

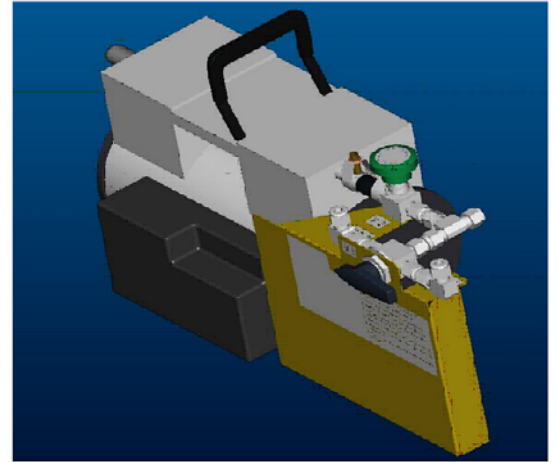
---

## DDM Case Study : Kratos Analytical

---

### 1. What benefits has DesignDataManager brought to your organisation?

DDM has enabled us to use the electronic copies of all CAD data (CADstar, AutoCAD and Pro/ENGINEER) as the master documents in our existing ISO 9000 quality system. This has ensured that there is no possibility of a discrepancy between the electronic version and the paper copies in use by suppliers and production staff. In addition more recently we have been able to allow service engineers and remote sites including our parent company Shimadzu (Japan) access to the current up to date mechanical drawings and electronic schematics. This has been achieved by using the DDM web server to publish the contents of the DDM database in a controlled manner and allowing users to access this remotely using VPN technology so the system is both secure and private as well as being fully up to date without any additional effort being required from ourselves.



### 2. What influenced your choice to choose DesignDataManager over alternative PDM systems?

DDM was chosen because it offered a simple to use interface and required minimum system administration and maintenance. We believe it is a mid range product that offers more than just an add on to windows explorer but without the cost and complexity of a full blown data/enterprise management solution.

### 3. Has DesignDataManager directly influenced decreased development timescales at your company?

I certainly wouldn't claim that the system has reduced development times. But we were not expecting this to be the case. Instead we have been focusing on the ability of the system to ensure that the information is correct up to date and controlled. The aim is always to be right first time and controlling the design information is an important part of this.

### 4. Could you envisage working without data management? Please expand on this if you wish?

We certainly can since that is exactly what we were doing for a number of years before getting the system. However, the problems are obvious. It is all too easy to end up with multiple versions of the same information. All very well if you spot the problem early but if it ends up in production this can be time consuming and expensive to put right.

### 5. Please make any additional comments that you feel appropriate regarding DesignDataManager or of the CSI organisation/people.

DDM is a stable piece of software and has suffered from very few real problems despite the fact that we did ask for the system to be extended for our application which is always going to be a risk. The really good news is that when we have had problems the support guys have been on the ball and responded quickly to the issues.

### About Kratos Analytical

Kratos Analytical is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Shimadzu Corporation, based in Manchester, UK. Shimadzu/Kratos Analytical were pioneers in the discovery and manufacture of MALDI-TOF (Matrix-Assisted Laser Desorption Ionisation Time-of-Flight) mass spectrometry, a technology that has transformed biochemical analysis over the past 10 years. Throughout the world, Kratos Analytical is fully committed to service, quality and customer satisfaction.

[www.kratosanalytical.com](http://www.kratosanalytical.com)