

UNIVERSITY OF TRENTO

ICT Innovation – Spring 2015
 MSc in Computer Science and MEng Telecom. Engineering
 EIT Masters ITA, S&P,SDE

Lecture 01 – Product Design and Development
 Prof. Fabio Massacci

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Research and Development

R

Basic Research

- Discovery process
- No set timing
- Unpredictable returns
- Long term

T

Technology Development

- Loosely structured
- Difficult to plan
- Less predictable
- Medium term

D

Product Development

- Structured methods
- Planned timing
- Predictable outcome
- Short term

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What makes a successful product

- A successful product is based on several features
 - Features and functions of design process
 - Cost and quality of manufacturing process

- Features and Functions can be improved by a good product development process that yields "better" products
 - Beware that an apparently "better" product might not be truly "better" for the intended customer at the end (latent, or marginal feature might take over)

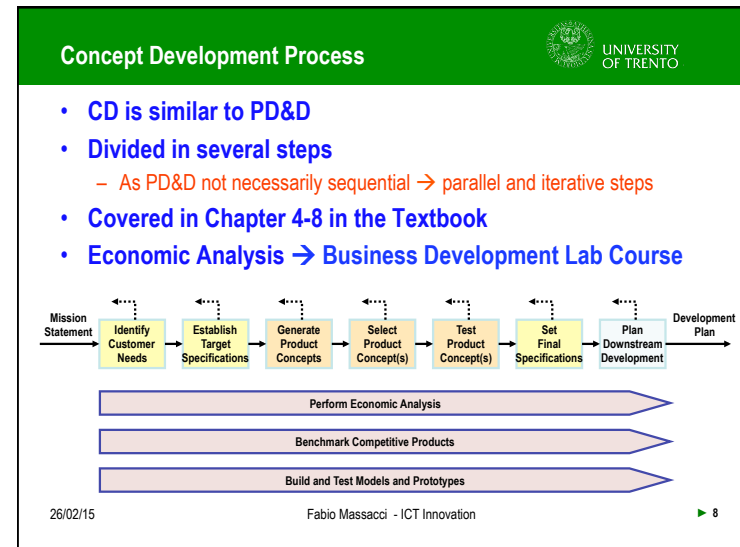
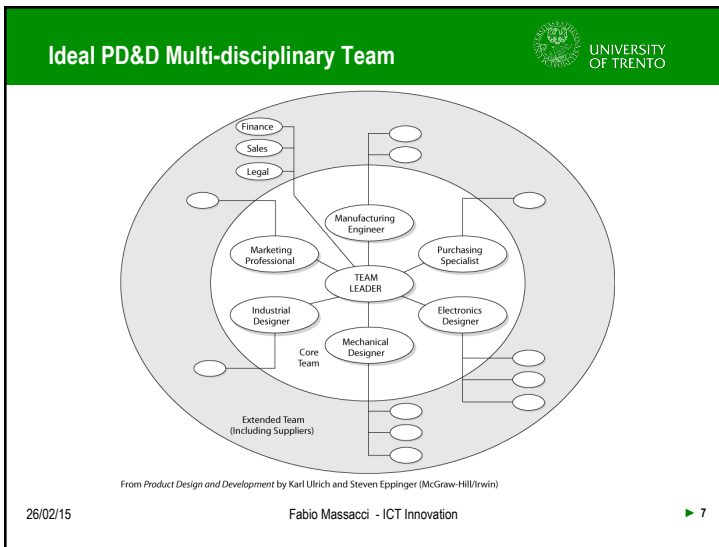
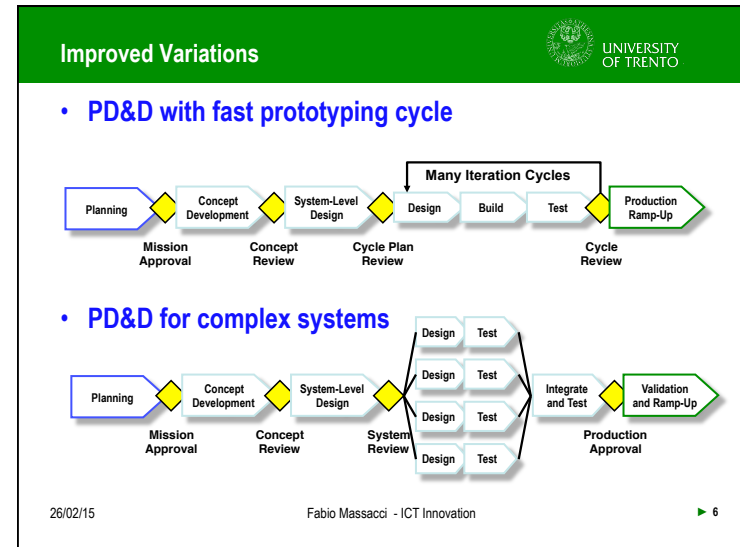
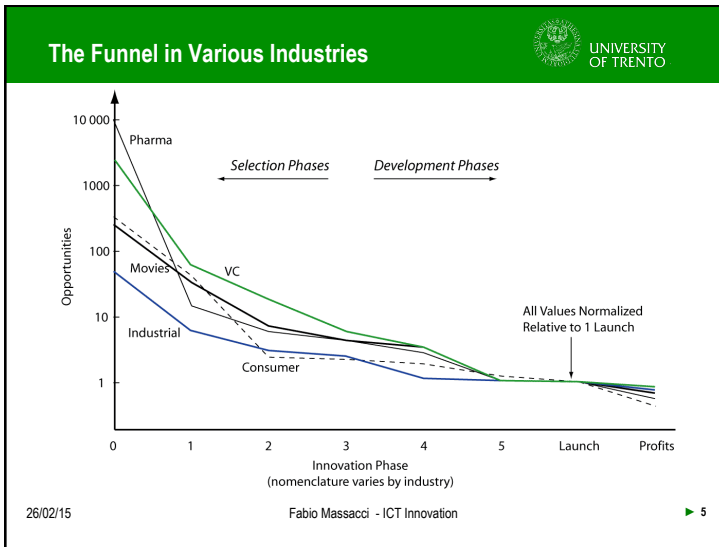
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Ideal PD&D Process

