

IPRO 317: VTOL Aircraft for the Masses

Spring 2006

Project Plan

This semester we have broken IPRO 317 into three teams: construction and testing, social impact and market research, and parts.

The construction and testing team will have very similar goals to previous semesters. They will be tasked with bringing the testing of the physical prototype back to the level of last semester, and then to proceed to un-tethered, controlled flight tests. This will require several layers of different tests to check the stability, controllability and safety of the aircraft in flight.

The social impact and market research group will find answers to some of the questions that the team believes will come up as the public learns about our project. These answers will come from research and possibly from a market survey distributed to a good number of random people (more varied than just students at IIT). Also, they will build contacts with companies and individuals who may help fund the project in the future.

The parts team will compile a list of parts and their prices that will be required to begin construction on a full-scale prototype. The computer model from last semester will be used as a guide in finding parts of the correct size, strength and weight. This task will also help in applying for future funding, as the team last year had to rush a parts list for the NCIIA application.

Our ultimate goal for this semester is to have the current scale-prototype fully functional with wings attached and un-tethered. With our design proven capable, we will be able to apply for funding and begin buying parts for a full-scale prototype.