

# IMPROVED INDOOR ENVIRONMENT WITH NEW TECHNOLOGY

Andy Drysdale  
Danish Technological Institute

**Micro Structure Workshop**  
Tuesday 9 May 2006



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## Agenda

- The MONTIE initiative – an introduction and a little background
- Activities and summary of results so far
  - The benefits of improved indoor environment (IAQ)
  - The link between IAQ, HVAC (Heating, Ventilation and A/C) and sensors
  - More about sensors for better IAQ
- Barriers and challenges

The aim of this presentation is to give an overview of the MONTIE initiative, and present its current status

....and to inspire innovative thoughts for possible new applications for (MEMS) sensors!

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## What is the MONTIE initiative?



**M**ulti-sensors and **O**ther  
**N**ew **T**echnology for  
**I**mproved indoor  
**E**nvironment in buildings










- A consortium of Nordic partners
- Funding from the Nordic Innovation Centre 2004 - 2006
- Increase focus on Indoor Air Quality (IAQ). Spread knowledge about its importance
- Address the current, and future uses, of advanced multi-sensors
- Technological developments to support improved HVAC systems
- Convert expert academic knowledge into practical applications and use.

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## The partners in MONTIE

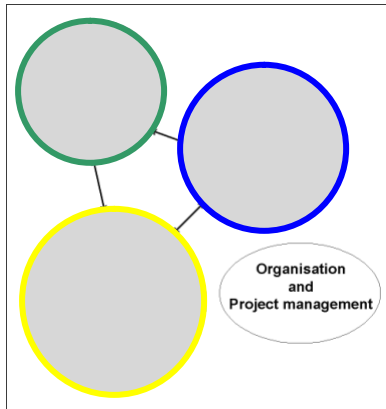
- Danfoss A/S (DK) 
- Hök Instrument AB (SE) 
- Infineon Technologies SensoNor A/S (NO) 
- The Finnish Association of HVAC Societies (FINVAC) (FIN) 
- Finnish Society of Indoor Air Quality and Climate (FiSIAQ) (FIN) 
- SINTEF IKT (NO) 
- The Technical University of Denmark International Centre for Indoor Environment and Energy (DK) 
- Danish Technological Institute (DK) 
- Nordic Innovation Centre 

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## What are the goals of the MONTIE initiative?



### Main activities

Information dissemination about:

- The importance of IAQ
- The advantages gained from using micro-sensors and other new technology

Increased information/awareness will

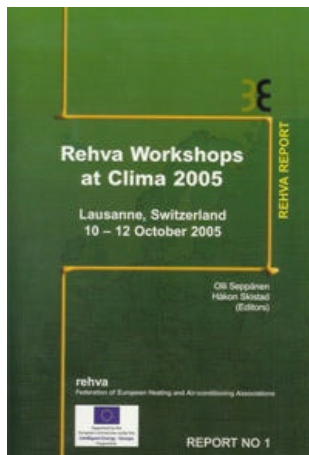
- Initiate coherent efforts to increase the level of knowledge about IAQ
- Initiate and boost the number of IAQ – and IAQ related - development activities
- Increase business and commercial export opportunities

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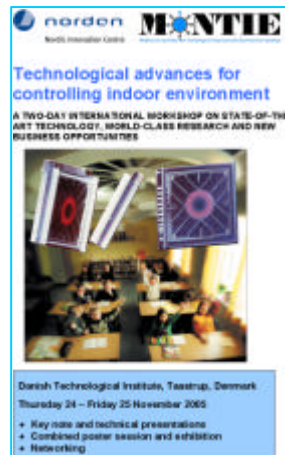


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## Main activities so far



[www.rehva.com/workshops/index.html](http://www.rehva.com/workshops/index.html)



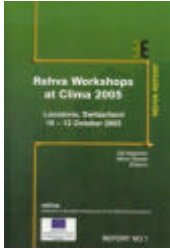
[www.teknologisk.dk/montie](http://www.teknologisk.dk/montie)

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## Main activities so far



### Clima 2005

- Key-note and short presentations, poster sessions and workshops on scientific trends and practical developments in HVAC technologies
- Included a MONTIE workshop presenting MONTIE ideas and ambitions

### MONTIE workshop programme

- Summaries of state-of-the-art (Nordic) technology on sensors
- Applications of these sensors for the measurement and demand based control of IAQ
- Discussion forum (more than 40 participants) to discuss the future needs for development and dissemination.

