

# HomePlug Powerline Alliance



## **Enabling the Connected Home**



## An Introduction





#### Who Are We?



#### HomePlug Powerline Alliance, Inc. is:

- A nonprofit corporation
- Established to provide a forum for the creation of open specification for home powerline networking products and services
- Created to accelerate demand for these products and services through the sponsorship of market and user education programs



### Who's Behind HomePlug?



#### Founding members include:



Compaq





CONEXANT











Panasonic





🔅 Texas Instruments



## What the Members Bring



- Perspectives representing all aspects of home networking, including:
  - Services & Content
  - Retail
  - Hardware & Software
  - Semiconductors
  - Technology
- Core capabilities and financial/time commitment to develop, launch and market powerline technology
- Membership includes 80 industry leading companies that are shaping the future of home powerline networking technology

#### HomePlug Membership



**3Com Corporation** 3R **Adaptive Networks AES Corporation** Alcatel Alliant Energy **Ameren Corporation American Power Conversion Analog Devices** Ascom Powerline Comm. AG **Bose Corporation Broadcom Corporation Cinergy Corporation Cirrus Logic** Cisco **Cogency Semiconductor** Compag **Conexant Systems Consolidated Edison Core Technology CYGNAL** Integrated **DATASOFT ISDN Systems Digigram SA Digital 5** DS2 **Efficient Networks EMTAC** Technology Enikia

Ericsson **ESS** Technology **Excelsus Technologies Farallon Communications France Telecom Fuiitsu Limited** Hawaiian Electric Company **Hewlett Packard** HomeConnect LLC **ILEVO AB Intel Corporation Intellon Corporation Invensys Network Systems iReady Corporation ITRAN** Communications **Kevin Telecom** LG Electronics Linksvs M@in.net Communications Montana-Dakota Utilities Motorola NETGEAR Nokia Networks OY nSine

## **80 members** (as of 2/2001)

**Oneline AG Panasonic Technologies PG&E** Corporation **Philips Power Management** Phonex Broadband Corp. **PolyTrax Information** Portal Player, Inc. **Potomoc Electric Power Company** ProSyst **Pulse Specialty Components** RadioShack **Rainmaker Technologies** Sanyo Electric Company Scenix Semiconductor ShareGate Sharp Laboratories of America Siemens AG Sohoware **SONIC**blue **Tality UK Limited** Tamura **TECO Energy Telewise Communications** Telkonet **Terayon Communications Systems** Texas Instruments Valence Semiconductor Xilinx Copyright © 2000, HomePlug Inc



#### **Our Beliefs**



#### **Our Vision**:

To deliver Internet and multimedia from every home power outlet and enable the connected home through worldwide home powerline networking standards

#### **Our Mission**:

To enable and promote rapid availability, adoption and implementation of cost-effective, interoperable and standards-based home powerline networks and products



