Sketching in Hardware 2013: PROJECTIONS

Sketching A New Product Ecosystem Starting with 'Peripheral' Products

July 18, 2013

Xerox Palo Alto Research Center, Palo Alto, California, U.S.A.

Shigeru Kobayashi (Institute of Advanced Media Arts and Sciences [IAMAS])

How might we sketch new product ecosystems to facilitate mutual understanding between manufacturers and 'makers' to creating innovation?

This is the most interesting design challenge for me. Japan is a so called developed country with many highly skilled manufacturers. But there are many restrictions, especially for product liability issues. If we made the relationship between manufacturers and users more flexible, we might be able to facilitate innovation within manufacturers.

THE NEW PRODUCT DEVELOPMENT ECOSYSTEM

HOW WE WILL SKETCH
PRODUCTS AND REINVENT
MANUFACTURING IN THE
PROCESS

Mike Kuniavsky

July 20, 2012 Portland, Oregon

Mike Kuniavsky, The New Product Development Ecosystem: How We Will Sketch Products and Reinvent Manufacturing in the Process, Sketching in Hardware 12, 2012

Mike proposed a new product development ecosystem at the last Sketching, consisting of an Amazon like front end and rapid and flexible manufacturing systems as the back end.

Introduction

Case studies

- Maker Conference Tokyo 2013
- konashi Make-a-thon

Shigeru Kobayashi | Sketching in Hardware 2013 | Xerox Palo Alto Research Center, Palo Alto, California, U.S.A.

I was inspired by the talk. I'd like to introduce two case studies, then talk about a new product ecosystem for 'peripheral' products.



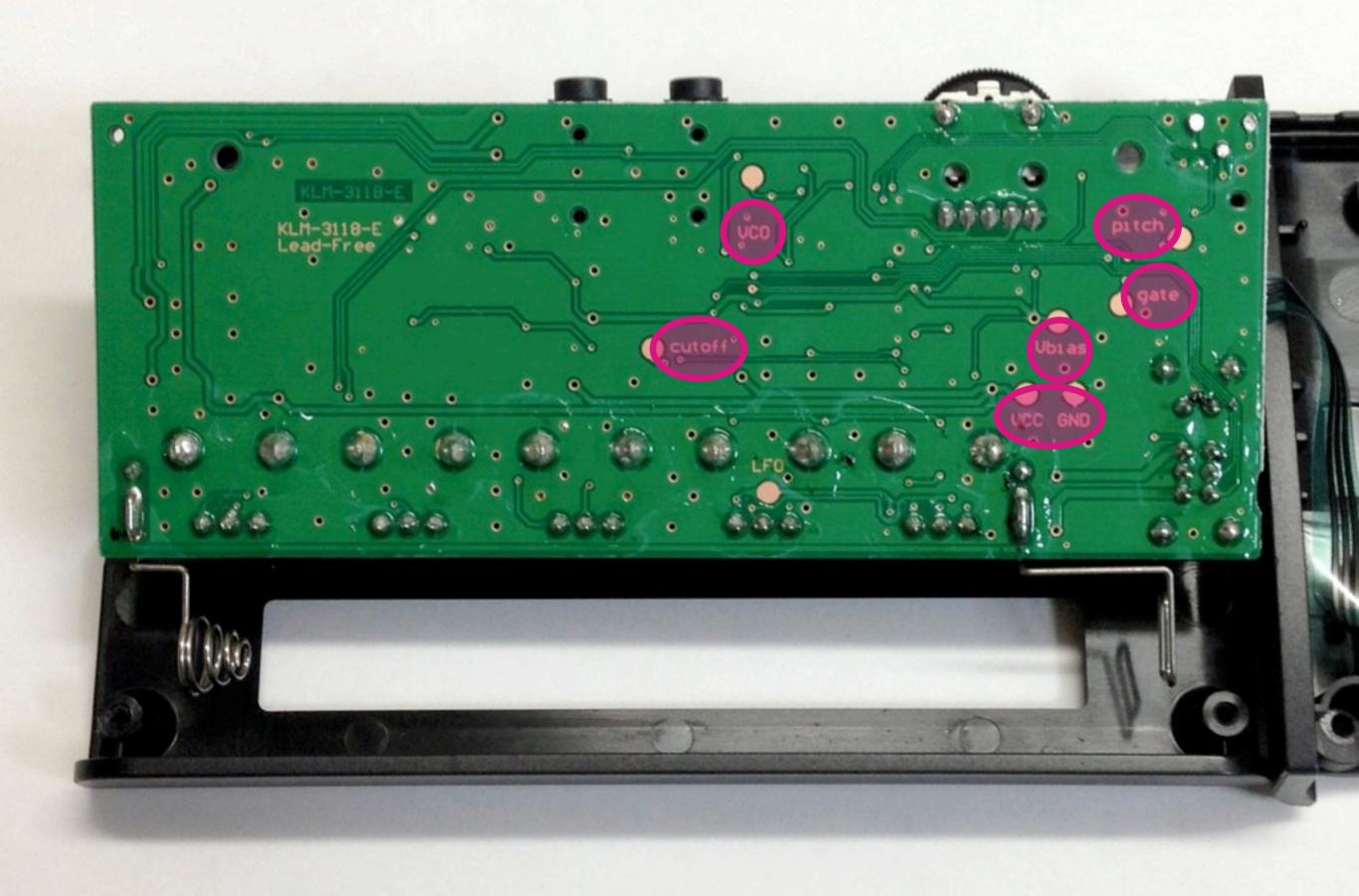
Maker Conference Tokyo 2013 was a paid conference held at June 15 in Tokyo. There were about 250 attendees. Keynote speakers were Mark Frauenfelder (Make) and Eric Pan (Seeed Studio). I was a PC member and a moderator of two sessions with speakers of manufacturers and makers: 'Creating maker friendly products' and 'Maker \times Maker (Manufacturer)'.



