

øencide

Brand Guide

May 1, 2017



A synergistic hangout for creative growth.



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Logo

The encide logo is designed to be flexible with a small, consistent handful of options to choose from depending on what is most appropriate for a goal. Key formats include logomark, horizontal, stacked, engraved (3D), and outcide (3D). In most cases, the logomark and horizontal formats should be utilized. For official uses of the logo on encide-owned entities, the logomark, horizontal, and stacked formats will appear in black, white or brand colors. For community projects, the logo should be used as creatively as possible, provided that the brand is clearly recognizable.

The wordmark is a densely personalized, delicate melding between Aller Bold Italic by Dalton Maag Ltd, Lato Bold Italic by Łukasz Dziedzic, Maven Pro Bold by Joe Prince of Vissol Ltd, Bariol Bold Italic by Atipo, Imprima Regular by Eduardo Tunni, Palo Alto Oblique by TypeFaith, PT Sans Bold Italic by ParaType, and Candal Regular by Vernon Adams.

Logo

Formats

- 1 Symbol
- 2 Horizontal
- 3 Small (200x50)
- 4 Stacked









Logo Grids







Logo » Grids

Symbol

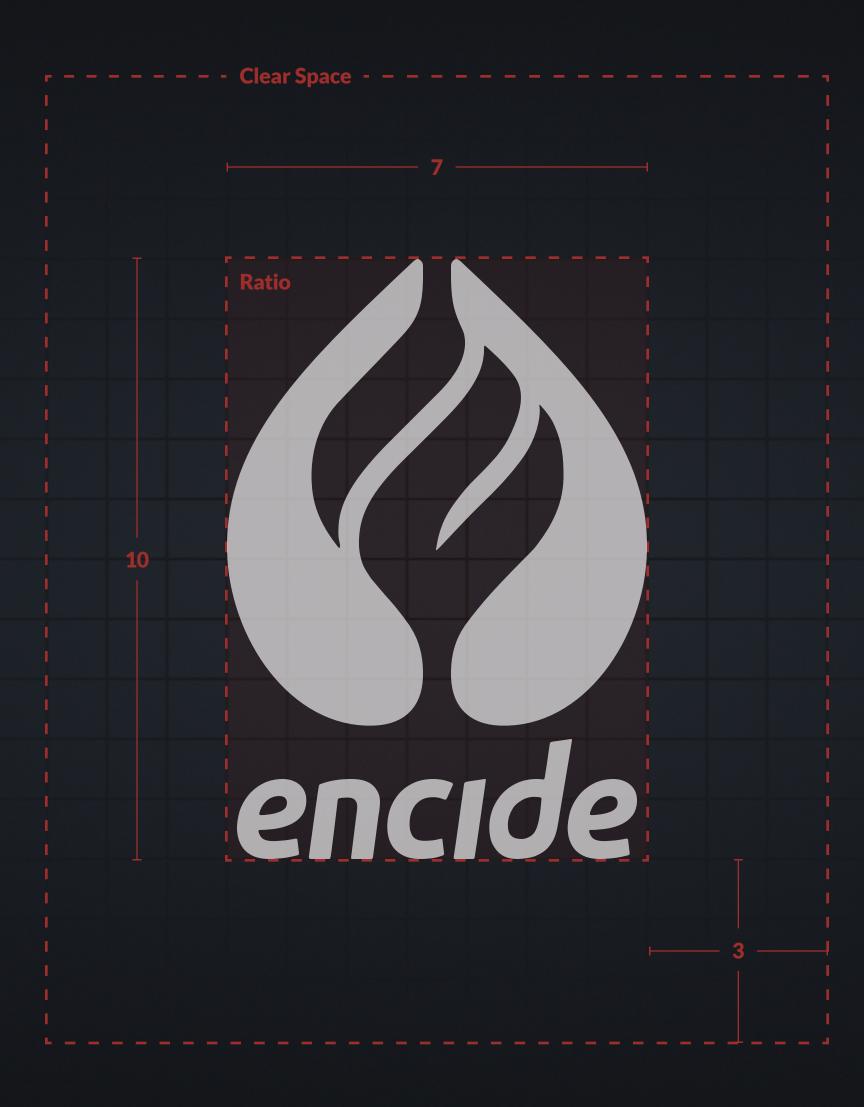
Ratio 9:10
Space 3 units
Usage Primary



Logo » Grids

Stacked

Ratio 7:10Space 3 unitsUsage Tertiary



Logo » Grids

Horizontal

Ratio **4:1**

Space 1 unit

Usage Secondary



Logo



- Do maintain aspect ratios and spacing.
- Do use both flat and (subtle) gradient styling.
- Do punch the logo out of a wall to create a window effect.
- Do use more than the minimum clear spacing when appropriate.
- Do use visual styling to inset, emboss, or deboss the logo to appear 3D.
- Do exercise reasonable freedom in creative projects to showcase the logo.













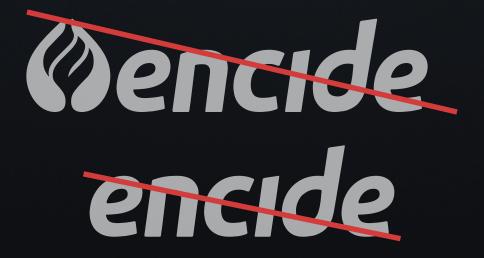
- Don't cut out the EC monogram.
- Don't distort, rotate, squish, or flip the logo.
- Don't apply drop shadow effects to the clean logo.

- Don't change the relative proportions of the mark to the word or use just the wordmark.
- Don't apply flat, inner or outer strokes to any of the lockups. Keep the entire shape visible.
- Don't change the relative positioning of the mark to the word. Don't use the mark with other fonts.











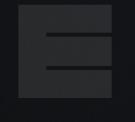




Logo

Meanings

We are a creative community drawn to personal growth and symbiosis. Encide's linguistic versatility offers a noun, homonym, and preposition. Given that **e**n-**c**ide is a two syllable expression echoing the prepositional word "inside," we find a gratifying symbolization to be the arrival of a monogram that visually fits the first letter of one syllable *inside* of the other. Considering that our name's primary syllable begins with the letter **e**, we have found a remarkably understated method to insert the secondary **c** using nothing more than an uppercased letterform with a mild omission. The monogram is then spun and held in a deliberately ambiguous shape cognizant of life, growth and longevity. To minimize lines and link dual entities, the enclosure opens into negative space, and emerges a bold, singular symbol. Let it be a droplet, leaf, egg, or flame. The fluidic curves are made consistent with the legible, agile, and humanist wordmark by forming droplet apertures within the letters **e** and **d**. Lastly, the meaning is accented by figurative labels. Members inside of our private circle are called enciders, while others are facetiously referred to as outciders. Our intent is not to be exclusionary, but rather to seek out those with common passion, respect and grit who will help to sustain and multiply the synergy encide. It is expected that the symbol's prepositional metaphors will be realized in separate stages. The prominent e inside of the droplet should be swiftly inferred, while the discovery of the subtly nested c should be a distinct moment of crystallization.







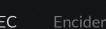


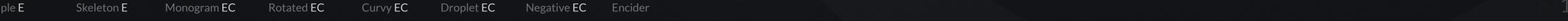












Logo Motion

Colors

Our colors are both inspired by and forged from nature through elements like metals, rocks, and gemstones. The anatomy of our palette can be broken into primary backgrounds, a secondary accent, and tertiary substitutes. Our two primary backgrounds are a light, golden silver and a dark, desaturated grey. Light represents metal, while dark is rock. Our secondary accent, and the most dominant color of substance is a rich green; roused by gemstones. Lastly, the tertiary colors, which are also taken from gemstones, include yellow, red, blue and purple. Each gemstone color offers a rich variety of delicious flavors to work with across generous creative permutations.



Colors

Palette





Caramel Chrome

Metal. Glossy. Tasty. Hinting of a delicious, golden caramel that's exquisitely addictive to the senses. Reflective & smooth.



