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CIMdata News

Dr. Dean Bartles, Senior Technology Advisor, American Society of Mechanical Engineers, to Keynote at CIMdata's PLM Road Map™ for the Global Automotive Industry

11 October 2016

CIMdata, Inc., the leading global PLM strategic management consulting and research firm, is pleased to announce that Dr. Dean Bartles, the Senior Technology Advisor with the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), will make the opening keynote presentation at PLM Road Map™ for the Global Automotive Industry. This one-day event will be held on 3 November at the Inn at St. John's, Plymouth, Michigan.

In August of 2012, President Obama launched the "National Network of Manufacturing Innovation" (NNMI) by establishing the first Manufacturing Innovation Institute focused on Additive Manufacturing (3D printing) in Youngstown, Ohio. Since then, eight additional Manufacturing Innovation Institutes have been established and it is anticipated that at least 15 will be up and running by the end of 2016. Plans call for as many as 45 such institutes. In his presentation, Robotics in American Manufacturing: Launching the Robots in Manufacturing Environments Innovation Institute, Dr. Bartles will provide an overview of this initiative and discuss in more detail recent developments associated with the "Robots in Manufacturing Environments Innovation Institute."

Dr. Bartles, is the Senior Technology Advisor to ASME and the former Chief Manufacturing Officer for UI LABS and the founding Executive Director of the Digital Manufacturing and Design Innovation Institute (DMDII), as well as the founding Chairman of the Smart Manufacturing Leadership Coalition. Dr. Bartles currently serves as the 2016 President of the Society of Manufacturing Engineers and the 2016-2017 President of the North American Manufacturing Research Institute. Dr. Bartles has had a distinguished 38-year career in manufacturing, implementing multi-million dollar programs domestically and internationally, and setting up manufacturing operations in Egypt, Turkey, and the US. His responsibilities have included managing research and development, technology transfer, program management, and manufacturing operations.

PLM Road Map 2016 for the Global Automotive Industry is the must-attend event for automotive industry executives (OEMs and suppliers) and PLM practitioners—providing independent education and a collaborative networking environment where ideas, trends, experiences, and relationships critical to the automotive industry germinate and take root. The theme for this year's event is "The Changing Face of PLM in the Automotive Industry."

For more information, visit: <http://www.cimdata.com/en/education/plm-conferences/2016-plmrm-auto>

About CIMdata

CIMdata, a leading independent worldwide firm, provides strategic management consulting to maximize an enterprise's ability to design and deliver innovative products and services through the application of Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) solutions. Since its founding in 1983, CIMdata has delivered world-class knowledge, expertise, and best-practice methods on PLM solutions. These solutions incorporate both business processes and a wide-ranging set of PLM-enabling technologies.

CIMdata works with both industrial organizations and providers of technologies and services seeking competitive advantage in the global economy. In addition to consulting, CIMdata conducts research, provides PLM-focused subscription services, and produces several commercial publications. The company also provides industry education through PLM certificate programs, seminars, and conferences worldwide. CIMdata serves clients around the world from offices in North America, Europe, and Asia-Pacific. To learn more about CIMdata's services, visit our website, www.CIMdata.com; follow us on Twitter at <http://twitter.com/CIMdataPLMNews>; or contact CIMdata at: 3909 Research Park Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48108, USA; Tel: +1 734.668.9922; Fax: +1 734.668.1957; or at Oogststraat 20, 6004 CV Weert, The Netherlands, Tel: +31 (0) 495.533.666.

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Minerva Transforms Medical Device Product Data to a Competitive Advantage (Commentary)

13 October 2016

Key takeaways:

- *Complete and accurate design history files (DHF) and device master records (DMR) are critical to successfully launching and supporting medical device products*
- *Paper or file folder-based processes often used to manage documentation slow time to market, make data hard to manage, and make effective risk management, verification, validation, and full traceability difficult to support*
- *Minerva's Medical Device solution, based on Aras Innovator, helps companies develop and support products by structuring data and processes using industry best practices to speed time to market while managing risk*

Introduction

The medical device industry consists of products ranging from single components such as a bone screw to complex diagnostic systems that can include mechanical, electronic, software, and formulated components. Quality and compliance processes are critical to ensuring product safety and are monitored closely by regulatory agencies. Time to market is key to business success. Within our consulting practice, the common issues for medical product companies seen by CIMdata include:

- Disconnected data stored in many spreadsheets or standalone repositories and file stores
- Complex and slow approval processes
- Incomplete traceability

Disconnected data impacts both quality and speed. Multiple data repositories must be searched independently and search results interpreted and manually connected. This is error prone and risky because it may not be clear that all the appropriate data has been identified and if it is the latest version of the data. This problem can ultimately lead to poor decisions and errors from using incorrect data.

Complex and slow approvals increases elapsed time. Based on CIMdata's consulting experience, when

there are more than 3 or 4 approvers, the additional approvers do not add much, if any value. The additional approvers tend to approve based on who previously approved, or if a key influencer has approved the item.

