



# The ARTEMIS Project



## Lunar Regolith Excavator Student Competition

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# Outline

- **The Lunabotics Competition**
- **System Overview**
- **Test Bed construction**
- **Excavation Subsystem Design**
- **Locomotion Subsystem Design**
- **Power Subsystem Design**
- **Microcontroller and Communications Design**
- **Budget**
- **Schedule**



# The Lunabotics Mining Competition

## Lunabotics Mining Competition

- Designed to engage and retain students in STEM disciplines
- Provide a competitive environment in which may result innovative ideas and solutions that could be applied to actual lunar excavation

Max Weight	80 kg
Min Excavation Material	10 kg
Max width	1.5 m
Max length	0.75 m
Max height	2 m
Max setup time	10 minutes
Operation time	15 minutes
Max take down time	5 minutes

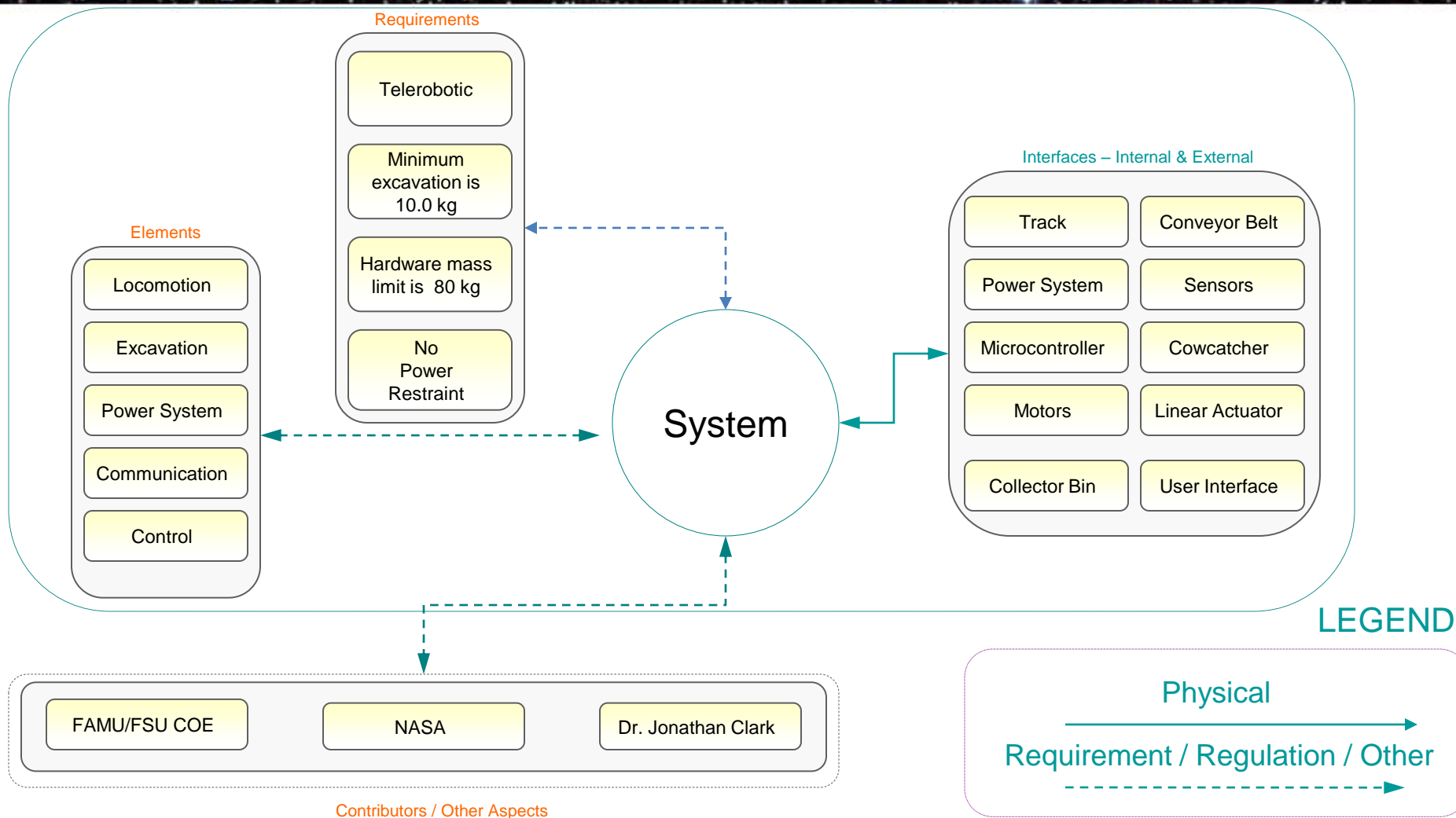
**Table 1.** Competition Specifications



**Figure 1.** Artist's rendering of lunar excavation, taken from Lunabotics Mining Competition announcement



# Needs Analysis Flow Diagram

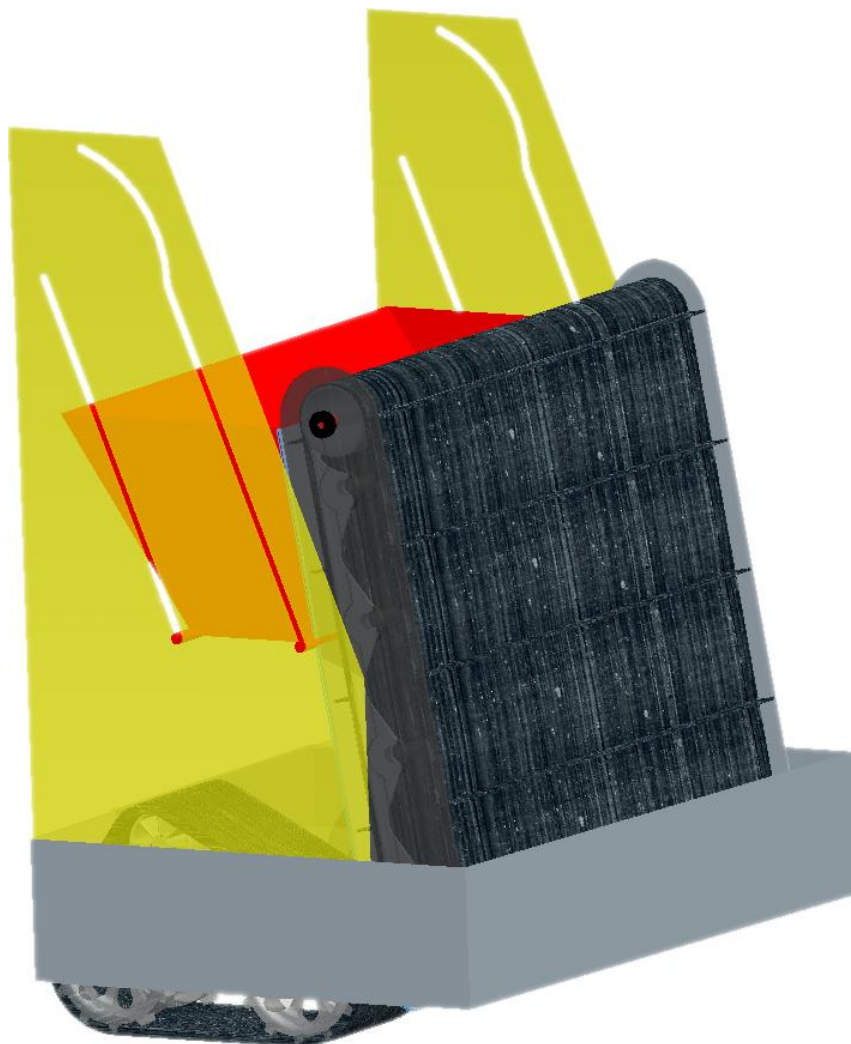


**Figure 2.** Needs analysis flow diagram for ARTEMIS Project





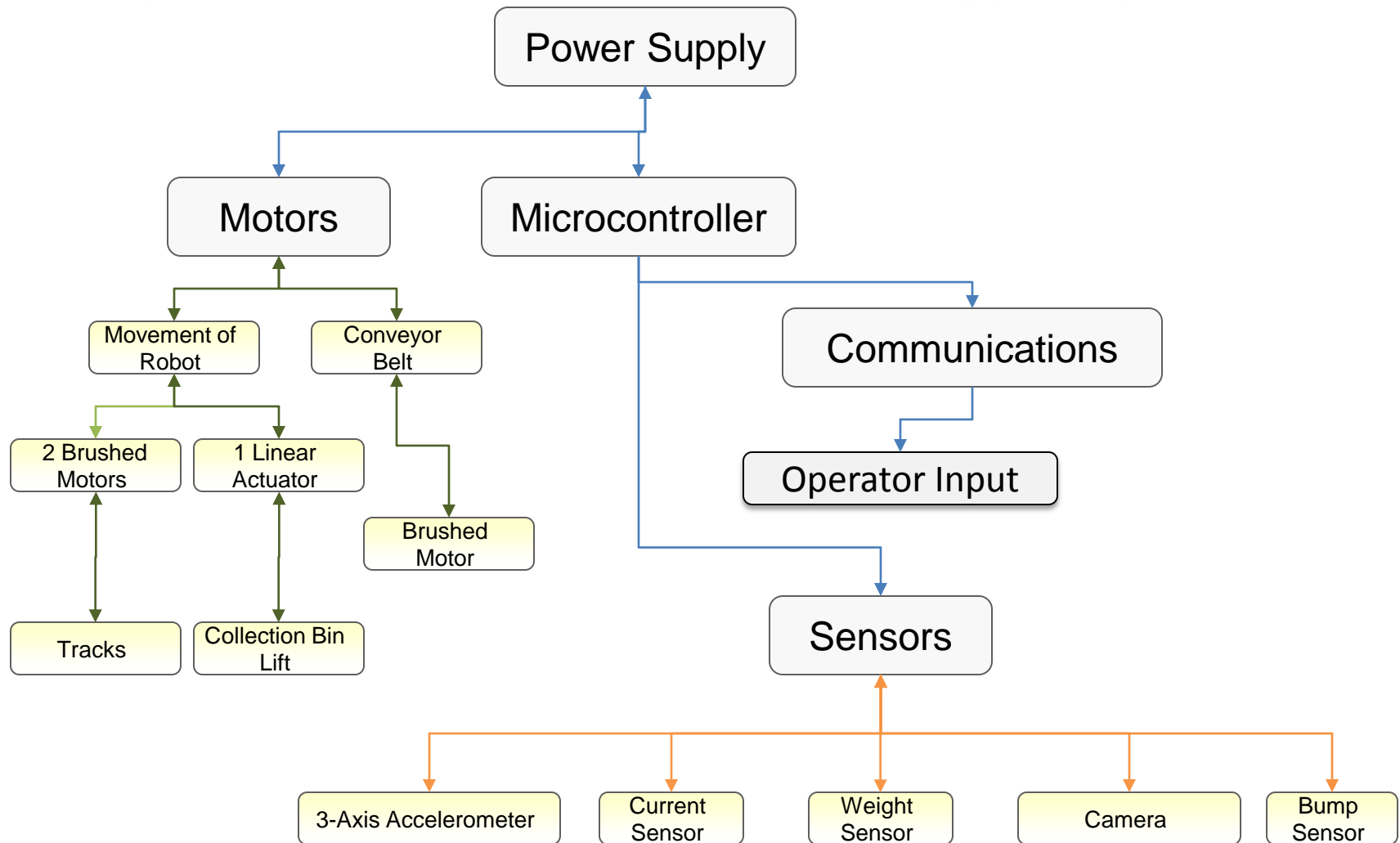
# Robotic Platform Design



**Figure 3.** Robot design schematic



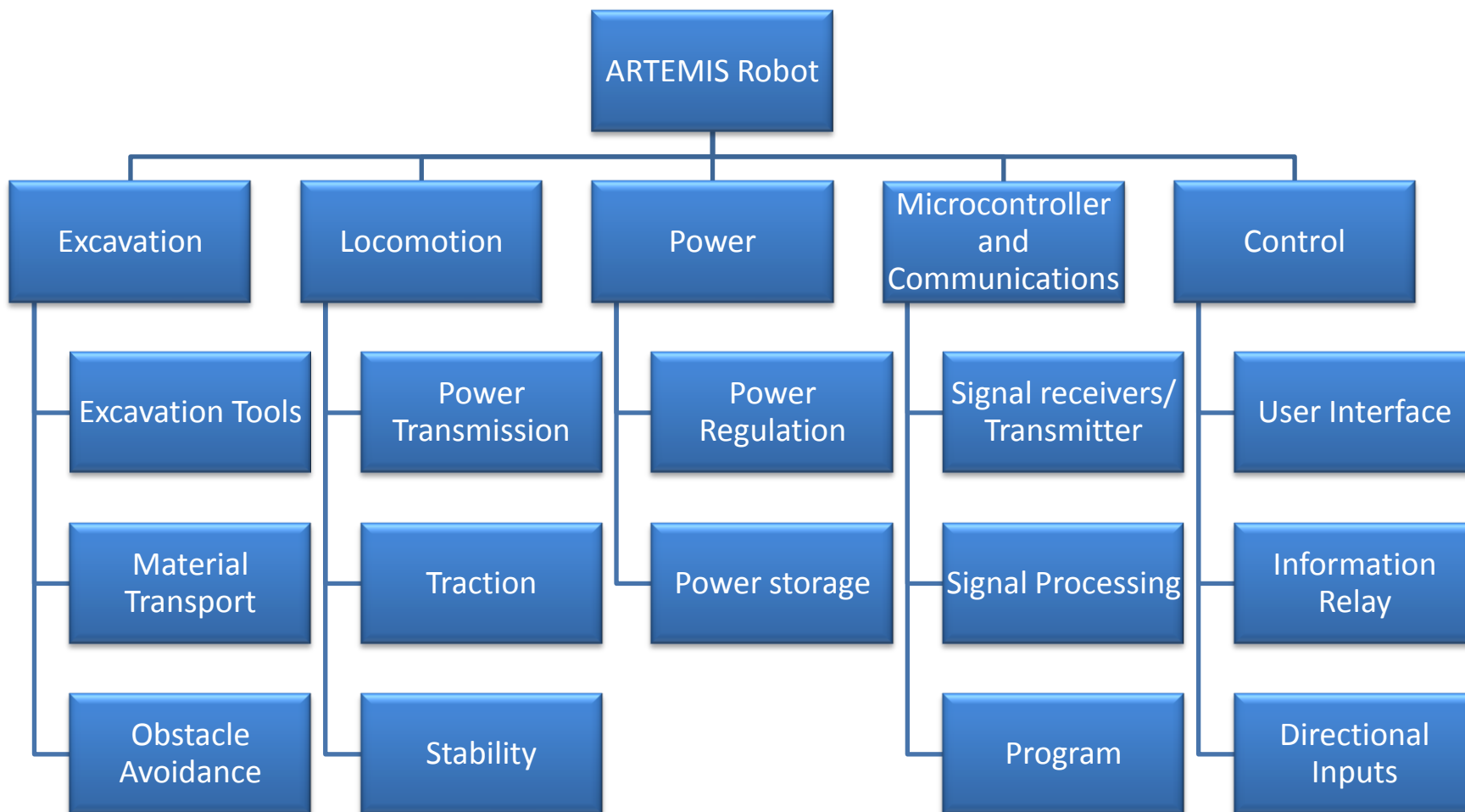