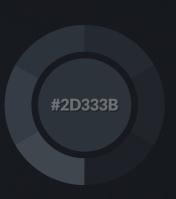
Code Citrine

Gem. Valuable. #E6b941



Refresh Ruby

Gem. Vigorous. #BA3534



Savvy Slate

Rock. Dark. Sleek. Historically, 'blank slate' was utilized in the earliest of known canvases.
Resourceful & metamorphic.



Eternal Emerald

Gem. Unique. Eonic. Emeralds are considered to be eminently precious, delicate gemstones.

Rare & fortuitous



Surface Sapphire

Gem. Vitreous



Avid Amethyst

Gem. Vitality. #90539F

Typography

Our font of choice is the legible, scalable, and humanist typeface known as Lato by Warsaw-based designer Łukasz Dziedzic. It includes five font weights and a timeless aesthetic with undeniable clarity. Much of our site's content lives in written form, so choosing a font that offers a pleasant reading experience was of the utmost importance. In most cases, only light, regular, or bold weights should be used. Both hairline and black are nice to have but not the first choices for officially branded materials. Italics should be used sparingly on interactive designs, but is welcome in written paragraphs. The typography used for all Encide touchpoints follow consistent and simple principles which use custom forms of constrained writing which consider all written structures. Curated justifications and word lengths in vertically stacked lists are consistered to fit within simple, pairing sets. Subtle, imperceivable tricks like letter spacing are used to help make these tiny efforts look just right without actually affecting the vernacular decisions or compromising legibility. The end results will be beatifully shaped paragraphs and lists that are precisely written. All efforts to title sections, products or projects should seek for one word titles (e.g. "Encide Interface Battlebay" became "Interfaces"). Two word titles can be used on rare occasions, but it should not be the norm. The written version of "Encide" should appear in Lato wherever possible. It is stylized with a capital E in writing. The wordmark consists of lowercase letters to place emphasis on the symbol. Encide may appear in all caps or all lowercase on occasion — typically when it helps to achieve consistency within the overall, visual composition of the brand touchpoint it is being utilized for.

Typography

Lato

Regular Body

Bold Subtitles

Lite Headlines

Lato Regular (Italic) Lato Bold (Italic) Lato Lite (Italic)

AaBbCcDdEeFfGgHhliJjKkLlMmNnOoPpQqRrSsTtUuVvWwXxYyZz0123456789 AaBbCcDdEeFfGgHhliJjKkLlMmNnOoPpQqRrSsTtUuVvWwXxYyZz0123456789 Get encide. (@#\$%^&*+[]\/{}\::':"<=,.~!>?)(@#\$%^&*+[]\/{}\::':"<=,.~!>?)

AaBbCcDdEeFfGgHhliJjKkLlMmNnOoPpQqRrSsTtUuVvWwXxYyZz0123456789 AaBbCcDdEeFfGgHhliJjKkLlMmNnOoPpQqRrSsTtUuVvWwXxYyZz0123456789 Grow inside. (@#\$%^&*+[]\/{}|:;':"<=,.~!>?)(@#\$%^&*+[]\/{}|:;':"<=,.~!>?)

AaBbCcDdEeFfGgHhIiJjKkLlMmNnOoPpQqRrSsTtUuVvWwXxYyZz0123456789 AaBbCcDdEeFfGgHhIiJjKkLlMmNnOoPpQqRrSsTtUuVvWwXxYyZz0123456789 Graduate outcide. (@#\$%^&*+[]\/{}|:;':"<=,.~!>?)(@#\$%^&*+[]\/{}|:;':"<=,.~!>?)

Our community is filled with healthy diversity. We have minimalist designers, fantasy interface gurus, sketchbook artists, 3D modelers, motion junkies, and savvy front-to-back-end developers. We welcome anyone creative who is looking to push themselves and assist others in realizing and reaching their personal goals creatively, technically, professionally, or otherwise. While each member has distinct goals and interests, we do share fundamental values and penchants that have kept us cohesive and active. Our rich history and some popular styles within our niche have helped to define our design language which is unapologetically true to our roots while attentively modern and regularly refined. Encide is a lifestyle brand for hands-on creatives who are deeply passionate about expanding their skillsets and careers in harmony with the changes in technology.

Values



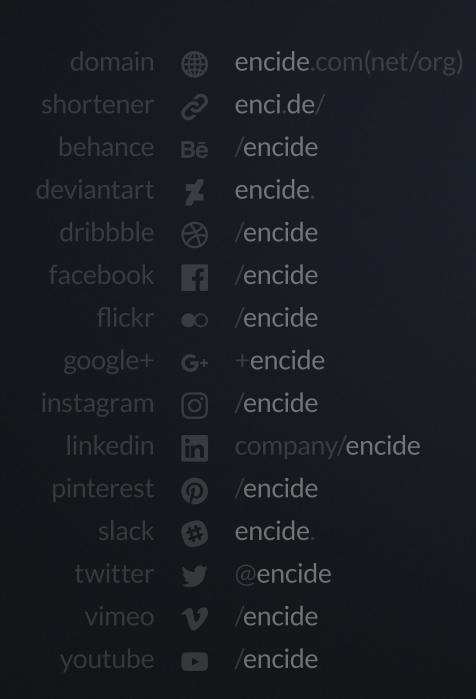
Origins

Encide was founded by a small group of designers, developers and artists in 2008. Since its launch, the global community has grown and matured on nothing more than an open source discussion forum with primitive, modified themes. We started off with 13 active members from a preceding forum called Mished that was unstable between 2005 and 2007 until we decided to find a more permanent home. The name "encide" was suggested by Jeff Nielsen, who also founded Mished. He suggested the name because it sounded like a real word and the letters didn't have a complicated mixture of ascending and descending letters. It was unanimously agreed upon by all of the original founders in March of 2008. Our members came from mostly defunct communities including Area01, Behance, Billy Bussy Forums, Clan Templates, Cosmo Designs, Devay, DeviantART, TheDreamArt, Effectica, GFX24, GUIStation, Lethal Templates, OxiForum, Shadowness, ShadowDesigns, Shiver7, UltraShock and countless others. In late 2009, we decided to make the forums both private and invite-only so that members could focus on improvement rather than moderation. This idea led to more common use of the noun encider as someone who had access to our network, and this led to more user activity and demand for accounts. We have always taken pride in our support of honest, useful criticisms by striving for a balance between integrity and encouragement that only exists because of our need to help others. The founders of encide are Adam Scoville, Andrew Ellis, Axel Norvell (Axertion), "cfdesign," Eric Fortier (El3ment4l), Jeff Nielsen (Mished/Mest), Joe Sanders (wo^tron), Kadir Inan (div^), Matthieu Dufour, Max, "Relapse," Rob Faller and encide's owner Tim Silva who had a history of energetic involvement in the earlier design communities and forums as a leading staff moderator.

Philosophy

Our design language is minimal with depth, and content is king. Both dark and light atmospheres should be used provided that the content is highly legible in contrast. Less is more, except when it's not, and no design is ever truly complete. As a design community, we understand the absurdity of the word "final" when discussing a living, breathing brand presence. Every web page, document, or product is in a transient state fueled by quick and purposeful iterations. As an entity, we embrace the common fear and discomfort of change that all users experience. History reminds us that change is both necessary and provocative, despite inevitable failures that should be celebrated as progress. It's important to understand that our brand's philosophy and design language should not be recognized as representatives of our member's. We are a truly diverse group of individuals with our own goals who share a popular interest in providing and seeking help from those we can trust. The styling on our buttons should have little or no impact on that fundamental mission of achieving unparalleled symbiosis.

