

Argonne National Laboratory Maximizes Data Management with Legend Technology

The Goal

Load 45,144 AutoCAD files in to Pro/INTRALINK

The Challenge

Large number of drawings maintained in multiple, aging, heterogeneous databases

The Solution

Use Legend to automate and safeguard the rapid accurate integration of AutoCAD drawings—completed in 38 hours

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Aging storage systems and heterogeneous CAD files had prohibited Argonne National Laboratory of Argonne, IL from fully realizing the timesaving and collaborative advantages of document management software. “As we looked toward realizing the complete benefits of technical document management and knowledge sharing that could be accomplished through centralized document management software, we needed a way to integrate our AutoCAD drawings into Pro/INTRALINK,” said Steve Leatherman, Database Administrator, Argonne National Laboratory.

“After factoring the cost of manual input and the potential for data corruption, Legend was the clear choice that allowed us to maximize the value of our Pro/I investment.”

**—Steve Leatherman
Argonne National Laboratory**

The solution was the legacy CAD data migration process jointly developed by Integrated Industrial Information, Inc. — I3 — and PTC Global Services. I3 is a leading developer of CAD migration technologies and creator of the Legend™ software family. Combining the I3 patented Legend heterogeneous data migration technology with the experience and on-site project management of PTC’s Global Services ensures that AutoCAD users benefit as quickly as possible from Pro/INTRALINK.

In AutoCAD environments where drawing data is maintained in separate databases or files—as was the case at Argonne National Laboratory— Legend’s flexible object oriented design easily captures information residing in heterogeneous data repositories. In the successful transfer of its 45,144 legacy AutoCAD files into Pro/INTRALINK, Argonne clearly benefited from the accuracy and security of the data migration process.

During Argonne’s migration process, Global Services assessed data migration requirements, developing a migration “plan of attack” for managing the implementation and configuration of Legend software applications on Argonne’s system. Based on the detailed migration and implementation plan, Legend was configured to automatically and rapidly read AutoCAD title block data and load it into Pro/INTRALINK, while maintaining data integrity.

“We were impressed by the accuracy with which Legend was able to capture the mission-critical data we had on each of our AutoCAD drawings and load it into Pro/I,” says Leatherman. “After factoring the cost of manual input and the potential for data corruption, Legend was the clear choice that allowed us to maximize the value of our Pro/I investment.”

Argonne National Laboratory is operated by the University of Chicago as part of the U.S. Department of Energy national laboratory system. Argonne supports over 200 research projects ranging from studies of the atomic nucleus to global climate change research. In addition to its scientific research, the laboratory designs, builds and operates sophisticated research facilities such as Argonne’s Advanced Photon Source that would be too expensive for a single company or university to build and operate.

“Legend software provided us with a mechanism for quickly and reliably transferring Argonne’s AutoCAD files in to Pro/INTRALINK,” said Ravi Bodla, Global Services Pro/I Implementation Consultant, PTC. “There really would not have been another time sensitive and cost conscious way to move the more than 45,000 AutoCAD files that we needed to move to meet Argonne’s data management requirements and project timetable.”