



# Colgate-Palmolive: Increasing Collaboration & Reducing Machinery Start Up Times

## Challenge

Colgate-Palmolive is a global company with 4 divisions: oral care, home care, personal care, and pet nutrition. The company supplies products to over 200 countries and territories and has 40+ manufacturing facilities worldwide, each with their own team of engineers. Without a common platform, Colgate's engineers didn't have the ability to see what others were doing in different facilities or countries.

In addition to a lack of visibility, there was also a lack of standardization of machinery and equipment specifications. Engineers had to start from scratch every time they wanted to create a new machine. As a result, it was difficult to get everyone on the same page or transfer learnings from one facility to another. In addition to machinery specifications, it was time consuming to conduct Factory Acceptance Testing (FATs) and Site Acceptance Testing (SATs) on new equipment, which led to delays in bringing closure to large projects.

## Solution

Specright's Specification Management software is a common platform for Colgate's engineers to not only work off the same specifications but also collaborate. Each engineer uses the same specifications in Specright as a template, which has helped drive standardization across the business. The company also took a global approach and rolled out Specright in partnership with other geographies and aligned with their overall digital supply chain roadmap. Whether it's machinery specs, electrical specs or Factory Performance & Reliability requirements, information is now consistent from site to site and country to country. Colgate's OEM partners also have access to Specright and are engaged in specification approvals, enhancing collaboration with external suppliers and partners.

## Impact

Colgate's engineers have a single source of truth for machinery and equipment specifications, in addition to a global equipment inventory. If an engineer is looking for a piece of equipment but doesn't know exactly what's out there, they can see what assets are available or quickly find a similar machine at another plant. When it comes to business outcomes, the team is focused on increasing the Asset Utilization of new equipment and reducing the learning and startup curve. Specright also ensures equipment is set up correctly the first time by linking specifications to digital FATs and SATs. With Specright, the team can startup equipment and hit the ground running faster, which impacts the top and bottom line of the business. It's also increased collaboration and technical knowledge of engineers around the globe, which has led to best practice sharing and opened the lines of communication both internally and with suppliers.



**"I can now ask for pictures and information on equipment from facilities I would never have been able to get before, because we now have this common bond through Specright. The team concept is no longer who is within the 4 walls of the plant, but who are you working with in your technical community around the world."**

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