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Dissolving Realities: An Endless Domestic Landscape

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Dissolving Realities

An Endless Domestic Landscape

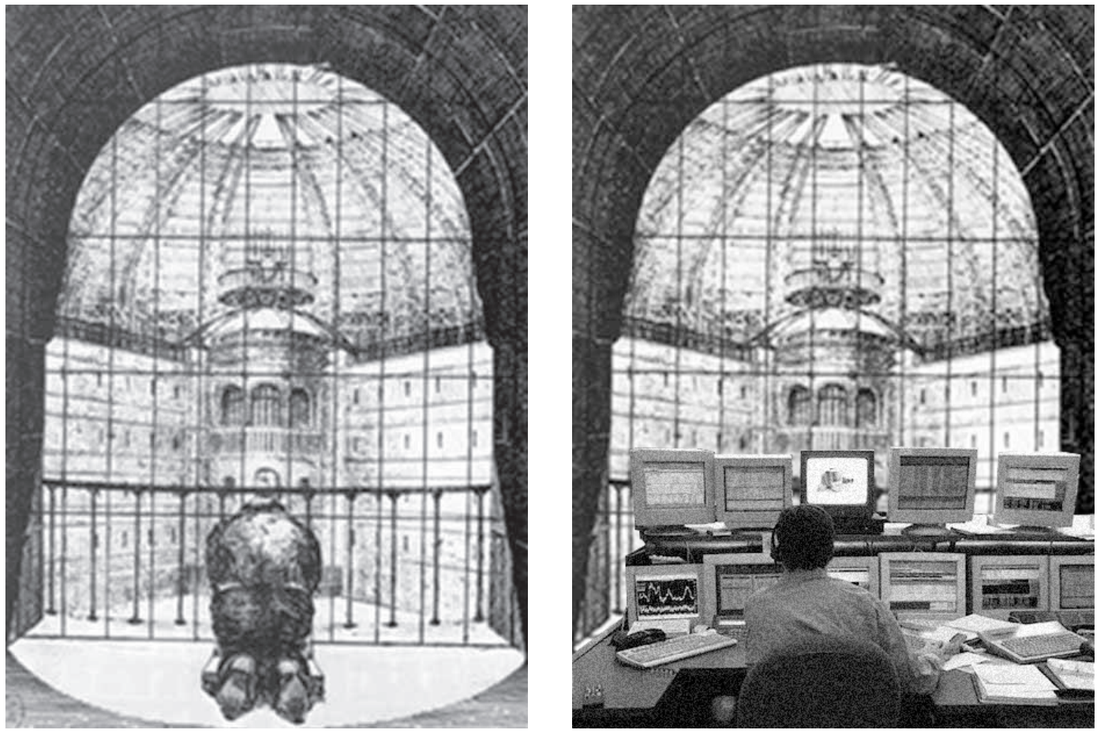
Hanzhang Lai & Phang Lim

Contention

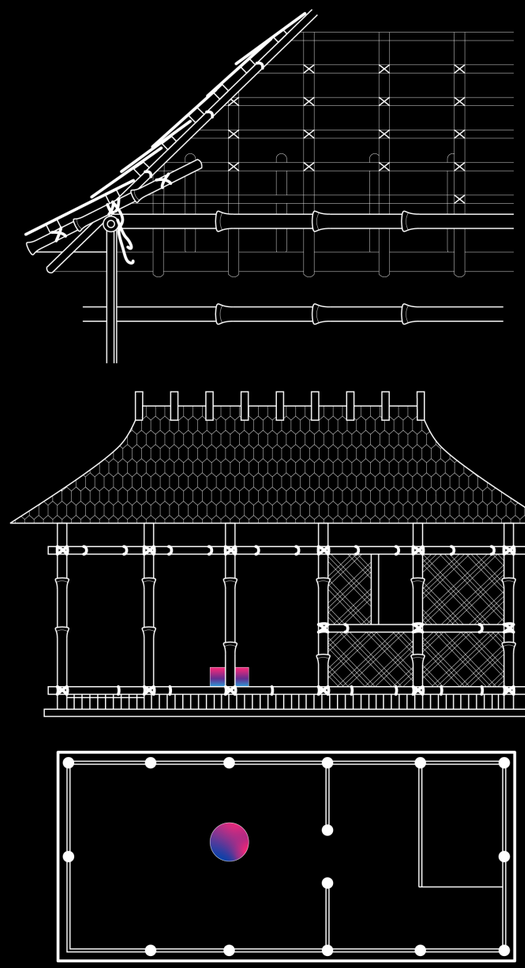
This thesis explores how the exponential growth in communication technology is changing the way we interact with the tangible and intangible spaces. The invasion of the public into the private, the collective into the domestic, the work into the leisure, and the ability to be constantly connected wirelessly have caused a dissolution of the physical domestic space. The domestic space has lost its value of privacy and intimacy and the boundary between the binaries will be no more. The gap between "the control" and "controlled" has widened and productive workers will be oppressed to be even more productive under the aid of communication technology. The house is a place of production that is less defined by the tangible, but rather with the objects and technology within itself.

The rise in communication technology has enabled us to do things that we never thought possible and the definition of the hearth in the domestic have evolved drastically. The hearth which used to be the fireplace in the house has evolved into a technologically advanced device that enables us to communicate and participate virtually as a collective. This thesis critiques the growth in communication technology and how it threatens the value of privacy within the domestic space. Technology companies such as Google and Facebook exploit its users by manipulating their personal information to their own benefit. These companies are virtual empires that are built upon user's data and could influence every inch of the globe. However, despite knowing that their personal information is being exploited, users are still using these communication technologies as a means of connection. A survey by the Pew Research Center shows that six-in-ten Americans believe it is not possible to go through daily life without having their data collected by private companies or the government; most are willing to share their data if they get something in return.

The thesis envisions a dystopian future where users are prisoners to their technologies. The project addresses issues such as privacy and domesticity in a satirical way by constructing a "tech company" and how it uses strategies to capitalize on its users.

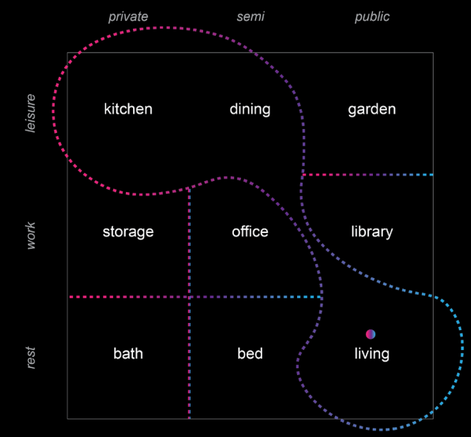


The penopticon in the domestic after the invasion of communication **technology**

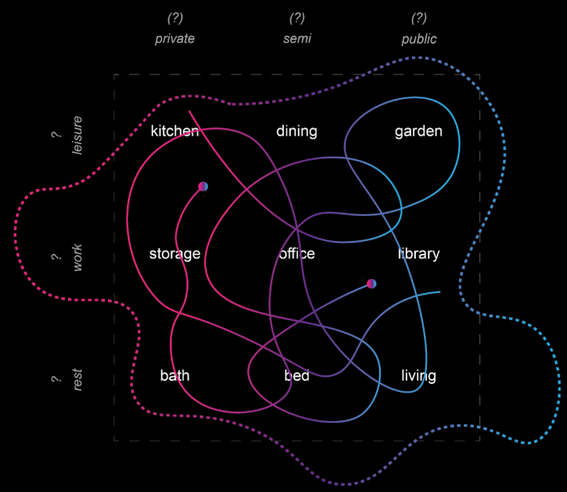


Gottfried Semper's Four Elements of Architecture

Programs within the domestic used to be divided strictly and each room has its own designated function.