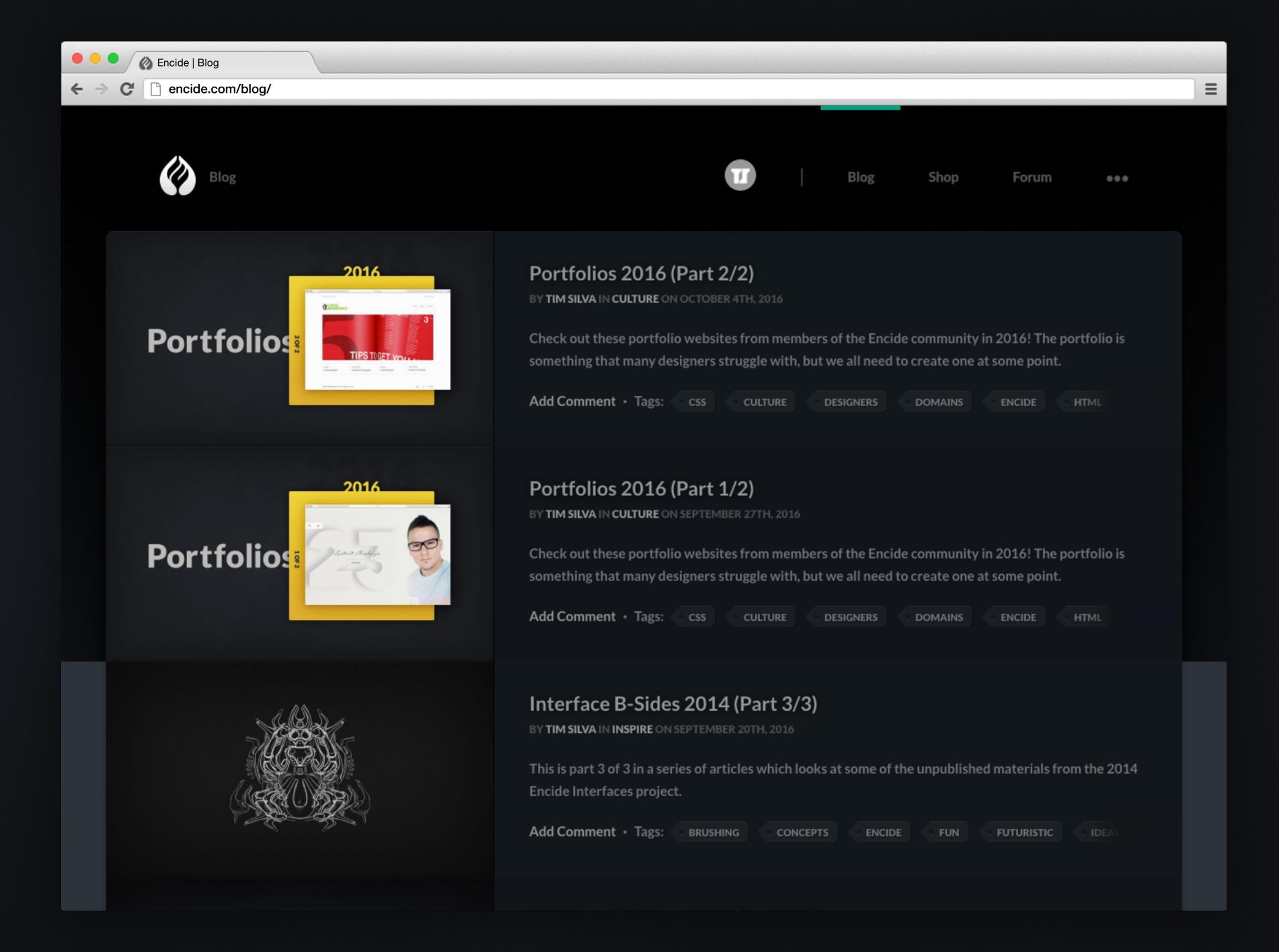
We believe that content is king above all else. Our brand is a balance between user generated content and meticulously curated media of all kind. Ambitions, ideas, inspiration, values and visual goodness define our permanence. We provide two tiers of content, the inner circle and the outer circle. Each has it's own target audience and goals. They carry equal weight and each one acts to grow the other. Snippets of each tier can be seen on social media.





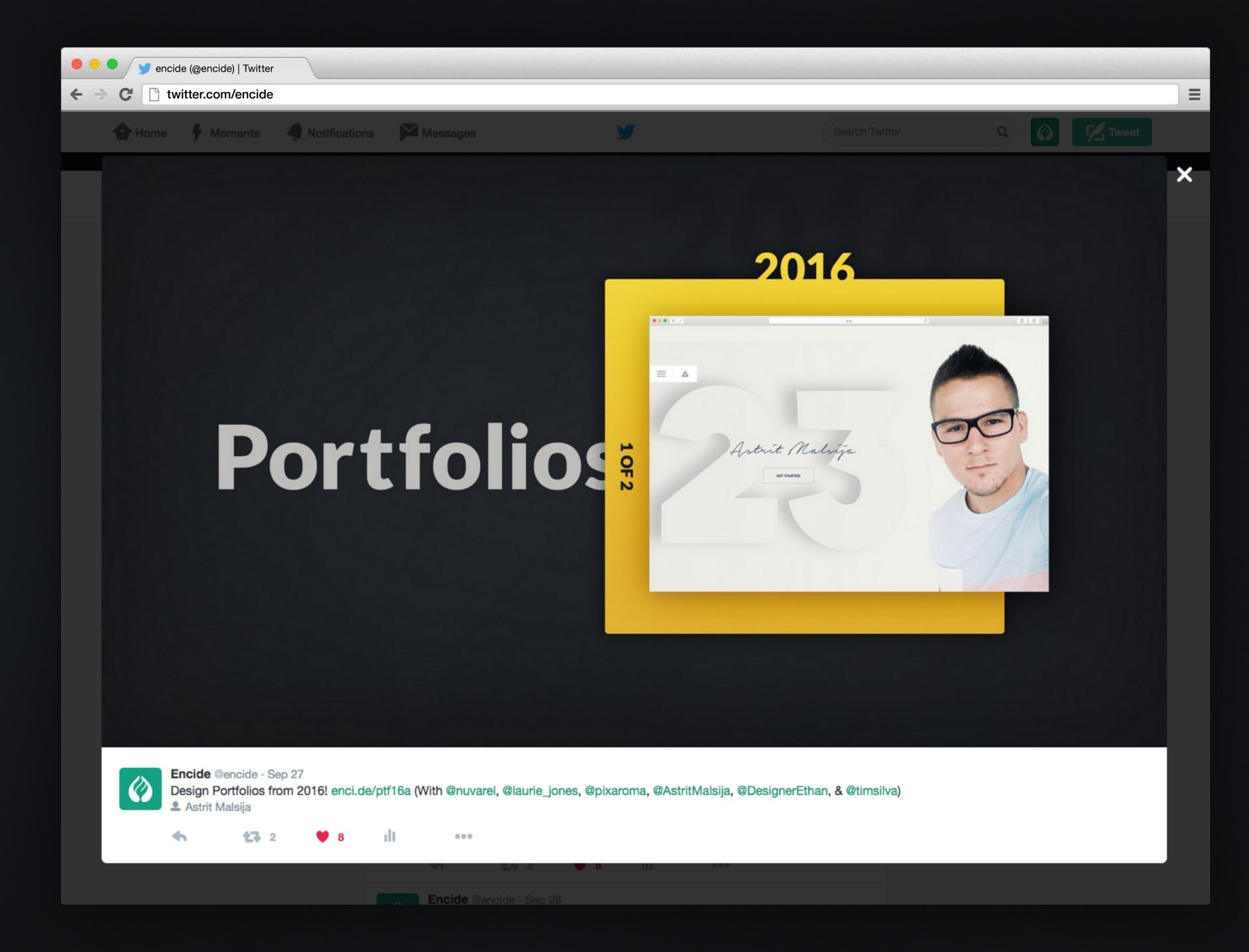
Blog

Weekly articles from news to resources and inspiration.



