

PLMJ Product Lifecycle Management Journal

*The Journal of the PLM Interest Group.
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WHAT'S NEW IN JUNE

After 18 months of operation, the activities of the PLMIG are starting to show cycles, varying between sequences of meetings and periods of background development.

Building

The PLMIG is now starting to provide active support for the techniques that the Group has developed, and that has been the main emphasis in June. During this "less social" period we are also working on the themes of 'PLM Best Practice' and 'PLM/ERP'.

Event Planning

For both themes we aim to develop a structure that will build on the material and knowledge that the Group already has. We are now planning for a new event in the PLM Best Practice series, on the subject of 'PLM Vision'. More of that in this issue.

PLM/ERP

Our view of the relationship (or conflict) between PLM and ERP is that the issues are often misunderstood by both sides and that we need a period of constructive discussion amongst PLMIG members in order to establish the true "As-Is" situation.

We take this forward this month with Peter Lönz of gedas AG who starts from the "big picture" and leads into issues of processes and architectures.

The PLM Universe

During the ICP-35K Project of 2003 a professor from the Politecnico di Milano maintained that PLM should be thought of as a "space", and the analogy can be extended.

If PLM is a "universe" then, just as with our real universe, it is possible to draw scientific conclusions by looking outwards towards other universes and by looking inwards towards molecules and atoms. We do both in this issue.

For all the size of the universe, what happens at the atomic level is very important, and the same is true of the detailed level within PLM. We look at 15 important drivers that can shake the foundations of PDM.

We have emphasised the importance of looking outwards, with a PLM Vision (see PLMJ Nov, Dec. 2004), and we set the scene for a possible PLMIG event.

We also look beyond, to other PLM universes, and consider whether PLM will eventually travel between them as product design moves down the supply chain.

This is the first in the '2020 PLM' series (see PLMJ Jan. 2004) that will look at how PLM might be in 15 years' time.

In the PLMJ this Month:

1. **What's New in June**
2. **PLM-ERP: gedas AG on the Integration and Co-operation Challenges**
3. **15 Change Drivers for PDM Managers**
4. **Moving Forward with a PLM Vision**
5. **2020 PLM: Will PLM Evolve down the Supply Chain?**

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