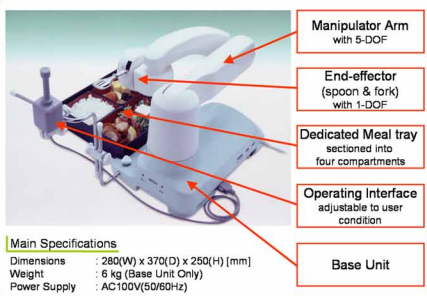


The Development of Meal-Assistance Robot "My Spoon"

- Selectable Operation Interfaces -

Ryoji Soyama, Sumio Ishii, and Azuma Fukase
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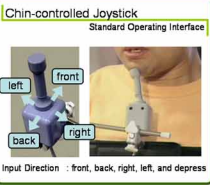
Overview



Main Specifications
 Dimensions : 280(W) x 370(D) x 250(H) [mm]
 Weight : 6 kg (Base Unit Only)
 Power Supply : AC100V(50/60Hz)

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Operating Interface



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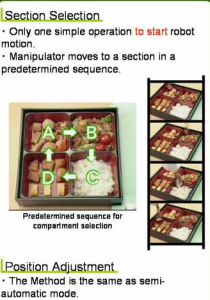
Control Mode

User can select a control mode.

Required Operation	Control Mode		
	Manual Mode	Semi-Auto Mode	Auto Mode
Section Selection	One operation (select section)	One operation (select section)	One operation (begin predetermined sequence)
Position Adjustment	Several operation	Auto (predetermined sequence)	Auto (predetermined sequence)

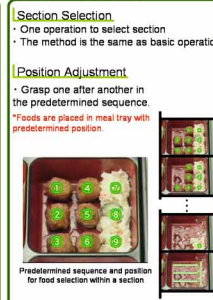
Basic Operation

Automatic Mode



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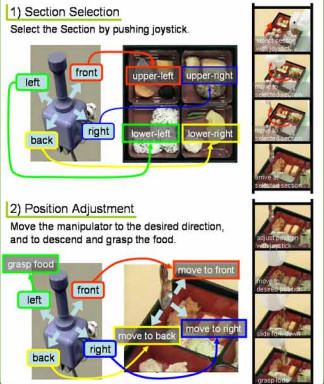
Semi-Automatic Mode



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Basic Operation

Only two basic command sets required for a meal.



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Price List

Marketed in Japan in May 2002
 • For use Japan only
 • Price of standard set is below

US\$1 = ¥120

Purchase
 For Organization : ¥380,000 (≒ US\$3,200)
 For Person : [Table with Contact Period, Deposit, Monthly Fee]

Standard Set
 • My Spoon
 • Standard Joystick
 • Fixing Bracket (for Standard Joystick)
 • Cup Stand
 • Meal Tray (two sets)
 • Spoon & Fork (two larger size)
 • Straw Holder

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Purpose

Eating is a basic motion for humans. We are developing a meal-assistance robot "My Spoon" to assist the physically handicapped person to eat by him/herself.



By using My Spoon, it becomes possible to eat with friends and family. It was marketed in Japan in May 2002.

Concept

The basic concept is to eat a meal freely choosing one's own favorite foods in the desired order and at one's own pace.

Features

- Allows eating with only minimal help from a caregiver.
- Usable with almost all types of everyday foods. No special food packets required.
- Flexibly tailored for specific types of disabilities with interchangeable controllers.

Anticipated Users

Those who cannot move their hands freely and need help when eating.

Examples: Spinal Cord Injury, Muscular Dystrophy

Caution

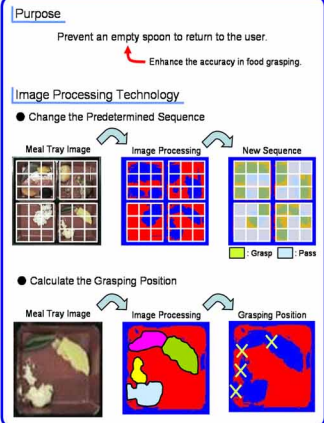
- My Spoon cannot be used if any of the following conditions are met:
- Problems with chewing and/or swallowing.
- Motor control problems such as moving their head towards the spoon, operating a joystick or pressing a button.
- Problems maintaining upright posture (more than 60 degrees from horizontal) for an extended amount of time, even with the use of a belt or other mechanism to help maintain posture.
- Problems seeing the My Spoon arm.
- Problems understanding how to operate My Spoon.

Contact Us

http://www.secoc.co.jp/myspoon/index_e.html
 E-mail: myspoon@secoc.co.jp

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Future Tasks



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Demonstration

Exhibition
 April 23 (Wed) ~ April 24 (Thu), 2003 : 09:00 ~ 18:00
 Room D, Booth No.5

Demo Session
 Date : April 24 (Thu), 2003
 Time : 11:20 ~ 13:10
 Place : Room D

Demonstration with a My Spoon User

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