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Rethink! Prototyping

Transdisciplinary Concepts of Prototyping

- Explores three different topics: hybrid, blended and beyond prototyping
- Merges different concepts of prototyping
- Examines both specific prototypes and different methodological approaches

In this book, the authors describe the findings derived from interaction and cooperation between scientific actors employing diverse practices. They reflect on distinct prototyping concepts and examine the transformation of development culture in their fusion to hybrid approaches and solutions. The products of tomorrow are going to be multifunctional, interactive systems – and already are to some degree today. Collaboration across multiple disciplines is the only way to grasp their complexity in design concepts. This underscores the importance of reconsidering the prototyping process for the development of these systems, particularly in transdisciplinary research teams. "Rethinking Prototyping – new hybrid concepts for prototyping" was a transdisciplinary project that took up this challenge. The aim of this programmatic rethinking was to come up with a general concept of prototyping by combining innovative prototyping concepts, which had been researched and developed in three sub-projects: "Hybrid Prototyping" developed new prototyping approaches to validate and evaluate holistically developed systems with their services, infrastructure and business models. "Blended Prototyping" addressed a new technique whereby prototypes for user interfaces of software applications can be generated from hand drawings and immediately be tested. "Beyond Prototyping" examined the issue of the prototype in connection with algorithmically generated design for producing tailor-made products.

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