

# CALL FOR PROJECTS!

**A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY TO INNOVATE AND CREATE NEW DESIGNS FOR WEARABLE TECHNOLOGY AT INDIA'S PREMIER PROTOTYPING LAB WITH EXPERTS FROM POLITECNICO DI MILANO - RANKED FIFTH BEST DESIGN COLLEGE GLOBALLY.**

We are looking for jewellery designers, product designers, and technologists to come together to create a **contemporary atelier for wearable technology**.

Successful applicants will be able to share ideas, knowledge, skills and expertise between disciplines, and create prototypes at the country's top prototyping facility.

The workshop will take place on 8-10th October 2019 at Collab House Hyderabad, hosted by the Government of Telangana in partnership with India Design Forum 2019.

Application deadline: 30th August 2019

## THE THEME

Wearable technology - smart electronic devices that can be incorporated into clothing or worn on the body as implants or accessories - has a variety of applications, and the number of potential uses only continues to grow as the field itself develops. It appears prominently in consumer electronics - most notably with the smartwatch and activity tracker - but it is also being incorporated to make major break-throughs for navigation systems, advanced textiles, and healthcare.

This workshop will develop wearable technology products/accessories for the healthcare sector, focusing on products for individuals with brain damage and degenerative brain diseases. This demographic is often not given much consideration when discussing innovation and technology, despite the clear benefits of targeted design interventions to monitor vital data, signal a location, and communicate information.

For example, Alzheimer's disease - one of the most diffuse forms of dementia - is a degenerative brain process that causes a progressive decline in cognitive and intellectual functions, associated with a deterioration of personality and relational life. The latest estimate of World Alzheimer Report (2017) reports that today more than 35 million people are suffering from Alzheimer Dementia and that this number will increase to double in 2030 and even triple in 2050 to 115 million.

This workshop seeks to create wearable tech accessories for those suffering with brain damage, dementia, or degenerative brain diseases both living at home or at care centers. The aim of the workshop is to design products that support and promote the independence of these individuals, through the provision of continuous remote monitoring.

Specifically, these accessories should: contain a technological component; use replaceable or rechargeable power supply; be upgradeable; and be able to monitor vital data in order to detect agitation or any other behavioural change - following which it should be able to signal the position and send (if necessary) an alarm to a smartphone.

It is also essential that the product is aesthetically pleasing to ensure the acceptance of technical wearable monitoring devices by the user.

## THE WORKSHOP

Participants should submit, individually or in a team (max three people), a project for a wearable tech accessory or a set of them. Authors of the selected projects will be invited to participate to Wearable Tech Workshop hosted by the Government of Telangana as part of Hyderabad Design Week 2019. They will have the opportunity to work alongside leaders in wearable technology and prototype their designs at Collab House - Hyderabad. The selected projects will be prototyped during this three-day workshop, with the support of a team of researchers and professionals. N.B. If the selected project is a collection of wearable tech accessories, only one object of the collection will be prototyped.

## PARTICIPANTS

The call is open to students (notably bachelor or masters courses in design, engineering, jewellery, and informatics) and young professionals (graduated not before 2018).

## APPLICATIONS

To be considered for the workshop, applicants should submit:

- Short abstract (max 1000 characters in pdf format)
- Two boards A2 size vertical (pdf format)
- Optional: a short movie (max 2 min; in mpeg / mpeg4 / mov format)
- Please note that the abstract and boards should report names and contacts of the designers.

## SELECTION CRITERIA

Innovative features, feasibility (in terms of use and production), and product aesthetics will be taken into consideration. A jury composed of India Design Forum, Politecnico di Milano and Noon Care will select the projects (maximum 5).

All deliverables should be sent to:  
atelier.labrint@gmail.com

Application deadline: 30th August 2019



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MILANO 1863

SCUOLA DEL DESIGN  
DIPARTIMENTO DI DESIGN

Laboratorio di innovazione  
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\* For European participants travel and accommodation expenses will be covered by the organization.