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CIMdata News

Clarity in Complexity: Meeting Electromagnetic Design Challenges for Electronic Systems – a CIMdata Commentary

23 January 2024

Key Takeaways

- **Increase in cyber-physical systems design complexity:** The information revolution has led to multifunctional PCB assemblies with smaller footprints, escalating circuit, package, and system design complexity. Increasing IC speeds, data rates, and denser configurations compound power integrity (PI), signal integrity (SI), and electromagnetic related (EMI/EMC) issues.
- **Multiphysics Simulation Challenges:** Electromagnetic (EM) simulations, crucial for tackling design challenges, are resource-intensive and are often segmented into smaller portions of the overall design to perform analyses, adding risk to design cycles. The addition of connectors further compounds EM high-frequency effects, necessitating careful analysis. As such, traditionally, EM analysis is done during the final verification step, leading to costly respins and/or redesigns when discrepancies are discovered late in the design cycle.
- **EDA Workflow Inefficiencies:** Conventional workflows require interfacing across multiple software tools for performing design and simulations, each with different user interfaces and product design databases, increasing the risk of design errors. Traceability of design changes and product configuration management are also a major challenge with disconnected tools and processes.
- **Wireless and Heterogeneous Connectivity Demand:** Technology proliferation drives a need for wireless connectivity across devices with various communication protocols, necessitating robust EM simulation to prevent interference.
- **The Cadence® electronic design automation (EDA) software suite for IC, advanced packaging, and PCB design, leveraging the Clarity™ 3D Solver for early-stage design and analysis of critical electronic assemblies and interconnects, facilitates designers to tackle EM and related multiphysics design challenges in complex electronics systems used in 5G/6G, aerospace and defense, automotive, and high-performance computing (HPC) applications.**

Role of Multiphysics Analysis in Electronics System Design

Multiphysics analysis in electronics system design provides a holistic understanding by simulating the complex interactions among electrical, mechanical, thermal, and fluid dynamics phenomena within a system. This analysis is pivotal for optimizing performance as it enables designers to minimize thermal stress, reduce power consumption, and improve signal integrity by understanding the interplay of various physical phenomena. By simulating realistic operating conditions early in the design process, multiphysics analysis helps identify potential issues,

thereby reducing development time and costs as problems can be rectified before physical prototyping. Design analysis and optimization significantly enhances system reliability and longevity by ensuring they operate well under a wide range of conditions and can withstand physical stresses over time. It provides a solid, data-driven foundation for making informed decisions regarding material selection, geometric design, and operational parameters, which are crucial for the efficiency and effectiveness of the system. Furthermore, multiphysics analysis ensures regulatory compliance and safety by helping designers adhere to standards concerning EMI/EMC, and thermal management. It fosters innovation by allowing the exploration of new design concepts, materials, and architectures in a virtual setting, which is conducive to the development of novel solutions. Employing multiphysics analysis can lead to product differentiation by enabling the creation of novel, high-performance, and reliable electronic systems. Tools like the Cadence Clarity 3D Solver are part of the broader multiphysics analysis ecosystem, aiding in electromagnetic simulation, which is crucial for tackling complex challenges in electronic system design. Overall, multiphysics analysis is indispensable in modern electronic system design, enabling designers to navigate the complex challenges inherent in the interplay of various physical phenomena, and ensuring the development of robust, efficient, and compliant electronic systems. [1]

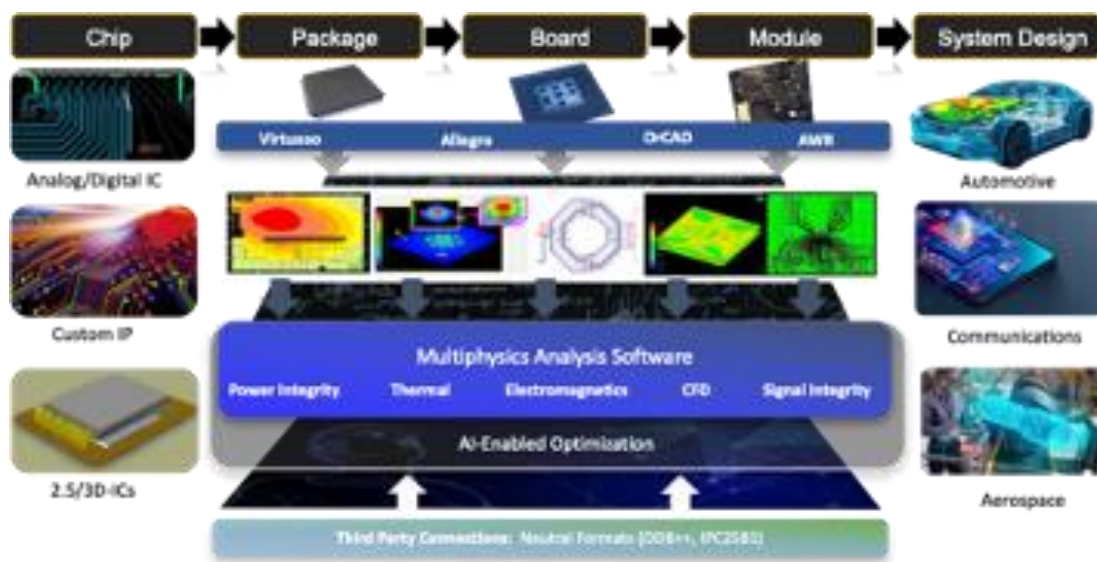


Figure 1—Cadence Multiphysics Systems Design and Analysis Portfolio
 (Courtesy Cadence)

Electromagnetic Challenges in Electronics System Design

Today’s high-performance electronic systems are being driven by ever-increasing complexity and IC density, requiring designers to consider EMI and EMC, as well as PI/SI and high-speed RF/microwave issues. To accelerate the design process and meet aggressive delivery schedules, engineers need to be able to perform EM cross-fabric and multiphysics analysis to model, simulate, and analyze these effects on chip, package, PCB, and system-level design. As such, there is a significant shift in electronics product development, where multiphysics EM simulation and analysis are being integrated earlier in the design process, unlike the traditional

approach of evaluating them later in the detailed design and prototyping process. This shift mirrors trends seen in automotive and aerospace sectors such as simulation-driven design, aiming to identify and rectify design issues earlier, thus saving time and resources and improving “first build” quality. The acceleration of this “shift left” methodology in electronic system design is further propelled by enabling new AI and data-driven techniques. The rapid adoption of this approach in electronics system design is crucial for staying competitive in this fast-paced market.

In applications like 5G/6G, aerospace and defense, automotive, and high-performance computing (HPC) applications, the data speeds and volume are escalating at an exponential rate. Conducting crosstalk analysis and simulation in high-speed design becomes a Herculean task without the right field solver tools or analytical models. Modern high-speed PCB designers need to meticulously consider single-ended and differential crosstalk, along with power integrity problems that can be mistaken for crosstalk. A nuanced understanding of the relationship between physical design and overall system performance is crucial.

EM analysis is critical for uncovering any unintended EM interactions in the overall system and to ensure the design will meet performance specifications. In addition, EM simulation is used when designing a chip, package, board, or system to optimize the current design by looking at the results of the simulation and then fine tuning to further improve the key design parameters. Finally, EM simulation is important during the signoff phase when the design is complete, and it is necessary to confirm that it is fully optimized and meets specifications.

Clarity 3D Solver: Integration of Electromagnetic Design, Analysis, and Simulation

As noted, the EM simulations required to understand and address these design challenges traditionally have been analyzed by breaking up the system into multiple subsections and smaller parts, requiring large amounts of analysis time and computational resources. In addition, most workflows require multiple tools with different user interfaces, different file infrastructures, and design databases to accomplish various design and simulation tasks, while EM analysis and optimization are typically performed as a final step during design verification and signoff. All these issues can lead to costly errors that require design rework and delay time to market as defects in product performance vs. design requirements are uncovered late in the product development process, often during hardware build. The Cadence Clarity 3D Solver EM simulation software tool enables designers of PCBs, IC packages, and systems to overcome the most complex EM challenges in systems 5G/6G, aerospace and defense, automotive, and high-performance computing (HPC) applications (Figure 2).

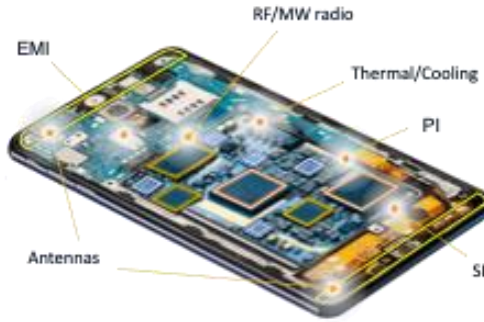


Figure 2—EM Challenges for Communication Systems— Mobile Phones can Contain 4-13 Different Antennas and At Least Four Radios
 (Courtesy Cadence)

The Clarity 3D Solver is a helpful tool for designing important connections in different types of electronic designs, and it's built to tackle complex electromagnetic challenges quickly and accurately. Its special technology uses multiple computer cores and cloud resources to handle large, complex structures efficiently. This solver works smoothly with other Cadence design tools, creating a unified platform for high-speed and high-frequency design tasks. As fast connectors become more common, the Clarity 3D Solver helps in optimizing the connections between these connectors and other electronic components, meeting the needs for speed, capacity, and efficient memory usage. Additionally, its connection with the AWR Design Environment® platform helps in handling large electromagnetic problems without breaking them down into smaller parts, making design optimization and checking faster. The Cadence Optimality™ Intelligent System Explorer, which is integrated with Clarity is a new optimization platform aided by AI technology. The use of AI technology along with the Clarity 3D Solver is a step towards the future, pushing the electronics industry towards a scenario where design improvement is a continuous process aiming for better results.

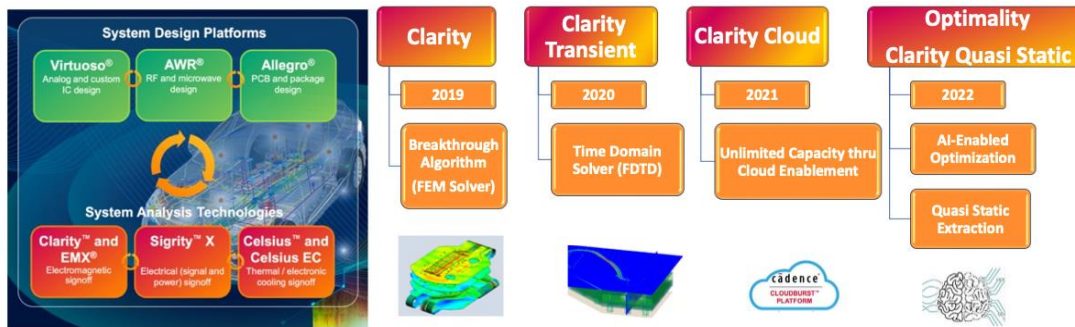
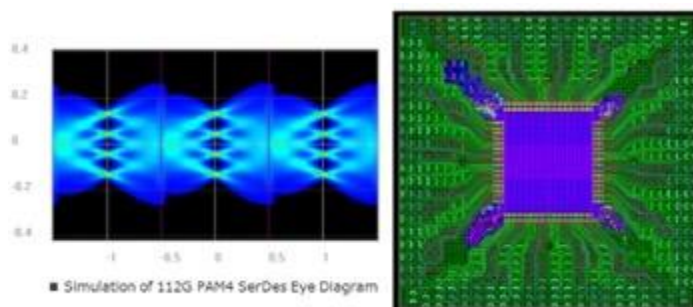


Figure 3—Clarity 3D Integrated Design and EM Analysis
 (Courtesy Cadence)

Case Study: Global Unichip Corporation (GUC) Achieves 5X Speedup of System Analysis for 112G Long-Reach Network Switch

GUC effectively integrated the Clarity 3D Solver in designing a complex network switch, achieving a 5-times boost in simulation performance and enabling pre-tapeout analysis to optimize the design for maximum performance at a lower cost. Additionally, by utilizing an integrated Cadence IC packaging design and analysis solution, including the Clarity 3D Solver for interconnect modeling and Sigrity™ SystemSI™ technology for evaluating 112G signal quality, GUC streamlined its design process, developing an efficient and holistic design methodology.

“As an ASIC design leader, delivering advanced designs to our customers in a timely manner is critical,” said Mr. Igor Elkanovich, CTO of GUC. “Enhanced performance for 3D finite-element method interconnect modeling was a key requirement for a successful collaboration. The Clarity 3D Solver delivered high-performance computational 3D full-wave modeling with gold-standard accuracy, enabling us to achieve optimized signal and power integrity along with a faster path to design closure. With a complete Cadence flow for design, analysis, and signoff, we completed the design of a complex networking application for our customer.”



*Figure 4—System Analysis for 112G Long-Reach Network Switch Using Clarity 3D
(Courtesy Cadence)*

Case Study: Wistron Deploys Cadence AI-Driven Multiphysics System Analysis Solution to Dramatically Accelerate Product Development

Wistron, a leading technical service provider (TSP) adopted and deployed Cadence’s new AI-driven EM in-design analysis workflow, including the Optimality Intelligent System Explorer and the Clarity 3D Solver, to design a complex 800G network switch. Using the Optimality Explorer’s AI-driven optimization technology and the Clarity 3D Solver for fast, accurate, and scalable EM in-design analysis, Wistron was able to analyze large volumes of data—improving overall design reliability while realizing a significant reduction in turnaround time.

“By adopting Cadence’s AI-driven optimization solution including Optimality Explorer alongside the Clarity 3D Solver for our 800G network switch and GPU server, we leveraged the design of experiments model to explore multiple simulations quickly and realized far more robust designs,” said Mr. Christopher Huang, vice president of the Enterprise and Networking Business Group at Wistron. “With a shift left of AI-enabled multiphysics systems analysis into our electronic design workflow, we are not only improving product performance but gaining valuable design insight and engineering efficiencies.”



Figure 5—Wistron 32X 800GbE OSFP and 64X 400GbE optical SN switch Broadcom Tomahawk
(Courtesy of Serve the Home (STH): servethehome.com)

Concluding Remarks

The system design complexities inherent in today's multifunction electronic products combined with increasing speeds and data transmission rates, decreases in power-supply voltages, and denser, smaller geometries produce many challenges for PI/SI, RF/microwave, and EMI/EMC designers.

The Clarity 3D Solver EM simulation software tool provides in-design EM simulations early in the process, delivering speed, accuracy, and scalability through a massively parallelized matrix solver. Because the Clarity 3D Solver is tightly integrated with Cadence's other industry-leading multiphysics analysis tools, Cadence is now providing a complete model-based design and analysis workflow within a single commercial software platform. And the new Optimality Intelligent System Explorer now brings the power of AI to the EDA design process, which promises to make a significant impact on the ability to optimize electronics systems designs while also reducing the time to market and costs of complex electronics systems product development.

As such, CIMdata believes this integrated EDA design and analysis suite of tools can provide Cadence's EDA customers with significant business benefits when utilized starting in the up-front conceptual design stage and carried forward throughout the detailed product design and development lifecycle.

[1] Research for this commentary was partially supported by Cadence.

Acquisitions

ABB to acquire weather routing business to expand marine software portfolio

24 January 2024

ABB announced it has entered into an agreement to acquire the shipping business of DTN Europe BV and DTN Philippines Inc. (hereinafter DTN Shipping), expanding the company's

offering in maritime software. This will establish ABB as one of the market leaders in ship route optimization. The acquisition of the DTN Shipping portfolio covers vessel routing software, including analytics, reporting, and modelling applications. Financial details of the transaction were not disclosed. The transaction is subject to customary closing conditions as well as completion of applicable works councils' consultation procedures. It is expected to close during Q2 2024.

The acquisition comes at a time when real-time weather routing analytics play an increasingly important role in helping vessels optimize voyage efficiency and safety. Complementing ABB's existing digital offering, the DTN Shipping business brings market-leading application programming interfaces (API) to ABB and expands the number of vessels connected to ABB networks to over 5,000. ABB and DTN Shipping will work together to ensure continuous customer service and the seamless integration of approximately 85 employees, most of whom are located in the Netherlands and Philippines, into ABB.

Current customers of DTN Shipping will benefit from ABB's expertise in electric, automated and digital marine solutions, securing more opportunities to gain efficiencies, save fuel and cut emissions.

"We look forward to welcoming our new colleagues to the ABB family. With DTN Shipping's unique weather routing solutions, combined with our existing digital portfolio, we can bring significant benefits for ship owners and operators worldwide," said Juha Koskela, Division President, ABB Marine & Ports. "This is integral to our commitment to deploy digital solutions for the purpose of driving better operational decisions, resulting in increasingly sustainable performance of vessels. With this acquisition, we can now offer all levels of digitalization, across all fleet types and sizes, creating a unique offering in vessel and voyage performance."

"Innovation is by nature collaborative," said Marc Chesover, President and CEO of DTN. "This is an important moment in the advancement of digital solutions for the maritime industry. We are proud of what the Shipping team has accomplished at DTN and are confident that the industry will see great value from the expanded ABB offerings that are possible when combined with the DTN Shipping portfolio. DTN looks forward to continuing to provide core forecasting elements to ABB post completion."

ABB Ability™ digital solutions for the marine industry are well-established in passenger, ice-going, container and energy vessel segments. With this acquisition, ABB further strengthens the company's focus on investing in digital solutions that support decarbonization and enable better resource efficiency, in line with the ABB purpose to drive a more sustainable future through technology leadership.

Accenture Completes Acquisition of Global Digital Product Company Work & Co

22 January 2024

Accenture has completed its acquisition of Work & Co, a global digital product company that blends design, technology, and innovation to help companies create breakthrough products and experiences. The acquisition reinforces how continued investment by Accenture Song—the

world's largest tech-powered creative group—is creating new ways for its clients to grow while meeting their customers' ever-evolving needs.

The acquisition of Work & Co previously announced on January 9, 2024, adds nearly 400 people to Accenture Song, bringing deep credibility in creating flagship digital experiences and products—from mobile apps and commerce platforms to retail experiences, digital kiosks, and generative AI applications.

Founded in 2013, Work & Co has earned multiple honors for digital products it strategized on, designed, and developed, including Fast Company's Innovation by Design Awards, Time's Best Inventions list, and CES Innovation Awards. Work & Co has also been recognized by Forbes as one of the "Most Consequential Agencies" in business.

As Accenture Song continues to bolster its global digital products and experience transformation capabilities, the acquisition of Work & Co will help clients grow, innovate, and sustain relevance.

Ansys Announces Deeper Collaboration with Humanetics to Enhance Human Safety

23 January 2024

Ansyes announced that it has entered into a definitive agreement to acquire a minority ownership interest in Humanetics from Bridgepoint, the global private equity firm that first invested in Humanetics in 2018. The transaction is subject to customary closing conditions and receipt of required regulatory approvals. Humanetics is a leading provider of physical and digital human safety systems and sensor technologies. Building on an existing partnership, the two companies will together strengthen the human safety engineering ecosystem and help propel the industry forward by marrying physical and virtual safety solutions with digital twins.

Humanetics is the world's leading provider of anthropomorphic test devices (ATDs), more commonly known as crash test dummies. The company also provides digital models of their ATDs, which are commonly used by simulation software companies, including Ansys, to create realistic simulations of crash events. Humanetics' digital models of ATDs are highly complementary to, and frequently used with Ansys' LS-DYNA crash test solution.

Humanetics also offers an innovative ergonomics software solution, RAMSIS, which allows users to create virtual vehicle interiors, custom Human Body Models (HBMs), and 3D occupants to evaluate ergonomics and comfort during prototype development. Combining Humanetics' HBMs and RAMSIS with Ansys' physics-based simulation portfolio through the expanded partnership will further empower human-centric product design, improve testing, and inform decision making.

"Humanetics' mission is to protect humans in mission critical environments, by providing engineers with data that is used to drive innovation and improve control. Combining our safety and sensor expertise with Ansys' simulation capabilities is an opportunity to add value to our customers and save more lives," said Christopher O'Connor, Humanetics CEO and President. "Ansys' partnership will jointly enable us to further unleash new levels of innovation in the

human safety ecosystem. We remain committed to working with all our existing and future partners to drive innovation in the industry.”

“Ansys and Humanetics’ existing offerings are highly complementary and enable an end-to-end solution for active and passive auto safety test and design,” said Shane Emswiler, senior vice president of products at Ansys. “Deepening our partnership with Humanetics will not only enable further integration of physical test data with digital simulation data for our customers, but also has the potential to enable interconnected digital and physical offerings that will transform the human safety ecosystem.”

Autodesk signs definitive agreement to acquire Payapps for global payment and compliance management

24 January 2024

In a blog post on the Autodesk New Page, Jim Lynch announces the agreement for Autodesk to acquire Payapps.

The blog post states, “With this acquisition, Autodesk customers will benefit from leveraging technology that eases the burden of construction payment management in a process that is simpler, faster, and more efficient for all construction project stakeholders.”

