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CIMdata News

Addressing Sustainability Challenges with the Aras Platform

12 December 2023

Key Takeaways

Companies are struggling to define, measure, and meet their sustainability goals. The Aras platform provides the ability to reduce sustainability challenges, enabling flexible transformation to meet business objectives and the needs of a circular economy.

The Aras platform can help companies manage the processes for reducing their product carbon footprint from raw material extraction, design, manufacturing, transport, and through end-of-life to meet the needs of a circular economy and UN Sustainability Goals both now and in the future.

The Aras platform enables companies to transform from document-centric to data-driven product information, as well as manage all types of sustainability data (e.g., CO₂, substance, material, regulatory), which will continue to evolve in the future across the product lifecycle, in an expanding circular economy.

Designing for sustainability cannot take place without intensive collaboration with the product lifecycle value chain. Aras provides significant capabilities to collaborate with suppliers through end-of-life

Introduction

The earth is warming—currently 1.2°C warmer than the preindustrial period—and is steadily increasing.¹ We continue to pump carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases (GHGs) into the atmosphere. In 2013, CO₂ levels surpassed 400 parts per million (ppm) for the first time in recorded history. Today, we are at 418.51 ppm.² These gases are trapping the sun's energy in the earth's systems, causing global warming and other long-term planetary impacts. The heating of our atmosphere, ocean, and land is causing widespread human-induced climate change.³ To keep global warming below 2°C, preferably to no more than 1.5°C—as called for in the Paris Agreement—emissions need to be reduced by 45% by 2030 and reach net zero by 2050.⁴ Global warming and the climate change it causes are motivating people to act. They are also acting on a wide variety of related sustainability issues such as waste, biodiversity loss, water scarcity, and others that are products of the “take, make, waste” linear economy that must transform to a more circular model. A circular economy is based on a model of production

¹ <https://yaleclimateconnections.org/2023/03/with-global-warming-of-just-1-2c-why-has-the-weather-gotten-so-extreme/>

² <https://gml.noaa.gov/ccgg/trends/>

³ <https://climate.nasa.gov/evidence/>

⁴ <https://www.un.org/en/climatechange/net-zero-coalition>

and consumption that seeks to re-use resources more sustainably. Unfortunately, there is a huge gap between ambition and action.⁵

Business Issues

While demands for corporate sustainability and net-zero emissions now come from a growing number and wide range of stakeholders (i.e., investors, customers, supply chain partners, government agencies, and employees), companies are struggling with how to define, measure, and meet their sustainability goals while maintaining their business growth and profitability.

As climate change and sustainability issues worsen, policymakers are passing both incentives and regulations. One of the most important regulations is the European Union's (EU) pledge to make sustainable products and circular business models the norm in the EU. As part of the Eco-design for Sustainable Product Passport (ESPR), the EU has introduced a Digital Product Passport (DPP) for a wide range of products, mandating the tracking of pertinent sustainability data throughout a product's lifecycle.

The lack of progress is not because investors and CEOs are unwilling to make the necessary investments. Last year, investors poured a record \$649 billion into Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) related funds, compared to \$285 billion in 2019, which accounts for 10% of worldwide investments in 2021.⁶ CIMdata's view is that many companies are struggling to capture and leverage the knowledge of how to transform into sustainable companies.

Less than two-thirds of directors say their board understands the company's climate risk/strategy or the internal processes and controls around data collection—with just more than half believing they understand the company's carbon emissions.⁷ Companies typically lack the key product indicators (KPIs) to track progress on their sustainability initiatives.⁸ Based on CIMdata's own research, there is a disconnect between companies' goals, middle management understanding, and execution. Most organizations lack the culture or mindset necessary to transform into one that embraces sustainability. Few have formal training on sustainability. Many do not know how to reduce their organization's carbon footprint or their product carbon footprint (PCF). Most companies lack the ability to design their products for sustainability.⁹

Few companies (industrial or software solution providers) understood just how bad global warming and climate change would become less than a decade ago or that they'd be undertaking one of the largest and most important transformations in our lifetime and for generations to come. In addition to the people and process challenges, current enterprise and PLM data models have not traditionally supported sustainability. They have lacked

⁵ Research for this paper was partially supported by ARAS.

⁶ <https://www.reuters.com/markets/us/how-2021-became-year-esg-investing-2021-12-23/>

⁷ <https://www.pwc.com/us/en/services/governance-insights-center/library/annual-corporate-directors-survey.html>

⁸ hbr.org/2022/08/why-companies-arent-living-up-to-their-climate-pledges#:~:text=An%20Array%20of%20Hurdles&text=Thirty-three%20percent%20reported%20that,clear%20decision-making%20and%20accountability

⁹ https://www.cimdata.com/images/Webinars/CIMdata_Webinar_27_April_2023.pdf

sustainability-related items, sustainability-related material characteristics, and the associated attributes and processes across the product lifecycle. Compounding this, a wide range of regulations (i.e., sustainability, waste & environment, material substance, and ESG) are quickly evolving.

CIMdata believes PLM platforms can provide a flexible way to transform to meet the needs of companies trying to achieve their sustainability goals and play a crucial role in the growing circular economy.

Sustainability Management with the Aras Platform

The Aras platform can help companies achieve sustainability objectives by reducing their carbon footprint from raw material extraction, product design, manufacturing, transport, through life. At the heart of a company's sustainability effort is the ability to reduce the three categories of GHG emissions as outlined by the Greenhouse Gas Protocol. Scope 1 are "direct" emissions—those that a company causes by operating things it controls, such as running machinery to make products at their own manufacturing site. Scope 2 are "indirect" emissions—those created by the energy an organization buys. The most difficult, scope 3, are "indirect" emissions—those not produced by the company itself, but by customers and suppliers in their upstream and downstream value chain. This often accounts for over 70% of a business's carbon footprint.¹⁰ Of the three, scope 2 is the easiest to solve as companies can source renewable energy as opposed to buying electricity generated using fossil fuels. A company needs to focus both on reducing the carbon footprint of the business and its PCF, which is a measure of GHG emissions caused by a product across its entire lifecycle. Within a PCF, we focus on "embodied" (embedded) carbon—the GHG emissions from manufacturing, construction, transportation, installation, maintenance, and disposal of materials.

Since each GHG has a different warming potential and stays in the atmosphere for different periods of time, each is given a global warming potential (GWP) so we can measure all embodied carbon with a common measurement equivalent to CO₂ known as a carbon dioxide equivalent (CO₂e). Aras can track CO₂e for parts and materials. It can also enable sustainability trade-off analysis using that CO₂ data. Aras Innovator's open platform enables an ecosystem to enrich and complement internal data with a partner's data (see Figure 1).

¹⁰ <https://www.weforum.org/agenda/2022/09/scope-emissions-recipe-ions-climate-greenhouse-business/>

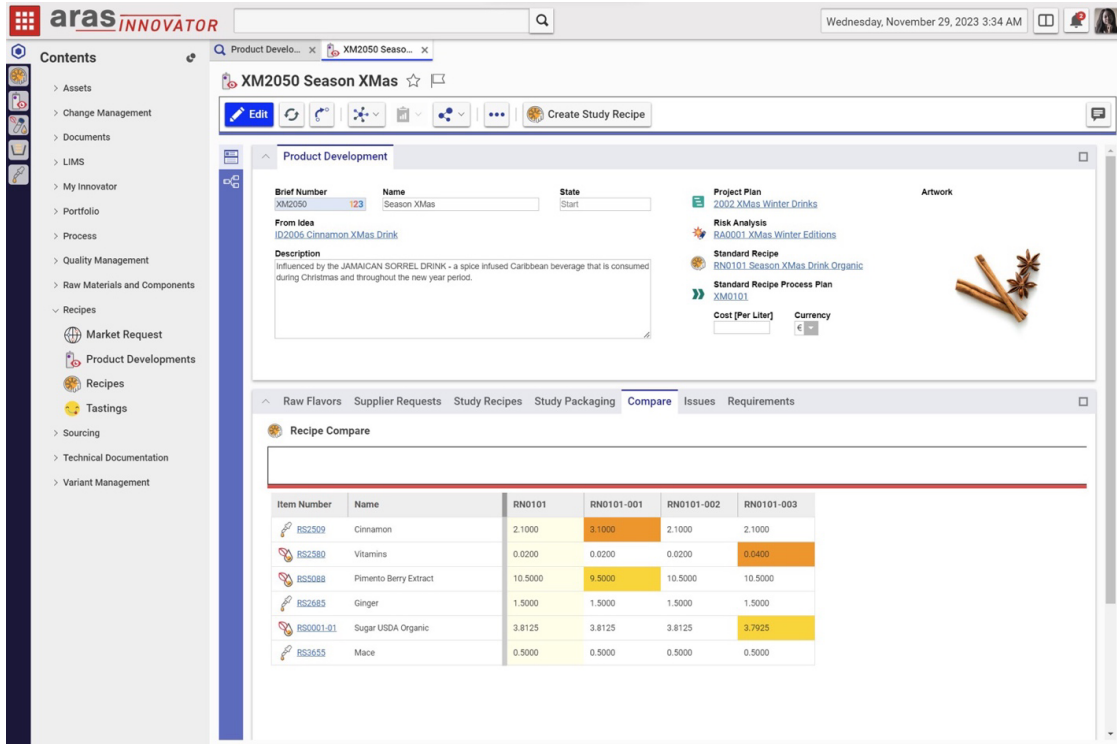


Figure 1—Recipe Comparison in Aras Innovator
 (Courtesy of Aras)

Aras Innovator is an application platform for managing complex engineered products that includes many PLM applications built using the services from the platform. Due to the Aras platform’s flexible architecture, it can integrate proprietary and third-party applications such as Ansys Granta, which offers a comprehensive materials database. Aras can also integrate with sustainability-related material characteristics managed by third parties and suppliers. By placing sustainability attributes and processes within the Aras platform, Aras can help companies reduce their product carbon footprint from raw material extraction, through design, manufacturing transport, and continuing through life by keeping a running tally. See Figure 2.

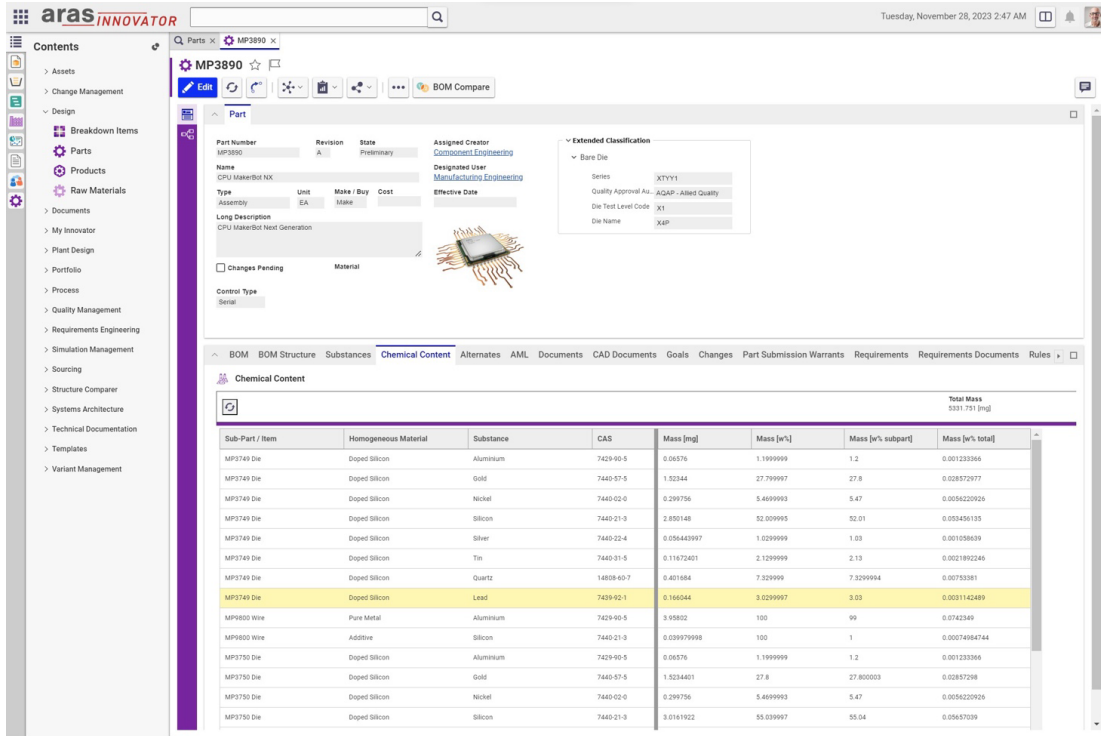


Figure 2—Chemical Content KPI Rollup in Aras Innovator
(Courtesy of Aras)

Aras can also use KPIs, to define appropriate indicators for a company’s industry, products, and services. These can be used as a useful measurement of sustainability across the product lifecycle.

The concept of systems thinking—a holistic approach to understanding complex interconnected systems—is an important concept for sustainable, smart, connected products that interact with the world around them. In many cases, these will involve digital (virtual) twins of the physical product in use and digital threads (webs) that connect end-to-end from the as-running products to the system models and many sources of data that support these assets. CIMdata believes that if you are building sustainable circular products, a platform that is open, configurable, and easily interoperable with a much broader ecosystem is needed to handle the complexity.

Aras’ platform can enable companies to design out waste. It permits them to design for sustainability, supporting constant reuse in continuous closed-loop cycles. Ideally, this allows organizations to strive for a model of production and consumption that involves repairing, refurbishing, and recycling materials and products for as long as possible and potentially leads to different models such Product-as-a-Service (PaaS). CIMdata believes companies will need to rethink their business models to adapt to the needs of a growing circular economy.

Designing for sustainability cannot take place without intensive collaboration with the value chain, where most of the PCFs embodied CO₂e exists. This requires companies to take a more collaborative and strategic approach to how they collaborate between product engineering, sourcing, and strategic suppliers. Companies are no longer concerned with just low-cost, but

more resilient, collaborative, and sustainable suppliers. Ensuring suppliers know the CO₂e of what they design, or produce is key.

Aras provides a flexible supplier collaboration capability that enables companies to provide suppliers and partners with secure external access whether a company is empowering their supply chain to access data within their firewall or in a SaaS environment. Beyond role-based access, Aras provides two additional forms of access control: mandatory and domain. Mandatory access control restricts what a user has access to due to attribute-based rules assigned to the item. Domain access control is a form of relationship-based control that can limit access of users or groups to projects or stages, which limits what a supplier could have access to and when.

