Dick Engineering Inc.

Use AVEVA products in the Santa Fe mill expansion project in Chile

'Our decision to adopt PDMS was based on its great potential for use with multi-discipline projects, both large and small. Although we recognise that we still have a lot to learn in our use of PDMS, our first project justified our decision, and we foresee great opportunities for the future success of this software in our projects.'

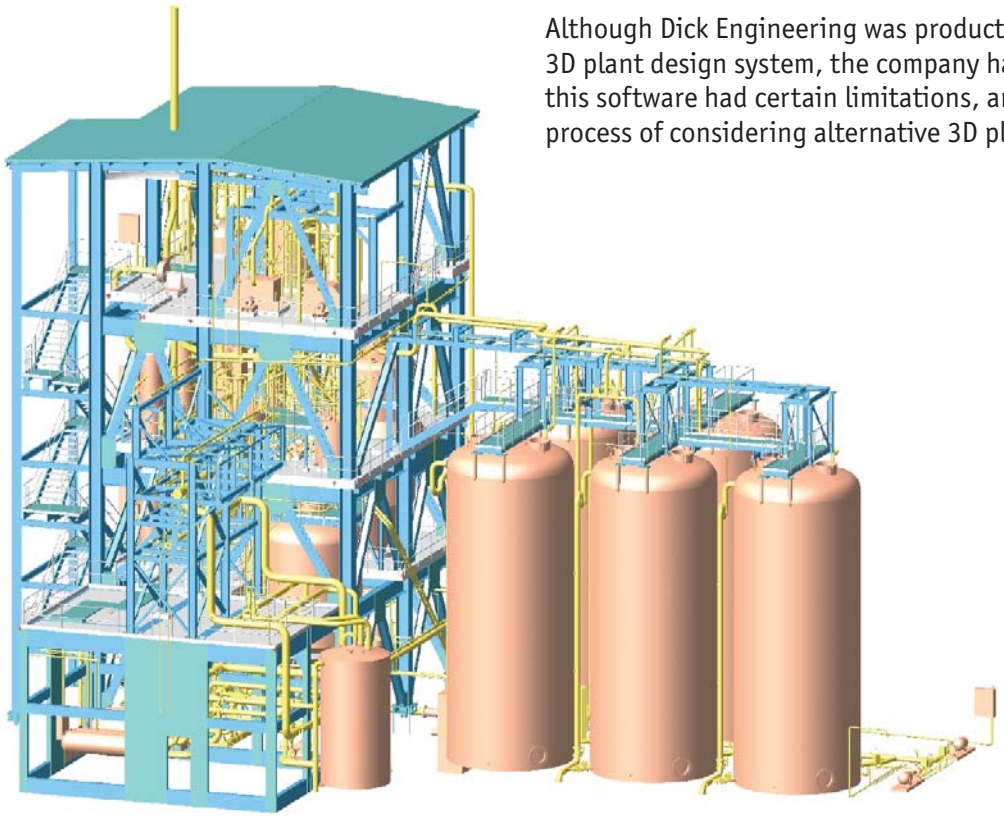
Iain Crawford, Senior Project Manager, Dick Engineering Inc.

Dick Engineering first entered the 3D design world in 1995, after being awarded a contract to provide design engineering for a new CDN $130 million linerboard mill. Since then, the company has continued to look for new and innovative ways to improve its use of 3D design to reduce cycle time and costs, as well as to enhance the value of its services.

AVEVA PDMS chosen as primary 3D platform

ERCO Worldwide, a long-term client of Dick Engineering, was bidding on a portion of the Santa Fe mill expansion project for CMPC Celulosa S.A., in Chile. The specifications for this work required the use of AVEVA PDMS and AVEVA Global, neither of which were solutions used by Dick Engineering.

Although Dick Engineering was productive with its existing 3D plant design system, the company had recognised that this software had certain limitations, and was already in the process of considering alternative 3D platforms.



Design of Santa Fe mill using using AVEVA PDMS and AVEVA Global

Why AVEVA PDMS was selected

The company investigated virtually every plant design system available. Three solutions, including PDMS, were short-listed for a detailed evaluation. With the South American project pending, Dick Engineering accelerated the product evaluations, and chose PDMS as its primary 3D platform. This decision was based on the following perceived benefits:

- PDMS would provide the best opportunity for Dick Engineering to increase productivity.
- The software installation and training time was less than that required by other 3D systems.
- PDMS is an object-based system which provides greater and more flexible access to design data.
- Since less training time was required for the software, following the initial offsite training of a few key personnel, all subsequent training could be conducted in house.
- By conducting training in house, and because of PDMS's ease of use, mechanical/piping designers with no previous experience in 3D software could be trained and become proficient in the use of PDMS within a short period of time.

Quicker response, lower cost structure

These advantages would allow Dick Engineering to respond more quickly to client requirements and to lower its cost structure. The fact that Dick Engineering would, as a result, be able to bid on the South American Project was not considered in making the decision, but was, nonetheless, a favourable outcome.

Backed by its new investment in PDMS, Dick Engineering submitted the winning proposal and was subsequently awarded the project in Chile. The company now faced the challenge of training its project staff to use PDMS and still meet the tight schedule demanded by the project.

If the set up of PDMS did not proceed smoothly, the project would fall behind early, with little hope of catching up.

In production after only four weeks

Following receipt of the order, Dick Engineering immediately set to work with AVEVA to plan the PDMS implementation. Key personnel were trained off site by AVEVA. The newly-trained employees then acted as trainers for the remainder of Dick Engineering's staff.

Arrangements were made for AVEVA personnel to assist with the initial set up of the piping Catalogue and Specifications. The company also brought AVEVA personnel to assist with setting up the project satellite server in Dick Engineering's office, and connecting to the project global server in Chile.

Within four weeks of being awarded the contract, Dick Engineering was up and running with PDMS, and was connected to the project's global server. Four weeks after that, the first piping specifications were completed and piping design began.

Dick Engineering took a calculated risk committing to a project with tight timelines, while adopting new software. However, because of PDMS's simplicity and ease of use, the company was able to complete the project successfully.

DICKENGINEERING

About Dick Engineering Inc.

Dick Engineering is an engineering design firm serving process industries in niche markets, which include: pulp and paper, biofuels, food and beverage, mining and speciality chemicals.

The company performs all engineering disciplines in house. Dick Engineering also has a full complement of project execution staff who takes responsibility for a project from start to finish.

This privately-held company, which was established in 1969, has its head office in Toronto, Canada. Assignments range from large projects, valued at CDN $170 million, to small ones that require consultation from a single individual.

Visit www.dickeng.com for more information.

AVEVA CONTINUAL PROGRESSION

This case study was produced by AVEVA Canada. For further information contact sales.us@aveva.com or tel: 403 269 2099

AVEVA Group plc
High Cross Madingley Road Cambridge CB3 0HB UK
Tel +44 (0)1223 556655 Fax +44 (0)1223 556666
www.aveva.com