

PRODUCT BRIEF - ANSYS EKM

stream' line', v.t., to make more efficient or simple.

Engineers and designers face the challenge of finding the right information to make decisions for each product or process they develop. As simulation becomes a more integral part of your design and analysis process, it becomes increasingly important to implement effective organization and communication tools that streamline the management of your information and capture best practices.

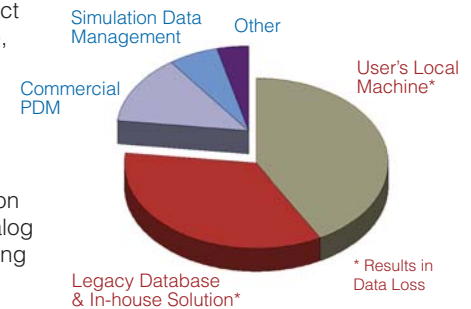


Courtesy Dale Apgar, Dartmouth College, U.S.A.

### Your Simulation at Your Fingertips

It's safe to say that many engineers who use simulation have come across these scenarios before: the search for a previous project's simulation case that you know you created, but are having trouble finding since it is currently buried in all of the other cases you kept copies of; or this one: you've created a simulation case, and, in the quest to find an optimal design, you've made, saved and shared numerous versions with various individuals, both inside and outside the team. As the project proceeds, you begin to lose track of what version is where, whose changes are the most recent, and which version is still being worked on — occasionally resulting in your time being spent rerunning cases just to be sure you know what you have.

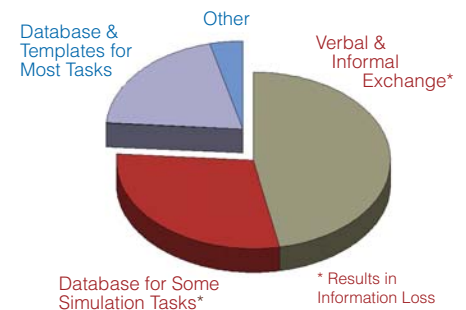
Sometimes, having no organizational tool for your simulation cases can be like having a library full of books but no catalog to help find what you're looking for. The ANSYS® Engineering Knowledge Manager™ (EKM) provides organizational and cataloging capabilities for your simulation efforts. Access to a tool that stores your simulation files and their related information makes it easy to find what you need, allowing you to spend your time focused on engineering and designing tasks.



Data Management Methods

### Effective Communication

Engineering communication is a matter of being able to transfer essential information from one individual or team to another, in order to help both do their jobs effectively. Ineffective communication hurts the entire team, from the engineer who is trying to explain design challenges and concerns to his or her manager to the teams that need to consider factors that affect their development process and design — factors that often require information from external cross-functional teams. Effective communication supported by decision and process management tools can boost individual, cross-functioning team, and even enterprise-wide productivity when successfully incorporated.



Knowledge Exchange Methods

Data Source: CPDA 2007 Road Map Conference

### Enabling a Collaborative Environment

In providing the backbone to your organization and communication needs, a simulation process and data management tool must be flexible enough to work within any environment, fit into any development process and be easily and always accessible to whomever needs it. The ANSYS EKM Web-based interface is a configurable workflow management and data access tool that can be set up to create a repository of users, workgroups and workflows all defined in an architecture that allows users to control who sees what and when they see it. It allows users to create data-handling and passing tools, provides report generation capabilities, supports configurable data mining templates that give team members — even those not familiar with simulation tools — access to simulation results, and can help with the implementation of best practices and the automation of repeatable procedures related to your simulation efforts.

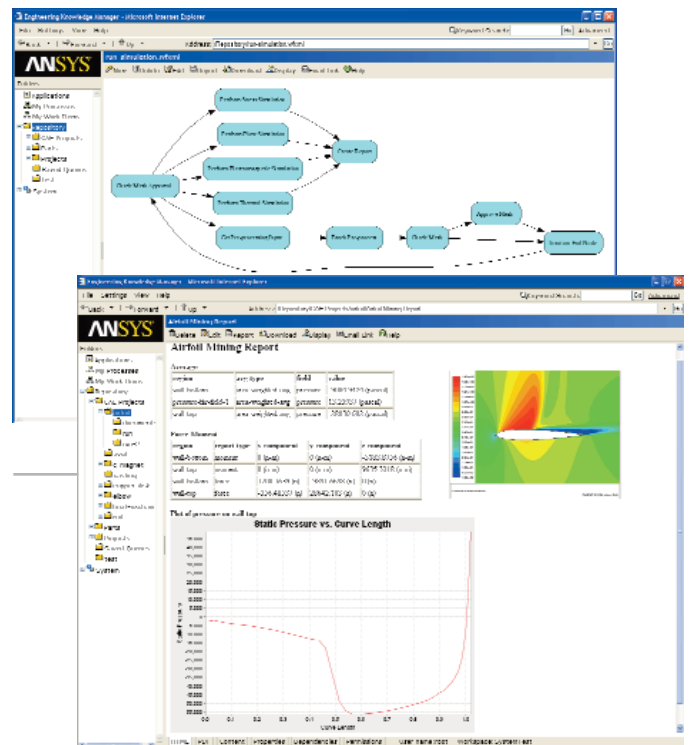
## Working Within Your Environment

ANSYS EKM can store and manage any type of file or information, such as simulation input or result files, documents, animations, workflows or reports. Version control allows you to track files and workflows — letting you know who worked with them when and what was changed. With its extensive search capabilities you can easily retrieve information, while report and comparison tools allow you to evaluate and display differences between related simulation results. ANSYS EKM automatically extracts extensive information about your ANSYS software-based simulation files when they are uploaded into the repository. In addition, you have the flexibility to configure automatic extraction of information from in-house or third-party simulation products.

With ANSYS EKM you can create workflow templates — essentially flow diagrams that identify tasks, decision-making points, and transition paths between tasks — for your simulation processes. Within a workflow there are options that give you the ability to, among other things, assign tasks and decisions to specific people or teams and use automatic notification capabilities to advise users when they have been assigned a responsibility; customize either manual or scripted rules and questions that the software uses to evaluate which transition paths in the workflow to proceed along; automate process steps and tasks such as uploading of files, report generation, or batch runs; and build queries that allow you to examine information related to a workflow, such as tasks grouped by user or team, simulation results, or process status.

## Why ANSYS EKM?

With tools and developers that have histories stretching back to the formative years of simulation, ANSYS understands the complexity of and challenges involved with simulation. ANSYS EKM was established with an appreciation that access to simulation, developing effective processes for incorporating simulation into individual, workgroup and enterprise-wide efforts, and managing simulation efforts within a larger development or industrial process is a complicated effort — one that we want to make more simple. Having access to the right tools, developed by a team that has devoted years of experience to understanding the challenges of simulation, can streamline the incorporation of your virtual efforts into your environment.



[www.ansys.com/ekm](http://www.ansys.com/ekm)

## About ANSYS, Inc.

ANSYS Inc., founded in 1970, develops and globally markets engineering simulation software and technologies widely used by engineers and designers across a broad spectrum of industries. The Company focuses on the development of open and flexible solutions that enable users to analyze designs directly on the desktop, providing a common platform for fast, efficient and cost-effective product development, from design concept to final-stage testing, validation and production. The Company and its global network of channel partners provide sales, support and training for customers. Headquartered in Canonsburg, Pennsylvania, U.S.A., with more than 40 strategic sales locations throughout the world, ANSYS, Inc. and its subsidiaries employ approximately 1,400 people and distribute ANSYS products through a network of channel partners in over 40 countries.

Visit [www.ansys.com](http://www.ansys.com) for more information.

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