Due to the large amount of embodied carbon within the value chain, CIMdata believes what is now key is not just strong supplier collaboration between a company and their value chain but understanding the suppliers' embodied CO₂e and any other sustainability data required. The company must demonstrate transparency to showcase their commitment to sustainability and accountability. They must also clearly communicate the commitment to track CO₂e emissions of supplied materials, parts, designs, and manufactured items, and how it aligns to their sustainability goals. The ease with which they can supply this data and whatever verification and validation will be used to ensure accuracy of the reported emissions and sustainability data needs to be understood upfront.

Conclusion

Companies are struggling to define and address their sustainability goals. CIMdata believes that the Aras platform provides the ability to manage the reduction of sustainability challenges, enabling companies with a flexible approach to transform to meet their business objectives both now and in the future. CIMdata's view is that the Aras platform can help companies manage the processes for reducing their PCF from raw material extraction, design, manufacturing, transport, through life. While there is no single killer application on the market, the Aras platform can integrate best-of-breed solutions, which can be tailored and integrated via their low-code/no-code capabilities to ensure sustainability management fits a company's needs. CIMdata believes that the Aras platform is well positioned to manage all types of sustainability data (e.g., CO₂, substance, material, regulatory) across all aspects of the product lifecycle. This will be a critical factor in the growing circular economy.

Designing for sustainability cannot take place without intensive collaboration with the extended value chain. Aras provides significant capability to collaborate with suppliers through life. CIMdata is encouraged by what we have seen. We look forward to seeing future sustainability enhancements to the platform and partnerships that will help Aras' customers realize their sustainability goals.

Altair Inspire Adds an “Implicit” Edge

15 December 2023

Key Takeaways

Simulation-driven design, the process of using performance simulations early in the design cycle, particularly on the left side of the traditional product development “V,” is crucial for organizations to achieve the best return on product development investments.

Implicit modeling treats 3D solid geometries as a continuous field and offers several benefits. It excels in handling complex and intricate topologies, enabling the creation of highly detailed objects. Implicit modeling finds significant applications in diverse industries. It enables the creation of intricate and lightweight designs across tooling and fixtures, fluid power systems, complex structural components, medical and dental implants, high-performance sporting equipment, and more.

Altair® Sulis™ (previously Gen3D Sulis) is a design software enabling fast geometry creation for additive manufacturing (AM). With both lattice and fluid flow modules, one can rapidly create AM-appropriate geometry. Now capabilities of Altair Sulis are being integrated in Altair Inspire™ expanding its design capabilities. With existing computational physics and generative design functionality, Inspire also supports simulation of a large range of manufacturing processes. This expands Inspire’s capabilities from geometry to manufacturing making it a truly simulation-driven design platform.

Combining AI with implicit modeling holds promise for unlocking unique design possibilities and creating intricate and complex geometries. The computational efficiency of implicit modeling allows for real-time interaction and analysis, opening new frontiers for generative design.

Simulation-Driven Design and Implicit Geometry Modeling

Simulation-driven design is a modern engineering approach where simulation is used as a primary tool to inform and guide the design process from the earliest stages. It integrates simulation, optimization, and visualization tools directly into the design workflow, allowing designers and engineers to evaluate the performance, reliability, and manufacturability of their products under various conditions without the need for physical prototypes. This method helps in identifying potential design flaws, optimizing design for better performance, and ensuring product durability and efficiency. It encourages innovation, as it allows for rapid exploration of a broader design space with immediate feedback on how changes impact the product's behavior. Numerous industry studies have underlined the importance of performing simulations as early in the design cycle; as possible. Organizations can derive the best return on investment when simulation is performed during the left side of the traditional product development “V.” Adoption of simulation-driven design systems allows organizations to achieve just that.¹¹

¹¹ Research for this paper was partially sponsored by Altair.

Implicit geometry modeling is a mathematical approach to create and represent complex geometry in a computational environment. Unlike traditional boundary representation (B-rep) that uses vertices, edges, and faces to define shapes, implicit modeling uses mathematical functions to describe objects. These functions define a volume in space with points inside the shape yielding negative values, points outside giving positive values, and points on the surface equating to zero. This allows for a more efficient and flexible way to handle intricate and organic shapes that can be difficult to model with conventional CAD software. It's particularly useful in fields like additive manufacturing and simulation-driven design, enabling rapid iteration and precise control over complex geometries.

Simulation-driven design and implicit geometry modeling are a natural fit as simulation-driven design can benefit from the ability of implicit modeling to make changes to shapes rapidly in response to optimization goals. Implicit modeling expands the possibilities of complex shapes by allowing multiple performance considerations to be implemented as “field” operators. Such shapes are naturally suitable for anisotropic properties variations leading to the possibility of spatial performance variation to achieve specific design optimization goals.

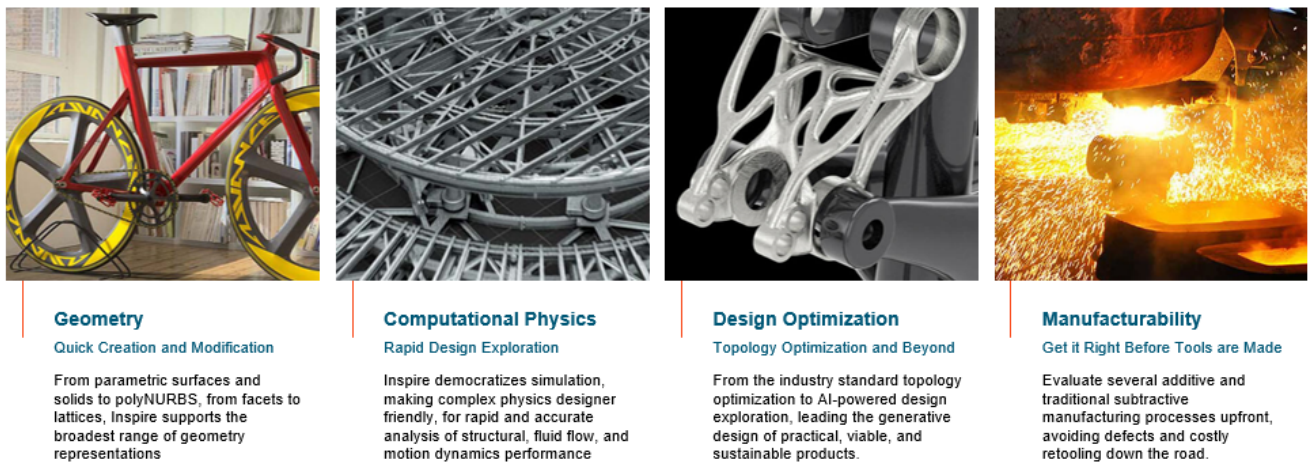


Figure 1—Simulation-Driven Design with Altair Inspire
 (Courtesy Altair)

New Design Possibilities with Implicit Modeling

Implicit geometry modeling, particularly within the context of 3D printing and complex engineering tasks, stands out as a robust alternative to traditional CAD methods. Its approach, which defines geometries through mathematical functions rather than explicit shapes, offers a new level of efficiency and flexibility. Firstly, implicit modeling thrives on complex topologies that traditional CAD systems often find challenging. Branching structures, intricate lattices, and organic forms are handled with a level of simplicity and robustness that boundary representation methods cannot match. Designers gain the freedom to push creative boundaries without the software's limitations, crafting highly detailed and complex objects with ease.

Secondly, the inherent robustness of implicit modeling comes to the fore in operations that involve the combination or alteration of complex shapes. Whether merging multiple geometries

or creating cutouts, the results are reliable and free of the errors that often plague traditional CAD processes. This reliability is a boon for designers, allowing them to iterate and explore design variations without the risk of generating invalid geometries. The GPU-centric nature of implicit modeling significantly enhances computational efficiency. By leveraging the parallel processing capabilities of modern GPUs, implicit modeling also allows real-time interaction with computationally intensive complex models, a stark contrast to the CPU-bound operations of traditional 3D CAD tools.

In summary, implicit geometry modeling is not just an incremental improvement over existing design methods; it represents a paradigm shift. The ability to handle intricate designs with high computational efficiency and to integrate with AI for generative design is shaping a new frontier in engineering and manufacturing, offering a glimpse into the future where the design is only limited by the imagination.

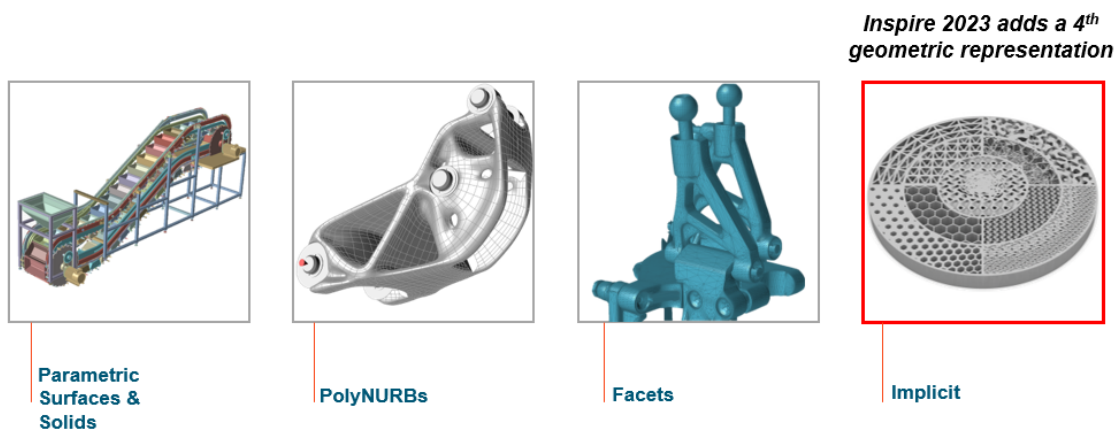


Figure 2—Addition of Implicit Modeling to Altair Inspire Geometry Modeling
 (Courtesy Altair)

Implicit Modeling Integrated in Altair Inspire

In June 2022, Altair expanded its additive manufacturing portfolio by acquiring Gen3D, a startup from the University of Bath, U.K., renowned for its expertise in using implicit geometry to develop complex geometries in additive manufacturing. Gen3D's flagship software, Gen3D Sulis, was rebranded as Altair Sulis, and its capabilities are now being integrated into the Inspire environment.

Altair Inspire is a software framework that offers CAD-like features for conceptual design geometry creation and analysis, despite not being a traditional CAD system. Inspire combines geometry and rendering capabilities with computational physics and generative design functionalities, supporting parametric surfaces, solids, and introducing Polynurbs for organic shapes. The software includes generative design features like topology optimization, design space exploration, and manufacturing simulation, allowing extensive design optimization and exploration. Inspire's strength lies in its integrated simulation capabilities, including OptiStruct for structural optimization, SimSolid for solid simulations, and a new CFD solver for fluid dynamics simulations.

The software extends to manufacturing simulations, supporting multiple processes, and facilitating rapid analysis for techniques like injection molding. Inspire integrates topology optimization and design exploration in a user-friendly manner, enhancing the design refinement process based on specific criteria.

A fully documented Python-based API in Inspire supports both batch and interactive workflows, increasing the software's adaptability and integration into various workflows. The integration of Gen3D's technology into Inspire has broad industry implications, enabling more efficient and optimized design in fields like automotive, aerospace, healthcare, consumer goods, sports equipment, architecture, and energy.

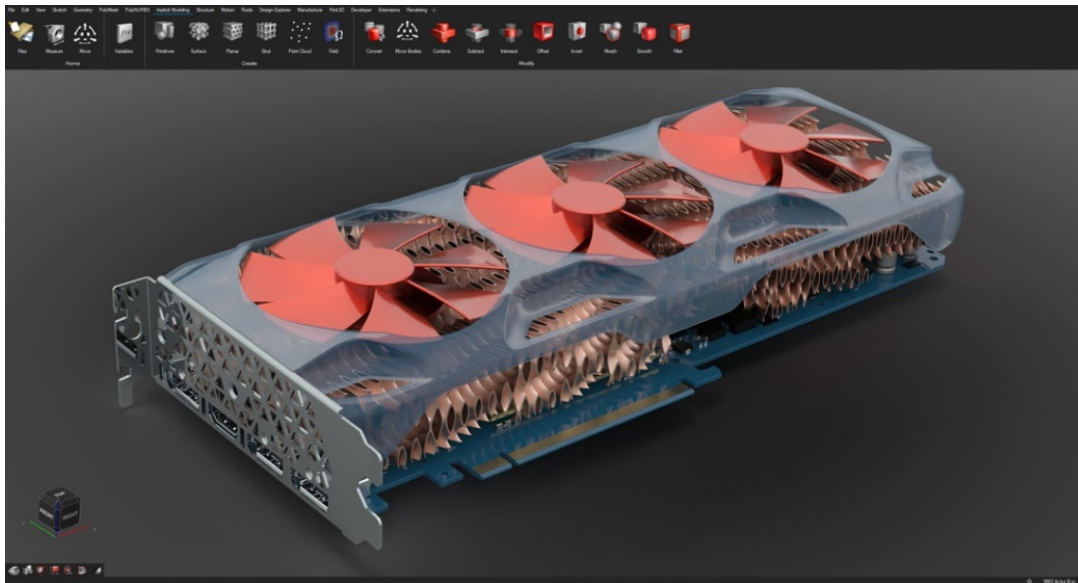


Figure 3—Implicit Modeling Integrated in Altair Inspire
(Courtesy Altair)

Case Study: Exergy Solutions

Exergy Solutions is a highly innovative Canadian product development organization which is focused on the energy industry. The company enables its customers to take technology to market quickly, safely, and cost-efficiently with advanced design-build solutions. Equipped with best-in-class 3D printing technology and one of Canada's largest additive manufacturing facilities, it helps clients get prototypes to market faster.

In the case study being described here, Exergy's team were able to design a heat exchanger using the lattices within Altair Sulis now part of Altair Inspire. The team was able to create a lattice that naturally divides into two separate fluid domains, in this case a blue cold zone, and a red hot zone. By plugging the red zone at the entry of the blue port (and vice versa) there is no cross contamination between the two fluids. This design was able to not only make the overall envelope smaller by placing the inlet and outlet ports in line with the fluid flow through the exchanger, but it also nearly doubled the internal heat transfer area. As this is manufactured all in one piece, there are no areas for brazed welds to fail. In testing of this design, it was found to greatly outperformed the traditional one for low flow applications. For higher flows, it

performed slightly poorer due to the larger pressure drop across this type of lattice. However, future designs can be easily tailored to the specific flow requirements of the application.

