

Holcim:

Boosts project visibility with Opidis solution



Deliverables at-a-glance

- » Scalable and robust solution
- » Increased efficiency to control and manage the transfer and subsequent review of all project and supplier documentation
- » Improved the quality of the review process and the ultimate quality of the engineering documents
- » Clear visibility into the status of drawings at all times with electronic mark-up processes making it easier to track comments

Challenge: The safe management, storage and retrieval of thousands of documents

Founded in Switzerland in 1912, Holcim is one of the world's leading suppliers of cement and aggregates, ready-mix concrete and asphalt, and has been integral in providing materials for many high-profile projects across the world. These have included the Saigon M&C Tower, the Elbe Philharmonic Hall in Hamburg and the cross-city rail link in Zurich.

With more than 80,000 employees worldwide, the company has production sites in 70 countries, all requiring significant ongoing investment, maintenance and upgrades. For manufacturing plants as large as Holcim's, the document management process is equally as complex.

Roberto Nores, Head of Project Methods at Holcim explains: "We tend to handle between five and ten major projects a year. This generates up to 20,000 documents reviewed by more than ten specialists in Switzerland and the on-site project management teams, which is a resource intensive process."

The team needed a more sophisticated document control solution that would enable it to seamlessly track and manage the thousands of engineering documents. The timing of this implementation was also key, with a need for the system to be fully-functional in less than 60 days to support two major capital projects in Australia and Brazil.

Solution: A central, web-based hub from Opidis

Holcim rolled out an electronic document management system (EDMS) from Opidis (formerly McLaren Software), which replaced the company's previous processes that were driven by spreadsheets, documents and email communication.

The web-based system allows the team to create, review, approve, collaborate on and publish engineering documentation regardless of where they are in the world.



“The whole solution has worked very seamlessly based on excellent teamwork, which has significantly improved the quality of the review process and the ultimate quality of the engineering documents.”

Roberto Nores
Head of Project Methods
Holcim

Roberto Nores continues: “It was clear that our systems were not keeping up with the growing complexity of our projects, as well as being vulnerable to inaccuracies and errors. What we needed was a single document management process that could manage the transfer and subsequent review of all supplier documentation and ensure that we had control over our project documentation.”

As the system provides a central, secure hub for all documentation, Holcim – as well as its contractors and suppliers – can operate in a more efficient and transparent manner, as well as have the tools available to automate key processes, thereby minimizing delays and reducing costs.

Outcome: Improved safety, profitability and performance

The Opidis solution was successfully deployed within the required timeframe across the two sites in Australia and Brazil.

The team is now able to work simultaneously from a single interface, and engineers have clear visibility of the status of drawings at all times with electronic mark-up processes making it easier to track comments.

There is seamless integration with internal Holcim systems too. Folder security can be updated at any time and a security template is available to support external reviewers and the management team.

improved project efficiencies, fewer communication overheads, and a more cost-effective IT solution.

Roberto Nores commented: “We were impressed with Opidis the moment we met them. They had a good understanding of our challenges and processes, they had a strong and successful track record worldwide, and their ability to provide a quality, end-to-end document management solution at a competitive price made them the perfect fit.

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Given the success of the rollout, Holcim plans to implement the solution at a capacity expansion project in East India, and intends to broaden the Opidis software into earlier phases of the engineering process, including project feasibility and tendering.

“We see Opidis as having a key role here at the creation and conceptualization of projects”, continued Roberto Nores. “We’re confident that they will provide as much value at these stages as they currently do in transmittals, reviews and document management during project execution.”

Learn more about how Opidis helps engineering projects achieve efficiencies and boost safety by visiting www.opidis.com

Opidis (formerly McLaren Software) is a leading supplier of collaborative document management solutions to engineering projects, globally. Focused on maintaining complex engineering assets and large capital projects, Opidis solutions provide a single source of truth for all engineering content including P&IDs, drawings, vendor documents, safety manuals, as well as mobile and commissioning solutions – throughout the asset lifecycle.