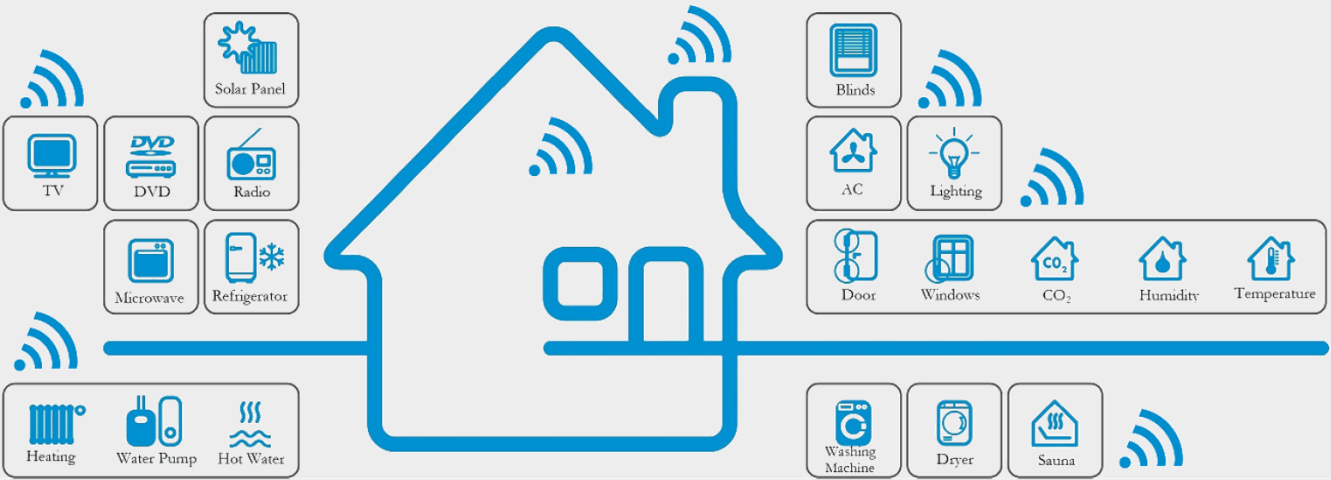


SMART HOMES ENHANCE OUR LIFESTYLE EVERYDAY

You won't believe the level of comfort, convenience, control, security and efficiency until you've experienced it for yourself. A smart home is equipped with electronic devices that can be controlled remotely by a smart phone.

The term 'smart' is typically applied to an 'intelligent' web-connected electronic device or system which may operate stand-alone or in a network with other devices. It usually involves some form of user interaction.

New technology is enabling the creation of smart homes, integrating devices to make the home a better place to be in terms of safety, comfort, productivity and well-being.



SMART HOMES SYSTEMS

- Environmental Control System (Heating, Ventilation and Air Conditioning - HVAC)
 - Household Appliances (clothes dryers, washing machines, refrigerators, dishwashers, ovens, coffee-makers, microwaves, etc.)
 - Consumer Electronics (TV, radio, audio-video equipment, game consoles, etc.)
 - Building Components (blinds, curtains, windows, doors, security cameras, detectors, sensors, etc.)

THE THREE GENERATIONS OF SMART HOMES

First Generation	Second Generation	Third Generation
Wireless Technology with Proxy Server	Artificial Intelligence Controls Electrical Devices	Robot Buddy who Interacts with Humans

HISTORY OF SMART HOMES

- Smart homes had their origins, as most innovations, in theory long before they become a reality. While science fiction writers depicted these homes throughout much of the 20th century, their genesis lies in the development of the systems that comprise them
 - The first 20 years of the 20th century saw the invention of the vacuum cleaner, dryer, washing machine, iron, and toaster
 - The first smart device was created approximately 45 years later. Known as the ECHO IV, it could turn home appliances on and off and control home temperatures; unfortunately, it did not sell well
 - Home automation technologies began to be built into luxury dwellings decades ago
 - The first smart home models and devices began to hit the consumer market in the early 2000s, with the proliferation of the Internet and related technologies a decade earlier

ADVANTAGES OF SMART HOMES



Comfort

Smart Homes can dramatically improve home ambiance for any occasion or mood, while also enjoying greater levels of comfort & ultimate relaxation experience



Convenience

Smart Homes give users remote access to systems including heating and cooling systems, intercoms, music and multimedia devices throughout the home



Control & Accessibility

Smart Homes technology also greatly improves the usability and functionality of any home with total control at the fingertips or by voice-command systems



Security

Smart Homes include advanced security systems with cameras, fingerprint identification, motion sensors & a link to security authorities



Energy Efficiency

Smart Homes offer enhanced energy-efficiency to save on electricity, water and natural gas, thereby reducing the strain on natural resources



Resale

Automating a home can be a worthwhile investment in increasing its market value & attracting possible buyers in the future, as sellers will've an effective selling points

CHALLENGES OF SMART HOMES

Linking Disparate Systems

- The smart home market is fragmented, at present. Many competing manufacturers are developing disparate smart home systems and technologies
 - It's easy to integrate devices made by the same vendor, but that requires, in many cases, consumers to buy replacement devices

Limited Functionality

- Integrating devices from disparate vendors often results in limited functionality and unreliable service
 - Further, many systems on the market have complex interfaces that limit the functionality of smart homes
 - Finally, app-based smart home systems, while cheaper than fully custom integrated systems, have more limited functionality than full systems

Costs

- Fully integrated custom systems are expensive and often require a consultant to install them, and structural changes to the home, both costs of course tacked on to the price of the system itself, in addition to the costs of maintenance and repair

Awareness

- Due to the market fragmentation and limited existing consumer adoption, there is little mainstream awareness of what is currently available
 - The market is almost entirely comprised of the wealthy who are offered the features as part of either new construction or relatively new high-end homes on the market

FUTURE OF SMART HOMES

While some technologies are only in early development, the future is already here. The market is growing rapidly and its future looks bright, with the support of many drivers including the decreasing costs of smart technologies; increased government regulation regarding energy consumption; increased energy costs; increased consumer awareness of, and concern about, the environment; and consumer security concerns.

For more details, please contact | Sherif Hassan, Development Manager