

Statoil ASA

Customer Success Story

Autodesk Navisworks

“Autodesk Navisworks is constantly used by up to 60 engineers on a regular basis. We’re saving money by giving them more information to build solutions.”

—Eivend Rosendahl
Staff Engineer
LCI | Statoil

Providing a better view.

Autodesk Navisworks helps Statoil visualize and share its plans.



Photo: Harald Pettersen / Statoil

About Statoil

Statoil ASA, headquartered in Norway with 30,000 employees worldwide, is an international energy company with more than 35 years of experience on the Norwegian continental shelf and with operations in 40 countries. The company is committed to accommodating the world’s energy needs in a responsible manner by applying technology and creating innovative business solutions. Statoil has been one of the most important players in the Norwegian oil industry, and strongly contributed to helping Norway become a modern industrial nation. Today, Norway is one of the world’s most productive petroleum provinces and is a test lab for technology development.

Freedom to View

Although Norway was a prime location for Statoil’s first plant, the number of plants in other locations has increased dramatically. Today the company operates 40 plants offshore in the North Sea; others are in Africa, Asia and North America. The company also expects to open a plant in Brazil.

One of the biggest challenges Statoil faced was communication. The company needed to easily communicate and share designs and models with clients, employees, engineers and many other stakeholders. Statoil’s design tools created unique challenges for communicating important design information. For example, Statoil’s offshore plants are constantly changing and need many modifications due to several different factors, such as constant exposure to severe weather conditions, rust and corrosion from water and wind, and the ever-changing environment on the rig due to configuration changes, switching out skids, etc.

To communicate these plant modifications to the engineers through design and a working 3D model, the company uses two systems that are very complex. Because of this complexity, the company had to invest considerable time and money to train a select number of employees to learn how to take the data and simply display it as a 3D model. It soon became obvious the company needed another cost-effective solution for viewing the data.

Autodesk Navisworks solved this problem by offering a simple solution to display the data from the models. Now, thanks to Autodesk Navisworks, Statoil can show its plant data and distribute new plant layouts to anyone, not only engineers. Autodesk Navisworks not only simplified the process for displaying the data, but it has saved the company considerable time and money in distribution and training costs.

Autodesk®

Rapid training and deployment create cost advantages.

Now, according to Eivend Rosendahl, Staff Engineer at Statoil, “Instead of having 30 engineers using the old design tools, Autodesk Navisworks is available to more than 1,000 in our user group. And, it’s constantly used by up to 60 engineers on a regular basis. We’re saving money by giving them more information to build solutions.”

Make the Most of Design Data

The size of the models produced by Statoil also presented a unique challenge. Engineers need to know all the details—they need to check for access routes, make sure the modifications won’t disrupt the ability to move equipment, ensure accurate pipe measurements, and more. Without having this data right from the 3D models, engineers would need to go into isometric drawings or use a calculator to get their measurements.

Autodesk Navisworks was the only software tool that could display all this information, as well as each plant’s model in its entirety, providing a perfect overview to anyone who needed it. In addition, Autodesk Navisworks makes distributing the files simple. The files can be produced on a server and distributed as normal drawings. So now, instead of engineers traveling to offshore plants to observe and discuss layout, the information is instantly on their desktop.

Rapid Training and Implementation

Getting employees and other stakeholders up and running quickly with Autodesk Navisworks was a big concern. But Statoil reports that training and introducing Autodesk Navisworks as a new tool is practically self-explanatory. Employees are introduced to the tool in a meeting and supplied with the key pages of the user manual that describe the most useful functions and features in reviewing designs.

For a full-scale introduction, the training may take up to an hour. Face-to-face trainings rarely exceed two hours. In comparison, training to view information from the existing design tool takes weeks. But according to Rosendahl, this really doesn’t matter: “You can’t use the design tool to ever give anyone the whole complete picture. It can’t be used the way we use Autodesk Navisworks, no matter how much training you have.”

Employees at Statoil describe Autodesk Navisworks as an extremely useful tool. “We’re adding information to the normal technical information they require every day, and we’re adding layout data through Autodesk Navisworks, which is obviously very important for a lot of people in our organization.” When asked what his favorite part about his work is, Rosendahl responded: “To please the customers. When they smile when we give them a good solution—that is terrific. And Autodesk Navisworks has been a great tool in making our customers smile.”

From better communication to critical clash detection, Autodesk Navisworks provides better visualization to Statoil’s clients and employees.



Photo: Helge Hansen / Statoil

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