



Press release

KNX - 20 years as the worldwide standard for home and building control

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KNX celebrates its 20th anniversary

Brussels, 10 April 2010. KNX – this means 20 years as the worldwide standard for home and building control systems. On 5th of May 1990 15 renowned European manufacturers from the electrical industry founded the EIBA, the European Installation Bus Association. The idea was: making electrical installations with BUS technology ready to face the future. With the recognition of the KNX standard as the European standard EN50090 and as the world-wide building and home control standard ISO/IEC 14543, the decisive step had been taken towards world-wide application. And after two decades, the bus standard has not lost any energy. On the contrary: with the new ETS4, extended applications and increased internationalisation, KNX will continue its worldwide powerful growth.

At the beginning there was a vision: “It must be possible to more strongly include the market of classic electrical installation in the rapid development of electronics“. In 1984 Siemens started to develop a system on the basis of a separate two-core low voltage line and the associated hardware and software. In 1987 the companies Berker, Gira, Jung, Insta, Merten and Siemens founded the Instabus Association and developed this bus system further until the EIBA was founded. This was paralleled in Europe by the development of the French Batibus and, with the help of European funds, the EHS system. In 2006 these three European systems were united under the roof of the KNX Association and the EIB Standard was agreed upon as the basic technical principle.

KNX establishes the standard

The recognition as European Standard EN 50090 marked the beginning of a new European era for KNX. The decisive step towards world-wide distribution was taken in 2007. The different parts of the European standard EN 50090 were integrated into the worldwide standard ISO/IEC 14543. As compared to the 15 manufacturers in 1990, there are now almost 200 manufacturers in 28 countries throughout the world. The KNX Association is represented in over 20 countries by its KNX national associations. There are almost 20,000

certified KNX partners in 101 countries. KNX basic principles are taught worldwide in 147 certified training centres in 27 countries.

The following characteristics very clearly define the KNX standard:

- a unique manufacturer independent Engineering Tool Software ETS
- interoperability and interworking capability guaranteed by independent product certification
- supporting all transmission media (IP/Ethernet, Radio Frequency, Twisted Pair, Powerline)

KNX is the future.

The establishment of KNX has been impressive, an achievement no other system in this field can boast. This has been achieved as a result not only of the rapid integration of the market players involved, but also because the system is so open, and many developments which did not appear until more recently could be integrated without problems. Over time it emerged that technologies such as audio/video, green building systems and smart metering found their ideal platform in the KNX standard.

The new ETS4 will make electricians, planners and system integrators in many countries even more competent in the area of home and building control systems. The intuitive interface assures an easy entry into the KNX world and will increase the number of KNX users.

The globalisation of KNX is a mammoth task which is progressing step by step. In addition to the numerous activities by KNX members in various countries, many new KNX certified training centres are being established in Asia, Africa and America.

The jubilee festivities

KNX plans to celebrate its 20th anniversary with a number of different activities throughout the year. Already in Mid-February the inaugural event took place at the Brussels "Atomium" during the general assembly of the KNX members. The celebrations to honour the 20th anniversary culminated with the KNX worldwide top event 2010 held at the "Light+Building" Fair in Frankfurt, the leading trade fair for architecture and technology. On 13 April at 6.30pm, the great 20-year jubilee show including the KNX Award Ceremony and the world premiere of the new ETS4 took place at the "Forum" on the fairgrounds. Over 1,000 guests from 52 countries throughout the world attended the show. All national KNX groups plan to organise a jubilee event in fall (20 October

2010). It is planned to connect the worldwide members via a web conference. The active KNX national groups will organise their own large-scale national events in their countries.



Picture 1: KNX - 20 years as the worldwide standard for home and building control

KNX Association is the creator and owner of the **KNX** technology – the worldwide STANDARD for all applications in home and building control, ranging from lighting and shutter control to various security systems, heating, ventilation, air conditioning, monitoring, alarming, water control, energy management, smart metering as well as household appliances, audio/video and lots more. **KNX** is the worldwide standard for home and building control with a single, manufacturer independent design and commissioning tool (ETS), with a complete set of supported communication media (TP, PL, RF and IP) as well as a complete set of supported configuration modes (system and easy mode). **KNX** is approved as a European (CENELEC EN 50090 and CEN EN 13321-1) and an International standard (ISO/IEC 14543-3). This standard is based upon more than 20 years of experience in the market including its predecessors, EIB, EHS and BatiBUS. Over 190 member companies worldwide from different application domains have almost 7000 **KNX** certified product groups in their catalogues. The **KNX** Association has partnership agreements with more than 30,000 installer companies in almost 100 countries.

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