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CIMdata News

Full Presentation Details Now Available for CIMdata's PLM Road Map for the Aerospace & Defense Industry Featuring 3D CIC at PLM Road Map

27 August 2015

CIMdata, Inc., the leading global PLM strategic management consulting and research firm and Longview Advisors, Inc., organizer of 3D CIC announce the availability of presentation details for their upcoming PLM Road Map for the Aerospace & Defense Industry featuring 3D CIC. This two-day event will be held October 28-29 at The Westfields Marriott – Washington, Dulles.

PLM Road Map 2015 for the Aerospace & Defense (A&D) Industry featuring 3D CIC is the must-attend event for A&D industry executives and PLM practitioners globally—providing independent education and a collaborative networking environment where ideas, trends, experiences, and relationships critical to the A&D industry germinate and take root.

The first day of the event will focus on 3D Model-Based Design (MBD) for Product Definition, with emphasis on advanced features, data retention, and compliance. The second day will focus on Enabling a Model-Based Enterprise (MBE) with emphasis on the MBD/MBE vision, downstream integration, standards in MBD/MBE, quality, and inspection.

Attendees will be able to take advantage of over 25 presentations from speakers who are all experts in their respective fields. Presentations will cover the following topics and much more:

- 3D Model-Based Design for Aircraft Type Certification, an OEM's Viewpoint
- High Volume Real Time Global Collaboration & ITAR Compliance on an International Strategic Weapons Program
- 3D Model-Based Definition at Embraer
- Complementing Complex PLM Systems with Simplified User Interfaces
- Influencing Standards for Data Storage & Exchange
- What in addition to LOTAR is Need to Achieve Long-Term Design Reuse?
- Enabling System-of-Systems PLM with Digital Thread Support: From Design to Manufacturing, Inspection & Beyond
- Communicating a New Way of Doing Business – 3d PDFs the Boeing Way
- Exploring the Advantages of the 3D Product Model to Build Ships
- Classic Mistakes in MBD – How they can Impact Early Benefits
- Quality Information Framework, The Missing Standard for Quality & Inspection
- The MBD Value Stream – Capabilities & Value Proposition

For more detailed information on these presentations and the others to be made visit our website for the full agenda: <http://www.cimdata.com/en/education/plm-conferences/2015-plmrm-ad-cic/2015-plmrm-ad-cic-agenda>

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To register for the event or to learn more visit: <http://www.cimdata.com/en/education/plm-conferences/2015-plmrm-ad-cic>

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Last Chance to Register for CIMdata's PLM Leadership Programs in the Boston, Mass area

26 August 2015

Choose from our upcoming programs in the Boston area:

[PLM Executive Short Course| September 21](#)

[PLM Fundamentals for Solution Providers Short Course | September 21-22](#)

[PLM Certificate Program | September 21-25](#)

[For more information about all of CIMdata's education programs and to register please visit cimdata.com.](#)

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Acquisitions

Autodesk Signs Agreement to Acquire SeeControl

27 August 2015

[Autodesk, Inc.](#) has signed an agreement to acquire SeeControl, a San Francisco-based developer of an enterprise Internet of Things (IoT) cloud service platform. The SeeControl service helps manufacturers and systems integrators connect, analyze, control, and manage remote products, things, and assets and create new service revenue opportunities.

“A new future of making things is emerging, where any built object, product or environment can be embedded with sensors that can feed information back into the design process. The acquisition of SeeControl is the first step on Autodesk’s ongoing efforts to develop new technologies and solutions that will help our customers leverage the [Internet of Things](#), starting by enabling them to capture, analyze, and utilize data from their products. We welcome the SeeControl team and ecosystem to Autodesk,” said [Amar Hanspal](#), Autodesk Senior Vice President for Information Modeling and Platform Products.

Autodesk intends to continue to sell and support the SeeControl platform and to incorporate the technology into design solutions for the manufacturing and building industries. Autodesk also plans to develop a new IoT solution based on the SeeControl technology that will allow companies to gain real world insights of how their products perform, enabling customers to explore innovative new service models. This transaction is subject to customary closing conditions and is expected to close during Autodesk’s fiscal quarter ending October 31, 2015. Terms were not disclosed.

"SolarCity has able to conceive and prototype new product ideas faster with SeeControl's point-and-

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click toolset, and we're excited to see how Autodesk will further develop the platform and integrate the technology," said Ryan Hanley, Senior Director of Grid Engineering Solutions, SolarCity.

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Keysoft Solutions strengthens UK and international offering with LANDCADD Acquisition

27 August 2015

We are pleased to announce that Keysoft Solutions has signed an agreement to acquire the rights to LANDCADD from US based Eagle Point Software. The acquisition will secure future investment in the LANDCADD suite of landscape and civil design software and broaden our own offering to UK and international users.

The acquisition was completed on 1st June 2015 and a three month plan is in place that will see existing LANDCADD users transition seamlessly over. During this period, Keysoft Solutions will build up a dedicated sales and support team in Boston.

Jeremy Ellis comments: "LANDCADD is a renowned global brand, particularly for its land modelling and civil design functionality. This strategic acquisition provides us with the capacity to extend the Keysoft Landscape portfolio and ensures that LANDCADD will continue to be developed for the international market".

"The acquisition marks an important step in the development of our Building Information Modelling (BIM) offering and responds to our customers' growing need to visualise their proposals in 3D. This extends the reach of our BIM capability to both the early design and facilities management phases of a project, adding a new level to our suite of BIM compliant software."

LANDCADD will complement the existing range of landscape and traffic management software, which assists landscaping and highways professionals in the creation of detailed 2D and 3D drawings.

Jeremy Ellis adds: "In order to ensure a smooth transition for existing LANDCADD customers, Eagle Point Software will continue to provide technical support for three months while we establish our dedicated Boston office. Initially we will continue to maintain both the KeySCAPE and LANDCADD software as separate products. However, as they are so complementary, we plan to quickly integrate them so that all customers will get the benefit of both pieces of software".

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Company News

Avnet and EMC partner to deliver industry-leading solutions in Australia

25 August 2015

[Avnet, Inc.](#), a global technology distributor, announced that it has signed a distribution agreement with EMC, a global leader in enabling businesses and service providers to transform their operations and deliver information technology as a service (ITaaS). Avnet was selected as a global distributor to bring EMC's VSPEX BLUE to market in early 2015. The new agreement will see Avnet deliver the entire

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EMC portfolio to its network of resellers across Australia.

“Avnet and EMC are tightly aligned in their vision to enable partners to transform and create maximum value,” says Darren Adams, vice president and general manager, Avnet Technology Solutions, Australia and New Zealand. “By joining forces we are able to deliver industry-leading solutions and services backed by expertise and support to help our partners grow their business profitability.”

Avnet will provide its independent software vendor (ISV), system integrator (SI) and value-added reseller (VAR) partners with EMC technology, including products for converged infrastructure and data solutions related to Big Data, cloud computing and storage. In addition, Avnet partners can take advantage of Avnet’s integration services to offer pre-configured, fully-tested solutions based on EMC technology, which can be delivered to customers’ sites with certified shipping.

“Working in a fast-paced industry means we need to constantly assess our business strategy”, says Chris Trevitt, general manager, partner sales, EMC, ANZ. “Avnet’s global distribution reach and go to market strategy perfectly aligns with EMC’s and we are looking forward to a strong and long lasting partnership in Australia.”

Avnet’s technical expertise, market knowledge and trusted business relationships provide a strong platform to enable EMC to strengthen its presence in Australia as well as efficiently capitalise on new business opportunities.

Partners can now leverage Avnet’s assembly and integration services to offer pre-configured, fully-tested solutions based on EMC technology, which can be delivered to customers’ sites with certified shipping. Additionally, Avnet supports its global channel community with demand generation, pre-sales and technical expertise, training and development, and financial and logistics services.

Follow Avnet on Twitter: [@Avnet ANZ](#)

Connect with Avnet on LinkedIn or Facebook: <http://www.linkedin.com/company/avnet-technology-solutions-anz> or [facebook.com/avnetinc](https://www.facebook.com/avnetinc)

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Carnegie Mellon Receives \$35 Million Gift from Tata Consultancy Services

25 August 2015

Carnegie Mellon University and Tata Consultancy Services, a global IT services, consulting and business solutions organization, announced a \$35 million gift from TCS to the university, marking a new era of partnerships between leaders in industry and academia.

Representing the largest corporate gift to CMU, and from outside the U.S., this donation will fund a new facility, the Tata Consultancy Services Building, which will support education and cutting-edge research by CMU faculty and students. At approximately 40,000 square-feet, the stand-alone structure will house state-of-the-art facilities, providing collaborative spaces for CMU faculty and staff. The building will provide space for TCS staff to interact with CMU faculty, staff and students.

The gift also will endow Presidential Fellowships and Scholarships, increasing the availability of a CMU education to outstanding students. In doing so, TCS, which has been at the forefront of national

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and grassroots campaigns to encourage science, technology, engineering, and math education, will help equip Carnegie Mellon undergraduate and graduate students with the knowledge they need for future careers.

"With our shared commitment to education and research in areas that help address many challenges of our time, the partnership with TCS is both natural and extraordinarily promising," said Subra Suresh, President of Carnegie Mellon. "Together, our two organizations have the capabilities and capacity to make breakthrough discoveries, and the scale to make societal impact on a global scale."

"TCS is proud to invest in this landmark partnership with CMU to promote market-driven innovation and accelerate advancements in technology," said Natarajan Chandrasekaran, Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of TCS. "As global leaders, Carnegie Mellon and TCS have the intellectual power, creativity, institutional nimbleness, and global reach to capitalize on new opportunities and have a lasting impact on society and industry through cutting-edge digital research and a long-term commitment to education."