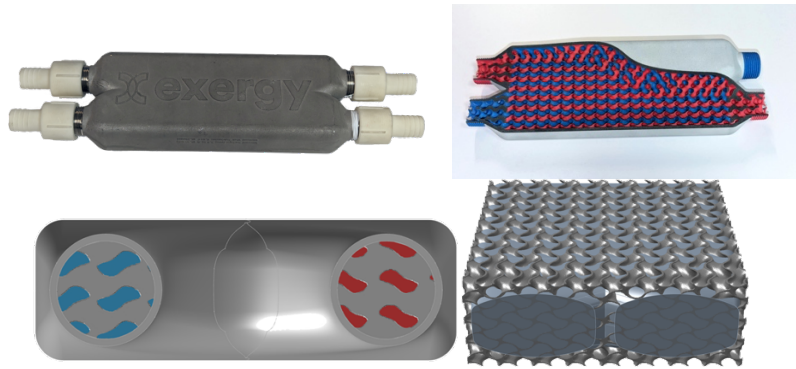


Figure 4—A Two-Fluid Counter-Flow Heat Exchanger Designed with Implicit Modeling Approach

(Courtesy Altair and Exergy)

Concluding Remarks

An exciting aspect of implicit modeling is its ability to layer various field effects, based on lattice configurations, density, size, or even simulation data like stress analysis. These field effects can be adjusted iteratively, enabling designers to fine-tune their designs to meet exact specifications and performance requirements. The intersection of AI and implicit modeling holds vast potential. AI can assist in navigating the large design space implicit modeling opens, suggesting optimizations and novel design pathways that might not be immediately obvious to designers. This is leading to an era of design where human creativity is augmented by AI, pushing the limits of what can be imagined and manufactured.

The addition of implicit geometry modeling in Inspire can have a significant impact across multiple industries. It can change the design and manufacturing processes paradigm by enabling the creation of complex geometries that were previously challenging to achieve. The tooling and fixtures industry benefits from lightweight yet structurally sound designs, improving productivity and performance. In fluid power systems, implicit modeling optimizes fluid flow characteristics, enhancing efficiency. The aerospace industry can leverage implicit modeling to design lightweight, yet robust structural components, leading to fuel efficiency and innovative designs. Implicit modeling in the medical and dental field facilitates the development of customized implants with engineered textures, improving patient outcomes. Heat transfer applications, like heat exchangers, benefit from optimized and intricate geometries, enhancing thermal performance. High-performance sporting equipment industry benefits from implicit modeling to create innovative designs that optimize performance and structural integrity.

The implicit modeling capability is an “addition” to already powerful geometry modeling capabilities in Inspire and it allows a combination of traditional and new design and manufacturing processes under one roof. This positions Altair Inspire platform as a robust simulation-driven design software solution which has excellent value proposition for wider adoption in the industry.

Unlock Your PLM Potential: CIMdata's PLM Certificate Program Returns to Ann Arbor, MI

13 December 2023

CIMdata's 2024 education offerings kick off in March.

CIMdata, Inc., the leading global strategic consulting and research firm focused on PLM (Product Lifecycle Management) and the digital transformation it enables, announces that it will offer its industry-standard PLM Certificate Program in Ann Arbor, MI, USA, from March 4th to March 8th, 2024.

This unique program equips PLM professionals with the knowledge and skills to tackle the common challenges of PLM strategy formulation and execution. This assessment-based program delivers a personalized classroom experience, individual and team-based exercises, and comprehensive evaluations of achievement. CIMdata experts with decades of hands-on experience guide participants through the program in a collaborative fashion. Upon successful completion of the program and assessments, participants will receive a Certificate of PLM Leadership.

What sets CIMdata education offerings apart?

Based on over four decades of industry leadership, CIMdata has proven experience guiding industrial companies to define and implement best-in-class PLM strategies and tactics. Whether embarking on a new PLM journey or already in the process of implementing PLM, our program meets the needs of all levels of expertise.

Cheryl Peck, CIMdata's marketing director, emphasizes the continued demand for PLM education, stating, "The complexity and urgency of transformation projects continue to increase, driving demand for PLM education. In 2023, we saw a full-on return to in-person education, emphasizing the value of networking between our faculty and attendees."

CIMdata understands the unique requirements of PLM Professionals. In addition to the 5-day program, CIMdata offers a one-day Executive Short Course and a two-day PLM Fundamentals for Solution Providers Short Course.

For detailed information on CIMdata's Leadership Programs, including the PLM Certificate Program and short courses, visit our website at <https://www.cimdata.com/en/education/plm-certificate-program>

Company News

3D Systems Announces Organization Changes and New Executive Leadership Appointments

14 December 2023

Effective December 13, Jeffrey Creech has joined the company as Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer. Mr. Creech will lead all facets of the company's global finance organization.

Effective December 15, Harriss Currie will join the company in the newly created role of President - Regenerative Medicine. In this new role, Harriss will lead all elements of 3D Systems' regenerative medicine efforts, ranging from the company's partnership on human organs with United Therapeutics, to its recently formed Systemic Bio business, which is a wholly-owned subsidiary of 3D Systems that is focused on bioprinting solutions for the pharmaceutical industry. The creation of this new role reflects the increasing maturation of this exciting new technology, as it moves from early-stage conceptual development toward commercial application and the value the company believes it will someday bring to humanity.

Messrs. Creech and Currie will both report to 3D Systems' President & CEO, Dr. Jeffrey Graves.



Jeff Creech

Mr. Creech joins 3D Systems with more than 25 years of experience in financial leadership and business transformation. He most recently served as Senior Director at the Finely Group, an executive advisory service company, and prior to that worked as Chief Operating Officer and Chief Financial Officer for Nutramax Laboratories, a privately held manufacturer of human and animal health dietary supplements. Mr. Creech's career also includes financial and operations roles with Springs Creative Products Group where he served as both President and Chief Operating Officer, and Jefferson Wells where he was the National Director, Business Transformation COE. He is a Certified Public Accountant and Certified Management Accountant and holds a bachelor's degree in accounting from Pfeiffer University and a master's degree in military studies/history from the American Military University.



Harriss T. Currie

Mr. Currie will be joining 3D Systems with 30 years of experience in executive leadership with a focus on building emerging businesses. He spent more than 20 years with Luminex Corporation, a DiaSorin Company, that is renowned for its biological testing technologies for life science applications. As Senior Vice President and Chief Financial Officer at Luminex, Harriss helped lead the company's growth from a start-up to more than \$500 million during his tenure. His career also includes senior finance leadership roles with Impulse Dynamics and SpectraCell Laboratories. Harriss earned his bachelor's degree in accounting and economics from Southwestern University and his MBA, with a focus on Marketing and Finance, from the University of Texas at Austin.

"I'm pleased to welcome Jeffrey and Harriss to 3D Systems in these very important roles," said Dr. Jeffrey Graves, president & CEO, 3D Systems. "Throughout their careers, both have brought their proven expertise and deep business acumen to bear to drive sustained customer and shareholder value. Jeffrey's background and experience building and leading successful finance teams will be invaluable to our organization – helping us drive cost efficiencies to position us for long-term growth. Harriss's experience in the biotech industry, combined with his financial and operational expertise, make him an excellent leader for our emerging regenerative medicine business, which holds such potential to benefit our shareholders and all stakeholders in our business. I am confident that both gentlemen will be integral in our journey as the leading additive manufacturing solutions provider."

Dr. Graves continued, "I also wish to extend my heartfelt thanks to Andy Johnson who served as Interim CFO while we executed this search. Andy is a key member of our leadership team as Chief Corporate Development Officer and Chief Legal Officer. I am grateful that he seamlessly

added the role of CFO to his plate. His leadership has been instrumental in this transition period.”

Accenture and Google Cloud Launch Joint Generative AI Center of Excellence to Help Enterprises Harness the Value of Generative AI

14 December 2023

Accenture and Google Cloud announced a new initiative to help businesses adopt generative AI to improve operations, create new lines of businesses, and build unique customer experiences. Accenture and Google Cloud will create a global, joint generative AI Center of Excellence (CoE) that will provide businesses with the industry expertise, technical knowledge, and product resources to build and scale applications using Google Cloud’s generative AI portfolio and accelerate time-to-value.

This is the latest step in Accenture and Google Cloud’s work to help organizations [reinvent their businesses with generativeAI](#) and unlock new growth opportunities. The new CoE will help enterprises determine the optimal large language model—including Google’s latest model, Gemini—to use based on their business objectives. With improved performance, efficiency, and state-of-the-art capabilities, Gemini can significantly enhance how large enterprises build and scale with AI to complete highly complex and common tasks. The Gemini Pro API is available in public preview now, with Gemini Ultra coming early next year.

The new CoE will combine Accenture’s deep model customization services and full-stack engineering services with Google Cloud’s advanced generative AI technology, providing clients with:

- **Specialized access to Accenture data and AI architects and engineers** to develop advanced prompt engineering strategies for AI model optimization, fine-tuning, and foundation model customization—giving clients the unique resources needed to achieve business outcomes faster with generative AI. This will include access to [Accenture’sAI Navigator](#) platform, curated industry datasets and support for Google Cloud’s Model Garden collection, with responsible AI controls embedded throughout to help meet ethical and governance requirements.
- **Gemini and a [wide selection](#) of large language models (LLMs)**, including more than 130 models through Model Garden on Vertex AI. Vertex AI offers a full stack of AI and machine learning (ML) development tooling that helps enterprises quickly adopt and deploy generative AI capabilities within their organizations, with APIs, MLOps tools, and native integrations with BigQuery that enable them to easily train, test, and tune models on a single platform. The CoE will also help enterprises adopt Gemini, Google’s most capable and flexible model, to transform business operations with its sophisticated reasoning capabilities.
- **New rapid prototyping services on Google Cloud** to accelerate development and deployment of generative AI applications in order to jumpstart new business capabilities across enterprise operations and industries. This will include powerful use cases that

apply generative AI to improve enterprise search, enhance customer contact center experiences, automate unstructured document management and summarization, and more.

- **The use of Duet AI for Developers** to support code generation and completion for customers—bringing generative AI to software engineering teams to enhance every stage of the development lifecycle.
- **Access to Google Cloud’s differentiated, AI-optimized infrastructure**, including Tensor Processing Units (TPUs), Graphics Processing Units (GPUs), and Google AI Hypercomputer for quick training, tuning, and serving of AI models.
- **Industry-tested AI managed services and best practices**, based on learnings from Accenture’s more than 300 scaled generative AI projects and AI solutions and 1,450+ AI patents and patent-pending applications.

The Accenture and Google Cloud CoE arrives at a critical juncture as organizations across diverse industries seek to scale the power of gen AI across their enterprise operations. For example, health insurance provider Independence Blue Cross has a long history of using emerging technologies to drive business value.

"At Independence Blue Cross, we've harnessed the power of AI to better manage massive amounts of data and show opportunities to improve member experiences and introduce new services," said Michael R. Vennera, executive vice president and chief strategy, corporate development and information officer, Independence Health Group. "We are looking forward to working with Accenture and Google Cloud through their new Center of Excellence to explore new ways generative AI can help proactively manage our members' health."

"As a catalyst for business reinvention, generative AI will transform how people work and access information," said Karthik Narain, group chief executive—Technology at Accenture. "Organizations want to move from experimentation with generative AI to scaled implementations faster. Accenture’s deep expertise in managing and scaling large language models tailored for business needs, paired with tools like Accenture’s model switchboard, can help accelerate adoption. Our latest joint investment with Google Cloud can help clients drive quicker business results, as well as long-term value from their generative AI applications."

"Accenture is a leader in providing AI services that help enterprises successfully implement generative AI and accelerate business transformation," said Thomas Kurian, CEO of Google Cloud. "Through our joint center of excellence, enterprises across industries have access to leading technical experts and engineers that can address their most complex business challenges and quickly begin creating value from Google Cloud’s advanced generative AI technology."

Additionally, Accenture will also expand its own internal use of Google Cloud technology by making Duet AI for Developers accessible to thousands of its software engineers—enabling new and expert developers with sequential and context-sensitive coding suggestions to accelerate software development.

Altair Names Do IT Now as Enterprise Computing Channel Partner for Europe

13 December 2023

[Altair](#) a global leader in computational science and artificial intelligence (AI), announced that [Do IT Now](#) has joined Altair's growing channel partner network and will resell Altair's [high-performance computing](#) (HPC) middleware solutions throughout the EMEA region.

"Do IT Now is a market leader in HPC services, and we have strong ties with its parent companies. Its work related to the integration of Altair® HPCWorks™ – our HPC and cloud platform – in complex on-premises and hybrid HPC environments makes them a trusted partner that will accelerate Altair's growth in EMEA," said Fabrizio Sara, country manager, Altair Italy. "We look forward to providing great opportunities for any company looking to modernize their legacy HPC middleware platforms."

"We are extremely pleased to partner with Altair and look forward to further supporting our clients with the best possible solutions and technology throughout project lifecycles," said Pierre Puigdomènech, board member, Do IT Now.

Do IT Now is a leading HPC service provider operating in EMEA and worldwide, with offices in Montpellier (France), Turin (Italy), Barcelona (Spain), Munich (Germany) and Auckland (New Zealand). The company provides consulting, installation, optimization, and support services focused on HPC, software-defined storage, and AI throughout the EMEA region.

Altair works with a global network of channel and technology partners. To learn more or to become a partner, visit <https://www.altair.com/partners/>.

Atos Group strengthens management team to lead transformation

11 December 2023

Atos Group, a global leader in digital transformation, announces today the strengthening of its management team to secure the delivery of the Group strategy and its business objectives. Yves Bernaert, CEO of Atos Group, is appointing **Carlo d'Asaro Biondo as Group General Manager** in charge of running the business operations for the Group's 2024 transformation period. Carlo has stepped down from the Atos Board of Directors to become an executive of the Group.

Carlo will bring deep industry knowledge and will focus on the achievement of the business objectives, running commercial development and business efficiency across the Group.

Yves Bernaert, Chief Executive Officer of Atos Group, said: "With the arrival of Carlo, we are strengthening our senior management team. I am confident the Atos Group will meet its stated objectives to ensure its future success. We remain focused on the Group's transformation and our priority strategic actions. I'd like to take the opportunity to thank all the Atos Group leaders and their teams who drive our business to provide our clients with the best services."

Atos Group strengthens its partners transformation

11 December 2023

Atos Group, a global leader in digital transformation, today announced that it is strengthening its partnership network. As part of this, it has initiated a cooperation agreement with Onepoint, a key player in consulting for the major transformations of corporate businesses and government agencies.

