



Smithsonian

National Museum of American History Kenneth E. Behring Center

Guide to the Accessible Snowboard Collection

NMAH.AC.0747

Charles Hargrove.

2001

Archives Center, National Museum of American History
P.O. Box 37012
Suite 1100, MRC 601
Washington, D.C. 20013-7012
Business Number: Phone: 202-633-3270
Fax Number: Fax: 202-786-2453
archivescenter@si.edu
<https://americanhistory.si.edu/archives>

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Collection Overview

Repository:	Archives Center, National Museum of American History
Title:	Accessible Snowboard Collection
Date:	1996-2000
Identifier:	NMAH.AC.0747
Creator:	Capozzi, Matthew
Extent:	1 Cubic foot (6 boxes)
Language:	English .
Summary:	The collection covers the design, construction, testing and patenting of the accessible snowboard. It consists of approximately 1 cubic foot of material and contains a notebook, videos, design drawings, photographs, patent information, correspondence and printed materials. It is divided into two series: Series 1, Design Materials and Moving Images and Series 2, Audiovisual Materials, 1996-1999.

Administrative Information

Acquisition Information

The materials in the collection were donated to the Archives Center by Colin Twitchell on October 12, 2000.

Related Materials

The Division of Cultural History (now Division of Cultural and Community Life) houses artifacts related to this collection including a prototype snowboard and a handheld outrigger used for balance and maneuvering.

Processing Information

Process by Charles Hargrove, August 2001.

Restrictions

The collection is open for research.

Conditions Governing Use

Collection items available for reproduction, but the Archives Center makes no guarantees concerning copyright restrictions. Other intellectual property rights may apply. Archives Center cost-recovery and use fees may apply when requesting reproductions.

Biographical / Historical

The Accessible Snowboard came about through the efforts of Matt Capozzi and Nathan Connolly, both students at Hampshire College in Amherst, Massachusetts. The Accessible Snowboard is designed so that a person with a lower body disability would be able to enjoy the sport of snowboarding with a minimum of help from another person. The snowboard began as a student project under the direction of Colin Twitchell, director of the Lemelson Assistive Technology Development Center. The project was designed to fulfill a thesis requirement at Hampshire College. The snowboard went through a number of different designs. The first design was a simple PVC chair attached to a spare snowboard. Later designs incorporated a suspension system that allowed for shock absorption and a lever that raised the level of the snowboard seat so that the rider could get on a chairlift without removing the board. Development of the prototypes was funded by a grant from the Lemelson Assistive Technology Development Center, including the fees for a preliminary patent filing. Both students are enthusiastic snowboarders and wanted to share their love of snowboarding with a community that otherwise would not be able to experience it.

Scope and Contents

The collection covers the design, construction, testing and patenting of the accessible snowboard. It consists of approximately 1 cu. foot of material and contains a notebook, videos, design drawings, photographs, patent information, correspondence and printed materials. It is divided into two series: Design Materials and Moving Images.

Series 1, Design and Patent Materials, 1996-2000, contains materials describing and illustrating the design, production and testing of the accessible snowboard from the first prototype through the model that was used for patent application. Most important is the design notebook that contains notes and sketches of all prototype versions of the snowboard. Also of particular use in tracing the development of the snowboard are photographs of the various prototypes during production and during testing on ski slopes.

Series 2, Audio Visual Materials, 1996-1999, consists of four video tapes and one audio tape. The video tapes show test runs of various models of the snowboard in both Vermont and Oregon. The audio tape is a copy of a news report on National Public Radio about the snowboard. Tape 747.4 contains raw and finished footage of a news report covering the snowboard that was aired on Z21 News in Bend, Oregon.

Physical Characteristics and Technical Requirements

Gloves must be worn when handling unprotected photographs and negatives.

Names and Subject Terms

This collection is indexed in the online catalog of the Smithsonian Institution under the following terms:

Subjects:

Sports

Container Listing

Series 1: Design and Patent Materials, 1996-2000

Box 4, Folder 1-4 [Photos of Prototypes, 1995-1997](#)

[Unidentified young man without legs riding an accessible snowboard : color photoprint], [ca. 1990-2000.]

1 Item (5" x 3.3".)

Language: English.

Notes: 01074706.tif (AC Scan)

Color photoprint on paper.

Unrestricted research use on site by appointment. Photographs must be handled with cotton gloves unless protected by sleeves.

Photographer unidentified.

Topic: Disabilities
People with disabilities
People with disabilities -- Sports
Snowboarding

Genre/Form: Photographs -- Color photoprints -- 1990-2000

Box 1, Folder 1 [Design Notebook, 1996 - 1996](#)

Box 1, Folder 2 [Design Notebook, 1996 - 1996](#)

Box 5, Folder 1 [Design Drawings](#)

Box 1, Folder 2 [Developmental History and Feasibility, 1996-1997](#)

Box 1, Folder 3 [Smithsonian Snowboard Showing](#)

Box 1, Folder 4 [Correspondence, 1996-2000](#)

Box 1, Folder 5 [Snowboard Patent, 1997](#)

Box 1, Folder 6 [Accessible Technology Patents](#)

Box 5, Folder 2 [Accessible Snowboard Printed Material](#)

Box 1, Folder 7 [Burton Snowboard Catalog](#)

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Series 2: Audiovisual Materials, 1996 - 1999

Box 2, Folder RV 747.1	Accessible Snowboard Testing, Hogback, Vermont and Haystack, 20 December 1996
Box 2, Folder RV 747.2	Accessible Snowboard Testing, Mt. Snow, 4 April 1996
Box 2, Folder RV 747.3	Accessible Snowboard Testing, Mt. Snow, April 1999
Box 2, Folder RV 747.4	Z21 Raw and edited footage for Accessible Snowboard report Notes: Total Running time: 20:38.
Box 2, Folder RTC 747.5	Audiotape of NPR report on Accessible Snowboard WFCR, 30 August 1999
Box 3, Folder OV 747.1	Accessible Snowboard Testing, Hogback, VT and Haystack, 20 December 1996 Notes: Total Running Time: 46:34.
Box 3, Folder OV 747.2	Accessible Snowboard Testing, Mt. Snow, 4 April 1996 Notes: Total Running Time: 12:00.
Box 3, Folder OV 747.3	Accessible Snowboard Testing, Mt. Snow, April 1999 Notes: Total Running Time: 40:00.
Box 3, Folder OV 747.4	Z21 Raw and edited footage for Accessible Snowboard report (Original) Notes: Total Running Time: 20:56

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