

Digital Scents

Idea #17



How FREAKIN COOL would it be if we could transmit smell over the Internet!? I'm not talking about picking up a scratch and sniff card in your local supermarket then visit website X to play along. Square number 12 goes with this smell. No, I'm talking about smell EVERYWHERE online! Attached to the computer screen would be this little odor emitter much like we have sound emitters... or as most people call them "speakers". Just as sounds are reproduced, scents would be reproduced.

Where would this be useful?

Think about all the different places this could be used. Just with shopping online even! One can only imagine: Teas, coffees, food, perfumes, and colognes. Think about how great this would be for looking up recipes. You can actually waft the deliciousness of a dish before you go out and buy the ingredients. Or if you are thinking of taking your family out to dinner on family fun night you can smell the aromas of all the wonderful different dishes the restaurant has to offer! Wow, I could really get carried away with this. Think about just shopping for candles, or flowers! "Oh my heaven that one smells absolutely magnificent." Click... buy.

How does it work?

Well, I'm thinking ok audio and light are both waveforms. So transmitting pictures and videos and sounds was accomplished by reproducing the wavelengths. However smell remains ever so elusive because it is chemical based. Thus you can't use electricity to reproduce it (as far as I know). So I suppose it would need to have some sort of cartridge filled with base notes and top notes and everything in-between to reproduce the needed scent on cue. So just as ink cartridges are available for printers. One could purchase a scent cartridge for this device. So as to not use up your entire cartridge in the first 5 minutes smelling EVERYTHING the Internet has to offer. I think something akin to a print button, or a "Smell" button would be needed. Would you like to smell this? Yes please! "Smelling started!"

Goodbye "scratch and sniff" hello digital scents! Mmmm Ooooo, ahhhhh!