

Press Release, 05/10/2016:

University of Applied Sciences Ostwestfalen-Lippe Cooperates with Siemens Industry Software and Polarion

The OWL University launches a new research project with Siemens Industry Software and Polarion in the SmartFactoryOWL. The project aims to integrate and adjust hardware and software development processes for Industry 4.0-enabled products. As part of the OWL University's research program, "DiMan," the project has a duration of two years. Siemens promotes the program with 220.000 Euro and Polarion supports with professional service and expertise.

In the I4.0 context, products have changed significantly: they decreasingly consist solely of hardware components, with integrated software and electronics.

Here is a real-world everyday example of this exciting development: A car seat is no longer just a car seat with mechanical position adjustment. Today, it's a complex product with electronic adjustment functions for individual seating positions, seat heating, and a memory function.

Therefore, the development and manufacturing of Industry 4.0-enabled products now face new challenges. For a short development time and individualized products, a cross-disciplinary product development is necessary.

It's the basis for a fast, efficient and individual development, providing consistent data for digital product creation. Especially the often separated hardware development processes (PLM) and software development processes (ALM) have to be integrated and adapted into each other.

Siemens, as the leading PLM provider, promotes OWL University's research and development of optimized PLM / ALM applications with 220.000 Euro. Among other activities, the two-year project processes product development in the SmartFactoryOWL. Polarion, the leading ALM provider, participates with professional service and expertise.

"We are glad to have found such high-profile partners with Siemens and Polarion. An application-oriented research - such as in the field of Industry 4.0 technologies - is benefiting from its proximity to the industry and vice versa," said Dr. Oliver Herrmann, President of OWL University.

The project is part of the research framework, "DiMan," and is conducted by the Laboratory for Computer Science in Engineering and Production in the Department of Production and Economics. Professor Andreas Deuter, Head of the Laboratory, is pleased with the high engagement of the two companies:

"With support of two strong industry partners, we are able to generate practical applications for interdisciplinary product development for companies in the region OWL. Furthermore, research insights will get incorporated into teaching."

DiMan

The research area DiMan - Direct Digital Manufacturing in the Industry 4.0 context - aims to find new approaches through the application of direct and digital manufacturing techniques. The direct and digital fabrication includes the continuous development of products - starting with the planning by draftsmen via the application with assistance of digital manufacturing techniques through to the final product and its use by the customer.

SmartFactoryOWL

The SmartFactoryOWL is a research and demonstration factory in Lemgo. It has been established on initiative of Fraunhofer Society and OWL University - to provide scientific support for new Industry 4.0 technologies, to prove their practical applicability and to make them accessible for SMEs.