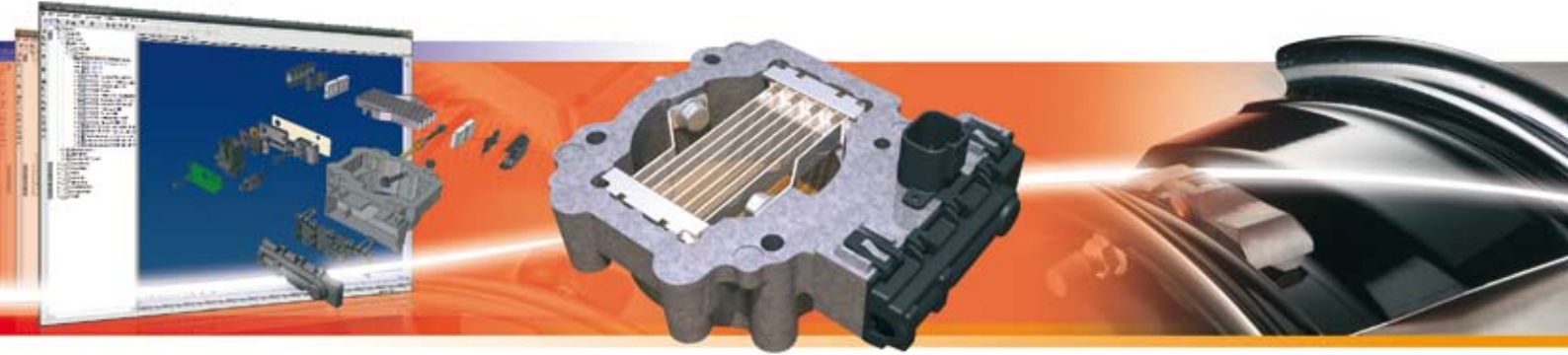# BERU

Igniting efficiency with CATIA and ENOVIA SmarTeam

Overview

■ *Challenge*
BERU needed a data management system to handle its CATIA product information and release workflows between production sites

■ *Solution*
ENOVIA SmarTeam coordinates data transfers between sites, automates release processes and interfaces with BERU's ERP system in a multi-CAD environment for an integrated solution

■ *Benefits*
Processes have been simplified. Design engineers, on all sites, have access to up-to-date data, reducing redundancy and administrative tasks

"We needed a management system to run CATIA on a more professional level. After benchmarking several PDM systems, we opted for ENOVIA SmarTeam because it's the best system for our needs, especially in areas involving product development."

Helmut Müller, head of the CAD and PLM divisions, BERU

Ignition technology at its finest

With a world market share of over 40% for glow plugs and electronically controlled instant-start systems for diesel engines, Germany-headquartered BERU is the world leading supplier of diesel cold-start technology. It is also one of Europe´s four leading suppliers in the field of ignition technology for gasoline engines. BERU customers include nearly all of the world's car and engine manufacturers. With its 2,400 employees, BERU is represented at 20 locations on three continents.

Need to manage data and improve collaboration

BERU has been using CATIA for its design activities since early 2000. As the quantity of data grew and the need to share information between its main sites played a more important role, BERU implemented a management system to streamline data versioning and sharing. Helmut Müller, head of the CAD and PLM division, recalls,

"We realized early on that we needed a management system to run CATIA on a more professional level. After benchmarking several PDM systems, we opted for ENOVIA SmarTeam because it's the best system for our needs, especially in areas involving product development."

BERU took its time to carefully customize the system, a conscious decision, according to PLM manager Christian Frank, "Since we were dealing with a highly complex environment interfaced with CATIA and other CAD systems, not to mention the ERP integration, we wanted to make absolutely sure we were rolling out a fully developed system." The result is an environment where ENOVIA SmarTeam is the lead system for master files, which are initially created in the PDM system before being automatically transferred to the ERP system.

Quick and easy implementation

The ENOVIA SmarTeam SAP toolkit offers ready-to-use standard modules enabling quick

and easy implementation of ERP system connections. Dassault Systèmes can also adapt the toolkit's interpreter commands for release changes, whereas pure individual programming can require intricate updates. The result is that the individually programmed functions do not have to be reprogrammed. Using the toolkit, buttons were integrated into the ENOVIA SmarTeam profile cards that make it possible to create materials and to display the ERP system product structure and document-information sets.

Automated release workflow eliminates errors

ENOVIA SmarTeam is particularly efficient at managing release workflows. Previously, each new drawing had to be scanned and the document information set was manually created in the ERP system. Now, when a drawing-status within a workflow in ENOVIA SmarTeam is set to "released", a new server job is started which registers the drawing and its related information and saves a TIFF document of the drawing in ENOVIA SmarTeam. The document information set is then created automatically in the ERP system, linked to additional master data and the TIFF document is attached to it.

By using this method, all released drawings are transferred to the ERP system via the

toolkit. Data created during the product-development phase can also be made available to other departments upon request. Design construction data and other related documents are imported into the ERP system using the toolkit. They are managed there until the products are completed and the released document information sets are created. Christian Frank comments, "In the past we were only able to update drawing sets at most once a week, a situation that is no longer up-to-date. Now, the manufacturing division can access the most recent data online." He adds, "Previously, with the first multi-site developments, the complete CAD dataset was exchanged between our different sites, even if only a minor change had been made to a single part of a component. Since data was commonly stored several times at different locations, we had to be very careful not to work with old datasets."

Simplified processes streamline development

The benefits of adopting ENOVIA SmarTeam are clear to Helmut Müller. "It's becoming increasingly apparent that ENOVIA SmarTeam has become a central development tool not only for CAD models, but also for all types of data. Processes have been simplified and administrative tasks take less time."

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Christian Frank, PLM Manager
BERU