DELIVERABLE

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Early Dissemination Brochure

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Project co-funded by the European Commission within the ICT Policy Support Programme
Executive Summary

This brochure is intended for dissemination of information on the start of the ETNA project and its general objectives. As it addresses to a large audience – not necessarily to people familiar with assistive technology, ICT or accessibility issues – the contents are intentionally concise and the graphic layout is simple and clear; bright and vivid colors have been chosen to avoid the feeling of a “dark image of disability” and – conversely – convey an idea of positive energy that can be fostered through joint action to positively contribute to the European society.

This brochure has been designed and produced jointly by the ETNA and the ATIS4All Consortia, thus responding to the Commission’s recommendation to collaborate, exploit the synergies and also deliver the public image of a single cluster.

Instead of producing two distinct brochures, the ETNA and the ATIS4All Consortia decided to have a single leaflet advertising both networks, sharing the same design, layout and contents. The wording was carefully weighted having in mind the overall goal of the two networks as a whole, then specifying the single role of each of them within the cluster. The last sections provide the full lists of partners of the two consortia, showing the breadth and the comprehensiveness of the whole cluster.

The brochure also indicates the intended future result of the joint effort – the EASTIN 2.0 – the joint portal that will evolve from the already existing European Assistive Technology Information Network by embodying the results of the next three-years work.

This document has been prepared as a file to be either downloaded by the ETNA website or printed on-demand on the occasion of major events; up to now 200 copies were printed and disseminated for the first ETNA Workshop that was held on March 24, 25 in Milano, Italy, and the first ATIS4All Workshop that was held on March 14-15 in Madrid, Spain.

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Early Dissemination Brochure
Assistive Technologies and Inclusive Solutions for All

European Thematic Network on Assistive Information and Communication Technologies
Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is a powerful driver for inclusion and quality of life; it can have specific benefits for disabled people, often removing barriers to participation in everyday life. However, ensuring access to ICT assistive equipment, systems and services is not straightforward, as information is patchy, not well-distributed or simply absent.

The ATIS4All and the ETNA Thematic Networks, set up in January 2011, address this issue, involving 42 leading Institutions from 16 European Countries. These EU-wide Networks will work together for three years to establish a joint web Portal offering information on ICT-based assistive products and accessibility solutions available across Europe. They will also facilitate access to repositories of open source assistive technology software products and help keep abreast of cutting-edge technological trends.

Two networks of leading Institutions in assistive solutions and eAccessibility

- The Portal aggregates the knowledge and the expertise of leading Institutions in assistive solutions and eAccessibility all over Europe. Based on the work of the European Assistive Technology Information Network (EASTIN), it will take advantage of existing repositories and other Internet resources.

- The ETNA network (European Thematic Network on Assistive Information and Communication Technologies) will mainly work at the Portal’s search engine application, enabling all the stakeholders to access the data and resources available through a multilingual interface.

- The ATIS4All network (Assistive Technology and Assistive Solutions for All) will mainly focus on building Web 2.0 applications to create an active online community, enhancing dialogue, sharing and participation among users, researchers and developers.

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