Managing Multi-CAD Complexity on a Budget

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*This is an abbreviated version. A link to download the full eBook is available on the Tech-Clarity website, [www.tech-clarity.com](http://www.tech-clarity.com).

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Can a Simpler Data Management Approach Still Work in a Multi-CAD Environment?

Tech-Clarity’s The Basics of Managing CAD - When Brute Force Fails and PDM is too Much took a fresh look at what it takes to effectively manage CAD. For some, implementing formal data management solutions is out of reach. But the risk and inefficiency of unmanaged design files is simply a bad idea. So what’s a company to do? The report explored options and suggested that taking a simpler approach makes a lot more sense than wishful thinking!

But the reality is that most companies have designs in a variety of CAD formats. Can a more basic approach still work? Or are companies with multi-CAD doomed to suffer through the resulting inefficiency and errors?

It's time to go back to our view of the basics and evaluate options.

“A simplified, cloud-based CAD data management approach can provide important benefits with significantly reduced investment.”

“The basics of managing CAD

Consolidating CAD

“There are solutions that enable collaborative access to designs from multiple CAD solutions, but they add a level of complexity.”

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Multi-CAD in the Cloud? We Say Yes!

“Success is usually about who can do things the fastest.”

Robert Conley, Owner, Interactive CAD Solutions

“Cloud services make a lot of sense. Given how fast our business moves we didn’t have time to bring up a server and get people up to speed on a traditional solution.”

Ryan Lam, Staff Mechanical Engineer, Synaptics

Simple, cloud-based CAD management solutions are an excellent option to meet the basic needs to control, access, and share multi-CAD data without the overhead of traditional solutions.

And yes, although there are some unique requirements that must be met, the same goes for multi-CAD too!

As The Basics of Managing CAD concluded, “The time is right for a new class of solutions that offers simpler capabilities with reduced overhead to solve the age-old problems of managing CAD data.”
About the Author

Jim Brown is the President of Tech-Clarity, an independent research and consulting firm that specializes in analyzing the business value of software technology and services. Jim has over 20 years of experience in software for the manufacturing industries. He has a broad background including roles in industry, management consulting, the software industry, and research.

Jim’s experience spans enterprise applications including PLM, ERP, quality management, service lifecycle management, manufacturing, supply chain management, and more. Jim is passionate about improving product innovation, product development, and engineering performance through the use of software technology.

Jim is an experienced researcher, author, and public speaker and enjoys the opportunity to speak at conferences or anywhere he can engage with people with a passion to improve business performance through software technology.