perception
SOFTWARE

Searching all systems:
Encompass Product Navigation

PLM is one great source of product information for decision-making.
It's just not the only one. To get all the information that good
decisions demand, you need Encompass Product Navigation.

In many organizations today, the decision-maker's search for product data often stops with a system like Oracle's Agile PLM. That's certainly one of the most valuable sources of information available – but it's still only one of many sources. That's why Encompass Product Navigation is designed to search for information in PLM and beyond. Encompass Product Navigation captures the full view of engineering and product assets, to speed time to market, maximize procurement leverage and manage risk.

Get all the information you need, from every available source.

More and more often today, sound product-related decisions rely on the ability to connect with disparate systems across the organization and uncover relevant data – and not just structured, formal data, but also unstructured data that's loosely contained in notes, comments or photos. Encompass Product Navigation goes beyond PLM to gather BOM data and other critical product-related information from a multitude of systems. It performs search, discovery and aggregation of data, both structured and unstructured, in ERP, CAD and other databases, as well as in external systems to which the company is connected. The result is complete information for decision-making, for everyone charged with making critical decisions – from the engineer choosing components to build a product, to the procurement officer renegotiating terms with a supplier, to the executive dealing with a potentially catastrophic supply-chain breakdown.

Go to market faster by speeding product development.
The principle is simple: The less time product engineers spend finding information about the components that go into a product, the more time they can spend actually building products – and the faster they can have them ready to go to market. Encompass Product Navigation speeds the process by drawing on enterprise systems, engineering databases, datasheets and other sources of information about product components, and then delivering one comprehensive

view of all the information needed to make swift, sound decisions about using a particular component in a product design. Engineers can even uncover where a given component has been used before, in which designs and by whom – all of which will help quickly determine whether it would be a good choice for timely reuse. Once the engineer selects a component, Encompass Product Navigation can just as quickly provide information comparing suppliers and costs.

Increase leverage for negotiating with suppliers.
ERP and PLM will always be the go-to systems for essential supplier information at a high level – what the business is buying, from whom and in what quantities, for example. But Encompass Product Navigation makes it possible to dig down deeper into details that can be critical to maintaining a strong negotiating position with a supplier. For example, you know you've bought an average of x number of a certain component every year over the last five years from Acme Supply. But do you know how many different products it's being used in? How well it's performed? How reliably? What about current availability? Cost? Alternative sources? Encompass Product Navigation compiles relevant data from disparate systems to shed light on questions like these, so that supplier negotiations are based on as complete a view of the situation as possible.

Respond to supply chain breakdowns before they interrupt operations.
There are times when a breakdown in the supply chain can be truly catastrophic: A major supplier's factory has a fire. A component you've always relied on suddenly reports major safety issues. Your vendor's supplier experiences a shortage of something that's crucial to the component you need. But you can avert catastrophe if you can act quickly enough to assess the potential impact and respond before it affects your operations. If you can't count on a supplier for a particular component, Encompass Product Navigation can quickly pull all the relevant information you need to take action fast – what products are affected, who's qualified to fill the gap and anything else you need to know to minimize the impact on operations.

Reduce business risk from quality to compliance.
Minimizing business risk in the process of designing and building products means taking a multitude of variables into account: How much will it cost to build the product using existing components? Which components offer proven quality? What compliance requirements do the components need to meet? If the information to answer these questions is buried in one of a number of systems, it could take weeks to track down. But without the information, there's always the risk – the unacceptable risk – of compromising quality or compliance. With Encompass Product Navigation, discovery is comprehensive and fast, ensuring that engineers can take all considerations into account and still get the product out the door fast.

Expand your view – and your decision-making.
Investing in PLM is important. But it takes a wide view of information from PLM, BOM, ERP, CAD and other databases and external systems for key people across your company to make sound, strategic decisions. Learn more about Encompass Product Navigation or contact us to talk about how the solution can benefit your business.