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NASA TECH BRIEF

Marshall Space Flight Center



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Improved Orthopedic Arm Joint

An improved orthopedic (orthotic) arm joint permits smoother and easier movement of a disabled arm and is smaller and lighter than previous models. All components, including the potentiometer which can be adjusted externally, are mounted within the device. The new joint incorporates a friction clutch for protection of the gears and motors and can be largely assembled from readily available hardware.

The joint is interchangeable and may be used on either arm at the shoulder or at the elbow. Its manufacturing cost is estimated to be equal to or less than that of existing models.

Note:

No additional documentation is available. Specific questions, however, may be directed to:

Technology Utilization Officer
Code A&TS-TU
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Reference: B71-10485

Patent status:

No patent action is contemplated by NASA.

Source: D. Dane
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(MFS-21611)

Category 05