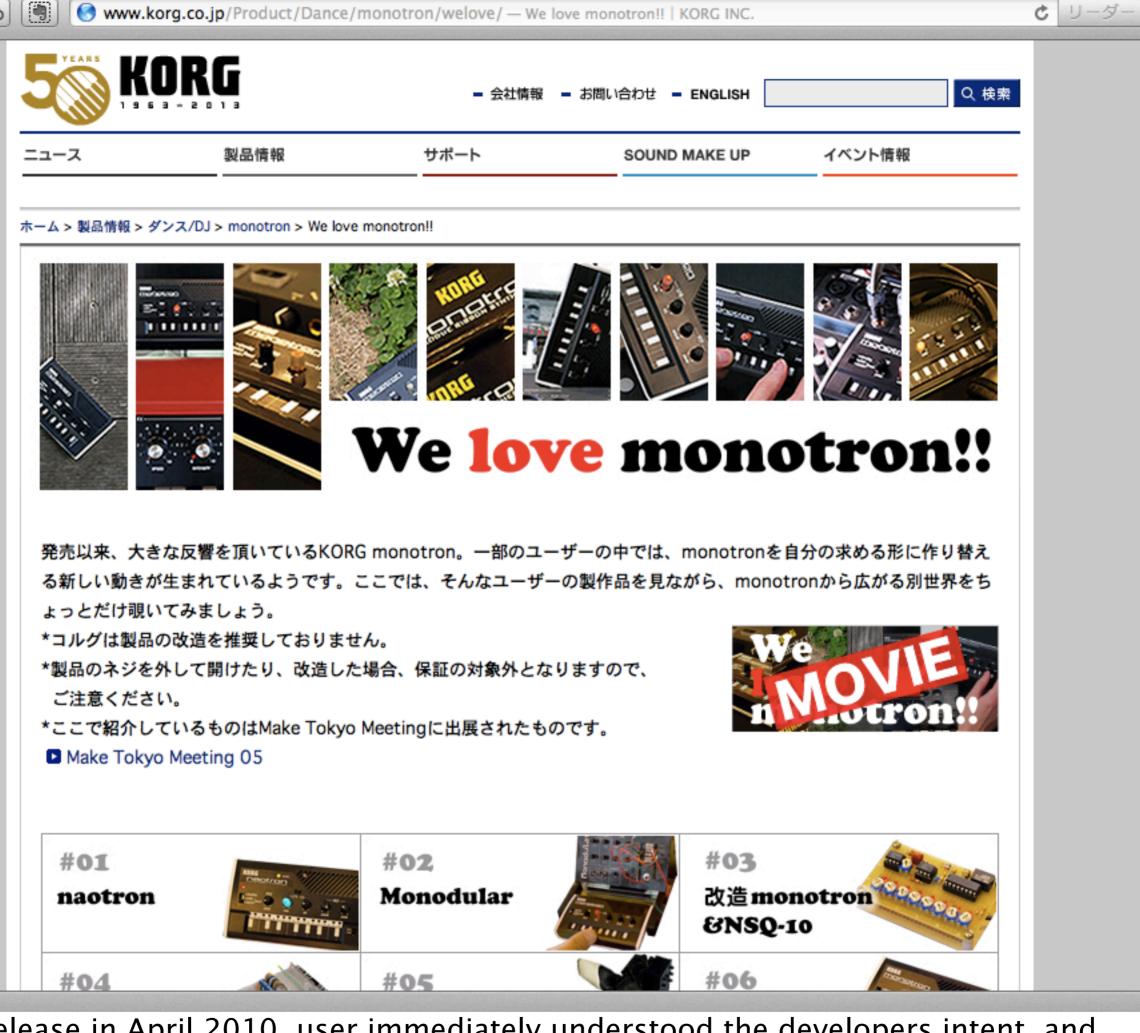
Regarding the 'creating maker friendly products' session, we invited speakers from Roland D. G. and KORG. The planner of KORG introduced the maker friendly history about 'monotron'.



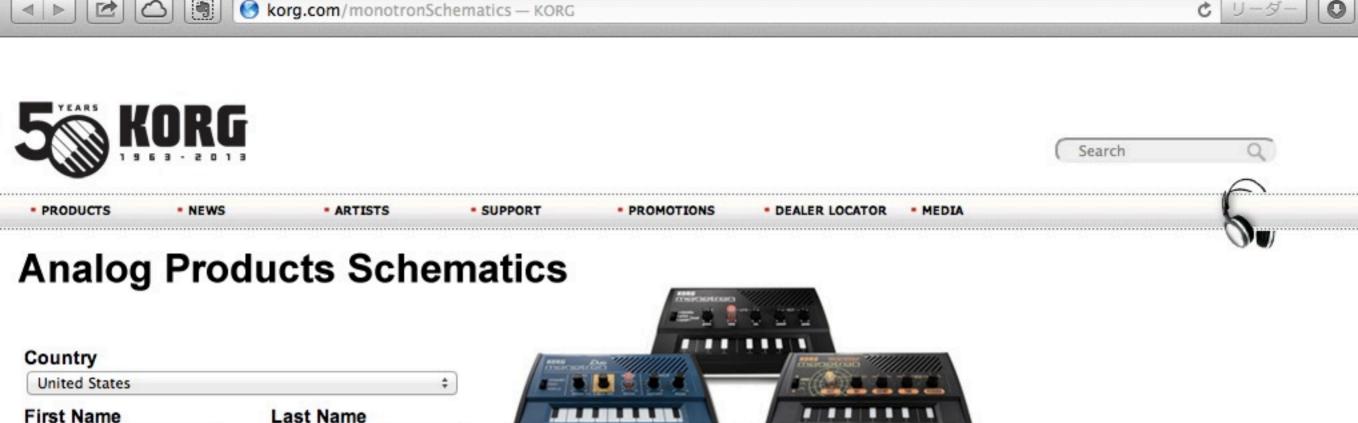
monotron is a cheap analogue synthesizer. Initially, the product planner wanted to put synthesizers back into the hands of customers to rediscovery the joy of the synthesizer, since he thought that digital synthesizer have not been as attractive as analogue synthesizers.



In the development process, the hardware designer proposed putting tips on the back of the PCB to let users hack the synthesizers since he felt that monotron is too simple for deep synthesizer lovers like him.



