



HGI SWITCHES ON TO EUROPEAN ENERGY SAVING REGULATIONS

16 December 2008 - The European Commission (EC) has included recommendations from the Home Gateway Initiative (HGI) for version three of the Code of Conduct on energy consumption of broadband equipment. The latest version of the Code of Conduct was published on November 24th 2008.

The HGI is the leading industry voice in defining home gateways, and has been a major contributor to the Code of Conduct in this area. The work has involved defining the operation states of Customer Premises Equipment, as well as providing targets for the power consumption values of each functional component of the home gateway.

In line with the recommendations made, the HGI is now working on specifying low power mechanisms that allow the home gateway to consume the minimum power corresponding to its current level of activity, by looking at the individual subcomponents and assessing the existing power modes, and evaluating the implementation of additional low power modes. The work of the HGI on energy efficiency also extends deeper into the home network, involving the home gateway's unique role as an always on device, orchestrating home automation.

“Reducing the energy consumption of broadband communication equipment without impeding the fast technological developments and the service provided has been at the forefront of operators’ minds,” explained Duncan Bees, Chief Technical Officer at the HGI. “Energy efficiency will be a major discussion point in the telecoms industry in 2009; we are making efforts to ensure that the EC regulations on this are accurate, forward-looking, and take into account the service scenarios and user experience requirements that our members understand so well.

“Through the HGI and other standards bodies, the telecoms industry is proactively taking a role in ensuring energy efficiency in broadband equipment.”

Representatives of the industry body's worldwide member companies gathered at HGI's 15th quarterly meeting last week, in Warsaw, Poland.

The HGI was founded and launched by nine telecom operators (Belgacom, BT, Deutsche Telekom, France Telecom, KPN, TeliaSonera, NTT, Telefonica and Telecom Italia) in 2004, and now has members from five continents, representing the entire spectrum of actors in the broadband home arena. The main tasks of the HGI are to establish home gateway-related technical and interoperability specifications and provide input to standardisation bodies.

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