



COLLABORATIVE ENGINEERING

In the course of the multi-site engineering processes and data management standardization effort, Dürr has opted for SAP's PLM Integration for AutoCAD, SolidWorks and MicroStation.

The company

Dürr AG specializes in production systems for the automotive industry as well as for other industries, such as aviation. This worldwide industry market leader, also offers services to accompany production. The company plans and builds paint shops and final assembly facilities, cleaning and filtration systems as well as final assembly and extraction technology and test engineering. This market leader status is not a result of Dürr's global presence alone, rather for the most part it is due to its distinct culture of innovation and strict customer focus. The company's leading-edge technology increases profitability and quality of manufacturers and suppliers worldwide. The array of solutions encompasses the whole life cycle of production systems. Dürr's client portfolio is consequently long and by all means impressive. A variety of well-known automobile companies, from compact cars to luxury sedans, came into being with the assistance of Dürr technologies, however BASF, Deutsche Bahn, Airbus or ThyssenKrupp are also recipients of Dürr's services.

Multilingual capabilities and worldwide support

It is clear that an organization of this rank with such an international presence can only maintain its position in the market by deploying the most modern production and development technologies. Dürr was already using CAD in product development and plant design by the late 1980's, and since 1997, engineering data has been managed by EDM solutions which were customized by CIDEON. However at some point this efficient data

management reached its limit: Up to this point, every CAD program used by the company required a different EDM system. This resulted in five disparate systems in operation worldwide. "Collaborative Engineering" was the name of the new effort: The implementation of a single system, consistent across the whole organization, was necessary primarily in order to increase planning and engineering processes effectiveness as well as to make multi-site collaboration possible.

The company remained with CIDEON, but decided on a PLM CAD integration that was developed jointly by the CIDEON and SAP, firstly because SAP Data Management has been proven to be the most practical, and secondly because it would be possible to connect to all Dürr CAD solutions worldwide. In addition to the direct integration of CAD data in SAP PLM, the multilingual capabilities and worldwide support were significant factors in the decision. Parallel to the standardization of software, Dürr also adopted international standard measures for methodology, parts lists, title borders and templates. Standardization was a major factor and a central theme throughout the whole project.

Herbert Feil, the project manager for the company-wide introduction of the SAP PLM Integrations at Dürr commented that "Every other solution that was discussed required an additional intermediary EDM System. We avoided that by using SAP PLM and the direct Integration into the CAD programs we use."

The SAP PLM Integrations at Dürr guarantee effective and global collaboration among the engineers, and also downstream areas such as assembly, purchasing and logistics. Access to current and valid documents is now possible at any time. By incorporating CAD Desktop from SAP, the CAD systems used by Dürr i.e. AutoCAD, SolidWorks and MicroStation have optimized the engineering

process – with full support of standard part libraries and material libraries in SAP. Elaborate imports or an additional intermediate EDM System are no longer necessary also with respect to usability the SAP system is a plus: The SAP Interface is directly integrated into the respective CAD software’s user interface, or in other words in the established engineering work area.

The CIDEON solution, which was implemented onsite has proven extremely practical and low-maintenance for

the IT project managers at Dürr. System customizations and alignments can normally be undertaken independently at the user site and if something goes wrong, immediate support from CIDEON specialists is available. During the implementation phase teams from Dürr and CIDEON worked hand in hand in order to guide the project to success.

The next challenge consists of the worldwide rollout of the new system. Germany, USA, Mexico, Poland, South Korea and China were already successfully launched in 2008 and will be followed this year by India, Brazil, Great Britain, France, Spain and Italy.

Dürr AG

Dürr AG is a worldwide leading supplier of production systems and services, predominately in the Automobile and Aviation industries. Dürr is a publicly traded company and is listed as SDAX. In 2007 the company generated annual revenues of approximately 1.5 billion Euros.

At a glance



Company:	Dürr AG
Industry:	Industrial Machinery Manufacturing
Employees:	6,000 in 21 countries
Challenge:	Company wide standardization of data management processes and engineering processes
Solution:	SAP PLM Integration in 150 SolidWorks, 70 AutoCAD, 30 MicroStation work stations by means of CIDEON and SAP PLM Integrations from CATIA and CADENAS PART solutions
Advantages:	Available for all Dürr systems and processes worldwide, common user interface for the incorporation of all Mechanical Cad systems used by Dürr in SAP, permanent access to current and valid file versions via the engineering department and downstream processes, multi-lingual capabilities and worldwide support
CIDEON Services:	Consulting, Design, Implementation, Training



SAP PLM Integration for CAD Systems

The direct Integration for SAP PLM for various CAD solutions is a joint development by CIDEON and SAP. The linkage between the engineering software and the SAP system automates the management of all parts engineered in the CAD system – with full support of materials and bill of materials in SAP. Drawings, models, exchanges and neutral formats can be provided across departments and companies. Engineering Bill of Materials and CAD documents are immediately available for all downstream processes.

The solution is available for AutoCAD Mechanical, AutoCAD MDT, Autodesk Inventor, MicroStation, Solid Edge und SolidWorks.



FASTplant[®]

