CIMdata

PLM Weekly Summary

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CIMdata News

CIMdata Releases White Paper on how Physna Promotes 3D Model Search and Discovery
26 March 2020

CIMdata, Inc., the leading global PLM strategic management consulting and research firm announces the release of a white paper focused on Physna, the new AI-powered geometric deep learning technology that uses proprietary algorithms to codify 3D models into detailed data that is understandable by software applications and powers 3D geometric search.

Physna seeks to bridge the gap between the digital world and the physical world in product development. The Physna solution aids in the identification of parts that may violate an organization's intellectual property (IP). It can be used to find previously designed items in a company's database, allowing them to be re-used in more product designs. This allows the company to gain more value from their investment and reduce design, analysis, testing, regulatory compliance, and other costs associated with developing a new products. In addition, with Physna companies can eliminate duplicate parts having different part numbers in multiple products thereby allowing parts consolidation, decreased inventory, and improved purchasing power.

Dr. Ken Versprille, CIMdata Executive Consultant, noted "The injection of AI-powered technology into parts search opens far ranging possibilities for companies to better understand their inventory of design models and dramatically reduce the time designers spend looking for information."

The CIMdata white paper on how Physna Promotes 3D Model Search and Discovery is available at: https://physna.com/resources/ and at: www.CIMdata.com.

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Acquisitions

AVEVA Acquires Production Accounting Capability from MESEnter
26 March 2020

AVEVA announced that it has acquired production accounting software from South Korean based company MESEnter to complete AVEVA's value chain optimization solution.

MESEnter's software offering, previously branded MES ENTER ErrorSolver™ and now rebranded AVEVA™ Production Accounting, has been proven and tested by major producers in the continuous process industries since 2005. It opens the opportunity to improve accuracy of planning models, manage operations performance, identify loss detection and faulty instrumentation and ultimately move operations towards a plant-wide reconciliation.

"AVEVA's leadership in optimizing across the value chain continues to create new opportunities as part of the digital transformation of refinery, petrochemical and mining operations," said Harpreet Gulati, Senior Vice President, Planning and Operations at AVEVA. "The addition of this technology also provides another integral piece in AVEVA's process operations portfolio."

The newly added software will enable AVEVA to deliver a more robust offer that drives profitability across the value chain for its customers. AVEVA Production Accounting software furthers AVEVA's commitment towards its Value Chain Optimization strategy to help customers eliminate information

silos and integrate critical business processes across their operations.

Building a holistic Value Chain Optimization Strategy

This is yet another example of AVEVA's continued focus to bring together a complete portfolio geared towards optimizing its customers' value chains to help drive their digital transformation strategies. The newly acquired software will enable customers to close the loop with prescriptive performance management of their operations, ensuring that actual performance helps to drive decision-making for future planning.

"AVEVA has been a long-time partner of MESEnter and so this technology acquisition makes absolute sense. It presents a great opportunity for operators to efficiently leverage the value available from production accounting to help with material balance and data reconciliation across the plant", said WS Cho, CEO of MESEnter.

AVEVA Production Accounting software has a user-friendly interface which provides a graphical flowsheet environment for creating and maintaining the plant balance models. It allows easy navigation from area to area, utilising intuitive screens from managing data connections, reconciliation steps, model configuration and more. It can also be configured to perform reconciliation around smaller areas of the plant such as compressors, pumps, exchangers, tanks or groupings of process equipment.

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Bentley Systems Announces the Acquisition of GroupBC, UK Leader in Cloud Services for Construction Information Management

27 March 2020

Bentley Systems, Incorporated announced the acquisition of GroupBC, a leading UK SaaS software innovator. For over twenty years, GroupBCs and Bentleys software solutions have been deployed for complementary purposes to improve project and asset information management. The transaction results from GroupBCs expansion agenda, and Bentleys investment appetite, for international growth opportunities stemming from the UKs national initiatives for major infrastructure investment and towards infrastructure digital twins.

GroupBCs CDE solutions, BC Projects and BC Enterprise+, have been widely applied in the UK for information management respectively across construction and asset estates. Largely due to the UKs substantiated ROI experience and its global thought leadership, CDEs have become increasingly availed globally in going digital for capital projects and resulting assets. In 2019, the UKs (BS 1192) construction project information management guidelines were largely adopted within the global standard ISO 19650.

Also in 2019, in its inaugural study of the overall market for Collaborative BIM, ARC Advisory Group ranked Bentleys ProjectWise system as #1 worldwide. The new opportunity is to build on ISO 19650, and GroupBCs UK information management experience, to advance collaborative BIM, through evergreen digital twins, to span infrastructure lifecycles. In combination, Bentleys iTwin Services will now be leveraged to uniquely connect GroupBC CDEs and ProjectWise CDEs. Through semantic alignment and change synchronization, the resulting digital twins cloud services will securely federate " fully enabling 4D mixed reality and analytics visibility " previously separate CDEs for construction and engineering.

Keith Bentley, Chief Technology Officer for Bentley Systems, said, Our iTwin cloud services, taking advantage of iModel-based solutions for interoperability, are ideal for federating CDEs. This enables us

to assure that the users of our BC SaaS services will benefit from further extending the value of their project and asset information through digital twins. With the help of our new GroupBC colleagues, we will now be able to better serve engineers, contractors, and owners by bringing together their collective IT (information management), OT (operational technologies including reality modeling), and ET (engineering models). I am confident that the resulting improvements in project and asset performance will be consistent with the UKs demanding but welcome expectations for new ROI breakthroughs from digital twins.

Simon Horsley, UK regional executive for Bentley Systems, said, Our many UK users, projects, and owners in common with GroupBC will gain a lot from our joining forces to advance CDEs through digital twins. I have been tasked by Bentley management to help the UK to continue to lead the world in going digital for infrastructure advancement, and our new offerings and colleagues from GroupBC bring essential momentum as we pool resources to meet our markets expanded ˜infrastructure revolution requirements. I particularly welcome to Bentley Systems GroupBCs co-founders Sanjeev Shah and Stephen Crompton, and CEO Wes Simmons.

Sanjeev Shah, co-founder of GroupBC, said, This is a hugely exciting day for our shared accounts and for both our workforces moving forward. The opportunities which arise from bringing our two companies and their respective product portfolios together are enormous, as is the global reach which Bentley can now add for us. Working together we will be even better able to support, through ˜going digital, construction and asset lifecycles.

Stephen Crompton, CPO and co-founder of GroupBC, added, Bentley is going to provide a great new home for our products to thrive in. GroupBC have always promoted an integrated, best-of-breed approach, and being able to complement our leading software solutions with existing best-of-breed products from Bentley presents a uniquely exciting opportunity for us and our user organizations, opening the door for unparalleled integration between our solutions and bridging the gaps between design, construction and ongoing asset information management.

Wes Simmons, CEO of GroupBC, said, Our founders and I would like to thank our equity partner YFM for their visionary support over the last five years. For our GroupBC team, customers, and partners, joining Bentley Systems ensures a future of continued growth, including beyond construction information management through broadly federated digital twins, and international expansion. Heres to BC CDE and digital twins advancement!

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Company News

3D Systems Helps to Overcome COVID-19 Supply Shortages
27 March 2020

The rapid spread of COVID-19 has put the healthcare industry under tremendous strain as it struggles to provide care for affected patients while facing a staggering shortage of personal protective equipment (PPE) and life-saving medical devices. In response, 3D Systems has pledged its support to help medical device manufacturers and hospitals bridge the supply chain gap for resources to help overcome the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, 3D Systems is requesting assistance and participation from its global network of partners, customers, and others within the additive manufacturing community who are in a position to help produce these parts to meet the urgent needs of the healthcare sector as they care for patients, and contain the spread of COVID-19.

"The healthcare industry is facing an unprecedented challenge. Each day the number of confirmed cases of COVID-19 increases, while resources to help fight this pandemic continue to dwindle," said Vyomesh Joshi ("VJ"), president and CEO, 3D Systems. "The healthcare professionals who are putting their lives on the line to treat affected patients soon will run out of the equipment needed to care for these patients or to keep themselves safe. One of the greatest benefits of additive manufacturing is that it allows companies to reduce the dependency on the supply chain, manufacture parts internally or make them on demand. And this is what we're asking our network, and encouraging the industry to help us do right now – circumvent the supply chain to manufacture these PPE and life-saving devices as quickly as possible."