The U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and other medical device regulatory bodies require that the device master record (DMR) contains a complete, accurate documentation set required to produce a device, and that the DHF contains the supporting documentation for product decisions traceable from requirements and claims, through verification and validation.

These issues cause many problems that add risk and slow time to market. By implementing a solution to address these issues a medical device manufacturer can improve margins, time to market, quality, compliance and, perhaps most important, reduce overall business risk.

About Minerva

The Minerva Group, headquartered in Denmark is a global supplier of solutions and support services to manufacturing companies. Founded in 1995, Minerva initially focused on enterprise resource planning (ERP) and expanded to support product lifecycle management (PLM) in 2000. Since 2000 they have helped over 70 companies improve their operations by implementing PLM solutions. Key customers include Airbus, Saab AB, Lockheed, Carestream, and Aeronamic.

The Minerva Group has been a leading solution developer and implementation partner for Aras Corp since 2008. Aras is the developer of the Aras Innovator PLM solution, known for its innovative solution modeling environment and business model. Minerva uses their implementation experience to develop industry-focused solutions that leverage the underlying capabilities and flexibility of the Innovator platform. Specifically, Minerva offers solutions to support high-tech electronics and medical devices.

Minerva's Medical Device Solution

The Minerva Medical Device PLM solution supports key medical device developer needs including creating and managing the DHF and DMR, and supporting pro-active Risk Management. CIMdata views industry-specific templates and solutions as an effective way to speed up PLM implementations and shorten time to value. Minerva's templating capabilities, shown in Figure 1, allow both the structure and content of the DHF and DMR to be defined and managed. A deliverable matrix template associates file document templates, including Microsoft Office documents, with the DMR and DHF structure allowing users to traverse a single logical source of truth which makes data a competitive advantage. By leveraging the versioning capabilities of the underlying Aras platform, Minerva combines the structures and documents into a versionable project. Tailored workflows capture approvals for minor and major changes as well as lifecycle state changes. Project plans often change over time as a project progresses and companies need to keep track of what changed in the project plan, and why, to fully address regulatory requirements. CIMdata believes that versionable projects are a straightforward way to capture this key element of traceability.

Mr. David Sherburne, Executive IT Director at Carestream Health, is a long time Aras customer, and has presented at several Aras ACE conferences. Carestream is using the Minerva solution within R&D. He stated that "it works well, captures product documentation holistically, not just to support regulatory needs. The solution has replaced many point solutions and provides really strong historical data for documents and projects."

CIMdata PLM Late-Breaking News

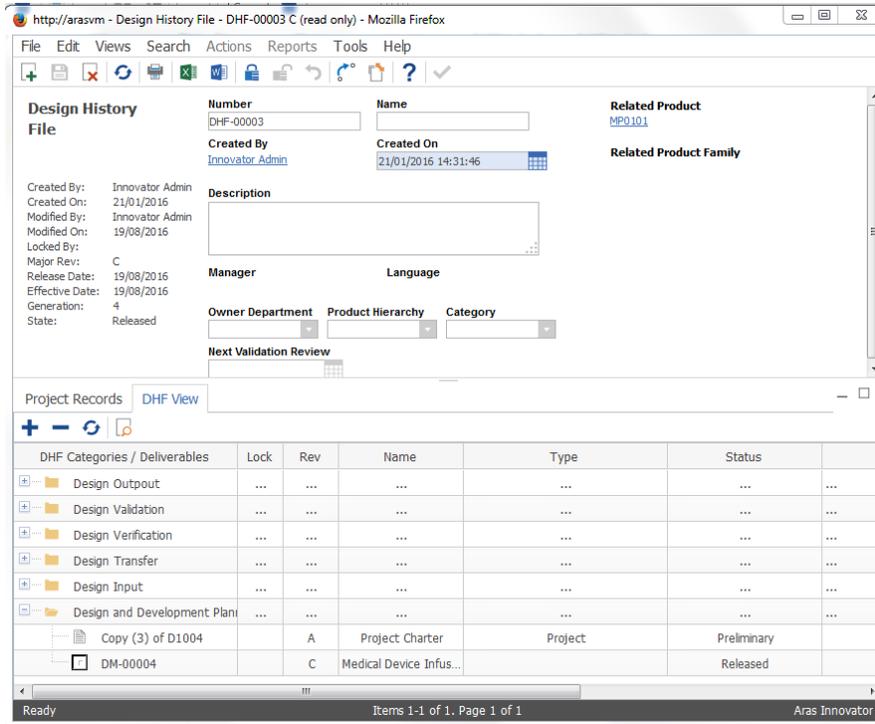


Figure 1—Template for Configurable DHF Structure
(Courtesy of Minerva)

Risk Management is a critical process: risks must be identified, evaluated, analyzed, and assessed to mitigate potential device issues. The Minerva solution captures risk assessments and mitigations as data elements that can be structured, searched, and reused. The data elements contain values, text, and links to other business objects in the solution such as Failure Mode and Effects Analysis (FMEA) capability shown in Figure 2, and change forms.

