

Design for Manufacturability (DfM)

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James (Jim) McLeish, CRE

- **35 years of Vehicular, Military and Industrial Product Engineering Experience**
Practical, Hands on Practicing Engineer for Design & Launch of High QRD Products,
Experience in Automotive QRD, Analysis/Development/Validation (A/D/V) DfR, PoF,
Test Technology Development, Warranty Problem Solving, Root Cause/Failure Analysis
- **Product Design, Development, Systems Engineering & Production**
(Chrysler & GM - 14 yrs)
 - ESA/EFC Digital Task Force (1st Microprocessor Based Engine Controller) - Chrysler Corp.
 - 3 Patents Automotive Electronic Control Systems - GM Adv. Product Engineer & GM E/E Engineering Center
 - System Engineering and Architecture Planning - GM Saturn Project
 - Engineering Manager - GM Military
- **Validation, Reliability, Quality Assurance, Warranty Problem Solving & Test Technology Development**
(GM - 16 yrs)
 - Technical Specialist/Team Leader in Quality & Warranty Problem Solving and Japanese Mizenboushi (Preventative Measures) Quality by Design Methods: GD3, DRBFM, DRBTR
 - Reliability Manager for GM Chevrolet-Pontiac-Canada Engineering
 - Manager GM Reliability Physics (Advance QRD, A/D/V & Test Technology Development)
 - Author or Co-author of 3 GM Reliability/Validation Test Standards
- **Michigan Office Manager & Senior Technical Staff**
(DfR Solutions - 5 yrs).
 - Principle Investigator for E/E Warranty/Failure Analysis and Root Cause Problem Solving
 - E/E Manufacturing Process Optimization, Yield Improvement
 - QRD Demonstration, Product Validation and Accelerated Testing
 - Design Reviews for Proactive Problem Prevention
 - Core Member SAE - Reliability Standards Workgroup
 - DoD Reliability Handbook Update Team & DoD Reliability Technology Roadmap Project

Design for Manufacturability

- Design Manufacturing) - (DFM) is the engineering ART of designing products that are easy to manufacture in order to facilitate “BUILD IT RIGHT, ON THE FIRST ATTEMPT”.
- ART verses Science while science based, the art of DfR is in using the knowledge and experience of crafting/adapting DfM for Your Products and Processes.
 - Some industries have general guidelines but no universal solutions or cook books.
- Benefits of easy to build designs, produced in a capable process:
 - Faster to Market by Accelerating Product Launch Activities
 - Reduces need of Quality Control Inspectors & Tests
 - Improves Efficiency & Lowers Costs.
 - Improves Customer Satisfaction & Value.



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Design Engineering Influence on Lifecycle Costs



- Design/product engineering typically accounts for only 8-10% of a product budget.
- But design decisions can determine up to 70-80% of manufacturing cost and have significant impact on Quality, Reliability, Durability (QRD) and serviceability.
- Design decisions determine cost throughout the product lifecycle. Once these costs are locked in, they are very difficult and costly to change.
 - Root Cause Investigations.
 - Redesign Efforts
 - Engineering Change Orders (ECOs),
 - Tooling/ Process changes
 - Supplier / Process Re-Qualifications, and/or Re-Certification.



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Design Engineering Influence on Lifecycle Costs

- Design of Production Process decisions (material handling, process flow, assembly equipment) account for less than 20-30% of product costs.
- Total Lifecycle Cost, along with QRD and Customer Satisfaction can be better managed and optimized by developing products & their manufacturing processes simultaneously in cross functional or collaborative teams
 - The goal is to share information cross functionally between disciplines to make the design, development and production of the product faster and more streamlined.
 - Improves the ability of the design to be compatible with manufacturability and sourcing best practices.
 - To make the end product meet final customer expectations and needs.



Benefits of Defect Preventions & Cost of Late Defect Correction

- The cost of finding and fixing defects increases by a factor of approximately 10x for each stage of assembly (Rule of Thumb).
- 0 defects = \$0 Extra Costs.
- Defect Detection and Correction 10x Rule.



