

BAE Systems - Military Air & Information (MAI) Division:

BAE Systems' Military Air & Information (MAI) team use their expertise to design and build fixed wing military and training aircraft, as well as provide training, support and information services for customers worldwide, including the RAF.

MAI has expertise in the development, delivery and support of military air platforms, components and technologies through its products. MAI also provide defence information systems, networks and delivery platforms.

MAI has a large number of applications that create and consume product related data, which include the Siemens TeamCenter PLM product, together with a number of engineering and ERP applications.

In order to achieve a fully successful PLM deployment, MAI required a PLM solution that was fully integrated with numerous external systems, including CAD, Process Planning, ERP, etc. as illustrated in Figure 1. Approximately seventy-five transactions were designed to move data across all of these systems driven by various TeamCenter workflow or manual triggers. Having eQube-MI implemented on top of TeamCenter allowed MAI to leverage the TeamCenter security model within eQube-MI, which in-turn provided consistent data security without having to redefine the complete security model for each application. eQube-MI automatically checks and adheres to all security rules that are already defined in the TeamCenter security model - even to the point of knowing that the solution requesting data is only allowed access to specific data fields. MAI noted that eQube-MI's flexibility was a key factor that allowed the development of the interfaces in a short time period and at a relatively low cost.

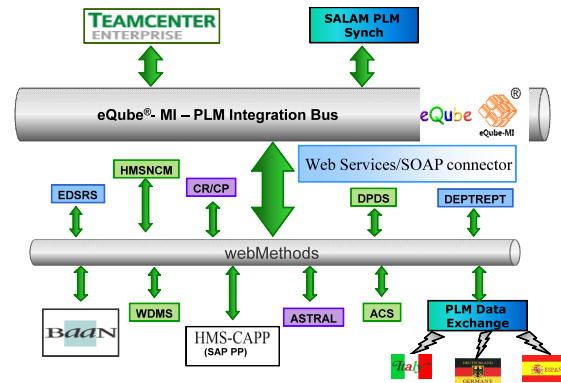


Figure 1 - Integration Architecture Using eQube-MI

(Courtesy of BAE Systems Military Air & Information)

Experience of eQube-MI in Production:

- Averages ~700 transactions per day.
- Peaks ~2500-3000 transactions per day.
- Bulk load of 5000+ transactions was handled without issue.
- Transaction failures have been recoverable.
- Interface failures mainly due to :
 - User inexperience with using TeamCenter
 - Data quality related issues (e.g. migrated data, data validations)
- The eQube-MI software and transactions have been robust.
- Simple user interface gives direct access to transactions for the support team.
- Use of XML means data is easy to view and understand.
- Straightforward to deploy eQube-MI events and/or Java "war" files.

Experience of working with eQ Technologic has found them to be responsive in dealing with issues in short timeframes. eQ-Technologic have an understanding of the business processes and customer requirements that facilitates a more rapid delivery. eQ also have a solid understanding of Siemens PLM products through close relationships with the vendor.