

# Project Progress Report 2

Presented to

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A/Prof. Leow Wee Kheng

**Project Title**     *DedEx: We die to deliver.*

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## 1. The Effect

*“Ghost effect”: A transparent “ghost” rises from the body of a deliveryman who accidentally falls to the ground and “dies”. The “ghost” picks up the package, and continues to deliver it. A “walk-through-the-wall” effect will be added too.*

The story is a parody of FedEx commercials, which often show a delivery person finish the delivery under unusual circumstances (for example, in the case of an elevator breakdown, the emergency team jump off a helicopter into the elevator to finish the delivery).

In our story, the company is named “DedEx”, a reflection of our catch phrase: “We die to deliver” (a parody of the official “**We live to deliver**”). A short description of the story: the “DedEx” deliver person carries the package up staircases with a fast and large pace. He slips down the stairs and accidentally knocks his head to the wall (or door stopper), and “dies” (no violence or blood). After a while, a semi-transparent “ghost” of this person rises from the body, takes the package, continues to run up the stairs, and eventually finishes the delivery. All scenes after the “ghost rising” will feature the semi-transparent person doing all kinds of movements with a convincing effect. There will also be a small “twist” after the cut to the black-screen text slogan, which is a mimic of the official FedEx commercials. If time allows, we will also implement a “walk through the wall” effect to show the “ghost ability”.

## 2. Implementation

- Step 1: Camera shooting.
- Step 2: Composing movie clips, creating effects
- Step 3: Improving the effects, adding sound effects

### 3. Screenshots



**Figure 1: A DedEX delivery man carry a package**



**Figure 2: The delivery man walking in creepy corridor with transparent effect (applied in post production)**



**Figure 3: The delivery man got accident**



**Figure 4: His ghost will wake up and continue to deliver the package**

## 4. Work Distribution

Kelly: Composing video, creating effect, creates “making of movie clip”  
 Jerry: Real scene shooting, acting, and preparing costume.  
 Viknesh: Assist in creating “making of movie clip”

## 5. Project Schedule

Week	Date	Content	Plan	Deadlines	Completed (%)
1	17 Jan	Course briefing, Introduction			
2	24 Jan	Storyboarding Camera			
3	31 Jan	Lighting Digital Compositing		Form project team	
4	7 Feb	Chinese New Year holiday	Discussed and came up with project idea		100%
5	14 Feb	Digital Compositing	Finalize idea and wrote project proposal		100%
6	21 Feb	Matchmoving Matching Visual Elements	Wrote project proposal (cont)	Project proposal due	100%
	28 Feb	mid-semester break	Built up a detailed story board and did shooting (first draft)		100%
7	6 Mar	Matching Visual Elements Theory of Matting	Discussed how to put CG object to the shot screen and modeling of 3D car		50%
8	13 Mar	2D Image Morphing	Enhancing on modelling of 3D car, enhance the content of the movie clip by adding some creativity ideas	Project progress report 1 due	50%
9	20 Mar	3D Object Morphing	<b>Change of project and get approval from the lecturer. Try out effect and prove its feasibility</b>	<b>Critique Presentation 1</b>	<b>100%</b>
10	27 Mar	Texture Synthesis Inpainting	<b>Conduct the shooting and effect editing for 80% of the project</b>		<b>100%</b>
11	3 Apr	Color Transfer Match Illumination	<b>Video producing and complete 20% of the effect</b>	<b>Project progress report 2 due Critique Presentation 2</b>	<b>100%</b>
12	10 Apr	Video Effects	<b>Further improve of the video effect, adding sound effect, creating “making of movie clip”, prepare the presentation slide</b>		<b>In progress</b>
13	17 Apr	Additional topics	<b>Submission</b>	<b>Project Presentation</b>	<b>In progress</b>

## 6. Difficulties remaining and resolutions:

The team was facing a big problem when we decide to change our project. Thank the advice from our lecturer, the cooperation and commitment of team members; we did complete the shooting and execute the new plan in schedule. However there are still a number of problems.

### 1. Problem 1:

The team encounters a challenge of creating the effect of a delivery man walk through a door. Current most of the effects are done; we still left with this effect.

#### **Proposed Solution:**

The team will analyze carefully the source light and light direction as well as the colour of the screen shot, door, and walls around to make “transparent ghost” going through the wall seamlessly.

### 2. Problem 2:

To make the movie more interesting, the team intends to put in some sound effects and decorate the “ghost of delivery man” by adding colour and illumination. This is a time consuming process though the team need to prepare for Critique number 2, presentation and the “making of movie clip”. But the team decide to move on with this.

#### **Proposed Solution:**

Time management will be critical in the coming period. Yang Chen and Viknesh will concentrate on creating “making of movie clip”. Jerry will be responsible for creating presentation slides. In creating “making of movie clip” the team decide to reuse all the shots that captured during the time of actual shooting together with PC sound and action recording software.

### 3. Problem 3:

To make the “ghost of delivery man” looks more like ghost, it becomes a challenge. Though, currently the ghost is just a replication of a delivery man with transparent effect.

#### **Proposed Solution:**

Masking technique can be used to hide the portion of the body to expose only bottom half of the ghost. Mask’s movement also have to be tracked carefully to always hide the top half of the moving ghost. Glowing effect around the ghost is also a consideration.