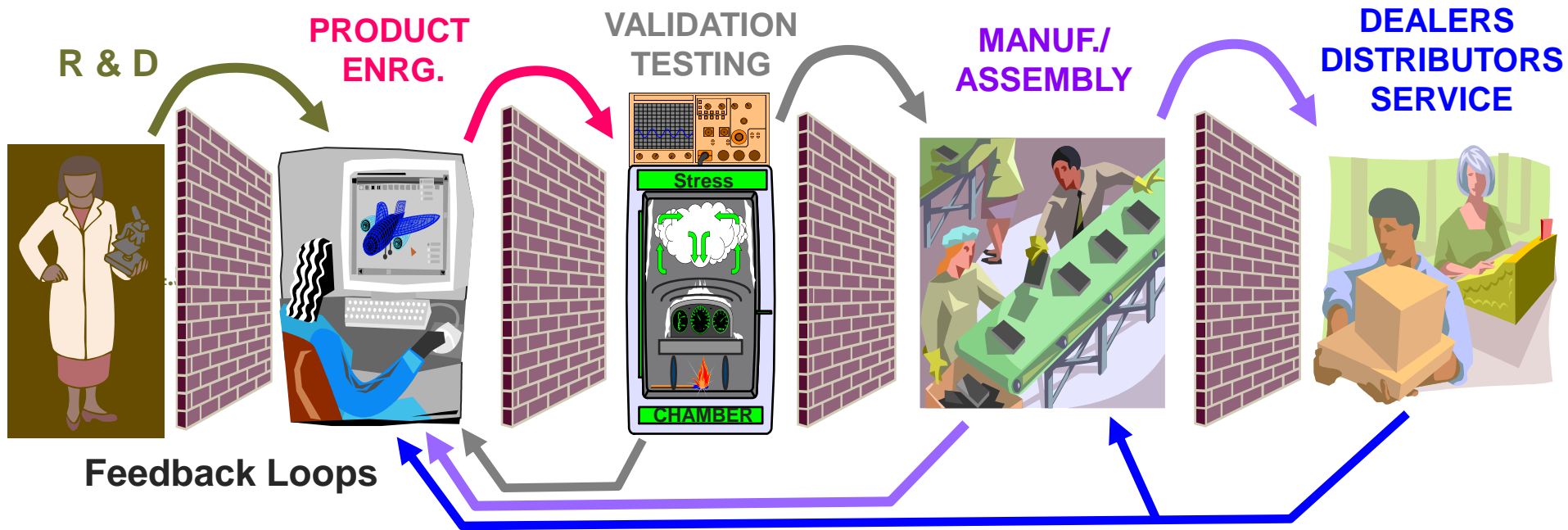
Assembly Level Costs to Find & Fix

- Incoming Parts ----- 1x
- Sub Assembly Level ----- 10x
- Final Assembly Level ----- 100x
- Dealer/Distributor Level ----- 1000x
- Final Customer Level ----- 10,000x



- Efforts expended on defect prevention and to ensure early detection and correction of defects are resources well spent.

Old Style Product Development - “Sequential Over The Wall”

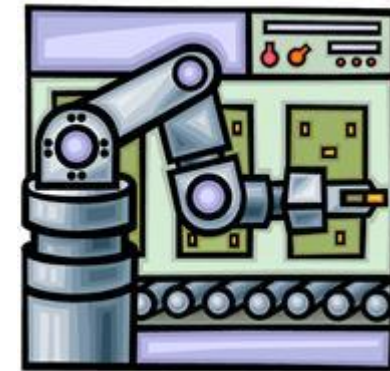


- Before DfM, it was **“We designed it”** ~ **“You build it”!**
- Design engineers worked independently, then transferred designs **“over the wall”** to the next department or external to the company (CM).
- Eventually manufacturing has to assemble the product.
 - Usually inherit a product not designed for their processes and too late to make changes.
 - Manufacturing forced struggle to meet yield, quality, cost or delivery targets.
 - Often required trial & error crisis management
 - Often resulted in launch delays, then quality and reliability issues.

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The ART of Design for Manufacturability

- Various forms of DfM practices exist in most industries.
 - Especially Strong practice in Automotive, Electronics, Appliances and Consumer Products
- Specific details highly dependent on Industry Products and Manufacturing Technology.
- Basic Requirements:
 - An understanding of best practices
 - Knowledge of what fails during your manufacturing processes
 - An understanding of the limitations of
 - Your processes
 - Your supply chain



Key Design for Manufacturability Guidelines

- The foundation of a robust Design for Manufacturing system is a set of design guidelines and tasks to help the product team improve manufacturability, increase quality, reduce lifecycle cost and enhance long term reliability.
- These guidelines need to be customized to your company's culture, products, technologies and based on a solid understanding of the intended production system – whether internal or external.
- “Generic Top 10” DfM guidelines and tasks that are applicable to many industries and processes.



