

WORK FASTER AND MORE EFFICIENTLY WITH CATIA V5

Precision, comfort and mobility play a paramount role in the three core business areas of Georg Fischer Automotive. With its „CAD Strategy 2000“, the Swiss company is setting similar goals for its cross-location cooperation in design and development.

► CATIA V5 AND MYSAP PLM

With CENIT as the contracted PLM consultants, the development and system partner in the area of industrial applications chose the solutions CATIA V5 and mySAP PLM as standard. A clear requirement here was creating uniform and universal processes and avoiding extra work, in order to be able to operate in a more flexible and efficient manner. Project manager Klaus Viehmann is more than happy with the progress made: „With this plan, we have chosen a forward-looking path. The first successes are going in exactly the right direction.“

► CATIA - CORE SYSTEM FOR EFFICIENCY

As early as 1998-99, a study was compiled, which concluded that CATIA was an ideal core system for Georg Fischer.

It also dealt with, in most cases, the solution used by the customers of +GF+. So, it was decided to introduce CATIA in all production locations as a leading development and design system. Furthermore, only the central development departments in Schaffhausen (Switzerland) and Munich should implement all four CAD systems which are important for the automotive industry. The decisive factor for Georg Fischer was

► TOTAL NETWORKING BECOMES A REALITY

In his job, Viehmann ensures that uniformity and continuity is maintained throughout the company. Both internally and with Georg Fischer's suppliers, data conversions between the individual systems should no longer be necessary. In the future, internal data transmission should no longer be required as a result of the

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the location-spanning continuity of the solution. „This was ensured by uniform CATIA installations and XATIA projects in all locations“, is how Klaus Viehmann, who is responsible for CAD and PLM coordination, explained his employer's strategy.

use of mySAP PLM and content server technology. Throughout the company and with just one click of a mouse, data from other locations can be accessed. The choice of CATIA V5 was a conscious decision. „The main advantage is certainly the ability to parameterise designs, and the possibility of introducing automatisms,“

GEORG FISCHER: MIGRATION TO CATIA V5

says Viehmann. He forecasts that by the end of 2004, the majority of conversions to V5 will be complete in the automotive industry. At the moment, there are three V5 projects underway at Georg Fischer. Despite some deadline extensions, which mainly effected the integration and indi-

CENIT's task also included the new V5 design methodology specially adapted for Georg Fischer, and ensuring the smooth transition to the new system.

► DESIGN AT GEORG FISCHER

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vidual adaptation of software, the people at Georg Fischer are convinced of the benefits of the solution. „It will certainly pay off for our company in the future.“

► GEORG FISCHER AND CENIT

Klaus Viehmann particularly emphasises the good cooperation with the consulting and implementing partner CENIT. CENIT is responsible for the implementing the entire project. This includes, among other things, preparing 50 designers for the new system and the changed methodology. The employees familiarised themselves with the changes in basic, surface and methodology training and made ready for the future in the course of training events which lasted several days. But

This affects above all the structure and setup of the CAD model, but also uniform

designations within the structural tree. „In total, the methodology will lead to accelerations, especially in change management“, assures Viehmann. „This will be noticeable in product design, but also in model and tool design.“

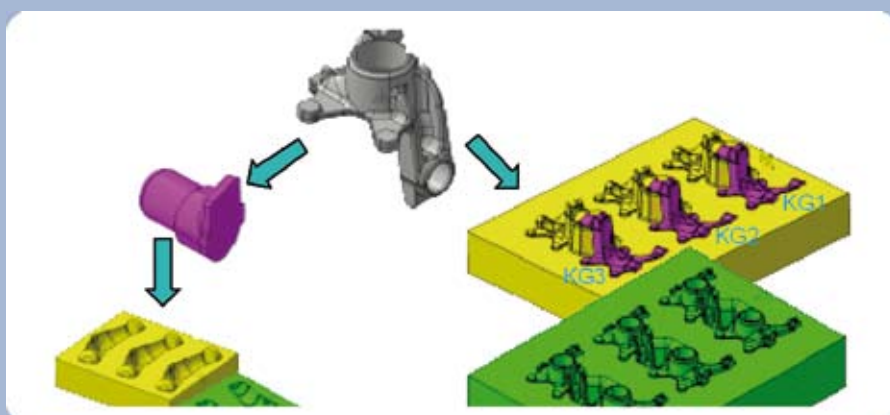
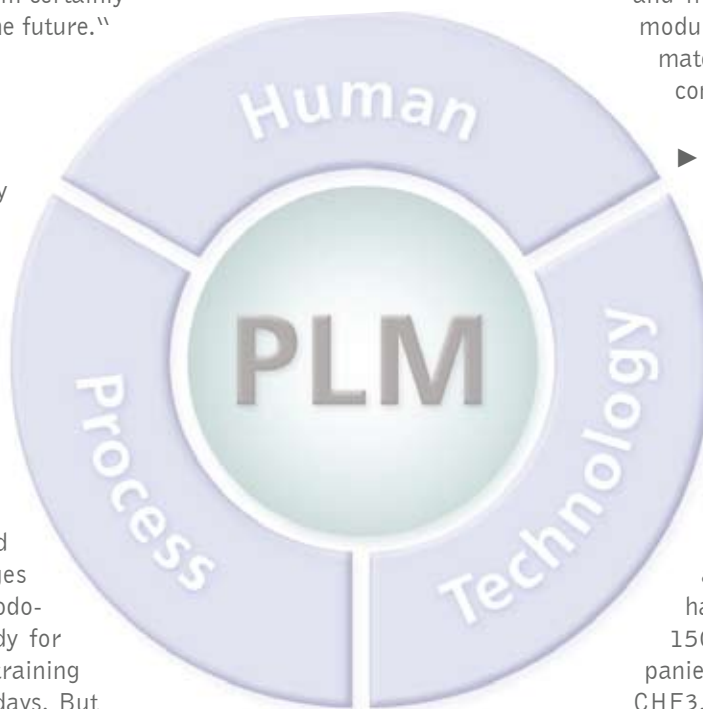
At Georg Fischer, work on this large project has proven the efficiency of spending a lot of time on a thorough project specification in the run up.

► GEORG FISCHER AND CENIT

Both in the CATIA project and in the PLM introduction, using external specialists proved worthwhile. Klaus Viehmann says, „You save a lot of mistakes and costs for consolidating your knowledge.“ Cast iron and light metal alloy components and modules are revolutionised the use of materials in vehicle construction, and continue to do so.

► GEORG FISCHER IN BRIEF

The Georg Fischer (+GF+) company, founded in 1802, has a wealth of experience in cast materials spanning over 200 years. Georg Fischer is a leading development partner and system provider for industrial applications, and has been based in Schaffhausen since 1802. It deals with vehicle technology, pipe systems and manufacturing technology. It has 14,000 employees in more than 150 mainly independent Group companies and generates annual turnover of CHF3.5 billion.



CONTACT

CENIT
Industriestraße 52-54
70565 Stuttgart

Tel.: +49 711 7825-30
Fax: +49 711 7825-4000
E-Mail: info@cenit.de
Web: www.cenit.de/plm