# Circuit Block Diagram



**Figure 4.** Circuit block diagram



# System Breakdown



**Figure 5.** System breakdown structure





# Building the Testing Bed



**Figure 6.** Construction of test bed





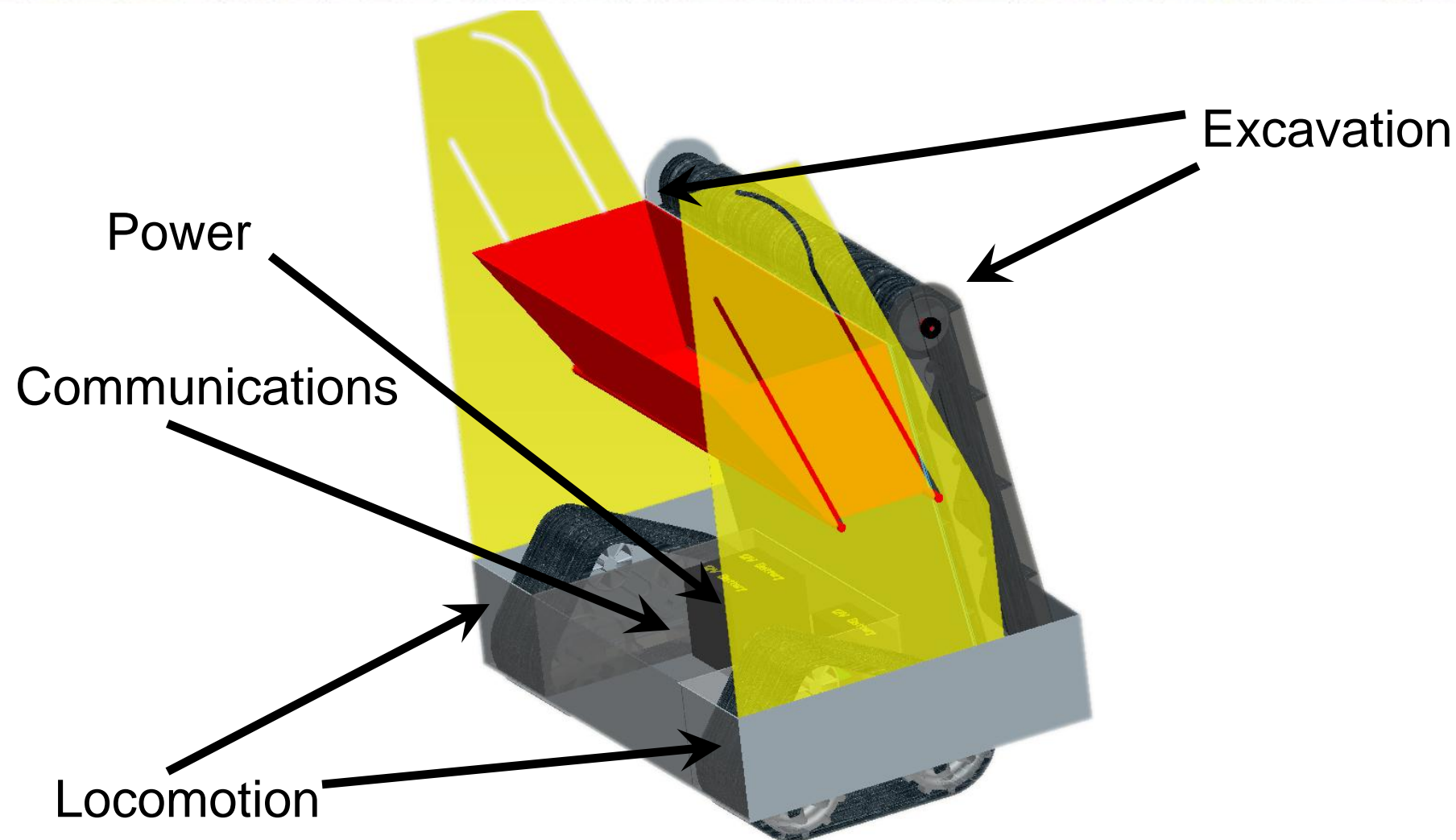
# Completed Test Bed



**Figure 7. Completed Test Bed**



# System Overview

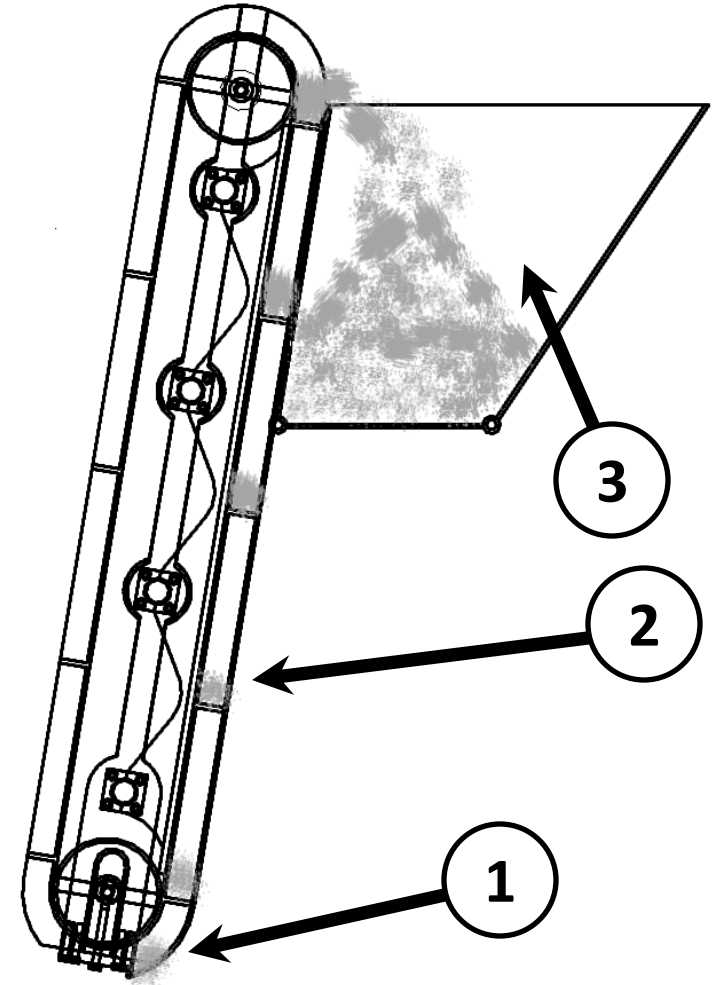


**Figure 8.** Overall platform design with subsystems



# Excavation Subsystem Design

- Excavation Subsystem Components:
  1. Cleated belt – cleats excavate regolith into trough
  2. Conveyor – transports regolith up trough to be deposited into bucket
  3. Bucket – holds regolith until delivery to holding bin



