

## **GID Development Corporation**

## Case Study

**SOCCER HINGE** 

## **Product Developers**

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#### **About Product:**

Soccer Hinge is a portable soccer goal designed to tolerate rugged play, meet regulations and for easy transportation from field to field and from field to storage. It is for everyone, soccer coaches, trainers, and players of all classifications who are constantly looking for access to durable and FIFA legal soccer goals for practice and competitive games.

The most impressive aspect of Soccer Hinge is its inbuilt mechanism. A hinge mechanism with integral gearing allows the soccer goal to be folded into a small enough overall size to permit easy transport and storage. Material used for its construction can easily tolerate the stresses created by large spans, rugged play, and the high impact of a well kicked soccer ball.

**Background**: Soccer coaches, trainers, and players of all classifications around the world are constantly looking for access to durable and FIFA legal soccer goals for practice and competitive games.

**Problem**: Fixed construction soccer goals are too large and bulky to be transported from field to storage and for the most part are left out in the open year round exposed to damage from the environment and vandalism.

**Solution**: A former professional soccer player and now soccer coach approached us with his idea for a portable soccer goal that would tolerate rugged play, meet regulations, and be easily transportable from field to field and from field to storage. Our design team took to the many challenges presented from the requirements to meet our client's goals (no pun intended). In the critical path to a successful design was a hinge mechanism with integral gearing that would allow the soccer goal to be folded into a small enough overall size to permit easy transport and storage. This mechanism would have to interconnect with tubular frame components and tolerate the stresses created by large spans, rugged play, and the high impact of a well kicked soccer ball. Also, the hinge mechanism has to be light weight and meet strength requirements.

# We Dare To Do It Different

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#### **Product Features:**

- Specially formulated engineered plastics that could be injection molded to precise tolerances were incorporated into the design
- Accurate interlocking of outer housing to the integrated mechanism components for a rigid structure was achieved
- Easy and intuitive assembly during manufacture
- Integral release and locking device permits both folding and locking in place
- All outer surfaces are smooth and obstruction free to avoid damage to soccer ball