PORT FOLIO

Selected 8 Works Deliver Advanced, Innovative, and Regenerative Solutions for Our Society and Environment.

Youngmin Song

For a Better Life

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The 8 works reflect my long-lasting deliberation and endeavor to blend design and technology for a better life. This portfolio, organized intuitively with subtitles and images on each page, is designed for easy understanding.

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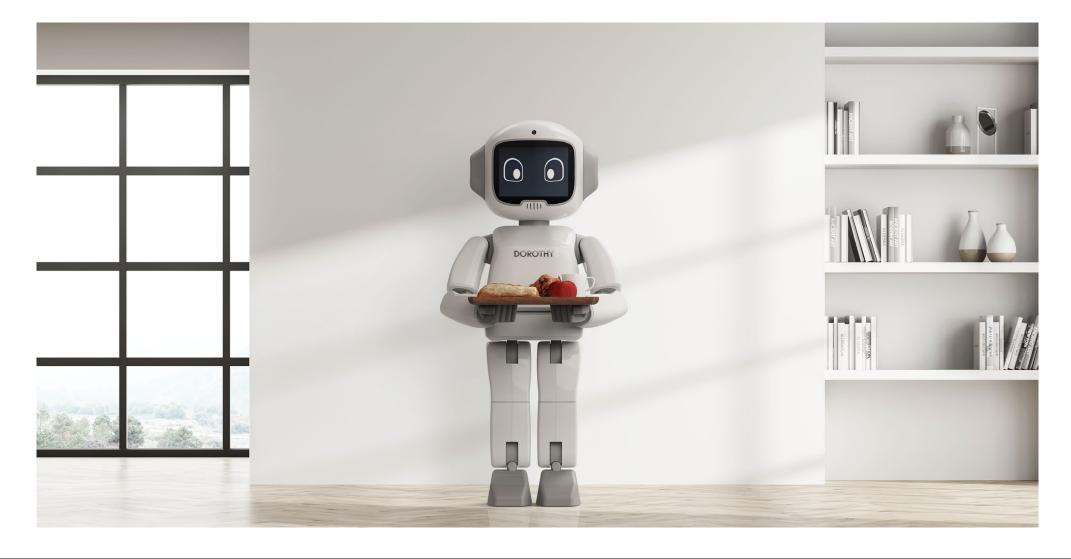
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Website to promote citizen-led public app development and support talented developers.

01

DOROTHY

Home Robot designed to interact with humans, serving roles like a companion or friend



Home Robot

Multidisciplinary Approach

DOROTHY, a robot named to embody the meaning of 'God's gift,' is the subject of my master's dissertation, 'Home Robot Design Study for User Convenience.'

It was conceived from a multidisciplinary perspective, incorporating design, engineering, humanities, and psychology. Additionally, DOROTHY has reflected the successful implementation of the robot education project targeted at seniors in Seoul.

DOROTHY represents a significant step forward in the development of home robots, aiming to seamlessly integrate into users' lives and enhance their daily routines and interactions through advanced technology and thoughtful design. My dissertation can be downloaded by clicking the PDF icon below.



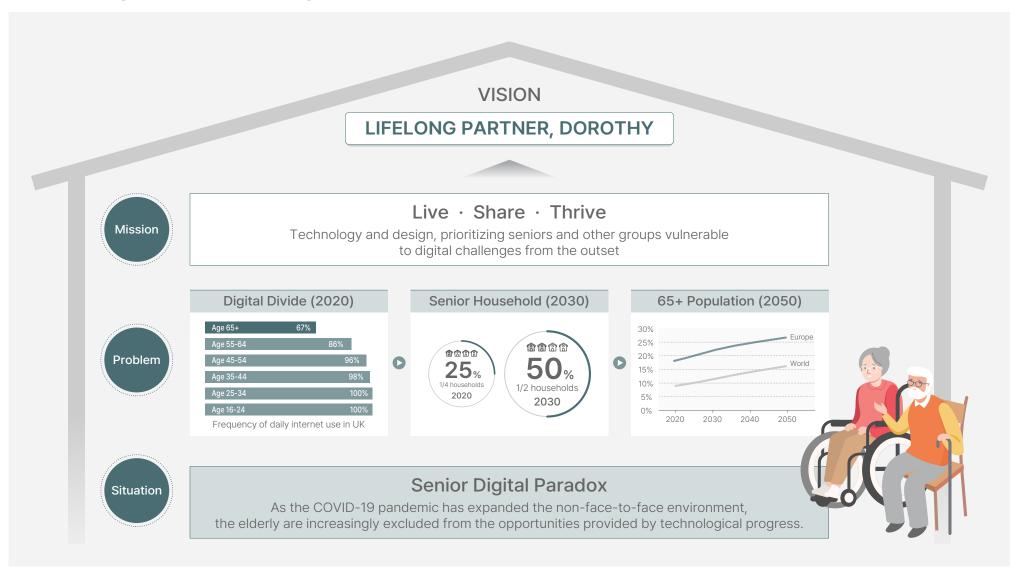
Project Type: Solo

Contribution: 100% Personal Effort Duration: Dec 2022 to Dec 2023

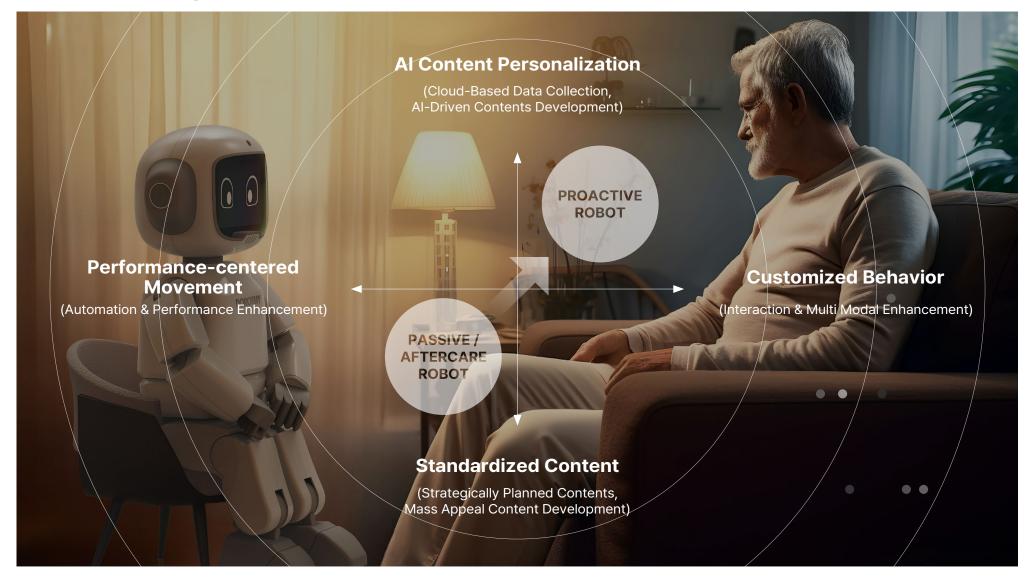


Strategic Planning

DOROTHY



Positioning Map



Digital Equity

Bridging Digital Divide

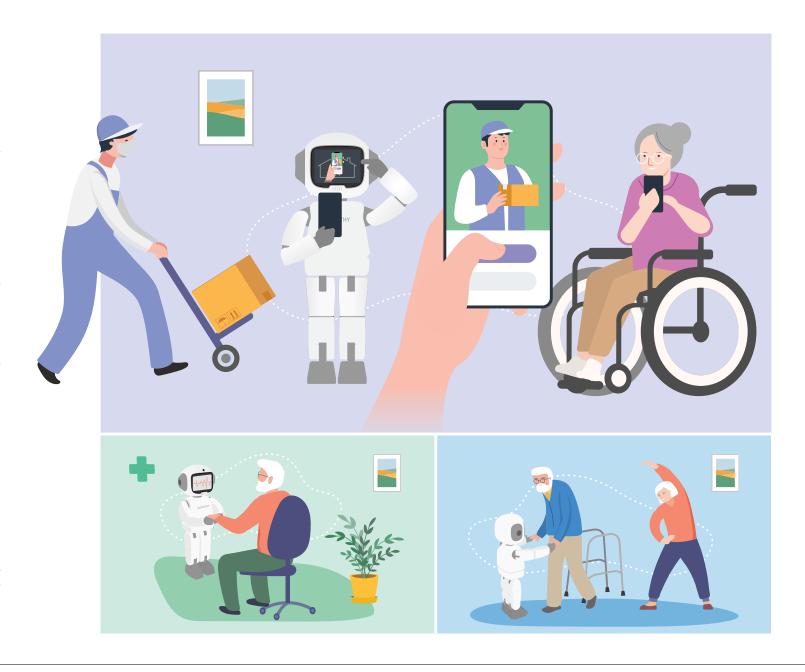
DOROTHY ensures everyone's accessibility to digital technology. DOROTHY provides digital literacy education, such as smartphone use or online shopping, and supports administrative tasks.

Universal Digital Tech

DOROTHY offers personalized services through human-like conversation. People with digital vulnerability participate in and benefit from the digital economy. DOROTHY, designed with a childlike motif, interacts with users through conversation, games, educational activities, health monitoring, and other daily life support.

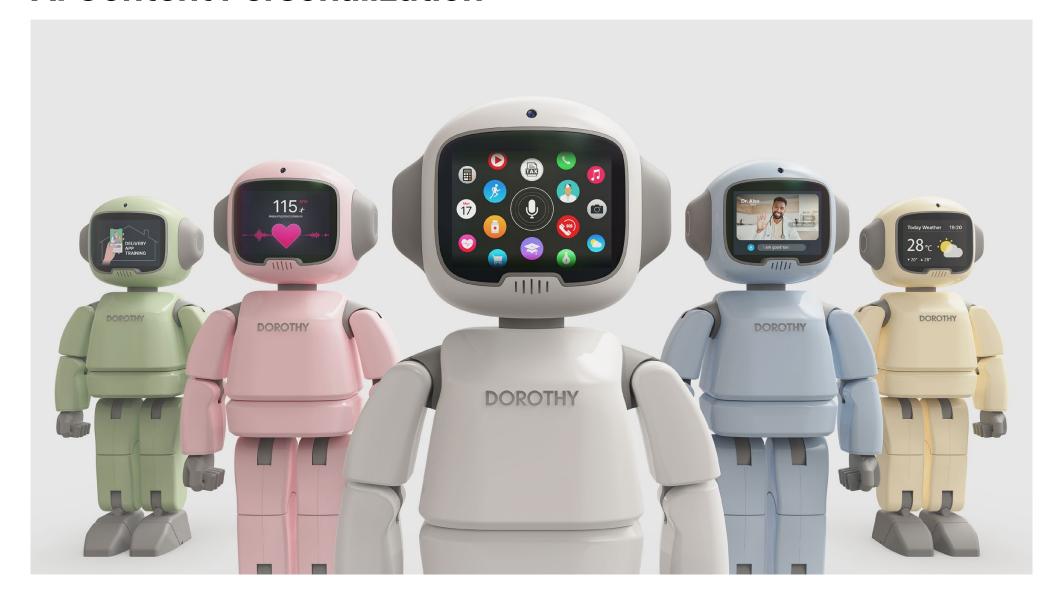
Bespoke AI Companion

Through interaction with users, DORO-THY collects and analyzes data, identifying users' patterns and preferences. Utilizing this information, it provides Albased personalized services, evolving into a more efficient companion that increasingly aligns with users' lifestyles and needs.



DOROTHY

Al Content Personalization



Home Tutor

Validated Education

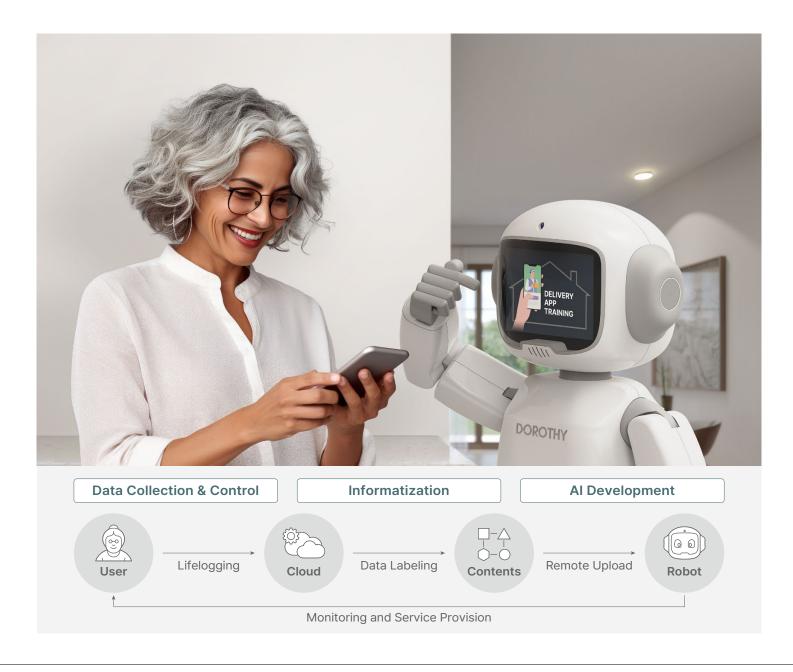
In 2021, I served as the leader of the education team in Seoul, which was dedicated to bridging the digital divide. Our team launched a Robot Education project to respond to the exclusion and isolation of seniors during the COVID-19 pandemic.

