Product Design & Development

Thomas A. Roemer (MIT-Sloan)
Matt Kressy (RISD)
Warren Seering (MIT–ME)
Today’s Agenda

- The Team
- Course Objectives
- Logistics & Projects
- Collaboration with Helsinki University of Technology
... The Team

- Students
  - LFM
  - MBA
  - MOT
  - RISD
  - Engineering
    - Undergraduates
    - Graduates
  - Others?
Course Objectives

- Understand the Product Development Process

- Learning By Doing
  - Apply tools learned in class
  - Apply and share existing knowledge
  - Improve team work and communication skills
  - Improve project management skills

- Have Fun
Course Logistics

- Enrollment Policy
- Course Material
- Course Schedule
- Team Projects
... Enrollment Policy

- Priority to
  - Students whose proposals are selected
  - Students with high preference for selected projects
  - Students adding diversity
  - LFM students

- No Enrollment for
  - Students not present on first or second day of class
  - Students not prepared for class on Thursday
  - Students not making a project proposal on February 14

- No add cards until next Wednesday
Course Material
Required Textbook

Product Design and Development
Ulrich & Eppinger
3rd Edition,
McGraw Hill, 2004
Case Studies

- Harvard Business School Case 9-600-143: “IDEO Product Development”.
  - Handed out in class today for free!

  - Download for $6.50 from Harvard Business Online at:
# Course Schedule

- **ReadMe.PDF**
  - **Master Schedule**
  - **General Information**
  - **Syllabus**
  - **Assignments**
Team Projects

- Interdisciplinary teams (6 students)
- Continuous feedback from advisors and class
- Process “paced” by homework assignments
- $1,000 budget per team
- Project ideas
  - From each student (next Tuesday)!
  - Sponsored project: General Motors
  - Suggested project: Product for 3rd world
Project Selection Process

- Read ReadMe file (assignment document)
- Everyone makes a 50 sec proposal next Tuesday
  - Hand in a 1 sheet proposal by 9:00 am!
  - Examples are on SloanSpace
- Projects and teams will be formed based on your preferences
  - Hand in a Project preference card by next Wednesday 10:00 am
Proposal Guidelines

- Read ReadMe file *(general information)*
- Identify a need - Do not suggest a solution
- Choose carefully something that
  - is small and manageable (<10 parts)
  - is somewhat novel
  - does not duplicate existing products
    - Search the web for possible competitors
- Sell us on your idea
  - Tell us why existing products do not do the job
  - Convince us that nothing exists that will fill the need you have identified
Project Examples from Recent Classes
Band Aid Dispenser
Christmas Tree Stand
Outlet Cover
Rearseat Workspace
Laptop Cable Organizer
Chevy SSR Cooler
Ironing Board
Sugar Dispenser
Crate Shelf
Swivel Car Seat
Swivel Car Seat
Baby Formula Dispenser
Media Projector for Developing Countries
Research and Development

Technology Development
- Unstructured methods
- Difficult to plan
- Unpredictable

Product Development
- Structured methods
- Generally planned
- Predictable

Our focus is on product development.
Generic Product Development Process

- Planning
  - Mission Approval
- Concept Development
  - Concept Review
- System-Level Design
  - System Spec Review
- Detail Design
  - Critical Design Review
- Testing and Refinement
  - Production Approval
- Production Ramp-Up
# Project Gantt Chart

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Assignment Work</th>
<th>+ Deliverable due</th>
<th>Continued Refinement</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Stage</th>
<th>1</th>
<th>2</th>
<th>3</th>
<th>4</th>
<th>5</th>
<th>6</th>
<th>7</th>
<th>8</th>
<th>9</th>
<th>10</th>
<th>11</th>
<th>12</th>
<th>13</th>
<th>14</th>
<th>15</th>
<th>16</th>
<th>17</th>
<th>18</th>
<th>19</th>
<th>20</th>
<th>21</th>
<th>22</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Proposals</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mission and Needs</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concepts, Sketches, Targets</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Concept Refinements</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Proof of Concept</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Detail Design</td>
<td></td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Model</td>
<td></td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alpha Prototype</td>
<td></td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td>+</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final Presentation</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- **Proposals**
- **Mission and Needs**
- **Concepts, Sketches, Targets**
- **Concept Refinements**
- **Proof of Concept**
- **Detail Design**
- **Financial Model**
- **Alpha Prototype**
- **Final Presentation**
Next Steps

- Read the *READ-ME* file !!!
  - Answers almost all your questions
- Project proposals due next Tuesday
  - Required for assignment to a team
  - Start thinking about project ideas
- Purchase the text
  - Read Chapter 4
- **Read & Prepare IDEO Case**
  - Think about Questions in Syllabus
Proposal Logistics (Syllabus)

- **Class 3**
  Tuesday, February 14

- Each student will give a 50 second presentation (Assignment 1b)

  **Assignment 1a:** Proposal Handout  
  **Due:** 9:00 am.

  **Assignment 1b:** Proposal Presentation  
  **Due:** In class

  **Assignment 1c:** Project Preferences  
  **Due:** 2/17, 10:00 am.

---

**IF YOU MISS THE MORNING DEADLINE YOU MUST BRING 100 COPIES TO CLASS**
Proposal Guidelines …
(General Information)

- There should be a demonstrable market for the product.
  - Identify existing products that attempt to meet the need.
  - Should at least be an attractive opportunity for an established firm.
- High likelihood of containing fewer than 10 parts.
- High confidence in prototype costs being less than $1000.
- The product should require no basic technological breakthroughs.
- You should have access to more than five potential users of the product (more than 20 would be nice)
- Save any highly proprietary ideas for another context
Most successful projects tend to have at least one team member with strong personal interest in the target market.

It is really nice to have a connection to a commercial venture that may be interested in the product.

Most products are really not very well designed.

The experience in this class is that if you pick almost any product satisfying the above project guidelines, you will be able to develop a product that is superior to everything currently on the market.

Just because you have used a lousy product doesn't mean that a better one doesn't exist. Do some thorough research to identify competitive products and solutions.

An overview of some previous class projects is available on SloanSpace.