With the objective to foster partnerships with service companies, the Group initiated the creation of a cooperation agreement with Atos' reference shareholder Onepoint (in full compliance with the specific rules approved by the Board of Directors for this type of partnerships). Signed by Eviden, the Atos Group business leading in digital, cloud, big data and security, the cooperation between the two companies aims to support the digital transformation of customers in the energy, utilities and financial institutions sectors.

This worldwide partnership will first target the French market, focusing on three priority areas of development: scaling up generative artificial intelligence (AI) technologies, strengthening data protection and intellectual capital, and decarbonizing the economy.

The two companies are already working together on tangible projects which will be part of joint value propositions, such as business use cases relating to generative-AI and RPA (Robotic Process Automation) technologies or cybersecurity project on system monitoring and pentests.

Yves Bernaert, Atos Group CEO, said: "We are thrilled with this new agreement with Onepoint aiming to strengthen our partnership ecosystem in order to boost growth. Following recent announcements with Hyperscalers, this strategic partnership with a consulting firm is a new asset for our commercial development and the deployment of our technology capabilities for our customers."

David Layani, Onepoint founder and CEO, said: "This agreement marks yet another step in Onepoint's strategy to serve our customers holistically from end-to-end. It will accelerate the company's developments on cloud-driven AI capabilities and decarbonization and help our clients to navigate their game changing transformation projects. Onepoint and Atos' strong complementary offering and areas of expertise will be a strong powerhouse for our customers."

Already working with numerous key hardware and software players, Atos Group is striving to consolidate and expand its existing agreements while welcoming new partners, particularly services and consulting companies.

Bechtle finds company to bolster PLM business

14 December 2023

As of 01 January 2024, four of Bechtle's dedicated subsidiaries for product lifecycle management (PLM) solutions—Coffee, DPS Software, Solidline and Solidpro—will merge into the newly founded Bechtle PLM Deutschland GmbH. Based in Neckarsulm, the company will employ well over 600 people at more than 40 sites across Germany, making it one of the largest PLM specialists in Europe. The original companies, all long-time members of the

Bechtle Group, have a combined customer base of more than 25,000 active accounts largely in the manufacturing industry. The previous managing directors will all take on senior leadership roles overseeing different units of Bechtle PLM.

“We’ve seen our PLM business develop exceptionally well over the past years, and we want to use this momentum to fuel continued and substantial growth both in our traditional areas and in emerging fields as well. This fusion dramatically amplifies our potential,” says Uwe Burk, Executive Vice President, PLM | Engineering & Manufacturing, Bechtle AG.

Consolidating activities under the strong Bechtle brand will unlock new synergies in particular when it comes to marketing shared solutions, a consistent approach to customers, and collaboration with vendor partners. Bechtle’s portfolio of PLM solutions and services centres on CAD/CAM and product management, sale configuration, digital twins, smart factories, augmented and virtual reality (AR/VR), digital manufacturing, the industrial internet of things (IIoT), as well as 3D printing. The PLM ecosystem also extends to APIs connecting enterprise resource planning (ERP) and supply chain management (SCM) applications.

Robust manufacturer partnerships

Through the formerly discrete subsidiaries, Bechtle PLM has excellent and long-standing ties with major manufacturers in the industry, including Dassault Systèmes, SolidCAM, HCL, DriveWorks, 3D Systems, Markforged, Sintratec and HP. Over the past years, each of the four companies has earned numerous European partner awards and seals of excellence, and all previously obtained certifications and partner statuses will retain their validity within the new constellation.

Experience accumulated under one roof

The four specialists have over 30 years’ experience in the industry and are all well embedded into the Bechtle Group, with Solidpro having been acquired in 2010, followed by Solidline in 2011, Coffee in 2018, and DPS in 2020. Together with its other PLM-focused acquisitions—Swiss Solid Solutions in 2011 and SGSolution in 2023, Austrian Planetsoftware in 2014, and 2021 purchase Cadmes with sites in the Netherlands, Belgium and France—the Bechtle Group has more than 800 employees in Europe specialising in the fast-growing PLM market.

Bechtle joins AI ecosystem

11 December 2023

Bechtle has signed a contract with Innovation Park Artificial Intelligence (Ipai) in Heilbronn and is now a member of the European flagship project for AI. Headquartered in neighbouring Neckarsulm, Germany’s largest IT system house not only intends to contribute its own AI innovations, but also leverage the platform to further bolster its network. Ipai aspires to become Europe’s most expansive ecosystem for applied artificial intelligence. “For us as a future-first IT partner, this collaboration with Ipai is both an opportunity and a commitment to playing an active role in the development of AI,” says Dr Thomas Olemotz, CEO, Bechtle AG.

As a member of the Ipai community, Bechtle supports the highly ambitious project of establishing a European centre for AI applications only a stone’s throw away from its

headquarters. Bechtle had already signed a letter of intent outlining the creation of an innovation park for artificial intelligence in the region in January 2021 for the purpose of bringing together entrepreneurial innovation and scientific excellence in an attractive location.

“By adding Bechtle to our ecosystem, we are gaining a leading IT player from Germany with a vast network and capabilities in the European market. An exciting new stakeholder on our journey to becoming the global home of human AI,” says Moritz Gräter, CEO, Ipai.

Putting AI to entrepreneurial practice

In October, Bechtle acquired a majority stake in AI company Planet AI—its first investment in a research-oriented company—considerably extending its own portfolio of AI applications. In addition, with its excellent relationships to manufacturers such as AWS, HPE, Microsoft or NVIDIA, Bechtle is already involved heavily in the testing and marketing of AI developments.

AI on offer and in use

Bechtle is itself using AI applications to organise internal processes more efficiently and has come to notice a strong spurt of interest coming from customers across the private and public sectors. “In the future, the ability to effectively harness artificial intelligence will be one component that can make or break a company. We have now laid a very solid foundation, not only with Planet AI’s patented core technologies and the applications they power, but also with our excellent partner relationships to leading IT manufacturers,” says Dr Thomas Olemotz.

Bechtle names Marijke Kasius as Vice President

12 December 2023

From 01 January 2024, Bechtle will introduce a new management level with Marijke Kasius becoming Vice President for the Bechtle Group companies in the Netherlands. The 39-year-old was previously CEO of PQR B.V. headquartered in Utrecht, leading the company together with Marco Lesmeister. A specialist in hybrid cloud solutions, PQR joined the Bechtle fold in May 2022. The company will continue to be headed up by a two-person team with Marc van Rinsum taking over the reins as co-Managing Director also on 01 January 2024. Marc van Rinsum was formerly Managing Director of Fondo—an IT service provider that became a part of the Bechtle Group in April 2023 and has since been fully incorporated into PQR. The new role sees Marijke Kasius make the switch from PQR to Bechtle, where she will report to COO Konstantin Ebert.

By restructuring its leadership organisation, Bechtle aims to sharpen the group’s competitive edge in the Netherlands while generating further growth. “Naming Marijke Kasius as Vice President is a crucial step towards cementing our position in the Netherlands. We are confident that her experience, excellent network, expertise and leadership skills will be just the impetus we need to expand our activities in this important growth market,” says Konstantin Ebert, incoming COO, IT E-commerce, Bechtle AG.

An entrepreneur with a strong commitment to CSR

Marijke Kasius will remain based in Utrecht in order to best leverage existing networks and relationships. She has 15 years’ experience working in various IT companies holding a raft of leadership positions. A mother of four, she is also a consultant for the Bodegraven-Reeuwijk

city council, and offers her expertise in digital education to The Learning Network. She was named CxO of the Year at the 2022 Dutch IT Channel Awards, as well as CEO of the Year at the Computable Awards in 2023. "I'm delighted to be a part of this team's growth story and to establish the Bechtle Group companies as a strong IT partner in our market into the future. I'm looking forward to contributing my ability to create and develop effective structures and processes, and to inspire people to strive for a common goal," says Marijke Kasius.

Growing footprint in the Netherlands

Bechtle has been active in the Dutch market since 1998, initially with the e-commerce subsidiary Bechtle direct and since 2006 with ARP, while in Cadmes B.V., the group also has a successful PLM specialist in its fold. The latter remains under the remit of Bechtle's Executive Vice President for PLM, Uwe Burk, but is part of the Bechtle Group ecosystem that each individual member can leverage for joint customer projects. Together with PQR, the Bechtle Group companies now have a broad network spanning the major economic hubs from Maastricht to Eindhoven, 's-Hertogenbosch to Utrecht and Hoofddorp near Amsterdam and employs more than 800 staff in the Netherlands.

Bricorama and Accenture Join Forces to Launch 'pAInt,' the Paint Expert Powered by Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI)

11 December 2023

Bricorama and Accenture have collaborated to develop 'pAInt,' a generative AI-powered shopping assistant that helps customers with their painting projects. Available on bricorama.fr, 'pAInt' has been designed to inspire and guide customers through each stage of their projects, from inspiration – by suggesting trending styles, to the purchase of materials, to best practice guides on the painting process itself. This new service enables the brand to offer its customers a unique online experience, and to accompany them to the successful completion of their 'Do-It-Yourself' (DIY) projects.

Generative Artificial Intelligence to enhance the customer experience

'pAInt' is a conversational tool that customers can interact with for help with paint colors and finishes, decorating ideas from Bricorama's video content, demonstrations, paint quantity, brushes and other accessories. Customers can then buy any of the products with a single click.

"We're proud to offer such an innovative and cutting-edge online service as 'pAInt.' It is further proof of our value proposition: to inspire and pedagogically support our customers in the success of their projects," comments Laurent Pussat, president of Les Mousquetaires Group's DIY chains. "Our customers expect a personalized, professional response, whatever the channel they choose. With 'pAInt,' we're offering a 'made-to-measure' online experience, which can then be rolled out in-store, as an extension of its omnichannel purpose."

A project born from close collaboration between Bricorama and Accenture

Responding to customers' growing need for DIY and decoration support, 'pAInt' was developed thanks to a close collaboration between Bricorama and Accenture Song, Accenture's tech-powered creative group. The teams analyzed and mapped the value and opportunities that generative AI could bring to the DIY market. They then used this information to develop the

'pAInt' tool and services relating to Bricorama products. The use of generative AI is set to be extended to other product categories. At the point of sale, employees will also be able to use the tool to advise customers.

The new 'pAInt' tool was built on Microsoft Azure OpenAI Service, to benefit from Azure's enterprise-grade security, stability and performance, as well as its natural language interaction and context understanding capabilities. It has been trained with patented content produced by Bricorama, which has enabled it to acquire an extremely high level of expertise.

Laurent Thoumine, senior managing director, and Europe lead for Accenture's retail industry group, said: "Generative AI has the potential to be a real game-changer in retail and is driving companies to reinvent how they run their businesses, serve their customers, and get work done. That's why it's particularly great to see Bricorama lean in strongly on this exciting new technology, and through working closely and quickly with our team, design and deliver a tool that offers hyper-relevant retail suggestions to each customer in each decision-making moment."

Cadence Partners with Antiviral Discovery Consortium to Spearhead Rapid Development of Treatments for Viral Pandemics

11 December 2023

Cadence Molecular Sciences (OpenEye)—a business unit of Cadence Design Systems—will provide OpenEye's molecular design software to power the open-science AI-driven Structure-enabled Antiviral Platform (ASAP) Discovery Consortium in support of an innovative effort to rapidly develop antivirals to prevent future pandemics.

John D. Chodera, PhD, a lab head at the Memorial Sloan Kettering Cancer Center (MSKCC), directs the researchers and software scientists building the computational chemistry infrastructure to support ASAP.

"Dr. Chodera and the ASAP scientists working with him will have access to OpenEye tools to help support the ASAP Discovery Consortium and antiviral drug research," said Anthony Nicholls, PhD, corporate vice president, OpenEye, Cadence Molecular Sciences. "OpenEye's software will aid in advancing therapeutics for under-researched diseases and to prepare for pandemics."

OpenEye's Applications, Toolkits and Orion® platform—which include ROCS®, FastROCS™, BROOD, OMEGA, OEChemTK, Grapheme™, Nonequilibrium Switching (NES) Free Energy Calculations and other tools—enable computational chemists working with the ASAP Discovery Consortium to build a robust antiviral drug discovery pipeline using technology, structural biology, artificial intelligence (AI), machine learning and computational chemistry.

"Open-science drug discovery against future pandemics is an essential public service," said Chodera. "We are thrilled to have access to OpenEye's industry-leading software in this effort. The OpenEye Toolkits have long been the backbone of our computer-aided drug discovery

infrastructure, and access to the Orion NES Free Energy workflows allows us to run free energy calculations in mere hours.”

The ASAP Discovery Consortium is an Antiviral Drug Discovery (AViDD) U19 Center for Pathogens of Pandemic Concern funded by the National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases (NIAID), part of the National Institutes of Health (NIH), via a \$68 million grant as part of the Antiviral Program for Pandemics (APP).

The NIH grant is for the initial three-year phase of the ASAP Discovery Consortium, which aims to deliver multiple drug candidates ready for evaluation in humans in the event of an ongoing or emerging pandemic threat. The project will maximize the use of an open science model that prioritizes global, equitable and affordable access to antiviral medicine, generating a wealth of antiviral data shared rapidly and openly.

ASAP builds on the successes of the [COVID Moonshot\(opens in a new tab\)](#), a global, open-science collaboration that began in March 2020 and rapidly identified potent antivirals targeting the main protease of the SARS-CoV-2 virus. In July 2021, Moonshot received \$11M in funding from the Wellcome Trust to pursue an accelerated preclinical program via the World Health Organization Access to COVID Tools Accelerator (ACT-A) and is working with the Drugs for Neglected Diseases Initiative (DNDi) to pursue clinical trials with a straight-to-generics model.

The ASAP Discovery Consortium is led by PIs John Chodera (MSKCC), Alpha Lee (PostEra) and Peter Sjö (DNDi). ASAP partners include the Diamond Light Source (UK), the Weizmann Institute of Science (Israel), Medchemica (UK), Mount Sinai (USA), the Stanford University School of Medicine (USA) and the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Center (USA), as well as a vast global network of scientists and industry collaborators.

Continental and Synopsys Provide Vehicle Digital Twin Capabilities to Accelerate Software Development

12 December 2023

Continental today announced a collaboration with Synopsys to accelerate the development and validation of software features and applications for the Software-Defined Vehicle (SDV). This new collaboration integrates Synopsys’ industry-leading virtual prototyping solutions for virtual Electronic Control Units (vECU) within Continental’s Automotive Edge (CAEdge) cloud-based development framework. The result is digital twin capabilities for software development that help automakers accelerate software development and speed up their time to market.