Figure 2—FMEA Accessed from Risk Assessment Form
(Courtesy of Minerva)

The Minerva Medical Device PLM solution also takes advantage of the commenting capability of the Aras' Visual Collaboration solution shown in Figure 3. Ad hoc text, graphics, and threaded comments can be captured and associated to Aras business objects such as risk assessments. This capability takes discussions out of unmanaged or disconnected solutions like email and associates them with the product which they impact, helping capture the rationale behind decisions.

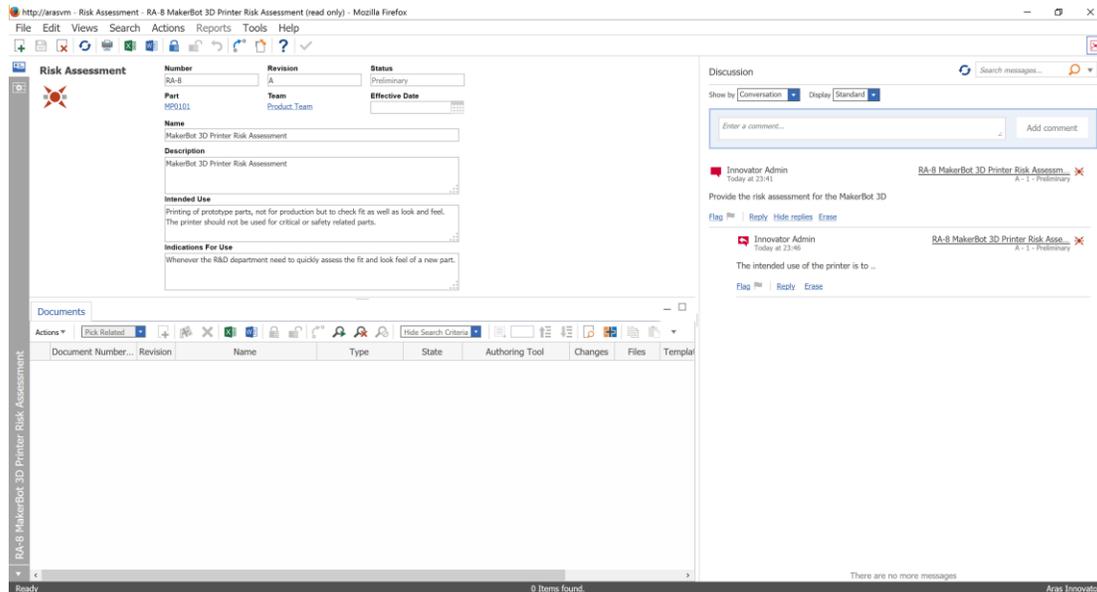


Figure 3—Risk Assessment Form Supports Collaboration and Commenting by Leveraging Aras' Visual Collaboration Capabilities
(Courtesy of Minerva)

Companies interested in deploying the Minerva Medical Device PLM solution must also purchase a subscription from Aras Innovator. Subscribers get full access to Aras products including Requirements Management, Visual Collaboration, ECAD and MCAD integrations, and the IHS parts catalog integration, which is useful for products that contain electronic components. Minerva solutions are built using standard Aras configuration techniques so it is relatively easy to tailor the Minerva Medical Device PLM solution to leverage native Aras capabilities and support solution changes that add competitive advantages.

Minerva provides their own hotline for support and leverages Aras support when necessary. There is another significant benefit from being an Aras subscriber. The Minerva solutions are fully integrated into the Aras free database upgrade process, making it easy to evolve a deployment with new Aras Innovator releases. CIMdata has previously [commented](#)¹ on the value of this service, and sees it as a real differentiator.

Conclusion

Like all industries, medical device companies are facing increased pressure on time to market, cost, and quality. Legacy processes and systems based on file folders and even paper are common and negatively impact traceability, business efficiency, and of course risk. Accurate and complete DHF, DMR, and risk management records are critical to meeting regulatory requirements, but are difficult to support without a well-designed and implemented PLM solution.

¹ <http://www.cimdata.com/en/resources/complimentary-reports-research/commentaries/item/551-aras-innovator-redefining-customization-upgrades-commentary>

The Minerva Medical Device PLM solution, built on the Aras Innovator PLM platform, configures Aras Innovator to support medical device specific data and processes based on industry best practices. This offers companies a faster way to get a PLM solution implemented. When compared to paper or file folder repositories, data linked together as a single source of truth is a huge value and competitive advantage. CIMdata finds this solution to be a great choice to get value quickly while still having the option to take advantage of the flexibility of Aras Innovator and the ecosystem surrounding it. Medical device companies looking to improve their processes and make better use of their product data should consider Minerva's Medical Device PLM solution.