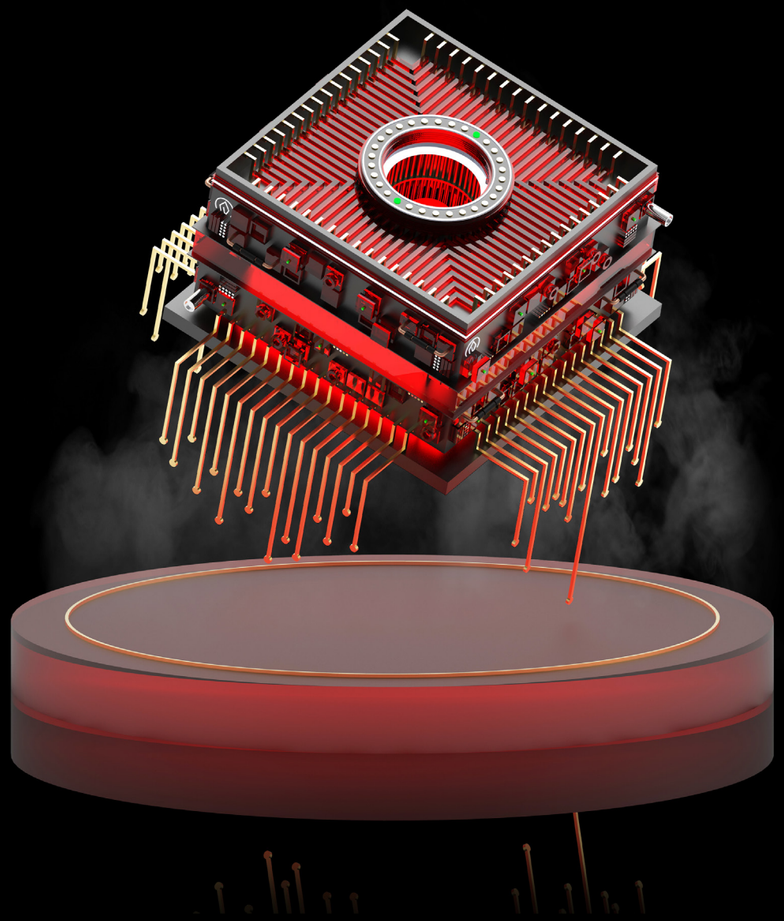
However, with the introduction of communication technologies such as a radio and television, programs such as the kitchen, dining, and living started to blend. This causes a blur between private, public, work and leisure.



As communication technology is so available within our household, there's no definition of space and programs any more. We could use our communication technology whenever and wherever we go within the domestic realm.

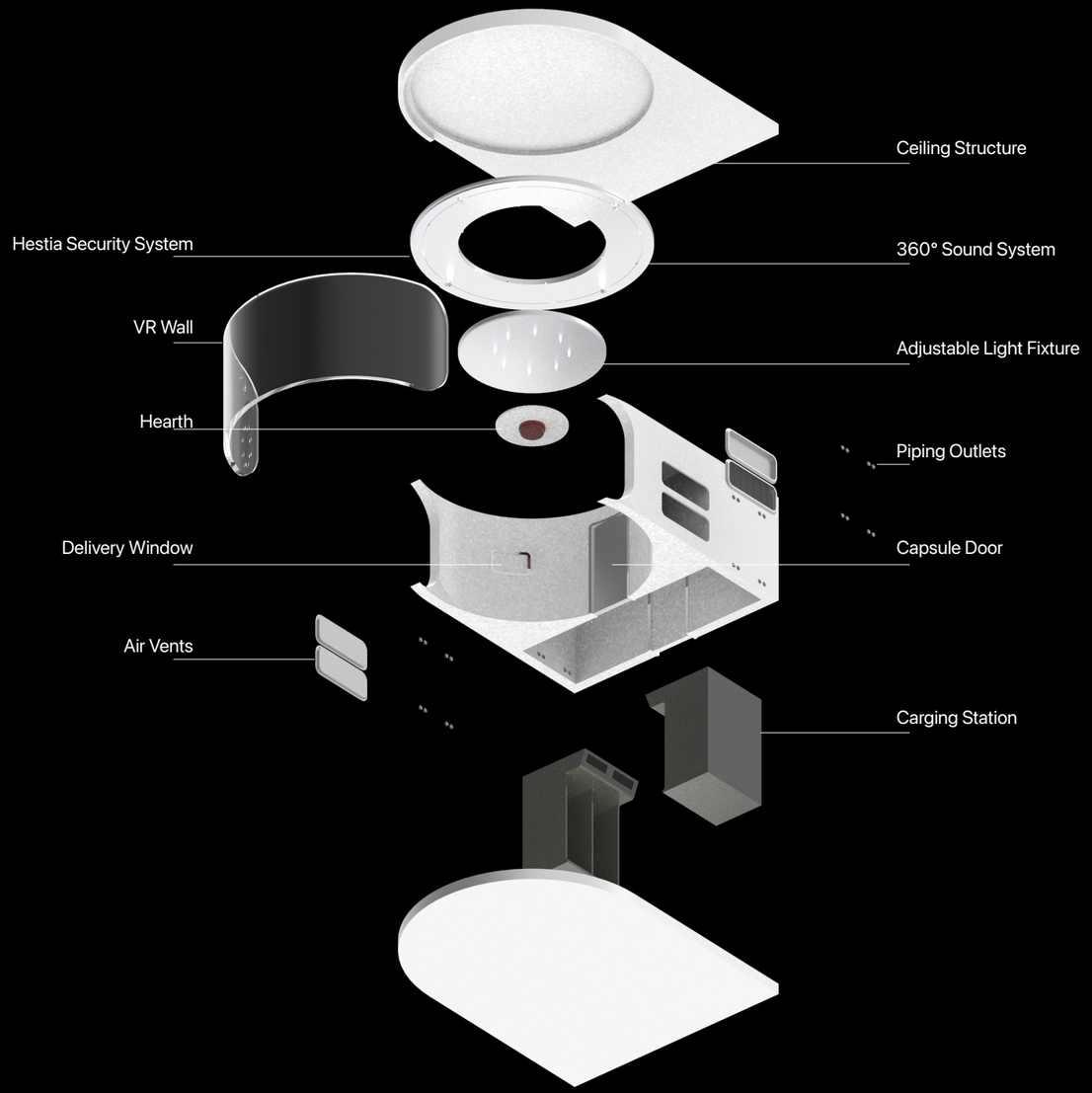
The relationalship between “the control” and “the controlled”.

Aggregated Smart Home Devices

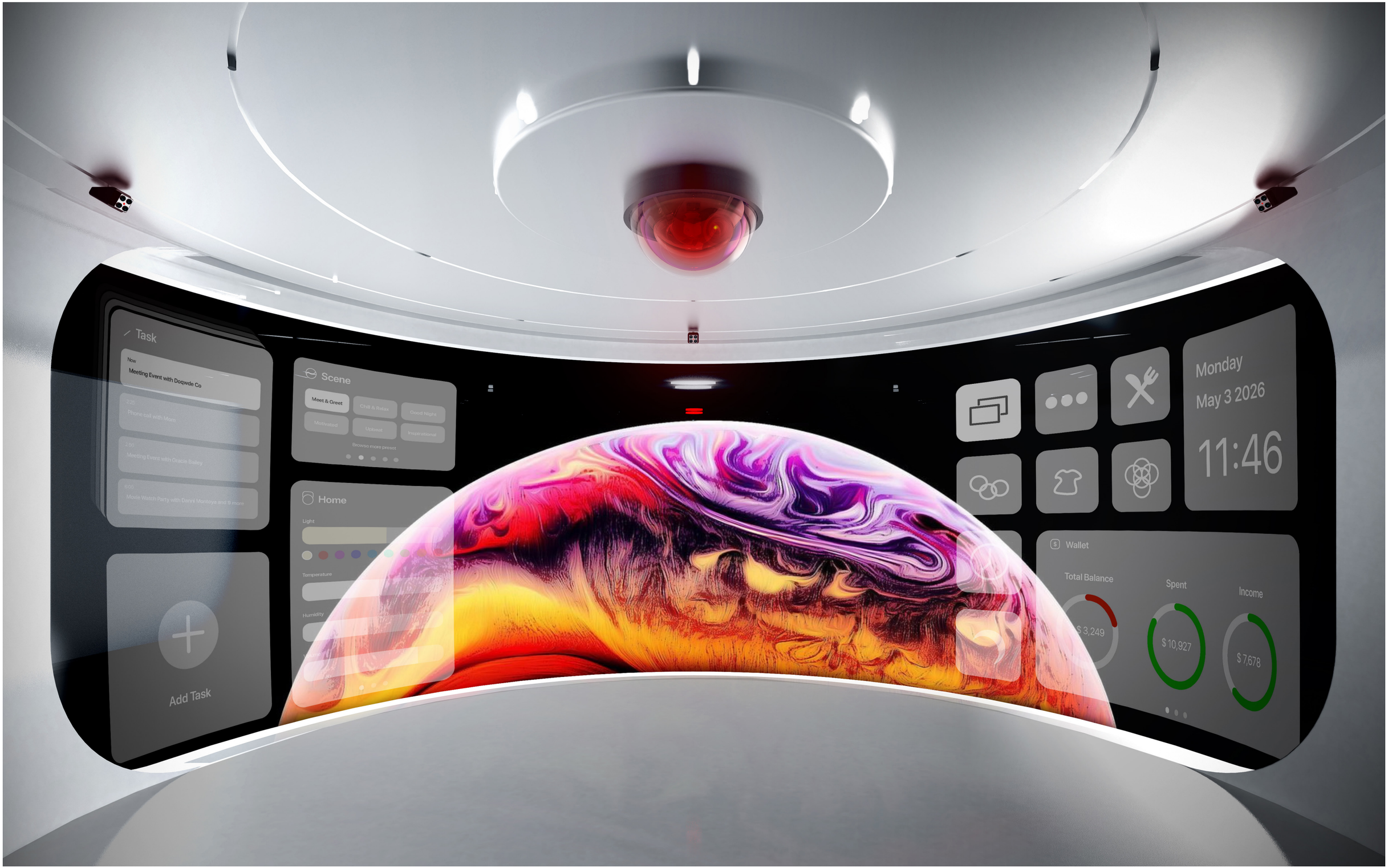


Hearth is a "tech company" constructed to address issues on privacy and domesticity. Hearth provides individual housings that enable users to be fully immersed into the virtual world. The concepts and marketing strategies are inspired by the 21st century capitalist technological climate where companies compete for user activity. In this thesis, users have to give up their privacy and allow technology to control and govern their lives.