After it's release in April 2010, user immediately understood the developers intent, and hacked the product to create something new. The developers found hacked products at Make: Tokyo Meeting 05 (a Maker Faire in Tokyo in May 2010) and featured the products on their official website in June 2010. http://www.korg.co.jp/Product/Dance/monotron/welove/



By clicking the "I Agree" button, you hereby agree that any modification to any Korg product, whether made by you or any other person, will immediately void any and all warranties, express or implied, including without limitation any warranty of merchantability or of fitness for a particular purpose, related to any Korg product, and agree that you shall be deemed to have irrevocably and unconditionally waived any claims or rights you may have against Korg Inc, its distributors, subsidiaries, Korg USA Inc., its dealers and its affiliates related to or arising out of any Korg product. Furthermore, by clicking the "I Agree" button, you agree to indemnify Korg Inc, its distributors, subsidiaries, Korg USA Inc., its dealers and its affiliates and hold them harmless from and against any damages, loss or injury that may result from any modification to any Korg product.

Address 2

State

Email

✓ Newsletter

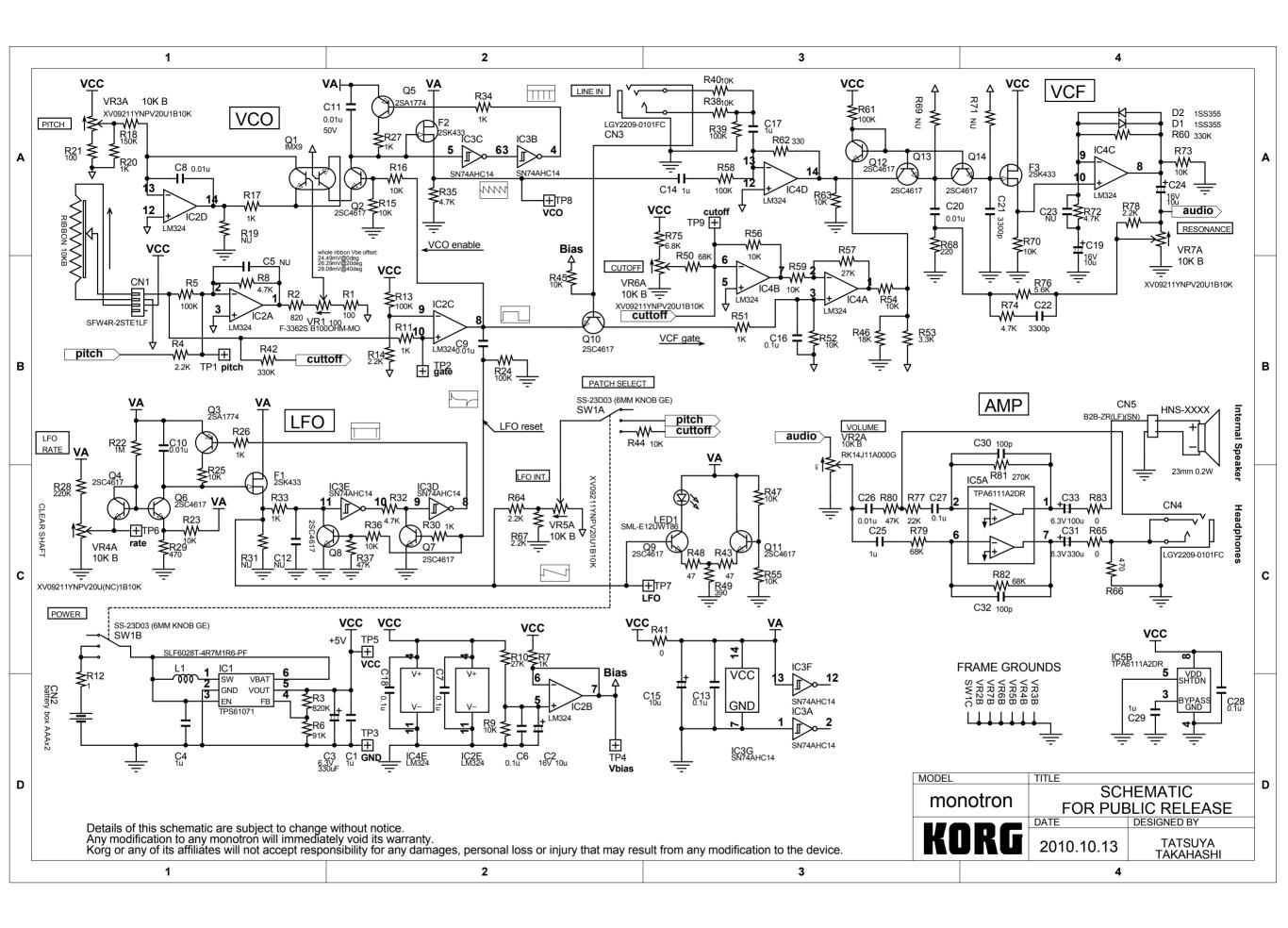
Address 1

Postal Code

I Agree

City

Moreover, KORG decided to release the schematic in response to requests from makers in November 2010.



This is the circuit diagram of monotron. Makers can hack and expand a monotron easily with the aid of the diagram.



Blog

Magazine

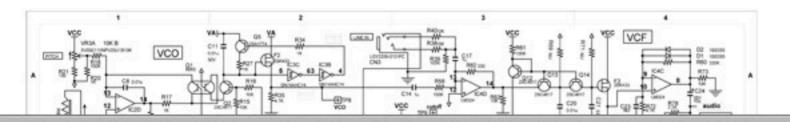
Make: Electronics Workshop Craft Science Home Art & Design

Videos Skill Builders Reviews Events Shop Forums Education

Makey Awards 2011 Nominee 04: Korg Monotron, "Best **Product Documentation"**

By Sean Michael Ragan Posted 2011/06/30 @ 6:00 am Category Music, General Comments 7









About half a year later, monotron nominated at Makey Awards 2011 as the 'best product documentation' in June 2011.





A few months later, KORG released derivative products of monotron inspired by hacked products, monotron DELAY and monotron DUO, as answers in November 2011. The hidden concept was 'what if KORG hacked monotron?'.









So far, KORG has been opening products by putting hints and releasing circuit diagrams, with no claims from customers. Since these are not mainstream but 'peripheral' products, the developers have been able to major advancements instead of being lead by the voices of established customers or dealers.