DfM Guideline #1: Know Your History

- ***“Those who do not learn from history are doomed to repeat it.”***
 - Learn from the past: Process yields, Returns, Corrective Actions Processes, Recalls, etc.
 - Develop and implement strategies to address and prevent recurrence of mistakes.
- **Know and understand problems and issues with current & past products (Especially critical if carrying over existing technologies into new designs).**
 - Manufacturability
 - Delivery
 - Quality
 - Repairability & Serviceability,
 - Regulatory issues
 - Recalls
- **Best approach is to have an effective system for capturing and disseminating this historical knowledge throughout the organization.**
- **Absolute minimum should be focused brain storming sessions (post-mortems) to collect lessons learned/best practices from all areas of the organization.**



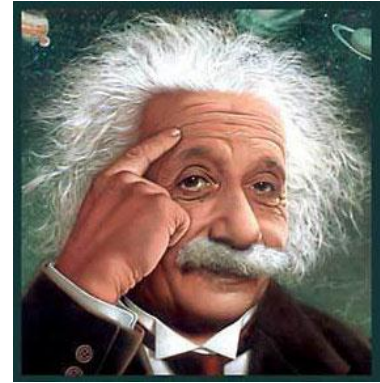
DfM Guideline #2: Standardize Design Methods

- Standardize design, procurement, processes, assembly, and equipment throughout your organization
 - Reduces overall cycle time.
 - Simplifies training and tasks.
 - Reduces repeated mistakes
 - Improves opportunity for bulk discounts.
 - Improves opportunity for automation and operation standardization.
- Don't Redesign the Wheel
 - Never custom design something that you can buy off the shelf.
- Limit exotic or unique components.
 - Higher prices due to low volumes and less supplier competition.
 - Lower quality for exotic components.
 - More opportunity for supply chain disruptions.

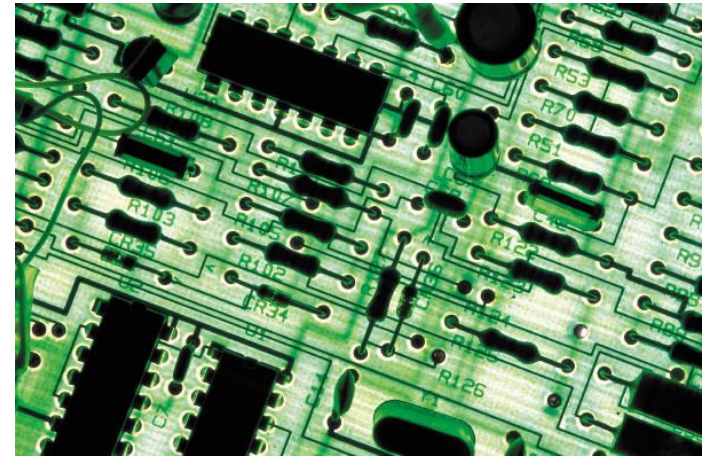


DfM Guidelines #3: Simplify the Design by Parts Reduction

Everything should be made as simple as possible, but not one bit simpler.
- Albert Einstein



- **Parts reduction is one of the best ways to reduce the cost of fabricating and assembling a product and increase quality and reliability.**
 - Reduces parts costs.
 - Reduces direct labor costs.
 - Reduces process equipment.
 - Reduces number of workstations.
 - Fewer opportunities for defective parts.
 - Fewer opportunities for assembly errors.



DfM Guideline #3: Simplify the Design by Parts Reduction

- Parts reduction is also one of the best ways to reduce structural costs.
 - *Fewer parts rippling through the entire organization reduces the work load for every department at every level.*
 - *Fewer items to be processed by:*
 - Product Development
 - Engineering, Purchasing, Development/Test Labs.
 - Manufacturing Support
 - Inventory Warehousing, Material Handling, Service Parts.
 - Quality Management.
 - Manufacturing facilities
 - Facility Size, Equipment, Processing/Assembly Time & Labor
 - Provides more opportunities for process automation.