TCS joins a growing group of major technology companies moving to the Pittsburgh region in recent years. More than 250 companies now have partnerships with CMU. This groundbreaking collaboration with a multinational company headquartered outside the U.S., marks a new chapter in the region, joining a rich ecosystem of entrepreneurship supported and catalyzed by the university.

"I'm very pleased to welcome TCS to Pennsylvania," said Pennsylvania Governor Tom Wolf. "This is an exciting time as we see more and more companies establish and expand their presence in the state. Carnegie Mellon has been especially adept in attracting cutting-edge businesses to and near its campus, which helps to drive economic growth."

Among the nation's major research universities, Carnegie Mellon ranks first in startups per research dollar, according to the Association of University Technology Managers. Since 2008, CMU faculty, students and alumni have created 215 new companies.

These startup activities also will benefit from CMU's largest campus expansion since Andrew Carnegie founded the university in 1900. Work has begun on the [David A. Tepper Quadrangle](#), the university's major new academic hub, which will be located just east of the new TCS facility.

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Delcam at DMG-MORI Open House videos show latest CAM developments

24 August 2015

Videos have been added to Delcam's Delcam.tv website showing the three main demonstrations from the special open house held at the DMG-MORI showroom in Coventry during May.

The first demonstration showed how [PowerMILL](#) can be used to machine extremely complex shapes both safely and efficiently on advanced five-axis machine tools like the DMG DMU 75 monoblock. The example chosen was a Möbius strip, a surface with one continuous side formed by joining the ends of a rectangular strip after twisting one end through 180°. The demonstration can be seen at www.delcam.tv/dmg-pmill

The complexity of the shape meant that the programming needed to use the new Advanced Simulation & Verification module in PowerMILL. This allowed complete verification, covering cutting moves,

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leads and links, and tool changes, of the project for machine-tool issues such as collisions. The comprehensive verification performed ensured that the program could be run without machine-tool collisions or tooling collisions and that the machine tool was capable of running the proposed strategy successfully.

[FeatureCAM](http://www.delcam.tv/dmg-fcam) demonstration, which can be seen at www.delcam.tv/dmg-fcam, showed a typical production part, with a variety of different types of geometry. The number of features, including a variety of different types of hole, made it ideal as an example of the speed and simplicity of programming that is possible with FeatureCAM's feature-based approach.

The program also included area clearance with Delcam's Vortex strategy for high-efficiency roughing. Vortex produces toolpaths with a controlled engagement angle and so maintains the optimum cutting conditions for the toolpath that would normally be possible only for any straight-line moves. As a result, cutting times are significantly shorter. In addition, machining is undertaken at a more consistent volume-removal rate and at a constant feedrate, so extending the life of the cutter and protecting the machine.

The third video shows On-Machine Verification with Delcam's [PowerINSPECT](#) inspection software. This allows initial checking of machined parts to be carried out in situ on any CNC machine tool with probing capabilities, rather than having to transfer the parts to coordinate measuring machines for inspection.

For the demonstration, errors were deliberately inserted into the initial machining program. The video shows how these mistakes can be found with PowerINSPECT OMV and then corrected with a modified program. The main benefit is that repeated cycles of machining and inspection, interspersed with long set-up times on the respective pieces of equipment, are avoided, so enabling overall manufacturing times to be reduced. The video can be viewed at www.delcam.tv/dmg-omv

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Fujitsu, Intel, and Brocade to Transform City College Coventry and Put Technology at the Heart of Education

27 August 2015

[Fujitsu](#), [Intel](#), and Brocade announced the launch of the new Innovation Hub at City College Coventry, which is set to put technology at the heart of learning for the college and its community. As part of a commitment to developing IT skills in the UK, the new Innovation Hub will transform the learning experience for all students participating in the technology curriculum, as well as providing a resource for the wider business community. These skills will help students and local businesses stay on top of the latest advancements in technology such as [the New IP](#). The hub is the latest of its kind in the [Fujitsu-Intel Education Ambassador Programme](#).

City College Coventry caters to over 6,000 students and draws strength from its close ties with local businesses and employers that contribute to the design of its courses to ensure that they are both current and relevant. Located in the south building of the college's Swanswell Street Campus, the Innovation Hub is the latest step in this relationship. In addition to hiring new students, local organisations will be able to send staff to the College for training on a variety of the latest technologies and software from Fujitsu and Intel, helping them stay competitive both nationally and internationally. The hub will also

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offer courses in Brocade® networking certifications as well as a wide range of other disciplines, including 3D modelling, games development, automotive technologies, and mobile and Web development.

The hub has been designed to provide an engaging environment for existing students, as well as encouraging new students to enroll in technology courses. The facility has been equipped to optimise learning, with large display screens and advanced networking equipment that can be used for demonstrations and practical sessions. The facility has been fitted with a wide range of Fujitsu and Intel hardware, including workstations, tablets, and laptops, as well as a [PRIMEFLEX vShape](#) solution that is pre-integrated with Brocade networking technologies to help the college consolidate and virtualise its current IT infrastructure and deliver a future-proof solution to meet modern demands.

“The Innovation Hub means that we now have one of the most advanced technology education spaces in the region,” commented Steve Logan, Principal, City College Coventry. “The facility will make a real difference to the way in which we teach technology courses and will hopefully inspire new generations of students to take up IT subjects at the college. With an ever growing demand for skilled technology graduates, we hope the centre will benefit the wider community and we will be inviting schools and academies locally to view the facilities later this term. This simply would not have been possible without the support and investment that Fujitsu, Intel, and Brocade have provided.”

“City College Coventry is on an exciting journey towards a digital transformation,” said Ash Merchant, head of education, Fujitsu UK and Ireland. “As an educational establishment, it strives to achieve the very best and recognises the role technology can play. We’re incredibly excited to be supporting the team through this process and look forward to a successful future for the college and community.”

“Intel shares Fujitsu’s passion for education and inclusion for all, and is delighted to support the Education Ambassador Programme,” said Danny Arati, Education Manager, Intel Europe. “We have a decade’s worth of experience working with more than 12 million teachers and we know the potential technology can bring to the classroom to enrich learning. The Innovation Hub at City College Coventry will enable teachers to better help prepare students for success in the future.”

“This project is the first step in our new Academic Education Programme, which will help Education for Employment (EfE) institutions in the UK teach the skills businesses will need in order to adapt to the New IP,” commented Joy Gardham, Head of Western Europe, Brocade. “At Brocade, we want to help open up technology education to a far more diverse group of students, and especially women. Modern, purpose-built premises like the Innovation Hub will help young people learn both about the technology itself and the careers available to them within the IT industry. This is a key focus for us, given the growing need for IT skills across all industries and sectors, and we are therefore delighted to be able to support City College Coventry’s new Innovation Hub.”

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Gerber Technology and COMESA Establish Technical Assistance and Training Program in Mauritius

26 August 2015

Gerber Technology, a world leader in integrated software and automation solutions for the apparel and industrial markets, announces the establishment of a dedicated program for technical assistance and

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training in Mauritius.

Gerber Technology and COMESA (the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa) were invited by the Republic of Mauritius and its Mauritius Business Growth Scheme (MBGS) unit to collaborate and introduce a program focused on improving the sustained use of premium software solutions for apparel pattern making. This approach is also intended to promote advances in quality control, collaboration with partners and better efficiency.

A primary goal for the initiative will be the deepening of integration and competitiveness of the COMESA region as well as the Mauritius apparel industry. The initiative is financially supported by the regime of the 10th European Development Fund (EDF), issued by the EU.

“Choosing Gerber Technology for technical assistance for CAD training and the capacity building program is based on the broad presence of Gerber’s digital systems and the excellence of services provided to a growing number of apparel manufacturers in Mauritius,” said MBGS spokesperson Naeem Boodhoo, onsite coordinator and consultant to COMESA and to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Regional Corporation. “The number of enterprises having invested into Gerber Technology is increasing continuously due to Gerber’s first class services, system reliability and ease-of-use, as well as fast return on investment for our companies.” In addition, support by the company’s global CAD/CAM team of service engineers and consultants assures fulfillment for user needs.

The project implementation time frame is scheduled for a period of six months, and then Gerber and local representative Automated Garment Technology (A.G.T., Ltd.) will provide on-site support and dedicated classroom training sessions. “Continuous monitoring of progress will be vital for the success of the program,” said A.G.T. founder and shareholder Clet Baba. “Collaboration with COMESA as well as MBGS will be critical to make this initiative most beneficial to the local industry.”

Gerber Technology has a history of introducing innovations and technologies that optimize customers’ product development and manufacturing processes. Gerber has launched technologies that have become the benchmarks for pattern design, grading and marker making, as well as material spreading and cutting. “We are delighted to support the technical assistance and customized training program for utilization of our AccuMark® solutions to apparel manufacturers in Mauritius,” said Guillaume Gairin, Gerber service director for the EMEA region. “Beyond our engagement in Mauritius, it is our short- to medium-term goal to intensify support to the apparel and other sewn goods industries in the African region, and thus, the further development of their competitiveness in the world market.”

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IMAGINiT Technologies Launches Dedicated Product Lifecycle Management Team

26 August 2015

[Rand Worldwide](#), a global leader in providing technology solutions to organizations with engineering design and information technology requirements, announced that its [IMAGINiT Technologies](#) division is introducing a new Strategic Accounts Team. This dedicated group will focus on providing product lifecycle management (PLM) and data management solutions to manufacturers across the United States and Canada.

CIMdata, an independent authority on the PLM market, estimates that there is potential \$16B market for manufacturers who are not currently leveraging PLM systems in their product development processes.

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With the advent of a cost effective, short time-to-deployment PLM system like [Autodesk PLM 360](#), manufacturers who previously shied away from the traditional complex and costly PLM tools, are now presented with an opportunity to leverage PLM process gains.

