

D009 – 8

To: Senior Management
From: Senior Design Class
Date: March 31, 2008
Subject: Weekly Status Letter

Tasks Completed Last Week

Last week, the first batches of the circuit boards were assembled and the parts were soldered together. The WBS was also updated noting the critical timeline for the boards to be tested and the new boards to be ordered.

The software group installed the Octopus in the Linux machine and tested it successfully. Coding for the builder decoder API was completed while the software development for the maintenance interface is still continuing. The first draft of the document, which describes how to program with the API has been completed. However, detailed descriptions is yet to be added which will include some example code snippets. The design for the short-circuit prevention on the rails was completed and the part has been ordered, which is expected to arrive by April 4th. The switching circuit was also tested successfully and the power analysis has been documented. The EMI analysis has also been completed. A preliminary Requirements analysis has been completed with more details to be added later.

At CDR we estimated that parts would cost a total of \$1,433.53 and board fabrication would cost \$600.00, for a grand total of \$2,033.53. To date, our actual costs have been \$1,562.62 on parts and \$469.86 on board fabrication, for a total of \$2,032.48 (all of those numbers include shipping charges). As the project continues, we may need to order more parts, and we will almost certainly be ordering a second version of the boards. I think it is likely that boards will cost about \$470 again, but it is more difficult to predict how much more we will spend on parts. If we assume another \$200 on parts, then the total cost for the project would be $\$2,032.48 + \$470.00 + \$200.00 = \$2,702.48$. This would exceed our initial budget estimate at CDR by \$668.95, but is still about \$1,300 less than the \$4,000 that the ECE department is prepared to spend.

Tasks to Be Completed This Week

The most critical task to be completed this week is the detailed testing of the Printed Circuit Board. A test plan will be documented and a thorough testing of the board will be completed. Testing for all other sub-systems will also be completed this week, which will be documented in the QA Report, which will be done on the first batch of the boards. The second batch of the boards will be sent for fabrication by April 4th. The coding for the API and the interfaces is expected to be completed this week. More people will be assigned to this task as needed. The Users Manual and the Draft ATP report is going to be completed this week. API programming documentation will be completed as well.

Tasks Not Completed Last Week

The maintenance GUI was not fully implemented, as the coding for the Automatic Control GUI is also being implemented side-by-side.