Engineering in Sports

Teacher Name

Examples of Engineering for Olympic Athlete:

Not your everyday jeans...

2010 Winter Olympics snowboarding uniforms for US, China & Finland Look like plaid flannel and worn denim, but are: …next-generation fabrics made of waterproof membranes with breathable microporous holes

Inventors: GORE-TEX and Burton Boards





Ingestible computers for athletes (really!)

"Thermometer Pill" transmits athletes' core body temperature and heart rate data

- Alerts to heat exhaustion
- Quartz crystal sensor & microbattery wrapped in silicon



Inventors: Engineers at NASA and Johns Hopkins University



Examples of Engineering for Olympic Athletes

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Skiing armor

Protects from highspeed wipeouts and 600mph gates



Soft, thin and flexible material moves with body, but <u>instantly</u> <u>hardens upon impact</u>



Spreads shock over surface area

Uses sheer thickening fluid reactive material

Inventors: Engineers at British firm d30 and Spyder



Skater's edge

 "Clap skates" Back of blade hinged so stays on ice longer, evens out weight, legs generate more force

 Aerodynamic "swift suit" reduces air drag – Nike assures 1% faster times (close races!)
 Wind tunnel testing of suits and positions (arms behind backs, drafting, corner tilting)
 Inventors: Engineers at Nike (suits) and many others mples of Engineering for Olympic Athletes

"Smart" clothing

Fabric with embedded microscopic sensors and wireless networks
 Remotely monitors athlete's heart rate, body temperature, hydration and more



 Extends to patient and soldier applications: Records and transmits real-time biometrics
 — from blood pressure to bullet wounds

Most aerodynamic sled ever

Inventors: Race car engineers at Exa Corporation

Digitally modeled the bobsled's fluid dynamics to minimize draginducing air vortexes that form behind riders' heads Suspension minimizes energy-draining vibration Chassis of fiberglass, Kevlar and carbon fiber Adjusts for weather, track conditions, metal fatigue

2010 Olympics coach: "1/3 of team's success due to engineering"

Explore

Now that we have
 discussed the importance
 of having sports
 equipment for various
 types of sports, it's time
 for you as a team to build
 your own equipment



Explore

Player: Mr. Egg
Sport: Free-falling
Position: Free-faller
Drop height: 3-4 feet



Egg Safety

 IF your egg breaks prior to the free-falling event let the teacher know immediately



Explain

- Kinetic energy: energy that occurs while in motion.
- Potential energy: stored energy
- Conservation of energy: energy cannot be created or destroyed.



Explain: Results

Did your player survive the drop?

- What changes, if any, would you make to improve the design for your egg?
- What additional materials could you have used to improve on your design?



Explain



Elaborate

- How important do you think it is for athletes to have safety equipment?
- Are there any differences between the equipment you constructed and the equipment used in sporting events?
- What do engineers have to take into consideration when making safety equipment for athletes?

Evaluation

- Complete the evaluation on your own
- Turn it in when you are finished



Source information Feb 2010 (Winter Olympics)

Not your everyday denim...

http://www.tipsfromthetlist.com/20513.html and http://www.zimbio.com/pictures/S45zd2s7ns/Snowboard+Day+4/9FUJESPv0iR/Gretchen+Bleiler and http://www.goretex.com/remote/Satellite/content/community/press-release/1 and http://insite.artinstitutes.edu/fabric-technologyworks-to-enhance-performance-at-winter-olympics-19726.aspx

Skiing armor

http://news.discovery.com/tech/winter-olympics-body-armor.html and http://news.discovery.com/tech/ten-techstransforming-sports.html

Ingestible computers http://news.discovery.com/tech/ten-techs-transforming-sports.htm

Engineers give speed skaters edge

http://teachers.egfi-k12.org/engineers-give-speed-skaters-an-edge/ and http://www.newsobserver.com/2010/02/17/344883/shani-davis-repeats-as-speedskating.html and http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Clap_skate

Smart clothing – wearable computers http://news.discovery.com/tech/ten-techs-transforming-sports

Bobsledding

http://www.cbsnews.com/stories/2010/02/22/tech/main6231849.shtml and http://www.popularmechanics.com/outdoors/sports/4345010.html?page=3