“Autodesk PLM 360 cloud solution with short deployment times has opened the door to an array of manufacturers who previously found PLM systems cost prohibitive,” says Tim Johnson, senior vice president, IMAGINiT Technologies. “We have put together a dedicated team of highly experienced professionals that focus purely on helping these manufacturers enhance their product development processes by implementing a PLM system. Our team of experts is uniquely positioned to help manufacturers who are new to PLM plan, customize and implement successful PLM strategies.”

IMAGINiT’s dedicated PLM team helps manufacturing organizations in aerospace, industrial machinery, building products and other industries to capitalize on the benefits of PLM and data management. These manufacturing organizations are gaining the benefits of an affordable, modular PLM solution along with customizable implementation services and support from IMAGINiT’s highly knowledgeable PLM industry experts.

Dedicated Strategic Account Team for Manufacturing

IMAGINiT’s dedicated team of sales and technical staff, led by Scott Hale, vice president of business development, have achieved Autodesk’s prestigious PLM 360 Advisor Status in both the U.S. and Canada. With a comprehensive knowledge of Autodesk PLM 360 software and a track record of successful implementations, these experts help manufacturers implement a PLM strategy that manages their product lifecycle from concept to retirement.

Complimentary PLM Resources

IMAGINiT offers many educational resources for manufacturers looking to learn more about the benefits PLM can bring to their organization including informative whitepapers, videos and case studies.

Whitepaper – IMAGINiT expert Pete Markovic, in association with the editors of Cadalyst Magazine, explain the benefits of Autodesk PLM 360 and address the realities of data security for this cloud-based solution with the whitepaper: [Product Lifecycle Management – What Is PLM and How Can It Help My Company?](#)

Video – This [three minute video](#) dispels the three big myths surrounding PLM and outlines the benefits of Autodesk PLM 360 for manufacturers of all size.

Case Study – Facing challenges caused by information being stored in multiple locations and in different formats, Behlen Building Systems found that decreasing productivity was impacting customer service. After conducting a complete business process analysis, IMAGINiT experts recommended and then implemented Autodesk PLM 360. Read the [Behlen Building Systems case study](#) and learn about the process by which they implemented Autodesk PLM 360.

Autodesk Accelerate –IMAGINiT experts will host an interactive panel discussion at Autodesk’s second annual [PLM 360 User Conference](#) on September 1-2, 2015, in Boston. The panel will focus on PLM 360 best practices and features Greg Dohrman, IMAGINiT PLM solutions manager, Jim Brown, Tech Clarity analyst, and IMAGINiT customer Michael Donarski from JELD-WEN.

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Infor Partners with OpenSesame to Deliver Customized E-learning Training Courses for Business and Healthcare

24 August 2015

[Infor](#) and [OpenSesame](#) Inc., an industry leading provider of e-learning courses for the enterprise, announced a partnership to help organizations enhance professional development through curated learning applications. Through this partnership, Infor aims to provide easily downloadable learning courses from OpenSesame that Infor customers can use and access via their Infor Learning Management System (LMS) - ultimately providing more flexible training solutions for the global workforce.

"Through the partnership with OpenSesame, Infor aims to offer its customers one of the broadest, deepest and freshest libraries of enterprise e-learning courses currently in the industry," said Victor Belfor, vice president of Partnerships and Distribution Strategy at OpenSesame. "Fortune 1000 learning executives come to our carefully curated marketplace every day to find relevant and valuable courses from some of the best publishers in the world."

Specifically, Infor expects to offer its customers learning bundles dedicated to Microsoft Office Library, Healthcare, and access to more than 25,000 other courses from Open Sesame. Customers and their employees are able to select and download chosen content designed to help them advance their professional abilities directly through the Infor LMS portal. Offering global deployment on mobile platforms, Infor LMS is suited for every organization that desires to capture, convey, and expand its workforce's knowledge.

"Organizations need to keep pace with an ever-changing business environment, and ensure that all members of both the internal and extended enterprise have the right learning opportunities to be highly effective in their roles," said Kenneth Fung, senior director, Strategy, HCM and Learning, Infor.

"Through our partnership with OpenSesame, we expect to be able to deliver a more comprehensive library of e-learning solutions to our customers that can help net positive business results from a more informed workforce."

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Most Profitable Manufacturers On Apparel Magazine's Top 50 List Use Gerber Technology's Solutions

27 August 2015

The apparel companies that make it to the coveted *Apparel* [Top 50](#) list must, as the magazine says, be "feverishly pursuing better, faster and more personalized customer engagement." A majority of those at the top of that list ranked by profit margin have partnered with Gerber Technology, the world leader in integrated software and automation solutions for the apparel and industrial markets, to help them achieve those goals.

"Because we understand the entire value chain within the apparel industry, we're able to provide the end-to-end solutions and global support that help our customers improve profitability, shorten cycle times and achieve optimum results," said Mike Elia, Gerber Technology CEO. "We're proud to be the integrated software and hardware supplier of choice for 14 of the top 20 companies on this prestigious

list."

"The companies on this list are using a range of Gerber products in their operations," explained Karsten Newbury, Gerber vice president and general manager of Software Solutions. "Six of the top 10 companies alone on this list are using Gerber AccuMark[®] software to integrate pattern design, grading, marker making and production planning software." AccuMark systems, used by more than 15,000 Gerber customers, automate the design and production processes while providing significant advances in quality control, communication and efficiency.

In addition, many of the top companies on the list are using YuniquePLM[™], according to Newbury. YuniquePLM is web-based product lifecycle management software that integrates with AccuMark to help fashion and apparel brand owners, manufacturers and retailers collaborate, accelerate workflows and eliminate errors. Many of these top companies are also using Gerber's industry leading plotters, spreaders and multi-ply, single-ply and leather cutting systems in their operations. Gerber manufactures its products in the United States from its global headquarters in Tolland, Conn., and has additional manufacturing facilities in Canada and China.

"We are dedicated to serving our customers across the globe at every level, and working closely with them to develop and support the comprehensive systems that will work best within their operations," said Elia.



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New Oracle Research Reveals that Businesses are Unaware of Competitive Advantages of Cloud Agility

27 August 2015

Oracle announced the results of its "Oracle Cloud Agility" study and revealed that businesses worldwide overestimate their agility. While a majority of businesses believe they are agile, Oracle's research highlights that many organizations cannot flexibly manage workloads or rapidly develop, test, and launch new applications, leaving them poorly prepared to deal with competitive threats. The study also found a lack of awareness among businesses around how technology, like Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS), can be used to help address these challenges.

The Oracle Cloud Agility study surveyed 2,263 employees working for large global enterprises to understand business agility in the age of cloud. The results show that 64 percent consider their organization to be agile (i.e., able to adjust quickly to new business opportunities or to iterate new products and services quickly). When looking at the United States, businesses are even more positive, with 66 percent believing their business to be agile.

Respondents are clear about the benefits of agility, with 81 percent stating that the ability to rapidly develop, test, and launch new business applications is either critically important or important to the success of their business, falling to 76 percent in the United States. In particular, nearly one-third of respondents (29 percent) believe the effective mobilization of applications and services is the most important factor in business success today when it comes to IT infrastructure.

The study also reveals that the impact of agility on competitiveness is critically important to businesses. In fact, the ability of competitors to launch innovative customer services more rapidly was identified as the top threat by businesses (27 percent). Fifty two percent of global respondents indicated that their

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business does not have an IT infrastructure capable of meeting competitive threats. Those surveyed in the United States aligned exactly with their global counterparts, as 52 percent noted that their IT infrastructure was insufficient to meet competitive threats.

Significantly, the survey reveals that the agility benefits delivered by PaaS are not being leveraged. In fact, nearly half of businesses (49 percent) surveyed either cannot, or do not know if they can shift workloads between public, private, and hybrid clouds, and migrate on-premises applications to the cloud. Additionally, only 50 percent of businesses can develop, test, and deploy new business applications for use on mobile devices within six months, with this figure falling to just 30 percent within a one month timeframe.

“Businesses clearly know agility holds the key to their success, but there is an awareness gap around exactly how this agility can be realized through the right technology investments,” said Robert Shimp, group vice president, Oracle. “Today, PaaS can enable businesses to build new applications quickly – in as little as two weeks – allowing them to launch new internal and customer-facing applications rapidly. This capability allows organizations to respond almost immediately to market conditions and get their products and services to customers ahead of the competition.”

The survey results bear out the assessment that businesses are not fully aware of how PaaS can increase operational agility. Only 32 percent of respondents state that they fully understand what PaaS is, rising to 37 percent in the United States, while 29 percent admit that they do not understand it at all. For those that say they do understand PaaS, only 31 percent cite reduced timeframes for application development as a main benefit, far behind less strategic benefits such as savings on the cost of internal IT infrastructure (47 percent).

“PaaS offerings, such as the Oracle Cloud Platform, have the ability to deliver unprecedented levels of business agility. The key now is to demonstrate to businesses just how easy it is to integrate this critical cloud platform into their IT architectures. Yes, the cost savings delivered by PaaS are important, but of greater importance is its ability to help businesses reduce application development timeframes and more easily tailor and integrate third-party Software as a Service apps into their business, allowing them to more effectively address customer demand,” said Shimp.

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Synopsys Announces Results of Robert S. Hilbert Memorial Optical Design Competition

26 August 2015

Synopsys, Inc. announced that students from the University of Rochester and University of Arizona received awards for their entries in the 2015 Robert S. Hilbert Memorial Optical Design Competition. The annual competition is open to students in North America working toward a bachelor's, master's or doctorate degree who utilize Synopsys' CODE V® or LightTools® software to perform optical design and engineering research. The awards are granted to students who have submitted papers that demonstrate optical design excellence.

This year's award winners are:

- Jacob Reimers of the University of Rochester, for his paper titled, "Compact Offner-Chrisp Imaging Spectrometer using Freeform Surfaces." The paper describes the use of freeform optics to significantly improve the compactness of a high-performance Offner-Chrisp spectrometer in

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order to meet stringent size and weight requirements for aerospace and airborne optical systems. The design was developed using CODE V software.

