

Deliverable J

Group d1

1. Explore intellectual property databases (i.e. patents, industrial designs, integrated circuit topographies, trademarks, copyrights, creative commons or open source software) to identify at least three intellectual properties related to your product:
 - a. <http://cipo.gc.ca>
 - b. <http://www.freepatentsonline.com/>
 - c. <http://patft.uspto.gov/>
 - d. https://www.google.ca/advanced_search or other
 - (sort of) Patent: **CA 2591978** (Grip with loop to help grip poles)
 - US 8852033 (hand accessory to divert stress from weaker area of hand)
 - US 20050177982 (Wrist attachment to help grip stuff without fingers)

2. Describe the relationship that exists between these intellectual properties and your product.
 - The first patent relates to our product because it is a wearable glove that is intended to help the wearer grip onto something, where in the case of this patent, is specifically pole shaped objects such as a ski pole. The key part of this relation to note is the fact that the patent is for a glove device.

 - The second patent relates to our product because it is accessibility related. The patent is an accessory that can be attached to the hand to take the stress away from weaker parts of the hand. If we relate this to our product, the patented accessory could be placed between the fingers and thumb to relieve the stress from the thumb to allow the thumb to share the strength of the index finger, allowing the wearer to form a better grip.

 - The third patent related to our product, because it is another wearable device intended to improve grip. However, with this device, the thumb would need to be functional as the device is designed to relieve the fingers of stress rather than the thumb, like our client needed.

3. Explain the importance of these intellectual properties with regard to your product and the impact they could have on your success.

These patents are important with regard to our product because they show three aspects that we would not be allowed to implement in our design without breaking patent laws. However, with our current configuration of our device, we do not break any patent rules related to the above discussed patents. Therefore, these patents do not have an immediate impact on the success of our product.

4. Discuss the way in which your team intends to manage intellectual property created with your product, assuming you decide to market your product.

The ring-switch activation component is the key control system to our product, therefore, to protect our intellectual property, we may create a utility patent for that component before putting our product into the market.