

**MICHIGAN STATE**  
**UNIVERSITY**

# Project Plan

## Continuous Improvement of Boeing Assembly Lines

### The Capstone Experience

#### Team Boeing

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*From Students...  
...to Professionals*

# Project Overview

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- Create a 3D simulation of a Boeing assembly line.
- Compile important data about the construction process.
- Use this data to optimize the design of the assembly line, improving safety and efficiency.



# Functional Specifications

- Simulate and monitor a Boeing assembly line
  - Teams of people and robots working together
  - Multiple levels of construction
    - Beneath, above, and inside the aircraft
- Simulate realistic limitations of the workers
  - Limited sight distance
  - Limited hearing distance
  - Fatigue
  - Breaks / idle time
  - Walking distances
  - Etc...
- Must analyze the simulation metrics to identify:
  - Safety concerns
    - Dangerous situations for workers
    - Time spent in dangerous situations
  - Assembly line efficiency
    - Overall Idle time of assembly zones
    - Idle time of individuals and robots



# Design Specifications

- 3D Graphical Visualization
  - Top-Down View
    - Must include:
      - ❖ Grid based system for placing the various modules and zones that will make up the assembly line
      - ❖ GUI for selecting and placing the various modules
  - Free-Range Third Person View
    - Must include:
      - ❖ Dynamic information display based on current location along the assembly line.
        - » Current percentage of work completed
        - » Safety concerns
  - Free-Range First Person View
    - Same requirements as the third person view but from a higher perspective
- Quality metrics
  - Must be used to analyze safety and efficiency
  - Must identify specific points of danger in the line