- Yi Qin of the University of Arizona, for his paper titled, "Design of a Multi-Resolution Foveated Laparoscope." Using CODE V, Qin developed a laparoscope design capable of providing both wide-angle and high-resolution views during surgery, with the goal of improving the field of view to make laparoscopic surgeries safer and more efficient.
- Scott Paine of the University of Rochester, for his paper titled, "A View from the Top: Design of a Wide Field of View Climbing Camera." Paine designed a digital video camera with a large field of view specifically for rock climbing. The camera can be attached to a belay rope to provide a close view of climbers' movements over a wide area. Paine leveraged CODE V's optimization capabilities to achieve good tolerances and a rugged system.
- Stephanie Guzman, Travis Sawyer, Nicholas Lyons, and Fabian Wildenstein, all of the University of Arizona, for their paper titled, "Methane Submersed High-Resolution Imager." The paper describes a camera system designed to produce high-resolution images of the Kraken Mare seafloor on Titan, Saturn's largest moon. The system, developed in CODE V, incorporates a high-resolution camera, a CCD chip, and an illumination system that acts as the light source.

"It is a great honor to receive this award, which encourages me to pursue a career in optics," said Yi Qin. "I would like to thank Synopsys for providing CODE V to use in my work on a multi-resolution foveated laparoscope design, which has great potential to improve the efficiency and outcomes of laparoscopic surgery."

"The winning entries in this year's competition provided new ideas for a variety of challenging imaging optics applications, ranging from space-borne systems and medical devices to digital cameras," said George Bayz, vice president and general manager of Synopsys' Optical Solutions Group.

"Congratulations to all the winners on their effective use of Synopsys' CODE V software."

About the Robert S. Hilbert Memorial Optical Design Competition

The annual Robert S. Hilbert Memorial Optical Design Competition recognizes excellence in optical design projects completed by students. The competition was established in 2000 by Optical Research Associates (ORA®), now Synopsys' Optical Solutions Group, and was named in honor of ORA's former president and chief executive officer, Robert S. Hilbert. The competition is open to students in North America working toward a bachelor's, master's or doctorate degree. To participate, students can enter an optical design class assignment or thesis work that uses CODE V or LightTools software. For more information, visit <http://optics.synopsys.com/learn/learn-design-competition.html>.

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Tata Technologies selected as a finalist for Automation Alley's 2015 Technology Company of the Year

24 August 2015

Tata Technologies has been named a finalist for Automation Alley's 2015 Technology Company of the Year award.

Southeast Michigan's leading technology companies were chosen to compete for the award for their

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boundary-pushing products, solutions and services that are shaping the future of manufacturing. Automation Alley's Technology Company of the Year Award recognizes a local company that's leading its industry and enhancing the region as a center for innovation. This year's finalists also include Altair Engineering and Delphi Automotive.

"Tata Technologies is dedicated to helping great manufacturers create better products and run better businesses through the application of advanced technologies," said Kevin Noe, Sales President and Chief Operating Officer – Americas at Tata Technologies. "It's an honor to be considered for this prestigious award along with the other distinguished companies that have been nominated."

Tata Technologies was selected for its efforts to advance high-tech engineering, design and manufacturing in the region. Notably, the company is helping address Southeast Michigan's need for well-trained designers and engineers by:

- Providing the curriculum and training classes to jump start Automation Alley's Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) center at OU INC, Oakland University's tech-focused business incubator
- Leading an iCloud strategy that supports local universities, junior colleges and Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) education for the State of Michigan and small to medium-businesses
- Support of a 10-week program to educate Automation Alley member companies on the variety of PLM tools available in the industry

Voting is now open and runs through Sept. 11. The winner will be announced Oct. 2 at the Automation Alley Awards Gala, Southeast Michigan's premier technology business awards event, at the Royal Park Hotel in Rochester.

[Visit here and vote](#) for Tata Technologies and view the other available awards by Automation Alley.

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ZW3D CAD/CAM's 30th Anniversary: Ever Forward

24 August 2015

[ZW3D](#), one of the world's leading suppliers of advanced CAD/CAM solutions for the manufacturing industry, announced the [30th anniversary](#) of [ZW3D CAD/CAM](#). It's an occasion to step back and record and also an occasion to muse on the next thirty years ahead.

"30 is an age of vitality and energy for humans, almost vintage for a car, an eternity for an ant and next to nothing for a star..." said Mark Vorwaller, President of ZWSOFT America. "I think, what 30 means to us is the amazing amount of experience that we've gathered - 30 years of global partnerships, 30 years of services & 30 years spent on collaboration and invention."

Back in 1986, ZW3D, developed by Mark as ModelMATE, was one of the 1st commercial PC-based solid modelers. In 1999, Solid-Surface Hybrid Modeling technology, one of the most revolutionary developments in ZW3D, was added, bringing the first hybrid modeler to the industry. This technology eliminates the boundaries between solid and surface modeling, making solid features feasible on surface as well.

"Aesthetics are becoming increasingly important even with industrial products. The ZW3D hybrid

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modeling is packed with surfacing capabilities we need for the smoothly-contoured designs required for a product like the [Power Cap](#),” said Mark Williams, R&D Manager at [Johnstone Safety Products Ltd](#). “ZW3D really helped us to design this product to not only work well but look best.”

Later on, via a successful alliance with SNK (SHIN NIPPON KOKI CO., LTD.), a machine tool company, a turnkey solution for manufacturers was integrated. ZW3D had developed into one of the first design-through-manufacturing packages and was awarded “Gold Winner & Product of the Year” by NASA Tech Brief in 2002.

“With our purchase of ZW3D software, we are now designing parts in-house, which offers our customers a turnkey solution from product idea to manufacturing,” said Everton Cope, President of [American Stove Parts](#).

Then, seven years later, Overdrive™, ZW3D’s unique engine, was developed. “When it comes to modeling, the Overdrive™ kernel of ZW3D is among the fastest that I’ve ever seen,” said Atom Zhou, Product of [Matsuya Machinery](#). “As for CAM functions, ZW3D reduces working hours and the amount of material consumed in production.”

Today, ZW3D incorporates with various partner applications, like TraceParts for parts library, FTI for sheet metal, Keyshot for rendering, Simwise for FEA & Eureka for machining etc., to break the limits of CAD/CAM.

“One of the greatest part of being involved in a company watching it grows is to see how ZW3D is used in every day work. It’s all around us and used to design and machine auto parts, consumer products, electrics, molds...” Said Colin Lin, Director of ZW3D Overseas Business. “It’s very exciting to know that we’ve been part of that.”

“The development process we are and will be using is similar to what we used 30 years ago: to listen to our users and partners, fillet out the good ideas from bad ones and make our software better,” added Colin. “In the years to come, ZW3D will be developing towards an ideal solution for middle CAD/CAM market.”

To learn more about ZW3D CAD/CAM, please follow ZWSOFT on [Facebook](#) to stay in tune with the latest information of ZW3D.

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Event News

Delcam’s new PowerINSPECT on show at Make Measurement Matter

25 August 2015

The latest release of Delcam’s [PowerINSPECT](#) inspection software will be demonstrated at the GTMA’s Make Measurement Matter event at the Kettering Conference Centre on 15th October. The new version makes it easier to complete fast and accurate inspection of complex assemblies with more options for automation of inspection sequences, including automated probe changes, automatic feature extraction for point-cloud batch inspection, and greater control over collision checking.

For full details, including video demonstrations of the new options, please go to www.delcam.tv/pi2015/lz/en/

The main improvement for users of CNC CMMs is the addition of support for MCR20 and FCR25 probe change racks. PowerINSPECT can now incorporate probe changes into fully-automated

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measurement sequences. Enhancements to the probe database allow the user to define probe tools in terms of 'sub-assemblies' which can be docked in the rack ports. A typical example of a sub-assembly is the combination of a probe module and a stylus.

Once created, the sub-assemblies are allocated to specific ports in the probe change rack, and the user defines the physical location of the rack on the CMM by measurement. PowerINSPECT carries out probe changes as required by the measurement sequence and keeps track of the sub-assemblies as they move between the probe head and probe rack.

A new 'zoom-to-fit' option is available that shows, in the CAD view, groups or individual items that have been selected in the sequence tree. This option will save considerable time, especially when locating specific features in large, complex CAD models or long measurement sequences.

It is also easier to navigate between the graphical display of the CAD model and the CAD file manager history tree. Selecting a CAD level or individual surface in the graphical CAD display highlights the corresponding item in the CAD file manager history tree. Similarly, selecting an item in the history tree highlights the corresponding surfaces in the graphical CAD display.

PowerINSPECT 2015 R2 includes a new way of evaluating features from point-cloud data that makes batch inspection much easier. Geometric point-cloud features can now be evaluated from suitable scan data that exists anywhere in the PowerINSPECT document. The features are created in the usual way, either from the geometric toolbar or by using the wireframe checker. The entire sequence can be created in advance and then PowerINSPECT will evaluate the results automatically as soon as the scan data is available. Operators measuring subsequent, similar parts just have to perform the scan and the sequence of features is evaluated automatically. Once the scan is complete, all specified features are calculated and the report is updated automatically.

With PowerINSPECT 2015 R2, users have better control over RPS alignments thanks to a new option to define which features are used for any best fit calculations, rather than calculating the best fit across all of the features selected for the alignment. It is also now possible to apply an offset to an RPS alignment, if required.

Improvements to the graphical display have made programming of CNC edge points much easier and more intuitive. When creating edge points, PowerINSPECT displays a live preview of the edge point based on the current cursor position. When editing edge points, the point pairs and probe paths update simultaneously as the point is dragged along the edge.

