

The Joystick controlled Polaris Ranger Crew project has the most advanced control system we have ever designed and built. With the use of one joystick, a single toggle switch for mode selection and heads up display, an individual can safely control the entire vehicle.

In the SYSTEM MODE, an individual can safely control the steering, throttle and brakes with a single joystick.

In the ACCESSORIES MODE, an individual can control the following vehicle functions using a single joystick with the heads up display.

- Starter
- Gear Shift
- Lights
- Fan
- Power Seat Recline
- Power Windows
- Power Windshield washers
- Drain bag valve



Letter from the owner:

I am a C3/C4 incomplete quadriplegic. I would like to give you a snapshot of my life prior to the Design Ability modification to my Polaris Ranger. Prior to my injury, my wife and I operated a medium-sized ranch whose principal crops were Horse Hay and Beef Cattle. We were the labor force that operated the ranch on a day-to-day basis. We each had our specialties, for example: I did all mechanic work my wife baled all the hay. Since my injury 5 years ago, it has been necessary to hire a ranch hand to replace my labor input. I have 50 years of knowledge and experience that often needs to be communicated in real time on site.

My motor control below the neck is extremely limited, but I do have sufficient strength and range of motion in my left hand to drive a power chair. The problem with power chairs is that they were designed for smooth flat surfaces, something a ranch does not have. As you can imagine, my access to the ranch was limited to looking out the window and bouncing across ranch yard to the shop.

I worked with Design Ability to develop a vehicle that would give me freedom of movement to access any part of the ranch almost anytime of the year. The final package is absolutely perfect. The vehicle platform gives me a smooth ride as well as protection from the elements. The modifications allow me to travel independently virtually anywhere on the ranch. Not only can I take care of my skin and my drainage bag in the Ranger but I can also turn the heat on and off and as well as open and close the Windows. In short, I have a better control over my environment in the Ranger than I do in my power chair.

To explain more fully what this vehicle modification means to the family and the ranch. I am now physically involved in the day-to-day activities. We work cattle with ATVs and now I'm able to participate. I can go out on my own and check cattle. I carry spare tools and supplies during harvest and when problems arise, I can be right there offering the benefit of my experience and knowledge to get things rolling again. The real beauty of this is that when I'm not needed, no one worries or needs to babysit me because I am self-sufficient. To be involved, a contributor and self-sufficient for long periods of the day is absolutely phenomenal. Thank you Design Ability.