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CIMdata News

Announcing PLM Road Map & PDT North America 2024

3 January 2024

CIMdata and Eurostep are delighted to share the details about the upcoming PLM Road Map & PDT 2024 North America conference, scheduled to take place at the Marriott Hotel in Tysons Corner, Virginia, USA on May 8th and 9th. This globally recognized PLM-focused event, under the theme “Value Drivers for Digitalization of the Product Lifecycle: Insights for the PLM Professional—Why the investment, what are the returns, and how are they achieved?” promises an engaging exploration of the critical enablers of Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) and the digital transformation it enables.

With a keen focus on addressing the interests of PLM Professionals, our agenda will feature a curated blend of reports and case studies from industry experts. Covering technologies, processes, and people, PLM Road Map & PDT 2024 seeks to help move product lifecycle digitalization forward and will highlight the shift toward data enablement.

Agenda topics will seek to answer the following questions:

- What factors drive investment in product lifecycle digitalization, including the goals, value achieved, and lessons learned?
- How are digital threads and twins strategically positioned in a product lifecycle digitalization program?
- How do MBSE and MBE support and build on product lifecycle digitalization?
- How does AI build on and enable product lifecycle digitalization?
- How are companies extending product lifecycle digitalization across suppliers and customers while addressing inherent security concerns?
- How can looking at things from a data perspective reshape established processes like configuration management?
- What is the role of data governance, and how is trust designed into the data to enable increased automation?
- Which standards are relevant to product lifecycle digitalization?
- How should we be developing people skills for today and the future?
- How do you explain product lifecycle digitalization to stakeholders outside of PLM?
- What is the role of CXOs and the Board in driving product lifecycle digitalization, and how do you get their sponsorship?
- How do you build on product lifecycle digitalization to achieve an environmental, social, and governance operation?
- How do you capture sustainability and circular economy opportunities?

CIMdata's President & CEO, Peter Bilello, emphasizes the critical importance of the data perspective in the digital transformation landscape. He notes, "With more companies than ever actively participating in a digital transformation initiative, it is imperative to realize that elevating the data perspective is critical for success. A paradigm shift from document-based to model-based representations of product information has been in motion for decades. Now is the time to enable ready access and interpretation with these digital representations. PLM Road Map and PDT North America is not just a gathering; it's a convergence of ideas, innovation, and a collaborative platform for shaping the future. This year's theme focuses on the elements vital to enabling a successful PLM strategy."

"A digital transformation is or should be an indispensable component of any business transformation," says Håkan Kårdén, a Strategic Advisor and part of the PDT Europe organizing team since 2004. "While certain processes take advantage of new technologies with a data-centric focus, some processes within PLM or linked to PLM are still playing catch up. The time has come to shift our focus to a holistic and integrated view where the enterprise, or actually the complete value chain, moves towards a data-driven paradigm. Many benefits of digitalization are available today, but it is still very much uncharted territory. The potential business values around the corner are huge, and both established enterprises and emerging players are exploring the art of possible in the digitalization race. For 2024, we will look at the value being delivered through real cases and at the bigger picture of what is needed to fulfill the promise with concepts and technologies that place data at the very core," ends Håkan Kårdén.

In addition to the event in May in North America, CIMdata and Eurostep are pleased to announce PLM Road Map & PDT EMEA, scheduled for October of 2024 in Gothenburg, Sweden.

For more information and to register, please visit the CIMdata website <https://www.cimdata.com/en/education/plm-conferences/2024-plm-road-map-pdt-north-america>.

Acquisitions

A Merger of Companies within Addnode Group with focus on Sustainable Urban Development

2 January 2024

Addnode Group announced that the sister companies Sokigo and S-GROUP Solutions in the Process Management division are merging. The merger means that we will be able to offer Swedish municipalities improved conditions for sustainable urban development and an uninterrupted digital urban development process. The new company Sokigo will consist of almost 300 employees. As previously announced, the offer of digital solutions for the forest sector and other basic industries is being transferred from Sokigo to the new company Icebound.

The merger means that Sokigo will be able to offer Swedish municipalities improved conditions for sustainable urban development and an uninterrupted digital urban development process. Joint expert resources within municipal operations, a broad product portfolio and collaborations with partners such as ESRI, a foundation is created for increased innovation power. Sokigo will now be able to offer a stronger and more comprehensive range of geodata services and product offerings to support the needs of both our customers of today and the digital municipalities of tomorrow. Together, we can increase the pace of giving Sweden's municipalities access to world-leading technology for data-driven GIS-based insights and decisions.

"Sokigo will consist of almost 300 employees and thanks to the merger we will be able to contribute to increased social benefits and value for municipal operations through the solutions we provide. With great joy I look forward to see the new Sokigo's capacity for customer-oriented innovation and new integrations that will lead the development of a sustainable and digital society forward", says Andreas Wikholm, Division President Process Management, Addnode Group.

Accenture Completes Acquisition of 6point6

3 January 2024

Accenture has completed the acquisition of 6point6, a U.K. technology consultancy, specializing in cloud, data, and cybersecurity. The acquisition enhances Accenture's strategy and architecture capabilities, with a particular emphasis on central government, defense and security, and financial services.

The acquisition was previously announced on October 31, 2023, and adds approximately 400 technologists to serve Accenture client needs across the U.K. Terms of the deal were not disclosed.

Accenture Expands Digital Transformation Capabilities for Italy's Public Sector with Acquisition of Customer Management IT and SirfinPA

22 December 2023

Accenture has signed an agreement to acquire Customer Management IT and SirfinPA, a pair of jointly-owned Italian technology consultancies supporting the public sector and specializing in justice and public safety. The acquisition aligns with Accenture's focus on helping Italian public service organizations build their digital core and deliver enhanced services to the citizens they serve.

Founded in 2010, with offices in Rome, Naples and Cosenza, Customer Management IT and SirfinPA are leading players within the Italian IT sector. Recognized for their work across the country's national justice ecosystem, Customer Management IT and SirfinPA have supported the Italian Ministry of Justice by building and supporting technology applications in the central criminal justice department and have provided digital infrastructure for trials.

With a multidisciplinary staff of approximately 300 employees, Customer Management IT and SirfinPA provide system and application integration and management services, cloud application development, infrastructure management, and fleet management for desktops and servers.

"Following the acquisition of leading AI organization Ammagamma, we are continuing to strengthen our services and offerings for the Italian public sector with these two leading companies which bring several decades of industry experience," said Mauro Macchi, chairman and CEO of Accenture Italy. "This acquisition boosts our ability and capacity to support Italian public sector innovation and help our government clients advance their transformation journeys."

The transaction is subject to customary closing conditions and is expected to complete in the coming months.

Addnode Group acquires Efficture

4 January 2024

Icebound, a company in Division Process Management, announces that it has acquired Efficture. The company has operations in Sweden and net sales of SEK 1,5 million.

Efficture's proprietary software for forest and timber management strengthens Icebound's offer and market position as an international player in digital solutions for the forest sector and other basic industries.

"The acquisition is a natural next step for Icebound as we continue to strengthen our offering to the forest industry. With Efficture's software, we expand our offering even further and I look forward to working together with our new colleagues from Efficture", says Staffan Bygden, CEO of Icebound.

Efficture will be consolidated from January 2024, as part of Icebound, in Addnode Group's division Process Management.

DELTEK ACQUIRES PROPRICER, EXPANDING ITS PRODUCT PORTFOLIO TO OFFER UNMATCHED SOLUTIONS AND SERVICES TO GOVERNMENT CONTRACTORS

3 January 2024

Deltek, a leading global provider of software and solutions for project-based businesses, announced that it has acquired ProPricer – a leading proposal pricing solution for government contractors and government agencies. With the acquisition, Deltek continues to expand its product portfolio and customer base for the government contracting industry. ProPricer enables proposal and acquisition teams to more quickly and accurately process cost and pricing data for government contract proposals. Together, Deltek and ProPricer will provide unmatched solutions and services to government contractors.

