

IT@Home: Unraveling Complexities of Networked Devices in the Home

CHI 2006 Workshop Call for Participation

The home is becoming a complex and hard to manage collection of computers and digital lifestyle devices. The work to setup and maintain a network of digital living devices in the home is similar to the work of IT professionals. Indeed the growing complexity of interconnected digital devices results in more and more time spent solving problems with those devices and their configurations, an important part of computer use that we call “IT@Home”. The workshop will be structured to consider four areas of focus:

- Perspectives – How should we consider IT@Home? What theories apply to IT@Home?
- Problem Framing – What are critical problems in IT@Home?
- Empirical Study – Case studies and examples of effectively studying home IT.
- Design – What are some critical design issues for IT@Home?

Contributions to these conceptual areas that are illustrated through data and case studies will be valued by researchers, designers, product teams and market analysts through the coming years.

Individuals interested in participating in this full-day workshop should submit a position paper on IT@Home that addresses one of the four areas listed above. Position papers should be limited to 4 pages. Submissions in PDF or Word should be sent to David McDonald dwmc@u.washington.edu by December 15, 2005. Notifications of acceptance to the workshop will be made in early February 2006.

For more information on the workshop please visit:

<http://www.ischool.washington.edu/mcdonald/itathome/>