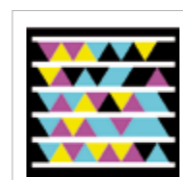




Viking Range cooks up culinary excellence with DS PLM

Viking Range invented the professional-quality home appliance category in 1987. Since then, however, a number of competitors have sprung up, challenging Viking for supremacy. To maintain its leadership position in this now-crowded field, Viking counts on DS PLM, including ENOVIA and CATIA, as it works to continuously improve its products and introduce innovative new technology.



Use your smartphone to learn more about Viking Range

75% ENOVIA workflow has dramatically reduced the time required to complete ECNs, from as much as 30 days to as few as five days, a 75% improvement.

Viking Range Corporation introduced professional-quality cooking to the home when its first range shipped in 1987. Today, the company's passion for excellence is as relentless as ever – and so is its competition. "Our Number One business challenge is stepping up the pace of continual innovation to develop a stream of products that set our brand apart," Viking Range Chief Financial Officer, Brian Waldrop, says of the company, which is based in Greenwood, Mississippi, USA.

Design of the broad Viking Range product line is spread across multiple locations in Greenwood and California. To stay competitive, each team

must take advantage of the others' work by reusing existing designs and replicating best practices companywide.

To help increase the pace of product innovation, Viking selected Dassault Systèmes (DS) Lifecycle Management (PLM) solutions, including CATIA for virtual product design and ENOVIA for global collaborative lifecycle management.

DS SOLUTIONS HELP VIKING RANGE SET THE PACE

Evidence of DS PLM's influence is apparent almost everywhere at Viking. In the past, an engineer might have spent a month producing documentation for a

single order from the St. Charles Cabinetry Division. Leveraging CATIA for knowledge-based design, Viking worked with Inceptra to develop a Cabinet Configurator that automatically generates design geometry, bills of material, manufacturing drawings and computer numerical control (CNC) programs in a matter of minutes. The configurator allows Viking to engineer an average of 50 items per day, compared to five-to-seven items per day manually. Inceptra also supports Viking with implementation experience, training and technical support.

Viking Commercial design engineers use CATIA for part design, drafting, sheet metal design, product assembly, line-up assembly, suite assembly and electrical design. "CATIA's 3D design and parametric capabilities allow faster development time and greater accuracy, along with the flexibility to easily create other sizes and configurations," says Eric Deng, director of operations for Viking Commercial. "CATIA also helps facilitate communication with marketing and industrial design, enabling quicker prototype confirmation."

Viking Commercial developed a line of more than 500 modular products and more than 250 accessories from scratch in less than two years, with parts that can be mixed and matched to deliver thousands of customer-specific configurations. "With CATIA, we can offer flexibilities in modular customization superior to our competitors," Deng says.

STREAMLINING PROCESSES AND ACCELERATING INNOVATION

Dan Lyvers, vice president of engineering for Viking Range, observes that consistency is critical to quality. "Each of our engineering teams had developed its own processes and standards, which were not conducive to doing business as a single entity. ENOVIA gives everyone access to parts designed by other teams and delivers common processes built on proven best practices."

Almost every Viking product development process involves numerous engineering change notices (ECNs). Previously, ECNs were reviewed through a complex manual process lasting a month or more. "I sometimes had engineering change orders stacked so high that I could barely see over them," says Sheila Taylor, engineering technical information coordinator.



Dassault Systèmes is a consistent leader, so choosing CATIA and ENOVIA SmarTeam was a simple decision.

Brian Waldrop
Chief Financial Officer
Viking Range

In the paper-based system, changes often stayed invisible to Manufacturing and Purchasing until they were nearly ready to implement, raising the risk of building or buying obsolete parts. Leveraging ENOVIA, ECNs are now delivered to each approver electronically, with reminders when due dates approach. Taylor always knows every ECN's status – and her desk is no longer buried in paper.

ENOVIA workflow also has dramatically reduced the time required to complete ECNs, from as much as 30 days to five days, a 75% improvement. And because Manufacturing and Purchasing can see the instant anything changes, the company has eliminated the production of parts based on outdated documentation, an improvement that saves \$250,000 annually.

"The increased speed with which we are able to process ECNs reduces the time required to get new products and improvements to existing products to our customers," says Neil Littell, CAD/PLM Administrator, Viking Range. "The automated workflow also saves our engineers and designers time that they use to investigate new concepts and innovative designs."



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