Case 1: KORG's monotron

Lessons learned from monotron

- Embedding messages for makers transforms a product into an open platform
- The planner thought analogue is the key of putting synthesizers back into the hands of customers, but open platform is the key
- Even after opening the circuit diagram, everyone purchased monotron to hack instead of making clones (cost and/or respect?)
- Not a simple open components but an attractive and hackable product is the key, and releasing hackable products is an effective way of open innovation

Shigeru Kobayashi | Sketching in Hardware 2013 | Xerox Palo Alto Research Center, Palo Alto, California, U.S.A.

Still there are gaps between maker and player communities, but they are trying to approach connecting communities.

Case 2: konashi Make-a-thon

konashi Make-a-thon

- Held on June 1 and 22 at OpenCU by loftwork, a global open platform for creative talents, in collaboration with Yukai Engineering, an engineering farm of robots
- konashi is a physical computing toolkit to create wireless devices for smartphones and tablets created by Yukai Engineering



http://konashi.ux-xu.com/documents/

Technically, konashi is consisting of a Bluetooth Low Energy wireless module and software libraries for Objective-C and JavaScript. But they promote not as BLE evaluation kits but a physical computing toolkit to communicate with designers and artists to expand possibilities of wireless products and services.



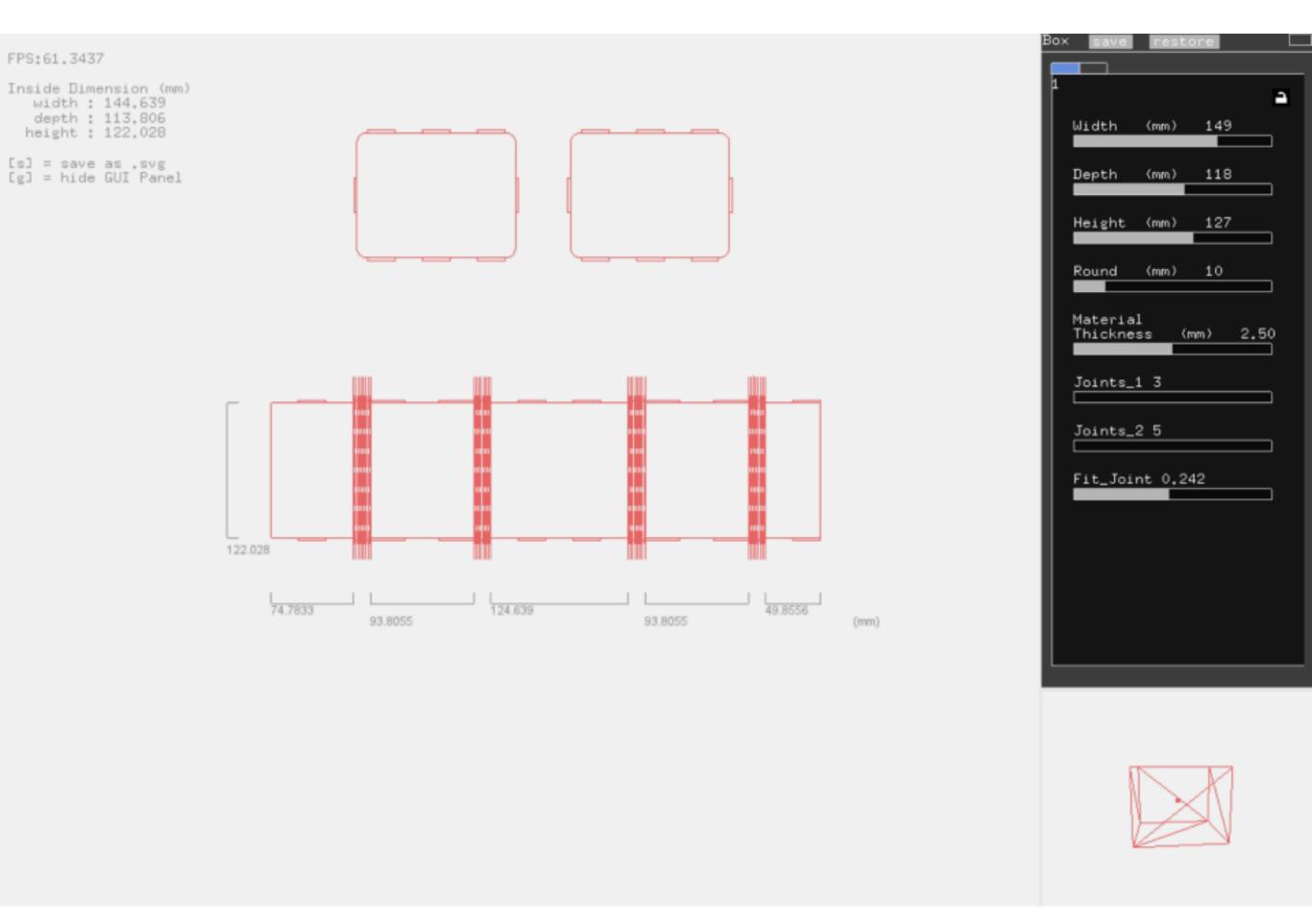
There were over 30 participants consist of iOS developers, engineers, web designers, artists and planners. We divided into 6 teams randomly.



I facilitated idea sketching sessions. As a result, there were over 230 ideas from about 30 participants in 2 hours.



In addition to the idea sketching sessions, we introduced the software library for Objective-C in 1 hour with the aid of Grove toolkit. A conversion board for konashi and Grove were really useful to let participants try various inputs and outputs in a short period of time.



https://www.facebook.com/CuttingBoxTool

Additionally, a student of IAMAS introduced his domain specific design tool to design boxed to be fabricated with a laser cutter.









At the end of the first day, each team presented what they will make by the end of the 2nd day. Members of each team kept working together online and offline.

擬人化パッチ(仮) ~トイレットペーパー編~



http://kakeru.in/e-team/

This is an example of one of the six teams.

