

WEB INFRASTRUCTURE TOUR OF VIA EMILIA

Althought we have learned to value objects from the past,
we are not yet able to appreciate the present for what it is

the project started as a journey to discover and organize a tour of the eneternet infrastructure of our surroundings: a dense and intricate intertwining of cables, antennas and cabinets which our eyes are not used to see. this led us to discover that the majority of this network runs along the same road that, during the roman empire, was built to connect all the major cyties that now make up the region of Emilia Romagna. Inspiration for this project came strongly from looking into “Lepida”, the organization that in 2002 started building the ethernet cables and the web infrastructures along the Via Emilia, named after “Marco Emilio Lepido”, the Roman politician who had it built.

The surprisign correlation between the new and the old system of communication between the cities of our region is what made us think about structurig our web tour around the Via emilia. We tried to reveal the modern side of this historycal landmark and, at the same time. keep an eye on the roman roots that made this network possible.



We had a lot of fun wandering around the cities looking for the antennas and cabinets we spotted in online infrastructure maps, so that's really the experience we hope to bring people downloading and printing our map. We chose this very straight forward and bare black and white design so that anyone could print this on a standard A4 from their most likely shitty home printer. We really mean for this fun experience to be enjoyed without much pretence: you print the map and go look around your city to see cool antennas that you may have never noticed, or located in streets you might not had any reason to walk through otherwise.

We also thought that this project, if continued, could become an easy to spread sort of open source collective experience, the next step cold be making an easy to fill in template for anyone to make their whatever map and share it with their friends.

