

YAMANAKA LAB. (University Professor)

Prototyping & Design



Design-Led X Platform
Endowed Research Unit for Non-ferrous Metals Resource Recovery Engineering (JX Metals Endowed Unit)

Office of University Professor
Graduate School of Interdisciplinary Information Studies

Design Engineering

<http://www.design-lab.iis.u-tokyo.ac.jp>

Ambient / Ambient Porter
Collaboration: NICHICON CORPORATION (2024)



Designing Frontier Technology

Prototypes are becoming increasingly more important as the medium that bridges between advanced technology and society.

A prototype is not merely an experimental machine. It is a device created to present user experience in advance, to share the benefits of technology with many others. Its roles are not limited to the internal sharing of values within the team, but goes beyond: it is a medium used to voice the significance of research and development to the society; an inspiration to rouse future markets; and a tool to acquire budgets for development. A prototype is the physical content that connects the people to technology that are yet to be socialized.

Yamanaka laboratory, a base for studying design and prototyping was built inside the University of Tokyo in 2013. Its objective is to search for the role of prototypes within deeper fundamental research, and to establish a way for a leading support for the socialization of advanced technology.

In addition, we aim fostering a new type of design engineers who can contribute to the merging intersection between technology and aesthetic sensibilities.