擬人化パッチ

トイレ時間を有効活用 トイペケースを恋人にする



トイペケース恋人機能 →使用具合でコミュニ ケーションをはかる

擬人化パッチ(仮)~トイレットペーパー編~ 特攻野郎Eチーム

http://kakeru.in/e-team/

The selected idea was a patch to anthropomorphize a toilet paper holder. Usually, a restroom is a public space. But once a person entered a restroom stall, the stall became a personal space. 'anthropomorphize patch' is a way to personalize a restroom stall with a smartphone application that plays voices by favorite characters.



http://kakeru.in/e-team/

After the end of the first day, they created a Facebook group to communicate online.

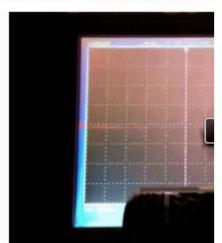
3日後の 2013年6月3日~

トイペケースのガラガラ検出に向け、 間下主任が色々なセンサを試しだす



連投すいません。玉城さんからあった圧電スピーカーも試してみまし た。意外と電圧でます。ただし、振っただけではほとんど出ません。完 全にトイレットペーパーのふた?に貼り付けた状態だと信号としては微 弱かもです。ここでは缶を叩いてみました。するとかなり大きな電圧が 取れます。例えば、今回は「優しい」「激しい」などとせず、トイレッ

トペーパーを使用する際に声が出 ば、これにちょっとした回路をつ



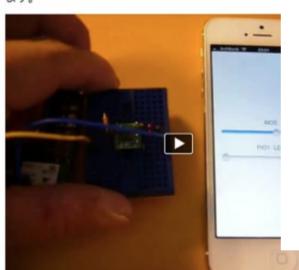
いいね!を取り消す・コメントする 23:50、柏市付近

ng あなたが「いいね!」と言ってい

□ 他7件のコメントを表示

本日の実験結果です。昨日の続きです。ちょっとオフ1 が、昨日より加速度がかかっていない状態でほぼ中心に ました。ゆっくりな動作と激しい動作で多少触れも大利 られるかと思います。

土日あたりにペーパーホルダーに仮止めして実験をして



先日のOpenCUの際に使用したAnalogInPWMOutを使って加速度センサ の出力を分圧してkonashiのAnalogInputに入力してみました。

ご覧の通り触れ幅が小さいのが難点です。このままだと2段階をつける のが難しそうだと思います。

また、停止時にオフセットのようなものが乗っていますが、これは加速 度が正負に振るのでその真ん中の値と見て下さい。あれ、でも予想より

もう少し、触ってみます。ひとまず、加速度センサの値を取り込むとこ んな感じという例です。

> 平田さんI2C通信は信号線が一本しかないので、ちょっと面倒くさそ うです。時間もありますので、今回はアナログ入力が容易に実装出来そ うなので、そちらにしようと思いますが、いかがですか?



いいね!・コメントする・投稿をフォロー・6月5日 23:40

平田 美広さんが「いいわ」、と言っています 。 全島が麻油

いいね!を取り消す・コメントする・投稿をフォロー・6月7日 0:01

http://kakeru.in/e-team/

The engineer evaluated sensors and implemented electronics.

6日後の 2013年6月6日 皆でトイペとトイペケースについて議論する いくつか覚え書きを。 ベーバーホルダーは既製品でもいいかも? その代わりバッチの部分に力入れるとか。 もっと見る BAREN トイレットペーパーホルダー ク



トイレットペーパーをガラガラしてみました。笑 紙はあんまりいいやつじゃなくて、安くてカピカピのものを 使ったほうが良さそうです。

生活感あふれた動画ですみません。笑



いいね!を取り消す・コメントする・投稿をフォロー・6月3日 23:31

http://kakeru.in/e-team/

The team members discussed together how to realize the idea.

8日後の 2013年6月8日

間下主任が実機(トイペケース)で実験開始!



http://kakeru.in/e-team/

They made various hardware sketches.

9日後の 2013年6月9日

擬人化パッドのケースを検討



異 孝介

今日ハンズ(渋谷)で物色したかんじ 半球、円柱、楕円のアクリルボックスがけっこうたくさんありました。 (もちろんアキバとか行ってみても多種多様にありそうですが)

