# Senior EE Engineering Design Capstone Project EE-490

Detroit Pinball Machine Professor Kenneth Kaiser Summer 2009

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#### **Project Requirements and Specifications**

- 1. Four electromagnets
  - a. Similar to 'Flying Aces,' heat sink, duty cycle
- 2. Ball chute
  - a. Use drywall screen or uchannel
- 3. PLC controlled
- 4. Commercial plunger
- 5. Either two commercial or handmade (similar to 'Gangster') paddles
- 6. Push-button for control of magnet near right paddle control
- 7. Loose ball at one hole behind paddles
- 8. Three balls per game
- 9. Buzzer or other primitive nonelectronic sound when scoring
- 10. Painted, decorated according to a theme top, no decals
- 11. Nails
  - Similar to 'Gangster,' straight, strong, 150, playability
  - b. REMINDER: pre-drill
- 12. Solid non-plywood sides (see 'Gangster')
  - a. See 'Gangster for mounding and corner
- 13. Single commercial power supply
- 14. Power control through switch on power cord
- 15. Professional wiring and connectors
- 16. No tape or glue with wiring
- 17. Do not drop balls directly on switches
- 18. Provide me with 2 extra balls
- 19. Professional physical and electrical construction practices
- 20. No screws present/seen from outside
- 21. Overheating protection
  - a. Thermal cutoff
- 22. Wood exterior painted
  - a. No glue marks
  - b. Don't paint inside
- 23. H field zones marked or indicated

- 24. Point values for holes indicated
- 25. No obvious toy modifications
- 26. One or two ramps with a function
- 27. Other non-PLC electronics on a professional board
- 28. Robust
  - a. Will be continually tested for 1 hour
    - i. No stuck balls
    - ii. No breakdowns
- 29. No additional fans or cooling systems besides those on power supply
- 30. Two antique handles per side
- 31. 5 scoring holes
  - a. Opening must be fillet
- 32. No plastic on the outside
- 33. Need to have a ball catcher
- 34. Dimensions
  - a. 22" x 40" x 10-12"
- 35. Table top: no legs
- 36. Fill in nail holes
- 37. Reset control
- 38. More than 5 scoring lights, 1 power light1 game over light
- 39. No plastic seen except top
- 40. No stuck balls
- 41. Bell scoring
- 42. Electromagnetic strong enough to hold ball in place
- 43. Use standard pin-ball
- 44. No backs
- 45. Theme the game
- 46. Twisted wire not solid-core
  - a. Except magnet wire
- 47. No tape
- 48. Engineering standard incorporated
- 49. Magnet touchable/grab able at any time by instructor
- 50. No direct access to fan-blades on power-supply
- 51. Work with 1/2" offset on either side of machine
- 52. Three or more rubber-band bumpers
- 53. Out channel needed

# **Detroit Pinball Machine Pictures**



Figure 1. Top of Pinball Machine

## **Detroit Pinball Machine Pictures**



Figure 2. Bottom of Pinball Machine

#### **Incorporated Engineering Standard**

IPC J-STD-001D
Requirements for Soldered Electrical and Electronic Assemblies

IPC-A-610D Acceptability of Electronic Assemblies

We used these standards for a basis of assembly and inspection of all soldered and crimped connections. Each connection and wire was treated and inspected to be compliant with the Class 2 criterion; which is the level of high-end commercial electronics and test equipment.

IPC is made up of industry members around the world whose mission it is to create standards and practices for electronic interconnectivity. The standards they release are sanctioned by ANSI and the DoD, and are requirements on all government contracts.