The company has already seen applications of its technology and software being used to help in COVID-19 efforts. 3D Systems' customer Lonati SpA, a manufacturing company based in Brescia, Italy, deployed a 3D Systems ProX® SLS 6100 3D printer with DuraForm®materials to 3D print more than 100 venturi ventilator valves for respiratory machines, which are facing a critical shortage throughout the world because severe cases of COVID-19 require intensive care and oxygenation.

3D Systems is a recognized leader in medical device design and manufacturing. The company's deep experience and expertise in 3D printing, engineering, quality control, and regulatory requirements have enabled production of nearly 1 million medical devices. As 3D Systems engages in production of medical devices to support healthcare teams globally, they will do so only under FDA Emergency Use Authorization announcement and corresponding issuance of letter of authorization, or with cooperation of the medical equipment companies to qualify units as an equivalent component. This will help accelerate utilization of these components to by the healthcare industry.

Bridging the Supply Chain with On Demand Manufacturing

3D Systems' is providing direct support through its worldwide network of On Demand manufacturing facilities. The company has the industry's most comprehensive offering of manufacturing solutions, from consulting and design through to both additive and subtractive manufacturing capabilities, that are enabling production of parts to help offset the growing need for medical supplies.

3D Systems is currently producing prototypes of the same valves proven in emergency hospital conditions in Italy in its facilities in Rock Hill, South Carolina and Lawrenceburg, Tennessee for emergency COVID-19 response efforts. The company anticipates it has the capacity to deliver up to 12,600 units per week in clear plastic, and another 1,400 per week in durable Nylon.

3D Systems' On Demand facility in Pinerolo, Italy partnered with Isinnova (Brescia, Italy) to produce 100 valves enabling creation of an emergency ventilator mask. Isinnova was contacted by Dr. Renato Favero, a former head physician of the Gardone Valtrompia Hospital, who had the idea to create an emergency ventilator mask by modifying a snorkeling mask in market courtesy of Decathlon (France). Through modifications to the CAD file, a new component was designed to connect the mask to the ventilator. 3D Systems' On Demand team produced these parts in PA12 material and sealed them with Dichtol to make them air-tight and sterilisable with the common hospital methods such as autoclave or disinfectant detergents.

New Ultrasound Simulation to Aid COVID-19 Care

3D Systems has also developed a new COVID-19 module for its Simbionix U/S Mentor simulator, and is making it generally available March 30 to help provide hands-on experience in the education of point-of-care ultrasound skills that are essential in triage and monitoring of the coronavirus. Lung ultrasound is considered an alternative to chest radiography or CT scanning in COVID-19 patients. It is safe, easy and quick for use at point-of-care, repeatable, low cost and radiation-free. Therefore, training physicians

to rapidly acquire lung ultrasound skills can be critical for the success of COVID-19 management. This module is provided free of charge to existing customers using 3D Systems' Simbionix simulators such as educational institutions, hospitals and healthcare organizations worldwide.

Additionally, as institutions shift to distance learning programs during the coronavirus, 3D Systems is offering an abundance e-learning resources free-of-charge during the pandemic. These remote learning tools span a wide range of medical specialties, tasks and procedures, and can be accessed from the company's website.

"We're stepping up and doing our part to connect people in need with those who can help using digital manufacturing solutions, and we've received offers from the community for everything from printer materials, usage of facilities for printing, engineers' time and expertise, and even offering to fund efforts," said Joshi. "If your organization can help in any way, please reach out to us, so we can start the conversation. Collaboration will be the key to saving lives."

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Centric Software Drives the Future of PLM

24 March 2020

Centric Software celebrates both the company's largest recent industry adoption by new customers and the release of Centric 8 PLM v7. The new innovations in this latest release define expectations and industry standards for the PLM of the future. Centric Software provides enterprise solutions to fashion, retail, footwear, outdoor, luxury, consumer goods and home décor companies to achieve strategic and operational digital transformation goals.

Centric Software celebrated a 60% growth increase in 2019 and now boasts 370+ customers, 200 of which chose to adopt Centric PLM^{TM} in the past few years. Recognized as the worldwide PLM market leader for the last four years, the company's mission is to digitally transform brands, retailers and manufacturers across fashion, outdoor, home, luxury and other consumer goods markets to achieve business growth goals, drive product innovation and accelerate new product introductions. 35% of Centric's customers have chosen to migrate to Centric from a competing PLM vendor, and Centric's robust, easy to implement SaaS solutions have captured the attention and loyalty of customers looking for a PLM solution with zero coding, straightforward upgrades and innovative, industry-first features.

Centric Software was the first to produce an out-of-the-box PLM solution with Agile Deployment^{SM} methodology, delivering implementation significantly faster and cheaper than any other vendor. First-ever PLM mobile apps were developed by Centric, and have now been adopted by over two-thirds of Centric's customers. Centric was a pioneer in offering PLM innovations specifically for emerging brands with Centric SMB and developed PLM-connected digital boards for planning, ideation, development and buying with the release of Centric Visual Innovation Platform (CVIP). Other key industry-leading innovations include the development of Skyline architecture to support up to 10,000 users and the industry's first PLM for manufacturers to connect directly with brands and retailers. Centric has also devised 3D Design Connectors with all industry-leading solutions and the Final Inspection Module and Mobile App, which digitally transform the quality assurance process.

Continuing this tradition of innovation, Centric 8 PLM provides the pathway to streamline future workflows, enhance visualization and automate data flows with open connectivity to other best-of-breed software, including 40+ ERP solutions, Adobe® Illustrator and 3D design software such as Browzwear, EFI Optitex and CLO. Vizoo integration makes it possible to integrate material texture scans, reducing reliance on physical sampling.

Centric's goal is to provide the ultimate in PLM innovation and best practice. With this new release, the company reaffirms its commitment to remain at the forefront of market-driven PLM development, focusing on usability and productivity to empower users and boost efficiency while maintaining a fun, intuitive user experience. Brand new features that will enhance collaboration, visibility and connectivity between users include PLM chat, which allows users to chat directly in Centric PLM and reference PLM content in order to engage with product-related tasks more fluidly in real time and offline. New color schemes are now available, enabling Centric customers to personalize the system and make it their own. As we work towards alignment with Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG 2.0), the latest version of Centric PLM enhances the user experience for people with visual impairments; new features include a dark mode for people with low vision and reduced visual clutter for improved readability.

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CONTACT Software launches Collaboration Hub

24 March 2020

E-mails and team space solutions quickly reach their limits in the engineering domain. CONTACT Software therefore create a new offer for companies that want to cooperate with product development partners in a digital and efficient way. Collaboration Hub focuses on three central use cases.

Today, cooperation with engineering offices, suppliers and customers is essential for efficient product development. Many products are no longer conceivable without their know-how and components. Digitization further increases the share of partners in the value chain.

At the same time, the collaboration with other companies is time-consuming and complex. Separate IT systems prevent the sharing of data, and e-mails or team space services such as Trello or Slack are only a stopgap in view of the special aspects of engineering processes and product data models.

All project participants need a common environment in which they can quickly and easily get information about the current project status at any time. This concerns requirements, assembly spaces, technical changes, the version history and much more. With Collaboration Hub CONTACT Software now offers an enterprise-class solution for joint ventures, joint projects and supplier integration.

Collaboration Hub is easy to configure, fast to deploy and flexible to use. Its starting point is the CONTACT Elements portfolio of standard modules for technology, core services and business applications along the product development process. This offering is enhanced by PROSTEP's PLM connectors, which can be used to integrate partners or company divisions with different PLM systems.

The technical and functional range of the CONTACT Elements portfolio enables companies to scale Collaboration Hub up to very large projects with thousands of users. Sensitive data is protected from external access by the roles and rights system and the security concept using a proxy environment, which is decoupled from the enterprise applications behind the firewall.

"Collaboration Hub supports the distributed value creation in development networks as well as in the internal work processes ", says Dr. Roland Drewinski, Director Marketing at CONTACT Software. "This way, efficiency gains can also be transferred to cross-company collaboration".

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Dassault Initiatives to Face COVID-19 Challenges

27 March 2020

Dassault Systèmes reiterated its focus on supporting its customers, partners and communities worldwide

during the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. This press release outlines the initiatives that provided results in China and other countries, and new initiatives underway. The 3DEXPERIENCE platform that powers industry solutions for collaborative innovation, modeling, simulation and data intelligence in multiple industries reveals itself as a major enabler for collaborating from anywhere on any device.

Initiatives Summary

3DEXPERIENCE platform on the cloud fully operational for employees and customers, providing secure remote work capabilities on their project and program data.

