

EN1190 ENGINEERING DESIGN PROJECT

iCli Q

All in one smart clicker to make
the life of a public speaker easier

PROJECT PROPOSAL

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Company of Noobs

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PROBLEM IDENTIFICATION

Both professional speakers and amateur speakers have a struggle in managing their time while delivering a speech/presentation no matter they are delivering a short-prepared speech or a long impromptu speech or a pitching presentation. If it is a short-prepared speech, speakers usually struggle with being on time with their script as it is not always possible and convenient to get the assistance of time cards or a clock. Also, when delivering a long speech, usually a keynote or a lecture, it is important to make sure about the timings because otherwise the delivery may sound boring.

Apart from this, aspiring public speakers (specially people with a technical background find it really hard to keep up with the right mind before going up on the stage to speak. They become really stressed and uncomfortable before and during a speech. This is one of the main reasons for introvert people with good technical skills not wanting to pursue entrepreneurship, as they are very concerned about their confidence in communication skills. Also, while delivering a presentation, many have found it difficult to use the clicker as its design is not very intuitive, and it may cause wrong slide transitions or other glitch worsening the presentation.

INITIAL PROBLEM VALIDATION

We conducted a initial verbal survey to validate our problem by taking a sample of 20 including professional speakers, toastmasters and gaveliers. We asked them about the problems they faced while preparing and delivering a speech/presentation. 15 of them including well rounded speakers confirmed that time management is the most common problem they face. 8 of them who are still beginners to public speaking said that memorizing the key points of the speech was hard for them. All of them agreed to the fact that nervousness and stress are major factors affecting the delivery of their speeches despite their skill level. Additionally, they provided some valuable feedback to improve our ideas.

OUR SOLUTION

Our solution (iCliQ) is to rethink the design of a clicker by allowing public speakers to keep up with their timings through vibration patterns. As per the request of a toastmaster who loves to have the conventional time card concept reimaged, iCliQ is incorporated with lights as an additional way of conveying time.

As a delight feature iCliQ consist of an OLED display where you can add small points or notes regarding your speech or presentation. So, if needed user can scroll through the points to keep up with the delivery.

Another secondary feature we are researching on is to add haptic sensing using the same vibration motor which is used to convey time. Vibrotactile haptic patterns can be used to simulate the function of a stress ball while user is holding the iCliQ in his hand reducing his stress levels before going up the stage to deliver speech/presentation.

Enclosure of the iCliQ will be designed considering the physical and cognitive ergonomics of the user. A retractable ring will be added to the casing so that user can wear the iCliQ in his finger without holding the device with a tight grip. It will release four of his fingers holding the clicker. That is a great advantage for a speaker who extensively use body language.