

 Review the assignment due date

# IoT Venture Pitch

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## ESE5180: IoT Wireless, Security, & Scaling

**Team Name:** Gatorade

Team Member Name	Email Address
James Steeman	jsteeman@seas.upenn.edu
Joaquin Revello Lerena	joaquinr@seas.upenn.edu
Chirag Satapathy	csat28@seas.upenn.edu

**Weekly Meeting:** Wednesday 7pm

**GitHub Repository URL:** <https://github.com/ese5180/iot-venture-f25-gatorade>

## Concept Development

### Product Function

Our smart HVAC system will integrate permanent sensors at key nodes throughout ductwork to continuously monitor air quality, VOC, humidity, then alert operators to deploy an AI-guided mobile robot for chemical-free cleaning using UV-C sterilization and adaptive brushing to achieve 99.99% pathogen elimination. The sensor network will predict contamination issues and guide operators to exact problem locations, while the lightweight bot will provide superior cleaning results in 30 minutes versus 2-3 hours for competitors. This intelligent system will deliver better performance at lower cost by combining continuous monitoring with smart operator guidance for targeted, efficient cleaning.

### Target Market & Demographics

#### **Who will be using your product?**

- Facility managers at commercial buildings (offices, hospitals, schools, retail)
- HVAC technicians who will operate the AI-guided cleaning bot
- Building maintenance staff monitoring the sensor network dashboard
- Property managers overseeing multiple buildings

#### **Who will be purchasing your product?**

- Commercial building owners (office buildings, shopping centers, hotels)
- Healthcare facility administrators (hospitals, clinics, care facilities)
- Educational institutions (universities, school districts)
- Property management companies managing multiple commercial properties
- Data center operators requiring precise environmental control

## Where in the world would you deploy your product?

- Primary markets: North America (US, Canada) - strict indoor air quality regulations
- Secondary markets: Europe (UK, Germany, Nordic countries) - high environmental standards
- Growth markets: Australia, Japan, Singapore - advanced building management adoption
- Future expansion: Major commercial centers in developing markets (Dubai, Hong Kong, major Chinese cities)

## How large is the market you're targeting?

- Global HVAC services market: ~\$200 billion annually
- Building management systems: ~\$20 billion annually
- Indoor air quality monitoring: ~\$5 billion annually growing 8%+ yearly
- Serviceable addressable market: ~\$15-25 billion (commercial buildings with centralized HVAC)
- Target segment (50,000+ sq ft commercial): ~\$8-12 billion annually

## How much of that market do you expect to capture?

- Year 1-2: 0.01% = \$1-2 million (pilot customers, proof of concept)
- Year 3-5: 0.1% = \$10-25 million (regional expansion, established product)
- Year 5-10: 1-2% = \$100-250 million (national presence, market leadership)
- Long-term potential: 5-10% = \$500M-\$1.2B (dominant platform with international expansion)

## What competitors are already in the space?

### Direct Competitors

- Teinnova Multibot - Professional duct cleaning robots (\$50K+ equipment)
- JettyRobot S - Industrial pipeline inspection/maintenance (\$100K+ systems)

### Indirect Competitors

- Traditional HVAC cleaning services - Manual cleaning companies
- Smart building management systems - Johnson Controls, Honeywell, Siemens
- Indoor air quality monitors - Airthings, PurpleAir, Awair
- Smart HVAC filters - 3M Filtrete, Nordic Pure smart filters

## Key Differentiation

No existing competitor combines continuous sensor monitoring with AI-guided mobile cleaning and chemical-free UV-C sterilization in a comprehensive building health management platform.

## Stakeholders

We have reached out to several stakeholders, including emailing EOS at UPenn, and submitting web contact forms for LG and Hitachi, but have not solidified any individual stakeholder at this point.

## Student Project: Request for Feedback on HVAC Inspection & Monitoring Concept



**J** James Steeman <jsteeman@seas.upenn.edu>  
to EOS, Chirag, Joaquin ▾

Thu, Sep 25, 12:42 PM (1 day ago)



Hello,

My name is James, and I'm part of a student team in SEAS (the ESE 5180 course) considering an engineering project related to HVAC inspection and maintenance. As part of the project, we're looking for feedback to help us refine the idea and understand what aspects are most valuable (and what might be unnecessary). If someone on your team is available to share some thoughts, we'd greatly appreciate it.

The inspection portion of the idea is a robot that navigates through HVAC ducts to detect issues such as mold, debris, blockages, corrosion, and wear. It would then generate or update a system map and prepare work orders. This could also be equipped with cleaning elements like a brush or vacuum unit for dust/debris removal, and perhaps a UV cleaning element.

Additionally, the robot would place compact sensor nodes throughout the system to provide real-time and continuous monitoring of temperature, humidity, vibration, or other desired parameters to help identify developing issues, support air quality compliance, and enable predictive maintenance.

We believe that this could both help with maintenance of newer systems and reduce costs by proving that older HVAC systems can remain in service with targeted maintenance, rather than requiring full replacement. It could also offer facility managers more information to use in decision making processes.

Since we don't have any experience working with or maintaining such systems, we're hoping to better understand which parts of this idea would be most useful in practice, and what challenges it could face in real-world deployment? Are there already techniques used to facilitate inspection and monitoring tasks, and if so, how might this idea fit in with those?