Hearth's operating system is named after the goddess of the hearth in Greek mythology., Hestia . Hestia OS is able to allow users to be instantly immersed into the virtual world and stay connected with the community within the domestic space. It grows and learns by monitoring users' movements and habits, and satisfies their needs and desires. Hestia OS merges hardware and software, and creates a seamless transition between Capsules, Shell and Services. All three components work together in a cycle to improve the users' wellbeing in exchange for personal information and data. Once users sign up as a member with Hearth, they are trapped in the "utopian" reality crafted virtually by Hestia OS.



Axonometric render of the shell.


Task
Now
Meeting Event with Doqwde Co
2:25
Phone call with Mom
2:50
Meeting Event with Gracie Bailey
6:05
Movie Watch Party with Danni Montoya and 9 more
Add Task
Scene
Meet & Greet
Chill & Relax
Good Night
Motivated
Upbeat
Inspirational
Browse more preset
Home
Light
Temperature
Humidity
Monday
May 3 2026
11:46
Wallet
Total Balance
$ 3,249
Spent
$ 10,927
Income
$ 7,678

3164
3168
3170

The Rejuvenate Capsule contains multiple sensors placed in strategic locations to ensure a better sleep. Not only does the latest sensors monitor the users' state of health, the sensors are able to collect and plant a dream as well. Hearth collects and analyzes users' dream when they're asleep and recommends purchasable dreams that they can plant whenever they want. On the other side of the Capsule is the Hearth Closet where users can purchase virtual outfits recommended by Hestia.

Rejuvenate Capsule

A more fruitful sleep.

