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Background Sheet: ClimateTalk™

Technology

ClimateTalk™ is a universal language for innovative, cost-effective solutions that optimize performance, efficiency and home comfort. Built on a common information model to enable simple connectivity and seamless information integration. Architected to enable each device to have independent decision-making capabilities providing flexibility, customization and interoperability within a common framework. ClimateTalk open standards are being developed to meet market demands for automated, plug and play solutions for a connected home.

Benefits

ClimateTalk brings simplicity in installation, diagnostics and capability for advanced control to high functionality applications. Initially designed for the residential HVAC market, ClimateTalk currently offers ease of network set up and installation for contractors, as well as a simple-to-use solution for the homeowner. ClimateTalk can open the door to increasing demand for high-performance, energy-saving HVAC equipment.

ClimateTalk uses an open model approach that can communicate common messages and commands that are fundamental to applications. It can expand message sets and applications and allow for the addition of new components without upgrading the user interface, offering ease of integration and flexibility for the OEM and allowing for OEM differentiation within a common framework.

As the demand for Smart Energy applications increases, ClimateTalk also enables a path for interoperability and connectivity of all energy consumers on the network. Instead of on or off response, communicating, interoperable equipment can make better decisions to provide reduced energy consumption without sacrificing homeowner comfort or convenience. As HVAC and Water Heating equipment consumes 55-60 percent of the energy in a home, everyone from the utility to OEMs to the homeowner will benefit from a unified approach to improving efficiency through communications.

An organization of industry experts, ClimateTalk Alliance has been formed as an ecosystem to drive collaboration on standards to address fragmentation in the HVAC Communications market and provide interoperability for applications that support a future vision of a connected home.

Applications

ClimateTalk is currently featured in communicating residential HVAC systems and is being expanded for use in integrated zoning applications and for connecting water heaters to a common user interface. The basis of ClimateTalk was designed around a common language for innovative, cost-effective solutions, which allows for overall flexibility and expandability among numerous applications including air quality equipment, energy management systems and other applications that can benefit from advanced control and diagnostics capabilities. The open architecture also allows it to be adapted by any manufacturer and provides end users with a choice of vendors.