Successful Strategies for Rapidly Upgrading PTC Windchill 9.1 to Windchill 10.1 on a Light Budget

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Biography

Dr. Charles A. (Chip) Shearrow

• 1991-June 2000: Ohio Northern University (Advanced Robotics and Automation)

• 1998- Summer: Proposal for the Design Data Management System

• 1999- Summer: NASA-JSC Directors Grant for Virtual Simulation


• January 19, 2011- Present: MEI Technologies at NASA-JSC (IRD Operations Supervisor, Senior Systems Engineer)

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Introduction

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- Historical Upgrade Process
- Planning for Possible Constraints
- PTC Compatibility Matrix
- In-Place Upgrade Process
- Pre-Upgrade Activities
- Upgrade Activities
- Post Upgrade Activities
- Results of the Upgrade
- Tips for an Upgrade On a Shoestring Budget
- Questions
• Economic uncertainty
  – Economy
  – Continuing Resolution
  – Shift to commercial space flight

• Budget restraints
  – Personnel reductions
  – Environment reductions
  – New equipment guidelines

• Still need to maintain corporate operations
  – Operations for Johnson Space Center
  – Managing engineering data for International Space Station flights
  – Operations for general research
  – Managing engineering data for Multi Purpose Crew Vehicle (MPCV)
  – Staying current with software and hardware
Historical Upgrade Process

• Purchase/ obtain new servers for the upgraded environments
• Establish additional network and storage resources
• Establish the new system environments
• Integrate Active Directory (AD) authentication with webserver
• Load Windchill and integration custom code
• Run WinDU reports and repair data if needed
• Load systems with production data
• Regression test systems
• Train users
• Perform many runs against the database
• Release system to users

(8.0 to 9.1 took 15 months to complete)
Planning for Possible Constraints

Things to Consider:

• Age of the current hardware
  – Speed and capability of the current servers to support new software
  – When is the refresh planned

• Technological Changes
  – Traditional racked servers?
  – Virtual servers local?
  – Virtual servers remote?
  – Cloud services?

• Budget challenges
  – Reduced services
  – Reduced personnel
  – Customer initiated paradigm shift

• User Environment
  – Constantly changing with no control of the changes and their timing

• Corporate events
  – Management tasks
  – Contracts changing
  – Personnel changes
  – Environmental changes
  – Policy changes

• Software compatibility between:
  – Current and upgraded PDMLink system
  – CAD software and PDMLink
  – Web browser and CAD software
  – Workstation OS and web browser

• Critical software release dates
  – Contracts using the system
  – Major events with projects
  – User training
  – PTC release dates
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<td>CAD Workers WF5</td>
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Reference: Windchill90M080SoftwareMatrices081909.pdf
In Place Upgrade Process

All activities performed in all existing environments

• Pre-upgrade Activities
  – Run WinDU reports to insure data transferability
  – Upgrade server
  – Upgrade Windchill components
  – Upgrade database
  – Build migration installation

• Upgrade Activities
  – Move migration installation
  – Run migration tool
  – Upgrade Apache
  – Test upgrade

• Post Upgrade Activities
  – Establish keyword index
  – Bulk publish viewables
  – Rerun WinDU reports
Pre-Upgrade Activities

All performed in place on existing environments

• Run WinDU reports
  – To insure data integrity for migration
  – Roughly 14 million objects including Apollo, Shuttle, Station to Multi Purpose Crew Vehicle (MPVC) or Orion

• Upgrade server
  – Solaris upgrade from version 10 03/05 to Solaris 10 08/11
  – Upgrade file system to ZFS for file system and volume management, snapshots and clones, continuous integrity checking and automatic repair
  – Java upgrade from 1.6.0_18 to 1.6.0_27 for compatibility and security

• Upgrade Database
  – From Oracle 10.2.0.4 to 11.2.0.3+

• Build Migration Installation
  – To be used for the upgrade manager
  – Testing the upgraded customizations

• Directory Service (DS) Upgrade
  – From 1.2 to 2.3

• PSM Install
  – Monitor usage before and during rollout
  – Tuning of the new system

• MCAD Workers Upgrade
  – From WF4 to Creo2

• Customizations Upgrade
  – From 9.1 M50 to 10.1 M30
  – Minimize moving forward customizations
• **Move 10.1 System**
  - Move to the master servers file system for speed
  - Can be done on a live system
  - Live system is stopped once to test migration system
  - Test functionality

• **Apache Upgrade to 2.2.21**
  - Place in environment
  - Test for functionality

• **Run Upgrade Manager**
  - Backup database and code base
  - Redirect resources between 9.1 and 10.1 PDMLink
  - Run upgrade
  - Test upgraded system
Post Upgrade Activities

- **Viewable Regeneration**
  - Bulk publish all the CAD objects in the system

- **Indexing Generation**
  - Reindex the system with SOL (new indexing software)
    - Documents first
    - Larger files second
    - Zip and last

- **WinDU Reports for 10.1**
  - Run to insure data integrity after upgrade
  - Create a baseline for future loads

- **Resource Return**
  - Return virtuals used for upgrade
  - Return storage copies used for upgrade
Results of The Upgrade

• System outage started on **Thursday April 4**\(^{th}\) at 5:00pm
  – Ended on XXXX

• Backups ran from xxx to xxx

• Upgrade Manager ran from xxx to xxx

• Regeneration of Viewables
  – ran from xxx to xxx

• Regeneration of Keyword Index Status
  – XXX

• WinDU Reports for 10.1 results
  – XXX
Tips for An Upgrade On A Shoestring Budget

- Upgrade current system components in place avoiding the purchase of new hardware
- Migration environment can be a virtual machine zoned on one of the existing servers
- Transferring the migration environment to the same server as the environment to be upgraded eliminates all the network slowness
- The only extra resource needed was the storage for the production database and for the data to be placed against the staging environment for a one to one comparison run against the production environment.
- Coordinate the upgrade with everyone from the users to management to avoid scheduling pitfalls and software incompatibilities
- To use the updated DS with 9.1, you will have to obtain a “fix” from PTC
Tips for An Upgrade On A Shoestring

• Upgrade