**Assignment #2 – Solutions**

**(2.5)**

**2.5** (a) The maturing of a product may move the OM function  
to focus on more standardization, make fewer product changes, find optimum capacity, stabilize the manufacturing process, lower labor skills, use longer production runs, and institute cost cutting and design compromises.

  (b) Technological innovation in the manufacturing process may mean new human resources skills (either new personnel and/or training of existing personnel), and added capital investment for new equipment or processes. Product design, layout, maintenance procedures, purchasing, inventory, quality standards, and procedures may all need to be revised.

  (c) A change for a move from 3 1/2″ drives to DVD drives will, at least potentially, require the same changes as noted in (b).