



Equilibra
Sensory Balance Assistance Device

Atefeh Palizban
Sakshi Nagalia
Siavosh Jalili
Jerry Yu

Outline

- Our Team
- Equilibra
 - The Need/Problem
 - Our solution
 - Marketing Justification
 - System Overview
 - Operation
 - Challenges
 - Future Development
- Questions
- Demo

NewBalance's Team

- Atefeh Palizban, CEO
- Siavosh Jalili, VP Business Planning
- Sakshi Nagalia, CFO
- Jerry Yu, VP Technical

Background

- Balance Disorder: difficulty maintaining balance
- Involuntary inclinations can result in the fall and possible fracture of bones
- Caused by illnesses such as Menier's disease, Parkinson and aging

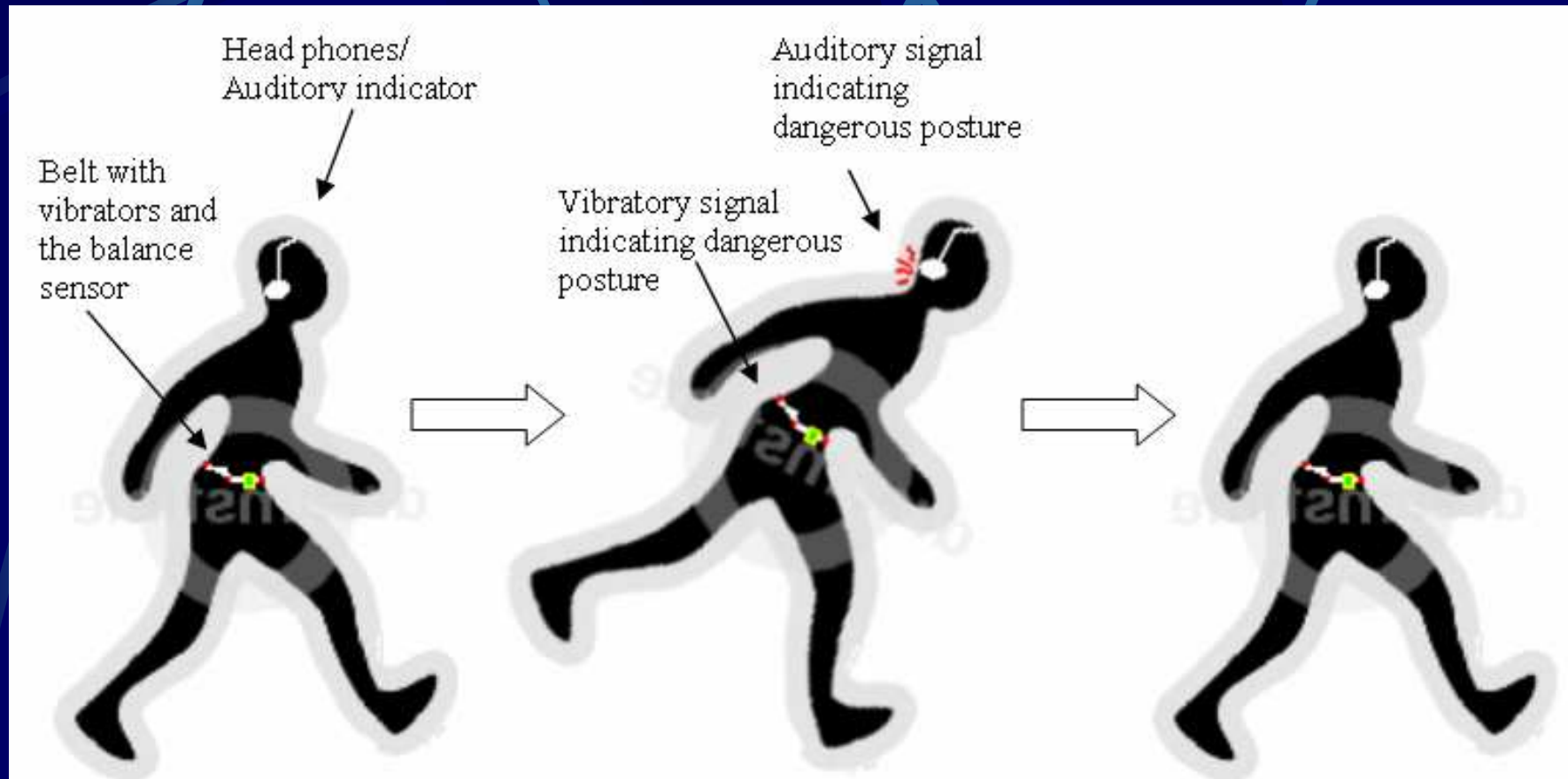
Potential Market

- People with Balance Disorder: 2 million Americans and 50,000 Canadians
- Elderly: Medical studies show that a 50-year-old woman has a similar lifetime risk of dying from a hip fracture as from breast cancer.

