

Aimpoint®

AIMPOINT
2024



Jon Ambuhm

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CM FORUM - The art of managing
configuration change

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ABOUT

- Originator of the electronic red dot sight
- Founded in 1975
- Mostly known for our high quality red dot sights Made In Sweden
- We have a full line of premium sighting solutions for any weapon platform



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PRODUCT SEGMENTS



HUNTING



SPORT
SHOOTING



LAW
ENFORCEMENT



MILITARY



HOME
DEFENCE

Aimpoint®

MADE IN SWEDEN

INNOVATIVE TECHNOLOGY AND CRAFTSMANSHIP



AIMPOINT SWEDEN AB

Production facility Gällivare

AIMPOINT AB

HQ and Production facility Malmö

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RE-CAP FROM LAST YEAR

What PLM-systems can do for CM, and how to get there

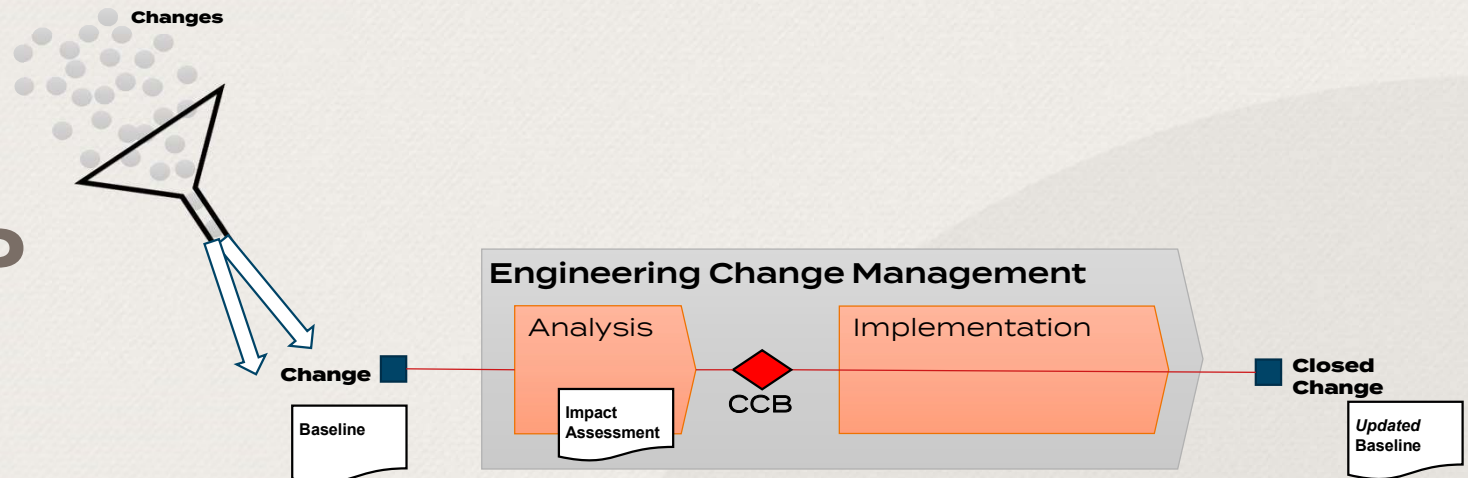
May 24th 2023 - Convendum, Brahegatan 10, Stockholm

- Aimpoint decided to invest in a PLM system 2022; Teamcenter
- Project implementation project started early 2023
- CM Forum in May-23
- Struggling with migration of legacy data (CAD-structures)
- GoLive Document Handling 25/9
- GoLive Part, eBOM and **Change** later this year
- Followed by mBOM, BOP, and Requirement management next year
- The goal is to have **1 tool** for product data/information

With help from the PLM system I believe we will get a better tool support to manage **configuration change!**



ESTABLISHED PROCESS



We have an established engineering change process

Two CCB foras, covering different product families, and changes on released products (**PRODUCT BASELINES**)

Current tool support is divided between three systems; Sharepoint, MS Planner, and the PDM system with the CAD-files!

