

Transcript

[first scenario – hothead]

D: So, what are your first thoughts about the idea?

W: I guess it's a nice idea, adds a little more so when you're talking on the phone or on skype, instead of just hearing their voice, you've got that little bit of interaction... yeah which seems like a good idea... I mean if it were available I'd definitely go for it

D; So specifically, what do you like about the concept?

W: I like the fact that if the partner on the other end does something, the effect can be seen, you feel the effect – instead of just hearing or seeing something, you can actually feel it...

D: Is there anything about it which you find dislikeable?

W: Just the fact that you're kind of feeling a lifeless hand... just got to get over that I suppose...

[prototype]

W: Does the heat spread at all, cause at the moment it's [only on the palm]

D: It doesn't at the moment...is that something you think...

W: Yeah... sort of an even warmth, so it's not just on the palm...

W: I think like resting on top is more comfortable... I guess when its like a plaster hand, it's easier to rest on top then it is to grip it...

[prefer resting on top]

D: So having used the prototype, have your thoughts changed at all?

W: I guess sort of looking at it, you can visually see it's a plaster hand but no I don't think so, the scenario made it out to be pretty much as it is

D: So we talked a bit about spreading the heat, is there anything else which you'd change about it...

W: Maybe make it a bit softer, the fact that's its hard makes it seem even more lifeless

D: Is that a comfort or how it feels

W: Just to feel more like it's a real hand really

D: So in the scenario we described the process of casting your partners hands... do you think your opinion would change if you just ordered a couple from amazon and you just got a pair of hands that you didn't cast, almost like manikins hands... do you think that would make a difference?

W: Yeah definitely, because just like a mass produced hand has got nothing personal about it, there's nothing special for you or the person you're with, it's just something everyone else has, it's not unique

D: Do you think it would be even creepier if it was a mass produced one?

W: Yeah definitely

[second scenario – hotmit]

D: So what are your thoughts about this one?

W: I think it's good because the other one was trying to be a hand which it clearly wasn't but this acknowledges that its not a hand, its just an imprint so in a way it's not like trying to trick you into thinking about it... other than that, same as the other one I guess... it doesn't look as nice but it doesn't really matter what it looks like

D: Do you think you'd be more comfortable with that one?

W: I think so, yeah, cause you're not clutching at a fake hand, it's just sort of putting your hand in an imprint

D: Was there anything about this one which you didn't like?

W: I guess just sort of aesthetically, instead of having a sculpture, it's just a flat imprint but I don't really think it matters so much what it looks like

D: What do you think about the painting, the decorating... does that add something?

W: Yeah, definitely cause you can decorate it so it reminds you of them or something that's intrinsically them as opposed to a blank piece of stone...

[prototype]

[spread the heat across it]

D: Again, roughly what you were expecting

W: yeah, yeah, yeah... I thought it was more comfortable than the other one in that instead of holding, grabbing onto something, you're resting your hand in...

D: Is there anything about this one you'd change?

W: other than the things I said last time...

D: Again, we presented this is casting it together, if we changed that and made it a standardised print would that change your thoughts again?

W: a little bit but less so than the previous one [hothands] because its not like an imprint of their hand anyway, its just somewhere to put your hand and feel the warmth anyway instead of holding onto a model of their hand...id rather have made the cast though... not having that would be less of an issue than on the last one though

[third scenario – yourglove]

D: So what do you think to this one? It's obviously quite different to the other two...

W: I don't like it as much... I think that it's a robot hand just makes it seem a little bit... I don't think id go with the fact that it's a model... I now the feeling is there and more sort of making it happen but I just kind of would know im just holding a robot hand at the end of the day

D: Was there anything about the idea that you liked?

W: I liked the fact of the personalisation, that something of theirs, one of their gloves, one of their bracelets makes it seem a lot more to do with them rather than just a plaster cast... that doesn't balance against it being a robot hand though

D: What about dislikes for this one?

W: Yeah, to go with that, I don't think it would act as a replacement as such, more of just a gimmick really

[prototype]

[prefer palm to palm]

W: From the front, it didn't feel that smooth but from the back it was better... [palm to palm] that's better again, than the interlacing

D: So having used this one, have your thoughts changed at all?

W: I guess it seems a bit easier to get over than I thought it would be... but the noise I didn't think of before, it's a bit kind of off-putting... the size, wrist size would be definitely good... so you don't have to more around the whole arm

D: What are the things that you think you would change about it?

W: If could incorporate the heat thing with it, that would be good, sort of mixing the two... I liked that from the previous ones

D: What did you think about the feel and movement of the hand?

W: ummm... same as the other one, softer would feel more hand like would be easier to get over... the movement was quite smooth, not interlacing, it's going to be really hard to get it to feel right when interlacing, but otherwise, it felt nice and smooth when gripping it from behind...

D: We talked earlier about how you liked the personalisation of this one... again if we took that away, would your thoughts change?

W: Yeah I think id be a lot less likely to get it if it wasn't for that

[wrap up]

D: Do you think any of these systems might be ones you'd be tempted to use

W: Glove: yeah, if it was smaller and more hand like... casted hand: a little bit yeah, I thought it was a little awkward to hold; imprint: most likely to go for the imprint because it's not a fake model of something, you've got to imagine...

D: Which was your favourite?

W: imprint, glove, casted

D: [activation method]

W: I think the second one would with both of you doing it because the hand just comes out of no where and grips at you would be a bit weird... and similarly the warming up and your hand's not there, it wouldn't work...

D: this study is all about hand holding... is that something you actually miss while you're apart?

W: yeah definitely, its just the little physical thing and something like this wouldn't replace it but help bridge the gap...

D: are there other things that you miss more?

W: I don't think there's anything more than that I miss... other than talking, just the small physical signs of affection...