NEW ZEALAND STEEL LTD., NEW ZEALAND

Key Facts
Company: New Zealand Steel Ltd., a BlueScope subsidiary
Website: www.nzsteel.co.nz
Industry: Construction, Manufacturing, Agriculture
Country: New Zealand
Products Used:
• SmartPlant® Foundation

NEW ZEALAND STEEL UPDATES SYSTEM WITH SMARTPLANT® FOUNDATION

With production demands increasing, New Zealand Steel Ltd. updates information management system with Hexagon's SmartPlant® Foundation

THE CHALLENGE

BlueScope Steel is the leading steel company in Australia and New Zealand, supplying a large percentage of flat steel products sold in these markets. New Zealand Steel Ltd., a BlueScope subsidiary, is New Zealand's sole producer of flat rolled steel products for the building, construction, manufacturing and agricultural industries.

The company uses locally sourced ironsand to produce around 650,000 tons of steel a year. Some 60 percent of the company's steel output is exported – a good example of how an industry can successfully adapt to take advantage of a natural resource that is unlike any other in the world.

With that scope of work facing it, the engineering design team at BlueScope Steel needed to move from a CAD environment to a data-centric setting.

THE SOLUTION

Andrew Beer - Senior CAD Systems Engineer New Zealand Steel - and his team now use SmartPlant® Foundation, which creates and manages a digital representation of the plant and all its activities throughout its lifecycle. The system is locally supported by Hexagon PPM partner Matrix Applied Computing, which has developed a browser-access, Web-based front end that enables users anywhere on New Zealand Steel's site to find, view and print engineering drawings.
The decision to move to SmartPlant Foundation was prompted by the release of a new version of New Zealand Steel’s existing CAD software, which made it impossible for the company to read its own “as-builts.” Beer realized his team would need to adopt a longer-term approach to the creation and management of its engineering data.

“We knew that moving to SmartPlant Foundation would mean a bigger annual maintenance bill, but as it is the backbone for a number of related engineering design products, the overall package is attractive.”

Andrew Beer
Senior CAD Systems Engineer