2022 Design and Prototype Semi-Finalists

Powered Zero-g Bulk transfer System

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Students: Ella tucker, Brooke Street, John Christie

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School: Warren Tech Central, Colorado

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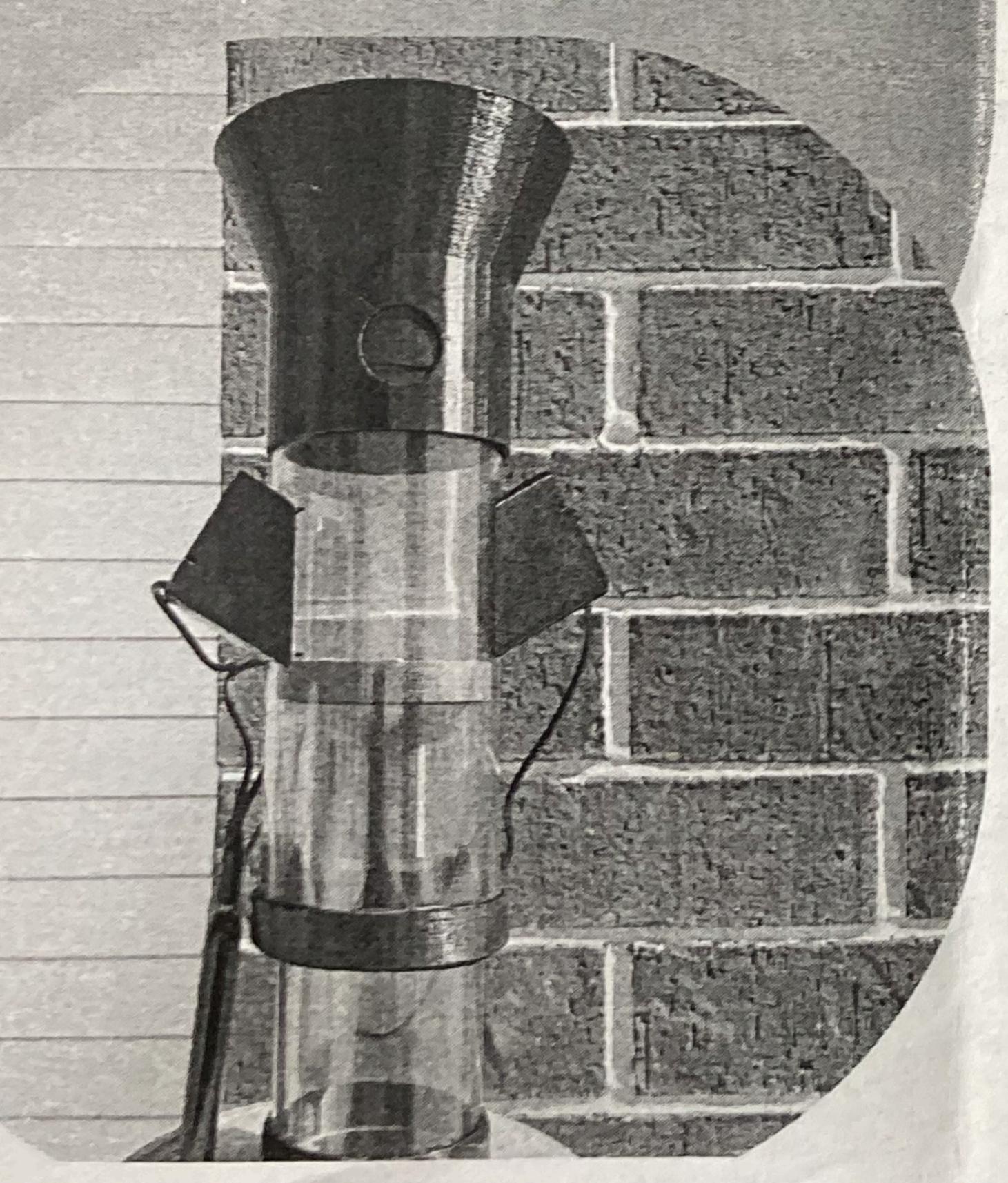
Teacher: xxxx School: Colorado



Julian Saldivia Audrey Ashie Rafael Irizarry

HOW TO USE

- connect container to tube by pushing uncovered end trough flap
- attach food bag over the funnel
- turn on fans using attached power bank
- massage food into the device and stop once desired amount has been put into device
- once all the food has been pushed into the container detach container (attach cover once pulled off) and turn off fans





SELLING POINTS

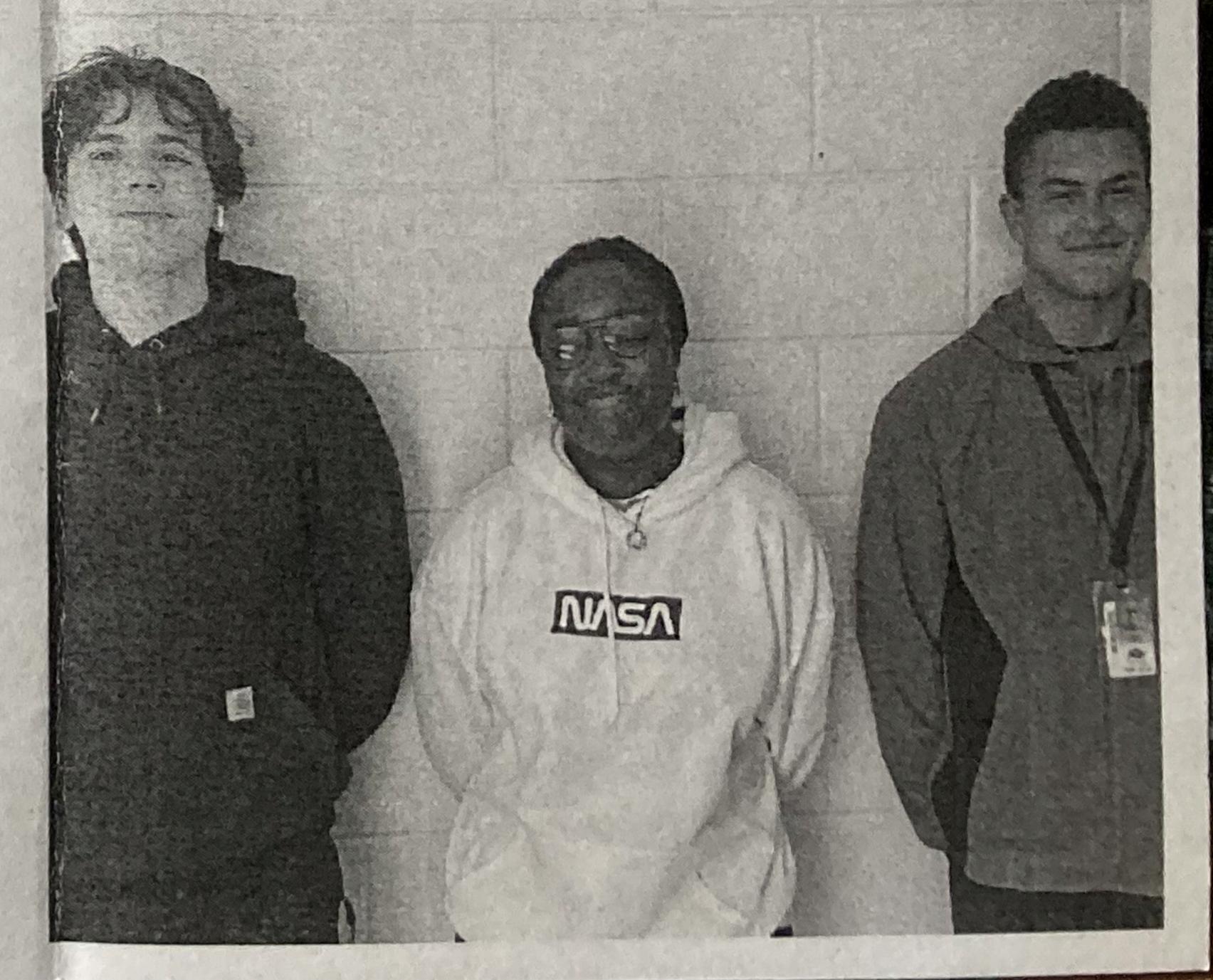
Our device is designed for easy use with an easily detachable container and cover. The angled fan spacers of our own design push the food in the desired direction towards the collection container. It also does not have many moving parts, once the food has been introduced to the device it's hands-off till your food is in the container! The flaps put in place on the main transfer tube and the container prevent food from flying out once the container is detached leaving little mess. The smaller funnel located inside the main transfer tube also blocks food from falling into the gaps on the sides of the smaller container preventing food from getting stuck. The placement of the fans across from each other creates opposing airflow which prevents food from blowing into the opposing blade

PARTS & MATERIALS

- funnel-ABS 3D printer material
- fan spacer ABS 3D printer material
- flaps-silicone
- smaller funnel-silicone
- plastic tubes- clear polycarbonate
- screws used- M3X12
- e container caps-bioplastic
- · container ring-bioplastic
- fans-ANVISION 40mmx10mm DC 5v USB Brushless Cooling Fan Dual Ball Bearing



FOLLOW THE LINK ABOVE TO A VIDEO OF OUR TESTING!





