CLAIMS

1. A system comprising a Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP) phone that includes~~, comprising~~:

a network interface ~~that communicates with a medium~~;

a control module adapted to~~that~~ communicates with said network interface and ~~that~~ controls operation of said VOIP phone, wherein said control module is adapted to select N (N is an integer greater than one) network appliances during the same time period;

a coder/decoder module adapted to~~that~~ communicates with said control module;

a microphone adapted to~~that~~ outputs audio signals to said coder/decoder module;

an audio output device adapted to~~that~~ receives audio signals from said coder/decoder module; and

an input/output interface adapted to~~for~~ receive~~ing~~ user input,

wherein said control module and said network interface are adapted to transmits said user input including a desired setpoint temperature as packets including address commands to said N~~a~~ network appliances in a multi-cast manner to adjust ~~an~~ operating parameters of the N network appliances, and

the system further comprising said N network appliances, wherein

at least one of said N network appliances controls a thermostat and includes a setpoint temperature arbitrator, and

the setpoint temperature arbitrator is adapted to select a setpoint temperature based on a setpoint program when setpoint temperatures have not been received within

a first predetermined period, a single setpoint temperature when one setpoint temperature has been received within a second predetermined period, and a function of a plurality of setpoint temperatures when more than one setpoint temperature has been received within a third predetermined period.

2. The system~~VOIP phone~~ of Claim 1 wherein said network interface includes a wireless network interface.

3. The system~~VOIP phone~~ of Claim 1 wherein said network interface includes a wired network interface.

4. The system~~VOIP phone~~ of Claim 1 wherein said N network appliances includes a wireless network interface.

5. The system~~VOIP phone~~ of Claim 1 wherein said N network appliances includes a wired network interface.

6. The~~A~~ system ~~comprising the VOIP phone~~ of Claim 2 ~~and further comprising said network appliance~~, wherein said N network appliances are~~is~~ wireless appliances and adapted to communicates with said VOIP phone using at least one of an infrastructure mode and a peer-to-peer mode.

7. TheA system ~~comprising the VOIP phone~~ of Claim 3 ~~and further comprising said network appliance~~, wherein said N network appliances areis ~~a~~ wired network appliances adapted to~~that~~ communicates with said VOIP phone.

8. TheA system ~~comprising the VOIP phone~~ of Claim 3 ~~and~~ further comprising:

a router adapted to~~that~~ communicates with said wired network interface; and

a wired network appliance adapted to~~that~~ communicates with said VOIP phone via said router.

9. The system~~VOIP phone~~ of Claim 1 wherein said N network appliances areis located in a remote network.

10. TheA system ~~comprising the VOIP phone~~ of Claim 1 ~~and further comprising said network appliance~~, wherein said N network appliances are adapted to controls at least one of a thermostat, an audio system, lighting and a window shade.

11. The system~~VOIP phone~~ of Claim 1 wherein said VOIP phone includes at least one of a keypad, a touchpad and a display adapted to~~for~~ receive~~ing~~ said user input to alter said operating parameters.

~~12. The system of Claim 10 wherein said network appliance further includes a setpoint temperature arbitrator that selects a setpoint temperature based on a setpoint~~

~~program when setpoint temperatures have not been received within a first predetermined period, a single setpoint temperature when one setpoint temperature has been received within a second predetermined period, and a function of a plurality of setpoint temperatures when more than one setpoint temperature has been received within a third predetermined period.~~

12~~13~~. The~~A~~ system ~~comprising the VOIP phone~~ of Claim 1 ~~and~~ further comprising:

a router adapted to~~that~~ communicates with said VOIP phone, said router~~that~~ includinges a speech recognition module adapted to~~that~~ performs speech recognition on said audio signals input to said microphone and being adapted to~~that~~ generates commands for said N network appliances based on said speech recognition.

13. The system of Claim 1, wherein said control module is adapted to select said N network appliances at the same time.

14. The system of Claim 1, wherein said control module is adapted to transmit said address commands to instruct said N network appliances to adjust the same parameters at least one of the same way and at the same time.

15. The system of Claim 1, wherein said control module is adapted to transmit said address commands to instruct said N network appliances to adjust at least one of lights and window shades at least one of the same way and at the same time.

16. The system of Claim 1, wherein:

said control module is adapted to provide a graphical user interface with a selectable list of available network appliances;

said control module is adapted to select said N network appliances based on said user input;

said control module is adapted to provide a list of available functions and operating parameters based on said selection of said N network appliances; and

said control module is adapted to provide at least one of remote control interface and touchpad screen that is specific to said N network appliances.