



ShareSpace and Triptotem :: an innovative media sharing system

THE CHALLENGE

Group travel today is compelling to people from many walks of life. All you need is a sense of adventure, an openness to trying new things, and cameras, videorecorders, batteries, film...the list goes on. Undoubtedly, today's media products do not support the group aspects of travel: sharing media during the trip, socializing with fellow travelers, and building collective memories. After the trip, travelers must edit and organize their personal media to finally share their memories with others, usually a mercenary and time-consuming task.

THE VISION

What if there were a way to enhance group travel by sharing personal media immediately? Envision a system that supports the travel experience in an unobtrusive way, that encourages spontaneous social interaction between old friends and new acquaintances, and that builds an enduring collective memory of the trip. We propose a system of devices that facilitates media sharing in the group travel environment. The system centers around the ShareSpace mat, a flexible touchscreen display that allows travelers to exchange digital media, and the Triptotem, a memento that allows travelers to store the digital media they exchange.

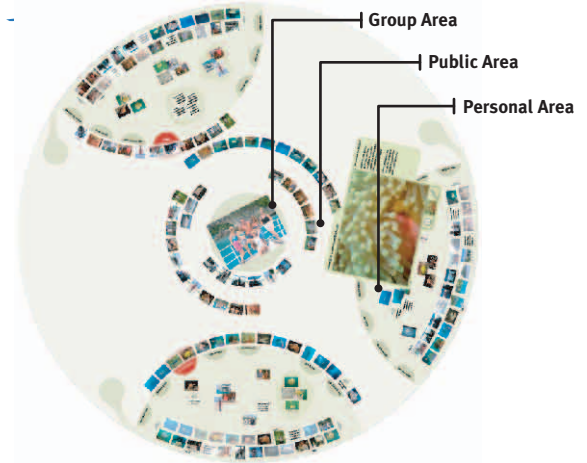
SCENARIOS OF USE

capture :: travelers capture personal media using their regular digital cameras and video recorders

store :: personal media is downloaded to the Triptotem (using the Triptotem stand) and stored for later access

share :: the stored personal media on the Triptotem can be accessed using the ShareSpace mat, and then shared among a group of people (group and public areas) as well as privately organized (personal area)

reminisce :: the personal media stored on the Triptotem can be downloaded to a number of devices including the ShareSpace mat, computer, or digital picture frame



The ShareSpace mat affords travelers with an interactive space to share media such as pictures, music, and videos in a social setting. With a new focal point for social interactions to occur, travelers are provided with the opportunity to build a collective memory of the trip, strengthen weak social ties, form new ties, and create enduring connections with fellow travelers.



The Triptotem is both a pleasing, physical keepsake chosen by its owner and a digital media storage device. When displayed in a traveler's home, it serves to remind the traveler of his or her travels, and the memories of friends and past adventures.



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