

**CONCEPT** The engineering notebook is the most valuable tool an engineer has. It is an on-going record of the design process, from the beginning through all of its stages.

## BACKGROUND

An engineering notebook that has proper documentation with dates is recognized as a legal document for patents. It proves the origin of the idea and sometimes, how it came to be. The engineering notebook holds the design history of a project in chronological order, from beginning to end.

## REAL WORLD CONNECTIONS

There are many types of engineers today. They all have something in common, they solve problems. A civil engineer may have a structure problem with a bridge that they must solve. They will need to take pictures, measurements, and make sketches in their engineering notebook of the preliminary structure problem. The team looks at the pictures, measurements, and sketches to come up with the best solution to the problem. The engineering notebook will hold the record of all progress and changes of the project.

