

CALIFORNIA STATE SCIENCE FAIR 2015 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s)

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Project Number

J0917

Project Title

Battle for the Blind: Is the Mobility Glove More Effective Than the White Cane?

Abstract

Objectives/Goals The objective is to invent a glove using ultrasonic sensors and vibration modules that is more effective to assist mobility in blind people than the typical white cane

Methods/Materials

5 blindfolded volunteers went through an obstacle course 10 times, 5 times using the mobility glove and 5 times using the white cane. They were each timed and were recorded on how many times they bumped into objects.

Results

On average, participants completed the course from 5-10 seconds faster using the mobility glove, but ran into less objects while using the white cane.

Conclusions/Discussion

Overall, the mobility glove is a helpful invention for the blind to get a more 3 dimensional idea of their surroundings, and might be the next step forward in blind assistive technology. The next invention I am working in is a pair of kneepads that uses this technology at a lower vantage point so things such as steps can be sensed.

Summary Statement

I invented a mobility glove that uses an ultrasonic sensor and tested it in a controlled environment against a white cane.

Help Received

Neighbor helped write code