

## **Addendum to National Specifications Project Continuation**

The engineering design process is an inherently iterative process, with the best designs coming out of many design cycles in order to continually refine and improve the final product. Even then, the design process does not always stop and continued work is needed to ensure a product remains viable and grows to meet the needs of the user. Nowhere is this more evident than in the continual development and improvement of technology like computers and mobile devices.

MESA USA realizes that there is both an interest and benefit for student teams to continue work on a project for the National Engineering Design Competition. However, in order to ensure a level comparison between new and continuing projects during judging, continuing projects will be judged only on work completed over the academic year beginning in August and ending in June prior to the national competition. In order to help judges clearly distinguish between the original project and the continuing work teams will be asked to submit the following:

1. An abstract at the beginning of the Technical report.  
This abstract should provide an overview of the previous project and discuss reasons for continuing the project including any change in direction or design.
2. Complete the Continuation of Project Form

Additionally, it is suggested that teams make references to how the continued project differs from the original project in all aspects of their submission to assist judges in distinguishing previous work from new work. This will also help in understanding how the project has evolved and improved over time.

The MESA USA National Engineering Design Competition rules committee will have the authority to disqualify teams from competition if, in their opinion a continuing project does not show substantive expansion from the original project. This will be determined by the information provided on the Continuation of Project Form. Therefore, it is important that teams submit this form as early as possible for feedback from their state representative on the NEDC rule committee.