

The replacement or expansion of ERP and PDM systems require large investments. Zühlke helps you to achieve the return you desire by striking an optimum balance between newly designed processes and system adaptations.

Consulting Development Integration

# Standard Software Applications

## Success factor process

The introduction of large-scale IT applications like enterprise resource planning (ERP) or product data management (PDM) systems is a rare occurrence for companies. They are therefore unlikely to have the internal structures and experience for choosing and phasing in these systems in an optimum way. The goal has to be to strike a balance between redesigning new processes to benefit from new IT technologies and adapting the systems to tried-and-tested business processes. A company must maintain its lead in key processes yet can take over standard processes from the software. When it comes to processes, many companies are not aware of where their strengths lie and where they are lagging behind. An experienced consultant from Zühlke with expertise in your industry and sound IT knowledge will help you set the right priorities.

## Evaluation of standard software

A company frequently packs everything it desires into design specifications. They define the maximum scope of a system and leave nothing out. The specialised departments involved often have different terminology than IT and the system supplier, which leads to misunderstandings. Later, the newly introduced software does not function the way the users thought it would. If a company takes a consistently process-oriented approach to requirements, it will set the right priorities. Zühlke has developed a special evaluation procedure that uses



real scenarios to document the processes (analogous to use cases in software development). The suppliers' system demonstrations are rendered comparable and understandable for IT and the other stake holders.

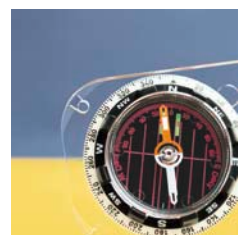
## Software for standard cases

With the detailed work in a project, a company may often lose sight of the total solution and the principles and associated priorities it wishes to apply. The everyday work of many employees becomes dominated by rules to cope with exceptions. If all these exceptions are incorporated into software, it becomes complex and inefficient. A more sensible approach is to handle standard cases as simply as possible with management systems like ERP and PDM. Exceptions generally require a human judgment, which no software can provide. An external consultant analyses the business processes and points out how standard processes can relieve resources so there is time to deal with special business-critical cases.

## Advantages for you

- Modern IT systems provide opportunities for you to optimise your business processes.
- Priorities adapted to your business logic help you to steer clear of maximum solutions requiring expensive and elaborate maintenance.
- Process and application optimisation allows you to boost efficiency and avoid unnecessary program adaptations.
- Clearly defined IT system requirements enable you to prevent mistakes in selection and roll-out.

When it comes time to reengineer your applications, seek advice from experts who are impartial about the products used. That way you derive maximum benefits from your investment.



Zühlke Engineering AG  
Wiesenstrasse 10a  
8952 Schlieren (Zurich)  
Switzerland

Phone +41 44 733 6611  
Fax +41 44 733 6612  
info@zuehlke.com  
www.zuehlke.com

© Zühlke