Glass

Glass Frame

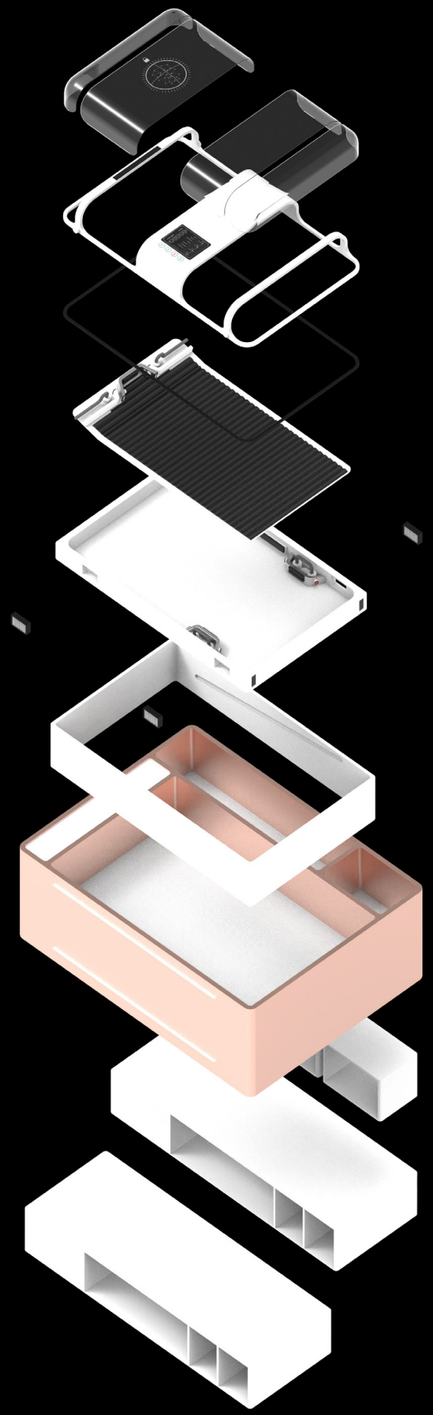
Flexible Mattress

Ventilator

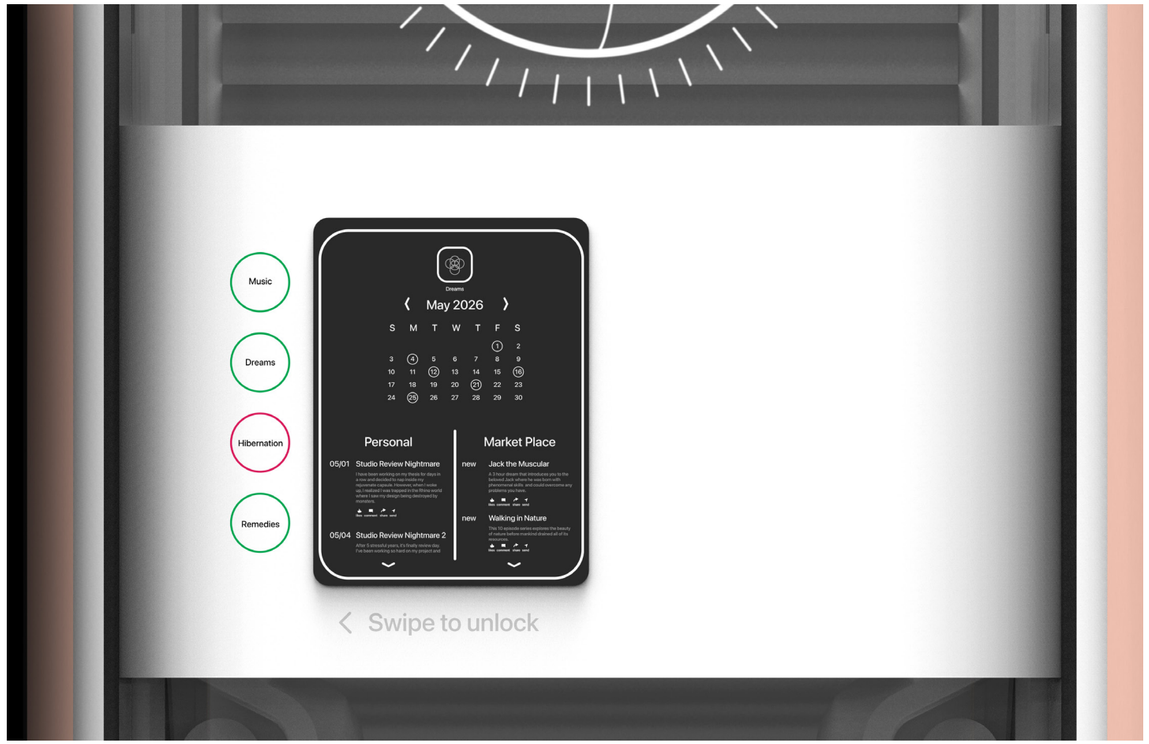
Bed Frame

Capsule Shell

Digital Closet



Axonometric render of the Rejuvenate Capsule

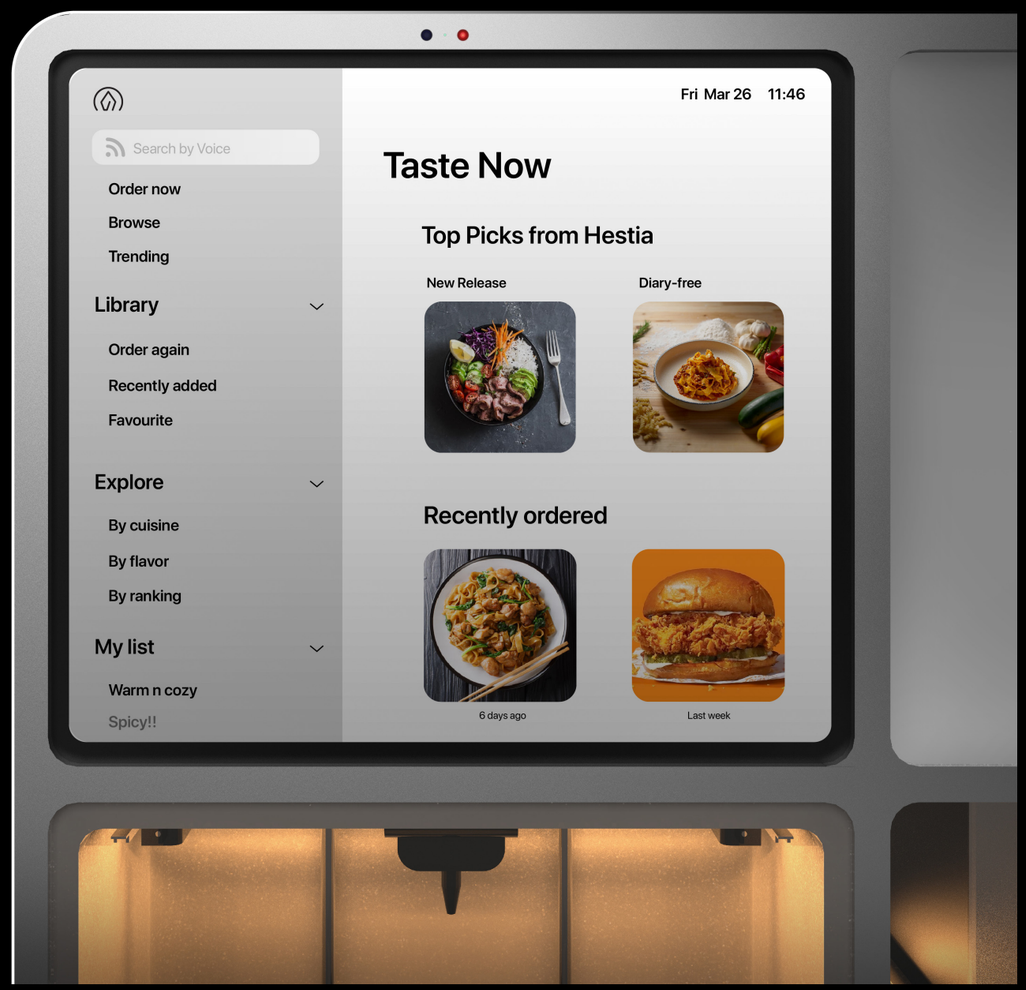


All of your outfits in one place.

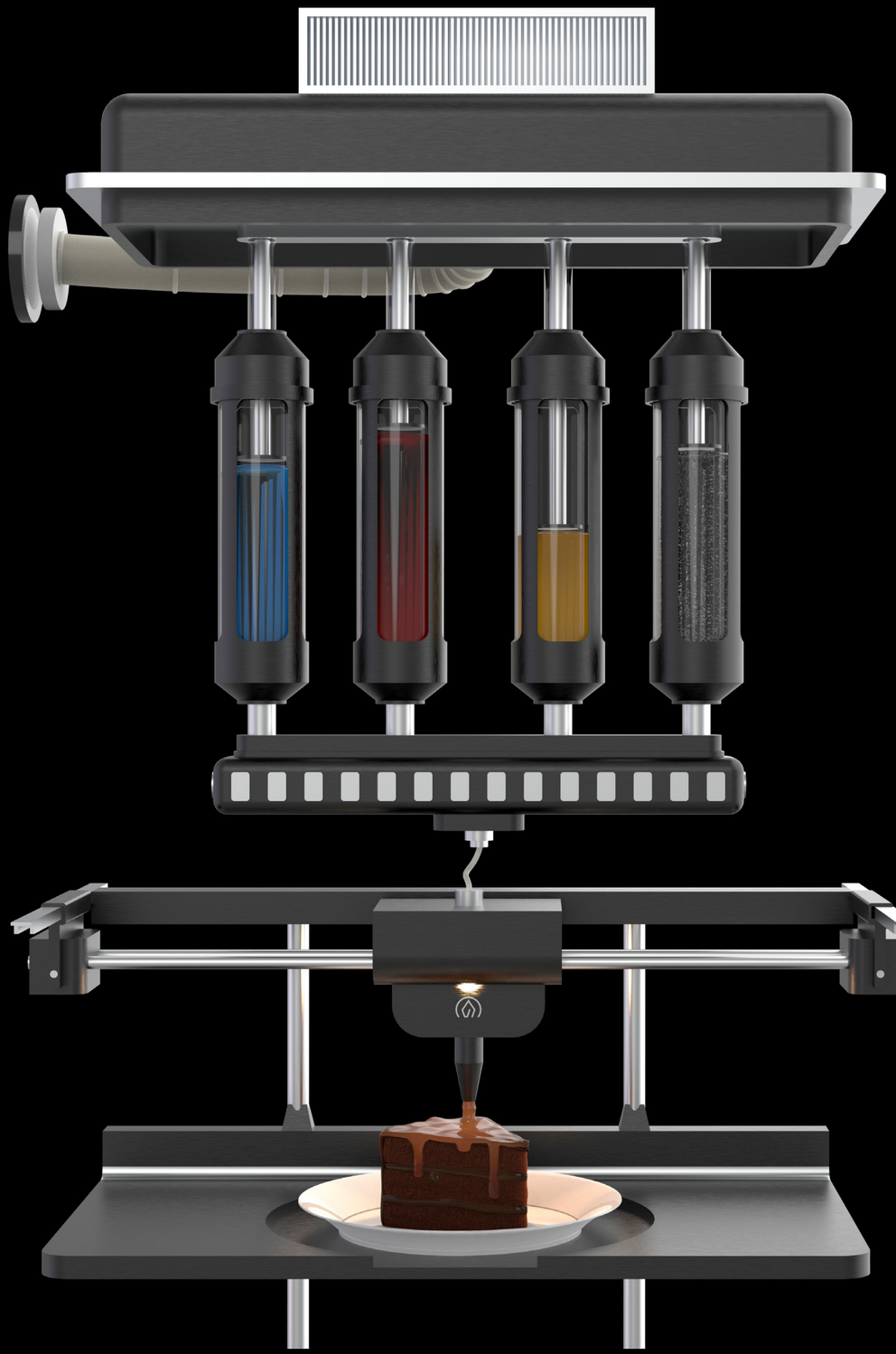
The Nourishment Capsule includes everything the users need for a great dining experience. Users can order food from one side of the capsule and beverages on the other side. The expandable design of the Capsule enables multiple programs to function within a small space, such as the refrigerator, oven, stove, dining area, and 3D food printer. The 3D food printer is able to prepare a meal to your desired taste, texture, shape and color.

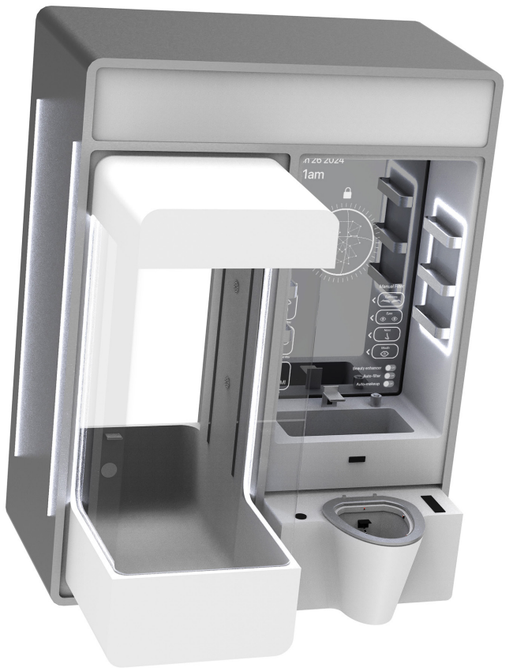
Nourishment Capsule

We know your taste, even better than you do.



A guide to a healthier dining habit.