**Figure 9.** Excavation subsystem components and flow of regolith





# EXCAVATION

## CLEATED CONVEYOR REVISION

- Overall width reduced from 94 to 81 cm
- Weight savings through use of thinner material
- Easier machining
- Estimated excavation rate of 0.5 kg/s

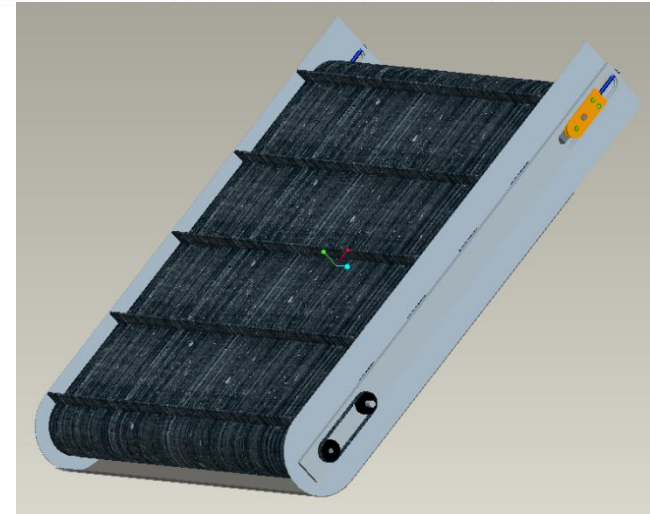


Figure 10. Conveyor Isometric View

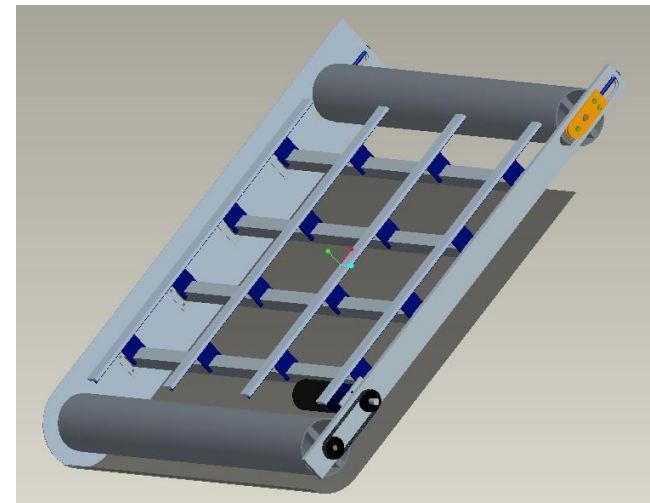


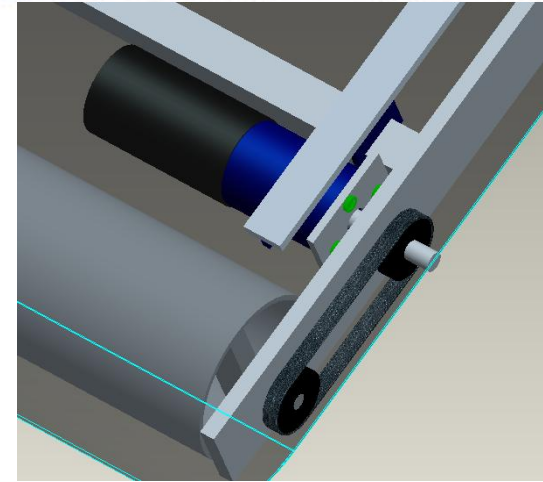
Figure 11. Conveyor Isometric view with Belt and right shield removed



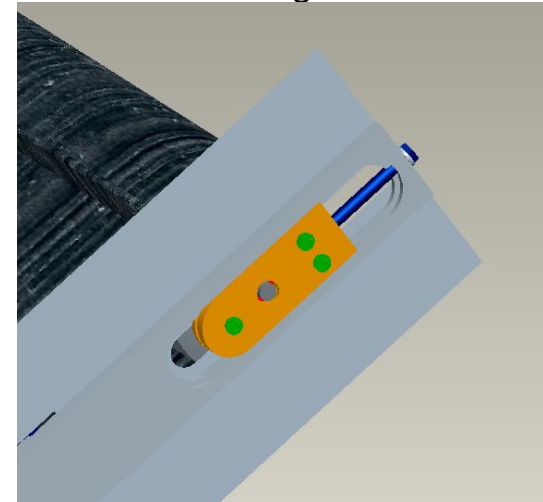
# EXCAVATION

## CLEATED CONVEYOR REVISION

- Motor assembly mounted on the inside of the frame
- Belt drive coupling between motor shaft and driven roller
- Two piece belt tensioning mechanism
- Two bolt tension adjustment



**Figure 12.** Detail View of Motor Mounting and Belt Drive



**Figure 13.** Conveyor Belt Tensioning Mechanism



# EXCAVATION

## CONVEYOR MOTOR

- 24 Volt DC motor with 12:1 gear reduction drive
- Motor Ratings:
  - 285 RPM
  - Current rating of 2850 mA
  - Torque rating of 1.1 Nm
  - Stall torque of 29 Nm
- Weight
  - 1.58 kg



**Figure 14.** High Torque 24V Electric Motor with 12:1 Gear Reduction





# EXCAVATION

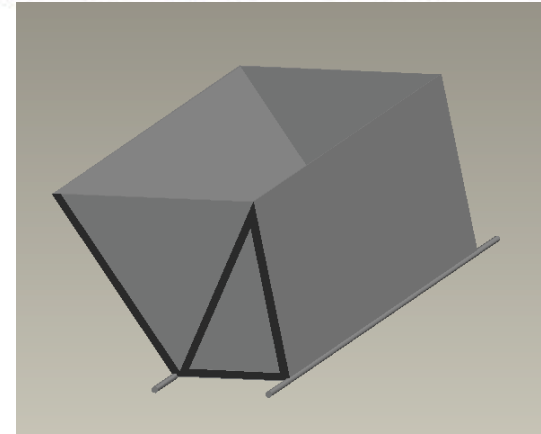
## WHATS NEXT?