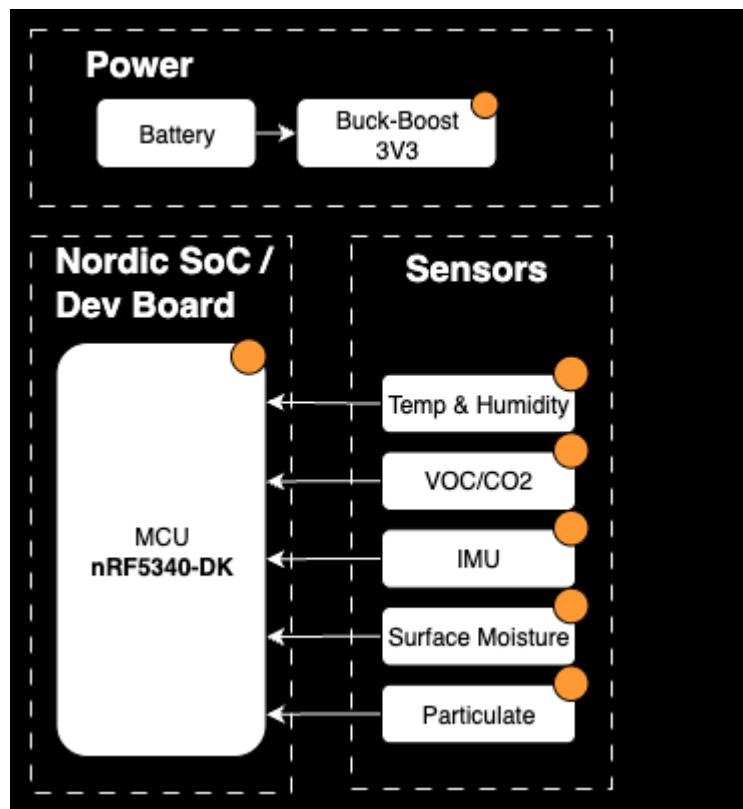
Thank you for your time and help!

Best,  
James Steeman  
EE '26

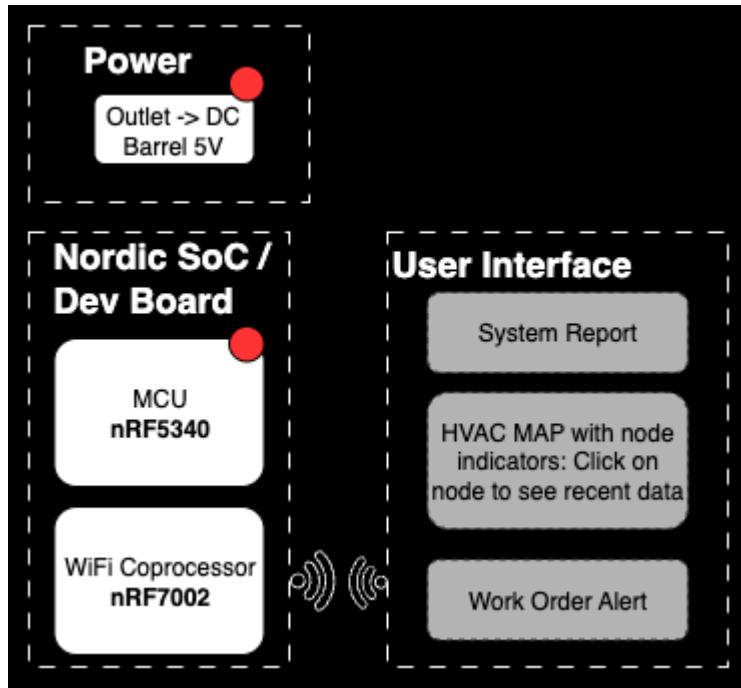
Since we believe the current idea of our product will be more directed towards HVAC companies and building management than maintenance staff, we continue to reach out to additional companies (through sales departments) for feedback on our idea.

## System-Level Diagrams

### Sensor Node

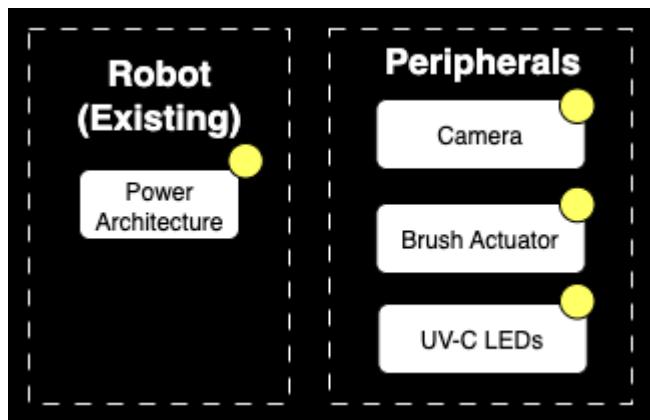


### Gateway



## Robot

We will start by leveraging an existing robot and prototyping on top/hacking the robot to add cleaning functionality. Below is a very simple diagram indicating our added peripherals, which we will first attempt to power from the robot's power architecture, but add external battery/power management if necessary.



## Security Requirements Specification

### Security Overview

The system will ensure data, communications, and firmware integrity are protected from tampering, eavesdropping, and unauthorized access. Security measures particularly focus on safeguarding the gateway and nodes, which are in continuous operation and not always being observed.

