Bringing Cost into Design Optimization



Amanda Bligh



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Amanda Bligh has been with aPriori for over a decade and is currently focusing on advanced capabilities research and helping customers with advanced solutions to manufacturing costing questions.

During her time at aPriori, she has built numerous manufacturing cost models, worked with a wide selection of customers both in the US and Europe and has been heavily engaged in understanding customers' needs and use cases.

She completed her BS at MIT in mechanical engineering and her MS at the University of Rhode Island in manufacturing and systems engineering, focusing her research on improving tools within the product development process. At URI, she has also taught classes on design for manufacturability to undergraduates and graduate students.

She is currently working on her PhD in manufacturing and systems engineering. In her free time, Amanda enjoys mountain biking, indoor rock climbing and reading.

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Two Statements

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Simulation toolsets have provided engineers with a powerful ability to understand a product's performance earlier in the development cycle than ever before.

> Manufacturing cost is the most critical non-performance constraint on a product's design.



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Agenda

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- Simulation & Optimization Review
- aPriori and 3D Costing Introduction
- 3D Costing in Simulation & Optimization Workflow
- Fitting into your Process
- What's Coming









Simulation & **Optimization Review**



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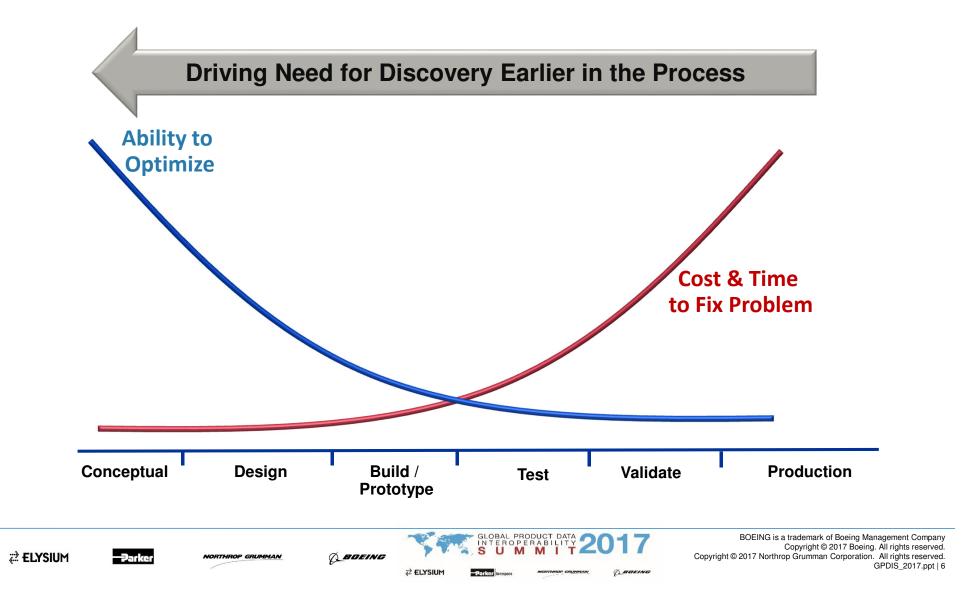
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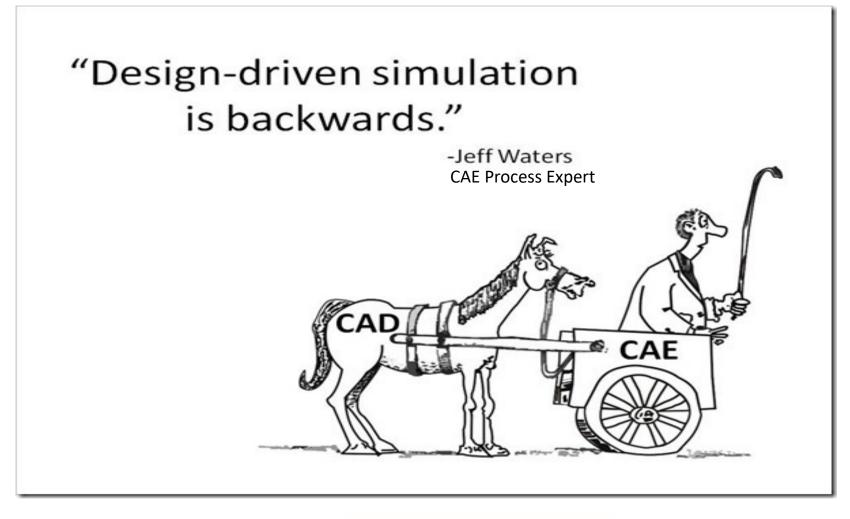
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Competitive Pressures Challenging the Traditional Product Develop Process