From August 2020 to January 2021, a satisfaction survey conducted among 3,384 seniors who completed the training showed an average satisfaction score of 83.2, indicating 'very satisfied' responses. Particularly, feedback highlighted that repetitive, focused learning was beneficial for long-term memory.

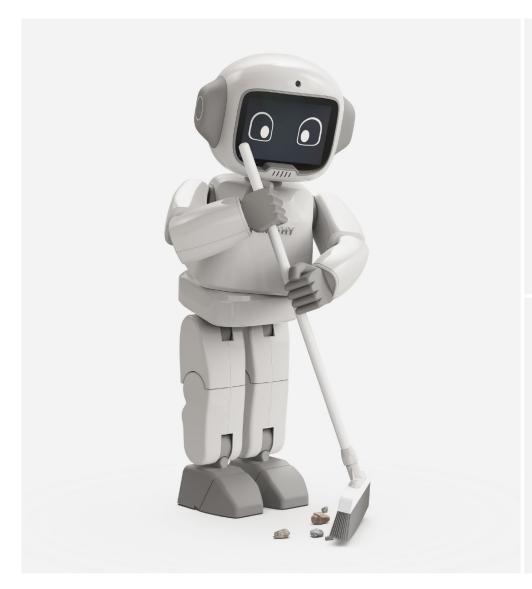
Awarded Project

Thanks to its Robot Education project, UNESCO selected Seoul as an excellent city in the 'Education' sector at the 2021 Netexplo Linking Cities awards.





Customized Behavior







11

DOROTHY / Introduction / Research / Features / Specifications

Home Musician

Versatile Assistants

DOROTHY, designed to mimic human joints with 28 degrees of freedom (28 DOF), can perform not only simple physical tasks like cleaning and carrying to support seniors' daily lives but also engage in complex artistic activities such as playing musical instruments.

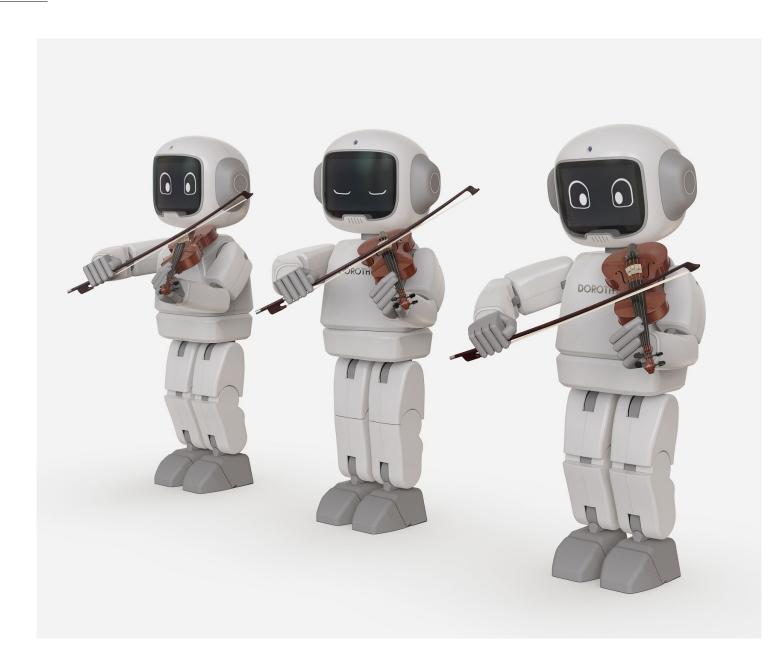
Symphony Performance

DOROTHY's Al-powered learning capabilities and tireless performance enable it to complete symphonies.

DOROTHY's performance is sufficient to shine on solo stages, and it harmoniously blends as an orchestra member alongside human performers.

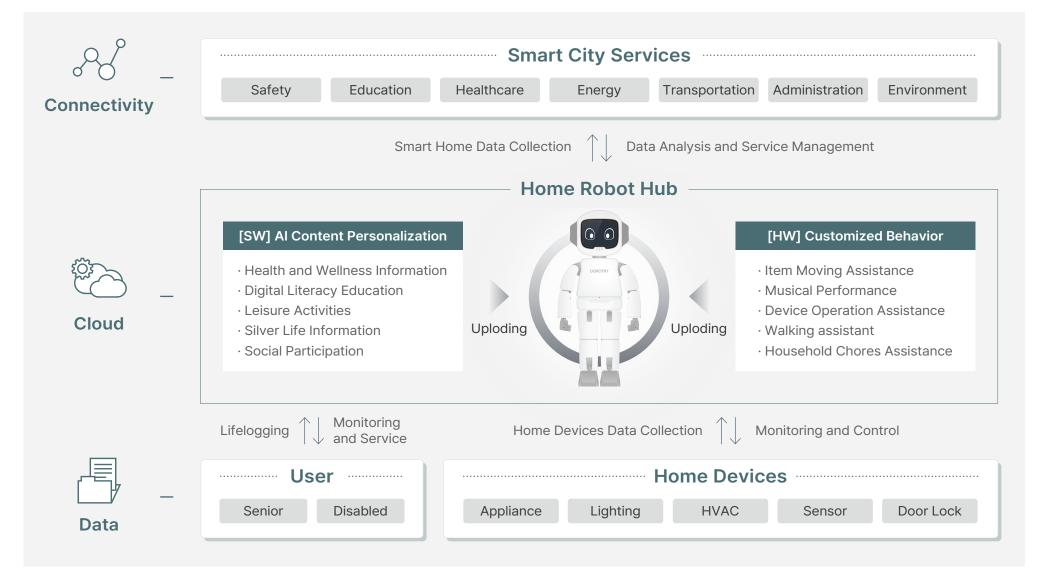


Video Link: vimeo.com/915741252

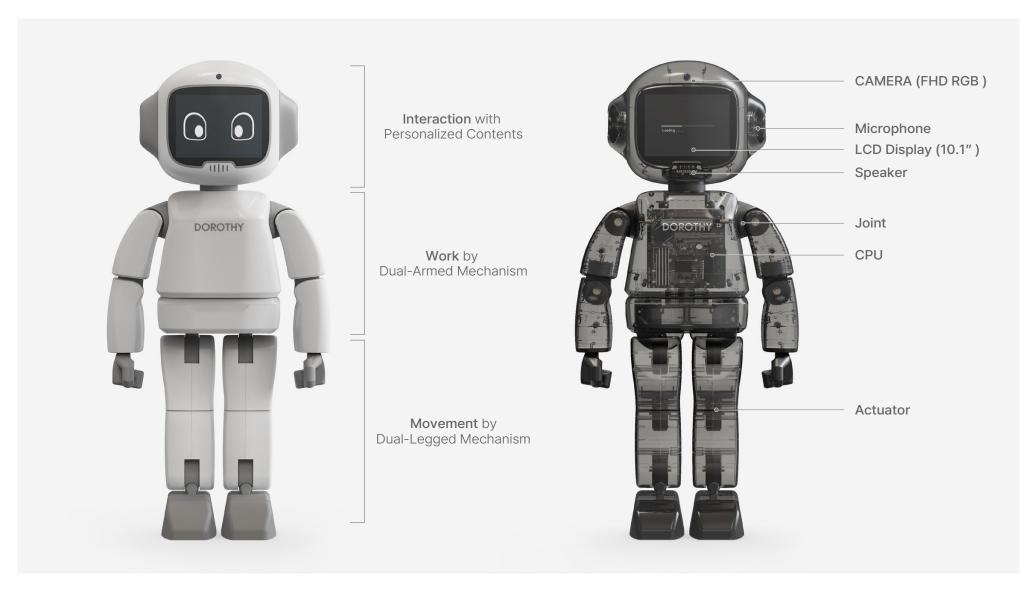


Smart City Policy

DOROTHY



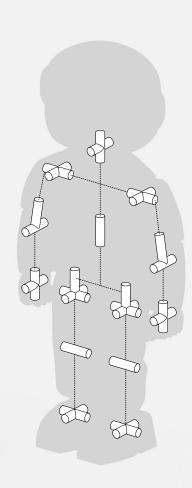
Hardware



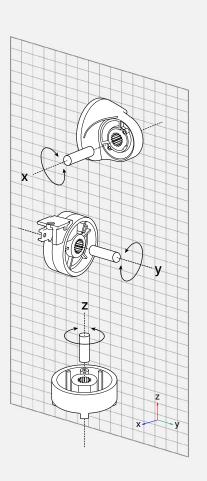
Degrees of Freedom (For Human Joints)



Functional robot including the exoskeleton shells

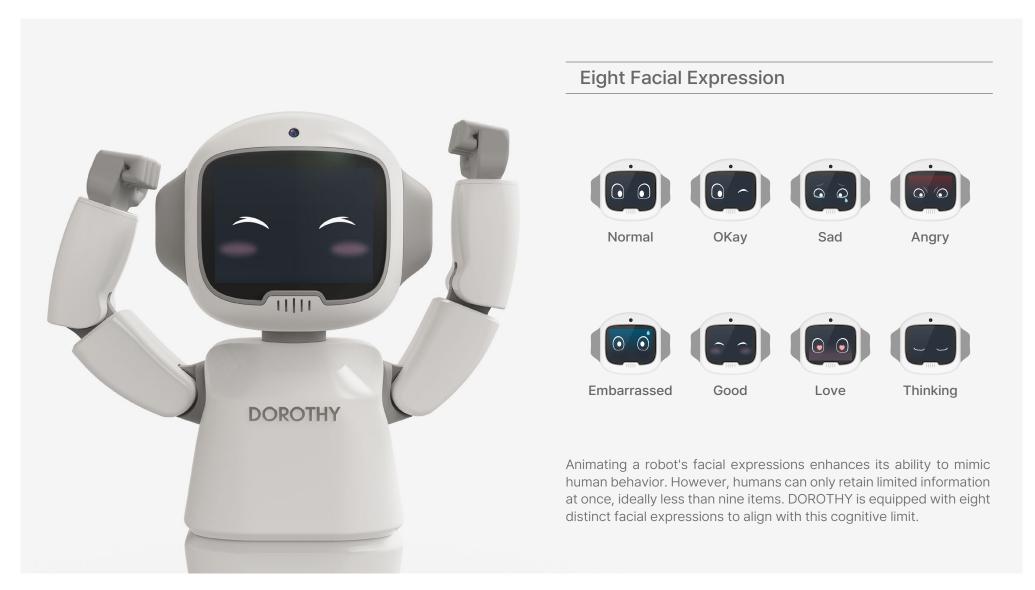


Schematic diagram of the joints' positions and orientations



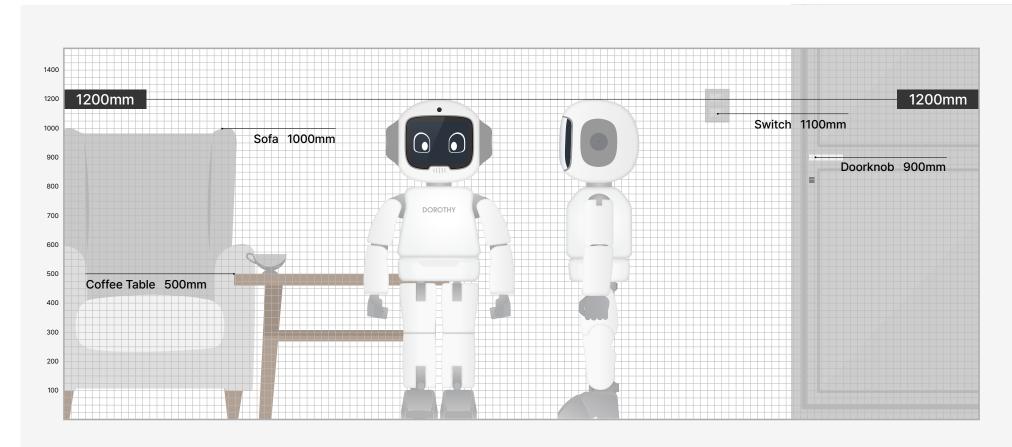
Joints' design and configuration (Arm: 14 DOF, Hand: 2 DOF, Foot: 12 DOF)

Robot Face



DOROTHY

Robot Size



Users experience a sense of friendliness when interacting with robots smaller than themselves, which facilitates the rapid formation of a close connection. Conversely, interacting with robots that are larger than users can evoke feelings of anxiety and intimidation.

