# CES 2018: LEGRAND MAPS OUT THE FUTURE OF CONNECTED BUILDINGS BY INCORPORATING ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE INTO ITS SOLUTIONS

*Positioned at the heart of the connected building revolution, Legrand is seizing the opportunity of its presence in Las Vegas to share its vision and its latest developments in artificial intelligence to enhance the user experience.*

**Paris, 11 January 2018 –** Legrand, the global specialist in electrical and digital building infrastructures, is announcing the gradual incorporation of artificial intelligence (AI) technologies into its connected solutions and their compatibility with partner solutions such as Amazon Alexa, Google Assistant, Apple Siri and Microsoft Cortana.

**Assisting and responding to changing behavior patterns**
Increasing numbers of users appreciate the simplicity and comfort of artificial intelligence as applied to building equipment, especially via voice control. According to the 2017 Voice Report issued by VoiceLabs, the number of voice assistants sold in 2017 is estimated at 24.5 million, as against 6.5 million in 2016. The same report estimates at 50% the share of voice-driven searches due to be made by 2020.

Gilles Schnepp, Legrand Chairman and Chief Executive Officer, explains how Legrand sees these changes: *"For Legrand, artificial intelligence needs to enable gathering, handling and interpreting the data in our environment, so as to be able to take appropriate action. It should therefore meet a threefold requirement:*
- *Predict and act: to learn and understand how users utilize products and solutions;*
- *Discuss: to engage dialogue with users;*
- *Visualize: to be able to distinguish and recognize shapes and objects.*
*These fundamentals enable the automation which ultimately makes a building really smart so as to adapt seamlessly and autonomously to its occupants and their habits."*

**Voice and image recognition: the foundation stones of artificial intelligence**
Convinced that these innovations will facilitate everyday life for both users and installers, Legrand is closely examining technologies involving voice recognition, image recognition, self-learning, and chatbot-style virtual assistants.

**AI can be incorporated into Legrand solutions in two ways:**

**Intelligence "by design": This involves making Legrand solutions more intelligent by directly integrating the latest innovations.** In France and Italy for instance, Legrand is working on enabling remote diagnosis via a virtual assistant, as well as on ways of anticipating faults in a system. The Group is also developing image recognition, for inclusion in video door entry systems, so as to provide facial recognition-based modes of access control. This way, door entry takes on a new dimension, by providing a way not only to see visitors but also to recognize them, thereby guaranteeing enhanced building security.

At CES 2018, Legrand is also showcasing its collaboration with the startup Ivani, on a behavioral anticipation project using connected Legrand switches, which could have many potential applications, from lighting management to energy efficiency, etc.

**Intelligence "as a service": This allows to provide users with greater added value in Legrand solutions by connecting them to partner AI services.** Via the new interoperability program, '*Works with Legrand*', which was announced on the opening day of CES 2018, Legrand systems are made compatible with applications or systems using artificial intelligence to allow to automate certain actions. The joint use of a voice assistant and of Legrand connected devices provides added convenience and places the building firmly at the service of its occupants.

Ernesto Santini, Legrand Vice-President Innovation & Systems, explains: "*Following on from Apple, Amazon, Google and Microsoft, all of whom are already in partnership with Legrand, we are now taking another step further by collaborating with Samsung and its new assistant, Bixby. Our Eliot\* solutions are thus interoperable with all the main voice assistants on the market. This allows users to enjoy in their home the ease of use of voice command to which they are already accustomed on their smartphone.*"

The winner at the Legrand/Samsung Artik hackathon, startup Craft Ai is a dynamic partner for Legrand, adding an artificial intelligence brick to the smart building. It makes it possible to imagine a self-learning building, which learns about users' habits by gathering data from the various connected products located inside.

To find out more about Legrand at CES 2018, look up our complete press kit on www.legrand.com

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**If you are attending CES and wish to know more about Legrand's existing partnerships and its partner program '*Works with Legrand*', come and meet us at the Legrand stand, Hall A-D No. 43207.**

**For any additional information, feel free to contact the press team:**

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**ABOUT LEGRAND**

Legrand is the global specialist in electrical and digital building infrastructures. Its comprehensive offering of solutions for international commercial, industrial and residential markets makes it a benchmark for customers worldwide. Drawing on an approach that involves all of its employees and stakeholders, Legrand is pursuing its strategy of profitable and sustainable growth driven by innovation, with a steady flow of new offerings—including Eliot* connected products with enhanced value in use—and acquisitions. Legrand reported sales of over €5 billion in 2016. The company is listed on Euronext Paris and is a component stock of indexes including the CAC40, FTSE4Good, MSCI World, Corporate Oekom Rating, DJSI World, Vigeo Euronext Eurozone 120-Europe 120-France 20, and Ethibel Sustainability Index Excellence. (ISIN code FR0010307819).
www.legrand.com

**\*ABOUT ELIOT**

Eliot is the name of a program launched in 2015 by Legrand to speed up deployment in its Internet of Things offering. Stemming from the Group's innovation strategy, it is aimed at developing connected and interoperable solutions that provide sustainable benefits for both private and professional users. http://www.legrand.com/EN/eliot-program_13238.html