

Informed Consent Document

Title of the research project

PWC Operation Study using the Virtual Jet Ski Driving Simulator

Names of Researchers

Dr.-Ing. Klaus-Peter Beier, University of Michigan, Research Scientist and Adjunct Associate Professor

Description of the research

The study you will participate in is designed to analyze the operation of a Jet Ski or PWC (personal watercraft) by an individual in a variety of given situations. It will help the researchers to find out how much time it takes to learn Jet Ski operations, how much training is necessary for safe Jet Ski driving, and how the design of Jet Skis can be improved.

Description of human subject involvement

You will be asked to use our Virtual Jet Ski Driving Simulator in the virtual reality CAVE. We will explain the CAVE and the functionality of the simulator. Using the handlebar and the throttle of a Jet Ski mockup, you can drive and maneuver the Jet Ski across a virtual lake. We will ask you to perform certain tasks, for example, going high speed and then stopping at a given marker or trying to avoid obstacles that may appear in front of you. We will create a log file of your ride for subsequent analysis.

Length of human subject participation

The study will take about 10 to 20 minutes.

Risks & discomforts of participation

Since this is a virtual simulator, no risk is involved, even if you “crash” the Jet Ski in the virtual environment. However, if you should experience dizziness or any other discomfort during the virtual ride, let us know right away.

Measures to be taken to minimize risks and discomforts

If you experience dizziness or any other type of discomfort, please close your eyes and raise your arm. We will stop the ride, turn off the simulator, and turn on the regular lights.

Expected benefits to subjects or to others

By using the simulator, you may learn specific details about PWC operation (e.g., the off-throttle steering loss) and how to react in dangerous situations.

Costs to subject resulting from participation in the study

There are no costs to you while participating in this study.

Payments to subject for participation in the study

Participation in this study is strictly voluntary. You will not be paid for participating in this study.

Confidentiality of records/data

Your name will not be connected with the data collected in the log file. We will only record you age, gender, and previous experience in PWC driving. Therefore, you cannot be identified in any report on this study.

This consent form, if signed, is the only record of your name. These records will be kept confidential to the extent provided by federal, state, and local law. However, the Institutional Review Board, the sponsor of the study (i.e. NIH, FDA, etc.), or university and government officials responsible for monitoring this study may inspect these records.

Contact Information

If you have any questions at any point in time, please contact:
Dr.-Ing. Klaus-Peter Beier
Phone: (734) 764-4296
E-mail: beier@umich.edu

IRB Contact Information

Should you have questions regarding your rights as a research participant, please contact the Institutional Review Board, 540 E. Liberty Street, Suite 202, Ann Arbor, MI 48104-2210, (734) 936-0933, email: irbhsbs@umich.edu.

Voluntary nature of participation

Your participation in this project is voluntary. Even after you sign the informed consent document, you may decide to leave the study at any time without penalty or loss of benefits to which you may otherwise be entitled.

Documentation of the consent

One copy of this document will be kept together with the research records of this study. Also, you will be given a copy to keep.

Consent of the subject:

I have read the information given above. Dr. Beier has offered to answer any questions I may have concerning the study. I hereby consent to participate in the study.

Printed Name

Consenting Signature

Date