

Atlas Copco consolidates 9 tool databases

In order to stay on top of the game the plant must manufacture Swedish quality at globally competitive costs. A "central tool database" is their latest milestone on their quest for process excellence.



Fredrik Hagglund, prod. manager

Atlas Copco is the world leader in compressed air and gas equipment, generators, construction and mining equipment, industrial tools and assembly systems. Atlas Copco Construction Tools in Kalmar manufactures hydraulic demolition equipment.

Situation before *WinTool*

Fredrik Hagglund is engineering manager in Kalmar. In 2008 his team counted nine different tool databases in different systems which caused tremendous overhead and stopped improvements: such as the standardization of tools on their four Mori Seiki horizontals in order to easily swap jobs among them. We asked Fredrik about his thoughts on *WinTool*:

What were the tooling problems you have been facing at Atlas Copco?

We had an old system with no graphics -



Hydraulic breaker from Atlas Copco in Kalmar, SB 450 Scaler

- Total Length: 820 mm
- Tool Diameter: 95 mm
- Total Weight: 42 kg

just numbers - and it was difficult for the operators to read and understand how the tools have to be built. There was also no common database for the thousands of components. It is smart to use the same data in the shop and CAM-software.

How did you get the ball rolling?

I contacted the Swedish *WinTool* supplier Holotech in January and requested a presentation. The system seemed to be easy to operate and quick to get started.

What feature convinced you most that *WinTool* is right for Atlas Copco?

There is a working interface-solution to transfer tools between *WinTool* and Esprit CAM. We also did price/performance comparisons with similar products. *WinTool* is a good and a transparent system,

easy to understand, also suited for the not so skilled people in other departments of production.

How did you convince your management to do the investment?

We calculated a good pay-back for this system: 1.3 years. And this was also the result we achieved in time according our schedule.