Competitive Pressures Challenging the Traditional Product Develop Process

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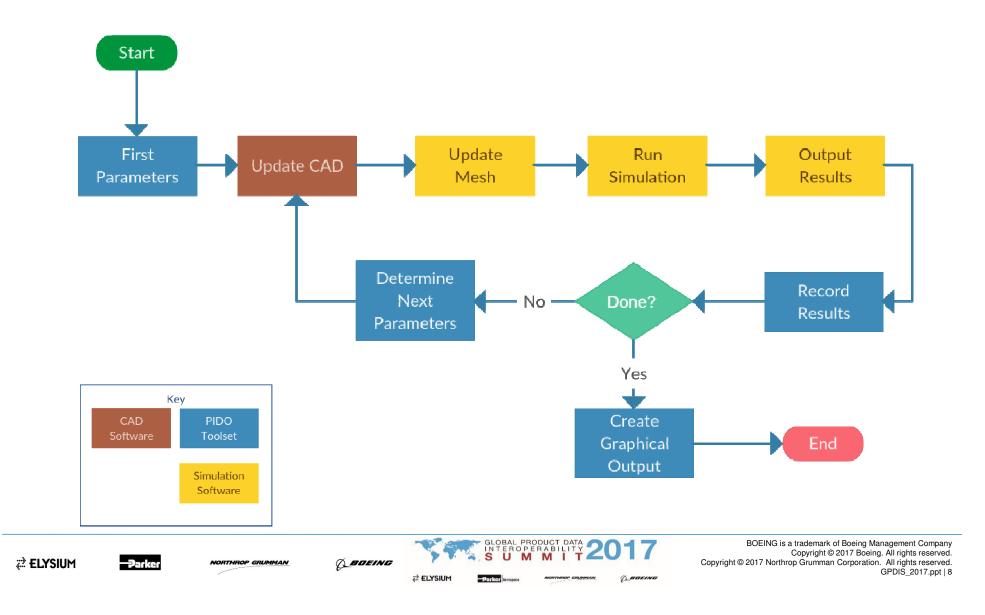




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Generalized Flow for PIDO (Process Integration and Design Optimization)



Example: Suspension Arm

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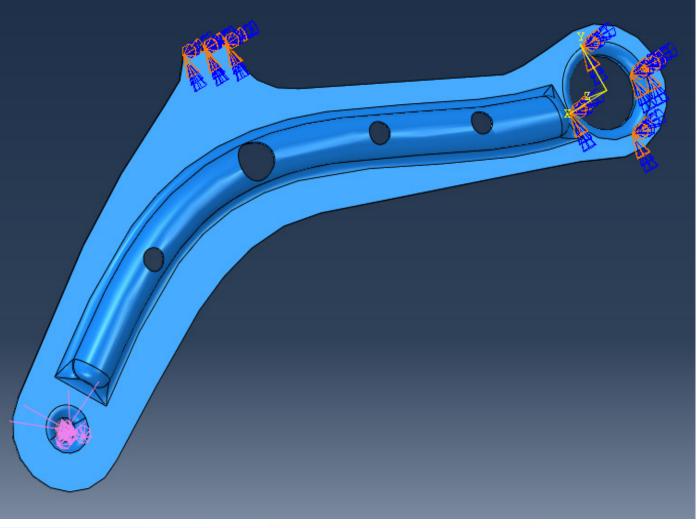


