



Courtesy of MHI Vestas Offshore Wind

Taking off Through the Cloud: How MHI Vestas Offshore Wind was able to Quickly Deploy PLM to Beat the Competition

In the past few decades, alternative sources of energy have gone from the fringe to the mainstream. As the drive to save the planet has intensified, a market has emerged around providing cost-efficient, renewable energy sources.

MHI Vestas Offshore Wind is a major player in this industry -- developing offshore wind power solutions. A joint venture by Vestas Wind Systems A/S and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, the organization manufactures, operates, and services the technology needed to bring offshore wind power to the market as an economically viable and sustainable energy resource that will benefit generations to come.

Business Challenges

Founded in 2014, MHI Vestas Offshore Wind needed to hit the ground running to beat the competition in the burgeoning renewable energy source field. “We had absolutely nothing: no infrastructure, not even tables in the office,” says Jakob Raadik Christensen, Lead PLM Architect. “At the same time, competition in the marketplace was fierce. Time was of the essence and we needed to get our product development process in order fast.”

Solution

Windchill, PTC’s industry-leading product lifecycle management (PLM) application suite, was the solution to getting MHI Vestas Offshore Wind’s product development process kicked into overdrive. Windchill’s flexible deployment options made it easy to deploy in the PTC Cloud, offering MHI Vestas Offshore Wind the agility and speed that they needed. In addition, by leveraging PTC Professional Services to help migrate their data into the new cloud-based system, the team was able to free up internal IT resources to focus on more high-value projects that would drive innovation versus managing the solution.

MHI Vestas Offshore Wind adopted a step-by-step process to its roll out of PLM in the PTC Cloud to downstream teams. First, it adopted the full suite of Windchill modules to kickstart the design and engineering teams. Next, it adopted Windchill Project Manager for collaboration and Manufacturing BOM Manager and Process Planner for associativity between product development and operations. Both tools reduce the time for industrial ramp-up by aligning people, systems, and processes as wind turbines move from the virtual to the physical.

Results and Next Steps

MHI Vestas Offshore Wind were excited with how fast they were able to get their first products out the door, thanks in large part to how quickly they were able to leverage PLM in the PTC Cloud. Users are thrilled that Windchill makes it easier to find and access information when and where they need it in the PTC Cloud. Furthermore, since PTC Cloud manages the solution including upgrades and migrations, the team can turn their energy to creating innovative, best-in-class solutions for the wind power industry. Additionally, MHI Vestas Offshore Wind’s deployment of PLM in the PTC Cloud ensured that stakeholders in global locations were able to access information, and in turn, collaborate better. This ensured that the company was able to quickly leverage the knowledge and experience of both of its parent organizations.



Courtesy of MHI Vestas Offshore Wind



Courtesy of MHI Vestas Offshore Wind

With 150 users at initial deployment, MHI Vestas Offshore Wind has now expanded access to 750 users... and plans to continue adding more. This includes access to stakeholders in the service and operations departments who would use Windchill to manage technical service documentation. With this access, service technicians feel confident that the manuals they are using are up-to-date, helping to keep products running in the field (and energy flowing to our homes). But the company isn't stopping there – it is exploring the benefits of ThingWorx Navigate giving access to stakeholders who don't traditionally have access to PLM but would still benefit from its information.

“We believe that having access to the rich data that is stored in Windchill for as many users as possible is key to our digital transformation as the access provides users with insights they traditionally do not have,” says Christensen. “The PTC Cloud and the flexibility we have when using it in a growing company has meant we can focus our efforts on creating the holistic view of our product and process data. This is our backbone and it is key to bringing better products to the market faster.”

Discover how PLM in the PTC Cloud can get your PLM deployment quickly off the ground. Visit www.ptc.com/plm-cloud.

© 2018, PTC Inc. (PTC). All rights reserved. Information described herein is furnished for informational use only, is subject to change without notice, and should not be taken as a guarantee, commitment, or offer by PTC. PTC, the PTC logo, and all PTC product names and logos are trademarks or registered trademarks of PTC and/or its subsidiaries in the United States and other countries. All other product or company names are property of their respective owners. The timing of any product release, including any features or functionality, is subject to change at PTC's discretion.

J12545-MHIVestasOffshoreWind_CS-EN-0104