

Shooting Mechanism Signoff

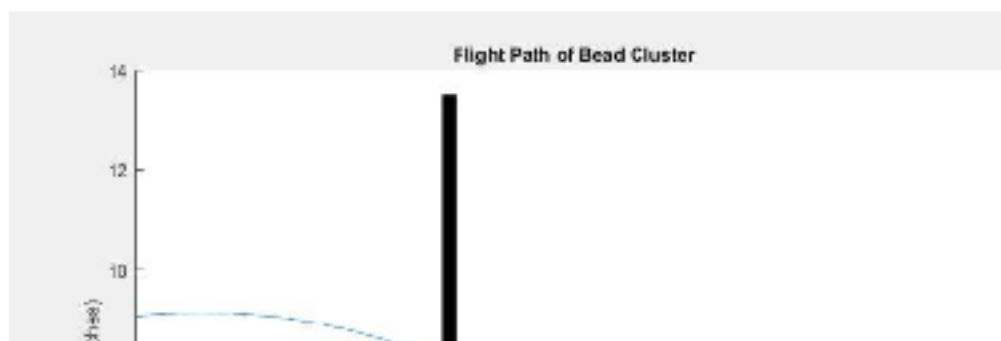
Tuesday, January 25, 2022

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The shooting mechanism is a vital aspect of the overall design, being the way that the team will be gaining points. It will need to be able to aerially launch beads a horizontal distance of between 5 and 6 inches and a vertical distance of between 10 and 12 inches. It is desirable that the beads reach their “apex” height near the middle of the net. To accomplish this objective, the team has designed a conveyor system to launch the beads at the required distance and height.

To better understand the trajectory of the beads, a MATLAB program was used to simulate the flight path of the beads with different parameters. The parameters that were edited were the launch angle in degrees, the distance from the end of the conveyor to the net in inches, and the RPM of the motor that is driving the conveyor. Changing these parameters and observing how they affected the flight path of the beads allowed the team to gain a better understanding of how the conveyor should be designed. An example of the MATLAB program is shown below.



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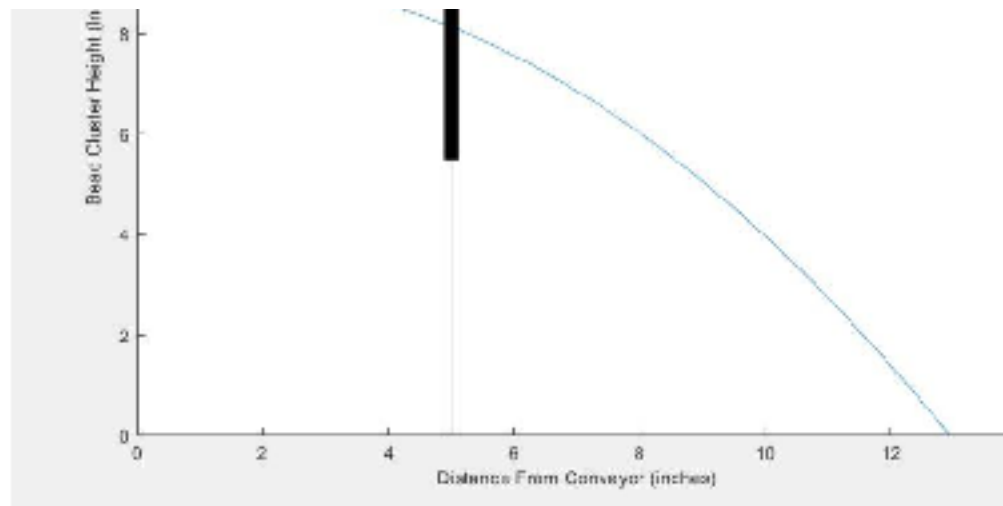


Figure. Example Output of Bead Flight Path Simulation

The example above is using 8 degrees for the launch angle, 700 RPM for the conveyor speed, and 5 inches for the distance to the net. It is clear to see that with the current parameters, it is achievable to launch the beads into the net. The limiting factor in the actual implementation of the conveyor will be the speed of the motor.