- Source cleated conveyor belt
- Fabricate frame and rollers
- Purchase sealed bearings
- Purchase gears and belt drive
- Test

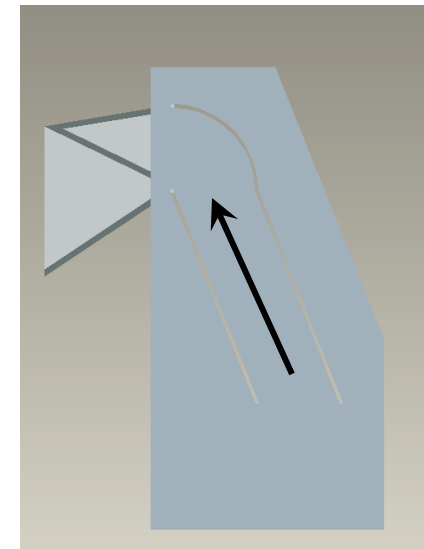
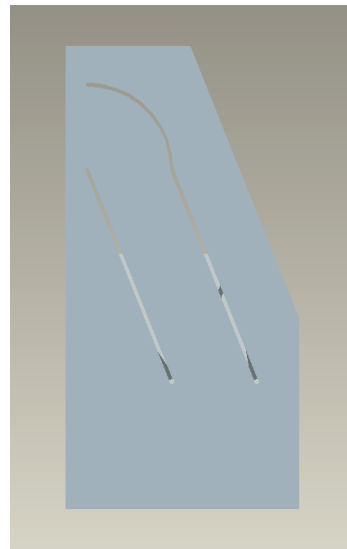


# Bucket Design

- Density of Regolith -  $1.5 \text{ g/cm}^3$
- Desired Capacity - 100 kg
- Required Volume -  $0.066 \text{ m}^3$
- Time to Reach Desired Capacity - 200 s
- Our Bucket
  - Volume -  $0.0675 \text{ m}^3$
  - Material AL 6061
  - 4.23 kg



**Figure 16.** Isometric view of bucket design



**Figure 17.** Example of bucket dumping from side view



# Locomotion Subsystem



## Track Specifications:

- 10 kg weight / track
- 70.5 x 16 x 20.4 cm
- 24 V / 30 A motor
- 4:1 Primary gear reduction with a 1.5:1 gear reduction at chain

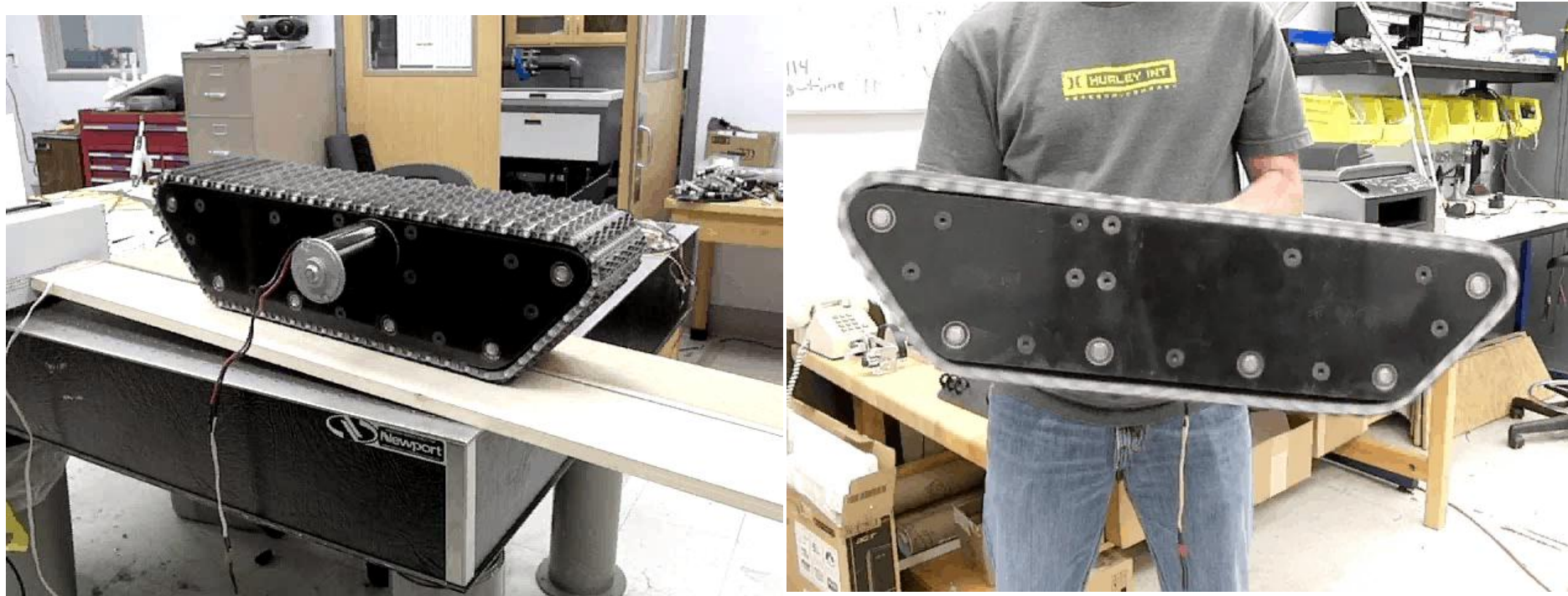
Initial design ~13 kg at a cost of \$1654.00 per track. Sponsorship by E.M.T. Robotics placed final tracks at cost of \$638.00 and weight of 10 kg.

**Figure 18.** Track design





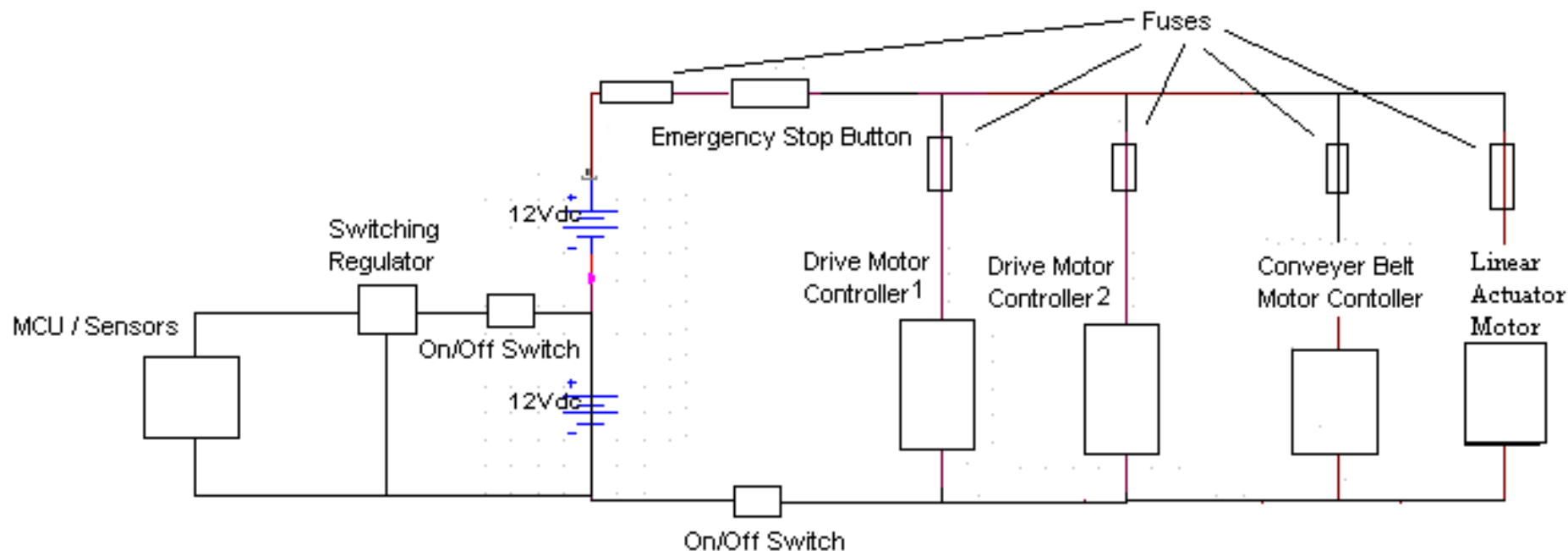
# Locomotion Subsystem



**Figure 19.** Tracks run at 9 V and 6.0 A for example test runs



# System Power Circuit



**Figure 20.** System Power circuit including fuses, motors, and power supplies



Blue – 28 AWG





# Battery Type

## LiFeP04

“Lithium Iron Phosphate”

