



PLM User Communities User Forum - USA / Canada

PLM User Forum Workshops

The PLMIG is staging a series of on-line, international **PLM User Forum** workshops for PLM Managers and practitioners from user companies.



The workshops provide a platform for PLM Teams from different companies to work with each other on shared problems, and develop new ways to resolve them.

These are highly interactive events that enable PLM Managers to make a presentation of their ideas, and have the whole group work together to devise solutions.

Written Deliverables

When PLM Managers meet, they really want to decide amongst themselves what they will talk about. This means that the PLMIG does not pre-judge the Agenda.

The meetings are structured and well-documented, to capture the mass of new ideas that are generated. Having worked out new solutions, participants want to take them home and use them.

The group can focus on the ideas at hand, go back to base, and iterate the ideas in synergy with their everyday work. They can then choose whether or not to take part in the next workshop.

A User Forum Meeting for USA and Canada

The User Forum meetings are held on a single calendar day, which keeps everyone focused on the discussions. The participants gel together, the working ideas build on each other, and the group produces better results.

By meeting for a full working day, the Agenda can go into detail on the issues that the group wants to cover, and the discussions have enough depth to produce results that can be taken forward.

One of the meetings is always for the EST time zone, so that engineering and manufacturing companies from at least the eastern side can take part.

Workshop Features

The PLM industry is deeply rooted in North America, but most of the detailed activity goes on "behind closed doors" within the PLM Teams of each company. This means that, in PLM terms, their issues and progress are largely hidden.

This will be the first opportunity for PLM Teams from industrial companies to compare ideas and progress directly, peer-to-peer, without going through the channel of a vendor or provider. The discussions can be completely open, and are bound to be informative.

A key feature of the format is that the PLMIG provides briefing material for delegates in advance of the first session, so that everyone has a head start when the sessions commence. The Agenda (overleaf) has 3 separate slots in which a user participant can present a detailed issue to the group, so that everyone can join in and work on a solution. The PLMIG records the discussions, which are then made available to delegates after the event.

The day also includes PLMIG analysis and advice on the PLM principles that underlie the discussion subjects, so that participants can learn from PLM best practice.

Structured, Neutral Format

This event is vendor-neutral, and is entirely positive. The idea is not to be confrontational, but simply to give the Customer side of PLM a voice that will be listened to. The primary aim is to provide a collaborative working environment for experienced PLM Managers.

The PLMIG manages the Meeting, providing the structure and maintaining the balance of the discussions. The documented results will be shared between all of the workshops in the ongoing series, as they are held in various parts of the world, building a new combined body of PLM knowledge.

Why Participate?

The Meeting will enable you to:-

- See how other PLM Managers are working on PLM, and share your ideas;
- Work through PLM issues in detail;
- Have your issue covered within the Agenda;
- Take part in the group discussions to combine your experience;
- Use the Summary Document as a instruction manual for solving the problems; and,
- Become part of a new community as the participants work together.

User Forum Agenda [EDT]

09:00	Arrival / Login / Sound Checks	
09:30	Welcome and Introductions	
09:45	Objectives and Format – Structure of the Agenda	PLMIG
10:00	PLM Theory and Best Practice - as applicable to the Agenda subjects - points to look for - errors and misunderstandings	PLMIG
10:30	User Presentation and Group Discussion: PLM Issue #1	Group
11:00	Break	
11:15	User Presentation and Group Discussion: PLM Issue #2	Group
11:45	User Presentation and Group Discussion: PLM Issue #3	Group
12:15	Review – Group feedback and discussion	Group
13:00	Break	
14:00	PLM Analysis: Making sense of varied PLM Environments - as it applies to the presentations	PLMIG
14:30	Round Table: Participants' Views of PLM - building a shared experience	Group
15:30	Break	
15:45	User Community Voice - relationship with providers - constructive paths to improvement	Group
16:15	High-Level PLM: What We Should Aspire To	PLMIG
16:45	Open Session: Random Issue	Group
17:15	Closing Discussion – Next Steps	Open Forum
17:30	Close	

Who Should Take Part

The Meeting is open to PLM practitioners from user companies. It does not matter which industry you are in, or which vendors you buy from. Neither does it matter how expert (or otherwise) you feel you are. This is a Round Table format, and the PLMIG provides the PLM theory and principles that link the discussion themes together.

Forming a Community

This is a user-only event simply because it enables the participants to talk with other with the complete absence of selling pressure. Conversations can be open, and ideas can wander anywhere.

Beyond the meetings, delegates are free to do what they like with the material. The most obvious thing to do is to keep on sharing ideas with the other participants on an informal basis, and comparing progress towards implementing a solution.

As more workshops take place over time, this user interaction may lead to communities of users in particular industries or similar geographical regions.

Meeting Details

These are on-line events, and each registering company can have three delegates take part. Participation includes the PLMIG working material and the finished material after the event.

The Registration Fee for a PLM User Workshop is £250 (or €295 / \$300), which includes the PLMIG working material and the finished material after the event.

How to Register

If you would like to take part, you can request a Registration Form via userforum@plmig.com, or by contacting Roger Tempest on +44 1865 880495.