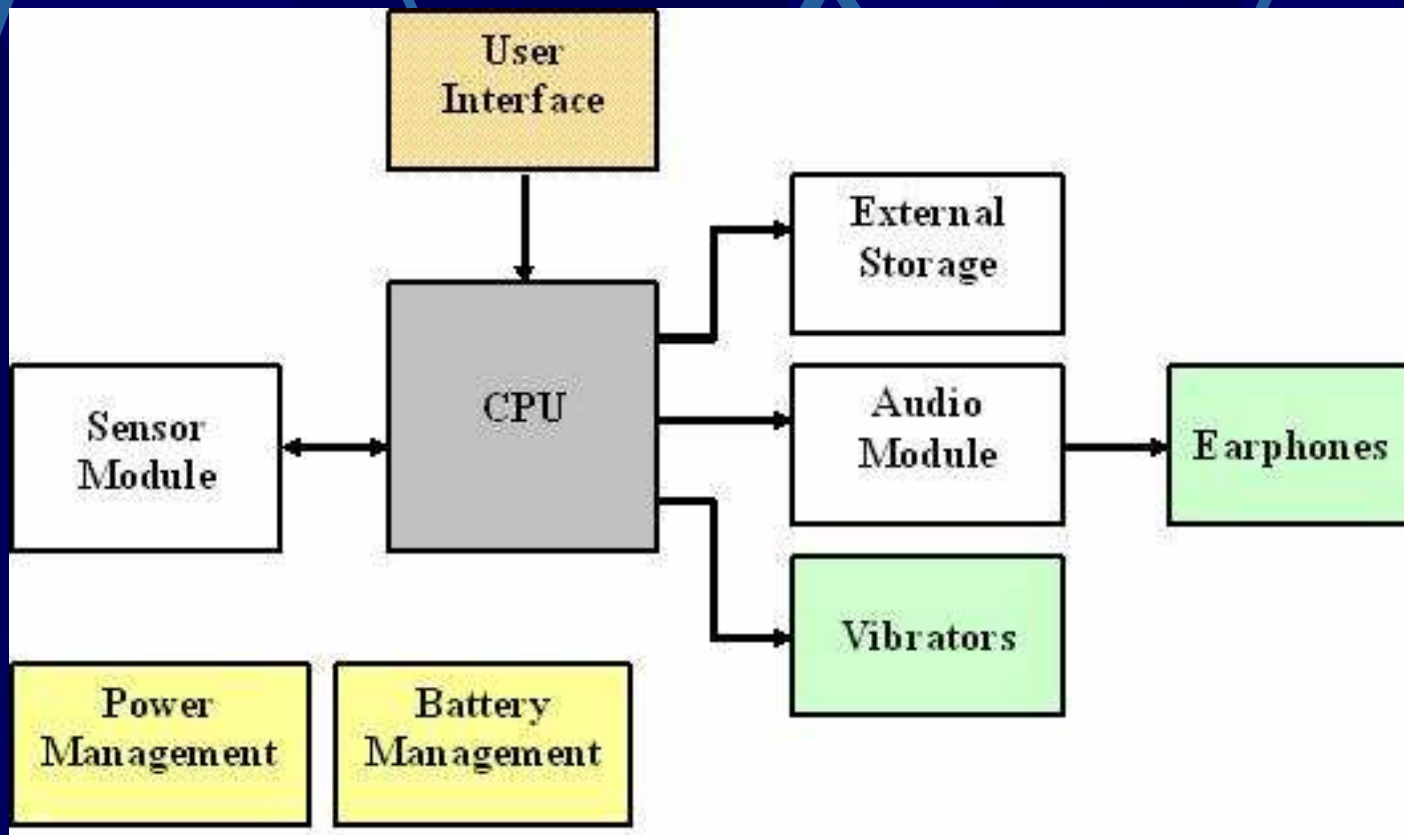
Existing Solutions

- Walker
 - Inconvenient
- Vestibular Exercises
 - Limited impact
- Several R&D projects
 - No existing commercial product