Goal: Design a system that would allow the transfer of the contents from a bulk bag to a smaller container in a controlled fashion in zero gravity.

Similar products-



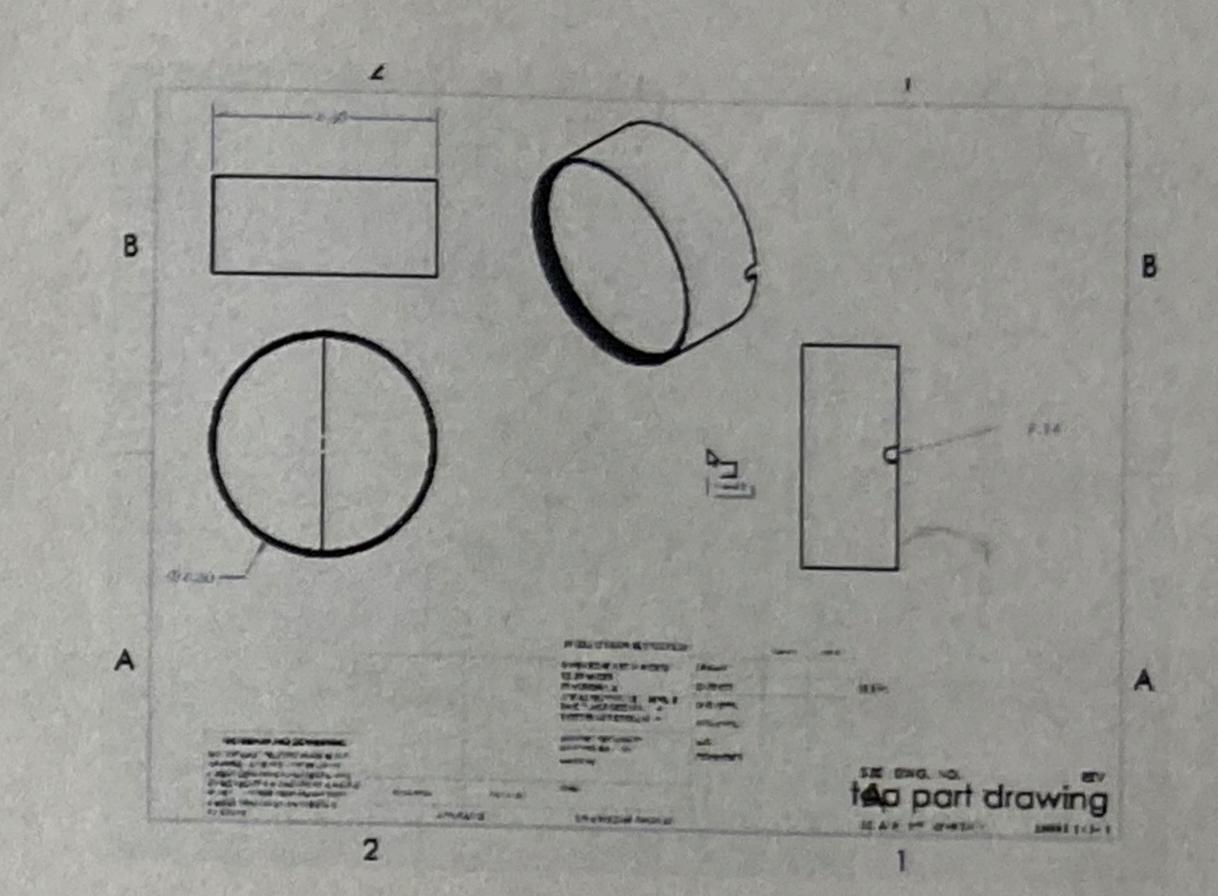
Zero G Bulk Tube Transfer System

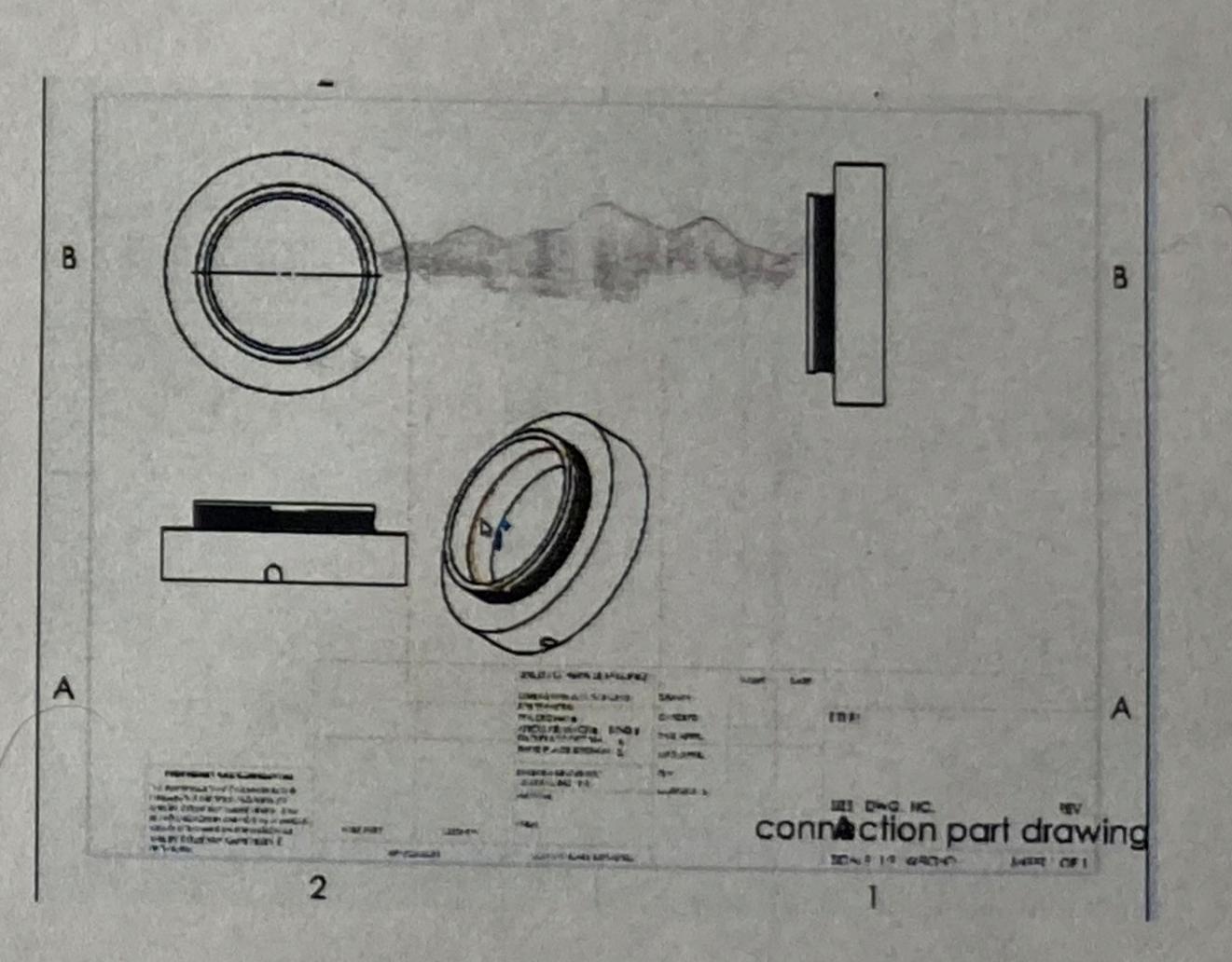
Conroe High School Mr Canesorp Natasha Odafe