About CIMdata

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Optimal Lifecycle Costing is a Team Sport (Commentary)

11 October 2016

Key takeaways:

- *In most companies, product cost and manufacturing knowledge and requirements are spread across different functions and information systems*
- *Competitive pressures to win business are forcing companies to make decisions earlier in the lifecycle, making it more difficult to get disconnected functions to bid to win and to make money*
- *The most successful companies take a team approach to product costing, fostering collaboration among design engineers, cost engineers, manufacturing, and supply chain management*
- *aPriori designed their solutions to support the deep subject matter expertise needed to simulate manufacturing processes cost effectively within a collaboration environment that helps teams meet their market requirements and costing objectives*

In today's economy manufacturing companies are facing competition from all sides. While global competition makes the headlines, these same companies increasingly face new competitors at home using new approaches, new materials, and new value chains. Competing on price or delivery, or even features, are not enough when taken alone. Manufacturers have to excel at all of these product aspects in their chosen markets, with time compression an ever-present fact of life.

Companies are looking at different ways to optimize design. At one time it was "design for assembly" or "design for maintenance." Now companies need to optimize their product designs and manufacturing processes across a range of needs, which CIMdata often refers to as DfX. Some companies are looking to systems thinking and systems engineering to help them consider all of these constraints more simultaneously. Some of our recent consulting work with leading manufacturers focused on how to model and simulate earlier in the product lifecycle. This makes sense, because many decisions that commit program costs are made early in the lifecycle. Studies have shown that this can be as much as

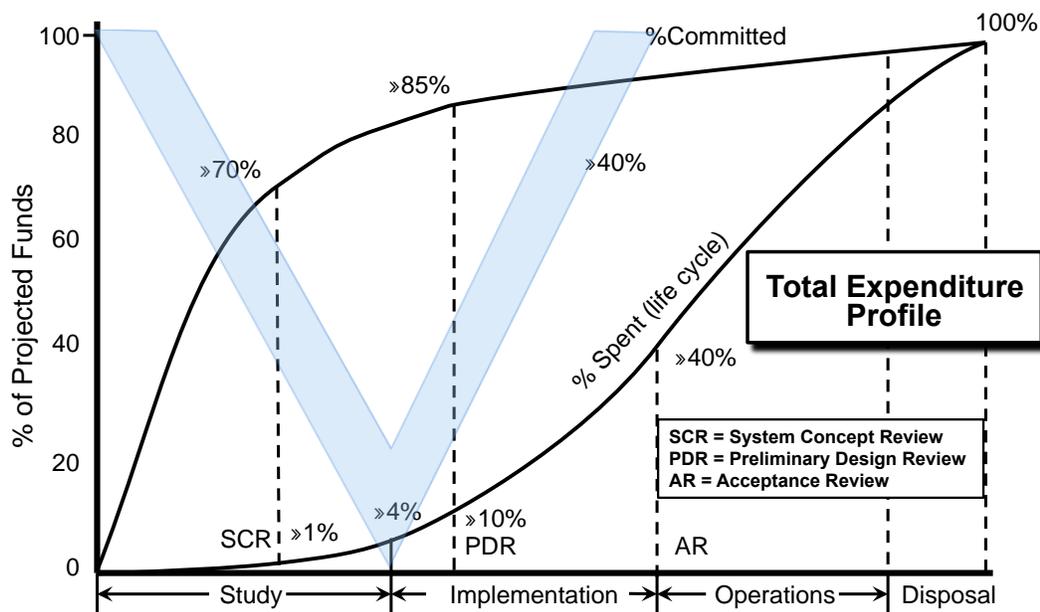


Figure 1—Most Product Costs are Determined Early in the Lifecycle

85% of the total costs, as shown in Figure 1. Clearly any optimization processes must consider the costs incurred during the product lifecycle. Taking a systems view also means determining the best way to design and manufacture products at an optimal cost.

Unfortunately, many companies struggle to develop accurate cost estimates. Companies can lack understanding of the manufacturing processes necessary to make specific components. Information can be siloed in different functions and systems. Companies in engineer-to-order (ETO) and configure-to-order (CTO) businesses achieve some level of costing success mostly by configuring well-understood components. In fact, a recent trend finds companies adopting Configure-Price-Quote (CPQ) systems to provide more consistency in their project definition and quoting processes. Adopting these solutions makes understanding costs even more crucial to success.

What will it take for companies to act? In CIMdata's global consulting with industrial firms, symptoms or pains—really negative outcomes—can drive a company to act. For engineering processes, it may be issues in engineering change, intellectual property management, or configuration management, and companies may implement point solutions to address these. While companies may implement point solutions to address single issues, they really need to be more strategic and systemic to maximize their success. For sourcing, it may be changes in manufacturing and sourcing strategy, supplier transitions, or aggressive cost reduction goals that drive an organization to action. Similarly, costing issues can show up in several different areas and for different reasons:

- Designers are focused on meeting product specifications within their deadlines, with costs and manufacturability being secondary considerations. Many designers do not understand manufacturing and manufacturing processes well enough to accurately cost their designs.
- Suppliers are increasingly more deeply involved in product ideation, design, manufacturing, and

CIMdata PLM Late-Breaking News

even lifecycle deployment. Picking the lowest cost supplier often results in more scheduling and cost/price issues, not fewer.