In order to choose an appropriate motor, the potential torque load that the motor will experience needs to be approximated. There are a few different factors that contribute to the total load, including the mass of the beads and the friction of the ball bearings that the rollers are mounted to. It is not expected that the conveyor belt itself will contribute much to the total load, the fact that it is both pushing and pulling the rollers at the same time, effectively canceling out this force. In addition, the friction of the ball bearings is expected to be negligible as they are specifically designed to be able to rotate with minimal friction. It is anticipated that the primary contributor to the load will be the mass of the bead bracelets. Being that the bracelet being used, the mass has been estimated at around 0.822 grams per bracelet.

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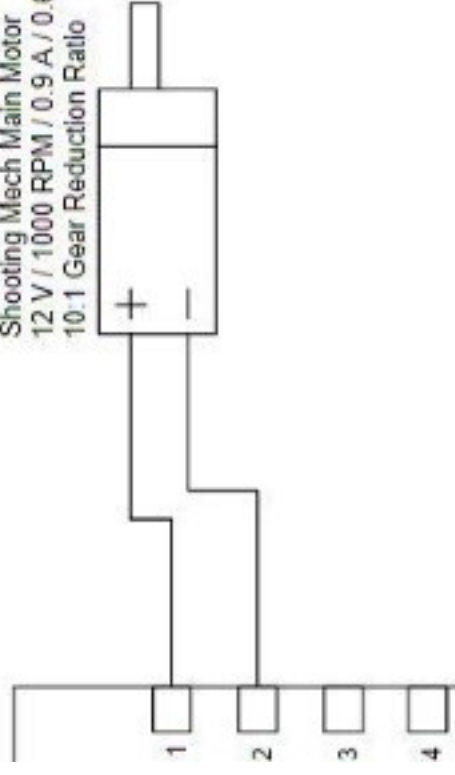
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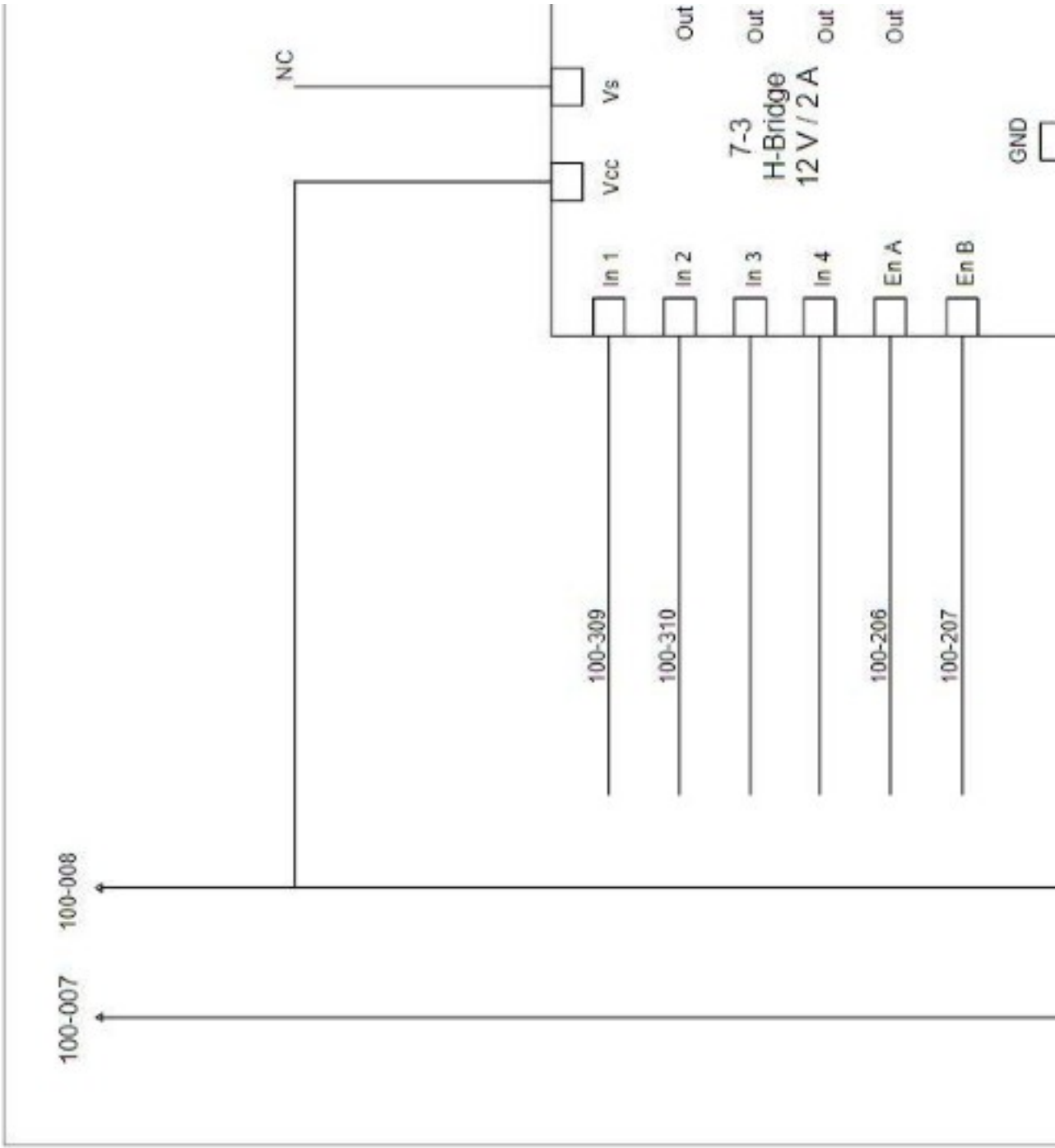
number was based on similar products from Amazon. The maximum number of beads in competition will be 30, giving a potential total mass of 24.66 grams. The length of the conveyor will be 22.86 centimeters. Using these values to approximate the required torque value of 0.5637 kg-cm. The motor that has been selected for this task is a Pololu 1/8 HP brushless motor and can be found at this link: <https://www.pololu.com/product/4748/specs>. The motor has a rated torque of 0.66 kg-cm, which exceeds the estimated required torque for the task. The motor has a rated speed of 850 RPM, which has been proven using the MATLAB simulation to be fast enough to launch the beads into the nets. It will be coupled to the rotary shaft of the set screw motor couple, which can be found here: <https://www.robotshop.com/set-screw-shaft-coupler.html>. The motor will be controlled through an H-bridge. The H-bridge method of control was chosen because it gives the team the ability to change the direction of the motor if necessary. The team already possesses an extra H-bridge that can be used for this purpose. A circuit diagram of the motor and H-bridge is shown below.