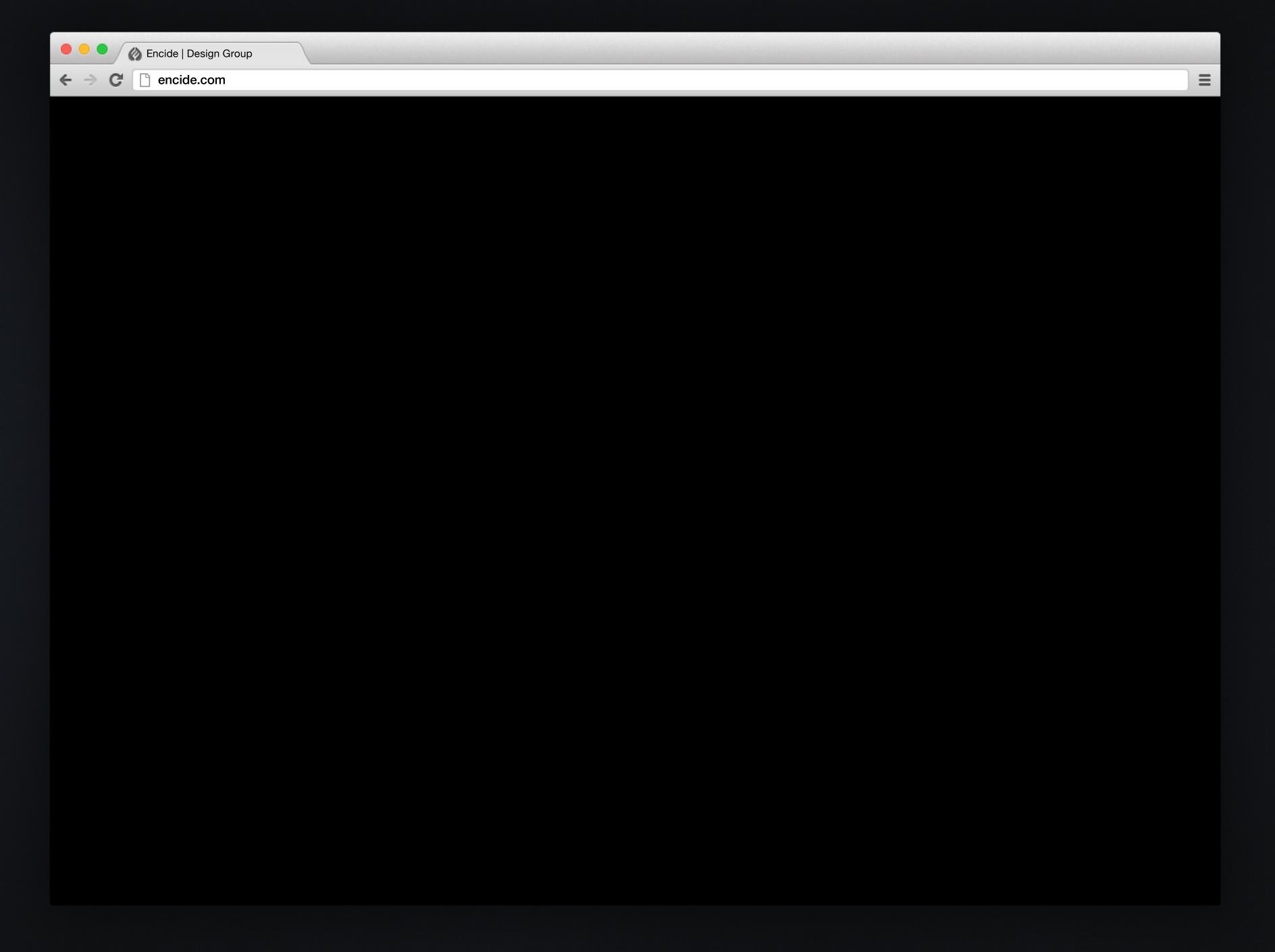
Social

Curated artwork and featured content previews from the site.



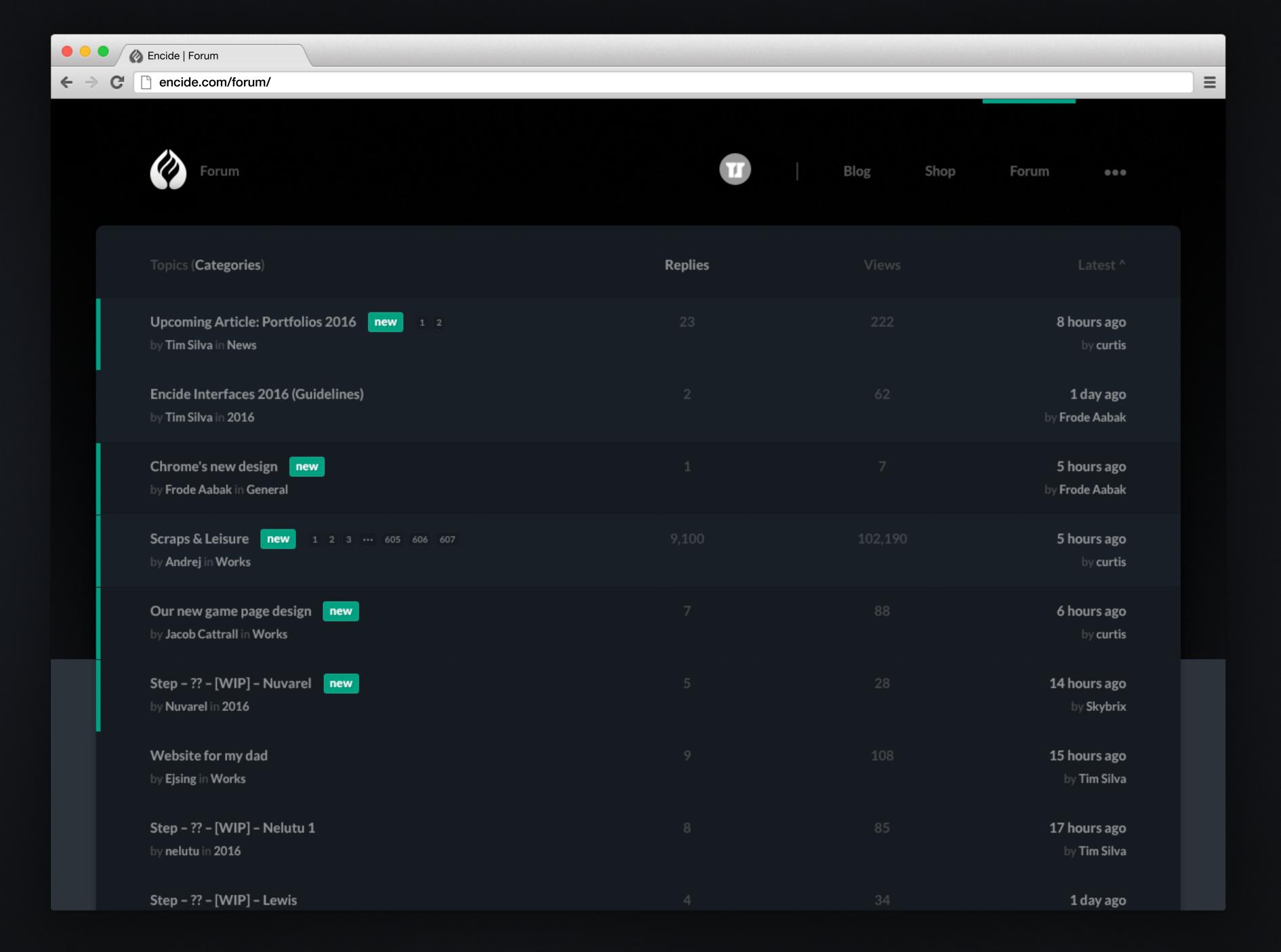
Media

Original content including videos and podcasts.



