FILMFREE

Project case review

Computerised Information Technology Ltd

Computerised Information Technology Ltd (CIT) is an IT solutions company dedicated to applying computer and imaging technology for the development of advanced X-ray NDT systems. CIT has an enviable track record in the development of X-ray inspection systems for many large blue-chip clients.

CIT DR6000 CR System

Filmfree and CIT

Joining Filmfree enabled CIT to pursue its strategy of increasing its share of the growing digital radiography market.

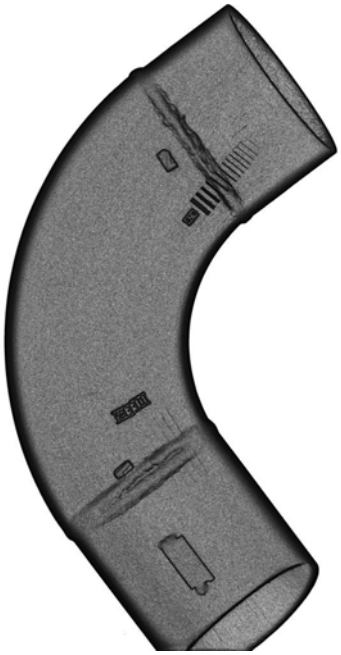
As lead SME co-ordinator in the Filmfree project, CIT's role included co-ordination of the other SME work-package leaders, ensuring that their work complimented the efforts of the Research & Technology Organisations involved. CIT also leads dissemination and exploitation activities for Filmfree.

Project benefits

CIT believes that Filmfree has driven forward the development of digital radiography to the extent that the technology is now in widespread use for inspection in industries such as aerospace, LNG storage, petrochemical refineries, power generation and shipbuilding.

CIT identifies the following specific benefits arising from Filmfree:

- Demonstration that digital radiography inspection is much safer than conventional methods due to the reduced levels of radiation required to complete an exposure.
- Confirmation that filmless inspection can provide more accurate structural assessments and measurements than traditional methods.
- Development of the ADR (Automated Digital Recognition) system has enabled automatic analysis of digital radiographs, thus removing some of the subjectivity associated with human operation.
- Approval of digital radiography technology by relevant international standards committees.



Wall thickness assessment

Computerised Information Technology Ltd.

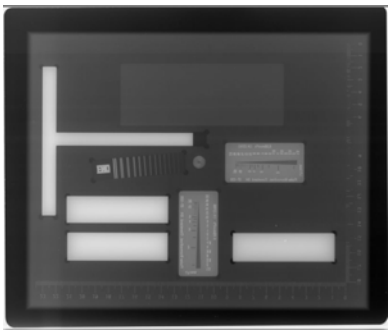
continued overleaf

CIT also identifies several positive developments from Filmfree that were not foreseen at the outset of the project. These include:

- Development of the CR Phantom, which is now the internationally-approved standard for qualification of digital radiography systems.
- Backscatter radiography proof-of-concept was established and will be developed further in order to make it a fully commercial technology.
- The integration of ARTIST (Analytical RT Inspection Simulation Tool for Industrial Application) with digital radiography systems to simulate complex components.

Overall, the project has positioned CIT at the leading edge of the growing digital radiography market. This has resulted in:

- Sale (at cost) of two digital radiography systems to Technic-Control and PSZ (both Filmfree partners) to enable them to conduct their work in the project.
- Sale (at cost) of two CR Phantom systems to TWI and Advantica.
- CIT becoming a licenced worldwide reseller of BAM Federal Institute for Materials Research and Testing's ARTIST radiographic simulation software.



X-ray of CR Phantom

Consequently, CIT has created four new jobs, safeguarded a further ten, and created 154,600€ of new at-cost sales.

The future

As a result of Filmfree, CIT is drawing-up plans for a digital radiography 'Centre of Excellence'. The aim of the Centre, which will be a virtual, membership-based organisation, will be to provide a forum for digital radiography developers and end-users.

The Centre will focus on technology transfer; spin-out organisations; product sales; peer-to-peer professional services; and development of acceptance codes and standards for the industry. These plans are currently under consideration by the Filmfree partners.

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