Design Notebook #8

HCI Platform Chosen: Honda Insight 2019

Honda Insight is a newly designed car which is Hybrid in nature and the interface for the same is extremely intricate and well designed. The Gear Shift which earlier was represented with a stick is now constituted with buttons, and the affordances are properly signified with the letters in bold. The reverse button is put backwards just so to avoid accidental reverse issues. The hand brake is also now a simple pull-up and push-down button in exchange of the earlier stick for the same. Affordances for the defroster for the rear and the front are both properly signified with a picture signifying the front or back. Almost all affordances have pictures and certain words which help user understand what happens when the button is clicked. There is easy reversal of actions with the gear by simply selecting the other button if a wrong button is pressed, and error prevention is also enforced such as the brake needs to be pushed to change something for the gear. The designer has done a good job in helping the user know what button what through the signifiers does but there is significant change from the traditional gear stick to the button gears which may take time to getting used to for older drivers. When the Power Button is pressed, which also needs the brake to be pushed in order to change, when turned off, the gear defaults to P [Park] so there is no unknown movement of the car, hence preventing errors. Overall, the HCI of this car is really good and as a new driver who recently brought this car, it's easy for me to understand how it is to be used and hence encouraging universal usability.