**Project Identity**

Modified Communication System for Client with Disabilities  
Week 1: 8/26 – 9/1/06  
Stephanie Santos

---

**Work Completed**

This week, parts orders for the mono-jack, VGA video card, and Specs™ switch were reviewed and approved for order on Tuesday, Sept. 5th. After a review of our project design from the previous semester, it was decided that a joystick design implementing the hall effect would be better suited to our client’s needs than our previous design using induction coupling. The hall effect design is based entirely on electrical fields, requiring no wiping or wear of internal parts, which would provide the client with a long-lasting joystick control. One of my tasks for the week was to get in touch with John Hayner of P-Q Controls to settle an order for a joystick that would suit the needs of our client. So far, we have decided that the best joystick model that will be suitable to our client is the M212 series joystick with an RSG grip. The M212 series design implements the hall effect and has an overall compact design, the dimensions for which are shown in Figure 1:

![Figure 1: M212 Series Joystick Dimensional Drawing](image)

This dimensional drawing was provided to us by P-Q Controls. The handgrip style we have requested is shown in the photograph below:
My tasks for the week also included making contact with PC Connections, the manufacturers of the VGA card, and AEI Components for data/specifications sheets for the VGA card and several LCD Monitors for connection compatibility. Various searches were also made for a possible power source to supply power to a display monitor for the client’s system.

**Future Work**

For the following weeks, several important tasks will need to be completed in order to ensure that our project progresses smoothly. An LCD monitor will need to be ordered to act as a viewing screen for the client’s conversations. Once an appropriate monitor is chosen, a proper casing, which will encase the circuitry of the monitor and its power supply and provide the necessary mounting components, will need to be designed. This design will be worked on by both Phil and myself. Once the VGA video card is received, we will be able to test the DynaVox loaned to us by our client with a working monitor. The joystick should be received by Week #3. Once received, the joystick must be tested with our DynaVox to ensure its compatibility with the operating software. In the meantime, I will be researching the operating software which runs our client’s Dynavox model (DV4™) to see if any adjustments need to be made to the joystick’s functionality or to the current viewing screen setup.
**Project Review**

Our project has gotten off to a moderate start for this semester. We currently have no parts received, so there is little we can do as far as assembly or testing. Fortunately, our original project timeline allowed us time for parts order complications. The overall design, is still preferred by our client so we will continue to progress with this design, as there appears to be no need for changes.

*Hours worked: 6.5*