Examples of the criteria that we followed per IPC J-STD-001D, IPC-A-610D are:

1 Class 1-Some Allowed

Class 2-Defect Class 3-Defect

All Soldered joints show good wetting, and shiny appearance 2

All wires that were stripped showed no nicks or damaged strands 1

2 Class 1- Not Est

Class 2-Defect

Class 3-Defect

All Crimped connections show no exposed wire 3

3 Class 1-Some Allowed

Class 2-Defect

Class 3-Defect

#### **Protection Method for Overheating and Fire Risks**

In order to follow safety standards, this project required each pinball machine to incorporate a protection method for overheating and fire risks. To incorporate this method, we needed a cutoff device that would turn off all our electromagnets when it reached a very hot temperature. Our group proceeded to use a component called a thermal fuse to implement this protection method. A thermal fuse can be defined as a single-use cutoff safety device that disconnects the current to the heating component, in this case the electromagnets, to protect from component malfunctions and damage. We purchased four thermal fuses rated for 228 °C from RadioShack and attached them in series to each electromagnet in the pinball machine. The below figures illustrate this method.

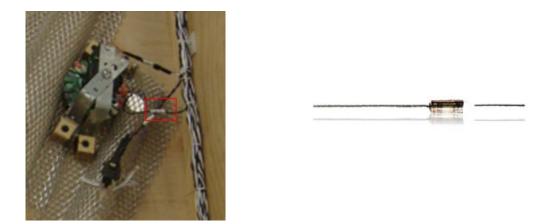


Figure 3. Thermal Fuse Attached to Magnet

Figure 4. Thermal Fuse

#### How to Reproduce the Electromagnets

The following information provides a detailed explanation on how to replicate the four electromagnets used in our pinball machine.

#### **Required Materials**

- (1) 12" 1018 Carbon Steel Rod Stock (1" Diameter)
- (1000ft) 22 Gauge High Temp Magnet Wire
  - Washers
  - (4) Aluminum cans
    - Zip Ties
    - Thermal Paste
    - Lathe
    - Electrical tape

#### Instructions

Coiling the Electromagnet

- 1. Cut the 12" Carbon steel rod into four 3" steel rods
- 2. Drill and ½-20 tap holes into one end of each of the four rods. This will be used for mounting and to attach washers at the end in order to keep the copper wire coiled and in tact.
- 3. Chuck approximately ½" of the rod segment into the lathe, and attach a large washer opposite with a ¼-20 bolt to use as a back stop for the windings.
- 4. Tie copper wire at one end of the rod and leave about 4-5" extra wire hanging. This wire will be used to attach the magnet to the power supply in final assembly.
- 5. Turn ON the lathe at a slow speed and begin winding the copper wire onto the steel rod. Ensure that you keep the coiled wire tight between each turn.
  - a. \*It may be easier to use two people to coil each magnet. One person holds the copper wire. The other person uses his/her fingers or a small rod to keep the coiled wire tight between each turn.
- 6. When you reach the end of the rod, begin another layer and wind the copper wire to the opposite side.
- 7. Continue steps 5 and 6 until you have reached 10 layers of copper wire.
- 8. When you have completed the 10<sup>th</sup> layer, leave another 4-5" extra wire hanging for the other end of the electromagnet.
- 9. Remove your completed electromagnet from the lathe and attach the heat-sinks
- 10. Repeat steps 3-9 for the remaining electromagnets

#### Creating and Attaching Heat-sinks

1. Cut and remove the top and bottom part an aluminum can

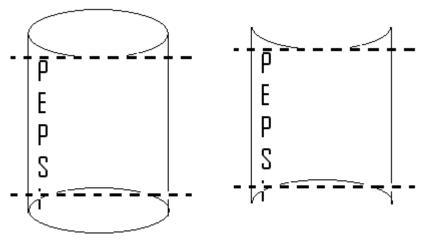


Figure 5. Step 1

- 2. Cut down one side of the remaining can to make the can flat
- 3. Cut the can down to the circumference of the magnets.

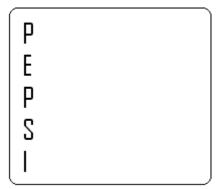


Figure 6. Step 3

4. Cut slits every ¼-½", leaving a ½" section in the middle uncut for mounting, on the top and bottom of the flat aluminum to create fins for the heat sink. See figure below.