- 12V
- 55A Maximum Discharge Rate
- 19.8 Ah
- Weight: 2.45 Kg each
- Cost: \$289.00 each



**Figure 22.** Example of a LiFeP04 battery



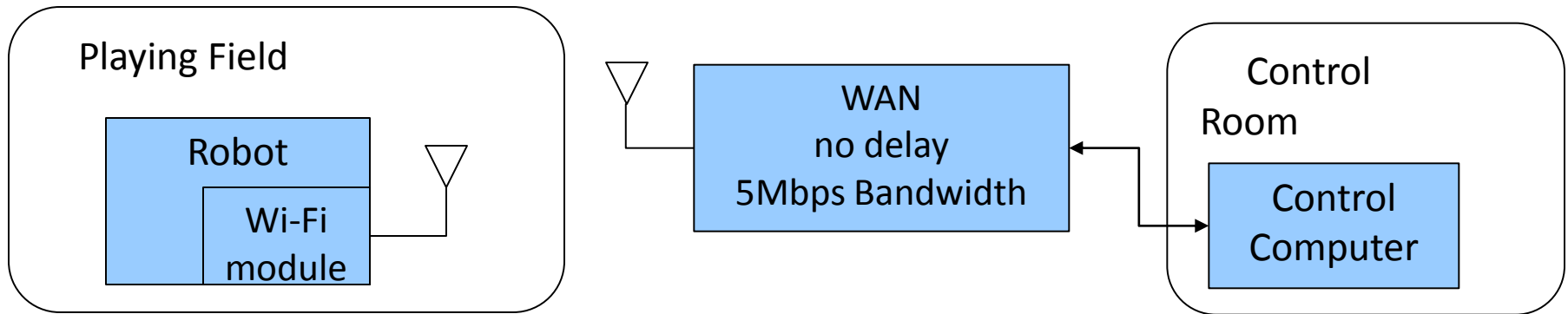
# Next Steps

- Test batteries upon arrival.
- Test and verify current draw of motors.
- Purchase remaining electrical components (wires, switches, fuses, terminals) from local electronics store.
- Assemble and continue testing.



# Telerobotic Interface

- Network provided has no extra delay
  - Control robot directly with remote commands, non-autonomous



**Figure 23.** Diagram of communications during competition

- Link Robot to WAN Wirelessly
  - WiFi access point to WAN provided
  - Using Wifly serial to WiFi module on robot
- So far the whole link is setup in lab
  - All but Wifly setup and working





# Microcontroller Side

## Programming tasks required for microcontroller

Read in data from sensors

Send gathered data through comm link

Receive commands through comm link

Drive motors from commands

Interpret sensor inputs into  
useful data

Limited autonomy

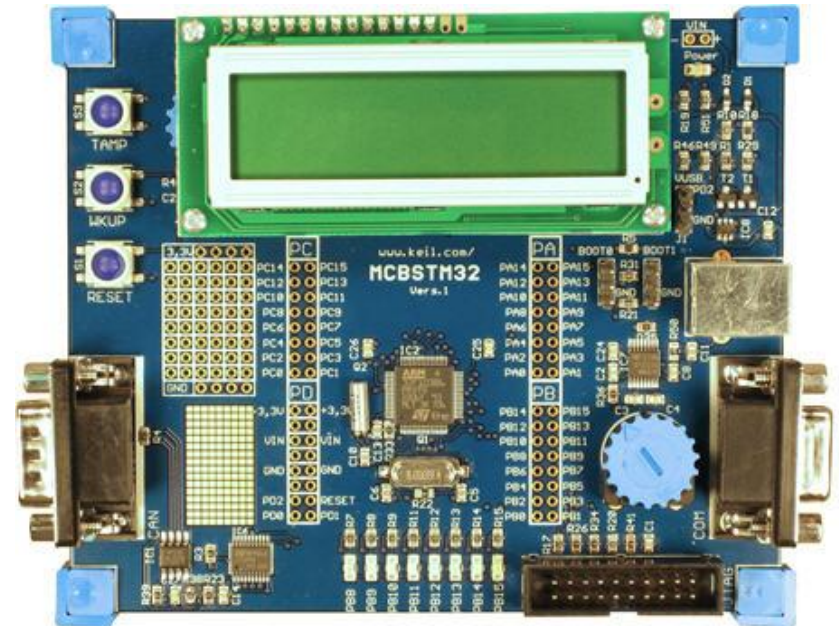
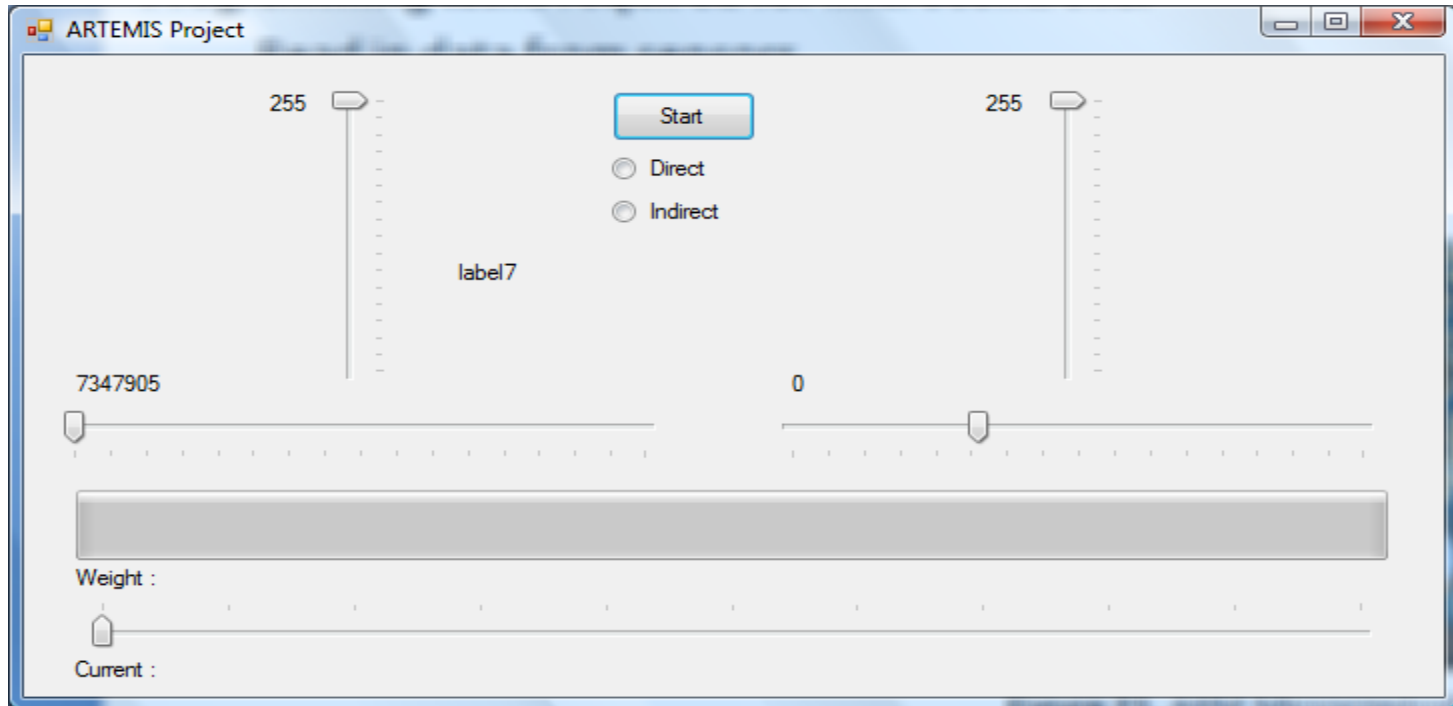


