Game Changer: One million CAD files migrated in one weekend

Major industrial machine manufacturer calls on ITI to migrate Creo CAD files from MatrixOne to PTC's Windchill PDMLink

Project Summary

• Legacy Matrix/Creo data migration to PTC Windchill PDMLink/Creo system

• High performance production migration – One million CAD files over a weekend

• Approximately 1,500 global engineers and designers using the system daily

• Minimal post-migration issues

Client Insights

• ITI takes a conservative and careful approach to PLM data migration projects

• ITI first wanted to prove that their technology could be adapted to this migration project

• ITI sincerely cared about our success

ITI's client established a global corporate initiative to standardize all business units on a single PLM system, PTC's Windchill PDMLink.

When Windchill PDMLink was selected as the tool of choice to manage the mechanical CAD data (PTC Creo) worldwide, the CAD files for the client's largest business unit were being managed by the legacy MatrixOne PLM system, a platform that was outdated.
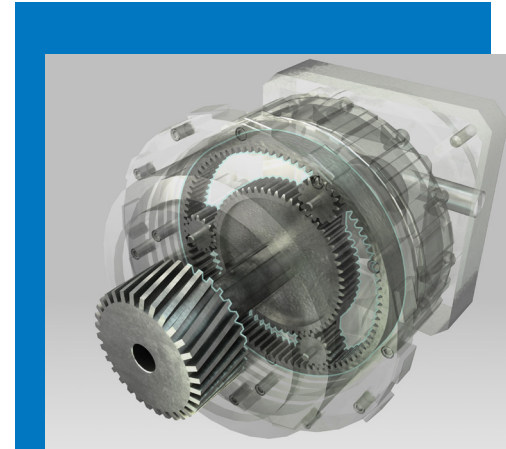
The client wanted to standardize on a global PLM system while achieving the following goals:
• Improve the accessibility of CAD files to different design groups on a global basis
• Improve the security of the CAD files
• Position the company to further leverage additional Windchill PDMLink PLM capabilities

This data migration initiative presented several key challenges:
• Moving a large dataset – over one million CAD files
• Minimizing the system downtime during the production migration process
• Ensuring data use and stability from the old system to the new system

The client explored various approaches to this critical data migration initiative, which in some cases would have resulted in a significant impact to engineering resources over a 2 - 4 week period. None of these options were acceptable. ITI was contacted, based on claims of high performance CAD/PLM migration. Since ITI was the original developer of the Matrix and Creo integration, and ITI supported the client for several previous upgrades, ITI was familiar with their existing CAD/PLM environment. The client felt this insight would be invaluable for this initiative.

"The migration was the smoothest enterprise system deployment I have seen in 20+ years."

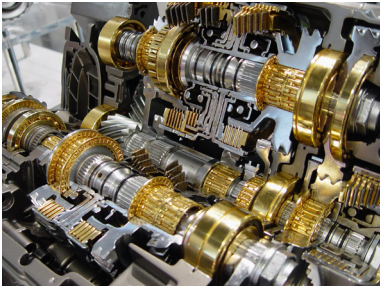**- Client Director of Enterprise Technical Computing**

Proof of Concept
ITI proposed to start the project with a proof of concept on a subset of representative data. "We had existing technology for fast import into other PLM systems, however, we needed to break new ground in terms of import to Windchill PDMLink," stated Keith Davidson, Director of ITI's PLM data migration consulting practice. "We had to validate that our technical approach would apply to Windchill PDMLink and ensure that our client was confident in our strategy."

Create Momentum

ITI
International TechneGroup

> *"The absolute transparency between our team and ITI was a key enabler to the success of the project. ITI was world class in what they did and how they went about doing it."*
>
> **- Client Business Analyst**

View all of our case studies at
iti-global.com/customer-success

About ITI

ITI is the global leader providing reliable interoperability, validation, and migration solutions for product data and related systems. Our customers recognize the value in having a trusted solution partner that provides more than just software. ITI solves complex product data interoperability problems so that the world's leading manufacturers can focus on making great products.
You need to keep your engineering initiatives moving forward.

ITI then took a careful and methodical project approach, recommending that the initial proof of concept address three technical paths for importing data to Windchill PDMLink.

At the conclusion of the proof of concept, one approach was the clear winner in terms of both quality and performance, and the client was confident to move to the next phase of the project.

The keys to migration success

As a prerequisite to the production migration, ITI was able to identify specific areas in which the Matrix/Creo data needed to be prepped or cleaned. Two areas that were particularly difficult were the recognition and resolution of duplicate files and family table issues. In addition, ITI was able to apply complex container mapping rules during the migration to ensure that access privileges for engineering groups around the world were in place at launch. The client was pleased to report that starting with the first system test cycles, the CAD files were in the right place with the right access privileges, enabling their global teams to access and use the data immediately.

ITI extended the proof of concept to support the full scope of Matrix/Creo data, to prove that the solution would indeed meet all of the client's business requirements. Given the support of the full set of Matrix/Creo data, the team fleshed out the remaining functional mappings and prepped for the system test phase.

The final phase of the project was to execute a series of system tests. Over the course of three months, the client executed 17 full migration tests.

"A key differentiator, given the high performance of the ITI data migration strategy, is the ability to execute a large number of migration test cycles – this builds in quality and increases customer confidence," stated Tom Makoski, EVP of ITI's PLM business. "If a problem was found, we were able to quickly reset and redo the migration."

When it came time to do the production migration, both the client and ITI had complete confidence in a successful outcome. Importing the one million CAD objects (more than a terabyte of data) into the Windchill PDMLink system was incredibly fast.

The cut over began at about 6:00 PM on a Friday evening, and by mid-day Sunday the migration was complete. The team spent two days validating the results and ensuring the system was stable. On day three, the business went live. "The speed and accuracy of the migration blew the cleint away," stated Makoski. "It was an extremely smooth transition and an extremely clean migration."

ITI Insights

- ITI is proud to add Windchill PDMLink import to its data migration toolset

- The key to PLM data migration success is a high performance migration, which entails many migration/test/fix cycles

- The success of this project was also a testament to the high quality and dedicated client project team

Create Momentum ❯

www.iti-global.com
info@iti-global.com
1-800-783-9199 US
+44-1954-234-300 UK

World Headquarters:
5303 DuPont Circle
Milford, OH 45150 USA

European Headquarters:
4 Carisbrooke Court, Anderson Road
Buckingway Business Park, Swavesey
Cambridge, CB24 4UQ, England

ITI
International TechneGroup