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PRESS RELEASE

**First prototype
'Personalised Residence of the Future' developed
A supportive wink to ageing!**

In 2010 a unique and motivated consortium of users, education and knowledge institutions, manufacturers and occupational organisations developed a new patient room concept called The Patient Room of the Future. After the success of this first project, the partners joined forces again to create an entirely new concept called 'PRoF', which stands for 'The Personalized Residence of the Future', a supportive nod to ageing. This concept focuses on the ageing person paying a lot of attention to his or her living and care environment, for example by emphasising comfort and domesticity in a non-stigmatising and intergenerational way.

Imagine that as you age, you will continue to live in your own environment thanks to the progressive help of architecture, technology and service. What if one and the same screen could offer access to television, radio and internet and give you the opportunity to choose your meals and stay in touch with friends and family members? And what if – with your permission – smart communication could provide a permanent overview of your condition to your doctor and home care support? Science fiction? Not at all: with the technology now available to us, this scenario is not only feasible, it is just the tip of the iceberg of what is possible in such a living environment.

This 'Personalised Residence of the Future' is officially presented today at Boone International nv in Poperinge at a big launch event under the patronage of Ms. Geertrui Windels, wife to European President Van Rompuy.

The 'Personalised Residence of the Future' is the end result of an **intensive preliminary investigation into our needs and demands during ageing, which starts as early as the second day of our lives.** As we age, the world around us is faced with more and more specific questions due to the rising number of elderly people, insufficient growth of care, the state's limited financial resources, rising social isolation, etc. As well as more privacy, autonomy, safety and freedom of choice, we mainly want non-stigmatising solutions in an intergenerational environment and infrastructure that allow us to stay near a service centre in comfort. Care workers in turn are faced with more elderly people, changing forms of service, shorter admission periods in



care institutions and demands for more cost-effectiveness and operational efficiency. We therefore looked for an innovative, comprehensive concept in response to all these different issues.

PRoF's reaction is **to focus on the ageing person in his own environment with an eye for sustainability, functionality, usability and contemporary design according to valid European, national and regional accessibility standards**. This Flemish project has European ambitions: the unique interaction of the 60 partners involved brings together all the expertise, technical excellence and professionalism required to develop this room.

Jan Van Hecke (Boone nv), PRoF Coordinator, explains the composition of the PRoF consortium and its operation: "The consortium brings together **members who complement each other** and are constantly involved in innovation. It is PRoF's intention to launch an innovative, but feasible project each year, **prototypes** that can be used as a basis for research and innovation objectives." Jan Van Hecke continues: "The Personalised Residence of the Future is being marketed. To promote the project, a **film** was produced to be shown during conferences, research meetings, contacts with government bodies, etc.

This very innovative project is based on what is feasible with today's technology. At the same time, its ambitions go well beyond that: the 'Personalized Residence of the Future' is an evolving concept that is constantly being adjusted. It is a typical example of 'Open Innovation'. The Flemish government and the government agency for Innovation through Science and Technology support scientific research into this care process.

Jan Van Hecke concludes: "Because of its **conceptual design**, the Personalised Residence of the Future responds to the needs and questions of the ageing population as well as the needs and questions of care workers and the government. Because this ambitious project **integrates the most innovative tools and innovations**, it offers a completely new vision for the healthcare sector.

For more information:

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The consortium consists of the following members:

ACS - Agentschap Ondenemen – Alho – Anamorf – Aquaware – Artesis Hogeschool Antwerpen Departement Productontwikkeling – Avantgarden – Boeckx Architecture & Engineering – Boone International | Boone Projects – BSC | Aquaware – BURO II & ARCHi+I – BVZD Vlaamse Vereniging voor ZiekenhuisDirecteurs – Cubist Creations – Devan – De Witte Lietaer – DOT Directies Organisaties voor Pleegzorg – Durllet – Elasta – Enter - Extremis – Familiehulp - Fedustria | Optimo – F.O.S. | Seniorenzorg – Frames & fields – Francovera – Groep Kordekor | Groep Sanakor – Haelvoet – Hogeschool Gent TO2C – Holst Centre – IBBT (IBCN |SMIT | CUO) – IMEC – Ingenium – In-Ham Gits | Centrum voor Assistentieve Technologie – Inonline | Lannoo Metaalwerken – ISS – IWT – Knockaert Gerrie – Kone Deursystemen – Lucas | KULeuven – Modular Lighting Instruments – Mondoor – MTC The Right Chair – Philips (lighting, healthcare, consumer) – RHMS Réseau Hospitalier de Médecine Sociale – Tele-Signal Electronics – Televic Healthcare – Thuiszorg – TTC Tile Trade Center – UGent Vakgroep Management, Innovatie en Ondernemerschap – Van Maele – VDB Productions – Veldeman Bedding – Vink – VitraPoint | ARterior bvba – Vlaamse Verpleegunie | Urobel – VTDTV Vereniging voor Technische Diensthoofden in de Verzorgingsinstellingen – Westelec – X-Aequo Design

Link to images: www.prof-projects.com

