



Schirmer Maschinen GmbH

Link data optimally and customize functions

The multi-CAD capable PDM system HELiOS made by the ISD Group in Dortmund is firmly integrated in the CAD systems that are commonly used for mechanical engineering tasks. The Schirmer Maschinen GmbH in Verl, Germany, uses this advantage for the efficient creation of models, about 80% of which are models for the field of special machine building: Top performance

machines for the processing of profiles made of various materials for windows, doors, facades, automobiles and solar energy systems. Formerly, the company used Autocad 2-D. Since 2001, they have been using HiCAD 3-D and, since 2017, also Inventor for the development of complex machining centres with different degrees of automation.



REFERENCE REPORT

“The switch from 2-D to 3-D is fairly complex, but definitely worth the effort”, recalls chief designer Vladimir Rekowski. “My colleagues have fully adopted the new designing method after 2 years.” Even shorter was the period of familiarization with the PDM system, namely, about 12 months including its interfacing with the ERP system BEOSYS and internal process optimizations.

HELiOS: Faster data retrieval via plot stamp

Since 2007 the multi-CAD capable PDM software has been implemented in the North-Rhine Westphalian company, and has been firmly established including an ERP interface since 2018. “We update the software on a yearly basis and introduce required functional enhancements, which means that we occasionally also invest into customized configurations – one of ISD’s strengths”, explains Vladimir Rekowski. He and his team particularly appreciate the possibility to customize search masks and the attributes contained therein in order to retrieve parts and assemblies faster, and determine the number of their occurrences in a project. “A great benefit is the plot stamp in the HELiOS Plot Manager which we have recently ordered from the ISD,” says Rekowski. “Our aim is to spare us the time-consuming manual annotating of detail drawings after printing out the assemblies.” He explains the procedure as follows: “Via the context menu of the product structure you can call a newly implemented function, e.g. ‘Print drawings with stamp’.

HELiOS then detects the number of the parts in the assembly, multiplies it with the number of assemblies in the corresponding projects and passes this information to the Plot Server. On this Plot Server, data are gathered and output with a temporary “plot stamp” in a drawing or a neutral format file”, explains Rekowski. “By the way, the automatic transfer of drawings as neutral format files to our ERP system was an interface enhancement that was programmed especially for the Schirmer Maschinen GmbH.”

HELiOS: Optimal integration with BEOSYS

Since 2015 the ISD Group has been offering the creation of a standard interface between its PDM/PLM solution HELiOS and the ERP system BEOSYS. “In this way, article master data and bills of materials involving different departments, e.g. Engineering, Production or Sales, can be constantly kept synchronous, which we currently do from one location”, explains Rekowski, who considers an extension to several locations, and thus a tapping of the full potential of the HELiOS-BEOSYS interface, possible in the not too distant future. “We are growing constantly, construct many highly automated production lines per year and continually increase our sales”, says Rekowski. “Thanks to HELiOS, the search for spare parts and various assemblies has become much easier. Design times, too, could be reduced significantly. Each new model drawing can be derived from an existing one.

Image: © Schirmer Maschinen GmbH

Test run of a highly automated production line for door and window profiles at the Schirmer Maschinen GmbH



The possibility to automatically transfer articles or bills of materials, complete with their linked drawings, as PDFs to BEOSYS, is extremely helpful for us, saves time, reduces the error rate and also the costs.”

HELiOS: Optimally advised by the ISD support team

The implementation of new software systems does not only require the acceptance of the employees, but also an extensive service and great flexibility of the software developers. “The ISD has always shown a great eagerness to help”, praises Vladimir Rekowski. “The hotline, too, is very competent and dedicated. I have always loved working together with the developers of the ISD, as they always deliver very professional and practice-oriented results.”



“Of all PDM systems that we evaluated during our search for a redundancy-free document management, HELiOS was the most powerful and versatile one.”

Vladimir Rekowski,
Chief Designer at Schirmer Maschinen GmbH

Company profile:

- > Schirmer Maschinen GmbH
- > Industry: Special machine building
- > Software: HELiOS, HiCAD, Inventor
- > Services: Machining centres for window and facade construction
- > www.schirmer-maschinen.com



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