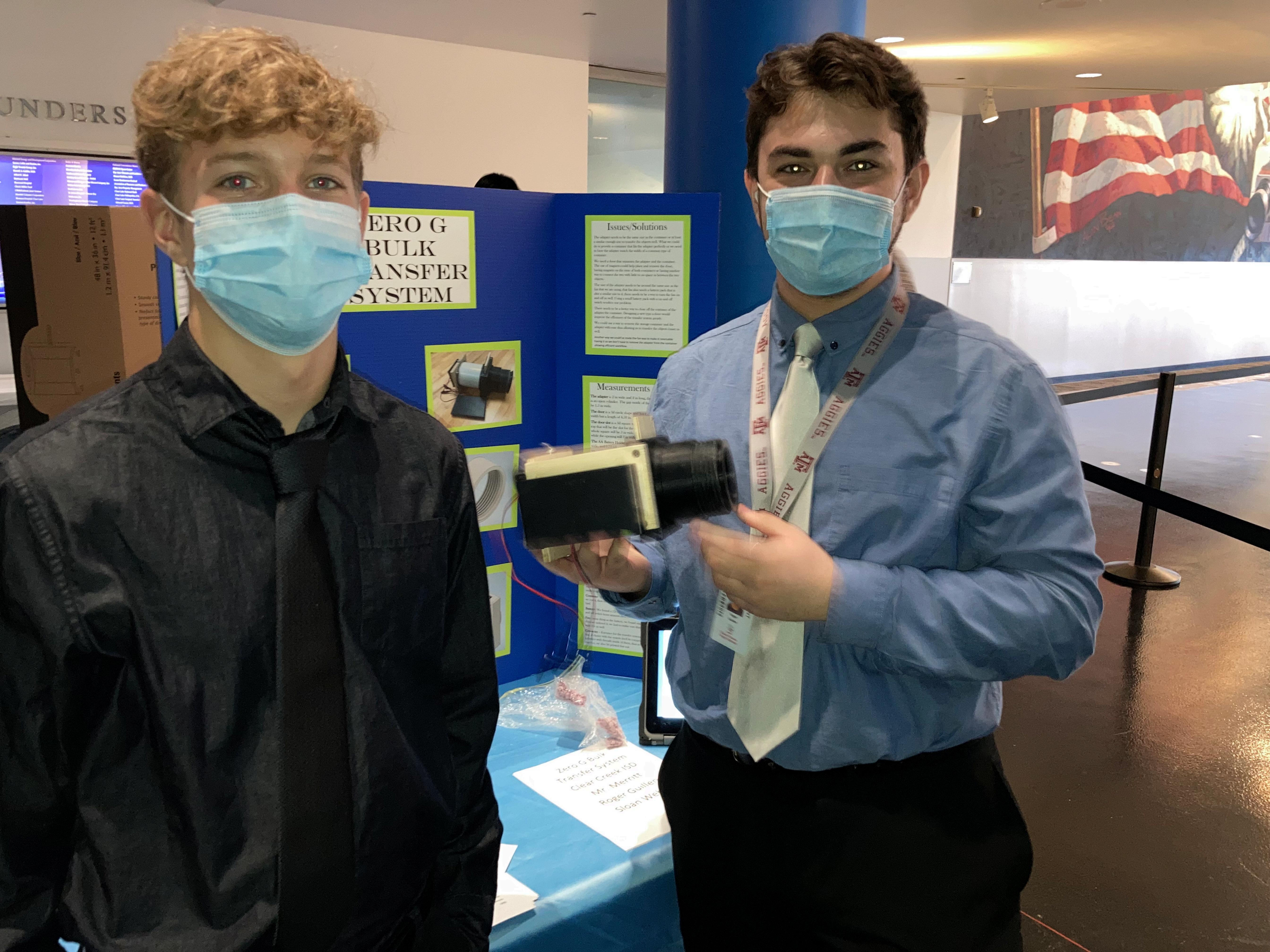
How it works

A tube is provided and inserted into the bulk bag and the container through the lid, the items in the bulk bag are giving a little wiggle, so they can move in through the tube and the cup. Items now in the container can be easily grabbed. To transfer the items back into the bulk bag, the fan is used, to induce the air flow and help carry the items back. Desired item is now transferred to a different bag or container while reducing trash.

Drawing layouts-







Parts list

Adapter – Cut PVC pipe that guides the particles to the container efficiently

Filter – Screen mesh that filters out the particles with bigger sized pieces or crumbs.

Door – piece of wood we cut out to stop the flow of particles

Door frame – a 3D printed frame that has a opening in the top to slide the door through

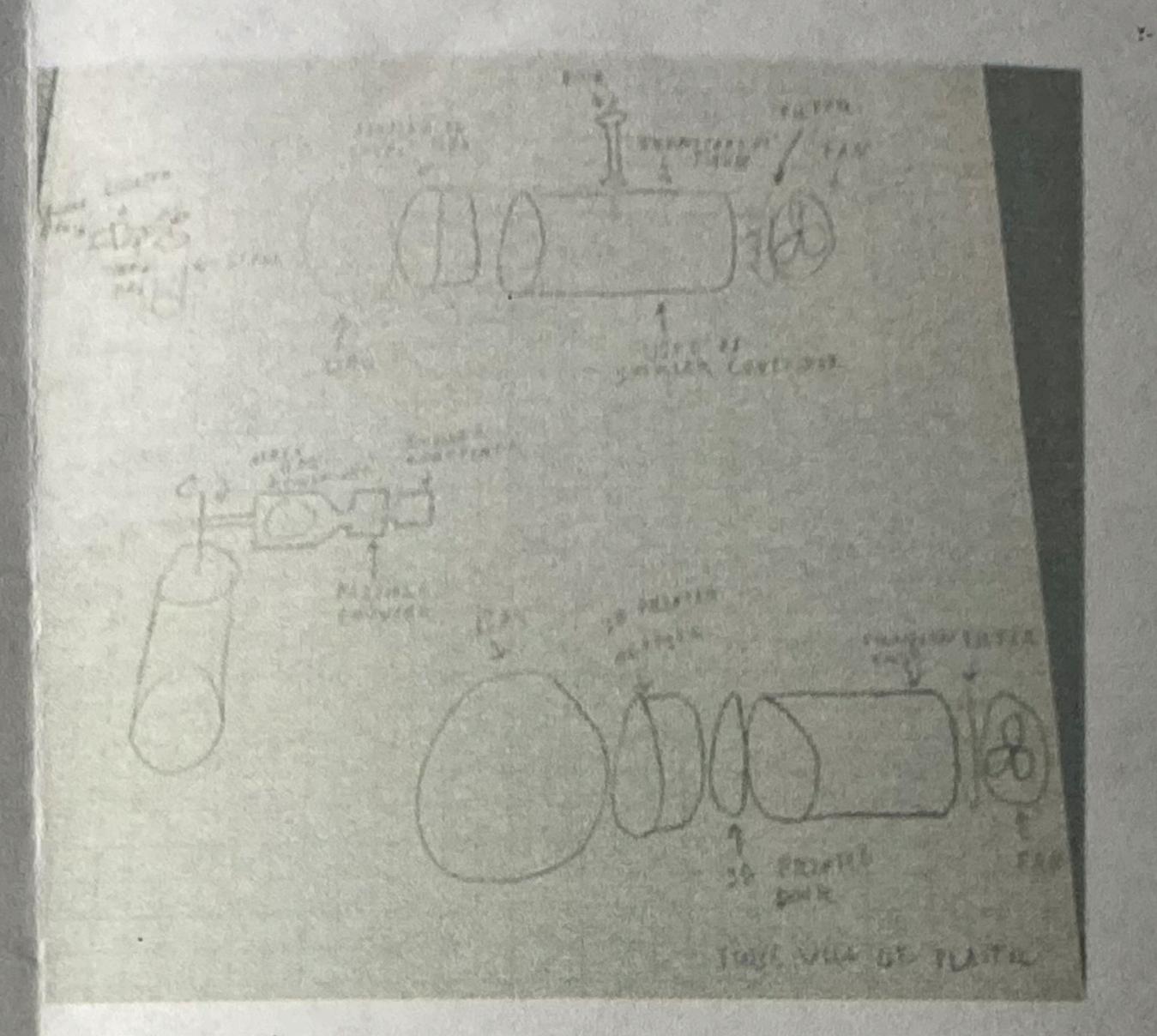
Container – 4 inch wide PVC pipe with a inside diameter of 3.5 inches