# Screen Mockup: Construction View

**Main Selection Menu**

Items	
Track	Person
Robot	Mats

**Sub-Selection Menu**

Materials	
Aluminum	Wheels
Wings	Windows
Seats	Wiring

**Zone Content Menu**

Zone 2 Contents	
1 Crane	2 Robots
12 Persons	

**Calculated Danger Zone**

**Aircraft Sled Path**

**Grid Layout**

**Rest Rooms**

**Start**

**Materials Zone**

**Assembly Zone 1**

**Assembly Zone 2**

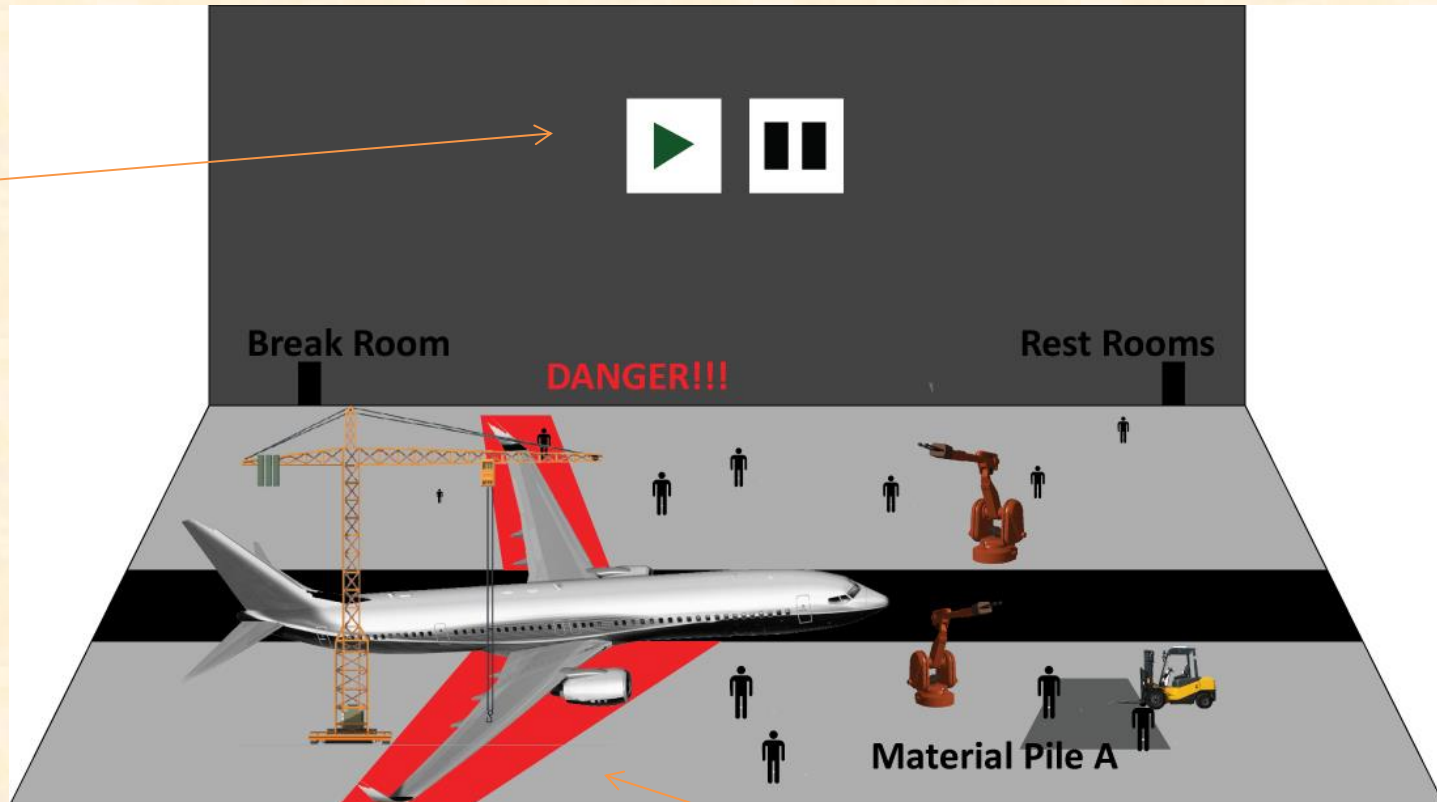
**Cafe and Break Rooms**

**Finish**



# Screen Mockup: Third Person View

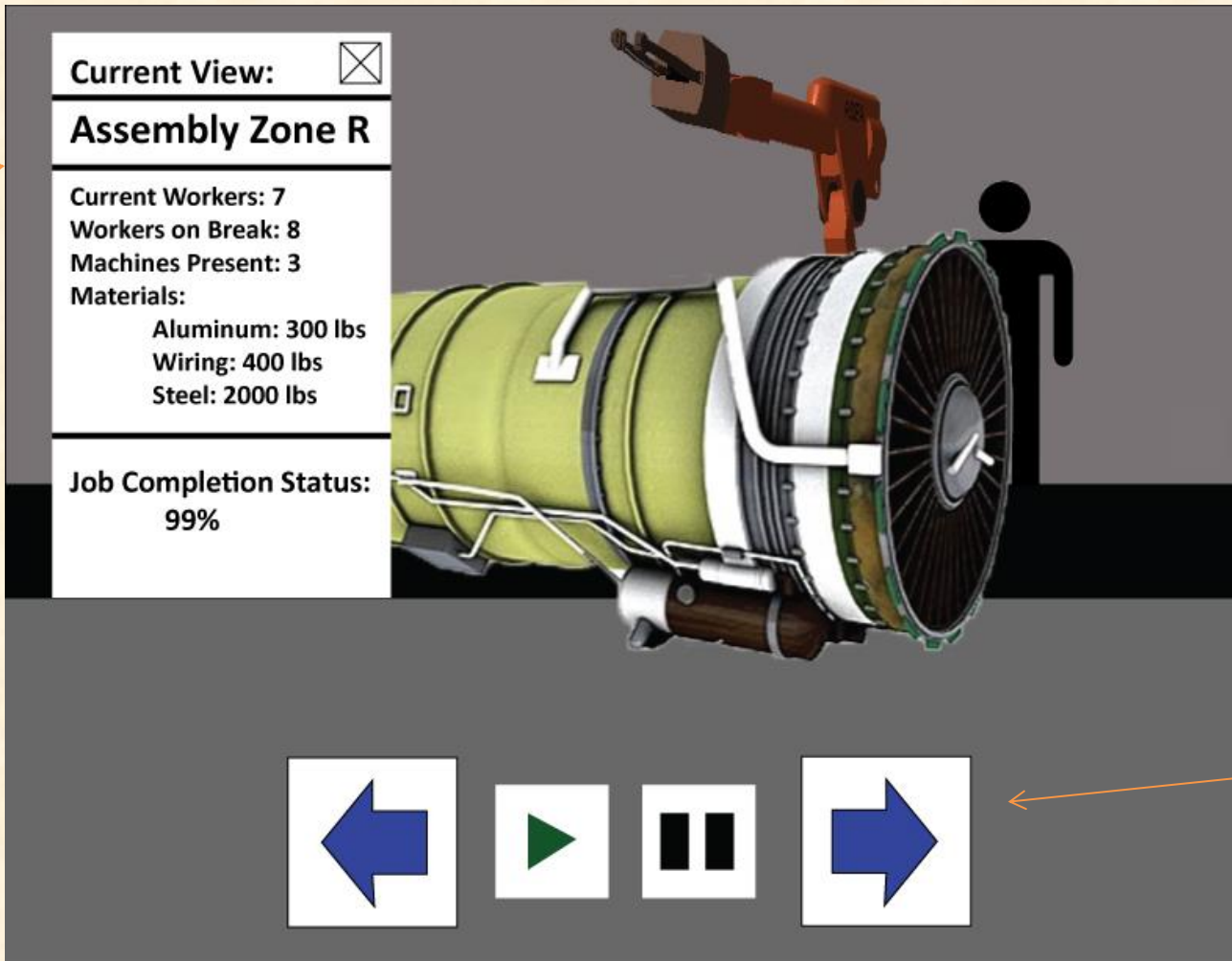
Simulation Controls



Dynamic Danger Zone

# Screen Mockup: First Person View

Zone Contents and Job Completion Menu



Simulation Controls





# Screen Mockup: Metrics Breakdown

Simulation  
Metrics



Metrics Breakdown: 

Completion Time:	1.2 months
Total Idle Time:	4.58 days
Idle Time Per Worker:	18.3 hours
Dangerous Time:	1.2 days
Wages:	\$65,362,124
Wages Lost:	\$23,220,123
Materials Cost:	\$900,000
Running Costs:	\$162,230
Cost:	\$36,021,968
POSSIBLY EVEN MORE!	
Efficiency Rating:	C+





# Technical Specifications

- Software Technologies
  - Unity
  - Blender
  - Microsoft Visual Studio 2012
- Development Tools and Methodologies
  - C#
  - XML
  - SQL
  - Test Driven Development
  - Code Reviews
  - Inverse Kinematic Algorithms

