



Technological University of Puebla

Turns students into workplace leaders

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Gerardo Lara
Rector
T.U.P.

Challenge

Technological University of Puebla (UTP) required a PLM technology center to better prepare students for the demands of central Mexico's growing and increasingly sophisticated workplace.

Solution

UTP chose CATIA, DELMIA, ENOVIA and 3DVIA Composer to provide its professors and students with state-of-the-art technology for product design and manufacturing.

Benefits

UTP's PLM Competency Center reinforces the university's technological leadership in Mexico and strengthens the institution's ability to train a new generation of workplace-ready PLM experts.





Leading technical education institution in Mexico

Technological University of Puebla is a public academic institution located in the central Mexican state of Puebla. In the past five years, UTP has increased enrollment by 69%, resulting in a broadening of its academic coverage and the quality of its educational agenda. In 1994, UTP became a public organization, decentralized from the government of the State of Puebla, with its own legal status and assets. UTP belongs to the national system of technological universities.

The university offers students a two-year teaching program designed to graduate individuals as Advanced University Technologists or TSU, the Spanish acronym for *Técnicos Superiores Universitarios*. TSUs are trained in the humanities, science and technology fields in order to meet the personnel requirements of local manufacturing companies such as Volkswagen. To that end, the institution links students to companies in industries in which they have an interest. This means that students spend 30% of their time on theory and 70% on practical training, a process that includes classroom and laboratory activities as well as visits and internships in state-run companies. Over half of UTP's curriculum takes place in the real world at companies in industries selected by the student.

State-of-the-art technology turns students into leaders

The State of Puebla is the eighth largest economy in Mexico and is home to two major industrial sectors: the automotive and textile industries. Both have experienced constant growth in the past three years due to the establishment and development of companies in both domains.

Given its TSU accreditation system and its mission to prepare students for the workforce through targeted industry internships, UTP needed to invest in specialized fields such as mechatronics, industrial maintenance, industrial processes, operations, and automatization technologies. This included the creation of the UTP PLM Competency Center whose mission is to develop a highly skilled class of Mexican product designers.

To create the PLM Competency Center, UTP selected a full suite of Dassault Systèmes



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PLM solutions including CATIA, DELMIA, ENOVIA and 3DVIA Composer (V6) solutions. "Dassault Systèmes' technology offerings have transformed UTP into an institution at the forefront of 3D PLM technology and helped us strengthen our ties to local and regional industries seeking new talent," said Gerardo Lara, Rector of Technological University of Puebla.

UTP was chosen as the site for the first PLM Center among 78 other universities given its proximity to major industrial centers and commitment to growing the student population (3,200 in 2005 to more than 5,400 today). UTP's PLM Center will also become the headquarters of a national network of laboratories specializing in product lifecycle management.

Innovation in education and industry

Buoyed with a four-million peso (US\$330k) investment from the Mexican government, UTP's PLM Competency Center is today at the forefront of technology education in Mexico. More than 20 professors have been trained to work at the PLM Center and teachers and students alike are now ready to create rich and interactive learning experiences while training, collaborating and conducting research. "Today, over 70% of UTP graduates find work within the first six months of receiving their degree," said Lara. "With the UTP PLM Competency Center, we want to reach 100%."

Experience gained in the Center will equip students to become leaders in the workplace and help local and national companies become even more innovative and competitive. UTP is now ready to expand beyond its walls and offer access to the Center to other Mexican universities and centers of higher learning throughout the country.



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