



## Press Information

September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2008

**ATAF participates to OASIS, a new Project partially funded by the European Commission, aims to revolutionize the interoperability, quality, breadth and usability of services addressed to older persons.**

**Announced the 1<sup>st</sup> International OASIS Workshop (Brussels, Belgium - October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008)**

As effect of the increased longevity and reduced birth-rate, the older population is growing at a considerably fast rate. This rapid expansion of the older population affects practically all the regions of the world and is increasing: by 2020 the 65+ population will represent 25% of the overall population in Europe.

The ageing of the population is changing also the workforce scenario: currently in Europe the ratio between working people and retired ones is equal to 4:1 but analysts expect a drastic reduction of this ratio up to 2:1 in 2050. Healthcare and Pension systems are struggling to cope with additional demand also in consideration that age and disability are strongly correlated: around a fifth of people over 50 experience severe vision, hearing and dexterity problems.

The profound, pervasive and enduring consequences of ageing population present enormous challenges as well as enormous opportunities for Information and Communication Technology. A typical example is the Internet that has become an enabler of social inclusion.

The main target of OASIS - a new Project partially funded by the European Commission within the 7<sup>th</sup> Research Framework Program (ICT and Ageing) - is to revolutionize the interoperability, quality, breadth and usability of services for all daily activities of the elderly.

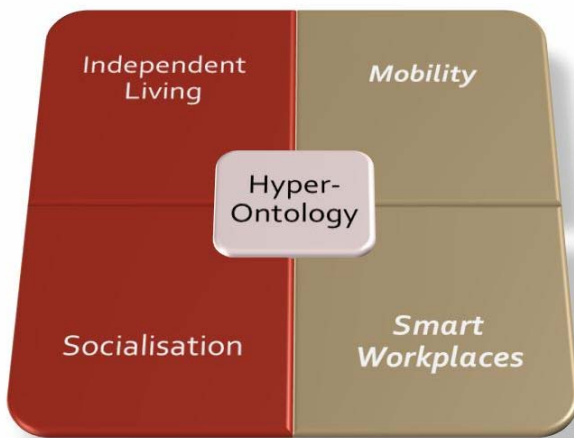
OASIS aims to utilize ICT and other key technologies in order to provide holistic services to the elderly to support their physical and psychological independence, stimulate their social engagement and foster their emotional well being.

The project - started in January 2008 - has an overall length of four years

**The 1<sup>st</sup> OASIS Workshop will be held in Brussels on October 10<sup>th</sup>, 2008 and will have the participation of representatives of the Industry, of Academic and Research communities, of highly recognized experts in the topics addressed by the Project and of Users and User Associations.**



The main target user groups of the Projects are elderly people who experience mild cognitive and physical impairments due to ageing. These people are able, in most cases, to lead independent and active lives, but are at risk of exclusion due to the slight cognitive and physical deteriorations that they are experiencing, as well as the complexity and lack of utility, accessibility and usability of ICT. Offered services – integrated into the OASIS platform -include Independent Living Applications (ILA) such as Nutritional advisor, Activity coach, Brain trainer, Social relationship, Health monitoring and Environmental control and Autonomous mobility and smart workplaces applications (AMSWA) such as Elderly-friendly transport, Elderly-friendly route guidance, Personal Mobility, Tourism, Leisure and Smart Workplaces.



These services will be personalised and adapted to the profile of the users, to their preferences and to their health status.

As user friendliness and acceptability is a top priority for the project, a “user centered-design” approach will be followed along the service and application development.

The resulting integrated systems and services will be tested iteratively and thoroughly by hundreds of end users, their caregivers and other stakeholders in four sites Europe-wide (UK, Germany, Italy and a combined eastern site in Greece, Romania and Bulgaria).

The OASIS platform and applications will be optimized and submitted for standardization by the purpose-established OASIS world-wide Industrial Forum.

The open OASIS Reference Architecture, notably the open source Common Ontological Framework and the related Tools, aim - through *de facto* and *de jure* standardization - to facilitate the connectivity and interoperability of applications in all relevant domains for the benefit of the elderly user.

From a technological point of view OASIS promises to provide relevant innovations over the state-of-the art in areas such as Open Reference Architecture and Ontologies, Intelligent Agents and AMI Framework, Wearable sensors for elderly health and activity monitoring, In-home and Domestic Sensors, Independent Living Applications and Autonomous Mobility and Smart Workplaces Applications.

The OASIS Consortium consists of 33 complementary Partners from 11 countries (Belgium, Bulgaria, China, Germany, Greece, Italy, Mexico, Romania, Spain, Switzerland, United Kingdom).

It is in an excellent position to work towards the realization of all target objectives related to ICT and Active Ageing, because all key actors are present, namely large industries, telecommunication providers, SMEs, Research centres, Universities, End-users organizations and an Association of cities.



The project's participants are:

Philips FIMI, Centre for Research & Technology, Asociación Instituto de Aplicaciones de las Tecnologías de la Información y de las Comunicaciones Avanzadas, Planung Transport Verkehr AG, Mizar Automazione S.p.A., The European Older People's Platform, Siemens S.A., Vodafone-Omnitel Italia, Motorola GmbH, POLIS (Promotion of Operational Links with Integrated Services), Centro Ricerche FIAT, Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft zur Förderung der angewandten Forschung e.V., Universität Bremen, University of Newcastle upon Tyne, SingularLogic S.A., Domologic Home Automation GmbH, ANCO S.A. Agencies, Commerce & Industry, Foundation for Research and Technology Hellas, Marie Curie Association, Connccept Swiss , Eworx S.A., University of Pisa, Intelligent Traffic & Transport Applications SA, ATAF SpA., Blue Point IT Solutions S.r.l., Centro Tecnológico de Automoción de Galicia, Netsmart S.A., Instituto Tecnológico de Monterrey, Tsinghua University / Institute of Human Factors & Ergonomics, Universidad Politécnica de Madrid / Life Supporting Technologies, Innovalia Association, Westpfalz-Klinikum GmbH, Multitel.

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