



## Part Navigator

i2 Part Navigator™ provides a fast and flexible way to quickly locate parts of interest within i2 Supplier Relationship Management™ (SRM). Employing contemporary navigation methods typical of online search tools, the solution enables users to easily conduct intelligent searches for candidate parts for reuse. Ideally suited for the casual or infrequent user, i2 Part Navigator provides the type of search experience end users expect, without the need for formal training or application expertise.

Typical enterprise database applications provide search methods that allow users to define criteria and then to request a search for matching items. This is somewhat like fishing—appropriate bait is put on the hook and then cast into the water. This works well for those with the experience to choose the right bait and select the right casting spot. Often, the fish don't bite (there are no results) or the big one gets away.

In contrast to this, the i2 Part Navigator provides a successive filtering paradigm; users are presented with the universe of parts available or currently selected and the attributes applicable to them. Choosing an available value removes all parts other than those sharing that value, and the now-relevant choices are presented. This successive approach automatically ensures users are presented with valid choices and continually provides selection feedback. This is similar to the way many shopping, catalog, or online resource library sites work, and thus provides a familiar user experience.

### Driving Reuse and Preferred and Part Usage

To attain target levels of reuse and drive preferred part and line-of-supply preferences, companies must ensure that the reuse application and preferred part data view is widely adopted across the extended engineering community. As many of these users may be infrequent ones, it is critical that companies leverage the system during key design phases and simplify training to maximize realization of the reuse value proposition.

### Contemporary Technology

i2 Part Navigator employs some of the latest indexing and faceting techniques applied to the structured part and attribute data of the SRM database, as well as the unstructured context of descriptions and related text items. These types of methods have revolutionized the web search experience—and user expectations—and provide great speed and interactivity for the end user compared to query-based search methods. Users can mix and match keyword, category and attribute choices to quickly navigate to the parts that meet their needs. The interface provides immediate feedback and choices made can be quickly undone, independently of the order in which they were made.

### Benefits

- Accelerated user adoption
- Increased reuse and preferred part usage
- Consistent master data usage
- Global access
- Fast and flexible interactivity
- Minimal roll-out effort
- Intuitive user experience

## Simple Deployment

By leveraging the rich data of the SRM system and presenting it in an intuitive and appealing user interface, i2 Part Navigator provides an easily deployed desktop tool that allows engineers to quickly locate suitable parts by keyword, part number, vendor, commodity category or functional attribute. It also enables accelerated levels of user adoption with minimal deployment or training costs.

End user preferences can be configured to have hyperlink access to the CSM application or other modules within the SRM suite as system managers see fit. The security and personalization facilities of the SRM environment provide flexibility to manage the scope and functionality of that access. For IT and system managers, deployment considerations are minimal because i2 Part Navigator is a read-only, browser-based tool that can be configured to always present a current, simplified data view operating within the SRM security regime.

## SRM Context

i2 Part Navigator is an extension to i2 Component and Supplier Management™ (CSM), which provides parts and supplier management capabilities to:

- Consolidate an enterprise parts master under a classification taxonomy
- Manage part-to-part cross-referencing for internal, manufacturer, and vendor part numbering schemes
- Maintain and manage the data through control workflows
- Synchronize with ERP and PLM systems

i2 CSM is an integral part of i2 SRM, which provides an integrated suite of direct material sourcing capabilities to align engineering, sourcing, and procurement organizations in the effective management of the supply base. The solution aids in source selection and negotiation, parts, material and commodities, pricing, and preference and approval for overall inbound supply management performance.

i2 has more than 20 years of experience in helping customers from a wide spectrum of industry sectors—including automotive, industrial, high tech, semiconductor, consumer electronics, aerospace and defense, and others—to solve challenging problems related to inbound supply management and end-to-end supply chain processes.

For more information on i2 Part Navigator and other i2 solutions, visit [www.i2.com](http://www.i2.com).



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