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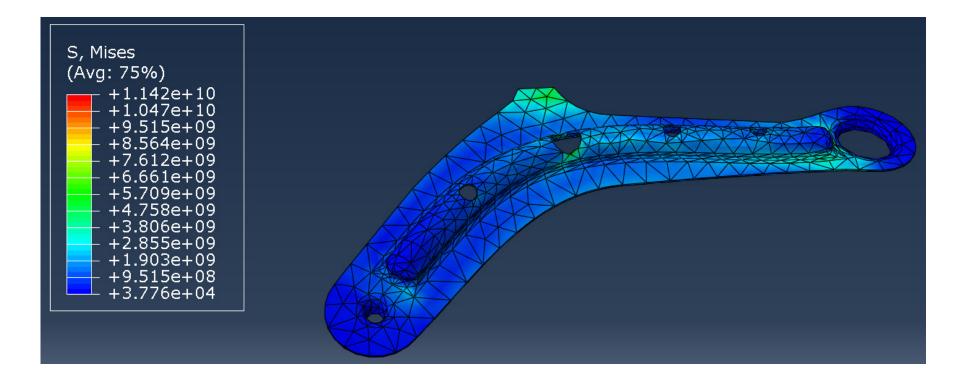
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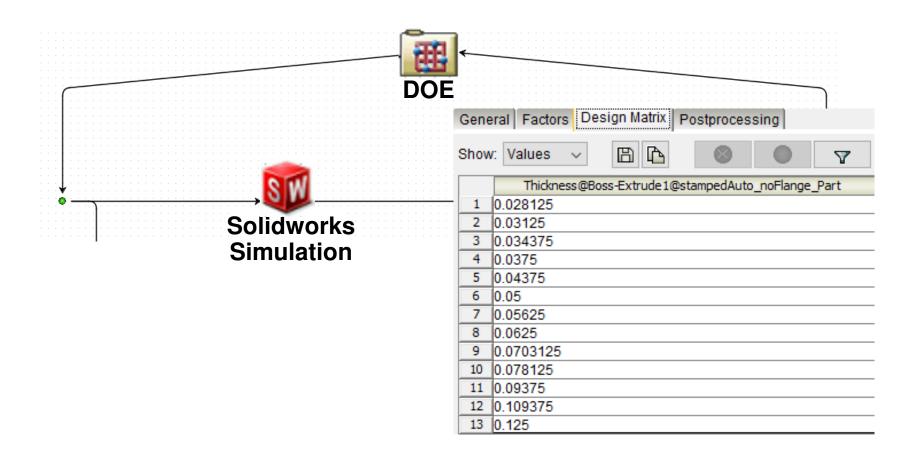
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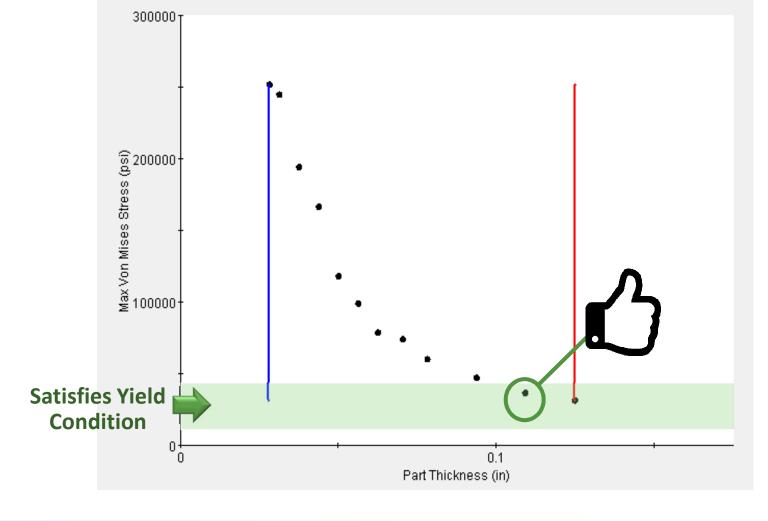
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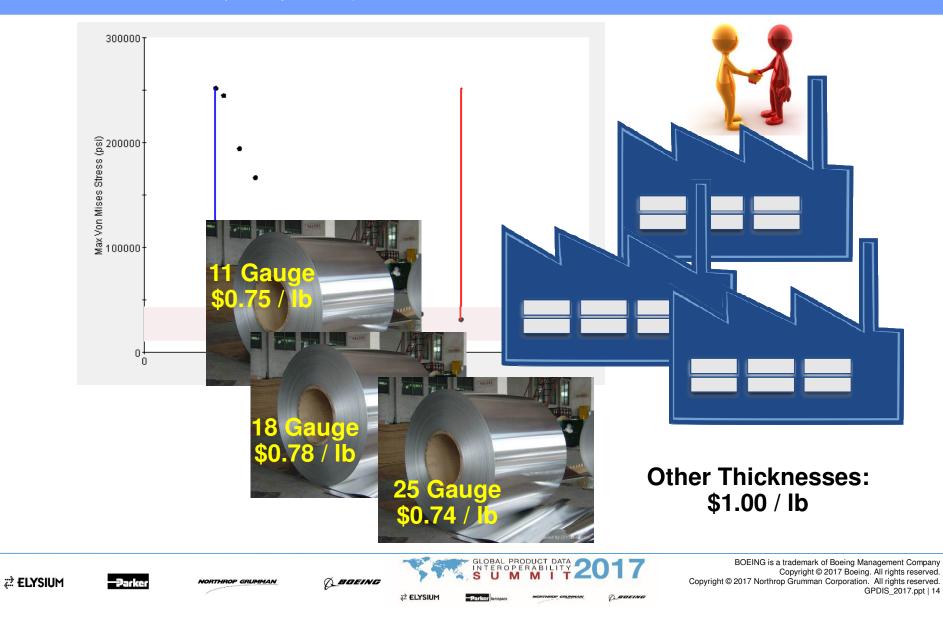


