

Happy prosumers

Wouldn't it be nice for European citizens to produce at least as much energy in their homes as they consume? Future Internet PPP project FINESCE is running a living lab trial in Denmark to make the prosumer vision reality.



The vision of Insero Live Lab for a prosumer community (source: inserolivelab.dk)



Interview with Andy Drysdale about the first insights from the Insero Live Lab

Read more about the prosumer living lab in this issue

Rocking the CeBIT

At CeBIT 2014 in Hanover, the FI-PPP projects FI-CONTENT 2 & FI-WARE held a full-day event that attracted large crowds of ICT experts.



A large crowd wanted to hear about FI-PPP results at the CeBIT 2014 Future Talk

Read more about CeBIT 2014 in this issue

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Future Internet PPP at CeBIT

At CeBIT 2014 in Hanover, the FI-PPP projects FI-CONTENT 2 & FI-WARE held a full-day event that attracted large crowds of ICT experts.



FI-PPP panel session at CeBIT 2014 (from left): Pieter Van Der Linden, Reinhard Karger, Carmen Mac Williams, Philipp Slusalek (all FI-CONTENT 2), Juanjo Hierro (FI-WARE)

The event in CeBIT hall 9 “Innovation and research” on 12 March 2014 was held under the title “Future Internet PPP: Open Platform for Entrepreneurs in Europe”. It featured 14 “Future Talks” that highlighted the results of the two projects so far.



FI-CONTENT 2 demonstration of augmented reality app

Many CeBIT delegates attended to receive information about FI-WARE’s generic software modules, FI-CONTENT 2’s platforms for media entrepreneurs, and funding opportunities offered by the Future Internet PPP programme.

The event brought together research organisations, universities, start-ups, spin-offs as well as company research departments. It included presentations, social events, prize awards and panel discussions giving detailed insights into tomorrow’s technologies.

CeBIT is the annual digital industry’s biggest and most international event in Europe, attracting more than 4,000 companies from over 70 countries and showcasing the latest innovations from the high-tech sector.



Full house at CeBIT 2014 Future Talk for the FI-PPP



Demonstration of results in the exhibition

Further information

Agenda of the event on FI-CONTENT 2 website – <http://mediafi.org/meet-us-at-cebit-2014>

From energy consumer to prosumer – Future Internet living lab in Denmark

In January 2014, the Future Internet use case project for the energy area, FINESCE, launched a living lab trial in eastern Jutland, which paves the way towards making smart energy a reality in everyday life of European citizens.



Opening of the Insero Live Lab in Stenderup (from left): Mogens Vig Pedersen, CEO of Insero; Kirsten Terkilsen, Mayor of the Municipality of Hedensted; Benny Bodholdt, chairman of the Civic Association in Stenderup, and his wife Bodil Bodholdt

The Insero Live Lab in Stenderup, a Danish village near Horsens, explores how to effectively run prosumer communities. Prosumers consume as well as produce energy and, in some cases, have the capacity to store it.

The 20 single family houses of the living lab are equipped with the latest energy and ICT technology in order to test how users interact with technologies and how usable these technologies are in a smart grid system.

The households of the Insero Live Lab have been provided with the following state-of-the-art equipment:

- A heat pump connected to a hydronic heating system
- A solar heating system
- Photovoltaic cells
- A complete home-automation system for control of indoor climate and comfort
- A charging box for an electric vehicle

- A leased electric vehicle
- A broadband Internet connection



Participating families receive their newly leased e-cars

The intelligent energy management system in the homes enables users via an online interface to closely monitor their energy consumption as well as receive information on the development of electricity prices.

The trial is using FI-WARE, an innovative, open cloud-based infrastructure for cost-effective creation and delivery of Future Internet applications and services, which has been developed within the Future Internet PPP.

Beyond testing technologies, the living lab in Stenderup aims at a co-creation process, in which the participating families, together with the technology and service providers, will develop end-user-friendly smart energy products that are using the Future Internet.

For first-hand information on the Stenderup living lab, you can visit the FINESCE Open Day on 12 June 2014 in Aachen, Germany, where the trial will be presented, together with other trial sites.

Insero Living Lab website: inserolivelab.dk

About the FINESCE project

FINESCE is the use case project for the energy area in the second phase of the European innovation programme Future Internet Public Private Partnership (FI-PPP). FINESCE delivers examples of a successful implementation of the FI-WARE cloud infrastructure at real-life trial sites across Europe working on smart energy solutions.

