## Intelligent preparation of SAP objects

The integration platform SAP Engineering Control Center (SAP ECTR) helps in the optimal use of SAP objects and their linking to the processes of all relevant SAP modules. And it offers an intuitive user interface with tried and tested features as well as direct SAP access. Thus it brings all kinds of SAP content from many different sources direct to the participants of the most varied business processes. At the same time, requirements can be precisely implemented – whether individually for the company or specifically for the industry.

The idea behind it all: everything in a single system. For this purpose, SAP ECTR integrates authoring tools in SAP PLM: from mechanical CAD (MCAD) to electric/electronic CAD (ECAD) to MS Office. Via standardized direct interfaces such as "SAP ECTR interface to NX" or "SAP ECTR interface to ECAD" and others, the data and documents flow from the authoring tools directly to the SAP system and are available company-wide – including via neutral formats. They can easily be linked with SAP business objects and used in many business processes – and not just in SAP PLM. Examples:

Variant management in engineering: With an integrated solution, a furniture manufacturer has optimized its variant management using SAP ECTR. For every product, there is a CAD basic model with a neutral BOM. The mapping of the variant configuration is done using change cases, and a mass change process then automatically adapts the CAD basic model. Variant-specific BOMs and assembly drawings are also generated automatically. That makes the handling of the six-monthly furniture programs and the Engineering to Order process much simpler and more efficient.

**Plant management and maintenance:** A company in the oil and gas industry that develops its own plant has used SAP ECTR to implement a consistent solution for investment building projects: with digital asset repository for Asset Information Management (AIM) and an AIM cockpit for easy information retrieval. Also, digital and physical assets are linked via the functional-location hierarchy. This gives rise to a digital twin of the plant with which real conditions can be virtually evaluated and verified – for maintenance purposes and the optimization of the plant operation.

**Quality and compliance management:** A medical device manufacturer uses SAP ECTR for compliance management. Design releases require design control with a digital signature. Documents subject to submission requirements are automatically assembled into product records. And for audits, a reliable audit trail is provided – thanks to the closed system that combines everything: from product data and docu-



ment management to process definition and control to user and rights administration.

**Process optimization made easy:** The standard software SAP ECTR is easy to introduce, maintain and use. It can also be flexibly combined, adapted and extended. Thus process optimization is not only fast and simple but also economical and future-oriented – whether companies are using SAP ERP or SAP S/4 HANA, whether they are pursuing Industry-4.0 concepts such as Internet of Things (IoT) or Smart Factory, or whether they are planning gradual or immediate optimization. The potentials for sustainable economic success are enormous, and DCS supplies the right solution in all cases.

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