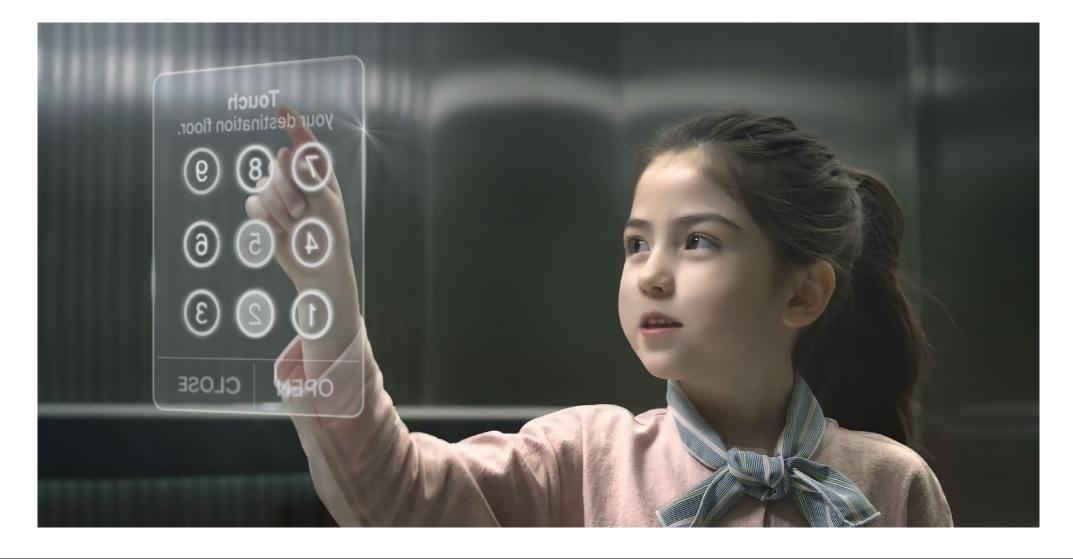
DOROTHY is designed to match the average height of elementary school children in the lower grades, approximately 6-8 years old, to enhance user-friendliness.

02

ANYVATOR

An elevator that multiple users can input destinations on their own eye level at the same time





Smart Elevator

The Elevator To Anyone

The ANYVATOR is an elevator that allows multiple users to input destinations at their own eye level simultaneously. It features a large screen display that supports multi-touch, enabling users to enter multiple destinations. Also, if the user touches anywhere on the wall by their palm, a popup to enter the destination will appear, which allows the users free from the height limitation.

In addition, it provides users with various information such as the current floor, time and weather by the screen display installed on the right side.

Awarded Design

The ANYVATOR has demonstrated its global design competitiveness by earning the iF Professional Concept Design Awards 2017 (GOLD).

Project Type: Team
Role: Assigned Solo Task
Contribution: 100%

Duration: Mar 2016 to Nov 2016





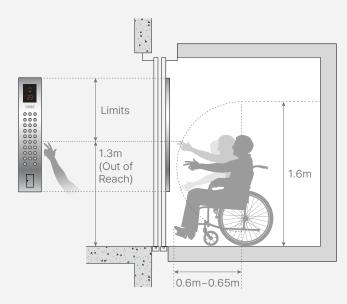




Background

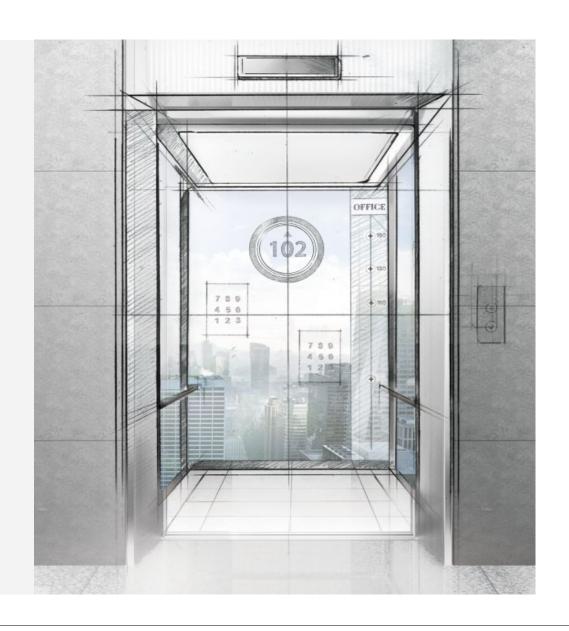
Accessibility Limits

Since elevator buttons are fixed at the standard height for adults, a spatial limitation exists for users. Specifically, wheelchair users and individuals of short stature may find using the elevator difficult.



Waiting Time Occurrence

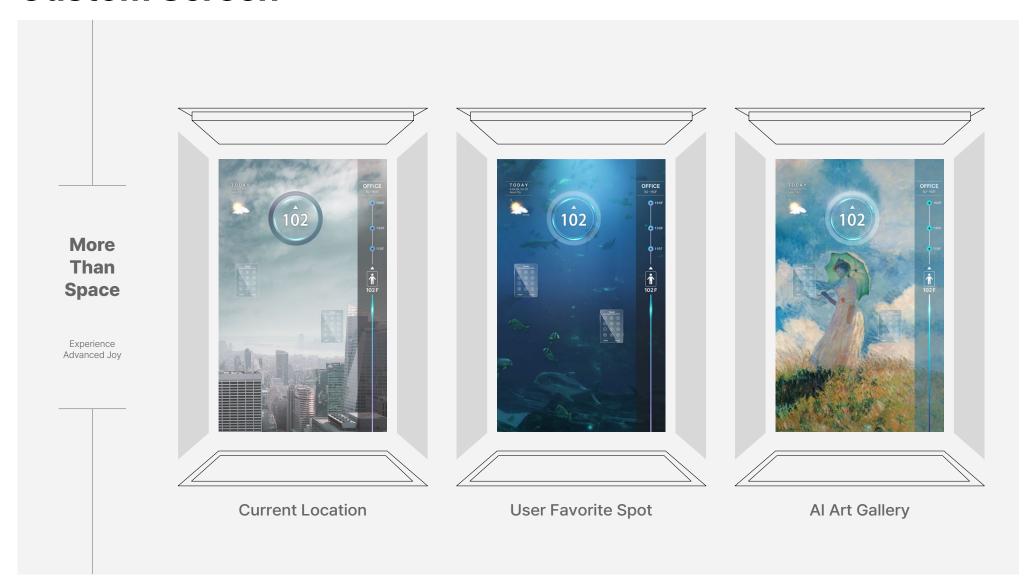
There is the inconvenience of having to wait for one's turn to input the destination floor when multiple people are present.



Novel Experience



Custom Screen



Main Interface



Activate the Touch Wall



A voice prompt instructs to touch the large screen display. Anywhere the user places their hand becomes activated.

The top left corner provides the current time and weather information.



Select the Destination



A popup appears where the user places their hand, allowing them to enter the destination floor from a convenient location.

The destination floor and current floor number can be checked through the floor display screen on the right.

03

ELECTREECITY

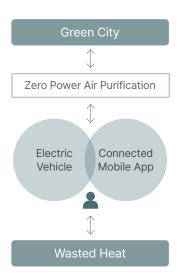
An electric vehicle (EV) equipped with self-powering converting waste heat into electricity, and zero power air purification



Green Catalyst

Tree Planting Effect, EV

ELECTREECITY is an innovative EV that naturally generates and stores electricity from temperature differences, allowing the vehicle to be used as an EV charging station while parked. Additionally, it purifies urban air by utilizing the movement of the vehicle.



Project Type: Team

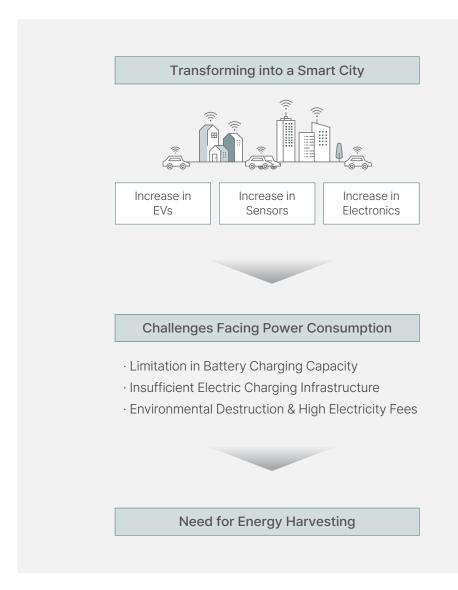
Role: PM, Research, Design, Rendering

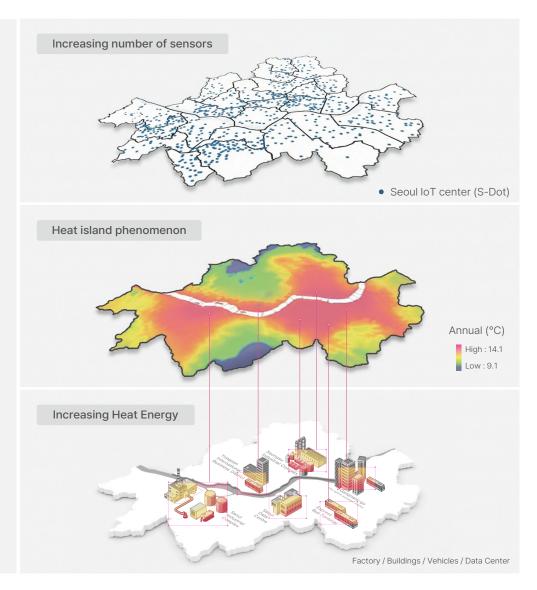
Contribution: 80%
Client: DRIMAES

Duration: Sep 2023 to Feb 2024

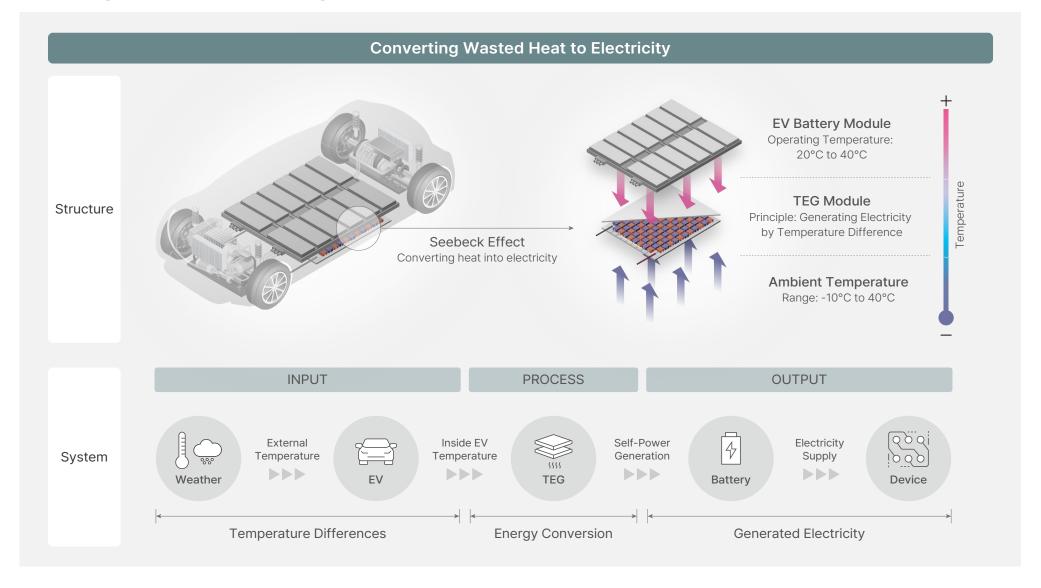


Current Situation & Problems

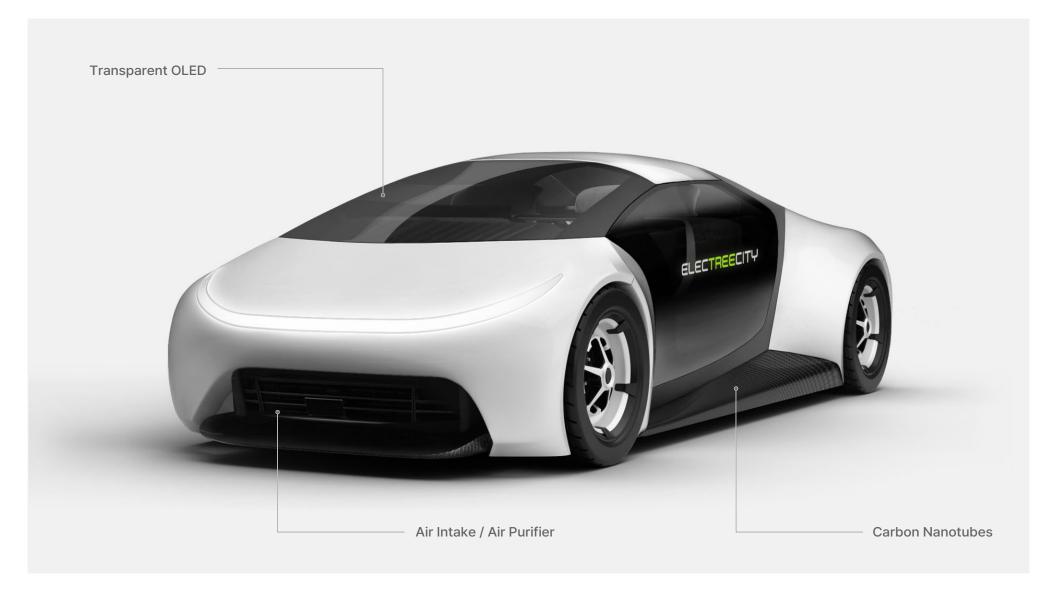




Energy Harvesting



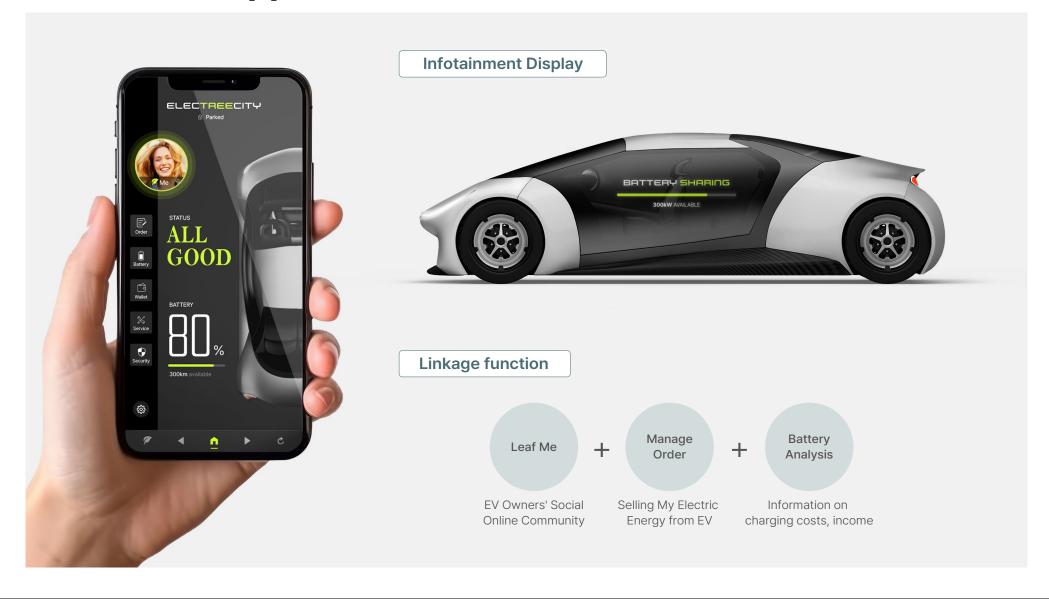
Exterior



Infotainment



Connected App



Green Economy

Regenerative Energy

ELECTREECITY creates new electricity, doing more than just being sustainable, aiming for more proactive environmental improvement.

