



# Press Information

OSGi Alliance presents the networked world of the future at the OSGi Alliance World Congress

## **Intelligent networking without borders: industry standards prolong product lifetimes**

**San Ramon, California – September 28, 2004 : Out-of-date software embedded in equipment is a growing problem, and presents challenges to both consumers, who demand up-to-date products, and on the supply side to manufacturers, application developers and service providers. The OSGi Alliance has a solution, and is already offering innovative answers to the challenges of ensuring that previous generation equipment are still able to meet current generation standards.**

The OSGi Alliance is paving the way for technology that will keep software in a new car up-to-date throughout its 10- to 20-year lifecycle. A simple software upload will ensure that a car's embedded software remains up-to-date, therefore ensuring, for example, that today's technology can use tomorrow's advances in safety. In addition, owners will be able to add new programs to a car's on-board computer, and upgrade to the latest versions of diagnostics and engine management software, throughout the car's lifetime.

The OSGi Alliance's goal is that consumers can also upgrade software within today's white goods and home networking systems. Through built-in future proofing, these will continue to offer the latest in functionality, throughout their lifecycle. Although the control of these devices from a mobile phone handset is still in its infancy, future generations of mobiles will offer this as a standard.

As for mobile phones, the OSGi Alliance is a driving force towards enabling mobile phone owners to more easily upgrade the devices in future. Upgradeability of mobiles will become increasingly important in the years ahead to ensure that the platforms, operating systems and additional applications such as games and multimedia are up-to-date.

### **Standardisation and networking**

The OSGi Service Platform is software that allows enabled devices able to keep abreast of the latest updates. The standardized, open, Java-based middleware plat-

form also plays a vital role in cross-linking of many different devices, and allows the delivery and management of new functionalities.

The OSGi Service Platform makes it possible to extend the life of products as diverse as cars and mobile phones, by dynamically updating the embedded software. This is achieved at the lowest possible cost to end-users, and without any interruptions in service: updates require zero downtime.

For developers, the benefits are also clear: they are enabled to focus on their applications, because the OSGi Service Platform obviates the need for lengthy test and debugging phases on a plethora of different operating systems.

Importantly, this technology is available today, and is not just vaporware: products based on the OSGi Service Platform are already on the market.

### **OSGi technology in action today**

Shell recently launched an OSGi technology-based home automation product – Shell HomeGenie. This system provides users with remote control over household devices, as well as remote monitoring, and uses the Motorola Residential Gateway MS1000 to communicate with cameras, thermostats and sensors in the home, as well as controlling the power supplies to individual appliances within the home.

The UK-based insurance company Norwich Union is using OSGi technology to offer flexible car insurance rates. For subscribing policyholders, the insurer links premiums to telematics information gathered in a joint project with OSGi Alliance member IBM.

BMW based the high-end Infotainment platform in its latest-generation 5-Series car on OSGi specifications, while German company RaumComputer AG is already realizing the vision of a Computer Integrated Building (CIB), with its solution based upon the OSGi-certified mBedded Server from ProSyst Software AG, offering web-based building control, through management of systems such as lighting, air conditioning and window shutters.

In addition, manufacturers such as Philips and Bosch-Siemens household appliances have already launched the first domestic products based on OSGi technology – see [www.osgi.org/products/solutions](http://www.osgi.org/products/solutions) for further information.

### **OSGi Alliance 2004 World Congress**

At the OSGi Alliance 2004 World Congress, Nokia and Motorola will present a snapshot of the functionality offered by Java-enabled mobile devices, based on OSGi technology, and set to redefine the meaning of middleware for mobile products.

The OSGi Alliance 2004 World Congress will take place between the 11th and 15th October at the Hilton Hotel in Barcelona, Spain. This year's congress is focused on the theme of "Convergence: Going Mobile, Driving, and Staying Home with OSGi solutions".

Further information about the congress, and opportunities to sign up and attend presentations and workshops, is available on the official website:

[www.osgiworldcongress.com](http://www.osgiworldcongress.com).

#### **About the OSGi Alliance**

The OSGi Alliance and its members specify, create, advance, and promote wide industry adoption of an open delivery and management platform for application services in home, commercial buildings, automotive and industrial environments. The OSGi Alliance serves as the focal point for a collaborative ecosystem of service providers, developers, manufacturers, and consumers. The OSGi specifications define a standardized, component oriented, computing environment for networked services. OSGi technology is currently being delivered in products and services shipping from several Fortune Global100 companies. The OSGi Alliance's horizontal software integration platform is ideal for both vertical and cross-industry business models within home, vehicle, mobile and industrial environments. As an independent non-profit corporation, the OSGi Alliance also provides for the fair and uniform creation and distribution of relevant intellectual property – including specifications, reference implementations, and test suites – to all its members. [www.osgi.org](http://www.osgi.org)

#### **About Global Inventures, Inc, (event producer)**

Global Inventures creates and manages collaborative communities in the technology market and produces educational events and workshops. The firm uniquely blends people, processes, and technology to help technology consortia move from blueprint to market acceptance. Global Inventures has driven the launch of over 20 industry associations, overseen the creation of dozens of technology specifications and managed many compliance and certification programs.

Global Inventures successfully produced the 2003 OSGi Alliance World Congress, and its event production staff provides end-to-end event planning and implementation for conferences, expos, member meetings and outreach seminars. Global Inventures: *Accelerating Results Through Collaboration*™  
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