

: E-Group Logbooks for Design Students

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aim:

... to **explore, identify** and **implement** opportunities to facilitate electronic **compilation, submission** and **assessment** of group **design logbooks**....



context / background

... IDS2 - second year BA
Industrial Design module

... submit **paper-based group**
logbooks detailing the **findings**
of their **user & contextual**
design research....

... typically consist of **visual &**
text-based inputs - reference
to academic, contemporary or
popular sources....



context / background

... the level of **interaction**, **reflection** and **joined-up thinking** within these logbooks was **typically low**....

... **typically compiled before submission** rather than **iteratively** developing using **reflective** approach



context / background

... **difficult to co-ordinate**
group efforts

.... found it **hard to keep** the
logbook **tidy and ordered**....

.... logbook formed the key
stimulus for the individual project
work which followed, therefore,
access to only one paper copy
was an issue....



A MILLION SCATTERED THOUGHTS.

pilot study

... 20 student groups; of approximately 4-7 students each...

... created and submitted electronic logbooks using *Prezi*....

... *example* ...

http://prezi.com/ruxc9_p2b5tu/electronic-logbook/

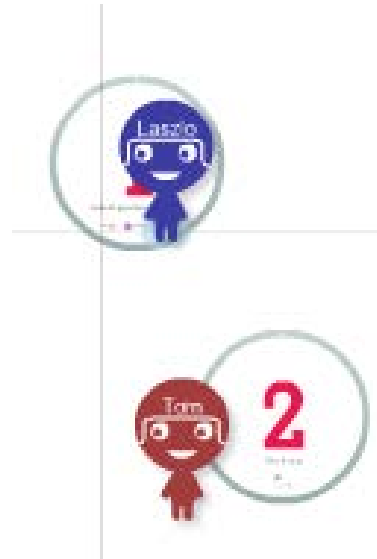


findings: benefits

... increased accessibility to material, more flexible working practices (reduced need to be geographically co-located and enabling multiple team members to work simultaneously on the *Prezi* file)....

...real-time avatars aided group-work as contributions...

... changes occurred in real-time and could be tracked reducing potential for duplication



findings: benefits

... eradication of storage and transportation of logbooks and ease in providing exemplar work to future students and the external examiner....



findings: benefits

... pedagogically, the level of reflection increased as students were able to incorporate a consistent 'narrative'

Interview with Daniel Hine – Off-piste ski instructor & climber in Chablis, France

How much of your average year would you spend on off-piste excursions?

"When instructing, I usually do a 3-month season, in terms of skiing for pleasure, I go on about 5-6 excursions per year. Usually varying in length subject to my finances."

On an off-piste outing, how long would you typically be away for?

"As a means to avoid tourists and casual skiers, we would often leave before 8am given that if there was heavy snow the night before, it is preferable to be on the slopes first to ski on the clean snow. Then, provided you stay ahead of the others, you can ski clean snow for an entire day. Similarly, given that there are other off-piste skiers and snowboarders, the motivation to get out early ensures a better day of skiing. Typically a day of off-piste skiing for me would be up to 10 hours on the slopes."

What would you tend to take with you on a day of off-piste sport?

"On a typical day I would have with me a camelback (for water), some dry food ration packs, a high visibility jacket and general snacks such as Kendel mint cake or Kaiserschmarrn for rapid nourishment. Dependent on the area I intend to ski, sometimes one person in our group would take a satellite phone with them for emergency contact."

Do you feel as though the food and nourishment you take are sufficient?

"They tend to have a bad ratio of size and weight in comparison to the nourishment achieved. Off-piste skiers around the world in particular eat Kaiserschmarrn though this tends to be over-bloating and can hinder the rest of the day. It is, however, a necessity of maintaining nourishment throughout a day of intense exercise."

What would be the best form of nourishment if cooking/time was not an issue?

"Something hot would obviously be nice though in my experience this is not particularly plausible. Some people take small gas stoves though it is questionable as to how they perform at altitude and they are time consuming which, as I explained, serves as a problem given that ideally you want to stay ahead of the general traffic of other off-piste skiers to have a good day skiing the clean snow."

Do you feel as though there is a market for it if cooking were made easier?

"Yes, definitely. The cooker would have to be quite lightweight, cook fast and perhaps be tailored to cooking the ration packs and fast foods for example – people do not want to be carrying round a full gourmet dinner. Goulash soup is a very good example of a food that your design could try to specialise in – it is a holy grail for off-piste skiers and is a meal of choice throughout Europe for many. Though it does not lend itself to being easily heated on

Off-piste skiers obviously on the slopes - implies of the day, they would form of basic r

This is a very promising development given that we were concerned about the amount of water needed to cook with - this would be less with a soup and the only requirement would be heating.

KEY:
Blue: References and/or places for further research
Yellow: (in text) Summaries or KEY findings
White Arrows: Areas that have directly influenced the boards
Blue Arrows: research process

Summary
We need to consider food trends which may depend of the seasons making food available at different times. All of the materials, including packaging, should be long lasting and/or recyclable.

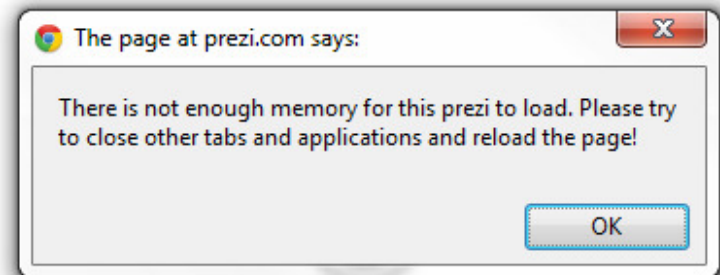
Packaging
The heating device will most likely be delivered in a cardboard box with two polystyrene anchors at either end. However, only the cardboard can be recycled. We could perhaps replace the polystyrene with shredded newspaper which would make the opening experience like a discovery and Jean Paul Gaultier find the beauty in the ordinary as well as it being much better environmentally.

What needs to be researched?

From our secondary research, we have noted that the areas we need to focus on and discern in our primary research include; the average kit list of a skier, how long they would spend on the slopes in a day and what sort of nourishment would they take or be prepared to take with them.

findings: drawbacks

... issues of reliability and accessibility which arose when the 'e-logbooks' were 'full' of content....



future improvements

... currently running module with Prezi this year

.... made Prezi desktop more widely available ...

... provided guidance on image and sound-file sizes to avoid software 'crashing'....

... gave exemplars for reference...

