

Press release FINSENY - International Version

Smart Grid Research for a Renewable Ireland

€5million for EU Collaboration to develop smart energy solutions

Monday 17th October 2011: Leading European energy and ICT companies, R&D centers and universities, including ESB, Intune Networks and the Telecommunications Software & Systems Group (TSSG) have teamed-up to develop innovative “smart grid” energy solutions and services for homes, buildings, industry and the transport infrastructure.

The project aims to identify the requirements of a “smart grid” ICT system. Smart grids provide a balance between the supply of energy generated and demand. They can integrate advanced information and communication technology (ICT) into the energy distribution network so that electricity delivery is remotely controlled and automatically optimised.

The need for smart energy systems is driven by climate change and limited fossil fuel resources. These systems also need to efficiently manage traditional and renewable energy sources and to cater for new energy uses such as electric vehicles (EV). This is particularly relevant in Ireland, which has committed to reducing its carbon emissions by 20% and which aims to have 10% of all vehicles to be electric by 2020.

The ESB, Intune Networks and the TSSG are working together to deliver a smarter, more efficient energy grid for Ireland. The project focuses on developing enhanced services for electric vehicles, by intelligently combining data, such as web and in-car usage information, to optimise the driving experience.

Miguel Ponce de Leon, Chief Technologist at TSSG, said, “Smart grids are more intelligent, which makes them more efficient. We hope that this work will deliver a reduction in operating costs and will make new energy products and services, like electric vehicles, more accessible to consumers.

“The TSSG have already used bio-inspired and autonomic processes to advance energy management control systems in schools, offices and high capacity data centres. The FINSENY project will build on this knowledge and enable us to refine the smart grid infrastructure to support the energy loads that electric vehicles will need”.

ESB hope that this project provides a testbed for further experiments in ICT enabling technologies.

Senan McGrath, CTO of ESB ecars, said the “ESB is committed to helping Ireland achieve its environmental targets and is tasked with making this a reality by rolling out a nationwide charging infrastructure including the supporting IT systems. It is not just about the eco electric cars, the infrastructure or the systems – it is about the entire user experience and value proposition on offer. Electric driving will be enhanced by the use of web based applications and as communications and the internet continue to develop, these opportunities will flourish”.

Intune Networks is a leading technology company that provides a network platform for next generation carrier networks and is involved in designing the smart grid architecture for this project. Intune Networks is also the technology partner for the roll-out of the Irish

Governments “Exemplar” network test-bed. Exemplar is an open access test bed to build and deploy future internet innovative infrastructures and services.

According to Fergal Ward, Director of Research of Intune Networks, “Intune’s vision of the Future Internet is a greater and deeper fusion of internet services and infrastructures. Intune is committed to the FINSENY project and to collaboratively creating an innovative and sustainable Smart Energy infrastructure eco-system”.

“The FINSENY project links some of the best brains of the ICT, energy, R&D and academic worlds. The results of FINSENY will contribute to a sustainable smart energy infrastructure, based on new products and services to the benefit of all European citizens and to the environment” he said.

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Note to editors.

Further information available at:

- FINSENY: <http://www.fi-ppp-finseny.eu/>
- FI-PPP: http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/activities/foi/lead/fipp/index_en.htm

List of FINSENY partners:

Nokia Siemens Networks GmbH & Co. KG, Nokia Siemens Networks Oy, Siemens AG, ABB AG, ABB Schweiz AG, Acciona Infraestructuras S.A., Alcatel-Lucent Deutschland AG, Atos Origin Sociedad Anonima Española, B.A.U.M. Consult GmbH, Busch-Jaeger Elektro GmbH, Electricite de France S.A., Electricity Supply Board, Enel.SI SRL, Engineering - Ingegneria Informatica SPA, E.ON Sverige AB, Ericsson AB, Ericsson GmbH, European Utilities Telecom Council ASBL, Forschungsinstitut für Rationalisierung, France Telecom SA, Institut Polytechnique de Grenoble, Iberdrola SA, Intune Networks Limited, Rheinisch-Westfälische Technische Hochschule Aachen, SAP AG, Siemens Wind Power, Stadtwerke Aachen Aktiengesellschaft, Synelxis Lyseis Pliroforikis Automatismou & Tilepikoinonion Monoprosopi EPE, Telekomunikacja Polska SA, Telefonica Investigacion y Desarrollo SA, Telecom Italia S.p.A, Thales Communications & Security SA. VDE Verband der Elektrotechnik Elektronik Informationstechnik e.V., Teknologian Tutkimuskeskus VTT, Waterford Institute of Technology

For respective media enquiries please, contact: TSSG

About the TSSG

Based in Waterford Institute of Technology (WIT), the TSSG conducts research that addresses the transformation of the telecommunications industry, with a focus on network management and mobile services. The TSSG is at forefront of communications management for networks and services in Europe and is recognised as one of the top European Institutes (industry and academic) driving the specification of the “Future Internet”.

For more information visit: www.tssg.org

ESB

ESB ecars is responsible for the roll out of the charging infrastructure to support the introduction and demand for electric cars in Ireland. ESB ecars fit neatly with ESB's target of having 40% of electricity

generated using renewable sources by 2020 and being a carbon neutral organisation by 2035. And with Ireland's natural advantages in terms of wind and other renewables a large proportion of the power used by electric cars will be carbon free in the future.

Critical to the take up of ecars is the provision of the infrastructure and ESB, as the single owner/operator of the electricity distribution system is responsible for implementing a nationwide charge point network. It will be have open systems and platforms accessible to all supply companies and all types of electric cars.

For more information visit: www.esb.ie/ecars

Intune Networks

Intune Networks was founded in 1999 by John Dunne and Tom Farrell. Intune has developed a solution that can address these challenges enabling a network designed for Web Services and the Cloud. Intune Networks has developed a Pioneering Technology – Optical Packet Switching and Transport (OPST). OPST is a next generation networking platform based upon using fast tuning lasers to switch and transport packets of data simultaneously, with a guaranteed quality of consumer experience.

For more information visit: <http://www.intunenetworks.com>

Media Contact

Deirdre Morrissey
TSSG Marketing & Communications Manager
Tel.: +353 51 302909
dmorrissey@tssg.org