Product Comparison

A typical plastic backboard... is difficult to submerge initially due to its high buoyancy and rises

up quickly, making it

difficult to align

under the victim.

Our backboard...

is easy to submerge under a victim because of its low initial buoyancy and rises up in a controlled manner, making it easy to position correctly the first time.





Current Products

Low buoyancy

High buoyancy

Ocean rescue







Special Thanks

We would like to thank David Meeker and Warren Seering, our fearless team mentors, for their dedication to this project. We would also like to thank:

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Mr. Sticky's Premium Adhesives

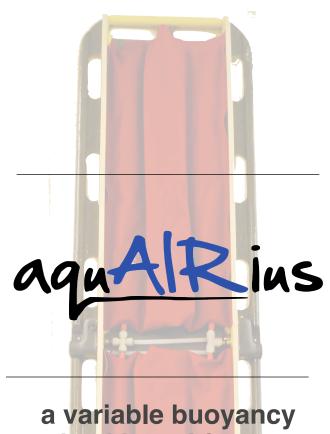
Pro-Lite Spineboards

Boston Paintball

2.009 Blue Team

Chris Benson Ryan Morrow Alex Beyer Jackie Rogoff **Anup Samuel** Alice Brooks Ben Burns Lisa Schlecht Levi Schmidt Sue Cho Mary Beth DiGenova Tish Scolnik Shanette Go Archimedes Stuk Jordan Meenen Samuel Weiss

For questions, contact: bluebackboard@mit.edu



a va<mark>riable buoy</mark>ancy backboard for an eas<mark>ier pool resc</mark>ue

Product Overview

A backboard is a device used by rescue personnel for the immobilization and transportation of

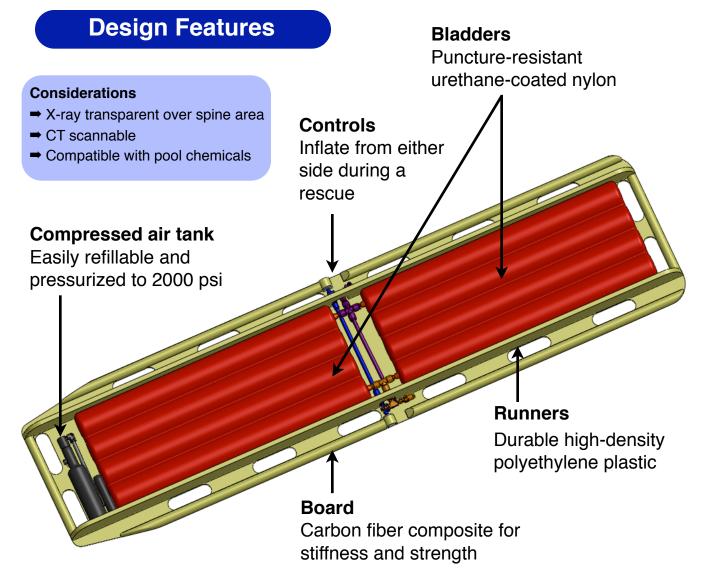


patients with suspected spinal injuries.

aquAlRius was developed to make this rescue process easier.

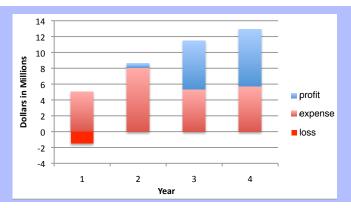
Standard backboards are very buoyant and difficult to submerge. The lifeguard could jostle the victim while struggling to position the board, exacerbating the injury.

Our product solves this problem. It is easy to submerge and position beneath the victim. Once the board is positioned, the lifeguard pushes a button to inflate a set of bladders beneath the board using compressed air. This increases the board's buoyancy and supports the victim, resulting in an overall easier rescue.



Business Strategy

There are 300,000 commercial/public pools in the United States, and each is required by its insurance policy to have at least 1 backboard. We estimate that the average pool has 3 backboards, which are replaced approximately every 10 years.



→ Potential sales: 90,000 backboards/ year

→ Price of popular boards: \$300-\$500

→ Our cost of Manufacturing: \$250/board• Within two years: \$150/board

→ Our wholesale price: \$319