The post ends with the following financial regulatory notice: “Autodesk’s proposed acquisition of Payapps Limited has not been completed; the completion of the proposed acquisition of Payapps Limited is uncertain and is subject to the satisfaction or waiver of various conditions. Prior to the completion of the proposed acquisition, Payapps Limited and Autodesk will continue to operate as separate companies. Subject to the timely satisfaction or waiver of the applicable conditions, Autodesk expects the proposed acquisition of Payapps Limited to complete during Autodesk’s first quarter of Fiscal Year 2025, ending April 30, 2024. Accordingly, it will have no material impact on Autodesk’s fourth quarter and fiscal year 2024 guidance presented on November 21, 2023. The foregoing descriptions of the contemplated effects of the proposed acquisition are subject to the acquisition’s completion and Autodesk’s ability to successfully integrate Payapps in all respects.”

Read the full blog post here: <https://adsknews.autodesk.com/en/news/autodesk-to-acquire-payapps/>

MariaDB Finalizes Spinoff of Its Geospatial Business

24 January 2024

MariaDB plc announced that it has completed a spinoff of its geospatial business to CubeWerx, an independent entity and leader in geospatial products and services.

“We are happy to see this powerful geospatial solution continue under its original company and leaders,” said Tom Siegel, chief revenue officer, MariaDB plc. “As we continue to focus our efforts on our core MariaDB Enterprise Server product, we are encouraged knowing there is a strong geospatial service offered by CubeWerx that our customers with geospatial data needs can count on.”

Company News

Altair Announces Opening of Innovation Experience Centre in Pune with Showcase of Automotive Digital Twin Capabilities

22 January 2024

Altair, a global leader in computational science and artificial intelligence (AI), will introduce its newly established Innovation Experience Centre and showcase its state-of-the-art AI-driven technology at the Symposium on International Automotive Technology (SIAT) January 23-25 in Pune, India.

“The centre, located in the Altair office in Pune, will provide prospects and customers with a hands-on experience of Altair’s technology solutions – from simulation and design to high-performance computing, data analytics, and AI,” said Vishwanath Rao, managing director for India and GCC, Altair. “It will also allow visitors to have direct interaction with in-house experts, so they can gain a comprehensive understanding of Altair’s solutions and how the convergence of such technologies impacts product development.”

As a bronze sponsor of SIAT, Altair will feature its comprehensive digital twin offering, the market’s most complete end-to-end digital twin solution for both physics-based and data-based twins.

Additionally, Altair’s Atul Miskin, senior manager of vibrations and acoustics solutions, will deliver a presentation on "Noise, Vibration, and Harshness (NVH) Innovation in the Age of E-Mobility." Other presentations from Altair include "A Multidisciplinary Optimization Approach for Lightweighting and Performance Improvement of Electric Light Commercial Vehicle" and "A Novel Approach to Efficient Thermal Management of a Solar Electric Four-Wheeler Through Model-Based System Simulation."

The Altair Innovation Experience Centre features applications related to digital twin, lightweighting, and seamless connectivity to virtual reality, and will demonstrate these technologies’ practical application in design innovation. The Innovation Experience Centre is located at Altair Engineering, 701-8, City Towers, Dhole Patil Road, Pune 411001.

Altair Names EDA Expert Channel Partner for France

25 January 2024

Altair, a global leader in computational science and artificial intelligence (AI), announced that EDA Expert has joined Altair’s growing channel partner network and will offer the full suite of Altair’s electronic design solutions, part of the Altair® HyperWorks® design and simulation platform. As an exclusive supplier of software dedicated to electronics and embedded systems within France, EDA Expert uses its skills to offer its customers great tools and a global vision from design to manufacturing.

“We are honored to welcome EDA Expert to our global channel partner community, covering the French market for electronics and embedded systems,” said Kimon Afsaridis, managing

director of Eastern Europe and vice president of indirect EMEA sales, Altair. “This strategic alliance spans the French market and will contribute to both companies’ continued growth in the fast-growing engineering and simulation market. Our customers will benefit from EDA Expert’s expertise, local market presence, and industry know-how, which will allow them to accelerate time to market, compete more efficiently, and drive innovation.”

“We are very pleased to add Altair’s best-in-class solutions to the range of software already available to our clients,” said Victor Truong, managing director, EDA Expert. “We are proud to be able to represent a leading global technology company like Altair and look forward to offering world-class innovation and technical expertise to our customers.”

EDA Expert was founded in 2012 and is headquartered in Arcueil, France. The company provides technical expertise and training and helps manufacturers define suitable solutions for the design and manufacturing of electronic systems and the analysis of electronic boards. The applications include software integration and one-off projects, support during the design of high-speed signals, signal integrity, analysis and simulation, thermal analysis, mean time between failures (MTBF) estimates, design for manufacturing (DFM) manufacturability analysis, and more. Additionally, EDA Expert’s trainers are electronics engineers each with more than 20 years of experience, are certified by respected organizations such as Altium, and are also IPC certified interconnect designers (CID).

Aras Founder and Former CEO, Peter Schroer, Invests in Flexxbotics and on Board of Directors

24 January 2024

Flexxbotics, delivering workcell digitalization for robot-driven manufacturing, announced a significant investment from Peter Schroer, founder and former CEO of Aras Corporation. This investment is part of an oversubscribed funding round led by eCoast Angels that included a group of accomplished manufacturing software industry investors and executives from Aras. The funding round signifies a major milestone for Flexxbotics, solidifying its position as an industry visionary and frontrunner in SaaS/hybrid solutions for robot-driven manufacturing.

Peter Schroer, renowned for his leadership and innovative contributions which disrupted manufacturing software during his tenure at Aras, joined the board of directors of Flexxbotics in 2022. His deep industry expertise and strategic insights provide valuable guidance as the company continues to redefine the way software solutions connect and orchestrate the fleets of robots used with automation equipment in global manufacturing environments.

In addition to Peter Schroer, 17 other former Aras investors and executives have chosen to invest in Flexxbotics, further emphasizing the transformative potential of Flexxbotics’ robot-driven manufacturing software solutions.

Other notable former Aras investors and executives who are backing Flexxbotics include:

- Michael Marsh, Former President of the Electronics Division at Tecnomatix (now Siemens Digital Industries Software)

- Martin Allemann, Former CRO & SVP Global Operations at Aras and Former VP European Operations at Oracle Agile
- Frank von Arx, Former EMEA Board Member at Aras and Founder & Former CEO of C-Plan AG (now Autodesk)
- Dr. Bengt Karlsson, Co-Founder of ABAQUS (now Dassault Systèmes)
- Rob McAveney, Chief Technology Officer at Aras
- Mark Beaulieu, Former VP Professional Services & CIO at Aras

“We are honored to have Peter Schroer and this respected group of former Aras investors and executives join the Flexxbotics team,” said Tyler Bouchard, Co-founder & CEO of Flexxbotics.

“Their combined experience and deep understanding of industrial software will be invaluable as we push the limits of what’s possible with robot-driven manufacturing software solutions. Together, we will revolutionize the role robots play in the smart factory.”

The investment and involvement of this influential group of investors will provide Flexxbotics with the expertise and resources needed to accelerate research and development, expand product offerings, and broaden the reach of the company’s innovative solutions.

“We see tremendous opportunity in Flexxbotics’ software solutions and vision for the future of robotics in manufacturing especially with the reshoring trends occurring globally,” said Peter Schroer, Founder and Former CEO of Aras. “Their unique FlexxCORE™ technology combined with their approach to robotic workcell digitalization have the potential to change the smart factory landscape.”

This strategic investment positions Flexxbotics at the forefront of manufacturing software with the combined experience and expertise of these industry veterans propelling the company to new levels of success.

AVEVA Announces First AVEVA E3D Design Competition for Users

22 January 2024

AVEVA, a global leader in industrial software, driving digital transformation and sustainability, has opened entries for its first ever **AVEVA E3D Design Competition**. The contest invites users from across the world to create innovative solutions with AVEVA’s E3D Design’s machine learning (ML) interface to address their organization’s business challenges.

AVEVA E3D Design is the world’s most technologically advanced 3D design solution for multiple industries. It enables powerful visualization, clash-free, multi-discipline 3D design, and rapidly generates accurate drawings and reports to reduce costs, timescales and commercial risks of both greenfield and brownfield capital projects.

The competition will serve as a platform for AVEVA software’s engineering users to demonstrate and showcase their AI/ML skills within the industrial applications sector. It will highlight the global pool of talented users, as well as the solution’s most innovative use cases.

The contest is open to engineers within the fields of energy, oil and gas, chemicals, MMM, water and marine.

Stephen Burrows, R&D Director AVEVA E3D Design, commented: “This competition is designed to showcase the solution’s many uses for addressing business challenges and the ingenuity of the E3D community. I’m always struck by the exceptional capabilities, passion and creativity of users of AVEVA software.”

AVEVA E3D Design empowers engineers and designers to create solutions in a fast, efficient, sustainable and innovative manner. The intuitive machine learning (ML) interface enables users to leverage AI/ML in their designs.

Co-founder of SOLIDWORKS and Onshape, Scott Harris, Advises & Invests in Flexxbotics

22 January 2024

Flexxbotics, delivering workcell digitalization for robot-driven manufacturing, announced investment and mentorship from industry luminary Scott Harris, co-founder of SOLIDWORKS and Onshape. This strategic investment marks an exciting development for Flexxbotics, propelling the company towards further innovation and growth in the field of smart factory robotic manufacturing.

Flexxbotics, known for its groundbreaking work in autonomous process control for next-generation machining environments using robotics, offers SaaS/hybrid solutions that deliver robot-driven manufacturing at scale. The company’s breakthrough technology, FlexxCORE™, seamlessly connects and coordinates robots with existing automation equipment, IT systems and people. More powerful, flexible and open, Flexxbotics revolutionizes the use of robots in complex production settings becoming the backbone of the smart factory.

Scott Harris, a renowned figure in the world of computer-aided design and manufacturing software, brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to Flexxbotics. As a co-founder of both SOLIDWORKS, acquired by Dassault Systèmes, and Onshape, acquired by PTC, he has a distinguished track record in driving technological innovation and transforming industries. His investment and involvement with Flexxbotics underscore the company’s visionary approach to the software solutions that orchestrate robotics and equipment in smart manufacturing.

“Flexxbotics is at the forefront of a transformative movement in manufacturing, where robotics and digitalization play a pivotal role in creating smarter, more efficient production environments. Their capability to adapt robot performance on-the-fly in response to feedback is truly unique,” said Scott Harris. “I’m excited to be part of this exciting journey with Flexxbotics and to contribute to their mission of redefining how robots and industrial machines work together in manufacturing processes.”

Investment and expertise from Scott Harris will enable Flexxbotics to further accelerate its research and development efforts, expand its product offerings, and reach a broader customer base. The collaboration will not only strengthen Flexxbotics’ position as an industry leader but

also bring fresh perspectives and innovative solutions to the rapidly evolving landscape of manufacturing automation.

“We are eager to have Scott Harris on board as an investor and advisor,” said Tyler Bouchard, Co-founder & CEO of Flexxbotics. “His deep industry knowledge and successful track record in manufacturing software solutions will be invaluable as we continue to push the boundaries of robotics and manufacturing technology. Together, we will redefine how manufacturers can benefit from robotic automation in the smart factory.”

Flexxbotics is poised to further solidify its position as an innovator in the manufacturing robotics industry. The company’s commitment to seamless, robot-driven manufacturing at scale is set to transform how companies operate in the modern era of Industry 4.0 digitalization.

Configit Appoints Max Mirbaz as Vice President of Global Partner Business

24 January 2024

Configit, the global leader in Configuration Lifecycle Management (CLM), announced the appointment of Max Mirbaz as Vice President of Global Partner Business.

Based in the U.S., in his new role at Configit, **Mirbaz will focus on developing and enhancing global partnerships, driving strategic growth initiatives, and strengthening the company’s market presence.** He’ll be responsible for identifying new partnership opportunities, managing existing relationships and ensuring that those partnerships align with and support Configit’s overall business goals.

Mirbaz brings a wealth of experience to Configit. As Vice President of Sales and Regional Channel Manager at Tacton Systems, he helped drive market expansion and sales growth in North America. In his recent role, he led digital transformation initiatives to enhance customer experiences and operational efficiency at KETIV Technologies. His leadership there played a key role in the successful North American partnership between KETIV Technologies and Tacton.

His hiring comes as Configit continues its growth trajectory, with significant in-roads in the North American market and ongoing progress with partners worldwide.

Johan Salenstedt, CEO, Configit, said: “Max’s technological, business and personal background align seamlessly with our needs for engaging with major global implementation, technology and consulting partners. Having him on board to lead our global partner activities will be instrumental not only to sustain Configit’s recent growth, but also to elevate it to new heights.”

Max Mirbaz, Vice President of Global Partner Business, Configit, said: “Configit has built a reputation for delivering cutting-edge solutions for the configurable product manufacturing sector. The company’s CLM and Configure Price Quote (CPQ) solutions are market leading. I look forward to being a part of the company’s continued growth as we expand globally, strengthen existing partnerships and forge new alliances.”

EagleView and RapidSOS Partner to Provide High-Resolution Aerial Imagery for Emergencies

24 January 2024

EagleView, a leading provider of aerial imagery, software and analytics, and RapidSOS, the intelligent safety platform securely linking over 500 million devices to more than 16,000 first responder and 9-1-1 agencies, announced an integration of EagleView's high-resolution orthogonal imagery into RapidSOS Premium.

EagleView's proprietary camera systems capture superior quality imagery compared to standard satellite images. These detailed images offer higher resolution, greater spatial accuracy, and a clear date stamp, providing critical context in emergency situations.

"Our collaboration is dedicated to one crucial goal, and that's keeping field responders safe and saving lives," said Joe Oddi, Director of Partner Strategies at EagleView. "By integrating EagleView imagery with RapidSOS Premium, we help public safety professionals respond in the most accurate and efficient way to citizens in distress."

RapidSOS Premium enhances the 9-1-1 response system by consolidating critical data such as real-time location, local GIS data, and caller profiles into a single, comprehensive mapping solution. This integration with EagleView will enable RapidSOS users to access high-resolution aerial imagery directly in their workflow, offering unparalleled insights into emergency locations and streamlining decision-making for telecommunicators and field responders.

"Through this alliance with EagleView, telecommunicators can provide more accurate intelligence and directions to support their field responders," said Karin Marquez, Chief Public Safety Brand Officer at RapidSOS. "With high-resolution aerial imagery in RapidSOS, public safety officials can make faster, smarter, and safer decisions to aid those in the field."

Both parties are looking forward to further enhancing the alliance to bring new and innovative solutions to the market.

Former President of Tecnomatix Electronics Division, Michael Marsh, Invests in Flexxbotics and on Board of Directors

23 January 2024

Flexxbotics, delivering workcell digitalization for robot-driven manufacturing, announced an investment from Michael Marsh, a member of the eCoast Angels and former President of Tecnomatix Inc. Electronics Division, acquired by UGS (now Siemens Digital Industries Software). The investment in the latest oversubscribed round further validates Flexxbotics' position as an innovative visionary in the emerging field of robot-driven manufacturing for the smart factory.

Tecnomatix was a leading provider of Manufacturing Process Management (MPM) solutions that enable the design, simulation, and execution of production processes with real-time control and visibility throughout shop-floor operations.

Marsh's extensive background and leadership experience in CAD and manufacturing software solutions along with his expertise in guiding technology companies during high growth, make him an invaluable addition to the Flexxbotics board of directors and investor team. His investment reinforces Flexxbotics' commitment to transforming how software is used to drive robotic automation in next generation machining environments.

"Flexxbotics' vision for the future of robotics in manufacturing, especially the role of robots coordinating the machines in the workcell, has the potential to be truly revolutionary," said Michael Marsh. "FlexxCORE's ability to enable the robots to make real-time changes to factory machinery programs and performance based on feedback is a game-changer and offers unparalleled potential to redefine the way robots operate in smart factories around the world."

Flexxbotics' breakthrough technology, FlexxCORE™, openly connects and coordinates robots with existing automation equipment, IT systems, and people. The technology marks an important leap forward in the ability for robots to communicate and orchestrate existing machinery in the smart factory.

"We are honored to welcome Michael Marsh as both an investor and board member at Flexxbotics," said Tyler Bouchard, Co-founder & CEO of Flexxbotics. "His deep manufacturing industry knowledge and leadership experience will be critical as we continue to advance robot-driven manufacturing and reshape the future of the smart factory."

This investment from Marsh, along with his ongoing involvement, will empower Flexxbotics to further enhance engineering and development, expand its product offerings, and extend the reach of its innovative solutions. It confirms Flexxbotics' status as a pioneering force in the world of robotics and automation, and further strengthens the company's position in the manufacturing software industry.

HCLTech achieves the AWS Financial Services Competency

23 January 2024

HCLTech, a leading global technology company, has received the AWS Financial Services Competency in recognition of its commitment to delivering world-class, cloud-based offerings that help accelerate innovation for banks, insurance companies, capital market firms and payment processors.

"The accreditation marks HCLTech's efforts toward delivering cutting-edge solutions on the AWS Cloud in the ever-evolving financial services landscape. From transforming banking operations to optimizing insurance processes, streamlining capital markets strategies and enhancing payment systems, our expertise spans a wide spectrum of financial services," said Prabhakar Appana, Senior Vice President and Head of the AWS Business Unit, HCLTech.

HCLTech's financial services and solutions on AWS Cloud provide enterprises with a robust foundation for growth and resilience, empowering them with capabilities to mitigate risk, detect fraud, reduce compliance costs and improve customer experiences.

"This acknowledgment highlights our steadfast dedication to excellence and innovation, reinforcing our position as leaders in the financial services sector. As we stand at the forefront

of digital transformation, we empower our clients with a continuous modernization experience and help accelerate their cloud transformation journey with AWS,” said Mani Nagasundaram, Senior Vice President and Head of Strategic Initiatives, Financial Services, HCLTech.

HPE appoints Kristin Major chief people officer

23 January 2024

Hewlett Packard Enterprise named Kristin Major as executive vice president and chief people officer (CPO), effective February 1, 2024, reporting to president and chief executive officer Antonio Neri.

Major has been with HPE since 2011, most recently serving as senior vice president of human resources (HR) and chief talent officer. Over the course of her career with HPE, Major has led HR for HPE GreenLake, HPE Aruba Networking, the HPE Transformation Office, and HPE’s chief technology officer. Prior to joining the HR function, Major was the chief employment counsel for the company for eight years as part of the Operations, Legal, and Administrative Affairs organization.

“Having worked in several different parts of the business over the last 12 years, Kristin has strong relationships and a deep understanding of the needs and opportunities across the enterprise,” said Neri. “Our team members love her, and she shares my passion for culture and creating an environment where our team members can thrive.”

“This really is my dream job. I love this company and I care deeply about our team members and about making their lives better – both professionally and personally,” said Major. “My top priority is building high-performance teams and cultivating and supporting highly engaged leaders who enable team members to take on new challenges, learn, and grow in a healthy, inclusive environment.”

Before joining HPE, Major was a labor and employment counsel at Skadden, Arps, Slate, Meagher & Flom in Palo Alto, California. Major holds a law degree from Georgetown University and received her undergraduate degree from the University of Arizona.

Major succeeds Alan May, who held the CPO role since joining the company in 2015. During his tenure, May transformed HPE’s Human Resource function to foster innovation, raise the bar on talent, increase diversity, introduce industry-leading benefits, and advance culture and business results. He played an instrumental role in the 2015 formation of HPE in its separation from HP, and guided many subsequent transformation efforts, spin-offs and acquisitions. May will remain with HPE to support the organizational integration of Juniper Networks, which HPE announced earlier this month it intends to acquire.

“Alan has been a trusted partner to me since I assumed the role of CEO in 2018, helping to advance our strategic priorities around culture, innovation, and transformation. Together we have made HPE a fantastic place to work that cultivates extraordinary leaders like Kristin,” said Neri. “Alan will play a critical role in the expected integration of Juniper to successfully onboard our new team members into the HPE family while strengthening our culture and future.”

IFS Appoints Sophie Graham as Chief Sustainability Officer

25 January 2024

IFS, the global cloud enterprise software company, announced that it has appointed Sophie Graham as Chief Sustainability Officer. The role reflects IFS's continued commitment to its sustainability strategy and ambition to accelerate the delivery of its Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) agenda.

Sustainability is rapidly becoming a C-level and Board-level priority, in part driven by new regulations like the Corporate Sustainability Reporting Directive (CSRD) and as well as by global agreements by heads of state. CSRD comes into effect in 2024 and will impact all companies listed on EU-regulated markets. For IFS, elevating sustainability includes maintaining strong performance internally, while embedding different sustainability capabilities in IFS Cloud.

In her role as IFS Chief Sustainability Officer, Graham will oversee the successful delivery of IFS's own strategy, working with the Executive Leadership Team to scale at pace across its global operations. Since 2021, Graham has spearheaded Sustainability and ESG at IFS, defining and implementing a successful multi-year strategy and has rapidly become a fervent IFS spokesperson and a thought leader often called upon by the media.

IFS CEO Mark Moffat commented: "IFS is at an incredibly important juncture on ESG and, much like our customers, we are focused on accelerating the results that will have the impact we all look for. Sophie's appointment is evidence of the strategic prioritization of sustainability at IFS, and our goal is to work hand in hand with our customers, sharing our knowledge, experiences and taking their input into our products. Moffat continued: "Through technology we can help transform and improve entire industries and positively affect people's lives. In 2021, we started building capabilities that matter to our customers and where we knew they would deliver the most value to them. **Moffat** concluded: I am looking forward to continuing working with Sophie in her new role as we ramp up both our own efforts and our support in helping customers meeting their own goals."