Stakeholders from all areas in the company participates in the CCB meetings;

- R&D,
- Project Manager,
- Quality,
- Sales,
- Product Owners,
- Production, and
- Supply

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CHANGE VS. CONFIGURATION CHANGE

The current CCB is a "Change Control Board" not a "Configuration Control Board"

The "changes" are used as a ticket to request help or resources (man hours) from R&D

Are the configuration baselines clearly defined, and does everyone understand the baselines?

When do we need to write a formal change request?

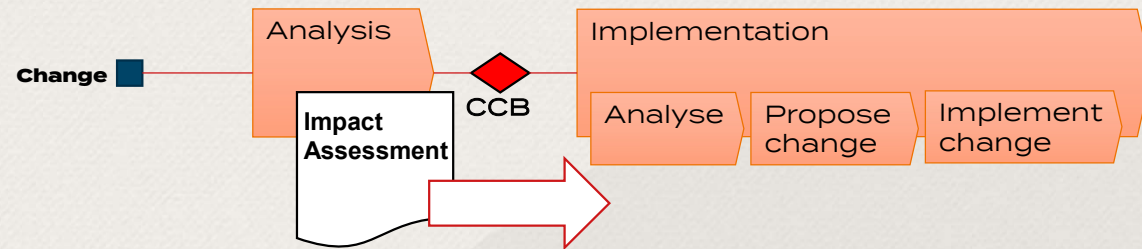
Examples:

- New product configurations/variants
- "This is a problem..." - fix it
- Set obsolete status on products
- Investigate possible solutions to improve work environment in production
- Change tolerance on drawing
- Change from this screw to this other screw
- Add functionality in software
- Update Work Instruction in Production
- Update or write new "Standard Operation Procedure"
- Check if a specific material is used in our products
- Develop a fixture or tool for production
- ...

The organisation need to handle all "changes" above!

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IMPACT ASSESSMENT



According to the process the CCB stakeholders should make an analysis of the impact within their area and give a recommendation to the CCB decision.

But, many "changes" are not described properly - making it hard for the stakeholders to analyze impact since they doesn't know what is proposed to be changed or how the change will be implemented.

The urgency of a change often force the CCB to accept without making a complete analysis.

The analysis is pushed to the implementation team
- but the stakeholders are also involved in the implementation

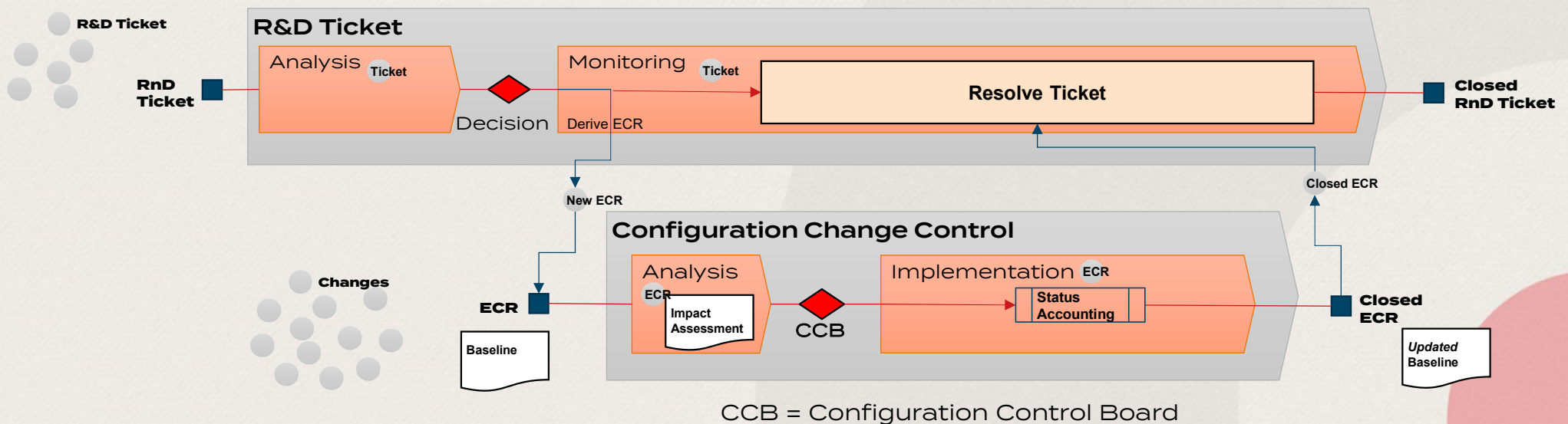
Some "changes" doesn't need a documented impact assessment since it's not a configuration change!

