



Vdot™ helping Jacobs Technology quickly achieve AS9100 Certification



THE CHALLENGE

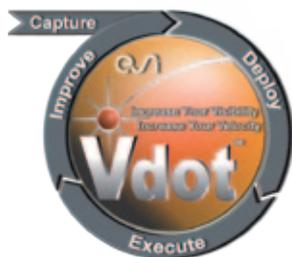
A Jacobs Technology led team took over management of the Michoud Assembly Facility in July of 2009 and needed to achieve AS9100 certification as quickly as possible. Having so recently taken over as operator of the facility, this presented Jacobs with a significant challenge. They needed to understand the facility's processes, improve them, and begin efficiently executing them as soon as possible.

THE SOLUTION

ESI and Qualis Corporation rapidly implemented the Vdot™ lean project and process management system which helped Jacobs successfully complete their initial AS9100 audit. Vdot™ was highlighted by the audit team as a significant "strong point":

"The Vdot™ system for identifying the process and linking the customer requirements and the organizations documents."

AS9100 Audit Report



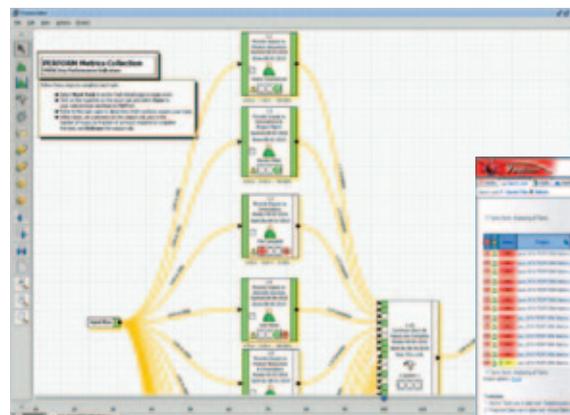
In July of 2009, after winning the Manufacturing Support and Facility Operations Contract (MSFOC) at NASA's Michoud Assembly Facility (MAF), Jacobs Technology quickly began the challenging task of managing this historic facility, its equipment and processes. Jacobs is using Vdot™ from ESI as a key element in their efforts to improve and better execute MAF processes and projects.

The Jacobs team, including ESI and Qualis Corp., needed to improve the processes at MAF and the management and execution of those processes. To that end, the team has worked diligently to attain AS9100 certification as quickly as possible. AS9100 is the aerospace model for quality assurance in design, development, production, installation and servicing. It builds upon the ISO 9001:2000 standard incorporating the additional requirements necessary to address both civil and military aviation and aerospace needs worldwide.

As noted in the August issue of the "Michoud Messenger", the MAF team enjoyed a very successful initial audit (conducted by the auditing firm DNV). The team's process work with Vdot™ was cited as one of four "Strong Points" in the audit. A "Strong Point" is the highest level finding in these audits. Joe Costa, Mission Assurance Director at MAF, congratulated the team on their achievement:

"Most organizations take at least two years to achieve this... Achieving AS9100 certification in one year, starting from ground zero, [is] the gold ring."

One of the ways the Jacobs team uses Vdot™ is to ensure timely completion of critical Data Requirements Documents (DRDs). These provide up-to-date status information on the performance of the MAF facility and the MSFOC team. Vdot™ ensures that the right people have access to the right data at the right time, and provides visibility into these time critical processes.



Metrics Collection Process Diagram in Vdot™

Vdot™ Current Activity Status Report

Vdot™ helps in a wide variety of ways at MAF

Vdot™ also helps manage work order processes and data collection for the MAF laboratory operations organization. With Vdot™ the lab operations group has been able to streamline and standardize their processes, turning what used to be a very labor intensive, paper-based system into an automated environment where lab technicians, their managers and their customers enjoy instant access, prioritized tasking, and status visibility for every job.

ESI provides the Vdot™ software as well as services to the MSFOC team. Vdot™ has proven to be ideal for processes in numerous areas at MAF.

“We at ESI are excited by the opportunity to contribute to the MSFOC team. We are continually finding new ways to use Vdot™ to understand and improve operations throughout the Michoud Assembly Facility for Jacobs and the team”, says Damian Yañez, Sr. Manager Vdot™ Services at ESI North America.

“Other laboratory management systems require you to change your business to fit their software. Vdot™ is very versatile and allows us to quickly model and execute our processes the way we determine is optimal.”

Cheryl Redmon, MAF Manager Laboratory Operations

Lab Operations Task

Lab Operations Sub-Process

Laboratory Work Order Process in Vdot™

For more information, please visit: www.esi-group.com/vdot

ABOUT JACOBS TECHNOLOGY

Jacobs Technology is the advanced technology division of Jacobs Engineering, one of the United States' largest engineering and technical services-only companies. Clients include the DOD, NASA, the U.S. Special Operations Command, the DOE, and dozens of commercial clients, such as Boeing, Lockheed Martin, Rolls-Royce, General Motors, Ford, Chrysler and Saturn. For further information, visit www.jacobstechnology.com.

ABOUT QUALIS CORP.

Qualis Corporation is a high technology business providing technical services in the areas of engineering analysis, design, testing, and support services to both commercial and Government customers. For further information visit www.qualis-corp.com

ABOUT ESI GROUP

ESI is a pioneer and world-leading provider in virtual prototyping that takes into account the physics of materials. ESI has developed an extensive suite of coherent, industry-oriented applications to realistically simulate a product's behavior during testing, to fine-tune manufacturing processes in accordance with desired product performance, and to evaluate the environment's impact on performance. ESI's solutions fit into a single collaborative and open environment for End-to-End Virtual Prototyping, thus eliminating the need for physical prototypes during product development. The company employs over 750 high-level specialists worldwide covering more than 30 countries. ESI Group is listed in compartment C of NYSE Euronext Paris. For further information, visit www.esi-group.com.



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