[www.rehva.com/workshops/index.html](http://www.rehva.com/workshops/index.html)



### Technological advances for controlling indoor environment

- Focus on "State-of-the-art" technology. Key-note presentations on user-driven issues and invited presentations on technology-driven issues.

### Programme

- IAQ, sensors and measurements, wireless communication and other new technology
- Intelligent HVAC installations and installation technology, including the use of sensors and coupling with security aspects
- New business opportunities and challenges
- Innovative solutions

[www.teknologisk.dk/montie](http://www.teknologisk.dk/montie)

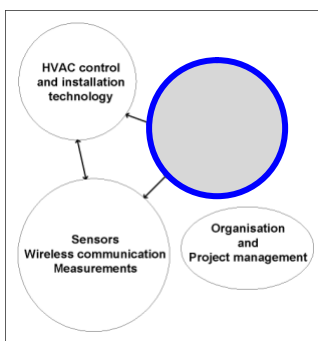
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## THE BENEFITS OF IMPROVED INDOOR ENVIRONMENT

AIR QUALITY  
THERMAL  
(ACOUSTIC)  
(LIGHT)



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## The benefits of improved indoor environment (IAQ)

The importance of indoor air quality (IAQ) in buildings is indisputable.

People spend about 90% of their time indoors (at work, at home, transport)

Intake for a person per day:

- 1 kg food
- 2 kg liquid
- 15 kg air

Comfort-Productivity costs:

- People 100
- Maintenance 10
- Financing 10
- Energy 1

In typical office buildings

20 – 40 % of occupants have SBS symptoms

20 - 40% find the IAQ unacceptable (even though existing ventilation standards are met)

Field studies show substantial rates of dissatisfaction in practice

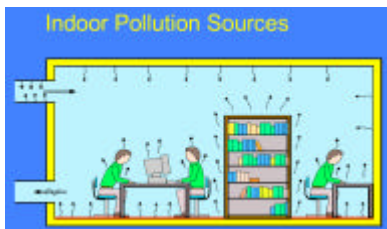
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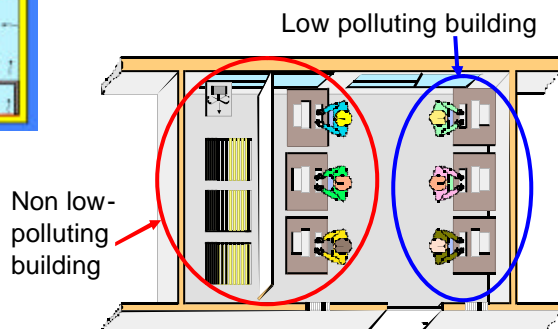
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## The benefits of improved indoor environment (IAQ)

IAQ impacts occupants' comfort, health and performance



Experimental set-up at DTU

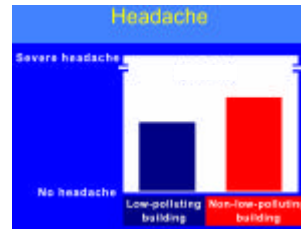
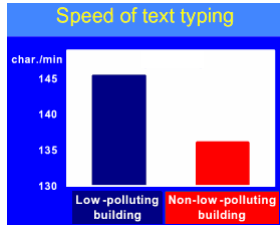
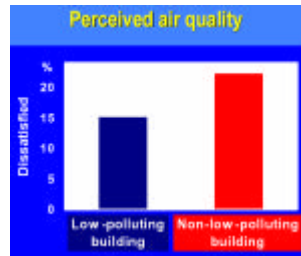
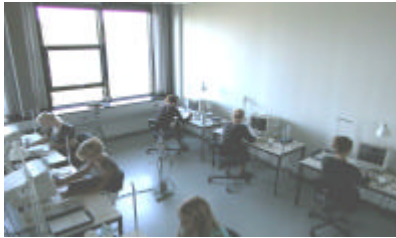


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## The benefits of improved indoor environment (IAQ)



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## The benefits of improved indoor environment (IAQ)

