Secure Supply Chain Collaboration

Improve visibility and collaboration while ensuring confidentiality of planning and manufacturing data

SOLUTION HIGHLIGHTS

- Enhance supply chain visibility through safe and secure collaboration

- Improve IP security and compliance with information protection agreements by centrally authorizing and tracking access to manufacturing IP

- Accelerate collaboration through central management of flexible access control policies

- Track access and report data breach with centralized logging of authorization decisions

SECURING YOUR SUPPLY CHAIN

To maximise competitive advantage and drive down cost, companies are increasingly dependent on an extended supplier and contractor network. To transform the traditional linear supply chain into a responsive supply network, companies have to be able to collaborate and share sensitive planning and manufacturing data across a global and multi-level supply chain.

How do you protect sensitive demand forecasts and production schedules from unintended disclosure? How do you ensure manufacturing bills of material (mBOM) and parts specifications are accessed only by contractors who need to know? Unintended disclosure of planning and manufacturing data could lead to loss of competitive advantage and product leadership, and could cause companies to lose valuable market share and customer trust.

These challenges impact enterprises across a broad industry spectrum, including companies in Aerospace and Defense, High Tech, Industrial Machinery and Components, Chemical, Energy, and Life Sciences.

NextLabs® and SAP® have teamed to provide a solution that helps global enterprises secure their supply chain while accelerating collaboration. The solution helps improve visibility while protecting confidentiality of demand and supply data, helps secure manufacturing intellectual property, and provides the audit trail required to demonstrate compliance with information protection agreements.

THE SOLUTION

The Secure Supply Chain Collaboration solution is designed to facilitate the agile collaboration required for a responsive supply network, while improving security. The solution uses NextLabs Information Risk Management to enable project teams to:

- Easily classify manufacturing data (such as mBOMs, routings), demand data (such as stock levels or demand forecasts) and supply data (such as production schedules and delivery plans)

- Protect confidentiality of manufacturing and demand/supply planning data

- Enforce information protection policies in accordance with confidentiality and supplier/contractor agreements

- Centrally define and manage standards-based policies

- Automate user education on policies and procedures as part of daily use

- Provide centralized audit trail and report data breach

The solution allows companies to centrally define standards-based policies authorizing access to sensitive supply chain information. These authorization policies are then enforced and tracked as suppliers and contractors collaborate. Information barriers can be effectively maintained between different teams to avoid conflicts of interest and prevent wrongful disclosure.

SECURE SUPPLY CHAIN COLLABORATION WITH SAP AND NEXTLABS

The NextLabs Secure Supply Chain Collaboration solution is an SAP-endorsed business solution and integrates with SAP ERP Core Component (ECC), and SAP Product Lifecycle Management (PLM).

The solution extends SAP access control context to provide attribute-based access to SAP business objects such as Materials, manufacturing BOMs, parts specifications, CAD drawings and documents.

The solution can be configured to automatically classify SAP planning and manufacturing data by association or inheritance or based on location of storage. This greatly simplifies the task of data classification and ensures that program data is properly identified for effective access control. The solution works seamlessly through the SAP GUI and SAP Portal to enforce data access and sharing policies.

The solution can also be extended to protect planning and manufacturing data after it is exported from SAP to provide end to end protection and tracking.

SOLUTION DEPLOYMENT

NextLabs follows a proven method for implementing the solution by utilizing a combination of expert product knowledge and a services best practices methodology. When Secure Supply Chain Collaboration is deployed, clients will be assisted in identifying and classifying their planning and manufacturing data, as well as in defining access control policies.

GREATER VISIBILITY, BETTER SECURITY

With the Secure Supply Chain Collaboration solution, companies can enjoy the following benefits:

- Enable better supply chain visibility while ensuring confidentiality. Facilitate flexible sharing of supply and demand data on a need to know basis.

- Improve manufacturing IP security and protection. Companies can prevent breach of manufacturing IP and provide end to end protection across the contractor network.

- Accelerate collaboration. Centrally manage all access policies and leverage fine grained policies for flexible access.

- Track access and report data breach Centrally track access to planning and manufacturing data across the supply chain and report wrongful disclosure.

ABOUT NEXTLABS

NextLabs®, Inc. provides data-centric security software to protect business critical data and applications. Our patented dynamic authorization technology and industry leading attribute-based policy platform helps enterprises identify and protect sensitive data, monitor and control access to the data, and prevent regulatory violations – whether in the cloud or on premises. The software automates enforcement of security controls and compliance policies to enable secure information sharing across the extended enterprise. NextLabs has some of the largest global enterprises as customers and has strategic relationships with industry leaders such as SAP, Siemens, Microsoft, and IBM. For more information on NextLabs, please visit http://www.nextlabs.com.

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