ELECTREECITY utilizes the Seebeck effect of a thermoelectric generator (TEG) to naturally convert the temperature difference between the ELECTREECITY and its surrounding environment into electrical energy for storage.

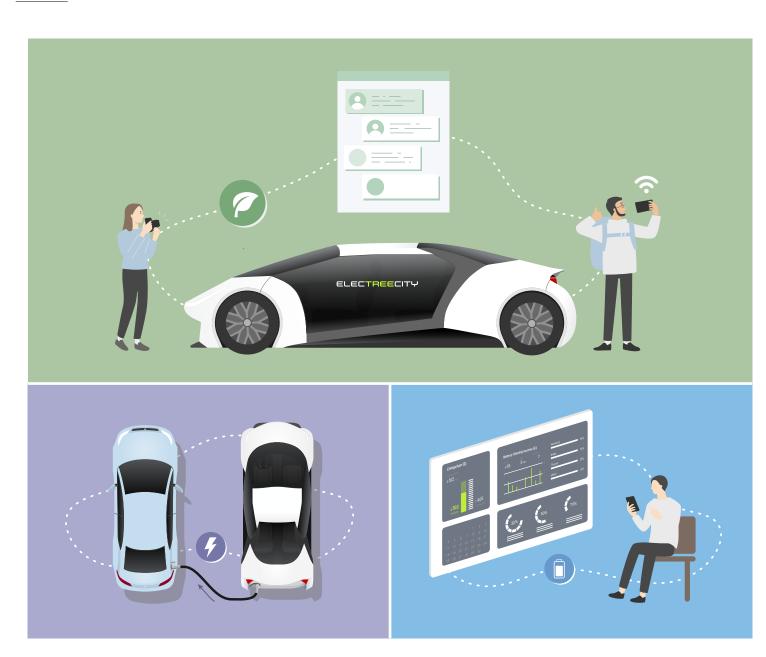
Selling My Electricity

ELECTREECITY enables 24/7 electrical energy production and can be used as a charging station anywhere. Through a connected app, users can not only manage energy efficiently but also sell any electricity they generate.

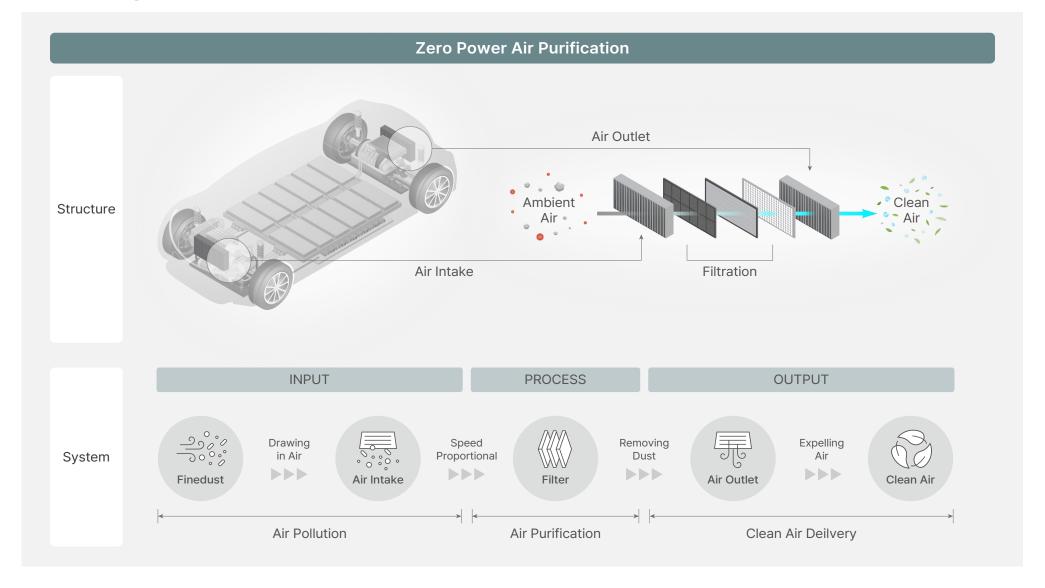
Owning ELECTREECITY naturally incorporates renewable energy production into daily life, simultaneously offering economic, social, and environmental benefits.



Video Link: vimeo.com/916540498



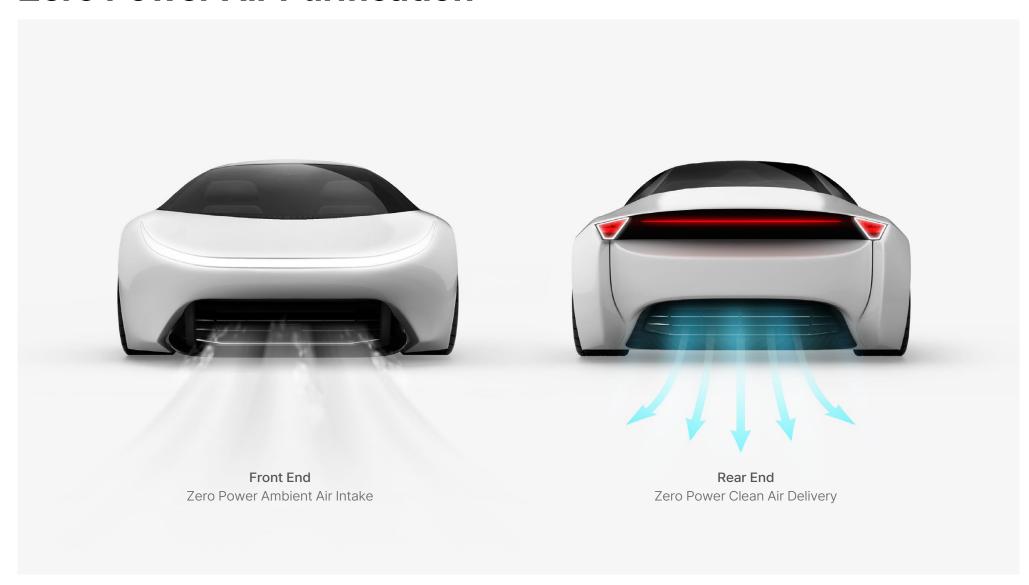
Moving Air Cleaner



Clean Air Deilvery



Zero Power Air Purification



DOROTHY ANYVATOR ELECTREECITY EVNESS PLANET Parking Indicator FLIPOUR Contest Website

ELECTREECITY / Introduction / Research / Features / Specifications

Leaf Me



· Tap the Leaf Me Button



- · Tree Score section
- · Four menus section



· User-to-User Messages



- · Information Sharing
- · Social Relationship



Leaf Me is an online community where users engage in activities under the name 'Leaf.' Users are evaluated through the 'Tree Score' for their participation in these activities. This evaluation goes beyond simple user-to-user ratings, encompassing various factors such as environmentally friendly driving, prompt order responses, information sharing, and more. A high Tree Score can lead to perceptions like being 'trustworthy' and an 'environmentalist,' turning it into a fun element contributing to a greener lifestyle.

Manage Order

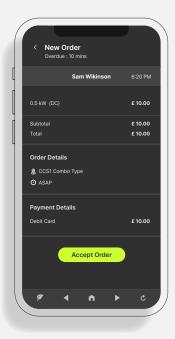


· Tap the Order Button



· Order Requester List





 $\cdot \, \mathsf{Transaction} \, \, \mathsf{Acceptance} \,$

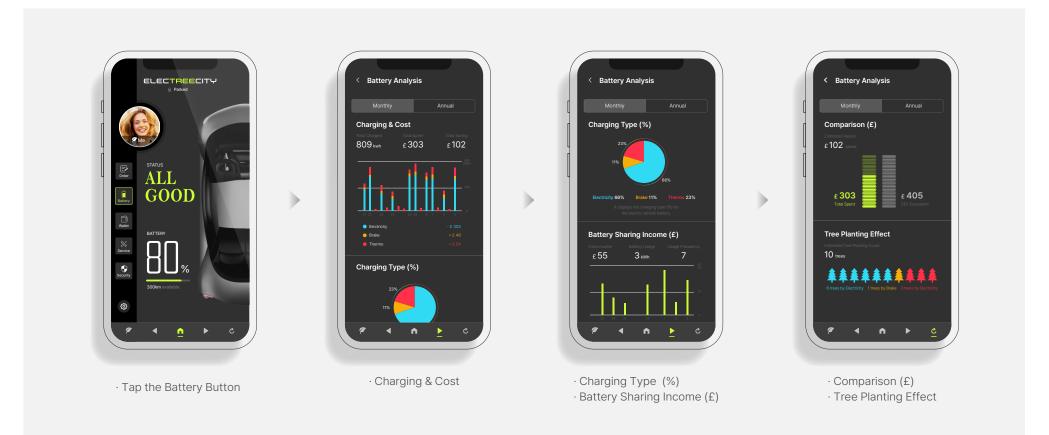


35



ELECTREECITY utilizes thermoelectric modules to generate electricity, allowing continuous energy production 24/7. As a result, it can be transformed into an electric charging station anywhere. Through an app, users can order and conduct charging transactions for Electricity, ranging from 1kW to 300kW. Instead of fixed charging fees, energy sharing at mutually agreed-upon prices is possible. This way, users can flexibly charge electricity as needed and adjust energy costs according to their preferences.

Battery Analysis





ELECTREECITY not only recovers braking energy but also generates electricity using thermoelectric modules attached to the battery, utilizing temperature differences. Through a mobile app, users can easily access the battery analysis. Effective battery management is possible by comparing charging costs, charging types, and battery-sharing income, along with the management costs of BEV Equivalent. This process is connected to the tree planting effect on Earth, showcasing in an infographic how many trees the user has planted.

04

EVNESS

Sustainable power solution that combines renewable energy and recycled EV batteries



Off-Grid ESS

Sustainable Power Solution

EVNESS is designed as a system that integrates renewable energy with the reuse of electric vehicle (EV) batteries, providing a sustainable energy solution and offering a means to supply electric power even in areas with limited access to electricity.

Reusing Waste batteries

By 2030, the number of used batteries is expected to increase to around 100,000 battery units. EVNESS recycles used EV batteries to create new battery packs, which are then stored in an Energy Storage System (ESS).

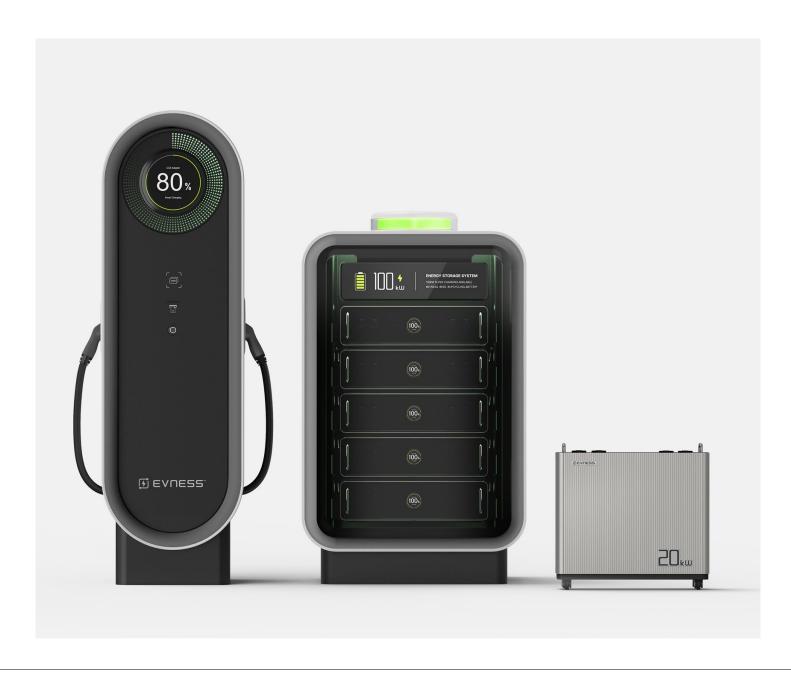
This ESS utilizes renewable energy sources, such as solar and wind power, to generate and store electricity. The stored power can be supplied through the ESS fast charging service or the battery pack rental service.

