

# Engineering Design - What is it?

## “Senior Design” – brief definition ?



## “Design” – Full Definitions : **ABET**

- ☒ “A ( ) of devising a system, component, or process to ( ) desired needs,”
- ☒ which involves “a ( ) process (often iterative), to convert resources optimally to meet the stated needs” by applying ( ), ( ) and ( ),
- ☒ with adequate consideration of ( ), ( ), and ( ) in the subject related to the electrical/computer engineering discipline.”

## “Design” – Full Definitions: **Industry**

- ⏏ “Determine that a ( ) exists with customers for specific goods or services and how much those customers are able and willing to ( ) for it.
- ⏏ Then determine if the product or service is ( ) with the competencies of the company and if it can be manufactured at a ( ) that is less than the customers will pay.
- ⏏ If so, proceed by designing to match the company’s ( ) to manufacture,
- ⏏ Finally, prior to full implementation, prepare a pilot ( )”

# Engineering Design in 3 phases

⌘ **1. Problem Formulation**

⌘ **2. Problem Solving**

⌘ **3. Solution Implementation**

# Characteristics of Design

Design is:

- ☒ A ( ) through the 3 phases of  
( ),  
( ),  
and ( ).
- ☒ ( ), not trial-and-error
- ☒ ( ), not a recipe (nor a cookbook)
- ☒ ( ), not an event or product
- ☒ ( ), back to earlier phases
- ☒ ( ), to faithfully execute planned activities



## Characteristics of Design- continued

### Design should:

☒ ( ) with regulation,  
codes, rules, standards, etc

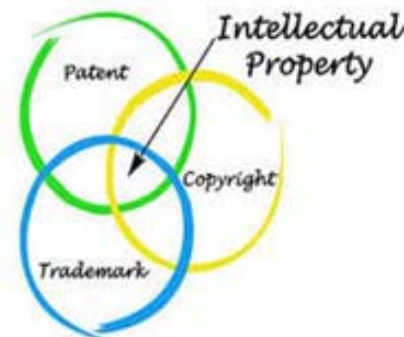
☒ Work under multiple and  
sometimes contradictory  
( ):

☒ Money, time, socio-cultural, etc.

☒ Perform with ( )  
behavior and responsible action

☒

☒ Understand and exercise  
( ) Rights



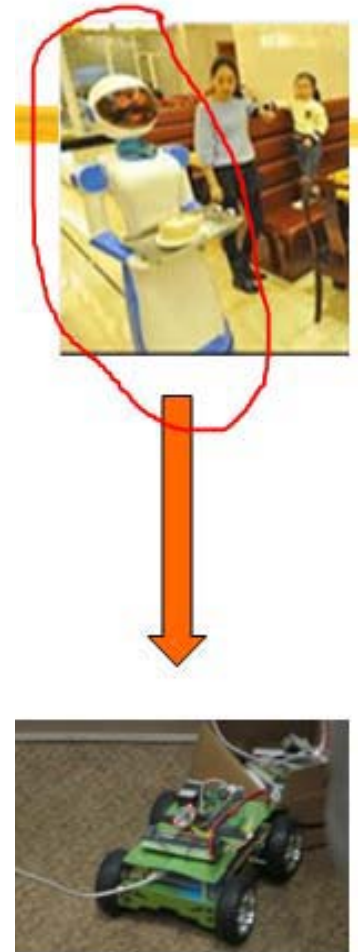


## Elements of *Unsuccessful* Design Projects: Lessons from Past Design Teams

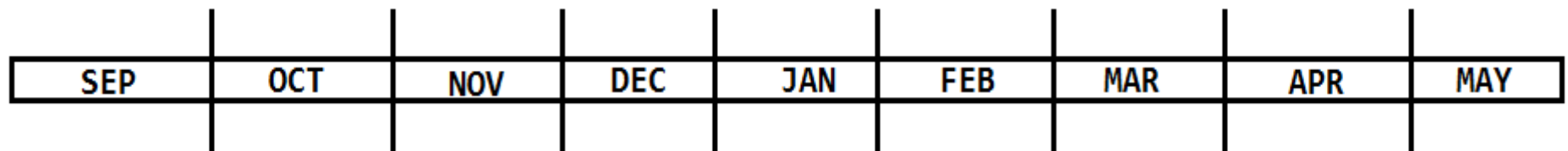
⌘ Same skill sets of team members

⌘ Weak Team Dynamics

⌘ Frequent Changes in Design

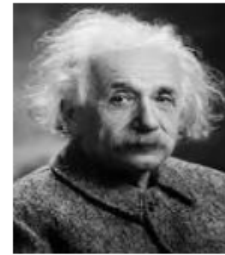
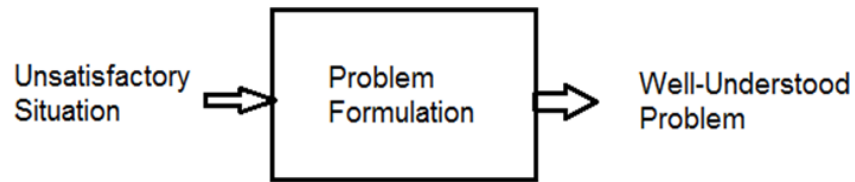