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Shooting Mech Main Motor
12 V / 1000 RPM / 0.9 A / 0.66 kg-cm
10:1 Gear Reduction Ratio



100-008





After speaking with Dr. Pardue of the Mechanical Engineering Department, the team altered the structural design of the conveyor. The rollers will be 3D printed by the team to control bore precision. The surface of the 3D printed material also needs to have a certain amount of friction to turn the belt. The diameter will be 1.5 inches with a bore of 0.5 inches to match that of the bearings and axles. The rollers will need to be attached to the supporting structure. To attach the rollers to the surrounding support structure, pillow block bearings will be utilized. The pillow block bearings have outward-facing mounting holes that will allow for mounting as well as adjusting the angle of the conveyor. The bearings can be found at this link: <https://www.mcmaster.com/pillow-block-bearings/for-shaft-diameter~3-16/>. Brass wells will be inserted into slots in the support structure to hold the bearings in place. The brass wells can be found here: <https://www.mcmaster.com/93495A130/>. Additional nuts and screws will be used to secure the wells to the bearings. The rotary axle will pass completely through the bearings and be mounted on each side to the bearings/motor. It will have a 3/16-inch diameter to fit through the bearing and roller. The rotary axis can be found here: <https://www.mcmaster.com/rotary-shafts-5/diameter~3-16/>. The belt material thickness was chosen to be the conveyor height at a minimum. Rubber has been chosen for the belt material due to its tackiness. The belt material can be found here: https://www.amazon.com/Industrial-Conveyor-Length/dp/B08GTV6DGD/ref=ppx_yh_dt_b_sspa_2/141-4281628-1256060?pd_rd_w=CQnik&pf_rd_p=c9443270-b914-4430-a90b-72e3e7e784e0&pf_rd_r=MEGGCQVSGX06EWB4QYCY&pd_rd_r=3fd1bcbf4-2c1fd090d0ee&pd_rd_wg=tYtQr&pd_rd_i=B08GTV6DGD&psc=1#. The team also added room in the conveyor design to attach 1" protrusions to prevent the belt from slipping if it is an issue. The belt will be held to the rollers by its own tension. The frame of the conveyor will be made of acrylic, the same material as the rest of the project.

The shooting mechanism will also need a method to reload, as there are multiple nets. As each new net is found, the next set of beads to be fired off will need to be loaded onto the belt. The team has designed a reloading mechanism that will be fixed at the end of the conveyor. This mechanism will contain three compartments with a slab cover that is able to be moved, and in turn allowing each set of beads to be dropped. The cover will have a toothed rack on its side and will be moved by a motor attached to a gear. Because the cover is 3D-printed, it is expected that the torque required to move it will be minimal. A small DC motor will be used in this application to have precise control over the slab movement.

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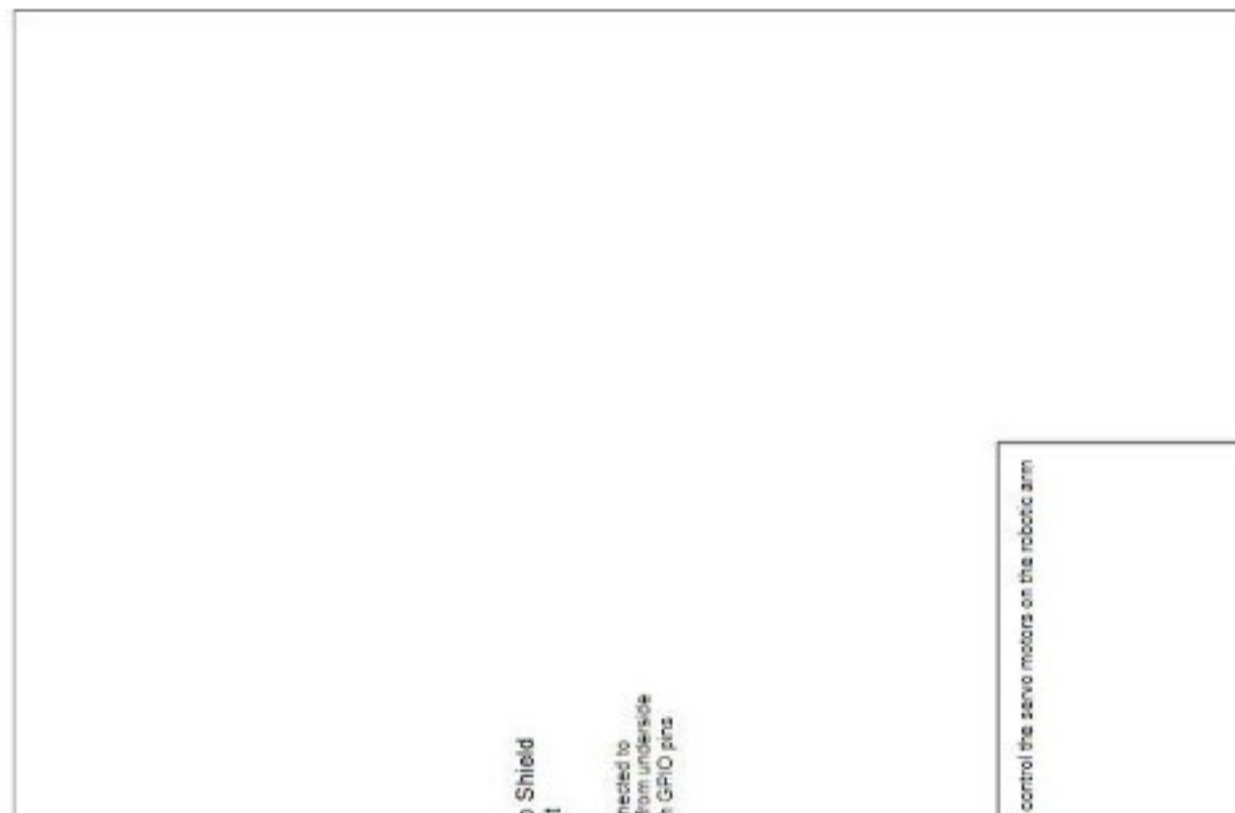
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Finally, the supports
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ule. A small servo
movement. The servo

