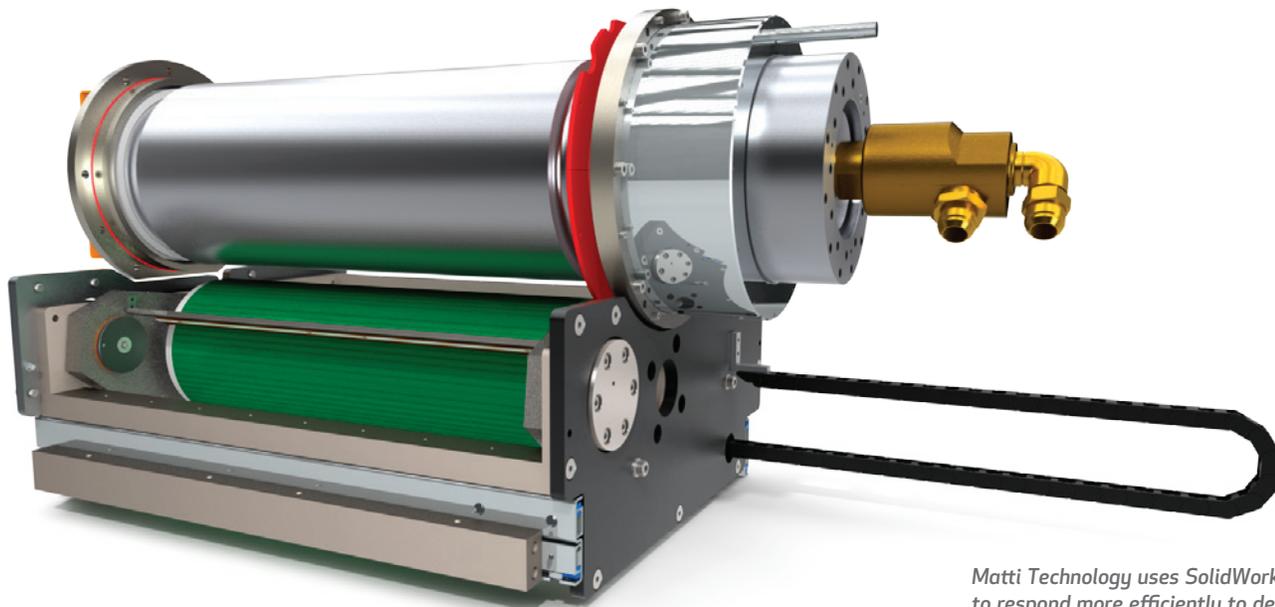


MATTI TECHNOLOGY AG

Ramping up design of high-speed printing systems with SolidWorks Enterprise PDM



Matti Technology uses SolidWorks solutions to respond more efficiently to demand for its high-speed digital printing systems.

The high-speed digital printing market moves rapidly. Businesses ranging from data centers and innovative printing companies to direct mailers, letter shops, and banking institutions cannot satisfy their large-scale printing needs with off-the-shelf products. By necessity, they work with an expert partner to develop custom solutions to their specific printing demands. As quality, technical expertise, and reliability become increasingly critical for delivering diverse high-speed digital printers quickly, more and more companies turn to Matti Technology AG.

Headquartered in Switzerland, Matti Technology has drawn on its many years of experience in the development of printing presses, finishing lines, drying techniques, and digital printing technologies to play a leading role in providing turnkey, high-speed solutions to support a variety of business printing needs. Having successfully integrated a thousand different digital systems, the company applies the same devotion to quality invested in its products to its own development processes, according to Thomas Schwarz, head of Matti's PDM and CAD Project.

Matti Technology used a combination of AutoCAD® 2D and Autodesk Inventor® design tools to develop its systems until 2006. At that point an important customer—the Eastman Kodak Company—asked the firm to develop one of its systems using SolidWorks® 3D design software. “We had to deliver the design files to the customer in the SolidWorks format, so we had to purchase a SolidWorks license,” Schwarz recalls. “Using SolidWorks to complete that project demonstrated the system’s value to us, so we decided to switch. Now, all of our new designs are done in SolidWorks.”

