

Assisting Paraplegics While Scuba Diving

Sponsor: Dr. Devine Adviser: Dr. McConomy

FAMU-FSU Dominic Balistreri • Kylie Halbert • Ebony Luster • Kevin Nicholas College of Engineering

AQUASIST

Project Scope

The objective of this project is to create a device that offers paraplegic scuba divers greater independence while in the water.

Motivating Problem

Recent technology allows paraplegics to enjoy various activities, but why has a device not been created for scuba diving?









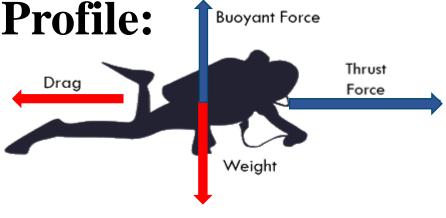


SCUBA Diving?

Design Considerations

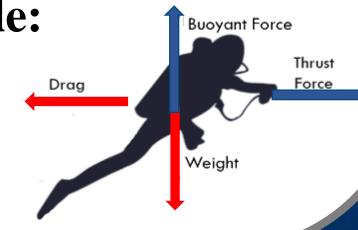
- Heat Loss
- Trim Control
- Body Compositions
- Increased Oxygen
 Consumption

Fully Abled Diver Profile: Buoyant Force

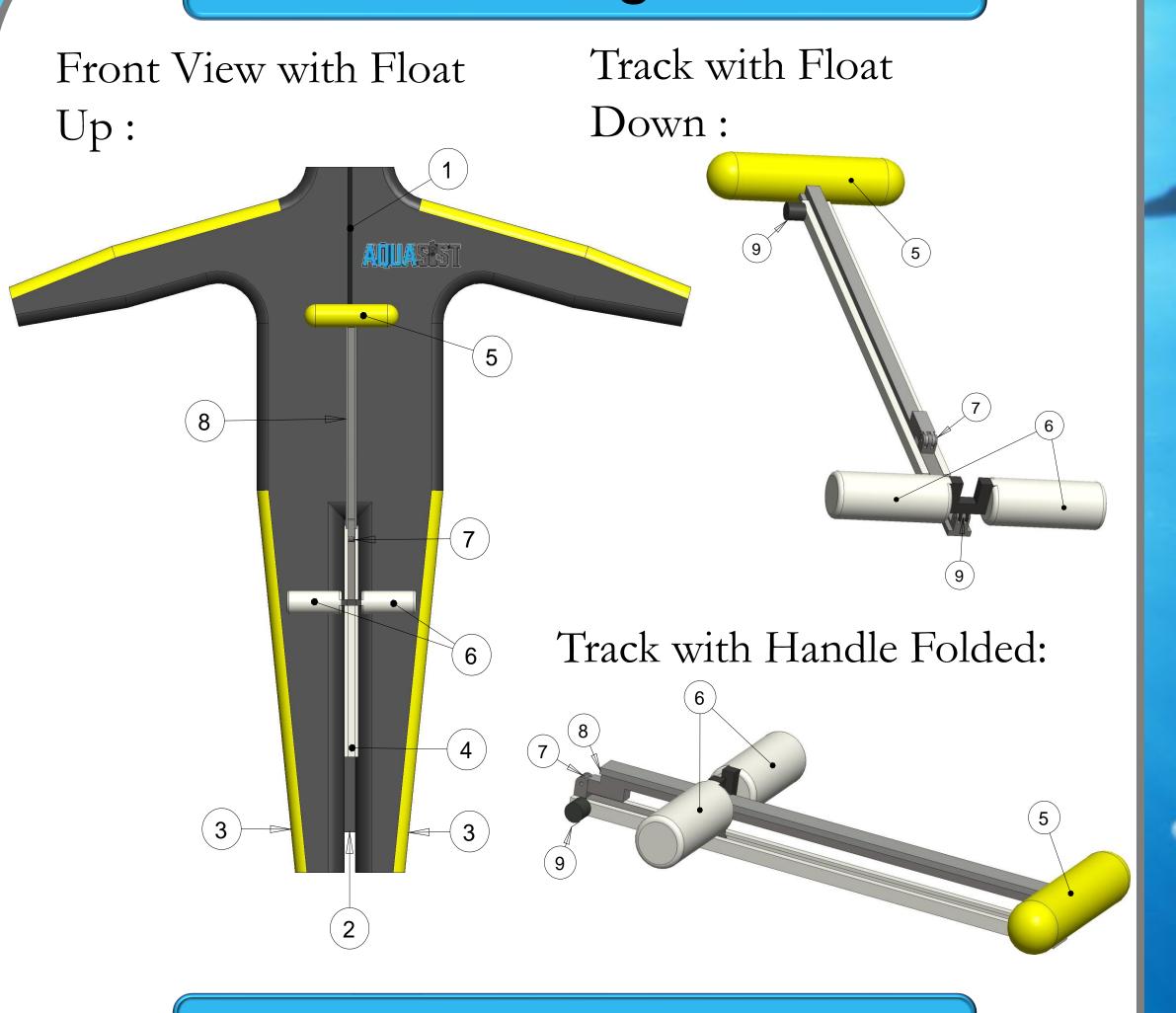


- Difficulty Suiting-up
- > Susceptible to Injury
- > Increased Drag
- Compatibility WithScuba Gear

Paraplegic Diver Profile:



Design



Design Reasoning

- 1. Front zipper: Provides easy accessibility for diver
- 2. Secures legs together: Controls location of diver's legs
- 3. Zipper along legs: Allows diver to dress themselves
- 4. Float track: Limits float to one degree of freedom
- 5. Handle: Moves the float's location with hands\
- 6. Float: Adjusts trim and two-piece design allows handle to fold flat
- 7. Handles pivot: Allows diver to store handle along legs
- 8. Hand key-way: Locks handle into float track
- 9. Set screws: Locks float to float track and handle to float track

Prototype Build



Testing & Validating Metrics

By decreasing frontal area, the drag will decrease as well

$$F_D = \frac{1}{2} C_D A \rho V^2$$

	Shape	Frontal Area	C_d
Cube		A = 3x	1.05
Long Rectangle		A = x	0.82

Competitions & Patent



- Competed in the InNOLE vation
 Challenge and won
 Most Viable prize
- Currently filing a provisional patent application
- Competing in the Engineering Shark Tank as well as the Governor's Cup Competition