Project Type: Solo

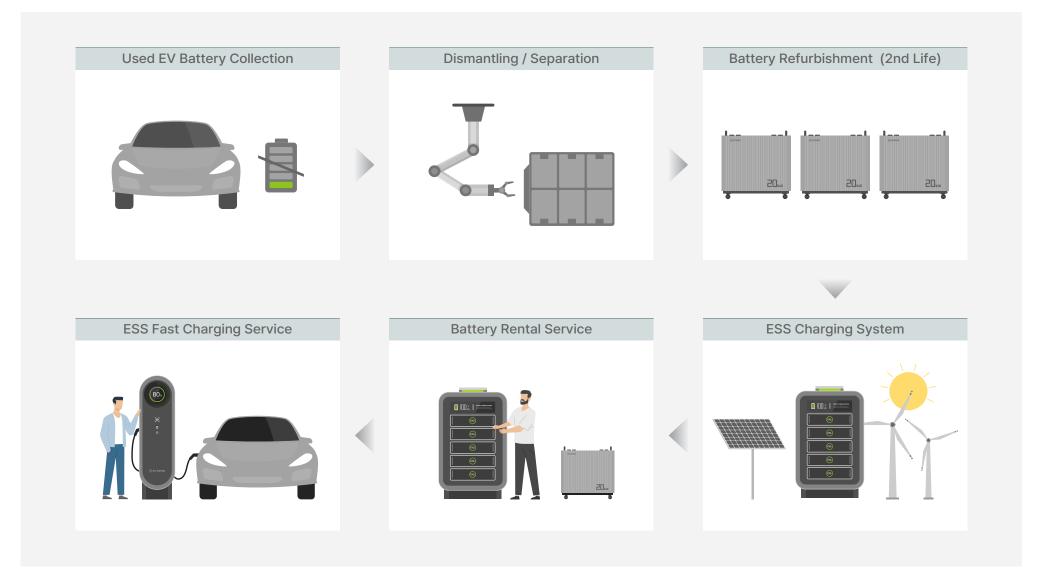
Contribution: 100% Personal Effort

Client: DRIMAES

Duration: Nov 2023 to Dec 2023



EV Battery Reuse Process



Fast Charger

Visual Accessibility

Placing the circular indicator above eye level enables EV users to identify the charging location and easily monitor the charging process from a distance.

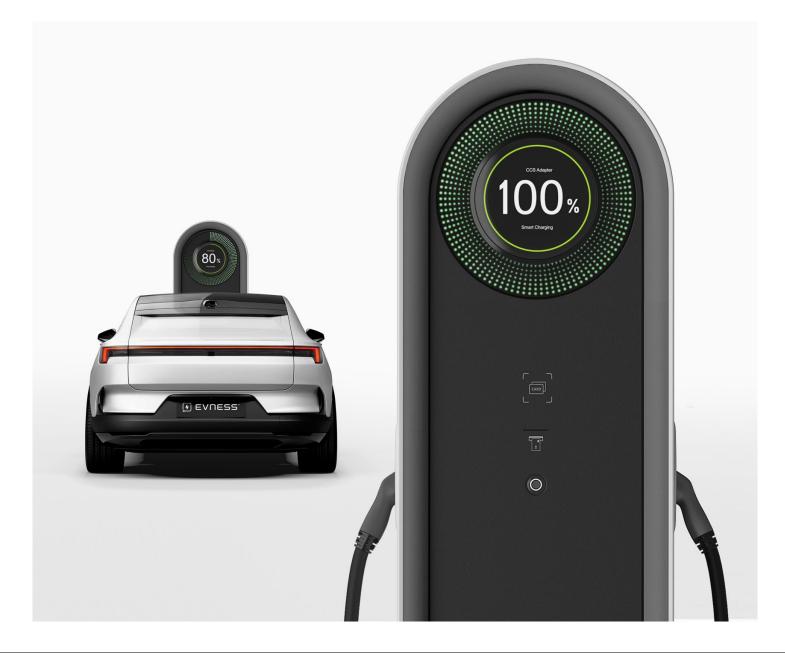


Circular Indicator

The circular LED progress bar shows the charging status by rotating for 'charging' and stopping for 'complete', offering clear feedback with low power use. The circular LCD delivers detailed textual and graphical information.



Video Link: vimeo.com/916875363



ESS Storage

Rebirth of EV Batteries

ESS Storage is a system that efficiently uses and manages recycled EV battery packs and renewable energy. Designed with a battery motif, this system visually represents each stored battery pack as part of an energy storage, symbolizing a charge status bar.



Lighting the Planet Again

The brightness of the LED installed in the shape of the top '+' electrode allows for checking the battery pack's charge status, symbolizing the collection of used batteries to light our planet once more. Additionally, an LCD on top of the energy storage provides detailed textual and graphic information.



Portable Battery Pack



User-Friendly Size



Off-Grid Energy



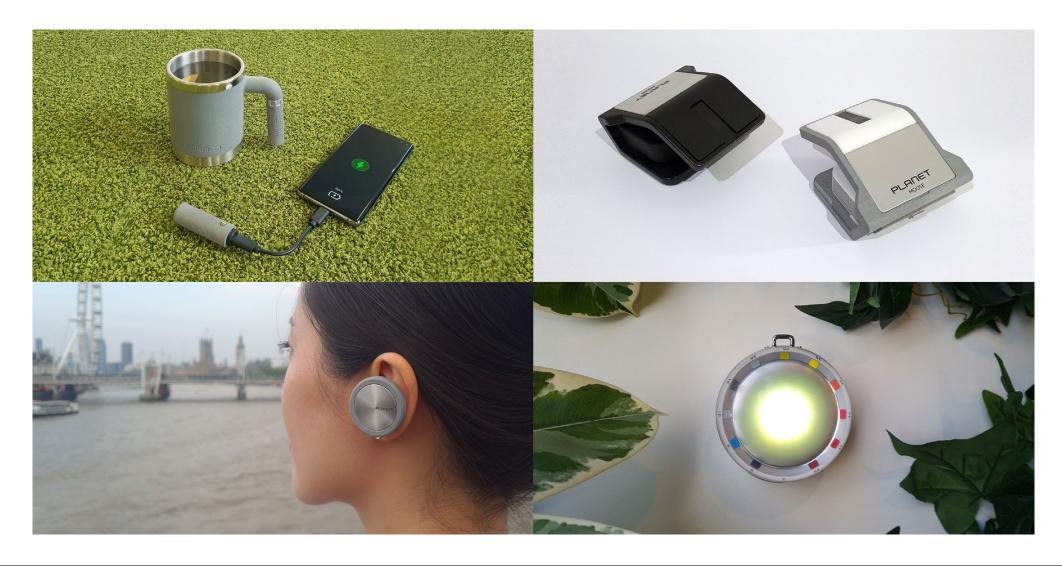
EVNESS operates independently from the central power grid, utilizing renewable energy sources such as solar panels and wind turbines to generate electricity for use in vehicles, homes, and communities.

This system is particularly suited for remote areas away from urban centers, locations pursuing self-sufficient living, or places that prioritize environmental sustainability.

05

PLANET

Everyday items converting thermal energy into electricity, naturally turning users into environmentalists.



Regeneration

Environmental Solution

PLANET products present an innovative solution to the pressing challenge of unsustainable battery consumption in smart cities. By harnessing wasted thermal energy from everyday activities, PLANET products introduce an inclusive and user-centered approach to environmental conservation.

Unintended Regeneration

PLANET products, including a mug, mouse, earphones, and thermometer, integrate seamlessly into everyone's daily lives, naturally storing electricity during their use. For instance, the thermal energy from hot drinks poured into the mug can be converted into electrical energy and stored in a portable battery located in the mug handle. Everyday activities that unintentionally generate thermal energy are sufficient to charge a small battery.

Project Type: Solo

Contribution: 100% Personal Effort Duration: Dec 2022 to Jun 2023 Exhibition: RCA 2023 Graduate Show

at Truman Brewery, London



PLANET System

INPUT

Temperature differences exist nearly everywhere in both natural and artificial environments.

Temperature differences around us can be a significant resource. Let's look for temperature differences.

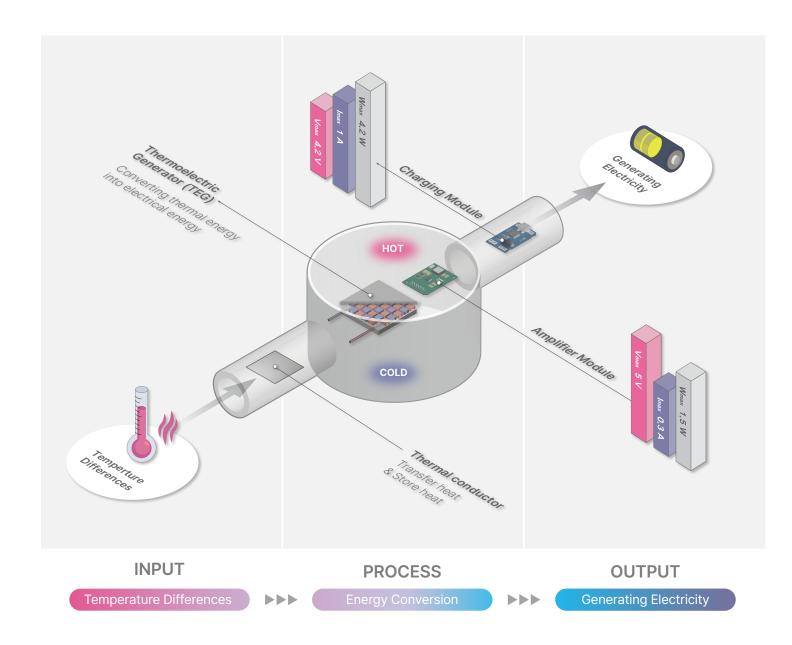
PROCESS

PLANET system takes advantage of any temperature difference between its two surfaces.

In thermoelectric generator (TEG) and amplifier modules, thermal energy is converted into electrical energy, and electricity is amplified.

OUTPUT

The generated electricity is stored in a rechargeable battery, and users can utilize it anytime.



Idea Sketch (Everyday Items)



1 PLANET MUG



The thermal energy generated by hot or cold beverages poured into the mug is converted into electrical energy. This electricity is then stored in a portable battery integrated into the mug's handle.



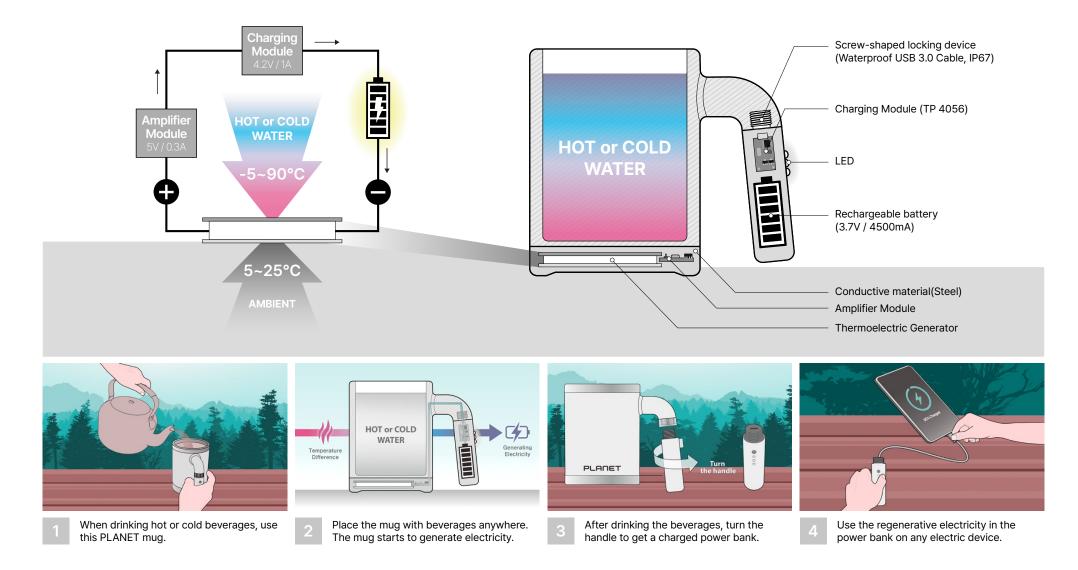
Video Link: vimeo.com/839026559



49



Mug Manual



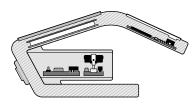
From Plastic Bottle to Products



FLIPOUR

PLANET / Introduction / Research / Features / Specifications





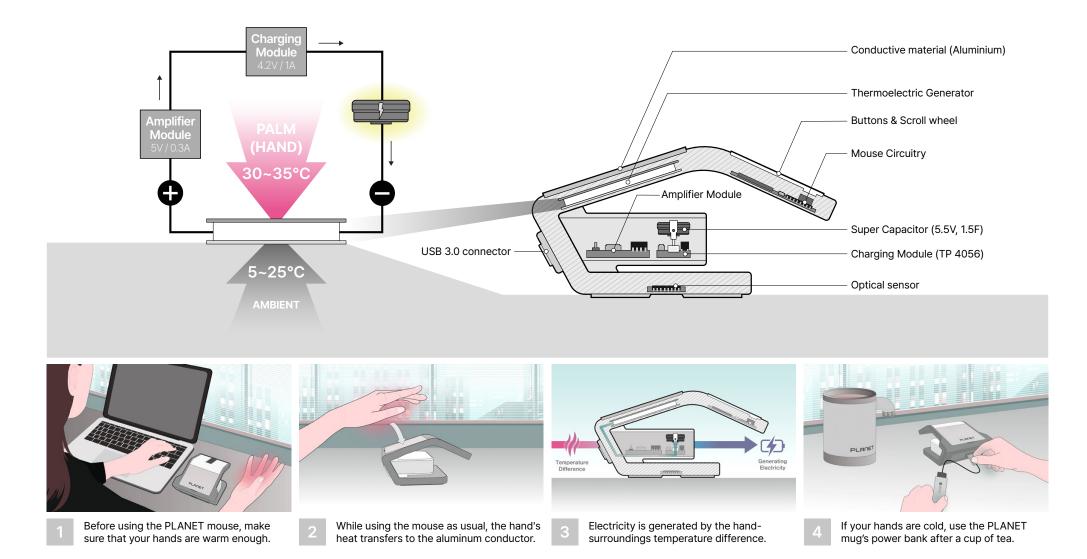
Electricity is generated from the temperature difference between the hand's warmth (30~35°C) and the external air, and the produced electricity is quickly stored in a supercapacitor to power the mouse.