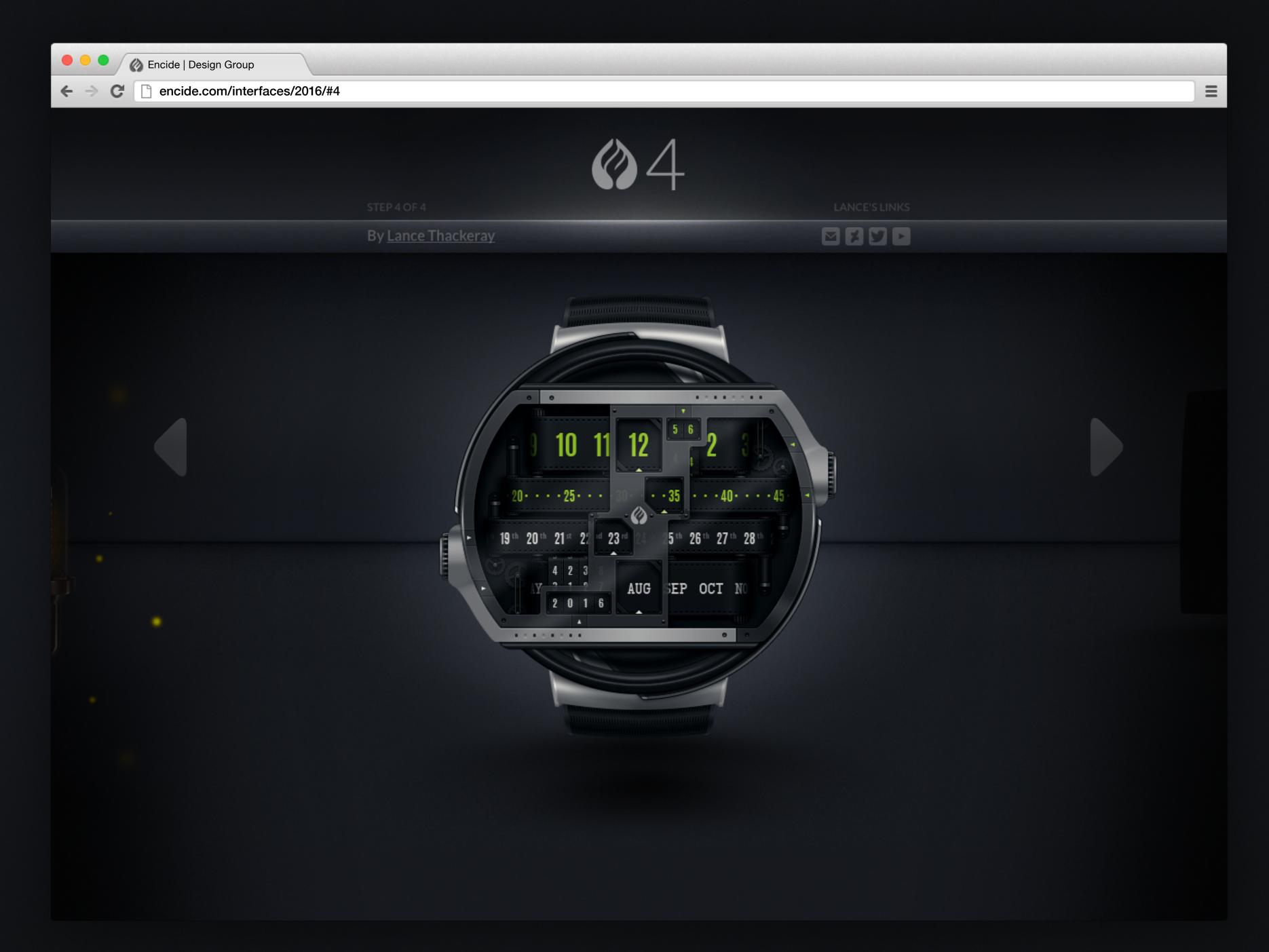
Forum

The beautiful home to our wonderful community.



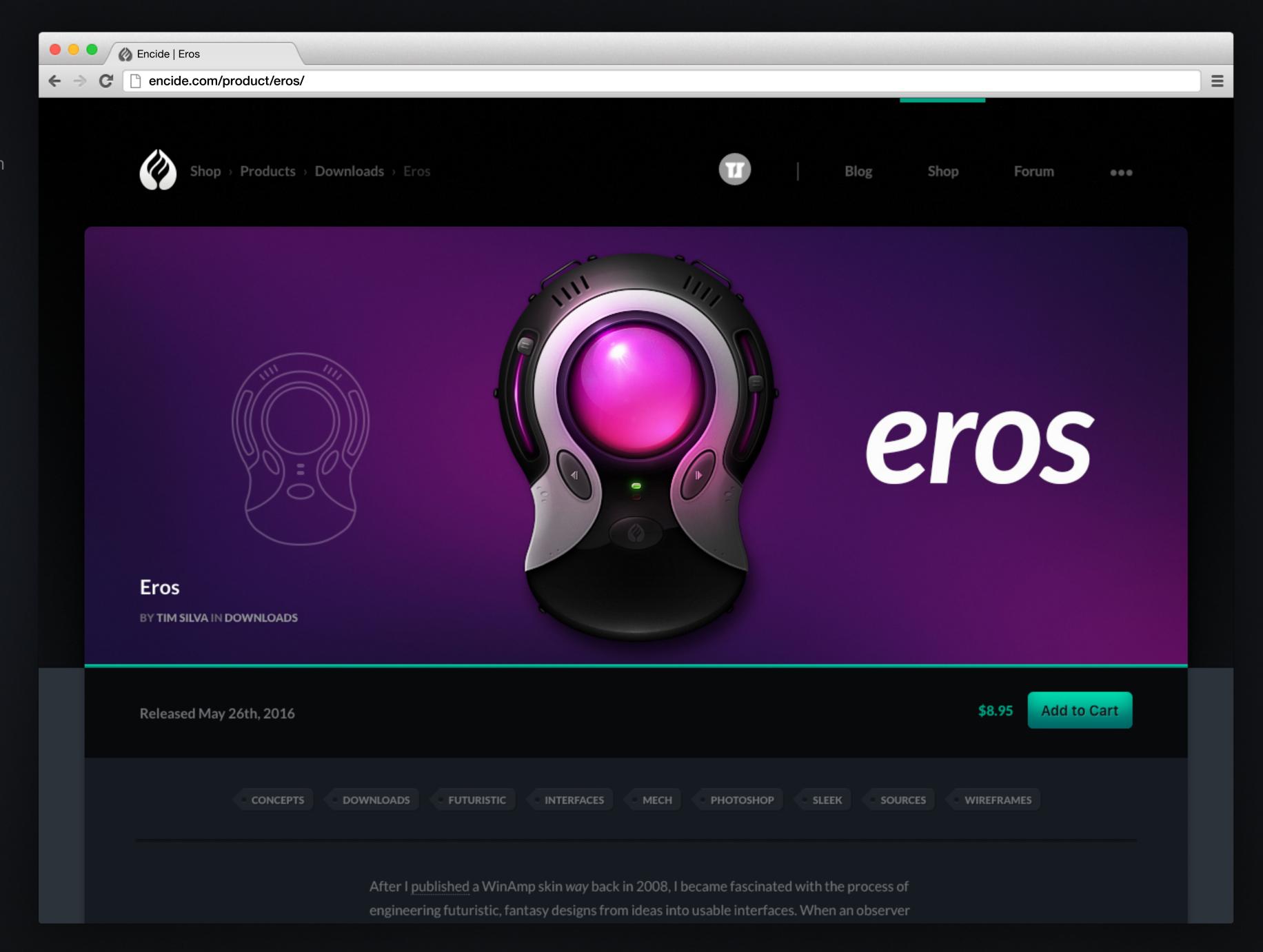
Projects

Competitions and collaborations organized for our members.



Products

High quality products ranging from handy resouce kits to source files, tutorials, and physical goods.



The following word clouds and moodboards are meant to demonstrate elements and styling that have influenced the arrival of our new brand. Each collection contains attributes and cues that were explored and sought after creatively. Curated snippets from the exploration have been organized into an easy to understand format to tell the story of our brand's inception and journey.

Interim

In 2009, a clever symbol was introduced. The idea was a monogram of a lowercase **c** *inside* of a lowercase **e**, a playful spin on Encide's conspicuous homonym. The mark has been showcased on collaborations, portfolios, galleries and many sources of inspiration since it was formed. While it is beautiful and familiar, it was never designed as a complete, all-purpose logo for the Encide brand.

Jeff Nielsen's original symbol



Vintage

A handful of classic logo treatments and styles that we should never forget.



Motives

Moving forward as a *community*, the time for a focused, honest rethink of our presence began around mid 2012. As a launching point for this evolution, visual identity was the prime consideration. With the existing logomark (see previous pages) as an early touchstone, the refresh was driven by three fundamental objectives while retaining the ingenious **ec** monogram motif.

