



What's in your PDM?

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October 7, 2003



PDMs in Aerospace

- **Motivation**

The implementation of a PDM comes with several decisions for which there is not sufficient information about to make confident choices. An understanding of the state of the industry's PDM use and lessons learned regarding this IT investment is useful for future planning and development of PDM configurations

- **Expectations**

My goal is to provide the consortium with a bird's eye view of how beneficial or problematic PDMs have been in the industry and why, to enable better decision making regarding this IT investment/if choosing to implement a PDM. I also plan to derive what the benefits of a PDM are and what environment enables those benefits.



Value to Product Development

- **What: Product Data Manager-type applications (PDM, PLM, etc.)**
 - How the industry is currently implementing and using PDMs
 - The driving requirements necessary to meet aerospace needs versus what vendors are supplying
- **Why:**
 - Legacy vs. new program? Single vs. Multiple site program?
 - How do you integrate old systems given time and cost budgets?
 - What is the role of a PDM in light of changes: globalization, security concerns, 3D modeling evolution, product support needs...?
 - What are the benefits in terms of time savings, cost savings, etc. of a PDM to my program? Company?



Current Status

- Telephone Interviews
 - 5 telephone interviews between 3 sites
- First on-site visit
 - 8 interviews between IT and engineering
 - Learned possible extent of PDM usage and where difficulties arise
- Exploratory findings
 - The industry's purpose for using PDMs
 - PDM implementation and use varies considerably: customization, interaction, program type
 - Difficulty in decision making

2 definite case study locations, 2 more being considered



Consortium Involvement

- PDM case studies - What data is available?
If a PDM is being used, I want to know about it
 - PDM Workshop: PDM-savvy practitioners
 - Need support of consortium to provide delegates
- Purpose:
- To have an industry-wide perspective of important PDM characteristics
 - To draw out industry's common requirements of PDMs in order to focus data collection and lessons learned on right parameters

The research will focus on a portion of the program lifecycle depending on the case studies.



Results and Deliverables

- **Benchmarking:**
 - State of implementation and use in industry
 - Comparison to other industries e.g. automotive
- **PDM value as derived from consortium experience**
 - Recommendations on when, why, and where for PDM implementation

Timeline

