

Vacuum Casting System

Marc Louis, Matthew Farrell, David Sengeh, Leslie Meyer
March 30, 2009



Original Ideas

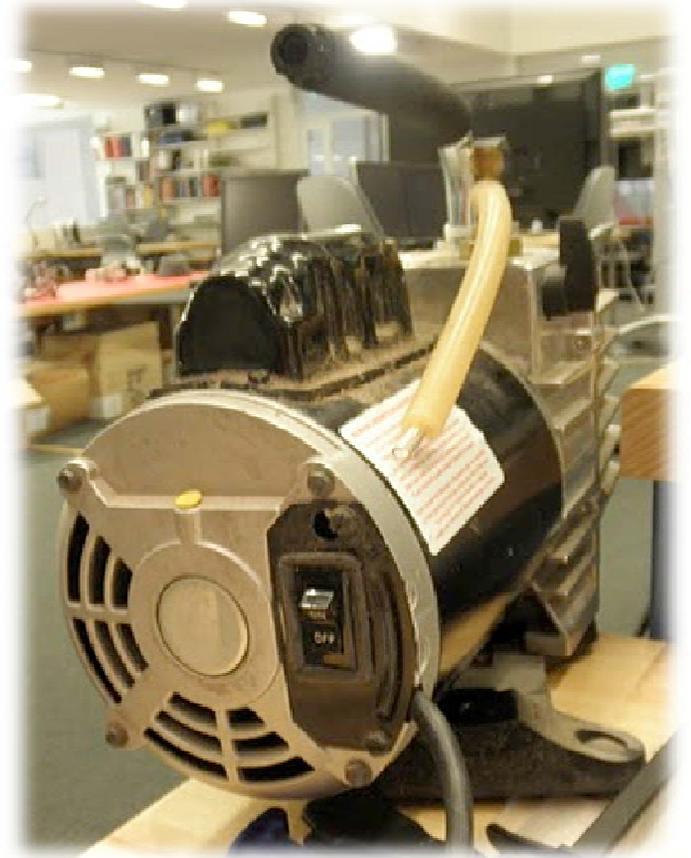
- ◆ Fablab Casting Method used for production of cost effective sockets
- ◆ Developing an Improved Pyramid for a Socket
- ◆ Vacuum Cast Sockets for Cost Effective Socket Product
- ◆ Force simulation of a socket

Vacuum Casting System Overview



Where We Currently Stand

- ◆ Integrated bag and Nozzle
- ◆ Replacement of beads with local materials
- ◆ Pump for vacuum creation
 - ◆ Bike pumps
 - ◆ Other sources of human power



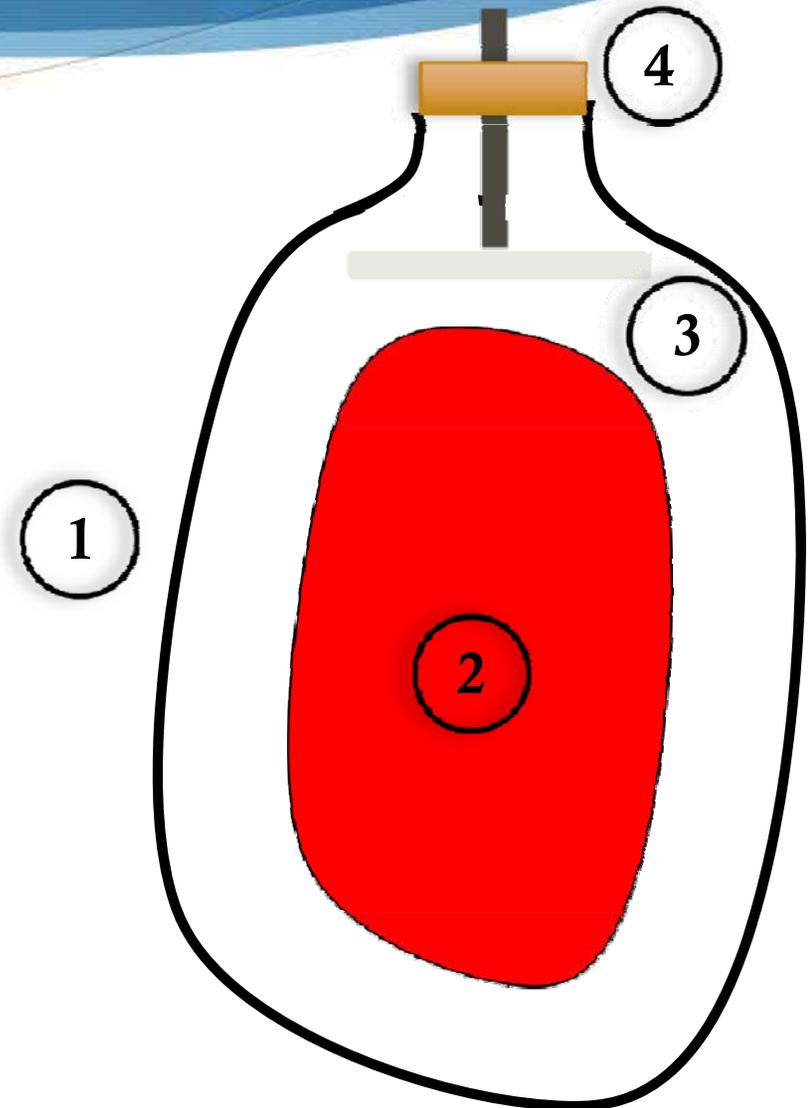
Integrated Bag and Nozzle System

- ◆ Cheaper
 - ◆ (no need to buy/keep replenishing plastic bags)
- ◆ - Greener
 - ◆ (reusability)
- ◆ - Self contained
 - ◆ (easier to use)
- ◆ - More efficient
 - ◆ May be a more effective vacuum created because of less air loss (experimentation and examination needed)

Diagram of Integrated Nozzle and Bag System

Parts of the System

- ◆ 1. Outer Non-Porous Bag
- ◆ 2. Inner Poursous Bag
- ◆ 3. Air Pump
- ◆ 4. Screw Top
 - ◆ Easy Fastening



Material Requirements

- ▲ Flexible
 - ◆ (variable stumps)
- No memory
 - ◆ (can go back to default after air is added in)
- Not porous
- Preferably cheap and easily accessible
- Durability and Longevity
- No side effects
 - ◆ (irritation, toxins etc)

Possible Materials

- ◆ Material used in Airline pillows
- ◆ A porous material and soak into some kind of resin
- ◆ Balloon material
- ◆ Vacuum Storage Bag
- ◆ Various plastic bags
 - ◆ (thickness, exact composition, etc)

Rough Timeline/ indicators

- Identify material
- Attaching Nozzle
- Testing
- Product Modification (Prototyping)
- Testing
- Product

Questions and Suggestions

Feel free to ask any questions
or give any suggestions

MIT OpenCourseWare
<http://ocw.mit.edu>

EC.722 Special Topics at Edgerton Center:Developing World Prosthetics
Spring 2010

For information about citing these materials or our Terms of Use, visit: <http://ocw.mit.edu/terms>.