2022 Design and Prototype Finalists

Hand Powered Zero-g Bulk Transfer System

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Students: Jaedon Hight Teacher: Rebecca Allen

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Teacher: Robert Burke

School: iSchool of Lewisville, Texas

Students: Brock Larson, Adam Brandland, Nate Gangelhoff, Stuart Buecher

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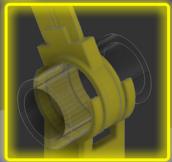
Students: Joel Simons, Ronin Mannina

Teacher: Ashley Pederson School: Lakewood, Colorado

How to use the pipe

The feature of the pipe that allows for a controllable amount of particles to get through is the valve, which opens by pulling it upwards and twisting it to the side, which allows it to be locked. To get particles to move through, you must nudge the particles in the input bag. The PVC pipe used is transparent, so that allows you to count the specific amount of particles that went through before you shut the valve.





Transfer containers





Thanks to the modularity of the device, transfer between virtually any two containers is possible. In fact, you do not have to transfer into a container, you can transfer directly to your hand for immediate use/consumption.

Overview

Problem

In order to get a large amount of small parts aboard the ISS, many plastic packages are sent, which contribute to the overall abundance of trash. It could potentially be more efficient to send everything within one large bag, but that presents a new problem. When you open it, all the small parts within it will start floating around the ISS and could get stuck in machinery and cause other problems. How can a device that solves both of these issues be created?

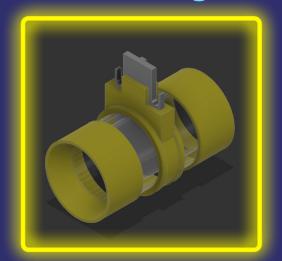
Objective

Design an efficient way to transfer items between two containers without any spillage.

Criteria

- Be able to control the amount of particles being transferred
- Has to be easily cleanable
- Could be hand/battery powered
- As easy to operate as possible (Occam's Razor)

Our Design



Modularity

Our design was created in such a way that all of the components used are easily interchangeable. This means that if a part breaks, it can be easily replaced. This also means that modifying the components to allow for the attachment of two specific containers is greatly simplified.

Ease of manufacture

Most of the parts used can be 3D printed. The other necessary parts are part of a PVC pipe and a rubber band. The parts can be joined together using friction fits, but some hot glue or other adhesive is necessary for reassurance.

Our Team:

Daniel Kogan Yusuf Siddiqui Shaheer Khan Arish Ahmed

Half Hollow Hills High School East Mr. Regini





Zero Gravity Item Transfer System

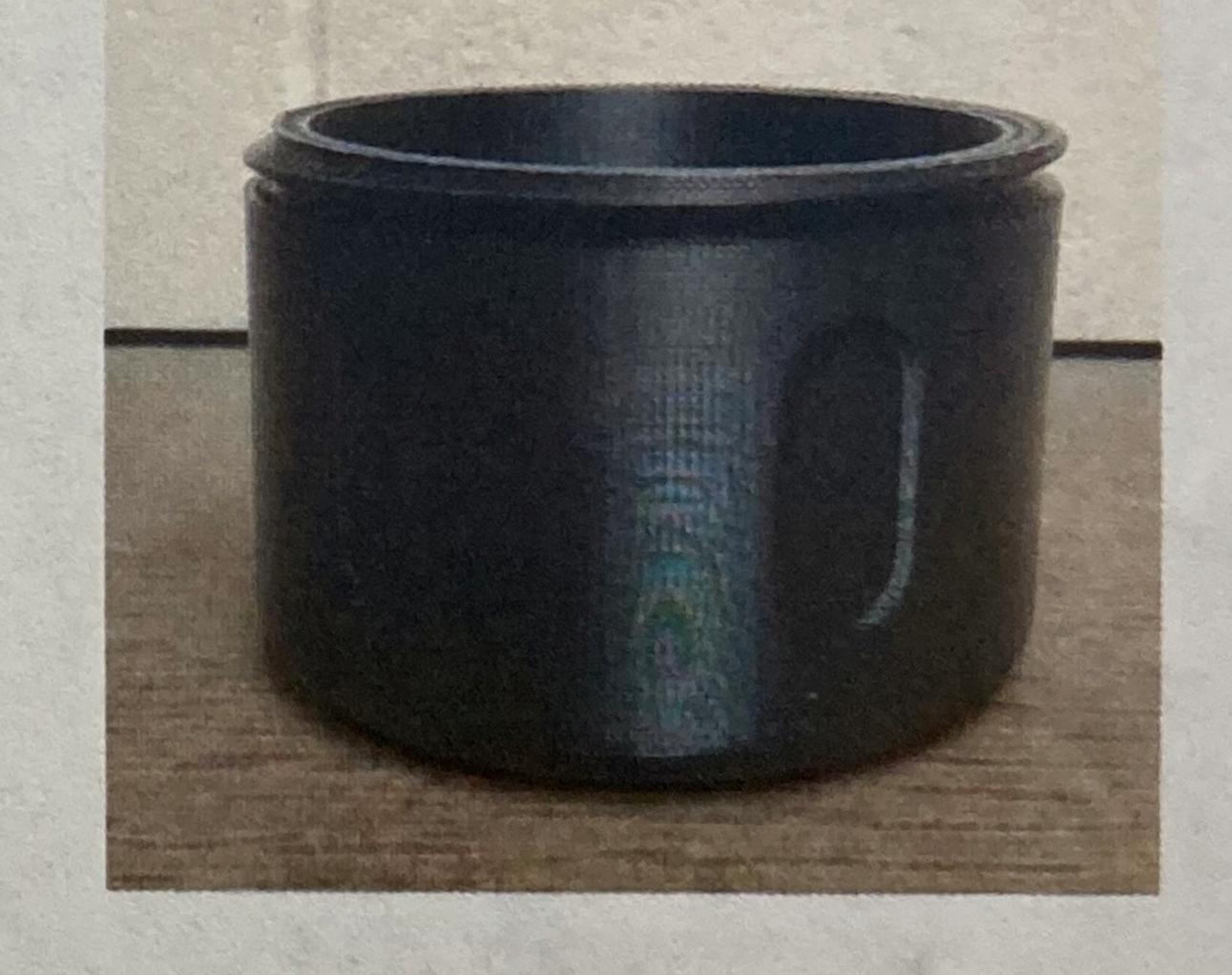
Jaedon Hight Palm Bay High School

This prototype allows for safe and easy transfer of objects in space from one container to another. The design ensures that no loose particles can escape during use, and that you can fairly simply control the amount of items moved to your liking. This prototype is designed for small hardware like screws and nuts, or small snack items like nuts or M&Ms if it's made with the right food-safe materials.