Video Link: vimeo.com/839027191



Mouse Manual



Handmade

Reverse Engineering

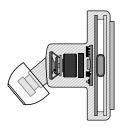
Commercial mouse products were disassembled and analyzed to connect and operate circuits with the PLANET system. Additionally, for rapid charging, a supercapacitor (5.5V, 1.5F) made of eco-friendly materials was used instead of lithium-ion batteries.

Handmade Products

The conductive parts of the mouse were cut using CNC machines from copper and aluminum materials, and the entire body of the mouse was 3D printed from recycled plastic. All prototyping work for Planet (circuit design, soldering, surface treatment, painting, assembly) was carried out by hand.







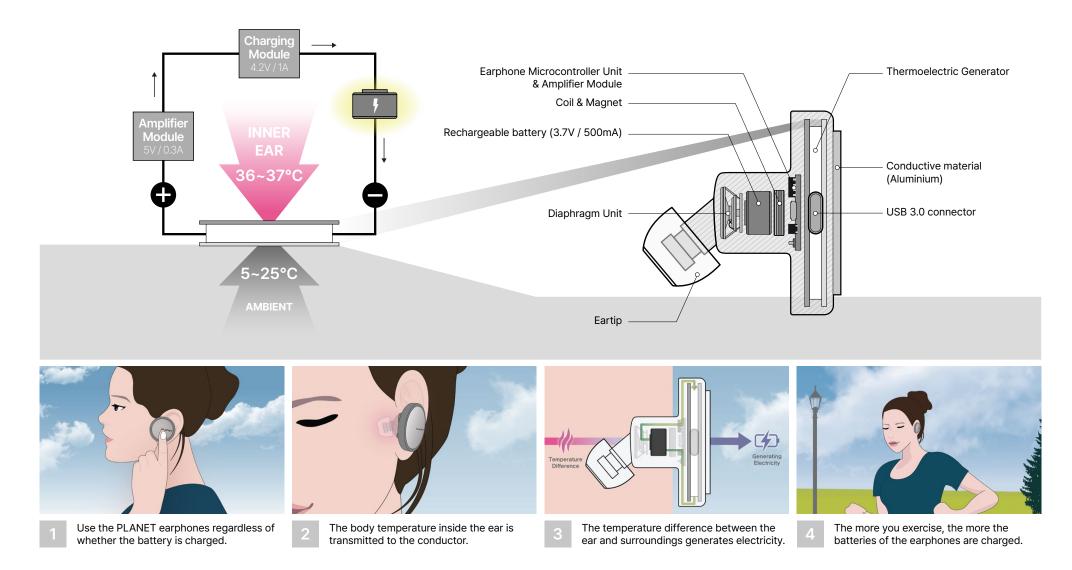
Electricity is generated from the temperature difference between the inner ear's temperature (36~37°C) and the external air, and the produced electricity is used to power the earphones.



Video Link: vimeo.com/839027362



Earphones Manual



Self-Power

Constant Heat, 36.5°C

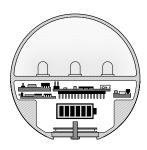
The average temperature of the human inner ear is maintained at about 36~37 °C. Therefore, the temperature difference between the inner ear and the external environment serves as a constant source of thermal energy. This energy is efficiently converted into electricity by PLANET system's thermoelectric generator (TEG).

Automatic Charging

The inside of the earphone, made of a conductor like aluminum, transmits the inner ear's temperature to the thermoelectric module. Conversely, the outside of the earphone uses a conductor to transfer the external temperature to the thermoelectric generator (TEG). Using PLANET earphones while exercising can inadvertently generate thermal energy, which is sufficient to charge a small battery (3.7V / 500mA).



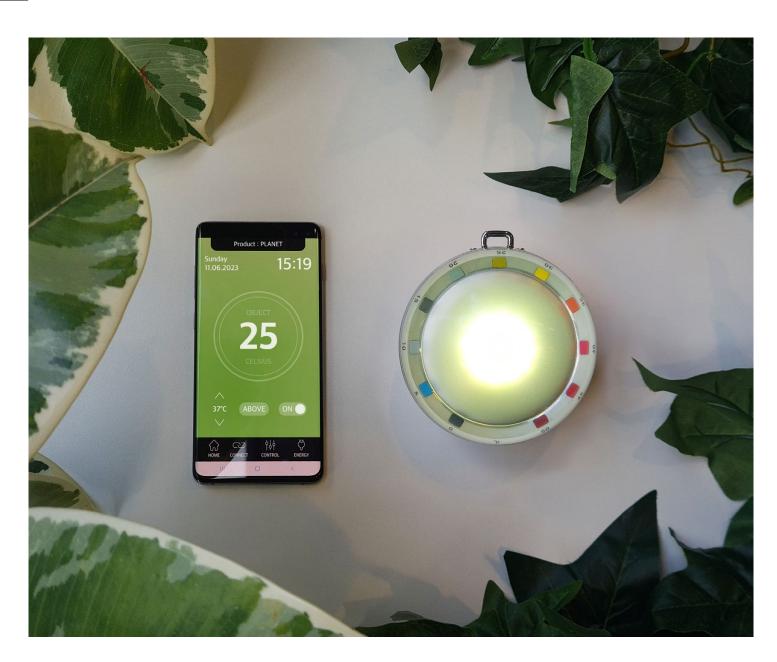




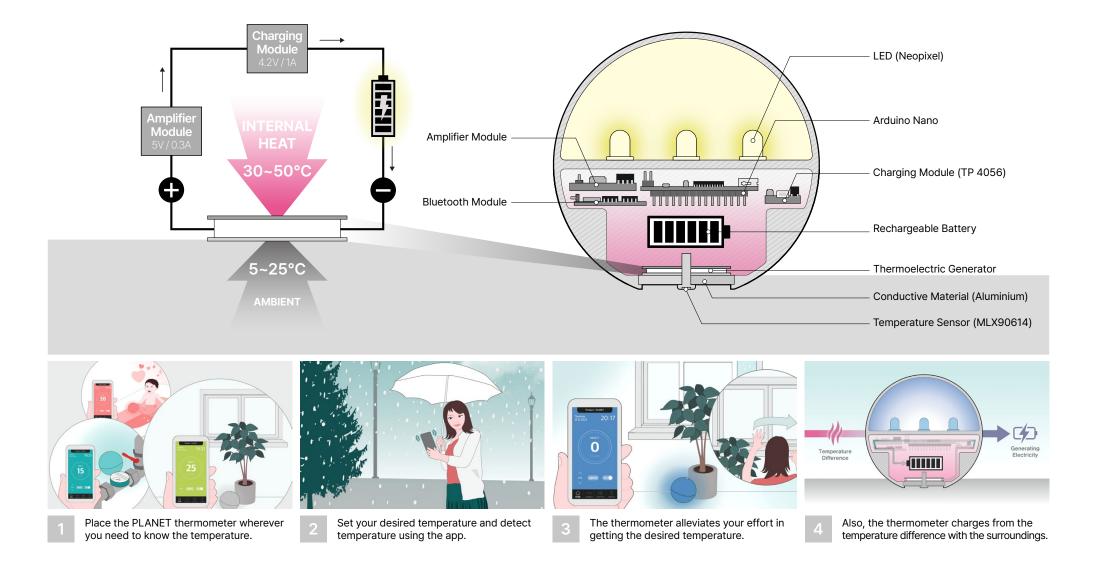
When using electronic devices, the heat generated by electronic components causes the temperature inside the device to rise, resulting in a temperature difference from the surroundings. This temperature difference is utilized to generate electricity.



Video Link: vimeo.com/839027488



Thermometer Manual



IoT Design

Arduino Programming

A thermometer was developed using an Arduino nano board, Bluetooth module, temperature sensor, and NeoPixel ring, which changes the LED's color according to temperature variations.

This program enables users to intuitively understand temperature through color gradients without having to read temperature values (°C).

Android Programming

An Android application was developed to measure temperature sensor values in real time via Bluetooth communication between Arduino board and smartphones.

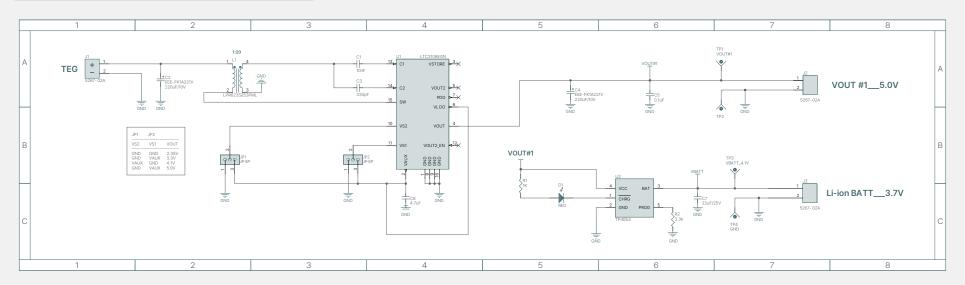
This application conveys temperature information through colors alongside the temperature values(°C), creating a fully functional real time interactive application (*.apk).

Additionally, an alarm function was added to improve user convenience by sending notifications when the preset threshold temperature is reached.



Amplifier Circuit

Amplifier module PCB design



The amplifier module has been designed to be embedded into the PLANET products and tested to generate sufficient electricity (5V / 0.3A).

Collaborative Research

The thermoelectric generator, which converts heat into electricity, utilizes the most advanced technology.

I received samples of the research results by Professor Byung Jin Cho from KAIST and T≋GWAY in South Korea.

This technology was embedded in PLANET's 4 products.

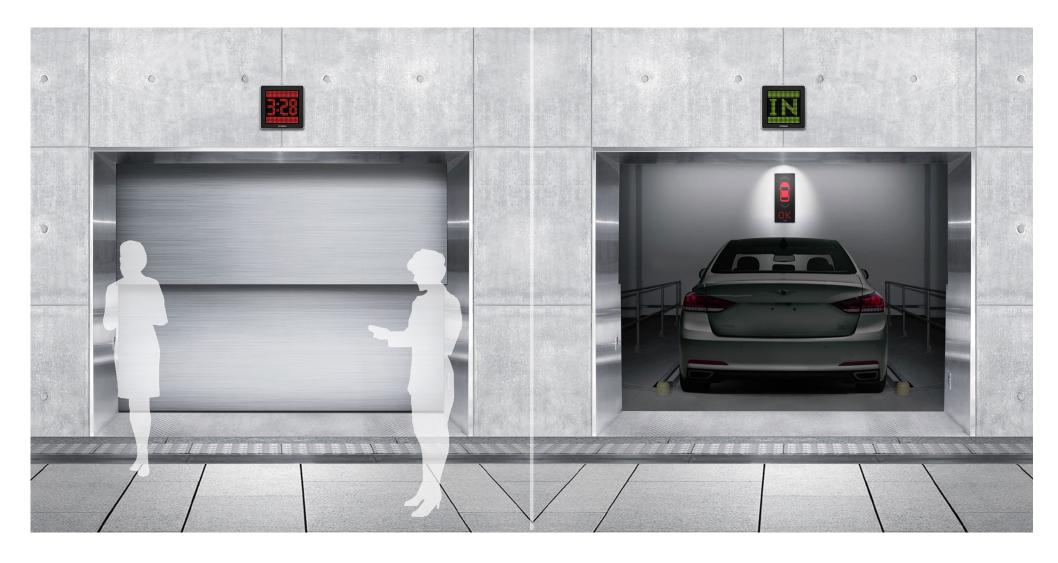


06

Parking Indicator LED Parking assistance using intuitive color and graphics

to easily convey operational information.





