

# Engineering Dictionary

**What the engineer says.** ..... **What it really means.**

All new! ..... *Parts not interchangeable with previous design.*

Designs are well within allowable limits ..... *We just made it by stretching a point or two.*

Energy saving features ..... *Uses less energy when the power switch is off.*

Give us your interpretation ..... *I can't wait to hear this!*

It is in process ..... *It is so wrapped up in red tape that the situation is about hopeless.*

Lightweight ..... *Doesn't require a forklift to move.*

Low maintenance ..... *Impossible to fix if broken.*

Making modifications due to minor difficulties ..... *We're starting over from scratch.*

Please read and initial ..... *Let's spread the responsibility for the mistake.*

Preliminary tests were inconclusive ..... *The darn thing blew up when we turned it on.*

Rugged ..... *Requires a forklift to move.*

Satisfaction upon delivery is assured ..... *We are so far behind schedule the customer will be happy to get it at all.*

Several different tactics are being tried ..... *We are still grasping at straws.*

Technological breakthrough ..... *It works OK, but looks very hi-tech.*

Test results were extremely gratifying ..... *We are so surprised that it actually worked!*

The entire concept is unworkable ..... *The only person who understood it quit.*

Unforeseen difficulties ..... *Another project is more important than yours.*

We welcome your input ..... *We'll listen to what you have to say as long as it doesn't interfere with what we've already done.*

We'll look into it ..... *Forget it! We have enough problems for now.*

We're working on a new approach ..... *We just hired three new guys. They'll kick it around for a while.*

Years of development ..... *One finally worked!*