Executive Project Summary

The Swiss Army Spider is designed to move a payload over a 3D plane the size of a piece of letter paper. The system has a custom printed payload designed to support a variety of tools and mounts, making the system highly customizable to the client's needs. The system is easy to use depending on the desired means of control as it supports the input of controls through single line G-code commands, a text file of G-code commands, or inputs from a user controlled joystick.

Beginning our project we discussed our individual strengths and interests. From there we sectioned our project into three categories, software & firmware, mechanical, and manufacturing. The project was broken down into individual blocks, color coordinated to indicate one of the three prior categorizations, with each block being connected with clearly defined interface definitions to allow a clear understanding of how each block is expected to interact with the surrounding blocks. Only after each individual block was complete was system integration attempted, where most of the design flaws were discovered and revised accordingly.



Figure 1: Team Gantt Chart

Important project development skills were learned through the completion of this project. Taking extra time for design and research can save time, money, and improve the overall project quality. By doing proper research, it is known what each part can do and what is needed for it to operate as intended. Thus, the parts are known to work with the design instead of having to alter the design to work with the parts. System integration is one of the most important parts of the design process. While each block completed may work in isolation it is critical to understand how said block is to interact with blocks it is taking input from, blocks it is sending outputs to, and the block's role in the overall system. System integration should be done frequently throughout the project, so sets of blocks can be tested as one prior to the final system integration.