

**CUSTOMER STORY** 

Empowering Efficiency:
Parry Labs Selects Jama
Connect® for Seamless Use,
Unparalleled Traceability, and
Streamlined Review Cycles

# ABOUT | PARRY LABS

- Founded in 2016 in Alexandria, Virginia
- Established to deliver digital systems integration for defense manufacturing that provides rapid capability deployment and combat advantage
- Delivers open software architecture, small-form-factor hardware, and engineering to keep pace with the speed of modern warfare
- Focused on amplifying information-sharing and decision-making confidence

Parry Labs is an aerospace and defense firm focused on creating a safer, more connected world by accelerating the delivery of digital solutions to the tactical edge. The company redefines the edge for the modern battlespace with digital systems integration that delivers rapid capability deployment and provides a decisive combat advantage.

Parry Labs combines open software architecture and 2SWaP (size, weight, and power) - optimized hardware to create a common framework that's integrated, agile, and delivers the most mission-critical technology at a rapid speed.

## **Customer Story Overview**

With their former requirements management tool, Parry Labs had challenges with traceability and communicating changes for review cycles. The company was increasingly frustrated managing requirements with their existing tool and needed one that would be intuitive, streamline workflows, and improve traceability. After careful evaluation, they selected Jama Connect\*.

#### **CHALLENGES**

- Missing a hierarchical tree structure for requirements
- Struggled with upstream and downstream traceability
- Challenging user experience leading to low adoption
- Lack of efficient and effective collaboration

#### **EVALUATION**

- A solution that could improve traceability
- Wanted a click-of-a-button export for collaboration
- Must have a simplified user interface/experience
- Included easy integration with existing tools, such as Cameo
- Visible metrics, with little setup

### **OUTCOMES**

- Traceability is fully realized in the database
- Improved collaboration capability with round-trip export
- Enhanced ability to monitor and reduce risk early in the development process
- Support for meeting ISO 9100 standard and internal QA audits

In the past, with their former tool, Parry Labs struggled with traceability issues and ineffective review cycles. With a lack of traceability, it was difficult to manage an endless sea of requirements, creating confusion, wasted time, and frustration.

"Without a hierarchy, I don't know where I'm at, or what I'm doing because everything is based on leveling," says Hilla Green, Systems Engineering Manager at Parry Labs. "At a high level, I need to know what the system is doing, what the subsystem is doing, and what the components are doing – and I couldn't see any of that with other requirements management tools without a lot of setup, or not at all."

"Excel was being leveraged too frequently, and not working in an integrated environment like Jama Connect can create disconnect. And the concern with using Excel is that it could introduce version control issues, thus Jama Connect was selected as an easier tool to use," says Green. "With our previous [ALM] tool, the team felt that it was difficult to use and as a result, they turned to Excel which introduces risk."

Parry Labs required a solution that would improve traceability, streamline review cycles, and provide an easy user experience to encourage the team to work within their chosen tools.

#### Specifically, they needed:

- A hierarchical tree structure for requirements
- A customizable database that reflected their individual needs
- Upstream and downstream traceability
- An intuitive user experience
- More efficient collaboration
- Expert training and ongoing support

"With selecting Jama Connect, it opened the opportunity to redefine our requirements management process with a fresh new approach," says Green.



As Parry Labs considered a new solution, they focused on where their existing solution fell short. A new tool would need excellent traceability, it would have to support more efficient collaboration, and it needed to be simple for users to pick up and use.

"Part of our criteria of selecting a requirements management tool, was that we wanted to be able to get metrics with minimal configuration. With other tools you spend a lot of time configuring things to meet your needs," says Green.

As part of their evaluation process, their criteria became more solidified, including:

- Improved traceability
- Click-of-a-button export for collaboration
- Simplicity of use
- Easy integration with existing tools, such as Cameo
- Visible metrics, with little setup

One aspect that stood out immediately to the Parry Labs team was Jama Connect's unique traceability feature. Live Traceability™ in Jama Connect allows any engineer, at any time, to see the most up-to-date and complete upstream and downstream information for any requirement — no matter the stage of systems development or how many siloed teams or tools it spans.

"When I looked at Jama Connect, I noticed it had an object-oriented feel," says Green. "I liked the containerization and how I can drag, drop, right click - everything I need is right there. Also, the trace view shows related upstream and downstream items and details in the context of the relationship, as well as any missing coverage, which my entire team liked."





Additionally, Green valued Jama Connect's "round trip" Import and Export Wizard feature because it fit seamlessly into the team's existing workflow. "We often hold remote calls with up to 20 people, and there is so much feedback coming in," says Green. "We can now export into Excel, make a bunch of edits, and then round trip it back to Jama Connect."

