



Company

RGB Spectrum

Location

Alameda, California

Industry

High Tech

Business Challenges

- Overcome burden of time-consuming manual processes
- Reduce errors associated with paper processes
- Establish consistent product quality

Solutions

Arena PLM BOMControl

Business Benefits

- Accelerated time to market
- Provided superior collaboration environment
- Streamlined supply chain processes

ROI Results

- Product errors reduced to zero
- Cycle times crushed from weeks down to days

Arena Turns Manual Problems Into Automatic Solutions

BUSINESS CHALLENGES

Founded in 1987, RGB Spectrum is a leading manufacturer of cutting-edge processors and support systems for the display, recording and transmission of computer and video signals. RGB Spectrum's products are preferred by the world's major industrial, medical, military, entertainment, and academic organizations.



RGB products can be found in traffic control systems, flight simulators, television stations, tactical operations centers, casinos, training centers, distance learning facilities, video conferencing rooms, boardrooms, network operations centers and location-based entertainment facilities.

For Doug Tornio, RGB's records manager, developing footholds in a diverse range of markets has driven success; however, because of the the broad scope of the company's product portfolio and challenge of meeting the unique requirements of each industry, the company was beginning to suffer from version control problems, product errors and costly launch delays.

RGB was burdened by time-consuming manual engineering change order (ECO) processes that distracted engineers from their core duties. Complicating matters further was that RGB's paper-based ECO procedures did not provide visibility into the efforts of engineers. This lack of transparency resulted in frustrating miscommunications. The company desperately needed a modern solution to manage their bill of materials (BOM).

"Change Control and data transfer were both manual paper processes," said Tornio. "It took too long to process and required written signatures and notifications. These manual processes led to errors with outliers easily missed."

SOLUTIONS

Tornio believed Arena's cloud-based product lifecycle management (PLM) solution offered him the best opportunity for achieving his goal of "repeatable and consistent product quality and accelerate time to market." Arena PLM's BOMControl helped Tornio speed prototyping, streamline supply chain management and accelerate business results. In addition, BOMControl eliminated the time-consuming complications of managing unwieldy change order packages by formalizing the engineering change request and ECO process with an intuitive cloud-based solution.

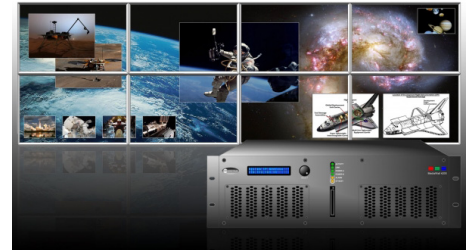
"We went from dealing with BOMs with phone calls, endless meetings, and paperwork to a simple system that maintains logistical control over all activities relating to managing our IP data with the real-time inclusion and involvement of multiple suppliers," said Tornio.

“Traceability and implementation effectively went from ‘can’t get there from here’ to ‘already been there, done that. And production failures based on BOM errors or incorrectly implemented changes crashed to near zero.”

— Doug Tornio, Records Manager, RGB Spectrum

While aware of the benefits of cloud solutions to eliminate the lengthy, expensive IT consulting necessary for on-premise implementations, including server sizing, procuring and installation; Tornio still remained skeptical. “I had serious doubts about cloud-based services to manage our entire IP flow,” confessed Tornio.

When asked about the Arena implementation, Tornio does his best Bill and Ted impersonation. “It was most excellent,” he said, laughing. “Arena’s cloud-based implementation and ease of operation was unique from my past experiences. And ease of data transfer and importation of the existing datasets was hugely important, especially since I’m a team of just one. I was able to single-handedly convert all IP data from the FourthShift system and various excel databases over into Arena.”



Arena’s cloud-based solution helped Tornio with the rapid on-boarding of smaller IT-challenged suppliers within his supply chain ecosystem; he could now pull component and engineering data from other cloud-based supply chain providers into their designs. “There is no way to over emphasize the criticality of this feature/function,” said Tornio. “Providing this level of supplier collaboration was essential to our future success.”

BUSINESS RESULTS

Were the results of implementing Arena measurable? According to Tornio, the cycle times required to complete a change and notify affected parties went from weeks down to days. “Traceability and implementation effectively went from ‘can’t get there from here’ to ‘already been there, done that,’” he said, “And production failures based on BOM errors or incorrectly implemented changes crashed to near zero.”

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NEXT STEPS

Tornio is currently considering adopting Arena Quality to better ensure quality products.

With Arena PLM, quality, product and project data all visible in a single centralized system, collaboration, management and documentation of quality processes are simple and efficient; the cloud-based product lifecycle management solution enables the entire company to participate in the quality process.

Find out how Arena can help you achieve success and take your company from chaos to calm. Sign up for a demo at www.arenasolutions.com/plm-demo