

## Chapter 7

# Conclusions

It is clear that the field of Cooperating Objects, is a very dynamic one that has the potential of drastically changing the way people interact with the physical world as well as how business systems integrate it in their processes. We are still at the dawn of an era, where a new breed of applications and services, strongly coupled with our everyday environment will revolutionize our lives even in a deeper way than the Internet has done in these past years.

In this research roadmap, we have tried to provide a thorough overview of the current status as well as the possible directions that research in this domain might take in the next 7 to 15 years. We have presented promising applications domains, and given a glimpse of effect that Cooperating Objects might impose upon them.

We have also given information about a probable timeline for the development of research and have attempted to characterize the points in time where major breakthroughs will allow for Cooperating Objects technology to become mainstream. Additionally, we have tried to pinpoint major inhibitors and potential roadblocks and given concrete suggestions to avoid them.

Such a disruptive approach, can not be managed by a single actor nor be fully exploited, without coordinated cooperation among researchers, industrial partners, end-users, financing institutions, policy regulators etc.

It is our intention to keep this roadmap updated in the next years, and incorporate multi-domain feedback from diverse actors e.g. industry, academia, etc To that sense this is an open invitation to all readers to provide us with visionary insights as well as pinpoint to roadblocks and future research directions.