SPANSION®

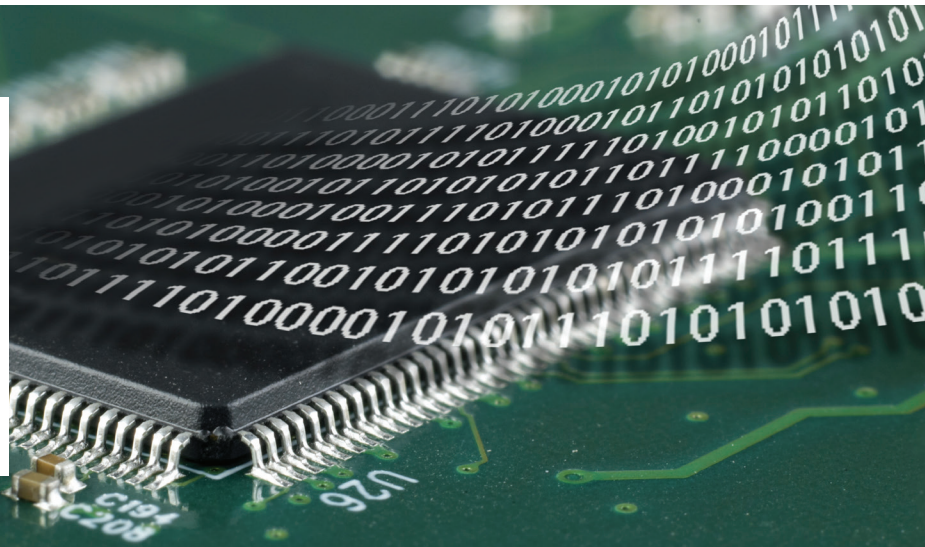Spansion selected Polarion because:

"Polarion delivers the best price-quality ratio"

The Situation

It is of primary importance to deliver a certain level of software quality in the automotive industry, which can be strongly supported through a suitable tool. To achieve this, Spansion set up a Quality Initiative project. The final goal of this project was to achieve compliance with SPICE Levels 2 and 3.

The company worked mainly with Microsoft Excel and Word, and therefore had two processes for each task, which was both time-consuming and error-prone. For projects with 6 to 7 users, the company usually produced 30 to 40 documents.

Another big pain point of this method was traceability, which was very hard to achieve through links between different documents. FSEU used Subversion (SVN) for its document management, while Bugzilla was the tool used for bug/ issue tracking.

Any potential new Application Lifecycle Management (ALM) solution had to support the company's process, improve its efficiencies, plus facilitate traceability with easy linking, and automated tracking of artifacts.

In the Requirements Management field, the company needed impact analysis, shared development through a tracked exchange of data with customers, explicit workflow for different artifact types, reporting that would reveal the status of the project at any time, and overall cost efficiency.

The Selection

The evaluation and decision process took one year, from the beginning of the evaluation until the purchase. A dedicated team organized the evaluation process into 3 phases:

1. Initial market review to identify candidate solutions and cull solutions deemed unsuitable for reasons of technology, features, and high cost.
2. Evaluation of the features of "short-listed" candidate solutions through vendor presentations and question-answer interviews, and delivery of use cases to vendors to evaluate their chances of fulfillment.
3. Analysis of the cost-quality ratio through a Total Cost of Ownership (TCO) evaluation including license models and costs, initial costs such as setup and training, and ongoing maintenance costs.

The company evaluated several other tools that are widely used on the market.

Spansion finally chose Polarion because it not only delivered the best quality-price ratio, but it also satisfied all the company's technical requirements.

The Solution

The installation of Polarion had to be reliable, and the implementation proved to be quick, without any previous proof of concept. Before the production roll-out, critical aspects were tested on a staging server.

Spansion now uses the unified Polarion platform for requirements management, change management and test case management. Polarion is integrated with Vectorcast for unit tests (hardware and the testing tool are linked using the Polarion Web Services API), and is connected to Sparx Enterprise Architect for UML model-ing. Bug Tracking is now covered by Polarion's integrated Work Item tracker. The company also uses Polarion's open API to create its own extensions to integrate with various state-of-the-art software development tools.

