

CLASSIFICATION MANAGER

OBJECTIVE

Classification Manager enables companies to define product content libraries to improve reuse throughout product development. With minimal effort involved, the library's definition can adapt quickly and easily to rapidly changing business needs.

OVERVIEW

Increasing business, product and process complexities affect operating margins and are driving companies to find business solutions which foster innovation and improve efficiency. In most industries today, the complexity and rate at which new products need to be developed has already out-paced the rate at which many companies can produce them. Furthermore, the rate at which companies need to develop product content is expected to continue to grow faster than the current rate that they are improving their productivity. Studies have shown that effective management of product content through enabling reuse can cut up to 70% off design time (source: "Reuse Impact on Time-to-Market," University of Tennessee).

A key enabler of realizing the benefits of global product development best practices is establishing the infrastructure required to catalog, find, and manage the reusable data. An inefficient product content reuse system will diminish any potential savings that may be gained. Moreover, a system that does not fit the company's business and data or is difficult to use, will not be effective even if it is implemented and the time spent creating data in the system will be lost.

With **Classification Manager**, companies can address a number of key business challenges:

- Accelerated product development and shortened time-to-market via reuse of design components and product documentation
- Increased reliability, higher quality and lowered cost through the reuse of previously validated product content
- Improved collaboration by enabling users across the enterprise to find and add their own product content

HIGHLIGHTS

Classification Manager enables companies to create and manage catalogs of product development data and leverage the investment previously made in its IP. Key features and capabilities include:

Enterprise-Wide Product Content Catalogs

Users can define multiple library classification approaches to fit the company's business needs, functional uses, and/or products. These libraries are accessible to all users in the company to help promote sharing and reuse of product content. A library classification hierarchy can be tailored in a live system without having to change the underlying database schema. Users can manage the libraries and their taxonomies themselves rather than going through an expensive modification of the entire Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) system and expending IT resources.

Use-Based Library Classifications

Multiple classification taxonomies can be defined that simultaneously organize the same content from the perspective of different uses. Each use can view the product data through its own library, with its own classifications. Each library has its own attributes that are inherited based on where the object is classified in the taxonomy, and can be browsed and searched within its use-specific definitions. This makes it very easy for each use to find data from their own context while accessing the data from a single common database ensuring a single version of the truth.

Parametric Searches and Comparisons

Classification Manager allows defining reusable sets of attribute definitions that can be applied throughout the classification hierarchy and assigned automatically to content as it is classified. The attributes have formal meaning to the taxonomy and can be inherited from class to sub-class, which reduces the effort to create and maintain the classification system.

The definition of classified product content is extended with unique parametric data focused on the usage model of the library's intended users. As a result, users throughout the company can access the same product content based on the needs unique to their jobs. The powerful, yet simple to use, search capabilities make it easy to locate product content based on complex sets of reuse criteria.

Users can constrain their searches to a specific branch of the library/class/subclass hierarchy. In addition, attributes associated with a given class allow the user to define criteria appropriate to their context. **Classification Manager** allows users to search with different units of measure by automatically converting the search criteria to the unit stored in the database. An advanced comparison tool further analyzes search results to identify differences for ranking alternatives. The simplicity of the search tools encourages end users to always look for the best available content, instead of settling for the first adequate content encountered.

Library Security

A flexible access control mechanism allows determining which users and/or uses have access to the library classification structures. Only specified users are able to view and navigate a library and its content. In addition, limited access can be granted to allow users navigation access, but not download access to the classified content or IP. Subsequently, users can then request additional download access from the librarian to the given IP and be granted temporary time-based access if the request is approved.

IP Management

Users can classify any type of ENOVIA®-managed data, including, but not limited to, requirements, configuration features, CAD designs, parts, and documents. For users of CATIA® 3DEXPERIENCE®, it is even possible to classify design features. When new IP is added to a class, it inherits additional attributes to extend its definition to support the parametric search capability.

Document Retention Record

Retention schedules serve as a company's legal authority to retain and purge records. Businesses minimize legal liabilities by ensuring that records are kept for only as long as they are useful, needed, and consistent with corporate policies.

Authorized users can establish timelines to purge records/documents scheduled for destruction. Documents are attached to "Record Retention Schedules" where the retention period is captured and the retention date is calculated based on key events and schedule state changes. As the retention date expires, documents are flagged for destruction. "Record Hold Schedules" can be established to prevent documents from being purged until the "hold" status is released.