### Security Definitions, Abbreviations

- OTA: Over the air firmware updates
- GUI: Graphic User Interface

### Security Functionality

<b>Requirement ID</b>	<b>Requirement Title</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Rationale</b>
SEC 01	Gateway Firmware Integrity	Gateway shall run only firmware from signed OTA updates, and shall securely store keys	The gateway acts as a bridge between the sensor node mesh network and the cloud (data portal etc.), and compromise here could expose the client's network and leave them vulnerable to attacks and breaches
SEC 02	Autheticate Nodes	Each sensor node shall authenticate in the mesh network using unique key/certification and ignore messages from tampered systems	This prevents unauthorized devices from disrupting the mesh or tampering with the data at the hardware level. It also protects from counterfeit devices being added to our network
SEC 03	Data Encryption	Communication from nodes, gateway and GUI interface shall be encrypted	This protects potentially sensitive IAQ and predictive maintenance data from eavesdropping and tampering at the data level

## Hardware Requirements Specification

### Hardware Overview

The system contains a mobile robot for HVAC navigation, duct cleaning operations and sensor node deployment. Low power sensor nodes will be deployed in the HVAC system for data collection to identify system issues and enable predictive mainenance. There will also be a gateway node.

### Hardware Definitions, Abbreviations

- HVAC: Heating, Ventilation, and Air Conditioning
- VOCs: Volatile Organic Compounds
- UV-C: Ultraviolet C - short-wavelength UV light used for chemical-free disinfection and sterilization

### Hardware Functionality

<b>Requirement ID</b>	<b>Requirement Title</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Rationale</b>
HRS 01	Bot Size and Weight	The mobile bot shall be maximum 300mm x 100mm x 100mm (can change) and weigh less than 5kg to fit through standard commercial ductwork.	Must navigate existing HVAC systems without modifications or damage.

<b>Requirement ID</b>	<b>Requirement Title</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Rationale</b>
HRS 02	UV-C Sterilization	The bot shall include UV-C LEDs with 360-degree coverage to achieve 99.99% pathogen elimination.	UV-C sterilization is the core technology differentiator for chemical-free cleaning.
HRS 03	Sensor Durability	Sensor nodes shall operate in -10°C to +70°C, 0-95% humidity with IP65 protection, VOC and 12+ month battery life.	HVAC environments are harsh; sensors must survive without frequent maintenance.
HRS 04	Wireless Communication	System shall maintain mesh networking with 100m range and <2 second response time between sensors and bot.	Real-time monitoring and response is critical for building health management.
HRS 05	Camera System	The bot shall include HD cameras with LED illumination for visual inspection and AI-powered contamination detection in low-light ductwork environments.	Visual documentation and AI analysis are essential for contamination identification and compliance reporting.

## Software Requirements Specification

### Software Overview

The node/gateway software shall collect, process, and transmit sensor data from HVAC sensor nodes to a centralized gateway. It shall manage sensor feature toggling, battery optimization, and secure communications across BLE mesh and Wi-Fi networks.

The robot software shall collect and process real time controls and data for navigation and cleaning operations.

### Software Users

- Facility managers at commercial buildings (offices, hospitals, schools, retail) using IoT dashboard
- HVAC technicians operating cleaning robot
- Building maintenance staff monitoring the IoT dashboard
- Property manager

### Software Abbreviations

- MCU: Microcontroller Unit

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## Pitch 1

[Course Pitch 1 Slides](#)

## Wireless Demo

[Gateway Repo](#)

[Mesh Node Repo](#)

We have pulled and compiled the code on the different machines.

We have ordered sensors and the seeed studio XIAO nRF54L15 (s) for our ble mesh nodes.

## Concept Refinement

Concept Review & Refresh

### Description

Our smart HVAC system integrates permanent sensor nodes throughout ductwork to continuously monitor air quality, VOCs, and humidity. Each node uses force air power generation to recharge its battery, enabling long-term autonomous operation. When contamination is detected, operators are alerted to deploy a mobile cleaning unit that uses UV-C sterilization and adaptive brushing to achieve pathogen elimination. The system predicts issues, pinpoints problem areas, and delivers superior cleaning in less time versus 2–3 hours for competitors—offering continuous monitoring and targeted, efficient cleaning at lower cost.

### Product Function

Our proposed solution is an integrated smart HVAC management system to continuously monitor HVAC system health using distributed sensor nodes and maintain the system with deployable guided cleaning robots. The network of permanent sensors embedded in ductwork measures VOC levels, humidity, and particulate contamination in real time, transmitting data to a central dashboard, from which operators can make data driven decisions. If abnormal readings are detected, the system provides alerts and guidance. The compact mobile cleaning robot is equipped with UV-C sterilization lamps and adaptive brushes to disinfect and remove buildup without chemicals while navigating autonomously through ducts. By combining

predictive analytics from the sensor network with targeted robotic cleaning, the system transforms HVAC maintenance from a reactive to a proactive process. Facility managers can visualize air quality trends, schedule cleanings efficiently, and verify cleanliness with post-cleaning validation data. The chemical-free, automated process not only improves IAQ and system performance but also reduces operational costs and downtime. This integrated approach is a scalable, eco-friendly, and data-driven solution meeting modern building health and sustainability standards while offering a ROI through reduced maintenance time and energy savings.