Sophie Graham, Chief Sustainability Officer, IFS, commented: "I am a true believer in the potential that the technology sector has to drive change across different industries, providing the 'how' roadmap in the transition to a low carbon, more sustainable future. IFS has a clear sense of purpose, and I am very excited to continue building on the robust strategy we already have in place to drive even more lasting impact, across our team, customers, and partners."

With a background in environmental law, Graham has worked across EMEA, Americas and the UK in the technology and finance sectors. Prior to IFS, Sophie led sustainability reporting at Santander UK, including investor ESG engagement. She also worked in the US, establishing an international charity partnership with the Red Cross, and heading up an ESG strategy across 7 countries in the Americas.

IFS also shares that Stephen Keys, previously Chief Talent & Sustainability Officer, takes on a new strategic leadership role focused on our critical talent agenda as Chief Talent Officer, in addition to his role as Chair of the IFS Foundation. Stephen has been instrumental in pioneering

IFS's approach to sustainability within the organization and will continue to drive adoption of sustainability practices in his new role.

IFS is resolutely committed to sustainability, with a strategy based around three pillars of operational excellence, supporting customers and wider community impact. Transparency is key to building trust and ESG disclosures include the IFS Sustainability report produced annually alongside an ESG Fact Sheet.

Kubotek Kosmos and Datakit Strengthen Partnership

18 January 2024

Datakit, a leading CAD Data Exchange Company and Kubotek Kosmos, a leader in engineering and manufacturing geometric software technology, announce Kubotek Kosmos as an authorized distributor and support center for Datakit translation technology in combination with the Kubotek Kosmos 3D Framework software components.

The original partnership between the companies was announced five years ago related to the use of Datakit technology to read native CAD files in the new generation of Kubotek Kosmos CAD utility software applications which target interoperability issues in manufacturing. The partnership has been extended to allow Kubotek Kosmos to license Datakit components to other independent software vendors as a part of its 3D Framework offering. Besides the Kubotek Kosmos CAD interoperability utilities, several end-user CAD/CAE products in the optical engineering space, from Lambda Research and Photon Engineering, have been built based on this same combination of components.

“Kubotek Kosmos has been an excellent partner and has proven capable of supporting use of Datakit technology at the highest level. Kubotek Kosmos high-performance modeling and Datakit translation technology together is a very powerful pairing,” said Phillippe Blache, Datakit CEO.

“Datakit has delivered CAD translation components that exceed our demanding quality requirements and need for regular updates, a streamlined programming interface, and multi-platform support,” said Ram Eswaran, Kubotek Kosmos CTO/COO. “Our team has significant experience supporting thousands of users with critical CAD translation capabilities over decades using several different translation components. The move to Datakit in our next generation end-user products was smooth and enabled us to surpass performance targets. That experience has been key to Kubotek Kosmos providing streamlined access to this same leading technology to its 3D Framework customers,” continued Eswaran.

Both companies participate in cooperative development and testing of CAD interoperability standards through active membership in the PDES, LOTAR International, and prostep ivip organizations.

RON CHAROW JOINS VERTEX AS NEW CFO

24 January 2024

We are happy to announce that **Ron Charow** has joined VERTEX as our Chief Financial Officer, effective January 22, 2024. In his new role, Ron will focus on the financial strategies needed to support our future growth. He will be partnering with Marc Fiore, who will continue to oversee our finance, systems, and programs teams.

Ron has 30+ years of experience in professional services including information technology services, investigative services, advisory services, environmental consulting services, and external audit. He has vast experience in acquisitions, having worked on more than thirty such transactions over his career. Throughout his career he has worked in both private equity and public company environments.

Most recently, he was Chief Financial Officer of Mintz Group, a leading global provider of investigative and research services. While with Mintz, he ensured financial discipline in executing the company's strategic plan through the areas of financial planning and analysis, treasury and taxation, financial reporting, and strategic initiatives. Prior to his work with Mintz, Ron worked with LRN Corporation, a leader in ethics and compliance knowledge solutions and advisory services. As Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer, he was responsible for financial reporting and analysis, business planning, treasury, and taxation. Prior to LRN Ron was with Fujitsu Consulting, where he was Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer responsible for finance, administration, IT, and legal affairs.

Ron holds a Graduate Diploma in Public Accounting from McGill University and a Bachelor of Commerce degree from Concordia University, both in Montreal, Canada. He holds a professional accounting designation title in Canada and has lectured extensively in the graduate program of McGill University on topics ranging from financial reporting to financial engineering; hence, he is a true believer of our Lifetime of Learning Program!

Please join us in welcoming Ron to the VERTEX family.

Scandinavian Digital Expands Partnership With Tacton to Resell Tacton CPQ Across the Nordics and DACH Regions

25 January 2024

Tacton, the leading provider of Configure, Price, Quote (CPQ) solutions for industrial manufacturers, and Scandinavian Digital, a leading business consulting company that helps engineering companies achieve digital transformation, announced that Scandinavian Digital is now an official reseller of Tacton CPQ, the No. 1 rated CPQ for manufacturers. The expanded partnership further strengthens the companies' commitment to providing best-in-class solutions for Design Automation and sales configuration across the Nordics, DACH, and other global regions.

Last year, Scandinavian Digital joined forces with Tacton to successfully deliver Tacton's Design Automation solutions – which support the full range of computer-aided design (CAD) systems

including SolidWorks, Autodesk Inventor, and PTC Creo – to major companies in the Nordics, DACH regions and India. Building on this success, Scandinavian Digital is now expanding its reseller agreement with Tacton, adding Tacton CPQ to its portfolio of solutions and services. This strategic move allows Scandinavian Digital to offer a more comprehensive suite of products that enable engineering and manufacturing companies to streamline operations, increase sales, and drive higher profitability.

In today's competitive manufacturing landscape, customization and personalization are key to meeting customers' evolving demands. Manufacturing and engineering leaders are constantly seeking more efficient ways to configure complex products, manage intricate pricing structures, and ensure accuracy and speed in their sales and engineering processes. Tacton's Configure, Price, Quote software is the solution of choice for these challenges. Tacton CPQ software, deemed by major research firm Gartner as the leading CPQ for manufacturers, brings significant value to sales and engineering processes, particularly for companies that offer complex product or service offerings with numerous customizable options and pricing variables.

Tacton CPQ has been proven to deliver substantial gains for companies that implement it. With Tacton CPQ, manufacturers typically experience a 30% increase in sales volume and a 20% increase in profits. For more than 25 years, renowned global manufacturers such as Siemens, Xylem, ABB and many more have trusted Tacton CPQ to generate accurate quotes in minutes and close deals faster. Scandinavian Digital has already delivered numerous Tacton Design Automation models to major clients in the DACH and Nordics regions, solidifying its expertise in the field. By becoming a Tacton CPQ reseller, Scandinavian Digital can extend these benefits to companies across the region, helping them enhance their competitive positioning.

"Scandinavian Digital has been a strong partner for us over the years, bringing our Design Automation solutions to large manufacturers," said Viveka Tengö, Vice President Global Channel and Alliances at Tacton. "The successful implementations combined with an increasing demand in CPQ has resulted in including Tacton CPQ into Scandinavian Digital's portfolio. We look forward to the continued success of this partnership, as cutting-edge manufacturers and engineering firms across the Nordics, DACH region and India see the cost-cutting, operational efficiency, and profit-boosting benefits made possible by Tacton CPQ."

"I am thrilled about the continued success of our partnership with Tacton. Since its beginning in 2022, our collaboration has significantly empowered businesses by reselling Tacton's industry-leading Design Automation," said Simon Nielsen, CEO of Scandinavian Digital. "Extending this partnership marks an exciting milestone — our expert team's extensive experience in CPQ guarantees that we'll assist numerous companies in the Nordics, DACH, and India. The combination of CPQ and Design Automation has the power to be a game-changer for machinery manufacturers, our primary clients, ultimately setting us apart."

Tech Soft 3D Appoints Marc Freebrey as Chief Marketing Officer

23 January 2024

Tech Soft 3D, the leading provider of engineering software development toolkits, today announced that Marc Freebrey has joined the Executive Team as Chief Marketing Officer (CMO), reporting directly to Tech Soft 3D CEO, Ron Fritz.

Marc has more than 30+ years of experience in the CAD and CAM software industry, and has vast expertise in building brands. He successfully executed strategic marketing initiatives to drive brand awareness, product strategy, customer acquisition and revenue growth for multiple global organizations. Most recently, Marc served as VP of Marketing & Product Strategy for CAMBRIO, part of the Sandvik Group.

"I am honored to be joining such a talented team of smart and innovative people," said Freebrey. "There is a rich history of delivering value to the customer base, and I'm excited to use my experience to help enhance focus, coordination and consistency across all go-to-market touchpoints throughout the customer journey. I look forward to contributing to the next stage of growth in the Tech Soft 3D journey and collaborating with our customers, partners, and employees around the globe."

Ron Fritz, CEO of Tech Soft 3D, added, "We are incredibly excited to welcome Marc to our team and his track record as a marketing leader speaks for itself. His experience, combined with his data driven, results focused approach, is perfectly aligned with our strategic plans. We're extremely excited about what we can achieve in the future as we embark on a phase of growth, showcasing our core capabilities, and strengthening our customer relationships."

ToolWatch Rebrands to Align Technologies Following Mobile Safety and Labor Management Acquisitions

22 January 2024

After more than three decades in the construction technology space, pioneering construction software provider ToolWatch announced that it has rebranded to Align Technologies to better reflect the company's current capabilities and position it for future growth.

Following a 2021 strategic investment by The Riverside Company, a global growth-oriented private equity firm, ToolWatch expanded into mobile safety and compliance with the addition of Safety Reports in 2022 and workforce management with the acquisition of busybusy in December 2023. By bringing these capabilities together, contractors can consolidate the management of assets, labor, and safety tasks with a single technology partner and on a single platform.

"At Align, our mission is to create powerful solutions that provide the data and visibility necessary to help construction firms increase productivity, improve safety, and drive profitability," said Jay Martin, Align Technologies CEO. "The integration of Safety Reports and busybusy has resulted in an unmatched suite of operational tools that allows our customers to deliver more successful projects, unlock better business results, and, thereby, scale their

construction businesses. The Align name gives us a unified identity that truly represents the scope of our capabilities and what we offer.” Align Technologies will serve as the parent company of both Safety Reports and busybusy. While the ToolWatch brand will be replaced by Align, Safety Reports and busybusy will remain in the market as part of the Align family of brands.

“The Align brand sets us up for the future by better representing the entirety of our business and its evolution from the industry’s leading asset-tracking solution into a platform that enables construction operations broadly, including safety and labor management,” stated Troy Suttle, Align Technologies vice president of marketing. “At a high level, the Align identity speaks to the transformative ability of our products to drive operational productivity by addressing key challenges contractors face, enhancing communication from the field to warehouse and back office, and providing the operational visibility for our customers to make data-driven decisions that yield tangible results.”

T-Systems receives premium supplier designation for RISE with SAP®

24 January 2024

T-Systems announced that it is a premium supplier of RISE with SAP. This announcement makes T-Systems the first SAP partner in Germany to offer infrastructure, technical managed services, business transformation and application management services in connection with RISE with SAP. This designation will make it easier for customers to move their mission-critical workloads into the cloud. T-Systems’ services include consulting, migration, implementation and operation of RISE with SAP and support for RISE with SAP S/4HANA Cloud®, private edition. In addition to supporting customers using RISE with SAP on select hyperscalers, T-Systems will offer RISE with SAP on their private cloud Future Cloud Infrastructure (FCI). This will enable customers to meet all German and European data protection requirements.

“Successful transformations enabled through RISE with SAP rely on a strong ecosystem. Our partnership with T-Systems helps our joint customers maximize the benefits of RISE with SAP and the innovation-driven business transformation it enables,” said Thomas Saueressig, member of the Executive Board of SAP SE, Product Engineering. “With this new designation, T-Systems will be well positioned to provide the support and flexibility customers need to simplify and accelerate their business transformation in the cloud from the German market and beyond.”

“Digitalization, globalization, sustainability – companies that can quickly adapt their business processes to new challenges stay ahead of the competition,” explained Ferri Abolhassan, Member of the Board of Management of Deutsche Telekom and CEO of T-Systems. “T-Systems and RISE with SAP can provide organizations with exactly this flexibility. T-Systems is the only RISE with SAP premium supplier from Germany to offer SAP S/4HANA Cloud, private edition. The solution meets the strict data protection regulations of the German and EU market and beyond. In addition, we can operate both SAP and non-SAP applications from a single source. We are launching in Germany with immediate effect and have begun the roll-out in other countries.”

RISE with SAP is an all-in-one package of products, tools, and services that customers can use to move to the cloud and transform into an intelligent enterprise.

Event News

Aeris at MWC Barcelona February 26-29, 2024

22 January 2024

DATE: February 26, 2024

HOST: MWC Barcelona

[REGISTER](#)

Aras Announces Keynote Speaker and Agenda for ACE 2024, March 4-7 in Fort Worth, TX

25 January 2024

Aras, a leader in product lifecycle management and digital thread solutions, announced the agenda, including keynote and mainstage panel discussions, for its annual event, ACE 2024, taking place March 4-7, 2024 in Fort Worth, Texas. The theme for this year's event is Unlocking Innovation.

ACE 2024 spans a total of four days, including both pre- and post- event days that offer training opportunities and technical discussions. The main event takes place on the second and third day with a keynote and sessions focused on the latest in PLM and digital thread innovation. Attendees will gain insight from Aras leaders and industry experts on the technology and trends reshaping digital engineering.

The keynote speaker for this year is best-selling author, entrepreneur, and culture coach, Dr. Jackie Frieberg. She'll discuss strategies on how to move organizations in bold new directions by enabling all people to learn, ideate, and innovate. Other highlights at this year's event include several mainstage panel discussions:

- **Leveraging the Modern Digital Thread:** Explore how the Digital Thread serves as a foundational paradigm for streamlining collaboration, data flow, and decision making across the product lifecycle. Gain insights into managing PLM-related business processes in entirely new ways.
- **Accelerate ESG Goals with the Digital Thread:** Understand how managing and operationalizing Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) goals is supported by an effective digital thread strategy.
- **Navigating the Industry 4.0 to 5.0 Transition:** Join a panel of digital engineering pioneers from Aras' board of directors as they look ahead at the future of engineering. Learn how management styles, teams, and skillsets evolve alongside technology as organizations navigate modern challenges.

“ACE 2024 offers a unique opportunity for our community to unite and think differently about how they leverage modern digital engineering technology to better compete,” said Roque Martin, CEO, Aras. “Innovation is fundamental to differentiation. The Aras community is a source of inspiration and education for innovative strategies that apply PLM and digital thread technology to support sustainable growth in an increasingly dynamic world.”

Attendees can look forward to hearing additional presentations from companies including DENSO, Ocado, SAIC, SRC, SICK, and Svante and more. Full agenda details and registration are available [here](#).

Discover the future of openBIM with Eurostep at InfraBIM Open 2024

22 January 2024

Eurostep is pleased to announce that Sylvain Marie, our AEC&Plant Industry Vertical Director, will be participating in the upcoming InfraBIM Open 2024 in Lyon, France. This event is scheduled for January 30-31, 2024.

In a joint presentation with Štefan Jaud, Sylvain Marie will explore “The Quest for the Ultimate openBIM Exchange Requirements Language: Comparing mvdXML, IDS, and Gherkin.” This presentation is part of Eurostep’s ongoing commitment to advancing digitalization in the AEC&Plant industry.

Presentation Overview: The session will provide an in-depth comparison of three key languages developed by the buildingSMART International (bSI) community for ensuring Exchange Information Requirements (EIR) compliance in Industry Foundation Classes (IFC) models. These languages are IDS, mvdXML, and Gherkin rules.

Key aspects of the presentation include:

- The governance models and development ecosystems of IDS, mvdXML, and Gherkin rules.
- Their scope and intended usage, particularly in relation to the digitalization of the construction industry and ISO standards like ISO 17412 and ISO 19650.
- The functionality of different languages in handling the functional blocks of ISO 19650, such as selection, requirements sections, and predefined facets.

Eurostep is proud to support [Sylvain Marie](#) in sharing our insights and expertise at this international platform. His participation underscores our commitment to contributing to the evolution of the AEC&Plant sector through innovative solutions and collaborative knowledge sharing.

For more details about the event, you may visit [the InfraBIM Open 2024 website](#).

IDS GeoRadar launches new concrete inspection solutions at World of Concrete

23 January 2024

IDS GeoRadar, part of Hexagon, announced its latest concrete scanning solutions at World of Concrete in Las Vegas.

IDS GeoRadar, a leading provider of Ground Penetrating Radar (GPR) and Interferometric Radar solutions, launched the C-thru XS, a handheld, dual polarisation GPR scanner for hassle-free concrete inspection, and NDT Reveal, an integrated software solution for analysing and managing subsurface data. The new solutions empower construction teams to scan concrete structures efficiently, detect elements deeper beneath the surface, and make informed decisions about where to cut or drill safely.

C-thru XS — flexible scanner for small spaces

Building on the success of the C-thru, launched in 2018, the smaller C-thru XS is designed for use in hard-to-reach areas where construction professionals can easily manoeuvre the compact device. Its ergonomic and lightweight design of less than half a kilogram makes the scanning process a more comfortable experience. Thanks to its dual-polarisation capability, users can do comprehensive scans in one go. This feature allows the scanner to send and receive signals in both horizontal and vertical orientations, ensuring more accurate and detailed results. Construction professionals benefit from a streamlined overall workflow and faster access to insights. With automatic real-time processing, the device promptly highlights targets and potential problem areas.

NDT Reveal — easily analyse, visualise and manage GPR scan data

NDT Reveal easily integrates with CAD-based software, including BricsCad and Bricsys 24/7, and helps construction teams analyse, visualise and manage the collected GPR data. By providing a user-friendly interface with various visualisation options, including 2D and 3D scans, the software suite facilitates a comprehensive understanding of the scanned structures. With NDT Reveal, users can manage GPR data analysis and reporting in one place, which helps optimise workflows of large complex projects. They can also upload collateral information such as photos, site sketches and CAD drawings, and make them accessible to all team members.

"Conducting a detailed inspection of concrete structures can be cumbersome and time-consuming. Many teams do not achieve the necessary precision, especially in hard-to-reach areas," says Davide Morandi, Director Detection Product Management, at IDS GeoRadar. "IDS GeoRadar's C-thru XS device simplifies the scanning process even in constrained environments while NDT Reveal provides construction teams with a comprehensive understanding of the scanned structures in both 2D and 3D. These innovations are transforming nondestructive concrete inspections, boosting productivity and safety, and enabling better-informed decisions on-site."

For more information, visit us at World of Concrete – booth N1337 - North Hall, or go to: www.idsgeoradar.com

Jotne: Upcoming events in 2024, next six months

23 January 2024

Jotne will support a series of events during the next six months of 2024. See list of events below, with their corresponding links for further information and registration.

5 February: [Norwegian Microsatellite 2024](#)

14 February: University of Ås, Student event

19-21 March: [Brussels, EU, EDA and EDF 2024 meetings](#)

22-26 April: [Hannover Messe, Germany](#)

24 April: Webinar – Digital Twin and Visualization (VCollab)

5-6 of June: [The Sensor Decade, Oslo](#)

25 June: Half day Digital Twin event in Oslo (together with Lockheed Martin and other partners). More information about the programme, the sessions and the speakers will be available soon.

Lantek Confirms Its Presence at Ten International Trade Shows in 2024

25 January 2024

Lantek, a multinational pioneer in the digital transformation of the sheet metal and metal cutting industry, kicks off 2024 by announcing its participation in the major fairs and events in the sector over the next twelve months. India, the Netherlands, France, China, South Korea, the United Kingdom, Germany, and the United States are among the countries where Lantek will showcase its range of solutions throughout the year, connecting with key companies in the manufacturing and industrial innovation sector.

The first event on the calendar is Asia's largest forming technology exhibition – IMTEX FORMING 2024 – to be held at the Bangalore International Exhibition Centre (BIEC) in Bengaluru, India, from January 19 to 23. Lantek will be located at Hall 5, Stand B119 in this exhibition, which reopens its doors after a hiatus of over two years. Bengaluru will host over 450 companies from the sector representing 16 different countries. IMTEX FORMING 2024 will also feature the Tooltech 2024, Digital Manufacturing, and Weldexpo 2024 exhibitions.

March will be a busy month for the company, with its presence at three different fairs. The first, taking place from March 12 to 15 in Utrecht, the Netherlands, is TechniShow 2024. TechniShow is the largest and most important trade fair in the Benelux region for industrial production techniques, metal processing, and machining of metals, plastics, accessories, and tools. Lantek will be present at Stand 07.C060 at the Utrecht Royal Jaarbeurs.

From March 25 to 28, Global Industrie Paris 2024 will be held at the Paris Nord Villepinte Exhibition Center in Paris, France. Lantek, located at Stand 6B88, will be one of the 2,300 exhibiting companies, a cornerstone in the field of reindustrialization and a symbol of the commitment of industrial players.