DfM Guidelines #3: Simplify the Design by Part Reduction

- **Modular design**
 - Use complete modules and subassemblies, instead of designing, fabricating and assembling everything yourself, simplifies every level of your activities.
 - Modules can be manufactured and tested before final assembly.
 - Modules facilitate the use of standard components to minimize product variations.
 - Modules add flexibility to product update in the redesign process

DfM Guidelines #3: Simplify the Design by Part Reduction

- **Parts Commonality via Multi-Use/Multi-Functional Parts**
 - Develop an approved or preferred parts lists or a standardized BOM (Bill of Materials) to encourage different products lines to share common parts.
 - Designer CAD/CAE systems can be configured to access preferred designs and parts catalogs.
 - Whenever possible use one-piece structures from injection molding, extrusions, castings and powder metals or similar fabrication techniques instead of bolt/glue together multi part assemblies.
 - Establish part families of similar parts based on proven materials, architecture and technologies that are scaled for size or functionality
 - Use Multi-functional parts that perform more that one function, example:
 - An electric conductor that also serves as a structural member,
 - A cover or base plate that also serves as a heat sink
 - Incorporate guiding, aligning, or self-fixturing features into housing and structures.

DfM Guideline #4: Design for Lean Processes

Fundamental Principle of Lean

*Anything that does not add value to the product is **waste** and must be reduced or eliminated*

DfM Guideline #4: Design for Lean Processes

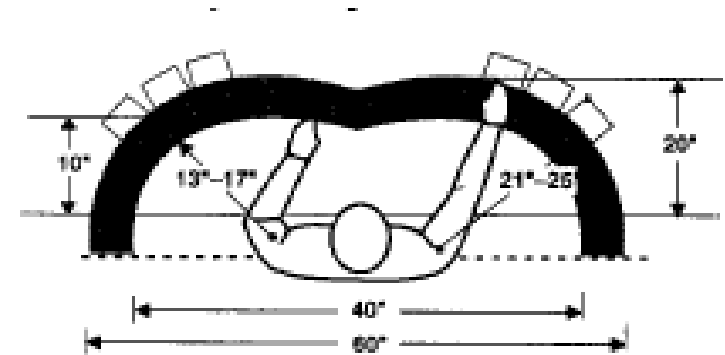
- Lean supply, fabrication and assembly processes are essential design considerations.
 - Simple lean fabrication/processing/assembly is more likely to be done quickly and correctly
 - Right part at the right station at the right time
 - Reduced throughput time equals faster time to market and lower costs (reduced labor hours and faster turns).
 - Designs that are easy to assemble manually will be more easily automated.
 - Assembly that is automated will be more uniform, more reliable, and of higher quality.

DfM Guideline #4: Design for Lean Processes

- Develop and use standard guidelines appropriate for the process being performed. Common hole sizes, lines, and spacings.
 - Standard circuit board soldering temperature profiles
 - Standard handling, avoid High Moisture Sensitivity Level (MSL) > 3 components
 - For assembly - design for human factors – the “Visual” Factory
 - Allow for visual, audio & tactile feedback to ensure correct assembly.
 - Makes it obvious to follow the correct process flow.
 - Bottlenecks and problems are more easily identified
 - Provide adequate access clearances for tools and hands.
 - Design in self aligning and self guiding features such as tapered parts, guide pins or grooves.
 - Design work to use standard tools and settings: crimpers, splicers, cutters, solder iron tips, drill bit sizes, torque settings, wire sizes
 - Minimizes tool clutter and decision making on what to use

DfM Guideline #4: Design for Lean Processes

- Ergonomics is the science of equipment and station design to maximize productivity by reducing operator fatigue and discomfort.
- Know and apply lean principles to design manual operations for the capabilities of the operators.
 - Design the work station area to minimize the distance to access and move incoming parts.
 - Design tasks and work areas to maximize the efficiency and quality of operators work.
 - Overuse injuries like Carpal Tunnel Syndrome, occur among people who work in fixed positions, perform rapid repetitive tasks, or use forceful movements.
 - Avoid heavy parts that will fatigue operators, risk worker injury, or slow down assembly.
 - Provide appropriate material handling aids and tools.



DfM Guideline #5: Eliminate Waste

○ Seven Types of Waste

1. *Overproduction*

- Build more than required, before required.