Battery – container for 8 AA battery's that can be replaced

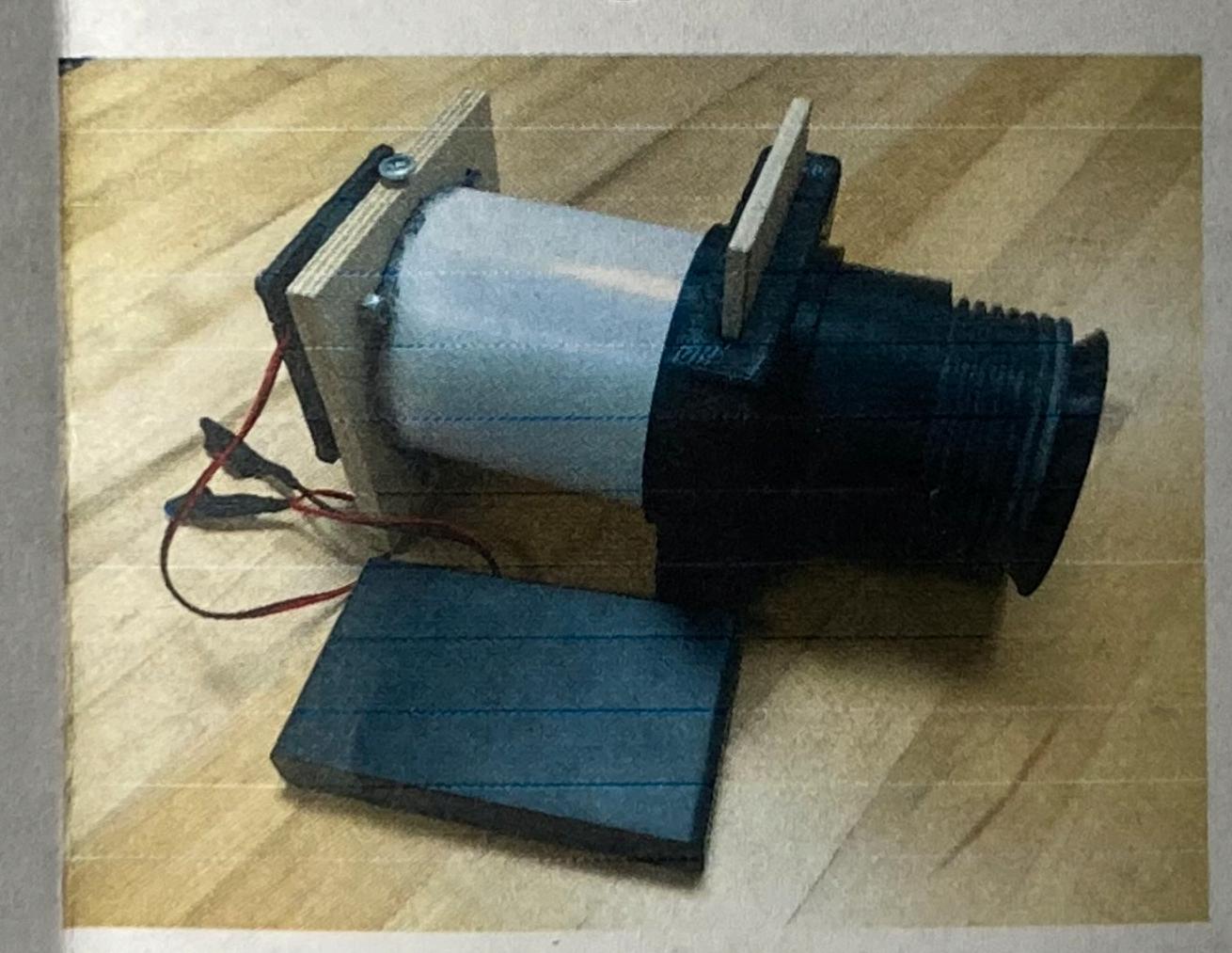
Fan – small fan that we found on amazon

Connecter – three 3D printed pieces that screw together to connect the bag to the transfer system

Sketches



Initial Design



This is the initial prototype of the transfer system.

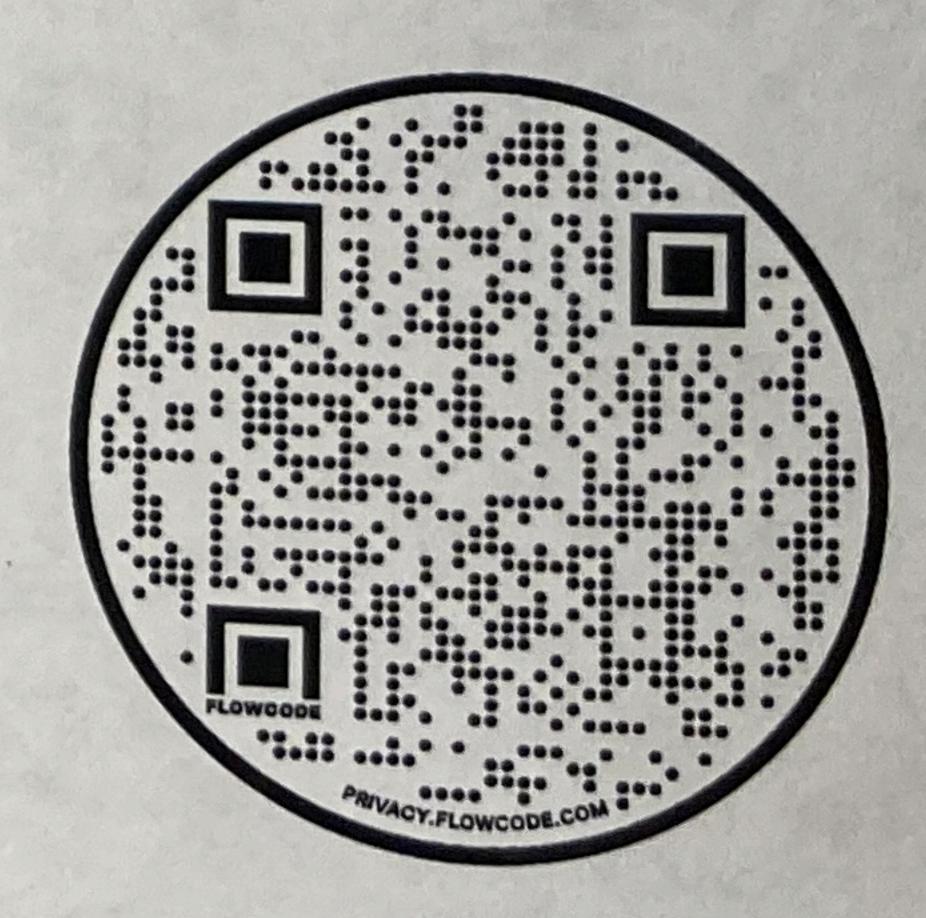
The use of 3d printing, plywood, and the mechanical fan that we ordered online provided us a prototype the worked as intended.

