



Plextek

Case Study

Millennium Homes

A cost effective application of modern technology to enable an increased number of elderly people to live independently and safely in their own homes.

Millennium Homes is a project under the EPSRC/DTI LINK Foresight Program. Plextek is one of the commercial partners in the program along with Beaver Housing Corporation, Brunel Institute of Bioengineering, BT plc, Huntleigh Technology plc and Special Security Products Ltd.

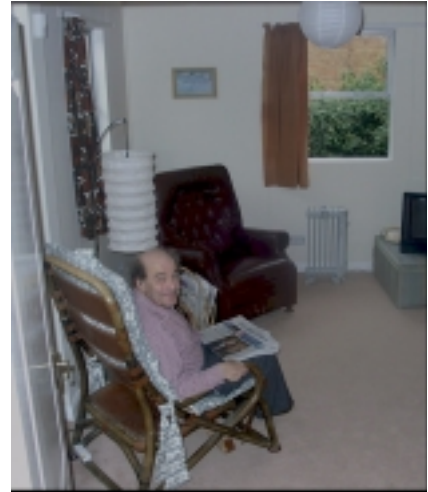
The Millennium Home is a non-intrusive application of existing technology, used to provide a computer assisted support system for elderly or frail persons.



Professor Heinz Wolff of the Brunel Institute of Bioelectronics has been highly instrumental

in the conceptual design of the system. His team at Brunel have equipped the pilot Millennium Home on the University Campus (main picture) with a radio link sensor system based on work undertaken by Plextek.

Each of the unobtrusive sensors send information over their radio links back to a central computer. Novel algorithms adapt to the tenant's normal living pattern.



The computer monitors the general well being of the tenant, communicates with and encourages appropriate responses from the tenant. If there is no satisfactory response from the tenant after a potential emergency is identified, the computer will trigger an external alert to a local carer.

The system is built using standard technology readily available today and it can be installed in either purpose built accommodation, or retrofitted to a tenant's own home.

It allows the tenant freedom to continue living normally in the community, whilst providing a safety net that they can rely on.

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