Many hiking emergencies occur when hikers are unaware, unalert, or uneducated with their surroundings. Hikers can get lost or seriously injured when they are making bad decisions.

**Beacon** is a wearable concept that keeps hikers aware of their surroundings and reminds them to make mindful decisions while out in the wilderness. An elaborate notification system keeps the user informed while material technology allows the wearable to aid search and rescue efforts if disaster does strike.

### FEATURES

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<th>Notification System</th>
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Large icons represent Beacon’s notification system that pushes alerts to the band based on GPS location. These notifications can range from weather alerts to time measures and serve to keep the user aware and making smart decisions.

Syncing your band to the kiosks on the trail will load the device with preset notifications that are tailored to position, time of day, and current conditions. A network of these kiosks will help the hiking community stay alert and safe no matter where they are.

In case of emergencies the built-in locator beacon within the device can be activated to alert search and rescue teams. In addition, the Beacon wearable is constructed of electronic signal reflective material that aids SAR teams in pinging the user’s precise location.

### PROCESS

**Research**

Our research included thorough background research, an analysis on competitors, survey results, and an interview with a subject matter expert.

**Ideation**

Ideation took place during many meetings where we talked about product scope and determined a list of features.

**Design**

Design started with sketches of various ideas. After narrowing down, we sketched the physical wearable as well as different screens.

**Prototype**

Low-fidelity prototypes were made with cheap bands and tape. Interactive prototypes were visually designed and linked together with a mobile app.

**Evaluation**

Our interactive prototype was built based on tasks that we tested with various participants. Their feedback allowed us to iterate on our designs.

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aboutbeacon.wordpress.com