Jama Connect also had the specifications tree that Green wanted and an intuitive look and feel. "I really like the tabular view when I go from spec to spec in the tree," says Green. "I can view all requirements and bring in the fields I need to see. Also, my team can intuitively pick things up and start making a database right away — which was a huge selling point. I really like the look and feel of it."

Integration with existing tools was also important, and Jama Software's ecosystem allows for the flexibility to create connectors to a team's tools of choice — they integrate their existing technologies, such as Cameo, Jira, and TestRail — something that was more difficult with other solutions, such as DOORS. They can also leverage Jama Connect Interchange™ which is purpose-built to deliver Live Traceability across best-of-breed tools, including Microsoft Excel. This is the first tool to make Excel data traceable through a point-and-click integration interface.



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HILLA GREEN SYSTEMS ENGINEERING MANAGER AT PARRY LABS Implementing Jama Connect has helped Parry Labs improve efficiency and collaboration and has supported them through an ISO 9100 audit. Additionally, with dozens of users logged into the database daily, they were able to seamlessly transition to Jama Connect without the need for formal training so far, due to its intuitive and user-friendly interface.

After onboarding the new solution, users benefited from the following outcomes:

- Traceability that is fully realized in the database
- Improved collaboration capability with round-trip export
- Enhanced ability to monitor and reduce risk early
- Support for ISO 9100 and internal QA audits

The simplicity of Jama Connect has helped Green provide her team with the required tools without additional complexity or frustration. "I can guide our team to see the Jama Connect hierarchy for their project, and from there they can begin developing requirements immediately. Everything is containerized, if I model out based on our architecture, you can just get started because the relationships are already there with little back-end administrative setup."

Jama Connect enables secure, effective, cross-functional collaboration with a single source of truth, so teams can now easily access the information needed to stay aligned and make informed decisions. They can effortlessly view open decisions, issues, and questions (in real-time) that require a timely response and stakeholder alignment.

Jama Connect has also supported risk reduction, provided a clear view of coverage gaps and helped the Parry Labs team stay on top of monitoring and control. And Live Traceability™ inside Jama Connect allows teams to maintain a formal change management process, perform impact analysis, and reveal interdependencies within the development process — making it easier to bring in the right decision-makers at the right time, thereby reducing overall project risk.

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"We use Jama Connect as a systems safety hazard tracking tool. This has allowed for both hardware and software hazards to be documented and linked to their driving requirements like compliance with MIL-STD-882E and then also link to their lowerlevel mitigating requirements if a change in design needs to be made based on risk," says Holly Devoe, Systems Engineering Director.

"Customers have appreciated the color coding for risks and severities as it makes briefing the information up and out easily digestible. Also, another key feature that has been helpful is the ability to tailor the view to what the users need."

With Jama Connect, teams can easily create and share reports that provide visibility across the end-to-end lifecycle to expose relationships and dependencies between teams, and demonstrate to auditors the connections between regulations, requirements, and tests. "Jama Connect supported us through an ISO 9100 audit, and it's also helping me through an internal QA audit," says Green. "I can quickly show the required criteria within the systems engineering that I've met because I have a controlled area, change management, and traceability."

The team is also impressed with the integration to Cameo, eliminating time-consuming duplicate work. They are confident in Jama Connect's source of truth, and with linkage from Jama Connect to Cameo, they feel confident about the source of truth in Cameo as well.

"We are currently integrating requirements from Cameo to Jama Connect and then subsequently to Jira on three of our largest programs within Parry Labs. We have made dramatic strides in our systems engineering processes utilizing the interface between these tools and it has made our traceability that much stronger," says Devoe.

"Jama Connect is very much worth the investment; it's easy to use and has saved us on execution time," says Green. "Also, it provides an easy way to measure and monitor data and this is key for managing projects and reducing risk."





Jama Software® is focused on maximizing innovation success in multidisciplinary engineering organizations. Numerous firsts for humanity in fields such as fuel cells, electrification, space, software-defined vehicles, surgical robotics, and more all rely on Jama Connect® requirements management software to minimize the risk of defects, rework, cost overruns, and recalls. Using Jama Connect, engineering organizations can now intelligently manage the development process by leveraging Live Traceability™ across best-of-breed tools to measurably improve outcomes. Our rapidly growing customer base spans the automotive, medical device, life sciences, semiconductor, aerospace & defense, industrial manufacturing, consumer electronics, financial services, and insurance industries. To learn more, visit us at jamasoftware.com.