Easy Signage

Intuitive Color & Graphics

In/Out Lights (Analogue Type) offer a time-based emotional design, informing users of the car's departure time and ensuring a relaxing wait.

In/Out Lights (Digital Type) alleviate users' anxiety by providing a digital format time display, enabling users to anticipate when the car will be available.

Direction Indicating Lights not only utilize basic direction indicators with text and red/green colored lights but also incorporate a pictogram to help users more intuitively perceive the sign.

Awarded Design

The Parking Indicator has demonstrated its global design competitiveness by earning the iF Product Design Awards 2017 (WINNER).

Project Type: Team
Role: Assigned Solo Task
Contribution: 100%

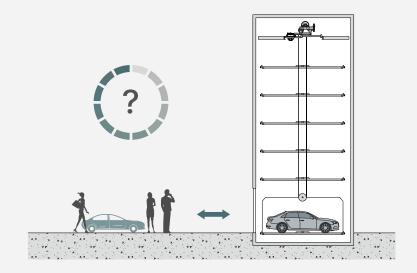
Duration: Mar 2016 to Nov 2016



Background

Uncertainty Anxiety

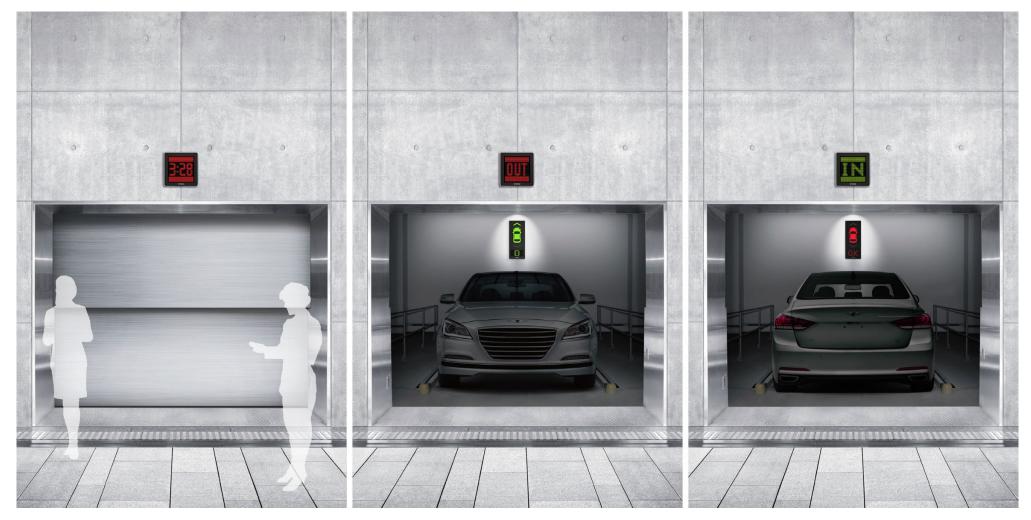
The uncertainty of vehicle retrieval times, complexity of the parking process, and low confidence in the parking tower can cause anxiety for customers waiting for their vehicles.



To reduce anxiety, providing signs that indicate the estimated time of vehicle retrieval, along with intuitive colors and graphics, can improve customer experience.

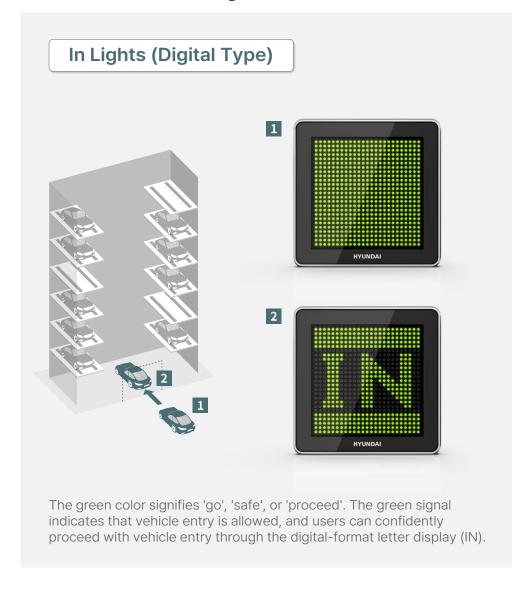


Vehicle Entry and Exit Process



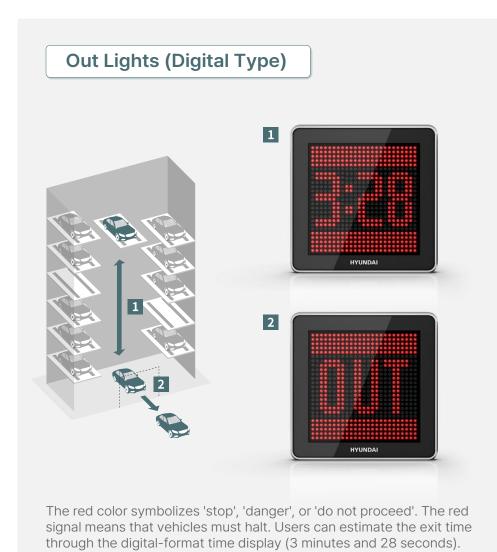
Vehicle Exit in 3m 28s Vehicle Exit in progress Vehicle Entry Available

Vehicle Entry





Vehicle Exit





Vehicle Parking







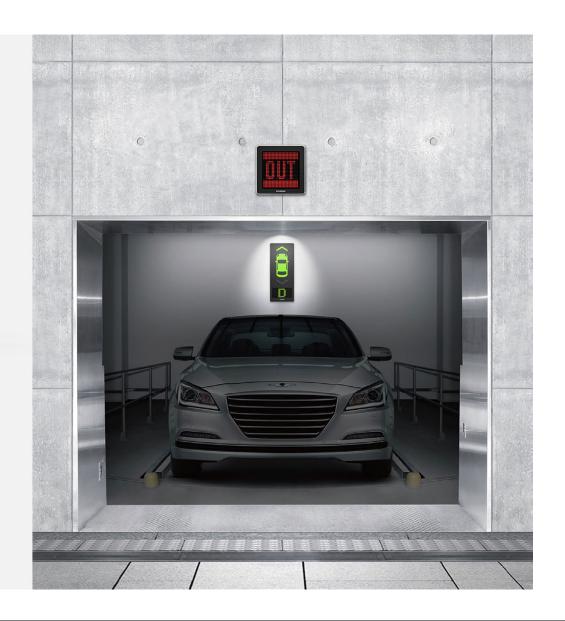








For safe entry and exit within the parking space, clear guidance is provided through pictograms indicating car direction. Digital-format letters signify D (Drive), R (Reverse), and OK (Complete).



07

FLIPOUR

Easily flippable hand tool to lift heavy PET bottles and to pour the contents out of them without spilling





Pour Aid Tool

Lightly and Precisely

Water is typically sold in 500 ml bottles or larger 1.5 to 2.0 L PET bottles. However, the larger bottles can be too heavy for individuals with limited lifting abilities. Attempting to use both hands often results in spills.

This is particularly challenging for individuals with an amputated hand or arm, making it difficult to pour water with just one hand. They struggle to lift and tilt the bottle simultaneously.

FLIPOUR, a newly designed device, addresses these challenges by facilitating the lifting and pouring of heavy PET bottles without any spillage.

Awarded Design

The FLIPOUR has demonstrated its global design competitiveness by earning the iF Universal Design 2014 (Consumer Favorite).

Project Type: Team

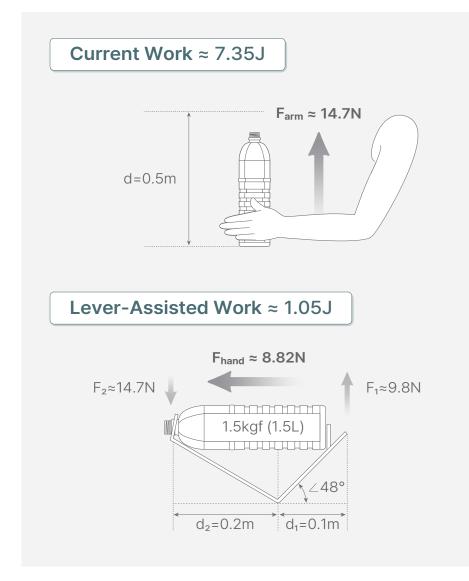
Role: PM, Research, Design, Rendering

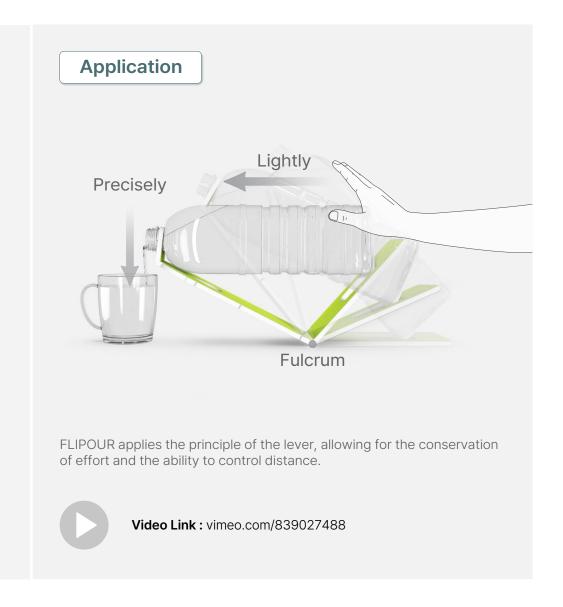
Contribution: 80%

Duration: Nov 2014 to Dec 2014



Lever Principle





Flipable, Universal, Easy



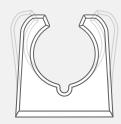
FLIPABLE STRUCTURE



FLIPOUR is Flipable for shipping and space-saving. Different colors of the inner and outer faces give a hint of flipping function and a bright feeling.



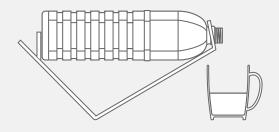
UNIVERSAL SIZE



Using the elasticity of ABS plastics, it can be fitted with the neck size of any PET bottle.

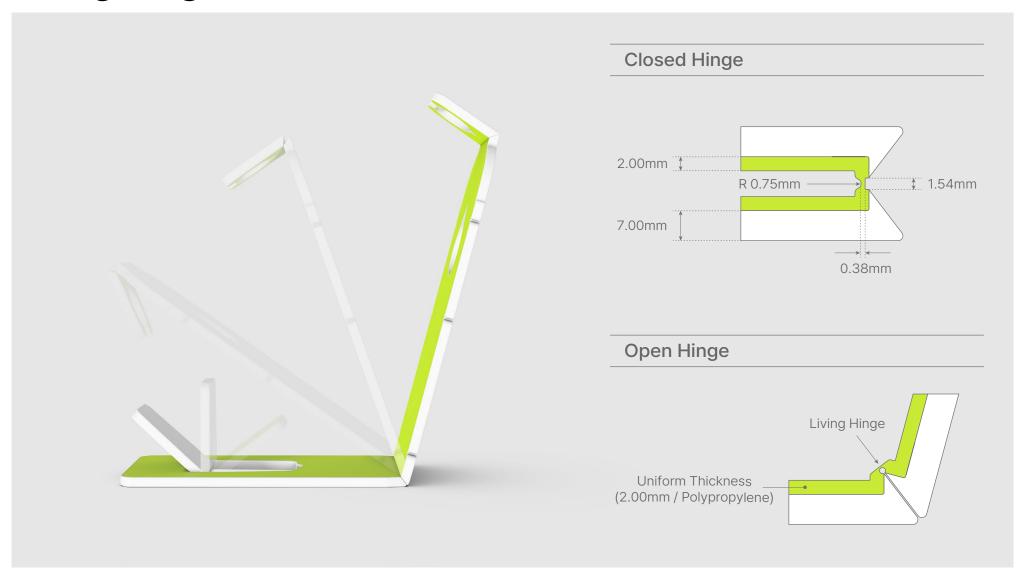


EASY POUR



Only a tiny amount of power is needed to pour water into the cup. It is designed for people with weak hand strength.

Living Hinge

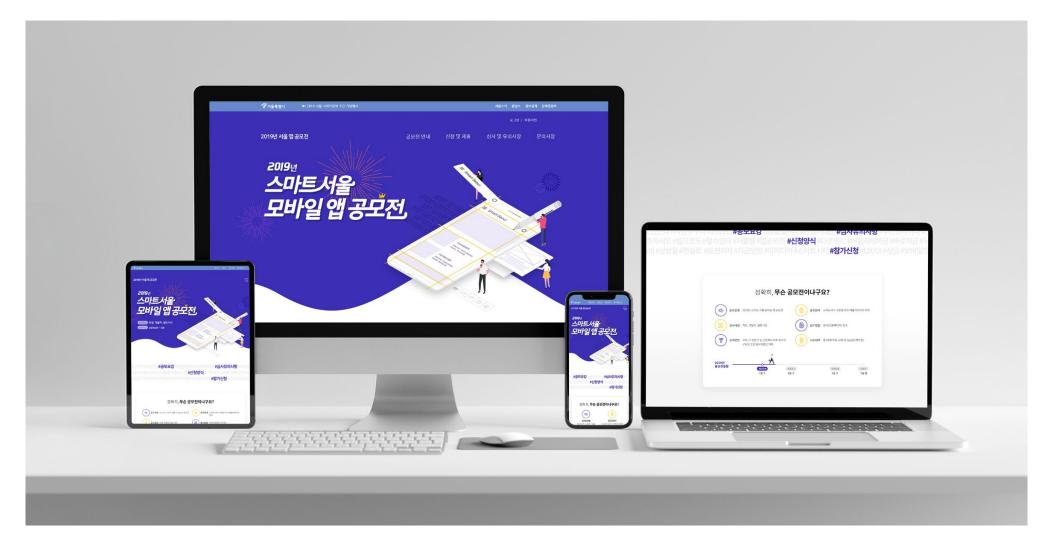


80

Contest Website

Website to promote citizen-led public app development and to support talented developers





App Space

Citizen-Centric Platform

This website is designed to foster a culture where citizens take the lead in creating public interest mobile apps and support talented developers.

