

Brava![®] Helps HOVENSA Refinery Streamline Engineering Projects

Vertical Industry

- Oil and Gas

Functional Areas

- Engineering

Company Facts

- Refinery produces 500,000 barrels per day
- One of the largest facilities of its kind in the world

Challenge

- Standardization of document storage and viewing for multiple users and formats

Brava Solution

- Eliminates need for multiple software applications
- Saves time by providing users a simple search engine to locate files
- Users can view and collaborate on a variety of formats including Word, PDF, PowerPoint and AutoCAD

The review process for designing complex engineering projects often requires input from knowledge workers, managers, engineers, designers and even regulatory offices. These review participants work with a variety of file formats including Microsoft Word, PowerPoint and Project; Adobe PDF; and CAD formats like MicroStation and AutoCAD.

Multiple Reviewers, Multiple File Formats

A company familiar with the challenges of coordinating multiple reviewers and multiple file formats is HOVENSA, a large oil refinery in St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands. For years the refinery struggled to streamline its project review process, in part because it didn't have a viewer suitable for both document files and CAD drawings. Lacking a universal viewer, users resorted to different workarounds: some had expensive native applications installed on their computers while others converted documents and drawings to PDF using a variety of conversion tools with varying results.

A content management project team was created to find and implement a total solution for all file types that HOVENSA needed to store and view. As HOVENSA researched Open Text[®] Livelink[®] ECM for drawing and document management they learned about Brava![®] Enterprise by Arizona-based Informative Graphics Corp.

View, Annotate and Collaborate on Virtually Any File Format

With Brava, project participants can electronically view, annotate and collaborate on virtually any file format, including MicroStation and AutoCAD drawings, TIFFs, PDFs and Microsoft Office documents. This lets reviewers easily add and share markups and annotations with the rest of the team without installing additional, expensive desktop applications.

HOVENSA makes extensive use of the Brava compare tool, which lets reviewers examine two drawing versions, with markups and comments if desired, to verify all changes were made. Differences between versions are clearly highlighted, providing time and accuracy gains over the original hard copy verification process.

Brava also provides HOVENSA the ability to index text in both documents and drawings, making the text available for searching within Livelink. This lets an engineer, for example, find all drawings that have a specific piece of equipment. Users can search for and select the file they need in Livelink, then launch it in Brava directly from within the Livelink interface.

Summary

With users able to view and annotate virtually any file type, easily compare images and drawings, and perform full-text searching and indexing on drawings, HOVENSA's review process is now more efficient. Together, Livelink and Brava give the HOVENSA team powerful tools for content collaboration.