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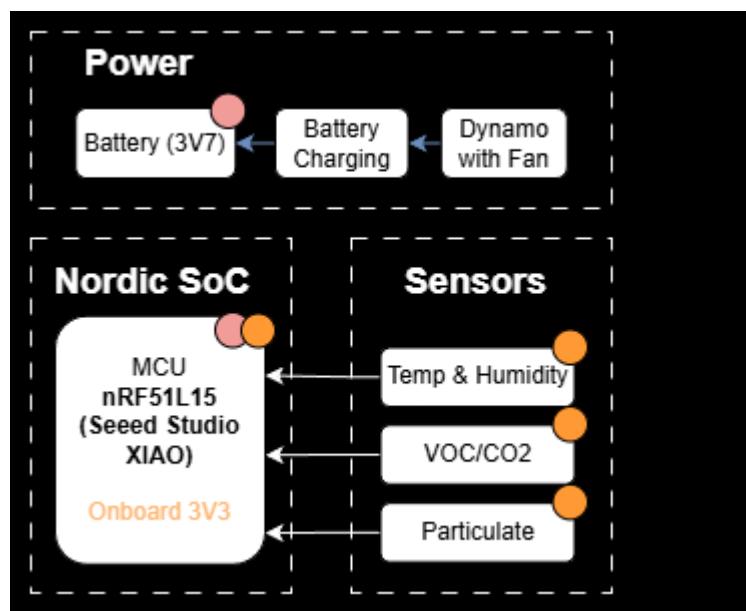
## Stakeholders

We have continued reaching out to stakeholders, but have gotten some feedback but having hard time finalizing official stakeholder. Our fallback is to work directly with a residential facilities at one of our apartment buildings for access to someone with direct HVAC experience.

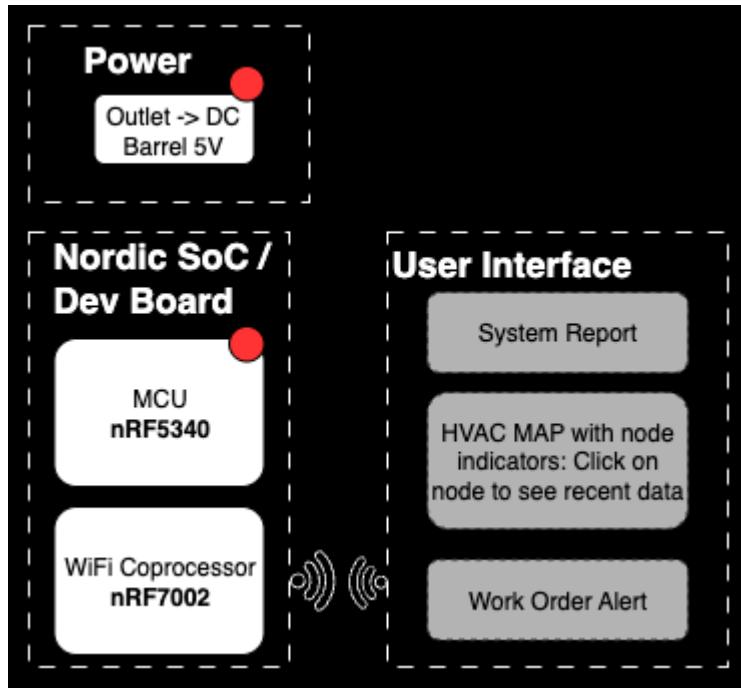
Outside of our stakeholder efforts, we have scheduled a meeting for external funding, so while a bit different, we have seen interest in the venture.

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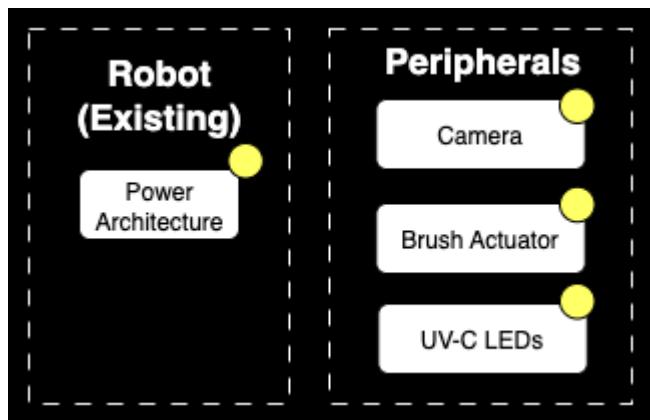


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Create a rough power budget for your end device

### HVAC Sensor Node — Power Budget

The node uses airflow (forced air) inside the duct to harvest power while measuring air quality and environmental parameters.

#### System Overview

##### Components:

- nRF54L15 Microcontroller (BLE)
- SPS30 PM2.5 Sensor
- BME680 Temperature, Humidity & Gas Sensor
- 3.7V 4500mAh Li-ion Battery
- LiPo Charger Module
- Airflow Dynamo (3–12V, 1500 RPM) for energy harvesting

**Sampling Interval:** Every 10 minutes

**Airflow Velocity (assumed):** 5 m/s

**Regulator Efficiency:** ~90%

#### Power Consumption Breakdown

<b>Component</b>	<b>Active Current</b>	<b>Active Time per Cycle</b>	<b>Duty Cycle</b>	<b>Avg. Current</b>
nRF54L15 (MCU + BLE)	5 mA	0.5 s	0.083%	0.004 mA
SPS30 PM2.5 Sensor	60 mA	30 s	5%	3.0 mA
BME680 Sensor	1 mA	1 s	0.167%	0.002 mA
Regulator & Misc Losses	-	-	-	0.10 mA
<b>Total Average (3.3V Rail)</b>	-	-	-	<b>≈ 3.1 mA</b>

**Average Power:**  $3.3V \times 3.1mA = 10.2\text{ mW}$

**Daily Energy Use:**  $10.2\text{mW} \times 24\text{h} = 0.245\text{ Wh/day}$

### Battery-Only Operation (No Harvest)

**Battery:** 3.7V, 4500mAh = 16.65Wh

**Runtime = 16.65Wh / 0.245Wh/day ≈ 68 days**

Without any energy harvesting, the node can operate for roughly **2 months** on a full charge under the assumed duty cycle.

### With Airflow Power Harvesting

The node uses a small turbine (dynamo) to convert duct airflow into electrical energy.