“The Software-Defined Vehicle requires working on hardware, software, applications, and validation in parallel, all while maintaining the highest level of quality and safety,” said Gilles Mabire, CTO at Continental Automotive. “Synopsys’ virtual ECUs and vehicle digital twin capabilities enable us to develop and test advanced software solutions earlier, so they can be deployed to vehicles faster.”

Using virtual environments to develop real-world solutions

The modern SDV promises drivers a cutting-edge user experience with continuously improved

and enhanced software features. In order to fulfill this demand, car manufacturers rely on comprehensive tools to simulate the performance of digital features and confirm their compatibility with existing and new car models. CAEdge provides vehicle manufacturers and their partners with a cloud-based development environment for software-intensive vehicle architectures to develop solutions in a fraction of the time traditionally needed. Its modular hardware and software platform connects the vehicle to the cloud and features a virtual workbench to develop, supply and maintain software-intensive system functions. Within this framework, digital representations of the real-world physical devices, such as vECUs and the vehicle digital twin, facilitate the development and validation of software solutions prior to general hardware availability.

“The Software-Defined Vehicle focuses automotive development and innovation on the software that offers customers real added-value,” explains Gilles Mabire. “By combining our CAEdge framework with Synopsys’ virtual ECU technologies, we are directly addressing the vehicle manufacturers’ needs to accelerate software development and automate software validation in a modern cloud-based environment.”

Broad range of abstraction available for vECUs and digital twins

The Synopsys virtual prototyping tools simplify the deployment of individual vECU and vehicle digital twins by combining multiple vECUs with vehicle dynamics, sensor and environment simulations. They support the full range of vECUs abstraction (L1 through L4), mixed abstraction vehicle simulation, and come with the largest library of models developed within an automotive semiconductor and software ecosystem. Together with CAEdge, developers can benefit from the full power of a digital twin in the development pipeline for the SDV, automating both the software validation and delivery process during development and throughout the vehicle’s entire lifecycle.

“The combination of CAEdge and Synopsys virtual prototyping tools marks a significant step in accelerating the deployment of the Software-Defined Vehicle,” said Tom De Schutter, vice president of Engineering, Systems Design Group at Synopsys. “Bringing together Continental’s proven track record in design, software and manufacturing of complex automotive systems at scale with Synopsys’ proven vECU technologies, we are expanding and speeding the automotive design process from physical to virtual.”

Dassault Aviation and Dassault Systèmes Extend Collaboration to Aircraft Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul in the Cloud

14 December 2023

Dassault Systèmes announced that [Dassault Aviation](#) has extended [its use of the 3DEXPERIENCE platform on a sovereign cloud](#) to optimize the maintenance, repair and overhaul of its fleet of Rafale aircraft for the French Ministry of Armed Forces.

The platform’s powerful data science and collaboration capabilities enable Dassault Aviation to anticipate MRO issues, optimize maintenance operations and maximize fleet availability by leveraging massive amounts of data related to the design, manufacturing, support, and the flight/maintenance logbooks of each aircraft.

When in service, each Rafale behaves differently and needs specific maintenance operations according to the events occurring throughout its operational life. Efficient MRO requires an integrated solution to analyze the complex data generated from various information systems in different formats while the aircraft is in use.

Dassault Systèmes' "[Keep them Operating](#)" industry solution experience based on the 3DEXPERIENCE platform provides Dassault Aviation with a fully integrated digital platform and a data-driven model to collect the most valuable data, continuously feed it into an aircraft's virtual twin throughout all phases of its life cycle, and identify the actions required to support its operational maintenance processes.

"With Dassault Systèmes, we are aligned on the fact that data is at the core of the ability to transform the processes that impact fleet availability. The challenge is to leverage any type of data and act on it, while creating new ways of collaborating with everyone involved in these processes. Virtual twin experiences on the 3DEXPERIENCE platform enable us to understand data and use it to model not only the equipment, the assets and the fleet, but also the entire support system required to operate aircraft under any conditions and at the highest performance level," said Bruno Chevalier, Senior Executive Vice President, Military Customer Support, Dassault Aviation.

With the 3DEXPERIENCE platform and NETVIBES applications, Dassault Aviation's maintenance engineers and technicians can anticipate issues before they occur, and quickly devise appropriate maintenance schedules, parts replacements and MRO processes to meet objectives. Stakeholders can make collaborative, informed decisions about predictive maintenance, pilot support and ground assistance solutions that improve spare part supply chain resilience and optimize inventory.

"With each program, Dassault Aviation benefits from the depth of capabilities that our cloud-based 3DEXPERIENCE platform offers. By combining the collaboration, data science and virtual twin capabilities of the platform, they can predict how each aircraft will specifically behave and therefore execute more efficient maintenance. This means more availability and increased innovation for the development of new aircraft," said David Ziegler, Vice President, Aerospace and Defense Industry, Dassault Systèmes.

Empowering Lending Decisions: AutomatIQ Borrower Income Analysis Now Incorporates Fannie Mae's Income Calculator for Superior Analysis

15 December 2023

[CoreLogic](#)[®], a leading global property data and analytics-driven solutions provider, has announced that the [AutomatIQ™ Borrower™ Income Analysis solution](#) is now integrated with Fannie Mae's Income Calculator. As a result of this new enhancement, mortgage lenders will be able to calculate borrower income faster, more accurately and in compliance with Fannie Mae investor guidelines.

AutomatIQ Borrower Income Analysis is an API-enabled, intuitive workflow solution for automating, analyzing and calculating borrowers' income. It now offers a fully integrated

experience with Fannie Mae's income calculator tool. This integration allows lenders using AutomatIQ Borrower Income Analysis to originate loans with confidence by ensuring that self-employment income is calculated according to the standards described in Fannie Mae's Selling Guide. As a result, lenders can increase certainty in loan quality and are also eligible for rep and warrant relief for self-employment income calculation, reducing repurchase risk.

"AutomatIQ Borrower Income Analysis has improved significantly through this collaboration with Fannie Mae," said Praveen Chandramohan, executive, Origination Solutions at CoreLogic. "We are now able to provide lenders with a single solution for analyzing and calculating qualifying income for a loan across the borrower(s) complexity spectrum – from simple wage earners to highly complex self-employed borrowers. We can do this in a fraction of the time previously required. With this announcement, we are advancing our strategic vision of automating the simple and simplifying the complex in the mortgage origination workflow."

"We continue to look for ways to eliminate bottlenecks in the origination process and help address issues that may arise in downstream loan quality reviews," said Mark Fisher, vice president of Single-Family Credit Risk Solutions at Fannie Mae. "Our latest tool solves a lender pain point to accurately calculate income for self-employed borrowers and we're excited to collaborate with technology service providers to make this tool widely available."

Verification and calculating a borrower's income have traditionally been a manual, complex and time-consuming process characterized by inconsistent results and inefficiencies. With AutomatIQ Borrower Income Analysis, lenders can achieve more consistency in less time by automating, streamlining and standardizing their existing processes to provide a better and more transparent customer experience.

j5 from Hexagon Achieves SAP® Certified Integration with RISE with SAP S/4HANA® Cloud

13 December 2023

Hexagon's Asset Lifecycle Intelligence division announced today that its j5 SAP® PM connector has achieved SAP® certification as integrated with RISE with SAP S/4HANA® Cloud. The integration helps organizations to view relevant information from SAP within the j5 application, allocate familiar SAP Equipment to j5 records and to push j5 Work Notifications to SAP.

The certification covers SAP S/4 HANA (On Premise), SAP S/4HANA Cloud, private edition and RISE with SAP.

"For Hexagon strategic customers and markets, with our market-leading Operations Management solution j5 to have certification for its connector from SAP, a globally recognized Maintenance Management solution, we are providing our clients with confidence in the increasing interoperability of both solutions and delivering real value to Operations and Maintenance," said Neil Singh, Senior Strategy Consulting Lead, O&M Segment, Portfolio Strategy and Enablement.

Customers can access pertinent SAP information from within the j5 application, which simplifies tasks for the end users. Some of the benefits include:

- Customers can view SAP-related information from the j5 application, minimizing the need to navigate between multiple applications
- SAP will display Work Notifications created through the j5 application, removing the need for duplicate work to be performed by end users in multiple systems
- End-users can easily reference familiar SAP equipment from within the j5 application ensuring a common point of reference between Maintenance and Operations departments

The SAP Integration and Certification Center (SAP ICC) has certified that the integration software for its j5 V30 product integrates with RISE with SAP S/4HANA Cloud using standard integration technologies.

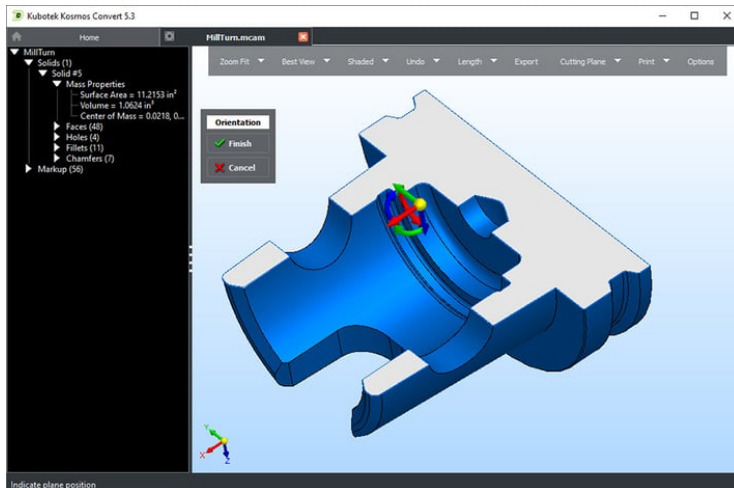
Partnership Between Kubotek Kosmos & Mastercam Announced

13 December 2023

Kubotek Kosmos, a leader in engineering and manufacturing geometric software technology, today announced a partnership with [Mastercam](#) CAD/CAM software of Tolland, Connecticut. An outcome of cooperation between these companies is the new capability for Kubotek Kosmos software products to directly read part data in Mastercam native files. Partnering to create this compatibility reflects both companies' commitment to serving build-to-print parts suppliers, helping them manage complex 3D CAD data from customers with the assurance of no data lost to file format translation, and improved understanding of revised datasets.

Native Mastercam File Support

Direct read of precise 3D solids and surfaces from the Mastercam .MCAM and .MCX file formats is now supported by Kubotek Kosmos software. This support is built into the Kubotek Kosmos 3D Framework, a solid modeling and interoperability kernel used in development of a wide variety of software applications, including Validate, Revision, and other CAD utilities available from Kubotek. The 5.3 release of each of these programs has added support for Mastercam files to a comprehensive list of native CAD formats.



Kubotek Kosmos multi-platform viewer software reads solids from Mastercam

Added Reseller of CAD Interoperability Utilities

As of May 2023, [Zenex Computing](#) of Finland, long-time representative of Mastercam, has been appointed as a new Reseller of Kubotek Kosmos Validate, Revision, View, and Convert software products. This marks an expansion of Zenex' involvement with Kubotek Kosmos having sold the company's KeyCreator product for decades. "Kubotek Kosmos products excel at reading CAD data to support build-to-print manufacturing," said Matti Seppälä, CEO of Zenex. "We are always looking for ways to better serve precision manufacturing in our region."

CAD File Translation Verification

Supplier quality requirements of many top North American aerospace programs—such as Boeing's D6-51991 standard—mandate that the translation of the authority product definition data into manufacturing software such as Mastercam be verified for accuracy. Further, this data verification must be documented for any potential future quality audit.

Kubotek Kosmos is the leader in verifying and documenting the movement of CAD data through supplier systems to ensure no data is lost. Validate from Kubotek Kosmos is an easy-to-use, stand-alone program. It tests and documents that model geometry in programs, like Mastercam, exactly match the original 3D CAD file, regardless of native software format.

Ongoing Cooperation

This newly announced partnership is a continuation of the two companies working together to provide practical solutions to aerospace manufacturing suppliers. Kubotek Kosmos was a sponsor of the 2023 Mastercam Momentum conference at the Mohegan Sun resort in Uncasville, Connecticut. This conference was attended by hundreds of sales and marketing employees of Mastercam Resellers from around the globe.

Kubotek Kosmos and Mastercam work together as part of a CAD/CAM data quality group at the annual Pacific Northwest Aerospace Alliance conference, held each February in Lynnwood,

Washington. Kubotek Kosmos staff also delivered a presentation on data translation verification to Mastercam users at the Mastercam booth at IMTS 2022, an international manufacturing conference held biannually in Chicago.

Melker Schörling, Hexagon's principal shareholder and long standing chairman has passed away

11 December 2023

We at Hexagon AB are deeply saddened by the passing of Melker Schörling.

Melker not only leaves behind an enduring legacy through his business endeavours but he was also a person who had an impact on all of us who had the pleasure of working with him.

Ola Rollén, Chairman of the Board of Hexagon AB: “Melker acquired the controlling stake in Hexagon in 1998 and became Chairman in 1999. I first met Melker in 2000, my strongest memory from that first meeting was when he said: “I invest in people, a good person will make a good business.” He taught me high standards and empathy in business. He always said that “win-win” is the only way to conduct successful business for the long term.

Melker was warm-hearted, had a genuine interest in people and had a calm, logical way of tackling any obstacle he might have encountered. I, and all of us who worked with him, will profoundly miss him.”

“Melker Schörling has been instrumental in shaping Hexagon AB's past and present, as well as an inspiration in entrepreneurship and leadership. We remain committed to developing his legacy and vision,” says Paolo Guglielmini, President and CEO of Hexagon AB. “Our thoughts are with his family.”

Oracle Announces the General Availability of Oracle Database@Azure

14 December 2023

The first [Oracle Database@Azure](#) service is now generally available in the Microsoft Azure East US region. Oracle will operate and manage Oracle Exadata Database Service, the first of several planned Oracle database services to run on [Oracle Cloud Infrastructure](#) (OCI) in Azure datacenters. Oracle Exadata Database Service dramatically simplifies cloud migration of mission critical workloads. The new Oracle Database@Azure service delivers all the performance, scale, and workload availability advantages of the Oracle Database including [Real Application Clusters](#) and built-in security, alongside best-in-class Azure services, such as the Azure OpenAI Service for generative AI applications.

“Exadata is the most effective platform to run the Oracle Database and this service provides Microsoft Azure users with the best of all possible worlds,” said Carl Olofson, research vice president, Data Management Software, IDC. “Clearly, Oracle and Azure have embraced a multicloud strategy for the ultimate benefit of their mutual customers.”

To meet strong customer demand across the globe, Oracle Database@Azure will be generally available in additional regions in 2024, including Germany Central, Australia East, France Central, Canada Central, Brazil South, Japan East, UK South, Central US, and South Central US.

