**CSAIL: MIT COMPUTER SCIENCE AND ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE LABORATORY** [**http://www.csail.mit.edu/**](http://www.csail.mit.edu/)

**Department of Defense Research & Engineering (DDR&E), the mission of which is “to ensure that the warfighters today and tomorrow have superior and affordable technology to support their missions, and to give them revolutionary war-winning capabilities,” is partnering with CSAIL.**

**Foxconn, the largest contract manufacturer of electronics worldwide, which employs more than 450,000 people in China and is that country’s largest exporter, is working with CSAIL.**

**Northrop Grumman Corporation, an industry leader in all aspects of computer network operations and cyber security, is working with CSAIL as part of their Cybersecurity Research Consortium. The consortium will take on some of the world's leading cyber problems including attribution in cyberspace, supply chain risk, and securing critical infrastructure networks**

**Project Oxygen (completed), was a lab-wide series of project focusing on *developing network, software, perceptual, and user technology systems that truly serve people by being pervasive, adaptable, and intentional.* Oxygen was sponsored by Acer, Delta Electronics, Hewlett-Packard, Nippon Telegraph and Telephone, Nokia Research Center, Philips Research, and DARPA.**

**The "TCSC" partnership between MIT, Tsinghua University and The Chinese University of Hong Kong (CUHK) has formed a virtual Theoretical Computer Science Center with the purpose of conducting collaborative research.**

**The T-Party Project, a collaboration with Quanta Computer, explores the development of an integrated virtual information environment enabling people to interface with their laptops, phones, televisions, cameras, and MP3 players from any universal device, anywhere in the world.**

**Nokia, the world leader in mobile communications, is involved in a collaboration with CSAIL around a research initiative called The Mobile Ecosystem 2012. This initiative comprises a number of individual research projects aimed at enabling Nokia phone users to have more intuitive and integrated interactions with their phones – as well as between their phones and other computing devices.**

**MIT: How is research supported?**

**CSAIL research depends on generous funding from diverse sources. These include U.S. government grants from agencies such as AFOSR, DARPA, NASA, NIH, NSF, and ONR; U.S. and international corporate sponsors such as Boeing, Cisco, DuPont, Microsoft, Nokia, NTT, Pfizer, Quanta, SAP, Shell, and Toyota; and research organizations such as CSIRO, Delta Environmental and Educational Foundation, DSTA, Epoch Foundation, ITRI, and the Singapore-MIT Alliance.**

**Adding Human Intelligence to Software** [**http://bit.ly/93uo7S**](http://bit.ly/93uo7S)

**TurKit lets programmers combines code with input from an army of online human workers.**

**. Programmers already use groups of these workers, called turkers, to do many such tasks at the same time. But Mechanical Turk offers no easy way for programmers developing new software applications to combine and coordinate the turkers' efforts. Now computer scientists at MIT have developed a toolkit that does just that. Called TurKit, the tool lets software engineers write algorithms to coordinate online workers using the Javascript programming language, and create powerful applications that have human intelligence built in. The software can also be debugged like normal code.**

**Persona Management – User Environment Management by Another Name?**

**March 25th, 2010** [**http://bit.ly/cJZMEM**](http://bit.ly/cJZMEM)

**Depending on when and how your devices are configured that profile can be created on each device the user logs on to; it can move between devices as the user logs onto different workstations; or no profile can load at all. Applications aren’t always consistent in where they save settings between application versions: MS Office upgrades for instance can be quite character building. Neither are operating systems – Windows XP has differences to Windows 7. How do you capture those? How do you maintain settings if users switch between operating environments?**

**Mandatory Profiles**

**For simple environments it is likely that a Mandatory Profile, or even pre-configured local profile will ensure that the user’s logon experience is fast and consistent. But a Mandatory Profile is just that – mandatory. It is fixed and unchangeable. A Mandatory Profile doesn’t allow you to keep your own settings between you logging off and logging back on.**

**Roaming Profiles**

**If you need users to have application settings be persistent between sessions the ability to save and reload those settings means local/mandatory profiles aren’t effective. You may consider Roaming Profiles as an effective option – but, with a profile containing more information than simply application settings you can find that over time, a user’s profile expands in size. Application settings can get large, application data folders can grow. This can cause the user profile to become large. Tens of MB possibly hundreds. To some extent slow logon times could be mitigated by redirecting profile folders to network stores. While this works for LAN based users – branch office workers, or users who have a laptop can still experience painfully long logon times. It was not uncommon to have to go to third party solutions to help reduce profile load times be make them more consistent.**

**Here, RTO’s Virtual Profiles was an excellent solution: its simple and effective filter driver solution helped improve the speed of logon/logoff times with minimal impact on the network infrastructure by essentially streaming the profile. Fast and effective for that situation.**

**Obviously, third party solutions have an additional license cost. In some instances, there is additional infrastructure required: for example, both AppSense and RES require that profiles are no longer stored in the ‘standard’ Microsoft file store – both migrate settings to a centralised database to give** complete management features.

