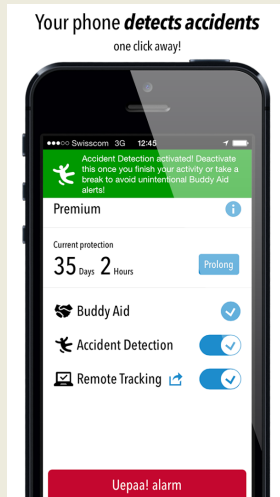
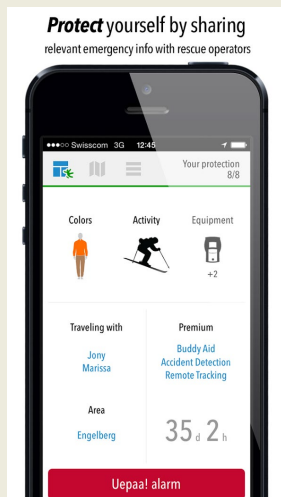
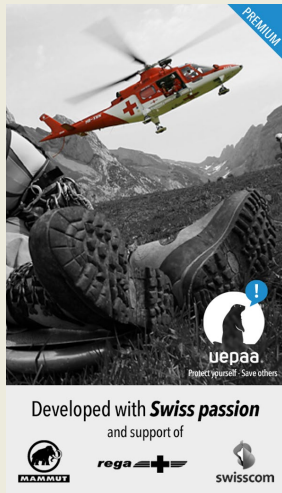


UEPAA! CASE STUDY

Problem – Challenge

Mountaineering is extremely popular in Switzerland but cell phone coverage in remote, mountainous areas is limited and it is neither logistically feasible nor economically reasonable to expand cell phone coverage into those regions.

This represents a hazard to mountaineers who cannot call for help if an accident occurs in such a remote area. At the same time, paths of different mountaineers cross frequently. Needed is a technology that exploits this “meet and greet” activity among mountaineers to create a secure communications system which can enhance safety.



Solution

The Computer Engineering and Networks Laboratory of ETH Zurich has a long history of research on the creation of ad hoc networks among cell phones or similar devices. This technology was picked up and developed further by Uepaa – and earlier this summer they launched the first search and rescue app that works without mobile network coverage onto the market.

The App is available for download from the Apple App Store or Google Play Store.

Uepaa's partners currently include Rega, Mammut, Bergportal and Swisscom.

The Application automatically recognizes accidents and can alert for help from fellow mountaineers who have the app installed. The App is distributed under a “Freemium” model, with some Premium services available on In-App purchase.

