Technology Commercialization Opportunity

EdgeTable: multi-person multi-location tele-collaboration system.
Jon Schull, RIT Innovation Center and MAGIC Studios
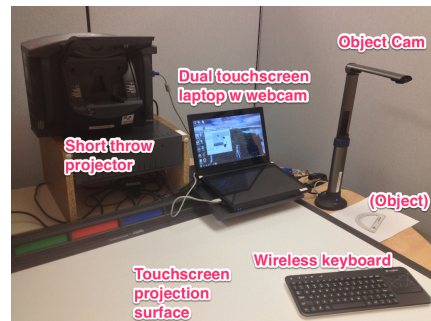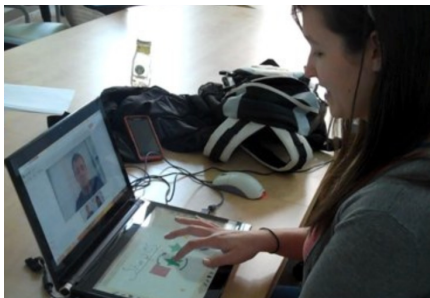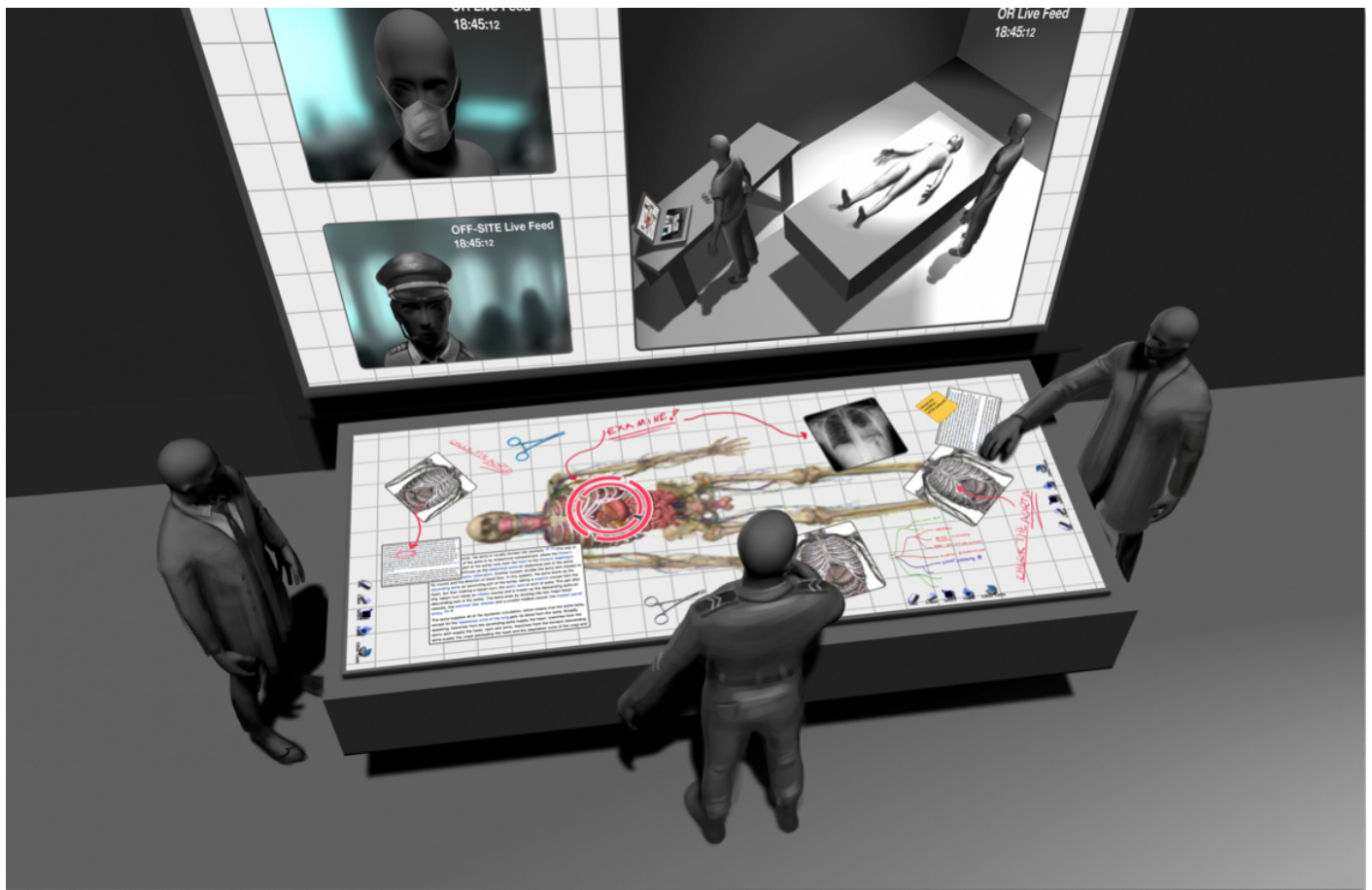**Jon.Schull@RIT.edu**

