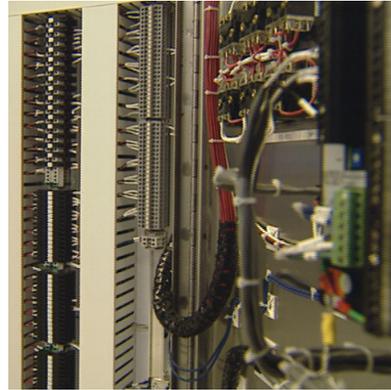
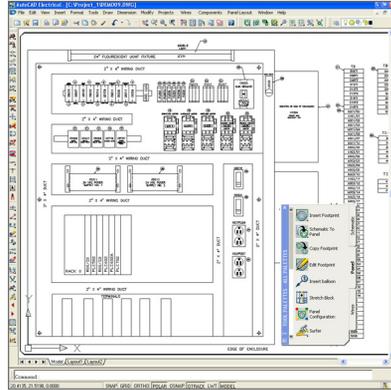
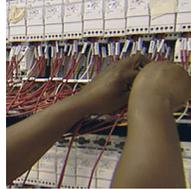


Customer
Success Story

Autodesk
Manufacturing
Solutions



Tegron, LLP

Tegron Reduces Design Time by 50 Percent with AutoCAD Electrical

Executive Summary

Consistency and Standards Reduce Errors and Boost Productivity

Tegron has automated its drawing creation and revision process with AutoCAD Electrical. In the past, the company's ten offices around the U.S. employed different manual drawing processes. AutoCAD Electrical introduced consistency and standards, which have led to a dramatic reduction in error rates. Productivity has improved so much that Tegron completed a drawing revision project for a customer in three weeks that would have taken three months using the old methods.

THE CHALLENGE

For nearly 20 years, Tegron has built control systems that automate manufacturing processes across a wide range of industries. Tegron controls are the brains behind everything from airport baggage handling equipment to large-scale food production machinery. For years, the Longview, Texas-based company's dedicated team of designers painstakingly created and revised thousands of drawings annually using inefficient manual processes. Believing that there had to be a better way, the company recently turned to AutoCAD® Electrical and has reduced design time by 50 percent and cut errors by up to 90 percent.

Reduce Costs while Remaining Competitive

In an increasingly competitive global marketplace, Tegron is under pressure to do business in the most efficient way possible. Customers depend on the company to produce competitively priced systems that help them succeed in this rapidly changing world market. At the same time, Tegron must manage the challenges created by its own success. With annual growth rates as high as 70 percent,

the company must keep a close eye on product quality as it continues to expand. AutoCAD Electrical is helping the control systems integrator reduce costs and remain competitive. "Because we're a growing organization we're not looking to cut staff, we're looking to increase our productivity," says Tegron CEO Steve Voelzke. "We expect to be able to reduce our time on key projects by 50 percent."

THE SOLUTION**Automate Time-Consuming Manual Processes**

Before Tegron made the move to AutoCAD Electrical, members of its design team were spending thousands of hours on repetitive manual tasks and many rounds of document review. Because each detail in every drawing—device tags, wire numbers, and cross referencing information—had to be checked by hand, errors were often introduced as changes and corrections were made. "As a company, our biggest challenge came from a process standpoint," says Daniel Parrish, chief technology officer at Tegron. "Our CAD process was very, very manual. More than anything, we really wanted to drive down the errors in our process."

To reduce the number of hours spent on each product throughout its lifecycle and eliminate slow, error-prone processes without disrupting operations, Tegron sought a solution with sophisticated automation capabilities that could integrate easily with its existing AutoCAD environment. With designers working in ten different offices across the country, the company also wanted to put in place design standards that would ensure consistent results—no matter where a design was produced. "Our CAD processes are pooled and all of our engineers touch them," says Parrish. "We had no central system to work within. Because our processes were manual, each engineer and each CAD designer was doing things differently, which was problematic."

Accomplishing More, Making Fewer Errors

Before turning to AutoCAD Electrical to solve its design challenges, Tegron spent thousands of dollars evaluating electrical design software from several companies. After rolling out and then abandoning one system that didn't live up to its billing, Tegron implemented

AutoCAD Electrical—and the transition turned out to be easier than expected. AutoCAD Electrical delivered the advanced capabilities the company was looking for, while providing easy integration with AutoCAD at the same time. Tegron experienced very little downtime during the conversion process and the company's designers were up and running quickly with AutoCAD Electrical.

THE RESULT**Complex Changes Done in Weeks Not Months**

Thanks to AutoCAD Electrical, projects with tight turnarounds and demanding deadlines don't cause the headaches they once did. Soon after implementing the software, Tegron faced the challenge of making substantial changes to a large number of drawings at a customer's request. "In that case, we had 14 drawing sets adding up to probably thousands of pages of drawings. As the project continued, our customer realized that changes needed to be made that would affect the whole system," says Voelzke. "We were able to change those 14 drawing sets in a matter of three weeks, as opposed to the three months it would have taken us before."

Because Tegron has eliminated many of its traditional manual processes, the design team has been freed from a great deal of time-consuming, repetitive work. With the capabilities provided by AutoCAD Electrical, the company is able to automatically create schematics and standard elements, such as backplate layouts. The company's managers estimate that with the help of AutoCAD Electrical they have been able to reduce the number of errors in drawings by 80 to 90 percent.

Saving 60 Percent in Man-Hours

With AutoCAD Electrical, Tegron has been able to roll out consistent standards across its widely distributed organization, increase

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CEO
Tegron

efficiency in the design process, and position itself for future growth. As a rapidly growing organization, the company is especially pleased with the increase in designer productivity. "With AutoCAD Electrical we're easily saving 60 percent or more in man-hours on projects where we're able to do the same kind of process over and over again," says Parrish. "And we believe the benefits are only going to continue to multiply as we go forward."

After many years of helping other companies automate their processes, Tegron is now benefiting from its own automation initiative with AutoCAD Electrical. The company's increased productivity and greater efficiency are enabling it to take advantage of many business opportunities in a competitive marketplace. "AutoCAD Electrical is giving us exactly what we need in order to automate our processes and offer value to our customers," says Voelzke. "We've been able to free up our designers from performing mundane tasks, and we're delivering a better, more consistent product to the companies that use our services."