- Key Idea → Streamline and improve process trying to make (only) successful products emerge at the end
- Eliminate
 - Concepts that look unpromising (business-wise)
 - Concepts that are unwieldy to design
 - Systems that are complex or expensive to build (well as intended)
 - Systems that are difficult to operate (as intended)
- At all stages "value" based decision must be made based on
 - Highest paid individual's opinion or
 - Experiments to check whether intuition is correct → easy for ICT product
 - with 3D printing reasonably easy for small manufactured products

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Case Studies

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- VHS vs Betamax
- Phonogram vs Gramophone
- Mac vs PC
- Windows Tablet, iBook, iPad
- Qwerty vs Dvorak

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Textbook

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Product Design and Development
Karl T. Ulrich and Steven D. Eppinger
5th edition, Irwin McGraw-Hill, 2012

1. Introduction
2. Development Processes and Organizations
3. Opportunity Identification
4. Product Planning
5. Identifying Customer Needs
6. Product Specifications
7. Concept Generation
8. Concept Selection
9. Concept Testing
10. Product Architecture
11. Industrial Design
12. Design for Environment
13. Design for Manufacturing
14. Prototyping
15. Robust Design
16. Patents and Intellectual Property
17. Product Development Economics
18. Managing Projects



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More Readings

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- S. J. Liebowitz, S. E. Margolis. "Path dependence, lock-in and history."
– <http://www.utdallas.edu/~liebowit/paths.html>
- S. J. Liebowitz, S. E. Margolis. "The Fable of the Keys". Journal of Law and Economics , 1990
– <http://www.utdallas.edu/~liebowit>

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