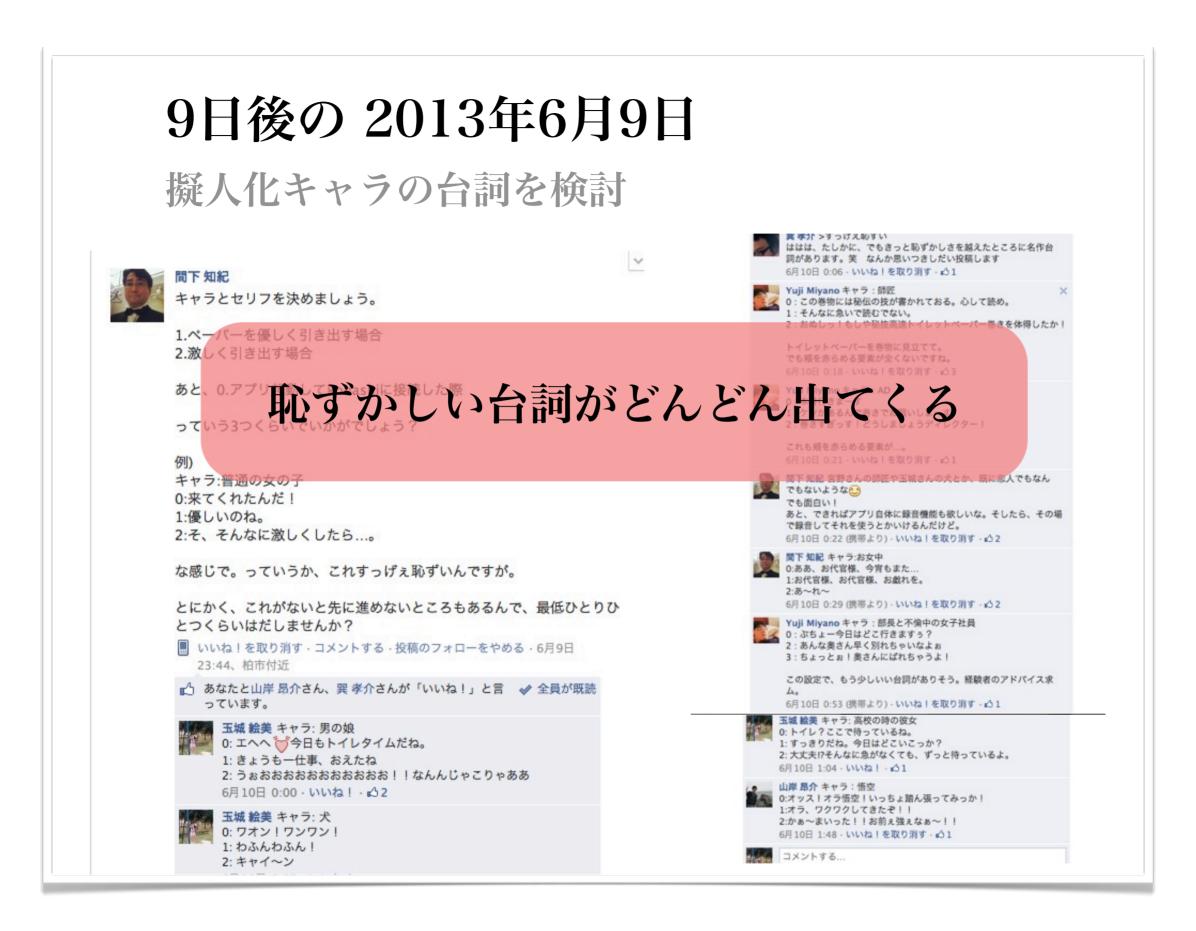
形デザインして3Dプリントや真空成形もできないことないですが

もっと見る



http://kakeru.in/e-team/

And the product designer found a way to realize good enough cases in a short time.



http://kakeru.in/e-team/

They generated 'embarrassing' phrases, and iOS developers implemented an iOS application.

2013年6月16日(日)

Eチームが秋葉原に集まる



http://kakeru.in/e-team/

They worked together to finish making a prototype. In the end of the second day, all teams presented their prototypes and all participants were really excited.



http://kakeru.in/e-team/

This is the movie of the final prototype demonstrated in the end of the second day.



Another prototype by a different team. If a person drunk too much and feel like throwing up while train ride home, the wearable device displays how deep he is drunk and send a message to his wife in emergencies.

Case 2: konashi Make-a-thon

Why we didn't start with the technology, BLE

- Many applications have been proposed by precedent manufacturers already
- Starting with technology and constraints will narrow participants vision and they will think like 'what we can make with Bluetooth Low Energy'
- Wanted to let participants create ideas of wireless devices and services and make hardware sketches as if it were air



Shigeru Kobayashi, Online code sharing for ActionScript and physical computing Incentives for web designers and developers, Sketching in Hardware 09, 2009

The toolkit is expanding to attract wider range of audiences. In 2009, I have introduced an online IDE for physical computing in ActionScript in collaboration with KAYAC, 'physical \times wonderfl', at Sketching 09.

Case 2: konashi Make-a-thon

konashi.js



Shigeru Kobayashi | Sketching in Hardware 2013 | Xerox Palo Alto Research Center, Palo Alto, California, U.S.A.

Recently, Yukai Engineering released 'konashi.js', an iOS application to be combined with a popular online IDE for JavaScript (also developed by KAYAC).