Medidata platforms' short-term evolution to resolve biopharma clinical trials challenges with new therapeutics and protocols as well as streamline logistics platforms.

Customer support teams dedicated to extend our customers' installations to work from home.

Flexible online collaboration conditions for existing clients to work remotely and new online training offering.

3DEXPERIENCE Education delivering online collaborative learning experiences to enrich our users' certification and curricula during work slowdowns.

Continuity of services for learning institutions and curricula online.

3DEXPERIENCE Lab worldwide community accelerating a wide range of startups developing open innovations to address the COVID-19 challenges.

"The steps we have taken in response to COVID-19 are designed to promote safety for our employees, partners and clients with innovative solutions to help them work from anywhere with the full power of 3DEXPERIENCE collaboration," said Bernard Charlès, Vice Chairman and CEO, Dassault Systèmes. "Today we launched numerous new approaches to accelerate innovations in R&D, manufacturing engineering and logistics, by fully exploiting virtual twin experiences online. Empowering our large base of 3D users to collaborate from home plays a significant role in their morale as they can continue their projects and learn together with a positive horizon."

3DEXPERIENCE platform on the cloud fully operational for employees and customers, providing secure remote work capabilities on their project and program data.

Faced with social distancing measures and workplace closures, many customers must now work remotely. The 3DEXPERIENCE platform on the cloud is fully operational, providing them with advanced remote work capabilities to organize, plan, track and execute project development remotely.

In the safety of their homes, customers can continue to work with their data and maintain business, operational and digital continuity by extending their communities, project management and business to a virtual environment on the cloud.

Our industry solutions for life sciences and health are being developed to resolve short-term biopharma clinical trials challenges as well as streamline logistics platforms.

Dassault Systèmes' industry-tested solutions based on renowned Medidata platforms enable biopharmaceutical companies, academic researchers and startups to analyze and share data to foster scientific collaborative innovation and generate clinical trials results faster, as well as optimize their manufacturing processes to keep up with demand.

The company is working to deliver new solutions to the biopharma organizations at the core of this innovation to help accelerate their work. Already, the fluid simulation application SIMULIA XFlow enabled designers of Wuhan's newly built Leishenshan Hospital in China to design and simulate its air supply and exhaust systems.

Customer support teams dedicated to extend our customers' installations to work from home.

Dassault Systèmes has provided access to a 3D cloud-based repository to secure customer data storage for their remote workers – connecting legacy data and users to the 3DEXPERIENCE platform- as well as scalable 3D cloud-based collaboration with the 3DEXPERIENCE platform for all users – including CATIA V5, SOLIDWORKS and multi-CAD.

Flexible online collaboration conditions for existing clients to work remotely and new online training offering.

Dassault Systèmes is leveraging best practices to help its value added resellers ensure continuity of projects and services. Technical Services teams are fully operational and equipped to work remotely, to help partners deliver milestones with minimal impact. Initiatives include flexibility on license usages for the redeployment of engagement teams, and help with transitioning to the cloud.

The company is also launching an extended set of e-learnings, self-paced training and online certification programs so that partners can enhance proficiency and skills while working remotely.

3DEXPERIENCE Education delivering online collaborative learning experiences to enrich our users' certification and curricula during work slowdowns.

Learning experiences are being systematically integrated in Dassault Systèmes' cloud offers so that customers' employees can be quickly autonomous to work from home on new projects, and learn new skills to increase the agility of a company when it returns to full production after the crisis abates.

Dassault Systèmes is providing access to a full catalog of learning experiences in domains such as collaboration, design, engineering, simulation, manufacturing and production, so people can learn new skills.

Continuity of services for learning institutions and curricula online.

3DEXPERIENCE platform customers can continue their projects with full online collaboration with their students.

Customers not yet on the 3DEXPERIENCE platform can accelerate their transition through pilot projects, governmental initiatives to deploy the platform at a national scale, and full online enablement of teachers.

The company is working with its professional education partners to deliver training programs for professionals to increase their employability and be a driving force of transformation after the crisis.

3DEXPERIENCE Lab worldwide community accelerating a wide range of startups developing open innovations to address the COVID-19 challenges.

Dedicated committee set up in record time to validate selected startups for a fast acceleration program that will provide collaborative engineering applications, marketplace services and mentoring for developing solutions, simulating and validating their efficiency with medical scientists, and sourcing rapid production to support local hospital needs.

Open Innovation aims to solve issues such as 3D printing spare parts or accelerating the design for manufacturing of ventilators/respirators with an open community of volunteers, engineers, designers, manufacturers, experts, scientists, makers and fabbers.

"Open COVID-19 Community" on the 3DEXPERIENCE platform gathers 3DEXPERIENCE Lab members from the US, the UK, India, France, and the Netherlands to work with the startups.

EMA Design Automation Offers Work from Home Licences

24 March 2020

In response to the COVID-19 pandemic, EMA Design Automation is offering a work from home program in hopes to offset the challenges users may be facing while incorporating social-distancing into their daily lives. If engineers are asked to work from home, EMA will provide the resources needed so they can continue with their designs and maintain their productivity.

EMA is offering free access to work-from-home licenses, including OrCAD PCB Designer Professional, PSpice, Ultra Librarian for OrCAD, and access to the entire online learning catalog.

EMA's team will continue normal business hours, and technical support is available by phone or email.

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Fujitsu Launches Japan's First Commercial Private 5G Network

27 March 2020

Fujitsu was granted Japan's first commercial Private 5G radio station license from the Kanto Bureau of Telecommunications and will begin operating a Private 5G network at its Shin-Kawasaki Technology Square office(Location: Kawasaki City, Kanagawa Prefecture).

Fujitsu will strengthen crime prevention measures in the building by leveraging its Private 5G technology for data transmission of high-definition images collected by multi-point cameras, creating an AI-powered security system that quickly detects suspicious behavior through motion analysis. Through its newly-established private 5G co-creation space "FUJITSU Collaboration Lab", Fujitsu will also offer customers and partners the chance to workshop various use cases for private 5G to deliver business innovation and help resolve regional issues. Fujitsu experts will also provide support with on-site implementation for customers at the location.

With the aim of creating a smart factory, Fujitsu will additionally obtain a license for private 5G at its Oyama plant in Tochigi Prefecture, which serves as a manufacturing base for network equipment. Together with Fujitsu Telecom Networks Limited (Head Office: Oyama City, Tochigi Prefecture President: Tetsuya Mori), which manufactures network equipment at this plant, Fujitsu will continue to verify the utility and possible applications for its private 5G technologies.

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Gerber Using China Experience to Increase Production of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE)

25 March 2020

Based on its successful initiative in China, Gerber Technology today announced the creation of the Gerber PPE Task Force and Resource Team to support their global customers and partners as they work to increase their production or transition to manufacturing personal protective equipment (PPE). In a global context where COVID-19 inexorably continues to spread, the global shortage of masks and other personal protective equipment needed to keep healthcare workers safe is a concern of everyone.

More than 300 manufacturers, including major global companies, rely on Gerber's advanced software, hardware solutions and expertise to produce masks and other PPE. Over the last few months, Gerber has helped several customers transition into producing protective masks and other much needed medical supplies including Taglio Marchesini (Italy) and Shanghai Challenge Textile Co., Ltd.

"In what's an unprecedented global emergency, all of us in the manufacturing industry need to work

together to protect those fighting COVID-19 on the front lines," said Mohit Uberoi, CEO of Gerber Technology. "With over 50 years of expertise, we are doing our part and helping companies quickly transition into manufacturing PPE just as we did for our customers in China a few weeks ago and helped apparel companies successfully transition to manufacturing masks and other personal protective equipment."

The Gerber PPE Resource Team is made up of dedicated experts who can offer advice, share best practices, support and technology to produce certain types of masks as well as protective apparel and accessories including raw material procurement and on-site support.

The Gerber PPE Resource Team is available to support PPE manufacturing including:

Implementing pre-defined patterns and markers or defining fabric/sewing requirements.

Helping with the setup of cutter parameters specific to the selected fabrics.

Providing training, software, equipment and service technicians to ramp up production.

Changing over current production lines to the production of PPE.

Connecting supply and demand for PPE via our global ecosystem of customers and partners.

Introducing existing PPE manufacturers to those converting to PPE production.

We welcome customers and experts that are available to share their expertise and join the initiative. If you would like to join our experts to help increase or begin manufacturing PPE, please fill out this form: https://gerbertechnology.com/covid19.

