

DESIGN REFLECTION ASSIGNMENT

Your Initials: _____ ID No: _____ Team: _____ Date: _____

Purpose

Innovative solutions often result from reflective thinking about design processes. In this exercise, you will think reflectively about your recent design activities to learn how your design processes have affected solution quality, thereby preparing you for greater innovation in the future.

Phase of Design Process

Check the design phase your team has recently completed:

- Problem Scoping:** Defining the problem to be solved, including design specifications
- Concept Generation:** Generating and selecting the best design concept
- Solution Realization:** Developing a design concept into a well-defined, tested design solution

Confidence in Work Completed

Rate your **level of confidence** (using definitions below) that your team's design process has fully addressed the following design requirements:

Requirement or Issue	Level of Confidence in Design Process to-Date				
	1 <i>Very Low</i>	2 <i>Low</i>	3 <i>Moderate</i>	4 <i>High</i>	5 <i>Very High</i>
Satisfying user needs Functionality, aesthetics, overall quality					
Technical feasibility Simplicity, producibility, maintainability					
Financial attractiveness Cost, return on investment, broader value					
Social acceptability Safety, sustainability, compliance, social impact					

Rating definitions:

Very Low: We do not understand this type of requirement or how to satisfy it

Low: We have limited understanding of this type of requirement and how to satisfy it

Moderate: We have moderate understanding of this type of requirement and moderate confidence in satisfying it

High: We have good understanding of this type of requirement and good confidence in satisfying it

Very High: We have expertise with this type of requirement and confidence to deliver excellence in satisfying it

DESIGN PROCESS REFLECTION ASSIGNMENT

Strength in Design Process

For the recently completed design phase, consider what design **activity** produced the most valuable advancement toward your team's design solution.

- (a) **Activity:** Identify (or name) the design activity that was most effective in this phase:

- (b) **Effective Actions:** Describe (in detail) how you implemented this design activity so it was effective.

- (c) **Impact of Actions:** Describe specific impacts these actions had on your design achievements.

DESIGN PROCESS REFLECTION ASSIGNMENT

Improving the Design Process

For the recently completed design phase, consider an aspect of your design activity that was weak or missing.

- (a) **Activity:** For this design phase, identify a key design activity that was weak or missing.

- (b) **Impact:** Explain how this weakness impacted the quality of your design work to-date.

- (c) **Remedy:** Explain what you should have done to alleviate this problem with your design process.