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WITH THE PLM SYSTEM WE NEED CHANGE THE CHANGE PROCESS

In the new PLM system we will separate configuration changes from "other changes" with separate Item types;

- R&D Ticket
 - ECR (Engineering Change Request)
- and also
- *ECN (Engineering Change Notice) - to document and drive the release of the solution items , i.e revised parts, new parts, references to documents and so on.*



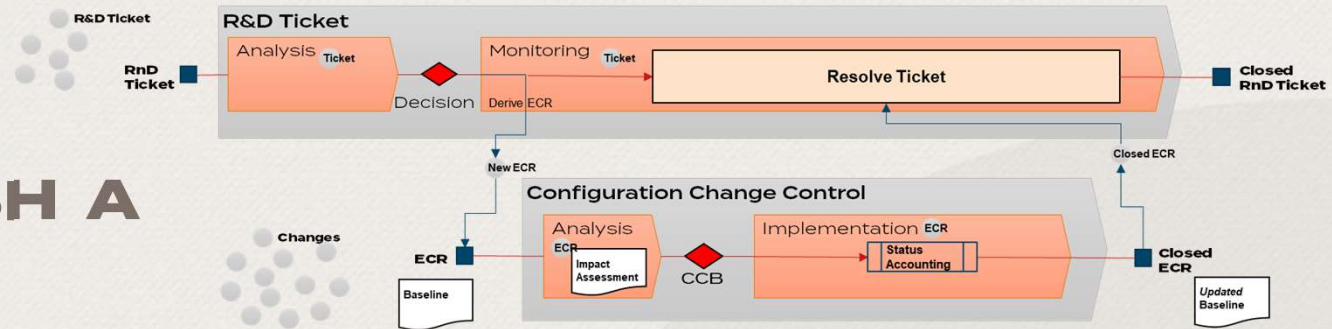


HOW TO ESTABLISH A NEW PROCESS?

If the need of "change" is unclear, it will be investigated and tracked as an R&D Ticket.

Many tickets can be resolved fast, without passing the formal CCB.

But if the solution for the ticket is to make a technical change in a released product (baseline) an engineer is assigned to write a proper Configuration Change Request (ECR) explaining the change, with references to impacted items (products, parts, and documents).



The stakeholders outside R&D in the current Change Control Board are now afraid that they will lose control and lose mandate to prioritize the R&D Tickets if we keep those tickets outside the Configuration Control Board (CCB)

We need to define a new forum for the decisions on R&D tickets - we will probably need representatives from the same stakeholders as the CCB



WHAT ABOUT THE REQUIREMENT BASELINE?

The requirements are managed in an Excel-based requirement specification today.

Changes in the requirements are handled in a Project CCB (Project Decision meeting) and the changes are documented in a decision log during the development of a new product.

- Many requirements can be re-used for different products within the product family, but also between families.
- We have started the process implement support for requirement management in the PLM system.

How do you manage change of requirements that are re-used between products?

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I'm convinced that the PLM system will give us a better support to manage configuration change – when we keep the product information in **1 tool/system!**

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END