Goal one was to create a more simplified, scalable mark. It looks beautiful on the side of a 16 story building and as 16x16 pixel favicon in your favorite web browser. It's creative flexibility allows for compositions to be grayscaled, colored, flat, depthy, engraved or even brought to life in 3D objects that you can imagine reaching for and holding in your own hands. It was also crafted to dance gracefully in motion sequences.

Goal two was to have a wordmark that pairs with the logomark. The the symbol will appear alone or with the wordmark at times, so every lockup must look and feel consistent in all its possible arrangements.

Goal three was to arrive at a brand that has the endurance to grow with us. Inspired by the industry coined "timeless," this was only a foundation. The new mark is also *limitless*. At present, we are a community operating on forum software; one day, we may branch out to anything from a blog to an agency, or even an educational center. The new mark must remain vigorous enough to withstand the bigger picture, even if we're still defining the vision.

Logomark



Vision » Logomark

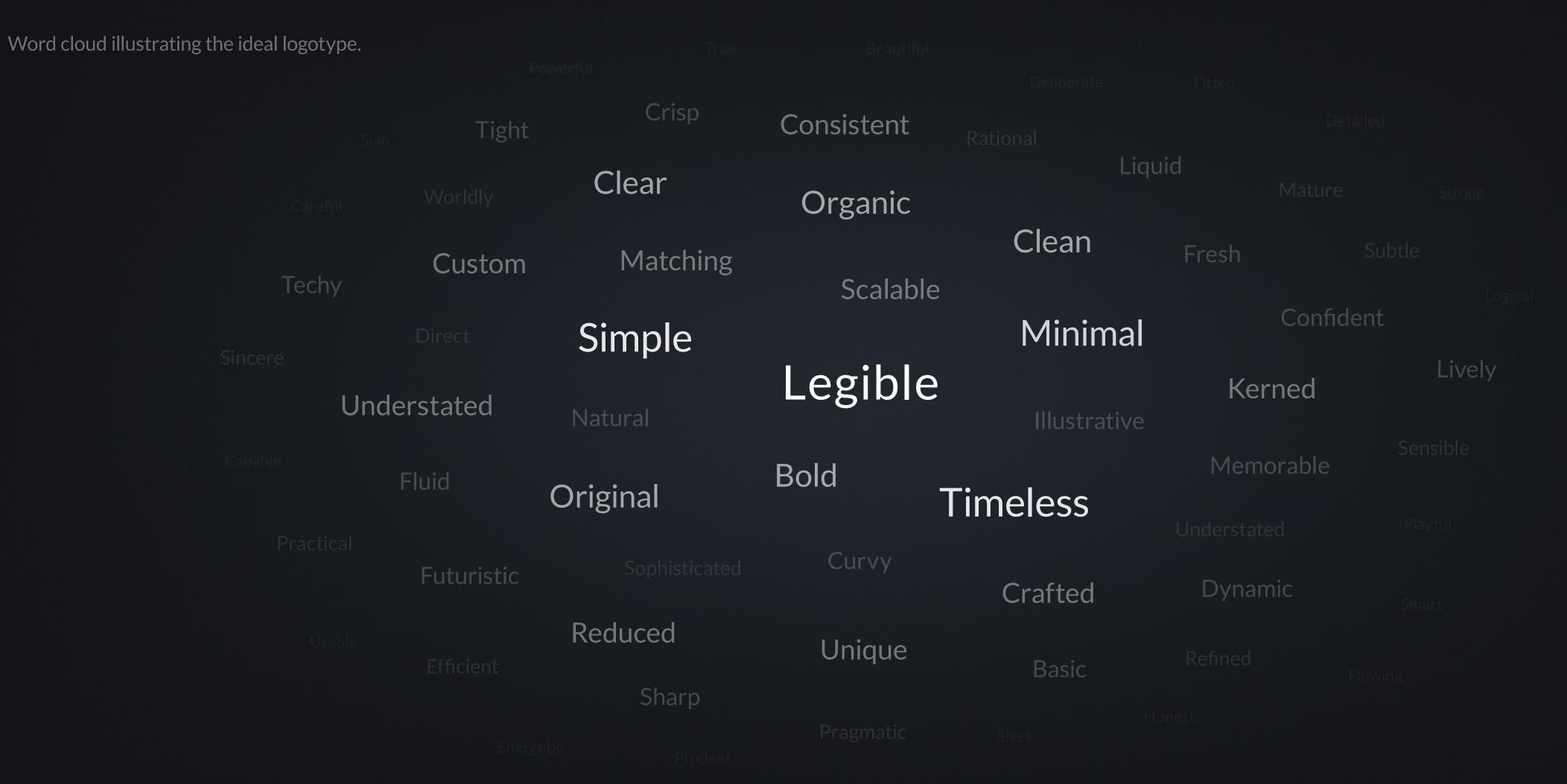
Moodboard

Logomark moodbard based on preceding word cloud.



Vision

Wordmark



Vision » Wordmark

Moodboard

Logotype moodbard based on preceding word cloud.

SKION PS UNVAEL BASIC Aptina unicer sssw OCEAN baldesi PURE tea human nun@rganic nutrío NONA PHORIA Gather 71710 ARCANA MEDION ADEMA ıllu-tan nando TWST 21% Ua DERBI GEMINI FM S‡IFT STCRM quates share STAND BDLT Malea Mark kemso vanbelkum deviantart asana: DAYBREAK Nespresso Inspi(red)

Vision

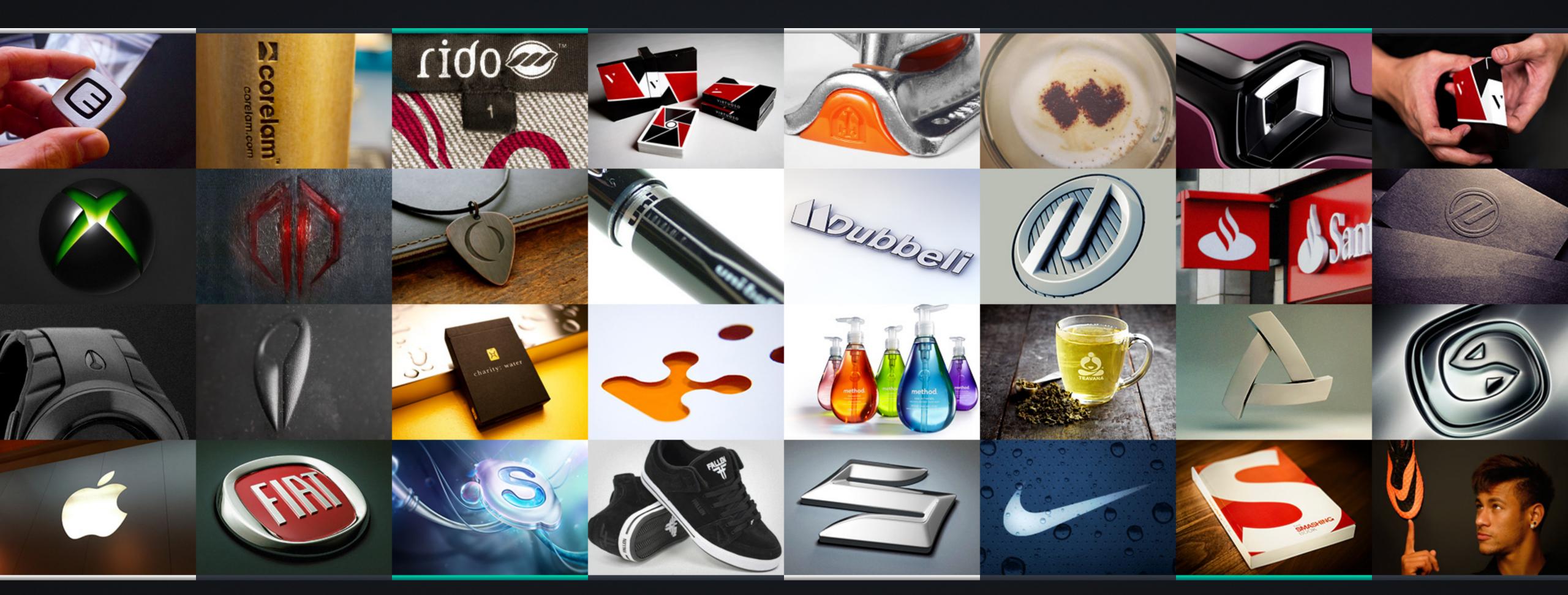
Treatments



Vision » Treatments

Moodboard

Tasty logo applications and styles that have informed our aesthetic direction.