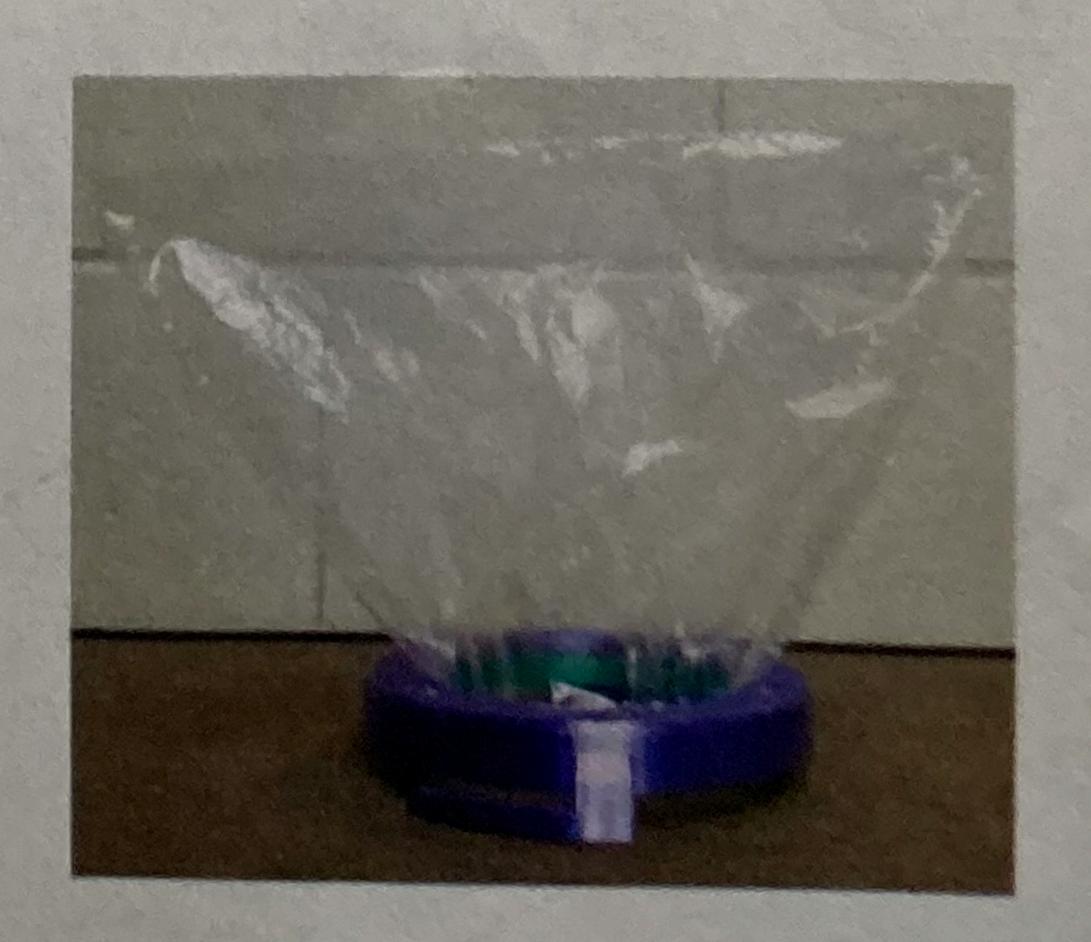
The Parts:

- The Container can be any size or shape as long as it fits
 the adapter. The container used is designed to be a
 medium sized container, comfortable for most hand sizes
 and has plenty of space for items.
- The Container Adapter, and the object seal, acts as a sort of cap. It also allows the container to easily lock together with the bag so that items can be transferred between them. The rubber seal acts as a filter so that the user can still reach inside the container without having to worry about particles or items escaping and floating away.