- Companies that compete in supply chains have to bid more, and more effectively, to ensure all bids will be profitable. Lack of early cost visibility makes this problematic and delays bids.

Whatever the impetus, CIMdata usually counsels such firms to think strategically about addressing their problems, even if they choose to act tactically in the short term. This helps ensure that their initial decisions leave room to tackle other problems they also face today, as well as supporting growth and change to promote the company's evolution. Within this strategic framework, the focus turns to solving the immediate pain as an important first step. Point solutions are available to attack these problems individually. For example, cost engineers often have specialized tools, some commercial, many homegrown. These tools generally require significant cost and manufacturing expertise to operate, limiting their utility to support costing by design engineers, team leads, commodity managers, or buyers. There are also solutions focused on managing supply chains, mainly to set cost targets and capture costing information provided by suppliers.

The leading PLM solution and service providers are working to address these costing needs. For example, Oracle and SAP are leveraging their existing ERP solutions, and augmenting them with new functionality. Siemens PLM Software expanded their costing functionality through acquisition of Perfect Costing in 2012. While there are a number of commercial tools available, adoption is still a challenge. Based on a recent CIMdata study on product costing, most companies still rely on custom solutions, often based on Microsoft Excel.² Looking at the offerings in the market, most available solutions focus more on capturing and tabulating known costs, not supporting cost determination or helping to collaboratively evaluate more cost effective approaches to making parts.

Among the independent firms offering costing solutions, aPriori's offerings focuses on providing a more systemic approach, helping companies collaborate across functions and throughout the lifecycle. Their portfolio can support a range of functions and uses across the enterprise. For example, to analyze current designs aPriori can support use cases in:

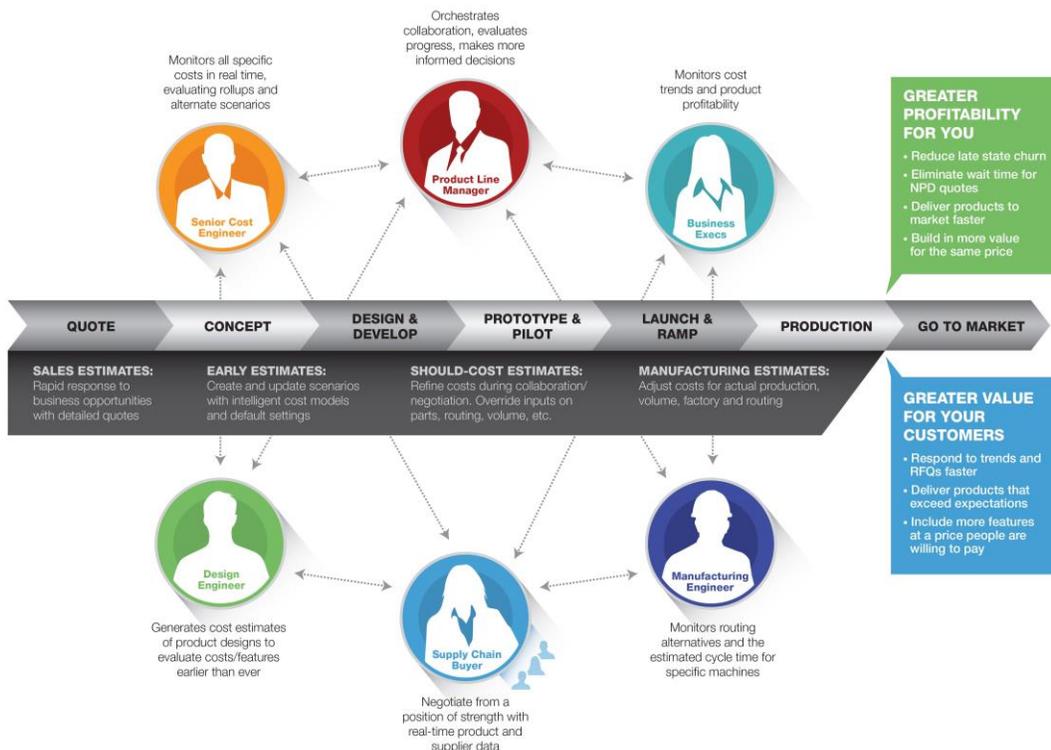
- New Product Development (NPD)
- Value Analysis/Value Engineering
- Engineering Change Orders (ECOs)

² "Product Cost Management in Discrete Manufacturing," Hiller Associates and CIMdata, "<http://www.cimdata.com/en/online-store/plm-reports/product/64-product-cost-management-in-discrete-manufacturing>

