

MFG501232

# The Office Space: Utilizing “Other” Areas of Your PLM System

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## Learning Objectives

- How to view and manage the inner connectivity of workspaces.
- How to run reports developed to aid other departments in their requests for information.
- Start thinking about which areas can be built for your company to use.
- Creating additional workspaces for ease of office management.

## Description

As companies have adopted Autodesk Fusion 360 Manage software to handle their company's engineering data, how many other systems are you using to handle everything else? Is it just via email? If so, how's the tracking? Are you paying for other systems additionally? At Owens Corning, we've taken the product lifecycle management (PLM) system and tailored it to meet the other areas of use in the office. This session will display the thoughts and concepts used to develop a robust system to be used for all aspects of a company, relating them to the projects that we work on.

## Speaker(s)

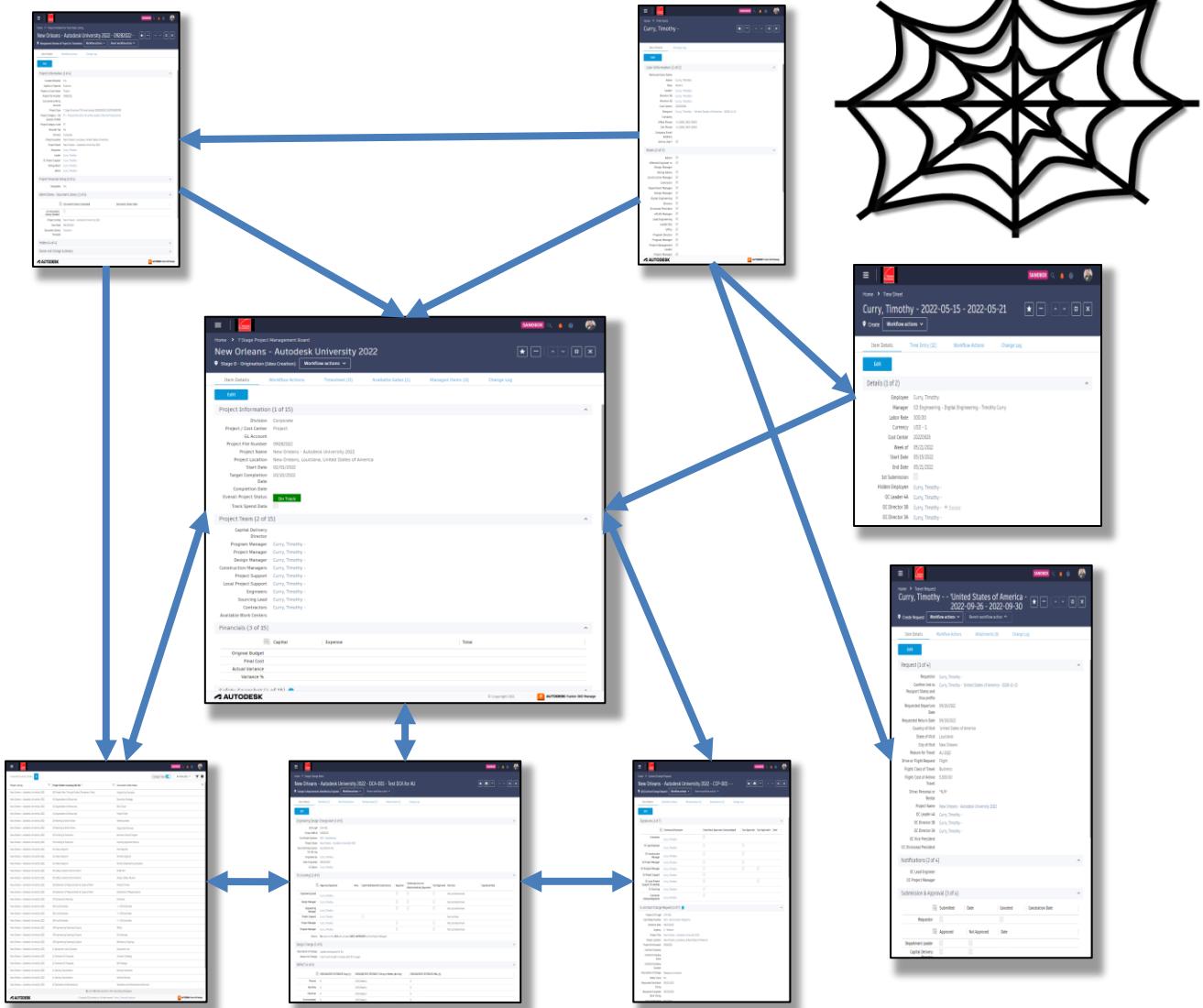


Timothy Curry received a Bachelor of Science from The Ohio State University focusing on Construction Management. He now works for Owens Corning as the PLM Systems Lead on the Global Capital Delivery team. He has been/is responsible for developing, deploying, and administrating the PLM software (PLM360, Fusion Lifecycle, Fusion 360 Manage) since 2013. He is now part of a team responsible for building a total project management platform for the business. He has assisted in presentations for Autodesk Accelerate along with benchmarking for other companies.

## Viewing and Managing the Inner Connectivity of Workspaces

Each workspace that you create should be meaningful or useful to the company and the platform you create. When developing your PLM site, take time to think about;

- **What** information needs to be interconnected?
- For everything to be inner connected...it's a lot more than you initially think.
- **Where** is that information is going to be reused, expanded upon, or become a derivative of other items?
- **When** is it appropriate to have related information on your platform?
- **Why** should your information be inner connected?
- **How** are you going to make the connections?
- This can be done via common picklists, creating picklists from workspace info, or referencing codes
- Personally, I want cascading picklists...



## Draw It Out

It doesn't matter if it is in Visio, some other Workspace/Workflowing mapping software, or even on a white board. Just Draw It Out! To truly make this work as you draw it out, lay out what items in each workspace can work as information in another. These identical pieces of information allow you to then build specific workspace to carry that specific data from 1 location throughout the system with the LEAST AMOUNT OF REPETITIVE (or wasted) WORK as you progress.