can be found at this link <https://www.robotshop.com/en/parallax-futaba-con-servo.html>. This servo will be controlled through the Adafruit servo shield gear will be 3D printed and attached to the servo motor shaft. The wiring diagram of the servo shield is shown below.

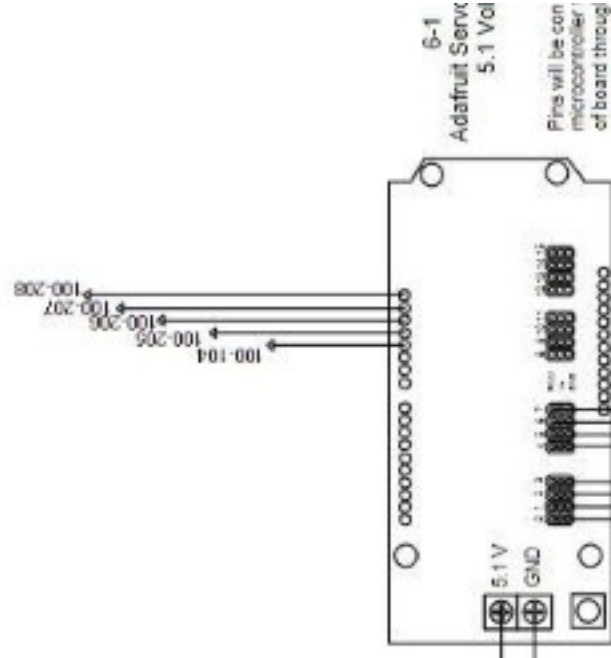


[continuous-rotation-](#)

via PWM. A custom
diagram of the Adafruit

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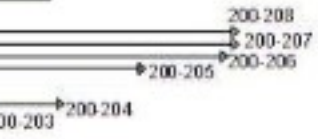
200-005 200-006



Wire numbers 200-001 through 200-006 will
as follows:

200-201	Turn Table
200-202	Shoulder Joint
200-203	Elbow Joint
200-204	Wrist Joint
200-205	Wrist Joint
200-206	End Effector Grab