FINESCE website – www.finesce.eu

“The electric vehicle has been a focal point”

Interview with Andy Drysdale about the first insights from the living lab in Stenderup

‘Future Internet News’ wanted to know what initial insights have been gained from the living lab in Stenderup and asked Andy Drysdale. He is director at Insero Business Services, the Danish FINESCE consortium partner in Horsens, and responsible for the Insero Live Lab.



What are the main challenges in running the living lab in Stenderup?

Drysdale: A major challenge of running the living lab in Stenderup is the fact that we are dealing with real families in their homes. These are typical citizens that can be found in Denmark or any other European country, and sometimes their perspective on things is different from ours. We tend to have a project-oriented focus, whereas the issues they deal with, and the questions they have, are related to specific situations in their everyday lives. The success depends not only on how the technologies function, but how the technologies interact with the families. Their experiences in terms of comfort and wellbeing in their home are vital.

Another core challenge of running a living lab is testing future solutions. Here we are dealing with the fact that we are a step ahead of the surroundings and that structural limitations hinder the full potential and usage of the new technologies.

What is the most important benefit of using FI-WARE technology in your trial?

Drysdale: Applying the FI-WARE technology ensures a standardised way of exchanging information between systems and components. This eases integration between different systems – both now and in the future.

Building on existing FI-WARE technologies helps us develop solutions faster. Here is an example: in the past, we have not had specific dealings with security issues, so integrating FI-WARE security components is a faster way of getting access to a mature solution.

Basically, this means that the FI-WARE technologies allow us to take well-known and proven technologies and components and have them interact in new and more intelligent ways, thereby optimising their efficiency and their impact on the entire energy system, which they are only a part of.

What is the most interesting input you get from citizens testing the technologies?

Drysdale: The initial phase has offered some interesting insights and experiences.

We have learned that the electric vehicle has been a focal point for many people – it is interesting and appealing, but at the same time a bit confusing. For example, many families had to consider their current second car, which was a very essential factor to be balanced in the final decision, and they had to figure out if the electric vehicle could effectively replace this car.

Overall, the families can relate to the green and sustainability perspectives and are very positive about their potential contribution to this, but in a project such as FINESCE, it needs to be more tangible and evident what the immediate benefits are, and how they affect the economy. Quite understandably, it is clear that the expectation of saving energy costs is a driver and incentive for most people.

We are positively surprised that the test families take so much action. They do not sit and wait for us to make things happen. They are curious and ask a lot of questions, they educate themselves in the energy area, thus approaching their homes in a new way.

What are your long-term expectations for the local value added and the competitiveness in Stenderup?

Drysdale: Generally, a living laboratory provides valuable data about how the families actually use the technologies in their everyday lives, and how they can be improved, so that even more people may benefit from them.

As a result, Insero Live Lab will serve as one large demonstration and development area, where local, national and international manufacturers and suppliers will have the opportunity to test, develop and demonstrate their products, technologies and services – with the aim of maturing these products for the market as well as creating and generating new or more business.

A living lab is a powerful way to demonstrate technologies and their interaction with people in practice. Here, the users of the future are at the centre of a co-creation innovation process, meaning that new knowledge and ideas for products or services are developed based on actual user needs. This results in a dynamic development, where both the users and the market are part of the development process from the very beginning.

It is important to point out that we see the Living Lab in Stenderup as just the beginning, and it should be considered a stepping-stone towards many new living laboratories in the area. We have already seen a lot of local, regional and national focus on Stenderup and the project. During the FINESCE open call, we also attracted international interest. Many companies - small and large - have so far declared their interest in this type of project, and technology-oriented entrepreneurs see an opportunity to test their products and services. Additionally, local entrepreneurs and companies benefit from working with international partners and the latest technologies, thereby acquiring new knowledge and competences. For example, the majority of the installations in Stenderup has been handled by a local contractor, who points out that he has gained valuable knowledge from working with the FINESCE project.



Competitions for European online TV and game developers

During the upcoming months, FI-PPP project FI-CONTENT 2 will continue to involve European developers in the project by organizing more competitions that incite participants to develop applications using the FI-CONTENT 2 platforms.



ACM TVX 2014 in Newcastle upon Tyne, UK, on 25-27 June 2014

The ACM TVX is the leading international conference for presentation and discussion of research into online video and TV interaction and user experience. In the course of this year's conference, a special event - the Grand Challenge - will take place. The Grand Challenge will encourage leading researchers and innovators from both industry and academia to propose solutions to a set of technical challenges. The FI-CONTENT 2 consortium proposes one of these challenges, looking for a new generation of content-accompanying applications for connected and hybrid TV using second-screen devices and our Social Connected TV Platform technology components.