Headquartered in Temecula, California, ProPricer serves organizations including many of the top U.S. defense contractors, as well as firms that are also currently using Deltek products and services. Founded in 1984, ProPricer software maximizes the efficiency and accuracy of the

development, submission, evaluation, negotiation, and auditing of proposal pricing. From storing historical proposal data to effortlessly generating a broad range of reports, ProPricer empowers government contractors to build custom proposals, perform what-if analyses, and integrate all proposal data quickly and easily—within one platform.

In June 2022, ProPricer announced it joined the Deltek Marketplace to provide Costpoint and Cobra customers with direct access to the ProPricer pricing platform. Since then, ProPricer has added a Costpoint integration for a seamless experience for Deltek customers. Together, the two companies will continue to help government contractors increase the speed and accuracy of the estimating cycle, improve bid quality and accuracy and proposal consistency to drive growth.

“This acquisition is the next evolution of ProPricer’s partnership with Deltek and will accelerate our momentum as well as create a more effortless way for customers to get access to not only ProPricer, but also the combined benefits of our collective solutions. Joining forces with Deltek is a strategic milestone, and we look forward to maximizing value for customers, employees and partners,” said Joe Shurance, CEO and Founder of ProPricer.

“Deltek has long been considered the gold standard in government contracting – and we are continually looking at ways to add more value for our customers. With Deltek’s industry-standard offerings for project-based businesses and ProPricer’s pricing solution and expertise, we are adding even more capabilities to the most comprehensive solution available for government contractors,” said Mike Corkery, President & CEO at Deltek. “We are thrilled to welcome the ProPricer team to Deltek and are committed to continuing the partnerships ProPricer has cultivated the last 40 years. We are extremely excited for the new opportunities this acquisition brings to Deltek Project Nation, including those with ProPricer customers, partners and other ERP providers.”

Deltek and ProPricer are working together closely to transition employees, customers, vendors and partners. Terms of the deal were not disclosed.

Sandvik strengthens its position in sensorised tools market with the acquisition of pro-micron GmbH

28 December 2023

Sandvik has signed an agreement to acquire pro-micron GmbH, a German-based supplier of sensorised tools and automation software. Sensorised tools is a high-growth market, with strong underlying drivers such as the accelerated shift to automated production, increasing demand of production data from our customers and closed loop manufacturing driving the need for digitalization.

Pro-micron’s state-of-the-art sensorised tools offering for diagnostics and process monitoring help reduce production errors and increase automation for customers within areas like solid round tools machining.

In addition, pro-micron's long-standing relationships with machine tool builders will help strengthen and expand our partnerships with these customers. The company will be reported in Sandvik Coromant, a division within Sandvik Manufacturing and Machining Solutions.

"The acquisition of pro-micron fits very well with our strategic focus to grow within key high-growth industry segments, in this case the area of sensorised tools and automation," says Stefan Widing, President and CEO of Sandvik.

Pro-micron, founded in 2002 has around 56 employees and is headquartered in Kaufbeuren, Bavaria, Germany. In 2022, the company generated revenues of about SEK 88 million. The impact on Sandvik's EBITA margin and earnings per share will be limited.

Trimble Divests Water Monitoring Assets to Badger Meter, Inc.

3 January 2024

Trimble announced that it has completed the sale of select remote water monitoring hardware and software, inclusive of the Telog brand of RTUs (remote telemetry units), and Trimble Unity Remote Monitoring software to Badger Meter, Inc. The divestiture is in line with Trimble's strategy to focus on areas core to its long-term growth and strategic product roadmap. Financial terms were not disclosed.

"We are continually evaluating our product portfolio as we work on the execution of Trimble's Connect and Scale strategy," said Rob Painter, president and CEO of Trimble. "This sale of our remote monitoring solution to Badger Meter enables growth strategies for both businesses."

Trimble will retain its water-related businesses that serve marine construction, infrastructure monitoring and surveying. The divested assets provide real-time monitoring hardware and software targeted at distributed data collection for applications in water, wastewater, stormwater and environmental water monitoring. The Telog data recorders provide real-time monitoring capabilities for water and wastewater municipalities and service providers, and when combined with the Trimble Unity Remote Monitoring software, provide a single view into users' operations.

"This acquisition fits perfectly into our strategic growth laneways," said Kenneth C. Bockhorst, chairman, president and CEO at Badger Meter. "The bundling of additional hardware-enabled software for network monitoring enhances the scope of data, information and analytics enabling our customers to be more efficient, resilient and sustainable – saving money, improving asset performance and reducing risk across their entire enterprise."

Company News

Bechtel names Mathilde Bluteau as Vice President

3 January 2024

From 1 April, Mathilde Bluteau will take the helm at Bechtel France with responsibilities for all activities of the Bechtel Group in France. She is the second Vice President, after Marijke Kasius in the Netherlands, to head up a multi-vendor national segment. The 54-year-old

French national, who previously worked for the world's largest IT distributor TD Synnex, has 30 years of experience in IT, and has held international leadership positions at Microsoft, Apple and Cisco. She is highly connected, has an outstanding reputation and is well-acquainted with the structures of the IT landscape. The Bechtle Group is one of the top five IT companies in France with its Bechtle direct, Bechtle Comsoft, Inmac Wstore, Cadmes and Apixit subsidiaries. Mathilde Bluteau will be reporting to COO Konstantin Ebert.

By introducing a new management level, Bechtle aims to sharpen the group's competitive edge in France while accelerating further growth in the largest European market for Bechtle after Germany. In 2023, the IT company acquired IT security specialist Apixit and now offers IT services along with its direct sales. "Mathilde Bluteau has been our favourite candidate and is a huge win for Bechtle due to her extraordinary leadership skills. In her previous career, she collaborated very successfully with the Bechtle Group's subsidiaries in France. This is the foundation we will build upon to bolster our growing presence on the French market and gain an even stronger foothold" says Konstantin Ebert, COO IT E-commerce, Bechtle AG.

Market insider with strong network

Mathilde Bluteau will continue to live in Paris, from where she will leverage her extensive international network that she has established over three decades to support Bechtle in realising its ambitious plans for growth. "I am fascinated by the opportunities that Bechtle France has to offer. The group's strength, the room for entrepreneurial freedom at a regional level and the aspiring plans for growth all offer a huge chance for me to leverage my experience and tap into the enormous potential that Bechtle has as a future-first IT partner in France. I am really looking forward to it" says Mathilde Bluteau.

Bechtle aims to grow its market share in France

Bechtle has been active on the French market since 2000, initially with its Bechtle direct brand before subsidiaries Bechtle Comsoft, Inmac Wstore and Cadmes, specialist for PLM solutions, joined the fold. Apixit joined the Bechtle Group in October 2023. The Group employs some 1,200 employees at 17 locations in France and has a turnover of more than one billion euros with its IT products and services.

Cyncly announces appointment of Julien Faure as Chief Product Officer

2 January 2024

Cyncly, the leading global provider of software and content solutions that help make amazing spaces for living, announced the appointment of Julien Faure as its Chief Product Officer. In his capacity as CPO, Julien will support Cyncly's product management, strategy, and design efforts as the company continues to grow its customer base and solution portfolio.

"We are pleased to welcome Julien to Cyncly, who will help us continue to deliver best-in-class and high-quality products and services to our clients," said David Tombre, CEO. "Cyncly is deeply focused on applying innovation and a customer-centric approach to our software. Julien's experience with product strategy and execution will help us deliver solutions that deliver an outstanding user experience and power our customers' success."

Julien brings a wealth of experience in product strategy and engineering, with a strong track record driving innovation and delivering market-leading products at leading SaaS businesses serving the manufacturing, AEC and retail sectors. Julien will lead Cyncly's product team to design and execute a robust product strategy that brings to market the products customers in the spaces-for-living industry need, with the speed and quality they expect.

"I am incredibly excited to join Cyncly to help the company build on its success in delivering industry-leading solutions," said Julien. "I look forward to making products that are a joy to use, take advantage of the cloud, incorporate the latest technologies, and help our customers achieve their goals faster."

FARO Successfully Completes SOC 2 Type II Audit

29 December 2023

FARO® Technologies, Inc., a leading provider of 3D measurement, imaging, and realization solutions, announced the successful completion of its SOC 2 Type II audit for Sphere XG, furthering its commitment to customer security.

