

Sokaris Ingénierie

A consultant for full product development



Overview

Challenge

- Increase reactivity
- Diversify activities
- CAD/FEA integrated solution

Solutions

- CATIA V5 3D Design
- CATIA V5 Analysis
- Product / Process Integration

Benefits

- Reduced calculation time
- Gains from 30 to 40% in modification time
- Enhanced productivity

“With CATIA V5, we observed significant gains in calculation time, the models are more complete and more realistic.”

Thierry Lavigne, Technical Manager at Sokaris Ingénierie



Sokaris Ingénierie develops industrial products from pre-project up to industrialization. The company proposes innovative solutions in the field of product streamlining.

Sokaris engineering expertise

Integrating the product with the process enabled the firm to acquire an expertise in the development of reliable technical and economical solutions for industrialization. Its activities focus on the automotive, transportation, defense and security sectors. Sokaris Ingénierie acts as a consultant on methodology, research and development, as well as on physical measurements and industrial processes. Its present turnover is approximately 1 million euros. In 1999, Jean-Pierre Gaudet, a former employee at PSA, created the firm Sokaris Ingénierie, located in France's Paris region, to meet the specific needs of casting manufacturers: part pre-dimensioning. At that time, the casting manufacturers would outsource to design offices the pre-dimensioning calculations.

Searching for reactivity

“CATIA is the reference solution for the automotive industry. Based on specifications provided by

the manufacturer, we are in charge of dimensioning the product. We are responsible for the product development, and we manage the project from the beginning to the end,” explains Jean Pierre Gaudet.

Currently Sokaris Ingénierie has several CAD systems. The company uses CATIA V5 for all its projects, from precise solid and surface design to pre-dimensioning of parts with integrated modules (GPS/GAS) and drawing generation. Mr. Gaudet presents CATIA V5 as the PLM solution which cannot be ignored today, and stresses the strong points which are parameter setting and computation. Parameter setting facilitates a faster management of modifications, with a major geometric aspect, which allows for a larger number of iterations. “With CATIA V5, we observed significant gains in calculation time, the models are more complete and more realistic,” states Thierry Lavigne, Technical Manager at Sokaris Ingénierie. “CATIA V5 allows us to be more predictive and therefore more productive”.

With parameter setting using CATIA V5, Sokaris Ingénierie saves

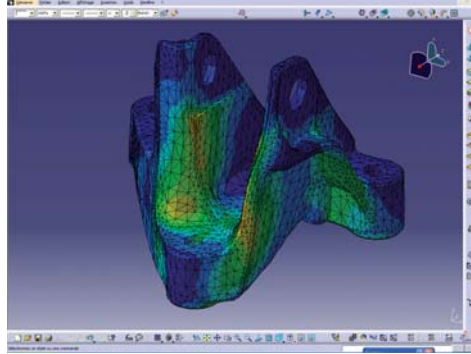


between 30% and 40% time on modifications, and this time can be used by the engineers for brainstorming and innovation.

Diversifying activities

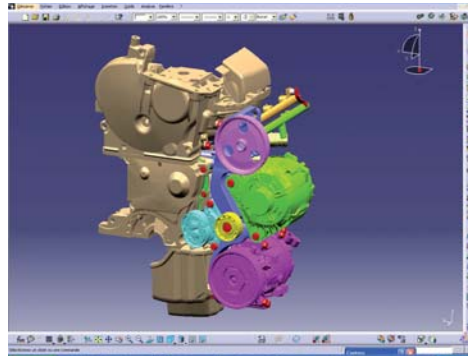
Thanks to its contact with casting manufacturers, Sokaris has acquired an experience in industrial process and has become an expert in industrialization. "The various casting manufacturers working with us have developed an expertise in pre-dimensioning. We have acquired from them an industrial expertise which enabled us to position ourselves on new markets. We have acquired significant knowledge and know-how, and we are therefore able to assist our clients in the choice of their industrial process."

Sokaris has thus been able to expand its activities and diversify by proposing its consultancy to tier-one suppliers and rubber industries. Its basic clients remain the casting manufacturers such as the companies Arche Euralcom or Form, but mainly all the automotive manufacturers such as Renault, Peugeot, Nissan, etc.



"We carry out the full development, from analyzing needs up to product validation for all the parts of the company Form and the firm Fonte Ardennaise."
"Our business is to provide consultancy

on the full development of components and systems, by defining the best ratio "holding force/mass/cost" in order to propose the best solution to our client. We handle the entire project, except for tests which are outsourced, but engineering is integrated. We propose comparative studies on processes. We should never forget that the important thing for the client is the price and the optimization of the production means." Sokaris Ingénierie's strengths are its reactivity, since it remains a small company (10 employees currently), and its product/process integration. Sokaris Ingénierie's objective for the coming years is to expand in order to take on larger projects, while integrating



new processes such as forging, stamping as well as plastic and composite processes, such as the new Félin program of the company Safran for which Sokaris Ingénierie is managing the definition of components made of magnesium and elastomer. "We would like to develop the company in Lyon and Paris to reach a staff of approximately 25. Our vocation is to remain a small company in order to maintain our SMB spirit and, at all times, be just as reactive. Our strength is to bring a strong added value to our clients in order to promote technology and offer innovating solutions."



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