GROUP PROJECT ASSIGNMENT: RULES

GENERAL: One of the major requirements of this course is a Group Project.

Group Project include the following criteria:

Introduction: A general introduction to the topic and why you chose it.

Background and significance: a historical perspective of the topic and its impact in the field.

Current state-of-the-art: Detailed discussion of the existing state. This should include shortcomings or limitations of what currently exists. This must include explicit discussion and/or examples of the applications of any branch of engineering.

Improvements: This is where your creativity should shine through. You should discuss in some detail how you would improve upon what already exists. You may not know all the details of how to do this, but you should point out and discuss what could or should be done and why this would improve things.

LENGTH: The paper text should be no shorter than 2000 words and no longer than 3000 words exclusive of figures and list of references. A presentation with a powerpoint is Required and should be ~1/2hr in length). The length of each section is your choice, but the current state and improvement sections are to be the longest. A word count will be required.

FORMAT: The paper must be typed on plain white paper (standard 81/2 x 11 inches), double-spaced, with one-inch margins on all four sides, and paginated. Arial, Times-Roman or Helvetica fonts are preferred. Font size must be at least 12 points. At the end of the paper there should be a list of references in the order cited in the text and a word count. A word file and powerpoint of the presentation (on CD only) must also be turned in with the paper.

REFERENCES: You must cite a minimum of three and no more than ten sources. Citations consist of a number in brackets, e.g., [1], in the text or figure legend. Note carefully the differences in the citations of journal articles and books. Note also that in technical writing footnotes are used relatively sparingly, if at all. References may be pertinent printed matter, such as books, book chapters or journal articles and Website addresses.

DEADLINES: The completed paper and Presentations are due (April 20th).

GRADE: Projects will be graded on intellectual content, logical thought process, creativeness, and quality. This grade will count for 20% of the total course grade.