Power generation depends heavily on airflow velocity and turbine diameter.

Rotor Diameter	Air Speed	Theoretical Power	Practical Electrical Output	Status
50 mm	2.5 m/s	3.7 mW	~3–9 mW	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Insufficient
50 mm	5 m/s	29 mW	~15 mW	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Marginally Self-Powered
50 mm	10 m/s	236 mW	~120 mW	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Surplus Power
100 mm	5 m/s	118 mW	~60 mW	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Comfortable Margin

**Node Power Need:** ~10.2 mW

**Harvest Target:**  $\geq 10.2\text{ mW}$  average for sustained operation

At 5 m/s airflow, a 50mm turbine can roughly match the node's power needs.

With 100mm or higher airflow speed, the system can run **indefinitely** while charging the battery.

## Summary

Mode	Avg. Power	Energy Source	Expected Runtime
Battery Only	10.2 mW	3.7V 4500mAh	~68 days
With Harvest (5 m/s, 50mm rotor)	10.2 mW load / ~15 mW harvest	Airflow + Battery	Indefinite
With Harvest (Low Airflow  m/s)	<10 mW harvest	Airflow + Battery	Partial support, shorter runtime

With a 4500mAh battery, the node can last about **2 months** without airflow.

In active ducts ( $\geq 5\text{ m/s}$  airflow), the **harvested energy can fully sustain** the system indefinitely.

## Gateway (nRF7002 dev kit)

- **Powering:** The gateway uses an **nRF7002 dev kit** and is powered via an **external adapter** (mains). Hence we will **not** include the gateway in the battery runtime calculations.

Create a detailed Bill of Materials for the physical elements of your product

### [Hardware and Software BOM](#)

### Financial Model

**Complete your product's financial model, including a pricing strategy and sale price**

## Product Financial Model & Pricing Strategy

This section outlines our HVAC monitoring ecosystem's financial model, including the **sensor node**, **inspection robot**, and **dashboard platform**. The goal is to balance **hardware margins** with **recurring revenue** from rentals and subscriptions.

### 1. Sensor Node

Item	Cost per Unit
Components + Mechanical Parts	\$130
Assembly, Testing & QA	\$15
Logistics & Shipping	\$10
Insurance (transport + field warranty)	\$5
<b>Total Manufacturing Cost</b>	<b>\$160</b>

### Tiered Selling Price

Order Size	Selling Price per Unit
1–10 units	\$260
11–50 units	\$255
51–100 units	\$250
100+ units	\$240

### Notes:

- Covers insurance, assembly, testing, shipping, and support.
- Tiered pricing encourages larger orders while maintaining margins.
- Margin target: ~40%.

### 2. Gateway (nRF7200 Dev Kit)

<b>Item</b>	<b>Cost</b>
nRF7200 Dev Kit	\$100
Protective Case	\$20
Power Adapter	\$15
<b>Total Cost</b>	<b>\$135</b>
<b>Selling Price</b>	<b>\$200</b>

**Notes:**

- Gateway is mains-powered via adapter; we do **not include battery costs**.
- Could be sold as a one-time purchase with sensor nodes or included in enterprise packages.
- Margin can be ~40–50% depending on bundle pricing.

### 3. Inspection Robot

<b>Parameter</b>	<b>Estimate</b>
<b>Full Cost (Current Version)</b>	Bought off the shelf just for demo
<b>Rental Model</b>	\$100–200 per day, depending on service package
<b>Future Plan</b>	In-house development to reduce cost to ~\$8,000–12,000 per unit depending on add ons

**Notes:**

- Rental supports short-term HVAC inspection contracts.
- Ideal for maintenance companies or pilot deployments.
- In-house production will allow sale or lease options in the future.
- Large companies could buy the complete bot.

### 4. Dashboard & Analytics Platform

**Subscription Pricing (per month)**

<b>Tier</b>	<b>Features</b>	<b>Monthly Price</b>
Standard	Real-time monitoring, OTA updates, baseline security	\$15
Advanced	Analytics, reports, predictive insights	\$30

**Notes:**

- Standard tier ensures device security and basic monitoring.
- Advanced tier generates recurring revenue via analytics.
- Enterprise or volume accounts can receive custom pricing.

## Summary

Component	Cost	Selling / Rental Price	Revenue Model
Sensor Node	\$150	\$220–\$250 (tiered)	One-time sale
Gateway	\$135	\$180–\$200 (suggested)	One-time sale / bundle
Inspection Robot	\$10,000	\$150–250/day	Rental
Dashboard	—	\$10–25/month	Subscription

### Goal:

Maintain a ~35 - 40% gross margin on hardware, while generating recurring revenue from **dashboard subscriptions** and **robot rentals**. Over time, reducing hardware costs and increasing analytics adoption will improve overall profitability.