200-207: Chassis Turntable
200-208: Shooting Mechanism Reload



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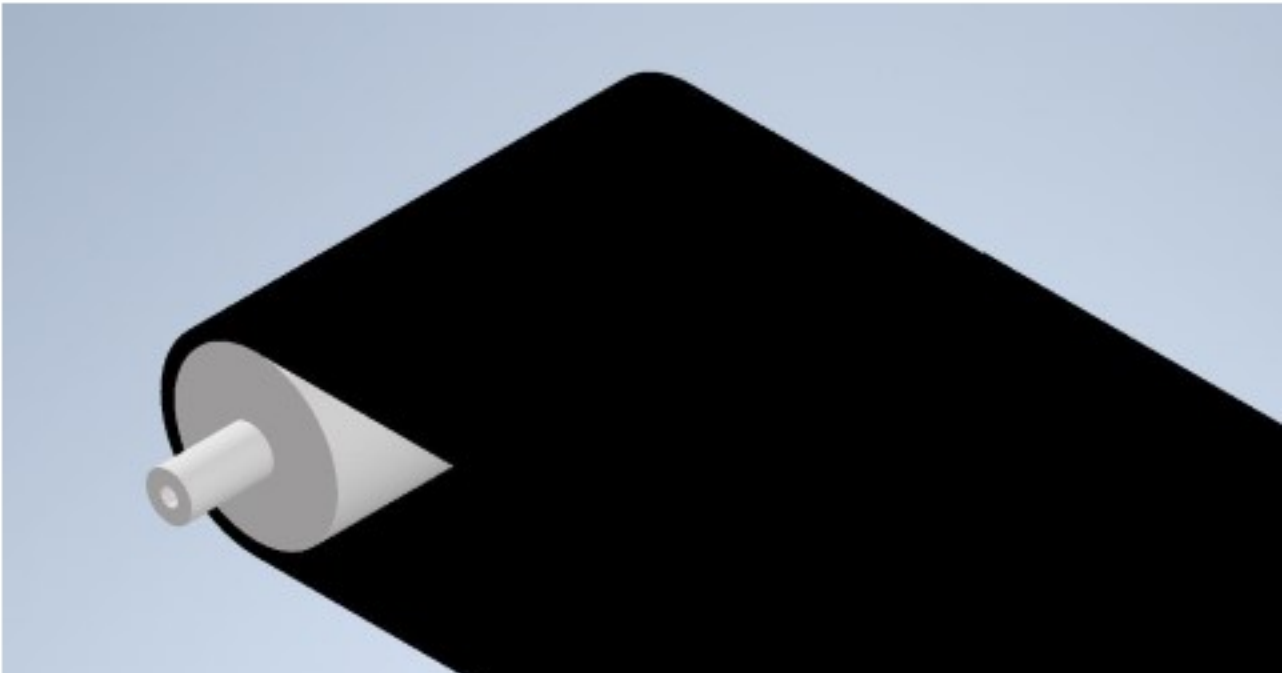
The total BOM is shown below

Item	Description	Unit Cost	Qty
Conveyor Motor	Pololu 12 V 1000 RPM DC Motor	\$24.95	1
Pillow Block Bearing	Pillow Block Bearing 3/16" Bore	\$9.56	3
Bearing Rotary Shaft	Rotary Shaft 3/16" diameter 1ft long	\$8.02	2
Motor Coupling	4mm to 5mm Motor Coupling	\$4.99	1
Conveyor Belt Material	1/8" 5 ft long PVC 120	\$20.98	1
Reloading Motor	Parallax (Futaba) Continuous Rotation Servo	\$19.95	1
			Total:

