

Reference extract



Company: TRW Automotive Electronics and Components GmbH & Co. KG



City / Country: 67677 Enkenbach-Alsenborn / Germany

Website: www.trwauto.com

Industry: Automotive - Supplier

Customers: Almost all car manufacturers

Use EFD.Lab since: March 2002

1. Purchase Decision:

- Why did you choose to buy EFD.Lab - what were the problems that required the use of this type of tool?

Airflow - analysis of air intakes of car interiors. These investigations should help us recognize and solve aerodynamic problems before building the first prototype. New ideas should be tested with respect to their aerodynamic feasibility before final design decisions.

- Prior to EFD.Lab, did your company have any experience using Computational Fluid Dynamics software?

Yes, FloWorks of NIKA is used in the development of braking systems in the US.

- Which Tools did you use for fluid analysis and how were the required information and results acquired?

Fluid dynamic experiments with prototypes.

- What were the most important reasons for purchasing EFD.Lab?

We already had good practical knowledge with FloWorks, the EFD.Lab „sister product“ in the US. In addition it is easy to use and it provides useful results in a very short time.

2. EFD.Lab Application

- Who or which function uses EFD.Lab at the company? Please choose all the functions that apply: Designer, Developer, Research Engineer, Computation Engineer, etc. ?

I use the software. I am a Development engineer for Fluid and Thermal Analysis.

- How do you work with the system? (Procedure)

We read existing CAD Data (mostly CATIA V4, but also UG) and then execute the analysis in cooperation with the designers and finally report the results.

We are now considering modelling and analysing the initial model (without kinematics, etc.) directly within EFD.Lab. If the results are promising, then the model will be converted into CATIA and finalized.

- Which functions are the most useful?

The cloning of projects; cloning saves a lot of time and trouble.

3. Experiences, Advantages, Benefit

- What do you like most about EFD.Lab?

It is easy-to-use. The working hours can be fully used for the solution of the problems facing us and are not used to handle the code. Or put differently: I am the user of the code and not its slave.

- Which competitive advantages are transparent? (Time to Market, RoI, Product quality)

At this moment we do not know of any competitor who uses Fluid Flow Simulation in the development of air intakes. This is why we have a good lead over our competitors. I cannot yet give an estimate about Time to Market, since I've only been at TRW since December, 2002. But I personally judge the development process as very positive.

- How do you estimate the costs (Maintenance, Training, etc.) for EFD.Lab?

It is comparable with the cost of other systems.

- Please advise on the state of Service received from NIKA (Support, Updates)?

I am very pleased.

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- How do you judge consumer satisfaction?

To work with EFD.Lab more intensely, I have swapped my position from designer (SIEGENIA) to design engineer Fluid Analysis (TRW). Anything more?

4. How do you see EFD.Lab in compare to other computational fluid systems on the market?

In my opinion the concept of EFD.Lab is unique, as long as the user has no need for the rotating meshes of the high-end codes.

5. Other Comments

I would like to have a log of CPU time and of start/finish time during the generation of the report (Start: 23. June 2003 14:45, End: 24: June 2003 8:45). I need these details for accounting purposes.