Assistive Technology Opportunities

Frank Wagner
Adj. Prof. (QUT) Dr.-Ing.

Frank.Wagner@iao.fraunhofer.de

Fraunhofer Institute for Industrial Engineering
University of Stuttgart - Institute for Human Factors and Technology Management
Supply-side capabilities - Strategic AT relationships
Fraunhofer AAL Allianz

- Alliance of 13 Fraunhofer institutes, including IAO, collaborating on Ambient Assisted Living (AAL) solutions and Personal Health systems

- Aims of the alliance
  - Design of a common system concept that provides the basis for the seamless integration of different components and (partial) solutions
  - Further development of relevant technologies, such as sensors, assistive systems and health care

Source: aal.fraunhofer.de
Supply-side capabilities - Strategic AT relationships
Care 2020

- Pflege 2020 is a long-term research initiative coordinated by Fraunhofer IAO that includes various stakeholders related to the future of care, e.g. care and assistive technologies providers but also industrial companies that want to support their employees in handling care situations.

- It is financed through member fees (30.500 EUR for two-years membership).

- The focus is both on supporting care personnel in their daily work and new technologies that foster the autonomy of elderly people.

- Each research phase runs for 24 month (the current one started in April this year).

Source: pflege2020.de
Supply-side capabilities - Strategic AT relationships
Care 2020

- Exemplary results of the alliance’s joint activities:
  - Large-scale interviews and surveys with current and future customers
  - Customer profiles (e.g. lifesystyle, see images on the right)
  - Future scenarios
  - Show case Pflege 2020 (see InHaus)
  - Care Service Engineering in Second Life
  - InnoCheck
  - Publication

Source: Spath et al.: Pflege 2020. Lebensstilgerechte Versorgung in der Altenhife (study published by the alliance)
Supply-side capabilities – Strategic AT relationships
Care 2020

Benefits:

- More certainty about the future
- Practical relevance
- Scientific expertise
- Cross-sector interdisciplinarity
- Image as innovation leaders

Source: pflege2020.de
Supply-side capabilities – University of applied Science

AT competencies

- Bachelor’s degree “Assistive Technologies” offered at a German university (Jade Hochschule Wilhelmshaven Oldenburg Elsfleth)

- Interdisciplinary approach:
  - Medicine
  - Gerontology
  - Social sciences
  - Architecture
  - Engineering
  - …

Source: http://tgm.jade-hs.de/web/file/Studiengang_Assistive_Technologien.php
Strategic AT relationships
Fraunhofer contacts

Fraunhofer AAL
Allianz

Pflege 2020

AT research networks & initiatives

Tellur

Biedermann

Ottobock

AT providers

Bauernfeind

Care providers

Alloheim

Regional AT clusters

MedicalMountains

Other stakeholders

Associations

Trade unions

Health insurance companies

Fraunhofer IAO
“When the Wind of Change blows, some People build Walls, others build Windmills.”

(Chinese Proverb)