

Enterprise CAD Collaboration

5 ways effective CAD collaboration can accelerate success across the enterprise

Introduction

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1. Accelerate Design

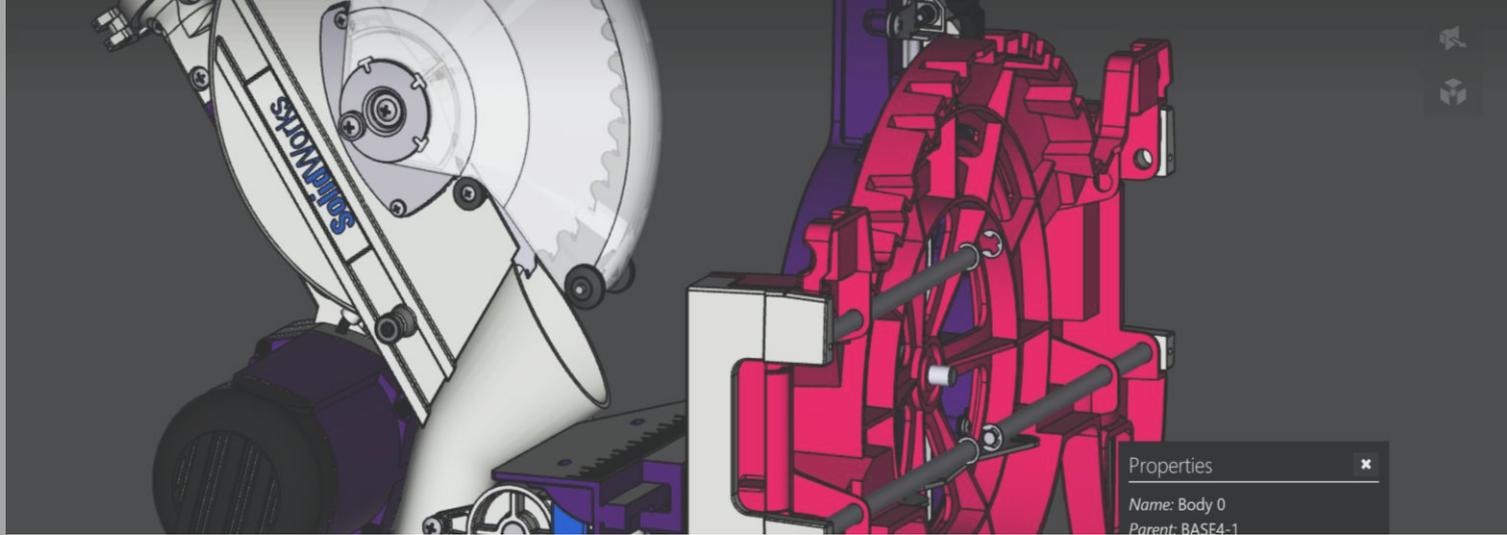
2. Accelerate Sales Results

3. Enrich Customer Engagement

4. Enhance Marketing Collateral

5. Improve Communication with Suppliers

Conclusion



Enterprise CAD Collaboration

Product development has become more complicated than ever.

Manufacturers face massive challenge under the impact of IoT (Internet of Things). Engineers are trying to figure out how they can enrich their products in terms of implementing greater intelligence, to make “smart products”.

Managing product development requires dealing with distributed teams, changing technologies, demanding customers, stricter quality requirements and global supply chains. Design teams are being asked to complete projects faster, on time and under budget.

This challenge calls for greater cooperation internally and with the supplier base. According to Accenture’s research on “fast innovation” and product development, up to 80 percent of time-to-market is spent waiting, negatively impacting profit margins and undermining first-mover advantage.

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When it comes to speeding up the design and manufacturing process, we need to eliminate delays and wasted time. Concerningly, highly paid engineers are wasting time sharing low res screenshots of CAD files and are accidentally duplicating each other's work. The inefficiencies of internal and external CAD collaboration remain an ongoing challenge in product design. While CAD tools themselves have come a long way in the past 30 years, most people think CAD files are exclusively for their company's engineering and design departments. However, the business value of using CAD beyond the design team is incredible. Many departments across the organization need access to valuable information contained within CAD files.

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In this eBook, we will explore 5 ways effective CAD collaboration can accelerate success across the enterprise.

