

ENABLE
MIDSTREAM
PARTNERS



CASE STUDY



Project Overview

Enable Midstream Partners made the switch mid-2017 to AutoCAD Plant 3D modeling software after many years with Bentley AutoPlant. Senior Drafting Systems Support Technician Kevin Gallagher explained that the motivation for the switch was “to keep things simpler and more user friendly.” As he put it, “Plant 3D is vastly more usable – more intuitive for the end user.”

While Enable Midstream wanted to keep pace with the changes and updates to AutoCAD functionality, they felt AutoPlant wasn’t adapting quickly enough, so they needed to move to a fully-Autodesk modeling environment. After the switch, unfortunately, Bentley ProjectWise didn’t function well with Plant 3D and became cumbersome to use.

For that reason, Gallagher explained, “Vault seemed to be an obvious choice” as the alternative for managing new and existing company asset data and drawing files. Autodesk Vault helps organize design data, manage documentation and track revisions efficiently across teams.

Enable Midstream Partners is a publicly traded company formed in 2013 that owns, operates and develops strategically located natural gas and crude oil infrastructure assets: 13,900 miles of gathering lines; over 10,000 miles of interstate and intrastate transport pipelines; 15 plants which process 2.6 billion cubic feet per day; storage capacity for 84.5 billion cubic feet of natural gas. In light of its volatile market, the company doesn’t have the luxury of slowing down to accommodate technology adjustments. So the goal was to make the transition as seamless as possible.



As Enable Midstream began its search in late 2018 for the best partner to help with the necessary file migration to Vault, Applied Software rose to the top of the list and additionally came recommended by Autodesk. Enable Midstream established an implementation agreement with Applied Software, set parameters for the project and defined an essential in-service date of March 1, 2019. The “heavy lifting” of the transition started about the first of February and was finished in a month.

With the old platform, there were 14 direct contributors – drafters and designers – to project data and 200 consumers of that content/data. After the migration, there are still 14 drafter and designer contributors, but having Vault boosted the number of consumers to over 1,100, both locally and across eleven states via Vault Web. In addition, a new functionality is possible with approximately 30 additional users now able to contribute office-related documents into Vault.

The Partner

Enable Midstream was challenged to find a partner that could handle the scope of the project: documents, revision history and relevant metadata from the previous product data management (PDM) software. Enable Midstream needed a partner that understood and had the aptitude to do the work while designers and drafters continued to execute projects. In light of these stringent requirements, the Applied Software team was chosen.

In addition to the usability of the software, there was the cost factor, which turned out to be tremendous for Enable Midstream. The company's hard deadline for enlisting Applied as its partner and completing the project promised to save the company \$40,000 immediately and each year thereafter. Not only is Enable Midstream saving in software renewals, but its capabilities were expanded to five times as many data consumers.



They were a true partner.

KEVIN GALLAGHER
Senior Drafting Systems
Support Technician

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**In general,
“change” in a
business environment
comes with its own
preconceptions.**

There was good dialog as
Applied orchestrated the
training, making it very
acceptable for the user base.

KEVIN FUST
Drafting and Design
Manager

Every transition has its challenges.

KEVIN FUST
Drafting and Design
Manager

But the communication that took place made the workflow and the transition process a success.



No Downtime

Drafting and Design Manager Kevin Fust related, "We were able to meet the deadline for the cost savings, while essentially eliminating any downtime in the conversion. We literally left on a Friday and came back on a Monday working in the new Vault environment."

Gallagher, who has been in the engineering business for over 30 years and supported software for 20-plus years said, "I've done a lot of migrations of software. This team made possible one of the smoothest transitions I've ever seen."

Fust said, "If I had to look back on this project, I would absolutely do it again especially with the support we had from Applied. From the onset of the project to its conclusion and follow-ups, these guys were fully invested in what we were doing. They were a true partner in this endeavor."





The Team

Since Vault was a new product to the company, Applied Software Senior Specialist Jason Miles and David Wolfe, Director of Manufacturing Technology Services, conducted training for the engineering and construction primary users. "Kudos to those guys for really adding value in a good, usable framework. It wasn't overwhelming for the users," Fust said.

Fust explained, "We credit a lot to Applied. They are very competent guys." The implementation team, which also included Applied Vice President of Services Kevin Howk, enlisted coolOrange – a software

development team that helps surmount complex data management implementations – for code modules to convert and migrate the files. "The core group of individuals had great communication and organization. There was clarity along the way as it related to project status," Fust added.

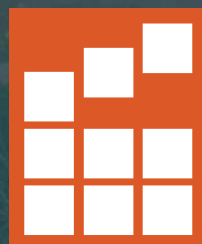
"They listened to my concerns, adjusted schedules. We had late-night calls and weekend work, especially when we did the migration," Gallagher said. "They did a fantastic job all around."

The team was very good.

KEVIN GALLAGHER

Senior Drafting Systems Support Technician

more details at
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