X-Car Electrical Maintenance Tool

Group 7

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Background

- The X-Car Electrical Maintenance (XEM) tester tool was designed to be used for ride vehicles at Universal Orlando's Hollywood Rip Ride Rockit (HRRR).
- The ride vehicle has circuitry onboard that act as a device under test (DUT) to the Ride Control System (RCS) at HRRR.
- When any of these DUT systems fail to respond, the RCS will stop the dispatch system for a fail-safe condition.
- The RCS interfaces with the ride vehicle through use of a bus bar and collector shoe combination.



Background (cont'd)

- Each ride vehicle has 8 separate current collector shoes which have their own purpose.
- Current collector shoe function:
 - 1- RFID Channel 1
 - 2- Ground
 - 3- RFID Channel 2
 - 4- Open Lap Bars
 - 5- Lap Bar Status
 - 6- Vehicle Present
 - 7- Signal Power
 - 8- Close Lap Bars



Motivation

- At Universal Orlando in the Technical Services department, our top goals are safety and reliability.
- Improve guest satisfaction by improving ride reliability.
- The X-Car Electrical Maintenance (XEM) troubleshooting tool was developed to eliminate troubleshooting bottlenecks.
- Current bottlenecks include a lack of high power output to operate lap bars, difficulty measuring weak connections, and testing the feedback signals from ride vehicles.
- The challenge is also a motivation to the designer because of the desire to improve, learn and apply new technical and engineering skills.

Goals and Objectives

- The XEM will simulate the RCS in the offline maintenance position allowing end users to troubleshoot more efficiently.
- The XEM has a few different connectors which allow for troubleshooting different parts of the ride vehicle onboard circuitry.
 - There is the Bus Bar Connector, the X21 Connector, and coaxial cable.
- The XEM will measure resistances, voltages, and currents being used by the ride vehicle DUT.
- The XEM will detect loose, broken, or damaged connections.
- The XEM will use the same logic in the RCS to test the ride vehicle.

Specifications

- The XEM will be powered by a 120V/20A socket.
- The XEM will provide 1.2kW of DC power at 24V.
- The XEM will detect resistances in the tenth of an ohm range.
- The XEM will detect voltages in the tenth of a Volt range.
- The XEM will detect voltages up to 28V.
- The XEM will detect currents up to 50A.
- The XEM will monitor 6 different control/signal lines on the ride vehicle.
- The XEM will operate the lap bar mechanism on the ride vehicle.
- The XEM will provide fault monitoring of the hardware and messaging.
- The XEM lap bar operation can be controlled remotely.

Overall System



Definitions

LBO - Lap Bar Open Circuit LBC - Lap Bar Close Circuit RFC - RFID Check Circuit SWC - Sector Wiring Check Circuit TDR - Time Domain Reflectometry Circuit WCM - Wireless Control Module Circuit HMI - Human Machine Interface Circuit

Sub-Systems – Power, Lap Bar Open/Close



Sub-Systems – RFID Check, Sector Wire Check, TDR, Wireless Control Module



Overall Main Circuit Board

- Main controller with inputs and outputs for control onboard.
- Simulates the RCS logic.
- Provides safety functions.
- 1.6mm thick FR4 PCB.
- 4 Layer board
 - Upper Signals and Components
 - Upper Middle Power
 - Lower Middle Ground
 - Lower Signals and Components





Microcontroller

- XEM uses NXP's LPC1769 microcontroller
- ARM architecture
- 100 Pin LFQP package
- 120MHz clock frequency
- Operates at 3.3V
- Handles 5V inputs



Microcontroller Circuit





Power Supply

- The XEM has an intricate power supply system.
- The power supply system involves a high power 24V system, a low power 24V supply, a moderate 12V supply, a low power 5V supply, and low power 3.3V supply.







Low Power Supply Circuits



Human Machine Interface (HMI)

- Provides interface for end user control
- Has hardware buttons for inputs to the XEM circuitry
- Test modes and configuration settings are modified using the HMI
- Alarms and other informational messages are displayed through the HMI
- Safety circuit is tied in to the HMI through hardware push button and software push buttons

Human Machine Interface (HMI)



Human Machine Interface (HMI)



Lap Bar Control

- There are separate controls for opening the lap bar and closing the lap bar.
- The open lap bar circuit uses the most power in the system.
- Solid state relays were used for reliability and ease of control.



Lap Bar Control Circuit



User/Equipment Safety

- There is hardware and software limitations to ensure the XEM is always in a controlled and safe state
- The software monitors for hardware failures and unsafe electrical states.
- The HMI also includes a hardware emergency stop button which can also prevent any failure or unsafe electrical state.
- The emergency stop circuit stops the high power outputs and 24V outputs.
- There are circuit breakers and fuses external to the circuit board that also protect the hardware.

| ENABLE K1 | ENABLE K2 | ESTOP PB | ESTOP PB | PS1 |
|------------------|-----------|----------|----------|-----|
| ON | ON | NC1 | NC2 | ON |
| 0 | X | Х | Х | 0 |
| X | 0 | Х | Х | 0 |
| X | X | 0 | Х | 0 |
| X | X | Х | 0 | 0 |

