

**T6****Choosing Appropriate Resources for Technological Systems**

**Appropriate Resource:** a resource which is suitable for a particular application.

**Compromise:** an adjustment of conflicting demands or requirements in which something is given up on each side

**Computer:** an electronic tool used for information processing, communication, and control

**Computer Hardware:** equipment used in a computer system, including the keyboard, disk drives, tape storage, central processing unit, monitor, printer and modem

**Computer Software:** computer programs (user or commercially developed) which instruct the computer to execute a specific task or tasks.

**Constraints:** limitations imposed by scientific principles or limited resources, or resulting from people's values and attitudes

**Criterion, Criteria:** a standard, rule, or test by which a judgment of something can be made

**Data:** facts or figures which can be processed and from which conclusions may be formed

**Graphics:** a picture, map or graph used for illustration or demonstration

**Optimal:** the best or most favorable conditions: an ideal

**Optimization:** the process of obtaining the solution that best satisfied all the criteria within the established constraints or limitations.

**Profitability:** the degree to which income exceeds cost

**Renewability:** the ability of resources to be replenished in a time short enough to be useful to people

**Resources:** the components necessary for technology including: people, information, materials, tools and machines, energy, capital, and time. Resources that are finite will run out in time. Resources that are renewable can be replenished; e.g., trees, solar energy

**Scientific Principles:** a scientific conclusion which is generally accepted and may be stated in words or expressed by mathematical equations.

**Trade Off:** the process or end result of reaching a workable compromise.