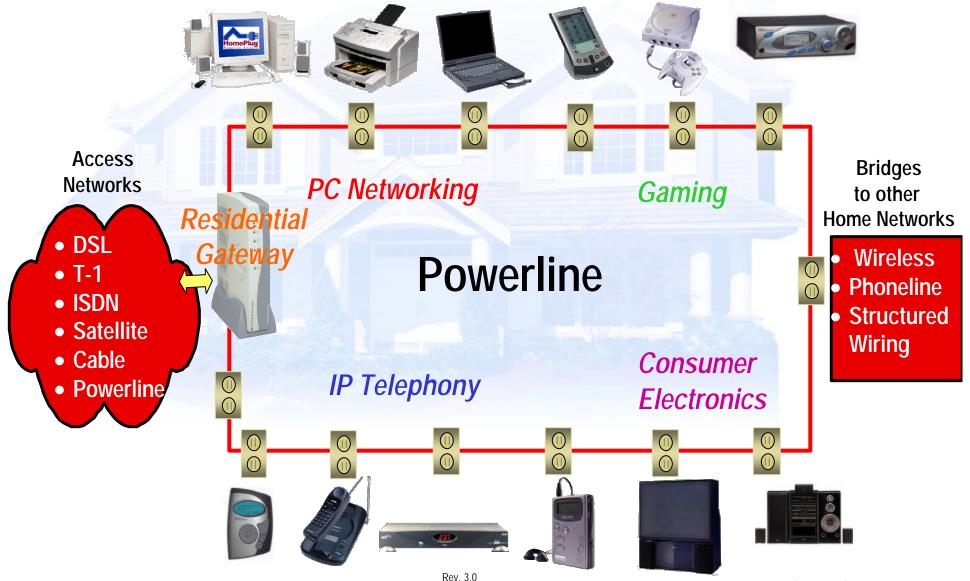


## A Glimpse at the Future The Connected Home



#### HomePlug's Connected Home





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#### HomePlug Direction



- HomePlug is committed to the successful deployment of powerline communications technologies for both home networking and access applications.
- The HomePlug 1.0 specification is targeted at the home networking application, and HomePlug is pursuing a Frequency Division compatibility mode, in which the HomePlug equipment does not use spectrum needed by access equipment.
- HomePlug is committed to working closely with global standards bodies to ensure that access and home networking technologies do not interfere with each other.



#### Powerline benefits for the Connected Home



#### Powerline technology is:

- The most pervasive medium multiple outlets in every room
- Cost effective
- Available worldwide
- Easy to adopt by consumers
- Easy to install
- Utilizes existing power source for communications



## *Today's Opportunity* Why Powerline Technology, Why Now





### Driving Market Trends



#### Accelerating market acceptance of home networking:

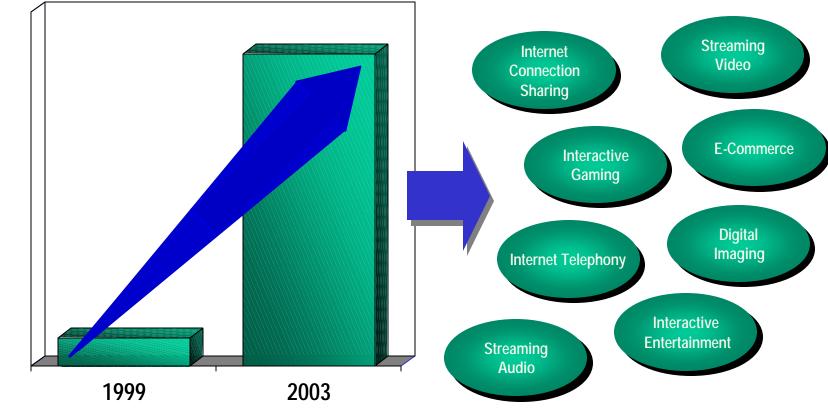
- Exploding Internet usage
- Increasing broadband penetration as service costs decline and ease of installation improves
- Development of new Internet devices and smart appliances driving the standardization of home networking
- Growing number of multiple-PC homes



## The Proliferation of Applications



The explosive growth of broadband subscribers is creating a surge of high-bandwidth applications



## Historical Powerline Challenges



#### **Overcoming Historical Powerline Challenges**



- Immature technologies
  - Low speeds and attenuation
  - Interference issues
- Lack of consumer adoption
- Lack of standards
- Regulatory issues

## <u>Solution:</u>

- Mature technologies/Internet capability
  - Ethernet class speeds achievable
  - Reliability
  - New algorithms
  - Silicon improvement
  - Consumer market need
    - Smart appliances
- Standards-driven
- FCC approval



# HomePlug Status





### HomePlug Goals & Objectives



#### Make Home Powerline Networking a Reality

- Selected baseline technology for Ethernet-class home powerline networking v1.0 specification in May 2000
- Finalized full draft specification in December 2000

#### Drive Adoption of Home Powerline Networking Specification

- Publish Ethernet-class home powerline networking v1.0 specification in 2001
- Promote worldwide industry leader membership in the Alliance

# Enable Rapid Implementation of Interoperable, Cost Effective Home Powerline Networking Products

 Make available to consumers HomePlug compliant products and powerline Internet devices and smart appliances in 2001



#### **HomePlug Activities**



#### Marketing Requirements Document

- Finalized the MRD that includes:
  - Ethernet-class, QoS, Latency, Reliability, Coverage, Coexistence, Maturity
  - For PC, Gaming, IP Telephony and CE applications (IP & Multimedia)

#### Formed the TWG (Sponsors & Participants)

- Created the RFP (Request for Proposal) process, evaluation matrix, proposal outline
- Created the Field Test Plan
- Created the Lab Test Plan (almost 100 pages document ~30 different tests)
- Planned the logistic & staffing for the Technology Evaluation Phase