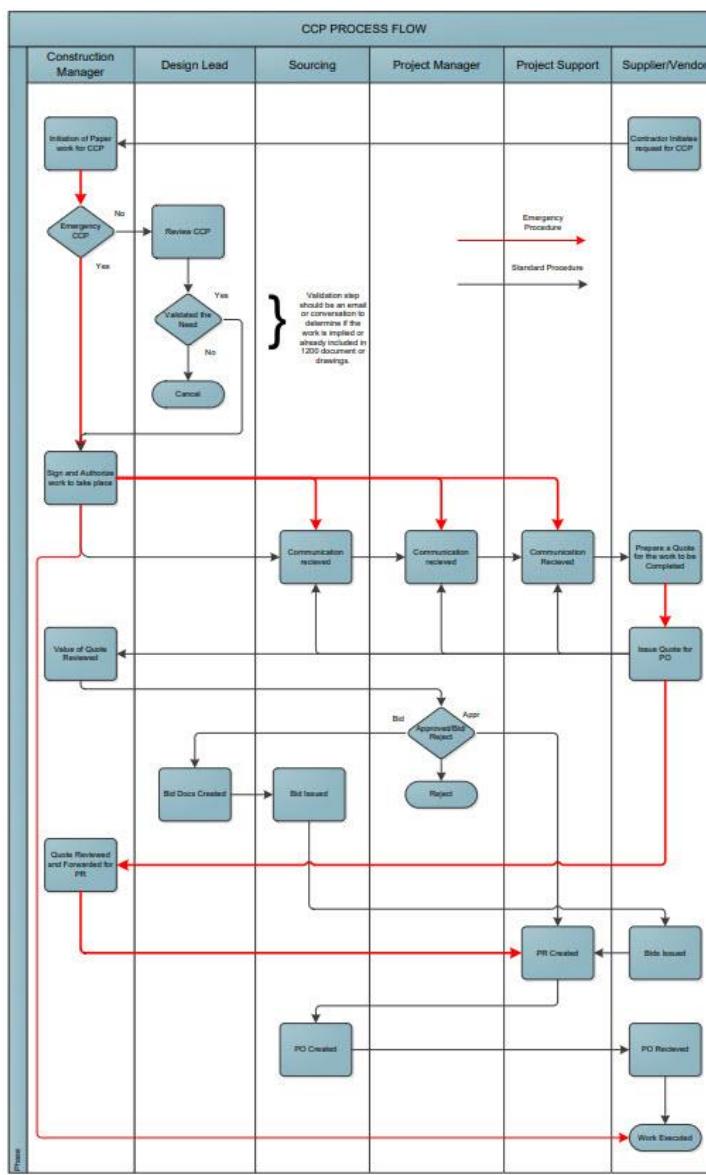


Figure 1 CCP Workflow Credit to Mike Strait at Owens Corning

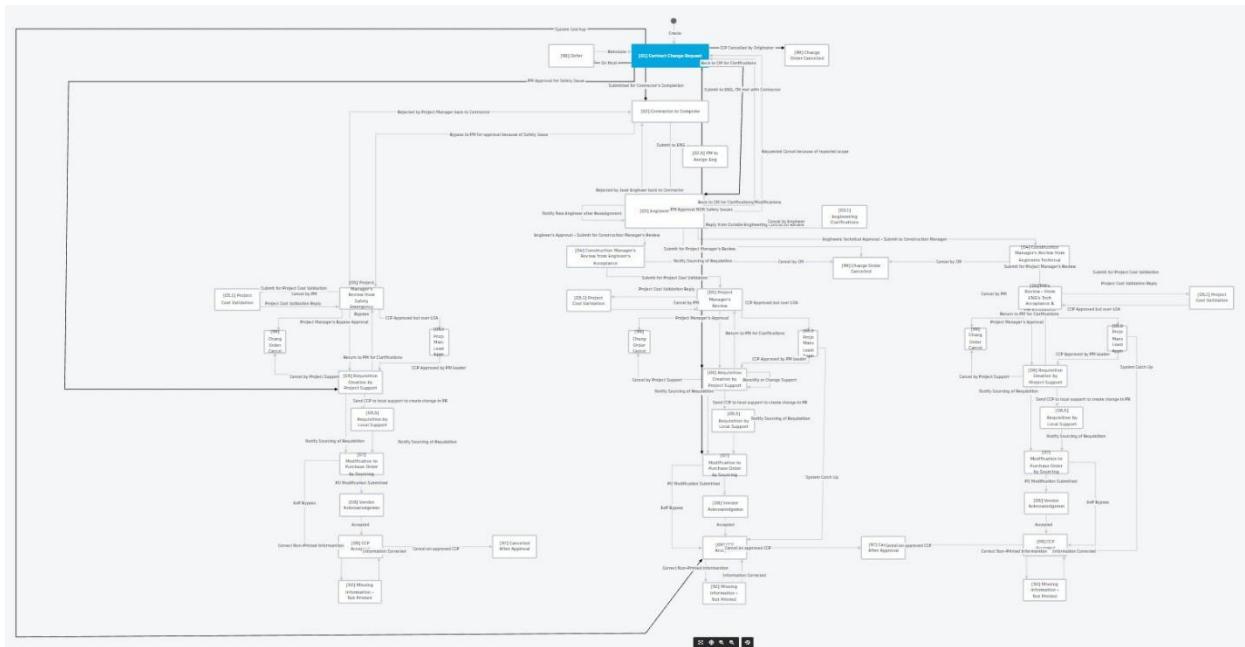


Figure 2 CCP Workflow built in PLM

▼ A. Contract Change Request

Number [Auto Number]			
Project CCP Log# [Single Line Text]			
Cost Model Number [Multiple Selection]			
Initiation Date [Date]			
Urgency [Radio Button]			
Project Title [Single Selection]			
Project Location [Derived - Single Selection]			
Project File Number [Derived - Single Line Text]			
Contract Company [Single Selection]			
Contract Company Name [Derived - Single Line Text]			
Contract Company Number [Derived - Single Line Text]			
Description of Change [Paragraph]			
Safety Issue [Single Selection]			
Requested Start Work Timing [Date]			
Requested Complete Work Timing [Date]			
Basis of Payment [Single Selection]			
Classification [Single Selection]			
Reason for Change (justification): [Paragraph]			

Figure 3 CCP Workspace - Layout

The fields in this first section of our CCP workspace vary from Auto Numbers, Single Line Text, Multiple Selection, Date, Radio Button, Single Selection, Derived – Single Selection, Derived – Single Line Text, and Paragraph.

The derived fields are great ways to bring in needed information to additional workspaces.

However, there is **NO** Cascading picklist. This would be where records in one workspace creates the availability of a Multiple Selection in a second workspace to finally be used in a third workspace of a single selection from a derived, multiple selection field.

## **Developing and “Running” reports for other departments to aid in their request for information**

Now that you have data, and possibly lots of it, what are you doing with it? Below are some examples of what has happened since the creation of our PLM system.

