

## HGI Adds Arcor to Growing Membership

February 12, 2009 - The Home Gateway Initiative (HGI), the industry body representing players in the home networking space, has announced the addition of Arcor to its list of operator members. Arcor is Germany's second largest telecom operator, and offers voice and broadband services over ISDN and IP networks to over three million users.

Arcor joins a current list of operators that includes Belgacom, BT, Deutsche Telekom, Fastweb, France Telecom, KDDI, KPN, NTT, Portugal Telecom, Swisscom, Telecom Italia, Telefonica, Telecom Slovenije, Telekomunikacja Polska, Telenor, TeliaSonera and Telstra. The role of the HGI is to use its broad member base to establish technical specifications that enable the interoperability of home gateways with multiple connected devices, and the implementation of end-to-end services in the Digital Home.

"The work of the HGI is becoming increasingly important as the value of the digital home continues to grow and operators look to differentiate on the quality of service," said Eric Condette, Project Manager for Customer Equipment at Arcor. "The body of service provider use case materials that the group has generated is invaluable in helping to ensure all the facets of the digital home are considered, and we deliver revenue generating services in an efficient, cost-effective manner."

Eric Condette and Ullrich Meyer, who will both be active contributors to the HGI specifications working groups on behalf of Arcor, managed the development of the first Integrated Access Device (IAD) for Arcor in 2005 and developed an IAD-based NGN in 2007.

HGI Chief Technical Officer, Duncan Bees, said: "Adding new members from the operator community increases our value throughout the entire home networking space. Our member body includes the leading voices for chipset manufacturers, software designers, CPE vendors and the operators driving home gateway deployment, allowing the HGI to provide a vital, focused resource for the telecom industry."

Other members that have joined the HGI in recent months include Comtrend - a supplier of advanced networking solutions, D-Link - a manufacturer of communications solutions for the digital home and Small Office/Home Office (SOHO), Ikanos Communications - a provider of advanced broadband semiconductor and software products for the digital home, Mitsubishi Electric - a manufacturer of communications equipment, Sercomm - a developer of wireless and IP network products, and Soft At Home - a software company providing operating platforms for the digital home environment.

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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