It archives mobile app services that citizens created, making them widely available to enhance the convenience of citizens' lives.

This service allows anyone to download these citizen-created works.

Awarded Design

The contest website has demonstrated its national design competitiveness by earning the 16th Web Awards Korea (WINNER).

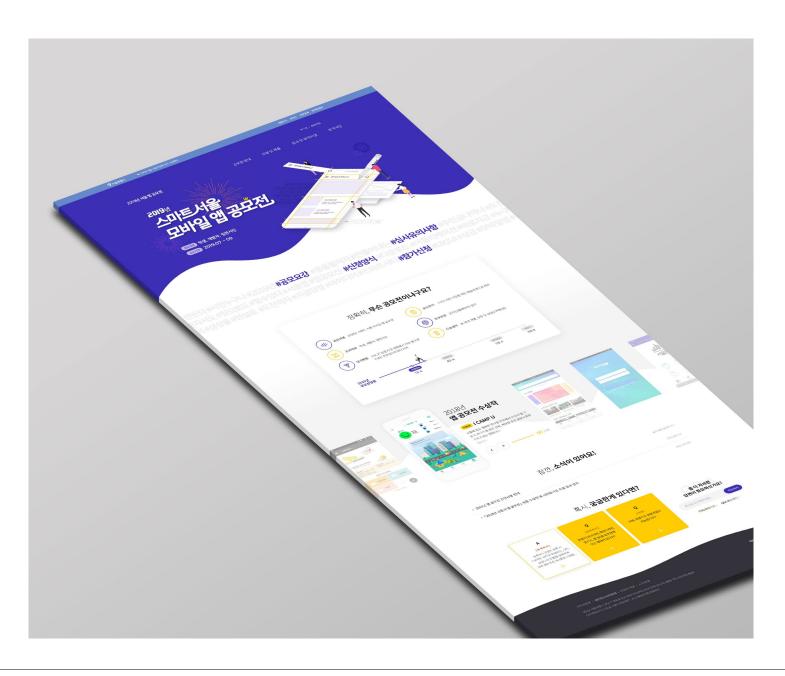
Project Type : Team

Role: PM, Content Creator, UI/UX, Web design, Illustraror, Business Operations

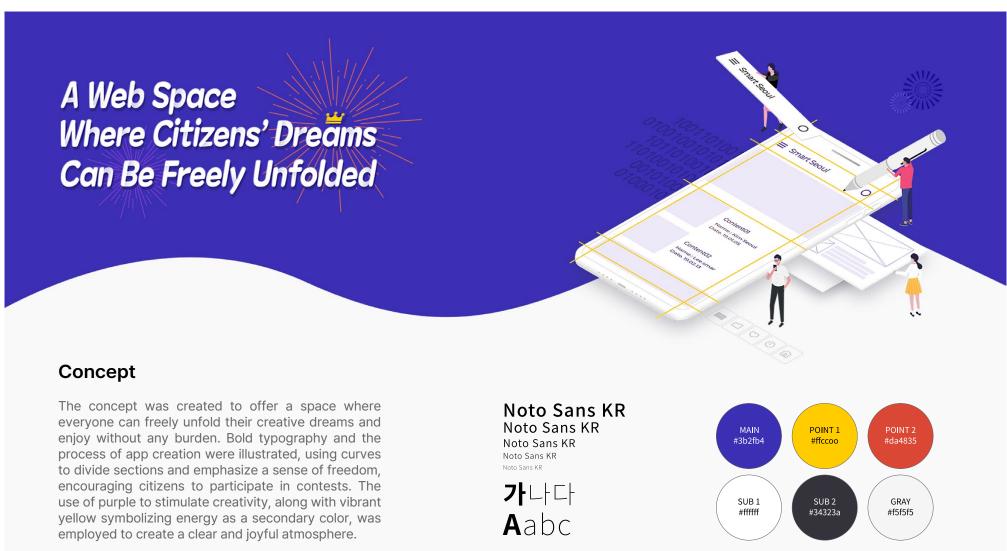
Contribution: 50%

Client: Seoul METROPOLITAN GOVERNMENT

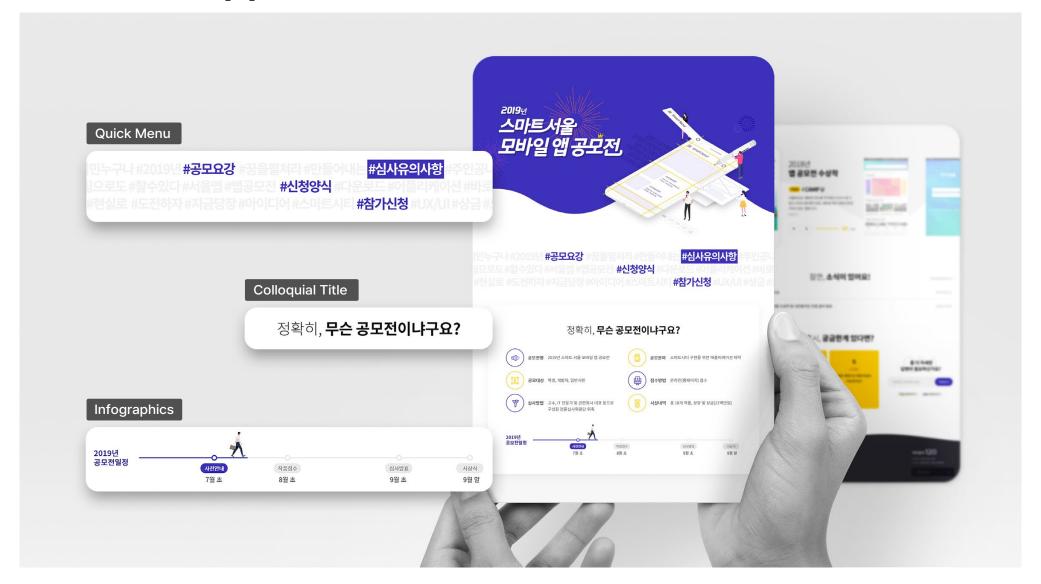
Duration: Jun 2019 to Dec 2019



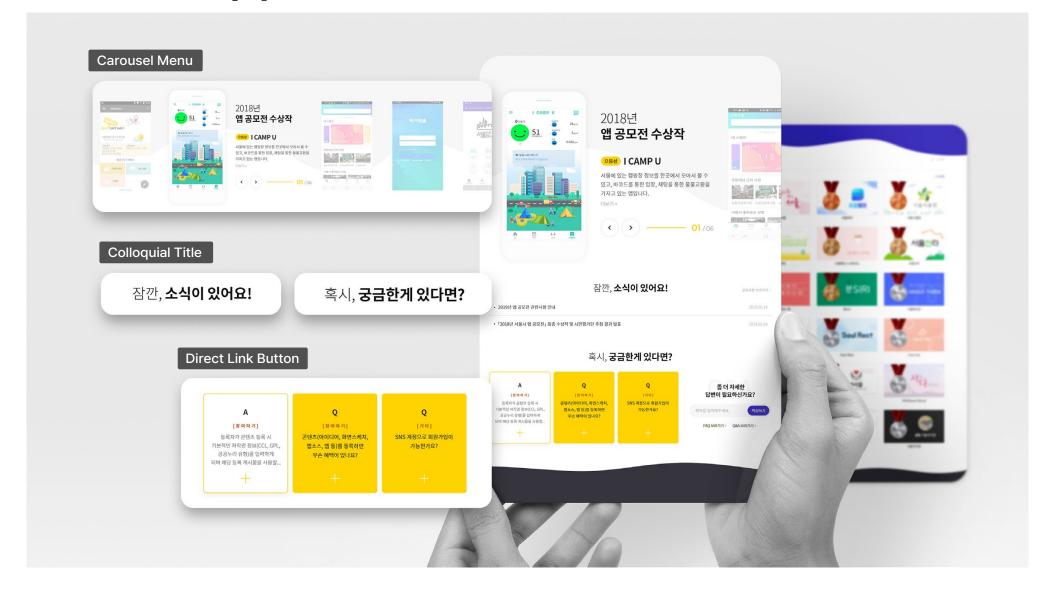
Concept



UI/UX Main (1)



UI/UX Main (2)



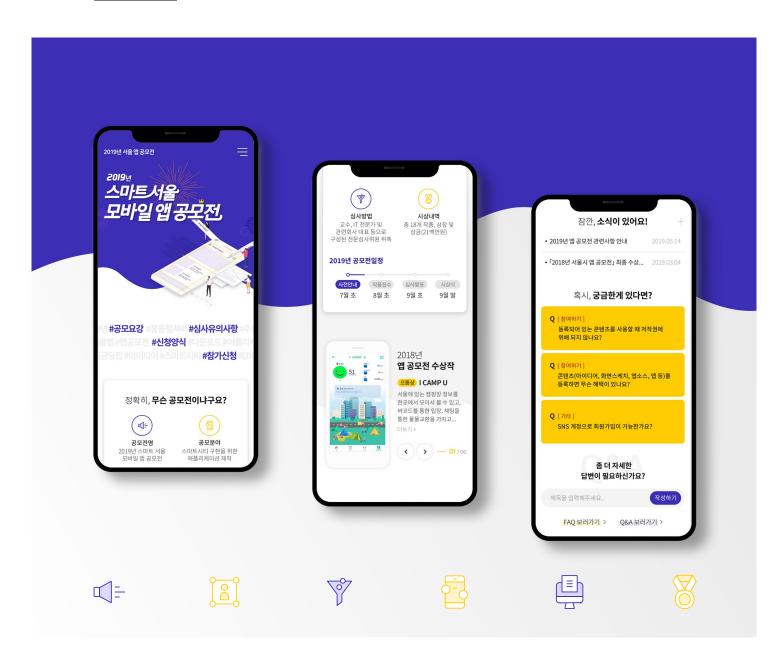
Mobile Detail

Responsive Website

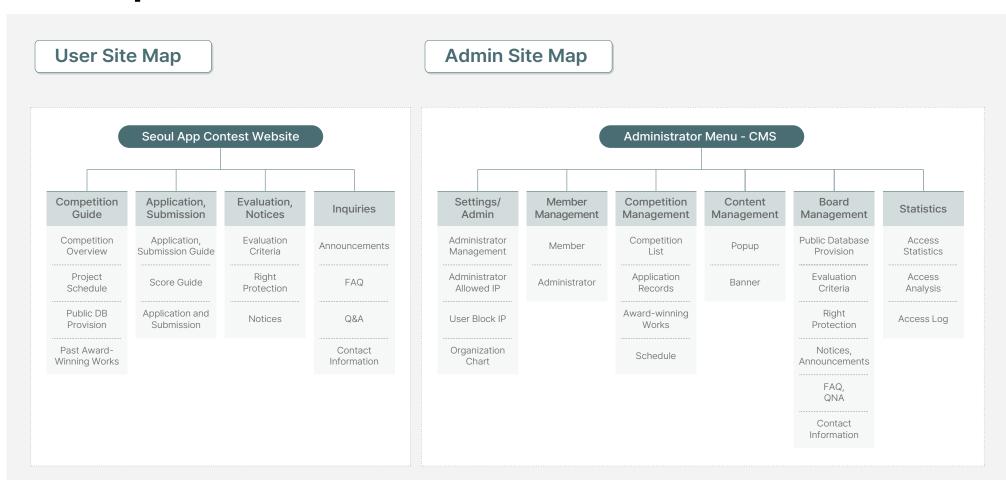
The design has been optimized for screens and devices of various sizes, automatically adjusting content and layout.

Mobile screens have been specifically optimized by adjusting margins and fonts, and content has been realigned vertically to ensure all information is accessible through vertical scrolling only.

This responsive website design ensures that users enjoy the optimal user experience, whether accessing the site via PC, tablet, or mobile.



Site Map



As the overall manager of the website creation and app contest project, I have also established an integrated Content Management System (CMS) to enhance the website's manageability and provide stable services to the citizens. This system facilitated an app contest from August to September 2019, attracting 521 participants and resulting in 219 app submissions. Of these, 20 outstanding apps were selected, archived, and are available as services for Seoul's citizens.

Discover More

Thank you very much for exploring my portfolio! I hope you found my works both insightful and inspiring for a better life. If you're interested in seeing more of my projects or wish to connect, please visit my website, and feel free to contact me.

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