

Meeting on 9 Dec 12 focused on narrowing ideas from concept generation. Each team member researched potential concepts and the findings were discussed and evaluated.

Flow visualization/motor control speed (Danny):

Electrolysis

50-70 V DC, 1 amp

Safety is concern

Bad: creates chlorine gas, turned paperclip brown

Pulsing current possibility

Aquarium aerator: microbubble diffuser

Easier solution

Microbubbles rise to surface slower

	Ease of Use	Continuous Use	Educational Value	Cost	Maintenance
Electrolysis	4	2	1	4	2
Aerator	3	1	3	2	1
Dye	1	4	4	3	4
Particulate	2	3	2	1	3

Pump control (Danny):

Electronic control valve after pump

Controls water flow to water table

Remaining water diverted back to reservoir

Controlling pump during operation is difficult

Can use variable frequency, but it is expensive (\$200+)

Could use mechanical valve for both flow control and water expulsion

Test Fixture (John)

See attached notes

How to move water (Andrew)

Pump

Pump is available

Adaptable

By constraints, most viable option

Waterwheel

Buckets

Low cost. Ridiculous

Propeller

Water Storage (Andrew)

50-60 gallon drum

Cheapest. Easier to hold. Pipe/pump interface needed. Easier to calculate. Easier to build

Tank

Keep water in water table

Cheapest, no separate cart. Not modular, would not meet customer needs

Cart + Water Table Interface (Andrew)

Two separate carts

Locking mechanism between carts (?). Locking wheels.

Flow Measuring (Andrew)

Bulk flow meter.

Able to integrate in series with system. Best option

Comparing pressure sensors

Must narrow flow, complicated geometry

Inputting Water into System (Andrew)

Garden hose

Fastest flow

Buckets

Requires human interaction. Possibility of spilling

Cart (Andrew)

Commercial Cart

Easier to build. No design work. More expensive. More professional

Custom Cart

Flow Straighteners (Tim)

Tube type bundles

Able to manufacture, length dependent on flow velocity

Honeycomb conditioner

Not practical for higher flow velocities. More expensive

“Rainbow” Design

As seen in 1936 streamline video. Easiest to manufacture. Dependent on geometry though.

Test Section Geometry (Tim)

Flat rectangular

Viewable from top & sides. More construction involved

Tube

Viewable from 360 degrees. Less components. More expensive, harder to integrate into system.

Test Section Material (Tim)

Plexiglass

Chips & cracks easier. Less expensive. 92% light transmission.

Lexan

Resistant to rbeaking. More Expensive. 88% light transmission
Glass
Cracks/shatters. Heavier. Harder to cut. More glare/reflection

Test Section Sealant (Tim)

Silicone

Boat/marine/fish tank applications for water-tight sealing. Does not harden (is flexible and removable)

Marine Epoxy

Very strong. Hardens (is permanent)

Expelling Water (Tim)

Plug/Drain Hole

COTS part, inexpensive, potential for leaks. Time dependent on gravity

Divert from pump

Faster expulsion of water. Requires T-valve.

Reverse to reservoir

Requirement of bi-directional pump. Re-use water.

Spunges/Sham-wows

Unprofessional. May be used to finish drying after removing

Concepts to think about:

- Water table geometry to keep water at certain height with certain flow rate
- Mechanism to rotate geometry for attack angle