

Paper presentation

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ISARC2004 Korea



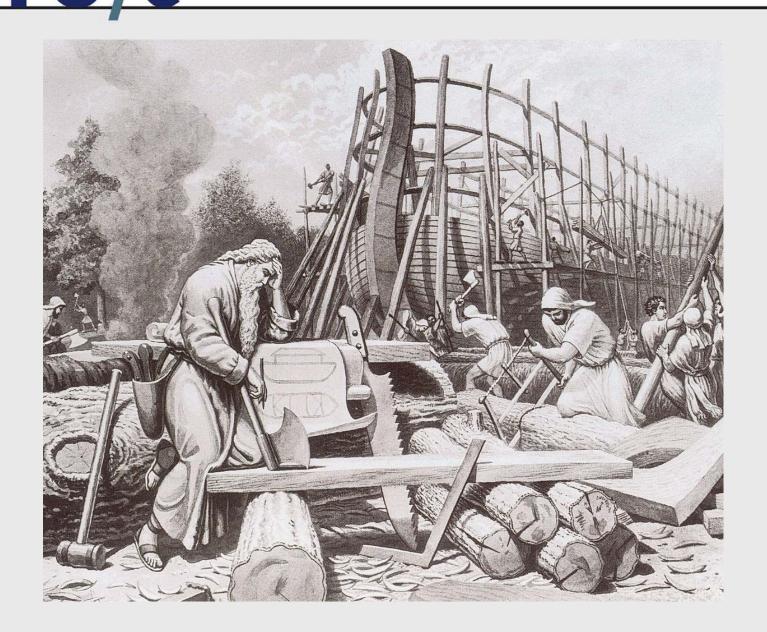
Experiences with a course on collaborative design on distance.



Outline presentation:

- Design.
- Collaborative design.
- Collaborative design on distance.
- Competences to design in a team and on distance.
- Course "Collaborative Design TU/e".
- Evaluation.
- Conclusions.

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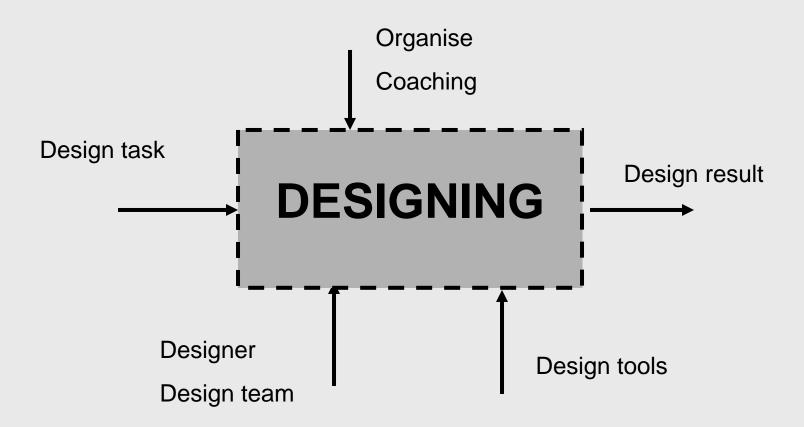
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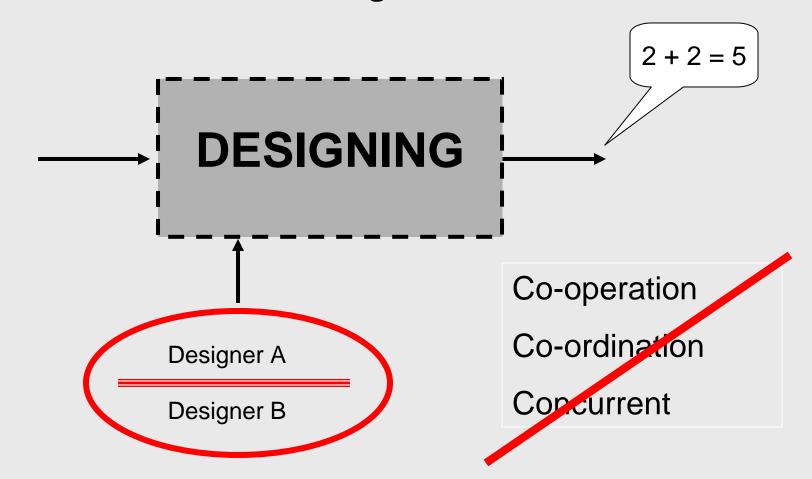
Design process and session





Collaborative Design

Col lab ore = to work along site one another











Competences to design on distance in a team:

- To play an organisational role in a team.
- To play a professional role in a team.
- To work together in a design team.
- To be able to use, assess, and select relevant ICT tools.
- To reflect on the work of the team and its own contribution.



