News Release

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Honeywell to Apply Advanced Controls and Home Automation Technology to Help Elders Stay in Their Homes

NIST and Honeywell to Share Cost of the 2.5 year, $5 Million Program

Minneapolis, Minnesota, October XX, 2000 -- Honeywell Laboratories (HL), the research and development organization for Honeywell [NYSE: HON], has won a NIST Advanced Technology Program (ATP) contract to share in initial development costs for an intelligent home automation system. The objective of the program, called Independent LifeStyle Assistant, is to enable the elderly to live and function safely at home.

``Success in this effort adds up to a win for everyone``, said Barry Johnson, Honeywell Chief Technology Officer. ``For the elderly and other special needs folks, the ability to live independently at home; for their loved ones, peace of mind; huge cost savings for Medicare and Medicaid; and a growing market for Honeywell and other in-home product producers. These are research dollars well spent.``

The number of elderly in the US is increasing, and will rise dramatically as ``baby boomers`` retire. 43% of people over 65 will enter a nursing home or assisted-living facility at some point. And though research indicates the elderly strongly prefer to live independently at home, many require assistance that, today, forces a move.

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Costs associated with nursing home care alone will reach $131 billion by 2005, with the Federal Government paying 57%. And this does not account for the financial, emotional stress placed on informal caregivers looking after seniors who do remain at home. Honeywell, with long experience in control systems and home automation, believes the special needs of the elderly can often be better and less expensively met with an intelligent automation system that transforms the legacy home into an assisted environment.

Such an environment would assist the owner in very practical ways. Let`s look at a potentially hazardous situation, for example. A kitchen air sensor detects oven overheating. The system uses room motion detectors, or works from indirect evidence like a recently triggered TV remote, to locate the owner. When located, the system uses the most appropriate method to notify the owneró in this case, a synthesized voice over a loud-speaker, or a message flashed on the TV. The owner can command the system to shut off the stove or to ignore it. If the system gets no response, it might next place a phone call to a neighbor, or turn off the stove directly. Owner failure to respond would also trigger a system attempt to determine the reason for the failure, whether medical attention might be needed. Other important assists could include reminding the owner when to take medications, even using a dispenser to determine if medications have been taken.

While a growing number of ``smart`` home products are reaching the market, this program`s goal is to enhance the entire environment -- to *intelligently* integrate emerging home sensing and automation technologies. The resulting control system will be built upon knowledge-based situation awareness and intelligent response planning, and specially-designed user interfaces. This intelligent architecture will expand the usability of smart in-home devices from a broad range of companies, including Honeywell.

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Realization of such an environment requires simultaneous solution of complex human-centered system, system engineering, and intelligent system challenges. Users will be variously disabled and may be uncomfortable with automation complexity. Moreover, custom solutions for individual needs, house layouts, and device mixes must be achieved at near zero customization cost.

If successful, however, this joint Honeywell/NIST program could greatly reduce the physical and financial burden of caring for the elderly and infirm, while preserving their quality of life by significantly extending the period when they could happily and safely live at home.

Locate NIST`s Independent LifeStyle Assistant brief at:
http://www.nist.gov/public_affairs/atp2000/00004174.htm

Honeywell is a US$24-billion diversified technology and manufacturing leader, serving customers worldwide with aerospace products and services; control technologies for buildings, homes and industry; automotive products; power generation systems; specialty chemicals; fibers; plastics; and electronic and advanced materials. The company is a leading provider of software and solutions, and Internet e-hubs including MyPlant.com, MyFacilities.com and MyAircraft.com (joint venture with United Technologies and i2 Technologies). Honeywell employs approximately 120,000 people in 95 countries and is traded on the New York Stock Exchange under the symbol HON, as well as on the London, Chicago and Pacific stock exchanges. It is one of the 30 stocks that make up the Dow Jones Industrial Average and is also a component of the Standard & Poor`s 500 Index. Additional information on the company is available on the Internet at www.honeywell.com.

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