

MONTH OF JUNE 2017

CUSTOMER DEVELOPMENT

During the month of June, Prometheus has significantly grown, specifically in the area of customer development. The business team conducted over thirty interviews with architects, engineers, and CAD-savvy individuals to determine what people desire in a peripheral. In particular, the team interviewed individuals from Chiang O'Brien, Whitham Planning and Design, Schnickel Architecture, in addition to other firms. The majority of the feedback determined that a keyboard and mouse was not "intuitive", there wasn't enough desk space, and the user interface of the products were not user friendly. The business team also interviewed a handful of individuals involved with Project Lead the Way, a nonprofit organization which teaches students STEM related skills, such as learning how to CAD.

PROTOTYPING

Using information from the market research, the hardware team has tweaked the keyboard design in order to satisfy this market. To the right are a few sketches with current ideas. The top photo is the hardware team's current idea for the keyboard's physical keys. The team has decided to pursue mechanical keys (rather than rubber dome keys), because market research has shown that people prefer the tactile response from mechanical keys. The bottom left picture shows how the touch screen connects to the physical keyboard. The current idea is that there will be a snapping mechanism to connect the two pieces. The bottom right picture is of an idea that the hardware team is considering. Inside a twistable sphere would be an accelerometer.

This would help with precise movements involved with using CAD programs.

REV UPDATES

The team participated in a critique session on June 23rd, where they received feedback about their ideas so far in the summer. To the right is a picture of the team presenting during this. The critique session was very helpful since the team received advice from a very diverse group of people.



QUICK HIGHLIGHTS

 Here is an article written by Cornell about the Prometheus, and the other teams in the Rev. Hardware Accelerator program.

http://news.cornell.edu/stories/2017/06/rev-startup-teams-go-napkin-prototype

For any other questions or comments, feel free to contact jt665@cornell.edu