### Example: Family Sizes — Total Cost, Sale Price & Profit

Family Size (Sensor Nodes)	Gateways Needed	Total Manufacturing Cost	Total Sale Price	Total Profit	Average Profit Margin
1	1	$\$150 \times 1 + \$135 \times 1 = \$285$	$\$260 + \$200 = \$460$	\$175	38%
5	1	$\$150 \times 5 + \$135 \times 1 = \$885$	$\$260 \times 5 + \$200 = \$1,500$	\$615	41%
10	1	$\$150 \times 10 + \$135 \times 1 = \$1,635$	$\$260 \times 10 + \$200 = \$2,800$	\$1,165	41%
20	2	$\$150 \times 20 + \$135 \times 2 = \$3,270$	$\$255 \times 20 + \$400 = \$5,500$	\$2,230	41%
50	5	$\$150 \times 50 + \$135 \times 5 = \$7,875$	$\$255 \times 50 + \$1,000 = \$13,750$	\$5,875	43%
100	10	$\$150 \times 100 + \$135 \times 10 = \$16,350$	$\$250 \times 100 + \$2,000 = \$27,000$	\$10,650	39%

### Notes / Redundant Charges:

- Extra shipping or logistics beyond standard included costs
- Taxes or import duties
- Optional insurance, extended warranty, or installation fees

## Fleet Management

The screenshot shows the nRF Cloud Issues page for a project named "nRF Project". A specific issue titled "Assert at Unknown Location" is selected. The details panel shows the device is "sps30\_sensor\_001", introduced in "1.0.0 (main)", last affected in "1.0.0 (main)", and part of the "default" cohort. The software is "1.0.0" and the hardware is "xiao\_nrf54l15". A note indicates a symbol file was missing at the time of processing. The trace captured was 3 minutes ago. The "Log Files" tab is selected, showing threads and symbols missing for process #1. The "Traces Over Time" section is visible on the right.

This screenshot shows the same issue page with more detailed analysis. The "Log Files" tab is selected, showing the "Threads" section with "Thread 1" containing addresses 0x23f9c and 10x2383c. The "Exceptions" tab is active, displaying the error "Assert at Unknown Location" and the message "Invalid instruction executed". Below this, a table shows fault register values: CFSR (65536), HFSR (0), and SHCSR (458760). The "Memory Viewer" tab is open, showing a list of memory addresses and their hex values, such as 0x26000048, 0x26000049, etc.

```

COMS-PUTTY
[enter]5
[0] Temp: 22.39°C | Hum: 26.34% | PM2.5: ---
[1] Temp: 22.38°C | Hum: 26.02% | PM2.5: ---
[2] Temp: 22.39°C | Hum: 26.22% | PM2.5: ---
[3] Temp: 22.38°C | Hum: 27.65% | PM2.5: ---
[4] Temp: 22.36°C | Hum: 27.61% | PM2.5: ---
[5] Temp: 22.39°C | Hum: 27.45% | PM2.5: ---
[6] Temp: 22.40°C | Hum: 27.68% | PM2.5: ---
[7] Temp: 22.40°C | Hum: 26.03% | PM2.5: ---
[8] Temp: 22.40°C | Hum: 28.15% | PM2.5: ---
[9] Temp: 22.41°C | Hum: 26.52% | PM2.5: ---
[10] Vtemp: 22.41°C | Hum: 26.37% | PM2.5: ---
[11] Vtemp: 22.40°C | Hum: 26.37% | PM2.5: ---
[12] Temp: 22.40°C | Hum: 27.54% | PM2.5: ---
[13] Temp: 22.38°C | Hum: 27.61% | PM2.5: ---
[14] Temp: 22.38°C | Hum: 27.47% | PM2.5: ---
[15] Temp: 22.38°C | Hum: 27.59% | PM2.5: ---
[16] Vtemp: 22.39°C | Hum: 27.53% | PM2.5: ---
[17] Vtemp: 22.38°C | Hum: 27.56% | PM2.5: ---
[18] Temp: 22.38°C | Hum: 27.59% | PM2.5: ---
[19] Temp: 22.38°C | Hum: 27.41% | PM2.5: ---
[20] Temp: 22.37°C | Hum: 27.46% | PM2.5: ---
[21] Temp: 22.36°C | Hum: 27.51% | PM2.5: ---
[22] Vtemp: 22.37°C | Hum: 27.28% | PM2.5: ---
[23] Twtemp: 22.36°C | Hum: 27.28% | PM2.5: ---
[24] Temp: 22.35°C | Hum: 27.28% | PM2.5: ---
[enter]5
*** Booting nRF Connect SDK v3.0.0-1961294-ge4b ***
*** Using Zephyr OS v4.0.99-ef791c6df92c ***

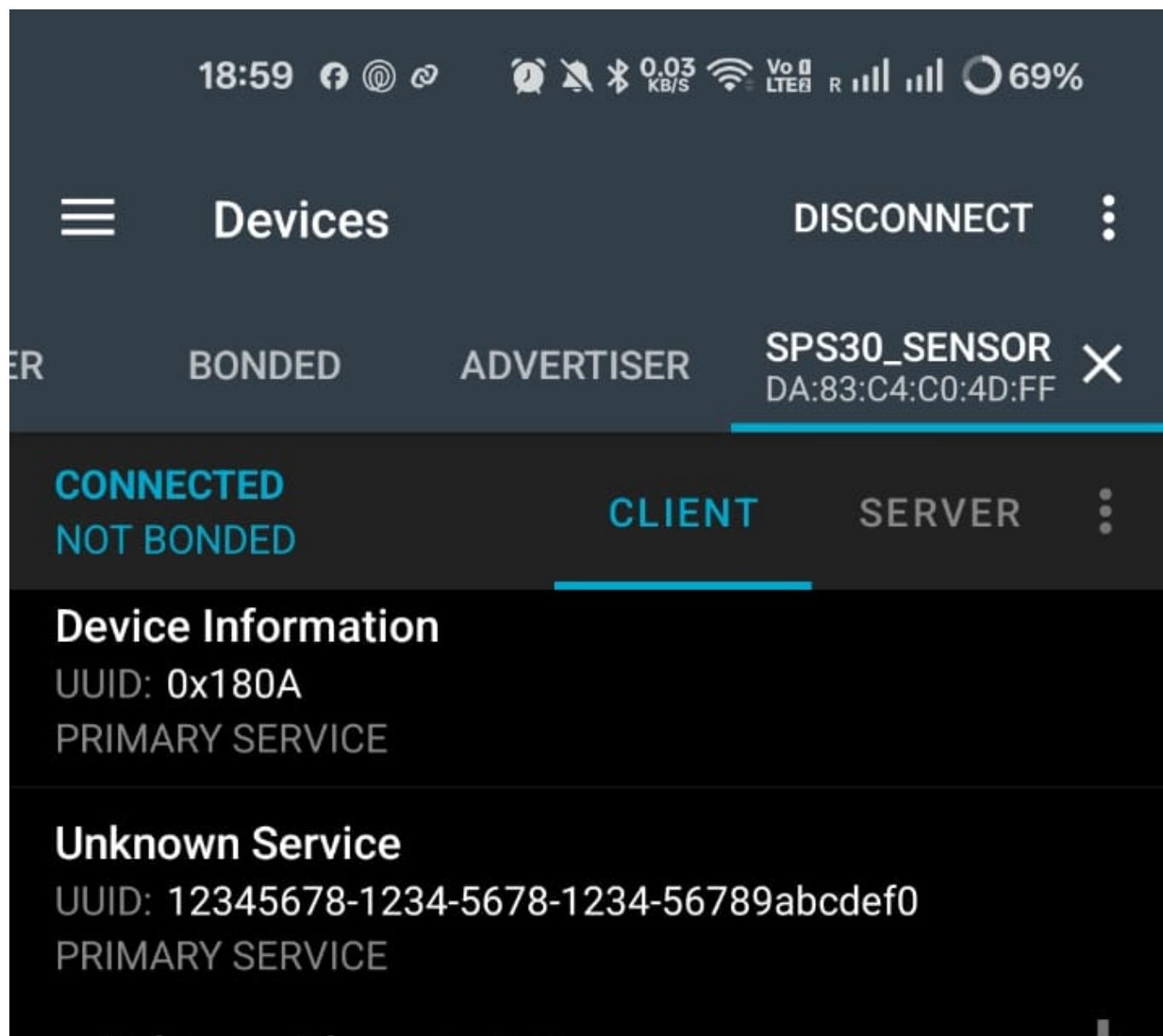
--- GATT --- Sensors with Merchant --- 
Fimware Version: 1.0.0
Device ID: sm30_sensor_001

Initializing settings...
Initializing bluetooth...
Bluetooth initialized
Advertising successfully started
Device name: SPS30_Sensor
'BLE' OK
QML OK

Reading sensors...
[0] temp: 22.38°C | hum: 27.62% | pm2.5: ---
[1] temp: 22.39°C | hum: 26.42% | pm2.5: ---
[2] temp: 22.39°C | hum: 26.88% | pm2.5: ---
[3] temp: 22.41°C | hum: 26.03% | pm2.5: ---
[4] temp: 22.40°C | hum: 29.42% | pm2.5: ---
[5] temp: 22.39°C | hum: 26.53% | pm2.5: ---
[6] temp: 22.40°C | hum: 27.94% | pm2.5: ---
[7] temp: 22.39°C | hum: 27.73% | pm2.5: ---
[8] temp: 22.40°C | hum: 27.57% | pm2.5: ---
[9] temp: 22.40°C | hum: 27.80% | pm2.5: ---

[enter]5

