

# Participant Information Sheet

## Designing the Internet of Things: Supporting Human Values



### Principal Investigator

Peter Worthy

### Supervisors

Dr Stephen Viller & Dr Ben Matthews

### School/Department

School of Information Technology & Electrical Engineering

### Background to this project

Internet of Things (“IoT”) technology is becoming more pervasive. There are increasingly more connected devices in our environment, collecting and sharing data about us. People are expressing sociotechnical or ‘human concerns’ about issues such as privacy, security and trust. People’s engagement with the IoT will depend upon how effectively these as yet unaddressed concerns are managed.

Identifying and then understanding these human concerns allows us to determine whether specific design patterns for IoT technology may help to address those concerns.

### Aims of the project

The primary aims of this study are to:

- Identify the types of concerns that people experience when living with an IoT object in their home and how those concerns are expressed through their behaviour.
- Investigate whether specific features added to an IoT device will help alleviate people’s concerns.
- Investigate people’s thoughts about adding IoT technology to everyday objects.

The supplementary aims of this study are to:

- Investigate the suitability of the Particle Photon™ (<http://particle.io>) as an IoT device.
- Investigate technological issues associated with the deployment of IoT technology in different environments.

### What you have to do

If you agree to be in this study, you will be interviewed for the purposes of:

1. Exploring your current knowledge, understanding and experience with IoT technology; and,
2. Considering scenarios about IoT technology and collecting your views and thoughts about those scenarios.

The interviews will be audio recorded. These recordings will be transcribed and analysed for themes. Both transcriptions and the analysis will be used for research purposes and may be published in academic journals or as part of academic conferences as part of a research paper.

### Data we are collecting

Please note that all data collected will be stored on a password protected ITEE server.

The sort of data that I will be collecting include:

1. Your views and thoughts on living with technology that collects and shares information from its surroundings.
2. Your thought about everyday objects that you have in your surroundings.

### Confidentiality

All information collected from you will be de-identified and/or allocated a code to enable the alignment of all data collected. Information that is obtained will be strictly confidential and will only be accessed by the researchers.

Some information may be shared with other members of the Interaction Design Research Group at the University of Queensland for the purposes of assisting with analysis and writing research papers. The information that is shared will be limited to data that has been de-identified and has the lowest chance of identifying you.

### Risk to you

There are no risks to you participating in this study beyond those that exist in normal daily life.

### Participation is voluntary

There are no direct benefits to you in participating in the study.

Your participation is entirely voluntary. You don’t have to be in this study if you don’t want to, and you can ask to stop at any time. There are no negative consequences should you wish to stop and data collection will cease immediately.

### Ethics clearance

This study adheres to the Guidelines of the ethical review process of The University of Queensland and the National Statement on Ethical Conduct in Human Research.

You are welcome to discuss your participation in this study with the investigator:

Peter Worthy (Phone 0400 892 095)

or either of his supervisors:

Dr Stephen Viller (Phone 07 3365 1190)

Dr Ben Matthews (Phone 07 3365 2185)

**If you would like to speak to an officer of the University not involved in the study, you may contact the Ethics Coordinator on 3365 3924.**

### Need to know more?

For further information about this study or if you wish to stop your involvement in the study please contact the Investigator:

Peter Worthy  
PhD Student  
School of ITEE  
University of Queensland  
Phone 0400 892 095  
Email [p.worthy@uq.edu.au](mailto:p.worthy@uq.edu.au)