## Will Your "Smart" Home Attract More Buyers?

It was once said that the only thing you can be certain of in life is "change". That's never been more true than it is today. The pace of change is manic – and that's also been evident in real estate offering to hit the market.

The world has woken up to the fact that resources are precious – electricity, water, and even time - are precious commodities that we just can't afford to waste. Enter the age of the "smart" home. New age solar power systems are so much more efficient than before. They use the power of the sun to charge new-generation batteries that can power your home.

Smart "apps" allow you to program your appliances to operate when you have your best access to free electricity. The latest systems will allow you to be virtually independent of the power grid. That represents a huge cost saving – but also means you are not at the mercies of Eskom.

Remember the days of dial-up internet? Then came ADSL – and now access to "fibre" will soon become the norm. What's the benefit to you? Lightning fast Internet will mean you may not need or want DSTV. You will stream what you and when you want it, directly to your own entertainment box.

Is traffic a problem? That long commute to work that robs you of 3 to 4 hours of precious time every day- time that could have been spent with your family. With a fibre internet feed to your home you may not even need to get to the office? Work from home, visit customers, and then pop into the office outside of peak traffic hours. What's an extra 20 hours a week worth to you?

Worried about security? Your security system can stream live camera footage to your phone 24/7. Program your lights, your air-conditioners or heating systems, or whatever you want, when you are fully connected.

The technology is all there – at the touch of your fingertips on your tablet or smartphone. All you need to do is plug right into it. And it's not just for the "Millennials". The reality is this that everyone wants to save money. Everyone wants more time. Everyone wants to save natural resources. When your "smart" home hits the market and competes against other "non-smart" listings – yours will win every time.

Embrace the future! It need not freak you out. There are significant benefits to you right now. And if you really don't know how to use it, a 5-year old child will show you, for free!

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