

LACK OF ERP2CAD INTEGRATION: PROBLEMS

Rule of Thumb regarding CAD data management and errors:

The Cost of an Error:

An error that is caught during design:	\$	1
Same error not caught until manufacturing:	\$	100
Same error not caught until customer finds it:	\$	1000

Concerns: Extensive overhead and lack of interoperability between applications

1. Flat file ASCII imports have a history of difficulties: “garbage-in; garbage-out”
2. Data managed in flat files is cumbersome to use and costly to manage. (see list of specific issues below).
3. Over and over, hear of companies that continue to experience all the problems with ASCII imports.
4. The ASCII import path is short-term and does not improve data accuracy and efficiency in managing it.

Specific ASCII Import Concerns:

1. Little or no accuracy and control over the ASCII import “garbage in”
2. No revision management
3. High potential to propagate more errors (no error validation)
4. Does not work with legacy data
5. Difficult and cumbersome to manipulate data to the standard input format
6. Difficult to add new outsource vendors (cannot take CSV or XLS “as is”)
7. Difficult to get all sites consistent with the data standards
8. Cannot associate documents for quick compliance / reference.
9. Difficult to create consistent and uniform descriptions with no quick search capabilities.
10. Flat files create data that is difficult to find and cumbersome to manage.
For example:
 - a) Difficult to edit BOM
 - b) Difficult to apply business rules verification
 - c) Laborious part-sourcing by engineers
 - d) Lacks BOM/Job consolidation
 - e) Cumbersome manual material/quantity consolidation
 - f) No cross-reference Mfg part # / Vendor Part#
 - g) Cannot aggregate the data that is spread among multiple flat files.
 - h) Cumbersome if not impossible for automatic reference item-master and non-items.