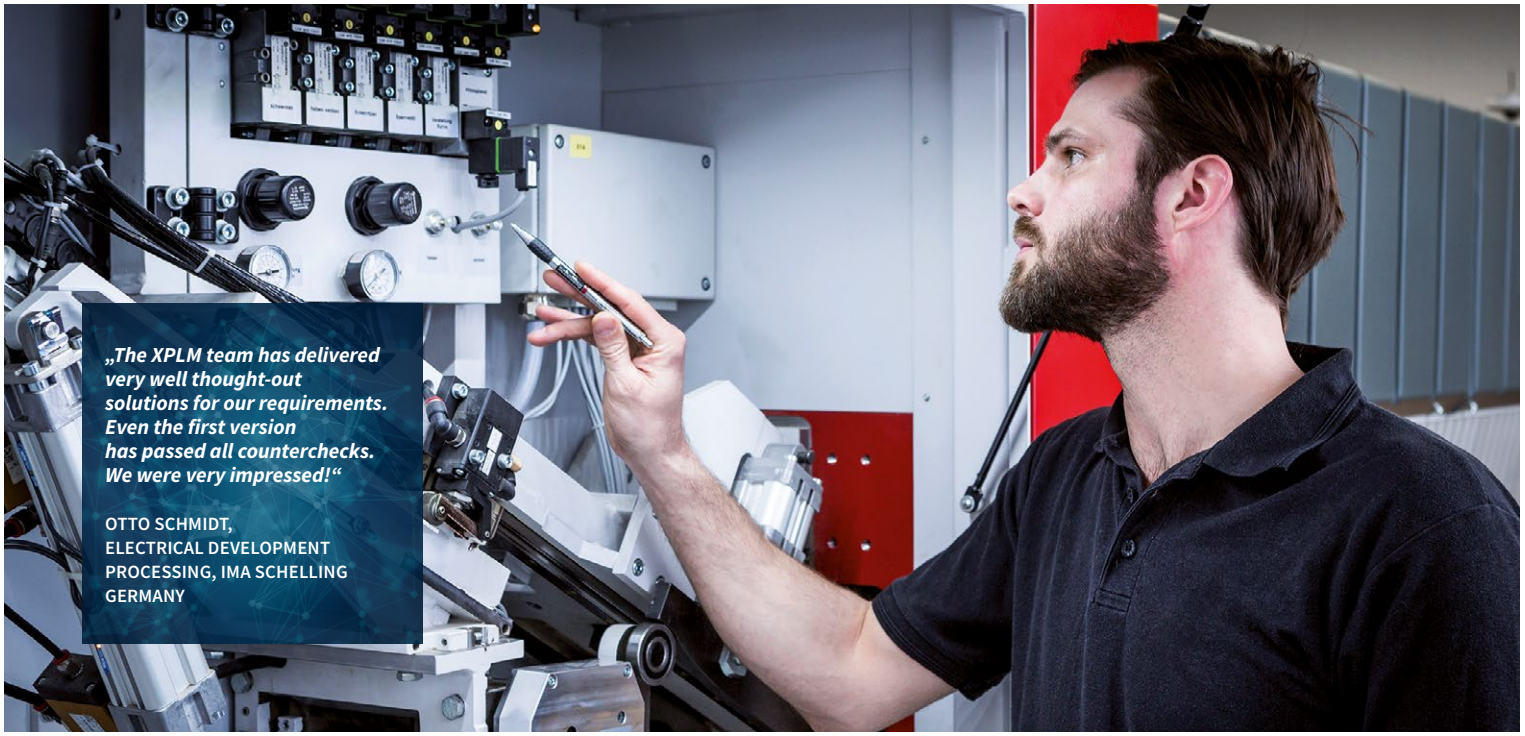
Customer Success Story



THE PROJECT

Two-stage EPLAN integration into the Aras Innovator PLM. The challenge: managing the many different parts lists.

THE CLIENT

IMA Schelling develops and manufactures special equipment and processing solutions for digitalised, fully automated and networked production in the wood, metal and plastic processing industries. With availability worldwide, the systems cover the entire process chain for handling and processing tasks of plate-shaped materials.

STARTING POINT

After the integration of ELCAD in 2017, IMA Schelling started EPLAN integration into the Aras Innovator in December 2020 with the aim of eliminating all sources of error through digitalised communication between engineering, procurement and production. This required fully automated parts list management in the PLM system that reflects how production is actually organised.

SOLUTION

IMA Schelling's special systems for producing plate-shaped materials made of wood, metal and plastic are in demand all over the world. If required, they can map all process chain functions. In order to increase project throughput, the machine manufacturer has strongly modularised and standardised all system concepts. The system documentation and assembly areas are organised to match this structure.
The heart of IMA Schelling's system construction is the parts list. The designers, therefore, provide each assembly area with function-related project documentation in the Aras Innovator. They receive the dedicated circuit diagram with evaluations as a PDF file, accompanied by an automatically exported parts list.

COMPLEX LOGIC MANAGES THE GENERATION OF FUNCTION-RELATED PARTS LISTS

The parts list function for direct ECAD-PLM integration has been adapted to provide all production teams with exactly the parts list relevant for their area of expertise.
To generate a parts list and store it in the PLM system, the integration offers designers a mapping list with various identifiers to choose from. These IDs stand for the specified machine modules of the individual assembly areas.
For example, they can describe the different transportation technology for parts made of wood, metal or plastic.
If the designer selects an ID, the associated PLM template generates the appropriate structural parts list.

The ID entry in the parts list header shows the module of the project described by the parts list. The construction required for assembling each functional module is specified in the item list via the article numbers.

For extensive projects, an additional filter function facilitates parts list management in the ECAD-Aras integration.

MECHATRONIC PARTS LISTS PREVENT MATERIAL FROM BEING ORDERED TWICE

From the mechanical and electrotechnical design, the purchase of IMA Schelling receives complete parts lists showing the material requirements for each specific project. In order to further optimise the procurement process, it is important to manage a mechatronic parts list in the Aras Innovator.
It prevents components from being ordered by both mechanics and electrotechnicians.

This is controlled via item number ranges in the mechatronic parts list reserved for the mechanical and electrical engineering trades as well as for manual entries. Different access rights are linked to these item numbers. While mechanics have write permissions at item number level, electrical technicians have write permissions for subject-related fields such as the reference identifier (BMK).

In addition, regular synchronisation of the article master data between EPLAN P8 and the Aras Innovator ensures that the designers only work with current components. It is not possible to select old components or ones that have not yet been released.

ADDED VALUE

- Extensive customising of the parts list management in the direct ECAD-PLM integration allows IMA Schelling to map its processes across departments and precisely.
- The processes based on parts lists follow a complex logic. The continuous data streams have increased quality and transparency of the interdisciplinary processes.
- An additionally integrated filter function makes it easier for ECAD designers to manage very extensive parts lists.

ABOUT XPLM

XPLM is a globally operating PLM solution provider specializing in integrating applications, processes, data and information for optimum cross-domain collaboration between engineers. With its unique portfolio, XPLM integrates leading PLM, MCAD, ECAD, SysML, ERP, Office, Requirements Management and ALM/software tools.

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