Finally, a new option has been added to measure waviness or small fluctuations in surface smoothness that can result from cutting tool wear or worn machine components causing vibrations during machining. Waviness defines the allowable variation within a localised region. This allows simultaneous control of very tight tolerances inside small localised regions and looser tolerances over larger areas. For surface inspection and point cloud inspection PowerINSPECT can now produce a waviness evaluation based on the differences between a point and its neighbours. Each point passes the waviness test if its variation relative to neighbours in the specified zone is within the tolerance limit. An overall value for the part is expressed as a ratio of the number of points passing the test to the total number of points measured.

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Delcam to preview PartBuilder software for Additive Manufacturing at TCT

26 August 2015

Delcam will preview its new set of pre-processing software tools for manufacture by 3D Printing/Additive Manufacturing at the TCT Show to be held at the NEC, Birmingham, on 30th September and 1st October. The PartBuilder software, which is currently under development at Delcam's Birmingham headquarters, will provides quick and easy methods to prepare for production CAD files from both native and neutral formats.

PartBuilder covers four main steps in model preparation:

1. Checking the quality of the CAD model and repairing any problems it might have
2. Positioning the part in the optimum orientation for layer-by-layer manufacture
3. Addition of any fixtures, supports and other geometry that might be required to ensure reliable manufacture and easier post-processing
4. Exporting the complete data in a suitable file format for manufacture

At the start of the process, PartBuilder undertakes an analysis of the imported CAD model to verify the quality of the incoming design and so give the best possible chance of successful manufacture.

Common problems in either solid models or mesh files, such as gaps or overlaps in the data, can be identified and repaired to give a water-tight CAD file that will generate an accurate and successful part.

The CAD model is then positioned within the machine envelope, either for manufacture as a single item or as part of a group of components that will be built simultaneously. Orienting the model on the build platform must consider a number of factors, including production time and cost, fixturing quality, heat effects and any critical areas of the part. PartBuilder allows the user to accept the optimised suggestions made automatically by the software or to try a variety of manually selected orientations.

Fixturing can then be created in PartBuilder that may be required for a number of reasons, the most important being the need to support the mass of the part during the build. Fixtures are also used to transfer heat away from the part so that thermal and mechanical stresses are minimised.

PartBuilder is able to analyse the model to identify critical areas that need fixtures to ensure geometric stability during the build and adequate heat management, and to generate the geometry required. As with the part orientation, the user has the ability to edit the suggested results manually if required.

The positioning of the fixtures also needs to take account of their removal after the build, both to ease their removal and to minimise any witness marks or scars that may be left on the part.

In addition to fixtures, other geometry types may need to be added, such as spigots to grip the part during polishing and other finishing operations, or datum tabs to provide a known location for finish machining programs.

The final stage is the export the complete model from PartBuilder in a suitable data file format for the 3D Printer or AM equipment. PartBuilder can output models in a growing range of manufacturers' proprietary file formats, including CLI data for EOS machines and MTT data for Renishaw equipment, as well as STL mesh data that can be processed directly by most additive machines' own software.

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Delcam to show latest CAD/CAM developments at SOUTH-TEC 2015

27 August 2015

Delcam will demonstrate the latest software from its development team, the largest in the CAM industry, at SOUTH-TEC on booth #1423 at the Charlotte Convention Center in Charlotte, NC, from October 27th to 29th. Programs to be demonstrated will include [PowerMILL](#) for high-speed and five-axis machining; [FeatureCAM](#) for quick and easy feature-based CAM programming; the [PowerSHAPE Pro](#) reverse engineering and modelling for manufacture software; and PartMaker for production and Swiss-type machining.

The 2016 release of PowerSHAPE Pro software helps users to complete complex designs more quickly and more easily. In addition, a combination of new, more efficient code and the extension of multi-threaded calculations to many commonly-used tasks makes the software significantly faster than any previous version.

One key enhancement allows groups of features to be copied between two solids in a single operation. While the features do not need to be of the same type, the most common application is expected to be in copying patterns of holes from one solid to another, for example from one mould plate to any other plate in the mould stack.

The main enhancement in PowerMILL 2016 is the ability to mirror complete machining projects in one operation and to maintain automatically the machining characteristics, for example to specify whether climb or conventional milling should be used in each section of the toolpath. Previously, only individual toolpaths could be mirrored.

Automatic mirroring saves considerable time whenever right- and left-hand versions are needed of a part or tool. It will also be faster to program the machining of symmetrical objects since it will be possible to program one half and then mirror the toolpaths to complete the program.

The new version of FeatureCAM includes a range of enhancements to give high-quality results on all types of machine tool, including complex mill-turn equipment and five-axis machining centres, while retaining the rapid programming times for which the software is renowned.

The most significant new option is the ability to duplicate the physical constraints of the machine tool in simulations in FeatureCAM. Machine-tool limits can be added to the models to be used in the simulation for three-, four- and five-axis milling machines, for turning equipment, and for mill-turn machines, including those with multiple turrets and/or multiple spindles. It is then possible to check that the chosen machine tool is capable of completing the proposed program for all types of equipment, from the simplest lathe to the most complex multi-tasking machine.

The latest version of PartMaker incorporates a variety of improvements in the software to support today's latest breed of turn-mill centers and Swiss-type lathes with B-axis options giving the ability to perform milling at any angle, not just in a vertical or horizontal position.

Other highlights include the ability to generate a Post-Processor Reference Guide, an on-command manual explaining how to program a given multi-axis lathe and take advantage of all the machine's capabilities with PartMaker, as well as more powerful milling and turning functionality, and

improvements in the software's knowledge-based technology for storing optimal feeds and speeds for additional tools.

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Formula 1, Waveform and Measurement

21 August 2015

Inspiring through innovation – Edgecam, VISI and Hexagon Metrology are exhibiting machining techniques, latest software and a portable measuring arm at Seco Tools' manufacturing best practice event.

Edgecam is demonstrating game-changing Waveform Roughing cycles on a DMG Mori CTX 1250, while VISI will be driving a DMG Mori DMU80, machining a scaled down Formula 1 car. The ROMER Absolute Arm, from Hexagon Metrology, features absolute encoders and does not require referencing before measurement. The arm, with integrated laser scanner, is an all-purpose metrology system for almost any measurement need. CNC milling, rapid prototyping and reverse engineering are just some of its touch-probe measurement applications. It demonstrates its versatility with quality control, inspection, on-machine verification, reverse engineering, virtual assembly and 3D modelling. All three products are forming part of the exhibitions at Seco Tools' two day 'Inspiration Through Innovation' event on September 23 and 24.

To be held at Seco Tools (UK), in Warwickshire, the event highlights innovation from a number of manufacturing aspects, including automation, CAD/CAM, cutting fluids and equipment, machine tools, metrology and inspection, rapid prototyping, and work holding and rotary tables.

Seco Tools (UK) Technical Manager, Jon Shipley, says: "Our 'Inspiration Through Innovation' Open House is very much focused on new and innovative game-changing technologies.

"The demonstrations planned by Edgecam, VISI and Hexagon Metrology at the event are a case in point, and like all the demonstrations from all of our technical partners, are designed to inspire attendees and help them see new ways to increase their competitiveness."

Edgecam's Strategic Partnership Manager Wesley Tonks says: "It's great to be part of this Open House which grows from strength year on year, giving a great platform to meet with existing and new users "Edgecam this year will be joined by VISI which will give visitors the opportunity to see and discuss Vero programming capability. But it doesn't stop there; once a part has been machined it very often needs to be measured. With the presence of Hexagon Metrology, we give the visitor an opportunity to increase their level of productivity in the manufacturing process."

To enrol for Seco's 'Inspiration Through Innovation' event, complete the registration form here:

<http://www.secotools.com/en-GB/GB-United-Kingdom/Events/Inspiration-through-Innovation>

Or email Nicki Adams, at Nicki.Adams@secotools.com.

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International SAP Conference on Product Lifecycle Management 2015

25 August 2015

Subtitle: Accelerating Engineering Innovation Through the Enterprise

Dateline: 1-2 October, 2015 – Darmstadt, Germany

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URL: <http://goo.gl/NkpbW9>

Returning for its fifth year, the annual **International SAP Conference on Product Lifecycle Management** will be held on 1–2 October 2015 in Darmstadt, Germany.

Hear first-hand from major international organizations, including *Beiersdorf Shared Services, Biotest AG, Blohm & Voss Shipyards, British American Tobacco, Brose Fahrzeugteile, MAHLE Behr, MAHLE International, Marengo Group, Unilever* and more.

This conference will provide a brilliant opportunity to explore the connected product strategy that SAP has recently launched. Learn how you can deliver connected products faster with product lifecycle management (PLM) and R&D software from SAP.

Event Highlights:

- **SAP presentations:** Inspiring talks featuring industry news, solution road maps, and innovations
- **Customer case studies:** Gain best practices and an informed perspective on implementing and getting the most out of SAP's solutions for PLM
- **SAP expertise:** Have your questions answered by SAP experts onsite, or organize a meeting during the two day conference to talk in more detail
- **Pre-conference 'jumpstart' workshops:** Take an in-depth exploration of SAP solutions at our interactive half-day workshops
- **Exhibition area:** Meet with SAP partners in order to see demos and review the latest industry solutions
- **Network:** Meet with peers and industry thought-leaders at our fantastic evening event, open to all conference attendees, where you can network in a relaxed atmosphere

With shared keynotes and thought leadership, inspiring SAP presentations and solution updates, business-focused customer case studies, deep-dive workshops, dedicated PLM and portfolio and project management (PPM) tracks, live demonstrations from SAP and partners, and shared networking, *this is the go-to PLM event for SAP in Europe.*

Join us in Darmstadt and discover how you can connect your product strategy with your company policies, build compliance and Internet of Things specifications into your products, enhance project and portfolio management – and ultimately increase your revenues.