From April 1 to 5, Lantek will attend the largest production and manufacturing technology exhibition in South Korea: SIMTOS 2024 (Seoul International Manufacturing Technology Show).

The 20th edition of the fair will take place at the Korea International Exhibition Centre (KINTEX) in Gyeonggi-do, and Lantek can be found at Hall 10, Booth 10F580.

Back in Europe from April 15 to 19, the Basque company will visit Birmingham, United Kingdom, to attend MACH 2024 at the National Exhibition Centre (NEC). Lantek will be at Stand 17-319 in this significant fair for the sector in the UK, aiming to inspire, innovate, and connect engineering-based manufacturing.

The 32nd Biennial Machine Tool Fair (BIEMH 2024), the major event in the industrial world, will take place from June 3 to 7 at the Bilbao Exhibition Centre in Barakaldo, Bizkaia, Spain, with over 1,700 exhibitors from 30 countries, including Lantek. These companies will showcase their most innovative technology to meet the challenges of advanced manufacturing, promising to be the best in recent times due to the recovery of industrial activity.

In September, from the 24th to the 28th, CIIF 2024 (Chinese International Industrial Fair) takes place, and Lantek will also attend. This is one of the most important exhibitions for the industry in China, attracting exhibitors and visitors from around the world every autumn since its inception in 1999. The fair emphasizes the latest technologies and innovations in the field of industrial automation and digital manufacturing. In 2024, the event will be held at the NECC National Exhibition and Convention Centre in Shanghai.

EuroBLECH 2024 is the most important fair in Europe for the industry and a must-attend event in Lantek's calendar, taking place in Hanover, Germany, from October 22 to 25. The 27th edition of the exhibition will feature up to nine halls at the Hanover Exhibition Grounds, with Lantek's stand located at C08 in Hall 11.

MetalMadrid 2024, which attracted over 600 exhibitor brands and more than 13,000 professional visitors in 2023, celebrates its 16th edition this year at IFEMA (Madrid) on November 20 and 21. Lantek will visit this fair, which stands out as the leading event in the field of metal manufacturing, machining, and processing in Spain.

FABTECH USA 2024, the largest event for metal forming, manufacturing, welding, and finishing in North America, will take place from October 15 to 17 in Orlando, USA, at the Orange County Convention Center, with Lantek's stand at S17017.

With its presence at these ten significant fairs in the sheet metal and metal cutting sector, Lantek strengthens its constant drive towards the digitization of its customers' manufacturing processes through its solutions. In the words of Joseba Montoya, Commercial Director for Spain & Portugal at Lantek: "We are delighted to attend these major sector events, allowing us to present our range of technological solutions to our customers and partners, customized according to their needs, highlighting Lantek's extensive experience in the international sector."

Lantek v43, the latest version of the company's software suite, is focused on speed and efficiency in processes. It incorporates improvements in manufacturing and inventory management, providing automatic and intelligent tools for users' day-to-day tasks. Additionally, it introduces over 80 improvements in its various products (Expert, Flex3d, Bend, MES, and Integra). Customers and partners will have the opportunity to firsthand experience the new functionalities at any of the ten international fairs Lantek will attend in 2024.

Commercial Trade Shows:**IMTEX FORMING 2024**

Date: January 19-23

Location: Bangalore International Exhibition Centre (BIEC), Bengaluru, India

Booth: Hall 5, Booth B119

TechniShow 2024

Date: March 12-15

Location: Utrecht Royal Jaarbeurs, Utrecht, the Netherlands

Stand 07.C060

Global Industrie Paris 2024

Date: March 25-28

Location: Paris Nord Villepinte Exhibition Center, Paris, France

Booth: 6B88

SIMTOS 2024 (Seoul International Manufacturing Technology Show)

Date: April 1-5

Location: Korea International Exhibition Centre (KINTEX), Gyeonggi-do, South Korea

Booth: Hall 10, Booth 10F580.

MACH 2024

Date: April 15-19

Location: National Exhibition Centre (NEC), Birmingham, United Kingdom

Booth: 17-319

BIEMH 2024 (Biennial Machine Tool Fair)

Date: June 3-7

Location: Bilbao Exhibition Centre, Barakaldo (Bizkaia), Spain

CIIF 2024 (MWCS)

Date: September 24-28

Location: NECC National Exhibition and Convention Centre, Shanghai, China

EUROBLECH 2024

Date: October 22-25

Location: Hanover Exhibition Grounds, Hannover, Germany

Hall 11, Stand C08

MetalMadrid 2024

Date: November 20-21

Location: IFEMA, Madrid, Spain

FABTECH USA 2024

Date: October 15-17

Location: Orange County Convention Center, Orlando, USA

Stand 17017

Sage Unveils Powerful New Capabilities for Cloud-Based Service Management Platform at AHR EXPO

22 January 2024

Sage, the trusted software provider for small and mid-sized businesses (SMBs) in the construction industry, announced new capabilities for Sage Field Operations, a leading cloud platform for service contractors. They are showcasing the solution, with the addition of residential workflows and a new business intelligence solution, at AHR Expo. Sage is exhibiting in booth #306.

“At Sage, we’re constantly innovating our solutions to make it easier for contractors to grow their business while navigating industry challenges,” said Julie Adams, Vice President of Product, Construction and Real Estate, Sage. “Adding residential workflows and a BI solution to Sage Field Operations helps contractors maximize the productivity of their technicians in the field so they can optimize their workforce amid the current skilled labor shortage. Sage Field Operations is part of our comprehensive construction cloud portfolio, which delivers full end-to-end capabilities covering preconstruction, operations, and financials.”

The addition of residential workflows gives contractors the capabilities they need for both commercial and residential jobs, enabling technicians to complete jobs entirely from the field while streamlining back-office operations. With Sage Field Operations, contractors can reduce

time to payment, remove billing delays, and increase cash flow with faster payment collections and more upsell opportunities.

New features include:

- **Flat rate, menu-based pricing:** Contractors can present upfront cost options to their customers, such as tiered pricing structures. This eliminates the complexities of billing on a time and material basis and allows contractors to engage with their clients in a clear, easy-to-present way.
- **Field payment processing:** Contractors can accept payments on-site, processing them directly through their smartphone or tablet. Payment processing is fully integrated into the accounting system, so payments go straight to accounts receivable, saving time and increasing accuracy for office teams.

The benefits of Sage Field Operations are amplified when paired with Sage Field Operations BI, a cutting-edge business intelligence solution that adds robust reporting and forecasting capabilities directly to the Sage Field Operations platform. Its real-time, mission-critical insights empower business leaders to make more informed decisions, faster.

Sage Field Operations BI allows commercial contractors to:

- Easily gauge performance at every level, from the entire company to individual technicians, unlocking revenue opportunities
- Reduce risk with an up-to-date picture of crucial metrics such as profit per hour, revenue vs. costs incurred, and percentage of hours billed
- Forecast revenue and labor requirements months in advance based on data and historical trends
- Improve technician productivity and profitability with granular analysis of performance across equipment class, job type, total sales, gross profit by call date and more
- Maximize billable hours to drive revenue and generate more profit per hour for the business

Sage Field Operations and the rest of Sage's industry-leading solutions are available now from authorized Sage resellers, the largest and most experienced partner network in the industry.

Financial News

Procore Announces Timing of Fourth Quarter and Full Fiscal Year 2023 Earnings Call

25 January 2024

Procore Technologies, Inc., the leading global provider of construction management software, announced that it will report its fourth quarter and full fiscal year 2023 financial results after the U.S. financial markets close on Thursday, February 15, 2024.

In conjunction with this announcement, Procore will host a conference call on Thursday, February 15, 2024, at 2:00 p.m. Pacific Time to discuss Procore's financial results and financial guidance. To access this call, dial +1 833 470 1428 (domestic) or +1 404 975 4839 (international). The conference ID number is 044868. A live webcast of this conference call will be available on the Investor Relations page of Procore's website, <http://investors.procore.com>, and a replay will be archived on the website as well.

PROS Holdings, Inc. Announces Date of Fourth Quarter and Full Year 2023 Financial Results Release, Conference Call, and Webcast

18 January 2024

PROS®, a leading provider of AI-powered SaaS pricing, CPQ, revenue management, and digital offer marketing solutions, will release its financial results for the fourth quarter and full year 2023 ended December 31, 2023, after the U.S. financial markets close on Thursday, February 8, 2024.

PROS Holdings, Inc. will host a conference call on Thursday, February 8, 2024, at 4:45 p.m. ET to discuss the company's financial results and business outlook. To access this call, dial 1-877-407-9039 (toll-free) or 1-201-689-8470.

The live and archived webcasts of this call can be accessed under the "Investor Relations" section of the Company's website at www.pros.com. A telephone replay will be available until Thursday, February 15, 2024, at 11:59 PM ET at 1-844-512-2921 (toll-free) or 1-412-317-6671 using the pass code 13743793.

Sandvik - Interim report fourth quarter 2023

25 January 2024

Fourth quarter 2023

A good ending to the year

Continuing operations

- Order intake SEK 30,062 million (30,751)
- Order intake, at fixed exchange rates, declined by 2%
- Revenues SEK 31,816 million (31,094)
- Revenue growth, at fixed exchange rates 2%
- Adjusted EBITA SEK 6,211 million (6,413)
- Adjusted EBITA margin 19.5% (20.6)
- Adjusted EBIT SEK 5,738 million (5,977)
- Adjusted EBIT margin 18.0% (19.2)
- Adjusted profit before tax SEK 5,107 million (5,587)

- Profit for the period SEK 4,259 million (3,435)
- Adjusted profit for the period SEK 4,047 million (4,041)
- Earnings per share, diluted SEK 3.39 (2.73)
- Adjusted earnings per share, diluted SEK 3.22 (3.22)
- Free operating cash flow SEK 5,463 million (6,226)
- The Board of Directors proposes a dividend of SEK 5.50 per share (5.00)

Additional information may be obtained from Sandvik Investor Relations, phone +46 70 782 63 74 (Louise Tjeder).

A webcast and conference call will be held on January 25, 2024, at 10:00 AM CET. Information is available at home.sandvik/investors

Synopsys Announces Earnings Release Date For First Quarter Fiscal Year 2024

25 January 2024

Synopsys, Inc. announced it will report results for the first quarter fiscal year 2024 on Wednesday, Feb. 21, 2024, after the market close. The company will host a conference call at 2:00 p.m. Pacific Time / 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time to review its financial results and business outlook.

Financial and other statistical information to be discussed on this conference call will be available on the corporate website at www.investor.synopsys.com immediately before the call. A live webcast will also be available on this site. Participants should access the live webcast at least 10 minutes prior to the start of the call. A webcast replay will be available beginning Feb. 21, 2024, at approximately 5:00 p.m. PT. The replay will be available until Synopsys announces its second quarter fiscal year 2024 results in May 2024.

Tata Technologies delivers sequential growth and healthy operating EBITDA margin at 18.3% in Q3FY24, invests in relationships to enable future growth

25 January 2024

Tata Technologies Limited, a leading global engineering services company, announced financial results for the quarter ended December 31, 2023.

Resilient performance in a seasonally soft quarter

- Total operating revenue up 14.7% YoY and up 1.6% QoQ to ₹12,895 million.
- In USD terms, total operating revenues were up 0.9% QoQ and up 13.4% YoY to \$154.8 million. Services segment revenues were up 8.3% YoY to \$120.2 million.
- In constant currency, Services revenues were up 5.8% YoY.
- Continued improvement in the customer ramp-up activity, with 39 customers now in the million-dollar plus revenue bucket compared with 34 at the end of Q3 FY23.

- Operating EBITDA at ₹2,366 million. Operating EBITDA margin at 18.3%, a 140-bps increase QoQ driven by improved Services gross margins.
- Net income at ₹1,702 million; Net margin at 13.2%.
- Net headcount addition of 172; Workforce strength of 12,623.
- 180 bps sequential improvement in [LTM] attrition to 15.4%.

Warren Harris, Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director, said: “We delivered sequential growth and a healthy operating EBITDA margin at 18.3% in Q3FY24 while making strategic investments in relationships to enable future growth. Our deal win momentum has stayed robust, with 5 large deals won in the quarter, including one deal with over \$50 million in TCV and another one with \$25 million in TCV. We remain positive on customer spending in the Automotive vertical as OEMs continue to pivot towards electrification and other alternative propulsion systems. The Aerospace industry is looking upbeat, with a good pickup in demand there. We are investing in building capabilities at scale and remain confident about the long-term fundamentals of our business. We have seen our employee engagement initiatives yield success with a steady reduction in attrition levels over the last few quarters. We continue to focus on engineering a better world for our customers, employees, partners and the community.”

Savitha Balachandran, Chief Financial Officer, said: “We continue to maintain a sharp focus on profitability and cash flow generation in our business. Despite the seasonally soft quarter, our margins have remained resilient reflecting strong operational rigor and execution. Our long-term levers of margin growth include increased offshoring, further improvement of our people pyramid and operating leverage as our business scales. The free cash flow to net income conversion in the first nine months of the year has also remained robust.”

Key highlights and recognitions:

- A leading global automotive OEM has onboarded Tata Technologies as its strategic engineering partner for “FTE Engineering Services” engagement.
- A leading European luxury automotive OEM has chosen Tata Technologies for the design, development, implementation and validation of AUTOSAR-based software for DRVU ECU (Gateway Module).
- A leading Aerospace OEM has chosen Tata Technologies for M&T engineering engagement.
- Tata Technologies won a large engagement with a North American automotive OEM for the implementation of SAP and PLM-managed services.
- A leading Asian automotive OEM has chosen Tata Technologies for the development of a premium crossover sedan.

Velo3D Announces Key Strategic Priorities for Growth in 2024

25 January 2024

Velo3D, Inc., a leading additive manufacturing technology company for mission-critical metal parts, announced four key strategic priorities for growth in 2024 and beyond. The company also shared progress it has made across these priorities.

- **Enhance the quality of newly manufactured Sapphire printers:** Due to the success of its operational initiatives and product improvements, the company has significantly reduced the installation time of Sapphire printers over the last year. Additionally, the company has increased headcount of its Customer Service and Quality teams by approximately 40% to provide on-site support in all major metropolitan areas.
- **Ensure the success of customers in the field:** Through reliability improvements, system uptime for key customers has increased over the previous quarter and the company has reduced the time it takes to resolve customer issues by more than 45% over the past 6 months. Velo3D's research and development priorities have been refocused on customer success and machine throughput, with innovations that the company expects will greatly increase customer available print time.
- **Increase revenue visibly through bookings growth:** The Velo3D Sales team has secured approximately \$12 million in new order bookings since mid-December, including more than 50% of bookings tied to key strategic accounts, which the company believes demonstrates increased customer satisfaction and confidence in its technology.
- **Improve margins and cash flow:** The company remains on track to reduce its operational expenses by 40% by the end of the first quarter of 2024, with a commitment to become cash flow positive in the second half of the year.

These four initiatives will be the foundation for Velo3D's 5-year growth plan to support innovation and its customers' growing demand for additive manufacturing solutions. By executing against these priorities, the company remains committed to its "land-and-expand" strategy, whereby satisfied customers continue to purchase Sapphire printers due to the significant capabilities the technology provides to operations, product, and engineering teams.

"Since meeting with customers in my new role as CEO, it's clear that they need our technology and with improvements in these four key areas, we can realign as a company to make our customers more successful and return value to investors," said Brad Kreger, CEO of Velo3D. "The value of our technology is largely driven by its ability to accelerate innovation for customers, meaningfully improve lead time for mission-critical parts, and streamline the process of scaling to volume production when compared to conventional metal 3D printers."

Kreger joined Velo3D in December 2022 as Executive Vice President of Operations and has since transformed Velo3D's manufacturing facility to industrialize the production of the company's family of Sapphire printers, which has contributed to the installation time reduction and positioned the company for margin expansion in 2024. This was achieved through

improvements to the supply chain for Velo3D's Sapphire printers and standardization of the manufacturing process to ensure consistency in quality.

"The entire Velo3D team is deeply focused on our four objectives and we're beginning to see these changes yield results, including existing customers purchasing new systems. We believe this reflects their confidence in our technology as well as the success of our initiatives in improving customer satisfaction," said Kreger. "We're continuing to execute on our cost realignment programs to improve margins and cash flow, while prudently managing working capital. By doing so, we believe we are well positioned to profitably capitalize on the increasing industry demand for leading-edge additive manufacturing solutions."

Implementation Investments

AGILOFT SELECTED BY EPICOR FOR CONTRACT LIFECYCLE MANAGEMENT

23 January 2024

Agiloft, the most trusted global leader in data-first contract lifecycle management (CLM), announced that it has been selected by Epicor, a global leader of industry-specific enterprise software, to digitally transform contract-driven processes across its global operations. Agiloft's intuitive, data-first agreement platform will be closely integrated with Epicor's existing core systems, including Salesforce and Epicor's own Business Intelligence and Enterprise Resource Planning solutions, to drive efficiency, ensure compliance, and enable increased visibility into Epicor's key business relationships.

Agiloft will provide Epicor with a user-friendly and customizable CLM solution to connect their contractual commitments to business operations. With the new CLM system its sales and procurement teams will be able to reach agreement quickly and collaboratively with their external business partners and then leverage data from those contracts to thrive with powerful competitive advantage. Specifically, Epicor selected Agiloft CLM to help the company improve customer relations and service, create internal and operational efficiencies, improve business process agility, as well as improve compliance and risk management.

With its unmatched configurability, Agiloft's CLM platform automates the most complex workflows and integrates with the numerous commercial processes surrounding contracts. Its user-friendly, no-code software customizes and streamlines the complete contract lifecycle, enabling cost discipline in procurement, visibility into contractual risk and regulatory compliance by legal departments, and quantifiable reductions in revenue leakage in sales operations.

"In a rapidly changing world, contracts and business execution must be in sync, but many businesses' contracting processes are out of step with the dynamic needs of the wider business, leading to misalignment and missed opportunities. This disconnect between core business goals can hinder growth and profitability. By choosing Agiloft, Epicor will bridge that gap," said Eric Laughlin, CEO of Agiloft. "Agiloft will empower Epicor's teams to manage their contracts effectively, while seamlessly integrating data from those contracts into their broader business

workflows. We provide the technology Epicor’s teams need to create contracts on-demand, tailored to their specific needs, ensuring everyone involved is informed and aligned, so they can drive business goals and accelerate execution.”

“Agiloft’s software is a perfect fit for our needs,” said Robin Bell, Senior Procurement Manager at Epicor. “Agiloft offered the flexibility and robustness we needed, while also being extremely easy for non-technical practitioners to configure, maintain, and administer without any formal training.” Epicor equips hard-working businesses from across the globe with enterprise solutions that keep the world turning. For nearly 50 years, Epicor’s customers in the automotive, building supply, distribution, manufacturing, and retail industries have trusted Epicor to help them do business better.

Cimcorp improves business resilience, efficiency and competitive advantage with IFS Cloud

23 January 2024

IFS, the global cloud enterprise software company, announced that pioneer in automated intralogistics solutions, Cimcorp, has celebrated two years of being evergreen on IFS Cloud as it continues to execute successfully on its digital transformation roadmap, driving continuous business growth while prioritizing Environmental, Social, and Governance (ESG) demands with the latest capabilities.

IFS Cloud’s ESG regulatory compliance reporting and robust data protection capabilities have become especially critical due to Cimcorp’s large customer base and operations across multiple geographies globally. In preparation for mandatory ESG reporting requirements being introduced in 2024, Cimcorp can track progress against their Scope 1 and 2 emissions globally with IFS Cloud Emissions Tracker, and quickly access ESG-focused insights through Lobbies, enabling them to achieve ESG goals profitably and transparently.

Since upgrading their ERP solution to IFS Cloud as the first Pioneer customer two years ago, Cimcorp has benefited from the flexibility and scalability of the platform to stay agile and competitive. IFS Cloud’s twice-yearly feature releases allow customers to remain “evergreen” on the latest version of the software without the interruptions that come with full-scale upgrades. This approach has reduced Cimcorp’s need for customizations providing them with greater visibility, predictability, control and flexibility as they identify new business opportunities surfaced by data-led insights.

With real-time data providing Cimcorp with added functionality, the business is able to quickly assess the status and volume of outstanding work on critical assets, driving resilient and efficient operations.

Cimcorp is also better equipped to offer valuable and innovative services to its customers. By leveraging IFS Cloud and its automation capabilities, Cimcorp has been able to drive productive uptime.

Pekka Nurmi, Director, Enterprise Architecture & Digitalization, Cimcorp, says: “As the first IFS Cloud customer, we have experienced the benefits of being evergreen for over two years. Our

journey updating to new releases has been smooth, intuitive and with minimal interruptions to business operations. We have been working with IFS for seven years, and we have complete trust in them and their software, which has helped us unify information from disparate locations and reduce unnecessary work.

“IFS Cloud has given us real-time access to the information we need, improved our decision-making, and enabled us to enhance our service offerings and meet our business objectives. Like many others in our industry, we are acutely aware of the benefits of AI and are actively exploring the ways we can utilize IFS’ compelling AI solutions in the future to ensure our business remains resilient and agile in a hyper competitive market.”