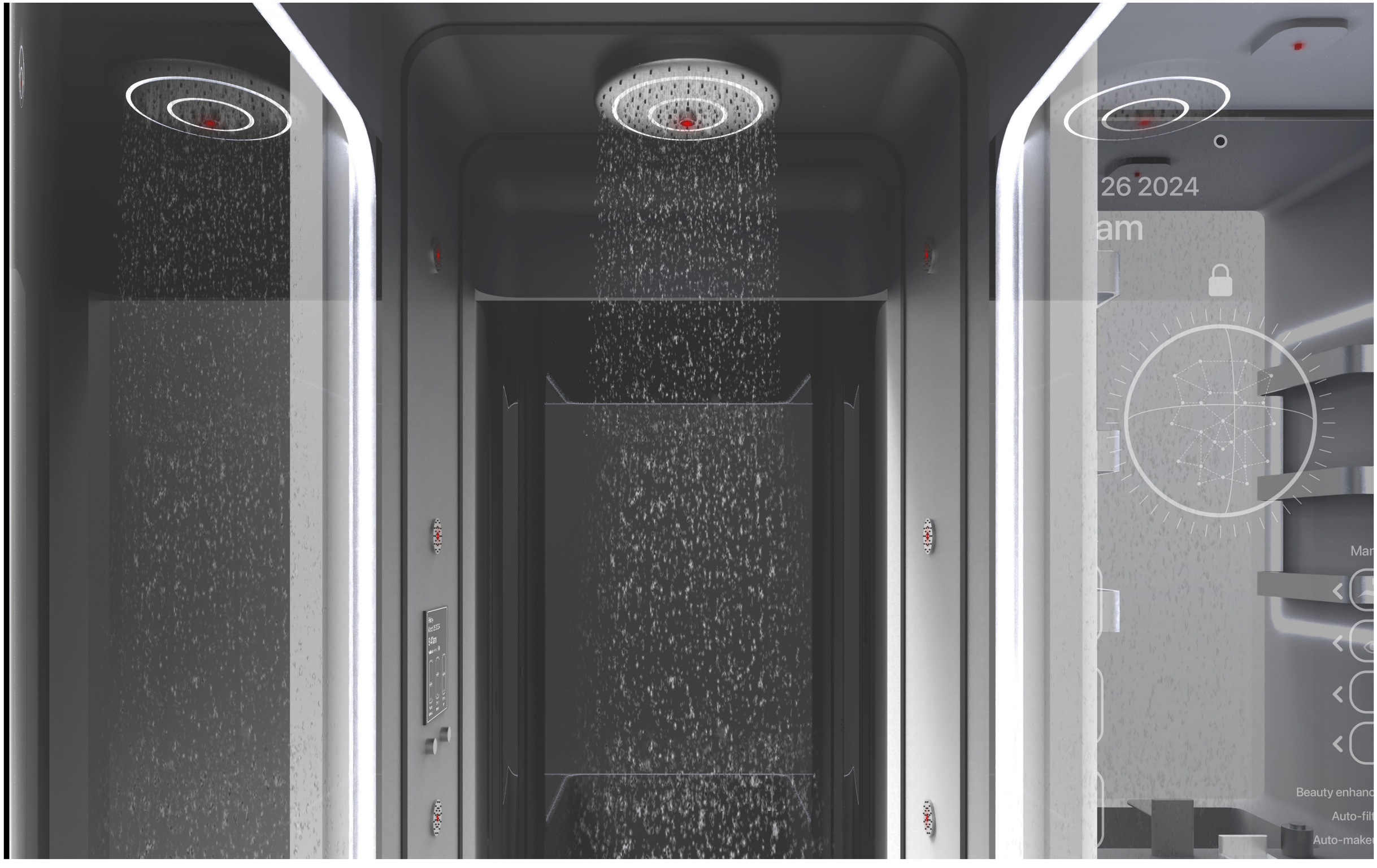
The Purify Capsule comes in two sizes where the mini gets a regular shower where the pro model gets an expandable bathtub. The Mirror in the Purify Capsule has multiple functions such as displaying information about one's daily schedule, or beautifying filters that one can try and purchase virtually. The toilet contains multiple sensors and cameras to detect and notify any unusual chemical in the users' body system. Hestia knows the users' shower habits and will suit their preferences to create a smooth purifying process.

Purify Capsule

Friday
March 26 2024
9:41am
Hearth care+
Outfit of the day
Product of the day
5′-6″
195 lb
31.5 BMI
Health +
Manual Filter
Eyebrows
Eyes
Nose
Mouth
Beauty enhancer
Off
Auto-filter
Off
Auto-makeup
Off

Slide to unlock
Urinalysis
Overview
Specific gravity
pH
Bilirubin
Urobilinogen
Protein
Glucose
Ketones
Blood, RBC
Nitrite
Leukocytes esterase
Ascorbic Acid

Friday
March 26 2024
9:41am
Purification Mode
40 PSI
Water intensity
112 F
Water temp.
pH 7.0
Water pH
Auto

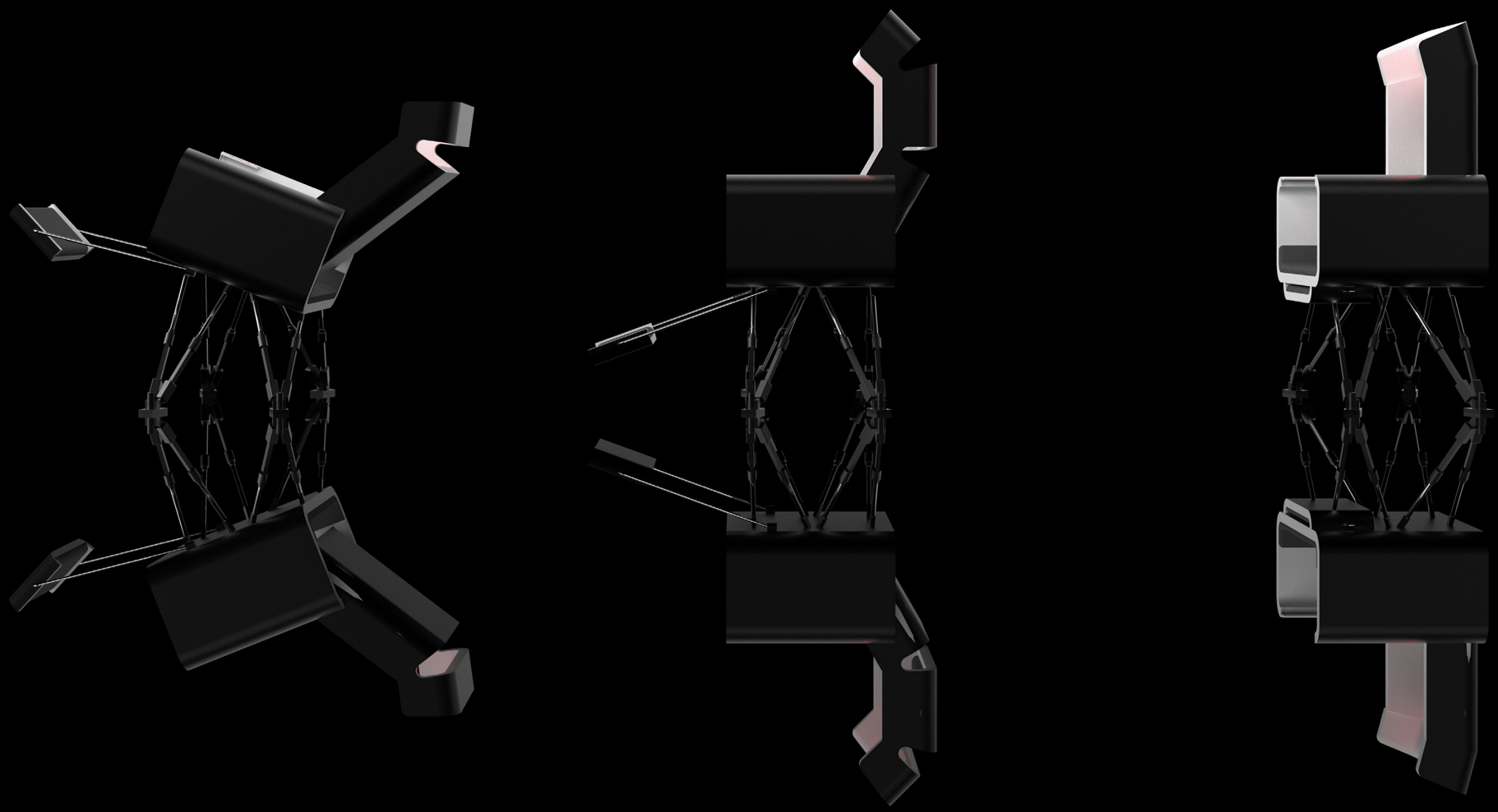

26 2024
am
Mar
Beauty enhanc
Auto-filt
Auto-makeu

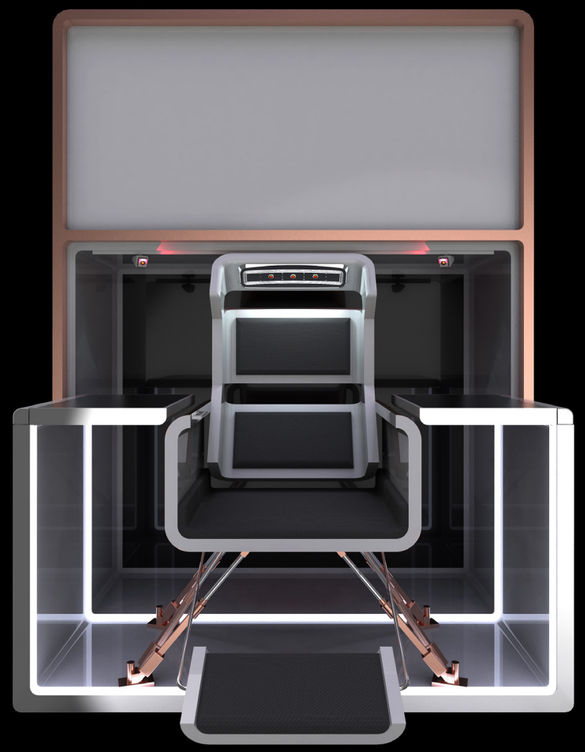
The Productivity Capsule supports work, entertainment, and data cache within the domestic realm. One side of the capsule consists of a giant storage space for users to store their personal data and information. On the other side is the Hearth Chair where its flexible design is able to accomodate three different settings: Fit, Leisure and Business. The neuroscience technology embedded in the chair can analyze the users' neural activity patterns and would aid Hestia in understanding its users better.