Each deployment is planned to run across two Azure availability zones, enabling customers to configure high availability across zones. With this offering, customers can benefit from:

- Flexible options to move their Oracle databases to the cloud;
- The highest level of Oracle database performance, scale, and availability, as well as feature and pricing parity with OCI public list prices;
- The simplicity, security, and latency of a single operating environment (datacenter) within Azure;
- Streamlined migration to the cloud, where it is easier to modernize IT environments and take advantage of Azure's infrastructure, tooling, and services;
- Compatibility with proven migration tools like Oracle Zero Downtime Migration;
- Consistency with on-premises deployments of Oracle Database and Oracle Exadata, reducing the need for rearchitecture;
- The ability to build new cloud-native applications using OCI and Azure technologies, including Azure OpenAI Service;
- Unified customer support from Oracle and Microsoft;
- Simplified purchasing via the Azure Marketplace, and ability to leverage Oracle and Microsoft licenses and commitments/discount programs;
- The assurance of an architecture that is tested and supported by two of the most trusted names in the cloud.

"Ninety-eight percent of the Fortune 100 run Oracle Database and leading organizations in every industry have relied on Oracle Exadata and RAC technology to build mission critical applications on-premises. Most of these workloads have not yet moved to the cloud," said Karan Batta, senior vice president, Oracle Cloud Infrastructure. "Oracle and Microsoft are making it simpler for customers to accelerate their data center exits and migrate their on-premises Oracle estate to the cloud. Together with Microsoft, we're eliminating some of the biggest challenges our customers face using best-of-breed technologies and adopting multicloud architectures."

"We've received tremendous interest in Oracle Database@Azure since its announcement," said Erin Chapple, corporate vice president, Azure Core Product and Design, Microsoft. "Oracle Database@Azure streamlines the migration of Oracle workloads to Azure, so that customers across industries can combine the best of Oracle with the breadth of Microsoft cloud services like Azure AI and our application platform and developer services, to empower business innovation."

Oracle Becomes the First Hyperscaler with Two Cloud Regions in Chile

13 December 2023

Oracle today announced the opening of a second Oracle Cloud Region in Chile, making it the first hyperscaler to have two regions in the country. With the new Oracle Cloud Valparaíso

Region and the existing region in Santiago, Oracle will help organizations across all industries in Chile strengthen business continuity while addressing data residency and sovereignty requirements.

“The arrival of the second Oracle Cloud Region in Chile is a significant milestone as it allows our customers to gain the benefits of OCI’s services, while leveraging best practices for business continuity and disaster recovery,” said Joaquin Ma-Shichoy, managing director, Oracle Chile. “With the opening of the Oracle Cloud Valparaíso Region, we’re strengthening our commitment to Chile’s technological development by enabling organizations—including those in highly regulated industries and with in-country data residency requirements—to accelerate their journeys to the cloud.”

Part of Oracle’s [distributed cloud](#) strategy, the new public cloud region is Oracle’s 48th worldwide and will offer Oracle Cloud’s full capabilities across more than 100 [Oracle Cloud Infrastructure](#) (OCI) services and cloud applications, including [Oracle Autonomous Database](#), [MySQL HeatWave Database Service](#), [Oracle Container Engine for Kubernetes](#), [Oracle Cloud VMware Solution](#), and [AI infrastructure](#). Underscoring its significant investment across Chile and the broader Latin America region, Oracle now operates seven public cloud regions across Chile, Colombia, Brazil, and Mexico—more than triple that of any other major hyperscaler.

“The opening of a second Oracle Cloud Region in Chile is excellent news, not only because of the impact of cloud computing on our economy, but because it consolidates us as a digital infrastructure hub in the southern cone of Latin America,” said Karla Flores, director, Invest Chile. “These investments reaffirm the confidence of foreign investors in our country and its opportunities. The launch of this Oracle region demonstrates that this type of operation can also be developed at a regional level, in this case promoting Valparaíso as a digital hub that provides the latest technology and increased employment opportunities across the region.”

High Availability and Low Latency Provides Chilean Customers with a Resilient Cloud Foundation

The Oracle Cloud Valparaíso Region gives organizations access to a wide range of cloud services to modernize their applications, innovate with data and analytics, and migrate all types of workloads from their data centers to OCI. With the addition of a second region in Chile, customers and partners gain access to low-latency networking and high-speed data transfer across both Oracle Cloud Regions to help them derive better value from their data. In addition, customers can leverage redundancy and disaster recovery capabilities to enhance business continuity and help meet the country’s regulations and requirements for data residency and sovereignty. Via both regions in Chile, OCI is able to manage every type of customer workload across all industries, including financial services, communications, and retail.

A Focus on Driving Sustainable Operations Across the Globe

Underscoring its ongoing [focus on sustainability](#), Oracle has committed to matching all worldwide Oracle Cloud Regions with 100 percent renewable energy by 2025, including the Oracle Cloud Valparaíso Region. Many Oracle Cloud Regions are already powered by 100

percent renewable energy, including the existing Oracle Cloud Santiago Region, which enables organizations to run their computing services more sustainably and with a lower carbon footprint. To further advance its commitment to sustainable operations, Oracle and its asset recovery partners recycled 99.7 percent of retired hardware they collected in FY'23.

Customers and Partners Welcome the New Oracle Cloud Valparaíso Region

“The cloud is transforming the way we work and deliver services to our customers. For us it is essential to have business partners who are constantly evolving in this sense and have a strong local presence,” said Esteban Kemp, COO, Banco de Chile. “The opening of a second Oracle Cloud region in Chile, in addition to providing scalable, flexible, and secure services, will provide us with greater resilience via local access—which is necessary to support the digital transformation of Banco de Chile.”

“When we considered completely vacating our data centers and migrating them to OCI, we had planned to do so within a period of 12 months and with the support of the Oracle team,” said Sergio Cornejo, chief technology officer, Unicomer. “We managed to migrate 18 data centers in eight months, exceeding the expectations set. The process has been successful and has allowed us to reduce service times in our stores, especially during periods of high demand such as Christmas.”

“Given that in Chile the rise of cloud infrastructure is a reality, the arrival of Oracle’s second region not only marks a technological milestone, but it will also help drive digital transformation and new cloud architectures that are more resilient and secure for industries across the country,” said Helder Branco, head of IT operations, Entel. “In addition, the opening of this new region demonstrates Oracle’s commitment to the country and continues to enable local companies to use world-class solutions recognized for their stability and high performance.”

“We see the opening of a new Oracle Cloud region in Chile as an important step forward towards greater resilience, low latency, and high availability, which allows us to continue trusting Oracle as a technological ally to leverage our growth and development in LATAM,” said Emilio Davis, CTO and founder, Khipu.

“The expansion of cloud infrastructure in Chile, marked by the opening of Oracle’s second cloud region, is crucial for the advancement and development of significant technological tools in the region—such as AI,” said Ricardo Stranges, managing director, Accenture Chile. “This investment reflects confidence in the local market and provides a vital foundation for handling the large volumes of data across Chilean organizations. Oracle’s cloud regions will help the country position itself as a leader in AI innovation in Latin America, enabling organizations to maximize the opportunities offered by this technology—from improving services to driving the economy.”

“The opening of the new Oracle Cloud Region in Chile is an example of how quickly the adoption of cloud technologies has advanced in the country,” said Diego Cotignola, consulting lead partner, Deloitte. “This region will allow Oracle customers to accelerate the use of new

technologies quickly, reliably, and securely, further promoting innovation through solutions with high availability and low latency.”

“True modernization cannot be achieved in isolation. It requires a reliable ecosystem, skills enhancement, platform integration, and external partnerships to help guide businesses through change management,” said Ariel Scippa, general manager, Kyndryl Chile. “The cloud solutions offered by Oracle are flexible, secure, and robust, enabling Kyndryl to deliver excellent services to clients.”

OUTSCALE, the first Cloud qualified with SecNumCloud 3.2

12 December 2023

OUTSCALE, a Dassault Systèmes brand, announced today, it has received the ANSSI security visa, SecNumCloud 3.2, for maximum protection of sensitive data.

In June 2023, Prime Minister Elisabeth Borne announced through the "Cloud at the Center" Doctrine, the obligation for "digital services of administrations to be hosted on a SecNumCloud qualified Cloud by ANSSI and protected against any extracommunity regulation”.

A major step in the compliance of public actors, this measure provides guarantees of security and sovereignty to citizens’ data with confidence. Today, holding the SecNumCloud 3.2 qualification, OUTSCALE becomes the first Cloud operator aligned with the "Cloud at the Center" Doctrine and thus becomes the strategic partner for institutions in their compliance efforts in line with the modernization policy of public action.

The SecNumCloud 3.2 qualification ensures maximum protection of sensitive digital data for public institutions, health, and vital operators, with strengthened criteria such as protection against non-European law. This qualification represents the highest standard of security in Europe, including, in this new version, the reinforcement of cybersecurity, the principle of composition, and immunity to extraterritorial regulations.

Sovereign Cloud for Strategic Industrial Data

A major pillar in the quest for data protection solutions, the SecNumCloud 3.2 framework addresses the growing challenges of organizations handling strategic data, such as public institutions, healthcare actors, and vital operators. It assists them in making informed choices aligned with digital challenges.

With the SecNumCloud 3.2 qualification, OUTSCALE has implemented practices that meet technical, legal, and organizational protection requirements. This ensures a maximum level of security and sovereignty over the digital data of critical organizations, allowing them to focus on their core activities, fostering innovation and competitiveness. This qualification, now recognized as the highest standard of security and trust in Europe, goes beyond the criteria of the previous version. It strengthens cybersecurity, introduces the composition principle to expedite the creation of a trusted ecosystem of publishers, and ultimately guarantees the sovereignty of data hosted in the French cloud through immunity to extraterritorial laws.

OUTSCALE, pioneer of sovereign AI

The exponential growth of artificial intelligence is fundamentally reshaping professional practices across all sectors and impacting the daily lives of citizens. OUTSCALE, as a Cloud operator, stands out by utilizing GPUs available on a sovereign Cloud qualified with SecNumCloud 3.2, providing a unique solution to the increasing demand for intensive AI-related computations while adhering to strict standards of security and sovereignty.

The OUTSCALE Cloud enables the mastery of governance, deployment of highly efficient and secure AI solutions, and the creation of virtual environments mirroring reality, breathing life into the most complex and sensitive projects.

Sovereignty and security at the core of OUTSCALE's DNA

For over 12 years, OUTSCALE has addressed the challenges of digital sovereignty and strategic autonomy by providing organizations with a sovereign, secure, and industrial Cloud environment. Recognized for its commitment to excellence and compliance with the highest security standards—SecNumCloud, HDS, ISO 27001, 27017, 27018, CISPE, and TISAX—OUTSCALE emphasizes security as a critical component of its organizational framework. It implements strict security policies and maintains an SMSI (Information Security Management System) in perfect compliance with international standards and best practices, endorsed by trusted third parties. The SecNumCloud 3.2 qualification reinforces OUTSCALE's commitment to delivering the highest level of security to organizations and citizens, both in France and across Europe (EUCS certification scheme to come).

In line with the new SecNumCloud framework, OUTSCALE's commitment exceeds security requirements, offering an additional guarantee of sovereignty to clients. This ensures an industrial cloud that is immune to extraterritorial laws, thereby consolidating the protection and control of sensitive data.

OUTSCALE customers can create new virtual experiences in complete confidence, in sovereign environments, while maintaining complete control over their cyber governance, by choosing the location of their data in accordance with local regulations, and protected from foreign interference.

With the SecNumCloud 3.2 qualification, OUTSCALE:

- Enables digital services of the State and institutions to comply with the Cloud at the Center Doctrine (making OUTSCALE a strategic partner in the modernization of public action).
- Meets the current and future digital needs and experiences while preserving the security and sovereignty of everyone's data.
- Addresses the requirements of public and private actors in the market concerned with the protection and security of their strategic assets, who must comply with demanding regulatory frameworks.
- Contributes, through the principle of composition, to the emergence of a competitive, high-performing, reliable, and trustworthy French offering essential to the digital transformation of businesses and society.

"OUTSCALE is making history by becoming the first Experience as a Service Cloud operator to achieve the SecNumCloud 3.2 qualification, a recognition of our unwavering commitment to digital sovereignty and security. We provide our public and private clients with the necessary confidence to innovate and stay competitive in a secure, sovereign, and tailored environment," said Philippe Miltin, CEO of OUTSCALE, Dassault Systèmes.

TCS Recognized by AWS as GSI Partner of the Year-Global for 2023

15 December 2023

Tata Consultancy Services has received two 2023 AWS Partner Awards: Global System Integrator (GSI) Partner of the Year – Global and GSI Partner of the Year – France, for playing a key role helping customers drive innovation and build solutions. Additionally, TCS was a finalist in four 2023 global, geography and segment-based AWS Partner Awards.

The GSI Partner of the Year – Global is the highest recognition awarded to a GSI by AWS and is a testament to TCS' ever-strengthening, well-rounded partnership performance in 2023. TCS was recognized for its full solution stack of offerings, significant contributions to net-new certified individuals and AWS designations earned, and the strength of its innovations and business outcomes offered across industries on AWS. These achievements further demonstrate value to enterprise customers in helping them achieve growth and transformation in their journey to the cloud.

TCS offers enterprise customers end-to-end services and solutions around cloud migration, application, and data modernization, managed services, and industry-specific innovation on AWS. TCS holds several AWS validated qualifications, including membership in the AWS Premier Tier Service Partner Program, AWS Managed Service Provider, AWS Public Sector Partner Program, AWS Solution Provider Program, AWS Well-Architected Partner Program, and over 35 AWS Competencies and Service Validations. TCS' large pool of AWS cloud-ready professionals leverage their domain knowledge and AWS technology building blocks to create transformational solutions contextualized to specific industry sub-verticals.

"I am very pleased that TCS has been recognized as the GSI Partner of the Year – Global and France by AWS. These awards demonstrate our investments in innovation, expertise in data and AI technologies, deep domain knowledge across industries, and a strong collaboration with AWS made across various aspects of the partnership globally in delivering business value for our customers in their cloud transformation journeys," said **Krishna Mohan, Deputy Head, TCS AI.Cloud.**

Announced during AWS re:Invent 2023, global, geography and segment-based AWS Partner Awards recognize a wide range of AWS Partners, whose business models have embraced specialization, innovation, and cooperation over the past year.

