

Offline Voice Control With Aragon

Written by Frederick Douglas
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French home automation startup ProKNX launches what it claims is a unique, offline voice control system for the home-- Aragon, an internet-free voice assistant residing inside a flush-mounted box.



According to the company, so long an existing home automation system is in place, customers simply need to install an Aragon device in each room where voice control is desired. The system works with Snips (now Sonos) and does not require any cloud services, meaning the device is not dependent on an internet connection and users do not need an associated account.

ProKNX says security is one of the biggest concerns of homeowners regarding voice assistants. However Aragon follows a privacy-by-design model, meaning it does not record or store conversations, and the software runs directly on the device. Software updates are also under user control, and as such never imposed. As for the device, it has a small form factor and fits inside a flush-mounted, in-wall box compatible with a wide range of switch fronts from a variety of different manufacturers.

The device connects through standard PoE, meaning a single cable provides both data connection and electric power. Installation is plug-and-play, and setup is automatic. The company adds Aragon integrates with "most" major automation servers.

The first Aragon release is available in English, French and German.

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