Experimental set-up at DTU

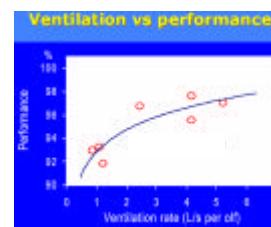
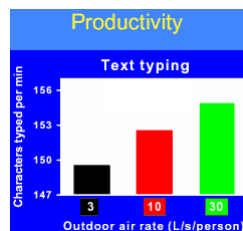
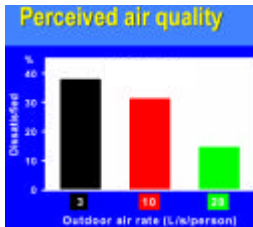
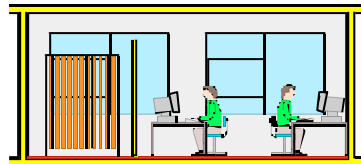
Outdoor air rates:



3 L/s/person (0.6 h<sup>-1</sup>)

10 L/s/person (2 h<sup>-1</sup>)

30 L/s/person (6.0 h<sup>-1</sup>)



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## The benefits of improved indoor environment (Thermal)

### General thermal comfort

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| Personal factors   | Environmental factors  |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Clothing</li> <li>• Activity</li> </ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Air temperature</li> <li>• Radiant temperature</li> <li>• Air velocity</li> <li>• Humidity</li> </ul> |

### Local thermal comfort

- Floor surface temperature
- Vertical air temperature difference
- Draught (mean air velocity, turbulence, air temperature)
- Radiant temperature asymmetry (heated/cooled ceiling, warm/cool wall)

**10 % decrease in dissatisfied will increase performance by 1.5 %**

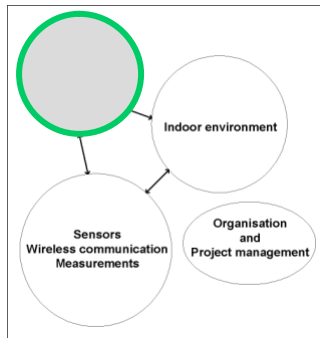
## The benefits of improved indoor environment (IAQ)

Potential savings and productivity gains are enormous

Macroeconomic estimation of productivity gains of improved IEQ

Source of productivity gain	Potential annual health benefits	Potential US annual savings or productivity gain (1996 USD)
Reduced respiratory illness	16 – 37 mill avoided cases of common cold or influenza	<b>6 – 14 billion USD</b>
Reduced allergies and asthma	18% to 25% decrease in symptoms for 53 million allergy sufferers and 16 million asthmatics	<b>1 – 4 billion USD</b>
Reduced SBS symptoms	20% to 50% reduction in SBS symptoms experienced by 15 mill workers	<b>10 – 30 billion USD</b>
Improved worker performance from changes in thermal environment and lighting		<b>20 – 160 billion USD</b>
Total cost of energy in US commercial buildings		<b>70 billion USD</b>

## THE LINK BETWEEN IAQ HVAC (Heating, Ventilation and A/C) AND SENSORS



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### The link between IAQ, HVAC and sensors

Traditional building HVAC control strategies are often insufficient to provide a satisfactory indoor environment

Intelligent buildings with new, promising strategies are emerging .....

- Reliable, accurate and inexpensive sensors to measure key IAQ parameters are becoming available
- Processes such as “**Constant Commissioning**”, an ongoing process to resolve operating problems, improve comfort, optimize energy use and identify retrofits

..... they need to be combined with methods of using these measurements in HVAC control strategies.

Legislation, i.e. the EU Energy Performance of Buildings Directive may help

- Integrated built-in sensors for diagnostics and inspection purposes
- Continuous calculation of energy consumption
- Explicitly specifies that reduction of energy consumption should **not** compromise occupants comfort, health and productivity.

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## Future needs for HVAC control strategies

- Improvements to existing sensors and some features of new sensors:
  - Low cost, small size sensors integrated into HVAC/IAQ system components
  - Self-calibrating, self-testing, self-diagnosing, and self-reporting sensors
  - Sensors that automatically detect the need for a measurement
  - Low power consumption
  - Built-in algorithms for diagnostics, service and inspection routines
  - Reliable. Low-drift,
  - Running calculation of energy consumption
  - Incorporation of low-cost processing and memory on sensor elements to generate information from raw data and to store that information, reporting data only when anomalies occur
  - Easy to implement (plug-and-play). Better system integration
  - Communication (including a wireless option to reduce installation costs)
  - Feedback to user regarding energy consumption and indoor environment status
  - Long life (> 10 years)
  - Documented system effects and pay-back
- ....the list is long .....