- 1. Accelerate Design**
- 2. Accelerate Sales Results**
- 3. Enrich Customer Engagement**
- 4. Enhance Marketing Collateral**
- 5. Improve Communication with Suppliers**

Historically, it has been too expensive to provide CAD tools to non-engineers and in some cases the ROI for engineers who aren't using CAD on a daily basis is questionable. With Actify's Enterprise CAD offering, this is no longer an obstacle and giving your entire organization access to CAD data has become very affordable. You no longer need to ration your CAD access, everyone in your company should have access to affordable CAD tools to gather information needed to support their daily tasks. Even if you are locked into using another CAD system as your primary CAD authoring platform, you can still take full advantage of Actify's neutral enterprise CAD package to support communication and collaboration. Compatible with most major CAD systems.

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1. Accelerate Design

Design collaboration can accelerate the development process through rapid feedback cycles. Design teams and manufacturers are using cost effective CAD viewing software to improve communication and design collaboration to reach the optimum design solution faster, rather than endless debates. CAD collaboration enables faster access to feedback resulting in a faster time to market.

2. Accelerate Sales Results

In order to produce a proposal, the sales team need to collaborate with design and manufacturing departments to accurately determine the production costs. Because of this, proposal turnaround can be very slow and labor intensive for the sales team. Discover how you can get more from your 3D and 2D product data when supporting quoting and estimating activities without the need for expensive CAD programs.

3. Enrich Customer Engagement

Reach out to your customers for design reviews and brainstorming sessions – regardless of the CAD system they use. SpinFire software gives you the tools to start product communication early in the design process. Compatibility with most major CAD systems means SpinFire is a perfect platform for neutral collaboration with your customers and stakeholders.

4. Enhance Marketing Collateral

You spend significant time and money into developing your products, and you want to be sure that the first experience for your customers is a good one. Use SpinFire to create illustrations, finished images and marketing material for training and user documentation. SpinFire works seamlessly with Microsoft® Office to easily communicate even the most complex parts.

5. Improve Communication with Suppliers

The ability to efficiently collaborate with design participants and supply chain partners has become increasingly critical. Share and review designs with suppliers, SpinFire helps you quickly evaluate and source the best components.

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1. Accelerate Design

There are huge operational benefits associated with effective design collaboration.

With faster access to feedback, Time and costs are reduced resulting in an earlier breakeven point and higher profits. You get to market earlier, so you're driving profits earlier and you get to higher profits even sooner and potentially extending your products time in the market. That's why your organization needs to unlock the benefits of effective collaborative within your development teams.

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Are your engineers and management required to attend time-consuming meetings and provide manual updates? this ultimately takes workers away from their core responsibilities and consumes valuable design time. Collaboration should be a continual effort to share information and get to the solution faster as a team.

There are many job functions around the enterprise that require information that comes from Engineering documents and CAD files to support their work. SpinFire Ultimate is designed to provide the enterprise with cost effective access to CAD files and information. SpinFire is designed for quick implementation and fast user adoption. It enables information works across the enterprise to easily access and interact with native CAD data to provide feedback to design teams and collaborate on design data.

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2. Accelerate Sales Results

In order to produce a proposal, the sales team need to collaborate with design and manufacturing departments to accurately determine the production costs. Because of this, proposal turnaround can be very slow and labor intensive for the sales team. Sales and estimating teams need access to engineering resources to read, view and measure various CAD file formats in a workable application. Discover how you can get more from your 3D and 2D product data when supporting quoting and estimating activities without the need for expensive CAD programs.

SpinFire is more than just a viewer. When you are sharing your product model with key stakeholders, you can spin it around, zoom closer into areas of interest and capture change requests and customer feedback directly within the application.

SpinFire is designed with the non-engineer and the non CAD designer in mind, while also having the technology and feature set to fulfill CAD functions to investigate designs. With SpinFire, sales teams can easily view, measure, or mark-up any CAD file submitted by prospects and can potentially eliminate the need to collaborate with Design and Manufacturing departments to accurately assess production costs. And because users are able to save all native CAD formats to SpinFire's system neutral .ACT3D format, when collaboration is needed on certain components, it can all be done in a workable application that is accessible across the enterprise and not just limited to engineers and designers.

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3. Enrich Customer Engagement

Reach out to your customers for design reviews and brainstorming sessions – regardless of the CAD system they use. SpinFire software gives you the tools to start product communication early in the design process. Compatibility with most major CAD systems means SpinFire is a perfect platform for neutral collaboration with your customers and stakeholders.

