Thoughtless Acts

Theory and Practice of Tangible User Interface
School of Information, UC Berkeley
Kilian Moser, 10/31/2011

What's happening?

Someone obviously wanted to get rid of his paper cup. The nearby waste container seemed like the appropriate place.
However, since the waste container was locked, the person had to put the cup on top of the container.

Possible design solution:

Public waste containers should have an opening that allows to put a certain, limited amount of waste into a separate section of the otherwise miss-used waste container.

What's happening?

My flat mate usually washes his wet suite after surfing to get rid of the salt water. Since it won't dry quickly and remains soaked full with water for quite some time, hanging it in the shower was his "drying location of choice".

Possible design solution:

A wet suite dryer, consisting of a wet suite shower, a proper set of hangers assuring that the wet suite is all stretched out and a container collection dripping water.

The perfect place to dry

What's happening?

This is the front of the Palo Alto Apple Store. Post-its with condolence messages were stuck to the store's window.

Possible design solution:

1) A digital store front projection were people could place virtual post-its.
2) A more meaningful allocation of post-its, such as: http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=e-Kd6gAXmLs

The perfect place to dry

What's happening?
There are two explanations:
First, there's no mailbox close by.
Second, the placement of the advertisement flyers should catch the owners attention.

Possible design solution:
A mailbox that features two different sections. A transparent one for advertisement and a obfuscated section of "normal" mail.