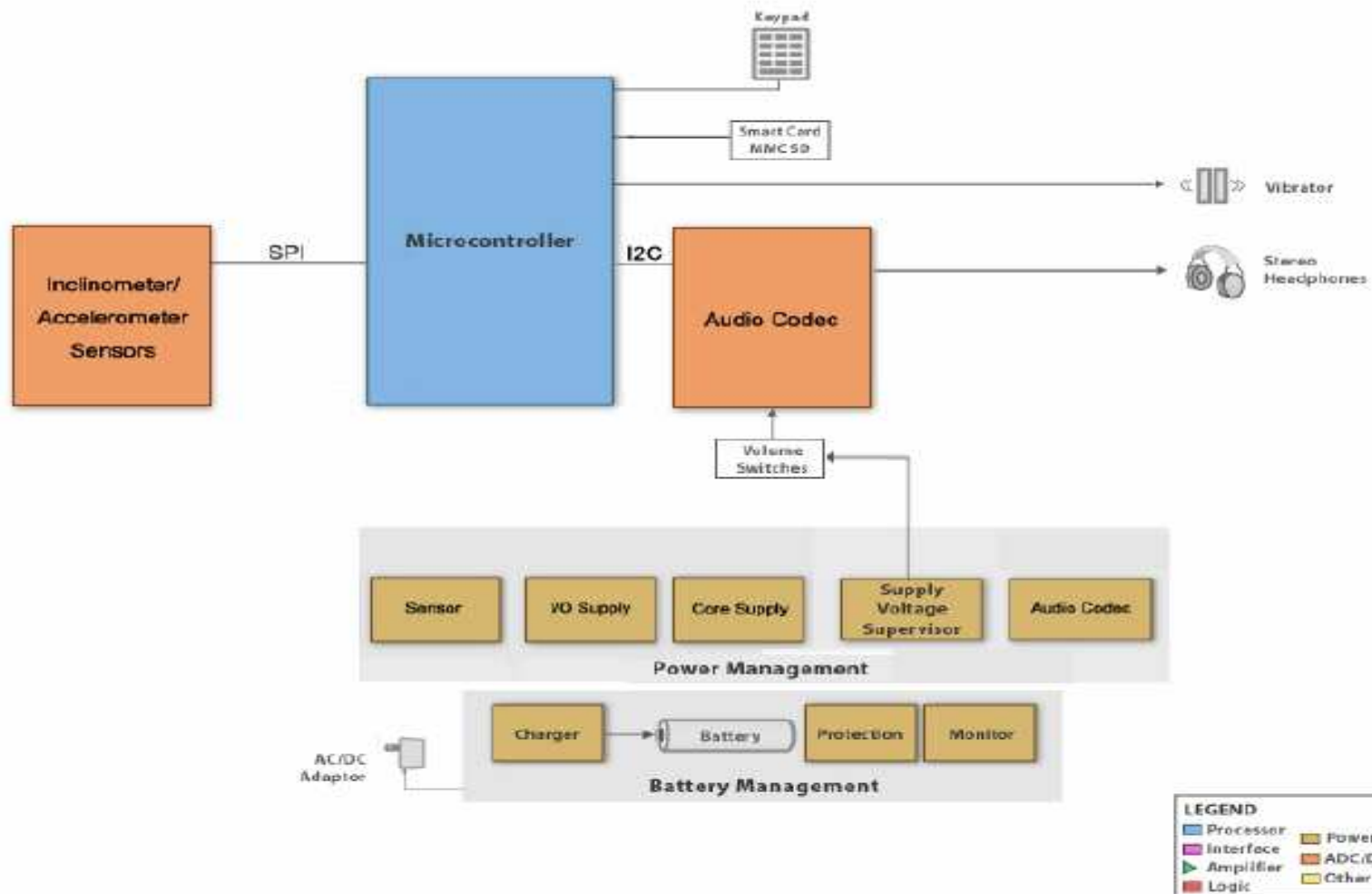
Application Example of Equilibra



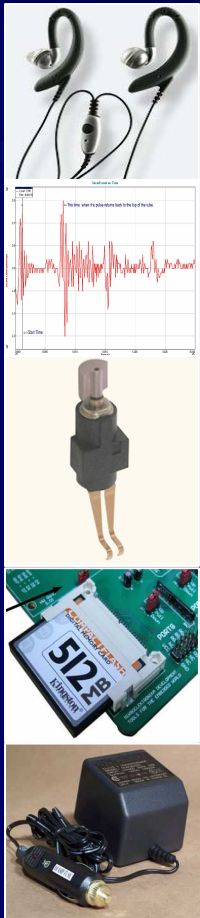
System Overview



System Overview



Features



- ❑ Headphone enables the patient to hear auditory signals generated by the device.
- ❑ Auditory signals are generated in left and right earphone based on the direction of tilt.
- ❑ Four vibrators are placed around waist and will vibrate when the user leans in one of the four directions.
- ❑ Compact Flash card works as external memory unit for recording the historical data of the patient for diagnoses.
- ❑ Rechargeable battery enables user to charge the device using a AC adaptor or car charger.

