PRE-SEED · DESIGN CONCEPT · AUGUST 2026

A belt that measures you.

Vyldor is a leather belt that reads your waist circumference continuously — from the tension in its own strap. No other wearable can, because no other wearable is worn tight around the middle.

Vojta Holeš · Founder

VYLDOR.COM · VYLDORHQ@GMAIL.COM

NO HARDWARE HAS BEEN BUILT.
EVERY IMAGE IS A RENDER OF A DESIGN MODEL.

START HERE

Last week I deleted the main feature of my own product.

Until v0.8, the buckle carried a small audio module you pulled out and put in your ear. It was the centrepiece of every page, every render and the deck you were previously going to receive.

It did not survive its own arithmetic. So it is gone — not softened, not "deprioritised". Deleted, along with the film that showed it.

I am telling you this first on purpose. It is the only evidence I have so far of how I will behave with your money: when the numbers said the idea was wrong, I killed the idea rather than the numbers.

The full teardown, including every shape that failed, is public at vyldor.com.

8.6 mm

usable depth in the buckle cavity

bay depth	9.2 mm
walls × 2	−0.6 mm
usable	**8.6 mm**

A comfortable in-ear aims its nozzle into the ear at about **55°**. A nozzle of length L then projects **L · sin(55°)** out of the back of the body. Give the tip the 3.7 mm it needs to reach and seal, and roughly **2 mm** is left for the body itself.

There is no 2 mm earpiece. There is no 2 mm anything containing a driver, a cell, a microphone, an antenna and an SoC.

Ten shapes were drawn and measured. The ones that fitted stopped being earpieces. The ones that were earpieces wanted a buckle 3–8 mm thicker. The last one fitted with 0.37 mm to spare — and was a piece of jewellery that plays music, not something anyone would buy.

Removing the module revealed what the shape was always uniquely good at.

01 · THE MEASUREMENT

Waist circumference, continuously

A strain gauge in the buckle's load-bearing flexure reads the tension in the strap. That tension is your circumference. The sensor is under 0.3 mm thick and costs pennies.

02 · THE OUTPUT

Two haptic zones at the hips

Left and right taps give directions without a screen, at the two points a belt already touches.

03 · THE INPUT

One recessed button

A single deliberate confirmation. No always-on microphone, no camera, no screen anywhere on the belt.

The buckle went back to being purely mechanical — which also removed the reason it was 11.8 mm thick. **Target is now 7–8 mm.**

A watch cannot do this. Not for want of sensors — for want of tightness.

EVERY WRIST WEARABLE

Worn deliberately loose, because a tight watch is uncomfortable. Mounted on a limb that swings. It can infer a great deal about you and measure your body's *size* not at all.

A BELT

Tight by definition — that is what a belt is for. Sits on the part of the body that actually changes shape. And people already put one on every morning without being asked to adopt anything.

Circumference is the number people follow most closely when their body is changing — more closely than weight. **Nothing on the market measures it continuously.** Not because it is hard, but because nothing else is in the right place.

SIGNAL

One sensor. Four things that fall out of the same trace.

Circumference

Slow drift over weeks and months.

Respiration

The waist expands and contracts with every breath.

Posture

Sitting adds measurable circumference over standing.

Meals

A step change that decays over the following hours.

No extra hardware for any of it. The same gauge, the same wire, the same buckle — which is why the feature set does not grow the object or its cost.

SYSTEM BOUNDARY

The belt is the interface.
The phone stays the computer.

PHONE — ALREADY OWNED

- AI, maps, calls, accounts
- Connectivity and the data plan
- All heavy computation

BELT — PLANNED HARDWARE

- Strain gauge in the buckle flexure
- Left / right hip haptics
- One contextual button

DELIBERATELY ABSENT

- No screen, camera or SIM
- No always-on microphone
- No cloud that can brick the object

This is the lesson from the category. **Humane shut down consumer service in February 2025.** Screenless hardware survives only by removing friction, never by asking to become a second phone.

WHERE THIS ACTUALLY STANDS

The definition exists.
The hardware evidence does not.

EXISTS TODAY, AND YOU CAN CHECK ALL OF IT

- Parametric 3D model that refuses to render a part which fails its own fit checks
- Full specification, dimensions and public engineering journal
- Live site, brand, press kit and open hardware specs
- Founder can build the web and companion software unaided

NOT PROVEN — THIS IS WHAT THE ROUND BUYS

- That strap tension carries a readable signal at all
- That hip haptics are distinguishable through clothing
- Comfort and durability across a real wearing day
- That €299 survives real COGS and certification

No prototype. No customers. No revenue. No funding raised to date.

One assumption holds the whole product up. It has not been tested.

Everything rests on strap tension carrying a signal you can actually recover — through clothing, while walking, at different fits and temperatures.

If it does not, circumference and respiration both fall at once, and the product has to be defined again from scratch.

THE CHEAPEST POSSIBLE WAY TO FIND OUT

One strain gauge, one belt, one afternoon.

An amplifier, an ADC and a file of raw samples against a tape measure. It is the first thing funded and the first thing that could kill this — which is exactly the order it should happen in.

Enter as a premium accessory people already understand.

FIRST BUYER

People tracking a body that is changing — and finding weight a poor proxy for it. Plus design-conscious buyers who already spend on belts and refuse to wear a gadget.

PRICE

€299

Target retail, one-time hardware purchase. An assumption, not a validated figure.

OPTIONAL SUBSCRIPTION

€6–10

Per month, only where genuine cloud cost exists. Everything core works without it.

A belt is a size problem in a way a watch is not. We would rather solve that than pretend the wrist is a good place to measure from.

FOUNDER

Vojta Holeš · 16 · Czech Republic

BUILT ALONE, AND VISIBLE

- Product definition, specification and dimensional targets
- Parametric 3D model, renders and concept film
- Website, brand, press kit and companion-software capability
- Public engineering journal, including every mistake found

STATED PLAINLY

- No hardware-building track record
- Needs an experienced hardware lead early, not eventually
- Programs daily; can carry the software side unaided
- Publishes what fails as readily as what works

The first hire this round funds is the person who knows more about hardware than I do. That is the point of the raise, not an admission inside it.

THE RAISE

€500k to replace renders with measured hardware in 18 months.

€180k	€90k	€70k	€90k	€70k
Hardware engineering and industrial design	Prototype builds, sensor validation, user testing	IP, legal, safety and regulatory work	DFM, suppliers, tooling, pilot preparation	Operations and contingency

The goal is not a better render.

It is a measured belt, a signal you can plot, and the honest answer to whether this works — published either way.

Vojta Holeš

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