

Industrial machinery and equipment

Modelltechnik

Automation is a great reason for a new CAD system

Product

NX

Business challenges

Increase tool design efficiency
Improve quality

Keys to success

Migrate to design software with more automated processes and built-in intelligence
Provide customized training for users

Results

Tool design process is 30 percent faster due to fewer steps and more automation
Standardized tool design process improves quality



Modelltechnik gained greater efficiency in tool design thanks to the automated processes within its new CAD system, making the migration to new software a huge success

Swedish model maker strives for excellence

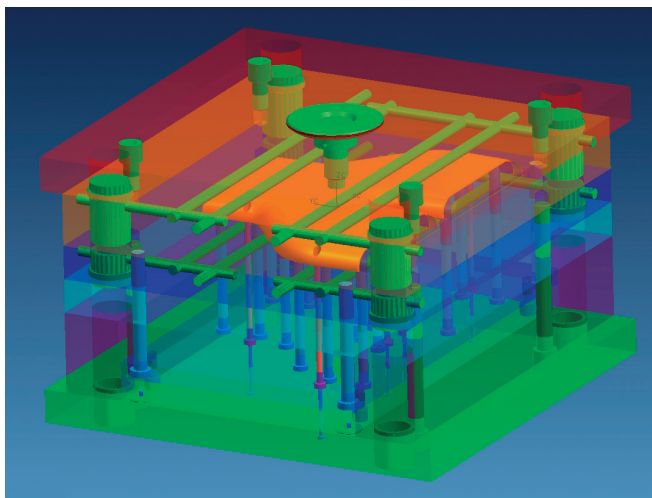
Modelltechnik needed to upgrade its design environment to improve tool design efficiency and boost the quality of its

models, prototypes and mold tools. Modelltechnik AB makes models, prototypes and mold tools. The company has been in existence for more than 40 years, and is one of Sweden's leading makers of models and prototypes for the Swedish manufacturing industry.

When Modelltechnik management wanted to boost tool design efficiency and improve product quality, they realized that process automation offered an attractive

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Roger Andersson
CEO
Modelltechnik AB



solution. Automating as much of the tool design process as possible would enforce best practices, while streamlining the design process and saving time for the users. An I-deas™ software user for many years, Modelltechnik was aware that the same supplier, Siemens PLM Software, also offered NX™ design software and a companion program for mold design, NX Mold Wizard. Modelltechnik decided to investigate the Siemens PLM Software migration plan, which helps companies make the transition from I-deas to NX. Seeing that the plan offered the lowest-cost, low-risk approach to migration available, management decided to make the change.

Customized training facilitates transition

User training was essential to successfully exploiting the advantages offered by the new software. “It was important not to underestimate the need for training,” says CEO Roger Andersson.

Siemens PLM Software created customized training for Modelltechnik. (While Siemens PLM Software’s regularly scheduled training courses could have addressed the need for training, Modelltechnik did not want to wait for them to take place.) In addition to getting the training sooner, having customized training made it possible to adapt the content precisely to Modelltechnik’s needs and requirements. “The customized training sequence definitely contributed

Solutions/Services

NX
www.siemens.com/nx

Customer's primary business

Modellteknik AB makes models, prototypes and mold tools.
www.modellteknik.se

Customer location

Eskilstuna
Sweden

"Switching from I-deas to NX... was absolutely worthwhile."

Peter Zazis
Tool Designer
Modellteknik AB

to the success of the migration project. A standardized beginner's course would certainly not have been as effective," states Peter Zazis, tool designer at Modellteknik.

Automation and built-in intelligence speed the process

As part of the migration, Modellteknik implemented NX Mold Wizard, the NX module that expands the functionality and provides specific functions for designing tools in NX. One of the biggest advantages of NX Mold Wizard is that it creates an automated process for the designer, so that tool design proceeds in the same way each time, regardless of the part or the customer involved, according to a method that works.

NX Mold Wizard supports the user through each step of the process, and creates the entire structure with all the parts involved in a complete tool, thereby reducing lead times dramatically. "It is not uncommon for us to design a tool from a customer model in half a day," says Zazis. There is also a built-in library of standard compo-

nents from all the major suppliers for use in designing tools. NX has helped Modellteknik to achieve higher tool quality, since all the components are created automatically with the assistance of NX Mold Wizard. Certain components, such as cooling channels and ejector pins, used to be left out and then had to be clarified in production.

Summarizing the experiences from the migration project in hindsight, there is no doubt that it was a success. It is now easier for the designers to manage their work, and the design process has fewer steps. This makes the work go faster, and has improved the level of quality in the deliveries. "Switching from I-deas to NX has clearly given us a lift," says Zazis. "NX has built-in knowledge applications that make things easier for the user. It was a major change, but it was absolutely worthwhile." Modellteknik has been able to quantify the benefit of the new CAD system. "We can see in our budget follow-ups that we have improved our efficiency," says Andersson. "We are working about 30 percent faster, thanks to the increased automation that NX provides."

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Roger Andersson
CEO
Modellteknik AB

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