All these aspects are related to sensors and measurements .....

## Future needs for HVAC control strategies

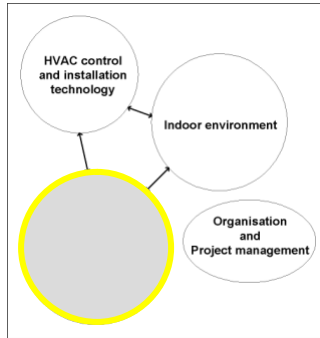
### Technology drivers:

- Automotive industry
- Aerospace industry
- Military applications
- High end buildings
  - concert halls, conference rooms....



But comfort and prestige in buildings and homes could also be a driver

## MORE ABOUT SENSORS FOR BETTER IAQ



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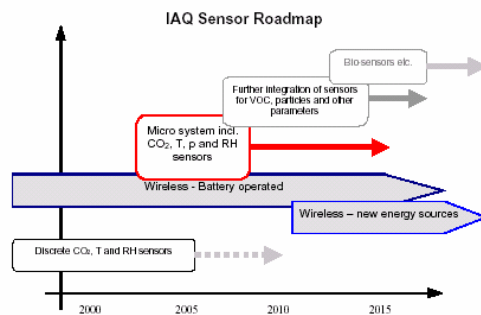
## What do we want to measure – and how well?

Main IAQ parameters:

- Temperature
- Carbon dioxide concentration
- Relative humidity
- Pressure variations

Next step

- Particles (dust, pollen ...)
- Volatile organic compounds (VOC's)
- Other gases



	CO <sub>2</sub> concentration (ppm)	Relative humidity (%)	Temperature (°C)	Pressure variations (Pa)
Operating range	0-3000	10-90	0-40	0-1000
Overall accuracy	+/- 50	+/- 5	+/- 0.5	+/- 100
Resolution	5	1	0.1	1
Cross sensitivity	<2-3%	<2-3%	<2-3%	<2-3%
Response time	60 sec	120 sec	60 sec	0.01-10 Hz

Tentative specifications of the multi-sensor in terms of measurement performance

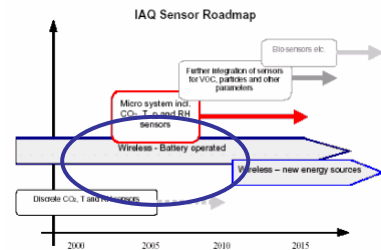
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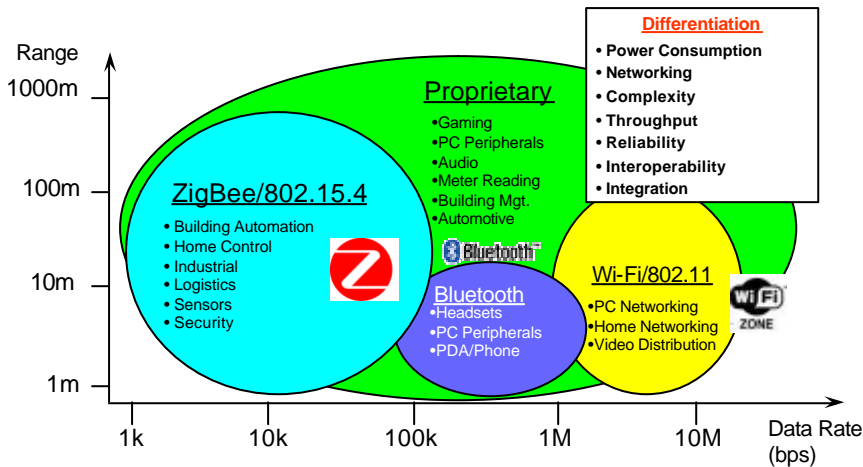
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# Wireless monitoring and control systems

- Large number of nodes → wireless solutions are required
- Low-complexity and low power protocol
- Low system cost
- Sensor nodes have typically only limited amount of data to send
  - Very low raw data rate (few kBits/s)
  - Very small amount of data (couple of Bytes)
- Short to medium ranges (meters / tens of meters)
- Sensor nodes remain "quiet" in long periods of time
- Very long lifetime requirements
  - up to several years
  - unattended operation



