

salt Stories

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SALT AND PEPPER®

Technology is rapidly developing, and new software services are becoming increasingly popular. Cloud-based concepts and advanced programs are easily accessible via internet based server farms.

What is Pepper®?

Pepper® is a cloud-based software made to assist shipping companies, ship yards and the designer throughout the design and building process, and to simplify the cooperation from the early design stages and throughout the whole lifecycle of the ship.

“The vision for Pepper® is to simplify everyday operations for both the designer, the ship owner and the shipyard”

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SHIP DESIGN

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The ship design process

When Salt Ship Design was established in 2012, we were joined by a number of talented people with valuable knowledge concerning the requirements for successful ship design. The establishment of Salt therefore gave us the opportunity to start from scratch. We chose to take advantage of this by picking the best tools for every part of the ship design process. Within document handling and control, we in Salt saw great opportunities which we could not see that others had been able to solve in a satisfactory manner. Our experience indicated that in order to cooperate in the best way possible across national borders, between shipping companies, ship yards and suppliers in the various stages of the project, you are dependent upon tools that handle the whole ship design process. We needed a tool that ensures that we are in a position to deliver quality documentation at the right time, and that eliminates unnecessary time use. And so we developed Pepper®.

Existing solutions lacked key functionality

The use of FTP servers, e-mails and memory sticks for file exchange is still widespread in the industry, and makes everyday operations less smooth. A lot of the project management takes place in Excel – such as comments, planning and revision handling. Excel sheets that are submitted and resubmitted between the parties may lead to a lack of metadata concerning who does what and when, and a lack of control when it comes to which is the latest version of the sheet. This may cause the design process to become unmanageable, and it will often generate a lot of additional work for the involved parties.

Software that is meant to be tailored for ship designers rarely meets all our requirements. Many find that the different software do not communicate with each other, and terms such as ‘integration problems’, ‘proprietary databases’ and



Pepper® is a purpose made toolbox for design and engineering and secure easy and efficient interaction and quality – from early design to vessel operation.



Collaborative Specification



Project Planning



Document Handling



Experience Transfer

- The vision for Pepper® is to simplify everyday operations for both the designer, the ship owner and the shipyard, explains Øyvind Vestbøstad, the man behind the Pepper® idea.

In order to transfer a ship design from the drawing board to sea, good control of the documentation flow is needed. All involved parties must at all times know their respective roles and have an overview of what lies ahead, as well as what is expected from them.

- I believe that we have managed to streamline the ship design process in a way that supports our way of working, Vestbøstad explains.

In order to secure quality, all comments and approval of documents takes place in Pepper®. Each comment is assigned to a responsible person who receives the comment directly in their ‘to do-list’. This ensures that the right person gets notified when something needs attention.

‘incomplete data models’ are often heard. This means that you are left with several different types of software that cannot communicate with each other, leading to a lot of duplicate storing of information, which steals both time and resources from the execution of the project. The same information stored in more than one place often generate errors when updated only in one of the places.

New functionality

Even though Pepper® is a relatively new software, from the very start it has been the only document handling tool for Salt’s projects. The fact that the system is developed within the company means that Pepper® is provided with the functionality needed when needed.

-Pepper® develops from one day to the next and the development team is always focused on how the ship design process can be simplified and improved for Salt, shipping companies, ship yards and suppliers that we work with, Vestbøstad concludes.