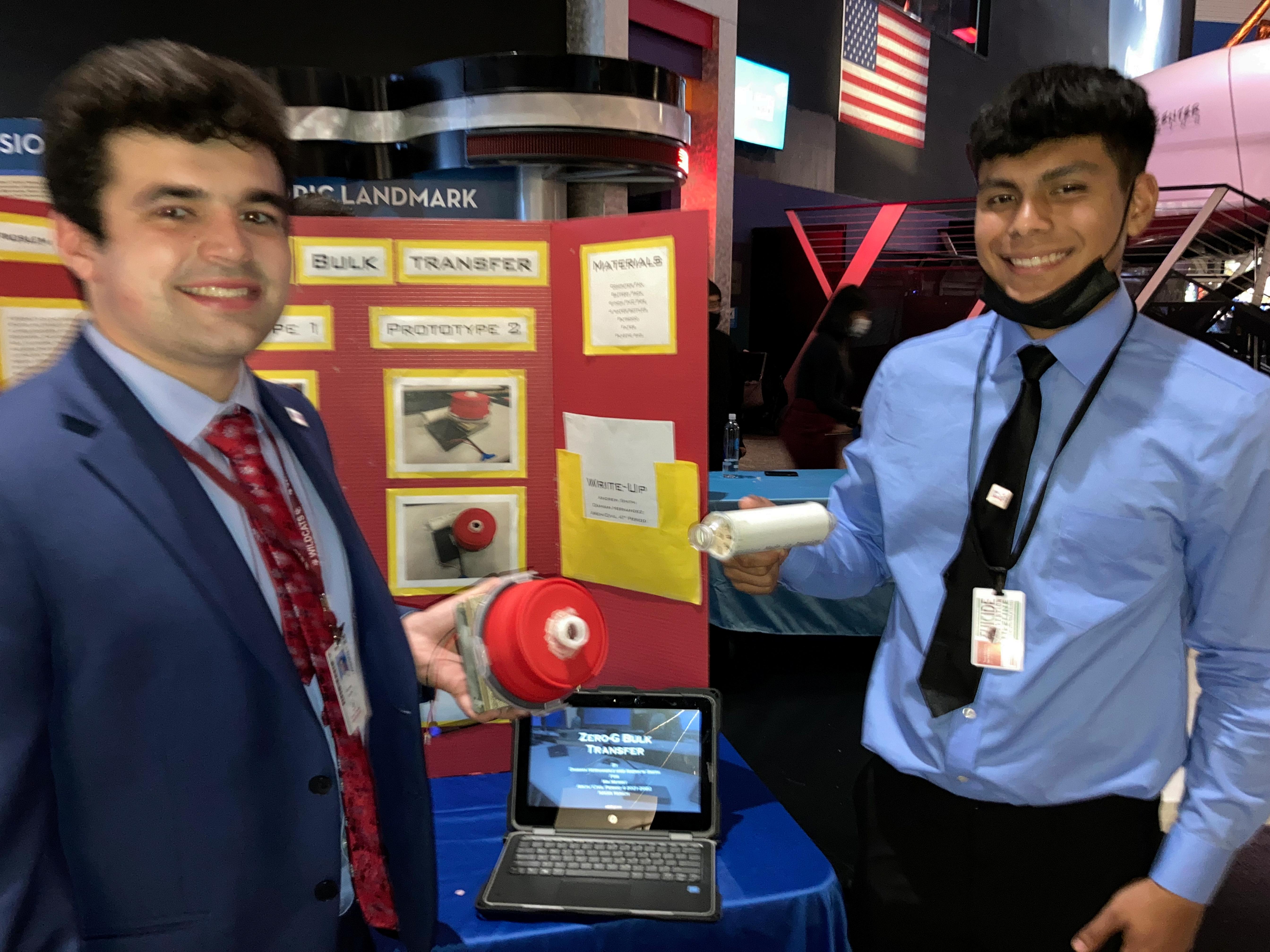
Objective

We are trying to design a system that would allow the transfer of contents of a large flexible bag like almonds or screws to a smaller container in a controlled fashion in zero gravity.

It also needs to be easy to use and clean while providing ideal working conditions.

The easier it is to operate, the more help it will provide the astronauts in the space station.





The Premise

The Zero-G-Bulk transfer is a project that basically transports small objects such as food or nuts and bolts without making a mess and having small particles floating everywhere. We have a mechanism that can prevent that by using a P.C fan and a PVC pipe to suck up the objects. The objective of our protype, is to transfer items without the possibility of excess debris and other particles escaping, and possible causing malfunctions in the International Space Station, like electronic malfunctions and other dangers that could prove hazardous to the astronauts up there.

Zero-G Bulk Transfer

Clear Creek Highschool

League City, Texas

Period 4

Created by:

Damian Hernandez

Andrew Smith

Zero-G Bulk Transfer

BY: Damian Hernandez and Andrew Smith

Mr.Merrit
Arch and Civil
Engineering

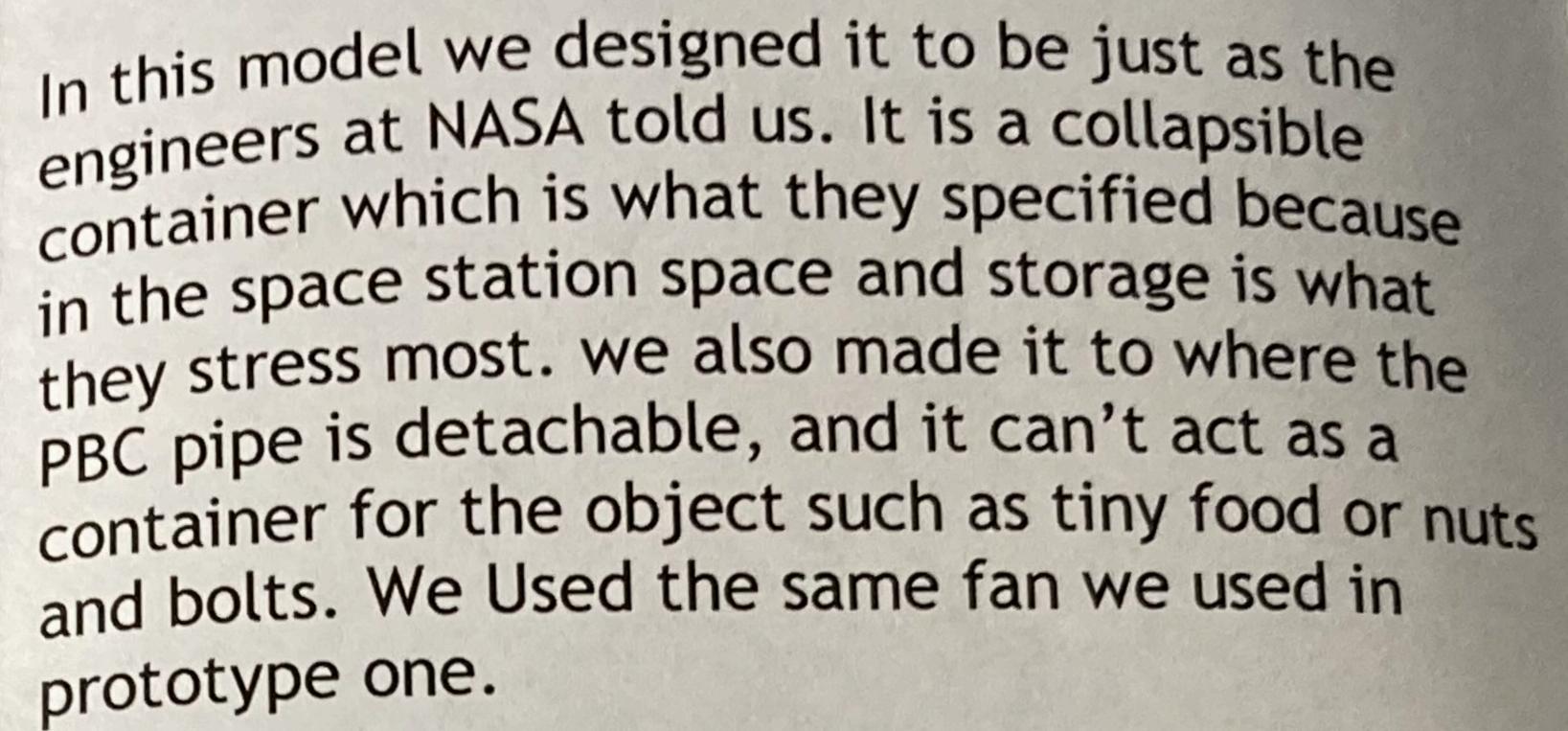


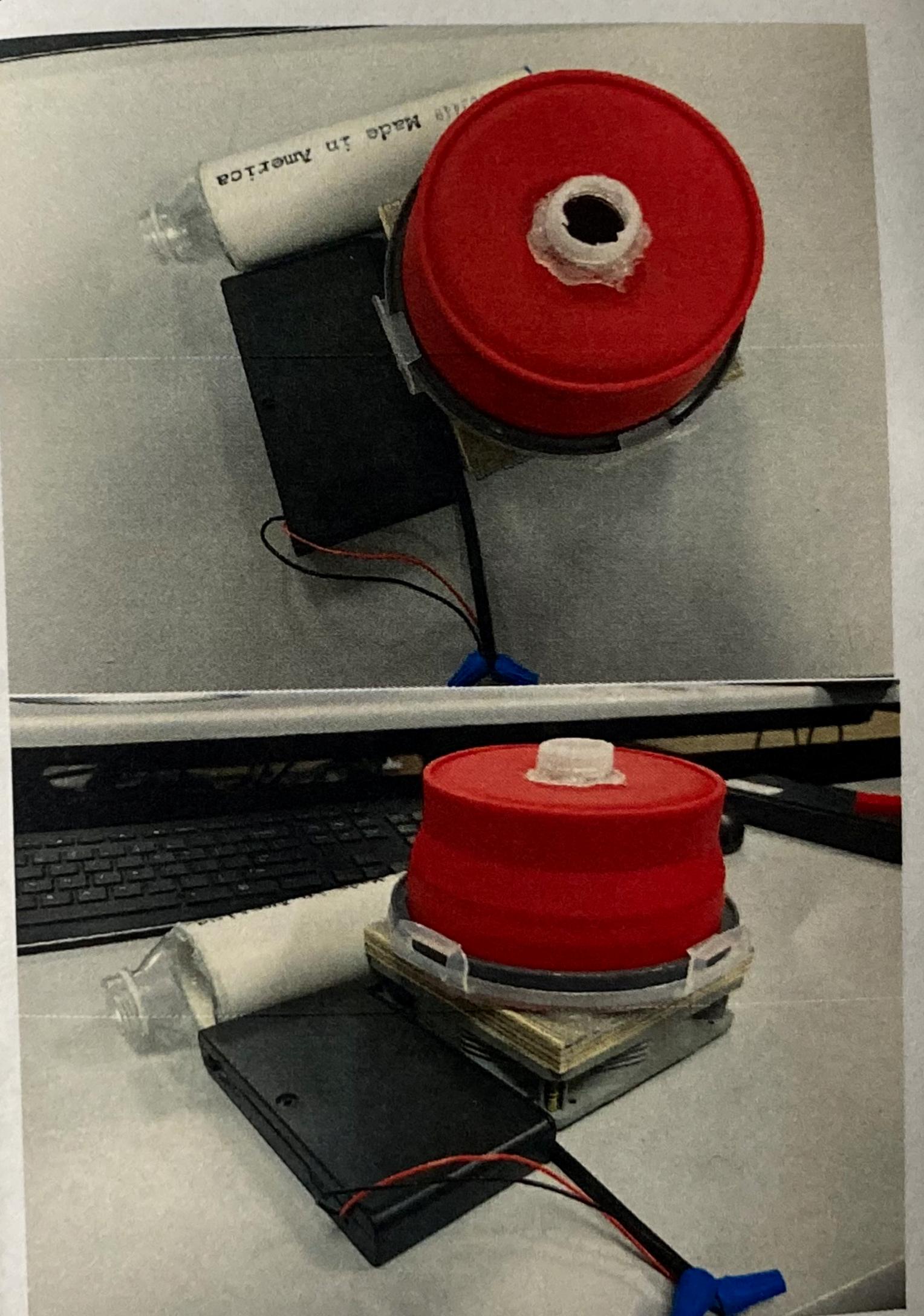
Telephone

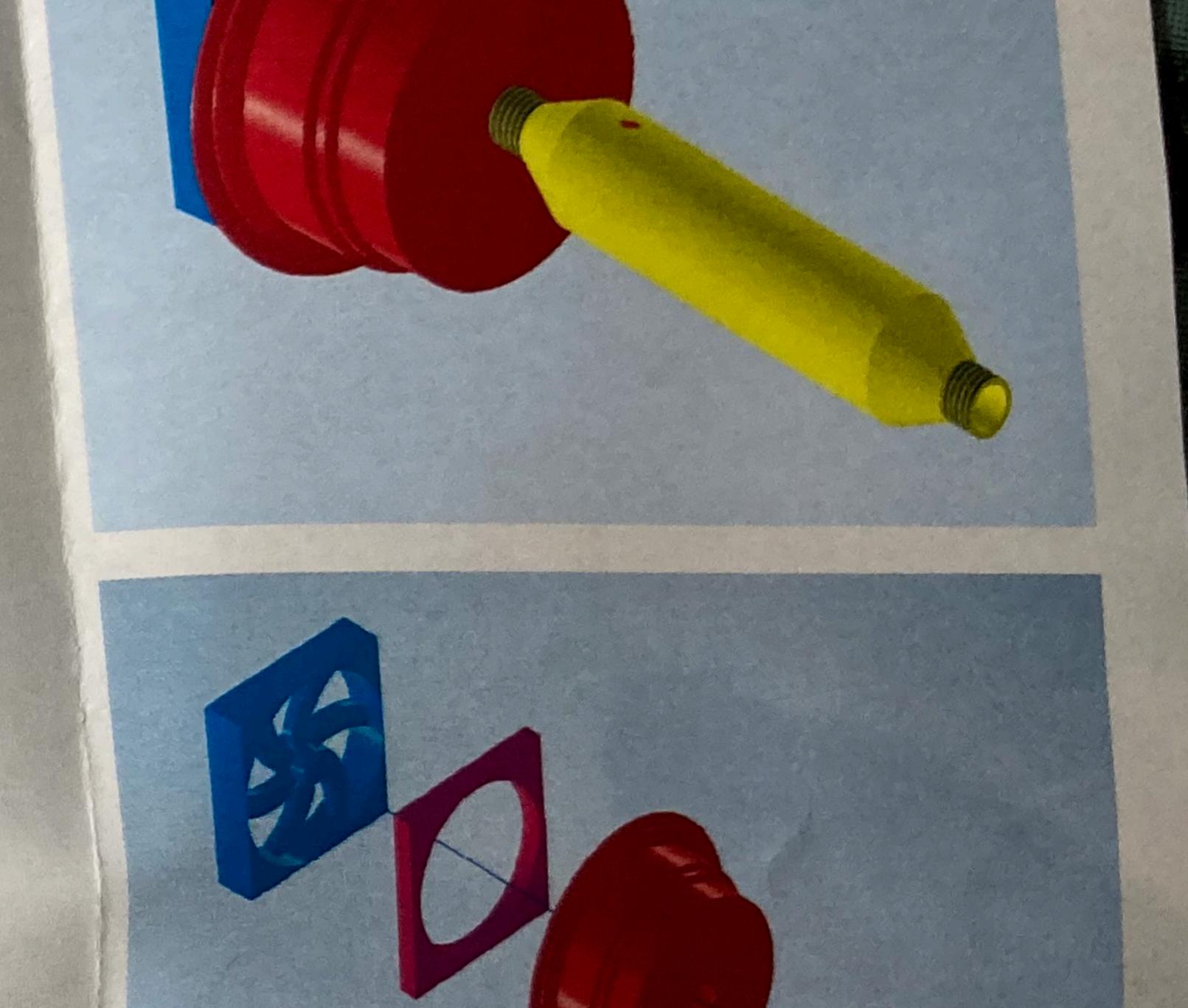
Prototype 2

Assembly

This prototype was the first one we made. It contained 1 cylinder plastic container, a P.C fan (12 Volts), one 12-volt battery pack with on and off switch, 6-inch PBC pipe, circular filter that was used on the inside of the pipe that was 3D printed, top of a water bottle and a lot of hot glue. This prototype was good, but it had its flaws. The engineer at NASA told us that the only changes needed to be made were that it needed to be more convenient, easier to use and collapsible. By collapsible she was referring to the changing the plastic container to an object that can do the same ting but get smaller to reserve storage.