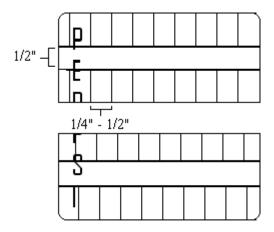
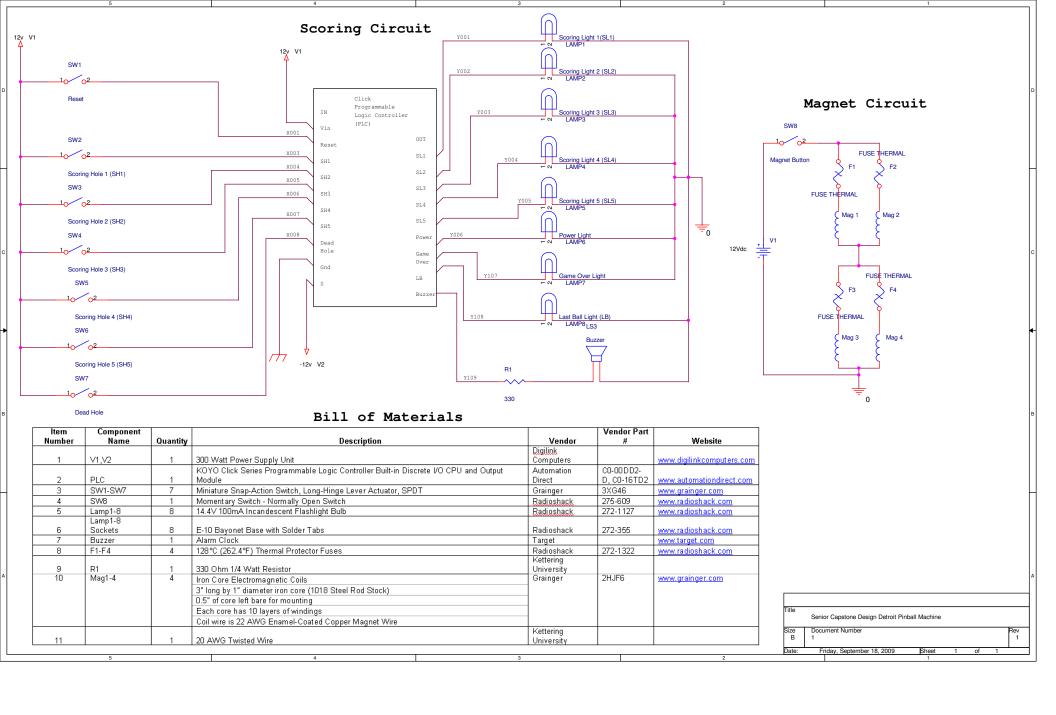


