TU/e
INNOVATION SPACE

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Challenge name	Warm Technology for People with Dementia										
Challenge owner	Expertise Centre Dementia & Technology										
+ + + + + +	© Company X Research © Student team										
+ + + + + +	Maarten Houben & Ans Tummers – Heemels + + +										
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Brief summary	People with dementia are often given tools that are										
+ + + + + + +	- supposed to enhance their lives, but those are often $+$										
+ + + + + + +	pretty 'cold' and static. The Warm Technology Challenge invites students to contribute innovative										
+ + + + + + +	and ground-breaking examples of warm-technology+										
+ + + + + +	that can have a meaningful impact on the lives of people with dementia and their loved ones.										

About the challenge owner

The way we (as a society) deal with dementia is changing. Someone with dementia is much more than just their pathology 'dementia'. Therefore, in the developing and implementing technology, you must also keep an eye on the factors that are important for the well-being of every person: dignity, the freedom to make your own choices, feeling comfortable and safe. We do this by the putting the wishes, needs, and input of people with dementia and their relatives first in the development of technology and services. Too often designers think for them, instead of with them. By doing so, we at the Expertise Centre Dementia & the technology (ECDT) develop technology that is user_friendly and non-the stigmatizing. We call this Warm Technology, and it builds on the emancipation slogan: 'Nothing about us, without'us', a source of inspiration.

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+	+	+	Challenge description + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +	+	+	+											
+	+	+	Incidences of age-related diseases such as dementia are increasing. The societal views on dementia have drastically changed from addressing people with														
+	+	+	dementia by their symptoms to people with unique life experiences. Attention is	+	+	+											
+	+	+	shifting to living well with dementia, and how non-pharmacological + + + +	+	+	+											
+	+	+	interventions such as technology can play an important role to support this.	+	+	+											
+	+	+	without full consideration of the target user group, or a thorough understanding														
+	+	+	of the context in which it is to operate. Furthermore, technology is often perceived as impersonal, complicated, and cold.														
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			The warm technology approach to technology design is inclusive, person-														
+	+	+	centered, and focused on the abilities and aspirations of people living with the dementia and their caretakers, rather than merely compensating for the loss of	+	+	+											
+	+	+	motor function or cognitive ability. Warm technology builds on this perspective	+	+	+											
+	+	+	by contributing to the well-being of every person through reinforcing dignity, +	+	+	+											
+	+	+	supporting agency, and providing feelings of comfort and safety. As such, Warm-	+	+	+											
+	+	+	care and safe care: providing safety and health versus social interactions,	+	+	+											
+	+	+	freedom and empowerment. + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + + +	+	+	+											
+	+	+	Technology is still too often developed for elderly, instead of with elderly. And too	+	+	+											
+	+	+	often the technology, such as interactive screens and sensors, are the focus + +	+	+	+											
+	+	+	instead of the needs, wishes and possibilities of the target group. That should be														
+	+	+	well-being of people with dementia. In this concept technology is a mean and														
+	+	+	not a goal. Using warm technology can help people with dementia to continue														
+	+	+	embracing life, stay attached to the familiar environment and stay in touch with														
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