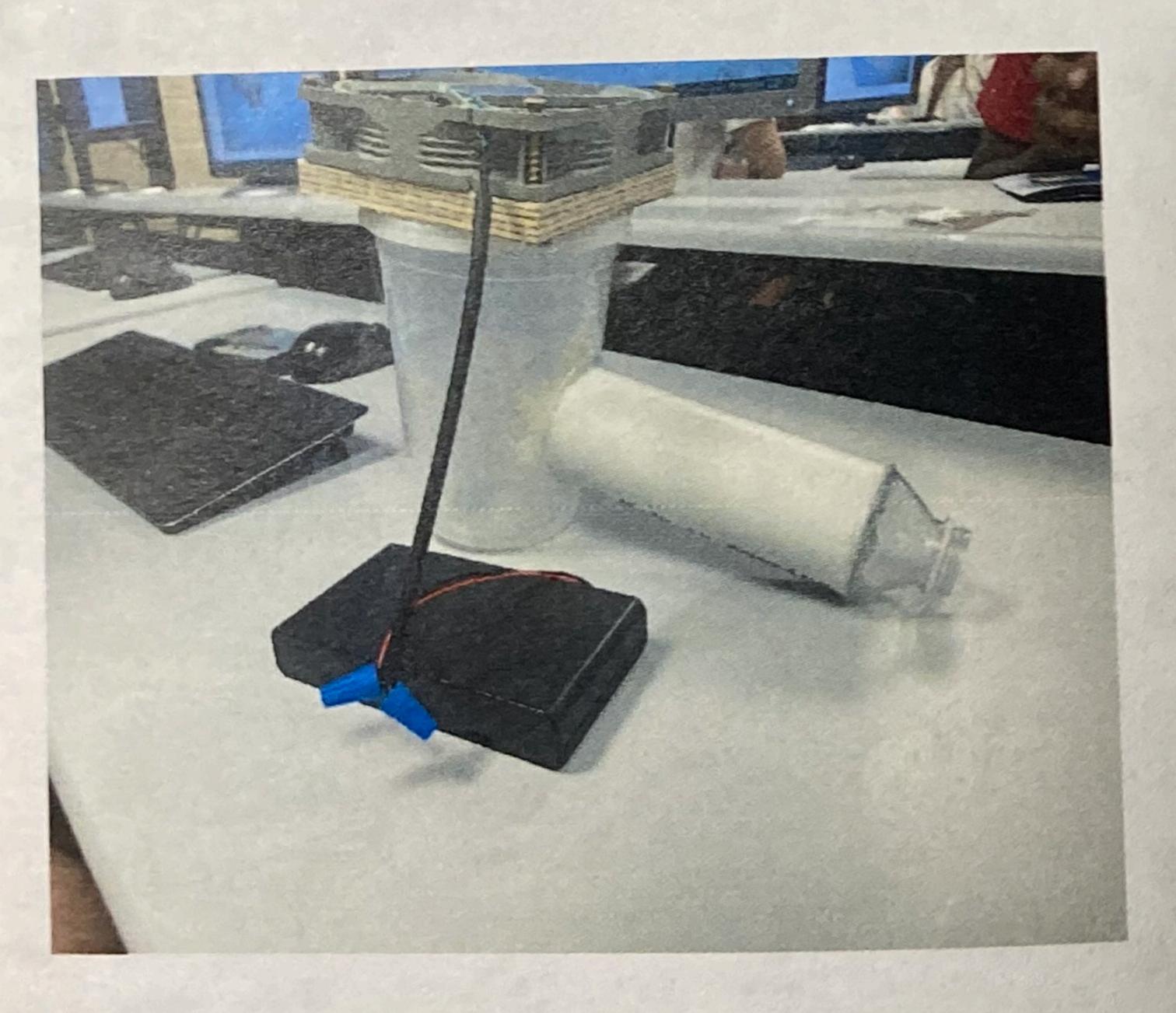


yellow- PVC Pipe

Red- Collapsible container

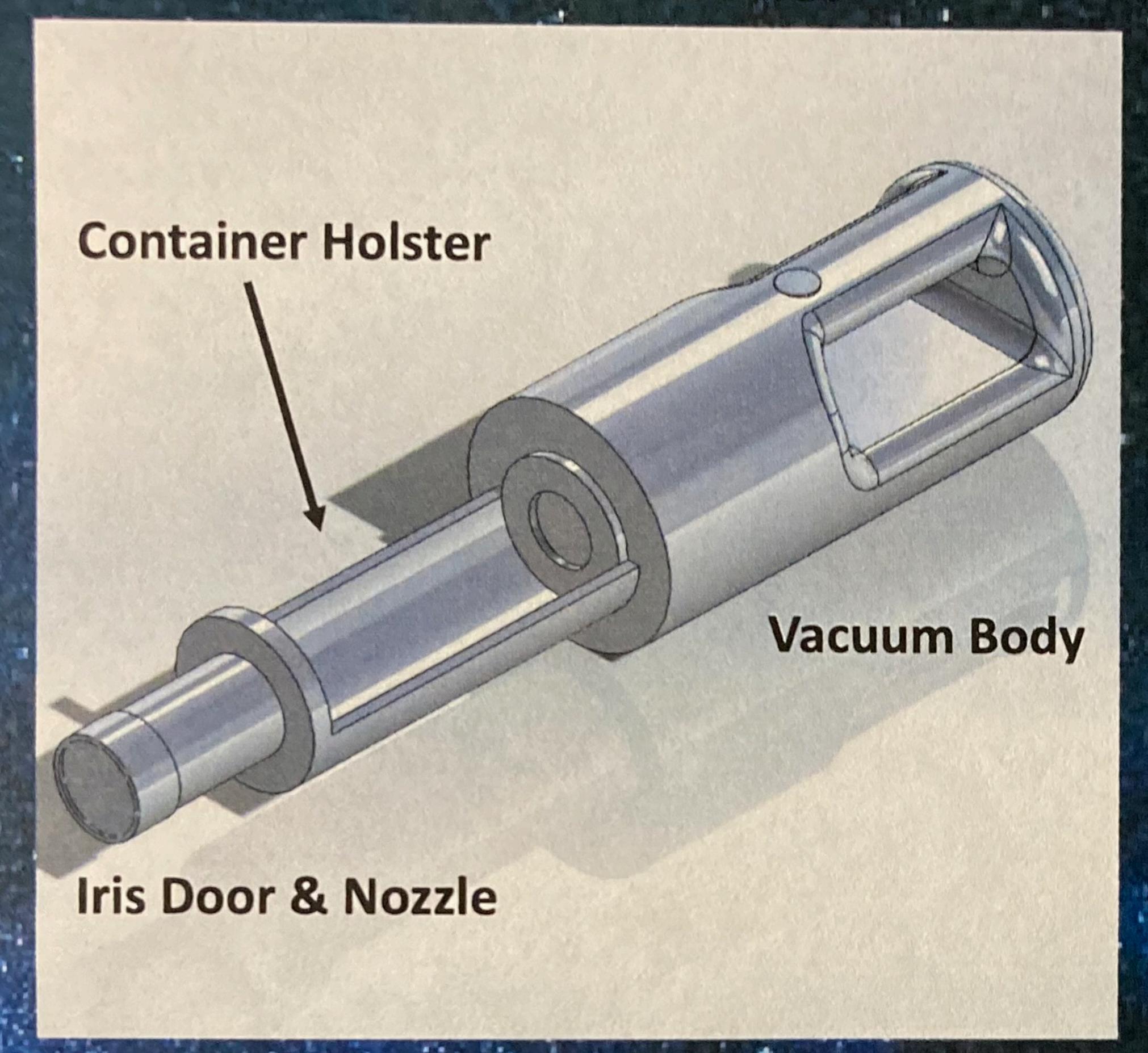
Blue- P.C Fan

Purple- Block of a wood

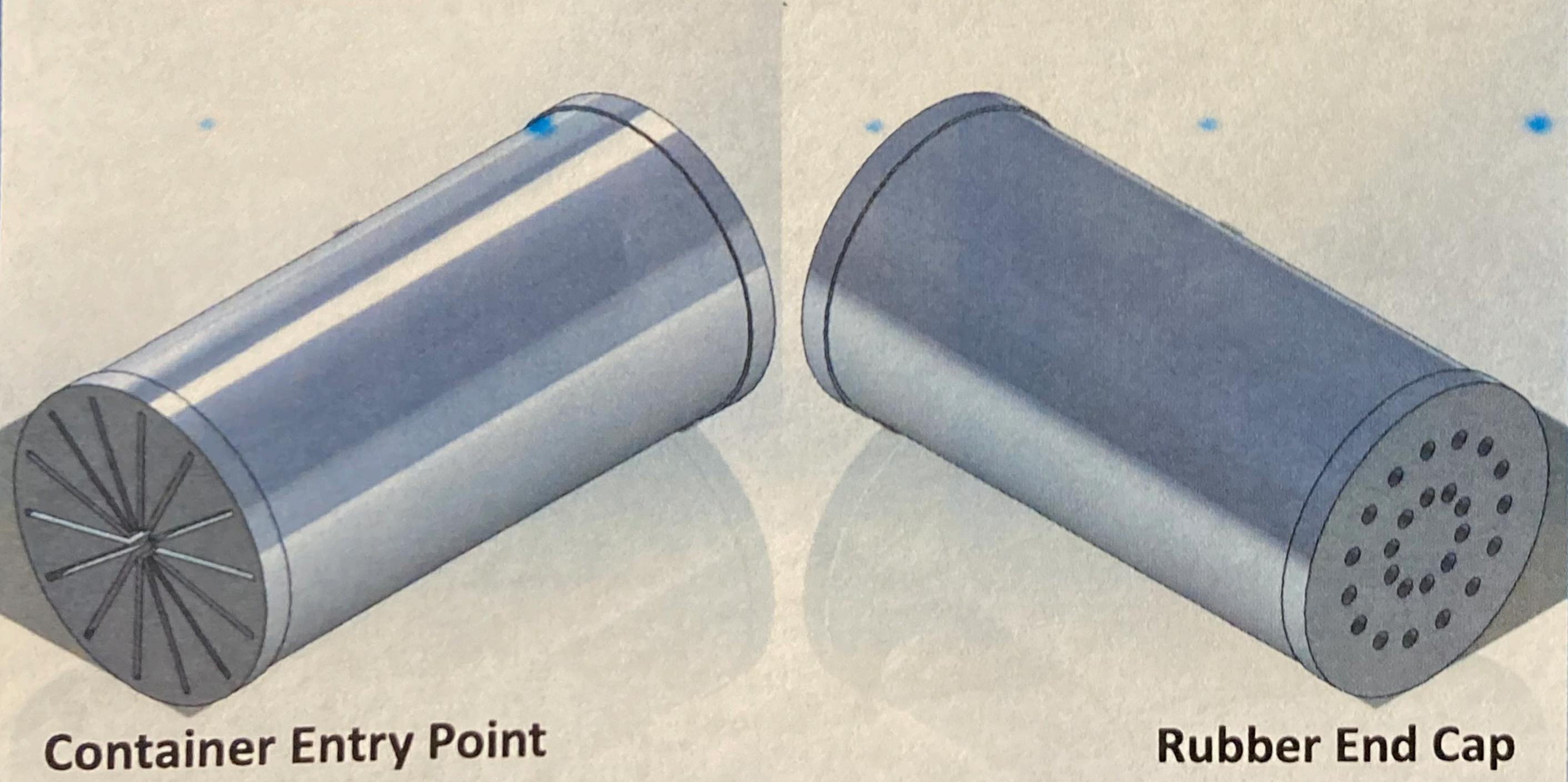




Vacuum Model

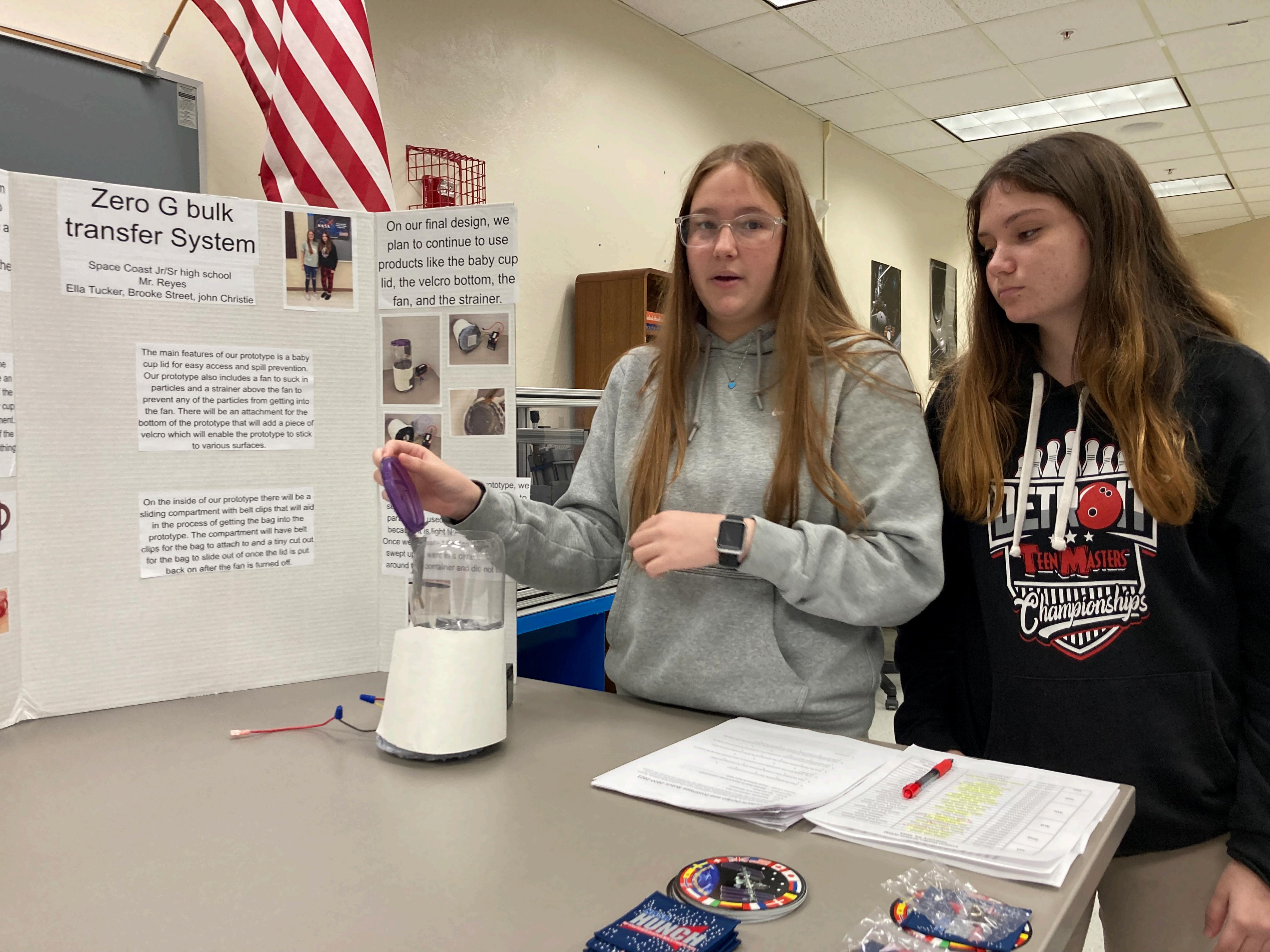


Container Models



Group Picture.

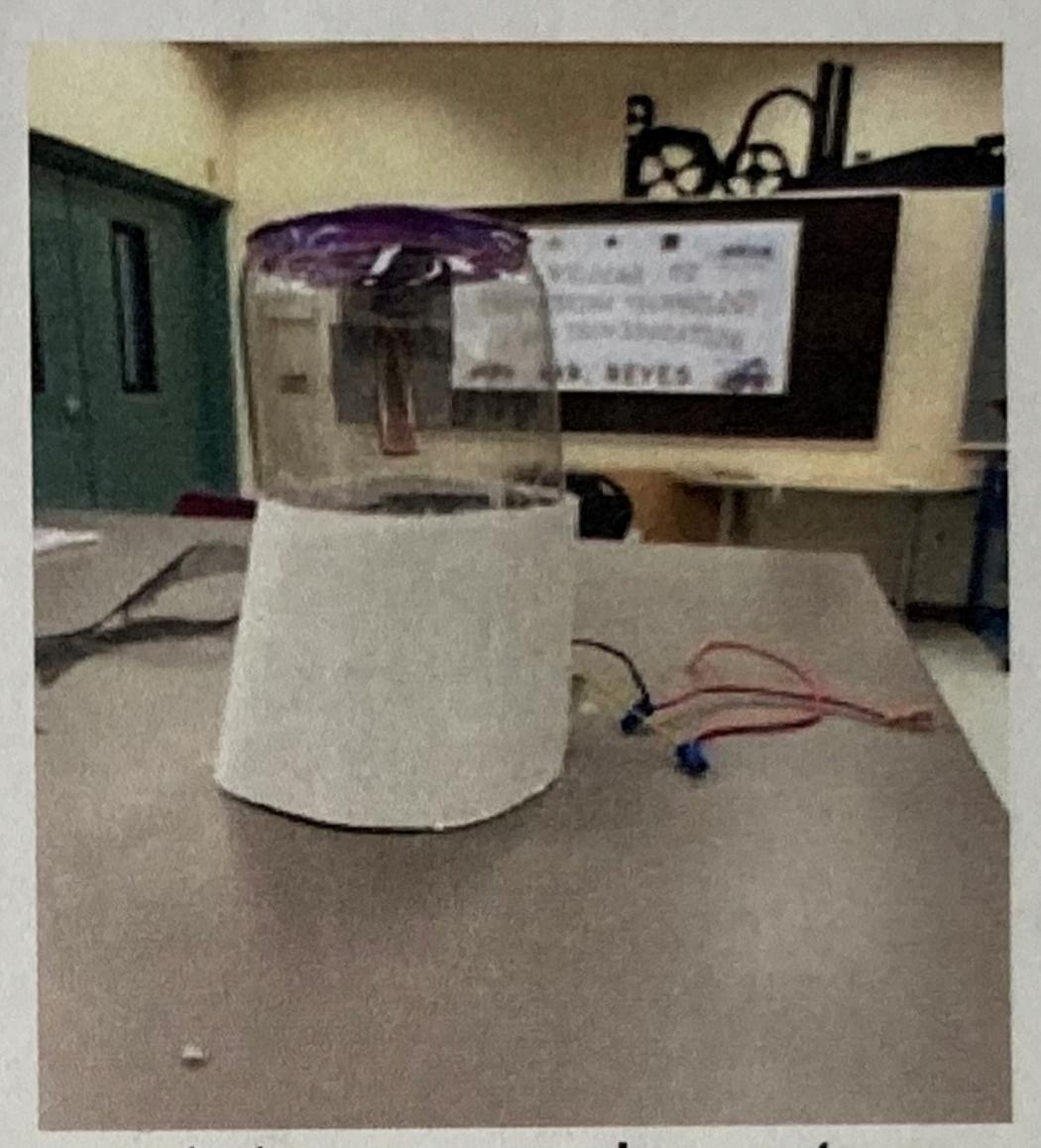




Zero-g Bulk

Space Coast Jr/Sr High School
Mr. Reyes
Ella Tucker, Brooke Street, John
Christie

The main features of our Zero-g Bulk is that it's an easy operating container. Our prototype has been designed to transfer and hold the particles in a simple way. We have thought over how we are going to deal with the microgravity environment. We chose to create a container on the smaller side so that it wouldn't take up too much space and would be easy to operate. Our design has an attachable bottom on the container with velcro on it so that the container can be sat down and attached to another piece of velcro when not in use.



In our prototype, we chose to use a variety of materials. We have a flexible baby cup lid that allows one to access the materials in the container. The body of our container is made of plastic and has a paper bridge connecting the body to the fan. This will create a way to have the fan suck the particles downwards once the bag is attached. Inside of the container, there will be belt clips that will be used to help transfer particles into the container. You will put the bag through the lid and clip it to the belt buckle, this will hold the bag in place while the fan sucks all the materials inside downwards.

