

**THE CONCORDIA INSTITUTE FOR INFORMATION SYSTEMS
ENGINEERING
IS PLEASED TO PRESENT THE FOLLOWING GUEST LECTURE IN
OUR CIISE DISTINGUISHED SEMINAR SERIES**

Dr. Vince Thomson, Professor
McGill University

Productivity Improvement in New Product Development

Since the advent of computerized drafting systems, the process of new product development (NPD) has continuously changed. From the 1960's through the 1980's the emphasis was on the adoption of new technology CAD, CAE, CAM, CAPP. With slower improvement in computation in the 1990's, the focus changed to improvement in the NPD process and IT tools to support the process. Focus on the NPD process led to the use of concurrent engineering and product development teams. Presently, the emphasis on faster product development and global partnering has created new challenges. Solutions to these challenges are based on better sharing of information, new coordination mechanisms for faster processes, and IT tools that support global communication. The presentation will define present day challenges in new product development and discuss some of the research being done to address these challenges.

Biography: Vince Thomson has a PhD in nuclear physics from McMaster University. He was involved in manufacturing and information technology related research for 15 years at the National Research Council (Canada). Since going to McGill University, his research interests have included manufacturing, real time control and process management. His research in process management has focused on new product introduction, lean systems, scheduling, and information processing. He is currently doing research with aerospace companies to develop new processes and IT tools in the areas of product life cycle management and change management.

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