Tangential Domains & Interactive Systems

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Overview
Proliferation & Convergence
Complexity
Solutions

Some definitions
What does the word "Tangential" mean?
What does the word "Convergence" mean?
What does the word "Proliferation" mean?

Proliferation & Convergence
More and more products are emerging that have:
  :: a digital aspect
  :: a physical aspect
  :: a storage component
  :: an organizational component
  :: communication abilities
  :: customization abilities

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Nokia 3650 Phone
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TiVo Series2 80 Hour Digital Video Recorder
Palm Zire 71 Handheld

Complexity
These devices are recognized and defined by their interfaces - their physical and digital interactions with their users.

It is no longer enough to simply design the form.
It is not even enough to design the interface.

What the heck are we supposed to do, then?

Complexity
As designers, our task is to design and understand the entire user experience of the complex, interconnected world in front of us.

- The product
- The product line
- Physical Interfaces
- Digital Interfaces
- Branding
- Manufacturing Processes
- The online experience

Identity
Distribution Networks
Supply Chain
Information Systems
Human Factors
Usability Engineering
Packaging

We are architecting the entire user experience - and not just for the "end user". For all users.

Complexity: Some Examples

- Understanding the holistic user experience
- Information Architects work on the whole thing.
Complexity: Some Examples

Complexity

All of these things need to be designed.
People interact at all of these product touchpoints.
Interaction Designers are in a prime position to take a project management role and claim ownership of this process.
what does it mean to "own" part of a design process?

Solutions

In order to "tame the complexity", we need better tools.

What was the hardest part of assignment #1?
How about assignment #2?

Solutions

Research being done for potential new tools:

:: Media Visualization Techniques (2001)
:: Fluid Interactions with High-Res Wall-Size Displays (2001)
Summary

Proliferation & Convergence
Complexity
Solutions

Opportunities to branch out from Industrial Design exist.
Take them.