# A note about short range communications



# Wireless monitoring and control systems

## ZigBee as a suitable candidate ?

Standard	ZigBee™ / IEEE 802.15.4	WiFi™ / IEEE 802.11b	BlueTooth™ / IEEE 802.15.1
Application focus	Monitoring & Control	Web, Email, Video	Ad hoc cable Replacement
Stack Size (kBytes)	< 128	1000 -	250 +
Battery Life (days)	100 - 1000 +	0.5 - 5	1 - 7
Network Size (#nodes)	-Unlimited (65536)	Many	7
Bandwidth (kbps)	250	11 000	1000
Range (meters)	100 +	100	10 +
Target BOM costs	< \$ 3	\$ 9	\$ 5

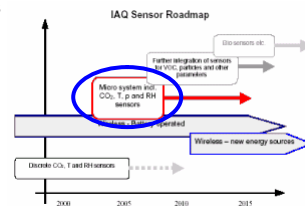
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## Examples of what sensor technologies are available

- **IR** technology offers highly sensitive, selective and reliable gas sensors
  - MEMS based IR sources, IR detectors, tunable optical filters, and complete gas and humidity sensors are available
  - IR gas sensors are still expensive due to large size, expensive components, packaging, and drift compensation. Higher level of integration is required
- A **DOE** (Diffractive Optical Element) based CO<sub>2</sub> sensor
- A MEMS based **photo-acoustic** gas sensor for CO<sub>2</sub>
- **Electro-acoustic** MEMS-implemented CO<sub>2</sub> sensors



### Why **MEMS** for multi-sensors?

- MEMS based sensors are by their small size and fabrication and packaging technology potentially suitable for multi-sensor integration
- Temperature sensors are easily implemented as an integral part of standard electronics
- Multi sensors are often based on integration of several sensors at the same electronic boards
- MEMS devices are potentially easy to integrate since they are small and often based on the same principles (piezoresistive, capacitive and optical)
- MEMS also opens for a higher degree of monolithic integration
  - Temperature sensors as part of the gas sensor chip

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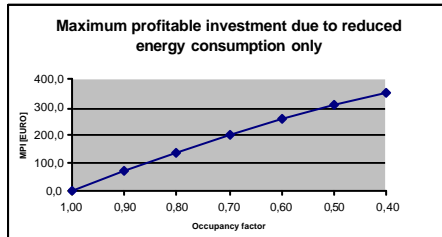


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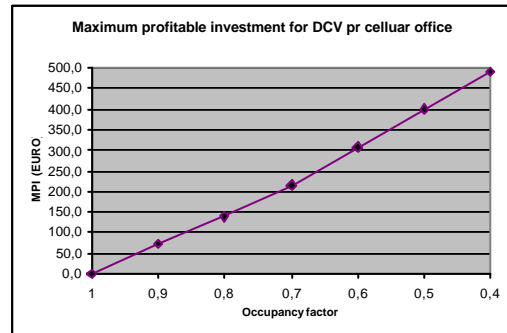
## Is "demand controlled ventilation" the solution

Possible to calculate the maximum profitable investment:

- Due to reduced energy use only
- Due to reduced energy use, installation cost and reduction of technical area



Energy use, installation cost and reduction of technical area



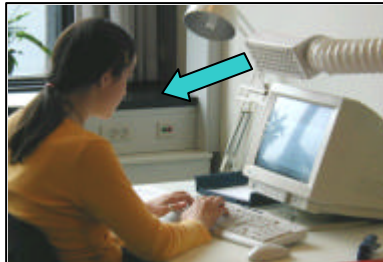
The impact increases with increased electrical energy cost

- Electrical energy cost of 0.25 EURO/kWh
- MPI is 700 EURO per celluar office

## Is "Personalised ventilation" the solution

Large differences between occupants in regard to:

- Preferred Temperature
- Air movement sensation
- Clothing insulation level
- Activity level
- Air quality perception



