
Preface

CATIA, developed by Dassault Systèmes and distributed by IBM and its partners, is the leading CAD-software solution in the automotive sector. Its new version CATIA V5 offers foresighted technologies and scalability.

The idea of this book at hand arose from projects and methodology workshops within the BMW AG and from my experience I have gathered in the BMW AG where I develop methodologies for the optimum use of CATIA V5. This book was written in order to summarize the present knowledge and the gained experience in using the software and finally to serve as discussion basis.

The purpose of this book is to give an idea how an optimized developing process can be described with the help of CATIA V5, starting from a design section up to a ready component, taking all opportunities into account the software offers. On the one hand, the book approaches designers actively developing concepts as well as components. They will get to know how they can effectively organize their daily work while communicating with their process partners. On the other hand it addresses concept engineers and the management as well, they will get a survey of a possible developing process covering the whole vehicle project. And such a global understanding is absolutely necessary to be able to make an effective contribution to the developing process.

Finally, I would like to thank the BMW AG for giving me some data used in this book. Furthermore, I would like to thank Mr. Frischhut for participating in the chapter „Class A-surfaces“, and thanks to my friend Robert Topic who supported me in describing the contents and who helped me to correct proofs.

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