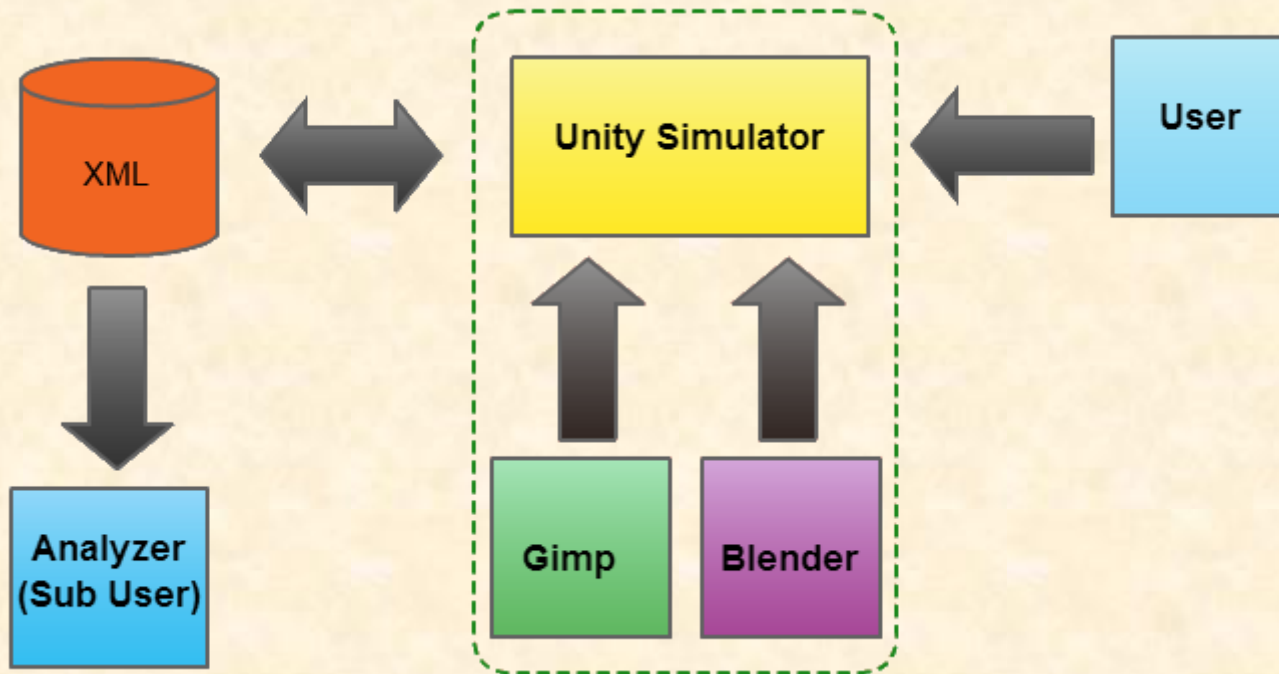


# Technical Specifications – continued

- Schedule:
  - 8/27 – 9/15
    - Initial Setup
    - Initial Research
    - Initial Documentation
  - 9/16 – 9/22
    - Prototyping
    - Specifically Research Assembly Lines
    - Implement Initial Project Layout (skeleton)
  - 9/23 – 10/14
    - Development/Testing
    - Alpha
  - 10/15 – 11/11
    - Development/Testing
    - Beta
  - 11/12 – 12/2
    - Development/Testing
    - Release
  - 12/6
    - Design Day



# System Architecture





# UML Diagram – continued

- The Zone Manager has many entities within it, each with their own State Machine
- The Manager of the program has many Zone Managers and allows for communication between them
- Entities are divided into three derived classes, person, material, and machine
- The Camera Controller class will be in charge of handling input for movement and will contain an instance of the GUI manager class



# System Components

- Hardware Platforms
  - PC
- Software Platforms / Technologies
  - Windows
    - Unity
  - Mac
    - Unity
    - Blender



# Testing

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- Nunit
  - Testing framework for C#
- Uunit
  - Testing framework for Unity
- Test Driven Development
  - Red – Green – Refactor





# Testing: Red – Green – Refactor

- Red
  - Write a test case so that it fails (the functionality is not yet implemented)
- Green
  - Write the code so that the test case passes
- Refactor
  - Clean up redundant and spaghetti string code



# Risks

- Purchasing of Unity License
  - We will require access to Unity Pro, which will require the purchase of a license after 30 days.
  - \$129 license available through <http://www.studica.com/unity>
- Familiarity with the concept of Inverse Kinematics
  - Wikipedia: **Inverse kinematics** refers to the use of the kinematics equations of a robot to determine the joint parameters that provide a desired position of the end-effector.
  - Become more familiar with the concept of inverse kinematics.
- Knowing which metrics to measure
  - There are hundreds, possibly even thousands of factors that go into measuring safety and efficiency on an assembly line
  - Speak with Jayson, and decipher which metrics are the most relevant, and which aren't
- GUI for Unity
  - We are trying to use Unity, a game developing tool, to create a useful simulation "game", however limitations with unity's built-in UI functionality will force alternate approaches to be considered.
  - Figure out if it's possible, and if it's not, change our approach