Personalized ventilation

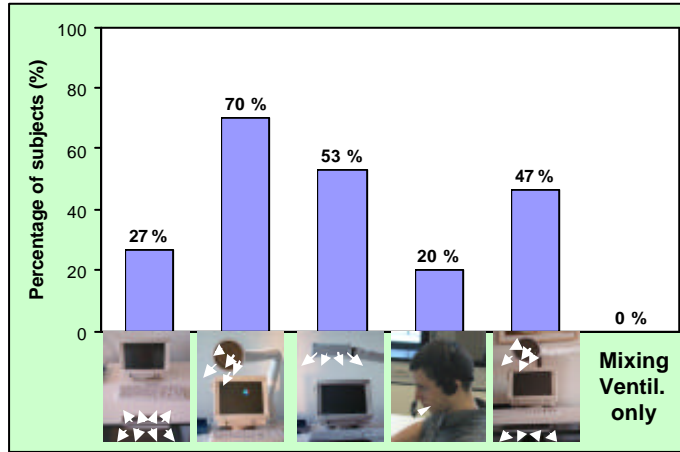
Clean air is supplied to the breathing zone

Individual control & preferred environment:

- airflow direction
- preferred temperature
- preferred velocity: 0.2 m/s – 1.8 m/s

# Is "Personalised ventilation" the solution

Which system(s) would you like to have on your desk?

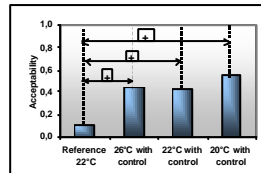
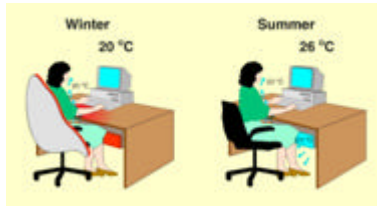
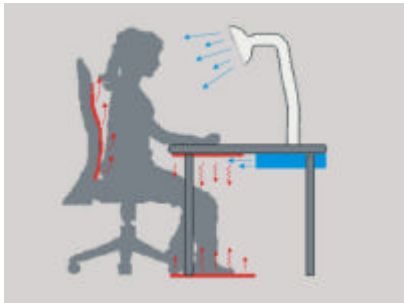


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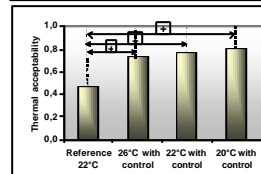


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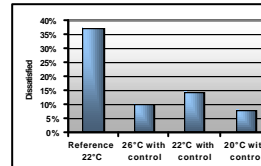
# Next step "Personalised heating and ventilation"



Perceived Air Quality



Thermal Comfort



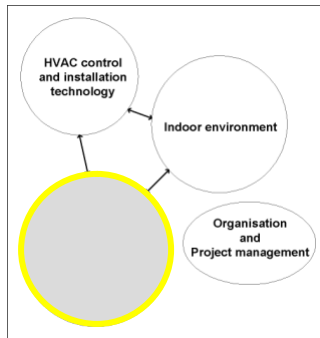
General satisfaction

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## EXAMPLES OF IAQ SENSORS THAT HAVE BEEN IDENTIFIED DURING THE PROJECT



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### Example - IAQ sensors in the Nordic area



Hök Instrument Q-AIR wall-mountable sensor for measuring CO<sub>2</sub>, temp, RH



SenseAir infrared CO<sub>2</sub> sensor for embedded solutions

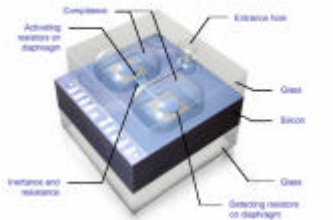
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## Other examples of IAQ sensors

Schematic drawing of sensor chip



Sensor chip area: 3 x 3 mm.  
Packaged in a standard ceramic package

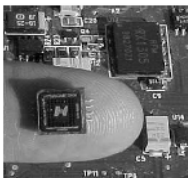
MASCOT - Micro-Acoustic Sensors for CO<sub>2</sub> Tracking.  
The MASCOT project was co-financed by the EU IST programme

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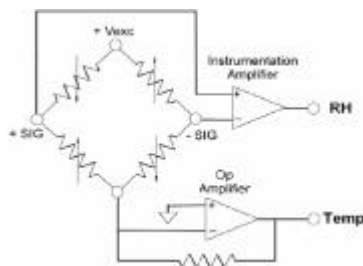
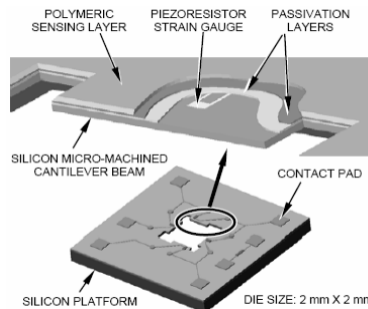


