



Newsflash February 2015 - ENTELIS

KÄKÄTE Project (User Centered Technology for Elderly People and Care Givers) Presents Findings of Studies



The **KÄKÄTE Project** was implemented in Finland during 2010-2014. During the 5-year project many surveys and interviews among older adults aged 65+ were carried out. The results were presented and elaborated in a national seminar with about 150 participants in Helsinki on the 2nd of December 2014.

The 1st study was conducted among 75-85 year old people. The sample was a representation of the Finnish population of the age group in regard to gender, educational background, living environment, etc. Based on the results of phone interviews (N=800), it is estimated that over 300 000 elderly persons living in Finland do not use Internet; the older they are, the less they

use it. However, most of the respondents believe that they could learn to use ICT with the help of proper guidance but all of them do not want to use it. About 90% had a cell phone, 1 in 3 had Internet access and 1 in 4 had an email address. More than 85% of those who did not have any of these technologies, thought that they did not need any of them. It was concluded that in order to be interested in technology, one has to see its benefits and usefulness in everyday life.

The 2nd study (N=1100) was about the older adults' interest in technology. Biggest interest was shown towards easy-to use computers, integrated safety systems and security phones with a GPS device. In all of these, the wish was that they will be easy to use. The main limitation expressed by the respondents was that there were no places to try and test different technologies.

In the 3rd study (N= 300), the usability of different ticket automats, and ATMs and other machines was surveyed. The results showed that 36% of respondents in the age group 75-85, and 63% in the age group 85+ had never used ATMs. A qualitative study among 11 users (real life testing, interviews, user panels) showed that difficulties were connected to physical characteristics of automats, e.g. size, screen and key board. Social pressure such as rush hours, or long queues, had a clear negative impact on the performance of the users. Also the fears of making mistakes or to be robbed in public places were given as reasons for not using automats.

In the 4th study (N=264), the experiences of the care takers (spouses) were surveyed. The results indicated that they used very little assistive or communication technology in their daily life. The respondents pointed out that they did not have enough information about available devices, systems or solutions.

The 5th survey (N=123) concerning digital games showed that older adults felt that games can bring joy to daily life, activate memory functions and perhaps prevent decline in cognition. One problem was that there were few games available in Finnish. The second problem was that the themes of the games were not interesting for the older adults. Especially games with violence or war actions were perceived as not-interesting by the generation that has experienced the Second World War.



The 6th survey (N= 400) concerned 75-80 year old persons living in their own homes. The respondents felt that the most important issues in their lives were accessible accommodation, possibility to spend time outdoors (balcony, garden), experience of privacy and good services nearby. About 50 % of the respondents consider public transportation, storage rooms for assistive devices (e.g. walking aids) and home security services as a plus. However, most of the respondents were willing to move to a more accessible flat or supported accommodation if it was necessary in regard to safety.

As a conclusion of all above mentioned studies, five wishes to technology creators were presented:

Even though I am getting older...

- I want to experience the joy of success;
- My home is my castle – but the castle must not be my prison;
- I want to resolve my daily problems by myself;
- Human contact is a resource of power;
- Making the right choice is not getting easier – force-fed sweets are hard to swallow!

For more information please visit the website of the KÄKÄTE Project www.ikateknologia.fi/en.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Call for Papers on Ergonomics at Workplace

ERGO WORK, a European project that aims to unite the academia and businesses to search for new opportunities in creating ergonomic workplaces, collaborated by EASPD – a partner member of ENTELIS, has announced a Call for Papers on the topic of workplace ergonomics with a focus on the needs of people with disabilities. Selected articles will be published in the Proceedings, a project publication that will be presented at the final conference "Ergonomics - an opportunity for new jobs" on September 16, 2015 in Siedlce, Poland. Abstracts need to be submitted by March 15, 2015 to mariusz_cie@op.pl. For more information please see the following link <http://www.ergo-work.eu/pdf/callforpapers.pdf>.

EASPD 2015 Annual Conference in Zadar, Croatia

On May 7-8, 2015, EASPD, a partner in the ENTELIS project, will hold the annual conference on Employment for Persons with Disabilities in Zadar, Croatia. One of the topics covered by the conference is related to employers and the work place. Specifically, partner members of the ENTELIS project will make a presentation on Universal Design and ICT. The conference is open for all relevant stakeholders and individuals interested in the topic. All information on the full programme and registration can be found both on the conference website (www.easpd-zadar.eu) and EASPD's website (<http://www.easpd.eu>).



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