The audit was conducted by leading compliance assessor, A-LIGN, a technology-enabled security and compliance partner trusted to help mitigate cybersecurity risks around the world.

"We are very excited to share that we have completed our SOC 2 Type II audit. This marks a milestone in our ongoing commitment to security and compliance," said Patrick Bohle, President of Building Insights at FARO. "We understand that this is an important factor in our customers' decision-making when selecting enterprise software tools. Our team worked very hard and is proud to have passed the audit without any exceptions."

Established by the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), the SOC 2 Type II examination is designed for organizations of any size, regardless of industry and scope, to ensure the personal assets of their potential and existing customers are protected. SOC 2 Type II reports are recognized globally and affirm that a company's infrastructure, software, people, data, policies, procedures, and operations have been formally reviewed.

"Congratulations to FARO for completing their SOC 2 Type II audit, a widely recognized signal of trust and security," said Steve Simmons, COO of A-LIGN. "It's great to work with organizations like FARO, who understand the value of expertise in driving an efficient audit and the importance of a high-quality final report."

pSeven SAS - new legal name of the company

29 December 2023

We inform our customers and partners worldwide about the change of the legal name of the company from DATADVANCE SAS to pSeven SAS, effective December 14, 2024.

The decision to rename was dictated by the company's desire to focus solely on the development of the pSeven brand, rather than parallel development of the two, which in the long run will allow to optimize the costs of promoting the company and its software products. All legal and financial aspects, including contracts, agreements and banking details, will be

updated to reflect the new company name. The renaming is formal and does not affect other areas of the company's business.

"This change reflects our commitment to growth, innovation and our ongoing dedication to providing exceptional products and services to our customers. Our new name better aligns with our evolving identity and the direction in which we are headed as a "one-product company". While the legal name has changed, we want to assure our customers and partners that our core values, quality standards and the relationships we have built over the years remain steadfast", - commented Laurent Chec, General Director of pSeven SAS.

The New Carlson CRx Service Center

22 December 2023

Carlson Software is thrilled to announce the grand opening of its new CRx Service Center in Maysville, Kentucky. This strategic expansion is a testament to our unwavering commitment to providing top-notch service and support to our valued customers.

The state-of-the-art CRx Service Center is specifically designed to cater to the maintenance and calibration needs of our CRx Total Station customers in the United States. With this new facility, Carlson aims to elevate the customer experience by offering unparalleled convenience and enhancing our existing software services.

Key Features of CRx Standard Maintenance/Service:

- General Inspection
- Mechanical (housing) and optical cleaning
- Checking and adjusting bubble level and laser plummet
- Checking and adjusting Vertical and Horizontal angle
- Checking EDM measurements
- Calibration certificate

To initiate service or for more information, customers can contact our USA service center to obtain a Return Merchandise Authorization (RMA).

"We are excited to inaugurate the CRx Service Center in Maysville, Kentucky, as part of our ongoing efforts to provide the best service possible to our customers. This new facility exemplifies our commitment to enhancing customer convenience and ensuring the optimal performance of our CRx series of Robotic Total Stations," said Richard Wenham, Head of Global Service, LMD.

True Elements and Carahsoft Partner to Bring Water Intelligence Solutions to the Public Sector

3 January 2024

True Elements, the leader in Water Intelligence, and Carahsoft Technology Corp., The Trusted Government IT Solutions Provider®, announced a partnership. Under the agreement, Carahsoft

will serve as True Elements' Master Government Aggregator[®], making the company's industry-leading Water Intelligence SaaS solutions and data sets available to the Public Sector through Carahsoft's reseller partners and NASA Solutions for Enterprise-Wide Procurement (SEWP) V, National Cooperative Purchasing Alliance (NCPA) and OMNIA Partners contracts.

"The partnership with Carahsoft will provide Water Intelligence to Public Sector agencies, enabling them to better understand current water challenges and effectively prepare for a very different water future," said Kim Patrick Kobza, CEO of True Elements. "The key is to provide agencies with dynamic workflow solutions that are cost effective and easy to procure so they can succeed in assessing the present and forecasting the future. With Carahsoft as a partner, we can accomplish our mission to ensure all agencies have the best decision support available when responding to rapidly changing climate conditions."

The Value of Water Intelligence

Water Intelligence is a unique combination of state-of-the-art technology, scientific analysis and AI capabilities that continuously aggregates, synthesizes and transforms expansive amounts of complex water data into easily understandable, increasingly precise analyses and forecasts via scores and visualizations. These analyses and forecasts produce deep, clear insights that help decision-makers better understand water resources to make fully informed decisions about how to manage and optimize resources.

Water Intelligence Helps Public Sector Leaders Ensure a Water-Resilient Future

Changing weather patterns are creating climate crises across the globe. Ninety percent of those crises are experienced through water. True Elements' SaaS solutions and data sets quickly and easily provide Public Sector leaders with in-depth insights necessary for fully informed, confident decision-making to address water challenges at the local, regional and national levels.

Insights into current water quality and quantity challenges (pollution, demographic considerations, etc.) as well as future disruptive events or long-term changes to water resources (drought, sea level rise, flood risk, etc.) help Government leaders make the strategic decisions necessary to ensure their organizations, assets, operations and communities can adapt and thrive in a climate with rapidly changing hydrologic cycles. True Elements' Water Intelligence platform easily, efficiently and cost-effectively delivers the understanding decision makers need with color coded scores and visualizations.

"The Public Sector is currently facing water-related challenges that are expected to increase in number and severity if left unaddressed," said Harjeet Khalsa, Sales Director, Google ISV Ecosystem at Carahsoft. "Through collaboration with our reseller partners and the addition of True Elements' Water Intelligence solutions to our offerings, Government agencies are empowered to procure the resources necessary to proactively address existing water related challenges and work toward a water-resilient future."

True Elements, integrated within Google Cloud Marketplace, is now available through Carahsoft and Google's partner ecosystem. This collaboration simplifies procurement for Government agencies, granting seamless access to their Water Intelligence solutions powered by Google's robust infrastructure, ensuring efficient decision-making tools for addressing water challenges.

True Elements' software, hardware and services are available through Carahsoft's SEWP V contracts NNG15SC03B and NNG15SC27B, NCPA Contract NCPA01-86 and OMNIA Partners Contract #R191902.

Event News

Altair Announces Future.Industry 2024 Global Flagship Event

4 January 2024

Altair, a global leader in computational science and artificial intelligence (AI) is pleased to announce Future.Industry 2024, the company's flagship annual event, which will take place virtually on March 6-7. The overarching theme is the "Science of Possibility," and will bring together thought leaders, industry experts, and visionaries to explore the trends and technologies poised to reshape tomorrow's world.

"The rapid pace of technological advancements, especially during a time of changes in competitive landscape, makes it challenging to keep up, even for people firmly embedded within these industries. Future.Industry is a premier showcase of the latest and most powerful trends and technologies in today's market," said James R. Scapa, founder and chief executive officer, Altair. "At this year's event, we will cover the latest advancements in computational science like few other events can."

Featured speakers:

- James R. Scapa, founder and chief executive officer, Altair
- Dean Kamen, founder, FIRST and president, DEKA Research & Development Corporation
- Samantha Simmonds, journalist and on-air broadcaster, BBC News
- Dr. Nina Gaißert, referent portfolio projects, Festo
- Mike Cazer, chief executive officer, American Magic
- Mike Gualtieri, vice president and principal analyst, Forrester
- Merve Hickok, president and research director, Center for AI and Digital Policy, University of Michigan and founder of Alethicist.org
- Dr. Ingo Mierswa, senior vice president of product development, Altair and founder of RapidMiner
- Dr. Fatma Kocer, vice president of engineering data science analytics and Internet of Things (IoT) development, Altair

At Future.Industry 2024, attendees will also hear from presenters from premier organizations such as Analytium, Aptiv, and Maxion Wheels, along with Altair experts and executives as they discuss today's biggest trends in simulation, high-performance computing (HPC), AI, data analytics, and academia. The event is geared toward audiences of all levels and disciplines and will offer high-level content as well as specialized industry- and topic-specific presentations and

panels. Day 1 and the first portion of Day 2 will feature a unified main session, while the latter portion of Day 2 will feature four parallel tracks:

- Track 1: Next-Gen AI and Engineering: Design and Simulation Intelligence
- Track 2: Frictionless AI for the Modern Enterprise
- Track 3: Revolutionizing HPC in the Era of AI and Cloud
- Track 4: Preparing Students to be Real-World-Ready – Leveraging Cutting-Edge Engineering and Data Science Technology to Form the Workforce of Tomorrow

Future.Industry 2024 will take place in three time zones covering the Americas, EMEA, and APAC regions, and will feature live audio translations into eight languages.