The printer manufacturer soon added a copy of SolidWorks Premium software to allow its engineers to take advantage of simulation technology. Most recently, the company evaluated product data management (PDM) systems as part of its continuous improvement efforts.

Challenge:

Improve the use of collaborative design teams to accelerate the development of complex assemblies and minimize errors.

Solution:

Add the SolidWorks Enterprise PDM system to improve the management of data and processes related to the use of SolidWorks design and simulation tools.

Results:

- Shortened design cycles by 10 to 20 percent through design reuse
- Reduced development costs by 10 to 20 percent
- Decreased prototyping requirements
- Streamlined interactions with suppliers

"We wanted to address data issues related to having multiple designers collaboratively work on an assembly," Schwarz explains. "Our machines contain between 2,000 and 5,000 parts, and we needed to better control revisions of drawings, parts, and assemblies, and make it easier to work with more people on a large assembly by formalizing and automating our workflows."

After evaluating several PDM solutions, Matti Technology chose SolidWorks Enterprise PDM software because it is easy to use, easy to administer, has minimal training requirements, and is the only system that is fully integrated with the SolidWorks design environment.

Integrated PDM saves time and money

Since implementing the SolidWorks Enterprise PDM system, Matti Technology has improved design team coordination, increased design reuse, and made greater use of simulation tools. This has resulted in a 10 to 20 percent reduction in design cycle time and 10 to 20 percent savings in development costs.

"SolidWorks Enterprise PDM is helping us develop a design library," Schwarz explains. "Reusing some of our custom-manufactured parts saves time and minimizes costs. The benefit we receive is not so much related to standard parts or purchased parts, but with those components that we manufacture. Because some of our suppliers use SolidWorks, and we can use SolidWorks to export other formats for those that don't, we have also streamlined communications with our suppliers and manufacturing partners."

Automating workflows, eliminating errors

Matti Technology uses SolidWorks Enterprise PDM software to automate workflows, not only for managing assembly design and releasing designs to Manufacturing, but also for generating bills of materials (BOMs) and purchasing parts. The company provides its Purchasing Department with contributor licenses so it can leverage released assembly design data to automate its operations. Schwarz says administering the SolidWorks Enterprise PDM system takes about one hour of his time each week.

"We have always produced quality, error-free products, but the PDM system provides another level of security that we won't make mistakes," Schwarz stresses. "There are fewer questions: about whether a drawing is the most current revision, about whether a part or product is numbered correctly, or about what parts need to be ordered and when they need to be available."

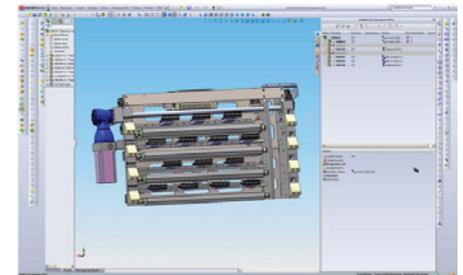
Simulation cuts prototyping requirements

SolidWorks Enterprise PDM software allows Matti Technology to manage its design data better, leading the company to increase its use of SolidWorks Simulation tools. Now, the company conducts stress analyses, motion simulations, and interference fit checks in software, reducing prototyping requirements in the process.

"We still perform testing, but we do less and are not so dependent on it," Schwarz notes. "SolidWorks Simulation technology enables us to make sure that our parts work properly—or helps us make them function better—while producing fewer prototypes, which saves time, reduces costs, and helps us speed product delivery to our customers."

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Thomas Schwarz
PDM and CAD Project Head



By automating workflows with SolidWorks Enterprise PDM software, Matti Technology saves time and minimizes costs in the development of its high-speed printing systems.



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