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Entering goals, or “Wants”

A User Agent is given explicit search parameters including keywords, search radius and time constraints.
A profile contains several Wants

The user’s current profile includes all the active Wants for which the agent is searching on the user’s behalf.
Search and notification

Wants are satisfied when Providers which match on physical location, keywords, and time constraints are identified by the User Agent.
Agent presents options

The user is presented a selection of several Providers

1. Kikos, 250m away
2. La Plata, 300m away
3. Les Tapes, 1250m away
Retrieve provider information

Detailed information supplied by a Provider is presented to the user, who may interactively explore in more detail.
Research Issues

• **Electronic Exchanges**
  - open, distributed marketplaces
  - location-based agent interaction
  - platform for multi-agent interactions
  - tools for building ontologies (for products, services, expertise)

• **Agents as proxies for buyers and sellers**
  - profiling with privacy
  - explicit & implicitly gathered profile information
  - decision support, recommendations, inferencing
  - UI user-agent (control, understanding)