



Bob Heubel
Developer Evangelist, Haptics
November 2013

NASDAQ: IMMR

Enhancing the mobile user experience
through good tactile design

Who is Immersion? Company Highlights

Immersion: The Haptics Company
NASDAQ: IMMR

Established in Large, Rapidly Growing Markets

Technology shipped in over 1B devices

- Mobile phones, game controllers, auto, industrial, casino, other portable devices

Technology Leader

Developing tactile touch solutions also known as "Haptics" for over 20 years.

World Class Customer Base

Samsung, Nokia, LG, Toshiba, Fujitsu, Sony, Microsoft, Logitech, Lexus, BMW, CAE and many more

Strong Intellectual Property

Portfolio of 1,300+ granted and pending patents specifically in the field of Haptics related to both hardware and software

Worldwide Support

Offices in EU, Korea, Taiwan, Japan, US & Canada



Say hello to Homunculus



The
Mobile
User



Point 1: Our sense of touch works with our embodied cognition to affect the user experience.



keep in touch itching to go make contact with
how does that grab you? get a grip
he rubs me the wrong way she's touchy
a hands-off policy standing on pins and needles
like a slap in the face a palpable lie the personal touch
touch and go a slimy character **hold your own**
immediate
intimate
emotional
stretch the imagination
can you handle it? a clinging personality
makes my skin crawl walking on egg shells
grasp an idea a gripping experience he's tactful
a touching experience i'm deeply touched she's tactless
put on the finishing touches enough character
be on your toes don't be pushy solid reputation
like a kick in the teeth only scratched the surface
a mere slap on the wrist



Point 2: Touch feedback fulfill a need for tactile gratification that is sorely missed in media.



Social Isolation



Point 3: Tactile feedback makes human communication more intimate and emotional.



Design goals when using tactile feedback

- Make mobile devices feel more **usable**
- Make apps feel more **satisfying**
- Make communication with friends and family feel more **personal**



Core tactile feedback design principles

- Simple sensations are often the most effective
- Sensations that fit with visual & audio elements make the whole greater than the sum of its parts
- It is bad to annoy, confuse or overwhelm the user
- It is good to give the user options

Always “play” test your tactile effects to ensure that you are meeting these core principles.

Lessons learned from console games

All major gaming consoles use tactile effects to help immerse gamers in their virtual worlds.



