

DESIGNING A UNIVERSAL SMART CONTROLLER FOR ELECTRIC POWERED WHEELCHAIRS

ELAINE HOUSTON, BEN SALATIN, GARRETT GRINDLE, HONGWU WANG, JUAN VAZQUEZ, RORY COOPER; HUMAN ENGINEERING RESEARCH LABORATORIES, U.S. DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS, PITTSBURGH, PA; DEPARTMENT OF REHABILITATION SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH, PA

There is a need for a more intelligent controller to allow people with severe or complex disabilities to be able to independently control an electric powered wheelchair, which the Smart Controllers solve. The Smart Controller is a universal, open-source controller that will allow researchers, and clinicians, to customize the controller via custom software and interfaces.