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Hexagon supports working from home with free access to its manufacturing solution portfolio
26 March 2020

Hexagon's Manufacturing Intelligence division is offering a range of free offline licensing and remote access options designed to enable efficient home working for manufacturing professionals facing new productivity challenges during the COVID-19 outbreak.

Home working options will be provided for Hexagon's production software and metrology software offerings, as well as the MSC Software range of CAE solutions, at least until 30 June 2020. Manufacturers running metrology equipment in factories can remotely monitor and analyse how key assets are performing for free with HxGN SFx | Asset Management. Users will also have access to additional online learning resources.

"The purpose of our smart manufacturing solutions is to improve quality and productivity and this challenge is especially acute during this time of extensive home working" said Paolo Guglielmini, President of Hexagon's Manufacturing Intelligence division. "So, to support the industries we serve, we're offering special access to our software and learning tools for both current customers and non-customers who can benefit from our technology."

"Like many businesses in the manufacturing sector, we have many employees working from home at the moment and we appreciate that giving them the right tools to work remotely is essential to their wellbeing and success. By offering learning and remote working solutions I hope we can contribute to maintaining productivity and quality while keeping employees in manufacturing safe."

Details on how to access the home working packages can be found at www.hexagonmi.com/wahs. The offering will include:

Extension of licences for work-from-home support or alternative access options for MSC Software CAE solutions

Licence move, remote access or additional temporary home office licences for Hexagon's CAD CAM software

Free offline licences of the latest versions of PC-DMIS and other leading metrology software

Free remote machine monitoring via the HxGN SFx | Asset Management asset performance management solution

Free access to online learning for Hexagon's metrology and MSC Software solutions

Although Hexagon employees are also working remotely, service and support remains in operation. Full details are available from local offices.

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How Autodesk Is Helping Communities, Customers, and Employees Impacted by COVID-19
27 March 2020

With the coronavirus (COVID-19) affecting communities, families, and people around the world, this is a difficult time for all of us. Our hearts go out to all those who have been affected, directly or indirectly. At Autodesk, our priority remains the health and wellbeing of our employees, customers, and partners.

Beyond the health and safety of the Autodesk community, we are also working to ensure our customers have reliable access to their software and Autodesk support. To that end, Autodesk is closely monitoring the guidance provided by governments and health organizations so we can make informed decisions with our entire community in mind.

Our goal is to respond quickly and compassionately, while balancing the needs of all the constituencies in our community. We are taking several precautionary measures to minimize the potential impact of coronavirus to our communities and our business. As we have updates to share on how we're supporting customers, employees and communities impacted by COVID-19, expect us to share them here.

Customers

Autodesk Offers Free & Extended Access to Cloud Collaboration Products (Updated March 24)

As Autodesk keeps a close eye on the impact the coronavirus (COVID-19) is having on our industry, we're continuing to explore the best ways we can support our customers, flex to meet their changing needs, and minimize disruptions to their business during this challenging time.

One of the biggest challenges we've been hearing about from customers – and we're facing this challenge at Autodesk ourselves – involves adapting to work in an environment that has become the new normal: more teams and more people working remotely or from home, creating an increased need to collaborate and stay connected.

To better support customers facing this new reality, Autodesk is announcing a temporary Extended Access Program for several of our flagship cloud collaboration products. Let me be clear: we're not introducing this program to convert customers into paying users. Our goal, instead, is to get a program up and running as quickly as possible to provide customers increased flexibility in what's become a challenging work environment. Here's how the program will work:

Beginning on March 24, customers can get free access to select Autodesk products and services.

Products and services will include BIM 360 Docs, BIM 360 Design, Fusion 360, Fusion Team,

AutoCAD Web and Mobile, and Shotgun – all for commercial use.

Customers can take advantage of this program by visiting our Expanded Access Program center on Autodesk.com and following the steps they'd normally take to sign up for an Autodesk product trial on our website. We know this will be an imperfect experience in some ways but, as stated earlier, our goal is to give customers access to this program as quickly as possible. Leveraging our existing product trial experience on Autodesk.com is the most effective way to do this.

Customers can take advantage of the Extended Access Program until May 31, 2020. However, we will continue to evaluate a potential expansion of this program as the needs of our customers warrant.

Here are a few more resources for customers to consider:

Visit the COVID-19 Autodesk Resource Center. It's the best place to stay up to date on the resources our team is providing customers on how to get the most out of Autodesk software, and get useful information on how to get started and remain productive while working remotely. We expect to share more details in the resource center on the Extended Access Program in the coming days.

Attend Autodesk Answer Day on Tuesday, March 24th. We'll have experts on hand to answer your questions about our products and the Extended Access Program – and you can learn more about other ways we're addressing the increased need to stay productive, while working remotely.

It's our hope that the Extended Access Program helps our customers better adapt to the challenges they're facing in light of COVID-19 – allowing their employees to remain productive and connected. And while 'business as usual' might seem like an impossibility for now, the team at Autodesk remains committed to supporting you and your business as you adjust in these challenging times.

Changes to Make Doing Business with Us Easier (Updated March 13)

Earlier this week, we made some other changes to make doing business with us easier:

We realize these extraordinary times may create cashflow constraints for our customers. To offer some relief, we will extend contract payment terms to 60 days for all customers and partners, for new orders and renewals placed directly with Autodesk now through August 7, 2020.

We will extend the ability to purchase new multi-user subscription plans to August 7, 2020 and move the retirement to August 7, 2021. While we communicated that we would begin transitioning customers to named user starting May 7, 2020, we do not want to introduce a change at a time when business-as-usual is hard enough. You can find more information about this change here.

We are also evaluating our in-person events and transitioning many to virtual programs or rescheduling for a later date.

We understand these actions change our previously communicated plans and disrupt our ways of working, but we believe we are taking the right steps and remain optimistic about our shared successes in the future.

Communities

Bay Area Companies Come Together to Distribute $22M in Funding in Response to the COVID-19 Crisis (Updated March 23)

Through the Autodesk Foundation, we are investing in the global health and local resilience of the more vulnerable populations, nonprofits, and small businesses impacted by COVID-19 by:

Donating $600,000 to support the United Nations Foundation COVID-19 Solidarity Response Fund, The Centers for Disease Control Foundation's Emergency Response Fund, and the Silicon Valley Community FoundationCOVID-19 Regional Response Fund.

Increasing our donation matching gift program for all employees by matching their donations 2:1 and raising the cap per employee.

Employees

Travel, Work from Home & Additional Guidance (Updated March 26)

We are continuing to prioritize hiring as planned and have shifted all scheduled on-site interviews to virtual meetings until further notice.

Employees are encouraged to work from home and all business travel is restricted to business-critical until further notice.

For employees working from home, Autodesk has the right tools and technology needed for most employees to remain as connected and productive as possible. We are monitoring usage and capacity in real-time and prepared to adjust as needed.

For employees who do come into the office, we're disinfecting workspaces, adopting social-distancing practices, and limiting meeting sizes and the number of visitors.

We are also following local government regulations and closing offices where required.

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School and College Lockdowns: TCS iON Offers Free Access to its Interactive Virtual Classrooms

24 March 2020

TCS iON, a strategic unit of Tata Consultancy Services announced that in the wake of nation-wide lockdowns of schools and colleges, it is offering access to the TCS iON Digital Glass Room, a virtual learning platform, free of cost to educational institutes across the country. Using this, educators and students can connect in a safe, secure virtual environment, moving lessons from classrooms to interactive digital glass rooms.

The TCS iON Digital Glass Room is a mobile and web education platform for schools and colleges, that empowers educators to engage with students in real time by sharing lessons, videos, worksheets, assignments and assessments, using interactive methods like polls, debates, quiz, surveys and many more tools. As an add-on, the platform also provides an embedded live classroom, which simulates live classroom teaching.

"These are unprecedented times. With schools and colleges shut down across the country, we want to empower these institutions and help them switch to a virtual mode, so students' learning journeys can continue uninterrupted on our platform. I do hope large numbers of public and private institutions will take this opportunity to use technology to overcome the disruption," said Venguswamy Ramaswamy, Global Head, TCS iON. "Our longer term objective is to encourage self-learning and to enable the Indian education system to transition to a digital era where teaching and learning know no physical boundaries. We believe this is the best way to democratize access to education and skill development, and build the human capital needed for India to become a five trillion dollar economy."

TCS iON Digital Glass Room is available to educational institutes of all types, irrespective of the medium of instruction, Board/University affiliation, or size. Interested schools and higher education organizations can register for the platform by going to https://learning.tcsionhub.in/hub/glass-room/.