**However, what the third party tools provide is a profile management solution that allows your user’s workspace settings, their persona, to be managed and maintained before, during and after a VDI implementation. Having a reliable profile solution in place before rolling out a new environment means you’ve a better control of the environment to make the whole transition, and future transitions, less painful.**

**451 Group Report: Cox Comm’s deploys VDI with AppSense over ‘Persona’ / Profile Management** [**http://bit.ly/juJW2z**](http://bit.ly/juJW2z)

**“Andrew highlighted that the technology VMware recently acquired from RTO Software (Virtual Profiles), while good at reducing user logon times, does not provide enterprise scalable Personalization and Policy Management. Instead, organizations need to consider a user virtualization solution to enable mass adoption of desktop virtualization technologies.”**

**Description 315** [**http://bit.ly/ljiAwj**](http://bit.ly/ljiAwj)

**This profile (DSP1057, Virtual System Profile) specializes DSP1052 (Computer System Profile) that de-fines the minimum top-level object model needed to define a basic computing platform. The primary de-sign objective applied by this profile is that a virtual system and its components appear to a client in the same way as a non-virtual system. Typical management tasks such as enumerating, analyzing, control-ling, or configuring a system should be enabled without requiring the client to understand specific aspects of virtual systems.**

**Profile relationships**

**This profile (DSP1057) is complementary to DSP1042 (System Virtualization Profile):**

**This profile focuses on virtualization aspects that relate to virtual systems and their virtual re-sources, such as modeling the structure of virtual systems and their resources. The profile introduces the concept of virtual system configurations allowing the inspection of virtual system configuration and state information.**

**DSP1042 focuses on virtualization aspects that relate to host systems and their resources, such as modeling the relationships between host resources and virtual resources. Further it ad-dresses virtualization-specific tasks such as the creation or modification of virtual systems and their configurations.**

**Figure 1 shows a structure of profiles. For example, an implementation that instruments a virtualization platform may implement some of the following profiles:**

**This profile (DSP1057)**

**This profile enables the inspection of and basic operations on virtual systems.**

[**http://zabaware.com/**](http://zabaware.com/)

**Zabaware is a company that aims at giving your computer the power of thought. We develop conversational systems that will give your computer a personality using artificial intelligence technology, speech recognition technology, and real-time animation. Our software can speak and understand the English language.**

**Like many conversational systems available on the market today (commonly known as chat bots), our software can hold intelligent conversations with you. You can chat with your computer about anything and you can expect an intelligent response. However, our software can do so much more...**

**Ultra Hal Assistant is a conversational system for your Windows PC based on award winning artificial intelligence technology. What can it be used for?**

 **- As a companion/entertainment product: Hal can discuss any topic and learns and evolves from your conversations**

 **- As a personal or office assistant: Hal can function as a personal information manager (PIM) and keep track of your appointments, contacts, and more**

**- Understands English, Learns from every sentence**

 **- 3D avatars show emotion, Speaks out loud**

 **- Personality evolves, Can keep address/phone/email book**

**- Keeps appointment book, Performs unit conversions**

 **- Launches applications, Helps browse the Internet**

 **- Can define any word, Customizable with built-in VBScript**

 **VBScript has been installed by default in every desktop release of Microsoft Windows since Windows 98;[1] in Windows Server since Windows NT 4.0 Option Pack;[2] and optionally with Windows CE (depending on the device it is installed on).**

**A VBScript script must be executed within a host environment, of which there are several provided with Microsoft Windows, including: Windows Script Host (WSH), Internet Explorer (IE), and Internet Information Services (IIS).[3] Additionally, the VBScript hosting environment is embeddable in other programs, through technologies such as the Microsoft Script Control (msscript.ocx). (*Wikipedia)***