PlayStation - Gran Turismo



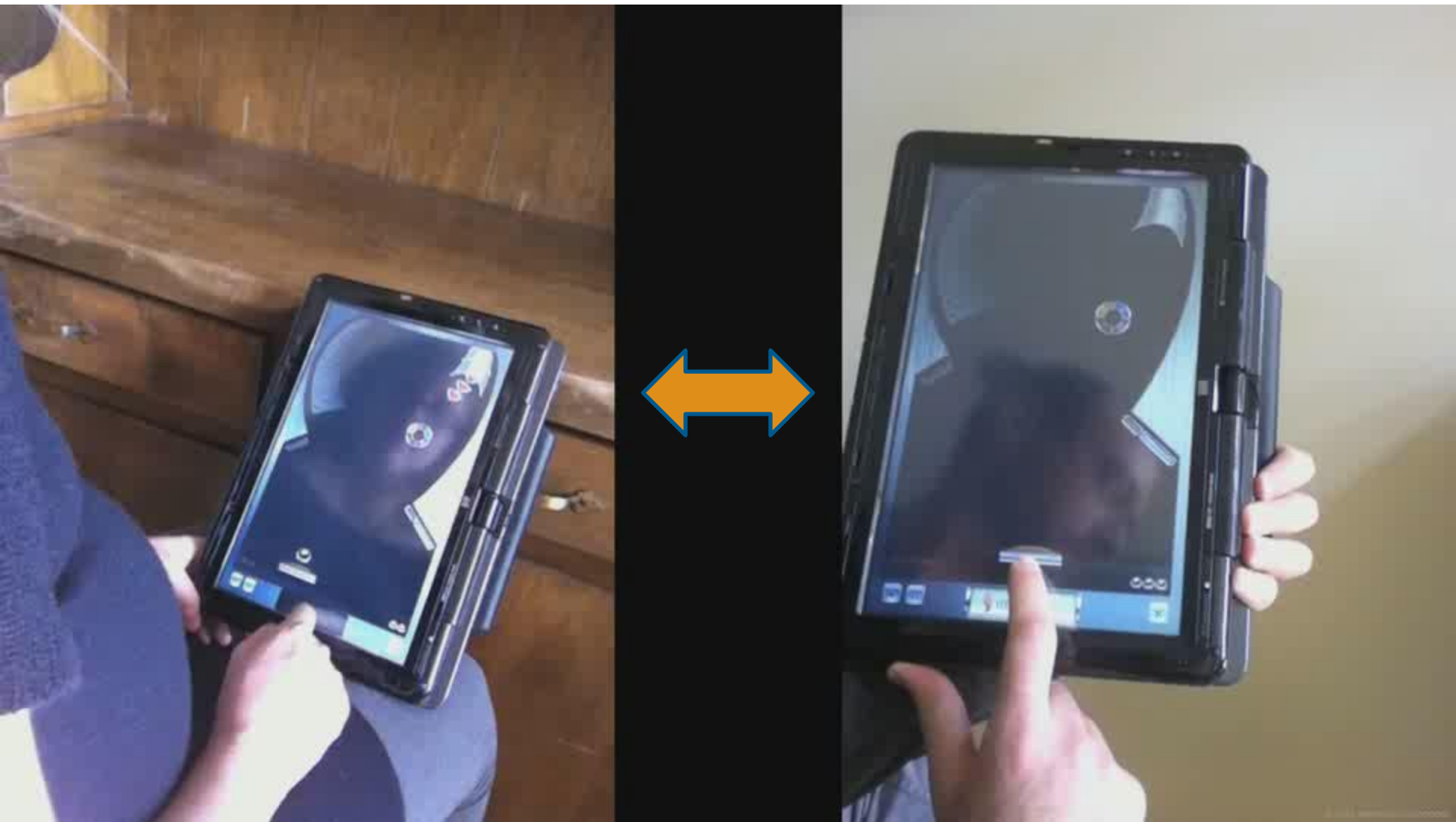
X-Box
Halo



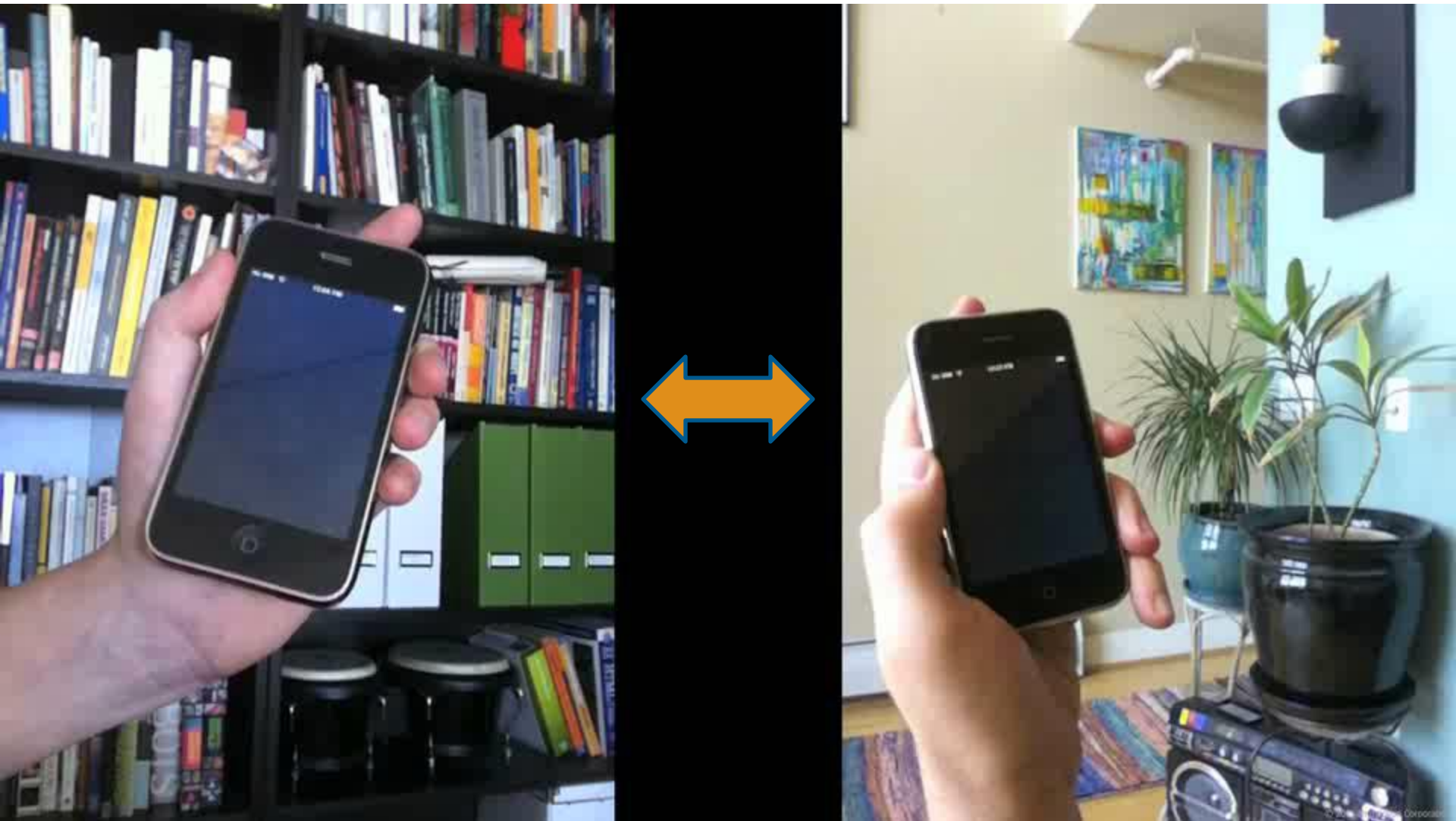
Nintendo Wii
Legend of Zelda



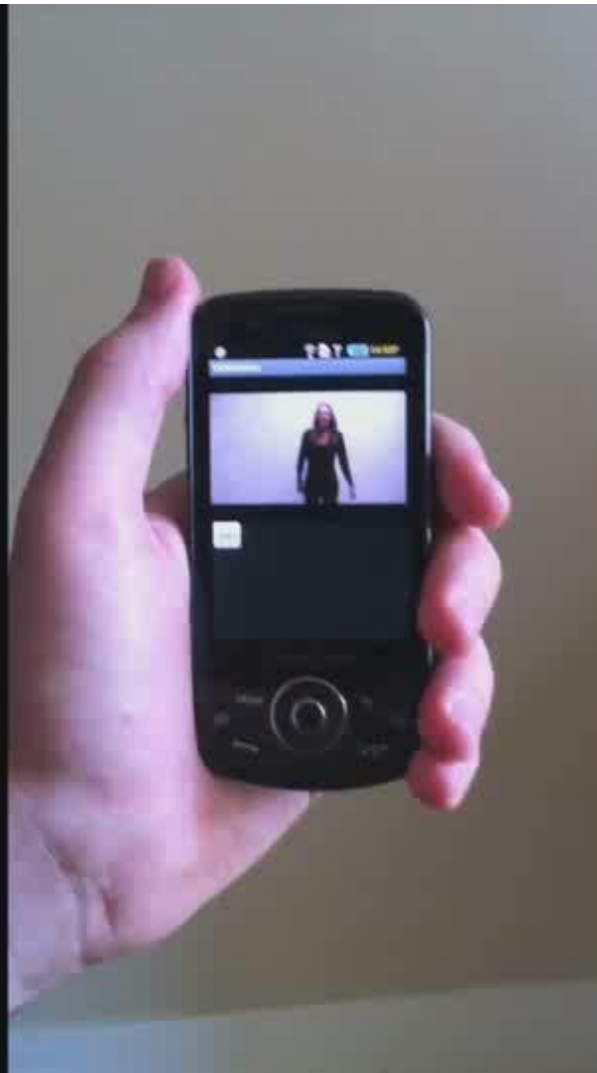
Interactive tactile game example



Two-way interactive touch example



Tactile video example



Feel the
person on
the other
side of the
video

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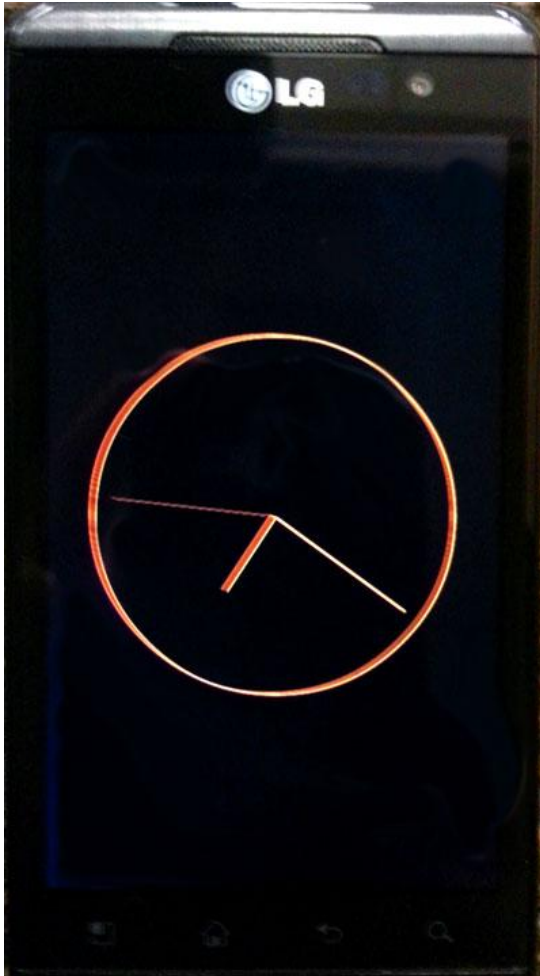
Tactile feedback effects beyond games

Feedback in games is natural like console gaming rumble, but consider other possible uses like...

- Screen gestures – swipes, slides, pinches, twists
- Social networking – virtual poking, winking, smiling, kissing
- Children's learning – touch confirmations & answer rewards
- Interactive 2-way videos – shared screen virtual touching
- Customizable alerts – different alert patterns for caller & messaging IDs
- eReaders – feeling page turning, writing notes
- Apps for the sight impaired – navi-cues, Braille input, tactile watch
- Sports / Health Apps – alerts based on health monitoring or pacing



Tactile feedback clock for everyone



Tactile Clock

Allows you to feel the time.

Good for both blind and sighted users.



Top 5 reasons to use tactile feedback effects

#5 Increased sense of realism

“Feels like the real world”

#4 Increased immersion combining audio/visual/touch

“Sum is greater than individual parts”

#3 Greater user satisfaction