2. *Waiting*

- Stop build to look for parts, tools, material, information

3. *Transportation/Moving*

- Moving material, parts, tooling
- Transferring product between locations, into/out of racks

4. *Process Inefficiencies*

- Unnecessary operations, too many inspections, not building to customer spec

5. *Inventories/Storage*

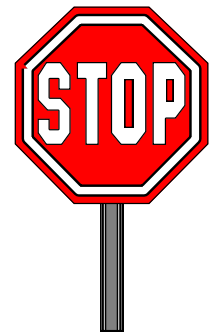
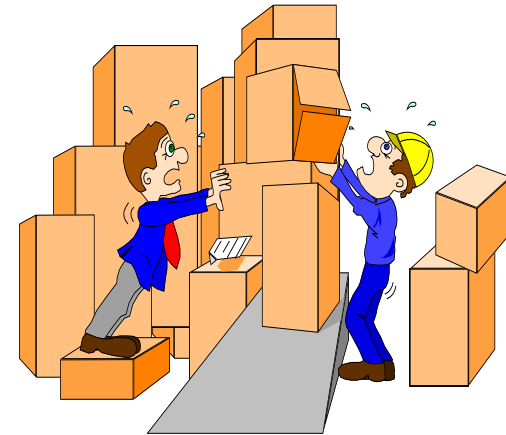
- Excess raw material, excess WIP

6. *Unnecessary Motions*

- Walking, climbing, bending, searching, identifying

7. *Defective products*

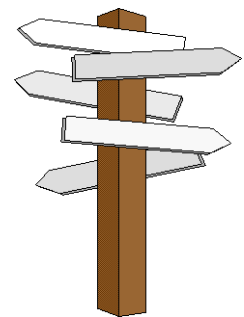
- Low Yields, mistakes leading to large reworks, sorting, inspection



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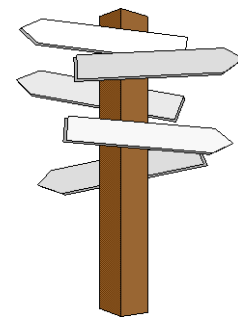
DfM Guideline #6: Design for Parts Handling

- Proper and Logical Sequence of Assembly Tasks
- Adjacent Assembly stations
- Avoid extra handling, storage and transfers of work in process
- Continuous Flow lines try to avoid batch builds.
- Minimize handling to correctly position, orient, and place parts and avoid multiple or complex assembly orientations.
- Try to avoid excessive twisting, rotating, repositioning.



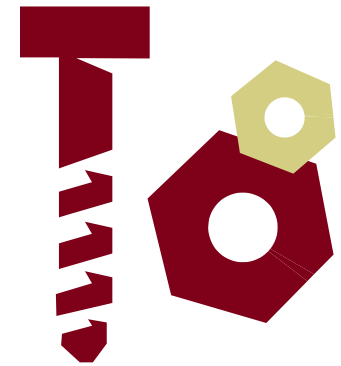
DfM Guideline #6: Design for Parts Handling

- Use non-symmetrical parts where possible. When symmetrical parts are needed, use keying features to ensure proper orientation. Make orienting and mating parts as visually obvious as possible.
 - Use parts oriented in magazines, bands, tape, reels or strips when possible or use parts designed to consistently orient themselves when fed into a process
 - Reduce and avoid parts that can be easily damaged, bent, or broken.
 - Design parts with surfaces that can be easily grasped, placed or fixtured.
 - Reduce the need for temporary fastening and complex fixtures.
 - Begin assembly with a large base component with a low center of gravity to add other parts to.
 - Use gravity, assembly should proceed vertically with other parts added on top
 - *Exception: avoid upward orientation of debris /contamination sensitive features, prevent dust or moisture from falling into electrical, hydraulic, pneumatic connector or lines*
 - Use appropriate easy access, safe packaging for parts but try to minimize the creation of waste.



DfM Guideline #7: Design for Joining & Fastening

- Design for efficient joining and fastening.
 - Fasteners increase the cost of manufacturing, handling and feeding operations.
 - Screws, bolts, nuts and washers are time-consuming to assemble & difficult to automate.
 - Increased potential for defects (missing and improper assembly).
 - Avoid threaded fasteners when possible, consider alternative,
 - Consider the use of snap-fit.
 - Evaluate adhesive bonding techniques.
 - Where fasteners must be used, minimize variety
 - Use guidelines and standardize fasteners to minimize the number, size, and variation.
 - Self-tapping and chamfered screws are preferred.
 - Use captive fasteners when possible.