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## Other examples - MEMS multisensor from the aerospace and industry sector



**HYGROMETRIX**  
The Hygrotron  
<http://www.hygrometrix.net>



### Applications

- Environmental monitoring and control
- Avionics and aerospace
- Dehumidification, industrial drying
- HVAC
- Precision instrumentation

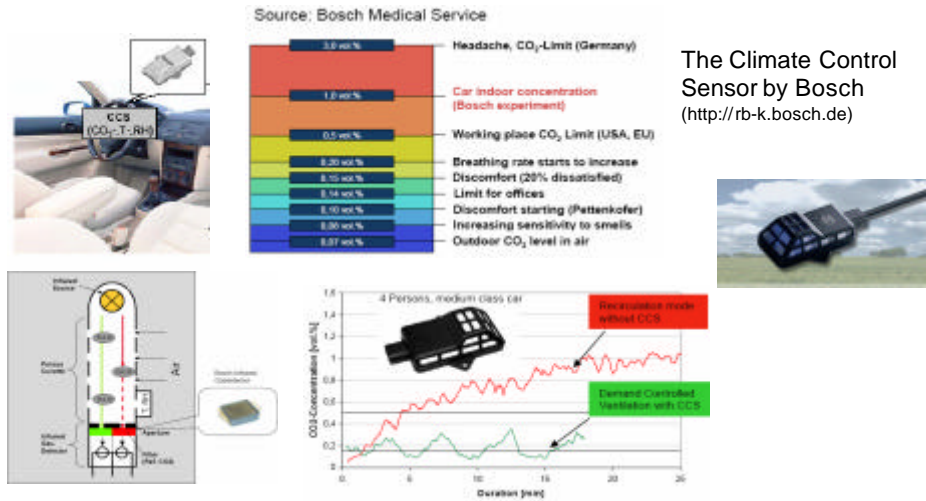
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## Other examples - from the automotive sector



The Climate Control Sensor by Bosch  
(<http://rb-k.bosch.de>)

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## Other examples - from the automotive sector

**Vehicle Air Quality Monitor**

CO<sub>2</sub> Monitor by VOR sensors - (Built in Air Quality sensor - Bosch FilterSensor)

**General Features**

1. Receives VAD control by Cruise monitor
2. Detecting CO<sub>2</sub> level by built-in CO<sub>2</sub> sensor and to control climate control
3. Monitoring for quality by Bosch's ED for "Open for flow"
4. Only need wiring to power and for filter
5. Assists to prevent discomfort against sleepiness, fatigue, drowsy
6. Large amount of air flow generally without noise
7. Safe & convenient

**Drowsy driving**  
Wake up to the dangers

[Learn more](#)

Introduced at the Las Vegas Automobile Accessory Fair, Nov.1-4, 2005

**AA-950 BLACK**

**CO<sub>2</sub> Engine-LO**

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## Other examples of IAQ sensors – in consumer products

Plug-in CO2 sensor modules

Korea is catching up...

Clock radio +  
demand controlled ventilation  
from Korea...

Clean Air Tec Fair,  
Korea Oct.5-7, 2005



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## Future needs for HVAC control strategies

### Barriers:

- Conservatism about technical installations in buildings – HVAC components and installations traditionally have a long lifetime
- A lack of understanding of how complex building automation systems interact with their environment
- Degree of adoption and implementation is slow
- Often limited to flagship buildings. Demonstration projects are important but specific business cases are better
- Unclear commercial potential and costs. Is it possible to provide convincing evidence to investors and end users ?
  - (Can investments be justified? How do we calculate/document payback time?)
- Can you provide value for money to the end users?

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“Better” sensors and solutions are necessary

## There is a worldwide interest and future market for IAQ multisensors

### Some challenges

- Low cost – will enable several sensors even in one room, reducing difficulties in the selection of sensor location
- Low power will fulfill battery demands – or alternatives to batteries
- On-chip diagnostics of system function and performance is important
- Measurement aspects: Cross sensitivity (influences from temperature, humidity, dust), poisoning, long term drift

**The MONTIE initiative in 2006 will focus on trends and drivers  
for innovative HVAC installations and control techniques**

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# Thank you for your attention!

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