

Illustration of *Sigma Science* Assistance on a Design Project

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Abstract

Organizationally, for Six Sigma¹ types of approaches to be sustainable, there must be an awareness statistical methods are most useful when engineering theory, process and product knowledge, and statistical thinking & methods are merged. The authors illustrate this truth via a project discussion on the design and development of a brake subsystem for a new product. This project is used to clearly illustrate the role of statistical methodologies in facilitating the design process by validating engineering theory and providing scientific, empirical feedback to the designers. Just as importantly, the case study is used to discuss the boundaries of the contributions statistical methodologies can provide and the criticality of engineering theory in product design.

¹ Six Sigma is a registered trademark of Motorola