Operation

- The mono-tone audio signal will be indicative of the direction of inclination to the right or left.
- Inclination to the front or back will generate different pitch tones.
- the loudness of the audio signal will vary with level of inclination.

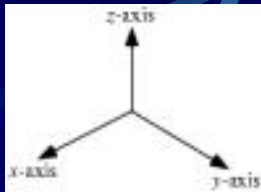
Challenges

- Time/Resources Constraints
- Sensor
 - Currently: Dual-Axis Inclinometer
 - Problems
 - Accuracy/Volatility
 - Limitations
 - Better Solution

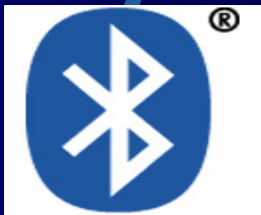
Challenges

- Transactions
 - Development System
 - Delay
 - Microcontroller
 - Accelerometer
 - Audio Codec

Future Development



- ❑ 3-Axis Accelerometer or Gyroscope will replace the current sensor



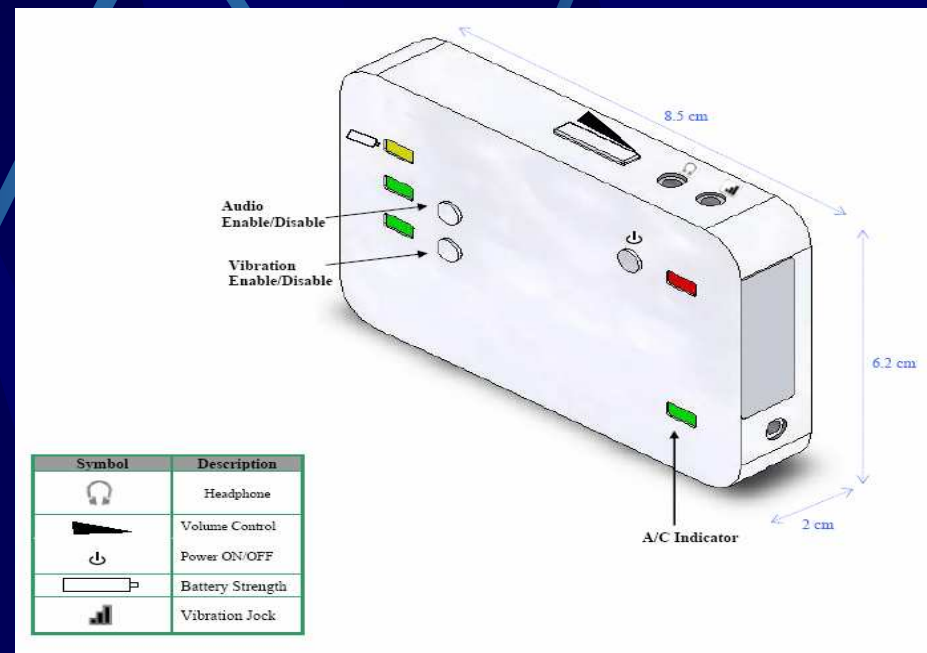
- ❑ Bluetooth technology will enable user to hear the auditory signals using wireless technology



- ❑ 3-Dimensional audio system will make the task of detection of the inclination direction easier

Equilibra: Marketable Product

- Extensive testing
- Completion of R&D phase (July 2006)
- Final Device ready for production (Jan 2007)
 - PCB design
 - Power management
 - Packaging



Financial Outlook

● Cost

- Prototype Development : \$350
- Final Prototype: \$200
- Estimated retail price: \$90
- Estimated retail price with Blue Tooth Technology: \$130

Acknowledgment

- BC Balance and Dizziness Disorder (BADD)
 - Carol Bullen

- Analog Device
 - *Mark Looney*
 - Bob Schannel

Summery

- Problem
- Our solution
- Challenges
- Market analysis
- Cost
- Future developments

Questions?

- Contact Information:
 - ensc440-newbalance@sfu.ca
 - 778-895-5920