TCS has also been named a finalist for the following awards: Application Modernization SI Partner of the Year - Global, which recognizes top partners who leverage AWS containers and serverless services to help customers transform their legacy applications to be more agile,

elastic, highly available, and to build new modern applications. GSI Partner of the Year – NAMER, GSI Partner of the Year – EMEA, GSI Partner of the Year – LATAM, which recognizes AWS's top GSI Partners that provided significant contributions related to revenue, launched opportunities, net new certified individuals, and AWS designations earned.

A panel of AWS experts selected the winners and finalists for these data-driven award categories based on a set of metrics that helped measure AWS partners' performance within the past year. A third-party analyst audited the datasets used to ensure that all measurements and calculations were objective and correct in nature.

Implementation Investments

Accenture to Drive Commercial Bank of Dubai's Technology Transformation in Middle East

12 December 2023

Accenture has signed a strategic agreement with the Commercial Bank of Dubai (CBD) to drive its technology transformation program and further enhance its market-leading banking services to personal and business customers.

Accenture will set up a development center of excellence (COE) to optimize CBD's IT platforms and incorporate best-in-class technologies to enhance the customer experience. The COE, powered by hyper automation and generative AI solutions, will augment CBD's IT efficiency and productivity across the software development lifecycle to world-class levels.



From left to right: Ali Imran, Chief Operating Officer, CBD, Othman Bin Hendi, Chief Customer Officer, CBD, David Parker, Global Financial Services Industry Practices Chair, Accenture, Max Di Gregorio, Managing Director, Financial Services, and Client Account Lead, Middle East.

Ali Imran, chief operating officer, CBD, said, "At CBD, we are focused on leveraging our DNA of innovation to augment user experiences with digital platforms. This agreement will further

accelerate our digital aspirations to operate more effectively and deliver tailored services to our customers using the next generation of emerging technologies.”

Accenture will provide CBD with high-quality resources, best practices developed over decades of similar programs and an unwavering commitment to value realization to collaborate seamlessly with its team.

David Parker, global Financial Services industry practices chair, Accenture, said, “The banking industry is changing profoundly and banks, more than anything, need to innovate at speed and scale. Technologies like AI and cloud can help enormously to improve the agility, resilience and operational efficiency that give them a true competitive advantage. Our collaboration with CBD will draw on the full breadth of Accenture’s capabilities and expertise throughout our global network.”

Canal de Isabel II awards Eviden and Ayesa the innovative Yara project to transform its commercial and customer management system

12 December 2023

[Eviden](#), an atos business, and expert in SAP, and [Ayesa](#) today announce that they have been selected as part of a joint venture by [Canal de Isabel II \(CYII\)](#), Madrid’s water supplies management company, for the implementation of its new “YARA” Commercial System in SaaS (Software-as-a-service) mode, as well as the associated support and maintenance. The four-year deal, which is extendable for one year, is valued at €51.2 million euros. Canal de Isabel II manages water distribution for the 6.5 million people which live in the Community of Madrid.

Pioneering with cloud in the water sector

The YARA implementation, which is entirely cloud-based, is among the first in the ‘world of water’ and the first in Spain. The solution makes use of the SAP platform-as-a-service, creating a new standard in the industry. Eviden and Ayesa proposed this project using cutting-edge technologies from partners such as SAP, through the RISE with SAP alliance, and Microsoft Azure. With over 20 years of experience along with significant expertise in this technology, the two partners will ensure that Canal de Isabel II benefits from best practice and rapid deployment, with minimized risks.

Full SAP to cover the complete water cycle

CYII’s new commercial system will be based on the SAP for Utilities (IS-U) core, SAP’s sales and information system for utilities and waste disposal companies. Eviden, using the accelerators in its preconfigured solution Eviden WaterPack®, ensures a fully integrated implementation of the commercial management system for the water cycle.

The project prioritizes both employee and customer experience in order to provide maximum customer satisfaction with the service. The core will consist of S/4HANA Cloud for Water Utilities components, which will cover the entire contracting, reading, billing and collection cycle, as well as all project management and field work tasks, file management, data migration and integration, and mobility guarantee functionalities.

Canal de Isabel II's new CRM system will also be incorporated into the platform, providing real-time access to crucial information. The entire proposed solution is designed to improve customer relationships and satisfaction.

Applied Technological Innovation

The project will use Machine Learning for the validation of meter readings and billing, and hyper automation in collection management. SAP's Business Technology Platform (BTP) will support future IoT technology implementations in the water world. In addition, an On-line Service Office will be established exclusively for the Water sector, allowing multi-channel interactions in real time and offering a 360-degree perspective of customer behavior, as well as a more innovative Contact Center, using Intelligent Customer Service.

Eviden-Ayesa: Experts in SAP Utilities

The Eviden-Ayesa joint venture model, already tested and consolidated in Utilities clients across Spain, brings together the leadership and experience of both companies, which add up to more than 2,000 professional experts in SAP Utilities. Their commitment to research and continuous innovation through national and international competence centers makes them a strong and reliable technological partner for CYII.

Department of Transport and Planning, Victoria selects HCLTech to transform passenger experience with digital technologies

15 December 2023

[HCLTech](#), a leading global technology company, today announced that it has been selected by the Department of Transport and Planning in Victoria, Australia to automate the concession entitlement process for public transport users.

More than 605 million trips are taken on Victoria's public transport network annually and 35% of these are taken by concession card holders, including students, retirees, veterans and those with disabilities.

HCLTech will develop and support a Concessions Entitlement Validation Platform (CEVP) for the department, enabling instant proof of concession entitlement and a user-friendly passenger interface to apply for and manage concession entitlement. This will improve experiences for both passengers and the department staff.

The linking of credit card with concession card, enabled by the CEVP, will be a nation-first. This feature will provide payment flexibility for concession card holders.

HCLTech will deploy digital workflow orchestration solutions and leverage agile development approaches to roll out the CEVP across Victoria. The company will also provide maintenance and customer center support as well as training for the Department of Transport and Planning employees.

"Our human-first approach to designing a solution puts the end user at the front and the center," said Michael Horton, Executive Vice President and Country Manager, Australia and New Zealand, HCLTech. "Over one in three Victorians travel on a concession card and some of

them are among the most vulnerable in the community. HCLTech knows that it is important to get this right, using technology to support this cohort while also unlocking business value.”

Gudrun Sjödén Selects Centric PLM to Empower Design Teams

12 December 2023

[Centric Software®](#), the Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) market leader, proudly announces its partnership with Gudrun Sjödén, a design-focused Scandinavian clothing and home décor brand. Centric Software provides the most innovative enterprise solutions to plan, design, develop, source, price and sell products such as apparel, footwear, sporting goods, furniture, home décor, consumer electronics, cosmetics, food & beverage and luxury to achieve strategic and operational digital transformation goals.

Gudrun Sjödén opened her first store in 1976 in Stockholm, and for more than 45 years has been designing and creating striking, colorful clothes with a Nordic flair, crafted from natural fabrics. This unique brand featuring bold colors and distinctive prints has an equally bold ethos — they celebrate individual style, strong women, and sustainability through their motto: *Swedish design with a green soul*.

Gudrun Sjödén has expanded into a global brand, boasting an €89 million turnover, 350 employees and 22 stores around the world. Catering to an exclusively female audience, Gudrun Sjödén sells 80% of their products through e-commerce, and their largest markets are Germany, the US and Sweden.

With their legacy system reaching its end of life in 2019, Gudrun Sjödén found themselves searching for a design-focused, cloud-based PLM with expanded capabilities. “Our prior system didn’t do much more than to create the styles, to give them colors and sizes, and generate POs,” explains the Buying & Design Team at Gudrun Sjödén.

Prior to implementing Centric PLM, design teams were frustrated and wasting valuable time entering data multiple times, visibility of processes and information sharing between departments was a challenge, and supplier communication needed upgrading.

“The challenge was that we had an enormous amount of information, in many different places, and a lot of duplication,” says the Buying & Design Team. “We looked closely at our processes between design, logistics and buying and identified where we had unnecessary duplication, where we could simplify, and what we could automate.”

Gudrun Sjödén selected [Centric SMB](#), Centric’s cloud-based PLM solution for emerging brands. Centric’s power to streamline processes for design teams, Adobe® Illustrator® integration and centralized Pantone® Color library have been revolutionary for Gudrun Sjödén. The ability to standardize measurements and share to their PIM at the click of a mouse, the pre-built PO module for buyers, and the supplier portal were also key reasons for selecting Centric.

The Gudrun Sjödén team was highly involved in the 12-week implementation process, and they went live in the fall. “Our designers had a great time in the workshops with our Centric consultant; they were really involved,” elaborates the Buying & Design Team. “That’s why we

think we've had a very successful implementation – we've been the ones leading it, and Centric was great at making sure we got what we wanted.”

And the future partnership looks bright as Gudrun Sjöden has their sights set on launching the supplier portal over the coming months, the power of PLM to help achieve future sustainability goals.

“We are very happy with the system...it's already very good,” says the Buying & Design Team. “And that's also why we chose Centric as a partner; it's a future-safe solution and company.”

“We are thrilled that Gudrun Sjöden has selected Centric PLM to enhance the creative force of their design team and streamline business processes,” says Chris Groves, CEO of Centric Software. “We know that they will continue their legacy of celebrating strong women through bold and colorful designs, while remaining committed to sustainability.”

INETEC Drives Global Growth with Infor Cloud Solution

11 December 2023

Infor®, the industry cloud company, today announced that INETEC, a provider of technology for nondestructive examination, has migrated to Infor CloudSuite Industrial Enterprise, a cloud solution powered by Amazon Web Services (AWS) and designed specifically for manufacturing companies. The company expects to improve its operations around the globe as well as to reduce its IT administration overheads. The solution has been deployed in collaboration with IPL Consulting, a regional Infor channel and implementation partner, and launched into production in October 2023.

Headquartered in Croatia, INETEC offers innovative robotics and software for nondestructive examination, mainly for nuclear power plants, with products and services meeting the highest quality and safety standards. As a project-focused robotics company, INETEC needed to use a sophisticated and flexible ERP solution, and it selected and implemented Infor LN. Due to dynamic growth and a new subsidiary established in the Middle East, in 2022 the company decided to move to the cloud version.

Infor CloudSuite Industrial Enterprise was implemented and launched into production during 2023. The company has now less administration, with incremental innovation replacing costly and time-consuming versioning and upgrades, compared to the on-premises version and easier access to data globally providing more possibilities to use mobile applications, which is important for employees working around the globe. Analytical capabilities in the solution provide managers with better and more accurate insights into individual projects and project costs, and leads to better decision making. In addition, INETEC started using new Croatian localizations for the cloud, owned by Infor.



“We appreciate minimal need of customization in the standard version of Infor CloudSuite Industrial Enterprise,” said Damir Osterman, CIO at INETEC. “The cloud version has fitted perfectly into our business environment and helps us to better manage our global growth. We have to give big credit to IPL Consulting, as they led us smoothly through the whole project and fulfilled all our specific business requirements.”

“After an initial investment in migration, we are expecting to eliminate the need for future significant upfront investments in hardware and infrastructure, since we can leverage the infrastructure provided by the cloud service provider that should lead to potential cost savings.”

“Since Infor handles the maintenance and updates of the infrastructure, the burden on our IT team is decreased in the time and effort spent on routine tasks like patching and system updates. At the same time, centralized management tools in the cloud simplify IT administration tasks and visibility of system state, making it easier to manage and monitor our system and data.”

“INETEC’s global operation now has better scalability, and we can utilize that to accommodate business growth and changes in demand that are crucial for our global operations with varying resource needs in different regions,” concludes Osterman.

“Infor CloudSuite Industrial Enterprise brings fast and efficient support to companies with a clear international growth strategy,” says Anton Zelnik, manager at IPL Consulting Adriatic. “As an Infor partner, we are witnessing the increasing popularity of cloud-based solutions, whilst seeing how on-premises ERP solutions just can’t provide the support needed by complex enterprises, which demand efficient business control.”

Infor Takes Systemair to the Cloud

14 December 2023

Infor®, the industry cloud company, today announced that Europe's largest ventilation company, Systemair, is moving its core business system to Infor CloudSuite Manufacturing, aiming at smoother integration of newly acquired companies and developing new types of products and services.

[Systemair](#) was founded 50 years ago and currently has offices in 51 countries, supplying both private and commercial customers, including hospitals, offices and schools, where air quality is crucial for the people staying there.

The market has been expanding and is expected to continue to do so, driven by various factors including increasingly strict legal requirements for a faster energy transition. Systemair meets this growth potential through acquisitions and new business models, such as increasing service offerings around its product range.

"Systemair and Infor have had a reliable ERP partnership for over 20 years. The signing of the Infor CloudSuite Manufacturing contract is the next step in this partnership. Infor CloudSuite Manufacturing gives us the opportunity to harmonize the Systemair IT-environment further," says Juergen Hernadi, group IT director at Systemair AB.

With Infor CloudSuite Manufacturing, Systemair gains an industry-specific, multi-tenant cloud solution, powered by Amazon Web Services (AWS), allowing it to quickly implement a system that makes the integration of newly acquired companies easier and faster. Systemair can centralize the entire system administration in the ever-growing company structure, significantly reducing its costs.

"People spend around 90 percent of their time indoors. We often take the air for granted, but it affects how we feel, how alert we are, or how often we get sick," says Malte Ekedahl, SVP and GM at Infor in the Nordics. "Being able to contribute to a significant market player like Systemair and provide them with the right conditions to continue developing quality products in ventilation makes us proud."

Outdoor Furniture Manufacturer Grosfillex Leverages Infor AI and Automation to Boost Revenues, Sales Productivity and Increase Customer Satisfaction

15 December 2023

Infor®, the industry cloud company, today announced that Grosfillex, a leading global manufacturer of high-end resin outdoor furniture and other products, is leveraging the Infor CloudSuite Manufacturing solution — integrated with Infor AI (artificial intelligence), automation and analytics — to boost revenues and sales productivity while increasing customer satisfaction.

The integrated solution enabled Grosfillex to increase revenues by 10 percent and increase sales productivity by 83 percent by automating the process of analyzing and grading customer

accounts. The company also used Infor's AI-driven product recommender to provide the right products at the right time, resulting in greatly improved customer satisfaction.

"In the first week of using the AI dashboard, we saw a 10 percent increase in revenue for a particular set of accounts," said Grosfillex e-commerce account manager Andrew Rinehimer. "Each salesperson has access to a personalized dashboard with a profitability grading for their accounts and uses this information to create the right sales strategies. What's powerful is that the AI system is generating these insights for us across hundreds of customers, so sales can focus its time on improving the business and customer experience."

