# **Concept Selection**











# **Concept Selection Process**

- Prepare the Matrix
  - Criteria
  - Reference Concept
  - Weightings
- Rate Concepts
  - Scale (+ 0) or (1-5)
  - Compare to Reference Concept or Values
- Rank Concepts
  - Sum Weighted Scores
- Combine and Improve
  - Remove Bad Features
  - Combine Good Qualities
- Select Best Concept
  - May Be More than One
  - Beware of Average Concepts
- Reflect on the Process
  - Continuous Improvement



# **Selection Process Outcomes**

- Team Consensus on Superior Concept
  - "Green Light"
  - Everyone "On Board"
- Conditional Consensus
  - More Information on some Criteria
  - Market or Technical Feedback
  - Consensus on Disagreement
- No Consensus
  - Criteria not Understood
  - Back to Needs





#### **Example: Concept Screening**

		CONCEPT VARIANTS								
SELECTION CRITERIA		A	В	С	D	E	F	G	REF.	
Ease of Handling		0	0		0	0	—		0	
Ease of Use		0	—	_	0	0	+	0	0	
Number Readability		0	0	+	0	+	0	+	0	
Dose Metering		+	+	+	+	+	0	+	0	
Load Handling		0	0	0	0	0	+	0	0	
Manufacturing Ease		+	_	_	0	0	—	0	0	
Portability		+	+	—	_	0	_	—	0	
	PLUSES	3	2	2	1	2	2	2		
	SAMES	4	3	1	5	5	2	3		
	MINUSES	0	2	4	1	0	3	2		
	NET	3	0	-2	0	2	-1	0		
	RANK	1	3	7	5	2	6	4		
	CONTINUE?	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	Yes		



### **Example: Concept Scoring**

		Concepts								
		Α		DF		E		G+		
		(reference)						5.10		
		Master Cylinder		Lever Stop		Swash Ring		Dial Screw+		
Selection Criteria	Weight	Rating	Weighted Score	Rating	Weighted Score	Rating	Weighted Score	Rating	Weighted Score	
Ease of Handling	5%	3	0.15	3	0.15	4	0.2	4	0.2	
Ease of Use	15%	3	0.45	4	0.6	4	0.6	3	0.45	
Readability of Settings	10%	2	0.2	3	0.3	5	0.5	5	0.5	
Dose Metering Accuracy	25%	3	0.75	3	0.75	2	0.5	3	0.75	
Durability	15%	2	0.3	5	0.75	4	0.6	3	0.45	
Ease of Manufacture	20%	3	0.6	3	0.6	2	0.4	2	0.4	
Portability	10%	3	0.3	3	0.3	3	0.3	3	0.3	
	Total Score	2.75		3.45		3.10		3.05		
Rank		4		1		2		3		
	Continue?	? No		Develop		No		No		

# **Concept Selection Exercise: Mechanical Pencils**





#### **Retail Prices of Five Pencils**

- Classic \$13.26 • Side Fox \$ 2.55 \$ 0.93 Retro \$ 6.55
- Plasma
- Flex Fit

\$ 4.85





### Remember...

The goal of concept selection is not to

• <u>Select</u> the best concept.

The goal of concept selection is to

• <u>Develop</u> the best concept.

So remember to <u>combine and refine</u> the concepts to develop better ones!



# Caveats

- Beware of the best "average" product.
- Perform concept selection for each different customer group and compare results.
- Check sensitivity of selection to the importance weightings and ratings.
- May want to use all of detailed requirements in final stages of selection.
- Note features which can be applied to other concepts.

# **Next Week**

- Tuesday: Teams 1 to 5
  - No Class for Teams 6 to 9
  - Use this time for team meeting!
- Thursday: Teams 1 to 9
  - No Class for Teams 1 to 5
  - Use this time for team meeting!
  - Nokia?



# PD Efficiency

#### The right questions will improve PD efficiency

- Identify risk in your project
- Formulate questions, that if answered, will reduce/eliminate risk
- Use models/prototypes to get the answers
- Target individual questions at first.

Repeat as necessary.

Can use other tools to answer questions.



# **Further Reading**

 Stuart Pugh "Total Design"



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