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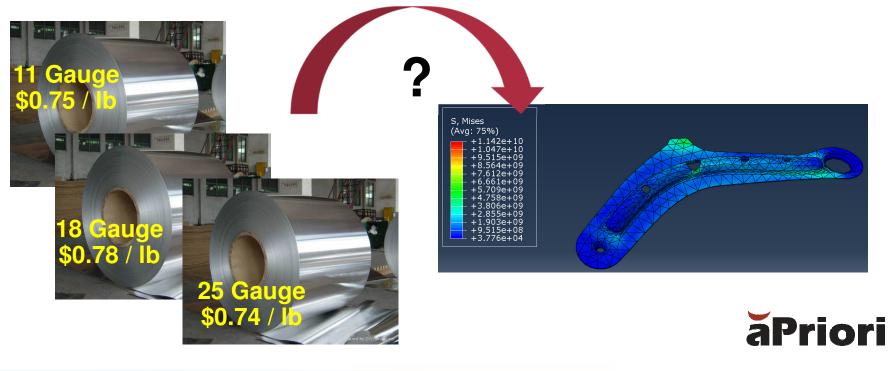
But the Reality is...



Question

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How do we get the cost information into the hands of the engineer or analyst to avoid early decisions that drive down stream costs?



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3D Costing In aPriori



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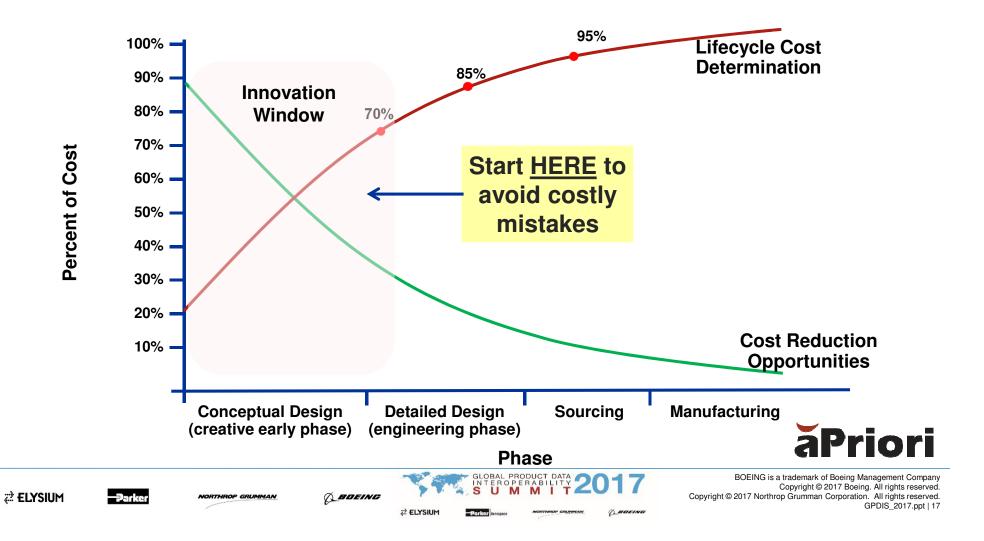
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Product Cost Tradeoff Decisions Start Early



Internal Systems & Processes

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PLM

MANUFACTURING & SUPPLIERS



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Not Optimized for Cost Management Challenges

- Cost management processes are most robust within key functions – less well established across functional groups
- Cost data is stored in disparate, unconnected locations
- No consistent view of cost across the organization

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 Understanding of cost varies significantly across the organization

SCM

GLOBAL PRODUCT DATA

PRODUCT DESIGN



MANAGEMENT



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FRP

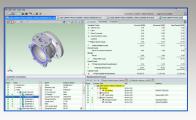
aPriori – Our Unique Value

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STEP 1

Automatically pulls details about the part from 3D solid CAD





aPriori Evaluates:

- ✓ Design Geometry
- ✓ Material Type
- ✓ Production Volume

All major CAD systems supported

STEP 2 Based on the details from the CAD model, automatically evaluates all the different ways the part could be manufactured...



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aPriori Evaluates:

- ✓ Manufacturing
 - Process
- ✓ Machine Rules
- ✓ Facility Rules

Dozens of manufacturing processes included out of the box

STEP 3

Automatically calculates costs across different geographical locations/factories...