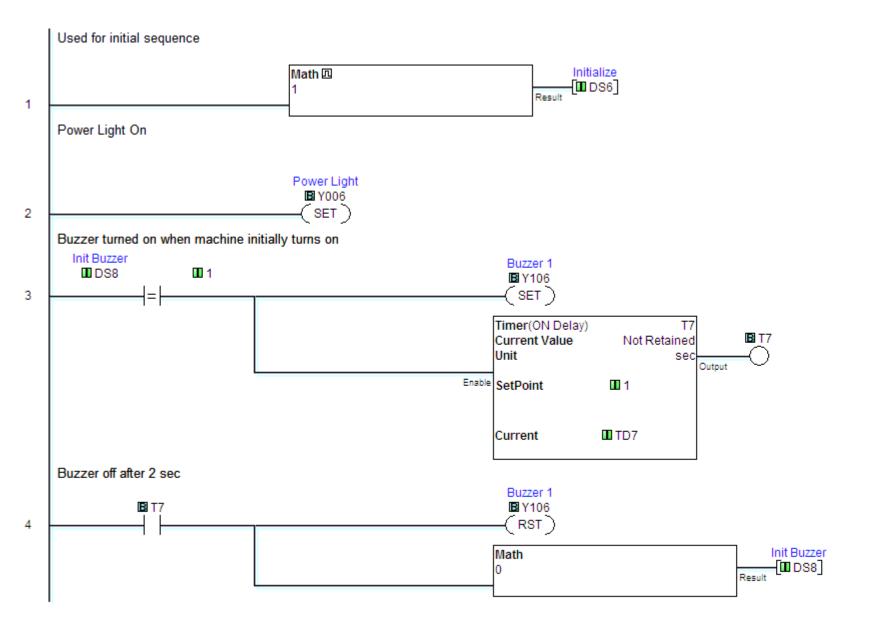
Figure 7. Step 4

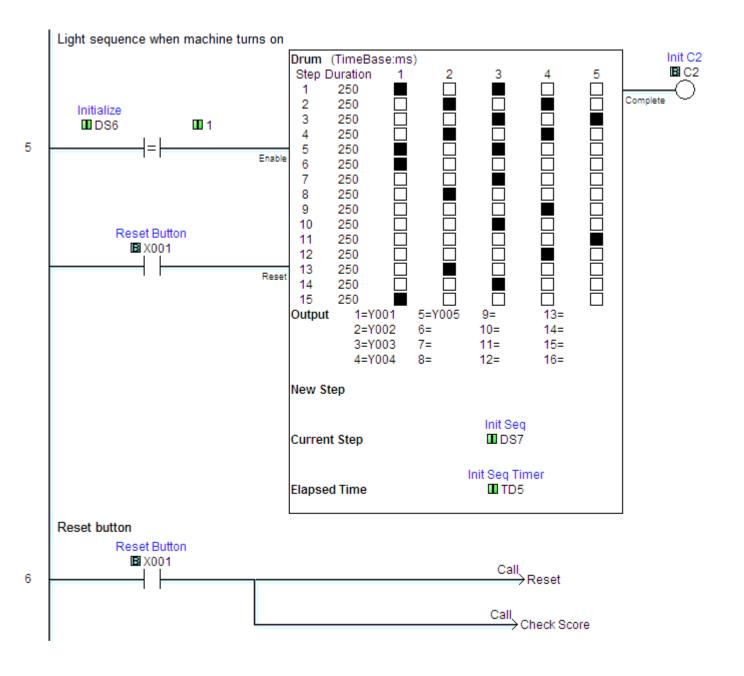
- 5. After cutting the fins, bend fins 90° to the mounting surface and spread thermal paste across the mounting surface of both the top and bottom heat-sinks.
- 6. Attach one aluminum can heat-sink to the bottom part of the electromagnet. Ensure the aluminum is touching the magnet wire directly.
- 7. Use a zip tie around the flat part of the heat-sink to tighten and mount it to the magnet.
- 8. Attach the second aluminum can heat-sink to the top part of the electromagnet. Again, ensure the aluminum is touching the copper wire directly.
- 9. Use a zip tie around the flat part of the heat-sink to tighten and mount it to the magnet
- 10. Using electrical tape, tape around the top and bottom areas of the electromagnets to ensure the magnet wire remains in tact and coiled onto the steel rod.