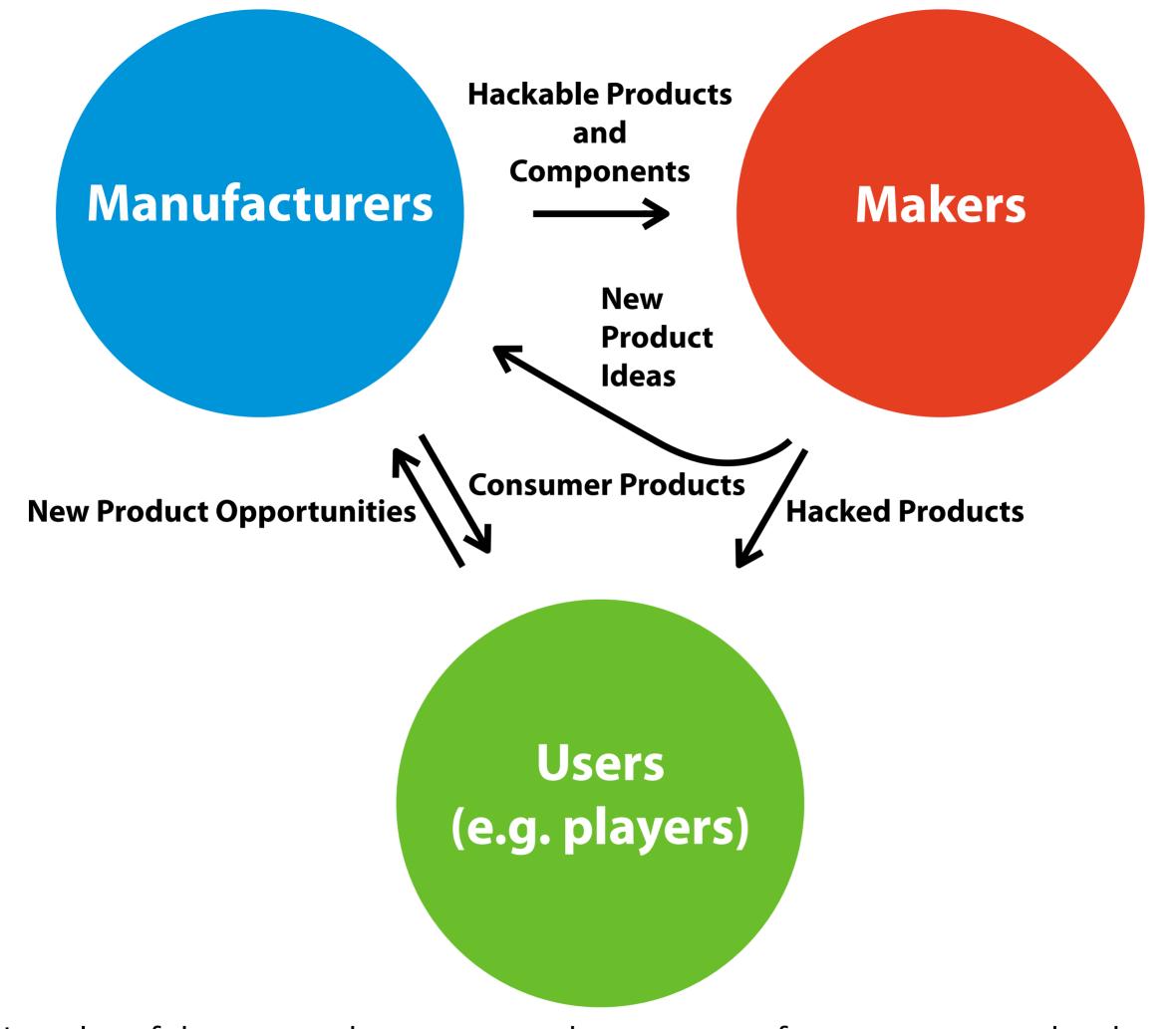
Case 2: konashi Make-a-thon

Lessons learned from konashi Make-a-thon

- Working on a team produces diversity
- Sketching wireless devices and applications in hardware is not so difficult anymore
- Toolkit enable people realizing 'peripheral' ideas (that can't survive in planning sessions with PowerPoint presentations)
- Still there are gaps between prototypes and products, but toolkit developers can be platforms

How might we sketch new product ecosystems to facilitate mutual understanding between manufacturers and 'makers' to creating innovation?

This is the design challenge I'd like to try.



This is a plan of the new product ecosystem between manufacturers, users and makers. Manufacturers produce hackable products with grayscale licenses like the Creative Commons license. Makers make deliberative products and communicate with other communities (e.g. players). The communication ball will make manufactures more flexible and facilitate innovations.

Flexible Warranties

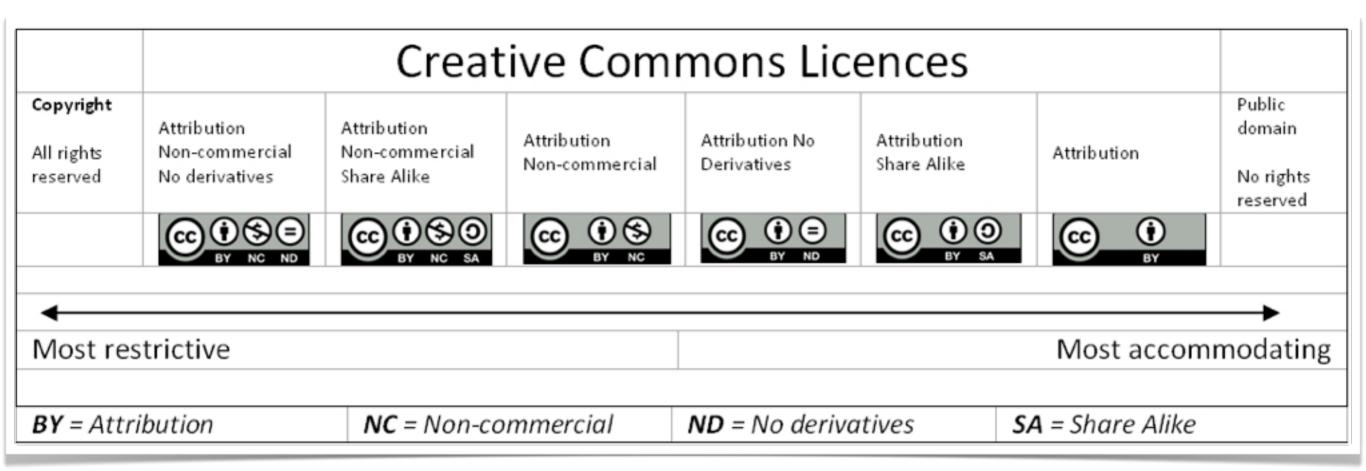
You Brick it, we'll restore it:

Company warrants to return your device to factory defaults by making **best efforts** to restore original firmware and functionality, subject to any mechanical or electrical damage due to modifications.

Sunday, July 19, 2009

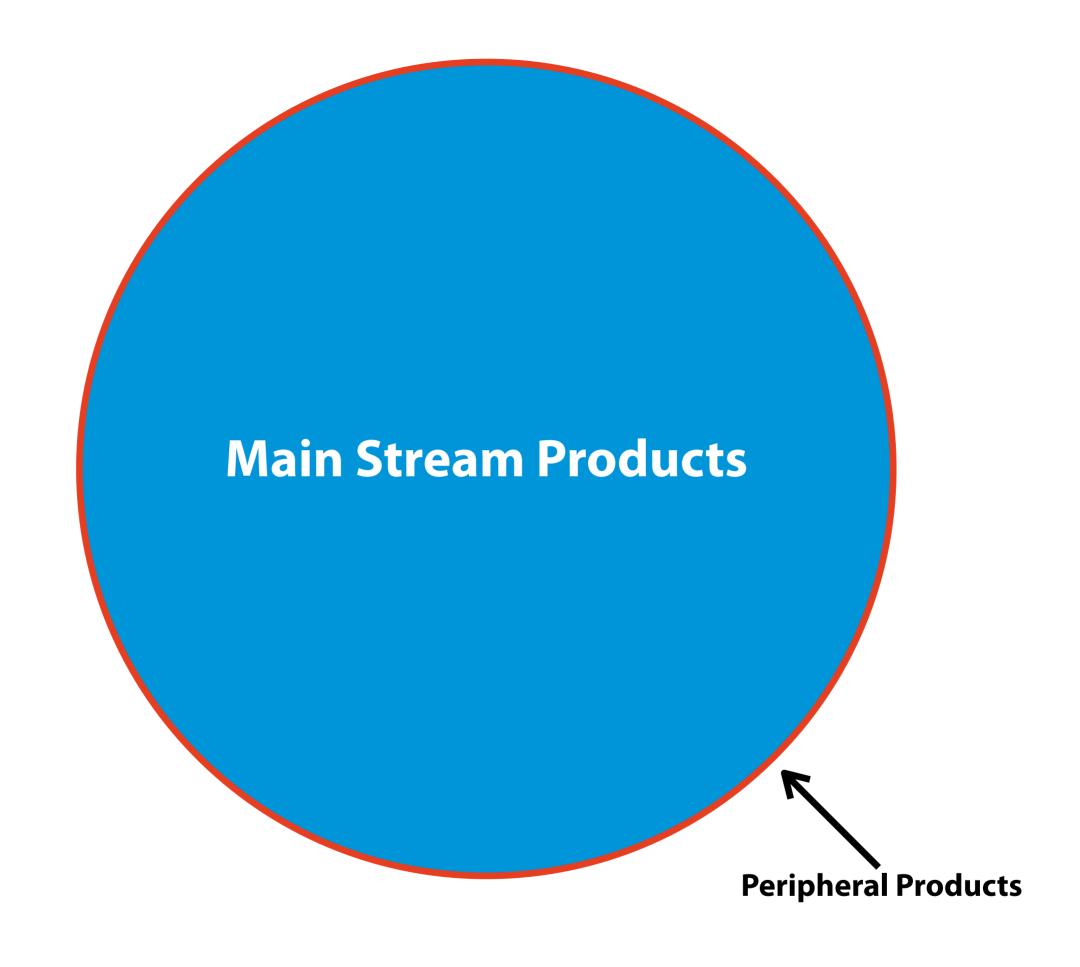
Tom Igoe, After Sketching: Best Practices for Opening Product Development, Sketching in Hardware 09, 2009