## Timeline and Milestones





# Design Phase 1 - Problem Formulation



## ⌘ Problem Formulation:

📌 Definition:



📌 Focus:

⌘ Why do we do this? What's the purpose?



## Identifying Needs and Defining Problem

### ⌘ Identify Needs



### ⌘ No Rush to get a solution (“Approach”)



## Blind Men and the Elephant



## Checkout Line Complaints: Problem Identification

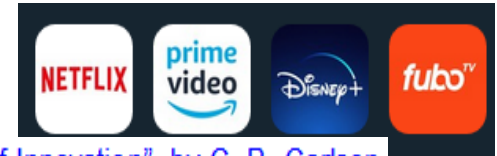


# Practical Way of Problem Formulation



## ⌘ “Proposition N-B” Approach

EXAMPLE: Proposition presented to a cable company executive for a video-on-demand system.



\*Source: “Practice of Innovation” by C. R. Carlson

### ⌘ (Need) (Problem)

- ☒ Movie rentals represent a **\$5 billion business opportunity** that you **currently cannot access**.
- ☒ The only parts of rentals that people really **dislike are the obligation to return the tapes plus the late fees**.
- ☒ Customers find that it **is inconvenient and wastes time**.

### ⌘ Benefits

- ☒ You will **receive \$5 of new revenue per movie rented**, with a margin of 20 percent after paying for the movie costs.
- ☒ Your customers will have all the **pause and fast forward functions of a VCR** when watching the movie, and they do **not have to return the movie when done**. Late fees are **gone**.
- ☒ We estimate you could capture **a market share of 20 percent**.

### ⌘ Final 1-sentence “Problem Statement” – combination of the essence of the Need and the Benefit

- ☒ “The need of your company in the movie rental business in the current situation of customers’ inconvenience and time-waste of tape/cd return is to quickly provide a means to eliminate the tape return requirement so that it may capture at least 20 percent market share.”

## Problem Formulation - Example

⌘ **Your customer**

☒ **Crowded dorm room occupants**



**N-B proposition:**



# Problem Formulation - Example

## ⌘ Need:

- ☒ \* More space and more dorm building

## ⌘ Benefits:

- ☒ \* To resolve crowded room issues and provide space for students,
- ☒ \* Reduce roommate conflict caused by space invasion
- ☒ \* Resolve the issue of safety hazards
- ☒ \* Provide quiet spaces for study purpose

## ⌘ Problem Statement

- ☒ More dorm building and space reduces the amount/number of student allocated to one room; therefore, resolving possible roommate conflict, safety hazard and providing a more quiet and conducive living environment for students

Need  
\* More Space and more dorm building

Benefit  
\* To resolve crowded room issues and provide space for student residence.  
\* Reduces roommate conflicts caused by space invasion  
\* Resolve the issue of safety hazards  
\* Provide quiet spaces for study purposes

Combine  
\* More Dorm building and space, reduces the amount/number student allocated to one room therefore resolving possible roommate conflicts, safety hazard issues and providing a more quiet and conducive living environment for students



### 1. Write a need

- Fit students into a room comfortably

### 2. Write a benefit

- Less-clustered living space for students
- Hygienic living space for students

### 3. Combine the need and benefit into one sentence statement

- We need to accommodate students in a comfortable space to provide them with improved living conditions.

## Problem Definition:





# Problem Formulation Exercise

- ⌘ Situation: You hear Jimmy Hendrix and Eric Clapton and their music teams complain of numerous wires (power, signal, etc.) on stage and of tripping hazard.
- ⌘ You make a proposition to Jimmy Hendrix and Eric Clapton (“a wireless guitar amplifier” – but without mentioning this
- ⌘ Exercise Focus: You write (a) need statements and (b) benefit statements, and combine them into (c) an 1-sentence problem statement
- ⌘ Submission required
- ⌘ Details of this exercise is in the accompanying assignment



What is your team's Problem Statement?