The best ideas will be awarded prizes worth 3,000 euro plus a travel and accommodation grant to attend the conference in Newcastle upon Tyne. Submission deadline for challenge entries is 30th April 2014.

Visit the TVX website for more information on the event and details on how to participate.



Dare to be Digital 2014

FI-CONTENT 2 will also present the Future Internet Games Contest at the 2014 edition of “Dare to be Digital”, the world’s leading computer game design competition for students. This contest, focusing on the Pervasive Games platform and led by Disney in association with Abertay University, demonstrates a strong mix of real life and Internet experience in a playful way and shows advances in 3D or virtual world environments in a way that becomes immersive and “real”. “Dare to be Digital” is an annual event organised by Abertay University, where 15 teams of students from around the world spend the summer developing a new game at Abertay University in Dundee. Three winning teams are then nominated for the exclusive “BAFTA Ones to Watch” award.

All along the year, FI-CONTENT 2 will organize more events that directly involve European developers and their skills.

Further information

Future Internet Games Contest at “Dare to be Digital” – www.daretobedigital.com/220_Future-Internet-Games-Contest.html

The FIContent Grand Challenge @ TVX2014 – tvx2014.com/participation/grand-challenges

Phase 3 projects on the starting blocks: €80m stimulation for SMEs to expand use cases



Image by FreeDigitalPhotos.net

In phase 3 of the FI-PPP programme, starting in the second half of 2014, 16 new projects using new mechanisms to give over 80 million euros in grants to SMEs for application developments will be started.

The 16 CP-CSA projects will manage open calls for SMEs and web entrepreneurs to be financially supported for the development of innovation applications and services, based on FI-PPP technologies, across a wide range of societal and industrial sectors.

The 16 projects are: CEED ISSUE, CREATI-FI, ExpaMeco, FABulous, FI-ADOPT, FI-C3, FICHe, Finish, FINODEX, FRACTALS, frontierCities, IMPaCT, INCENSE, SmartAgri-Food2, SOUL-FI, and SpeedUp_Europe, and their collective ambition is to have up to 1,600 novel Future Internet applications developed and running by 2016.

Technology foundation continuation project

In the second half of 2014, a new technology foundation continuation project, FI-Core, will build on the work of FI-WARE, ensure availability of open source implementations and provide support to the other FI-PPP projects for the remainder of the programme.

Promoting uptake and use of FI-PPP results

Also in the second half of 2014, the four new FI-PPP support action projects: FI-LINKS, FI Business, FI-IMPACT, and I3H will start on a series of activities to highlight the business relevance and usefulness of the FI-PPP results to date and thereby to significantly increase the uptake and usage of the FI-PPP results.

Information on the phase 3 projects and the open calls will be available in due time on the FI-PPP website.

UPCOMING EVENTS

1st European Conference on the Future Internet Brussels, Belgium – 2-3 April 2014



With close to 300 registered participants, this major FI-PPP event was fully booked a week before the registration deadline. All those who cannot attend will find news from ECFI Brussels, including videos, while the event is ongoing and immediately afterwards on the event website and via Twitter:

www.ecfi.eu/Brussels2014

ECFI Brussels Twitter hashtag: [#ECFI1](https://twitter.com/ECFI1)

2nd European Conference on the Future Internet Munich, Germany – 17-18 September 2014



The 2nd ECFI in Munich will focus on the major results of FI-PPP phase 2 and on the upcoming phase 3. Anyone interested in learning more about the 80 million euros for SMEs and web entrepreneurs in phase 3 should attend.

www.ecfi.eu

The ECFI Munich pages will be available soon

About the FI-PPP programme

The Future Internet Public-Private Partnership (FI-PPP) is a European programme for Internet-enabled innovation. The FI-PPP will accelerate the development and adoption of Future Internet technologies in Europe, advance the European market for smart infrastructures, and increase the effectiveness of business processes through the Internet.



FI-PPP website: www.fi-ppp.eu

FI-PPP on Twitter: [@fi_ppp](https://twitter.com/fi_ppp)

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Editor: Milon Gupta, Eurescom (CONCORD project)

Contributors: Kristin Petersen (FINESCE), Hugo Vivier (FI-CONTENT 2)

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