This year's event is also co-located with the **SAP Conference on Supply Chain** and **SAP Conference on Manufacturing**, creating world-class networking and learning opportunities.

Registration for one event gives you access to all three!

Visit <http://goo.gl/NkpbW9> for more information.

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New VERICUT Version on Display at SOUTH-TEC

24 August 2015

CGTech will demonstrate the new version of VERICUT® CNC machine simulation and optimization software at SOUTH-TEC in Charlotte, NC, October 27-29, 2015 Booth #1523.

VERICUT CNC simulation software is used world-wide to simulate of all types of CNC machines including leading brands such as Mazak, DMG MORI, Makino, Matsuura, Okuma, Haas, and Heller. In addition to new features designed to make NC programmers' jobs easier, nearly 500 customer-driven enhancements and software change requests have been completed in version 7.4. These updates utilize the latest technologies to enable faster processing speeds, longer tool life and increased part quality. Added features to the user interface simplify the most common user actions and significant developer hours have been invested to increase simulation speed by more thoroughly taking advantage of multiple processors and background processing.

“The enhancements in version 7.4 provide the speed organizations need to rapidly release new part programs to the shop floor, train new users, and continually optimize workpiece quality to ensure customer satisfaction,” said CGTech Product Marketing Manager Bill Hasenjaeger. “Changes to how users interact with VERICUT further improve VERICUT’s workflow and simplify day-to-day NC programming and simulation use.”

Visitors to CGTech’s booth will receive a hands-on look at many of the new features and enhancements. This includes a redesigned user interface, status window, and tool manager. The free Reviewer application is enhanced with a new MDI option, and selecting a tool in the new “Tools” window automatically sets the “Start” and “End” motion markers. The new physics-based feed rate optimization module, Force, will also be on display.

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ZWCAD+ and CAD Pockets Presented at Archidex 2015 in Malaysia

27 August 2015

[ZWCAD Design](#), an innovative supplier of CAD solutions for the MCAD and AEC industries, gladly announce that [CAD FOCUS](#), the authorized distribution partner of [ZWCAD+](#) in Malaysia, presented the latest ZWCAD+ and CAD Pockets at [Archidex2015](#) from August 12th to 15th in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

Archidex, organized since 2000, is Malaysia's largest annual trade exhibition that has evolved from covering just the interior design industry to every segment encompassing the entire architecture, design and building trade. In this years' Archidex, many visitors were attracted by CAD Focus' booth due to the popularity of ZWCAD+ in Malaysia, this time around, many visitors also showed huge interest in CAD Pockets, the mobile CAD APP developed by ZWCAD Design, and commented that it is a great side stick of ZWCAD+ to improve design efficiency.

Also in Archidex, CAD FOCUS displayed the major features of ZWCAD+, helping designers shorten design process, enhance collaboration and increase productivity. For designers or project managers who often go out for project review and inspection, the mobile CAD solution, CAD Pockets, will also help

them streamline workflow and improve efficiency. They did experience through the live demo there. Every interested visitor received detailed product introduction and free trial CD, and interested buyers even enjoyed favorable on-site promotions to get ZWSOFT products with less financial investments.

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Financial News

Autodesk Reports Second Quarter Financial Results

27 August 2015

[Autodesk, Inc.](#) reported financial results for the second quarter of fiscal 2016. The company reported strong billings and deferred revenue growth.

Second Quarter Fiscal 2016

- Total billings increased 7 percent, compared to the second quarter last year as reported, and 15 percent on a constant currency basis.
- Deferred revenue increased 26 percent to \$1.2 billion, compared to \$981 million in the second quarter last year.
- Total subscriptions increased by approximately 61,000 from the first quarter of fiscal 2016. Total subscriptions were 2.39 million at the end of the second quarter.
- Revenue was \$610 million, a decrease of 4 percent compared to the second quarter last year as reported, and flat on a constant currency basis.
- GAAP operating margin was 1 percent, compared to 8 percent in the second quarter last year.
- Non-GAAP operating margin was 11 percent, compared to 18 percent in the second quarter last year. A reconciliation of GAAP to non-GAAP results is provided in the accompanying tables.
- GAAP diluted net loss per share was \$(1.04). Please refer to the comment below regarding the non-cash GAAP tax charge recorded in the quarter. GAAP diluted net income per share was \$0.13 in the second quarter last year.
- Non-GAAP diluted net income per share was \$0.19, compared to \$0.35 in the second quarter last year.
- Cash flow from operating activities was \$77 million, compared to \$96 million in the second quarter last year.

"We are pleased with the progress of our business model transition," said [Carl Bass](#), Autodesk president and CEO. "Strong billings and deferred revenue growth led the quarter and we continue to see customers adopt our new model subscription offerings, which are showing strong year-over-year and sequential growth. For the past two years we've been preparing for this transition and we're now ready to accelerate the process."

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Second Quarter Operational Overview

As a reminder, Autodesk is undergoing a business model transition in which the company will discontinue selling new perpetual licenses in favor of subscriptions and flexible license arrangements. During the transition, billings, revenue, gross margin, operating margin, EPS, deferred revenue, and cash flow from operations will be impacted as more revenue is recognized ratably rather than up front and as new offerings bring a wider variety of price points.

Revenue in the Americas increased 6 percent compared to the second quarter last year to \$236 million. EMEA revenue was \$226 million, a decrease of 7 percent compared to the second quarter last year as reported, and flat on a constant currency basis. Revenue in APAC was \$148 million, a decrease of 13 percent compared to the second quarter last year as reported, and 9 percent on a constant currency basis. Revenue from emerging economies was \$92 million, a decrease of 7 percent compared to the second quarter last year as reported, and 5 percent on a constant currency basis. Revenue from emerging economies represented 15 percent of total revenue in the second quarter.

Revenue from the Architecture, Engineering and Construction business segment was \$233 million, an increase of 7 percent compared to the second quarter last year. Revenue from the Platform Solutions and Emerging Business segment was \$164 million, a decrease of 21 percent compared to the second quarter last year. Revenue from the Manufacturing business segment was \$171 million, an increase of 2 percent compared to the second quarter last year. Revenue from the Media and Entertainment business segment was \$41 million, a decrease of 6 percent compared to the second quarter last year.

Revenue from Flagship products was \$272 million, a decrease of 11 percent compared to the second quarter last year. Revenue from Suites was \$226 million, a decrease of 3 percent compared to the second quarter last year. Revenue from New and Adjacent products was \$112 million, an increase of 13 percent compared to the second quarter last year.

In the second quarter, Autodesk recorded a non-cash GAAP tax charge of \$214 million to establish a valuation allowance on certain U.S. deferred tax assets. Due to Autodesk's pre-tax U.S. GAAP cumulative loss over the last three years, the company evaluated its deferred tax assets and determined that a valuation allowance was required. This is a GAAP-only charge and has no impact to cash this year or in the future. Autodesk will continue to monitor the application of this accounting rule and will consider reversing the valuation allowance when conditions warrant.

"Looking at the second half of this fiscal year we are maintaining our billings and subscriptions outlook but we're now expecting a greater portion of our sales to shift from perpetual licenses to new subscription types," said Scott Herren, Autodesk Chief Financial Officer. "Since the revenue from these new subscription types is deferred and recognized ratably we have revised our revenue, operating margin and EPS outlook for the year. Looking beyond this year, we are currently refining our plans around the pace and timeframe for the business model transition and look forward to providing more detail at our Investor Day event scheduled for September 29th."

Business Outlook

The following are forward-looking statements based on current expectations and assumptions, and involve risks and uncertainties some of which are set forth below under "Safe Harbor." Autodesk's business outlook for the third quarter and full year fiscal 2016 assumes, among other things, a continuation of the current economic environment and foreign exchange currency rate environment. A

reconciliation between the GAAP and non-GAAP estimates for fiscal 2016 is provided below or in the tables following this press release.

[Please click her to view the full press release.](#)

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Product News

3D Systems Releases GibbsCAM 2015 Software for Production Machining

25 August 2015

[3D Systems](#) announced that it has begun shipping the latest version of [GibbsCAM](#)[®], its software for production machining. This comprehensive update to 3DS' industry-leading software incorporates an all-new Universal Kinematic Machine (UKM) engine that further simplifies CNC programming. The release also includes multiple enhancements that extend capabilities and accommodate new machines of all configurations. Video overviews of GibbsCAM 2015 can be found [here](#).

As an integral component of 3DS' design-to-manufacturing digital thread, facilitating cross-technology manufacturing between additive and subtractive methods, GibbsCAM enables improved production efficiency and greater profitability. Developed for ease-of-use, GibbsCAM empowers numerical control programmers and machinists with solid modeling, 2- through 5-axis milling, high speed machining, mill/turn, Swiss, multi-task machining and wire-EDM capabilities.

“We are committed to providing 3D digital design and fabrication solutions that enable our customers to be more productive and competitive,” said Ilan Erez, Vice President, co-Chief Operating Officer and CFO, Software Products, 3DS. “With the recent addition of GibbsCAM to the 3DS digital manufacturing thread portfolio, our customers can now enjoy the ability to use both subtractive and additive manufacturing to achieve the highest productivity possible. Manufacturers can use the two technologies in tandem, printing a metal part and then using a milling machine to achieve the required surface finish, for example. It's a perfect fit.

“With the new release of GibbsCAM 2015 we enable our customers to program any machine with a single program and a single interface,” continued Erez. “The new features and enhancements in GibbsCAM 2015 are designed to save time in programming, provide more flexibility in selecting and using tools, and make toolpath verification and machine simulation more accurate and efficient.”

Some of the new features in GibbsCAM 2015 include:

New Tooling Functions and Capabilities that extend the ability to define, use and simulate tools, with new icons and dynamic 3D viewing of tools and tool holders. Support for straight, tapered and stepped shanks was extended to all mill tools, while new mill and lathe tool types are also introduced, including 3D form tools and 75° Diamond (ISO E-style) lathe tools.

