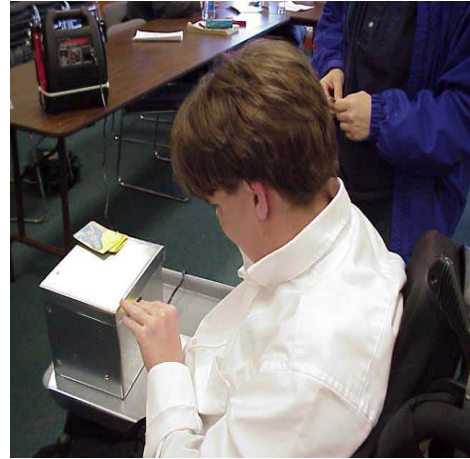


Part II:

Activities and Outcomes:

In keeping with trying “low tech” accommodations first, the RE initially tried to mount a coupon type cutter to a plastic box. The ticket was pulled through the device and while it worked, was slow and inefficient due to Derek’s limited dexterity. The transition specialist and Derek’s mother located a ticket cutting device already in use in a city several hours away and the RE worked with the original engineer to adapt this apparatus. Derek was actually able to try this adaptation and determine it would work. However, it was a custom design made out of “found parts” and the RE determined that it would be necessary to make one similar with additional features which would better fit Derek’s unique needs and abilities.



Transportation Needs

Transportation to the worksite was a concern. However Derek had learned to use public transportation, initially having his job coach put him on the bus and his father or sister meet him downtown, and later performing this function independently. When Derek was searching for a home, being on the bus route was a priority and the bus now stops right in front of his home and in front of the movie theatre.

Work Station Modifications Based on Essential Functions

This position was selected as a job goal given the repetitive nature of the tasks and limited number of steps involved in job performance. It also matched his temperament and desire to be around people, especially in social situations requiring brief, limited contact. Given appropriateness of job and the close match to functional capacities, accommodations were not required for essential functions 1,4 and 5: ***Greet movie patron, collect and turn in all ticket stubs and direct the movie patron to the correct theatre.***

1. ***Accept and tear ticket.*** Since upper extremity function is limited to the left hand, Derek could accept the ticket but could not tear it without accommodation. A website for Hecon (www.hecon.com) revealed a high torque rotary cutter, which is designed for the automatic ticket dispensing devices found in parking lots. This device cuts and ejects a ticket when a button is pushed. While this is typically sold in large lots, the Hecon sales representative agreed to sell a single cutter. A photoelectric sensor, found at Grainger (www.Grainger.com), was used to trigger the cutter as the mechanical switch initially used prevented the ticket from dropping once cut. A standard open/closed relay was needed and found at Radio Shack. The normally open part drives the cutting motions and the normally closed part resets the cutter so that it is in position to accept another ticket.

Case Study Training Modules – Movie Ticket Taker

The power source is a portable automobile battery charger with cigarette lighter socket, also found at Radio Shack, although one was later found from Grainger that was preferred due to its smaller size. The power source hangs from the wheelchair push handles using webbing and fastex sliders. This is easy to put on and take off, yet won't fall off in normal use. The webbing also stays on the power source when not on the chair. It was also necessary to wire a fuse into the system and the Hecon applications engineer specified the desired type.

Derek's mother, Debe, suggested a guide in order to help him slip the tickets into the slot with greater ease. A container was made from metal because of availability but the RE notes plastic would have been preferable. It is the size of a 4x6" index card file box, with a hinged top. The ticket stubs are removed by turning the box upside down. When not in use, the cord is unplugged from the cigarette lighter socket of the power source. The cord fits inside the cutter container for storage.

2. ***Return ticket stub to patron and retain the other half.*** The metal box served the dual purpose of collecting the tickets as they simply fall into the box after being cut.

The employer places the tray with the Hecon Cutter onto Derek's wheelchair at the beginning of his shift. The power source for the Cutter is also attached to his wheelchair handles. Derek's equipment is kept in the manager's office while not in use.

Workplace Equipment Purchased

1. Hecon Cutter	\$100
2. Photoelectric sensor	\$20
3. Open/close relay	Less than \$10
4. Portable car battery charger	\$80
5. Fuse	Less than \$5
6. Container, custom built from scrap parts	0
7. Plug to wire in to cigarette lighter	Less than \$5

All equipment was off the shelf except for the container. The device is still in use, although Derek has broken it when he tried to cut too many tickets at once. The RE is considering adapting the device to only accept 2 tickets at a time to prevent further breakdowns from overloading.

Derek has been successfully employed, in paid status, for over a year and still maintains this position. He lives in a house with a friend, with the assistance of attendants several times per day. His mother now works at a center for independent living, helping others as they attempt to achieve the level of independence gained by her son.