Vision

Process

The following pages are collections of key moments in discovering our logo and a richly detailed list of credits to all those who contributed their thoughts and efforts towards the betterment of our community's symbol and brand.

Vision » Process

Anthology

Archive of vectorized logo explorations.

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Vision » Process

Credits

Jeff Nielsen, the founder of Mished, conceived the name "encide" in March 2008. Weeks after, Tim Silva attempted to insert an **e** inside of the inner space of a **c** as a favicon. It wasn't designed as a continuous monogram, but rather, an awkwardly squeezed pair of letters. Months later, Eric Fortier offered the crystal white and liquid blue icons (see vintage) for us to use to indicate if there were new posts in a board. It was an unconventional monogram; a lopsided ${\bf c}$ that curled in on the top to *look* like a hybrid with an **e**. A year later in late 2009, Jeff modestly unvielved a new monogram idea in an avatar. We loved it and instantly adopted it as our new logo. We launched the first interface battlebay weeks afterwards and showcased the symbol on as many of our steps as possible. Since late 2009, that symbol has been used hundreds if not thousands of times by designers both inside and outside of our forum. Since the logo was never designed with a wordmark or an accompanying brand, Tim faced many challenges while using the logo in other contexts. In mid 2012, he started passively exploring new ideas to add a wordmark to Jeff's symbol. During some sketches, Tim discovered that the common uppercase **E** and **C** use similar lines and that they could be merged into one monogram by removing the connecting, upper piece of the vertical bar. This simple idea launched into over a year of attempts to harness this principle into a meaningful form. The first wave resulted in a round and sharp symbol punched out of a circle with a techy wordmark. During a community review, Andrej Elbers introduced a fluid curvature to the shape, which result in a liquid flame resemblance that was well received amongst the community. Tim explored this curvy modification and arrived at a negatively-spaced, droplet enclosure with a matching, humanist font. Special thanks to Adis Hasanic, Ali Ghandour, Axel Norvell, Eduardo Santos and Kadir Inan for offering useful feedback, unique ideas, and values that had an impact on the end result.

Vision

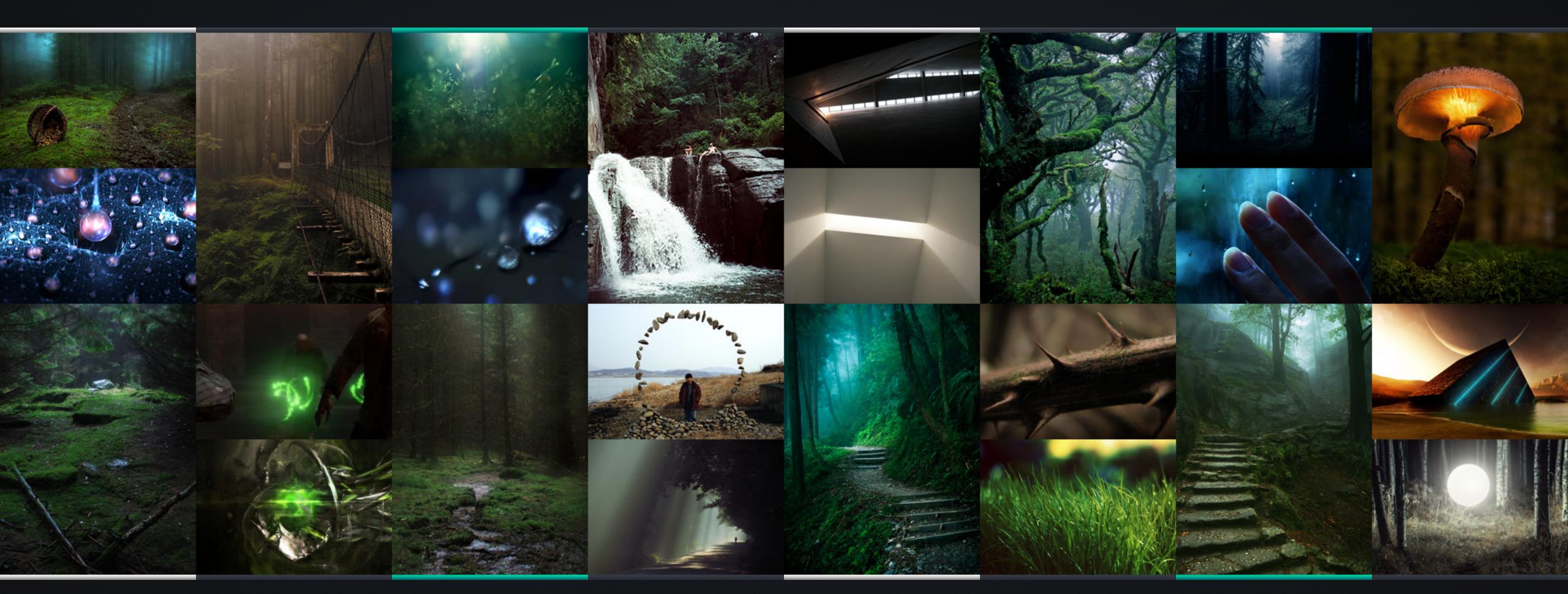
Imagery



Vision » Imagery

Moodboard

Types of imagery that should be used with the encide brand.



Additional information and history pertaining to the encide brand.

Organigram

...

Showcase

Timeline

Significant events from Encide's history.