“Proven in game platforms”

#2 Increased stickiness

“Greater emotional connection to game play and UI”

And the #1 reason to use tactile effects...

#1 The potential for increased downloads

“Differentiating your app”





Grand Theft Auto III images courtesy of Rockstar Games.

How to program tactile effects into mobile apps



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Tactile effect design by operating system

Nearly all operating systems allow you program vibration events into your applications. But not all methods are created equal.

iOS – Only allows you to call a vibration constant that triggers the motor for a set duration. This is not good for most games.

Android – Allows you to call a *Vibrator* Class and set on/off duration times. Also offers an extended method through Immersion API.

Tizen– Allows you native and web app programming environments. Both use a *Vibrator* Class but native allows for intensity control. Whereas web has no intensity control and uses a *navigator.vibrate* method. Both have methods for pattern arrays.

Blackberry – Allows you the same control as Android but uses a *VibrationController* Class. Also has a *Intensity* parameter

Windows – Allows you basically the same control as Android & Blackberry but uses a *VibrateController* Class, but without intensity control.

Symbian – For Javascript you use start/stop methods with their *Vibra* Class that allows you to set duration and intensity parameters. For Qt on their S60 API you use a wrapper class called *HapticFeedback*. This Additionally, the *HapticFeedback* Class can be extended method through the Immersion API



Hurdles to good mobile tactile design

- Time consuming
 - Manual programming of sensations, usually setting durations and pulsing patterns in milliseconds and intensity levels on a scale of 1-100 (if available)
- Inconsistent feel
 - Operating systems use different vibe classes and methods
 - Parameter controls vary between operating systems
 - Motor types vary from manufacturer to manufacturer
- Differing user preferences
 - Touch feel is personal... varying by age, sex and region

How to jump the tactile design hurdles

- Saving tactile design time
 - Reuse your effect parameters from project to project
- Getting a consistent feel
 - Design and test on the highest volume devices
 - Create manufacturer specific themes with parameters optimized for each target manufacturer
 - If you can't get a good feeling from a specific device, exclude it from your design
- Compensating for user tastes
 - Set smart defaults but allow options in settings for users to increase/decrease the intensity of your tactile effects to their personal tastes, the same as audio



Lowered hurdles specifically for Android

Because the Android operating system is the most open for tactile design and holds the lion share of the smart phone market...