80%
time reduced
on traceability management

Environment
120 users in 3 locations, localized for Japanese and Chinese users

System Specs
Self-hosted, Fujitsu Primergy RX 300 S5 server, running Red Hat Enterprise Linux

Products
Polarion REQUIREMENTS
Polarion ALM
Polarion PRO

Conclusion
"A tool with a best price-quality ratio. That's why we choose Polarion."
Uli Markert, Supervisor Software Services

Polarion is hosted on a single server located in Linz, Germany. The initial production roll-out was used by 60 employees for 30 projects. Users were quickly brought up to speed by a Polarion Consultant who held a workshop in Linz. The custom workflows were configured fast and trouble-free, and the ease of the system configuration enabled the company to further save on consulting and service costs.

An important goal for Spansion is to standardize and harmonize the processes developed in different projects, and then create a mature and ready-to-start environment for all new projects. The objective is to emulate Polarion's unique approach and abilities that provide out-of-the-box templates to develop projects that encompass all the company's industry knowledge and internal best practices.

The Polarion solution has been expanded to include additional users and projects with additional installations at Spansion in Japan.
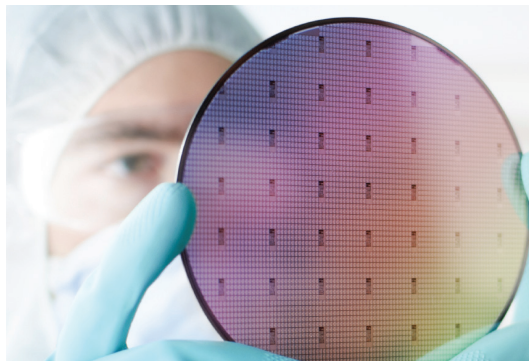
The Benefits

Spansion concludes that Polarion has delivered these main benefits:

- Polarion's designed-in **traceability support saves significant time**. Before, the company invested 20-25% of project time just managing the process with Excel and Word. With Polarion, the traceability is achieved by "pressing a button," and the time invested is **reduced to 5-10%.**
- The **predefined workflows prevent deviations** from the process that could result in errors and oversights.
- The **easy exchange of data** and the storage of all artifacts in a single tool **speeds up collaboration and approvals**, eliminating "information islands" and the need to use different tools to access different information.
- As a **web-based solution, Polarion avoids separated installations** at the workplace and allows easy collaboration between the company locations.
- Using Polarion to manage development processes helped Spansion to successfully **reach SPICE Level 2** in a relatively short time. The next step will be to achieve the Workflow Definition ISO 26262 standard in Functional Safety.

The Client: Spansion

Spansion is a global leader in Flash memory-based embedded systems solutions. Spansion's Flash memory, microcontrollers, mixed-signal and analog products drive the development of faster, more intelligent and energy efficient electronics. Spansion is at the heart of electronics systems, connecting, controlling, storing and powering everything from automotive electronics and industrial systems to the highly interactive and immersive consumer devices that are enriching people's daily lives.

The global digital industry is rapidly transitioning from traditional computing architectures toward a world where people, objects and machines are in a perpetual mode of communication and interactivity. Data and applications are accelerating at breakneck speed, requiring electronics to work more quickly and be more intuitively responsive. Advances in memory and processor technology will fuel this ongoing evolution of the digital infrastructure that is now fundamental to how people work, live and play.

Spansion is at the forefront of this fast-paced interconnected world, delivering a broad portfolio of Flash memory, microcontrollers, analog products, and mixed-signal, as well as integrated system-on-chip solutions. Our leading-edge intellectual property and products are driving the development of high quality, reliable and economical devices that are faster, intelligent, efficient and secure.

About Polarion

Polarion Software's success is best described by the hundreds of Global 1000 companies and over 1 Million users who rely daily on Polarion's Requirements Management, Quality Assurance, and Application Lifecycle Management solutions. Polarion is a thriving international company with offices across Europe and North America, and a wide ecosystem of partners worldwide. For more information, visit www.polarion.com.

Predefined workflows prevent errors

Polarion is first to deliver a **full ALM tool qualified** for ISO 26262 / IEC 61508

Polarion can help improve the speed, quality, and productivity of your time-to-market development

Easy exchange of data
speeds up collaboration and approvals

SPICE Level 2
reached in short time