



EADS

Product Lifecycle Management – Integrated database for Eurofighter construction

The European Aeronautic Defence and Space Company, EADS, founded in the year 2000, is the first multinational aerospace company in the world, and with some 100,000 employees at over 70 production sites it is also Europe's largest.

The EADS business unit Military Aircraft belongs to the multinational consortium which is developing and manufacturing the Eurofighter. Harmonized development processes, product information and documents are absolutely essential for a project of this nature. For this reason, EADS Military Aircraft asked Siemens to develop and introduce, and subsequently support a customized product lifecycle management solution.

The project

Siemens IT Solutions and Services was commissioned to create a solution to enable all information

related to the Eurofighter system to be administered on a structured basis throughout the entire lifecycle, and to be accessible on an integrated basis. In order to allow for integrated and optimized data and process management, it was an important task, in addition to developing the solution for product lifecycle management (PLM), to migrate the already existing development and manufacturing data into the new shared PLM database. We implemented a completely new infrastructure, by means of which up to 1,500 employees at various locations are having online access to all the product-specific information. The product data is also available in an integrated form for the usage and further enhancements of the high-tech Eurofighter system. The contractual agreements ran over a term of three years, and encompassed support for the system after completion of its implementation.



"Today it is absolutely essential for the aerospace industry to develop products more quickly within an international collaboration, at the same time as cutting development costs. The PLM solution developed with Siemens makes an important contribution to this."

Dr. Robert Schnurer,
PLM Project Manager
at EADS, Military
Aircraft

The challenge

- Ability to integrate the PLM solution into an existing IT environment
- Integrating and speeding up the core processes for development, series production and product support, while taking economic aspects into account.
- Rapid, reliable implementation and transparency in the case of product changes
- Consistent modeling of product structures, CAD models, bills of materials, specifications, etc. within the extended company
- Elimination of redundant data repositories and documents

Benefits for EADS Military Aircraft

- Cross-site, integrated communication and cooperation throughout the entire product lifecycle
- Regulated access to the central data repository by employees of EADS Military Aircraft
- Exchange of data with the PLM systems of the Eurofighter partners via an established STEP interface
- Constantly updated information available at all times
- Optimized decision-making with short coordination paths and minimal outlay
- Shorter "cycle times", faster realization of technical innovations
- Lower development costs thanks to integrated processes and common data repositories

The solution

The PLM System Teamcenter Enterprise® deployed by Siemens forms the digital backbone of the new EADS Military Aircraft process landscape. It enables integrated management of product and process information to be generated, exchanged and modified during development and production of the aircraft, and it provides the latest relevant and valid data versions. Integrated visualization tools support production and product support in working on a 3D basis. Bringing together data, methods and processes together the PLM solution improves the entire value chain throughout the product lifecycle.

Our services

- Process consulting, design and implementation of the PLM solution
- Integration of Teamcenter Enterprise® into the IT infrastructure at EADS, including the implementation of system interfaces
- Migration of legacy data into the PLM system
- Introduction of the new solution
- Operational management with helpdesk and system management
- Operation and maintenance

Technical basis

- PLM System: Teamcenter Enterprise® from Siemens
- Database: Oracle®
- TIFF Converter and Viewer
- 3D tools for visualization: Lifecycle Visualization from Siemens

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