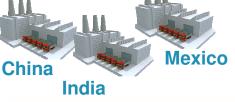
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*Data from 60+ major global geographies

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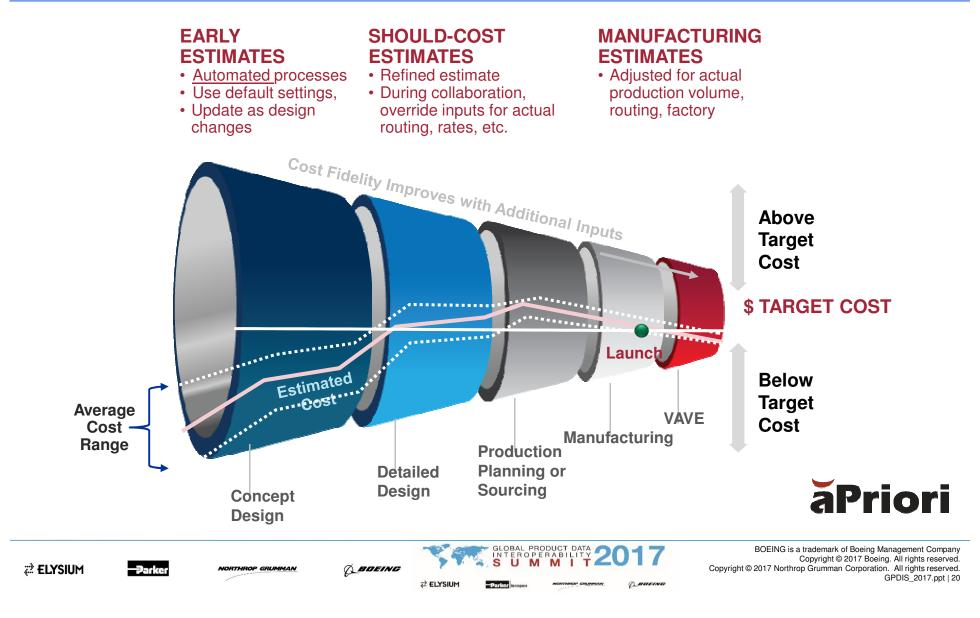




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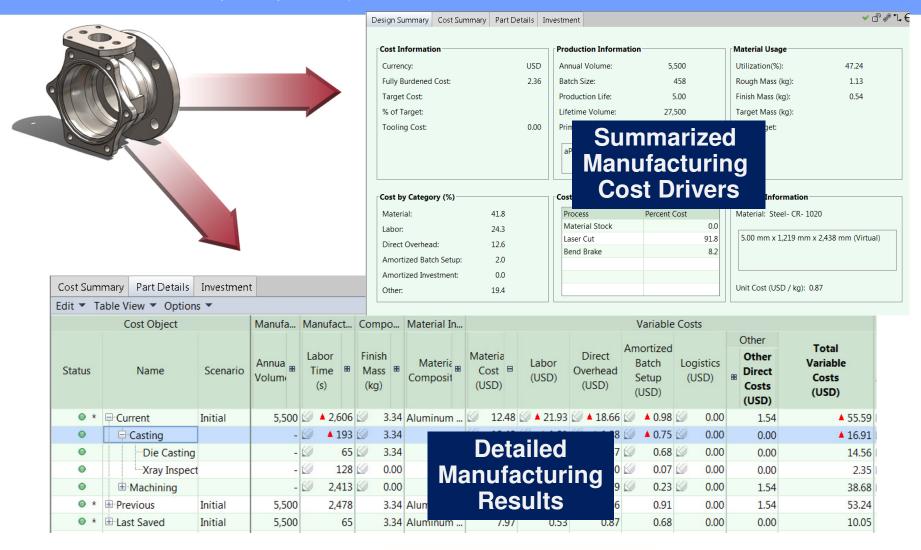
aPriori Considers: ✓ Labor Rates ✓ Material Rates ✓ Overhead rates

aPriori Product Cost Management Managing Cost Across the Product Lifecycle



Manufacturing & Cost Analysis Output

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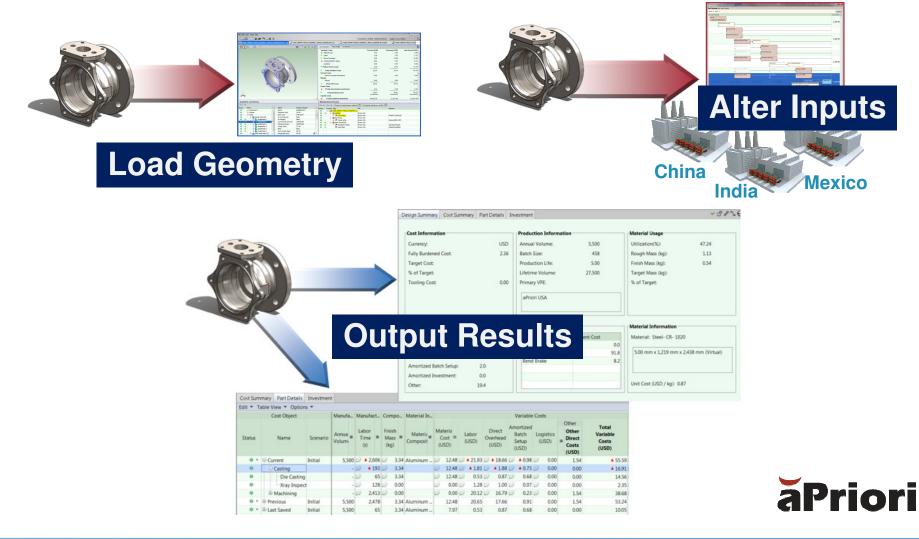
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Automating a Priori with External Commands