As a long-term customer and member of the IFS Pioneer Program, Cimcorp receives enhanced technical support and consulting, as well as an accelerated go-live on new IFS Cloud versions ahead of general availability to the wider market.

Christian Pedersen, Chief Product Officer at IFS, commented on the partnership:

“Cimcorp is a forward-thinking company committed to AI innovation and environmental efficiency, and that aligns perfectly with our mission at IFS. It also faces increasingly complex regulatory requirements and needs a clear strategy to deliver results and long-term value which they can achieve through being evergreen on IFS Cloud.

Pedersen continued: “Adoption of the latest IFS Cloud will be a game-changer for Cimcorp, providing them with the tools they need to provide their customers with what they expect and to stay ahead in a competitive market. It has been a privilege working in lockstep with Cimcorp to ensure they can keep accelerating time to value, and I am excited to see how they will further benefit from IFS.ai and increased automation in the near future.”

Cimcorp is utilizing a number of composable capabilities from IFS Cloud including Supply Chain; Sales, Project Management, Finance, HR, Manufacturing and Warehousing (assembly). It also benefits from IFS Cloud Success Services designed to help customers get the most out of their IFS investment and ensure that software updates are managed quickly and efficiently. The organization continues to work with IFS to ensure software optimization for cost savings, business opportunities and reduced risk.

Coreform wins grant to develop simulation software for fusion energy

17 January 2024

Coreform LLC, developer of next-generation computer-aided engineering software, has won a competitive grant to develop a method for simulating complex fusion generator parts.

The US Department of Energy has announced Coreform’s receipt of a competitive SBIR grant to facilitate the design of fusion energy reactors. The funded project will allow for more efficient simulation of fusion reactor parts than is possible with existing software.

Recent breakthroughs in fusion energy production fusion have focused public attention on the potential for viable, clean, fusion energy. However, many significant fusion engineering challenges remain unsolved. The ability to evaluate designs via engineering simulation will help overcome those challenges and further the development of fusion energy.

In this project, Coreform will transition the third-party Direct Accelerated Geometry Monte Carlo (DAGMC) model-export plugin for Coreform Cubit from research code into a fully supported and documented workflow in Coreform Cubit. Additionally, they will develop workflows in Coreform Cubit to enable a comprehensive preprocessing workflow for OpenMC, supporting not only DAGMC but also CSG geometry creation, as well as utilities to troubleshoot simulation setup.

If successful, this project will radically streamline and simplify the fusion reactor development process by enabling neutronics simulation to be performed directly on CAD geometry. Fusion reactor energy promises to be safe, environmentally friendly, and sustainable to a degree unmatched by any other potential energy source.

Dedini accelerates digital transformation and improves business agility with HPE Aruba Networking Instant On

24 January 2024

Hewlett Packard Enterprise announced that Dedini S/A Indústrias de Base, a prominent global supplier in the sugar and alcohol industry, has implemented a new wired and wireless HPE Aruba Networking Instant On network with Wi-Fi 6. The solution is managed as a service by HPE partner, Network Consult, via the HPE Aruba Networking Instant On cloud portal providing reliability, security, and simplicity while also showcasing its robust remote management and administration capabilities.

“We needed a solution to address the escalating data volume within our network to ensure uninterrupted operations,” said Robinson Santiago, IT manager, Dedini. “This implementation met the demands and needs of all units and improves business agility, thus allowing our internal IT team to prioritize strategic initiatives while the network’s day-to-day operations are entrusted to our partner.”

The IT operations for Dedini’s administrative center and factories are now also streamlined with network coverage incorporating the manufacturing robots in the mechanics unit and automation systems for both foundry and mechanics. In addition, the new network is supported by an enterprise-grade HPE Aruba Networking 5400R z12 Switch in the datacenter to deliver high levels of connectivity and availability through increased redundancy and management functionality.

In the network distribution, 10 HPE Aruba Networking Instant On 1960 Switches were implemented, and the network edge was built with 80 HPE Aruba Networking Instant On 1930 Switches for use with VoIP (Voice over IP), CCTV (Closed-Circuit Television), and automation networks in the factories.

HPE Managed Service Provider (MSP) partner, Network Consult, orchestrated the network deployment and also continues to manage it from the HPE Aruba Networking Instant On cloud portal, granting comprehensive visibility over all connected devices, including robotics and automation systems.

The solution also enables Dedini to swiftly create a segmented LAN network (VLAN) accessible across all equipment within a mere five seconds. In addition, the network can quickly identify all logged-in users, connections, devices and visitors. Moreover, it provides rapid identification of all logged-in users, connections, devices, and visitors, with a fail-safe loopback control in the event of any incidents. The network remains consistently up-to-date, thereby optimizing performance across manufacturing, research and development, and operational processes. This has led to significant performance enhancements, particularly in managing the bandwidth demands from product engineering.

“Availability and speed for users is boosted with trunk connections at the core and distribution at 10 Gbps, allowing engineers running Autocad to perform tasks without delay,” added Isac Sartori Gomes, network engineer at Network Consult.

“We worked very closely with the customer to develop this project,” said Antenor Nogara, country manager of HPE Aruba Networking. “Contributing to the digital transformation of Brazilian companies and industries is what drives us. We are increasingly being sought after to help them transition to a network-as-a-service model.”

Everlane Uses Centric Market Intelligence to Validate Pricing and Launch New Categories

23 January 2024

Centric Software® is delighted to announce the release of a success story about its customer, Everlane.

Founded in 2011 and headquartered in San Francisco, Everlane makes apparel with a focus on sustainability and a philosophy of ‘radical transparency’—letting the consumer know how much it costs to make an item and what the markup is, along with environmental information like CO2 emissions and where the garment is made.

In looking to introduce new products, Everlane was gathering information manually, doing web crawling and monitoring competitor websites and compiling information bit by bit. It wasn’t efficient and also took time away from staff who could be doing more value-added work.

The desire to work smarter not harder sparked the search for a platform that would tell them what competitors were doing with respect to pricing and when specifically to introduce each item. Instead of dropping entire collections at one time, Everlane takes an item-by-item approach. Kelly Wang, Director of Merchandising at Everlane says, “We really look at when is the exact right time for this specific item to launch in our assortment—when consumers want it.” Having information as to when certain pieces are being purchased throughout the year gives Everlane the confidence to pinpoint a date on which to release a product.

Besides getting comprehensive pricing and promotional information on the market for each category that Everlane is interested in, historical data gathering gives the power to go back and look for information that they need today. Another main benefit is time savings for team members, consensus on ease of use and price validation. Wang says, “We don’t use Centric Market Intelligence to direct our strategy, but to validate it.”

HD Hyundai Heavy Industries, NAPA and Cadmatic join forces to develop digital shipyard

18 January 2024

HD Hyundai Heavy Industries, the world's largest shipyard, has announced a joint development project (JDP) with NAPA and Cadmatic, two leading providers of smart 3D maritime design, engineering and information management software, to accelerate the digital transformation of the shipbuilding industry.

The joint project will develop a next-generation ship design and information management solution, which will also embed a product lifecycle management (PLM) system. The partnership will harness advanced 3D models and the latest developments in information management technology to create intelligent solutions to support the entire ship building process.

This will help HD Hyundai Heavy Industries implement its vision of a "digital shipyard", where smart data and digital twins support the optimization of the design process from the early stages to construction and production, and then provide a valuable source of information throughout the ship's lifetime at sea.

The new partnership aims to deliver high shipbuilding efficiency including shorter time schedules, lower costs, and higher quality in large and more complex shipbuilding projects via digitalization and a seamlessly integrated solution. The platform will enhance the collaboration of different shipyard departments and significantly improve information accessibility between the hundreds – if not thousands – of people involved in the ship design and building process. The goal is to optimize processes and enable error-free design for production and safe operation.

By digitalizing and optimizing the ship design and construction processes, the project will also help HD Hyundai Heavy Industries to respond to growing demand by shipowners for innovative energy-efficient designs that will support their decarbonization transition, and enhance its capability to deliver next-generation vessels, including alternative fuels or vessels equipped with new technologies such as batteries or wind propulsion.

Under the agreement, NAPA and Cadmatic will combine their extensive shipbuilding expertise in naval architecture, initial, detail and production design, as well as modern 3D-based collaboration and information management, including product lifecycle management (PLM). The technological strengths of the two software providers will be combined with HD Hyundai Heavy Industries' experience as the world's largest shipyard, having delivered over 2,300 ships to over 300 shipowners in its 51 years of existence.

Seung-Ho Jeon, CTO at HD Hyundai Heavy Industries, said: "At HD Hyundai Heavy Industries, we are spearheading the creation of a digital shipyard, in line with our Future of Shipyard (FOS) vision, and see this as an important area of development in the ship design and building processes. With this joint project, our ambition is to develop the next generation of intelligent design systems for digital shipbuilding. This will increase efficiency throughout the design and

digital twin information delivery process, helping us deliver the innovative designs our customers demand.”

Jukka Rantala, CEO at Cadmatic, said: *“This joint project represents an important milestone for shipbuilding as it enters the digital era. By combining our respective strengths and areas of expertise, this partnership is a major opportunity to enhance the role of design and information management tools in shipbuilding to support the industry’s performance via advanced digitalization. With an intelligent, integrated design and lifecycle management process, we can streamline shipbuilding processes, enhance collaboration and information accessibility in large and complex projects, and support commercial success.”*

Mikko Kuosa, CEO of NAPA, said: *“Shipping’s decarbonization transition is creating a sea change for shipyards, as new fuels and technologies bring an unprecedented level of complexity in the ship design process. In this context, having streamlined processes that facilitate communication and collaboration is essential to make fast-paced innovation possible, and ultimately create the new generation of vessels that will take maritime transport to net zero. To achieve this, it is critical to provide shipyards, naval architects and engineers with the right tools, making greater use of digital capabilities to enable teams to work efficiently and collaborate seamlessly as they explore new technological territories together.”*

iBase-t to Provide Collins Aerospace Solutions to Digitally Transform Manufacturing Operations

17 January 2024

iBase-t, a leading provider of manufacturing, quality and MRO solutions, announced that Collins Aerospace, an RTX business, has selected for its propeller systems business iBase-t’s Solumina iSeries Manufacturing Execution System (MES) and Maintenance, Repair, Overhaul (MRO) solutions at Ratier-Figeac’s in Figeac, France and Casablanca, Morocco sites. The deployment across the company’s A&D and commercial operations will allow the company to digitalize its paper-based manufacturing processes and improve efficiency and quality control. The adoption will first roll-out across a smaller part of the company’s existing facilities before being fully incorporated into a section of the company’s production.

Collins’ propeller systems is a world leader in high-power propellers and equipment, producing parts for leading private and public manufactures and operators including aircraft OEMs, airlines and defense operators. Collins propeller systems’ iBase-t Solumina deployment will deliver digital continuity across the company’s manufacturing engineering, process planning, shop floor execution, and quality management operations.

“We are looking forward to helping Collins facilities in Figeac and Casablanca move beyond a paper-based system to unlock the efficiency that Solumina can deliver within their plants,” said Naveen Poonian, CEO, iBase-t. “Our work with Collins will be a significant deployment for iBase-t in EMEA. We are proud to work with another pioneering aerospace and defense manufacturer and look forward to empowering industry leaders across markets.”

Solumina iSeries offers compelling benefits beyond easing how new features and updates are deployed. The iSeries can accelerate adoption of new transformative technologies, including augmented reality and artificial intelligence, as an operations platform to continuously drive performance and efficiency on an ongoing basis. This functionality, coupled with superior UX validated by frontline workers, illustrates the impact of iBase-t's latest MES solution on manufacturers.

Nova Scotia to Improve Revenue Management Processes with Infor

23 January 2024

Infor®, the industry cloud company, announced that Nova Scotia Health and IWK Health have selected the Infor Healthcare Revenue Cycle Management application to help meet the goals of its digital transformation program, One Person One Record (OPOR). This major program will replace health information systems used throughout the province of Nova Scotia with a new clinical information system. As part of the transformation, key Infor applications will be used to modernize and unify disparate patient accounting and billing systems.

“During our selection process, Infor demonstrated its understanding of the vision and strategic direction of One Person One Record, and how billing systems are part of the overall transformation,” said Scott McKenna, chief information officer, Nova Scotia Health and IWK Health. “This technology will consolidate and streamline client and patient billing, payments, and follow-up for cases such as out-of-country patients or uninsured patients.”

Nova Scotia Health is the largest provider of health services in Nova Scotia. Its workforce of over 24,000 provides healthcare and support services in hospitals, health centers, and community-based programs across the province. IWK Health provides collaborative high-quality care to women, children, youth, and families in the Maritime provinces and beyond. Services are delivered through our Children's Health program, Mental Health and Addictions program, and Women's and Newborn Health. IWK Health's approach integrates talented people with new technologies, research, training, and clinical excellence to provide complex levels of care across our region.

Nova Scotia is currently undergoing a multitude of groundbreaking digital health transformation projects aimed at revolutionizing healthcare delivery and improving the well-being of its citizens. These initiatives span a diverse range of areas, including electronic medical records implementation.

“Modern healthcare organizations understand that their success depends on more than balancing the books every month. It is paramount that they focus on driving efficiencies through improved workflows and communications,” said Travis Hatmaker, Infor senior vice president, industry and solution strategy. “Accurate and available patient accounts and related billing processes can make an enormous difference in improving overall efficiency. Infor is a trusted partner in the industry because we work with our customers to deeply understand the nuances of healthcare, beyond technology - we understand the difference between patient care and caring for the business, and we have a unique perspective on how to bring those two things together to solve the challenges that organizations are facing today.”

Phison Deploys Cadence Cerebrus AI-Driven Chip Optimization to Accelerate Product Development

22 January 2024

Phison Electronics Corporation is a market leader in NAND Flash controllers and applications, including USB, SD, eMMC, PATA, SATA, PCIe, and UFS. The company has shipped over 600 million controllers worldwide yearly, topping over US 2.2 billion dollars in sales revenue. Recently, Phison successfully deployed the Cadence Cerebrus Intelligent Chip Explorer and the complete Cadence RTL-to-GDS digital full flow to optimize their next-generation 12nm NAND controller ICs. The generative AI technology-based Cadence Cerebrus enabled Phison to automatically reduce the power by 35% and area by 3% in a multi-million cell flash controller block.

To accelerate product development, Phison used Cadence Cerebrus with a specific focus on power and area. Cadence Cerebrus and the broader digital full flow—including Cadence's Genus Synthesis Solution, Innovus Implementation System, and Tempus Timing Solution—provide optimal power, performance, and area (PPA) and faster turnaround time, enabling system-on-chip (SoC) design excellence.

"Chip area and power consumption are critical differentiators for our NAND controller ICs," said Vincent Cheng, VP of engineering, Phison. "By adopting the Cadence Cerebrus generative AI technology, we can now rapidly optimize die area and power, enabling Phison to deliver more competitive products to our customers."

Dr. Venkat Thanvantri, corporate vice president of AI R&D at Cadence said, "Cadence Cerebrus automatically reduced power by 35% on Phison's designs in just one week, which clearly demonstrates how generative AI can improve results and productivity."

The Phison design team successfully achieved their PPA goals significantly quicker than traditional manual design optimization using Cadence Cerebrus Intelligent Chip Explorer. The generative AI capability of Cadence Cerebrus helped Phison to achieve the desired results automatically in just one week. In addition to power and area optimizations, Cadence Cerebrus simultaneously reduced the turnaround time and helped Phison deliver higher-quality products much faster.

Qualtrics Partners with University of Utah Health to Elevate Patient and Frontline Employee Experiences

25 January 2024

Qualtrics, the leader and creator of the experience management (XM) category, announced that University of Utah (U of U) Health has driven a 100% increase in patient feedback since implementing the Qualtrics XM Platform, empowering frontline employees to respond quickly to improve patients' experiences in the moment, as well as scaling those insights to create a patient-centric healthcare experience.

With Qualtrics, U of U Health is able to collect and analyze patient feedback at scale, and quickly share insights with the people who can immediately address patients' needs. Previously, U of U Health used only traditional post-transactional patient satisfaction surveys after patients left a hospital or clinic, but leaders realized they were missing opportunities to provide dynamic and flexible options for patients to provide feedback.

Now, patients can share real-time feedback about anything from food orders to their care plan, and listening technology allows staff members to understand the right problem to solve. U of U Health is analyzing themes in the increased patient feedback to make fundamental changes to their programs and design new strategies that best serve patients and their families, such as investments in online scheduling and improved messaging.

"University of Utah Health not only actively listens throughout the patient journey, we're taking it one step further, and taking real-time action to improve the patient experience without overburdening our caregivers," said Dan Lundergan, CEO at U of U Health Hospitals and Clinics. "We were able to more than double the number of comments we received in a week, meaning more voices are being heard to inform systemic changes to accommodate our patients' diverse needs. It's a continual cycle of improvement to change healthcare today, tomorrow and for the next generation."

"University of Utah Health is a fantastic example of earning – and keeping – the trust of patients and communities by focusing on the entirety of the patient experience," said Dr. Adrienne Boissy, Chief Medical Officer at Qualtrics. "It's also rewarding to see patients highlight their positive experiences with their care teams, bringing frontline teams together with a shared sense of purpose – a significant benefit while the industry is in the midst of a staffing shortage."

U of U Health is the only academic medical center in Utah and provides patient care, education and research across six states in the Rocky Mountain area. More than 24,000 employees, including 1,400 board-certified physicians and 5,000 healthcare professionals, help to serve over two million patients annually across U of U Health's five hospitals and 12 community healthcare centers.

Siemens and UL Solutions redefine future of certification process with groundbreaking digital-twin technology

25 January 2024

For the first time ever, an industrial product has been certified for the United States after parts of the required tests were conducted through digital simulation. That simulation was verified and validated with physical testing. This remarkable achievement is a global first in a national safety-certification process. To make this advance possible, Siemens collaborated with UL Solutions, an esteemed global leader in applied safety science. The result is a testimony to the remarkable accuracy and reliability of modern digital twin simulations. It marks a step forward into a future in which digital twins and the industrial metaverse streamlines product development, enhances innovation, safety and accelerates time-to-market.

Cedrik Neike, CEO Digital Industries and Managing Board Member at Siemens, said: “Siemens’ digital twin technology is rewriting the rules of innovation. This collaborative effort with UL Solutions is a testament to our dedication to a future in which innovation knows no bounds. It invites industries and innovators alike to explore the limitless possibilities that comprehensive digital twins offer for shaping the future of product development.”

"UL Solutions has always been at the forefront of advancing safety science. Our collaboration with Siemens in this transformative journey represents a significant shift in the certification paradigm," Jennifer Scanlon, President and CEO of UL Solutions points out. "The certification process relies on physical testing. Now, digital simulations integrated with traditional methodologies can redefine how our customers approach testing and certification and open new avenues for precision and efficiency. UL Solutions is proud to be part of this revolutionary leap."

Revolutionizing product certification

Traditionally, product certification demanded exhaustive physical tests, often subjecting a single product to a battery of assessments. Simulation based on the digital twin is the answer to the special challenge and cost factor of test units and certified laboratories when high power electronics components are involved. Siemens and UL Solutions, however, introduced a paradigm shift. A product may not need to undergo every test physically; instead, the process can integrate the power of Siemens' digital twin technology. UL Solutions spearheads this transformative approach, navigating the certification process with unmatched expertise.

By harnessing the power of digital simulations, Siemens is ushering in an era in which traditional testing boundaries are being transcended and product insights can be gained with unprecedented speed and accuracy. The future of certification will be characterized by reduced costs, accelerated time-to-market, and seamless integration of digital modeling tools. Comprehensive digital twins are becoming the cornerstone for not just helping to meet compliance requirements, but also driving innovation at high speed without compromising safety, performance or quality.

In Siemens’ pioneering venture into the industrial metaverse, the demarcation between physical and digital spaces is becoming increasingly indistinct. The resulting combination is fostering a dynamic environment conducive to innovation. The first certification of an industrial product - the “SINAMICS G220” to be precise, a sophisticated system that enables precise control and efficient operation of electrical drives in various applications – leveraging Siemens’ comprehensive digital twin is a compelling demonstration of the industrial metaverse’s potential to usher in unprecedented possibilities for product development and other engineering tasks.

TÜV NORD chooses IFS Cloud Service Management with PSO to enhance route and deployment planning to drive digitalization and sustainability

25 January 2024

IFS, the global cloud enterprise software company, announced that TÜV NORD, one of the leading service providers in the field of technical inspection services, has selected IFS Cloud Service Management with Planning and Scheduling Optimization (PSO) to enhance its Mobility Business Unit. The strategic move will drive the digitalization of TÜV NORD's operations and improve sustainability by optimizing processes.

IFS Cloud will enable TÜV NORD to optimize its route and deployment planning, use resources more efficiently and reduce its environmental footprint. Implementing the solution will also provide TÜV NORD with AI-driven predictive analytics embedded in the service management software, ensuring optimal resource scheduling to maximize business efficiencies. IFS's AI-powered PSO solution will automate processes more efficiently and enhance real-time monitoring, minimizing downtime and potential bottlenecks while improving SLAs.