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ShareAspace extends trial offer period to 60 days

24 March 2020

COVID-19 is causing a lot of pain to many people as well as to all businesses around the world. We, at Eurostep, are ready to help in any way possible to help mitigate supply chain disruptions and the shortfalls in supply due to the pandemic. One example where we can help is companies that are manufacturing hospital equipment and ventilators, needing to rapidly get new suppliers on board. We can and we want to help.

There are currently many reasons why OEMs will be facing difficulties with their supply chain. Thus, there will be pressure to add new, often local, suppliers fast and to reconsider the existing supply chain. Eurostep's ShareAspace enables rapid set up of OEM to supplier data sharing for Design to Manufacturing. Operating in the cloud, ShareAspace allows companies to do controlled sharing of data with multiple suppliers. It is an agile solution that is highly needed now.

ShareAspace maintains a clear record of what has been shared, something that can easily be lost in a rushed flurry of emails and file-shares. In the case of temporary arrangements, closing down your contract and thus data sharing is also easy to do. On top of that, ShareAspace Cloud keeps a recording of the physical items delivered by the supplier and any related changes and concessions. Using ShareAspace Cloud could save a lot of time and frustration in these critical days.

In order to help out we are extending the free trial period with another month from 30 to 60 days.

We understand, business is not easy for anyone these days. Please don't hesitate to get in contact with us if you are interested in what we can offer, we will be flexible in whatever way possible to help us all get through this tough period.

Please contact us with your needs, short or long term. If you would like to know more about ShareAspace cloud visit www.shareaspace.com for more information.

SHIMA SEIKI Releases Additional Data for Knitted Masks

25 March 2020

In light of the continuing worldwide shortage of surgical masks due to the increased spread of the COVID-19 coronavirus infection, leading flat knitting solutions provider SHIMA SEIKI MFG., LTD. of Wakayama, Japan has released knitting data for 2 more versions of knitted masks to be produced on its computerized knitting machines. These are in addition to the WHOLEGARMENT mask data released previously on 19th March.

Data released this time consists of cotton masks to be produced on both WHOLEGARMENT machines as well as conventional shaping machines. As before, WHOLEGARMENT mask data is meant for production on SWG041N2, SWG061N2 and SWG091N2, as well as on the rest of SHIMA SEIKI's compact WHOLEGARMENT knitting machines also known as "WHOLEGARMENT Mini" type machines that are suited to production of small accessory items. Shaped knit mask data is meant for production on SVR093SP as well as the rest of SHIMA SEIKI's computerized knitting machine lineup equipped with the moveable sinker system. Users with machines that match this criteria can download the mask data from the SHIMA SEIKI Users' Site, an archive featuring over 10,000 knit samples for use by SHIMA SEIKI customers.

Both types of masks utilize dimensional shaping and provide improved fit and comfort. Although elastic bands must be inserted afterward for ear straps, there is no need for further sewing, and the simple

design allows for shorter production times. A filter-pouch is also knitted-in for inserting commercially available virus filters and other filtration fabrics.

Knitted cotton masks can be washed and reused repeatedly. It should be noted however that unlike common non-woven surgical masks, knit masks do not have virus- and pollen-filtration functionality. Their main use is for prevention of spray from coughing and sneezing, and for reducing exposure to allergens.

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Siemens connects healthcare providers and medical designers to produce components through additive manufacturing

27 March 2020

In response to the ongoing global health crisis caused by the outbreak of the COVID-19 virus, Siemens is making its Additive Manufacturing (AM) Network along with its 3D printers, available to the global medical community to speed design and production of medical components. The AM Network connects users, designers and 3D-print service providers to enable faster and less complicated production of spare parts for machines like ventilators. The Siemens AM network is available globally and covers the entire value chain – from upload and simulation to checking the design up to the printing process and associated services.

Starting today doctors, hospitals and organizations in need of medical devices as well as designers and service providers with medically certified printing capacities can register for free access to the Siemens AM Network. "Having worked on Additive Manufacturing for years, we offer AM solutions along the entire value chain and can print 3D parts quickly according to acute demands. To help fight COVID-19, we have opened our AM Network for hospitals and other health institutions needing spare medical parts to efficiently manage their design and printing requests", said Klaus Helmrich, Member of the Managing Board of Siemens AG and CEO Siemens Digital Industries.

Siemens' designers and engineers are a part of the AM Network so they can answer design requests and help convert designs into printable files. Afterwards, these components can be printed via medically certified 3D printers of partner companies that are also part of the AM Network. In addition to numerous 3D printers from partner companies, Siemens' 3D printing machines are also connected to the network and if suitable, will also be used to locally print components and spare parts for medical devices. Printing capacities from additional service providers can easily be added to the AM Network.

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Stratasys Responds to COVID-19 Pandemic by Ramping up Production of 3D-Printed Personal Protection Equipment

23 March 2020

Stratasys Ltd. has announced a global mobilization of the company's 3D printing resources and expertise to respond to the COVID-19 pandemic, spanning its Stratasys, GrabCAD, Stratasys Direct Manufacturing and partner network with donated printing capacity across all regions. The initial focus is on providing thousands of disposable face shields for use by medical personnel.

In the United States, Stratasys has set an initial goal of producing 5,000 face shields by Friday, March 27, at no cost to the recipients. This includes both a 3D-printed frame and a clear plastic shield that covers the entire face. The company will have the ability to scale to an even faster rate of production.

Any 3D printing shop in the U.S. that wishes to help print plastic frames, can fill out an online form to be invited to join the effort. The company is also posting the full face shield printing and assembly instructions by Monday, Mar. 23 on its COVID-19 response page.

One of the world's top hospitals has told Stratasys they use 1,530 disposable face shields every week even without the surge created by COVID-19 and is down to six days' inventory on hand, with the pandemic still building momentum.

Stratasys said medical technology leader Medtronic and Minneapolis-based Dunwoody College of Technology will provide support for the plastic shield material.

"We are humbled by the opportunity to help. We see additive manufacturing as an essential part of the response to the COVID-19 global epidemic," said Stratasys CEO Yoav Zeif. "The strengths of 3D printing – be anywhere, print virtually anything, adapt on the fly – make it a capability for helping address shortages of parts related to shields, masks, and ventilators, among other things. Our workforce and partners are prepared to work around the clock to meet the need for 3D printers, materials, including biocompatible materials, and 3D-printed parts."

Stratasys has scores of professional 3D printers available to apply to the challenge of producing shields at scale, particularly across its Stratasys Direct Manufacturing facilities, which are based in Eden Prairie, Minn., in and around Austin, Texas, and Valencia, Calif. A number of other large manufacturers and educational institutions with production grade 3D printers have donated their capacity to help. These include Wentworth Institute of Technology in Boston, Queensborough Community College in New York City, and the Savannah College of Art and Design in Savannah, Ga.

Stratasys has set up a web page where organizations can request 3D printed products to help with the crisis, offer 3D printing capacity, or request 3D printers or material for medical- or safety-related purposes. Visit www.stratasys.com/covid-19.

The company is also planning to respond to the crisis in additional ways. An initiative led by anesthesiology residents of Massachusetts General Hospital called the CoVent-19 Challenge is planning to ask engineers and designers to help develop a new rapidly deployable ventilator and other innovative solutions to the ventilator shortage, and Stratasys plans to support the challenge and promote it via its GrabCAD community of more than 7 million professional designers, engineers, manufacturers and students.

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Events

CGTech Announces Virtual North American VERICUT Users Exchange Events

27 March 2020

In response to nationwide precautions due to COVID-19, CGTech is moving its North American 2020 VUE events online. Rather than delay the events, originally scheduled for April and May, CGTech will hold several online sessions for VERICUT users to attend virtually.

The events will take place over a three-week period starting April 14, 2020. VUE content will be split into multiple sessions, with varying start times, in order to provide flexibility for those choosing to

attend.

"The health and safety of customers and employees is a top priority", says Jon Prun, CGTech President. "VUE is a highly anticipated event that allows customers and staff to interact and share ideas about the future direction of our software. Moving these events to a virtual forum ensures that we continue to provide our customers with the best service possible, just as we have since 1988. Online training and services, including temporary licenses for those working remotely, are also part of the ongoing support available to our customers."

At VUE 2020, CGTech staff will provide a first-hand look at the new features in the latest release of VERICUT, version 9.0. Attendees will also learn what's already in the works for version 9.1, plus tips and tricks for improving manufacturing efficiency.

