

QUARTERLY OF THE INDUSTRIAL DESIGNERS SOCIETY OF AMERICA **FALL 2012**

# INNOVATION

## **2012 Yearbook of Design Excellence**

INTERNATIONAL DESIGN EXCELLENCE AWARDS



## Nursing Kit

**FIRST AID WITH FLARE**

**T**he Nursing Kit is a family first-aid kit designed to blend into its surroundings and be a part of people's daily lives. The designers observed that the concept of a first-aid kit is not familiar to typical Taiwanese families. Therefore, they began the design process by seeking a form with which affinities could be easily found and that could be looked upon as a piece of art within the home. The designers' aim was to address the physical and spiritual aspects of health in the design language.

When the Nursing Kit is picked up, the red emergency first-aid cross lights up. The user opens the kit by pushing down on it and turning. Inside, the container is separated into three sections: one for sterilization, one for medication and one for dressings. The lid portion functions as a light source, so when the kit is taken apart it can be used as a flashlight.

Inside the kit are multiple components: curvy scissors, a tape dispenser, a tweezers clip and medicine caps. Universal design principles informed the shape of this domestic first-aid kit as well as the interior components. The curvy scissors were designed with curved handles that are angled upward 6 degrees. This curvature makes it much easier for users to pick up and hold the scissors, no matter which side is used. The tape dispenser doubles as a mirror base when not in use, and the tape can be cut from multiple angles and easily applied to any part of the body. The wavy surface on the tweezers clip improves grip; the tweezers clip can also be used to seal packages. The medicine caps make it easy for people with limited dexterity to easily open medicine containers; the small integrated magnifying element also helps users read labels.

The Nursing Kit was also conceived as a decorative object for the home. When not in use, it stands discreetly in any home environment. The base may be illuminated to provide subtle lighting or accent a dark corner, adding a breath of fresh air to the mundane. ■

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**Contain**

Open the device by pushing down then turn. The container separates into three sections for sterilization, medication, and dressing.



**Sign**

When the device is taken as first aid, the emergency sign light up.



**Flashlight**

The upper part is a light source for the nursing kit, therefore it can be taken apart to use as a flashlight.



**Tape Dispenser**



**Curvy Scissors**



**Tweezers Clip**

“Thorough attention was given to every small detail of the numerous components. The concept walks the (potentially stressed) user through a well-organized presentation, wrapping it all up in a cheerful and compact format.”

—Thomas Overthun, associate partner and practice director, IDEO