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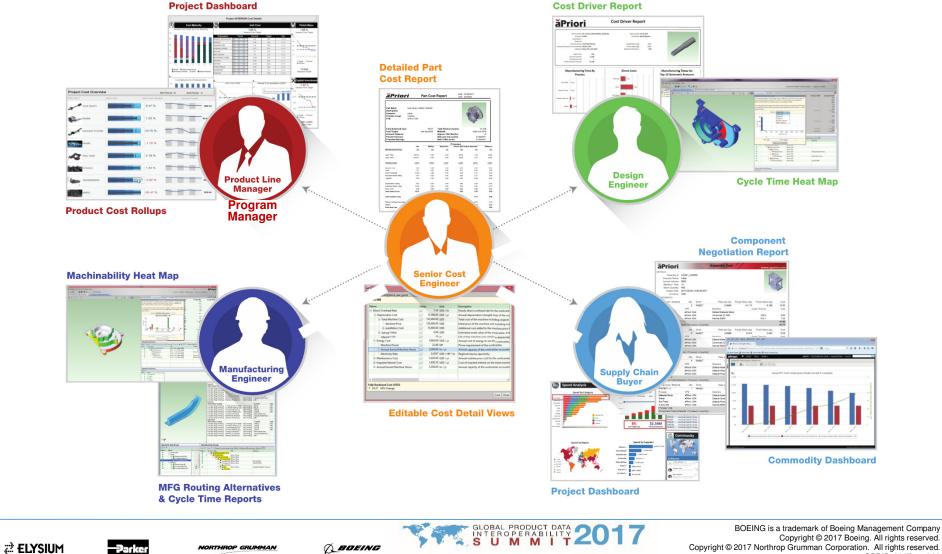
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aPriori Product Cost Management for the Enterprise

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3D Costing In Optimization Workflow



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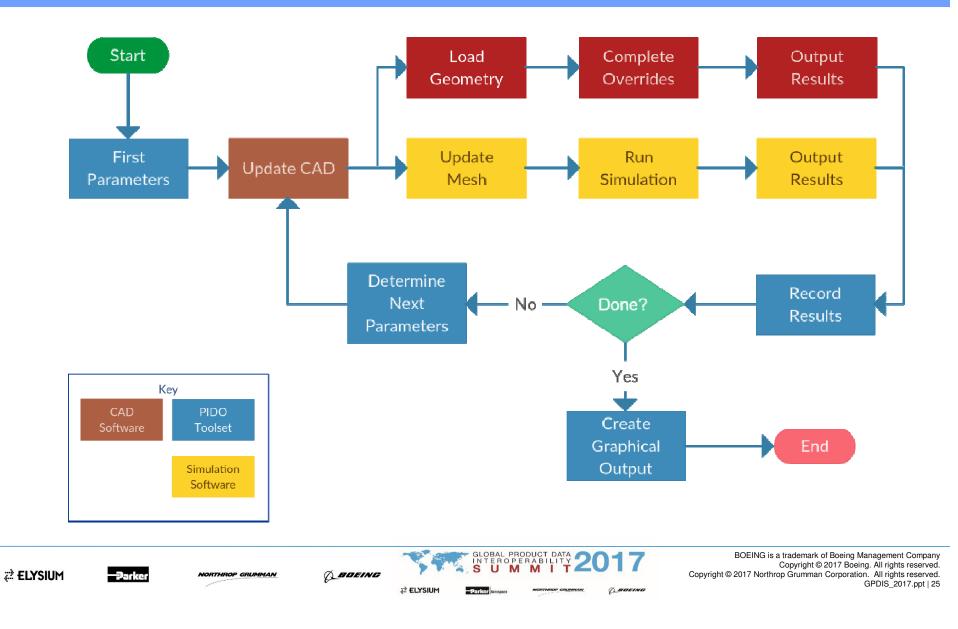
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3D Costing in Optimization Workflow