Numerous Enhancements for Hole-making that include additional support for hole features from CAD systems and full associativity for hole features from Autodesk Inventor, CATIA v5, Solid Edge and SolidWorks. New is the Hole Editor for editing hole features, including compound holes, which are supported with multiple straight, tapered and threaded segments. In addition, feature recognition has been enhanced, and the 5-axis drilling interface has been streamlined. These features simplify hole-

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making operations and make the programming process faster.

Intermediate Tooling Support for Multi-task Machining (MTM), which makes tooling more manageable, simulation more accurate, and programming easier, with more accurate placement and orientation of tools. Additions include a tool block library and support for tool blocks, such as adapter blocks, holders for tool holders, right-angle and adjustable heads, and flash tooling. A fixture library and support for fixtures (chucks, tailstocks, steady rests and other work holding devices) are included.

Machine Simulation which is greatly improved as a result of UKM, intermediate tooling support, and an improved rendering palette. Rendering is more accurate and efficient, displaying intermediate tooling for a more complete simulation of all moving components. Customized monitoring of key conditions is enabled with a new Stops and Watches feature. Combined, these additions make the programming-through-simulation process faster and more accurate.

Integration with Sandvik Coromant's Adveon Tool Library, which enables importing tools from Sandvik and ISO 13399 compliant systems to make a standard library available at any time, simplifying tool definition and tooling-data management. This also allows a shop to build, save and reuse a library, and link tools and tool assemblies to parts and processes, enabling faster reuse of a program for a subsequent part run, and faster updating when parts change.

Learn more about 3DS' commitment to manufacturing the future today at www.3dsystems.com, and the new GibbsCAM 2015 software [here](#).

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Accenture Launches Advanced Analytics Applications for the Telecommunications Industry

20 August 2015

Accenture is launching five advanced analytics applications for the telecommunications industry, equipping users with customized analytics insights that can empower them to make smarter, data-driven decisions. Developed through the [Accenture Analytics Applications Platform](#) – a scalable platform that develops industry- and function-specific advanced analytics applications that are reusable, configurable and adaptable to meet the needs of each unique company and its individual users – the new analytics applications are designed to help telecommunications companies make more effective pricing, staffing, maintenance and planning decisions.

“Countless companies are vying to be the next big digital disruptor in the highly competitive global telecommunications industry,” said Marco Vernocchi, senior managing director, Accenture Communications, Media and Technology – Global Digital Lead. “One way to have a strong foot in this race is by turning data into an asset and using it to make insight-driven decisions. When data is put to work through advanced analytics applications and smarter decisions, a company can unlock new opportunities for themselves and their customers.”

Accenture's new advanced analytics applications for the telecommunications industry include:

- *Network Predictive Fault Management* – Helps providers predict network incidents before they occur, allowing for pre-emptive maintenance and improved service assurance. Users receive insights detailing network vulnerabilities and recommendations for proactive maintenance of the network infrastructure.

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- *Revenue Forecasting* – Forecasts revenues in different areas – such as customer base, activations, cancellations, and traffic – to support revenue-generating business decisions.
- *Bundle Pricing* – Supports the development of effective pricing strategies for offering bundles, such as bundling a handset and a connection. Insights on customer preferences enable pricing decisions that can support customer demands, optimize inventory management, achieve business objectives, and increase profitability.
- *Call Volume Forecaster* – Improves the planning, staffing and management of contact centers by providing users with insights on forecasted call volumes and the right staffing resources needed to support the center. Through an analytics-driven management process, providers can improve customer service levels and increase customer satisfaction, loyalty and brand perception.
- *IT Governance* – Helps providers to optimize and improve IT infrastructure efficiency, even when transitioning to virtualized environments. To support decision-making, users receive insights involving asset mapping, the impact of future application scenarios, and reporting that can validate decisions or inform new actions.

Accenture currently has a total of 25 advanced analytics applications available for the telecommunications, retail, financial services, and utilities industries. In addition to these ready-made applications developed through the Accenture Analytics Applications Platform, custom applications can also be created to meet a company's specific needs. For each application, Accenture's platform can be used to fully configure the advanced analytics applications with a company's exact operational workflow process and precise user requirements – for example, greater granularity for data scientists and less data granularity for business users. Depending on the amount of customization needed, applications can be ready for use in approximately one week to 60 days.

Accenture's advanced analytics applications can be run on their own or through the [Accenture Insights Platform](#). [Launched](#) last month, the Accenture Insights Platform is a cloud-based, end-to-end analytics-as-a-service solution comprised of an integrated suite of leading technologies, consumption-based commercial arrangements, and enterprise support.

Additional details on the Accenture Analytics Application Platform and existing advanced analytics applications can be found [here](#) and videos can be found [here](#).

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Arena's Cloud PLM Integrates With Kenandy's Cloud ERP

27 August 2015

Arena Solutions announced that its flagship product, Arena PLM, now integrates with Kenandy Cloud ERP, an enterprise resource planning system for midmarket and large global enterprises built on the Salesforce Platform. With this integration, the product record can be automatically passed from Arena PLM to Kenandy at the point of change approval. This eliminates errors and accelerates access of product information in Kenandy to create a more cohesive and efficient manufacturing process.

Arena PLM and Kenandy Cloud ERP can now communicate directly with each other, enabling customers to share up-to-date product data with finance, sales and manufacturing departments to ensure accurate financial planning and support operations.

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“We are excited to be partnering with Kenandy to deliver a fully cloud-based integrated PLM and ERP solution.” said Steve Chalgren, EVP of product management and chief strategy officer at Arena Solutions. “The integration between our products is simple, clean, and can be implemented quickly. Isn’t that refreshing?”

Using the integration between Arena PLM and Kenandy Cloud ERP, customers can:

- Manage the product development process of product data (items, bill of materials, manufacturer and supplier data) in a centralized Arena PLM system through the entire product lifecycle; and
- Use Kenandy to quickly plan, procure and manufacture products upon handoff of the latest product release from Arena.

Primus Power Benefits from Seamless Integration

Delivering clean-tech energy storage solutions based on advanced battery technology, Hayward, California-based Primus Power was already successfully using Arena PLM for their groundbreaking design and engineering activities. It was essential that their new ERP and existing PLM system integrate seamlessly. Kenandy fit the bill perfectly.

In Primus’ fast-moving, design-focused environment, an engineer can now implement a product idea or improvement in the PLM system and within minutes the new part number is generated in Kenandy-automatically. Instantly, people throughout the company can find that part; there’s a pricing history for it, a supply history. “People no longer say, ‘Did we order that bracket?’ They can now actually see that it’s on order. They can find the purchase order and the promised delivery date,” said Mark Collins, senior director of operations at Primus. “So much information is now available at people’s fingertips simply because we created a part number that’s now searchable in the system.”

“Cloud solutions deliver business agility in ways that on-premise solutions just cannot,” said Rod Butters, president and chief operating officer at Kenandy. “Together Arena and Kenandy are delivering a solution that can be deployed fast and, more importantly, helps the business run fast. Even though our customers are working with our two products, their entire team sees a single, complete, real-time source of truth from product design to product delivered to bottom-line results.”

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ESPRIT 2015 Product Launch Announcement

26 August 2015

CAM industry innovator DP Technology Corp. is pleased to announce the release of a new version of its pioneering flagship product [ESPRIT® 2015](#).

ESPRIT helps increase productivity for a full range of machine tool applications by generating more efficient toolpaths while also saving time by providing substantial improvements in computer numerical control (CNC) programming productivity.

Besides increasing productivity, the release also provides many new and improved features specifically in the areas of [intelligent machining](#), [strategic machining](#), [CAD-CAM](#) data exchange and [Cloud-Enabled CAM](#).

Intelligent Machining

[Intelligent machining](#) features in [ESPRIT 2015](#) accelerates the machining process by providing new and unique 5-Axis cycles that reduce cycle time. This makes it possible to completely machine blades in a single setup. ESPRIT's 5-Axis [Blade Roughing](#) tool motion is morphed across the blade from any size stock shape to uniformly offset stock allowance so it can be immediately followed by a finishing cycle. “[ESPRIT 2015](#) offers unique features in 5-axis to make complex machining more efficient, allowing users to have more tool path options with features like [blade roughing](#) and chamfering.” said Cedric Simard, Global Marketing Director of DP Technology. “[ESPRIT 2015 blade roughing](#) enables users to remove material down to uniform stock around the blade and eliminates the need to follow semi-finish cycles. Users in the aerospace, energy, medical and automotive industries will benefit the most from these time-saving operations for precision parts.”

The Port Roughing cycle, another intelligent machining improvement in ESPRIT 2015, is a brand new 5-Axis cycle. It creates a 5-axis roughing operation to remove the material inside an area where the tool must enter through a restricted opening. The shape of the toolpath is an offset of the port surfaces, starting at the surface and proceeding inward at a constant stepover.

Productivity Boost

[ESPRIT 2015](#) also includes features that increase machining productivity. The new [Bottom Up roughing](#) strategy helps take ESPRIT's [ProfitMilling](#) high speed material removal cycle to the next level. The new Bottom Up strategy lets you attain a small residual stock height during the stock removal process. Even more, it can be combined with [ProfitMilling](#) — our unique high-speed machining roughing technology — for a major improvement in overall productivity. [ProfitMilling](#) optimizes toolpaths with engagement angle, chip load, lateral cutter force and material removal rate to massively reduce cycle time and increase tool life.

Strategic machining

The [strategic machining](#) capabilities of ESPRIT 2015 have been expanded with completely redesigned stock automation capabilities for multi—tasking machines with mill, turn and drill capabilities. Available for the Facing, Contouring and Pocketing milling cycles, the new stock automation function maintains awareness of the stock removed by previous operations to generate cutting passes only in areas where stock remains. This function greatly reduces air cutting which in turn drastically reduces cycle time.

