PDS VERSION 6.6

WHAT'S NEW IN VERSION 6.6

PDS 6.6 completes our suite of unit load analysis options by adding drums and pails. Pallets can be designed with an accurate load distribution resulting from detailed calculations on how pails and drums interact with the pallet.

Improvements and new features included in PDS 6.6 are:

- Unit loads of Drums and Pails can be analyzed to evaluate the performance of the pallet and optimize the pallet design.
- A Carbon Impact Assessment, based on the wood pallet Environmental Product Declaration (EPD) that estimates the CO_2 footprint of a typical 48x40 pallet in the United States, can be viewed and printed with your analyses.
- A pallet strength utilization number is reported to reflect the structural performance of the pallet under the specified unit load in addition to the Pass/Fail rating.
- More robust ERP integration. Users can export a bill of materials to Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) systems that support the PDS XML file format.

Pail and drum pallets have historically been designed using Uniformly Distributed Loads (UDL). However, extensive lab testing reveals that pallet loading in these unit loads is not uniformly distributed and exhibits significant load concentrations. Depending on if the load is adequately stabilized with wrapping or strapping, a pallet may hold significantly more load than revealed with a UDL analysis. The new unit load analysis feature allows you to design, analyze, and significantly reduce the deflection of the pallet in all support conditions compared to a uniformly distributed load and deliver an optimized, more reliable pallet. It also can be used to demonstrate the detrimental effects of inadequate containment on the pallet strength.

Additional integration capabilities with Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) are a significant step toward modernizing PDS as an integral business tool that relies more heavily on data, by providing users with an online experience to access all their data in real-time. Users can export a bill of materials to ERP systems that support the PDS XML file format. This functionality supports communication with a wide variety of systems for ease of integration.

PALLET DESIGN HELP

A comprehensive **PDS User's Guide** is built into the software program to help answer questions 24/7 regarding pallet design. The User's Guide includes an overview of unit load analysis. It is readily available and accessible from the **Opening Window Start Dialog,** through the **Help** menu, and at the **bottom left of every window** within the design wizard. PDS Users can also search this valuable resource to learn more about pallet design from a variety of topics.

Stay updated on the Pallet Design System™ by opting-in to NWPCA email communications for *"PDS News."* If you need additional support assistance, contact 703-519-6104 or visit www.PalletDesignSystem.com.