Many enterprises are adopting open innovation to guide their development initiatives by collaborating with customers to enhance new product development. The role that digital environments and software play in engaging customers in product design and testing and explore opportunities for sustaining innovation through collaboration with customers. Effective communication is central to satisfying clients and improving product quality. SpinFire captures change requests and feedback to help development teams rapidly adapt to changing customer requirements. The byproduct is increased customer loyalty. Customers are far more likely to stay with a company that values their opinion. Even when we can't deliver all their requests immediately, customers will feel heard and valued.

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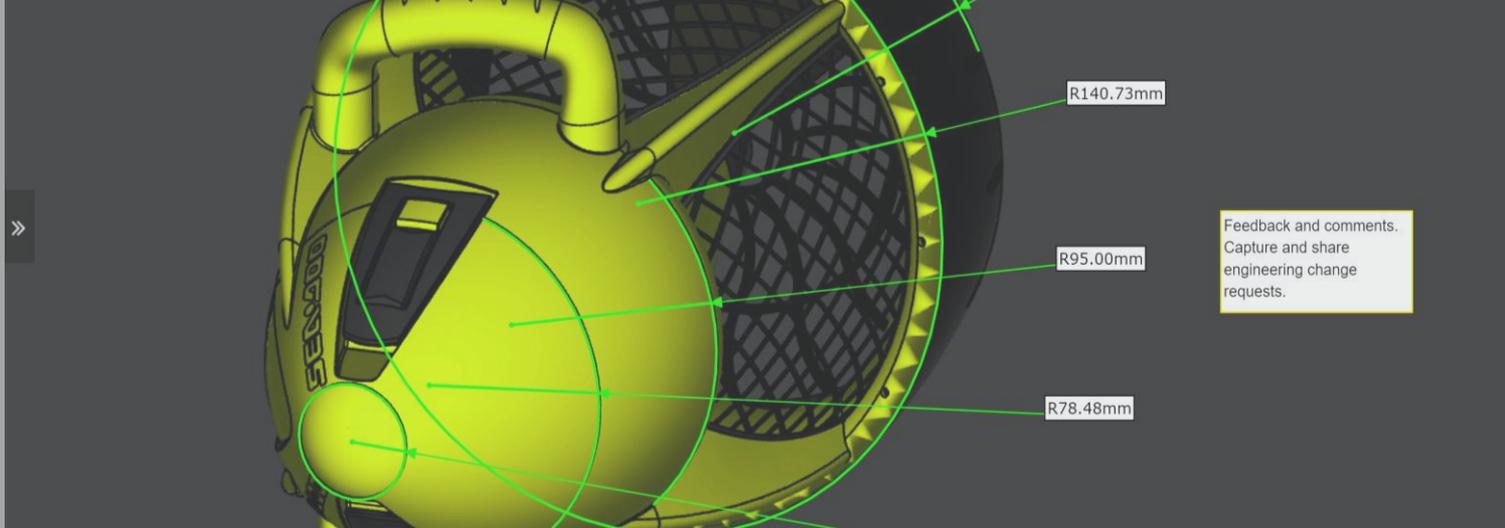
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4. Enhance Marketing Collateral

You spend significant time and money into developing your products, and you want to be sure that the first experience for your customers is a good one. Use SpinFire to create illustrations, finished images and marketing material for training and user documentation. SpinFire works seamlessly with Microsoft® Office to easily communicate even the most complex parts.

Typically, engineers are interrupted by a marketing person requesting a high-resolution image or render of a new product. However, engineers are often too busy with other work to support these requests. As a result, engineers create a bottleneck to valuable engineering information from CAD visuals to part properties. However, if the team has SpinFire, they can request to share the model and attain the information they need in seconds with just a few mouse clicks.

SpinFire is a simple user-friendly interface that requires virtually no training. The minimal learning curve ensures that even non-technical staff can start publishing professional 3D visuals and engineering documentation almost instantly.