Productivity Capsule

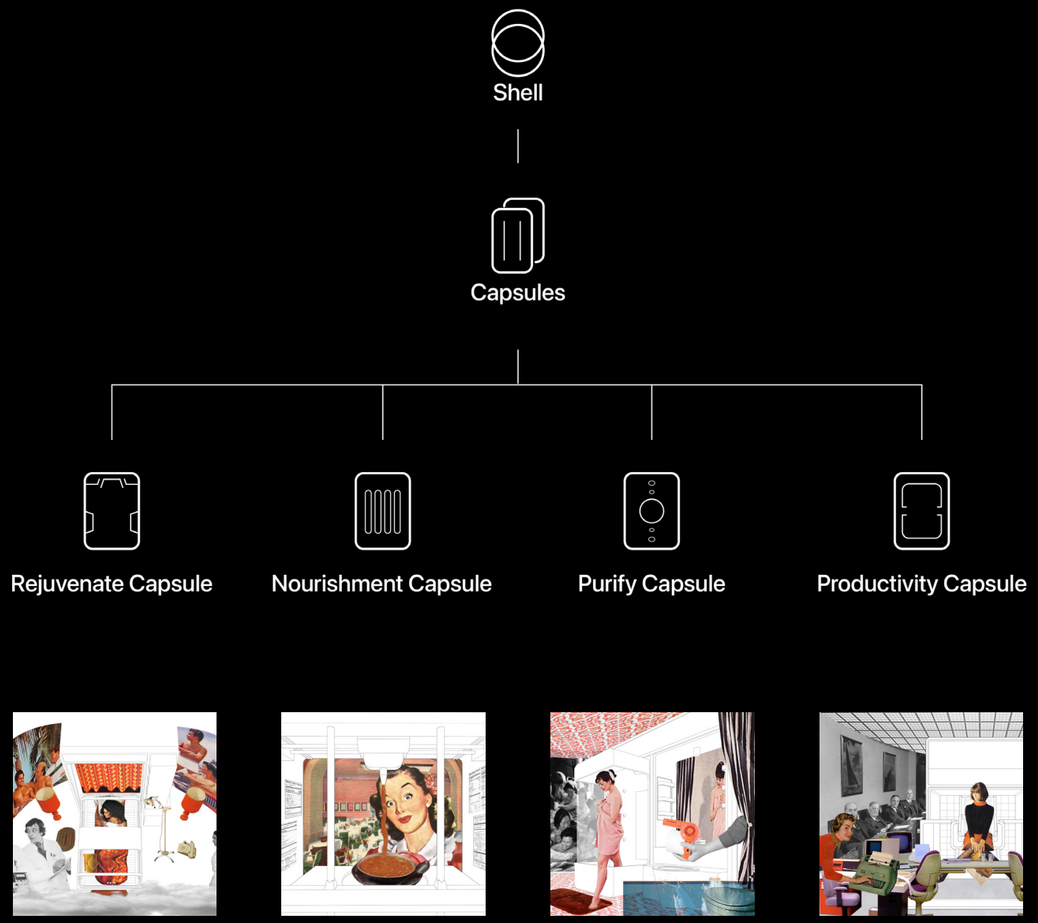
Creativity needs comfortable chairs.

But you only need one Hearth Chair for every occasion.



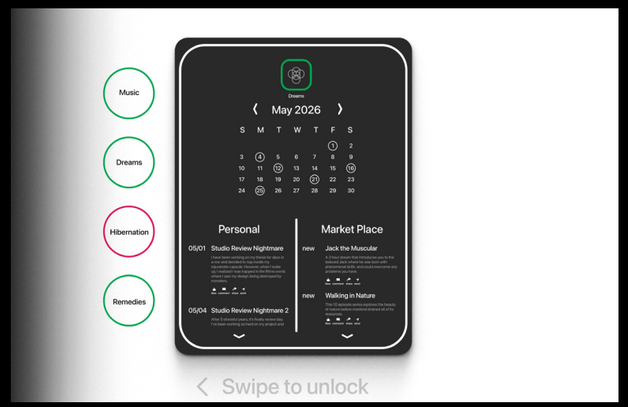


Wait what
That's insane
Mark W
只有我有被吓到吗
Auto Translate: Am I the only one scared
A
An Q
Tengo sueño
Auto Translate: I'm sleepy
Yaizan
no worries!
Mark W
Sorry guys I'm late
F
Finlay A
Finlay Andrade joined the room
nice
That cinematography is 10
Mark W
You joined the room
Say something...
Recent
Meeting with Dasdoksa in 5 minutes
now
8m ago
8m ago
7:30 AM


Shell
Capsules
Rejuvenate Capsule
Nourishment Capsule
Purify Capsule
Productivity Capsule

Hestia is always there for its users. All of the hardware and software are connected to Hestia automatically and it collects information via different technologies to better understand the users' needs.

The Rejuvenate Capsule contains 6 sensors placed in strategic locations to ensure a better sleep. Not only does the latest sensors monitor the user's state of health, the latest sensor is able to collect and plant a dream as well.