The idea regarding licenses is based on the suggestion by Tom Igoe at Sketching 09 in 2009.

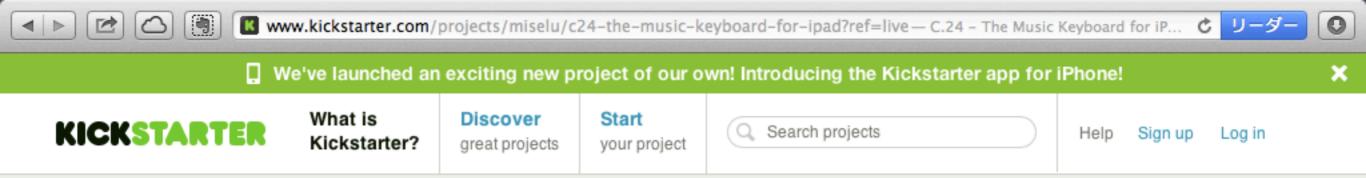


http://opencontent.uct.ac.za/files/siteimages/image/degreesofopenness.jpg

What if we have Creative Commons like gray-scaled licenses regarding product liability between 'full warranty' and 'at your own risk'?

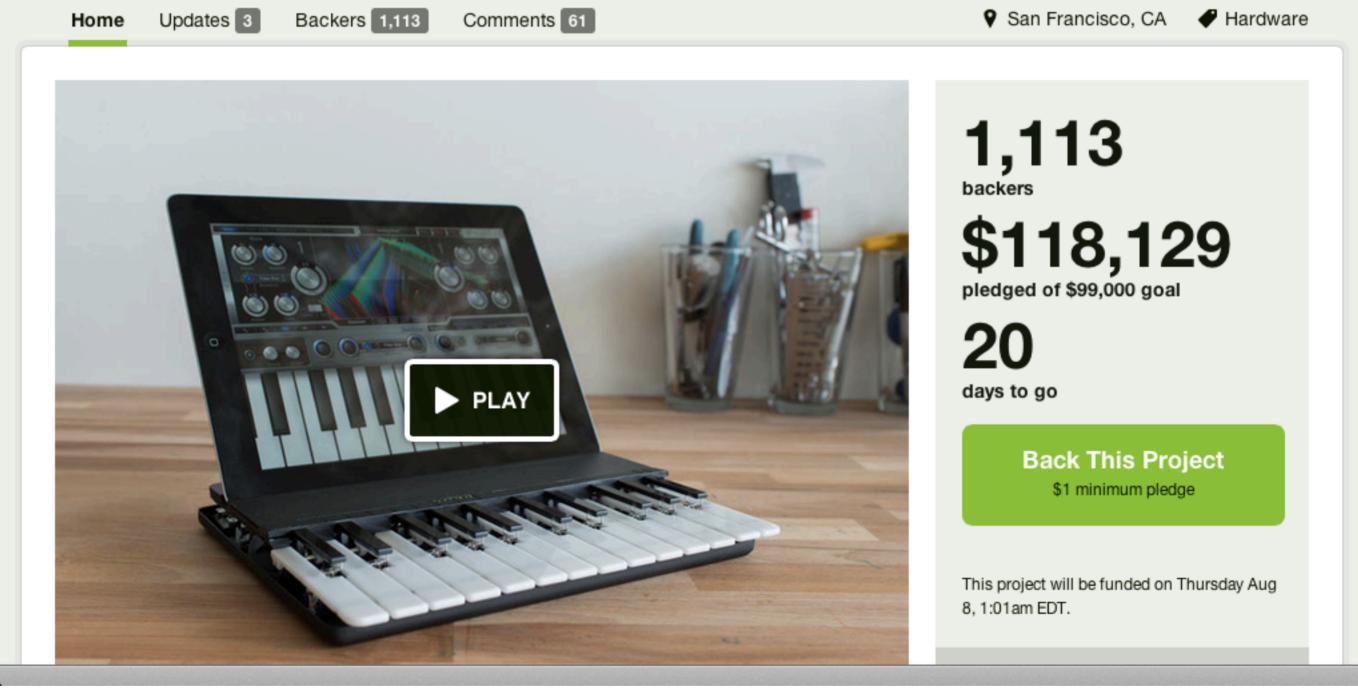


It might be difficult to start changing from main stream for manufacturers. But we might be able to start with 'peripheral' products such as musical instruments or wearable smart accessories.



C.24 - The Music Keyboard for iPad

by Miselu



I feel signs of 'peripheral' products from new hardware projects such as C.24 by Miselu.

Sketching in Hardware 2013: PROJECTIONS

Sketching A New Product Ecosystem Starting with 'Peripheral' Products

July 18, 2013

Xerox Palo Alto Research Center, Palo Alto, California, U.S.A.

Shigeru Kobayashi (Institute of Advanced Media Arts and Sciences [IAMAS])