

L*unchBox Workshop - International Design Innovation Workshop 2016

March 21st – 24th Ecole des Mines – Saint Etienne, France

Telemedicine, e-health and technologies: turning the tables

The homecare of ageing or isolated populations is a major trend, a growing concern and a fantastic drive for science and (bio-)technology-driven innovations. But are we sure that these cutting-edge devices and systems meet the expectations of the people they aim at?

The purpose of technology is that of an enabler, something you use to gain power over the things around you. It implies rethinking your rituals, habits and interactions with people and objects. Learning new tools and functionalities, adapting these to one's lifestyle has become a core-skill of the younger generations. However, this metabolization of technology in one's life and habits can be difficult for elderly, economically or socially fragile, isolated populations. New technology is a powerful enabler for the younger and the connected ones, it can be a barrier for the older and the isolated ones.

How can we turn the tables?

Technology transforms people. But in order for technology to evolve and stay relevant, people need to transform technology. How can elderly and isolated people do this when they are not able to be part of the spiral process of "technology changes people and people change technology"? How can innovation for the elderly or the fragile be relevant and meaningful when the people who understand old age or experience impotency through illness are not those who design the technologies, products, services?

Scenarios elaborated during early editions of the L*unchbox workshop investigated some of these issues (e.g.: <http://tinyurl.com/jzwqcvb> <http://tinyurl.com/huakaux>). This year, we will go further and address more challenging questions, such as:

How can technology enable autonomy of older people without patronizing them?

How can technology allow elderly to take control of their own lives?

How can technology be invisible, non-invasive, prevented from interfering?

How can technology enable well-being without the need of an outside input?

How can technology enable old and isolated people to be part of the innovation process?

How can we develop processes that allow elderly to take part in innovation?

L*unchBox Workshop is a brand of [Ecole des Mines de Saint-Etienne](#). It is a hands-on experience in multi-cultural, multi-discipline design-led innovation, devised in 2009 in association with [Brunel University of London](#), joined in 2010 by [Politecnico di Milano](#), [Saint-Etienne School of Arts and Design](#), in 2013 by [Auburn University](#), and in 2014 by [Université Jean Monnet](#). It connects international graduate students in Engineering, Design, Brand and Innovation strategy with 'co-creation' and emerging industry practices in innovation.

Ecole des Mines de Saint-Etienne is one of the major French graduate schools of engineering science, part of the [Institut Mines-Telecom](#). Institut Mines-Telecom is a public institution dedicated to higher education, research and innovation in the engineering and digital fields. It is made up of 10 Mines and Télécom "grandes écoles", under the aegis of the Minister of Industry

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