Preface

AAL is an initiative supported by the EU Commission through a Joint Programme aiming to enhance the quality of life of elderly people living in their own homes. Motivated by the growing aging population in the world (and specifically in Europe), this initiative pursues to guarantee the quality of life of elderly people by using information and communication technologies (ICT) accessible through simple and natural users’ interactions.

Aspects like e-health, inclusion, mobility, risks prevention, frailty, fall detection and revention, among others, are in the research agenda of this area. In addition, industry should get involved in providing assistive products that address elderly people’s needs, a big potential market which, in general, has good economic resources in the western world.

The International Workshop on Ambient Assisted Living (IWAAL), through its three editions, promotes knowledge sharing and collaboration among researchers in the AAL field. In this third edition, 30 papers were presented, grouped in the following sections: Mobile Solutions, Smart and Wireless Sensors, Applications for Cognitive Impairments, e-Health, Methodologies, Brain–Computer Interfaces, Frameworks and Platforms.

In addition this edition had active participation from Spanish associations and platforms for AAL. We appreciate very much their efforts in addressing aging problems like Alzheimer disease, dementia and other cognitive impairments. We want to remark that the work of these platforms, governmental agencies and relatives in the daily caring activities of elderly people is very valuable. The attendance of representatives from these collectives to the workshop was very fruitful and encouraged the creation of collaborative research consortiums in future AAL calls of the European Union.

Finally, we would like to thank to the IWANN organization for the opportunity of organizing a new edition of the IWAAL workshop with their conference.

June 2011

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# Table of Contents

## 1. Mobile Proposals for AAL

Remote Monitoring and Fall Detection: Multiplatform Java Based Mobile Applications .............................................. 1

* Miguel A. Laguna and Javier Finat

Results of Mobility and Obstacles Detection of an Experimental Three-Legged Prototype for Blind and Deafblind People ............... 9

* J. Alberto García and Javier Poncela

Mobile Augmented Reality Based on the Semantic Web Applied to Ambient Assisted Living ........................................ 17

* Ramón Hervás, Alberto Garcia-Lillo, and José Bravo

Using and Applying MobiPattern to Design MoMo Framework Modules ........................................................ 25

* Vladimir Villarreal, Jesus Fontecha, Ramón Hervás, and José Bravo

Indoor Navigation and Product Recognition for Blind People Assisted Shopping ....................................................... 33

* Diego López-de-Ipiña, Tania Lorido, and Unai López

Easing the Mobility of Disabled People in Supermarkets Using a Distributed Solution .............................................. 41

* Aitor Gómez-Goiri, Eduardo Castillejo, Pablo Orduña, Xabier Laiseca, Diego López-de-Ipiña, and Sergio Fínez

## 2. Applications for Cognitive Impairments

Distributed Tracking System for Patients with Cognitive Impairments ........................................................ 49

* Xabier Laiseca, Eduardo Castillejo, Pablo Orduña, Aitor Gómez-Goiri, Diego López-de-Ipiña, and Ester González Aguado

Designing Messenger Visual, an Instant Messaging Service for Individuals with Cognitive Disability ............................ 57

* Pere Tuset, Juan Miguel López, Pere Barberán, Léonard Janer, and Cristina Cervelló-Pastor

ATHENA: Smart Process Management for Daily Activity Planning for Cognitive Impairment ................................. 65

* Eva Hidalgo, Luis Castillo, R. Ignacio Madrid, Óscar García-Pérez, M.R. Cabello, and J. Fdez-Olivares
RFID Performance in Localization Systems .......................... 73
   Iván Álvarez, Pedro Malagón, Marina Zapater,
   Juan-Mariano de Goyeneche, and José M. Moya

3. e-Health

Emergency System for Elderly – A Computer Vision Based
Approach ...................................................... 79
   Rainer Planinc and Martin Kampel

Communication Architecture for Tracking and Interoperable Services
at Hospitals: A Real Deployment Experience ........................ 84
   Augusto Morales, Tomás Robles, Ramón Alcarria, and David Alonso

Live Interactive Frame Technology Alleviating Children Stress and
Isolation during Hospitalization ........................................... 92
   Pablo Antón, Antonio Maña, Antonio Muñoz, and
   Hristo Koshutanski

4. Smart and Wireless Sensors

Review and New Proposals for Zigbee Applications in Healthcare and
Home Automation ..................................................... 101
   Iker Caballero, Javier Vicente Sáez, and Begoña García Zapirain

AVATAR: An Open Source Architecture for Embodied Conversational
Agents in Smart Environments ......................................... 109
   Marcos Santos-Pérez, Eva González-Parada, and
   José Manuel Cano-García

Cognitive Wireless Sensor Network Device for AAL Scenarios ......... 116
   Fernando López, Elena Romero, Javier Blesa, Daniel Villanueva, and
   Álvaro Araujo

An Ambient Assisted Living Platform to Integrate Biometric Sensors
to Detect Respiratory Failures for Patients with Serious Breathing
Problems ........................................................................... 122
   Antonio J. Jara, Miguel A. Zamora, and
   Antonio F. Gómez Skarmeta

A 6LoWPAN-Based Foundation for AAL-Applications ............... 131
   Matthias Felsche, Lars Schulz, Andrea Schuster, and
   Horst Schwetlick
## 5. Applied Technologies, Frameworks and Platforms

SENIORCHANNEL: An Interactive Digital Television Channel for Promoting Entertainment and Social Interaction amongst Elderly People  
*Ana Hernandez, Francisco Ibañez, and Neftis Atallah*  
137

An Interactive Content Service for Photo Frames in the Home  
*Carlos Lopes, Rui José, and Ana Aguiar*  
143

System Approach to AAL Applications: A Case Study  
*Lenka Lhotska, Jan Havlík, and Petr Panyrek*  
151

A Presence-Aware Smart Home System (PASH)  
*Ernesto García Davis and Anna Calveras Augé*  
159

Applying Zheleznogorsk Robotics for Learning Children with Disabilities  
*Anton Khnykin, Nikolay Laletin, and Victor Uglev*  
167

Context-Awareness in a Service Oriented e-Health Platform  
*P. García-Sánchez, S. González, A. Rivadeneyra, M.P. Palomares, and J. González*  
172

HOMEdotOLD, HOME Services aDvancing the sOcial inTeractiOn of eLDerly People  
*Konstantinos Perakis, Gianna Tsakou, Christoforos Kavvadias, and Alkis Giannakoulias*  
180

TALISMAN+: Intelligent System for Follow-Up and Promotion of Personal Autonomy  
*David Ausín, Diego López-de-Ipiña, José Bravo, Miguel Ángel Valero, and Francisco Flórez*  
187

## 6. Methodologies and Brain Interfaces

Stress Telecare Using a Smart Device Controller  
*Nicolas Boulesteix, Javier Vicente, Begoña García Zapirain, and Amaia Méndez*  
192

Image Processing Algorithms for AAL Services  
*Iván Ovejero, Elena Romero, Zorana Bankovic, Pedro Malagón, and Álvaro Araujo*  
201
A Methodology for Developing Accessible Mobile Platforms over Leading Devices for Visually Impaired People .......................... 209
Patricia Arroba, Juan Carlos Vallejo, Álvaro Araujo, David Fraga, and José M. Moya

Context-Awareness as an Enhancement of Brain-Computer Interfaces . . . 216
Agustin A. Navarro, Luigi Ceccaroni, Filip Velickovski, Sergi Torrellas, Felip Miralles, Brendan Z. Allison, Reinhold Scherer, and Josef Faller

Author Index .......................................................... 225