Lover’s Cups
Drinking as a New Communication Channel

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Drinking has a long history.

What is drinking?

• Drinking helps developing relationships
• Getting relaxed
• Be comfortable
• Drinking is a social behavior.
• Sharing a drink

Drinking is a way to rejuvenate oneself.
Remote Communication

- **Text**
  - Mail, E-mail, Instant Messaging (MSN), On-line Chatting

- **Audio**
  - Telephone

- **Visual / eye-contact**
  - Webcam, teleconference

- **Implicit (behavioral) communication**
Chatting

Chatting with a cappuccino
Lover’s Cups

• Awareness / Connectedness within a context

• Implicit communication between you and your love one

• Rejuvenating with a drink and a virtual kiss

• A virtual toast for sharing the drinking moment
Demonstration

play movie
Design philosophy

• Gestures
  – how people use cups and glasses

• Virtual toast
  – for sharing the moment by feeling each other

• Connectedness
  – Illusion of getting in touch with someone

• Virtual kiss
  – an implicit and reactive way of communication
Implementation

- Accelerometer
- Toasting / Shaking Hands
- Connectivity
  - Tmote RF module
- Love LED
  - Attentive illumination
- Touch sensor
- Temperature sensor
- Capacitive Sip sensor
- Virtual Kiss
- Toasting / Shaking Hands
Party Cups

• 4 Lover’s Cups are used in a party.

• Whenever we toast, we are a pair.

• I’ll be aware of you when you take a sip.
Discussions

• The moment of drinking + the moment of missing someone.

• Drink with your love one anywhere.

• Drinking / Communication culture is different.
  – Western vs Eastern
What next?

- Loving me loving you series
  - the right moment to share
- Medical / Patient care applications
- Family / Friendship
  - Peer-to-peer sensing and actuating mechanism