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**Philosophy of Human Technology Relations in Design: The Practical Turn.**

_Wouter Eggink & Steven Dorrestijn_

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Philosophy of Technology has produced a substantive amount of theories and reflections about the impacts of technology and innovations on our daily lives and social behaviours. Combining this conceptual toolkit with design, with its capability of actually changing things, promises a powerful approach to developing critical future-making practices. This implies that philosophy of technology moves beyond thinking and discussing concepts and starts to engage more closely with practical probing. In philosophy of technology there has been an empirical turn, towards the study of concrete technologies in society. Our proposal is to further develop this, with a change from ‘study and description’ to ‘interventions by design’, into the actual redesign of technologies and correlated ways of doing. Therefore, in analogy with the empirical turn before, we present this collaboration with design as the ‘Practical Turn in Philosophy of Technology’.

In this paper we explore this in a design case study of the digital camera. From a mediation theory analysis and product impact analysis of the evolution of camera technology, it showed that the attention of the photographer shifted from the subject of the photo to the preview of the picture at the camera itself. The project then showed that the former ways of doing, and the values which appeared to be affected, could still be saved or retrieved by a thoughtful redesign. This then, is a case for the feasibility of the idea of “alternative technology” which philosophy could never make so tangible without the practical turn of collaboration with design.

_Wouter Eggink_

Dr. Ir. Wouter Eggink is a design professional and assistant professor at the University of Twente, especially interested in the relationships between design, technology, and society. He is coordinator of the master programme Human Technology Relations. In his research Eggink approaches human-technology relations both from a Design History perspective and through Design for the Future, supported by Scenario Planning. He has also published extensively on Design Education, and on enhancing Creativity in design through the well-considered application of Visual Essays.

_Steven Dorrestijn_

Dr. Steven Dorrestijn is a philosopher of technology and senior lecturer/researcher in ethics and technology at Saxion University of Applied Sciences, the Netherlands. In his research Dorrestijn contrived a model of effects of technologies on people, and also focused on people’s practices when accommodating new technologies in their lives. This perspective on the role of technologies in people’s everyday practices is a much-needed complement to both the theoretical approaches in ethics and the practical approaches in user-centred design.