A Challenging Design Case Study for Interactive Media Design Education: Interactive Media for Individuals with Autism

# Details

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Marcus A.

## Authors

Yantaç A.;Esin Orhun S.;Ünlüer Çimen A.

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## Sample

The study mentioned was conducted between 2010-2013 in the Department of Interactive Media Design of Yildiz Technical University with a total of 26 undergra-duate students under design studio courses that focus on developing interaction design solutions for a variety of technological platforms, tools and user scenarios. Studio courses have been running with 4 hours studio sessions, 2 times a week, for a month.

# Abstract

Since 1999, research for creativity triggering education solutions for interactive media design (IMD) undergraduate level education in Yıldız Technical University leaded to a variety of rule breaking exercises. Among many approaches, the method of designing for disabling environment, in which the students design for the users with one or more of their senses disabled, brought the challenge of working on developing interactive solutions for the individuals with autism spectrum conditions (ASC). With the aim of making their life easier, the design students were urged to find innovative yet functional interaction solutions for this focused user group, whose communicational disability activate due to the deficiencies in their senses and/or cognition. Between 2011 and 2012, this project brief supported by participatory design method motivated 26 students highly to develop design works to reflect the perfect fit of interaction design to this challenging framework involving the defective social communication cases of autism.

# Outcome

"This study has been a followup to our ongoing studies on teaching affordance so as to widen the students’ creative limits while staying within the borders of accessibility"
"The studies resulted in 3 different conceptual approaches in the end; (a) Mobile and wearable, (b) spatially augmented, (c) spatially organized solid solutions. Solutions that can be categorized as “mobile and wearable” were less demanding, location-independent and partially seamless. " (Yantaç et al., 2014, p.194)