The 3D schematics of the shooting mechanism are shown on the fol

	Total Cost
	\$24.95
	\$28.68
	\$16.04
	\$4.99
	\$20.98
	\$19.95
	\$115.59

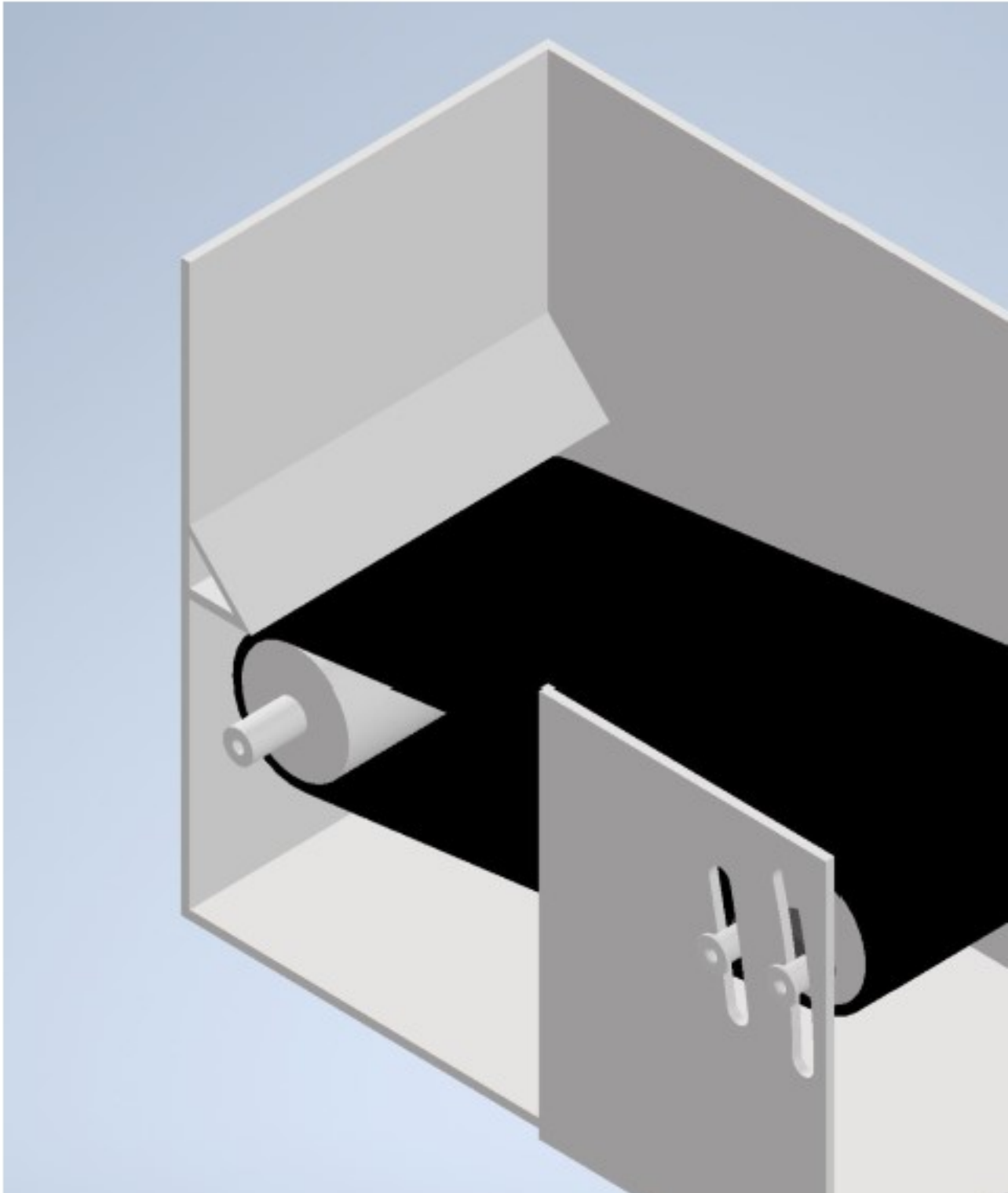
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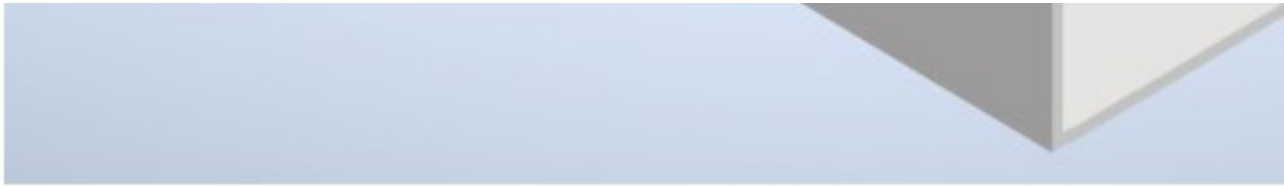