New features in VERICUT 9.0 include several enhancements designed to increase power and improve efficiency, including a new graphics engine. Users will experience sharper, clearer and more realistic views of machines and the machining process, and more robust connections to tooling databases and the latest CAM systems. Most users will also experience gains in performance, especially when simulating Additive or hybrid AM operations. Enhancements to VERICUT's free Reviewer app lets programmers share with others (like machinists or Quality Assurance personnel) how parts are manufactured.

To register for VUE, or for the full schedule of virtual events call (949) 753-1050 or visit

cgtech.com/company/vue/

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Financial News

ESI releases FY 2019 Results - Improved Global Financial Performance

24 March 2020

ESI Group, releases its results for the financial year starting on February 1st, 2019 and ending on December 31st, 2019 (11 months), approved by the Board of Directors on March 19th, 2020. As decided at the Annual General Meeting of July 18th, 2019, the Group now closes the fiscal year on December 31st of each year, and therefore also presents its new twelve months proforma results.

Cristel de Rouvray, Chief Executive Officer of ESI Group, comments: "In FY'19 we increased growth while focusing on resource allocation to better control our costs. Our improved new fiscal year financial performance is the early result of a multi-year fundamental transformational effort that has comforted ESI's position as the critical strategic partner for world class industrial leaders striving to accelerate their global digital transformation. Across key economic sectors, these leaders have maintained their commitment to pursue investing in our Hybrid Twin™ virtual prototyping solutions. This is the solid

foundation of our confidence in our mid- and long-term business outlook. In the short-term, the disastrous coronavirus pandemic is expected to somewhat impact our H1. However, the resilience of our business model largely anchored on renewable and mission critical software licenses will help us manage full year risks. When industry recovers from this exceptional crisis, digital ways of working will be accelerated globally, fully dependent on ESI's solutions to virtually anticipate and manage asset performance in-service, much beyond the traditional PLM certification target of the brand-new product."

As a pioneer in virtual prototyping solutions and a key player in industrial digital transformation, ESI Group empowers manufacturers to navigate increasing complexity by replacing real tests and prototypes with highly accurate, predictive and representational virtual prototypes. ESI Group's software solutions are built from decades of global expertise in physics of materials, essential to the creation of authentic virtual prototypes and to the anticipation of asset performance in-service. ESI's customers are an enviable list of industry leaders worldwide, who benefit from enhanced innovation, competitiveness, performance and productivity thanks to ESI Group's most innovative solutions.

Improved financial results

Full year sales increased +7.8% to €146.2 million (+5.6% cer), driven by an 8.4% growth in software license activity yielding stronger business recurrence. This topline growth has a positive impact on financial performance as the Group maintained control of the costs.

Gross margin improvement
Gross margin rose to €107.4 million (up 10,1% improving by +1.5 points to 73.4% vs. 71.9%). This increase was driven by the rise in Licensing gross margin to 86.2% (vs. 84.5% in proforma 2018) and the increasing proportion of License sales in the revenue mix.

Lower growth in other operational costs
The Group maintained its efforts to control other operational expenses (+5.6%, +€5.2m) to support overall revenue increase and long-term development. Note that €1.5m of the €5.2m cost increase is linked to exchange rate (4.0% cer).

These operational expenses break down as follows:

Sales & Marketing: remains nearly stable as a ratio of total sales, 30.3% (vs 31.0%).

R&D costs: remains stable in absolute terms, reaching €31.7 million (vs. €31.3 million) after considering the Research Tax Credit (CIR) and capitalization of development costs. These expenses now represent 27.4% of Licensing revenue (vs. 29.2%).

General & Administration: increased by €2.6m €23.2m vs. €20.6m, partly due to some exceptional expenses.

Improved profitability

EBITDA (before IFRS 16) increased to €12.3 million (vs. €8.1 million), now 8.4% of total sales (vs. 6.0%). EBIT (before IFRS 16) rose to €8.3 million (vs. €3.6 million), now 5.7% of total sales.

Cash position

The Group's available cash position rose to €20.2 million at December 31, 2019 (vs. €12.4m end of December 2018).

Financial debt reached €49.6 million (vs. €51.6 million) and Net debt decreased to €29.4 million (vs. €39.2 million). Gearing (net debt to equity) was 34.4% (vs. 57.7%).

At 31 December 2019, ESI Group held 6.3% of its capital in "treasury" shares.

Stronger business collaboration based on sharpened value proposition on a handful of priority industries

and solutions

2019 was a year of dynamic business development worldwide, driven by engagements with global industry leaders, whether long-term customers or accounts that have recently surfaced as strategic partners.

These industrial actors are increasingly held to a result, an "outcome": the service that their machine/car/part etc., offers, such as mobility, hours of maintenance-free flight or number of landing events, making them accountable for environmental and societal impact and for the experience "in service". This entails being able to anticipate the way their industrial product or asset operates in numerous and uncertain use-conditions, thus shifting the standards of success to performance in use rather than standard product development efficacy.

ESI's mission is to enable industrialists to commit to these outcomes, in a handful of major industries – Automotive & Ground Transportation, Aeronautics & Aerospace, Energy and Heavy Industry. The Group has now organized its value proposition around specific outcomes for our customers:

Pre-certification: enables gains in performance and productivity. Thanks to predictive models and process automation industrialists can meet certification requirements and other validation needs without relying on real tests.

Smart Manufacturing: establishes the right manufacturing processes to meet performance indicators for both industrial products (for instance reducing weight) and for associated processes (for example controlling distortions or reducing waste).

Human Centric: allows customers to implement an operator-centric approach to ensure the efficiency of assembly and maintenance operations, while facilitating the early identification of human safety or related problems and ways to improve production processes.

Pre-experience: this is the most advanced solution to support industrial leaders who are the furthest along in their transformation towards the "outcome economy". ESI enables them, as well as their future customers and asset operators, to "experience" a product, component, subsystem or system as it ages as part of an operational in-service solution and under numerous use conditions.

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Infor to Hold Investor Conference Call to Discuss Q3 Fiscal Year 2020 Results on Monday, March 30, 2020

27 March 2020

Infor announced that it will host an investor conference call to discuss Q3 fiscal year 2020 results for current holders of Infor securities and other interested parties on Monday, March 30, at 4:30 p.m. Eastern Time. Dial-in details will be available at https://www.infor.com/about/investors on Monday, March 30, prior to the call.

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Implementation Investments

Achronix Selects Synopsys DesignWare IP Solutions

26 March 2020

Synopsys, Inc. announced that Achronix has selected Synopsys' silicon-proven DesignWare® IP for PCI

Express® (PCIe®)5.0 and DesignWare DDR4 IP for its latest family of high-performance Speedster7t FPGAs. The silicon-proven DesignWare Controller IP for PCIe 5.0 implements a 512-bit datapath width supporting x16 links to deliver the maximum bandwidth required for Achronix's FPGA. The PCIe 5.0 controller also meets Achronix's aggressive low-power and low-latency requirements.

The DesignWare DDR4 Controller and PHY IP enables high-bandwidth and low-latency memory interfaces, operating at 3200 Mb/s, a key requirement in AI systems needing high-capacity external memory. The reliability, availability and serviceability (RAS) features allow Achronix to successfully debug and resolve PCIe linkup issues and tailor the DDR controller to their target application.

"For our latest Speedster7t FPGAs that include a revolutionary new 2D network-on-chip, machine learning processor, 112G SerDes, and high-performance FPGA fabric, we needed to accelerate our time-to-market with best-in-class IP that offered superior features," said Manoj Roge, vice president of strategic planning and business development at Achronix Semiconductor. "The robustness and maturity of Synopsys' DesignWare IP for PCI Express 5.0 and DDR4 with advanced features that are required for high-bandwidth AI workloads, allow us to integrate the IP with confidence while focusing on our own core competencies. We are looking forward to using Synopsys' DesignWare IP including DDR5 IP in our future designs."

"As the leading provider of interface IP, Synopsys delivers the industry's broadest IP portfolio supporting the latest generation protocols for key applications such as AI, cloud computing and automotive," said John Koeter, senior vice president of marketing and strategy for IP at Synopsys. "Our investment in developing high-quality, silicon-proven IP solutions with differentiated features enable companies like Achronix to achieve their design requirements and build compelling products with significantly less risk."

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Infor: Oldest Trailer Manufacturer in The Netherlands Continues to Innovate

23 March 2020

Infor announced Dutch trailer manufacturer Broshuis has gone live with Infor LN and other production solutions from Infor to better respond to the needs of its customers and to support its new strategy. In the past, Broshuis mainly supplied tailor-made trailers and worked according to the engineer-to-order principle. The company is now working according to the configure-to-order method to create a better connection with its e-commerce activities.