Course "Collaborative Design" (1)

Objectives:

To gain insight in the problem domain of collaborative design and to know the possibilities of methods and techniques to approach this problem domain.

Educational approach:

Experiential learning: this means that students act as active learners while the teacher's coaching role is focused on observing students activities.

Three components: activity, reflection and then knowledge.



Course "Collaborative Design" (2)

Thematic lectures:

- Organisational and social aspects of designing in teams.
- 2. The use of ICT tools for collaborative design.
- 3. Organisation and managing the design process.
- 4. Collaborative design in practice.



Course "Collaborative Design" (3)

Tasks:

- 1. Individual literature review and presentation.
- 2. Designing in collocated team.
- 3. Designing in distributed team.
- 4. Designing in a distributed organisation.
- 5. Individual final reflection report.

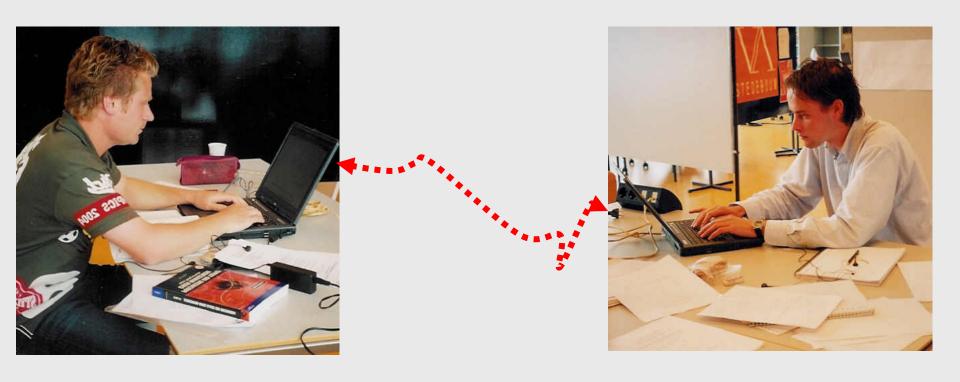


Collocated design team





Distributed team

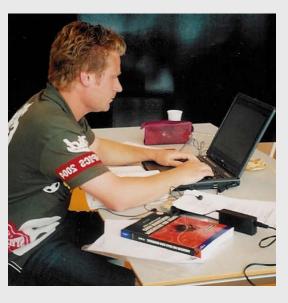


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Distributed organisation





ICT tools

- E-mail
- Instant messaging tools
- Net meeting
- Architectural Studio
- Automanager Meridian





Evaluation results (1)

- Most students were aware of having experienced different organisation of design processes as well as using different organisational instruments and ICT tools to be effective.
- •Students were effectively aware of the roles they played in the team; this concerned both the role as a team member and the professional role.
- •It appeared difficult to be aware of, or even to play, both types of role at the same time.



Evaluation results (2)

- Organisation of the collaboration is crucial for the success of the process.
- Reflection is the most difficult part of the experiential learning format that was applied in this course. A reason might be that students don't have much experiences with this instrument.
- Teamwork on the assignments was largely untutored. 60% of the students agree with this approach and have no need for intense guidance during the design tasks.



Evaluation results (3)

- Students appreciate the combination of social and technical aspects of the course:
 - 50% of the students appreciate the balance between technical and social/organisational issues in the course. 25% find the course too social, 25% find it too technical.
 - Around 50% of the students find the combination of these issues the most interesting aspect of the course.



Conclusion

- Students are traditionally trained in cooperation and coordination. To switch to collaboration is difficult and need much explanation.
- Experiential learning is a good way for the students to learn the need for, e.g., organising effective collaboration processes.





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