To learn more about Future.Industry 2024 and to register for the event, visit <https://events.altair.com/future-industry-2024/>.

Keysight to Showcase Electric Vehicle Innovations at CES 2024

2 January 2024

What: At CES 2024 Keysight will showcase solutions designed to accelerate innovation in electric vehicle (EV) development. Keysight enables automotive engineers to push the boundaries of engineering with intelligent emulation solutions that reduce risk, speed time-to-market, and help create the best autonomous and electric vehicle experiences.

When: January 9-12, 2024

Where: West Hall, Keysight booth #7201
Las Vegas Convention Center (LVCC), LV, Nevada

Media: Contact Jenny Gallacher to schedule media briefings and solution demonstrations.

Info: [Keysight at CES](#)

Over 200 EV models are introduced every year globally, and many EV standards exist or are in development around the world to address different needs and applications. Testing all combinations is impractical in the real world. Emulation in the lab is the only way to validate and ensure interoperability of EVs and charging stations. At CES, Keysight will demonstrate the following use cases, to show how emulation solutions can enable the future of EVs:

- **Battery Research and Development (R&D) to Build Better Batteries Faster**
 - With [Keysight's Battery Cell Test system](#), engineers can push the efficiency of each cell to develop higher-capacity and higher density batteries. Keysight experts will be on hand to discuss how to analyze new cell chemistries, optimize cell designs, and adapt to evolving configurations in order to support the entire R&D process and deliver innovation.
- **Maximizing Power to the Road with Battery Cell, Pack, and Battery Management System (BMS) Testing**

- The growing demand for electric vehicles is increasing the need for more efficient EV battery development and testing. [Keysight's Battery Pack Test System](#) is designed to address this issue and accelerate the development and validation of battery packs. Used in combination with Keysight's cell, module, and BMS test systems, engineers can streamline the testing process throughout the workflow. Keysight will be discussing battery cell, module, pack, and BMS test challenges and demonstrate how its solutions provide higher efficiency with a smaller footprint to help minimize operating costs.
- **Ensuring EV Charging Conformance by Validating All Charging Interfaces**
 - [Keysight's Charging Discovery System \(CDS\)](#) is a complete solution for all EV and electric vehicle supply equipment (EVSE) charging interfaces. Engineers can test the full range of EV and EVSE standards with in-lab emulation, ensuring worldwide standards are met. This ensures conformance and interoperability, to drive future growth and innovation. Keysight will also be discussing how its solutions enable AC/DC charging at higher power and help validate V2G communications and power transfer.
- **Gigafactory Optimization by Maximizing Battery Test Lab Efficiency**
 - Being able to streamline lab operations is essential to make electric vehicles more cost-competitive. Engineers are seeking to produce EV batteries in mass by efficiently managing workflows, while at the same time ensuring compliance. This means quicker analysis of data and statistics and the ability to automate documentation and tasks in order to free up critical time and improve speed. Keysight will discuss how its [PathWave Lab Operations](#) software enables engineers to streamline workflows and improve time-to-market with efficient planning and coordination of the entire battery test laboratory.

In July, the White House announced a national initiative to improve the state of consumer IOT security to better protect privacy and financial information. Keysight is proud to be the only testing company invited to that announcement. At CES, Keysight will showcase and participate in the following discussions:

- **Automated IOT Security Testing to enable FCC Cyber Trust Mark**
 - In our Cybersecurity booth (LVCC, North Hall, #9478), Keysight will demonstrate its automated [IOT Security Assessment](#) product which is used to validate both security and compliance in connected devices ranging from headsets to healthcare devices to connected cars.
- **Panel Discussion: A Secured IoT World?: Programs, Rules, Brands, Retailers and Consumers**
 - Keysight will be participating in this panel discussion along with Samsung, Best Buy, and the Consumer Technology Association (CTA).
 - **Panel Description:**

- "What's the impact of the US Cyber Trust Mark, the EU CRA and other programs? This panel will discuss the implications."
- **Logistics:**
 - **Date:** Thursday, January 11
 - **Time:** 1:00 – 1:40 PM
 - **Location:** LVCC North Hall Level 2 in room N258
 - **Web page:** <https://www.ces.tech/sessions-events/cyber/cyber04.aspx>

Virtual Twin Evolutions Are Accelerating Healthcare Innovation; Dassault Systèmes to Show How at CES 2024

3 January 2024

At CES 2024, Dassault Systèmes will showcase the latest human virtual twin innovations that leverage artificial intelligence (AI) to set a new standard for precision healthcare, as well as accelerating groundbreaking advancements in medical research and clinical trial efficiency. Decades of deep scientific research into the human body and AI are ushering in a new era of personalized healthcare that is more precise, efficient and tailored to every individual.

Visitors to Dassault Systèmes' booth 8705 in LVCC – North Hall will experience the future of medical innovation through direct interaction with the technologies and people placing Dassault Systèmes at the forefront of virtual human twin innovation. They will step into a virtual world where technology and healthcare converge, exploring the heart, brain, lungs, gut, and eyes, and learning how a personal virtual twin can guide what you eat, how you exercise, and more. This experience culminates in hands-on demonstrations that reveal the power of the collaborative Living Heart and Living Brain projects, Dassault Systèmes' MEDIDATA clinical trials virtualization solutions, and the future of personalized nutrition from its consumer packaged goods and retail industry.

Visitors will be transformed from observers to participants as they discover how virtual twins are already shaping today's healthcare, while revolutionizing the future of life sciences. By demystifying the human body, they will explore the impact virtual twins are having in cardiology, neurology, oncology, virology and ophthalmology, from replacing traditional animal testing to delivering precision medicine in clinical practice. Business leaders will learn how virtual twins are replacing humans as test subjects in clinical trials, as well as how the ENRICHMENT project, a collaboration with the FDA, aims to set new standards in clinical research. Healthcare professionals will see how virtual human twins represent one of the best hopes for extending life expectancy through case studies featuring the virtual twin of a marathon runner and a personalized diet through an individual's microbiome.

In a parallel showcase, Dassault Systèmes' 3DEXPERIENCE Lab, an open innovation lab and startup accelerator, will spotlight three pioneering, women-led startups at CES's Eureka

Park: Dotlumen, Flexpenser, and Brainsight.AI. Visitors will glimpse into the future with virtual guide-dogs and powered assistive driving technologies for the blind, sustainability innovations eliminating food waste, and AI-based neurological diagnostics; all accelerated by virtual twins. A special feature will be a Social Robot from Furhat Robotics, a Swedish startup using SOLIDWORKS through the 3DEXPERIENCE Works for Startups program, that aids the Lab team managing the visitor experience.

Financial News

Blackline Safety Announces Fiscal Fourth Quarter and Year End 2023 Financial Results Conference Call

4 January 2024

Blackline Safety Corp., a global leader in connected safety technology, announced it will release fiscal fourth quarter and year end 2023 financial results before markets open on Thursday, January 18, 2024. Management will host a conference call and webcast to discuss the Company's financial results at 11:00 am ET the same day.

Blackline Safety Corp. Fiscal Fourth Quarter and Year End 2023 Financial Results Conference Call

When: Thursday, January 18, 2024

Time: 11:00 am ET

Webcast Link: <https://www.gowebcasting.com/13108>

Dial-in Instructions: Please dial in 5-10 minutes prior to the scheduled start time and ask to join the Blackline Safety Corp. earnings conference call.

- Canada/USA Toll Free: +1-800-319-4610
- Toronto Toll: +1-416-915-3239
- International Toll: +1-604-638-5340

A replay will be available after 2:00 PM ET on January 18, 2024 through February 18, 2024 by dialing +1-800-319-6413 and entering access code 0356.