```



## Unknown Characteristic

UUID: 12345678-1234-5678-1234-56789abcdef1

Properties: READ

Value: (0x) 32-33-2E-30-31-20-43, "23.01 C"

### Descriptors:

Characteristic User Description



UUID: 0x2901

Value: Temperature



## Unknown Characteristic

UUID: 12345678-1234-5678-1234-56789abcdef2

Properties: READ

Value: (0x) 32-37-2E-37-35-20-25, "27.75 %"

### Descriptors:

Characteristic User Description



UUID: 0x2901

Value: Humidity



## Unknown Characteristic

UUID: 12345678-1234-5678-1234-56789abcdef3

Properties: READ

Value: (0x) 31-39-2E-35-30-20-75-67-2F-6D-33, "19.50 ug/m<sup>3</sup>"

### Descriptors:

Characteristic User Description



UUID: 0x2901

Value: PM2.5









Zipped Sensor Node Matter

## Final Website

(3.14.1) Create a website & list your GitHub Website URL

[https://github.com/cs28-droid/Prisma\\_Air/tree/main](https://github.com/cs28-droid/Prisma_Air/tree/main)

[https://cs28-droid.github.io/Prisma\\_Air/](https://cs28-droid.github.io/Prisma_Air/)

(3.14.2) What parts of your project would you consider a success? Why?

We did a good job with the business concept development. We struggled at first to find a concept that could be differentiated from existing companies, and based on stakeholder and pitch day responses, our solution appears to have interest. While it certainly could be refined further if it were to develop into a startup, we already considered many useful data centered features. Beyond the baseline data for maintenance optimizations, a key feature we discovered was compliance report automation. Our solution already builds from the increasing air quality compliance requirements for many facilities, so rolling report automation into the system managers would use for data backed metrics made sense. From a business survivability standpoint, we enter a large and still growing market with a differentiating product line. Though exact pricing might change on a per contract basis, our baseline revenue model uses upfront costs to cover hardware development and production alongside a recurring subscription model to cover firmware updates for security and performance, as well as dashboard analytics features. PrismaAir positions as a three-layer system (Monitor, Predict, Clean), rather than simply a sensor.

On the technical side, our key success was the development of the sensor nodes. These are the backbone of the entire system, and as such, were the main focus of development through the semester. We designed housing to integrate a vertical wind turbine for energy harvesting alongside high quality environmental sensors (SPS30, BME680). Subject to testing, the nodes' energy harvesting capability could allow them to operate indefinitely, solving issues with replacing batteries in the HVAC system being just as inefficient as current HVAC maintenance schedules. A key move for keeping the prototypes compact was moving our compute platform the nRF54L15 Xiao, a much smaller development board. Our proof of concept showed multiple devices successfully monitoring and relaying data through to our web dashboard.

(3.14.3) What parts of your project didn't go well? Why?

On the sensor node front, we had issues developing the network communication. We first attempted BLE mesh, but even with working from the Nordic example code, did not find early success. On feedback from a course guest speaker, he suggested we move to matter. Our team put a lot of development effort into working with matter, but faced difficulties from minimal examples, as well as documentation and support still growing.

Another key feature we struggled with was implementing Firmware Over-The-Air (FOTA) updates. We used both the AWSIoT and Memfault platforms to implement FOTA through our gateway, but faced difficulties with memory sizes at compile time with some attempts, and runtime issues including stack overflows and wifi disconnections. As emphasized in the course, we would like to have signed FOTA to maximize security on our device platform from the jump, but doing so will take some additional development effort.

(3.14.4) If you had to do it again, how might you change your development approach given the finite time and money resources?

One thing we did very well with here was removing the mobile robot from our development scope early on to focus on the sensor nodes. I think the biggest improvement here would be in focussed efforts. Our team was very busy throughout the semester and therefore our efforts were a bit more on and off until closer to the end of the development timeline. I think if we were focussed solely on this task, our efforts would have come together to help reduce wasted time and solve implementation issues that we were unable to resolve separately. Particularly with FOTA, the difficulties pushed that way beyond the initially intended schedule, not only for our group but many others, and I think moving to a different protocol for the FOTA implementation instead of continuing to pursue the same WiFi approaches that had been already been unsuccessful.

(3.14.5) Would you change your system design after this development cycle?

One thing to change is adding additional sensors to the node architecture, including differential pressure. This would go beyond the air quality monitoring to help directly with system health, allowing detection of clogged filters or failing fans. On this node, different node types could be developed for placement in different parts of the system. A prime example is having IMU focused nodes for predictive maintenance on mechanical systems such as fan motors.

A potential concern with our current nodes is also in sampling. Since the nodes stick in partially from a side of the vent, they may not give a sufficiently robust picture of what is happening in the vents. An alternative sampling method such as having tubes from inside the duct come out to an external sensor setup pulling samples from different parts of that duct section could provide more detailed information.

Another potential concern is our self-powering approach. Instead of dealing with the potential issues of battery replacement and forced air generation, we could link the system to existing building low voltage power lines. This would be much more reliable and maintenance-free.

Similarly, outside of the course context, it may make more sense to use a wired communication protocol for the node network. A simple CAN bus or a custom low wire protocol could be fairly simple added in hardware, only requiring a small amount of additional harnessing effort during setup, and be lower power and more reliable than the bluetooth approach currently used. A gateway would still be connected to aggregate and forward data to the internet, but this could be either wifi or wired internet.

The dashboard could also be hosted from a client's local server as well, if they prefer their data not leave their facilities over the public network.

## (3.14.6) Images of your final product hardware implementation



The screenshot shows the GitHub Actions interface for the repository "environmental\_monitor1". The left sidebar contains sections for Actions, New workflow, All workflows, TDD Driver CI, Management (Caches, Attestations, Runners, Usage metrics, Performance metrics), and a search bar for workflow runs. The main area displays "All workflows" with "Showing runs from all workflows". It lists two workflow runs: "CI Tests for BME680 + PMSA0031" (main branch, 5 minutes ago, 4m 33s) and "Fix CI: Explicit workspace directory structure" (main branch, Today at 1:54 AM, 3m 44s). A "Filter workflow runs" input field is also present.

	V 3 Devices	Current Cohort	Nickname	Current Software Version	Hardware Version	Last Seen
EnvMonitor	default			0.0.1+b668e2	xiao-nrf54115	7 days ago
UI_TESTSERIAL	default			1.0.0	xiao_nrf54115	7 days ago
sps30_sensor_001	default			1.0.0	xiao_nrf54115	10 days ago

The dashboard compares sensor data from two nodes:

- Node 1 (Living Room):**
  - Temperature: 27.3 °C
  - Humidity: 9.1%
  - PM2.5: 17.4 µg/m³
  - Air Quality Index: 65 (Moderate)
  - Graph: Shows Temperature (blue), Humidity (purple), and PM2.5 (green) over time from 4:04:34 PM to 4:05:53 PM. The graph indicates a peak in PM2.5 levels around 4:05:19 PM.
- Node 2 (Bedroom):**
  - Temperature: 25.2 °C
  - Humidity: 7.7%
  - PM2.5: 15.3 µg/m³
  - Air Quality Index: 51 (Moderate)
  - Graph: Shows Temperature (blue), Humidity (purple), and PM2.5 (green) over time from 4:04:39 PM to 4:05:46 PM. The graph indicates a peak in PM2.5 levels around 4:05:13 PM.

Both nodes are marked as "Online". The last update times are 4:05:53 PM for Node 1 and 4:05:46 PM for Node 2.

(3.14.7) An exactly 400x400 pixel .jpg image that captures your project (used for the course website)



(3.14.8) A <=5 minute video

<https://youtu.be/BKmg4EdCK9g>

(3.14.9) Ensure your source code for all firmware and software is uploaded into this repository

Firmware included in the repo