

BIESSE rolls out DDM to 100+ Solid Edge Engineers

Tommaso Pagnini from Biesse talks to CSI about the challenges that Biesse face and how DDM is helping to achieve their key objective of shorter time to business.

Biesse operates in the market for machinery and systems for working with wood, glass and stone. Founded in Pesaro in 1969 by Giancarlo Selci, Biesse S.p.A. has been listed on the STAR sector of Borsa Italiana since 2001. The Company offers modular solutions from the design of turnkey plants for large furniture manufacturers to individual automatic machines and work stations for small and medium enterprises and the design and distribution of individual highly technological components, responding to a vast range of requirements from clients.



A multinational company, the Biesse Group distributes its products through a network of subsidiaries and 20 associates located in strategic markets. The Biesse Group has over 2,300 employees in its main production sites in Pesaro, Alzate Brianza, Bergamo, Bangalore and the 30 associates / branch offices in Europe, North America, the Far East and Australasia. The Group also has no fewer than 300 resellers and agents enabling it to cover more than 100 countries.

The Challenge – What are the main challenges you face?

Biesse develops complex products, made of thousands of parts. Every year, about 30000 new CAD files are created by 100+ engineers. This leads to a huge Solid Edge CAD archive (more than 500000 CAD files).

In our business, shorter time to market is a key to success, so the development process needs to be assisted by smart systems that allow the engineers to be focused on designing parts and assemblies, rather than on manually handling the CAD files in the file system.

The Solutions – Why you chose to go with CSI and DDM?

Biesse did not have a PDM solution prior to investing in DDM. Our Solid Edge archive was managed entirely by custom-developed programs. Before the implementation of DDM, the CAD files were scattered in 15 separate archives all based on the Windows file system.

Searching for a CAD file in the archive was so ineffective that often the engineers preferred to re-design the part from scratch. We were looking for a system that allowed us to have a central repository for all the technical data, and with multi-site synchronisation. The solution we were looking for needed to be robust and easy to use.

We chose to go with DDM as it is a complete PDM solution, very well integrated with Solid Edge. Its native integration with AutoVue was much appreciated, since Biesse already was an AutoVue customer.



The Results – Results and changes made since implementation?

The roll-out of DDM is phased, with the final multi – site target of 130 DDM Professional users scheduled for the third quarter of 2010. We are currently on target with 40 engineers using DDM, onto which we have migrated the entire InterMAC CAD archive, including solid models and drawings.

Following roll out, 100 concurrent DDM users will be on line with DDM present in all of our sites, including our site in Bangalore, India.

The archives that have already been migrated onto DDM are now much easier to handle and the design process more controlled and more streamlined. Data loss has been eliminated and the compliance to Biesse's internal conventions is now achieved by DDM, and not left to manual procedures.

The distribution of the CAD files to all the stakeholders outside the engineering dept is now much easier. Using DDM Web, many users search and access the real-time CAD archive directly. PDFs of drawings are automatically generated, and can then be sent to customers and suppliers.

The Outlook – Where you go next?

CSI are currently developing integration between PDM and Biesse's enterprise Oracle PLM system

About CSI

CSI develops and supports DesignDataManager (DDM), a data management system targeting efficient management of the leading software applications. As PTC partners, backed up by the PTC PDS Product Development System, CSI Ltd. offer a complete development environment designed to deliver product to market. With over 20 years experience in the industry CSI provide added value through strong customer focus, professional global support, in-depth product knowledge and quick solution implementation. For more information visit www.csi-europe.com

About DDM

DesignDataManager (DDM) is a multi-CAD, cost effective data management and reporting system for the leading modeling solutions including SolidWorks®, Inventor®, IronCAD®, Solid Edge® AutoCAD®, CoCreate Drafting and ProjENGINEER®. With a feature rich toolset, DDM provides control of all Intellectual Property and through a full audit history, enables you to track modeling, drawing, document modifications to provide crucial traceability and accountability. Using familiar Windows 7 interface, DDM is an intuitive tool for managing data and business processes, across a whole enterprise. Global access to real time data eliminates costly errors and delays enabling to deliver to market faster.

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