

# Secrets of Fast and Secure Product Design Data Exchange

A short adventure with Rocket TRUfusion Enterprise



Alison is the lead engineer at an automotive car manufacturer in the US, working on a new model. She's responsible for coordinating design files with Tier 1 suppliers, and to meet her looming launch date she must prevent delays at all costs.

Alison's Tier 1 supplier contacts are Rodney and Caitlyn. Rodney is the lead engineer at the supplier manufacturing the cars' seats, and Caitlyn is the lead engineer at the supplier manufacturing the cars' dashboard. Both need to prepare, package, and send their CAD data to Alison by the end of the day so she can create the tooling needed for final assembly. There can't be any mistakes!

### Alison needs the design data from Rodney and Caitlyn, and it must:

- Meet quality specifications
- Conform to mandated file-naming conventions
- Be delivered as native CATIA v5 files

## Who will get there first?

**Rodney's** product design data exchange (PDX) method is entirely manual.



# **Caitlyn's** PDX method is now 100% automated within her PLM system.

Everything Alison needs—from file naming, format, authorized file recipients, how it's shared—has been pre-configured. This is a big change from all the work she used to do manually.



Caitlyn tells her PDX solution which dashboard assembly

In her PLM system she wants to share and with whom. Based on Alison's requirements, Caitlyn's PDX automation tool converts the NX assemblies, parts and drawing files into CATIA v5, renames them, and checks the quality of the results.



Rodney starts by exporting his 100-part seat assembly, created in NX, from his PLM system.

Next, he checks to ensure the assembly includes all the correct parts and drawings, and that they satisfy Alison's mandated naming conventions. It will take him 90 minutes to check all 100 parts and rename them.

Rodney has to do this by hand since his company's PLM system has its own naming convention, different from their customers'. He knows if he makes a mistake, Alison will reject the files.

Rodney's coworker stops by his desk to ask a technical question. It takes quite some time to answer the question and get back to his task for Alison.

Check

2

### 3 Convert ····

Using a purchased third-party direct translator and check-in tool, Rodney converts his NX files to CATIA v5 and checks them.

Compress

Rodney's manager needs to move their weekly team meeting and asks Rodney to take care of the rescheduling before everyone's calendars fill up.

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#### STOP!

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Rodney preps his package for Alison. It includes all the required CATIA v5 files, metadata, and other supporting documents.

Rodney gets a high-priority email from another client about an error found in files sent the day before. Fixing it and resending them takes priority for several hours. Rodney must delay sending the package to Alison.

STOP!

4

## 5 Send ···

Now that Rodney has completed the design change for the other customer, he can finish getting the product design data to Alison. His final step is to upload the package of files to the web portal he uses with Alison.

#### **3** Received

When the CAD data is ready for download from the secure web portal, the system sends Alison a link to quickly and easily retrieve the files.

Caitlyn continues working on dashboard designs for her other partners.

### ··· 2 Send

Caitlyn confirms Alison as the recipient of the CAD data within her PDX tool and clicks send via the secure web portal.

This only takes a few minutes of Caitlyn's time, so she can work on what she does best—dashboard design!

# **Caitlyn's** total time elapsed: 5 *minutes*

In total, it took Caitlyn 5 minutes to prepare and send the dashboard product design data. Alison is satisfied with the process and gives the all-clear to begin tooling for the assembly line!

After all the manual steps required and unexpected interruptions, Rodney gets the seat files to Alison minutes before the workday ended. Alison is frustrated because her work is delayed. She wonders how Caitlyn can be so responsive and send the product design data in minutes, while it takes Rodney a whole day.

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**Rodney's** total time elapsed: 5 *hours*.

He spent an entire day on two tasks. Luckily Rodney has a great memory, otherwise Alison might not have received the package until the next morning.

# The secret to Caitlyn's success?

# She automated her PDX process with **Rocket<sup>®</sup> TRUfusion<sup>™</sup> Enterprise.**

Take the friction and stress out of collaborative design. Save your engineers valuable time, minimize errors, and reduce risk. Rocket TRUfusion Enterprise replaces disconnected and tedious manual data exchange tasks with a single automated process. It's a simple, cost-effective solution, enabling secure exchanges of CAD files and related product design data from within your PLM system.

Learn more about TRUfusion Enterprise

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