- Starting from the Contract Change Proposal, and Design Change Request workspaces.
  - Automated logs per project that are on demand.
- The original software for time tracking was hacked, developed now in PLM.
  - Prepared reports for inner-company billing
- Travel request to simplify requests and track travel.
  - Added Post-Trip Actuals to capture dates of passport stamps or travel dates.
  - Reports can now be run per project or county to validate compliance with any restrictions.

### **Availability, Timing, and Cost**

Who can run these reports? Those that have access to the information inside of that workspace. This means that managers or leaders do not need to spend time typing out requests for information and waiting for it to be updated or processed, because they can run the reports in PLM and get the most update information.

It takes time to standardize reports, but the juice is worth the squeeze. By standardizing the reports there is no need for extra timing needed to decipher one projects report from another projects report because the employees use different means of tracking items. This also means that as someone is out of the office, their delegated replacement can still complete tasks without needing to learn a different way of reporting.

The company is also not spending large amounts of time to run reports based on the varying requests. As repeated work is automated, the savings of cost/time is compounded. Report after report, project after project, year after year. While they may seem like merely minutes or moments on a single project, expand that to each project year after year. The costs of employees or contractors duplicating information just to get it into a log or report goes away.

### **Start thinking about which areas can be built for your company to use.**

What tasks are your company completing on a regular basis? Do you develop products for sale or manage the construction of facilities? From cradle to grave there are so many different aspects of work that a company can use PLM for. Projects and Products, the style of the system is only constrained to what you limit it to.

## Digital Signatures

If you are using a "Word" form that gets printed and signed prior to scanning and sending it forward to the next in line, why? Are there conditions that require physical signatures on your process? Do emails from individuals suffice for approvals?

## Record Retention

Does your company have policies in place for retaining emails past a certain time? Would they automatically delete prior to the completion of a project based on that policy? Is it difficult to keep a well-documented project from start to finish? When projects finish 3+ years later, there might be times where it is difficult remembering why something was done a certain way at the beginning of that project. Why not build workspaces that can quickly be searched to find the information needed instead of files and folders on a particular pc.

## Workflows and Reminders

Do you like having to manually track where tasks are in the completion process? Is the favorite part of your day sending reminders for team members to sign-off on something that has a pressing timeline? How much time and frustration could be saved by automating this?

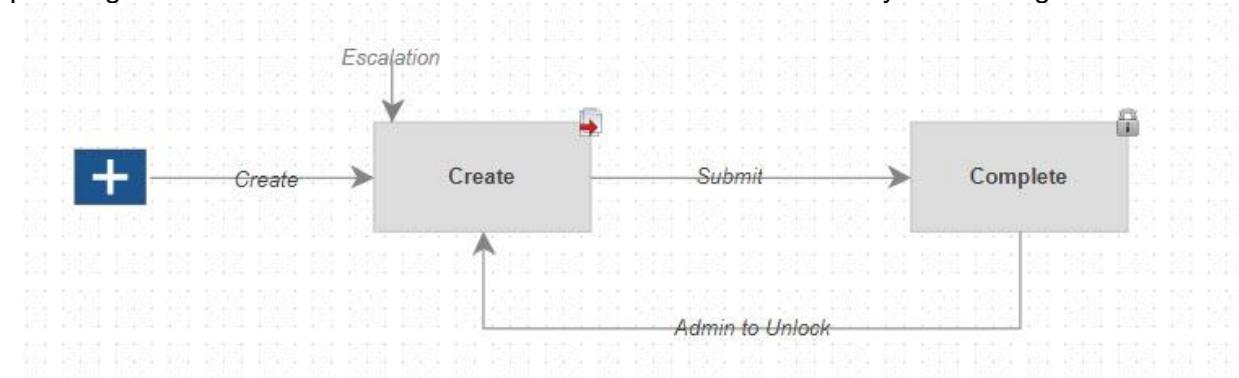


Figure 4 Timesheet Workspace - Workflow

## Creating additional workspaces for ease of office management

How much are you paying for all the different software that you are using to operate and run your office? Are they annual renewals or were they a one-time purchase? By increasing the number of workspaces in your PLM system there are less software that would need to be installed on any new machine deployment.

What jobs do you do in the office? Are there any tasks that could make everything run more smoothly? Don't just look at your engineers and leadership but look at all the employees that make the office function. Ask them questions like;

If we could program 1 thing to help make your job easier, what would it be?

What repetitive tasks have frequent back and forth communications with standard replies?

Where do you see something like this taking us in 5, 10, or 20 years; and what is needed to get us there?