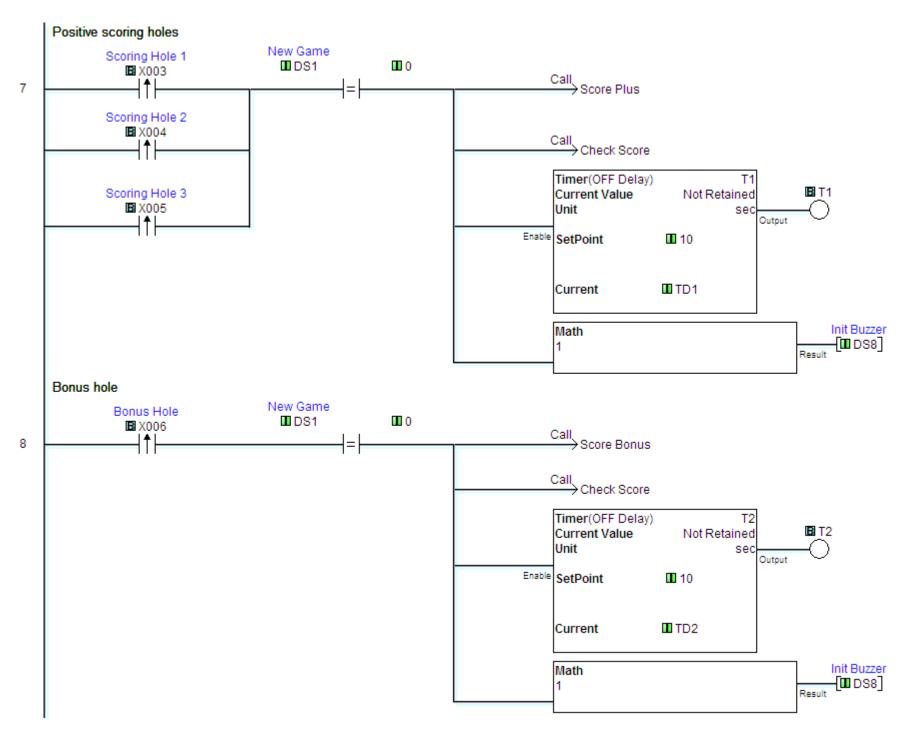


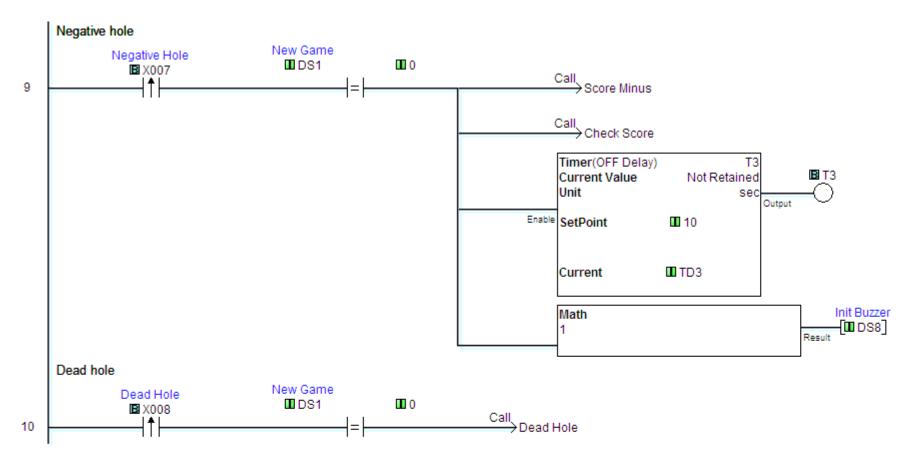
**Figure 8. Final Electromagnet Product** 