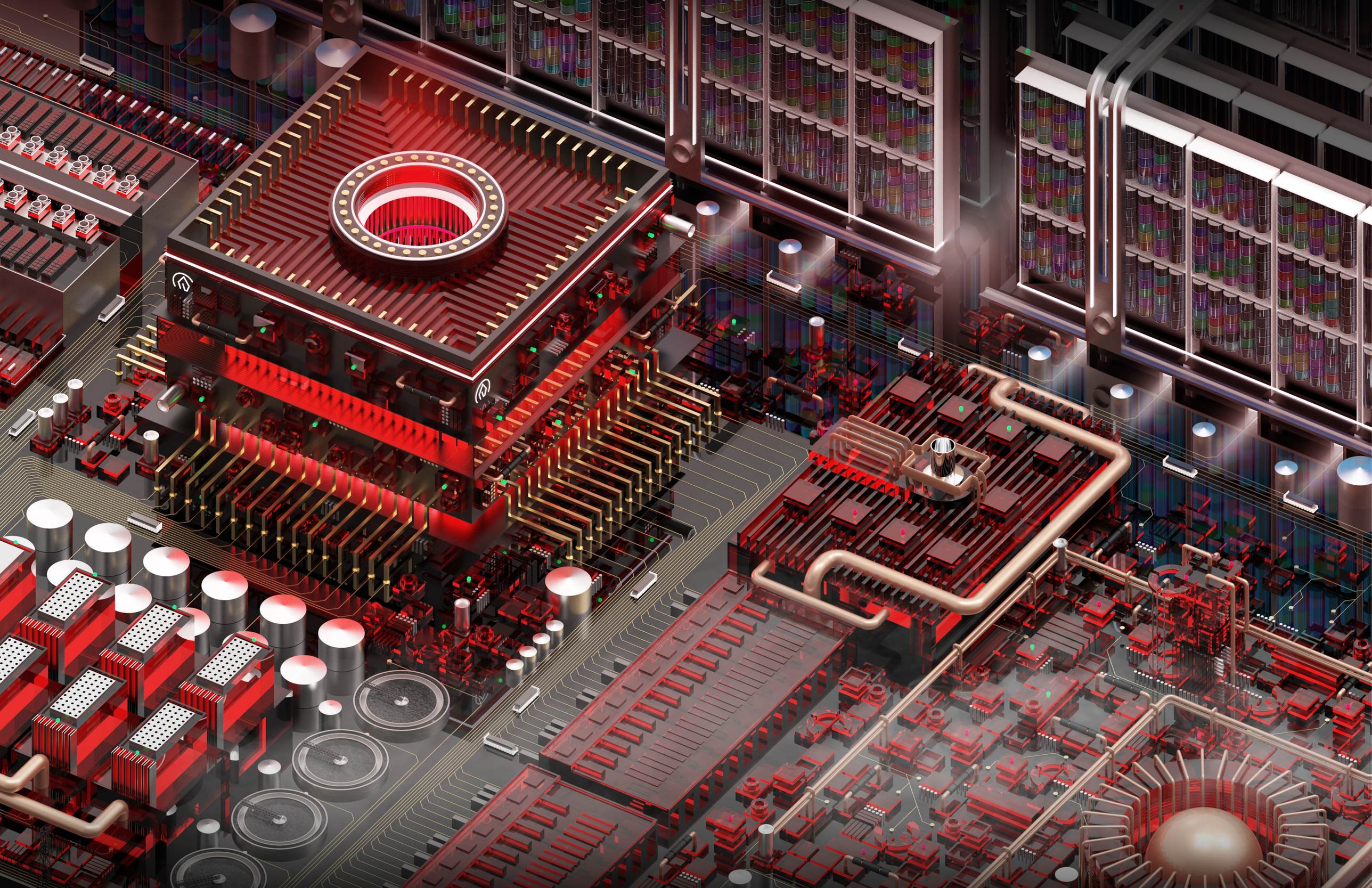


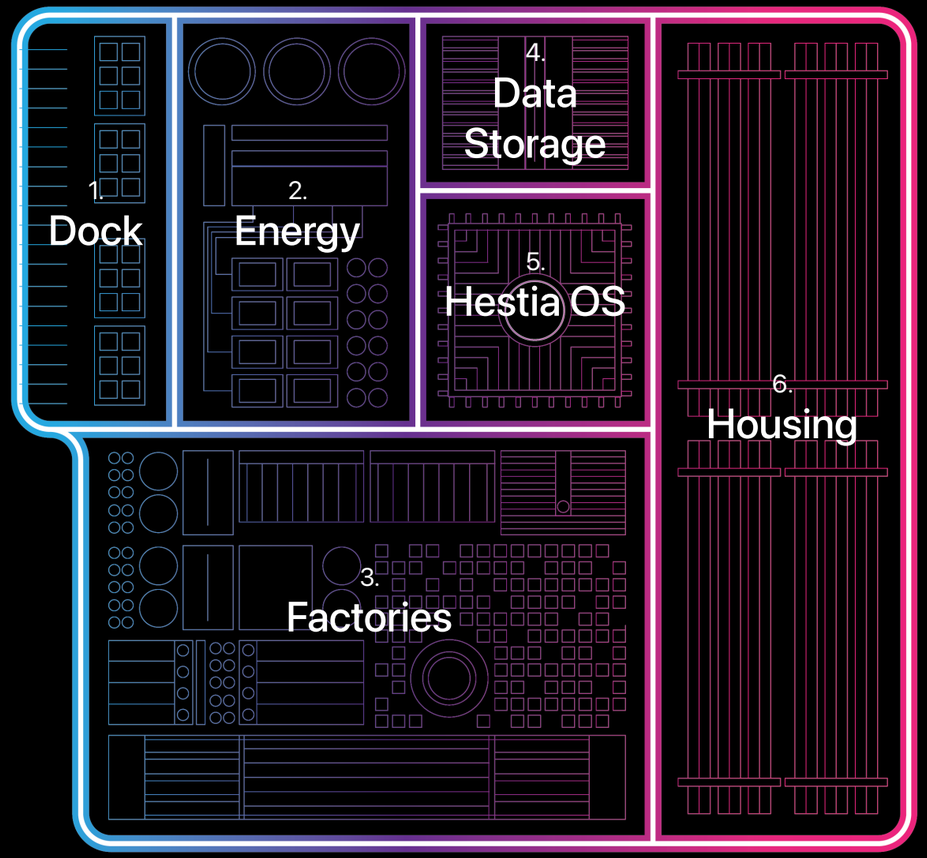
The interactive screen placed above the bed enables users to store their dreams in a safe and secure place. Hestia can make anyone's dream come through by purchasing generated dreams in the marketplace.

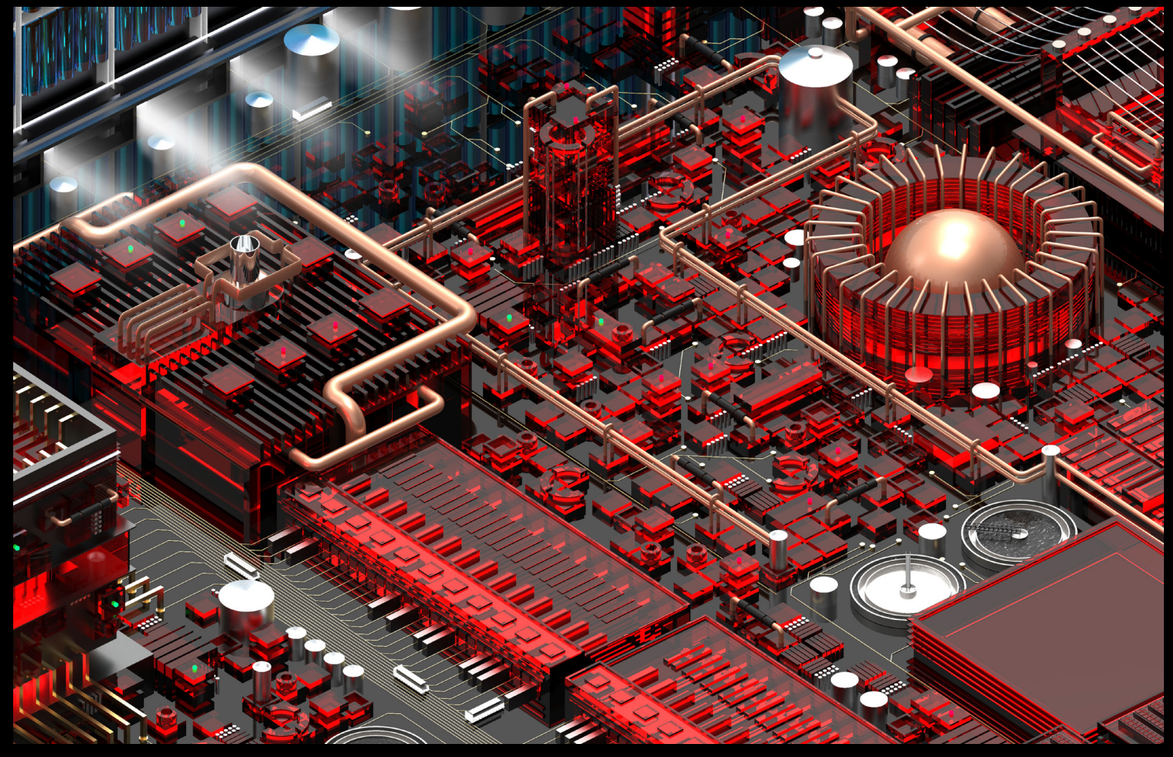
Hestia cares about its users' eating habits and preferences for food. The cameras embedded in the Nourishment Capsule will give Hestia visual information that analyzes ingestion process in detail so that it can better provide users with nutritional advice.

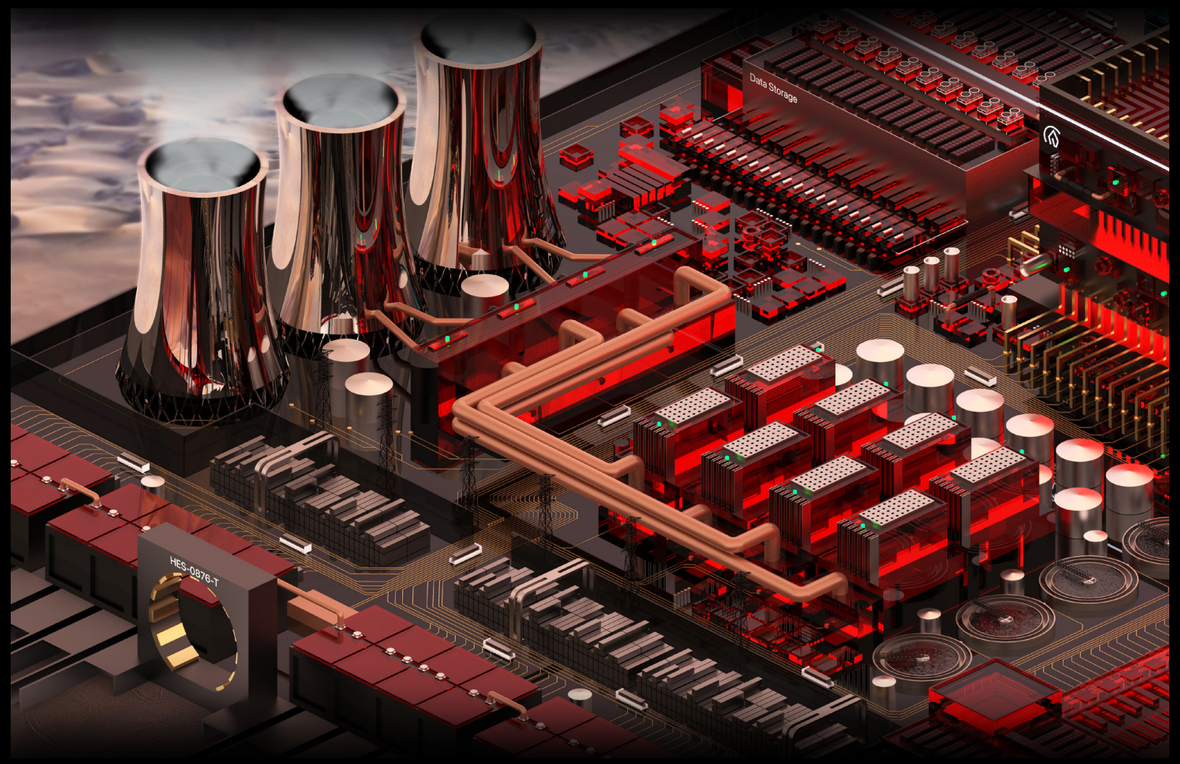
Hestia's urinalysis technology was carefully programed by Hearth's doctors and engineers to better monitor users'health. Hestia will immediately notify users if any unusual chemicals are detected in their body system and will recommend medication.