Example: Suspension Arm

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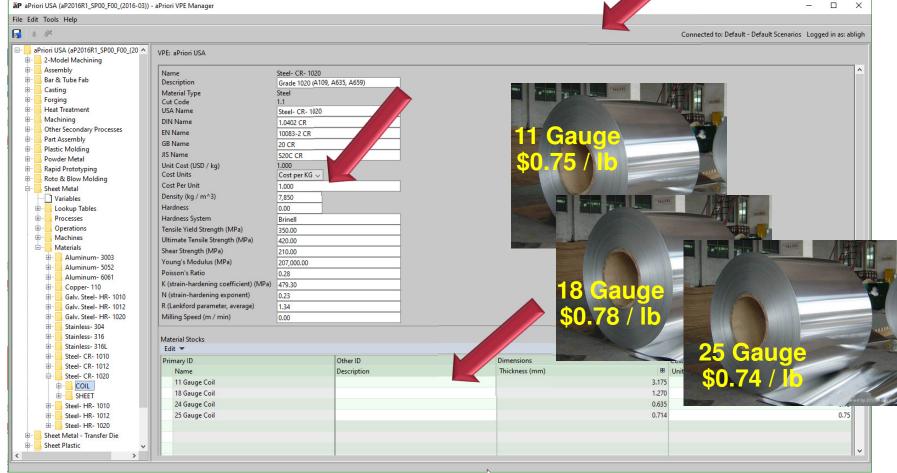
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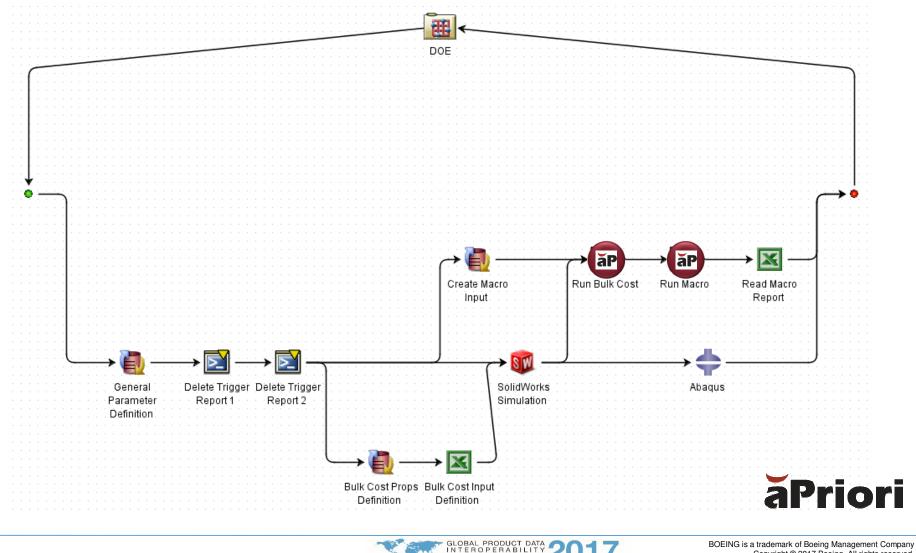
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ERP

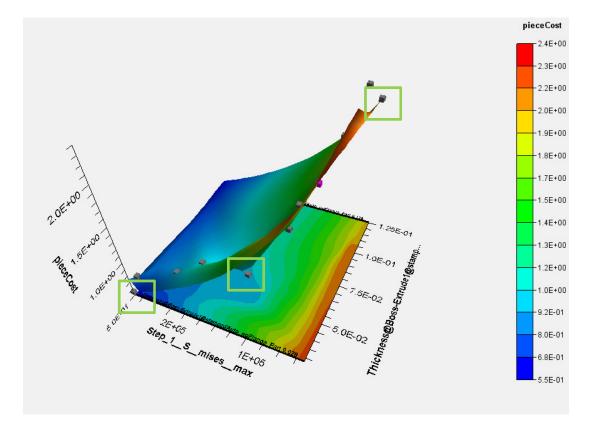
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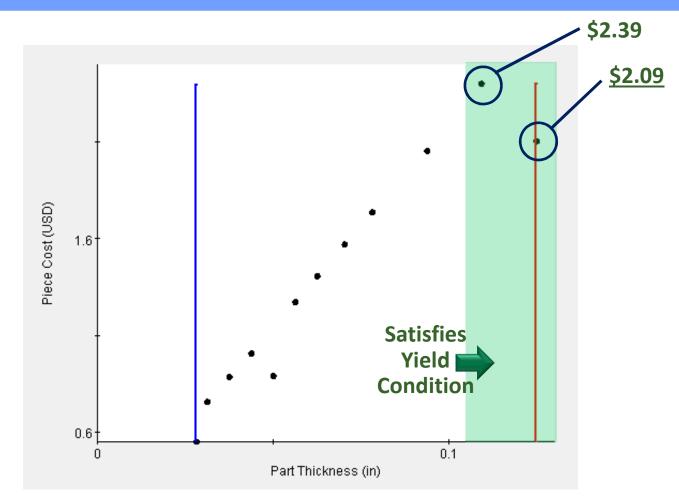


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@ 500,000 parts per year, \$150,000 avoidance on a *SINGLE* Part



Question

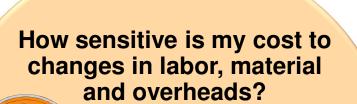
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How do we get the cost information into the hands of the engineer or analyst to avoid early decisions that drive down stream costs?



