

Til TÜV* Do Us Part

Test report creation with large facilities – Direct Publishing from SEAL Systems



Automobiles must be inspected by a mechanic every two years. This is usually done quickly and easily. However, large machines, for example bucket-wheel excavators, must also undergo regular inspections. This kind of inspection naturally involves more work than a car inspection.

A large surface mining company therefore decided to automate the compiling of these reports with the help of a direct publishing process from SEAL Systems.

On-Site with Surface Mining

You can't just swing by an inspection station with a coal excavator. Even though the mechanic comes to do inspections on-site, it takes about a month before the necessary inspections are completed and documented. Accordingly, a complete inspection report for an excavator usually runs to over 100 pages.

Defects...

Every defect found – cracked welding seams, rust, or wear – is marked on the excavator itself and documented with a digital camera. A text is included for each photo, describing

the defect. Areas which the inspector cannot reach are marked as not visible, so that the attempt to inspect them is documented.

.. and Measures

The inspector then determines what must be done. These measures are also documented in the inspection report – usually with a date by which the measures must be undertaken. The date when the mechanic completes the task is also documented in the inspection report.

* Public German organisation which carries out technical inspections

The Solution

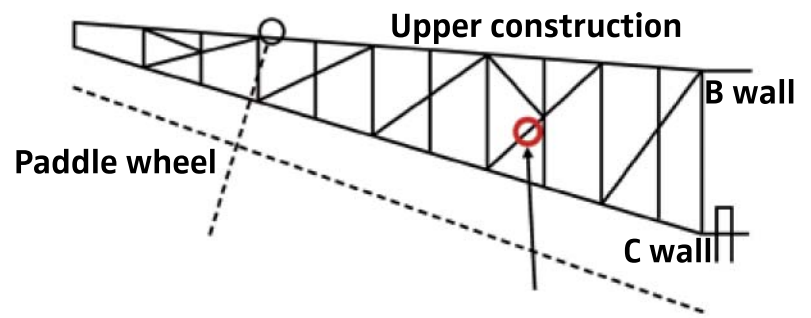
In the past, the preparation of the inspection reports was a herculean effort, alone through the size of the machines, the many individual defects and the length of time needed. The company decided to automate the preparation of the reports with the Direct Publishing process from SEAL Systems.

Direct Publishing is an easy-to-configure, modular process framework. It allows companies to automate complex document compilation and editing processes. With one click, complete publishing processes generate machine or plant documentation from existing single documents of different origins. All relevant documents are automatically collected, structured, converted and transferred into the desired layout. New target documents are created from single documents and document parts. Navigational aids created from existing or created structural information, such as folder labels, separators, chapter labels and content directories for paper documentation (bookmarks and content directories with hyperlinks for PDF documentation) are inserted into the end document.

Create an Inspection Report

All photos, defects and required measures are entered into the SAP system – while the inspection is in process – in order to create a full inspection report for the excavator. For better orientation, the individual defects are sorted separately according to assembly of the excavator (functional locations). These assemblies are linked with drawings and photos which are later issued with the inspection report, and show where the defective areas are located.

With this solution, the current status of the inspection report can be generated from the data submitted within minutes. To create the report, all texts and files are collected from the functional locations with help of the SAP structural dissolution procedure from SEAL Systems and sent to Direct Publishing.



Special Feature: Dynamic Report Creation

This special feature generates, for the automated creation of the inspection report, consistent PDF files which can be further processed in Direct-Publishing before the output of the individual images and text fragments. Additionally, SEAL Systems has integrated a graphic report generator: this creates forms which are automatically filled out by Direct Publishing and then saved as PDF.

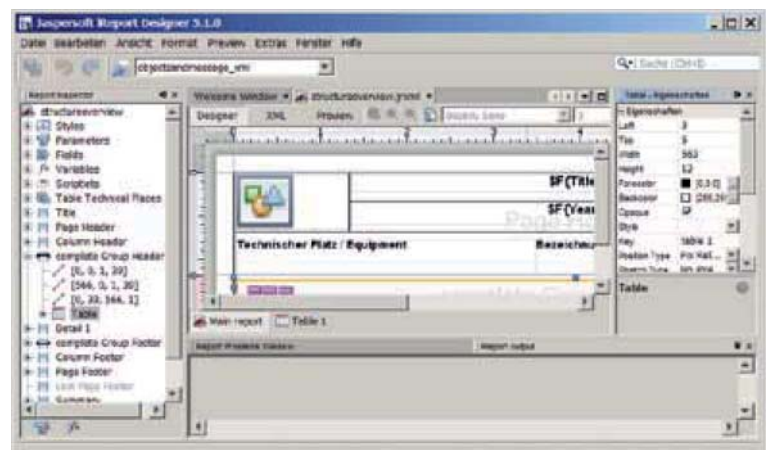
The use of a report generator allows for the separation of layout from content. This way the layout can be flexibly adjusted independent of the content, e.g. for different target groups, languages, etc.

The customer can also make adjustments. Direct Publishing users can work flexibly and efficiently with the report generator, as the data needed for the documentation must be finalized only at the time of actual document creation. At the same time it allows for a higher degree of standardization, as data formatting is always carried out in the same way. The automated collection and processing of the information needed through direct publishing also saves time.

In further processing, the generated PDFs are assembled and paginated with all associated documents, and the finished inspection report is entered into the SAP system.

Dr. Uwe Wächter, SEAL Systems

Report designer's web interface



Contacts:

Europe, Asia, Australia: uwe.waechter@sealsystems.de
USA/Canada/Americas: debra.garls@sealsystems.com