

Benning Endorses Engineering Base

For the electrical engineering section of its market-leading power supply systems, Benning GmbH & Co. KG has opted for the design software package Engineering Base (EB) from Aucotec. The complexity and continuous advancement of the Benning portfolio for industry, power plants, telecommunication and vehicles as well as for rail and air traffic safety require an absolutely safe, flexible and future-oriented engineering tool. After a thorough comparison, the job was awarded to latest software generation from AUCOTEC, which convinced the Benning engineers also with its workflow orientation.

With the EB branch solution, the complete engineering process of typical electrical engineering tasks can be efficiently mapped. The tool supports the use of ERP data, a comfortable variant and option selection, ECAE-compatible component data, the fastest possible bus or PLC/DCS configuration as well as a highly automated cabinet design. Finally Engineering Base rounds the workflow off with an intelligent final documentation with easy navigation and the most advanced, drawing-independent revision technology.

Pioneering Cabinet Solution: 3-D Made Easy with SolidWorks and ACATEC

A core element and highlight of the Engineering Base solution was a particularly important criterion for the decision at Benning: the novel kind of cabinet design with 2-D and 3-D elements. Optimized for the environment and routed in compliance with EMC rules, 2-D cabinets can be quickly assembled.

By means of ACATEC's 3-D cabinet configurator for EB, all 2-D placements also appear in the 3-D model in an instant. Moreover it enables - even without special 3-D knowledge of the user - the fine adjustment of placements as well as the integration of additional mechanical parts such as fastenings or storage systems. Finally any designer can lay connections with large conductor cross-sections outside the cable ducts in a straightforward manner. A prototype becomes superfluous, one saves expensive line material, and the collision check follows from the model. For the CAE experts at Benning, the functionality and easy handling of this cooperative solution from AUCOTEC and SolidWorks partners particularly important.

EB also offers timesaving functions for cabinet manufacturing - from wiring and cable length tables via a machine-readable format to subplate manufacturing as well as tag and labeling tables for printing.

This complete coverage of their design workflow convinced the power supply professionals at Benning. But the multilingual options available "at the push of a button", the comprehensive libraries e.g. according to IEC or JIC, the flexible labeling and structuring of data or the client/server technology were also important decision criteria during the thorough benchmarking carried out at this innovative company with a long tradition.