More Auto-Costing Qs

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Which manufacturing processes drive the best results?*

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How will changes in electricity and other overhead inputs change cost? What design gives the best material usage?

Which geometry is most cost effective?

What part features drive part & tooling costs?

What is the cost impact of tolerances?*

Design

Enginee

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What is the best batch size for this part?

What are the impacts of regional sourcing for manufacturing & cost?

Impacts of regional sourcing on tooling costs?

 Existing Capability in aPriori User Application, Emerging Capability in Automated Costing / Design of Experiments

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Impact On Development



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Krauss-Maffei Wegmann Semi-Trailing

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<u>Challenge</u>: Part optimization in costs **and** weight without producing prototypes or getting quotes from suppliers

Application of aPriori

- Run many different calculation loops of part designs, production processes and materials
- Together with FE-Calc. we got an optimized part
- The required time was only weeks instead of months

Results

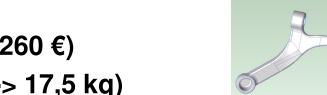
- Cost Savings:
- Weight Savings:
- 5 Year Savings:



- 29 kg; (46,5 kg -> 17,5 kg)
- 415.000 €

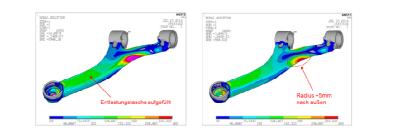
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Start: Cast Steel Part

Fortune 25 Manufacturer Integrating Design and Costing

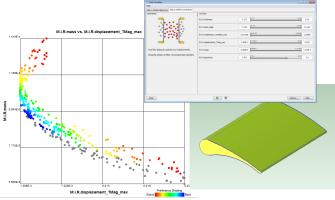
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Challenge: Cost analysis was not integrated into the new product development process. Cost was not considered CTQ (Critical To Quality) and was not factored into trade-offs.

<u>Solution:</u> Using aPriori's Bulk Costing and Analysis capabilities, cost was integrated into a Design of Computer Experiments with CAD and FEA, enabling engineers to perform cost/performance trade-offs and meet CTQ requirements

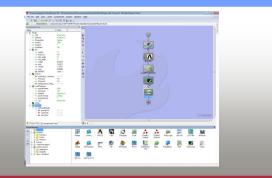
Results

- Articulated cost impacts to design
- ~30X increase in part design studies
- 15-25% reduction in design cycle time

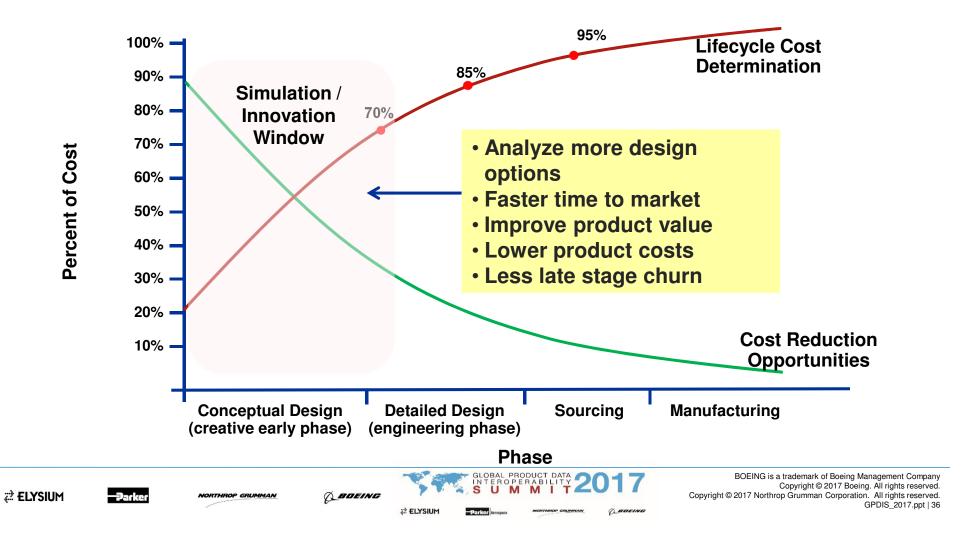




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Benefits for Integrating Cost Analysis into Simulation-Driven Design



Thank You!

Amanda Bligh

Principal Consulting Engineer / Solution Architect aPriori Technologies



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