## Solar Turbines <br> A Caterpillar Company For Industrial Applications

## Enclosure Door Handles

## Project Overview

Solar Turbines specializes in turbo-machinery for energy generation. Often times, this machinery is protected inside of a ventilated enclosure. The ventilation system creates a pressure differential between the outside atmosphere and inside of the enclosure. This requires technicians to shut off the ventilation system prior to opening the enclosure doors. Solar Turbines tasked the team with creating system to simplify the opening and closing of these pressurized doors

The team designed a mechanism that uses leverage as a means of delivering pull/push forces to open and close the doors within real operating conditions. The mechanism is fully mechanical, ergonomic, and safe for technicians.


Engineering Team


Top Row (Left to Right): Cesar Tellez Ornelas, Nhat Hoang William Ramirez
Bottom Row (Left to Right): Abel Napoleon, Tung Le


System Level Diagram


Testing Data

Pressure, Force vs Door Offset (Gravity Factored) (Positive) (Dual Axis)
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Positive Pressure
22.28 lb Force (Push) for 3.8 inch $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$

## Negative Pressure

20.3 lb Force (Pull) for 3.7 inch $\mathrm{H}_{2} \mathrm{O}$

## Experimental Overview

Testing was performed with an 8.8 in H20 static-pressure blower and a custom wooden testing rig built by the SDSU Team. A full scale door was constructed to simulate realistic operating conditions (force/pressure) whilst a $1 / 8$ th scale volume was held to save space and cost. Force and pressure values were collected at $1 / 16$ th door offset intervals using a digital manometer and force gauge; force and pressure were plotted vs distance of door opening. It should be noted that gravity was also factored into the data due to the orientation of the door on the testing rig

Final Product


## Acknowledgements

| Role | Name |
| :---: | :---: |
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