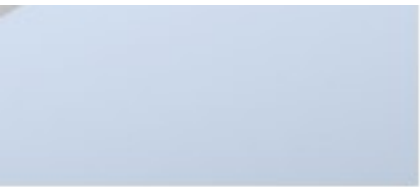


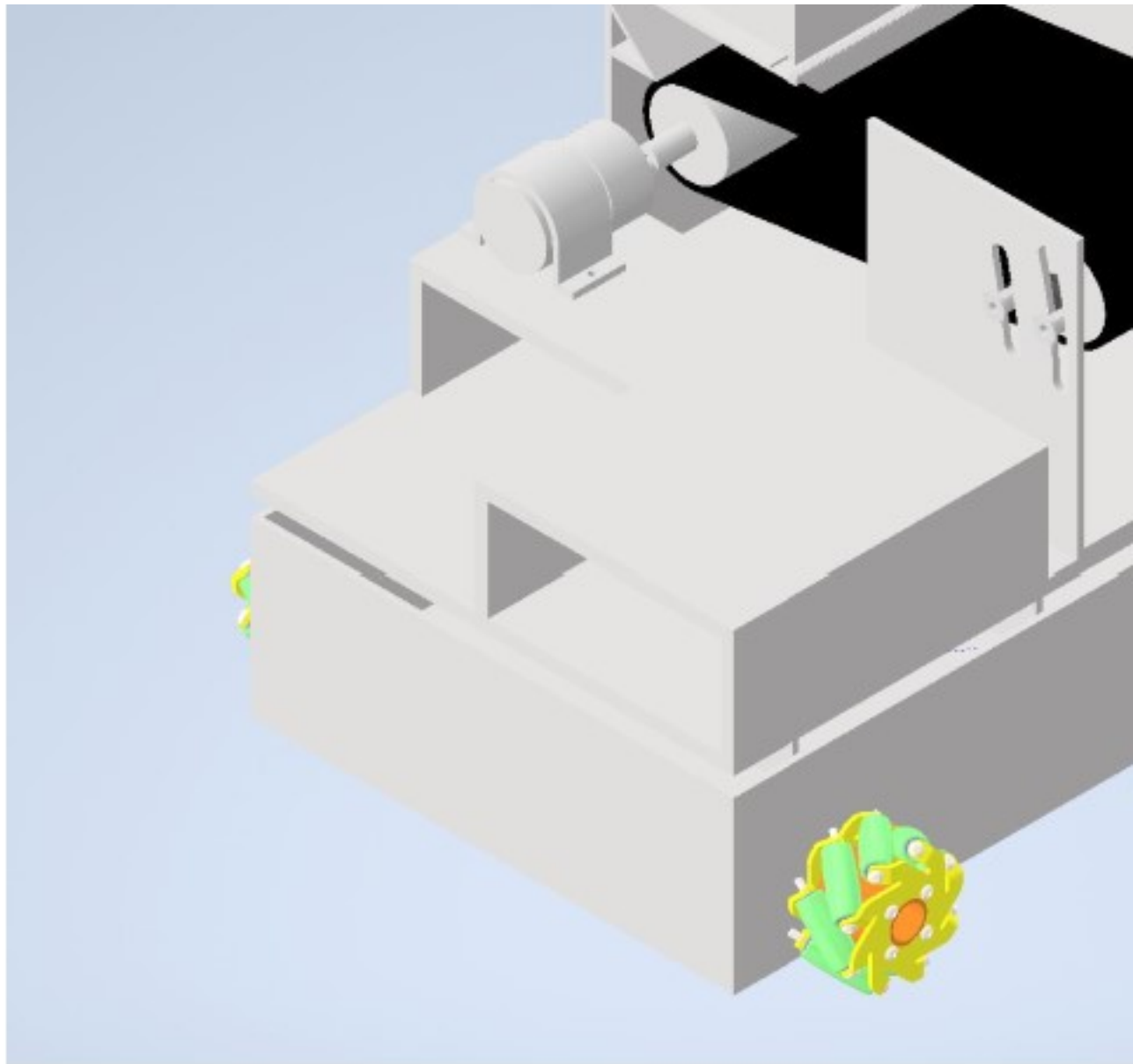












**NOTE: THE ROBOT ARM WAS REMOVED FROM THIS PICTURE
VISUALS**



E TO ENHANCE