Immersion created a **free** pre-designed library of tactile effects that compensates for vibration motor differences so developers can quickly add tactile sensations into their apps and games.

We call this the...

"Immersion Haptic Development Platform for Android"

And we hope to offer additional support for this same library in other operating systems in the future.



Immersion Android apps for tactile design

Two FREE Android apps available on Google Play for developers to preview the library of effects and view tactile gaming scenarios.



Haptic Muse

(effects in gaming scenarios)

&

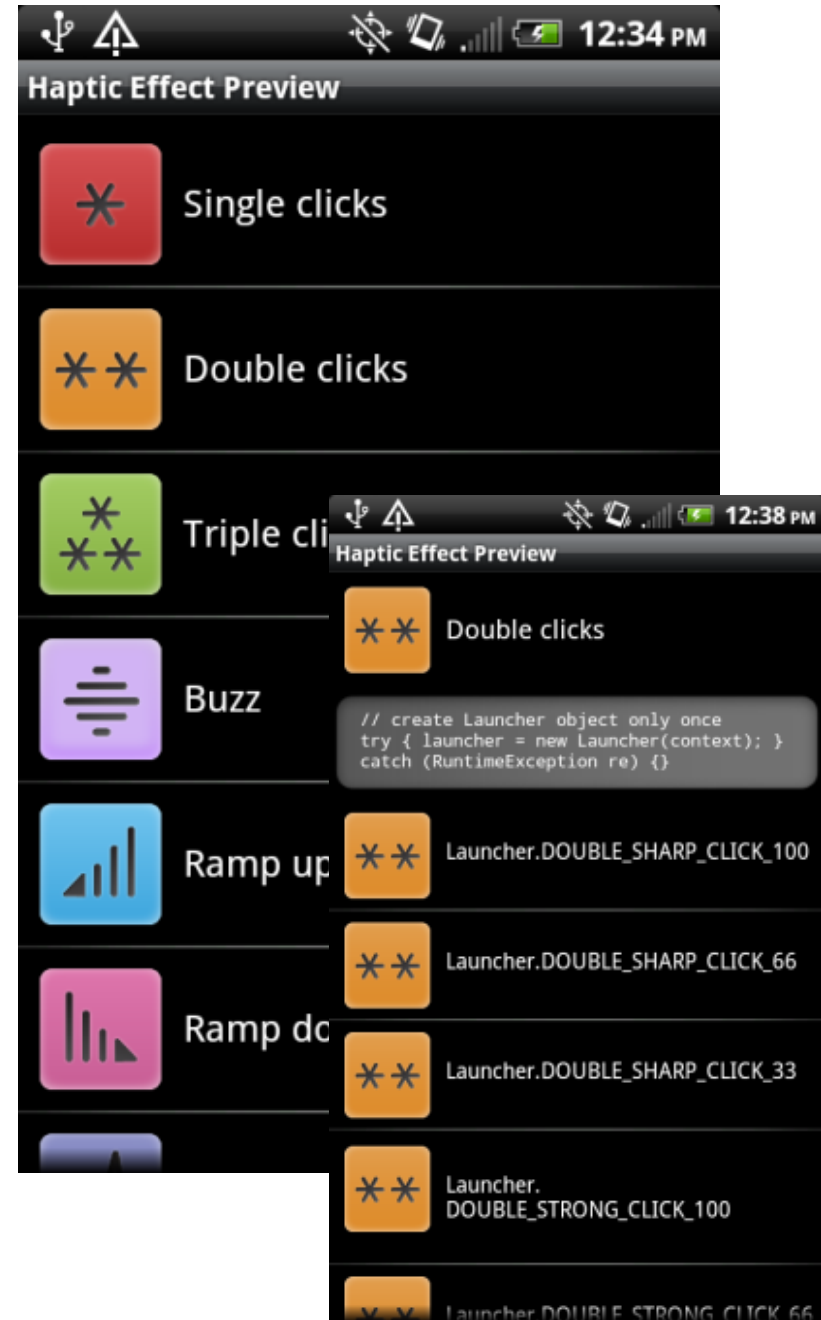
Haptic Effect Preview

(effects in category list form)



Haptic Effect Preview App

- 124 pre-designed tactile effects
- Free app on Google Play
- Feel each tactile effect on any Android device before programming
- Code sample provided for each effect



immersion.

