





## Not all that glitters is gold: Avoiding fear-based technology decisions



### **TORONTO** 16 - 19 Oct 2017



Better than a thousand days of diligent study is one day with a great teacher.

Japanese proverb



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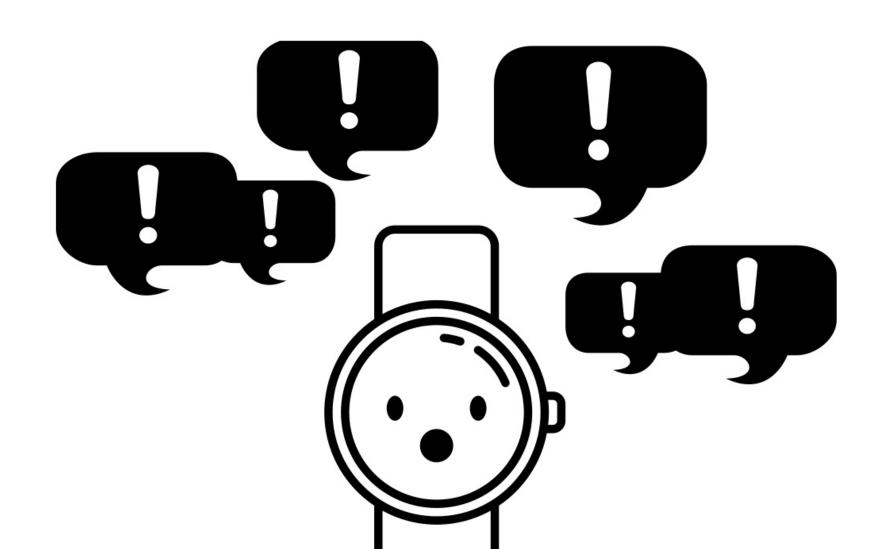
@caseorganic calmtech.com

# 50 billion devices will be online by 2020. -Cisco

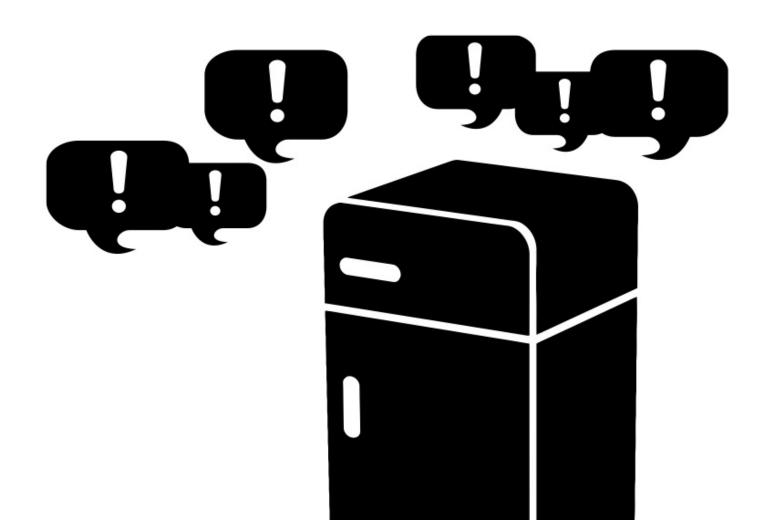
## Sound good?

## Consider...

#### The "Smart" Watch



#### The "Smart" Fridge



#### The Dystopian Kitchen of the Future



#### **Connected Animals**

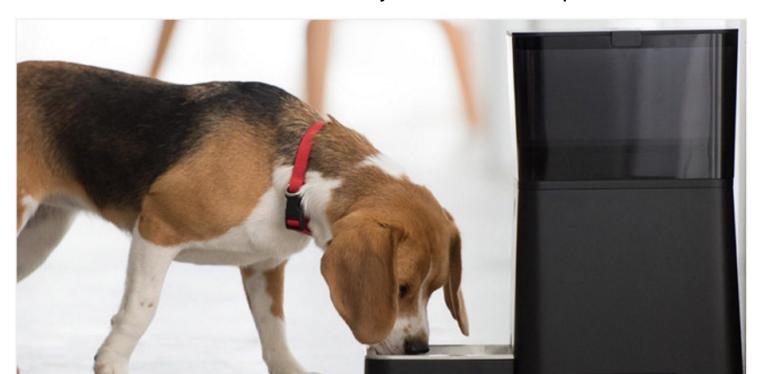


#### The new Schrödinger's Cat



### Cats, dogs starve as web-connected chow chute PetNet plays dead

Failure forces humans to 'manually' feed ravenous pets



#### PetNet is not held responsible for any service failures:

wherever you access or use the Website or use the Services.