HONEYWELL TO RELEASE FOURTH QUARTER FINANCIAL RESULTS AND ANNOUNCE 2024 OUTLOOK DURING ITS INVESTOR CONFERENCE CALL ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1

4 January 2024

Honeywell will issue its fourth quarter financial results and 2024 outlook before the opening of the Nasdaq Stock Market on Thursday, February 1. The company will also hold a conference call at 8:30 a.m. EST.

Presentation Materials / Webcast Details

A real-time audio webcast of the presentation can be accessed at <http://www.honeywell.com/investor>, where related materials will be posted prior to the

presentation and a replay of the webcast will be available for 30 days following the presentation.

Invitation: Presentation of Sandvik's report of the fourth quarter 2023

4 January 2024

Sandvik will publish its fourth quarter results on Thursday, January 25, 2024, at approximately 08:00 AM CET.

A combined webcast and conference call for investors, analysts and financial media will be held at 10:00 AM CET. The report will be presented by Stefan Widing, President and CEO as well as by Cecilia Felton, CFO.

The presentation will be broadcasted live on our website home.sandvik

Dial-in details for the conference call:

SE: +46 (0) 8 505 100 31

UK: +44 (0) 207 107 06 13

US: +1 (1) 631 570 56 13

From about 09:30 AM CET presentation slides will be available on our website home.sandvik

Nano Dimension Announces Record Fourth Quarter and Full Year 2023 Preliminary Results

3 January 2024

Nano Dimension Ltd. ("Nano Dimension," "Nano" or the "Company"), a leading supplier of Additively Manufactured Electronics ("AME") and multi-dimensional polymer, metal & ceramic Additive Manufacturing ("AM") 3D printing solutions, announced its financial results, on a preliminary basis, for the fourth quarter and twelve months ended December 31st, 2023. In conjunction with its unaudited preliminary results, Nano Dimension added comments from the CEO on the Reshaping Nano Initiative (the "Initiative"), the year ahead, and the announcement of senior leadership team changes.

Record Preliminary Unaudited Q4 and Full Year 2023 Results

Nano Dimension expects reported unaudited consolidated revenues of approximately \$14.3 million for the fourth quarter ended December 31st, 2023, and approximately \$56.2 million for the full year ended December 31st, 2023. Q4/2023 revenue is expected to grow 18% from Q4/2022, with full year 2023 revenue expected to grow 29% from full year 2022.

The above information reflects preliminary estimates with respect to certain results of Nano Dimension for the fourth quarter and full year ended December 31st, 2023, based on currently available information. Nano Dimension's audited final results for the fourth quarter and full year ended December 31st, 2023, may vary from the preliminary estimates.

Reshaping Nano Initiative

Nano is well underway in its Reshaping Nano Initiative (the “Initiative”, “RNI”), which was announced together with the third quarter results on November 28th, 2023.

The Initiative has the following objectives:

- A. Achieving positive operating income in early 2025, and
- B. Reducing cash burn comparing to 2023 by approx. 75%-85%,
- C. Expecting to reach cash flow positive post A above.

Nano Dimension is able to achieve this as it has reached greater scale and synergies on the back of its robust M&A program to date. Only three years ago, Nano Dimension was a niche company focused on additively manufactured electronics (“AME”). Today the Company is an advanced manufacturing leader as a pioneer in AME along with cutting-edge solutions for precision-additive manufacturing solutions, complemented by sophisticated and proven solutions in Additive Electronics (“AE”) and print systems, which are all brought together by a vision to apply our internally developed deep learning-based DeepCube/Deep Learning AI wherever possible. This is reflected in our financials with revenue going from \$3.4 million in 2020 to \$56.2M million this year, with approx. 29% **organic growth** over the last 12 months.

As Part of RNI

- A. During Q4/2023 The Company’s workforce worldwide was reduced by approximately 25%,
- B. The Executive Management group of the Company was reduced by 25%.

With greater scale and organizational efficiencies, we have already completed plans that looked critically at our costs of goods sold and operating expenses. You should expect to see a portion of the full year expected savings of \$30 million in our results for Q1/2024. We want to highlight that the Initiative was crafted around setting financial objectives that reflect the maturity of our different groups and product lines, which allows us to stay focused on our innovation driven growth engines that make Nano Dimension such an exciting company.

Senior management changes

In part a reflection of the synergies that drive Reshaping Nano Initiative and in part in consideration of personal circumstances and business’s needs, Nano Dimension is also announcing a number of senior management changes.

Tomer Pinchas, Chief Operating Officer as well as since August 2023 also Acting CFO, has been appointed permanent CFO in addition to his position as a COO. Mr. Pinchas succeeds Yael Sandler, who has been the Company’s CFO since 2015 and will not be returning from her maternity leave.

Dotan Bar-Natan joined Nano in the newly created position of General Counsel. Dotan most recently served as General Counsel at SodaStream International, where he spent ten years. Prior to SodaStream, Mr. Bar-Natan practiced at law firms of Goldfarb Seligman and GKH. Itay Mandel, previously Head of Legal, was promoted to VP Legal Affairs and will report to the new General Counsel.

Hanan Gino, Chief Product Officer and Head of M&A, is also leaving the Company, but will continue to serve as an advisor. Hanan's responsibilities will be assumed by the CEO and the Corporate Development Team.

Mr. Tomer Pinchas, Current Nano COO and Veteran Finance Professional, which has assumed both COO and CFO Roles when Ms. Yael Sandler has left for maternity leave, will stay as permanent CFO/COO, reporting to Mr. Yoav Stern, Chief Executive Officer. As a veteran finance professional with over 18 years of global experience in finance, M&A, and operations management, Mr. Pinchas has served as CFO at numerous multinational companies, including Kyron Systems Ltd. from March 2018 to August 2022, myThings Inc. from 2016 to March 2018 and DVTEL, Inc. from 2007 to 2016. Mr. Pinchas started his career at several top public accounting firms, including PwC in New York. Mr. Pinchas is a graduate of the General Management Program (GMP) at Harvard Business School and holds a B.A in Accounting and Finance from the College of Management.

Mr. Yoav Stern, Chief Executive Officer, commented: "We are thrilled to welcome Dotan, have Tomer fully assume the CFO role and see Itay evolve into a more senior role. These together enhance our leadership team and ensure we are best positioned to guide the Company in delivering value for our shareholders. We extend our heartfelt congratulations to Ms. Sandler for her devotion for her newly extended family and thanking her for an amazing service for the Company over the last 8 years. We have been honored to have Yael as the early financial guardian of the Company 8 years ago, growing it and with it over time. She has worked with me personally as my right-hand person for the last 4 years, demonstrating reliability and devotion. I thank her and look forward to her cooperation with Nano Dimension in the future."

"Similarly," add Mr. Stern, "we are thankful to Hanan Gino for his enthusiastic service over the last few years, which has made a substantial difference in the successful growth of business and products. Hanan extensive experience of running large organization under challenging time and performance demands, and most of all – his proven strategy development capabilities were insurmountable during his tenure with us. He has enhanced our senior management group with large scale thinking and creativity. We agreed with Hanan to continue cooperation in the near and far future."

Ms. Yael Sandler commented, "Throughout my tenure at Nano Dimension, I had the exciting opportunity to hold a pivotal position in advancing the company's growth from a small, local startup to a multinational corporation generating almost \$60 million in annual revenues. I am thankful for the chance to shape the company's financial strategy and establish a global finance team."

Mr. Hanan Gino stated, "My time at Nano Dimension was a period of dynamic and pioneering change, characterized by the launch of novel solutions in Additive Manufacturing Electronics (AME) and the strategic acquisition of seven companies globally, enhancing our leadership in the additive manufacturing sector. I am deeply thankful for the opportunity to have led such a groundbreaking revolution in the electronic industry, made possible by the incredible talent and dedication of the Nano Dimension team."

Simulations Plus Reports First Quarter Fiscal 2024 Financial Results

3 January 2024

Simulations Plus, Inc. (“Simulations Plus”), a leading provider of modeling and simulation software and services for pharmaceutical safety and efficacy, reported financial results for its first quarter fiscal 2024, ended November 30, 2023.