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Immersion Haptic Muse App



- Seven different gaming effect zones
- See, hear and feel typical game effect scenarios
- Includes sample code identifying each effect in the use cases

Benefits of the extended method for Android



Google Vibrate

Inferior battery usage: only controls the duration of vibration

1 basic effect – full magnitude w/durations set manually

Ineffective for longer duration game effects, only gives you buzz

Unreliable feel across Android devices due to different motor types



Immersion Extended Method

Very efficient use of battery: control over duration, magnitude and frequency of vibration

Library of 124 pre-made gaming and user interface effects

Ideal for longer duration subtle game effects

Most consistent feel across **ALL** Android devices



“Consistent feel across ALL Android devices”

Why is this important?

Because there are over 600 Android device makers and over 7000 models of handsets and tablets that all use different vibration actuators like these:



- 3 Distinct Generations:
- Eccentric Rotating Mass
- Linear Resonant Actuator
- Piezo Electric



Haptic SDK Quick Start Guide

APPS HAVE
FEELINGS TOO

GET STARTED

1. DOWNLOAD RESOURCES

- Immersion's Haptic SDK
www.immersion.com/haptic/sdk
- Immersion's Haptic Effect Preview App
www.immersion.com/haptic/previewApp



2. ADD UHL TO ECLIPSE PROJECT

- Extract UHL_x_x_xx.zip
- Copy extracted libImmEmulatorJ.so file to your Eclipse project libs/armeabi folder (create folders if necessary)
- In Eclipse, refresh project to see libs/armeabi/libImmEmulatorJ.so
- For ADT 16 or earlier, navigate to Project > Properties > Build Path > Configure Build Path, Click on Add External JARs..., browse to the location of the extracted UHL.jar file
- For ADT 17 or later, copy UHL.jar into your Eclipse project libs folder
- In the Permissions tab under AndroidManifest.xml, add "android.permission.VIBRATE" for all build configurations

3. ADD IMPORT STATEMENT

- Import the Launcher class wherever the Launcher will be used

```
import com.immersion.uhl.Launcher;
```

4. ADD LAUNCHER MEMBER

- Add a Launcher member to the main Activity class or other application-wide class

```
private Launcher m_launcher;
```

5. INSTANTIATE LAUNCHER

- Instantiate the Launcher object once, usually in the main Activity onCreate function

```
try  
{  
    m_launcher = new Launcher(this);  
}  
catch (RuntimeException e)  
{  
    Log.e("My App", e.getMessage());  
}
```

6. LAUNCH HAPTIC EFFECT PREVIEW APP

- Use the Haptic Effect Preview application from the Android Market to feel the built-in effects and determine which effect IDs to use in your application.

7. PLAY HAPTIC EFFECT

- Play a haptic effect

```
try  
{  
    m_launcher.play(Launcher.BOUNCE_33);  
}  
catch (RuntimeException e) {}
```

Use Haptic Effect Preview Application on your target Android phone to choose effect.

8. STOP HAPTIC EFFECT

- Stop a haptic effect

```
try  
{  
    m_launcher.stop();  
}  
catch (RuntimeException e) {}
```

Add this to Activity onPause function in case a phone call is received.

For detailed information about any of these steps, visit: www.immersion.com/haptic/guide

HAPTIC
Quick Start Guide



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Additional tactile design resources

Immersion's Haptic SDK Tools:

Including plugins for Unity3D, Marmalade, Game Maker

www.immersion.com/haptic/sdk



Enough Software's

Mobile Developer Guide to the Galaxy:

www.enough.de/products/mobile-developers-guide/

Wireless Industry Partner's (WIP) Design Guide

Mobile Developer's Guide to the 5th Dimension:

[wip.org/download/**Fifth Dimension** v1.pdf](http://wip.org/download/Fifth_Dimension_v1.pdf)



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 Direct Access: Bob Heubel
RHEUBEL@IMMERSION.COM