Watch Design Writing Assignment

The design of sensors for our wristwatch falls into three main categories: medical, location, and security. Our medical sensors focus on body temperature, heart rate, and carbon monoxide monitors. The body temperature could be sent to your doctors in extreme medical circumstances when you yourself cannot. Additional options would allow you to recall data for the purposes of a medical history. Heart rate monitoring will alert you with deviations from your normal heart rate, and will also send information to your doctor upon request. The watch would also be equipped with a Life Alert feature. Life Alert is said to be “saving a life from a catastrophe every 11 minutes.”[[1]](#footnote-1) The addition of this sensor to our watch would aid in improving this statistic by widening the general audience of Life Alert from senior citizens to the general public. The carbon monoxide detector will alert you of high levels of carbon monoxide in your area at the current time. It also alerts fire department and emergency medical services of the high levels and dispatches them accordingly.

Our locational aspects focus on weather, time management, traffic alerts, and a pedometer feature. You would be alerted to the weather and traffic in the area of your current location and be given advice how to adjust accordingly. The time management feature would alert any waiting parties to how much time you have left to arrive at a location and if you are going to be late based on your current location and the time it will take you to get there. The pedometer feature tracks how far you go and how many steps you take continuously. This feature also has the ability to interface with vehicles to discount time spent traveling when not on foot.

Our security aspect focuses on sending reminders or alerts. The watch will send you reminders on forgetting your keys, phone, or other device that you choose to set. This will be accomplished by detecting the physical distance your watch is from the device, presuming that the device is within your general vicinity at all times. Additionally, the watch would sense whether your home has been secured, by locking or setting an alarm system, as you leave. If the device detects that it is being worn by anyone other than the registered owner, it will lockdown and alert the owner to its location. The decision was made to not immediately alert the police because there are situations where it is reasonable that another person might try the watch on. It is important to note that these features should be customizable based on each individual’s habits.

The final feature, related to the security aspect, is voice recognition that allows your stored information to be available to law enforcement during extreme circumstances. In the film *The Dark Knight*, the protagonists tap into the citizens’ cell phones and use them to map the entire city using them as microphones in order to locate the villain, as he threatens to carry out acts of terrorism.[[2]](#footnote-2) Clear guidelines would need to be established to limit the frequency and scope of its usage to extreme situations, and only by the appropriate law enforcement officials.

Our design’s built-in sensors range from the everyday convenience for its user to the general safety and well-being of both its wearer and the general public.

1. <http://www.lifealert.com> (retrieved on June 19, 2013) [↑](#footnote-ref-1)
2. *The Dark Knight*, Warner Bros. Pictures [↑](#footnote-ref-2)