With the newest Brainwave Sensor in the Productivity Capsule, Hestia is able to study users' neural activities and unlock their true potential.









1. Allows the block to have access to the outside world physically eg. transportation and trading.

2. Providing a steady flow of energy to run the entire block.

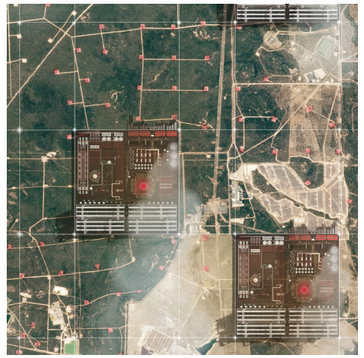
3. Factories that produces housings, furnitures, food and any essential items.

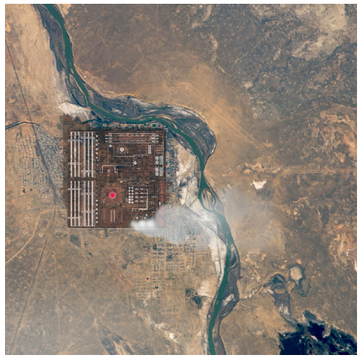
4. Storing data for users

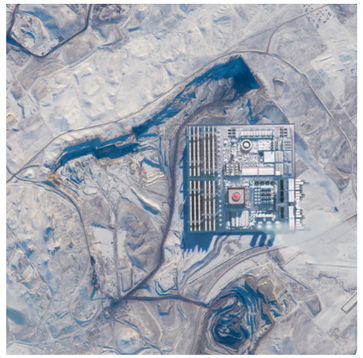
5. Systhesizes and transfer data between users, and connects the entire system seamlessly..

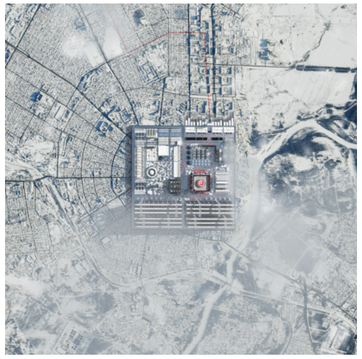
6. Provides housing for user to immerse into the virtual world.

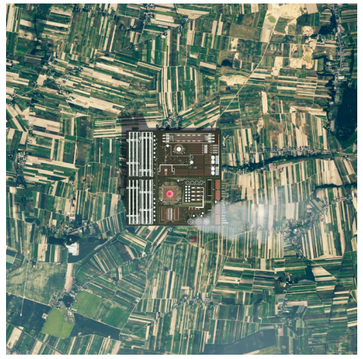
Rejuvenate
Rejuvenate

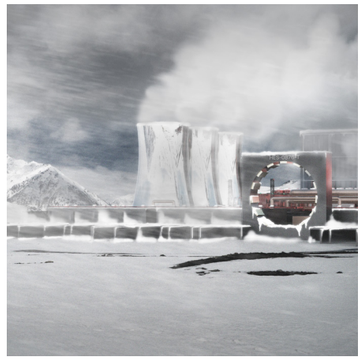


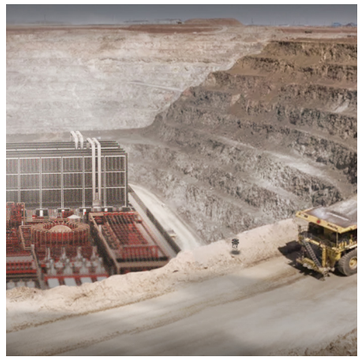




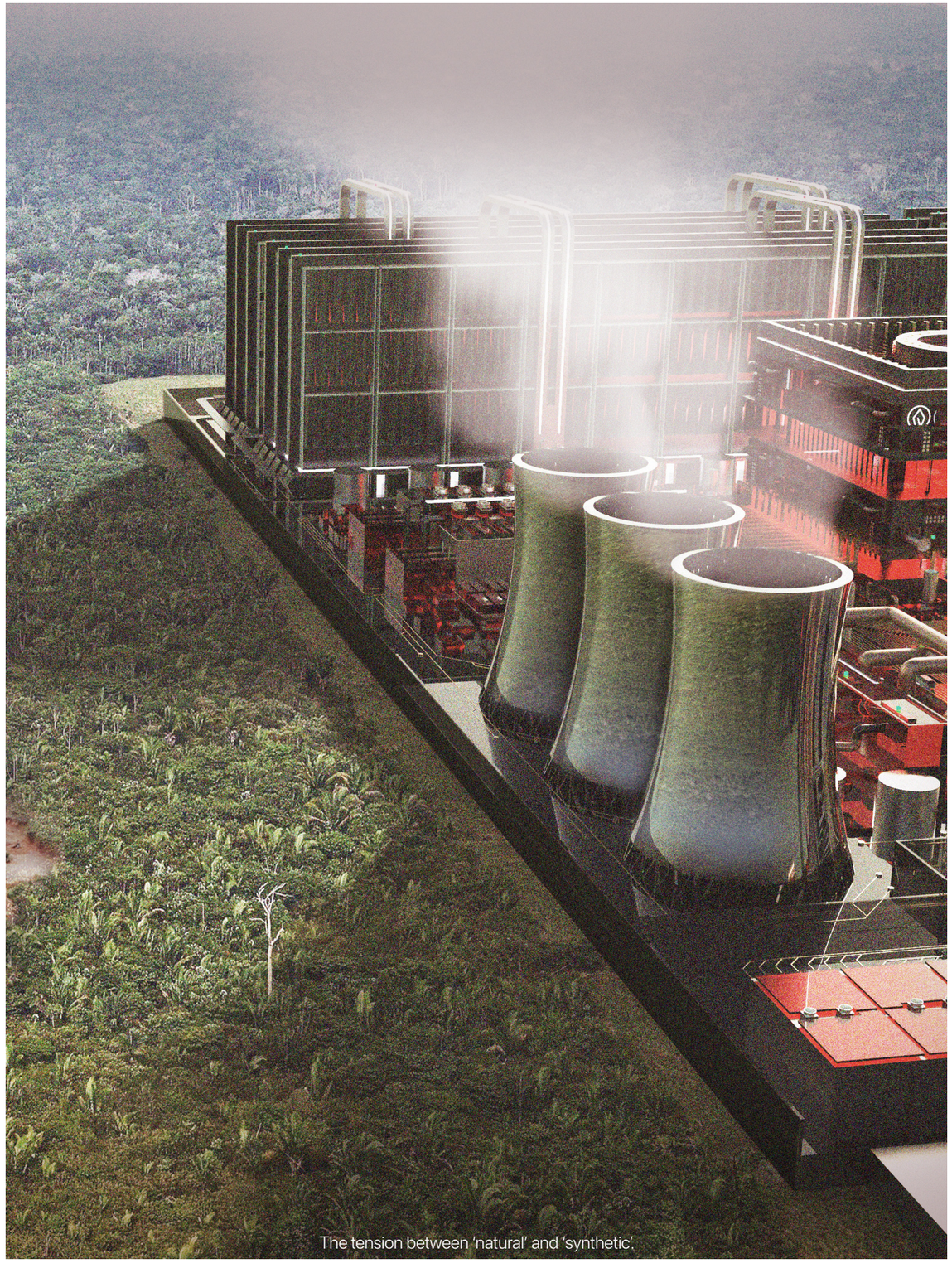








The backbone behind the users' fabricated world is Hestopia where it consists of different components to facilitate a better immersive virtual experience. Different programs such as the factories, dock and housing are designed to maximize productivity and efficiency. The users' energy, food and capsules are all made and harvested locally, making it a self-sufficient city. Hestopia is strategically located at sites that are rich in natural resources such as silicon and copper to ensure a steady supply of material to store users' data.



The tension between 'natural' and 'synthetic'.

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Thank you!