First Quarter Financial Highlights

- Total revenue increased 21% to \$14.5 million
- Software revenue increased 25% to \$7.6 million, representing 52% of total revenue
- Services revenue increased 17% to \$6.9 million, representing 48% of total revenue
- Gross profit increased 6% to \$9.8 million; gross margin was 68%
- Adjusted EBITDA of \$3.4 million, representing 23% of total revenue
- Net income of \$1.9 million and diluted earnings per share (EPS) of \$0.10, compared to net income of \$1.2 million and diluted EPS of \$0.06 in the first quarter of 2023

Management Commentary

“Our first quarter performance marked a successful start to the year and was in line with our expectations,” said Shawn O’Connor, Chief Executive Officer of Simulations Plus. “With these strong results, we are maintaining our guidance for the full year. Even though client funding and budget cycles remain softer than historical levels, we are cautiously optimistic that our market may be on the path to improvement.

“First quarter revenue increased 21% year-over-year, driven by higher software revenues in our Quantitative Systems Pharmacology (QSP) oncology modeling platform and our Physiologically Based Pharmacokinetics (PBPK) business unit that had a strong contribution from GastroPlus. I am proud of what our team accomplished this quarter to deliver a 67% increase in EPS.

“Today we announced in a separate press release four key strategic leadership appointments that will advance our objective to seamlessly and organically align with our clients’ needs. These appointments reflect our commitment to providing our organization with the leadership that best positions us for our next stage of growth.

“We entered the second quarter with a healthy pipeline, strong profitability, and a sound balance sheet. The underlying fundamentals of our market remain resilient as demand for modeling and simulation tools continues to play a greater role in drug development workflow. We remain focused on continuing to produce disciplined growth that delivers long-term returns for our shareholders.”

Fiscal 2024 Guidance

Fiscal 2024 Guidance Annual Increase

Revenue	\$66M - \$69M	10 - 15%
Software mix	55 - 60%	—
Services mix	40 - 45%	—
Diluted earnings per share	\$0.66 - \$0.68	35 - 39%

Quarterly Dividend

The Company’s Board of Directors declared a cash dividend of \$0.06 per share of the Company’s common stock, payable on February 5, 2024, to shareholders of record as of January 29, 2024. The declaration of any future dividends will be determined by the Board of Directors each quarter and will depend on earnings, financial condition, capital requirements, and other factors.

Environmental, Social, and Governance

We focus our Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) efforts where we can have the most positive impact. To learn more about our latest initiatives and priorities, please visit our [ESG website](#).

Webcast and Conference Call Details

Shawn O’Connor, chief executive officer, and Will Frederick, chief financial and operating officer, will host a conference call and webcast today at 5 p.m. Eastern Time to discuss the details of the Company’s performance for the quarter and certain forward-looking information. The call may be accessed by registering [here](#) or by calling 1-877-451-6152 or 1-201-389-0879. The webcast will be available on our website under [Conference Calls & Presentations](#). A replay of the webcast will be available on the website approximately one hour following the call.

Implementation Investments

Bagster Retail Boosts Product Innovation with Centric Software

26 December 2023

Centric Software® together with Bagster Retail, one of India’s leading manufacturers of high-quality backpacks, duffel bags and rucksacks, are pleased to share the release of a success story. Centric Software provides the most innovative enterprise solutions to plan, design, develop, source, buy, make, price, allocate, sell and replenish products such as fashion, outdoor, luxury, multi-category retail, grocery, food & beverage, cosmetics & personal care and consumer electronics to achieve strategic and operational digital transformation goals.

Founded in 2014, Bagster Retail is India’s leading manufacturer and retailer of high-quality backpacks, duffel bags and rucksacks. They are committed to quality and dedicated to bringing an exceptional travel experience for their customers. Bagster Retail initially focused on ladies’ bags sold in offline and online channels. Realizing the quick-changing trends and the need to

innovate further, the company expanded its product offerings to include other categories such as luggage, backpacks and laptop bags.

The strategic decision to bring manufacturing in-house prompted Bagster Retail to look into a PLM solution to accelerate product innovation and improve operational efficiency.

Tarik Khan, Founder and Managing Director at Bagster Retail Private Limited, sheds light on the business decision that led to this transition. “The challenge is the lack of visibility into our production stage. Often, we had to manually search for product data from last season or from the last 8 years since we started. Our team also struggled to provide commitments to customer orders without real-time visibility of production schedules.”

The company initially explored a Supply Chain Planning (SCP) system but realized it didn’t align with their goal of growing the business by 3-4 times more in the next 4-5 years. Through word of mouth, they discovered PLM as a potential solution and went to search for the best one.

Khan narrates, “Among the many PLM solutions in the market, we were most impressed with Centric’s ability to track and manage the entire product lifecycle—from when the product is conceptualized, developed and distributed. We started with zero knowledge about PLM, but we now appreciate its seamless, user-friendly approach to capturing and managing product DNA.”

Today, the company leverages Centric PLM™ to efficiently manage numerous styles from a diverse customer base and create innovative designs for their in-house brands, Zwart, Bagster and Starz.

PEACEBIRD Group Partners with Centric Software to Drive Product-First Digital Transformation

2 January 2024

PEACEBIRD, the fashion brand, has partnered with Centric Software® to power their global strategic development ambitions. Centric Software provides the most innovative enterprise solutions to plan, design, develop, source, buy, make, price, allocate, sell, and replenish products such as fashion, outdoor, luxury, multi-category retail, grocery, food & beverage, cosmetics & personal care and consumer electronics to achieve strategic and operational digital transformation goals.

Founded in 1996, PEACEBIRD is a consumer-centric fashion brand retailer with multiple brands catering to diverse market demands. PEACEBIRD is dedicated to building core capabilities for omnichannel retail and operates around 4,500 physical stores across China, introducing over 9,000 new products to the market annually.

Seeking to embrace change to confront market challenges, PEACEBIRD has recently invested in a robust digital management model to boost competitive advantage, drive innovation and increase revenue. PEACEBIRD is implementing Centric PLM™ and Centric Visual Boards™ as a critical component of their long-term global strategy for consumer-centric omnichannel success.

Zhang Jiangping, Chairman and Founder of PEACEBIRD Group, explains, “I believe that in the next 20 years, PEACEBIRD can spread its wings to all corners of the world, becoming a global brand that makes China proud. Therefore, we must lay a solid foundation for future development and truly put consumers at the center. With a product-first approach, the launch of this project and the creation of an end-to-end digital ecosystem, we are honored to learn from Centric, a trusted mentor and friend, on the path of digital transformation.”

“Through Centric PLM, our products will become more refined and our foundation will be more stable,” he continues. “We will accelerate the speed of introducing new products, and product quality and innovation will improve. Moving from uncertainties to certainties is a capability that PEACEBIRD must have on its path to scalability and globalization.”

Using Centric Visual Boards, PEACEBIRD will integrate market intelligence into the early stages of product selection, grouping and assortment visualization.

“PEACEBIRD will harness the power of cutting-edge digital decision-making to create consumer-centric product portfolios for omnichannel, tailor prices and product mixes by region and increase average sales, consumer loyalty and profitability,” Mr. Zhang explains.

As PEACEBIRD’s products are introduced globally in the future, the different needs of regional channels as well as multi-channel distribution requires precisely curated product mixes. Tools such as Centric’s Visual Assortment Board enable the global team to achieve fast, real-time, up-to-date visualization and then to intuitively collaborate around product concepts with each functional team.

“We are honored that PEACEBIRD has selected Centric as a digital transformation partner,” says Chris Groves, CEO of Centric Software. “We look forward to contributing our professional expertise to this collaborative project, and working with the PEACEBIRD team to achieve their global strategic objectives in a sustainable manner.”

ZLT Zeppelin Luftschifftechnik: Instantly ready for take-off with CONTACT CIM Database Cloud

21 December 2023

The airship manufacturer is replacing its keytech environment for centralized project and document management with CIM Database Cloud. CONTACT’s cloud offering enables ZLT Zeppelin Luftschifftechnik (ZLT) to benefit from a quick implementation and remain flexible thanks to the optional switch to on-premises operation.

