

In Brief

■ The Internet is becoming a comprehensive medium for the transport of all data. In particular, due to mobile web-enabled terminals, the number of broadband Internet users will grow to around five billion by 2015. A large number of them will use Web 2.0 to develop new social networking applications or exchange films, music, and images. (p. 81)

■ User-friendliness is the key. If large numbers of people are to use equipment and services, then these must be as easy to operate as possible. Displays are also getting bigger. (p. 82)

■ Companies such as Nokia Siemens Networks are boosting cellular radio bandwidth to hundreds of megabits per second by further developing UMTS and WiMAX. They are also working on solutions for the fourth generation of cellular radio, which will offer bandwidths of one gigabit per second. (p. 84)

■ Communications technology is a competitive factor in all areas of business. If industry is to produce goods efficiently and flexibly, data must be universally available at all times. Power plants are operated with modern control systems to optimally conserve resources. Siemens not only offers technology for all of these tasks but also secures all kinds of facilities against hackers. (pp. 90, 92, 94)

■ Industry is making increasing use of wireless data transfer, while wireless networks are complementing bus technology in factories. Siemens' industrial WLAN solution offers maximum reliability and guaranteed bandwidth. (p. 92)

■ Networked information technology helps healthcare providers to treat patients more efficiently and cut costs. Siemens offers a wide range of solutions, from electronic patient records to telemedicine. (p. 96)

■ Electronic assistance and traffic management systems will make travel much more comfortable in the future. Road, rail, and air transport will form a seamless whole, characterized by smooth transitions between systems. (p. 100)

PEOPLE:

Communications / general contacts:

Prof. Dr. Hartmut Raffler, CT IC
hartmut.raffler@siemens.com

Nokia Siemens Networks:

Dr. Stephan Scholz, stephan.scholz@nsn.com

At home:

Thomas Hauser, SBT
hauser.thomas@siemens.com

Björn Fehrm, FSC
bjorn.fehrm@fujitsu-siemens.com
Udo Biro, NSN, udo.biro@nsn.com

PBXs:

Karl Klug, SEN, karl.klug@siemens.com

Energy technology:

Dr. Rainer Speh, PG, rainer.speh@siemens.com
Dr. Hans-Gerd Brummel, PG
hans-gerd.brummel@siemens.com
Dr. Thomas Werner, PTD
thomas.werner@siemens.com

Production:

Dr. Heiner Röhr, A&D,
heiner.roehr@siemens.com
Ewald Kuk, A&D, ewald.kuk@siemens.com
Dr. Rainer Sauerwein, CT IC
rainer.sauerwein@siemens.com

IT Security:

Dr. Stephan Lechner, CT IC
stephan.lechner@siemens.com
Dr. Johann Fichtner, CT IC
johann.fichtner@siemens.com

Healthcare:

Dr. Michael Meyer, Med
michael-meyer@siemens.com
Dr. Friedrich Fuchs, Med
friedrich.fuchs@siemens.com

Transportation:

Friedrich Moninger, TS
friedrich.moninger@siemens.com

Operations control centers:

Peter Löffler, SBT, peter.loeffler@siemens.com

LINKS:

Wireless World Research Forum:

www.wireless-world-research.org

Further development in UMTS:

www.3gpp.org

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William Webb, *Wireless Communications: The Future*. John Wiley & Sons (2007)