CIMdata PLM Late-Breaking News

As shown in Figure 2, the aPriori solution offers role-specific functionality to the actors in different functions and parts of the lifecycle. Most engineers focus more on design or performance than cost. However, aPriori’s intelligent tools embody manufacturing process knowledge to help them make more accurate cost estimates. Getting the cost estimate even mostly right can help avoid late state changes. Engineers can develop cost estimates in multiple ways. They can work directly with their geometry in the CAD system’s user interface (UI) and within the aPriori UI to study cost drivers and detailed manufacturing simulation outputs (e.g., cycle time, material utilization, overhead costs, etc.). They can also work in batch mode, putting the parts in question in a folder and entering the necessary parameters in the UI. Finally, costing using aPriori can run in an automated fashion, where users can schedule runs on parts at specified times, or linked with a data management solution to cost parts on check-in. Managers get UIs that provide aggregated, dashboard information like “where are we with respect to the target cost?” They can use this information in conjunction with project management information. For example, a given project may only be 50% complete but at 90% of the cost target. The aPriori solution can also support a number of use cases for sourcing professionals around “should cost.” This is vital to exploring sourcing alternatives and benchmarking potential suppliers. The estimates provided using the aPriori solution could help identify outliers in cost reduction efforts and make it easier to check quotes. Backed by this information, sourcing discussions can focus on facts, facilitating negotiations.

One of the unique aspects of the aPriori solution is its ability to deeply simulate manufacturing processes to develop more accurate cost estimates. In some ways, this is functionality more typical of the digital manufacturing segment of the PLM market, not just product costing. Another important aspect of their implementations is their focused services. Cost management solutions are not really plug and play. Every deployment is different and aPriori combines consulting, training, packaged offerings for specific



problems (e.g., spend analytics), part consolidation, and the necessary technical support. Their solution

suite is designed to support trade studies that are the lifeblood of a system approach, such as “What are the cost impacts of choosing different design alternatives, or in using a different material or manufacturing process for a given application?” Tools like those offered by aPriori can play an essential role in the multi-disciplinary optimization sought by leading manufacturing companies today.

How are customers doing using the aPriori offerings? A global producer of products and services for refrigeration and air conditioning, controls for electric motors, heating systems for buildings and cities (including solar and wind power), hydraulic solutions for agricultural, and construction machinery saw Product Cost Management (PCM) as a strategic necessity, and chose to start applying it in one business unit. To test their PCM approach, the company created teams focused on reducing cost for existing products and saw solid double digit benefits from their efforts. Combining this experience with inputs from across the Group they developed a single company program to be deployed across the Group, with support from a newly created PCM organization. This new group has a role in all new product development programs, as well as in supporting on-going cost reduction and “should cost” initiatives. Going forward, they want to integrate their PCM processes with ERP and PLM solutions, and to improve workflow and automation.

Another useful example comes from a leading provider of networking equipment. While this company also sees PCM as strategic today, its beginnings were more humble. Their central group responsible for pushing new technologies into their development teams, identified the need but lacked funding. To justify an investment in PCM, the team built models using spreadsheets to capture knowledge and demonstrate the concept. Once they were ready to invest, this company evaluated several commercial offerings and chose aPriori. They worked with aPriori services to implement the necessary business processes. Since the company outsources much of its manufacturing, getting costs right is essential to success. Their central team spends most of its time supporting new product introduction, with the rest split between value engineering and sustaining items. For new products they are involved in the capital approval cycle, with a focus on tooling, a critical cost driver. Using aPriori’s solution they can save 5% per quarter on tooling costs. Beyond these examples, some aPriori-commissioned research highlights a range of customer benefits from customers using their solutions³.

In conclusion, initiatives to address product costing issues can range from implementation of point solutions to full blown corporate initiatives. Since in most companies product cost and manufacturing knowledge and requirements are spread across different functions and information systems, planning strategically even if starting tactically is the preferred approach. PCM solutions should ideally support this range of possible use cases, and experts and non-experts alike as part of the costing process. The most successful companies take a team approach to product costing, fostering collaboration among design engineers, cost engineers, manufacturing, and supply chain management. aPriori designed their solutions to support the deep subject matter expertise needed to simulate manufacturing processes cost effectively within a collaboration environment that helps teams meet their market requirements and costing objectives. The aPriori solutions facilitate collaboration among functions, helping refine costs as design and sourcing decisions are made. The successes at customers like those profiled in this report highlight the different approaches companies can take to address this important business need.

The pressure will just continue to build. To win business, companies must make decisions earlier in the lifecycle, making it more difficult to get disconnected functions to bid to win **and** to make money. Using product costing across the lifecycle and the many contributing functions supported by solutions like aPriori’s will increasingly become essential to launching products at the right cost.

³ aPriori commissioned an external study of their clients and the benefits they obtained, which is summarized here: <https://www.apriori.com/articles/strategic-product-cost-management-challenges-and-benefits/>

About CIMdata

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Peter Bilello to Keynote at Siemens PLM Regional Users Group Meeting Detroit

10 October 2016

The Siemens PLM Detroit Regional User Group Conference will take place on Thursday, October 27, 2016 at the Troy Marriot, Troy, MI. Attendees will receive updated information on all the Siemens PLM Software applications: Teamcenter, NX, Tecnomatix, Teamcenter Visualization, and more.