User/Equipment Safety Circuit







Measurement Circuits

The XEM uses multiple measurement circuits to find potential errors

- Voltage
- Current
- Resistance

Amplifier Comparison

AD8626

- 500 microvolt offset
- I picoamp input bias
- 5 MHz bandwidth

TL084

- 15000 microvolt offset
- 400 picoamp input bias
- 3 MHz bandwidth

Voltage Measurement



- Uses the ADC of the LPC1769
- Voltage divider driven, uses
 20k and 180k resistors to divide the voltage by 10
- Buffer using AD8626 to protect the ADC from direct connection to the system

Current and Resistance



- Simple design, but not the best way to determine resistance or current
- Using known resistance value
- Read voltages to determine voltage changes
- Infer current and resistance

Current Sense Comparison

MAX9929

- Maxim Integrated
- -0.1 to 28 V
- 50V/V gain
- Voltage output

LTC6101

- Linear Technology
- 4 to 60 V
- Configurable gain
- Current output

MAX9929 Current Measurement



- Current Sense Amplifier
- High side, between source and load
- Internal comparator, output voltage
- R sense determines the output voltage
- Polarity across R sense is maintained

Sense Resistor

| | Ω | | | | |
|----------------|----------|----------|---------|---------|---------|
| Parameter | 100 | 2500 | 5700 | 8000 | 10000 |
| mV | 237.624 | 9.596 | 4.21 | 3 | 2.4 |
| Gain sense | 47524.75 | 1919.232 | 841.958 | 599.925 | 479.952 |
| mV/mΩ | 0.238 | 0.01 | 0.004 | 0.003 | 0.002 |
| mV/mΩ gain | 47.524 | 1.919 | 0.842 | 0.6 | 0.48 |
| Steps/mΩ | 58.973 | 2.382 | 1.045 | 0.744 | 0.596 |
| mA | 237.62 | 9.6 | 4.21 | 3 | 2.4 |
| mW sense | 56.47 | 0.09 | 0.02 | 0.01 | 0.01 |
| mW resistor | 5646.51 | 230.22 | 101.02 | 71.98 | 57.59 |
| Error mΩ | 0.21 | 5.21 | 11.877 | 16.669 | 20.835 |

- Higher resistance allows for more accurate measurement given a lower current
- High current through the sense resistor dissipates more power and is inefficient, and could possibly affect the MAX9929
- A tradeoff is made to determine the best choice

Wheatstone Bridge Resistance



- Wheatstone Bridge setup
- DUT added on the right side
- Causes the resistance to differ on the two sides
- Differential voltage measured and output to the ADC
- Low offset voltage needed

Wireless Control Module

- Utilizes an ATMega238P and RFM69HCW
- Simple input output application
- Typically disabled, until enabled by the XEM
- Three different signals
 - Open LB
 - Close LB
 - E-Stop
- The functions of each are the same as if executed by the main system

RFM69HCW

- Wireless transceiver, operating in the unlicensed ISM (Industry, Science, and Medicine) band.
- Operates on the 915MHz frequency
- Capable of transmitting up to 100mW and up to 300kbs, configurable
- Simple wire antennae could transmit signals through an office building, or over 500 meters in open air
- Transmits data packets up to 66 bytes long
- Features AES encryption (Advanced Encryption Standard)



- ATMega328P and RFM69HCW communicate through Serial Peripheral Interface
- The ATMega had three input buttons that when triggered will send the signal to the RFM69HCW
- The RFM then sends a signal to the XEM
- The XEM then executes the proper commands

Power

- Lithium polymer battery, low power consumption
- External charging circuit
- Under voltage protection to prevent damage to the battery
- Battery level monitored by an LTC2944
 - A coulomb counter integrates current through a sense resistor between the battery's positive terminal and the load

Programming

- The WCM has two possible ports for programming
- By treating ATMega as slave, programming through SPI is possible
- The RFM can also be selected as slave
- The other option for programming is using USART







Monitoring Circuits







Monitoring Circuits



Software Design

- Four software programs needed to be written
- The XEM and TDR have NXP LPC microcontrollers and are written in C using LPCXpresso version of Eclipse IDE
- XEM's software was written to be similar to PLC ladder logic (outputs and states are actively written)
- The WMC uses ATMEGA328p and is written with Arduino software
- The HMI is written using proprietary language by 4D Systems, it is similar to C

Software Design – Flow Chart



Software Design – Alarm Management

- Alarms are generated on the Main XEM program
- Alarms can be either warnings which disable a function or emergency stops which halts all operations
- Alarms are displayed on the HMI
- Alarms can only be cleared through the HMI

Design Failures & Improvements

- Weak Programming Port Design
- Small Terminals
- Incorrect Footprints
- Poor TDR performance





Design Failures & Improvements

- Improved Programming Port Design
- Larger Terminal Blocks
- Corrected Footprints
- Added wireless control
- Improved TDR performance over five times the speed
- Improved power and grounding
- Added more signal isolation/protection
- Added more robust fail-safe hardware
- Added status LEDs



Budgeting & Sponsorship

- The budget was estimated and split in to 5 sections
- The XEM Chassis is the enclosure housing the XEM MAIN PCB and XEM TDR PCB
- The XEM REMOTE PCB is contained in the XEM REMOTE CHASSIS
- Sponsorship was provided by Universal Orlando

| PART | COST | |
|--------------------|------------|--|
| XEM MAIN PCB | \$800.00 | |
| XEM CHASSIS | \$2,500.00 | |
| XEM TDR PCB | \$800.00 | |
| XEM REMOTE PCB | \$200.00 | |
| XEM REMOTE CHASSIS | \$300.00 | |
| TOTAL SPONSORSHIP: | \$4,600.00 | |





