

## Automotive and transportation

# Comau

Optimizing design and eliminating production problems virtually

### Products

NX, Teamcenter, Tecnomatix

### Business initiatives

New product development

Commonization and re-use

Knowledge and IP management

### Business challenges

Manage growing design and production complexity

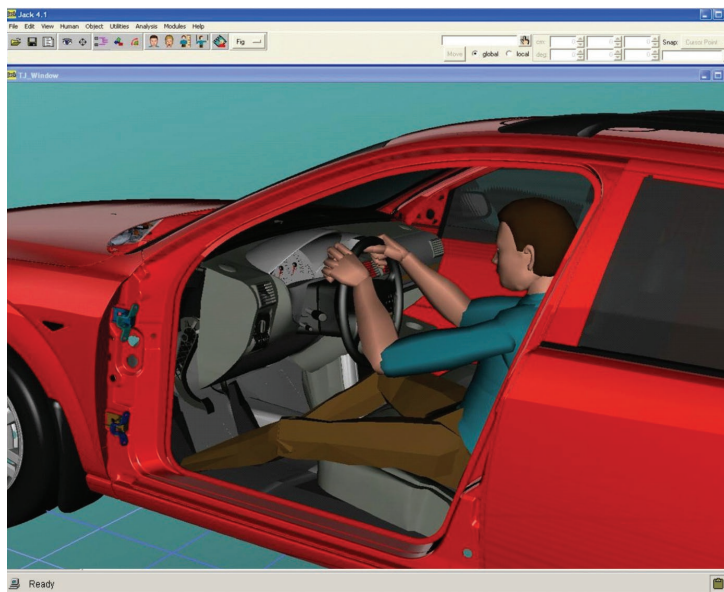
Improve both process and results relative to the time and cost of changes

Reduce industrial costs

Reduce time-to-market

### Keys to success

Siemens PLM Software solutions (NX™ software, Teamcenter® software and Tecnomatix® software) to manage all phases of product development and process, from testing models designed with heterogeneous CAD systems to virtual assemblies



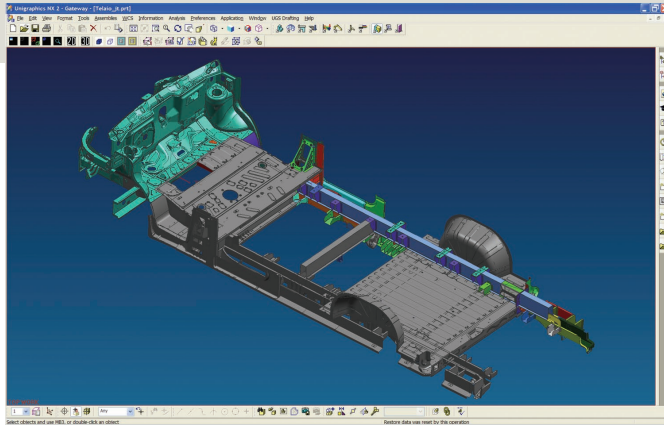
**By integrating product development activities, Siemens PLM Software solutions boost productivity from the individual to the corporate level**

### Managing complexity

Starting from the assumption that the motor vehicle is typically considered a consumer good, "The actual trend of automobile firms is having different and special versions in relation to different targets, use destinations and customs," explains Francesco Ellena, CEO of the Engineering, Injection Molds & Dies Business Unit, Comau.

The market offers, in fact, a great number of models rich in functionality and technologies according to an ever-faster lifecycle that requires increasingly complicated development processes.

Managing growing design and production complexity, from the need to reduce errors to the setting up of precise customer specifications according to strict schedules, requires absolutely flexible software solutions that are synchronized to allow the tight control of entire projects. Such solutions significantly simplify project and product industrialization activities, integrating and making easy information exchange among the different application



## Results

Simplified production processes

Reduced product development time

Improved collaboration among departments and external suppliers

Easy-to-use tools

CAD and cPDM solutions perfectly integrated

operations without dispersions or interruptions.

To deliver complex, quality products according to strict due dates, automobile manufacturers are orientating their production strategies product lifecycle management (PLM) software tools. These tools allow calculations and analysis in a virtual environment that fully substitutes the physical tests. Immediate feedback during the test processes, which directly and automatically affects the design work, enables the correction of errors before entering into production. Virtual processes have become indispensable to reach the market in the ever-faster times expected by customers.

A company whose core business is the design, production and maintenance of mounting plants for the automobile industry, as a priority, must assure that all the phases of mounting are carried out correctly.

Giuseppe Molina, Business Line, Chief Operating Officer, Comau, notes the importance of assembly processes in a vehicle. "What distinguishes a good vehicle is its re-elaboration and adaptation to new technologies in short times and without problems during the final phase of production," he explains. "Besides a correct design, in fact, foreseeing a coherent assembly – one without interferences – is fundamental. Downstream interferences can decisively compromise the goodness and quality of the product. For this reason, anticipating eventual problems during the mounting or dismounting phases is an indispensable factor for a manufacturing company wanting to stay market competitive."

Comau uses solutions from Siemens PLM Software to manage its design and production environment. Molina explains, "Siemens PLM Software offers a range of tools to increase the integration of individuals and organizations. Using Siemens PLM Software technology, all the figures involved in product development (marketing, designer, draftsman, technicians) can use – throughout the phases of design, industrialization and production – a single digital model synchronized in a single environment.

"Besides NX software for design and Teamcenter software for product data management, we have implemented with success Teamcenter for lifecycle visualization, as well as Tecnomatix FactoryCAD for

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Giuseppe Molina  
Business Line, Chief Operating Officer  
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