DesignWorkshop 2 Physical Interfaces for AI Assistants Marin Zec - Johanna Schlechter - Beat Rossmy - Alexander Wiethoff

Circular Design and Smart Material Choices - 17.06.2024



Circular Design



Linear Economy

Take resources from earth Make products to use Waste them after use Value of input is lost + neg. environmental impacts Waste emerged as a cultural practice

TAKE



Planned Obsolescence

- "Obsolete": out of date
- Origin: Worldwide economic depression (1929–1941)
- At that time a good idea: Bring current products out of date to sell more new products
- Basis: Companies make profit by selling a product
- Result: Obsolete products which turn into waste





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Problem E-Waste

Electronic waste is one of the fastest growing streams of waste globally – more than 50 million tonnes of e-waste is generated each year, averaging 7 kg per person[1]. Despite clear potential for reuse or remanufacturing due to the high value of materials within them, including precious metals, less than 20% of e-waste is formally collected or recycled. Instead, e-waste sits idle in homes, ends up in landfill or is exported (sometimes illegally) to developing countries.

[1] https://www.statista.com/topics/3409/electronic-waste-worldwide/#topicOverview

Global Challenges Land Use

Lithium mining in Chile

- One electric car needs 20-30 kg of lithium
- 2,2 million liters of water are needed to produce one ton of lithium = only lithium: 44.000 liters / e-car (at least)



s-issue.html on 23.01.2022

From linear to circular

Linear Economy: Short use periods, high inefficiency, lots of waste

Recycling Economy: Current status Germany, part of waste is recycled

Circular Economy: Minimize waste, materials & products are reused and recycled

Linear Economy

Recycling Industry

Circular Economy











Inspiration

Contraction of the

SEARCH: Enter keyword

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		INNOVATIONS PROC	ESS INFORMATION	1		
Functions	? FUNCTION	FUNCTION Process Information				
Break Down 26	+ Process I					
Get, Store, or Distribute Resources 73	+					
Maintain Community 37	+					
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Sectors	University of California	I Santa Cruz	SAMPARE		Mick Pearce	

https://asknature.org/

INNOVATIONS



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Meyer, V., Schmidt, B., Pohl, C., Cerimi, K., Schubert, B., Weber, B., ... & Volpato, A. (2020). Mind the fungi (p. 151). Universitätsverlag der Technischen Universität Berlin.





Worksheet

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T H E C I R C U L A R D E S I G N G U I D E

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WORKSHEET

Smart Material Choices

Learn to make smart material choices by asking the right questions. These steps will help you make better choices about what materials go into your products as well as their impact on the wider system.

Materials play an essential role in a circular economy, so we need them to be made of safe ingredients that can be continuously cycled. By designing products with materials that come from, and safely flow, into their respective nutrient cycles, you can be part of creating an optimised materials economy that eliminates the concept of waste. So let's get materials savvy!

STEPS

Consider what parts your product is made of (tags, zipper, basic fabric, buttons etc.)

Draft Timeline

April

May



Draft Timeline

April

May



On the 24th of June / 8th of July (final presentation)

We will do team-reviews individually

- Present the results of working with the "Smart Material Choices" worksheet
- Define one circular design aspect in your prototype (which would play a part in an industrialisation)

Final Presentation

- "Elevator Pitch Style" 5min presentation + demonstration
- Only brief reflection of the process, more focused on "Problem vs. Solution"
- All tricks allowed

References ...

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[6] Unger, R., & Chandler, C. (2023). A Project Guide to UX Design: For user experience designers in the field or in the making. New Riders.

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