DfM Guidelines #8: Use Error Proofing Techniques

- **Mistakes will happen, What can go wrong will go wrong.**
 - Anticipate and Eliminate opportunities for error
- **Use error proofing techniques in product design and assembly**
 - Make the correct assembly process visually obvious, well-defined and clear cut, remove confusion and interpretation.
 - Have written instructions in 1 location only – no competing documents
 - Minimize wording in instructions, use pictures, icons, photos instead
 - Key unique parts so that they can be inserted only in the correct location.
 - Use notches, asymmetrical holes and stops to mistake-proof the assembly process.
 - Design verifiability into the product and its components.
 - Sight, Sound or Field - use visual, audio or tactile feedback
 - Use color coding
 - Electronic products can be designed to contain self-test diagnostics
 - Avoid or simplify adjustments or modifications



DfM Guidelines #8: Use Error Proofing Techniques

- **Wiring, Hose & Air lines.**
- **Protect the Fragile Easily Damaged Items.**
 - Emphasize routing paths.
 - Avoid sharp corners and turns.
 - Watch out for Pinch points.
 - Avoid rub and chafing opportunities
 - Use structures that protect these flexible, fragile items
 - Shrouds
 - Conduits
 - Extra tape wrap



DfM Guideline #9: Design for Process Capabilities

- Make use of specific production DFM guidelines or know the process capabilities of the production equipment you expect to use.
 - Avoid unnecessarily tight tolerances and tolerances that are beyond the inherent capability of the manufacturing processes or operators in a continuous production situation. Tighter is not always better!
 - Perform tolerance stack up analyses on multiple, connected processes and parts.
 - Determine when new production process capabilities are needed and allow sufficient time to develop/optimize new processes, determine optimal process parameters and establish controlled processes.



DfM Guideline #10: Design for Test, Repair, & Serviceability

- Defects will occur. Design for ease of test and repair will make these processes more efficient, cost effective, and reliable.
 - Use recommended component spacing to allow for safe repair or replacement
 - Design in diagnostics, self tests, meaningful error messages interfaces.
 - ESD Considerations - provide warning labels and appropriate workstations protective features where needed.
 - Standardize approaches and methods.
 - Minimize parts variety, minimize tools/special tools needed
 - Minimize disassembly steps to access replaceable/repairable Items.
 - Consider unfastening and refastening, disassembly and reassembly issues.
 - Use self-fastening and self-jigging Features when possible.
 - Consider impact of adhesives, coating, and potting
 - Wiring/Hose Interconnection – consider disconnect and reconnect capabilities.
- Failed products are often returned to the manufacturer for service and failure analysis. Where possible, use the production test equipment/setup for returns analysis.

A Basic DfM Checklist for Circuit Boards

- **Baseline**
 - Your design matches their capabilities (75% 'sweet spot')
 - Design is transferable
- **Bare Board**
 - Trace width and spacings
 - Laminate material
 - Symmetry of stackup
 - Complexity of via connections
 - Incorporation of new materials (embedded passives)
 - Single-sided vs. double-sided
- **System**
 - Blind connections
 - Z dimension limitations
- **Assembly**
 - Elimination of hand soldering or wave soldering when possible
 - Proximity of components to flex points
 - Component spacing
 - Size of components and complexity of packaging
 - Orientation of components to wave solder
 - Shadowing during wave solder
 - Appropriate dimensions and spacings for PTHs and bond pads
 - Attachment methods
 - Moisture sensitivity level (MSL)
 - Cleanliness

Summary & Recap

- DfM is a proven, cost-effective strategic methodology.
- Early, effective cross functional involvement:
 - Reduces overall product development time (less changes, spins, problem solving)
 - Results in a smoother production launch
 - Speeds time to market
 - Reduces overall costs
 - Designed right the first time
 - Optimizes # of parts
 - Optimizes # of process steps and use of correct, efficient steps
 - Reduces labor costs to repair and resolve issues
 - Improves overall production efficiency
 - Build right the first time = less rework, scrap, and warranty costs
 - Improves quality and reliability results in:
 - Higher customer satisfaction
 - Reduced warranty costs

Contact Information

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