After using Infor VISUAL enterprise resource planning (ERP) for 20 years, Broshuis was looking for new functionalities, including better and integrated production planning, barcode scanning in the warehouse, more standardized automation and tighter logistics control. Broshuis is constantly innovating and monitoring the market to improve its products and customer service. A few years ago, it introduced a product configurator that allows customers to configure a trailer. The online tool provides direct insight into the target prices, which facilitates the selection process. After starting the automated parts factory, the next step toward the trailer factory of the future was taken by choosing a new ERP solution.

Five ERP vendors were selected from a long list of 15. Subsequently, three suppliers were invited to give a demonstration. Infor was ultimately chosen because of its extensive industry-specific functionalities for the factory, and the unique capabilities of its middleware solution, Infor ION. Infor was one of the few suppliers that could provide a solution that supports Broshuis' two types of production (custom building and repetitive production) in the factory.

Broshuis now uses: Infor LN, Infor CloudSuite Configure Price Quote (CPQ), Infor ION, Infor Ming.le,

and Infor Factory Track to manage the inventory components and automate Broshuis' time registration. The solutions help the trailer manufacturer reduce management costs by using standard processes while maintaining product quality. The company also can profit from improved insights into organization-wide activities.

"We are seeing more and more robotization in trailer construction, and digitization and automation have also become more important in our market," says Sjoerd Dekker, CFO at Broshuis. About the switch to Infor LN, he says: "We are very positive. What immediately stood out were the functionalities and integration possibilities. Our CPQ team can easily make offers without the intervention of the technical department, which means that lead times can be considerably shortened. Fine-tuning still needs to be done, but ultimately the solutions will help us reduce delivery times and stocks. Moreover, the data will be more accurate, and we can increase the reliability of our planning."

"Broshuis is a wonderful company with a long history. It is what we call a 'pearl' in the Dutch manufacturing industry," said Kees van den Houten, Infor Benelux country manager. "We are proud that our innovative solutions are used to further expand their position in the current challenging market."

The Broshuis family business was founded in 1885 in Muiden, The Netherlands, and is the oldest manufacturer of trailers for special transport and container chassis. Its years of experience, technical knowledge and entrepreneurship ensure that the trailer manufacturer continuously introduces innovative solutions. In 1965, Broshuis launched the first extendable semi-low loader in the world. Broshuis customers include the Royal Netherlands Navy and the U.S. Army Tank Automotive and Armaments Command (TACOM).

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Saarioinen Gets Fresh with Infor

23 March 2020

Infor announced that Saarioinen, the leader in the chilled convenience food market in Finland, has selected Infor CloudSuite Food & Beverage. The industry-specific suite of Infor applications — in the multi-tenant cloud — will help enable Saarioinen standardize, simplify and accelerate product development, improve customer experience and become a more data-driven company.

Following a thorough review of the market, Saarioinen chose Infor based on the industry-specific functionality of Infor CloudSuite Food & Beverage.

"We have been a customer of Infor for over two decades, but we have our eyes fixed firmly on the future," said Eero Kinnunen, business development director at Saarioinen. "This modern technology will help create a platform, not only for better processes, but also faster, more responsive innovation."

"We continue to support innovation throughout the global food and beverage markets," said Andrew Dalziel, Infor VP of industry and solution strategy. "Saarioinen's use of technology spans ERP and PLM and will help the established leader consolidate and extend its market position by pulling together production and financial elements."

Saarioinen is the market leader in Finland for fresh ready meals. Based in the Tampere area, Saarioinen is a family-owned business with a long pedigree: the Saarioinen Manor site was first mentioned in written sources in 1469, and the business has been operating since 1941. Saarioinen produced the first ready meals in Finland in 1957. Saarioinen's annual net sales amount to approximately EUR 260 million, and the group employs a total of 1,300 employees. Saarioinen has factories in Finland in Kangasala, Valkeakoski and Huittinen, as well as a consumer-ready food factory in Estonia, which

mainly manufactures products for the Baltic market.

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SiFive Selects Synopsys Fusion Design Platform

25 March 2020

Synopsys, Inc. announced that SiFive, Inc. has selected Synopsys Fusion Design Platform™ and Verification Continuum® platform to enable rapid cloud-based design of next-generation customer silicon products. Building on SiFive's successful track record utilizing Synopsys' design and verification solutions for development of its IP cores and SoC templates, SiFive will incorporate these solutions in its cloud-based methodology to create customized SoCs for select lead access customers to achieve best quality-of-results (QoR) and time-to-results (TTR) for its next-generation system-on-chip (SoC) designs.

"SiFive's mission is to simplify idea-to-silicon, enabling designers with a new way of building custom SoCs," said Yunsup Lee, CTO of SiFive. "As the leading provider of design and verification solutions, Synopsys delivers the trusted path to create domain-specific SoCs optimized to meet product requirements in markets such as automotive, industrial and consumer IoT. We are collaborating closely with Synopsys to enable cloud-based design of SiFive customers' next-generation SoCs."

During this initial phase of the collaboration, SiFive plans to use Synopsys' Fusion Design Platform and Verification Continuum platform in the cloud to create custom SoCs for SiFive customers.

"Azure is working closely with Synopsys to continue pushing scalability of EDA tools to leverage the cloud, and with SiFive to enable configurable, scalable SoC design with SiFive Core Designer, which further validates the readiness of cloud for silicon design," said Mujtaba Hamid, head of product management, Silicon, Electronics and Gaming at Microsoft Azure. "The collaboration between Azure, SiFive and Synopsys will continue to lower the barrier to entry for new customers and continue to improve productivity of doing custom SoC design."

The Fusion Design Platform incorporates many Synopsys industry-leading solutions, enabling:

7nm and below implementation in Synopsys' Fusion Compiler™ RTL-to-GDSII product, Design Compiler® graphical synthesis tool, and IC Compiler™ II place-and-route system

Higher performance with automatic density control and timing-driven placement

Lower power with full-flow concurrent clock and datapath (CCD) optimization

Signoff closure with PrimeTime® PBA-based ECO with power recovery and exhaustive PBA along with StarRC™ simultaneous multi-corner extraction

Early, accelerated design optimization for power integrity and reliability with the RedHawk™ Analysis Fusion signoff-driven flow within IC Compiler II

The Verification Continuum platform includes:

Industry-leading VCS® with native low power simulation for mixed language RTL and gate level with the smallest memory footprint

Industry de facto standard Verdi® advanced debug solution

VC verification IP for emerging titles, including PCIe Gen5, CXL, DDR5, LPDDR5, and USB4

SpyGlass® for RTL signoff and VC LP™ for static low power signoff

VC Formal™ verification solution for faster formal coverage closure

"We are pleased to support SiFive as it continues to provide its customers with a new alternative path to

production silicon," said Michael Sanie, vice president of marketing and strategy for Design Group at Synopsys. "Our collaboration aims to address SiFive's need to continue to accelerate time-to-market for custom SoCs by providing our leading EDA products for optimal QoR and TTR."

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Product News

HCL Releases BigFix 10: Bringing New Innovations to the Industry's Most Comprehensive Endpoint Management Platform

24 March 2020

HCL Technologies announced BigFix 10, a major new release of the industry's leading endpoint management platform, to be generally available in April 2020. BigFix 10 is the only endpoint management platform that enables IT/Security Operations to fully automate discovery, management and remediation, whether it's on-prem or cloud, regardless of location or connectivity. Unlike complex tools that cover a limited portion of your endpoints and take days or weeks to remediate, BigFix can find and fix all endpoints faster than any other solution.

BigFix 10 innovations include:

BigFix Insights™: Enables organizations to quickly visualize risk as well as costs, while easily finding the endpoint issues that matter most, to drive action throughout the organization. The results are quick responses, streamlined processes and improved security posture.

Modern Client Management: Enables the consolidation of multiple vendors, cost reduction and complexity while managing Windows 10 and MacOS endpoints with simple enrollment and policy management.

Multicloud Management: Enables administrators to have full 360-degree visibility, control and compliance enforcement of both cloud and on-premise endpoints from a single solution.

"BigFix enters a new era of unified endpoint management with the inclusion of Insights, Modern Client Management, and Multicloud Support. This enables companies to more effectively manage and report on all endpoint devices from a single solution at scale," said Darren Oberst, CVP and Head of HCL Software, a division of HCL Technologies. "By simplifying endpoint management and compliance, which improves operational efficiency and reduces costs, BigFix 10 also demonstrates HCL's commitment to providing tangible business value."