Hartmut Abeln, CEO of TÜV Mobility, said: "Through our collaboration with IFS, we will be able to take our route and deployment planning services to a new level. At the same time, our partnership with IFS emphasizes our commitment to sustainability, highlighting our proactive investment in new and innovative technologies in order to work more efficiently and in a more environmentally friendly way."

Combined with IFS's deep service industry expertise, the integration of the software will ensure that the user experience is customized to the needs of TÜV NORD employees and its various scheduling departments. Moving to IFS Cloud will not only drive efficiencies across TÜV NORD operations but also help empower its employees to extend their involvement in the digitalization process and enhance their expertise. By adopting this holistic approach, TÜV NORD will future-proof its organization, equipping its staff with the knowledge and skills required today and in the future.

Michael Ouissi, COO of IGT1, emphasizes the benefits of the joint efforts: "The implementation of IFS Cloud with PSO is a significant step for TÜV NORD in their journey towards digitalization and sustainability. Our solution will help to optimize TÜV NORD's processes and ensure that its resources are used efficiently and sustainably." Ouissi adds: "TÜV Nord will also benefit from the integration of our innovative AI architecture IFS.ai into all our products with the latest IFS Cloud release. This makes it possible to use artificial intelligence across the board to simulate, optimize and automate business processes, which leads to accelerated value creation."

IFS partner Arcwide will be responsible for implementing the solution. Arcwide is a joint venture between BearingPoint and IFS that combines BearingPoint's world-class expertise in business technology consulting with IFS cloud technology and innovation.

Valley View Casino and Hotel Doubles Down on Infor to Deliver a Seamless Guest Experience

22 January 2024

Infor®, the industry cloud company, announced Valley View Casino & Hotel, Southern California's premier gaming destination and a loyal customer of over two decades, is implementing Infor's hospitality Point of Sale (POS), Hospitality Management System (HMS) and Table Reservation Management. With the automation of reward redemption, Valley View aims to elevate the overall customer experience, providing streamlined processes that cater to the unique needs of the gaming sector.

"Valley View's adoption of Infor's POS and HMS marks a milestone for us, as it represents the inaugural implementation of Infor POS on the gaming floor. This strategic move, driven by exceptional support and the pursuit of operational excellence, showcases the trust Valley View places in Infor," said Joe Vargas, SVP & general manager, Infor Hospitality. "The decision not only addresses their current challenges but also positions Valley View at the forefront of innovation and success in the hospitality industry."

For hospitality brands to succeed, their technology must evolve to meet changing guest expectations. Infor POS offers new positive functionality over the previous solution, with player and guest focused benefits to unlock new possibilities.

"We are delighted to be the first casino in the country to implement Infor's Point of Sale System. Our 20-year partnership with Infor has been a win/win scenario for both companies since its inception in 2004 and we are confident that will continue with their new advanced technology into POS, another integral part of our business," said Bruce Howard, General Manager of Valley View Casino & Hotel.

Efficient Table Management

The new solution offers more efficient table management with simplified check splitting, a merge function to seamlessly combine people from different tables, and a repeat button for quick reordering at the same table.

Enhanced Menu Management

With enhanced menu management, it is now possible to create items for multiple revenue centers, eliminating the need for multiple items. This streamlined approach includes easy item inactivation and touchscreen deactivation.

Integrated Room Charge Information

To reduce social contact for guests, the solution offers seamless integration with Hotel Management System (HMS) for checked-out status, packages, stay dates, and room details. It can also charge to checked-out rooms without front desk assistance. The user-friendly interface provides better readability, and detailed HMS information on the POS folio for check-ins.

"Our decision to continue to partner with Infor in bringing their renowned hospitality POS and HMS into the gaming industry underscores our commitment to innovation," said Todd Jackson, Vice President of Gaming Operations and Information Technology at Valley View Casino and

Hotel. "Infor's track record in the hospitality sector speaks volumes, and this groundbreaking move signifies our dedication to providing an unparalleled customer experience."

Product News

BETA CAE Systems announces the release of the v23.1.4 of its software suite

25 January 2024

About this release

We officially announce the release of v23.1.4.

This latest bug-fix version, continues to shine the spotlight on numerous improvements and fixes of the v23.1.x series. Our continuous release cycle ensures that we promptly respond to your feedback, by adding and constantly improving the functionality you need.

Known issues resolved in ANSA

CAD Import/Export

Regarding API242, two parts with the same Properties would be considered as different if their representation file had the same filename but different file path. In this case, no instances would be created.

Model Browser

Error termination could occur while clearing Filter in Lists.

Modular Run Management

The representation file of a Library Item in DM, when edited with a text editor, would be overwritten, despite selecting to create a new version of the modified file.

Data Management

Sync Representation would not have the expected result on occasions with multi-instantiated groups.

Connections & Assembly

Upon Realize execution, unexpected termination would occur, when the Cut-Off Adhesive Elements option was activated, and the adhesive was passing over holes.

Abrupt termination would also take place when a seamweld was realized with the "Flange to Flange" search pattern.

Topo

ANSA would unexpectedly terminate when executing the Curves > Create function.

Feature Manager

Focusing on Stamps and Fasteners, an abnormal closure would happen during feature recognition of fasteners or stamps, if the setting "Decks>Copied entity id" had a different to its default value.

Plugins

ECAD Importer would unexpectedly terminate, when using trace mapping with layer features smaller than a pixel of the discretization canvas.

The plugin would cease to respond if the imported IPC-2581 file contained inconsistent component definitions (i.e. components with different height, despite belonging to the same package type) .

Known issues resolved in EPILYSIS

SOL200

Abrupt termination would take place during topology with stress constraints, when the analysis was MODES, DFREQ or MFREQ.

Output

Energies ESE and EKE were not written correctly in .op2 file for transient analysis SOL109 and SOL112.

Known issues resolved in META

Graphics

Polyhedral elements would not be displayed correctly when per element color or transparency was set.

Moreover, Top and Bottom results would not be drawn precisely on 2nd order quads when fringe quality option was used.

Decks

Unexpected termination could occur in the following cases:

- While executing the command "read geom contents pids shell all" for an Abaqus .odb file.
- When reading Ensight results on bar elements.
- When reading on Linux OS OptiStruct H3D results that contained PSOLID elements.

Annotations

Filtering would not work properly when using variables as fields to search with.
In addition, Edit could not work when picking multiple annotations from screen.

META would unexpectedly terminate when using the advanced option for filtering the annotations list.

Unexpected termination could also occur when setting the number of rows to add a table in annotation's text.

Managing Curve Data

Focusing on LS-DYNA, while reading curves from DEFINE_CURVE_TITLE keyword, the offset and scale of curves (SFA|, SFO, OFFA, OFFO) were not read correctly.

With reference to Madymo, the time history result files would not be read properly since version 23.1.1.

Speaking of NX-Nastran, Panel participation analysis results were not read correctly.

NVH Calculators

Concerning Modal/FRF Correlation, AutoMAC values would be incorrectly calculated from Abaqus result files.

Regarding Modal Response, if an output frequency other than 1 was specified in Modal Transient Response, the timestep for time t=0 was not calculated, and the rest of the results were calculated with an offset of one timestep.

Report

Unexpected termination could occur when saving a spreadsheet that contained unsupported conditional formatting.

File Export

META would abnormally exit when an invalid path would be provided to ATFX output.

Automation

Command for deleting a spreadsheet column that did not exist resulted in unexpected software abortion.

Known issues resolved in KOMVOS

Data Management

Lifecycle Graph tables would not display the attribute values correctly. This would take place either on certain Windows OS or when dealing with Japanese encodings.

Configuration

Unexpected termination would occur, in case no Mime Types for files had been registered in the SPDRM back-end, and the user pressed Next Iteration.

Furthermore, the <profile_name>.db settings file, would not be read when KOMVOS was launched connected to an SPDRM backend, configured with only one Settings Profile.

Scripting

An SPDRM action that was configured to run a script with input arguments would lead to an error message, although the actions were normally executed.

Known issues resolved in FATIQ

GUI

Fields: Start, End, Offset, Scale and Repeats of Assign Loads window in time domain would falsely accept blank values.

Calculations

For the results Log of Damage and Log of Life, natural logarithm was returned instead of log10.

Task

FATIQ would unexpectedly terminate when deleting multiple tasks.

Compatibility and Supported Platforms

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

META Project files saved from version 23.1.4 are compatible and can be opened by META version 16.0.0 or later.

Support for Mac OS has been discontinued.

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

BETA CAE Systems announces the release of NEERE v1.7.0

16 January 2024

About this Release

BETA CAE Systems announces the release of NEERE v1.7.0.

This version focuses on more direct communication, bringing forth the messaging tool. This now allows users to collaborate directly starting with chat messages and then joining rooms created on the spot. Simultaneous screen sharing has also been implemented to facilitate web training sessions as well as the flow of daily meetings.

A more detailed list of the features and improvements follows:

Release highlights

Similarly to ANSA and META, a release highlight window is now available with all the latest implemented features.

Amongst the newly introduced view modes, the gallery view offers a better overview of the online roommates, while the auto-presenter view will help you easily follow the flow of a meeting where users share their screen in succession.

Simultaneous screen sharing from multiple users is now possible making it possible for trainers to view and track trainee progress during web sessions.

The messaging tool allows users to directly contact one or more users. Combined with the on-the-spot room creation functionality it can lead to instant collaboration sessions.

The View only screen sharing button, has been repositioned. It is now available in every new room.

Microphone and camera devices are now listed under the device settings with a camera mirror view and the capability to add a background now available.

To further facilitate training sessions, remote applications can now be launched with a different layout through the launcher window and can be started in a different folder per room.

Furthermore, roommates can now decide which version of the already installed remote applications to launch.

The preview of the uploaded image files in a room is now also available.

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

Bluebeam Harnesses the Power of AI and Customer Passion to Drive Innovation in the Built World

23 January 2024

Bluebeam, a leading developer of solutions and services for architecture, engineering, and construction (AEC) professionals worldwide, is introducing two new AI features in the works for early 2024 and Bluebeam Labs, a collaborative, co-creation workspace in Bluebeam Cloud.

Bluebeam has invested in AI for more than a decade in its flagship product Bluebeam Revu and has a rich history of delivering innovation for AEC professionals. These newest AI innovations build on existing features like visual search, text recognition and batch processing to elevate how Bluebeam solutions increase productivity, augment creative problem-solving, and automate tedious tasks for its customers.

“For more than 20 years, Bluebeam has pioneered paperless transformation for many in the AEC industry, fundamentally changing how teams create, collaborate and communicate information,” said Frank Sarno, VP of Construction Process and Technology at Adolfson & Peterson Construction. “Today, demand for new and innovative ways of designing and building is accelerating. The industry is being asked to deliver higher quality work faster, more sustainably and at a lower cost. Through their commitment to innovation, involving their customers into the process, and solving for real world challenges, Bluebeam is helping companies like ours meet these demands.”

Bluebeam’s latest product release planned for April 2024 will include two new AI-enhanced features.

Auto Align for drawing overlays and comparisons in Revu 21. Auto Align will reduce the tedious, error-prone steps of manually aligning three points on each drawing revision, so users can understand the differences between them faster. Bluebeam customers currently use the Overlay and Compare features more than five million times a year. While powerful, the process takes several clicks and up to two minutes per drawing. With the Auto Align option and a revamped feature interface, this can be streamlined to as little as 15 seconds, helping users understand the differences up to 80 percent faster.

Automatic title block recognition when importing drawings to Bluebeam Cloud. The title block of a drawing holds valuable information that users shouldn’t have to waste time or risk mistakes entering manually. Aided by AI, Bluebeam Cloud instantly extracts the key drawing information as metadata that can be leveraged throughout the project, saving time and increasing accuracy.

Bluebeam Labs Allows Customers to Co-Create on AI Innovations

A key factor that sets Bluebeam apart from competitors is a passionate user base that has historically helped determine the company's product roadmap. To harness that more directly, Bluebeam is introducing **Bluebeam Labs**. Built to involve customers in the company's development of new solutions, this cloud-based, collaborative workspace offers the ability to demonstrate and validate ideas and technologies before they are launched and available to all customers. Bluebeam Cloud users are invited to shape the future of early concepts before they are integrated into production software.

"We believe that AI should be about pragmatic innovation that enhances the customer experience, productivity and value they get from Bluebeam," said Usman Shuja, CEO of Bluebeam. "Through Bluebeam Labs, we invite customers into our innovation process earlier, to co-create our solutions with much more engagement and feedback. This is how we'll continue to lead the industry for many years to come."

The first AI-based feature showcased via Bluebeam Labs will be **3D Drawings**. 3D Drawings uses AI to position up to hundreds of 2D drawings in 3D space. Like digital origami, the program intuitively understands where to make the folds for the highest quality 3D visualization and increased understanding of the project.

Concrete.ai Launches Concrete Copilot: A Generative AI Solution Saving Users Millions and Slashing Carbon Footprints by 30%

23 January 2024

Concrete.ai, the company using GenAI to optimize concrete mix designs for efficiency, carbon, and cost savings, announced the commercial availability of its field-tested, patented AI platform, Concrete Copilot. From the millions of possible mix designs, the platform generates those that are the most optimized for any combination of cost, performance, and carbon reduction, empowering producers to select the best mix for their use case.

Mix optimization is crucial to any concrete producer's success, but the design process has become increasingly difficult with today's complexity of supply chains, constant changes in material types and costs, and the vast array of complex performance data. And with a growing number of policies mandating low-embodied carbon material for construction projects, there is additional urgency for builders to reduce their carbon footprint, specifically within concrete production – which is responsible for 9% of worldwide emissions.

Producers are often left struggling to not only identify the right concrete mixes that meet requirements but also to introduce them into production quickly without disrupting plant operations or affecting performance and cost.

During Concrete Copilot's extensive field testing with producers across the US, the platform optimized mix designs used in over 2,000,000 cubic yards of concrete – enough concrete to fill 681 Olympic-size swimming pools. The average material savings were \$5.04/cubic yard, and the average carbon reduction was 30%. For most producers, these results were seen within just one month of activating the platform.

“I’ve spent 26 years working in the construction and ready mix industries and personally know the challenges concrete producers have to overcome to find the most economically viable mix designs,” said Alex Hall, CEO of Concrete.ai. “We built Concrete Copilot, so producers don’t have to choose between cutting cost and carbon. Our ultimate goal is to reduce the annual global carbon footprint of concrete by ~500 million tons just by optimizing concrete mixes with materials already in supply chains.”

Here’s how it works: Concrete Copilot first integrates with a producer’s current and historical data. Producers can select their optimization criteria based on their specific objectives. The platform then creates millions of mix designs in seconds and presents the optimal one to the user to approve or modify based on their judgment and experience, streamlining the design process from months to minutes.

Concrete Copilot uses the materials in a producer’s current supply chain, and when there are shifts in a material’s availability or cost, producers can rapidly create new mix designs. The platform also allows for quick evaluation of the many new sustainable materials entering the market each year, helping them to enter production quickly for an immediate environmental impact.

“Integrating Concrete Copilot into our existing software was a remarkably quick and smooth process. Using our own data and local materials, the tool efficiently streamlined our mix design process, allowing us to maximize materials cost savings and deploy the optimized mix designs into production faster,” said Chris Rapp, Vice President and General Manager of VCNA Prairie Materials. “This resulted in significant reductions in cost and carbon footprint.”

Document Crunch Adds Conversational AI to Its Contract Risk Review Solution for Accelerated Contract Insights

23 January 2024

Document Crunch, the leading contract intelligence platform for the construction industry, announced the launch of its groundbreaking Chat feature, empowering all stakeholders in the project lifecycle to instantly gain insights and collaborate directly with their contracts through an intuitive AI-powered chat interface. This game-changing innovation breaks down information silos and streamlines project execution across various roles, including general contractors, engineers, architects, and legal teams.

Contracts are the foundation of construction projects, yet their often dense language and intricate clauses can become roadblocks to progress. Manually sifting through pages for answers consumes valuable time and hampers decision-making. Document Crunch Chat cuts through the complexity, allowing users to ask their contracts for anything and receive immediate, accurate responses through a proprietary chat interface.

Document Crunch Chat empowers teams to instantly understand critical timelines, deliverables, responsibilities, and compliance requirements at any project stage. It eliminates the need for manual document searching or reliance on others for simple questions, freeing up valuable

time for core tasks. Most importantly it mitigates risk by empowering project teams to make sense of the commitments, ensuring compliance with contractual obligations.

"Chat unlocks a new level of contract insights, faster than ever before, helping us deliver on our mission: to empower everyone in the construction industry to understand what's in their contracts," says Josh Levy, co-founder and CEO of Document Crunch. "This is a breakthrough to make project teams' lives even easier and builds on the foundation our core products have already laid."

The benefits of Chat extend far beyond initial contract review and project execution. Stakeholders can return to the contract during warranty periods, final payments, closeout, and more, ensuring everyone has the information they need at every step of the project lifecycle.

"What I love about the Chat feature is that it's for everyone," says Maria DiTommaso, Corporate Risk and Contract Manager at Bond Brothers, Inc. "It's not just for the lawyer or the risk manager. It's for the project executive, the project engineer, and even the project accountant. It is meant for anyone looking for an answer who doesn't know how to navigate a contract. It brings you exactly to the place where you need to be."

Document Crunch Chat is available immediately to all users, unlocking a new era of accessible contract intelligence and empowering collaboration across the construction industry. Document Crunch Chat marks a significant leap forward in contract management, transforming complex contracts into readily accessible sources of knowledge and empowerment for all project stakeholders.

Dusty Robotics Unveils Second Generation Robot and Comprehensive BIM-to-Field Automated Workflow

23 January 2024

Dusty Robotics has announced the launch of its FieldPrint Platform, a complete BIM-to-field solution designed to reduce construction risk by ensuring all contractors are building off the same information.

The FieldPrint Platform provides a suite of tools that enable GC's and trade partners to streamline their BIM-to-field workflow by supporting the entire process from design to installation and beyond. Building upon the success of the first-generation FieldPrinter, which has printed over 91 million square feet of layout, the new FieldPrint Platform incorporates lessons learned from years of experience in the field to deliver an optimized experience for all trades on site.

Five years ago, Dusty pioneered multi-trade layout: automating all interior trades' layout using a robot to mark coordinated drawings on the deck, ensuring that everyone builds from the same information. The FieldPrint Platform introduces a suite of software and hardware functionality, including a brand new second-generation layout robot, the FieldPrinter 2, which work together to create an efficient process for the GC and trades to accurately and comprehensively lay out BIM models on the deck.

"Construction is fundamentally a data-driven workflow that hinges on the right information being made available to the right person at the right time," said Tessa Lau, CEO and co-founder of Dusty Robotics. "Our new FieldPrint Platform supports the seamless flow of data from the design phase, to the field, and back to the trailer. More than just a robot, Dusty provides an integrated software+hardware solution that architects, designers, and field operators utilize to get unparalleled accuracy, communication, and efficiency."

Elements of the FieldPrint Platform combine to boost efficiency and alignment:

FieldPrinter 2. The second-generation Dusty robot enhances on-site performance and productivity through its compact design and extended capabilities. Upgraded features include:

- **Compact Form Factor.** The FieldPrinter 2 effortlessly navigates tight spaces and seamlessly maneuvers around obstacles to provide the most complete layout
- **Edge Print** enables printing right up to edges, columns, and site features
- **Shadow Print** enables printing behind columns for more coverage in less time
- **Full Sensor Suite** enables real-time detection of edges, obstacles, and other objects that may impede printing
- **Curve Printing** generates smooth arcs of any radius
- **Extra-wide Printhead (1" vs ½")** prints points, lines, text, and curves quickly and legibly at 300 dpi
- **Light Weight.** At 23 lbs (including the battery), the FieldPrinter 2 is safe and easy to move and carry
- **Power Hold** ensures uninterrupted operation during battery replacement
- **iPad Interface** simplifies the learning process and streamlines operation

Revit Plugin. The new Dusty Revit Plugin eliminates errors, streamlines workflows, and enhances VDC efficiency by automating most of the manual steps needed to prepare robot-ready drawings. The Dusty plugin incorporates best practices learned from key builders and thousands of projects to get the most complete and accurate information on the floor by automatically extracting it from the coordinated BIM model.

Dusty Portal. The Dusty Portal facilitates multi-trade layout by allowing all trades to combine and align their digital files in a single place. The Portal enables the design team to verify that all files utilize the same coordinate system, preview the combined files prior to printing, and ensure that everyone is working off the latest version. Additionally, it provides access to productivity reports for project tracking and operator performance.

EON Reality Introduces Advanced Certification System for XR Learning on the EON Marketplace

23 January 2024

EON Reality, the global leader in AI-powered Augmented and Virtual Reality knowledge transfer for education and industry, has today announced the launch of an innovative certification system for the EON Marketplace. This new framework is set to acknowledge the efforts and achievements of learners engaging with immersive courses in extended reality (XR), setting a new standard in educational technology certifications.

The certification framework is meticulously designed to cover various essential criteria:

- **Course Coverage:** Detailed outlines to ensure learners grasp key aspects and skills of each course.
- **Participation and Completion:** Comprehensive tracking of users' active participation and successful conclusion of courses.
- **Performance Assessment:** Integration of a points system and percentage completion rate to measure user performance with precision.

