Project Impact

This project will have a significant impact in several areas. First, this prosthesis will give people in developing countries access to technology they have never seen been able to attain before. By creating an inexpensive and easily created robotic arm, many people will be able to enjoy their everyday lives. This project could impact people who are prohibited from accessing standard medical care due to cost or living in a country with no substantial medical system due to poverty or political reasons.

In addition, the arm could be used as a standalone project to perform dangerous tasks such as handling hazardous materials or caring for sick babies in incubators. Also, since this project is open source, people are free to modify it to fit their needs.

This project provides a simpler alternative to traditional prostheses and also allows for significantly less environmental waste.

Another application in which this project could be used is automation in the manufacturing industry. Being able to mimic a human hand would greatly benefit an assembly line or standardized process.

Deliverables for Next Semester

Next semester will mark the conclusion of this project. In that time, we must accomplish many things. The website for this prosthesis has been started and will be completed in Phase 4. A final design has been completed and parts will be ordered. Upon receipt of these parts, a prototype will be built, tested, and improved. During the next semester, an iterative process will be used to develop the best possible prosthesis. Although the exact deliverables for Phases 4, 5, and 6 are unknown at this time, they will be completed in the next semester.