

Multi-protocol Home Networking Applet for HTML5

September 19, 2011

Clarke Stevens c.stevens@cablelabs.com



CableLabs®
...Revolutionizing Cable Technology®

Home Networking Goal for Cable Television

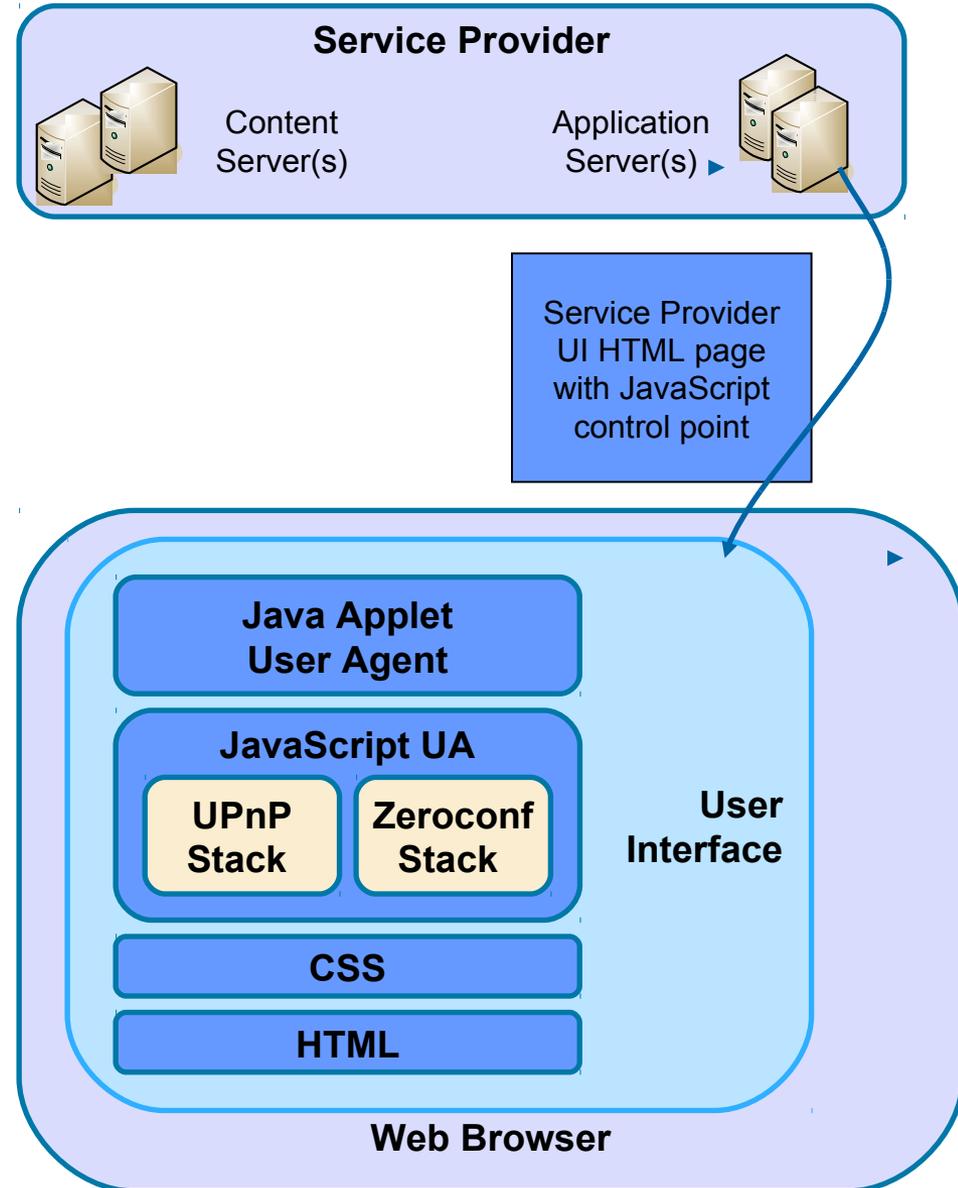
- Support distribution of commercial and personal media content to any capable device in the home
- Support other networked services as opportunities emerge (e.g. home security, energy management, home health and fitness, etc.)

Home Networking Requirements

- Support existing home networking protocols (e.g. DLNA/UPnP, Zeroconf, etc.)
 - Control interface can be loaded from the Internet
 - Discovery of devices and services on the home network
 - Messaging between the control interface and the home networked devices and services
 - Support asynchronous events
 - Security is key (user can choose what to make accessible)

CableLabs' Prototype Implementation

- Low-level API in signed Java Applet
- Home networking stacks and user interface code in JavaScript
- User Interface template in CSS
- Remainder of user interface in HTML with JavaScript APIs for interaction with devices and services on the home network



Demonstration

- HTML, CSS web page user interface
- User agent written as a signed Java Applet
 - Applet allows for cross domain interaction
- UPnP and Zeroconf stacks written in JavaScript and calling generic APIs in the User Agent Applet
- User authorizes access for each discovered device

Discovery

- `discoveryControl(JSONString protocols) //start discovery`
 - `Protocols = '{
 "upnp": "upnpDiscoveryCallback",
 "zeroconf": "zeroconfDiscoveryCallback"
}'`
- `upnpDiscoveryCallback(jsonObject) {}`
 - JavaScript routine that is called whenever a UPnP device is discovered or lost
- `zeroconfDiscoveryCallback(jsonObject) {}`
 - JavaScript routine that is called whenever a Zeroconf service is discovered or lost

Messaging and Events

- `sendRequest(jsonString, upnpCallback)`
 - `jsonString = '{`
 - `"protocol": "upnp",`
 - `"serviceType": "urn:schemas-upnp-org:service:AVTransport:1",`
 - `"uuid": "00000000-0000-1010-8000-5442499C2FE3",`
 - `"action": "#PLAY",`
 - `"body": "...UPNP SOAP Command..."``}`
- `upnpCallback(jsonObject) {}`
 - `jsonObject = {`
 - `"protocol": "upnp",`
 - `"serviceType": "urn:schemas-upnp-org:service:AVTransport:1",`
 - `"uuid": "00000000-0000-1010-8000-5442499C2FE3",`
 - `"friendlyName": "BRAVIA XBR-52LX900",`
 - `"response": "...UPnP SOAP Response...",`
 - `"responseCode": "200"``};`

Security

- User must authorize user agent to run (signed Java Applet)
- User must authorize access for any discovered device or service
- User agent may implement additional security and control measures
 - Authorize high-value content
 - Require link protection for sending content between devices
 - Verify that user has a subscription and the type of subscription
 - Verify that selected content can play on selected device or select an appropriate content format

Revised API with Opera

- Since developing and implementing the described API, CableLabs has worked with Opera to develop a joint API proposal
- That proposal is now ready for public review and will shortly be submitted to the DAP WG
- The CableLabs messaging API has been replaced with existing and WIP messaging in HTML5 (e.g. XMLHttpRequest with cross domain functionality)
- CableLabs has implemented this API in a Java Applet implementation as well and will soon release it for use in developing HTML5 support for home networking

Next Steps

- Work with W3C on standardization and with browser vendors on implementation
 - Opera and CableLabs will formally submit their joint API to the DAP WG and will work as editors of the document
 - CableLabs is providing design information and source code it has created for the applet implementation