

VIVACE Forum1
Warwick
20 & 21 September 2005



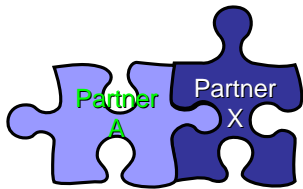
VIVACE

Introduction to the Virtual Enterprise
Collaboration Hub

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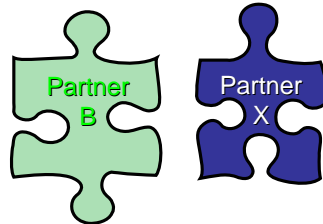


Collaborating with Partners




In a traditional and "paper based" collaboration with **few partners**, our pieces are **matched** in pairs

With new IT-oriented collaboration with **multiple partners**, our pieces doesn't match, some or all pieces must be **modified** in order to match




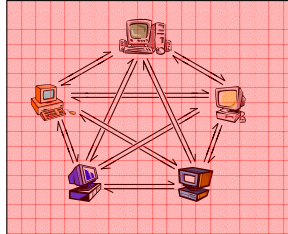
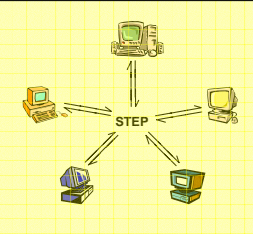
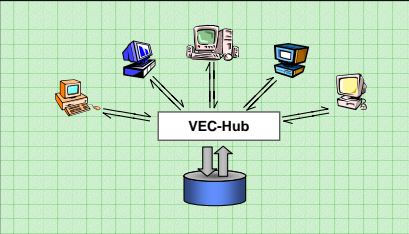
Traditionally we are used to work with **few partners** and interchange information on **paper**, with new **IT-oriented** collaborations with **multiple partners** we face new struggles.

The partners might be using different software and hardware platforms, thus introducing problems when interchanging information



Virtual Enterprise Collaboration Hub (VEC-Hub)



IMPROVED COLLABORATION ➔

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In a direct partner to partner communication the interfaces tends to be many and complicated. We don't have any configuration management of the exchanged information.

A better approach might be exchanging information in a standardized way. But not all partners might agree upon the standardized format and we still don't have configuration management of the exchanged information.

By establishing a "VEC-Hub" we make it possible to communicate and work with multiple partners in a secure and controlled environment by adapting to only one interface, the "VEC-Hub".



Collaborating with Partners *cont.*

Issues when collaborating with partners:

- **Security**
 - how do we restrict *who* can access *what*?
 - is my IPR protected?
- **Tracing (Logging)**
 - *who* did *what*, *when*?
- **Sharing**
 - how do I know I got the latest version of the information?
- **Accessibility**
 - do I need to buy new tools to access the information?
- ...





Requirements on Collaboration Solution

- 1) A common, identified and agile view on partner roles, product information and work processes for the development project**
- 2) A neutral partnership collaboration platform with respect to political, technical (vendor and system), internal and external aspects**
- 3) Partner to partner isolation via intermediate services communicating using neutral data structures**
- 4) Accessibility via commodity technology as web browsers to collaboration environment assets**

Supporting examples to requirements stated in slide:

- 1a) Ability to easily add/remove partners from the enterprise
 - b) Common structural view on product break down and its partner distribution
 - c) Common view on process structure break down de-coupled from partner business processes
 - d) Common view on partner roles and ownership of product and process information
 - e) Configuration management and traceability of common information
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- 2a) Support the supplier view on partnering with several OEMs
 - b) Support OEM to OEM collaboration via a defined neutral collaboration platform
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- 3a) Translation services providing gateway for partner specific data structures
 - b) International, de-facto or publicised information standards for services definition and data structures
 - c) Partner control on shared internal assets via publicised services
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- 4a) Using a standard commodity tool to interact in a collaboration
 - b) To find necessary information
 - c) To publish a contribution
 - d) Be notified and notify partners in a workflow



Which benefits will the VEC-Hub bring to my company when collaborating

- ✓ **Document Management**
- ✓ **Setting up Rules and Access control**
- ✓ **Workflow Management**
- ✓ **Configuration Management**
- ✓ **Geometry Sharing**
- ✓ **Analysis Data Sharing**
- ✓ **Virtual Meetings**
- ✓ **...**

Manage documents

Organise Documents using folders and storages
Manage the relationships between Documents
Search Document

Access levels to shared information

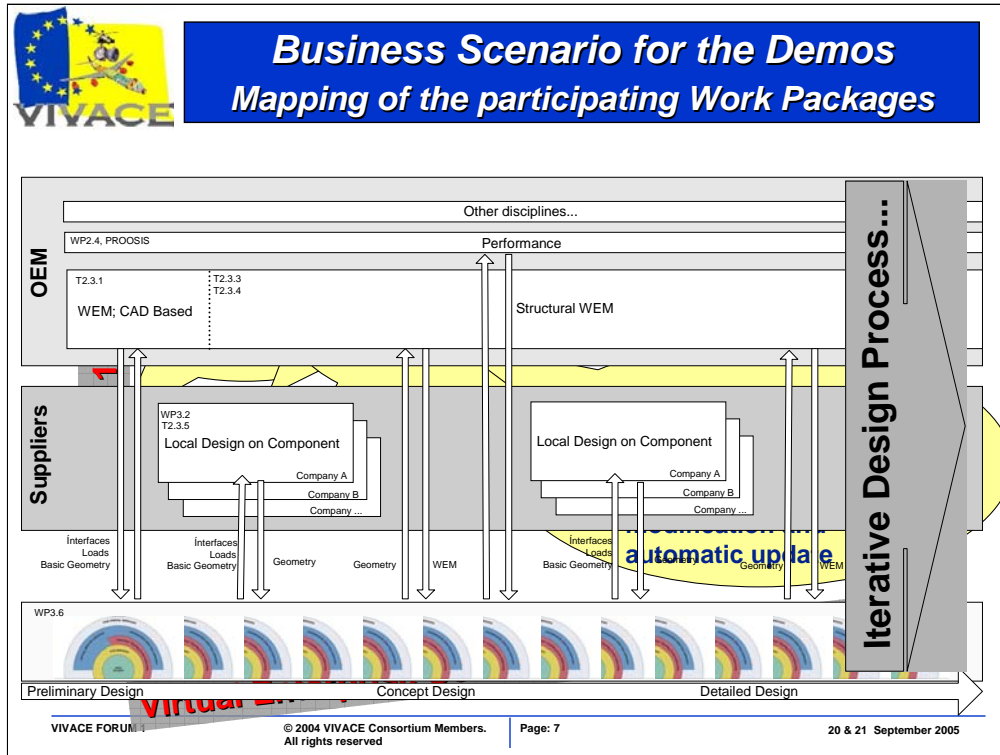
User Profile (Roles assignment)
User Identification
Administrative Support

Workflow Management - Workflows can be used to set up and automate processes (for example collecting inputs from different users, follow the process steps, notify when inputs are available, notify when dates are overdue).

Manage Notifications

Product Structure

Creation and updating
Unique Naming generation
Revisioning



Demo 1

Manual data sharing

Demo 2

Optimisation of a component at a single partner company

Demo 3

Robust design of a component

Demo 4

Demonstration of distributed design task



Agenda (Session 6)

- **Introduction to the VEC-Hub concept**
- **First demo:**
 - “Manual data sharing”
- **Second demo:**
 - “Optimisation of a component at a single partner company”
- **Third demo:**
 - “Robust design of a component”
- **Fourth demo:**
 - “Demonstration of distributed design task”
- **Wrap up**