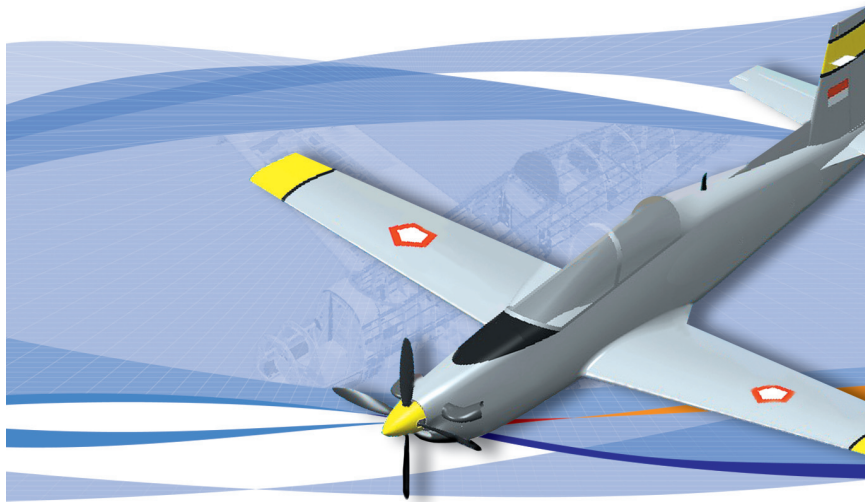


# Korea Aerospace Industries Ltd. streamlines data management with SMARTEAM



*“SMARTEAM makes it easy to manage the production infrastructure and helps us to develop a programme faster.”*

Jong-hyun Choi, manager, KAI.

## Overview

### ■ The Challenge

*KAI needed to eliminate errors and simplify paperwork for its make-to-order systems by automating data management*

### ■ The Solution

*KAI's Changwon plant chose SMARTEAM as its PDM solution for its ease of integration with CATIA V5, infrastructure management capabilities and ease of use*

### ■ The Benefit

*KAI estimates that it has reduced document management time by 30 percent, approval and delivery time by 80 percent with SMARTEAM.*

### PLM part of growth plans

Korea Aerospace Industries (KAI), the only aircraft system integrator in Korea, leads the nation's aerospace industries through continuous research and development and the manufacture of top-quality products. The company's core business includes munitions and the export of aerostructures to leading aerospace companies like Boeing and Airbus.

Thanks to its success with CATIA V4, and to keep pace with its collaborators, KAI recently transitioned to CATIA V5 for new product design and testing.

The company's goal is to rank among the top 10 aerospace companies in the world by 2010. To achieve this goal, KAI knew it needed to streamline and eliminate problems from its collaborations with aerospace partners.

### Goals hindered by data management problems

KAI's made-to-order systems and project-based approach at its Changwon plant requires many forms documenting customer requirements and specifications. Because a variety of projects are performed simultaneously and the data on shape alterations delivered by clients is complicated, the plant maintained a mixed logistic system that often caused KAI's purchasing department to fail to meet distribution requirements.

Its in-house legacy programme, ADIS, for drawing management required manually reviewing, approving and scanning printed images into the database, making it difficult to search for data and causing errors in data entry and registration.

“ADIS complicated space and management, because it was difficult to deliver original files when transferring duties of work,” says Jong-hyun Choi, KAI’s manager. “With the difficulties it was causing in our global collaborations, we decided to consider the introduction of a commercial data management programme.”

### **SMARTEAM saves time and money**

Choi says, in making its selection of a data management system, KAI needed to consider compatibility with CATIA V5 and its existing in-house legacy and Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) systems. To strengthen the competitiveness of its Changwon plant, KAI management selected SMARTEAM.

“SMARTEAM’s seamless integration with CATIA V5 and easy to use interfaces will ultimately enable us to manage the production infrastructure. In addition, it offers lots of templates and helps develop a programme faster,” says Choi.

In just six months, a task force team analysed the types and uses of data in processes from workflow to configuration management, considering the requirements of each employee and the needs of every department at KAI, and implemented the PLM system at the Changwon plant.

Despite the level of care taken by the task force, Choi says he was concerned the new system would not be readily accepted by KAI’s employees. But his fears were quickly dispelled.

“They have easily adapted to using SMARTEAM due to its many advantages, including the ease of managing revisions or data on processes,” Choi says.

KAI estimates that it has reduced the cost of printing, document preparation and management time by 30 percent, streamlining approval and delivery time by 80 percent with SMARTEAM. It also has automated registration through the standardisation, integration and simplification of its data management processes.

KAI forecasts that the complete database will help improve the quality of information on production technology and contribute to continued improvements in product quality. And, therefore, the company predicts SMARTEAM will help it achieve its goal of becoming a top ten aerospace company by 2010.

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