

Project Note

From Drawing Management to Lifecycle Management

Product lifecycle management (PLM) integrates essential product information to change systems of development. Our customer gains a comprehensive PLM plan which is fully supported by the IT systems involved.

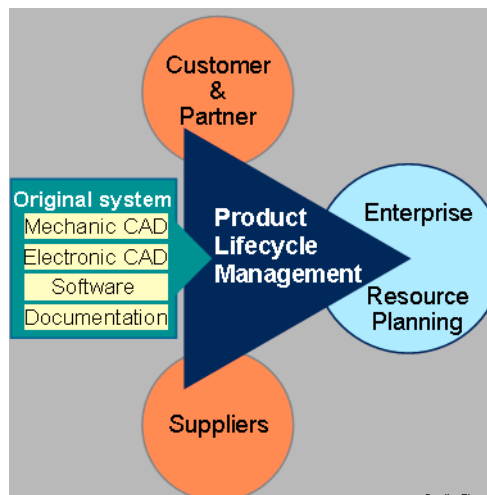
Task

To have a new approach to management across the product lifecycle provide optimum support for the processes product development, product care and product supply and after-sales service. To do so, PLM must:

- Ensure comprehensive information management over the product lifecycle at all levels (module, machine type, assembly, components, customer system),
- Reduce the number of product changes while simplifying and accelerating the process needed to implement them,
- Help to bring under control the increasing complexity of products with a suitable configuration management system (clear distinction between basic model, variation and customer-specified adaptation),
- Improve the exchange of information within the company and enable engineering collaboration with customers and suppliers,
- Reduce development expense by providing readier access to standard parts and available designs and avoid the new design of already existing ones,
- Allow easier monitoring of the status of a development project and
- Regulate product succession and phase-out and provide these processes with better IT support.

Implementation

After recording all requirements specified by the company, the project team examined the existing processes and IT systems to determine their suitability and the extent to which they helped to achieve the overall objectives. With input from our team, the customer decided to retain the existing systems. We suggested detailed measures to



remedy the weak points. Implementation was planned on the basis of sub-projects, complete with costs, benefits, risks and deadlines and supported by coaching.

Customer benefits

- Comprehensive product lifecycle management plan, fully supported by the IT systems involved.
- Exchange of information between development and procurement/production optimally regulated in terms of procedure and content.
- Standard company-wide classification and non-stop availability of product data and documents.
- More than 60% reduction in the time needed to implement changes
- Competently assisted, step-by-step implementation



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