The Detroit event is the largest Siemens PLM Regional User Group meeting in the USA.

CIMdata President Peter Bilello will be the Industry Keynote for the event. His presentation will be from 08:00 am-08:45 am and will focus on the value of PLM and what the PLM Roadmap ahead looks like.

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Stan Przybylinski, CIMdata's Vice President, to be Featured in Upcoming Webinar on Product Cost Management

14 October 2016

CIMdata, Inc., the leading global PLM strategic management consulting and research firm, announces that Stan Przybylinski, Vice President, will take part in a webinar on product cost management.

In this webcast, "Optimal Lifecycle Costing is a Team Sport," Mr. Przybylinski will share highlights from a recent CIMdata commentary of the same name. He will also lead a panel discussion with participants from aPriori, including Ms. Stephanie Feraday, President & CEO and Ms. Julie Driscoll, Vice President, Strategic Marketing & Product Management. The panel discussion will focus on high level questions and issues driving the need for product cost management. The discussion will be followed by a question and answer session.

The webinar, sponsored by aPriori, will take place on Tuesday, November 8, 2016 at 11:00 am EST. To register, visit <http://bit.ly/PCMWebinarNov8>.

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CIMdata works with both industrial organizations and providers of technologies and services seeking

competitive advantage in the global economy. In addition to consulting, CIMdata conducts research, provides PLM-focused subscription services, and produces several commercial publications. The company also provides industry education through PLM certificate programs, seminars, and conferences worldwide. CIMdata serves clients around the world from offices in North America, Europe, and Asia-Pacific. To learn more about CIMdata's services, visit our website at www.CIMdata.com, follow us on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/CIMdataPLMNews>, or contact CIMdata at: 3909 Research Park Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48108, USA, Tel: +1 734.668.9922. Fax: +1 734.668.1957; or at Oogststraat 20, 6004 CV Weert, The Netherlands, Tel: +31 (0) 495.533.666.

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Stan Przybylinski Featured in Engineering.com PLM Video

12 October 2016

Interviewed by Verdi Ogewell, Mr. Przybylinski is quoted, "You need to consider the way that the change will affect the people who are going to be changed. Very often you have people that might be thought-leaders, who are looked up to by other people, and you really need to try to co-opt them as best you can..."

[Watch the video and read some of the transcript here.](#)

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Company News

Altair Partner Alliance Announces the Addition of Dynamic Systems Analysis, Ltd.'s ProteusDS and ShipMo3D

12 October 2016

The Altair Partner Alliance (APA) is pleased to announce the addition of Dynamic Systems Analysis, Ltd.'s (DSA) ProteusDS and ShipMo3D to its software offering. ProteusDS is used to test virtual prototypes of systems that are exposed to extreme wind, current, and waves. ShipMo3D models the interactions of ships and offshore structures with waves and the marine environment.

"Altair provides many tools and solutions for the maritime industry and we are continually searching for ways to increase value to our customers," said Molly Heskitt, Senior Director of Business Development, Marine and Shipbuilding Industry at Altair. "Working with DSA to provide access to their unique offerings in hydrodynamics and ship design is a great example of how Altair's Partner Program can provide that additional value."

ProteusDS is a full featured hydrodynamic, mechanical and marine dynamic analysis software package. It is customizable, validated, efficient, and aims to reduce risk. Using advanced time and frequency domain options, ShipMo3D can analyze freely maneuvering ships and other floating structures in a variety of sea states. With a wealth of features and models, ShipMo3D is capable of enhancing in-house analysis, design and system optimization capabilities.

"DSA has always been a simulation driven company. Simulation throughout every phase of a project can reduce risk and optimize solutions," said Dean Steinke, Co-founder & Director of Operations at DSA. "Altair's shared commitment of this vision is why DSA joining the Altair Partner Alliance makes

so much sense. It is going to be exciting to see what Altair's users can accomplish with our software using complementary applications such as HyperMesh®!"

DSA software is used across many industries including marine, offshore, subsea and inshore. Thanks to its highly customizable design, DSA software allows the assessment of unique applications while still providing accurate results. Data can even be exported from ShipMo3D to ProteusDS to simulate large floating or submerged structures as a part of complex moored systems.

An introductory webinar for DSA will be held on November 9 at 10 a.m. ET.

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Altair Signs IPM Solutions Ltd. as New HyperWorks Reseller in Slovakia

6 October 2016

Altair has signed a new reseller agreement with IPM Solutions Ltd., which will provide Slovakian customers with local HyperWorks sales and consulting. IPM Solutions covers the customers' needs within the entire territory of Slovakia.

