

Team Name: “Bed, Back, and Beyond”

Project Title: Accessible Power-Assist Hospital Bed Back Angle Controller

Angela Baltz                      Chris Heintzelman  
Robert MacArthur              Magdalen Obiefule

Current Status:

- The team purchased a Microsoft Sidewinder Joystick™. The joystick was taken apart and the inter-workings of the device were analyzed and critiqued during our last team meeting. The above joystick is of interest because it has force feedback.

Work Completed:

- Ordered a Microsoft Sidewinder Joystick™
- The group disassembled the joystick

Current Work:

- Individual research
  - Chris will examine an approach to the integration of our systems components
  - Rob is looking at hospital bed specifications
  - Magdalen is studying the joystick components
  - Angie is researching motors we can use to power the feedback in the joystick and motors to lift the bed smoothly
- Deciding what needs to be ordered
- Ordering tools to aid in understanding of the project

Future Work:

- Finalize design Criteria
- Decide what parts need to be ordered
- Test the strength of motors that will provided feedback
- Order parts
- Begin assembly

References/Attachments:

Summary of meeting minutes

October 14, 2006

- Group takes apart joystick and analysis its components
- Another joystick will be ordered to test its functionality
- Group decides to try and order parts soon after Thanksgiving break
- Group discusses potential problems with computer code
- Individual research is assigned