Ladies and gentlemen, dear colleagues,

supported by the program committee of ChinaCom2007 and by the project management of Ambient Networks we would like to invite you to the special sessions on Ambient Networks in the scope of ChinaCom2007, in names of Siemens IT Solutions and Services as well as Siemens AG Austria as the initiators and organizers of the special sessions.

The future wireless world will be filled by a multitude of user devices, and wireless technologies. Simple-to-use, anytime-anywhere network access affordable for everyone is an undisputed must for the eSociety and i 2010 where the user will expect a rich set of communication services independently of the access used. Devising technologies for true Plug-and-Play networking, efficient use of all infrastructure investments and access competition are the key technical challenges to achieve this vision.

As one of the major integrated research projects initiated by WWI (World Wireless Initiatives) and financially supported by EU in the scope of its Frame Program 6, the project of Ambient Networks is addressing these challenges by developing innovative mobile network solutions for increased competition and cooperation in an environment with a multitude of access technologies, network operators and business actors. It offers a complete, coherent wireless network solution based on dynamic composition of networks that provide access to any network through the instant establishment of inter-network agreements. The concept offers common control functions to a wide range of different applications and access technologies, enabling the integrated, scalable and transparent control of network capabilities.

The project has several phases. Phase 1 (January 2004 – December 2005) has established the overall approach and developed innovative technical concepts. Phase 2 (January 2006 – December 2007) is proving their viability through implementation, integration, measurements and performance evaluation, enabling concurrent standardization. The planned effort of approximately 2200 person-months for each phase reflects the strategic and technical ambitions of Ambient Networks.

Ambient Networks brings together a strong industry-led consortium of the leading operators, vendors, SMEs and research organizations, with the determination, skills and critical mass to create cross-industry consensus for mobile and wireless systems beyond 3G. The results will facilitate the incremental market introduction of new services, and stimulate sustainable growth in the European mobile communications sector.

More detailed information on Ambient Networks can be found at its official web-site http://www.ambient-networks.org/index.html.

The main purpose of the special sessions on Ambient Networks of ChinaCom2007 is to encourage exchanges of ideas, achievements, opinions and information between the team of Ambient Networks and other international professionals and experts, especially our colleagues working in China. 9 papers, coauthored together by more than 30 colleagues being engaged in all research areas of Ambient Networks, will be presented during the special sessions, disseminating major concepts and technologies introduced in Ambient Networks and some important results achieved recently. Although it is impossible to discuss all the aspects of Ambient Networks in details within one or two conference sessions, we will try our best to give you a clear overview of Ambient Networks and welcome any kind of discussion in future.

It will be a great pleasure to be able to welcome you in the Ambient Network special sessions of ChinaCom2007.

Best regards

Dr.-Ing. Di ZHOU   26th April 2007   Vienna, Austria