



From left to right: Thomas Rudolph (Senior Consultant Keytech), Andrea Symanzik, Ansgar Kaltenthaler, Frank Schlupp (CEO Keytech Süd), Roger Infanger and Martin Kugelmann, after the new PDM solution launch.

→ What is PDM?

The Product Data Management covers all the data required to manufacture a product (the Manufacturing Data Package with drawings, bills of material, raw data for PCBs, Software). Beyond those data the PDM needs to take care about all documentation related to a product and all records (e.g. acceptance test results, electrical safety). It allows generating configuration and delivery lists and tracking problem reports linked to the products.

In the past, the product data was managed for the former Test & Services Germany within the SAP-PLM module of Airbus DS - a complex solution dedicated to large companies and focused on high quantity series production. Ulm team's challenge was to define a new solution matching the requirements of our customers on one hand and supporting the idea of an agile mid-size company (SME) on the other hand.

In 2014, we started with a 2-day workshop with PLMWorks, a swiss company providing tool independent and praxis oriented consultancy around CAD and PLM/PDM. Based on our requirements we were in the position to launch the selection process of the future PDM-tool, but also a service provider supporting the implementation phase. Mr. Roger Infanger from PLMworks worked exhaustively with our team: "The collaboration with the entire

Rollout for new PDM solution in Ulm

In the world of defence industry, as well as aeronautics, there are strong requirements on the correct management of the product data and the related configuration management. Feedback on Ulm experience to integrate new tools tailored to our new needs.

Spherea team was very pleasant. The agreed time schedule and arrangements were respected. That was the reason why we were able to select a solution in time and below the defined budget."

We selected the PDM solution from Keytech providing the tools and the necessary service out of one hand. In January 2015 we launched the implementation project. An iterative approach allowed us to learn more and more about the tool and to ensure that the implementation covers our needs.

Now we are able to roll-out the solution to the entire engineering team. Some converters have been developed to allow us a porting of all the SAP-PLM data in the Keytech tool.

After the initial weeks, the project teams have already confirmed that configuration management requires now half of the time and is a real added value in the daily business.