Key Benefits:

- Create multiple library classification systems to fit your company's business needs, functional uses, and/or products.
- Apply standard attributes to the library taxonomy for robust parametric searches and comparisons of classified data based on different usage models.
- Classify existing product content or create new product documents.
- Search based on a preferred unit-of-measure regardless of how the data was defined.
- Control security access rights to classified data.
- Request additional "download" access from a librarian after reviewing library content for items of interest.
- Ensure that library information undergoes thorough peer reviews before being made available to the rest of the organization.
- Subscribe to library updates and additions to stay informed of critical product content changes.
- Track document usage to understand which products or groups are effectively reusing material.
- Manage royalty payments on contractual obligations by setting up alternative classification systems suited for legal and business requirements.
- Ensure corporate document retention policies are consistently and automatically enforced.
- Improve product quality and increase sourcing options by managing component information stored in a single, centralized system for enterprise-wide reuse.
- Minimize component proliferation by fully defining and controlling component approval and preferences based on commodity, consuming location, and/or supplier.

Electronic Review Processes

The system can be set up to enforce cross-functional reviews of library content before accessed by a broader group of end users. Routes are used to circulate the content to select individuals for review and approval.

Route creation and setup can be simplified by the use of templates, which pre-define the steps that must be followed. The review process complies with the U.S. Food and Drug Administration's (FDA's) 21 Code of Regulations (CFR) Part 11 for recording electronic signatures.

Whether you need to comply with FDA regulations or not, your company can benefit from capabilities such as password verifications, password aging, password format checks, failed attempts logging and requiring two administrators to alter a user's password.

Notification of Changes

Users can subscribe to automatic notifications for key events such as new content being added to the library or changes made to classified items. Subscriptions can be attached to entire libraries or to individual components.

Notification comes in the form of automatically generated email and can include attached descriptions and links to the relevant library or components for easy navigation. Users making use of data from the library can make decisions based on up-to-the-minute status of issues and updates, rather than static knowledge captured at the time of reuse.

Usage Tracking

Users can optionally track usage information for documents that are accessed through the classification structures. As users access IP, they are prompted to fill out usage information that describes the purpose of the download.

Using built-in reports, users can track how IP is being used throughout the enterprise. Users can also define library taxonomies for royalty management and contract obligations specific to legal and business requirements. Contracts and other relevant legal documents are linked directly to the reuse data within **3DEXPERIENCE** platform. This enables component usage to be tracked automatically so that payments are correctly made and reports are generated to ensure compliance is maintained.

Single Source for Components

Companies can define and manage enterprise parts as well as manufacturer and supplier equivalent parts (MEPs and SEPs) throughout the company in a single centralized repository, providing users with timely and accurate access to information. **Classification Manager** comes with a comprehensive schema (data model) to manage all facets of a component such as its manufacturer information, supplier information, specifications, cross-reference relationship information and associated documents and attachments. As a result, engineers make better decisions when choosing components for the AVL and AML of enterprise EBOMs.

Manufacturer/Supplier Equivalent Parts (MEPs and SEPs)

Classification Manager allows users to manage the full scope of commercial components by defining supplier and manufacturer equivalents (MEPs and SEPs) and the underlying relationships between MEPs, SEPs and enterprise parts. This capability provides users with a multi-faceted view of component usage while performing BOM analysis, and keeps track of components to be qualified and procured from different vendors.

Component Classification Taxonomy

Companies can define and manage multiple library classifications by using use-based taxonomies to organize components. Users having appropriate access privileges can manage these libraries without expending IT resources. Users can contribute easily to overall product development via libraries tailored for their specific domain and/or job function, promoting component reuse.

Qualification and Approval Management

Classification Manager provides full access, review, and control of component approval and preferences based on commodity, consuming location, and/or suppliers to minimize component proliferation. It supports qualification and approval of enterprise parts and their equivalents (MEPs and SEPs) for use in BOMs.

Collaboration & Approvals

Users can benefit from a wide range of capabilities for global enterprise collaboration. Those capabilities include the ability to manage and organize shared documents and structured product data. They also enable the creation of digital workspaces for virtual teams to work together. Users can easily raise issues, organize meetings and track decisions. Any object lifecycle modifications can be formally approved using routes defined by end-users or from standard route templates.

Microsoft Integration

Users can create and access **3DEXPERIENCE** data from the most popular Microsoft applications: Word®, Excel®, PowerPoint®, Outlook®, Windows Explorer, and Windows Desktop Search. This capability enables enterprise-level collaboration while not disrupting the established productivity of end-users. With product content being managed in **3DEXPERIENCE** rather than on users' PCs, organizations are able to create, manage and review product content more securely.

Our **3DEXPERIENCE**® platform powers our brand applications, serving 12 industries, and provides a rich portfolio of industry solution experiences.

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