Precise migration of PLM data with PDM WebConnector

Carve-out: Vitesco Technologies transfers data structures from Windchill to Teamcenter

Reference project:

vitesco TECHNOLOGIES

"The excellent support by the T-Systems project team ensured that the carve-out went smoothly. The right PLM data was extracted precisely, quickly, and comprehensively."

Frank Abraham, Senior IT Application Analyst, Vitesco Technologies

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Vitesco Technologies, headquartered in Regensburg, Germany, is a leading international developer and manufacturer of modern powertrain solutions for sustainable mobility. With its smart system solutions and components for electric, hybrid, and combustion engines, Vitesco Technologies makes mobility clean, efficient, and affordable. Its product portfolio includes electric engines, electronic controllers, sensors, and actuators, as well as solutions for exhaust gas after-treatment.

With some 35,500 employees spread across nearly 50 sites worldwide, the company generated sales of 9.23 billion euros in 2023.

In view of the increasing demand for sustainable mobility, Vitesco Technologies wants to play a leading international role in vehicle electrification. To do so, the automotive supplier must follow a clear strategy focused on sustainability.

Since the carve-out from Continental Group, T-Systems has served Vitesco Technologies as a strategic partner for all IT and digitalization-related matters. T-Systems not only supported the extraction of the PLM (product lifecycle management) system from the Continental environment, but also enabled the subsequent migration of the system to the AWS Cloud.

With its clear focus on electromobility, Vitesco Technologies sold its Italian subsidiary Vitesco Italy Srl – which was deemed a non-core business by Vitesco Technologies – to Punch Torini SpA in 2023, itself a subsidiary of the Belgian Punch Group. The Italian Vitesco subsidiary develops and manufactures systems and solutions for fuel injection, fuel distribution, and exhaust gas treatment.

The aim was for Vitesco Italy Srl to begin operations within Punch Group effective January 1, 2024.

At a glance

- Carve-out of the Vitesco Italy Srl division from Vitesco Technologies to Punch Group
- Different PLM system landscapes
- Requirement to transfer more than 300 data structures, many of them complex, from Windchill to Teamcenter
- Tight schedule, high level of precision
- Distinctive expertise needed in data management and PLM data migration
- Clear migration plan thanks to knowledge of the data formats
- Deployment of PDM WebConnector from T-Systems on a project basis
- Automated extraction and conversion to Excel and XML to simplify integration in the destination system
- Business continuity (resilience) ensured in the new enterprise framework
- High-precision extraction of PLM data
- On-time delivery of data at the right quality level

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Reference in detail

⊚ Customer pain points

The carve-out of Vitesco Italy Srl to Punch Group posed a serious challenge, particularly for the migration of PLM data from Windchill to Teamcenter. Vitesco uses the Windchill PLM system, while Punch relies on Teamcenter – which meant an extensive set of development-related and production-relevant data had to be transferred effectively to the Teamcenter system, to ensure that business operations could commence in the new environment on January 1, 2024. More than 300 data structures and CAD structures for a variety of products, components, and solutions in the Windchill systems had to be identified, extracted, and transferred to the Teamcenter system.

This challenge was intensified by the different data models and formats used by Windchill and Teamcenter. In addition to identifying the relevant data, it also had to be prepared correctly for integration in Teamcenter. These complex activities of data extraction and migration between two different PLM systems required in-depth expertise in data management.

Vitesco turned to the experts at T-Systems to carry out this critical task. Just three months were available to complete the entire data migration process.

⊙ How T-Systems solved it

To master the challenges of the PLM data migration from Vitesco Technologies to Punch, Vitesco Technologies teamed up with T-Systems to develop a precise approach. In the first step, Vitesco Technologies compiled a detailed list of the data structures to be transferred. Based on this list, the T-Systems team then extracted the necessary data and data structures and carefully ensured their completeness.

The team used PDM WebConnector, an integration and migration solution developed by T-Systems, as the central data export tool. Its standard interfaces enable connection with various systems and conversion of a wide range of data formats.

The complex data and data structures were then provided as Excel and XML files, in accordance with Punch's requests. This made the downstream processing steps much easier. To guarantee accurate organization and simple access, the data was stored systematically in predefined directories. This structured, technology-driven approach supported efficient, precise data migration, which formed the foundation for starting regular business operations in the new environment at Punch.

☆ Business impact

The provisioning of data was completed shortly before Christmas 2023. PDM WebConnector and the data management expertise of the T-Systems team facilitated a successful conclusion to the project – in time, in budget, and with the required level of quality. In-depth knowledge of the data formats was crucial to the transfer.

Thanks to all these factors, the users at the former Vitesco Italy Srl were able to get started with their new PLM system at the new company promptly on January 1, 2024 – without any interruptions in business processes. The necessary data was already available in the new systems. "The excellent support by the T-Systems project team ensured that the carve-out went smoothly. The right PLM data was extracted precisely, quickly, and comprehensively," summarizes Frank Abraham from Vitesco Technologies.