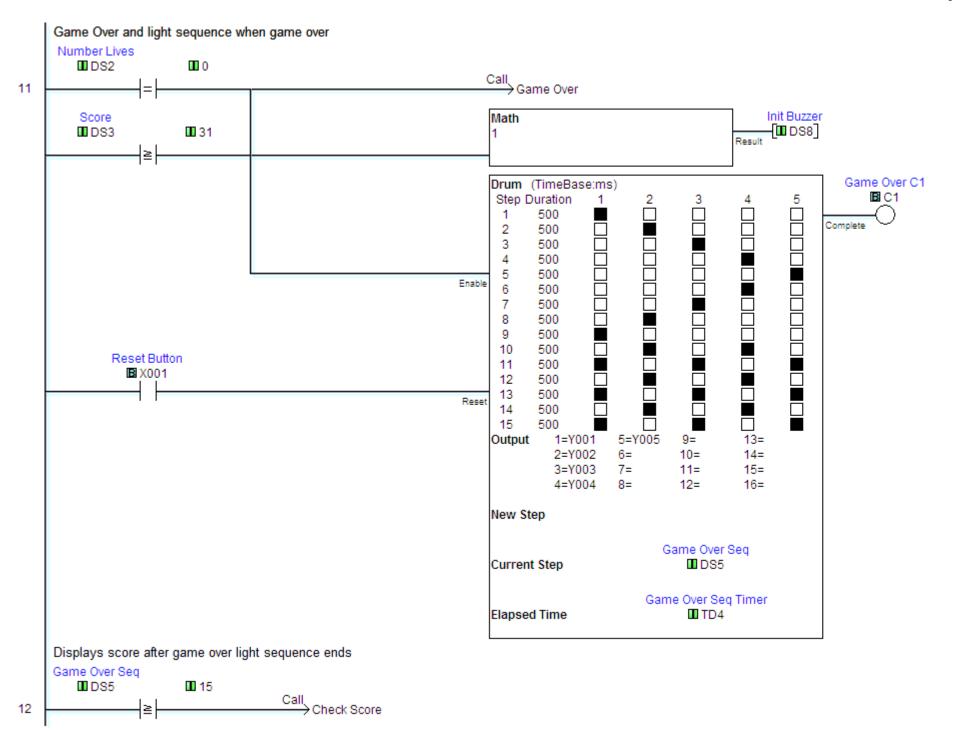




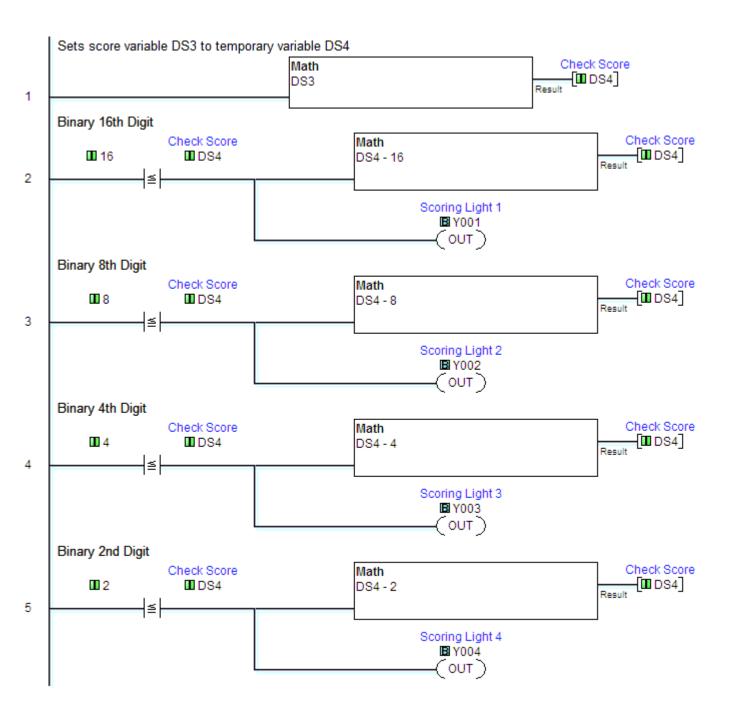


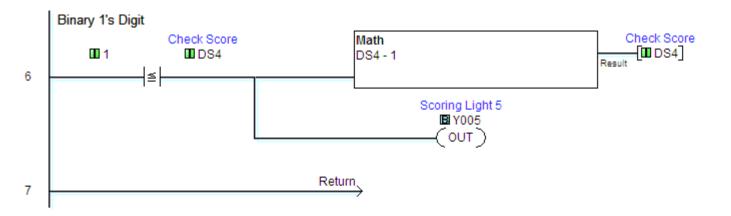












Decreases number of lives when dead hole switch turns on. Timers used as a delay to temporarily disable the dead hole switch when scoring hole switches turn on Number Lives
DS2 Math DS2 - 1 **B** T1 **■ T3** Result Init Buzzer --[Ⅲ DS8] Math Result Last live light Number Lives Last Live Light **II** 1 III DS2 **■** Y104 (OUT) 2 Return 3

