## Auxiliary Concept: Mechanical Design



**Engineering Literacy Dimension:** Engineering Knowledge

**Domain:** Engineering Technical Applications

**Overview:** *Mechanical Design* is the process of developing the mechanisms/machines necessary to convert energy into useful mechanical forms and transform resources into a desired output. This includes determining what factors influence the design of a mechanical system, how the factors relate with each other throughout the design process, and how to configure the factors to meet design criteria and constraints. This concept is important to Engineering Literacy as it encompasses the knowledge necessary to analyze, design, and manufacture mechanical devices and systems. For example, mechanical design principles enable one to incorporate the analysis of items such as gears, shafts, fasteners, and gearboxes in regards to the fatigue and heating effects resulting from working stresses and repeated loadings in the creation of a mechanical system.

## Performance Goal for High School Learners

I can, when appropriate, draw upon the knowledge of Mechanical Design content and practices, such as (a) *machine elements/mechanisms*, (b) *manufacturing processes*, and (c) *machine control*, to forecast and validate the design performance of a mechanism or machinery component in order to solve problems in a manner that is analytical, predictive, repeatable, and practical.