Levels of Certification Reflect Learners' Mastery:

- **Basic Certification:** Celebrates the commitment to participation and course completion.
- **Advanced Certification:** Distinguishes learners who exhibit high performance and mastery of course materials.

EON Reality's new system spotlights achievement in XR learning, offering credentials that mark a significant milestone in each learner's educational journey.

"Our vision at EON Reality has always been to elevate education and empower individuals through cutting-edge technology," said Dan Lejerskar, Chairman of EON Reality. "With this advanced certification system, we're recognizing the rigorous efforts of learners and providing a tangible testament to their mastery in the blossoming realm of XR education."

EON Reality Offers Innovative Solutions to Bridge Gaps in Traditional Education

26 January 2024

EON Reality, the global leader in AI-powered Augmented and Virtual Reality knowledge transfer for education and industry, announces its innovative approach to transforming the traditional educational landscape. Utilizing advanced AI and immersive technologies, EON Reality provides a platform that bridges the gap between conventional teaching methods and the digital future, offering solutions tailored for universities, community colleges, and K-12 schools.

Empowering Universities with AI-Driven Learning

EON Reality's platform introduces immersive, interactive experiences that enrich university curricula, offering students an engaging and effective learning environment. This approach not

only enhances student engagement but also provides cost-effective alternatives and personalized learning paths, ensuring education is accessible and tailored to individual needs.

Revolutionizing Community Colleges with Scalable Tech Solutions

Understanding the resource constraints of community colleges, EON Reality delivers scalable immersive technology solutions. These tailor-made tools align educational offerings with evolving job markets, providing practical, job-ready skills through virtual simulations.

Innovating K-12 Education with Interactive and Safe Learning

For K-12 institutions, EON Reality introduces gamified learning experiences that captivate young minds. The platform allows for the safe exploration of realistic scenarios, from STEM subjects to emergency preparedness, fostering a safe and dynamic learning environment for all ages.

Creating a Marketplace for Alternative Education

Alongside these institutional solutions, EON Reality is launching an educational marketplace. This platform will offer students an alternative to traditional education systems, with flexible, skill-based learning opportunities. These courses, supported by various academic institutions, will be accessible globally, providing affordable and practical education directly to students.

Closing the Gap in Traditional Education

EON Reality's initiatives are designed to address the pressing challenges faced by educational institutions today. From integrating AI and immersive technologies to providing real-world applications and customized learning experiences, EON Reality is at the forefront of educational innovation.

"As we look towards the future of education, EON Reality understands the importance of integrating immersive technologies to redefine and enhance the learning experience," explains Dan Lejerskar, Chairman of EON Reality. "Our mission is to seamlessly blend cutting-edge VR and AR with the power of AI to foster environments where both educators and students thrive in acquiring knowledge and skills pertinent to the digital age."

Honeywell Transforms Building Management With First-Of-Its-Kind Technology

23 January 2024

Honeywell launched Advance Control for Buildings, a groundbreaking platform marking one of the company's most substantial leaps in building controls innovation to date.

Designed to automate building management and provide the foundation for a building's energy efficiency strategy, Advance Control combines the latest technologies with decades of innovation and domain expertise. Automation and machine learning fuel a streamlined operation system featuring built-in cybersecurity and technology to deliver faster network speeds that, in an industry first, uses existing wiring. This announcement further supports Honeywell's recently announced plans to realign its business with three compelling megatrends, including automation and energy transition.

"Today, buildings are facing mounting pressures around safety, operational efficiency and energy efficiency. By pushing the boundaries of technological advancement, Advance Control not only helps building managers optimize their building operations to meet these pressures, but also champions innovation," said Steve Kenny, vice president and general manager, Honeywell Building Management Systems. "Automation breaks down operational barriers to give building managers more control over the efficiency of their buildings, ultimately helping improve the occupant experience while advancing energy management goals."

As part of this rollout, Honeywell recently announced strategic alliances with two semiconductor leaders, NXP® Semiconductors N.V. and Analog Devices, Inc. to streamline the transition to intelligent edge processing. With NXP, Honeywell seeks to elevate machine learning and autonomous decision-making for enhanced energy management and convenience, as well as enhanced security within and beyond the building. The joint efforts with ADI aim to deliver more efficiency and increased intelligence through digital connectivity and advanced signal conversion across many industrial applications.

"As the building automation market demands greater digital connectivity and security enabling data driven efficiencies, ADI has invested in new technologies meeting these needs while also offering flexibility for future upgrades. Our single-pair Ethernet (T1L) enables the possibility of reusing a building's existing wiring, helping to reduce installation time, cost, and waste. ADI is pleased to work with Honeywell to bring this new technology to building management systems for the first time in Advance Control for Buildings," said Diarmuid McSwiney, Managing Director, Industrial Connectivity and Control at ADI.

"Security resilience is increasingly required for networked control systems," said Rafael Sotomayor, Executive Vice President and General Manager, Secure Connected Edge, NXP Semiconductors. "Honeywell's Advance Control for Buildings platform leverages NXP processors that efficiently combine machine learning with advanced security technologies to protect sensitive building automation infrastructure."

According to the UN Environment Programme, buildings account for 37% of global CO2 emissions^[i], resulting in increasing pressure to identify and reduce energy use. At the same time, the lack of skilled labor makes it difficult for building owners to find technicians to upkeep and modernize spaces.

"Real estate and facilities leaders are placing top priority on optimizing building operations," said Sandy Rogers, a principal analyst with Verdantix, a research and advisory firm.

"Organizations require greater visibility and automated control across their building portfolios, and they will increasingly look to digital innovations such as AI and machine learning for added intelligence."

HOOPS 2024 Toolkits Boast New and Improved CAD File Support, Improved API Performance

18 January 2024

Tech Soft 3D, the leading provider of engineering software development toolkits, announced the availability of HOOPS Exchange 2024, the leading SDK for CAD data translation supporting more than 30 file formats, and HOOPS Publish 2024, the leading toolkit for publishing interactive 3D PDFs, 3D HTMLs, and 3D CAD data. HOOPS Exchange now supports Navisworks and C#, as well as the newest versions of Parasolid, Solid Edge, NX, and Revit, while HOOPS Publish features multiple API enhancements.

“When our partners are developing new applications or enhancing an existing product, being able to access and publish CAD data, regardless of format, is paramount to streamlining these workflows”

New and Improved CAD File Support

HOOPS Exchange 2024 adds support for Navisworks, a 3D design review product from Autodesk, and C#, one of the most popular and stable programming languages on the market, as well as enhanced support for Parasolid, Solid Edge, NX, and Revit. This ensures that developers can work with nearly every popular CAD file format.

In addition, support for reading CATIA V5 publications allows developers to access publication information in CATIA V5 files, providing valuable insights into references for various entities such as geometry, topology, features, attributes, and annotations.

HOOPS Exchange 2024 also includes support for assembly geometry redefinitions in Solid Edge and can now import design operations defined at the assembly level, ensuring a higher level of model fidelity. This enhancement includes support for assembly-level features such as cutouts, revolved cutouts, holes, rounds, chamfers, frame components, pipes, adjustable components, and weldments.

These enhancements provide developers with a more powerful and versatile API, enabling them to work with complex assembly geometries with ease.

Performance Enhancements

HOOPS Exchange 2024 introduces a more intuitive and efficient way to navigate model files. A new API now offers a set of functions designed for seamless traversal. The newly introduced entities present an abstract representation of a model file, enhancing usability through a standardized tree structure and simplified access to tessellation.

HOOPS Publish 2024 features a new API to add a resource to the 3D Artwork so that it can be consumed by 3D javascript to dynamically add geometry in a 3D model.

Finally, HOOPS Exchange 2024 features IFC reader improvements, meeting market expectations in performance, speed, and quality.

Keysight Introduces Chiplet PHY Designer for Simulating D2D to D2D PHY IP Supporting the UCle™ Standard

24 January 2024

Keysight Technologies, Inc. introduces Chiplet PHY Designer, the latest member in its family of high speed digital design and simulation tools that provides die-to-die (D2D) interconnect simulation, which is a key step in verifying performance for heterogeneous and 3D integrated circuit (IC) designs commonly referred to as chiplets. The new electronic design automation (EDA) tool is the industry's first to provide in-depth modeling and simulation capabilities that enable chiplet designers to rapidly and accurately verify that their designs meet specifications of the Universal Chiplet Interconnect Express™ (UCle™) standard.

UCle is emerging as the leading chiplet interconnect specification in the semiconductor industry. It is an open standard that defines the interconnect between chiplets within an advanced 2.5D or 3D package. UCle is in process of being supported or adopted by many of the top semiconductor equipment and EDA tool vendors as well as foundries and chiplet designers. Designers who use the interconnect standard and ensure their chiplets perform to its specifications are helping establish a broad ecosystem for chiplet interoperability and commerce.

Keysight EDA's research and development team has been working on modeling and simulating high-speed digital interfaces aligned with industry specifications for decades. For example, ADS Memory Designer offers comprehensive memory interface coverage such as GDDR7, DDR5, LPDDR5, and HBM3 with its IBIS-AMI modeler. Its rigorous and genuine JEDEC compliance test solution handles over 100 test IDs with the same test algorithm found in the Keysight Infinium oscilloscope family.

Key features of the Chiplet PHY Designer physical-layer simulator include:

- Supports UCle physical layer standard – automated parsing of signals following the standard naming conventions, automated connections between multiple dies through package interconnects, standard driven simulation setup such as speed grade, and intuitive measurement setup through specialized probe component.
- Measurement of voltage transfer function (VTF) – precisely computes a VTF to ensure UCle specification compliance and analyzes system bit error rate (BER) down to 1e-27 or 1e-32 levels. Measures eye diagram height, eye width, skew, mask margin, and BER contour.
- Analysis of forwarded clocking to accurately capture the asynchronous clocking behavior.

Adrien Auge, Senior Staff Applications Engineer, Alphawave Semi, said: “The ability to validate Alphawave Semi’s chiplet solutions is crucial for enabling a future of heterogeneous chip design, as it ensures seamless operation and interoperability for 2.5D/3D solutions available to our customers. Chiplet PHY Designer simplifies the electrical simulation process for large die-die electrical connectivity, such as UCle. It provides engineers and designers a quick and easy path

to extract electrical compliance of their solutions against the latest revision of the specification. Furthermore, by complying with the latest IBIS modeling specification for electrical I/O, physical integrators can delve deeper into the chiplet electrical validation process, leveraging our detailed models to obtain pre-silicon performance predictions.”

Niels Faché, Vice President and General Manager, Keysight EDA, said: "Our high-speed digital simulation team capitalized on its understanding of the shift left challenges presented by SerDes PHYS. They have applied these learnings to the chiplet domain to extend success of our standards-based simulation strategy to UCIe. Interconnect modeling is critical to system design and performance. Chiplet PHY Designer accelerates validation of chiplet subsystems, from one D2D PHY through interconnect channels to another D2D PHY, much earlier in the design cycle. It enables 3D IC designers to solve critical interconnect performance problems improving predictive virtual prototyping to speed time-to-market."

See Chiplet PHY Designer at DesignCon

Keysight will be demonstrating Chiplet PHY Designer in its DesignCon booth #1039 at the Santa Clara Convention Center from January 31-February 1, 2024.

Lectra expands its Furniture On Demand offer with Valia and Vector cutting equipment to accelerate the transition of furniture industry players to Industry 4.0

23 January 2024

Lectra supports the transformation of fashion, automotive and furniture players by providing them with technological solutions that accelerate their transition to a more efficient and more sustainable Industry 4.0. The Group announces the launch of its enhanced Furniture On Demand by Lectra offer. This solution automates, streamlines and gives total visibility over on-demand production – unitary and series – of furniture products, enabling smarter and more sustainable manufacturing. The Group is also launching a new generation of smart and connected furniture cutting equipment, VectorFurniture Q2 and VectorFurniture iX2.

The furniture industry is characterized by rare expertise and complex processes. For several years, the sector has faced growing demand for customization, involving various choices of shapes, colors and fabrics. To meet this challenge, furniture manufacturers need to be able to produce on demand, quickly, cost-effectively and sustainably.

Since 2018 and the launch of its Furniture On Demand by Lectra offer, Lectra has played a pioneering role in enabling the automation of on-demand production, facilitating the production of small runs at the same rate as mass production and promoting material savings.

"Today, we are continuing to innovate by enhancing this solution with Valia, our digital production preparation and planning platform for upholstered furniture," explains Maximilien Abadie, Chief Strategy Officer and Chief Product Officer at Lectra. *"Furniture On Demand by Lectra connects all the components in the cutting room and facilitates order and production data processing. Our customers gain additional advantages for optimizing automated manufacturing workflows and material consumption on their production lines. With this new*

offer, they are fully committed to Industry 4.0 and benefit from a significant competitive advantage, offering new growth drivers for more sustainable production."

Greater interoperability and reduced environmental impact thanks to data intelligence

Hosted in the cloud, the Valia digital platform connects to Lectra's equipment in the cutting room, as well as upstream to the customer's ERP¹ system, enabling them to receive orders, process them automatically and send them to the cutting room, without human intervention. This digitization, using real-time data, automates and simplifies every stage of the fabric cutting process, from preparation to planning and execution.

The Valia platform is capable of integrating the production rules known by only a handful of experts in the cutting room, making it possible to secure operations, standardize practices and automatically mix and allocate cutting orders to the right cutting equipment, optimizing material savings.

Valia Furniture's automated management provides upholstered furniture manufacturers with the ability to visualize cutting room processes in order to identify necessary adjustments, escalate alerts and make instant decisions to improve cutting room performance and optimize their on-demand production.

A new generation of connected and eco-responsible cutting equipment

Together with its new Furniture On Demand by Lectra offer, the Group is launching the new generation of VectorFurniture Q2 and VectorFurniture iX2 fabric cutters. This new equipment is specifically adapted to ensure a quick and easy transition from low-volume production to higher-volume orders, while improving cutting quality.

VectorFurniture Q2 and VectorFurniture iX2 offer a high level of connectivity thanks to numerous built-in sensors, which makes them fully compatible with Industry 4.0. Thanks to data intelligence and improved connectivity, manufacturers have all the data they need to increase the efficiency of their processes, boost productivity, improve product quality and better meet the challenges of tomorrow.

This eco-designed equipment consumes 30% to 40% less energy than the previous generation, already renowned for its energy performance, maximizing efficiency. It is more compact and 200 kilograms lighter, significantly reducing environmental impacts during production, transport and use.

Ergonomics and operator protection, Lectra's key concerns, have been completely redesigned with the integration of motion detection sensors, the reduction of equipment noise levels and the introduction of new standards for circuit boards.

¹ ERP system: Enterprise Resource Planning, an integrated management system that brings together several applications to manage a company's operational and administrative activities.

MEDITWIN brings together French science and technology excellence around virtual twins for the future of medical care

24 January 2024

The MEDITWIN consortium was announced on December 11, 2023, in the presence of French President Emmanuel Macron. More details were presented at the Parisanté Campus on December 14 in the presence of French Minister Delegate for Industry Roland Lescure. The consortium is made up of seven University Hospital Institutes (IHUs), Nantes University Hospital (CHU), Inria, startups and Dassault Systèmes. MEDITWIN will offer virtual twins for medical practice, helping to improve the quality of care for safer, more accessible healthcare for all.

The MEDITWIN project will offer personalized virtual twins of organs, metabolism and cancer, for better diagnosis and treatment. In particular, MEDITWIN will enable doctors to simulate future scenarios for a patient.

Seven new medical practices will be developed from the virtual twins, in neurology, cardiology and oncology. This will result in seven "virtual healthcare products" that will be deployed on a sovereign industrial cloud platform.

The MEDITWIN project leverages the expertise of world-class partners in each of the fields covered, around the 14 founding members of this consortium: Dassault Systèmes, as the industrial leader of the consortium; seven University Hospital Institutes at the highest level of medical and scientific excellence; Nantes University Hospital via l'institut du thorax; startups inHEART, Codoc, Qairnel and Neurometers; and Inria through 11 project teams involved in this project.

Virtual twins have become an indispensable asset in the aeronautics and mobility industries, where virtualization has enabled considerable progress in terms of safety, quality, ecological footprint and cost-effectiveness. MEDITWIN builds on the experience accumulated by the partners over many years in the field of virtual twins for healthcare, such as the Living Heart initiative by Dassault Systèmes, the Living Brain, as well as the activities of the PEPR digital health program co-directed by Inria and INSERM, for example.

MEDITWIN will enable the industrialization, clinical validation and standardization of these innovations, so that these technologies can be deployed in a standardized way and benefit as many people as possible. The best standards of care will be incorporated into virtualized experiences made accessible worldwide, setting a new benchmark for quality in healthcare and providing a decisive learning ground for progress in medical science.

The benefits of virtual twins will be assessed for medical teams, patients, and the healthcare system, notably in terms of improving the efficiency of care, quality of multidisciplinary decision-making, and effectiveness and safety of medical practices and interventions.

In practice, the MEDITWIN initiative will be developed over five years, from 2024 to 2029. The partners' investment in this project will be financially supported by the French government as part of the "France 2030" plan.

Partner quotes**Bernard Charlès, Chairman of Dassault Systèmes**

“Virtual twins have successfully enabled the industrial world to transform itself more sustainably. Today, this technology is opening up new possibilities for healthcare by revealing the secrets of the human body - by understanding and representing the invisible. For 40 years, Dassault Systèmes has been a pioneer in virtual twins, and we can apply our knowledge and know-how to transform medical practice. The MEDITWIN public-private alliance is a major step forward, mobilizing the best of medicine, science and technology to serve future healthcare. The virtual twin is already a reality, and MEDITWIN will help standardize and disseminate it worldwide to benefit millions of patients.”

Bruno Sportisse, CEO of Inria

“Building an active digital ecosystem can only make France a European leader in digital healthcare innovation. In line with their strategic partnership signed in 2021, Inria and Dassault Systèmes are actively collaborating in the field of virtual twins in healthcare, with an aligned vision of the challenges of sovereignty and the digital transformation of healthcare. Supported by France 2030, the MEDITWIN project, resulting from ambitious collaboration between Dassault Systèmes, Inria and IHU France, demonstrates the commitment of these players to building a French industry at the forefront of emerging healthcare issues, all for the benefit of patients.”

Fabrice André, CEO of IHU PRISM of Gustave Roussy

“The MEDITWIN consortium is in line with PRISM's vision of developing cancer avatars to model biology at the patient level and tailor personalized therapies. PRISM will also benefit from the expertise of the other IHUs, and will be working closely with them to develop interdisciplinary projects.”

Pierre JAIS, CEO of IHU LIRYC

“Combining 7 IHUs, Inria and Dassault Systèmes, MEDITWIN is a remarkable public/private collaboration. This unique project opens a new era for scaled and automated preventive medicine, so critical for patients and immensely cost effective. Finally, it offers French doctors and researchers the opportunity of relying on a global industry champion in digital health for future medical research.”

Pr. Didier Mutter, CEO, IHU Strasbourg

“Virtual twins will be essential elements in the medicine of the future, as they will enable treatments to be simulated to provide patients with the best possible results. MEDITWIN is an exceptional project in terms of its ambition and the challenges to be met. It's also a premiere for the IHU France alliance, uniting a multidisciplinary biomedical research capability that has no parallel anywhere in the world. For IHU Strasbourg, it will be a powerful catalyst for improving the minimally invasive management of metastatic colorectal cancer, in close collaboration with two of its historical founders, Inria and the University Hospitals of Strasbourg.”

Pr. Michel Paques, IHU FOReSIGHT, head of the ophthalmology 4 department and Director of the Clinical Investigation Center at the 15-20 national hospital

“The integration of the FOReSIGHT IHU into the MEDITWIN consortium will enable the large-scale development of retinal microcirculation twins, enabling personalized detection and monitoring of cerebral and cardiovascular diseases in quantitative terms. This will be the first development of a quantitative microcirculatory biomarker. The FOReSIGHT IHU has developed expertise in innovative microvascular imaging using retinal imaging with adaptive optics, a technique in which France is a leader, with the help of French high-tech companies and research institutes. This approach, unique in the world, will be strengthened with Dassault Systèmes through the development of algorithms based in particular on AI to extract morphometric information from large retinal surfaces. The integration of these measurements into biomarkers that can be used directly by practitioners represents a major challenge for the transfer from the research laboratory to the consulting room.”

Pr. Stanislas Lyonnet, CEO of Institut Imagine

“Institut Imagine is proud to have been one of the initiators of the strategic partnership between Dassault Systèmes and Alliance IHU France on virtual twins. We are delighted to put our medical and research excellence in the field of rare diseases at the service of the MEDITWIN project. The first project, developed with Dassault Systèmes and INRIA, concerns cardiology, with a peri-surgical decision support system designed to drastically reduce the mortality rate of newborns suffering from congenital heart disease (Hypoplastic Left Heart Syndrome) thanks to a personalized virtual twin of the cardiovascular system. Our second project, developed in partnership with Dassault Systèmes and startup CODOC, concerns pediatric neurology, with a tool for managing the Multidisciplinary Board Meeting that uses a virtual twin of patients to aid medical decision-making and management of rare epilepsies, in particular Dravet syndrome. These two projects offer significant opportunities for researchers and doctors, who will be able to visualize, test, understand, and predict before experimenting on patients.”

