STATEMENT OF INFORMED CONSENT

Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering, Needham, MA 02492

Our names are Alex Dorsk, Luis Diego Cabezas and Zach Brock. We are students at Olin College of Engineering studying drivers for a class on Human Factors and Interface Design. We can be contacted by phone on 781-292-2300 or by email at alexander.dorsk@students.olin.edu, luis.cabezas@students.olin.edu and zachary.brock@students.olin.edu

We are studying how people interact with their car radios and air conditioning units. We will be spending a semester learning how people use these features in their car with an eye towards improving the interface. By the end of the semester we will have a new prototype interface that will tie together the observations and design we have conducted. At the beginning of the semester we will largely be interviewing and observing people. Towards the end we will be asking users to try out our prototypes to see if we have created a more user friendly experience. This will involve more interviewing and observations.

The results of this research including field notes, records and photos that you or we take will be used for educational and research purposes. They will be placed on an Olin College educational website that is public and may be used in presentations by us and by Olin to illustrate the work that we do and/or to help advance engineering or educational work. However, all efforts will be taken to protect your privacy.

We hope this would be a fun and interesting process for you. However there will likely be no direct benefit for you. We do not anticipate that there would be any unusual risks or discomforts to you as a participant in this project. We would take every reasonable effort to keep your identity confidential. For instance, we would not use your real name in research notes, course assignments or presentations. Please do not disclose any information that you feel would put you at risk.

Participation is voluntary. You may discontinue your participation at any time without any adverse effects and with no hard feelings. There will be no costs associated with your participation. We regret that we cannot pay you for your participation.

If you have any questions or concerns about the project, please contact our professor or us. Our professor is Lynn Andrea Stein, Professor of Computer and Cognitive Science. She can be reached at 781 292 2525 or by email at las@olin.edu.

You may keep a copy of this form for reference.

Printed Name:  

Signature: Date: