

University of
Salford
MANCHESTER

**Collaborative
Engineering**

Distributed
collaborative
engineering
environments

www.thinklab.salford.ac.uk



THINKlab

Collaborative Engineering

Distributed collaborative engineering environments

The manufacturing and building construction sectors are now under severe pressure to remain competitive; pressure that is derived from the globalisation of the economy and the current economic climate; pressure to produce greener products due to climate change and the scarcity of resources. Organisations now need to consider how best to enhance the performance of their products by involving stakeholders in the innovation process, ranging from R&D groups with new technological inventions and know how, to design and simulation teams with specialised skills, to companies with low-cost and sustainable manufacturing capabilities, to maintenance and operation teams, to name but a few.

In response to this demand THINKlab has already completed three major European projects, involving over 50 European partners, and developed novel distributed technology platforms that can support team collaboration among distributed multi-functional teams. Three more EU projects are currently in operation to explore collaboration between partners to produce energy efficient buildings, reduce the carbon footprint of white goods and to explore Mars involving various space agencies.

Through this R&D work, we have an experienced team that can develop customised collaboration solutions for both the construction and manufacturing industries. We are specialised in the following areas:

- Development of distributed technology platforms that can integrate various product information sources and simulation services to provide integrated problem solving environments.
- Advanced product visualisation environments that can enhance team collaboration among multi-functional teams.
- Support for building team collaboration using the THINKlab methods and tools.