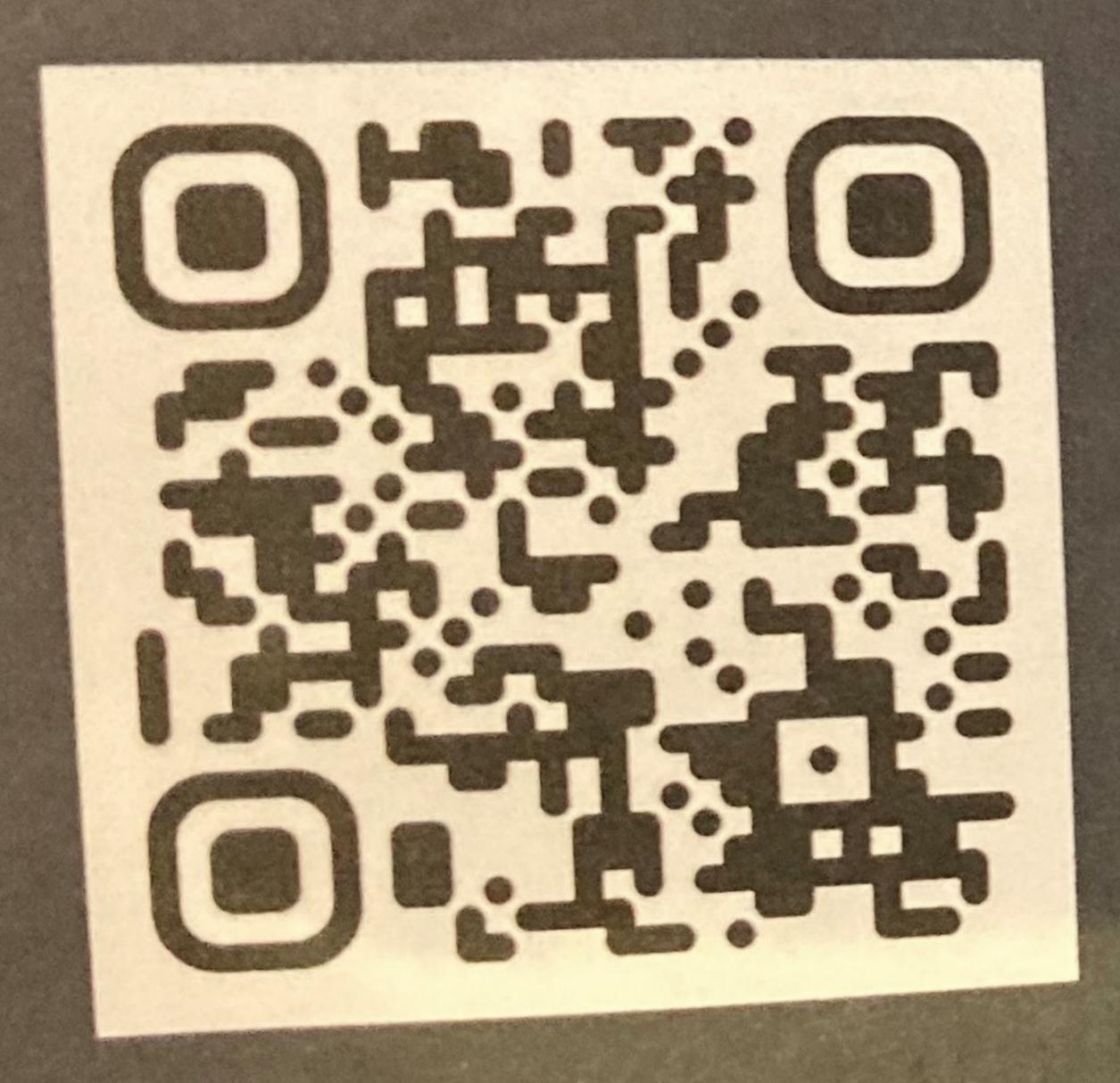


The Bag is where all the items can be stored in bulk. It can
also be any size or shape, so long as it's adapter piece can be
mounted onto it properly.





Testing Video



Features

- Dilating Door
- Magnetic Connections
- Clear Portion & Bulk Bags
- Interchangeable
 Adaptors
 - Hand-powered



AboutUs

Ben: Implementer- Turn the team's ideas into actual plans

Nicolas: Planter-Come up with original approaches to help the team solve the problems

Katelyn: Completer/Finisher-Detect mistakes and work to keep the team on track

Christian: Leader/Facilitator-Guide the activities of the team and identify the team's obligations

The Reason Behind the Project

Large bags of items can cause loose particles to float in the ISS, so astronauts take many serving sized bags for their food. These serving sized bags produce excess trash, however our hand-powered device efficiently portions items from bulk into single serving bags reducing waste and spillage.