Pr. Alexis Brice, CEO of Paris Brain Institute, IHU ICM

“We are delighted to collaborate closely with Dassault Systèmes and Inria within the IHU Alliance. We aim to structure an ecosystem of innovation in healthcare from which the medicine of tomorrow will emerge. The digital twin embodies the ambitions of the Institute's research: to streamline the use of health data at different scales, to model and predict the evolution of diseases, to diagnose early, and to build personalized medicine on a solid and reliable foundation. Within MEDITWIN, Paris Brain Institute will contribute its expertise in detecting Alzheimer's disease, vascular dementia and epilepsy, and in analyzing data from patient cohorts.”

Pr. Stéphane Hatem, CEO of IHU ICAN and Director of the UMR 1166 Research Unit on Cardiovascular and Metabolic Diseases

“Virtual twin technology opens up possibilities for novel precision and preventive medicine for cardiometabolic diseases. Its goal is to predict the personal future risk of developing a cardiovascular disease, based on individual risk profiles, especially the genomic signature. Such an ambition requires changing the scale of today's research that will be achieved through the MEDITWIN project led by Dassault Systèmes and with all its partners on board.”

Pr. Bertrand Cariou, Director of l'institut du thorax, CHU de Nantes

“Nantes University Hospital, via ‘l'institut du thorax’, in collaboration with Dassault Systèmes engineers, will carry out developments aimed at improving the prediction of cardiovascular accidents, which represent the leading cause of mortality in industrialized countries. To achieve this goal, the researchers will use data from the SAFIR cohort, an outcome of the CHOPIN (CHOLEsterol Personalized INnovation) nationwide translational research project, on patients with familial hypercholesterolemia with or without cardiovascular disease. This pilot study in a very high-risk cardiovascular population will combine clinical, multi-omics and imaging data to create a virtual twin model, which will then be validated in a larger cardiovascular population.”

Todor Jeliaskov, CEO of inHEART

“At inHEART, we are excited to be part of MEDITWIN and on the forefront of the digital health transformation. Within MEDITWIN, inHEART will focus on the prevention of Sudden Cardiac Death, which takes more than 800,000 lives each year. We need to move our healthcare systems from reacting to acute complications to preventing complications. Digital technologies and Artificial Intelligence are accelerating this process.”

Arthur Delapalme, Co-founder and CEO of CODOC

“The MEDITWIN project has succeeded in bringing together the medical expertise of several different University Hospital Institutes. In our view, this multidisciplinary approach is a fruitful way of accelerating research and rapidly bringing the benefits of innovations to patients. As CODOC, we are very proud to build one of the seven virtual twins of this project.”

Stanley Durrleman, CEO of QAIRNEL

“At Qairnel, we're proud to be part of the MEDITWIN project. Our virtual twins simulate the evolution of a patient in the early stages of Alzheimer's disease. The project will enable us to put these technologies into the hands of practitioners, to propose personalized management schemes and therapeutic strategies. This will enable us to respond to one of the major public health challenges of the 21st century.”

Lionel Naccache, Co-Founder of Neurometers

“Neurometers aims to generalize the medical use of the electroencephalogram (EEG) to quantify the cerebral signatures of consciousness and cognition. Initially developed in healthy subjects and non-communicative patients, with highly original results validated in numerous scientific publications, we have more recently discovered and reported that this approach could prove highly promising in the field of neurodegenerative diseases that impair cognition, such as Alzheimer's disease. For the first time, direct measures of cognitive functioning could be integrated into routine clinical monitoring of patients, complementing neuropsychological tests and measures of cerebral atrophy. This approach could also make it possible to evaluate the efficacy of new therapies. Our participation in the MEDITWIN project is aimed at improving the quality of our algorithms by analyzing a large cohort of patient EEG recordings in an evolutionary manner.”

Netskope Announces MSP-Friendly, Enterprise-Grade SASE Tailored for the Midmarket

22 January 2024

Netskope, a leader in Secure Access Service Edge (SASE), announced the next addition to its family of single-vendor SASE offerings, focused on midmarket organizations and the Managed Service Providers (MSP) that serve them. The ongoing expansion of Netskope's industry-leading SASE portfolio enables Netskope and its partners to deliver a complete range of single-vendor SASE capabilities tailored for various customer sizes and technology environments, ranging from midmarket businesses to large enterprises requiring the advanced SASE capabilities other single-vendor SASE vendors can't provide.

Despite being smaller, midmarket organizations are facing many of the same hybrid work connectivity and cybersecurity challenges as their larger enterprise counterparts. As a result, these organizations have had to similarly deploy and manage a broad range of security and networking tools, leading to unnecessary complexity and ballooning maintenance costs, overwhelming their smaller IT teams and budgets.

Further exacerbating the challenges faced by midmarket businesses are the limitations of legacy security technologies, as well as the lack of advanced security options available from most single-vendor SASE vendors.

The new Netskope SASE for midmarket solution delivers the same reliable performance and advanced security capabilities of previously released Netskope enterprise SASE offerings, in an easy-to-manage, midmarket-ready package, including:

- Netskope's best-in-class enterprise-grade threat and data protection capabilities delivered ready to use out of the box.
- Simplified deployment and administration of networking and security policies through an easy-to-use, unified management console, and the industry's first unified SASE client.
- Context-aware Netskope Borderless SD-WAN, and the global network coverage provided by Netskope NewEdge, to maximize network agility and performance from anywhere.

Further recognizing that many midmarket organizations prefer to outsource the administration of their networking and security, Netskope has designed this latest SASE offering with its leading MSP partners in mind. Critical platform functionalities like multi-tenancy support have been put in place to make it easy for MSPs to deploy and manage Netskope SASE at scale for multiple customers.

"Netskope continues to disrupt the status quo by providing more companies the right balance of performance and security—all the benefits of single-vendor SASE, at the right level for their size and needs," said Dave Rogers, SVP of Global Alliances and Channel Sales, Netskope. "Today's release is an ideal SASE solution for midmarket enterprises that are ready to consolidate their hardware, optimize performance, and won't settle for mediocre security."

Netskope continues to expand its SASE capabilities and now offers the most complete range of single-vendor SASE options that align to the requirements of different business sizes, from midmarket to the largest enterprises looking to consolidate multi-vendor environments without skimping on advanced networking and security features. Netskope also continues to strengthen and expand its MSP partnerships worldwide, including with BT, Deloitte, Orange, Telefonica, Telstra, Wipro, and more.

“As our Fortune 5000 customers continue building upon their digital transformation initiatives, many are considering or actively adopting SASE as a critical convergence of cloud-delivered networking and security capabilities,” said Siva VRS, Vice President & Global Head Cloud and Infrastructure Security, Wipro. “We are excited to continue working together with Netskope to deliver the right levels of SASE solution to a range of business types and sizes.”

“Our midmarket enterprise customers have been waiting for Halo Global as an MSP to offer a unified SASE solution that is easy to deploy and can be co-managed and administered by their resource-constrained IT/security team, all while improving their network performance and security posture,” said Darren Carlson, CEO, Halo Global. “We are excited to be working with Netskope to help achieve these outcomes for our clients with Netskope SASE.”

The new Netskope SASE for midmarket solution is generally available.

OpenText Aviator Reimagines Work with AI

23 January 2024

OpenText™, the information company, announced the release of its Cloud Editions 24.1, and with it, its latest OpenText Aviator innovations. OpenText Aviator™ powers multiple AI use cases by enabling secure information management and governance across knowledge bases without customers having to move their data. The new enhancements and integrations available in Cloud Editions 24.1 demonstrate the evolution of the strategic approach to how work can be reimagined with the application of AI to business workflows, opentext.ai.

The imperative to adopt AI now spans every industry and business sector, and it only continues to gain traction. By next year, Gartner predicts that 30% of major organizations will lean on AI-generated personalized content - an exponential leap from just 2% in 2022. Similarly, Gartner also forecasts that by 2026, specialized generative AI systems will automate 20% of routine tasks across diverse industries. This acceleration highlights AI's prominent role in revolutionizing operations across all business sectors, and OpenText stands ready to support this transformative journey.

“The latest Cloud Editions launch isn't just about enhancing our offerings or providing a solution. It's about enabling a paradigm shift in how businesses operate, how industries evolve, and how we collectively engage with technology in this era of rapid transformation,” said Mark J. Barrenechea, CEO & CTO, OpenText. “Leveraging AI for impactful results depends on reliable data – without it, even the most skilled data scientists will struggle. By expanding the Aviator portfolio in conjunction with our world class information management platform, Cloud Editions 24.1 empowers customers with the tools and insights needed to get ahead.”

Now, being made available in Cloud Editions 24.1, OpenText has added the following enhancements to its Aviator portfolio:

- OpenText Content Aviator™ now is available on OpenText Extended ECM™, integrating conversational search, summarization, and translation within content management. Recognizing that information retrieval can be both time-consuming and tedious for employees, this update enables customers to leverage generative AI technology to help accelerate content discovery, improving employee efficiency and productivity.
- OpenText IT Operations Aviator™ on SMAX efficiently resolves common IT service requests, thus minimizing the need for support staff and reducing tier-one business costs. Learn more about the early adopter program [here](#).
- OpenText Thrust Studio™ is now open through an early access program. These new tools enable developers to design, build, and deploy applications utilizing OpenText Thrust APIs more seamlessly with enhanced workflows, permissions, and decision models. With CE 24.1, OpenText also introduces enhancements to its Thrust for Partner Program. The latest enhancements provide partners with new features in OpenText Thrust Studio including a more robust set of free APIs and additional support to help create industry-specific solutions. OpenText partners interested in joining the early access program can sign up [here](#).

"In recent years, we have witnessed how AI can profoundly change the world. Today, it is more evident than ever before that AI is the guiding compass that is steering businesses toward better efficiency, profitability, and intelligence," said David Milette, Cofounder and Chief Technology Evangelist at SQA Logic Technologies Inc. "However, we are seeing in our industry that amidst AI's incredible power lies a conundrum: testing an evolving AI technology requires fundamental changes in the way we approach Quality Assurance as practitioners. Harnessing AI's tremendous potential demands a shift in responsibility and perspective; OpenText makes this simple. With its Aviator capabilities, our customers can seamlessly transform challenges into opportunities by gaining essential insights needed to identify and address potential issues, refine strategies, and ensure timely and successful deliveries."

From the first introduction of opentext.ai and OpenText Aviator in August 2023, the company quickly demonstrated its commitment to advancing its AI vision with the launch of its first set of Aviator capabilities to address multiple use cases across the enterprise:

OpenText Aviator for Business

- OpenText IT Operations Aviator™ is a cutting-edge generative AI virtual agent for OpenText Service Management Automation X (SMAX).
- OpenText DevOps Aviator™ enables organizations to deliver software at unparalleled velocity with the help of generative AI capabilities.

- OpenText Content Aviator™ optimizes information retrieval in the workplace, making it more efficient and productive. The interactive chat interface and natural language queries enhances user productivity and streamlines content discovery.
- OpenText Experience Aviator™ integrates Customer Communications Management (CCM) software with generative AI capabilities enabling marketing, communications and customer service support teams to produce well-formed and relevant material faster than ever, boosting development productivity.
- OpenText Cybersecurity Aviator™ provides an innovative threat detection approach that combines machine learning models that automatically and continuously learn with rapid deployment, allowing new threat detection models to be in place within hours.
- OpenText Business Network Aviator™ brings generative AI and large language models (LLMs) into the OpenText Business Network, placing the entire supply chain information flow into a single platform.

OpenText Aviator for Technologists

- OpenText Aviator Platform offers a suite of tools and connectors to administer enterprise-grade data warehouses, data lakes, analytics of structure and unstructured data, and visualization for intelligent decision-making.
- OpenText Aviator Search introduces a new advanced capability to go from clicks to conversations with search that spans all data types across multiple repositories to build any custom solution, portal, or experience for an enterprise.
- OpenText Aviator IOT brings forward a collection of tools to better connect and protect millions of IoT endpoints to get real-time insights and visibility into assets location, condition, utilization, performance and health.
- OpenText Thrust is a set of robust cloud API services and developer tools built over the last three years that can power secure information flows, fuel custom AI solutions, and fast-track new AI-embedded applications.
- OpenText Aviator Lab is a partnership for experimentation with professional AI experts to help customers accelerate AI development through rapid prototyping, AI reference architectures in a secure sandbox environment.

Oracle OPERA Cloud Central All-in-One Hospitality Solution Now Available

25 January 2024

Oracle announced the general availability of Oracle OPERA Cloud Central. The all-in-one hospitality platform unites data and functionality from OPERA Cloud's modules under a common user interface and experience. With it, customers can get a comprehensive view of their hotel business, including distribution, sales, service interactions, loyalty programs, and more to make faster decisions that can benefit staff and guests.

Scandic Hotels Group, the largest Nordic hotel operator with 280 hotels across six countries, is the first chain to go-live on OPERA Cloud Central at their properties. Together with OPERA Cloud Property Management system and Sales and Events management, Central will enable Scandic to connect all its relevant data and apply built-in analytics to deliver real-time insights to the right stakeholders across all its locations. This will help the chain create better operational efficiency and revenue generating opportunities while enhancing guest experiences.

“Oracle’s solution supports our strategy to constantly improve the guest experience and create an even more cost-effective operating model,” said Jens Mathiesen, President & CEO of Scandic Hotels Group. “Having all our data and core functions on a unified platform will make us more efficient, make it easier for our staff to do their jobs, facilitate commercial opportunities to increase revenue, and get to know our customers better so we can give them the best hotel experience no matter which one of our properties they visit.”

Connecting critical hotel functions

OPERA Cloud Hospitality Platform has expanded to include Distribution, Central Reservations, Central Sales and Loyalty functionality. By bringing together existing OPERA Cloud Property features together with new OPERA Cloud Central components, we can now help hotels remove silos and friction across various functional areas both on as well as above property. Single image rates and inventory, as well as reservations, groups, and profiles, combined with a unified end user experience, makes information accessible to all key stakeholders at all customer touchpoints.

With open architecture, built-in integration services, and open APIs that help accelerate innovation and go-to-market initiatives, the comprehensive hotel cloud solution enables hoteliers to redefine the guest experience with several key functions:

- **Contact Center** streamlines the reservation process with an intuitive display that enables central staff to offer clear dynamic rate and product offers. Easy access to guest information enables staff to personalize the guest experience and recognize loyalty through upsell opportunities, special pricing, tailored reservations, and more. Increased revenue opportunities can be achieved through special offers, package add-ons, loyalty and membership rates, leisure, and negotiated pricing, as well as group functionality support reservations across all segments.
- **Central Sales** increases sales effectiveness by centralizing and simplifying the management of accounts, contacts, and activities for regional and global sales teams. This includes setting and comparing KPIs for account managers and sales staff to keep track of account performance. Staff can quickly and efficiently view or create leads and opportunities, reserving function and group spaces for multiple hotels. Built in dashboards allow for goal setting and progress tracking, optimized monitoring, and the easy management of account and team performance.
- **Distribution** connects distribution and revenue channels so hotels can determine which product and pricing to deliver to each of their target markets while managing all

channel-related tasks from a single system. This direct-connect distribution channel removes intermediaries and administrative burdens to simplify channel activation and management, allowing hotels to instantly adjust to new business requirements with the support of unlimited rates and inventory options.

- **Loyalty** helps hotels recognize and reward their most frequent guests. Guest profiles include data from enrollment, reservation information, and more all fully integrated into all OPERA Cloud workflows, enabling greater flexibility to customize program rules, benefits, and guest experiences.

“With OPERA Cloud Central, we are transforming how business gets done by connecting core elements across property and brand management operations under one platform with a common data foundation,” said Alex Alt, executive vice president and general manager of Oracle Hospitality. “Now, brands and their hotels can be more efficient and get the business insights they need faster, so they can continually evolve to meet the ever-changing needs of their business and guests.”

pSeven 6.52 Release

18 January 2024

pSeven development team announces the release of pSeven 6.52, a new version of our platform for data analysis and optimization.

Bugfixes

- Design space exploration block: fixed a “FutureWarning” message appearing when the block prints result information to the run log.
- Predictive modeling: fixed a regression from pSeven 6.24 where the model code exported to Octave had compatibility issues related to the names of functions generated by pSeven.

The pSeven 6.52 release also includes other updates — please check the release changelog for a full list. You can also contact us to get more information and pSeven updates.

Rockwell Automation’s New Cloud-based Software, FactoryTalk Optix, Improves Processes, Efficiency and Deliverables

23 January 2024

FactoryTalk® Optix™ software from Rockwell Automation® is a modern, cloud-enabled human-machine interface (HMI) visualization platform that allows users to design, test and deploy applications directly from a web browser anywhere, anytime. It delivers flexibility, scalability and interoperability and enables users to design and deploy an HMI that meets their needs. This new platform’s features include multi-user collaboration, web-based design and test, and integrated version control.

FactoryTalk Optix software is one of the solutions in the new FactoryTalk Optix portfolio. The FactoryTalk Optix portfolio allows users to choose their own technology mix. Rockwell

Automation customers, for the first time ever, can use visualization software to design HMI applications that can natively work with both Rockwell Automation and third-party controllers and display on a choice of hardware from either Rockwell Automation or a third-party. Users can connect to a variety of third-party software, devices or systems using software designed for interoperability and full OPC UA support. Users also only pay for the features they need with runtime licensing that is based on the capabilities in their application.

Siemens brings secure thermal digital twin technology to the electronics supply chain

23 January 2024

Siemens Digital Industries Software announced that it is bringing an innovative approach for sharing accurate thermal models of integrated circuit (IC) packages to the electronics supply chain. The main advantages are protecting intellectual property, enhancing supply chain collaboration and accuracy of models for steady state and transient thermal analysis to enhance design studies.

Introduced in the latest updates to Simcenter™ Flotherm™ software for electronics cooling simulation from the Siemens Xcelerator portfolio of industry software, the breakthrough Embeddable Boundary Condition Independent Reduced Order Model (BCI-ROM) technology allows a semiconductor company to generate an accurate model that can be shared with their clients for use in down-stream high-fidelity 3D thermal analysis without exposing the IC's internal physical structure.

MediaTek Inc., a global fabless semiconductor company and market leader in developing innovative systems-on-chip (SoC) for mobile, home entertainment, connectivity and Internet of Things (IoT) products, has taken advantage of Simcenter Flotherm to drive efficiency in its collaboration with customers. "Embeddable BCI-ROM is a great way to share our thermal models with our customers. It has several key features: easy generation, confidentiality, low error rate, and suitability for steady-state and transient applications," said Jimmy Lin, Technical Manager, MediaTek Inc.

Today's electronics often have heat dissipation challenges that need to be resolved during design due to higher power density influenced by the miniaturization of semiconductor packages and electronic systems, trends for thin-form consumer products, or demanding processing requirements. As a result, the need for more detailed thermal models to help solve thermal management design tasks is growing. Increasingly, modern IC package architectures such as 2.5D, 3D IC, or chiplet-based designs have highly complex thermal management challenges that require 3D thermal simulation both during their development and during integration of IC packages into electronics products.

"Given electronics supply chain pressures and the growing complexity of IC packages, barriers to collaboration and thermal analysis efficiency during design must be eliminated where possible to support competitive development," said Jean-Claude Ercolanelli, Senior Vice President, Simulation and Test Solutions, Siemens Digital Industries Software. "Our breakthrough new technology enables accurate thermal models to be shared securely within

the electronics supply chain without exposing sensitive intellectual property, allowing all parties to resolve thermal issues faster and bring advanced products to market more quickly.”

The new CONTACT Elements module for the smart factory

22 January 2024

CONTACT Software expands its open Elements platform for Manufacturing Operations Management (MOM) with a new module for resource planning on the shopfloor.

CONTACT Elements for IoT provides no-code applications for asset management and the comprehensive digitalization of manufacturing that go far beyond the functionality of an MES solution and can be flexibly combined. Now, CONTACT Software has expanded its offer for the smart factory with a new Elements app for staff scheduling.

The Shopfloor Planner was developed in close collaboration with thyssenkrupp Dynamic Components. It significantly simplifies machine allocation in production and creates transparency. This enables companies to quickly respond to deviations from the plan, such as personnel shortages, to meet delivery deadlines and avoid costly penalties.

Transparent shift planning for the shopfloor

The Shopfloor Planner gives production managers an overview of which team members are available, ill, or on vacation. Once planning is complete, it shows which persons are scheduled for each machine and shift and indicates whether setup processes or services are due. Filtering and color coding make it easy to see whether a shift is over- or understaffed.

Closing planning gaps quickly

Short-term staff absences can slow down production. "In the worst case, a plant may come to a standstill," says Kilian Bächle, Product Manager for CONTACT's IoT offering. "It is usually challenging to quickly find someone who can operate a specific machine." With the Shopfloor Planner from Elements for IoT, this now becomes easy.

Production managers can immediately see where action is needed if someone is absent at short notice. Elements for IoT lists the individuals with the right qualifications to close each planning gap. One look at their previous workload is enough for managers to identify a suitable replacement and prevent plant downtime.

Thyssenkrupp Dynamic Components is a leading automotive supplier of drivetrain components for combustion, hybrid, and electric motors. The company has been using CONTACT Elements for IoT for global production control at its ten manufacturing sites for a year now.