

ISO 15926 and Autodesk

As a world leader in 3D design and engineering software, Autodesk works to support commonly used data exchange mechanisms across a variety of industries.

This paper outlines how Autodesk continues to support data exchange standards for the oil and gas and plant industries.

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ISO 15926

ISO 15926 is an international set of standards for the sharing, exchange, and hand over of information associated with the engineering, construction, and operation of capital assets, such as process or power plants. Entitled *Industrial automation systems and integration—Integration of life-cycle data for process plants including oil and gas production facilities*, the goal of the standard is to streamline sharing of plant data across systems and companies.

The POSC Caesar Association and FIATECH organizations have been instrumental in the development and oversight of ISO 15926. Additionally, the “iRing” umbrella represents ISO 15926 related initiatives, providing tools and supporting community efforts. For more information, visit the FIATECH website (www.fiatech.org), the POSC Caesar Association website (www.posccaesar.org), and their sponsored umbrella site IRINGToday.com.

Autodesk, data exchange, and ISO 15926

Autodesk has been a keen supporter of data exchange efforts in the myriad of industries we serve. For example, in the AEC industry, we support many standards including LandXML, IFC, CIS/2 and others, as detailed in the [Data Exchange Standards in the AEC Industry](#) whitepaper. Autodesk understands that our customers, including process and power plant customers, want cross product data exchange through a common exchange methodology. To help further data interoperability in plant design, Autodesk is engaged as a member of FIATECH and the ISO 15926 committees. As a member, we support the development of ISO 15926 as a standard data exchange format.

Autodesk plant design products, including AutoCAD® P&ID and AutoCAD® Plant 3D are designed with modern, open and extensible structures that support straightforward mapping to ISO 15926. From the first releases, Autodesk plant design products have supported XML mapping and open application programming interfaces, allowing the software to communicate more easily with external systems. This functionality lends itself to ISO 15926 support.

Additionally, Autodesk participates in the German based DEXPI ISO 15926 group, which is a practical working group proving out ISO15926 based data exchange through public demonstrations. A consortium of process plant companies defined the data that is of interest and invited the five major plant design vendors to show ISO 15926–based data exchange capabilities. The first milestone was on Nov 14, 2011, when the five vendors, including Autodesk, successfully showed live data exchange between their plant design products. More on this event can be found in a German technical press publication, *Process*, in the article [“Wann kommt ein Standard für den Austausch von Objektdaten in der Anlagenplanung?”](#)

Autodesk continues to support this working group, as it shows practical application of ISO 15926, which is what we believe our customers want most. Currently, the German ISO 15926 EQP group is involved in extending the initial test to more areas, this time also including graphical fidelity.

Solving interoperability challenges

The state of the ISO 15926 standard today is such that software vendors support exchange to differing levels. To help meet your interoperability challenges and workflow requirements, [Autodesk® Consulting](#) or one of our [Autodesk® Developer Network](#) (ADN) partners can help you decide how best to implement data exchange methodologies to create a solution that can better address your data exchange requirements. For more information, please contact your Autodesk sales representative.