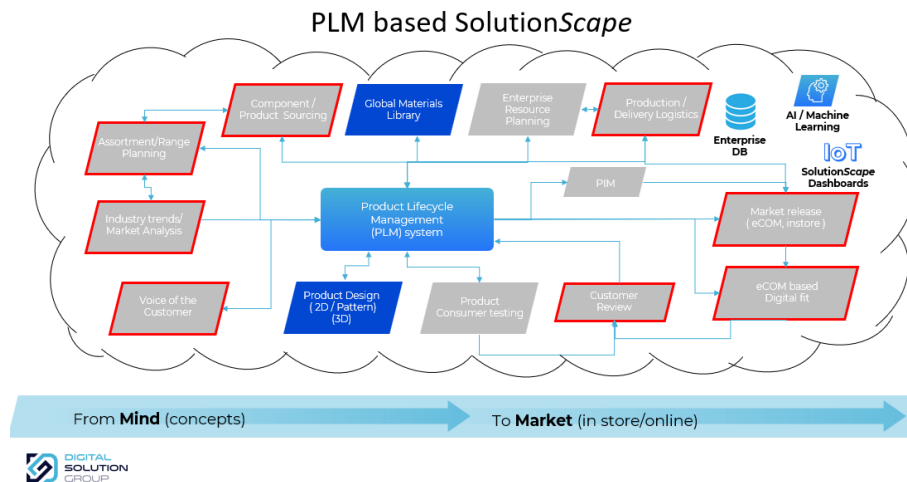


3D Journey – Setting the Stage and More ...

As a result of the Team at **Good Products, Inc** reviewing the *Day in the Life of ...* article, **Thomas Wilson**, VP of Systems Technology engaged **Digital Solution Group (DSG)** to come in and conduct a survey of their use of their PLM system (**FlexPLM**). By reviewing its functional coverage of their product lifecycle process, DSG was able to provide them with their **TOBE SolutionScope** map, along with a recommendation of what should be their first phase of integrations that serve to “set the stage” for a range of other integrations as noted in the image below.

Thomas and the Team were provided a **SolutionScope** profile presentation that highlighted (in red) all of the 3rd party support modules (by role) that support integration to FlexPLM and targeted the key modules (in dark blue) that will be the focus of their first phase of the **SolutionScope** program.



This sequencing is all part of the **SolutionScope Strategic / Tactical Plan** that was developed by DSG in conjunction with the cross-functional Team at Good Products, ensuring that each phase will incrementally build on the previous phases of execution.

Since Good Products’ Design group uses CLO as their apparel design tool, DSG recommended that they obtain the **CLO-Vise** integration package that enables CLO users to interact directly with FlexPLM.

Maggie Wilson (Lead Designer) and her Team are thrilled to find that instead of posting their 3D CAD design files on shared drives that are then loaded into FlexPLM manually, the CLO-Vise integration will enable Designers to post their CAD files into FlexPLM and associate them directly to the appropriate products.

Designers will also be able to directly access the Color library and seasonal palette, as well the Material library and its seasonal palette, making interoperability between FlexPLM and CLO seamless, eliminating conflicts late in the design cycle.

The Developer Team led by **John Forrester** is equally thrilled to know that his Team aren’t going to have to wait for updates from the Design Team that could lag hours, or even days to be posted, ensuring that they are working from the latest CAD images as they proceed to develop their technical specification (tech-packs).

In support of the 3D integration initiative, the DSG *SolutionScape* Strategy / Tactical Plan identified that **Walt Johnson** (Materials Manager) should have “execution relief” in his Team’s world by centralizing access to all primary materials by leveraging the **Material Exchange**. To date, all material interaction has been done using the FlexPLM **Vendor Portal**, but it has been necessary for each material supplier to scan and upload the technical profile of their materials for Designer use in CLO. With the CLO integration he is relieved to know that there will no longer be material profile conflicts with CLO and that FlexPLM’s material library will truly be the “single version of the truth”.

However, DSG’s recommendation to leverage the Material Exchange as a global “single version of the truth” is uniquely effective since it also validates its content as certified by Test Laboratories such as Eurofins. This service feature of the Material Exchange will reduce the issues of materials showing up and having to go through the arduous task of testing them to ensure they “are what they say they are”. This will trim weeks off his materials management activities.

With the CLO-Vise integration in place, the material specification files that define the physics of the material per its elasticity or stretch, tensile strength, etc. are provide by the Material Exchange as part of the integration that retrieves this set of material characteristics, along with imagery and the basic material attributes from the Material Exchange to FlexPLM.

The Material Exchange is a global material library that contains all of the materials from their current suppliers, enabling Designers, Developers, and Materials Team to “browse the lot” and only bring into FlexPLM those materials of interest. The Materials Team is also able to investigate other suppliers of potential interest to see what they offer without having to “web shop”, send emails to “maybe suppliers”, and then having to deal with the onslaught of sales and marketing emails that fill their inboxes from suppliers that are found to “not be of interest” after reviewing their offering.

DSG ensures that by leveraging PTC’s **ThingWorx Retail Connector** (TRC), his team can direct the configuring of the TRC to map the data coming in from the Material Exchange so that it populates the FlexPLM material library profile correctly. With this mapping able to be done differently for each material type, his woven or knit fabrics can be mapped uniquely instead of being forced to settle for “one size” that doesn’t fit all.

Tick-tock ... for Good Products, the *SolutionScape* initiative is already beginning to streamline their product lifecycle process, and they have only engaged DSG to provide the most basic of integrations. There remains a whole suite of other integrations that are now part of the *SolutionScape* Strategic / Tactical Plan collaboratively developed by DSG, all of which have their own Return on Investment (RoI) profile.

Stay tuned for the next ***Day in the Life of ...*** article.