IN-CLASS COLLABORATIVE ENGINEERING DESIGN

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OVERVIEW
While the wiki has made collaborative text documents a reality, the engineering equivalent (a collaborative CAD drawing tool) is still unheard of in the classroom. This project explored options and presents one solution to using computer aided design (CAD) tools in a collaborative project in the classroom.

OUTCOMES
- Students accept laptop and team-work well
- High degree of student engagement
- If software works, easy to get high quality lecture
- Most available software tools are not suited to the classroom (too cumbersome, crash too often, not all PCs can run)

TECHNOLOGY USED
- Student-owned laptop PCs
- CAD software
- Blackboard

Collaborative design is the future of engineering and must also be the future of classroom-based engineering education.

- Robert Malkin