In July 1900, the first Zeppelin took to the skies over the German town of Friedrichshafen on Lake Constance. Since 1993, ZLT has been developing its modern successors at this very location. Five Zeppelin NT (“Neue Technologie”, German for “New Technology”) are in operation worldwide, with a sixth one scheduled for completion in 2024. The 75-meter-long airships are used for a variety of purposes, from tourist flights to atmospheric research. ZLT is now replacing its existing keytech system for PLM and document management with CONTACT CIM Database Cloud. The low-code platform is easy to configure and comes with Project Office for transparent and efficient project management.

While the existing PDM system allowed for the management of design data, other important files such as approval documents had to be managed outside the PDM environment in a file system without automated status and version control. Furthermore, tasks in product development could not be processed using digital workflows. Processes had to be painstakingly programmed, making their adaptation and representation complex. As a result, they were frequently not digitized at all.

With CIM Database Cloud, Zeppelin seamlessly integrates its CAD and ERP tools and creates a Single Source of Truth for enterprise-wide document management. An audit trail comprehensively documents change processes so that all steps can be traced. The integrated workflow engine enables administrators to easily map company processes. Contract management will also become part of the solution in the future.

The airship manufacturer uses CONTACT modules including task management, role concepts, and workflow management to digitalize and automate its processes. Users benefit from efficient project management and can generate reports at the push of a button. Following the go-live in late 2024, additional features such as requirements management will be introduced and further departments will be connected.

"We are excited to take a significant step toward the future with CONTACT CIM Database Cloud," says Karin Bernhardt, Head of Configuration Management at ZLT. "Cloud operation relieves our IT department and allows us to go live quickly." At the end of the implementation phase, the project team will evaluate a switch to on-premises operation, which is seamlessly possible with the Elements platform.

Product News

Ansys Accelerates Autonomous Vehicle Development with NVIDIA Omniverse

4 January 2024

Ansys announced that Ansys AVxcelerate Sensors will be accessible within NVIDIA DRIVE Sim, a scenario-based AV simulator powered by NVIDIA Omniverse, a platform for developing Universal Scene Description (OpenUSD) applications for industrial digitalization. The integration will provide users access to high-fidelity sensor simulation outputs generated with Ansys AVxcelerate Sensors for the training and validation of perception ADAS/AV systems.

Ensuring AV safety and reliability is among the most significant challenges engineers face today. Sensor suites and software must be extensively tested and validated in real-world driving scenarios — including critical edge cases — to safely navigate roadways. The scale of this challenge is too large for physical on-road testing alone, which would require an estimated billions of miles. The future of AVs depends on highly realistic, scalable simulations to test and validate AV sensor and software performance in a controlled virtual environment.

The combined strengths of NVIDIA and Ansys narrow the gap between reality and simulation. Ansys AVxcelerate Sensors will augment NVIDIA DRIVE Sim's high-fidelity, scalable 3D environments for scenario generation with Ansys' predictively accurate physics solvers for

camera, lidar, and radar sensors. By harnessing the power of this integrated solution, NVIDIA DRIVE Sim users with an AVxcelerate Sensors license will be able to develop, train, test, and validate the performance of AV perception systems while saving time and cost. The platform harnesses NVIDIA's high-performance GPU capabilities and AI, powering rapid prototyping and efficient algorithm refinement of AVs.

"Integrating Ansys AVxcelerate Sensors simulation with DRIVE Sim offers developers greater flexibility to develop, test, and validate their autonomous vehicle software," said Zvi Greenstein, vice president of autonomous vehicle infrastructure at NVIDIA.

An open ecosystem approach is foundational to collaboration. NVIDIA Omniverse enables users to develop OpenUSD-based 3D workflows. OpenUSD's flexibility and modularity allows developers to not only build scalable simulations but also acts as a data factory for AI model training. Developers can harness Omniverse to build their custom synthetic data generation pipelines and generate annotated data to train the on-board computer vision models. The connection with Ansys AVxcelerate Sensors, built with application programming interfaces (APIs), facilitates a seamless integration of Ansys physics solvers into NVIDIA's 3D virtual world.

"Perception is crucial for AV systems, and it requires validation through real-world data for the AI to make smart, safe decisions," said Walt Hearn, senior vice president of worldwide sales and customer excellence at Ansys. "Combining Ansys AVxcelerate Sensors with NVIDIA DRIVE Sim, powered by Omniverse, provides a rich playground for developers to test and validate critical environmental interactions without limitations, paving the way for OEMs to accelerate AV technology development."

EON Reality Announces The Launch Of EON AI Lifestyle Assistant: Bringing Tailored Lifestyle Optimization To Your Fingertips

4 January 2024

In pursuit of enhancing everyday life through the power of technology, EON Reality, a leader in AI-powered virtual training and education solutions, unveils the EON AI Lifestyle Assistant. This revolutionary platform offers customized guidance across various spheres of life, from wellness to personal finance, fulfilling EON Reality's commitment to improving individual experiences with cutting-edge technology.

Crafted with the user's unique goals and preferences in mind, the EON AI Lifestyle Assistant is more than just an informational resource—it's a partner in crafting a life of wellness, discovery, and growth.

EON AI Lifestyle Assistant brings a host of features to enrich users' lives:

- **Personalized Recommendations:** Delivers individual advice catered to the user's interests and goals in areas like health, leisure, and personal development.
- **Broad Category Support:** Offers tips and suggestions across health, entertainment, home management, travel, and financial wellness.

- **User Engagement:** Interactively inquires about users' preferences and budget to refine advice, ensuring relevance and feasibility.
- **Expert Material Integration:** Includes a vast library of expert materials and resources to guide decision-making and knowledge acquisition.
- **Accessible Advice:** With options for every budget and time constraint, the EON AI Lifestyle Assistant provides realistic, actionable support.

The Backbone of Your Self-Improvement Journey

- **Comprehensive Support:** Tackles common concerns such as boredom, fitness, time management, and inspiration through simple yet effective solutions.
- **Interactive Learning:** Engages users in an interactive dialogue, proactively helping them discover new hobbies, manage low energy, and find company, underscored by a supportive tone.
- **Mental Wellness Emphasis:** Acknowledges emotional states and provides comforting guidance, such as coping with loneliness, underlining EON's dedication to mental as well as physical wellness.
- **Always Available:** The EON AI Lifestyle Assistant is ready to learn and adapt to each user's lifestyle, encouraging a partnership that grows through consistent interaction.

EON Reality's AI Lifestyle Assistant is not just technology—it represents a leap towards a personalized, AI-integrated future where everyone has the tools to enhance their lifestyle according to their individual aspirations.

Trimble Announces Connected Climate Exchange, Links Farmers to Companies Looking to Meet Sustainability Commitments

4 January 2024

Trimble announced the Connected Climate Exchange, a carbon marketplace to connect and aggregate verified data across the agriculture supply chain to enable a more sustainable future. To meet net zero commitments, Trimble offers new opportunities for industry stakeholders to quantify their sustainability efforts, scale their businesses with climate offerings and ultimately minimize the negative effects of climate change.

Trimble's Connected Climate Exchange creates a streamlined process for aggregating data across farm organizations and verifying this data for emissions reductions and removals buyers. By connecting an ecosystem of farmers, agronomists, ag retailers and carbon buyers in one marketplace, the Connected Climate Exchange enables participation in carbon markets and sustainability programs that were previously too time-consuming and complex.

"Farmers have long struggled to comprehensively report and tell their sustainability story in quantifiable and verifiable terms. They need a technology solution that brings greater value and helps bring structure to disconnected data," said Darren Howie, director, emerging digital and sustainability, Trimble. "As a trusted partner in the agriculture industry, Trimble is taking a

farm-centric approach. While many carbon programs work by identifying a specific practice to implement and search for farms, Trimble is partnering with agronomy-focused, enterprise agriculture companies to optimize interventions at the farm level, then aggregate the impacts to support emission reduction programs for companies upstream in the agriculture value chain.”

A Farmer-First Solution

As a key participant in the carbon market since 2007, Trimble offers high-quality, in-field data in a platform solution that allows smooth data integrations. Over the past 17 years, Trimble has sold over 4.5 million tonnes of agricultural carbon offsets in Canada, generating over \$50 million for farmers. For more than 40 years, Trimble has worked shoulder-to-shoulder with farmers and farm service providers to develop innovative agriculture solutions that drive productivity, efficiency, profitability and sustainability. Through this work, Trimble is now able to help stakeholders across the agriculture value chain get closer to a net zero future.