Grosfillex, with corporate headquarters in Oyonnax, France, has grown from a wooden tool handle family-owned company to a global organization offering a wide range of resin products for residential and commercial use. Its North American operations include manufacturing facilities and distribution centers in Pennsylvania for the Consumer Products Division and the Commercial Products Division.

With more furniture transactions being done online, the company aims to provide a rich experience for customers on its e-commerce site so they can find what they are searching for and view products in the best possible light.

In some cases, however, dealers and consumers may overlook or fail to comprehend the extensive array of products available on the e-commerce site. The Grosfillex sales team must identify and dedicate its time to these accounts so that customers are well informed and offered the right products.

Business challenges

Recognizing the importance of analyzing customer profitability to address these issues and grow the business, the Grosfillex sales team faced some significant challenges.

Manual data pulls across multiple systems and extensive profitability analysis, which sometimes took up to three hours for a single account, made it impractical to analyze and manage thousands of customer accounts efficiently. Consequently, the team found itself spending a significant portion of its time with high-profit accounts when it should have been directing more time to invigorating low-profit accounts.

Further, when products went out of stock, customer service representatives sometimes didn't have the knowledge to recommend a similar product that was in stock to keep customers happy. Activating new customers also was a manual process, which sometimes created delays in delivering products to those customers.

Outcomes

The Infor solution's AI-driven customer insights empower the Grosfillex sales team to devise new promotional plans, negotiate pricing and contracts, and craft other effective sales strategies swiftly and precisely. Additionally, automated customer grading serves as a valuable tool for gaining insights into the online website experience, which contributes to enhanced e-commerce performance.

The outcomes that Grosfillex has achieved by implementing Infor's AI solution for customer profitability grading include:

- Increased revenue: 10 percent revenue increase within a week by expanding the product assortment for a specific group of low-graded accounts. 5 percent increase in gross margin percentage within a month by making pricing adjustments.
- Enhanced sales productivity: 83 percent improvement in sales productivity through the automation of customer profitability grading.
- Improved customer experience: Grosfillex can deliver a more curated product assortment, contributing to better overall customer experience.
- Enhanced online shopping experience: Grosfillex can identify products that may not be well represented on its e-commerce site.

To address the complexities of stock availability, Grosfillex is using Infor's AI-driven product recommendations, which empowers sales and service teams to suggest alternative products that are currently in stock.

According to Grosfillex CEO Frans Govers, "Managing thousands of products makes it impractical for employees to provide such intelligent recommendations without extensive experience or a tool such as AI. Equipped with Infor's product recommender, we anticipate fulfilling more orders, leading to increased revenues and heightened customer satisfaction."

With Infor's solution, Grosfillex also has automated the entire customer activation process. Now, users can access the Infor Portal to view their assigned tasks and monitor the status of the entire workflow process. This enabled the company to reduce the new customer activation process from 1-to-2 weeks, with its previous manual approach, to only 1-to-2 days with Infor's automation solution.

Massimo Capoccia, Infor chief innovation officer, said, "Infor is excited to partner with an innovative company such as Grosfillex that is committed to staying at the forefront of its industry. Our cloud technology platform, which provides integrated AI and automation capabilities, is enabling Grosfillex to enhance customer service, employee productivity and more. We started by helping Grosfillex utilize AI and automation to grade customer accounts faster and more efficiently, and we look forward to helping the company further leverage these capabilities to grow its business."

Smaken av Grimstad Moves ERP to the Infor Cloud in Eight Weeks

12 December 2023

Infor®, the industry cloud company, today announced that Smaken av Grimstad AS, Norway's leading provider of canned and preserved fresh produce, has gone live with Infor CloudSuite Food & Beverage in eight weeks. Infor's powerful, cloud-native, industry-focused enterprise resource planning (ERP) solution will deliver insights from across the supply chain, underpinning future business growth. The project was managed by Infor alliance partner Columbus.

[Smaken av Grimstad](#) had last upgraded its on-premises ERP system in 2018 and was using the incumbent solution across the business to manage everything from purchasing raw materials,

inventory and production planning to sales, invoicing and accounting. The business felt it was being held back by its ERP system and wanted to have a more agile evergreen ERP and ability to consume new technology as a cloud service. So, the business decided to implement Infor CloudSuite Food & Beverage, powered by AWS (Amazon Web Services).

Smaken av Grimstad was keen to make the move to the cloud, but it needed to be ready before the harvest. The team at [Columbus](#) worked hard to achieve this and after just eight weeks, the ERP move to the cloud was completed.

“When the board made the decision to lift the ERP solution to the cloud, there were barely two months until the harvest in July,” explains Jan Rommetveit, managing director and co-owner of Smaken av Grimstad. “The cucumbers are ripe and ready for harvesting around mid-July. A few days later, they start to rot. The factory must be equipped with people and systems, prepared to receive and process the raw materials when they are harvested. To ensure timely deliveries to the customers and liquidity in the business, order fulfilment and invoicing had to be up and running in time.



Photos courtesy of Smaken av Grimstad

“The warehouse also needed the ability to scan the pallets on delivery of the goods so that we can send electronic information about the goods deliveries to customers. Without this in place, our customers would have to do this manually, an exercise that our large food wholesale customers Norgesgruppen, Rema and Coop simply would not accept,” Rommetveit continued.

“Infor CloudSuite Food & Beverage safeguards our historic farm-to-table perspective for the entire food supply chain by enabling us to obtain insights from right across the supply chain. At the same time, we know that the solution is constantly being enriched with industry-specific functionality, which gives us confidence that we have a future-oriented platform that will be relevant at all times for our business. Moreover, this has not cost us more than a usable tractor

and shows that modern ERP platforms are now available for SMEs like us,” Rommetveit concluded.“

This was very much a team effort,” said Per Christian Øen, customer manager at Columbus. “It wasn't ‘us and them,’ but ‘we’ all the way. Many people were involved in the project, but the combination of accurate resource allocation, data migration with good assurance of quality and time, the right expertise and, not least, professional project management and an agile project approach with close dialogue with the teams, contributed to landing this project on time and on budget.”

“With Infor CloudSuite Food and Beverage, Smaken av Grimstad has invested in a solution for the long term,” said Marcel Koks, Infor food industry strategy leader. “Our industry-specific functionality helps manufacturers increase visibility right across the supply chain, delivering the valuable insight needed to help reduce costs and increase efficiency, all while boosting business agility. It’s a testament to the hard work of the teams involved that we were able to achieve a successful implementation in just eight weeks.”

wheel.me adopts Siemens Xcelerator as a Service to drive the future of autonomous factory robotics

15 December 2023

Siemens Digital Industries Software today announces that autonomous factory automation start-up, wheel.me, has selected the Siemens Xcelerator as a Service portfolio of industry software to help drive development of its next generation Genius 2 - an autonomous system that can turn almost any object into an autonomous mobile robot. The wheel.me system allows customers to optimize intra-logistical operations by efficiently transporting goods on the factory floor without human intervention and can transform anything into an autonomous mobile robot with minimal effort - without the need to alter its design or form.

Designed and engineered at the company’s Oslo headquarters using Siemens Xcelerator as a Service, Genius 2 has been developed to work alongside people, freeing them from repetitive tasks and boosting productivity. Comprised of a set of four autonomous wheels with one wheel acting as the central brain, Genius 2 works alongside wheel.me’s indoor navigation technology and data analytics and is adaptable to different loads and sizes - possessing obstacle detection and dynamic path planning capabilities thanks to their advanced sensor technology. The accompanying software allows for customizable process flows and centralized control, enabling efficient navigation and successful transportation throughout customer’s facilities.

In 2023, [wheel.me](#) realized it needed to move from its existing multi-vendor toolset of disparate engineering systems and basic management solution from to a single, unified platform that not only encompassed mechanical design, but also brought together its team and data with robust lifecycle management capabilities. As Casper Rødsrud, Head of Mechanical Engineering at wheel.me, explains, “We realized that using bits and pieces from different software suppliers was slowing down development, so we decided to look for integrated solutions and somewhere where we could get the whole package.”

Supported by local sales partner, Clevr, wheel.me selected Siemens' Mechanical Design bundle (an interoperable bundle of Siemens' NX™ software and Solid Edge® software) for product engineering along with industry proven Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) with Teamcenter® software. This enables the team to flexibly switch between its chosen design tools in a controlled, centralized and data managed environment. As Rødsrud explains, "The ability to get access to both NX and Solid Edge gives us the flexibility we need to choose the tool best suited for the project needs. It's the flexibility that's key and knowing that we can do quick concept designs in Solid Edge, then move to NX during in-depth design as well as to carry out any necessary simulations is also important for our team."

"We believe that startups are the lifeblood of innovation across the complete spectrum of the design and manufacturing industry. We're delighted to work with wheel.me as they explore the potential for autonomous robotics in the factory and warehouse," said Mats Friberg, Vice President & Managing Director, Nordic Operation, Siemens Digital Industries Software. "It's another great example of how the Siemens Xcelerator portfolio is bringing world-class design and engineering capabilities in a controlled, managed and secure lifecycle management environment to pioneering companies of all sizes, to help them truly innovate and explore the future."

The team at wheel.me is anticipating that the growth the company is experiencing isn't likely to let up anytime soon, so scalability of processes and infrastructure is critical both now and the future. "The demand is continuously growing and we want to grow with it," concludes Rødsrud, "We are growing globally, especially in Europe and the US, and are very excited for what the future will bring." wheel.me is embracing this accelerated pace, but also know it needs to make sure the growth is sustainable, and that their resources are being used wisely - and Siemens Xcelerator as a Service is the toolset of choice as they explore the future of autonomous factory automation with their customers.

Wipro and Marelli Create First Cabin Digital Twin Viable Product

12 December 2023

Wipro Limited, a leading technology services and consulting company, has supported Marelli Electronic Systems, a leading mobility technology supplier to the automotive sector, in the development of its Cabin Digital Twin, that enables Original Equipment Manufacturers (OEMs) to introduce connected vehicle services to the market quickly.

The growing complexity of software and data requires the automotive industry to build deep software competence in the cloud while also maintaining cost efficiencies, reducing deployment time, and enabling frequent updates throughout a vehicle's lifetime.

To better address these industry concerns, Marelli leveraged [Wipro Cloud car](#) to develop the first cabin digital twin viable product. Wipro's extensive AI/ML ecosystem, as well as its accelerator solutions, helped Marelli deliver a smart, automated cloud-based solution that can test, validate, and update Software-Defined Vehicle (SDV) features, reducing the time it takes to release new software updates to the market.

Further, Wipro leveraged its cloud and containerized microservices, to enable Marelli to accelerate the implementation of new features, yield significant cost savings, reduce project completion time, and streamline software updates to help OEMs quickly address customer demands.

“This initiative with Marelli leverages our software engineering expertise and brings to market a connected, cloud-native solution,” said **Yves-Antoine Brun, Vice President, Head of Wipro Engineering Edge Europe, Wipro Limited**. “Combining traditional solutions with innovative platforms, we are thrilled to help the automotive industry redefine next generation driving experiences and enable them to deliver a better car every day.”

Roberto Secchi, Head of Software Platform and DevOps, Marelli Electronic Systems, said, “We are excited to continue our multi-year partnership with Wipro. Marelli has already made significant strides in the SDV field, thanks to focused investments and the exploration of numerous business opportunities, driven by a passion for innovation. Wipro’s broad SDV talent pool has been essential in helping us create this latest ground-breaking innovation.”

Wipro and RSA Sign a New Multi-Year Contract to Accelerate RSA’s Cloud Migration

14 December 2023

Wipro Limited, a leading technology services and consulting company, announced that it has entered into a new agreement with RSA, one of the world’s leading general insurance companies. Wipro will help accelerate RSA’s migration to the cloud and build a compliant, secure, and scalable IT infrastructure. The three-year engagement builds on Wipro and RSA’s existing relationship, which began in 2016.

This contract will accompany RSA on its journey over the next couple of years to modernize its infrastructure and the use of Cloud technology. It will also support the delivery of a range of operational services to enable a connected business environment and support RSA’s growth objectives. The resulting state-of-the-art infrastructure will optimize service delivery and enhance RSA’s customer and employee experience through automation.

Omkar Nisal, Managing Director UK & Ireland, Wipro Limited, said, “We are proud to extend our engagement with RSA. Under our enhanced scope, we will accompany them on their modernization journey by addressing their technology and regulatory needs. Through cloud technology and industry-leading cybersecurity frameworks, we will further strengthen and scale RSA’s business. Our teams are excited to continue our work, always innovating and driving modernization to realize RSA’s ambitions.”

Matt Lockie, IT Foundation Director, RSA said, “Wipro and RSA’s continued relationship helps us to drive greater value across our infrastructure services and ensure the highest standards of service. There is a big focus on modernization in the next couple of years and both organizations remain committed to pushing boundaries and achieving even greater success in the future.”

Product News

Kubotek Kosmos CAD Utilities 5.3 Release

13 December 2023

Kubotek Kosmos today announced the 5.3 Service Pack release of the Kubotek Kosmos CAD Utility software products. This release provides updates to CAD file translators, several user-control updates, and a dozen fixes.

Improved Translators

The 5.3 releases of all Kubotek Kosmos CAD utility programs include added support for solid and surface data from native Mastercam MCAM files as well as updates to several CAD file formats. The NX PRT format and Parasolid X_T formats from Siemens Digital Industries Software have been extended to support NX 2306 Series and Parasolid V36.0 across all programs. The Validate and Revision utilities have also been updated to support the 2024 version of KeyCreator CKD files.

Support has been added to the Kubotek Kosmos View and Convert products for user-defined view orientation and world coordinate axis marker metadata objects stored in native 3D CAD files. For the 5.3 release, CATIA V5 Named Views are now added to the views list pull-down in the user interface. CATIA V5 Axis Systems are also now added to the part tree. Both of these data types allow users to quickly set the 3D display view to match this imported metadata.

Enhancements

The updated Validate and Revision products, with their focus on comparing translation accuracy between authority and derivative files, provide users more control over specific instances of PMI error. When PMI annotations graphically display correctly but the semantic association between them and their related geometric entities is not maintained after translation, the user is now prompted to review. Previously, this was automatically deemed a translation error. The updated functionality allows the user to manually disposition this type of PMI association error with a comment before creating a compare report, providing greater clarity to any auditing process and avoiding unnecessary delay.

The Microsoft Windows versions of 5.3 View and Convert products now check and register with the operating system for associations to supported CAD file types. If no other application has registered with Windows as capable of opening a CAD file type, View or Convert will become the default application for each file type. This feature provides the convenience of opening CAD files from File Explorer or the Desktop.