#### 3. Limitations of Services

- (a) Intended Use. The Services are intended to be accessed and used for non-time-critical information and control of Petnet products. While we aim for the Services to be highly reliable and available, they are not intended to be reliable or available 100% of the time. The Services are subject to sporadic interruptions and failures for a variety of reasons beyond Petnet's control, including Wi-Fi intermittency, service provider uptime, mobile notifications, and mobile carriers, among others. You acknowledge these limitations and agree that Petnet is not responsible for any damages allegedly caused by the failure or delay of the Services.
- (b) Reliability of Notifications. You acknowledge that the Services, including remote access and mobile notifications, are not intended to be 100% reliable and 100% available. We cannot and do not guarantee that you will receive notifications in any given time or at all. YOU AGREE THAT YOU WILL NOT RELY ON THE SERVICES FOR ANY SAFETY OR CRITICAL PURPOSES

#### RELATED TO YOU OR YOUR PET.

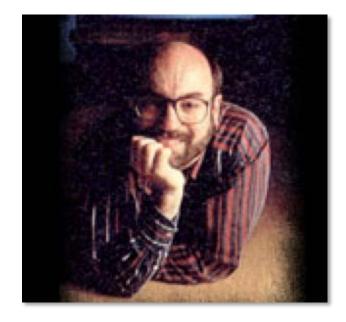
(c) Temporary Suspension. The Services may be suspended temporarily without notice for maintenance and repair, or other circumstances. You agree that you will not be entitled to



### An era of interruptive technology

## We need a Calm Technology

#### XEROX PARC: mid-90s



Mark Weiser



John Seeley Brown

## THE COMING AGE OF CALM TECHNOLOGY<sup>1</sup>

Mark Weiser and John Seely Brown

Xerox PARC

October 5, 1996

#### INTRODUCTION

The important waves of technological change are those that fundamentally alter the place of technology in our lives. What matters is not technology itself, but its relationship to us.

## Designing Calm Technology

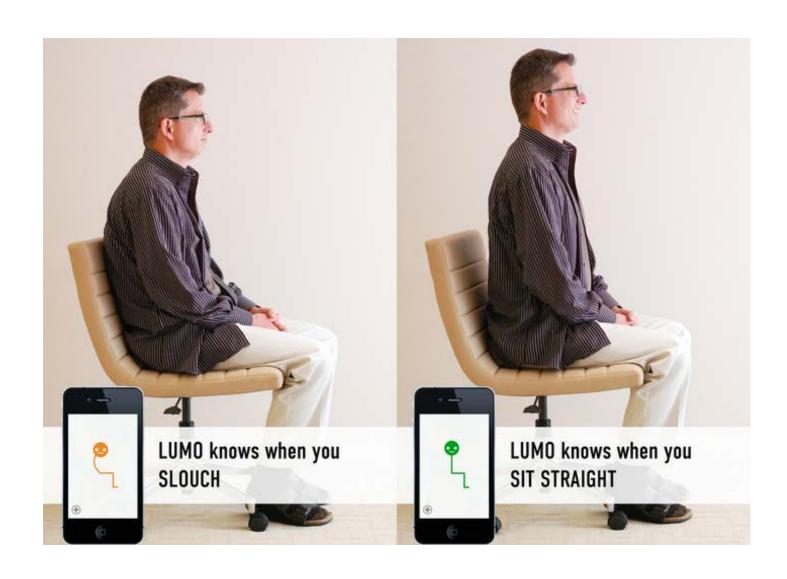
## I. Technology shouldn't require all of our attention, just some of it, and only when necessary

#### A Tea Kettle



## II. Technology should empower the *periphery*

#### **LUMOBack Smart Posture Sensor**



Buzzes you when you exhibit poor posture.