ATEST AT ENCIDE.COM/HISTORY

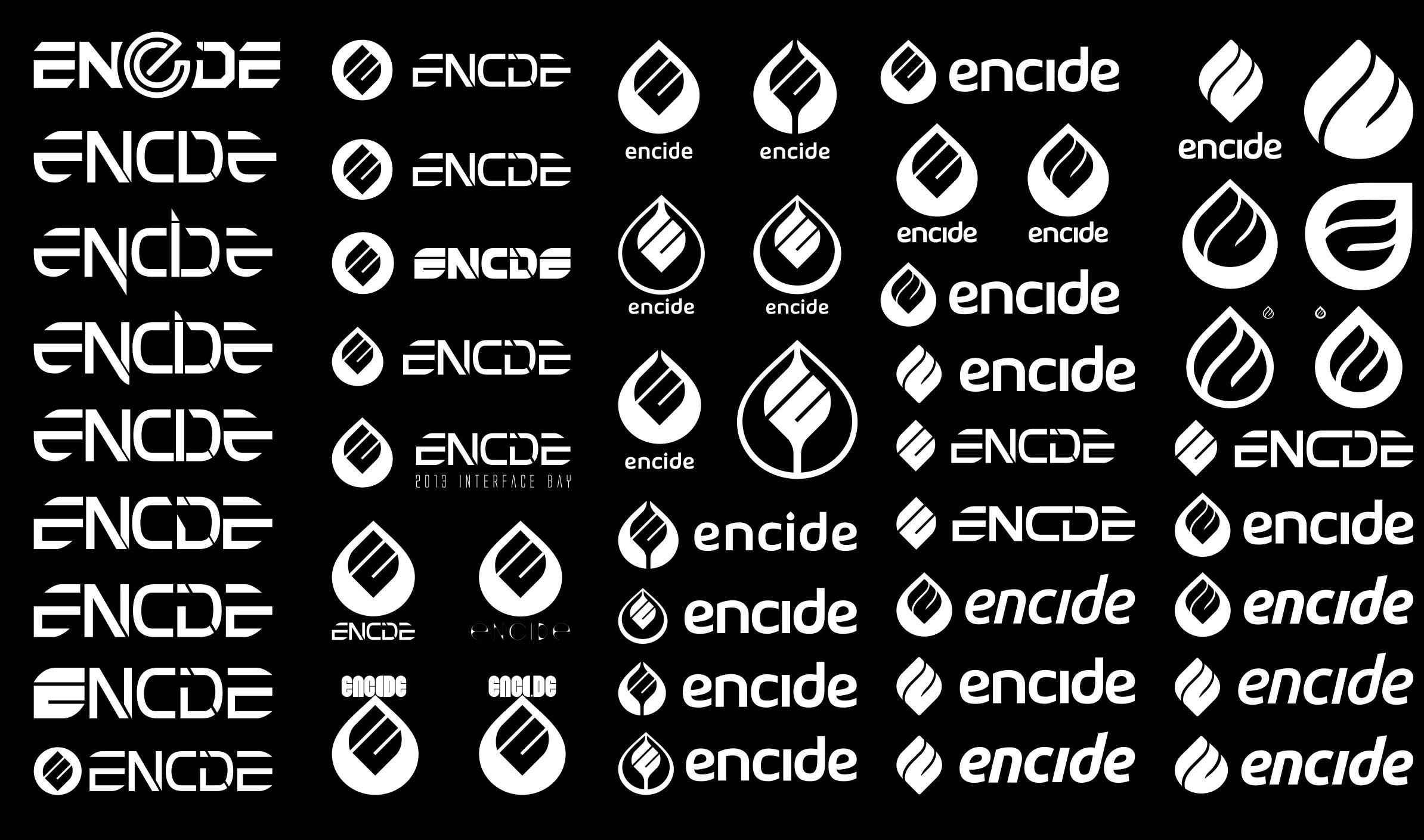


Thanks!

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Ideas...

The remaining pages are an appendix of leftover, raw ideas. The design process is often an unfinished, lovely mess. I never plan to "finish" exploring new ideas for encide's visual identity, so this ongoing exploration will be included. Enjoy. =)





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encide

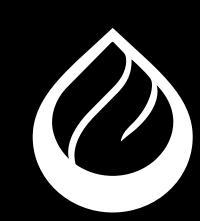


encide

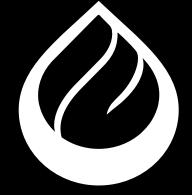












encide





































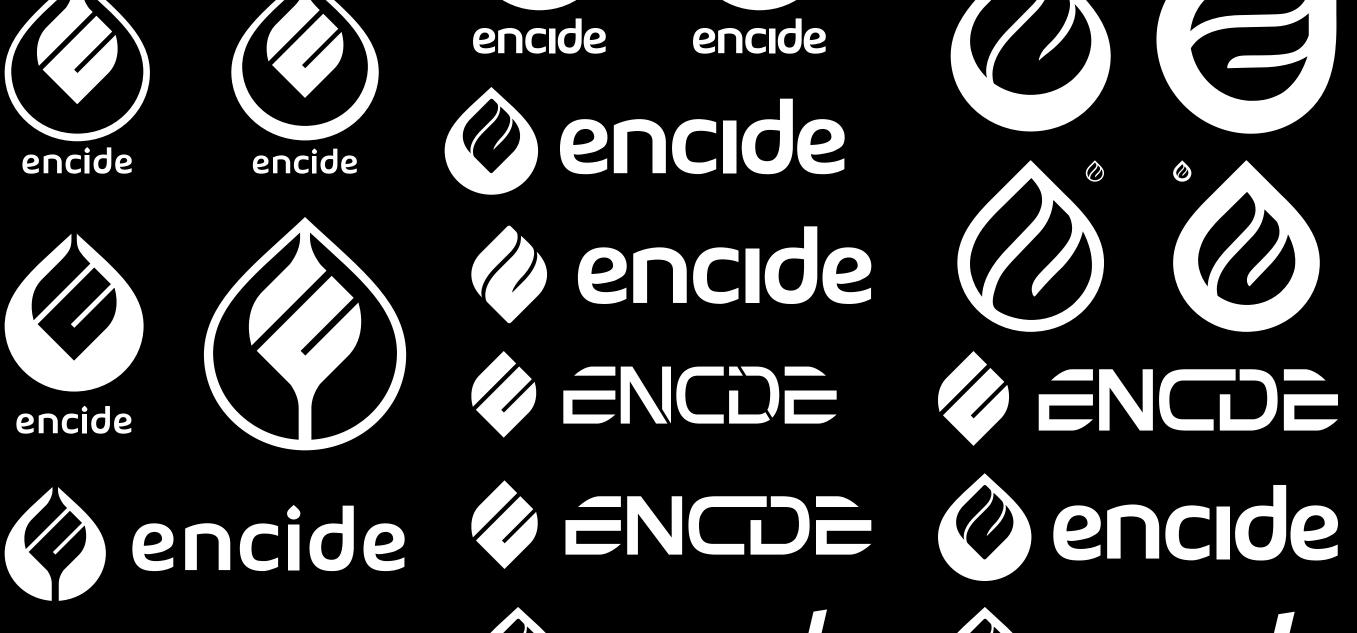




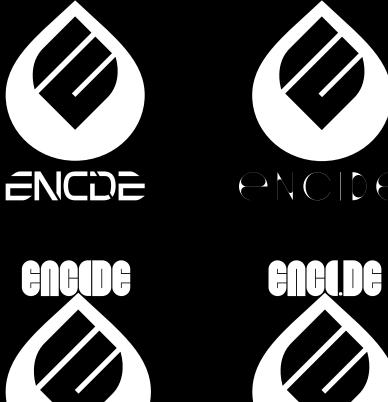


























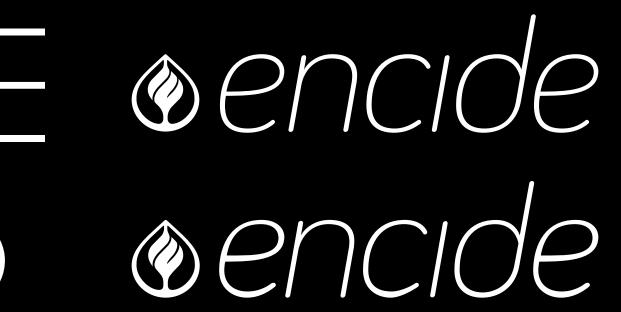


øencide

















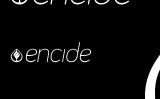


















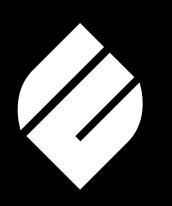












@encide





encide



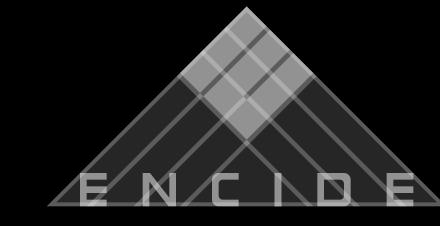












encide



These are some of my favorite ideas with compelling notes, pros and cons to show why they didn't hit specific my goals.

Aug 21st, 2013

The EC monogram in a curvy droplet enclosure as a single, solid piece.

Pros

- It's a versatile, single and solid piece.
- The shape scales well both ways.



Cons

- Looks too much like poop. Enough said.

Sep 3rd, 2013

A sci-fi styled wordmark. First drafted in Sep 2013; gradually refined over months.

Pros

- There is a single, solid-piece version.
- Timeless styling; would age well.
- Fits the general brand tone.



Cons

- Isn't legible for all people.
- Doesn't scale down well.

Jun 26th, 2014

This is the most obvious EC monogram and wordmark that I could come up with.

Added a wordmark on Dec 23rd, 2015.

Pros

- The mark's 1:1 aspect ratio is useful.
- The EC monogram is fairly obvious.



Cons

- Looks far too corporate, not creative.
- Looks too much like the Enron logo.
- Also looks like the "Evil Corp" logo.

Jun 6th, 2016

An ec monogram which fits a c into the e by punching out an inner piece of the e.

Pros

- It plays well with the e and c shapes.
- It's a single, solid-shaped symbol.



Cons

- The letter ordering isn't clear.
- It doesn't scale down well.

End.

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