The Trimble Connected Climate Exchange works seamlessly with Trimble Ag Software and other third-party farm management tools to:

- Centrally manage sustainability projects and customers
- Perform calculations to report on carbon emissions, reductions and removals
- Provide reporting and visualization to sustainability impacts
- Calculate payments where applicable
- Generate cross-sector supply chain insights

“One key roadblock to other carbon programs has been data aggregation. Trimble has been on the farm and collecting data for decades,” said Dietmar Grimm, vice president, corporate strategy and sustainability, Trimble. “Through its data aggregation capabilities, the Connected Climate Exchange is able to deliver quantifiable and verifiable reports, validated by independent third-party MMRV (measure, monitor, report and verify) providers. This documentation is subject to annual third-party audits that track carbon emissions reductions and removals within the agriculture supply shed at scale.”

BETA CAE Systems announces the release of ANSERS v1.2.0

28 December 2023

About this Release

BETA CAE Systems announces the release of ANSERS v1.2.0.

This new release introduces a new way to export and share dashlets and offers new capabilities for organizing and displaying data.

A more detailed list of the new features and improvements follows below.

Release highlights

Dashlets export to html.

Easy and error-proof panels and datasources input through auto-completion.

Conditional formatting for the Lists' columns.

ANSA and META Web viewer for SPDRM and file-based DM.

Line styles in Curve Line Chart.

Organization of dashlets into collapsible sections.

For more details about the new software features, enhancements and corrections please, refer to the Release Notes document.

BETA CAE Systems announces the release of the v24.1.0 of its software suite

28 December 2023

About this release

Just a few months after the successful launch of v24.0.0, v24.1.0 comes to offer an upgrade in the newly established implementations of the v24.x.x series, and also introduce new innovative additions, up to date with the latest trends and needs in the industry.

As the release of v24.1.0 refers to ANSA, EPILYSIS, META, KOMVOS and FATIQ, working in an integrated, all-in-one environment with our innovative solutions aims to increase team-productivity and collaboration.

Do not miss:

- The revolutionary implementations in eXtended Reality, such as the Human Body Articulation within ANSA VR .
- The advanced algorithm of Hybrid mesh on casted parts.
- The enhanced Layers generation for CFD analysis, with new options and improved smooth transition.
- The abundance of new features for Contact analysis in EPILYSIS.
- The extended implementations in NVH for post-processing, among which the export of Transfer Functions as FMU.
- The sophisticated algorithmic simulations and photorealistic visualizations of the SPH Solver.
- The unified DM functionality in ANSA, META and KOMVOS, offering report overview from Key Results stored in DM.
- The central management of application settings in KOMVOS, straight from the main DM library.
- The enriched calculation methods for Spot-weld fatigue analysis in FATIQ.

Release Highlights

Combatting model complexity with ANSA

Significant enhancements in model reduction have taken place in v24.1.0, among which the creation of Display Models and Reduced Models directly from Subsystems within the Model Browser, as part of the new Build Process. Coupled with Data Management that has also undergone significant upgrades, Simulation Runs and all their contents can now be recursively deleted through a single operation, provided that they are not used by other DM objects. Moreover, data can now be transferred between DMs with improved robustness and performance with the optimized “Send to DM” functionality.

Sophisticated Meshing algorithms have been introduced in the new release: Automatic identification and fix of intersecting solid structural mesh and on demand creation of compatible mesh on interface areas, as well as Hybrid mesh on casted parts. This Hybrid mesh functionality is coupled with automatic identification of thick areas and the middle mesh on thin and solid structural mesh on thick areas, hence, leading to top-notch results, coupled with efficiency, and minimized turnaround time.

In a similar manner, placing the focus on CFD, advanced implementations in Layers generation allow for the improved smooth transition between wall function and $y^+ = 1$ areas, whereas new options have been added for radially varying first layer height.

In the area of Durability, the implementation of fracture mechanics for Abaqus enables the enriched feature definition for crack propagation simulations with XFEM for shell and solid models. Regarding Composites, Lattice, Porous and Honeycomb RVE FE models can be easily created, set up and homogenized through the RVE Generator.

As VR and AR implementations have been paving the way to XR, Human Body Model Articulation can now also take place in VR, offering positioning of a Human Body Model (HBM), visibility control over layers such as skin, flesh, skeleton, muscles, etc., along with penetration checks.

Closing with User Productivity, the new version is enriched with the power for multiple job submission, executing, monitoring, and controlling in a single window. Other implementations cover the ADVENTURECluster Solver pre-processing interface, for full model setup. This includes boundary and loading conditions, contacts, and analysis type for linear and nonlinear structural and thermal analysis. It is also now possible to automatically translate Abaqus models to EPILYSIS/Nastran and direct submit Abaqus load cases to EPILYSIS.

Significant enhancements in EPILYSIS

The most representative developments in EPILYSIS refer to the calculation of structural intensity flow for transient response for all element types, as well as the support of Modal Participation Factors for MFREQ with AMLS.

Advanced multidisciplinary post-processing in META

Post-processing for CFD analysis has gained significant ground with the implementation of high-quality Cut Planes for models with high order elements, increasing the resolution on high order meshes by cell subdivision. Furthermore, the Interactive Path editing, and Plot update allow for

modifications of a Parametric Point Path in real time and automatic synchronization with the associated 2D Plot.

In the field of NVH, the export of Transfer Functions as FMU via Modal Parameter Estimation tool has now become a reality, along with full calculation of the unknown subsystem's Transfer Functions from the full assembly Transfer Functions.

Other discipline-oriented implementations refer to Durability, with the calculation of Abaqus cyclic symmetry deformation results for the whole structure, as well as to Crash and Safety, with the Far Side Virtual Testing Crashworthiness (VTC) .

The new release has also much to offer in the domain of Data Management, composing single and comparison reports, filling presentations templates with values, images, tables stored in Data Management system and significant performance improvements when retrieving data from ASAM-ODS servers.

Furthermore, selected highlights of User Productivity implementations cover the customization of the context menus of 2D Plots, Curves and Axes and the ability to export 3D model and results to Universal Scene Description (USD) format.

Leveraging user experience with KOMVOS

A new KOMVOS Launcher facilitates the retrieval of application settings straight from the central DM Library, along with quick isolation of only data of interest throughout the Database Browser, without the need of specifying any filters.

Moreover, focusing on DM functionality, Subsystem-level Reports enable the storage of validation run under the respective Subsystem and users can compose single / comparison reports filling presentations templates with values, images, tables stored in Data Management system.

Enhanced calculation methods with FATIQ

The new release comes with upgraded FATIQ implementations regarding the analysis for fatigue life estimation of spot-welds. In specific, a dedicated Connection Manager allows for easy definition of spot-welds and automatic recognition from FE results, along with assignment rules for automated material definition on spot-welds.

For more details about the new software features, enhancements and corrections please, refer to the Release Notes document.

New Documentation

New Documentation in ANSA

Reference Manuals

- SPH solver reference manual

- SPH solver verification manual

Tutorials

- SPH simulation of water inflow into a reservoir tank
- SPH simulation of a gearbox lubrication with one-way coupling
- SPH simulation of water wading with two-way coupling

New Documentation in META

User Guides

- Directivity plot Toolbar user guide
- Virtual testing crashworthiness Toolbar user guide

Documentation in FATIQ

- User Guides
- FATIQ theory manual

For more details about the new software features, enhancements and corrections please, refer to the Release Notes document.

Compatibility and Supported Platforms

ANSA files saved by all the first and second point releases of a major version are compatible to each other. New major versions can read files saved by previous ones but not vice versa.

META Project files saved from version 24.1.0 are compatible and can be opened by META version 16.0.0 or later.

Support for Windows 7 has been discontinued.

Support for Red Hat 6, and other Red Hat 6 compatible Linux distributions has been discontinued.

Support for Mac OS has been discontinued.

Support for 32-bit platform has been discontinued for all operating systems.