## III. Technology should inform and *encalm*

### Ambient Awareness

## Create ambient awareness through different senses

- 1. Haptics vs. auditory alerts (haptic compass)
- 2. Light status vs. full display (on/off)
- 3. Positive or negative tones (home electronics)
- 4. Transparency (inner-office windows)

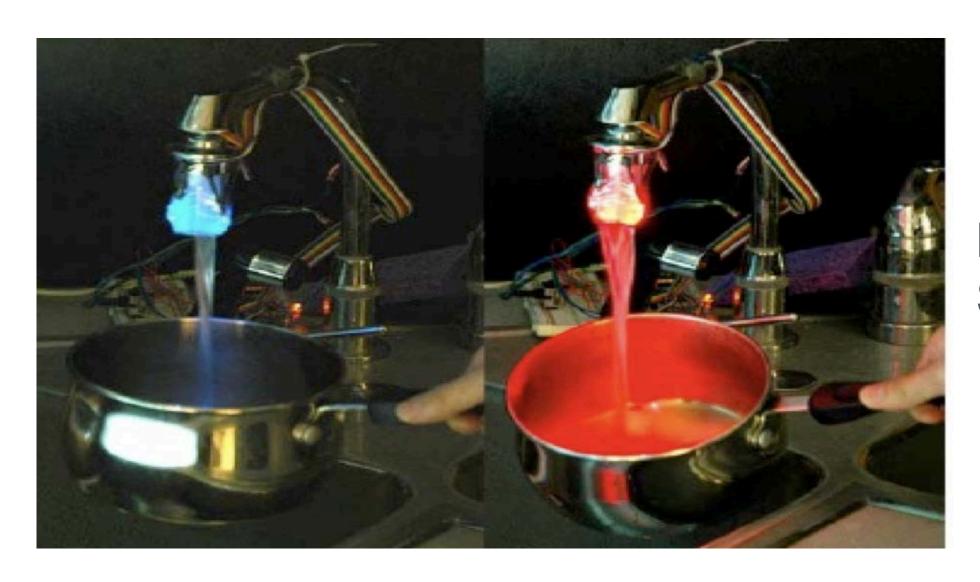


### Weather Status Lighting

Hue Lightbulb connected to a weather report @aaronpk 2014

### Make the invisible visible

#### Ambient Awareness and Synesthesia



Heat Sink Vuforia and ThingWorx display from PTC





15 cells 45% Operational 2 faults



# IV. Technology should amplify the best of technology and the best of humanity.

- 1. Machines shouldn't act like humans
- 2. Humans shouldn't act like machines

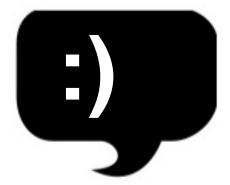


When automation goes right

3Scan: 1500 times faster than humans

## V. Technology can communicate, but it doesn't need to speak

#### The Roomba Robotic Vacuum Cleaner





## VI. Technology should consider social norms

#### Enhancing



Fear-inducing

Normal



Invisible

Restorative

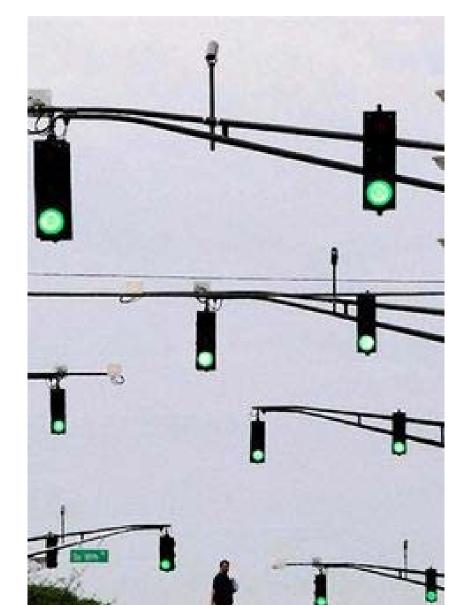


## Google Glass



# VII. The right amount of technology is the minimum amount to solve the problem

#### Street Lights

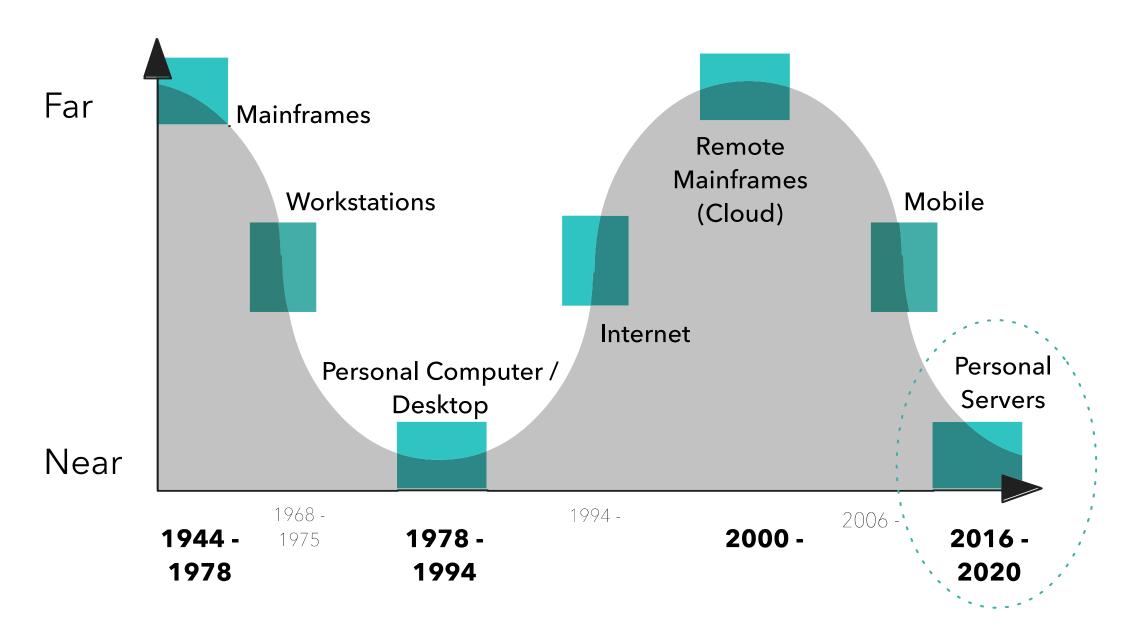


#### Toilet Occupied Sign



## VIII. Technology should make use of the near and the far

#### **Evolution of Computers Over Time**



## Technology should work even when it fails

#### Process as much as possible on the device itself.





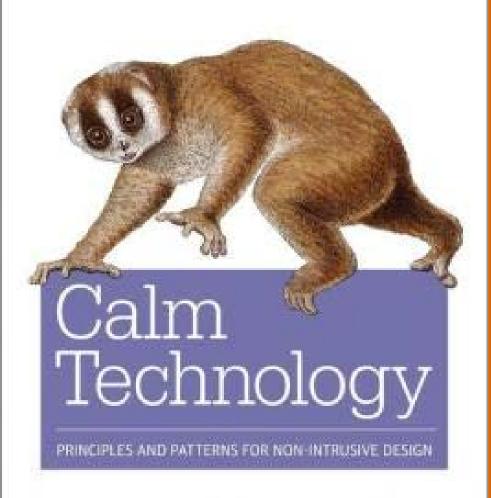


# Good design allows people to accomplish their goals in the least amount of moves

# Calm Technology allows people to accomplish the same goals with the *least amount* of *mental cost*

## A person's primary task should not be computing, but being human

# The scarce resource in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century will not be *technology*. It will be *attention*. - Mark Weiser



### Calm Technology

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# Designing with Sound PRINCIPLES AND PATTERNS FOR MIXED ENVIRONMENTS

Amber Case & Aaron Day

## Sound and User Experience

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### 8 Principles at Calmtech.com

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The world around is made up of information that competes for our attention. How much is necessary? How much is not?

We cannot interact with our everyday life in the same way we interact with a desktop computer.

**Technology shouldn't require all of our attention,** just some of it, and only when necessary. Take a teapot, for example. It tells us when it is ready, and is off or quiet the rest of the time. If technology works well, we can ignore it most of the time.

"The most profound technologies are those that **disappear**. They weave themselves into the fabric of everyday life until they are **indistinguishable from it.**"

-Marc Weiser (1952-1999) Xerox Parc, 1988

## Thank you very much!

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### Questions