

**Project Note**

# Product data accessible to all processes by PDM system

An extensive PDM system allows all users in the corporate group to make controlled use of product data and documents. Zühlke redeveloped the processes and developed the concept along the entire business process chain.

**Task**

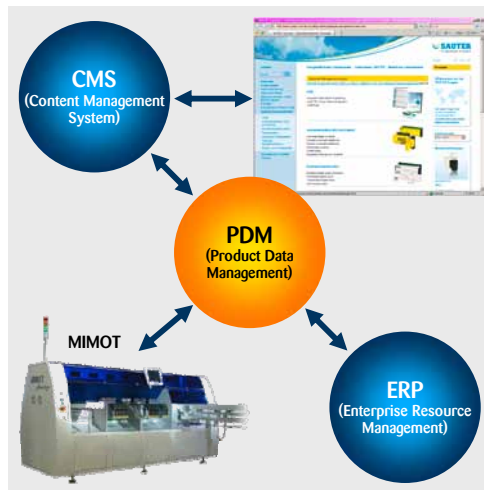
Producing and managing complete sets of product data and product documents involves a lot of effort. Sauter, a leading global company for solutions in building automation and system integration, had set itself demanding goals in connection with the rollout of its PDM system. After rollout, it wanted to be able to use the information generated by different departments throughout the company, namely in Development, Production, Sales and Service, and with partners.

**Implementation**

Zühlke redeveloped the relevant processes with the responsible managers, from product definition and design to Internet marketing and product launch. The functional and non-functional requirements for the PDM system and the interfaces with CMS, ERP, CAD and production equipment were defined from the business process design. The suitable system and the implementation partners were systematically evaluated based on process descriptions and requirements.

The PDM system was rolled out in iterations of about three months, allowing initial use to be made of the system within a short time. Employees were able to familiarise themselves gradually with the new work methods and system capabilities. In each iteration, Zühlke handled the detailed specification and implementation of process optimisation steps while the implementation partner set the parameters for the PDM and realised the interfaces. The highlights of the PDM systems include, among others:

- Automatic creation of the product web sites and the product catalogue from PDM data and documents
- Generation of the production data for the component insertion machine from the electronic CAD.



**Customer benefits**

- With its experience in process optimisation and knowledge about PDM functionalities, Zühlke was able to bridge the gaps between the specialist department, IT experts and optimum system use.
- Innovative integration solutions geared to the factors for the customer's success increase the benefits derived from the system.
- With the reliable Zühlke procedural model, such demanding projects finish successfully and risks are rendered controllable.

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