nimio: an ambient awareness device

overview
reflect activity level
mimic channel of peripheral cues
users are both input and output
erase disconnect between monitoring and display
  toys invite exploration, merge the input/output modalities
outward display of group cohesiveness
occupies the workplace alongside the people
embodies the technological "face" of calit2
group resonance

interaction design
4 shapes: pyramid, cube, dome, cylinder
3 colors: red, green, blue
define 2 "family groups"

sound in the vicinity of a "red": red lights of all other nimios pulse in rhythm to the sound
fidgeting the red cube: constant pulsing of red light in all other "reds" or "cubes"
actively shaking red cube: all other "reds" and "cubes" lit solid red for 5 seconds

site study
(toys not wed to specific location
users can identify themselves with any toy
users constitute and negotiate site configuration
representing workplace as social space
individual activity becomes group flow

physical design
touchable translucent white silicone
geometric solids with 5in sides
microphone
4 ultrabright LEDs
wireless IEEE 802.15.4 compliant 2400MHz RF band
MEMS 2-axis ±2g accelerometer
moteiv telos sky "berkeley" motes
2 AA batteries, replaced monthly

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collaboration & interruption
collaborating around artifacts
artifacts & ornaments