#### **Invited Technology Proponents**

- Surveyed WW market for powerline technology Proponents
  - Identified & invited almost 20 Proponents to participate in HomePlug Bake Off
  - 10 responded



## HomePlug Baseline Technology



#### **OFDM PHY and CSMA/CA MAC**

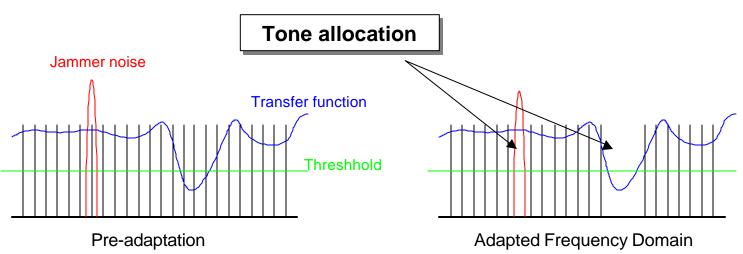
- OFDM first theorized in the 1960's
- OFDM divides the available spectrum into many narrow-band carriers
  - Similar to xDSL
  - Used in consumer audio and video applications (DVB & DAB)
  - Selected by IEEE 802.11 wireless LAN committee
- Each carrier can support several modulation formats
  - ROBO RPSK OPSK OAM
- Achieves synchronization in harsh environments
- Tone allocation dynamically avoids unusable band segments
- Works with in-band jammers and interference
- Supports broadcast transmissions
- Excellent co-channel interference performance
- No channel equalization required •
- No clock synchronization required





### HomePlug Baseline Technology





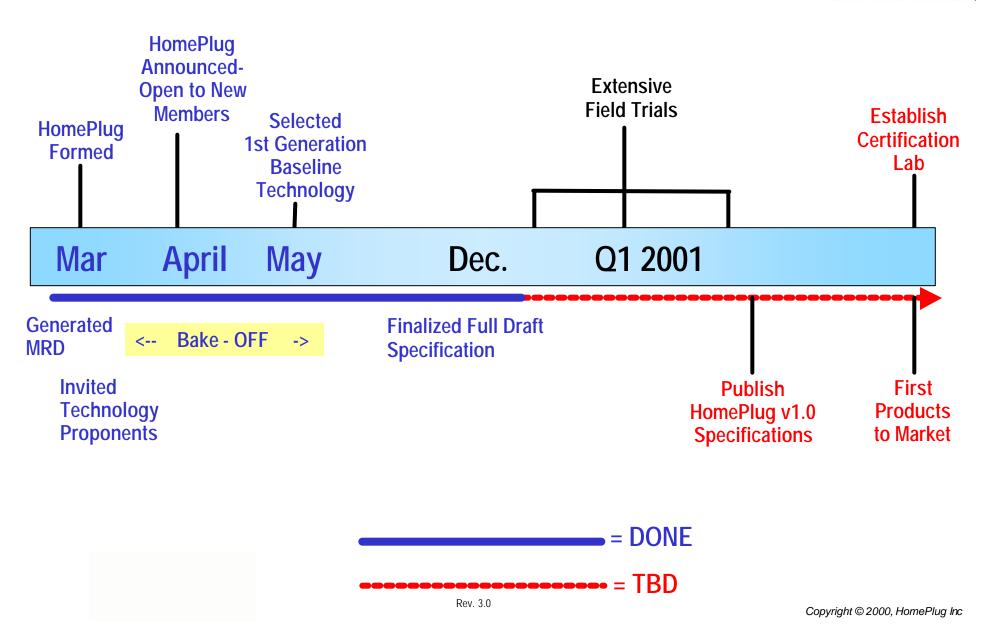
- Synchronizes in the presence of noise and jammers
- Adapts to channel characteristics (avoids unusable channels)
- Optimizes use of Signal to Noise Ratio
- Reserves Forward Error Correcting power for noise hits
- Frequencies can be masked to meet diverse regulatory requirements



## Next Steps & Future Milestones









#### Next Steps



- **Complete Extensive Field Trials** •
  - 500 homes worldwide
  - To be executed in beginning Q1 2001
- Finalize Specification
  - Work already in progress
  - Final specification to be published following completion of field trials
- Certification
  - Work already in progress
  - Certification Lab should be operational in 2001





#### Summary



Industry leaders working together to:

