

CALIFORNIA SCIENCE & ENGINEERING FAIR 2018 PROJECT SUMMARY

Name(s) **Project Number Derek M. Nasalroad J1418 Project Title Effects of Various Materials on Wi-Fi Signal Speed** Abstract **Objectives/Goals** The objective of this study is to determine which of the tested materials can most efficiently increase the speed of a Wi-Fi signal. **Methods/Materials** Wi-Fi router, parabolic reflector covered with various materials, smartphone with speed test app. Tested the speed of a Wi-Fi signal when reflected by different materials. Results Not any one material consistently showed the greatest increase in Wi-Fi signal speed, though some increased the speed more than others in certain spots. The speed of the signal when reflected by a certain material varies depending on distance from the router. **Conclusions/Discussion** Repeated trials with multiple materials determined that my hypothesis was only partially correct; the aluminum did not always show the greatest increase in signal speed. It is concluded that the effectiveness of materials when improving Wi-Fi signal speed is impacted by the distance from the router. **Summary Statement** I showed that the speed of a Wi-Fi signal can be improved when reflected by certain materials. **Help Received**

While I completed most of this experiment myself, suggestions were provided by my science teacher. My English teacher and my parents helped me evaluate my choice of words in my writing.