Progress Report

Title: Active Ankle/Foot Orthotic (AFO) to Enhance Walking and Balance

Names: Jessica Hause: Co-leader
       Erin Main: Co-leader
       Emily Andrews: Communicator
       Josh White: BSAC
       Tony Schuler: BWIG

Date: January 26, 2007 – February 2, 2007

Problem Statement:
Create a device that actively enhances forefoot step-off and increases
proprioception to improve balance for people experiencing ankle weakness, foot-drop
and the inability to walk and balance safely as a result of various neurological diseases
such as Charcot-Marie-Tooth disease, multiple sclerosis and stroke. The device should be
non-obtrusive, fit in a shoe, comfortably attach to the leg, and be economical.

Restatement of Team Goals:
• Establish a team for the semester
• Establish team member’s roles
• E-mail client to establish a meeting time
• E-mail advisor about the project chosen and the various team member’s roles
• Begin researching our client’s problem, products already available, and new
  project ideas.

Individual Goals:
   Erin Main: research existing AFOs, progress report
   Jessica Hause: research, come up with questions for our client, progress report
   Josh White: research ankle weakness and foot drop off
   Tony Schuler: begin working on the team website
   Emily Andrews: get in contact with client and set up a meeting time

Summary of Accomplishments:
• Established a team for the semester
• Established team member’s roles
• E-mailed and phoned client to set up a meeting time
• E-mailed advisor about the project chosen and various team member’s roles
• Began researching our client’s problem and products available
• Spoke with various people who currently use AFOs
• Brainstormed questions for our client
Statement of Team Goals:
- Continue brainstorming questions for our client
- Meet with client
- Continue researching our client’s problem and products available
- Begin brainstorming product ideas
- Establish thoughts based on ideas from current AFO users

Project Schedule:

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Difficulties:
Our team had some difficulty establishing time to meet outside of class that fit with everyone’s schedule as well as finding a BSAC that was available during the time meetings are to be held. In addition, due to our client’s busy schedule, we are having trouble getting in touch with him to set up a meeting time.

Activities:
Our team met for 2 hours during class and each worked for one hour individually. We discussed team roles, meeting our client, and beginning research on our project. We established team roles, contacted our client and researched the problem and existing products and began brainstorming ideas.
Jessica Hause: 3 hours, talked with current AFO users, research
Emily Andrews: 3 hours, attempted to contact client, research
Erin Main: 3 hours, researched existing products
Josh White: 3 hours, researched foot drop off and ankle weakness
Tony Schuler: 3 hours, began work on team website, research