

Double Cone Rolling “Uphill”?



Purpose: To demonstrate that a center of mass will move down, even though it requires the double cone to roll up the inclined track.

Location: room 136, shelf M6

Place the metal triangular track on a level table so that the wider end of the track is higher than the pointed end (i.e. The track is inclined). Place the center of the double cone near the pointed end of the track and observe the cone roll towards the other end. Stimulate discussion as to why the cone, starting at rest, rolls “uphill”.