Figure 24. ARM Microcontroller



# Control Computer Side

- Programming tasks required for control computer
  - Read in and interpret input from a joystick – PS2 controller
  - Send commands over comm link
  - Receive and display data from comm link
- User interface so far





# Controller

The standard PS2 controller has 15 buttons; all of them, except for start and select, which are analog. They include:

- Four buttons arranged as a directional pad on the top left
- Analog, Start and Select buttons in the top middle
- Four action buttons on the top right
- Two action buttons on the front left
- Two action buttons on the front right
- One analog joystick on the top left
- One analog joystick on the top right



**Figure 25.** Example of controller inputs



**Figure 26.** Internal circuitry of controller





# Sensors

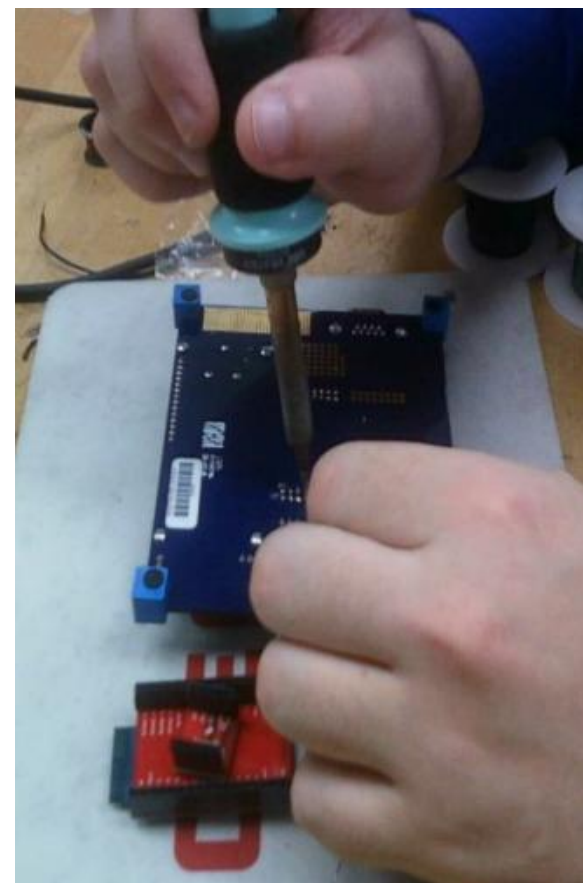
Gyroscope



Accelerometer

Current Sensor

IR Sensor



**Figure 27.** Testing of sensors and microcontroller



# Sensors

- Weight Sensor

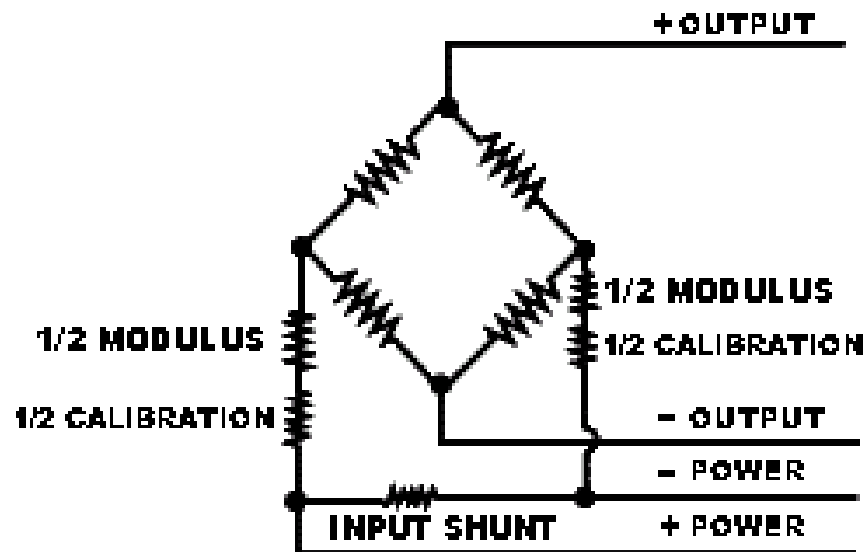


Figure 28. Weight sensor and circuit

- Bump Sensor



Figure 29. Bumper sensor



# Cost Analysis of System

Items Bought			
	QTY	Price	Total
Batteries	4	\$300.00	\$1,200.00
Battery Charger	1	\$50.00	\$50.00
Tracks	2	\$637.34	\$1,274.68
Triple Axis Accelerometer Breakout ADXL335	1	\$24.95	\$24.95
Gyro Breakout Board - LPR530AL Dual 300%	1	\$29.95	\$29.95
AttoPilot Current Sense Breakout	1	\$19.95	\$19.95
2.4 GHz Duck Antenna RP-SMA- Large	1	\$9.95	\$9.95
Scale	1	\$32.12	\$32.12
Raw Aluminum	1	\$651.75	\$651.75
Sandbox Frame	1	\$166.47	\$166.47
Sand	1	\$87.00	\$87.00
Conveyor Motor	1	\$131.83	\$131.83
Miscellaneous (Shipping, etc)	1	\$39.10	\$39.10
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$3,717.75</b>

## Items Donated

MCBSTM32 Microcontroller  
Wifly Wi-Fi Module

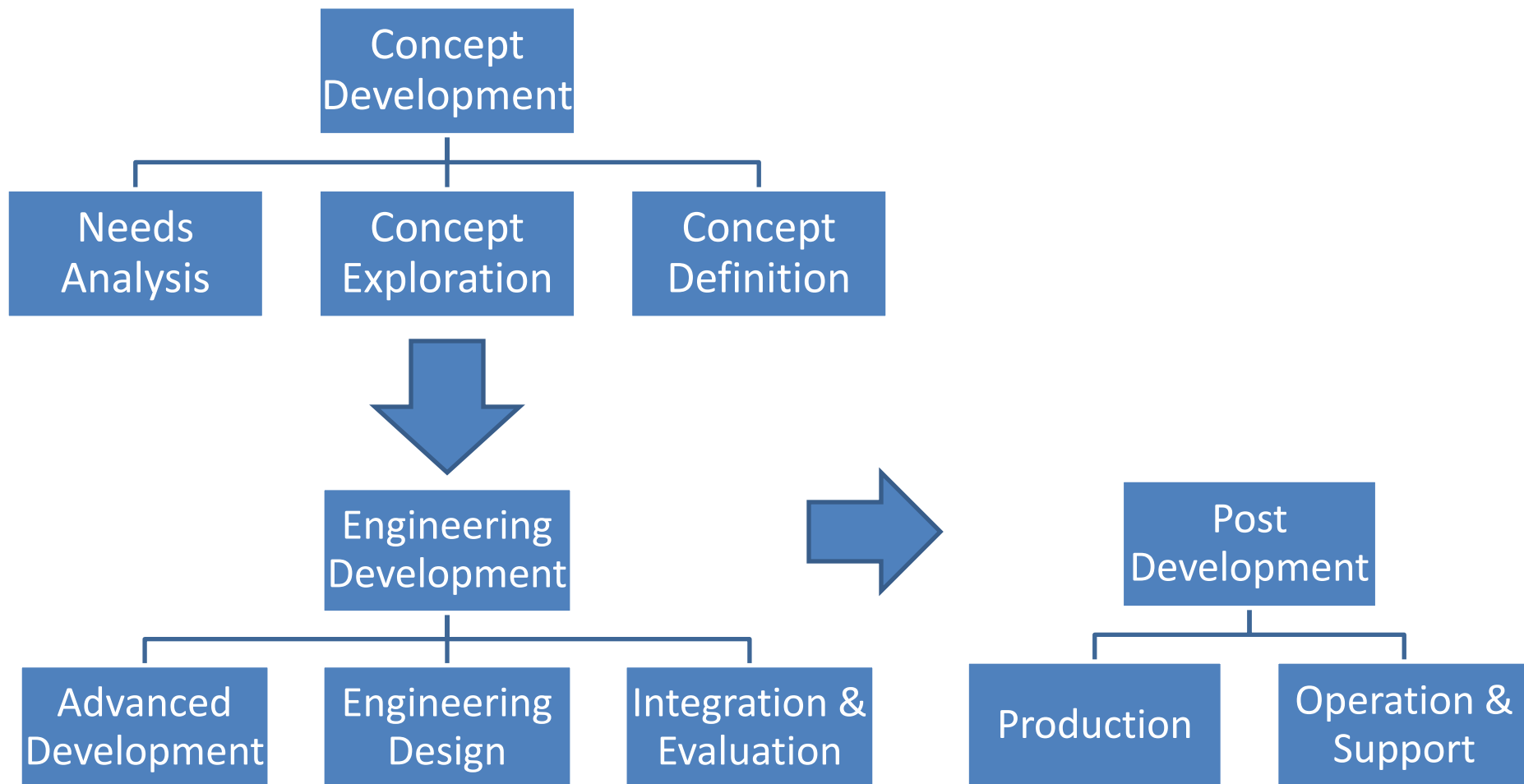
Items Still Needed			
	QTY	Price	Total
Interface Cable SMA to U.FL	1	\$4.95	\$4.95
Motor Controllers	4	\$100.00	\$400.00
Linear Actuator	1	\$809.00	\$809.00
Switching Regulator	2	\$12.00	\$24.00
Regolith Simulant	1	\$500.00	\$500.00
Bearings	4	\$8.95	\$35.80
Small Drive Belt	1	\$5.33	\$5.33
Small Timing Pulleys	2	\$22.79	\$45.58
Cleated Belt	1	\$63.24	\$63.24
Miscellaneous (Shipping, Wires, etc)	1	\$150.00	\$150.00
<b>Total</b>			<b>\$2,037.90</b>

<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>\$5,755.65</b>
<b>Budget</b>	<b>\$6,500.00</b>
<b>Travel Allowance</b>	<b>\$744.35</b>





# Lifecycle



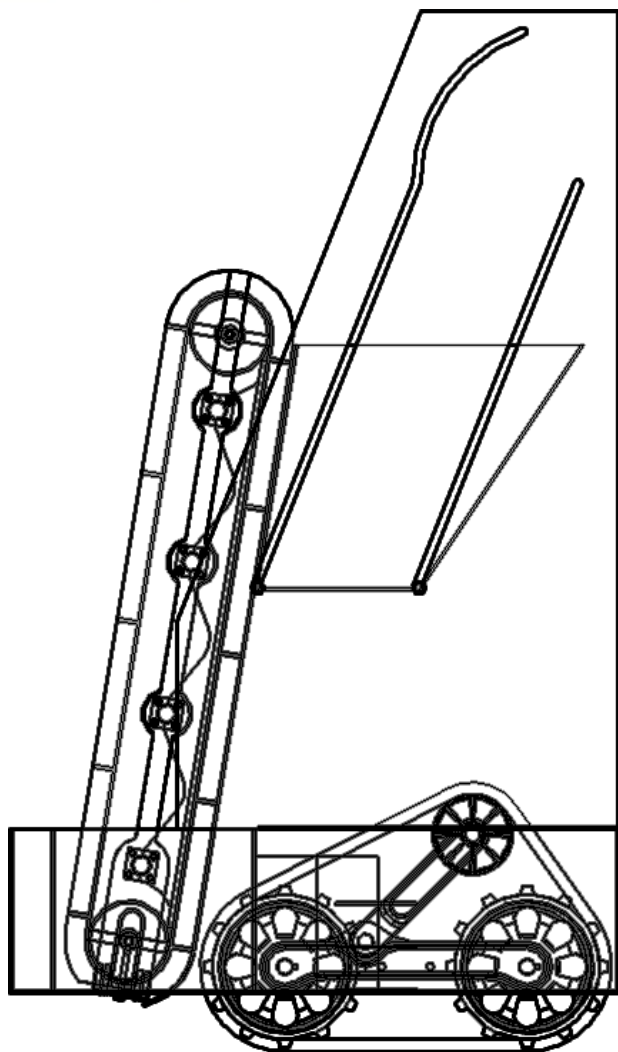


# Projected Schedule

- **Assemble chassis and tracks together (completed by 3/1)**
- **Assemble electrical components in chassis (completed by 3/5)**
- **Assemble conveyor excavator and bucket (completed by 3/13)**
- **Finish acquiring building materials, circuitry, motors, and batteries (3/5)**
- **Re-design as needed**



# Conclusions

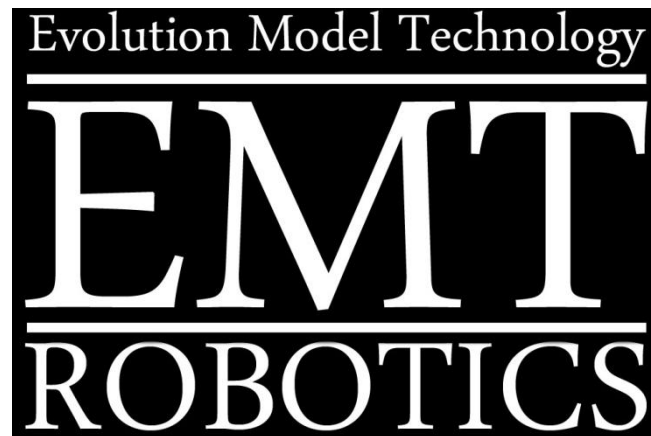


**Figure 31. Final ARTEMIS Design**





# Acknowledgements





# Questions and Comments



## The ARTEMIS Project





# Prototyping Belt Design



**Figure 32.** Testing of the belt prototype design