Additional [strategic machining](#) improvements have been made by providing support for slot mill tools in the Port Milling and Composite cycles. Slot mill tools save machining time on operations as tee-slotting and square shoulder milling and their geometry generates lower cutting forces in soft materials and unstable setups which increases tool life. Barrel-shaped cutters are now supported in 5-Axis Blade and Composite cycles. Barrel-shaped cutters provide a much better surface finish than ball end mills because their geometry provides a larger effective radius of engagement, resulting in smaller cusps between toolpaths.

CAD to CAM

New data exchange features in [ESPRIT 2015](#) make it easier ever before to move information from your CAD system into the CAM environment. Three new geometry types -- sketches, feature profiles and curves -- are now available through ESPRIT FX data exchange from Dassault Systemes CATIA, Parametric Technology Pro/ENGINEER and Siemens NX/UG. The additional information obtained

from these geometry types can be easily manipulated to cover complex areas for roughing operations or extend surfaces to get a better finish on edges.

[ESPRIT 2015](#) provides another important improvement to shorten programming time by increasing the accuracy of automated feature recognition. The enhanced Auto Chain support for solid faces, loops and edges lets you create chain features directly on solid models. In addition, a redesigned wall feature recognition command automatically recognizes the upper and lower limits of walls, even tapered walls, in a solid model.

Cloud-Enabled CAM

[ESPRIT 2015](#) allows you to select tools based on the features of your parts in minutes — saving you the drudgery of flipping through catalogs to find ideal tooling. With the ESPRIT MachiningCloud Connection, programmers have access to complete and up-to-date tooling product data, cutting hours of programming time by eliminating manual tool creation. [ESPRIT 2015](#) simplifies the selection of cutting tools and automatically obtains the recommended ones.

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IMAGINiT Technologies Launches 2016 Utilities for Autodesk Civil 3D, Vault Client and Vault Server

25 August 2015

[Rand Worldwide](#), a global leader in providing technology solutions to organizations with engineering design and information technology requirements, announced that its [IMAGINiT Technologies](#) division released IMAGINiT Utilities for Civil 3D 2016, IMAGINiT Utilities for Vault Client 2016 and IMAGINiT Utilities for Vault Server 2016, all of which are now compatible with Autodesk 2016 products. There are two new tools in IMAGINiT Utilities for Civil 3D: Pipe Grade and Multi-Part Swap. IMAGINiT is also introducing enhancements to IMAGINiT Utilities for Vault Client and IMAGINiT Utilities for Vault Server as well as a new tool in IMAGINiT Utilities for Vault Server, Vault Command Line.

“Like all of the IMAGINiT Utilities these new releases are designed to save users time, automate repetitive tasks and extend the capabilities of Autodesk software,” says Tim Johnson, senior vice president, IMAGINiT Technologies. “The tools released today are just another example of our software development group deconstructing the pain points today’s design engineers experience and creating effective solutions that have an immediate ROI.”

Two New Tools in IMAGINiT Utilities for Civil 3D

Now IMAGINiT offers a total of five tools in IMAGINiT Utilities for Civil 3D, including the new Pipe Grade and Multi-Part Swap. All applications run directly inside Autodesk Civil 3D and currently help over 1,100 users automate time-consuming, repetitive manual tasks. The two new tools are available for Civil 3D 2016 only.

Pipe Grade saves time by making it easier to re-adjust the grade or slope of a series of pipes. The tool can hold the invert, centerline or crown as well as deal with drops in structures.

Multi-Part Swap automates repetitive tasks by allowing users to change the Family and Size of many pipes or structures on the network – all with one click.

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IMAGINiT Utilities for Civil 3D – Availability

Download a 14-day free trial, [view availability or purchase IMAGINiT Utilities for Civil 3D online](#).

All of the tools in IMAGINiT Utilities for Civil 3D are free to customers who purchased their Autodesk Maintenance or annual Desktop Subscription through IMAGINiT. They can be downloaded from IMAGINiT's [ProductivityNOW Portal](#).

Enhanced IMAGINiT Utilities for Vault

IMAGINiT offers five tools in each of the IMAGINiT Utilities for Vault Client and IMAGINiT Utilities for Vault Server. All Utilities run directly inside Autodesk Vault, helping Utilities for Vault users to more effectively manage documentation and project collaboration.

IMAGINiT Utilities for Vault Client

Enhancements to [IMAGINiT Utilities for Vault Client](#) for 2016 include notifications for the entire team of any changes to project documents. Also included are new options for producing PDFs, on-demand or automatically, as product lifecycles change. These updated tools are available only in the 2016 release.

IMAGINiT Utilities for Vault Server

[IMAGINiT Utilities for Vault Server](#) have a number of enhancements for 2016 and a new feature that allows users to automate or simplify backup, publishing and security tasks. The enhancements and new tool are available only for the Autodesk Vault Server 2016 release.

Vault Publisher now supports new file types, expanding the ability to publish released versions of items or file drawings to select folders.

Vault Backup functionality has been extended beyond automatically scheduling, executing and reporting information on backups to include support for scheduled defragmentation.

NEW Vault Command Line –enables command line scripting of many Vault operations.

IMAGINiT Utilities for Vault – Availability and Free Live Demonstration

Availability and purchase details are available at IMAGINiT's [Utilities for Vault Client](#) and [Utilities for Vault Server](#) web pages.

IMAGINiT Utilities for Vault Client is free to customers who purchased Autodesk Maintenance or annual Desktop Subscription through IMAGINiT. They can be downloaded from IMAGINiT's [ProductivityNOW Portal](#).

To learn more about IMAGINiT Utilities for Vault Client and Vault Server, [register](#) for a free live webcast on September 2, 2015 at 11 AM Eastern.

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Renga Architecture Opens API to Third-parties

24 August 2015

ASCON Group is pleased to announce the second release of [Renga Architecture](#), its 3D AEC CAD software platform. Newly added is the awaited API, along with building foundations, textures and renderings, and several other enhancements. This first update to Renga Architecture fulfills requests

from many users.

The key milestone in the development of Renga Architecture is opening up its API (applications programming interface) to third-party developers. From now on individuals with some programming knowledge and professional software developers can create add-on applications for Renga Architecture.

New Rendering, Lighting, and Textures

One of the first wishlist items from users of Renga Architecture was for photorealistic visualization. Their wishes have been granted through the new Artisan Rendering module. A command in Renga Architecture synchronizes the model with Artisan Rendering, where users can apply textures, add lightning, and generate renderings of their 3D models.

The new rendering module at the same time is an example of how Renga Architecture's API quickly fulfills new feature requests from customers.

New Foundations and Improved Roofs

The set of building elements and structures created in Renga Architecture is supplemented now by freestanding and strip foundations. Users can now work on building projects at the “0” level.

Architects face tedious tasks when they design variations of roofs. One of the unique aspects of Renga Architecture is its new ability to construct roofs using similarity. In addition, they can now add openings for chimneys and ventilation ducts. Roof segments are created more quickly in the new release through indicators on existing walls and other objects.

ASCONE Group is already working on more building elements for future releases of Renga Architecture. For the second half of 2016, the first module will be added: the new Renga Structure will contain all functions needed to design steel structures.

Additional Enhancements

In addition to the new features described above, the update to Renga Architecture offers users the following enhancements:

- Editing reflections of objects' current level
- Setting negative elevations relative to objects
- Showing and hiding individual and groups of objects
- Displaying properties of IFC objects
- Importing materials from IFC objects

Upgrade Available Now

For users who have already purchased Renga Architecture, this new release is free. All customers receive all updates free in the first year following a license purchase.

Want to try Renga Architecture? You can learn more about the system by creating your own 3D conceptual drawings in our 60-day free trial version. Download the Renga Architecture demo from rengacad.com and then tell us what you think!

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Zebra Imaging Launches 3D Hologram Creator for Autodesk Revit

25 August 2015

[Zebra Imaging](#), a leader in 3D holographic visualization technology, announced the immediate availability of a [3D Hologram Creator](#) plugin for [Autodesk Revit](#) Building Information Modeling (BIM) software. Now all Revit users can quickly and easily create designs that can be printed as visually stunning 3D holographic prints to showcase their architecture, engineering and construction (AEC) designs.

The 3D Hologram Creator extends the native file export capabilities of Revit's software to include OBJ files, the format required for holographic printing. The software will export all selected geometry in a 3D view along with any materials used in the scene, and it fits seamlessly into any AEC professional's workflow.

"Holograms are new to the architecture market, but their ability to depict depth and detail in eye-catching ways are exactly what clients want to see," said Chuck Scullion, Zebra Imaging's President and CEO. "Immersing clients into a design will now be as simple as preparing a file for printing. The focus belongs on the design, not the process."

Gone are the days of expensive, fragile, and bulky solid models that take weeks to produce. 3D holograms provide accurate portrayals of design projects that are ready to pass on to clients. Multiple copies can also be easily printed for close examination.

Holograms help increase visual awareness of a 3D model, particularly for people who are visually challenged, which ultimately increases the collaboration and understanding of the overall design. The 'wow' factor of holograms makes them a powerful tool when bidding for a project.

"Providing Revit users with the ability to create holograms from building models adds a new level of sophistication to design visualization," said Sasha Crotty, Revit Core Product Manager, Autodesk. "We're glad that the Revit community will be among the first to gain access to this exciting new presentation and design exploration technology."

With the 3D Hologram Creator plugin for Revit, users can visualize and create their hologram directly within the Revit application and export their design to Zebra Imaging all in a single afternoon. The hologram will then be created at Zebra Imaging's print center and shipped out anywhere in the world. Most projects are completed within five to seven business days of receiving the order.

Pricing and Availability

The 3D Hologram Creator plugin is a free download available from the [Autodesk Exchange site](#).

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