concluding Remarks and Final Discussion