

ŠKODA AUTO – MBV Definition Checks

Unicorn Systems has been working closely with ŠKODA AUTO on development of information systems and applications on a long-term basis. These include, among others, BASYS-TAB and MBVF systems to support preparation and approval of the product catalogue of all models of ŠKODA cars.

As a part of this systems development, Unicorn Systems has implemented a module designed to verify correctness of MBV definitions, significantly improving the efficiency of generation of model definitions in the company group core system, MBV, and later verification of their correctness.



Success story

Unicorn Systems continues to develop and upgrade systems to support preparation and approval of the product catalogue of ŠKODA models. Our cooperation in this field started with the implementation of the MBV Forms (MBVF) system in 2008.

The original goal of the MBVF system was to migrate the agenda of approving model specifications for various markets to an electronic platform. New functionalities have been added to the MBVF as a result of further development. The MBV Definition Checks module is the most recent extension of this first-generation system.

Representatives of ŠKODA AUTO sales departments develop specific definition of models for various markets. They create so-called landeses which are submitted for approval to specialist departments and then transferred to the company group system MBV, the central repository of model business descriptions. Because of the methods used to enter and process data in the MBV, it is necessary to verify whether the sales department requirements are processed and evaluated correctly, i.e. to check MBV definitions. So far, data management officers have been checking such definitions manually. However, this was time consuming, monotonous, and error prone. With the introduction of support for MBV definition validations, the efficiency of such checks improved significantly, so users may spend less time looking for anomalies and more time resolving them.

The MBV Definition Checks module includes the following functionalities:

- Administration of input parameters, especially the relevance of families of various model classes.
- Generating requirements for MBV definition validation, incl. user support when preparing export of MBV definitions and validating its correctness.
- Performing an MBV definition check and visualising its results.
- Incorporating MBV definition checks into the approval workflow for landes creation/change.

The module was implemented as a standard project, with Unicorn Systems carrying out all project phases and activities, from analysis and solution design, to implementation, testing, acceptance, and deployment of the solution into live operation, to delivery to the service team, initial user training, and pilot operation support.

The implementation of the MBV Definition Checks module was the final development project involving the existing MBV Forms and BASYS-TAB systems. However, representatives of ŠKODA AUTO have decided to take advantage of the long-term successful cooperation and the business know-how acquired by Unicorn Systems while designing and building their next-generation product catalogue.

Statement of a Representative of ŠKODA AUTO a.s

"In my opinion, our long-term work relationship with Unicorn Systems has become a partnership. We, as project submitters, have complete faith in the team working on the BASYS project. While we are experts in our particular fields (automotive, building of master data), we lack deep knowledge of the IT. Therefore, we really appreciate that the contractor guides us through the project, letting us, as submitters, actually "describe how we would like the system to behave", while the team provides any and all complex IT, analytical, and programming activities, translating them into a "comprehensible language" when necessary. With this approach, we are no longer afraid to develop extremely complex IT solutions, which can significantly facilitate our current work, bringing partial innovations.

We would like to praise the flexibility of project workers, as well as their adherence to schedules and high quality of deliveries."

In Mladá Boleslav, on 04.01.2019

Radka Janoušová
Data Management Coordinator
ŠKODA AUTO a.s.

ŠKODA



ŠKODA AUTO a.s. is a Czech-based company with a car-manufacturing tradition of more than one hundred years. ŠKODA brand is one of the oldest car manufacturing brands in the world. Václav Laurin and Václav Klement made their first car in 1905. Voituretta was the first ambassador of Czech craft and skill to the world. The company's business includes particularly development, manufacturing, and sale of ŠKODA cars, components, OEM parts and accessories, and associated service. The company is a major economic player in the Czech Republic.