

1023-R1-1447 **Jason C McKay*** (x78533@usma.edu), Department of Systems Engineering, 646 Swift Rd., West Point, NY 10996, and **Ernest Y Wong** (ernest.wong@usma.edu), Department of Systems Engineering, 646 Swift Rd., West Point, NY 10996. *Project MathWORKS! Introducing Systems Engineering to High Schools*. Preliminary report.

Project MathWORKS! (West Point Operations Research Knowledge Society) reaches out to high school math and science instructors, introduces them to systems engineering which helps solve real-world problems, and explains the benefits of systems engineering. As part of my senior year honors project in the Department of Systems Engineering at the United States Military Academy I will conduct a workshop that relates systems engineering principles to familiar context—such as reducing waiting time in a fast food restaurant, maximizing profit for a manufacturing company, or choosing of the most appropriate college upon graduating from high school—so that high school instructors can then incorporate the material into their classrooms. MathWORKS! seeks to introduce practical methods and tools that help promote the love of learning, dispel the notion that engineering is incomprehensible, and empower teachers and students alike with the capacity and imagination to leverage math in the solution of everyday problems. In short, MathWORKS! aims to show that math does actually work. (Received September 26, 2006)