Summer Foundation in Australia are researching integrated technologies within buildings, to enable people with significant disability to live in their own homes. This Snapshot describes the technology chain including building design, technology, and user interfaces, using an ISO-based definition of integrated technology which encompasses smart home and communication devices. Resources including actual building designs, and an outcomes framework are provided.

A model for integrating builds and technologies

A 2017 Scoping Review of the aged care, disability, technological and construction literature, evaluated the use and outcomes of technology within the built environment. Findings suggest that housing builds which enable people with significant disability to flourish, requires new ways of integrating mainstream and assistive technologies and AT service elements.

People are at the heart of design, with integrated technology tailored to goals and to building capabilities

Products are widely defined and include environment, mainstream and AT devices plus infrastructure

Policy funds all product elements, enacted through seamless Provision processes

Personnel work beyond their individual professional lens

FIGURE ABOVE demonstrates the technology chain between built ingredients, assistive technology or mainstream products and systems, and the user interface.

FIGURE ON THE RIGHT lists the ingredients of integrated technologies within housing according to ISO 9999 Assistive Products for persons with disability – classification and terminology (2016)

Impact for AT users and the community

Summer Foundation evidence demonstrates a range of valued outcomes for people with catastrophic disability living in technology-integrated builds in the community. Property developers and builders are scaling up successful housing models www.summerfoundation.org.au

Strategies to build global capacity

Global colleagues are invited to use and adapt the taxonomy of assistive products based on ISO 9999

An outcomes framework to evaluate effectiveness of integrated technologies is currently underway

Scoping Review for publication

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