"This first major release of BigFix, under HCL ownership, demonstrates that HCL is ready to invest and that it understands what's needed to ensure BigFix can continue to discover, analyze, manage, and secure the modern, rapidly changing, endpoint landscape," said Dave Gruber, Senior ESG Analyst.

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Latest Release of LightTools From Synopsys Offers New Modeling and Analysis Features for Illumination Design

24 March 2020

Synopsys, Inc. announced the release of version 9.0 of its LightTools® illumination design software, which delivers powerful new modeling and analysis features that augment LightTools' industry-leading

design capabilities, reliability, and accuracy.

LightTools 9.0 provides new tools to model and analyze polarizing elements with birefringent materials, which are increasingly used in advanced applications such as AR/VR headsets and biomedical instruments. New charts allow designers to easily assess the polarization state and orientation and identify how to maximize flux. The new polarization modeling tools are included in the LightTools Advanced Physics Module, which provides flexible programming extensions to develop custom optical parts and cutting-edge illumination subsystems.

LightTools has comprehensive capabilities to help optical engineers pinpoint and correct stray light issues during product design. Enhancements to the LightTools stray light analysis toolkit include:

Intensified ray tracing – LightTools now traces up to one trillion rays in an illumination system, lifting the sampling limits for virtually all Monte Carlo simulations. This expanded ray trace limit allows designers to achieve extremely accurate results for stray light analysis and luminance calculations.

Aim area capabilities for measured bidirectional scattering distribution function (BSDF) surfaces – BSDF data is often used to provide high-accuracy simulations of scattering surface characteristics. The aim area feature allows designers to examine selected portions of a surface's scatter distribution, and this can significantly improve stray light analysis efficiency, particularly for illumination optics used in AR/VR/MR devices, heads-up displays, and autonomous vehicles.

"LightTools provides realistic simulations of as-built illumination systems and includes an expanded toolkit in version 9.0 to identify stray light and minimize its effect on optical performance," said Stuart David, group director of applications engineering in Synopsys' Optical Solutions Group. "This can be done early in the product development process, saving engineers time and money."

LightTools offers optimization tools created especially to solve the unique requirements of illumination system design. In version 9.0, the LightTools Backlight Pattern Optimization utility allows designers to optimize performance of display systems with curved panel shapes. Designs created with the utility can conform to a dashboard, rotate about a user's field of view, and have custom shapes – all with high spatial uniformity.

Mastercam 2020 Multiaxis Machining Improves Productivity

26 March 2020

Multiaxis machining can dramatically increase a shop's competitiveness. Mastercam Multiaxis is an add-on for Mastercam Mill 3D, Router 3D, Mill-Turn, and Mastercam for SOLIDWORKS®. It improves productivity with simultaneous 4- and 5-axis machining capability for Mastercam. Mastercam Multiaxis offers a wide range of multiaxis machining strategies, both basic and advanced. These toolpaths are also useful for advanced control of 3-axis machines.

Cut Patterns
Cut Patterns guide the tool along specified paths. These patterns can be simple 2D and 3D wireframe, solid primitives, or complex multisurface grids. Mastercam's Multiaxis machining has many toolpath types to govern the cut pattern.

Tool Axis Control
Mastercam's Tool Axis Control allows orientation of the tool's center axis to be manipulated as it follows the cut pattern. You have complete and dynamic control over the tool axis, lead/lag, entry/exit, and tilt, which simplifies even the most difficult multiaxis jobs. Full entry and exit control allow you

determine exactly where and how the cutter enters and leaves your part. An automatic point generator adds greater precision, as well as advanced gouge checking and a 5-axis safe zone around the part to ensure safe cuts in even the most complex operations.

Collision Control
When programming 5-axis parts, it is often necessary to come very close to the part or fixture with the cutter, arbor, or the holder. Mastercam gives you "near miss tolerance" fields so you can specify how close you are willing to get with any part of the tool and how to avoid those situations.

Blade Expert Add-On
Mastercam's Blade Expert Add-On greatly simplifies the toolpath creation process for any multibladed parts, including fans, propellers, impellers, turbines, marine screws, and more. Blade Expert is a very powerful and easy-to-use custom application, designed to generate efficient, smooth, and gouge-free toolpaths for these complex bladed parts.

Port Expert Add-On
Mastercam's Port Expert Add-On creates accurate, efficient engine cylinder head porting toolpaths on port surface or solid data. The Port Expert toolpaths use 3-axis machining as far into the port as possible, and then convert automatically to 5-axis motion with minimum tilt. This avoids fishtails or inefficient reverse moves, and smoothly transitions where the toolpaths meet at the middle of the port.

Dynamic Motion and Accelerated Finishing
Included in Mastercam Multiaxis are two innovative machining strategies. Dynamic Motion® extends tool life with proprietary toolpath strategies that maximize material removal rate and reduce cycle times, and Accelerated Finishing® takes advantage of innovative profile tools and processes aimed at greater efficiency and higher machining productivity.

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PTC Offers Free Online Solution to Enable Remote STEM Learning
25 March 2020

PTC is offering its Onshape® product development software free of charge to high school and college students around the world amid school closures caused by the COVID-19 crisis.

Many teachers and parents today are turning to remote learning in an effort to reduce the academic disruption, especially in subject areas such as science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM). With the new offering from PTC, teachers and students can access this computer-aided design Software-as-a-Service (SaaS) technology over the Internet to collaborate on design and other engineering projects.

"This is an unprecedented time, and we hope to do our part in helping the many teachers and parents looking for resources to continue STEM learning during this crisis," said Jim Heppelmann, president and CEO, PTC. "Similar to using programs like Google Docs for their English classes, students at home will be able to collaborate as they simultaneously create and edit designs. With this Onshape offering, students can discover or continue their interest in STEM with a solution that can be used to create cars, furniture, laptops, and more."

Onshape is a SaaS product development platform that is used worldwide by thousands of professional and aspiring designers and engineers, and is accessible from a wide range of devices, including Chromebooks, MacBooks, smartphones, and tablets. As a pure SaaS platform, there is no software installation required and no IT infrastructure to administer and maintain, allowing students to get started easily and quickly in order to collaborate, innovate, and have fun.

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Synopsys Delivers Industry's First Ethernet 800G Verification IP for Next-Generation Networking and Communications Systems

23 March 2020

Synopsys, Inc. announced the availability of the industry's first verification IP (VIP) and Universal Verification Methodology (UVM) source code test suite for Ethernet 800G.

As the requirements for increased bandwidth to support video-on-demand, social networking and cloud services continues to rise, Synopsys VC VIP for Ethernet 800G, based on the Ethernet Technology Consortium (ETC) specification, enables system-on-chip (SoC) teams to design next-generation networking chips for data centers with ease of use and fast integration, resulting in accelerated verification closure and time-to-market. The VC VIP is used to verify Synopsys' DesignWare® 56G Ethernet, 112G Ethernet, and 112G USR/XSR PHYs for FinFET processes, which designers can easily integrate into 800G SoCs to meet their long reach and short reach interface requirements.

The ETC standard provides specifications for an 800G implementation based on 8 lane x 100 Gb/s technology, enabling adopters to deploy advanced high bandwidth interoperable Ethernet technologies.

"Our 800 Gigabit Ethernet Core will help our customers create flexible system solutions for 800 Gigabit Ethernet applications," said Francois Balay, president of MorethanIP. "Being first in the industry, Synopsys VIP, source code test suite, and DesignWare IP for Ethernet 800G strengthens the ecosystem and facilitates early adoption of the technology and fast development of high-speed networking applications."

Synopsys VC VIP for Ethernet uses a native System Verilog UVM architecture, protocol-aware debug and source code test suites. Synopsys VC VIP can switch speed configurations dynamically at run time and includes an extensive and customizable set of frame generation and error injection capabilities. In addition, source code UNH-IOL test suites are available for key Ethernet features and clauses, allowing teams to quickly jumpstart their own custom testing and accelerate verification closure.

"As a leader in verification IP, Synopsys continues to stay in the forefront to deliver another industry-first VIP solution for Ethernet 800G," said Vikas Gautam, vice president of engineering of VIP R&D for the Synopsys Verification Group. "To achieve these industry firsts, Synopsys continues to innovate and provide support for the latest specifications, enabling leading IP design and SoC companies to quickly verify their products and accelerate time to market."

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