

Related IST project(s) if any: MAGNET Beyond and SPICE (and others)

Length of the workshop: Half a day

Title: User centricity – state of the art

Name of the workshop coordinator: Lene Sørensen* and Herma van Kranenburg°

Affiliation of the workshop coordinator:

*Associate Professor, Ph.D.

°Senior Member of Scientific Staff, Ph.D.

Contact coordinates including email address of the workshop coordinator:

*Center for Information and Communication Technologies, CICT, IMM, Technical University of Denmark (affiliated with MAGNET Beyond); email lene@cict.dtu.dk

°Telematica Instituut (affiliated with SPICE); email Herma.VanKranenburg@telin.nl

Rational: the overall objective of the workshop

In almost all IST projects, user-centricity is a fundamental requirement for designing, developing and discussing future mobile, wireless technologies. However, there is a clear tendency within different IST project to manage the concept in very different terms: some projects involve directly users to derive user requirements and evaluate proposed (technical) solutions while others have a focus on users and use these in scenarios but without user involvement. Deriving user requirements and translating these into technical specifications that the technical parts of the IST projects can use, is a key point in relation to the usability of the user requirements. Moreover, if done properly, this will provide a better user experience and technical innovations that are truly focussing on plausible user needs and usefulness. Again, there are different ways of managing this part. The focus on involving human computer interaction and the more technical economic research areas vary and can (in some cases) create a lot of questions.

The overall purpose of this workshop is to get an overview of how different IST projects handle the user-centricity (such as user-requirements and “translation” of these into technical specifications) and to discuss problems and ways of dealing with these. The workshop aims to initiate discussions on state of the art in terms of handling user-centricity in designing and implementing future mobile, wireless technologies. By exchanging views and experiences in this area, it is the hope that the different IST projects might learn from each others and become better at handling these perspectives.

Preliminary program of the workshop:

Presentations from a number of currently running IST projects on the issue of handling user centricity – problems and ideas. Each presentation will take around 20 minutes. Besides the open call, presentations are solicited from projects like MAGNET Beyond, SPICE, e-Sense, MOBILIFE, CASCOM, aceMedia and MOTIVE.

Last hour will be spent on discussing the premises in today’s IST projects in handling user-centricity issues. Discussions will be on problems and on identifying the first, preliminary trends in deriving a tutorial for handling user-centricity in IST projects. The idea is to form a network for interested parties on discussing these issues also after the workshop.