Technology Description

The EdgeTable is a real time tele-collaboration system that combines a video wall with an interactive touch table. With this system, several teams can work in several locations as if they were working together in a single location. This augments face to face video conferencing with

- a shared multi-user whiteboard, the ability to import and manipulate virtual objects
- the ability to save and resume past sessions,
- a system for making annotated and signed shared agreement videos drives groups to consensus and accountability

Beyond typical whiteboard functionality, the system allows users to pull images on to the table from a built-in library, from a web-browser, or from an "object cam", and to move, resize and rotate them in real time. It also provides canvases of unlimited size, so sub-teams can work in separate regions while monitoring each other. A convenient min-map facilitates navigation. A unique "Shared Agreement" tool lets one user make a summary video with voice commentary, annotations, and gestures, and to then collect signatures of assent from all participants and attach them to an industry standard video format recording. Table-based and video-based Interactions are transmitted to all connected tables in real time, via cloud-based server software. Alternatively, for higher security, one table can act as a host server for all connected tables.

EdgeTable was initially developed as a research prototype by a multi-disciplinary collaborative innovation team led by Jon Schull and the MITRE Corporation. Because MITRE's government clients are now eager to purchase a supported commercial product, MITRE has assigned IP rights to RIT. The base system, now in beta, runs well on a variety of windows systems including an inexpensive dual screen windows multi-touch laptop from Acer, and is plug-compatible with larger screen displays and input devices. As illustrated below, we support a variety of configurations and use cases.

Technology Readiness

(Animated and annotated at http://prezi.com/yfk9i3plz3or/edgetable /)

EdgeTable is presently at this level of readiness:

Idea	Concept	Prototype	Alpha Version	**Beta Version**	Released

RIT developers will work with licensee's to finalize development, to move EdgeTable to a "released" version, and to develop specialized application enhancements.

Applications

EdgeTable is useful whenever distributed groups wish to collaborate and consult at a shared workspace or whiteboard, or while discussing or annotating maps, imagery, X-rays, medical charts, documents, etc. Security personnel can use it to consult maps while viewing live video. Physicians or surveillance analysts can use it to point and draw on imagery while developing diagnoses and action plans. Designers can use it to discuss and annotate snapshots of webpages in real time. Planners can use it to develop and record plans on a horizontal whiteboard that allows distributed teams to draw in the same virtual space at the same time. Managers can use it to ensure that distributed teams are all accountable for being on the "same page." Educators can use it to add social connectivity and (e.g.,) laboratory collaboration to online learning experiences.

Opportunity

RIT's Intellectual Property Management Office (IPMO) is interested in working with those parties who are qualified and interested in the commercialization of EdgeTable Software intellectual property. Arrangement types include licensing the application to existing organizations or new organizations that have expertise in the field or related fields.

RIT's involvement in this research and academic field can range from exploration and development of new functionality, research on new applications, training and consulting with end-users, and as a source of leads for customers.

Contact
Those interested in learning more about this opportunity should contact:
Mr. William E. Bond, Director of Intellectual Property Management at RIT (585) 475-2986
bill.bond@rit.edu

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