

IPRO 334 TEAM Spring 2007





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It takes a team INTERPROFESSIONAL PROJECTS PROGRAM IPRO

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IPRO 334 Resource Consumption Awareness in the Home

Spring 2007



Problem:

• People are inadequately informed about their energy consumption behaviors in the home.

Objectives:

- Provide real time feedback at the point of decision making
- Helping consumers to be aware of their energy consumption habits.
- Design and evaluate a means of improving energy consumption awareness in the home.
- Determine what metrics are most valuable to consumers and the best means to communicate feedback.



Methodology:

The specific breakdown of the project process:

- Research: Business, Market, People
- Analyze and Synthesize Collected Information
- Develop Design Criteria Informed by Research
- Set Goals for Design
- Make Design for Prototype Meet Goals
- Test the Prototypes in Diverse Home Settings
- Interview Test Participants
- Analyze Test Results
- Determine Design Modifications from Test

Setting up and Testing the Prototype

Obstacles:

- User/Consumer Buy-in
- System was undependable
- Lack of computer coding knowledge on team
- Failure of similar projects

Results/Conclusions:

- Initial hypothesis is acurate--people think this type of system is beneficial and desirable.
- Test users saw immediate potential for incorporating this into their lives.
- Iterative user testing helps to incorporate diverse features into a unified whole.





Future Plans for the Project:

- Continued IPRO in Spring 2008
- Fix system errors
- Rethink prototype/feedback displays
- Gain insight about the point of decision making in the home
- Consider different types of feedback and their impact



Install Crew Team #2