



UGS Gets Boeing's Blessing for Enterprise Data Management

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Boeing has officially standardized on **UGS** Teamcenter as its enterprise data management (EDM) system. The unsurprising news reaffirms the long-standing relationship the two have had, dating back to the use of the former **SDRC's** Metaphase PDM application (now evolved to UGS Teamcenter Enterprise) more than a decade ago.

However, the Boeing commitment is not an agreement to purchase more software (at this time); rather it's an endorsement of UGS. Boeing is not standardizing on Teamcenter modules beyond Enterprise, leaving the choice open for collaborative product design, program management, and other parts of the AMR Research product lifecycle management (PLM) model for bringing new commercial and defense programs through product development to their production and support phases.

Boeing currently has one of the largest deployments of UGS Teamcenter with approximately 40,000 users; 30,000 of which are in the commercial division today. One of the biggest projects was for the DCAC/MRM project in the early 1990s in which Boeing deployed the former Metaphase application to manage bills of materials (BOMs) across Boeing Commercial Aerospace. Teamcenter has also been used to migrate legacy data on the Joint direct Attack Munition (JDAM) program within Boeing Integrated Defense Systems (IDS) division.

By standardizing on UGS Teamcenter for EDM, Boeing defines a common platform for managing enterprise BOMs and providing configuration management across all its aerospace programs. This helps alleviate a problem notorious across the industry: creating uniquely disparate IT environments to support individual programs.

Boeing has also invested in other applications to support the introduction of new products, and is likely to continue to spread these investments when looking beyond EDM. **Dassault's** CATIA and ENOVIA applications are a critical component in the design of the 787 Dreamliner, sharing digital design information globally to support product and manufacturing process design. **PTC's** Windchill application is the program collaboration platform on the Army's Future Combat System (FCS) with Boeing as the lead integrator, and PTC's recently acquired Arbortext product supports service documentation requirements during the as-maintained phase of commercial aircraft lifecycles.

PLM is a technology strategy, not a single application, and Boeing appears to be taking a similar multivendor approach based on the different business needs for new product introduction and program management. UGS is seeing success within the industry for managing BOMs and other product information at the enterprise level.

With **Northrop Grumman** and **Lockheed Martin** among its other industry users, Boeing's standardization positions UGS well for new programs ahead, such as the Boeing Satellite Design Center. Yet when providing a complete environment for delivery of new programs with reduced risk, expect aerospace companies to consider a variety of options to provide all the PLM components required for success.