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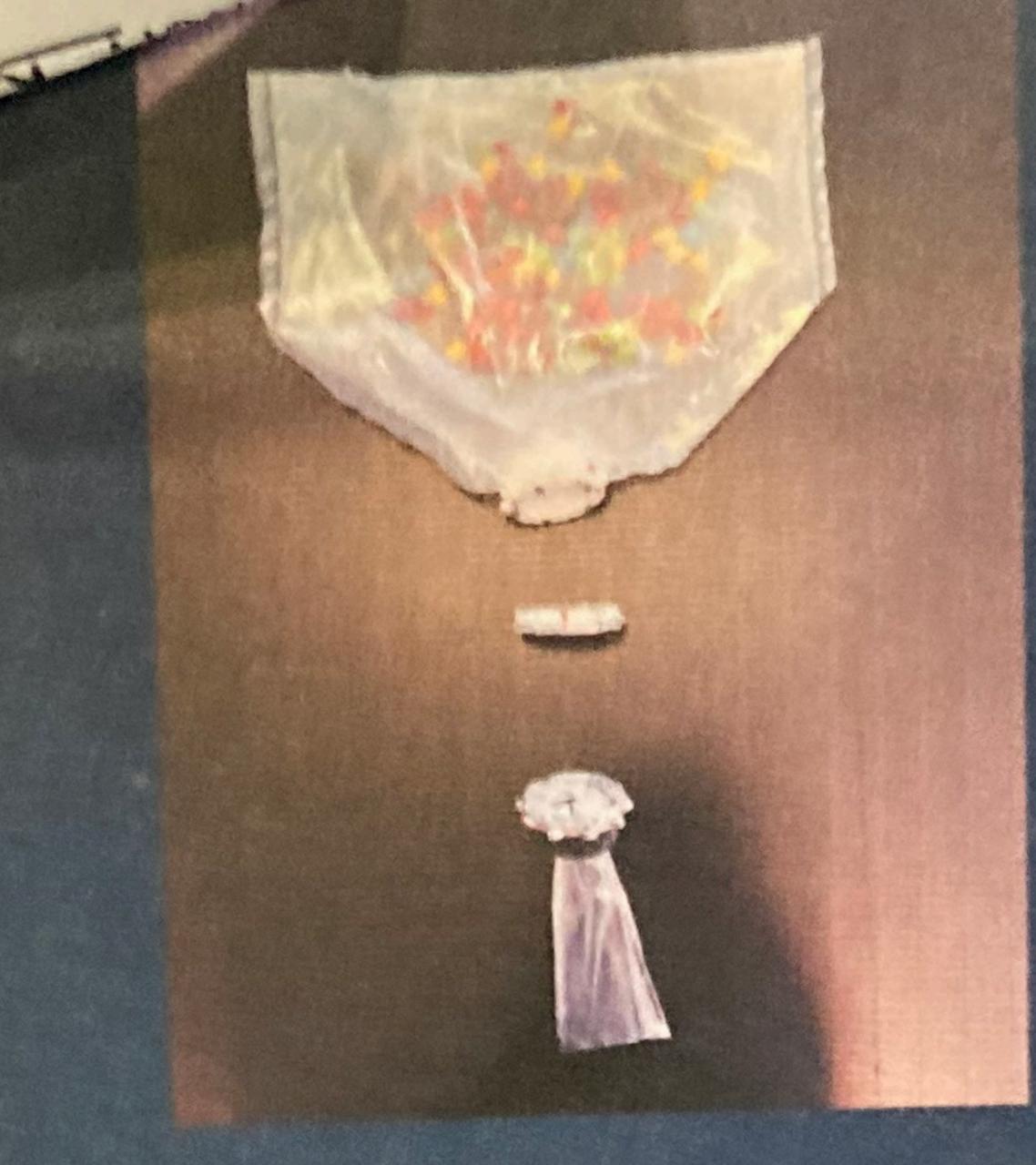
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Our prototype has adjustable portioning with dilating doors. It successfully portiones multiple items and foods. It uses a system of magnets making it interchangeable with different bulk bags.

Website:





Zero Gravity:

We have considered zero gravity in every aspect of our device. We understand that small forces in zero gravity can affect objects more than on Earth. That's why we centered the device around the use of magnets.

Bulk Item Portioner

Bulk Item

Portioning Made

Simple





Zero-G Bulk Transfer System

Lakewood High School
Ms. Pederson
Joel Simons and Ronin
Mannina





The design works as a closed and completely manual system. There is a sealed base that opens with a camera shutter. This keeps the bag closed. The telescoping piece has a shutter on the bottom which mounts to the base pad and serves as a makeshift airlock. The "Thoomper" extends to create a closed area for the bags contents to be pushed into as a transportable container. There is an elastic opening that keeps it sealed until the user reaches in to remove items.





