

# SE 705 Human Computer Interaction

**2008-2009 Spring  
METU**

## **Project Proposal**

### **Description**

The aim of the project is to design a conceptual mail box (i-mailbox, stands for intelligent mailbox) which eases our daily lives. It has high technological features such as scanning the incoming mail, rejecting it if it is not sent to the correct address, accepting and instantly sending it to your e-mail, finger scan protection, warnings for forgotten mails.

### **Motivation**

Hard mails are still one of common means of communication despite the fact that on-line or e-communication surges day by day. Project idea is simple, why not to make use of the high technology and take the hard mail features a bit ahead. I-mailbox is designed to ease and enhance the quality of our lives. With i-mailbox each family member does not have to carry a separate key for the mailbox, they just use their natural unique keys, finger prints. I-mailbox scans mails and send them to specified one e-mail accounts so that one is immediately informed about mails. Also it can reject the mails if they are not addressed to you. It can warn you to take the mail if you forgot to do.

### **Potential Users**

Users are all family members from 7 to 77 years old. Of course configuring the i-mailbox for ones needs requires fulfilling the instructions carefully which can be done by a legible adult. No need to be a technology freak. If scan and e-mail feature is to be used, an Internet connection is needed. This is not a constraint for today's world. With the advancements in communication today, cities are on-line with broadband wireless technology.

### **Methodology**

First of all a paper prototype with a simple design will be constructed with initially intended features. People with and without technological background will be asked to provide various feedback. Based on the feedback design will be enhanced. No working system will be produced. Probably a 3D or 2D models will be provided as a final deliverable. Feedbacks will provide insight to the design however design will aim a few simple but useful functions that enhance our daily life with usable interface. Technology is to make innovative changes not to turn our old mailboxes into tech-gadgets that are full of functions with delicate design.