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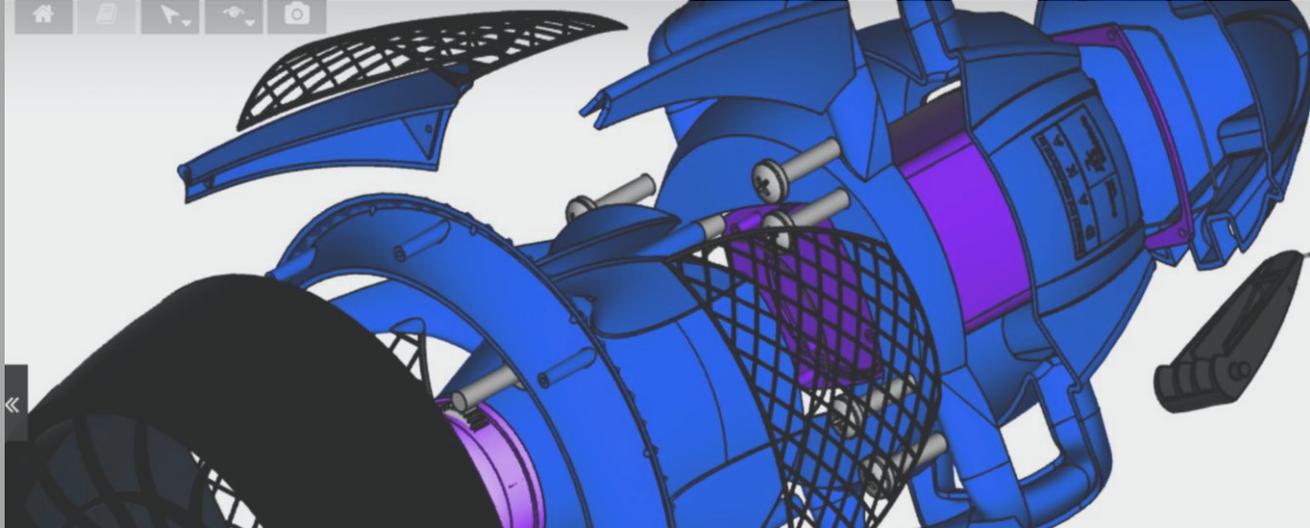
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4. Enhance Marketing Collateral

Demonstrate products more effectively by creating renderings with a three-dimensional appearance for presentations and brochures. Create PowerPoint presentations and Word Documents with embedded CAD content using SpinFire's Office integration. Create technical illustrations that adds another dimension of clarity and information to your product documentation.

Now you can produce technical documentation in parallel with product development—so your marketing collateral is ready when your product is. By integrating an interactive CAD model within your technical communications, you can reduce errors on the shop floor and eliminate language barriers – simplifying communication across departments.

Help your organization clearly and effectively communicate even the most complex products by leveraging CAD data and graphical content within a broad range of technical communications, including product manuals, training material, assembly instructions, training material and product brochures.

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Share and review designs with suppliers, SpinFire helps you quickly evaluate and source the best components. The ability to efficiently collaborate with design participants and supply chain partners has become increasingly critical.

The single biggest challenge for designers and engineers is being on the same page. However, managing product development across distributed design teams and global supply chains is challenging. Effective communication is key to making better decisions and better products overall.

SpinFire is a neutral CAD environment for the enterprise, where you can explore product designs and review parts to support collaboration and the sharing of CAD data with colleagues and supply partners.

SpinFire is the perfect collaboration tool when dealing with suppliers. Using a 3D model as a visual aid to support communication along with markup and comments to quickly convey design requirements and constraints. All this information can be contained with a single compressed ACT.3D file. SpinFire is able to convert CAD data from many popular CAD file formats into a compact, lightweight and neutral format for sharing with internal and external teams.

We live in a multi-CAD world, that's why we built SpinFire Ultimate. SpinFire Ultimate utilizes industry leading importer libraries to work seamlessly with other CAD software systems.

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Where does the TIME go?

We need to eliminate inefficiencies and delays within the development process. Concerningly, highly paid engineers are wasting time supporting non-engineers with product information and becoming an unintentional bottleneck to valuable product information.

Discover the business value of using CAD beyond the design team

Historically, it has been too expensive to provide CAD tools to non-engineers. However, With Actify's Enterprise CAD offering, this is no longer an obstacle and giving your entire organization access to CAD data has become very affordable. Many departments across the organization need access to valuable information contained within CAD files to support their daily tasks. SpinFire is a simple user-friendly interface designed with non-engineers in mind and requires virtually no training.

Request a SpinFire Trial today and discover new ways effective CAD collaboration can accelerate success across your organization.

[Request a Free Trial](#)



About us

Actify, Inc. is 100% focused on delivering solutions that revolutionizes the way product data and product information is managed and shared across the enterprise and throughout the development lifecycle. Actify understands product data, from the original designer's product definition within engineering to disparate product data across a manufacturer's extended enterprise.

At Actify our core capability is extracting product data and part properties from CAD files or other engineering type documents as though it was just another database.

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