HyperWorks includes modelling, linear and nonlinear analyses, structural and system-level optimization, fluid and multi-body dynamics simulation, electromagnetic compatibility (EMC), multiphysics analysis, model-based development, and data management solutions. Altair supports its customers throughout the world to include Simulation-driven Innovation™ in their product development processes to generate innovative design solutions. Coming with a background in Computer Aided Design (CAD) and Computer Aided Engineering (CAE), IPM Solutions will be able to serve HyperWorks users in Slovakia.

"With this partnership we will further increase our presence in Eastern Europe," said Dr. Pietro Cervellera, Managing Director, Altair Engineering GmbH. "I'm happy about this partnership, because I know we can rely on IPM Solutions' highly qualified team to grow Altair's market share in Slovakia, as well as to offer first class local product support and consulting services to regional customers."

"We are very pleased with this new partnership with Altair Engineering," said Peter Šoltés, CEO at IPM Solutions Ltd. "Our team strongly believes that the new partnership with Altair will help us to provide an even better support as well as best – in – class solutions and technologies to our customers. With this partnership, we will be able to offer them the technology and solutions, that they need to increase their competitiveness and productivity, plus it will help them to shorten time to market."

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Ayla Networks Establishes Strategic Relationship with IoT Analytics Leader mnubo

21 September 2016

Ayla Networks, a global Internet of Things (IoT) platform for manufacturers, has formed a strategic partnership with mnubo, an IoT data analytics company, to integrate mnubo SmartObjects technology with the Ayla IoT platform to provide manufacturers of IoT products with advanced data analytics and business intelligence services and tools.

"This partnership with mnubo will allow IoT product manufacturers and IoT service providers to take

their data analytics capabilities to new levels, enabling them to improve their products feature sets, create new revenue generating services, engage their customers and promote their brands,” said David Friedman, CEO and co-founder of Ayla Networks. “Integrating mnubo SmartObjects IoT analytics into our end-to-end IoT platform will make it easier for product designers and manufacturers to answer the key business questions that will propel their success in the growing IoT market.”

“mnubo sees a future where connected smart objects become ubiquitous in our daily lives, and the Ayla IoT platform can help manufacturers of smart objects get to market faster with much more robust, secure and high-performing IoT products,” said Frédéric Bastien, CEO and co-founder of mnubo. “Together, we will help to accelerate both the reach and the value of the IoT.”

Fruits of the partnership between Ayla and mnubo are expected to result in a suite of IoT-specific data analytics and visualization tools that offer IoT manufacturers capabilities that include real-time operations monitoring, predictive maintenance and consumer usage analytics.

The mnubo relationship further expands Ayla’s IoT ecosystem, which already includes key technology and strategic partnerships with companies that include Broadcom, Encycle, Flextronics, Inventek Systems, Itochu, Macnica, Marvell, Murata, Qualcomm, PowerTech, Renesas, ST Micro, Tencent, USI, and Zonoff. Ayla also uses the Amazon Web Services (AWS) cloud service as its global cloud provider in North America, China and Europe.

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CGTech’s VERICUT Composite Applications is the Winner of Enterprise Software for OC Tech Alliance’s 23rd Annual High-Tech Innovation Awards

7 October 2016

VERICUT Composite Applications from CGTech, programming and simulation software for automated composite fabrication machinery, is the winner of the Enterprise Software category for 2016 at the OC Tech Alliance 23rd Annual High-Tech Innovation Awards dinner, October 6 at the Westin South Coast Plaza in Costa Mesa.

Automated fiber placement (AFP) and automated tape laying (ATL) are methods to fabricate near-net-shape composites parts using a CNC machine to apply material to a mold with an additive process. At the request of one of its large aerospace customers, CGTech developed the first machine-independent programming and simulation system for this type of sophisticated equipment. Many structural composite parts on military and commercial aircraft are currently created using CGTech’s software.

“All of the finalists were deserving and our judges felt CGTech stood out in a highly competitive category,” said Peter Craig, CEO, OC Tech Alliance. “We congratulate CGTech for winning the 2016 award and I’d like to acknowledge all of the finalists for their nominations.”

“We are humbled to receive this award and be recognized by the OC Tech Alliance,” said Jon Prun, President and Founder of CGTech.

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Cogiscan Partners with Siemens PLM Software to Provide a Complete Industry 4.0 Solution for Electronics Manufacturing

12 October 2016

Cogiscan Inc., a Track, Trace and Control (TTC) solutions provider for the electronics manufacturing industry, is partnering with Siemens PLM Software to provide a complete manufacturing software solution to enable Industry 4.0 for Electronic Manufacturers. Together, Cogiscan and Siemens will help companies realize innovation by optimizing their processes, from planning and development through manufacturing, production and support.

Cogiscan is an industry leader in Track Trace and Control technology, with the largest library of machine interfaces due to their unique partnerships with all major equipment vendors. SIMATIC IT Unicam (the Siemens Manufacturing Execution System for electronics) makes use of this proven technology to provide all of the specific material control functions while collecting complete and accurate data from every machine and process.

“We are very proud to partner with a leading manufacturing solutions provider such as Siemens,” stated Vincent Dubois, Cogiscan Co-founder. “This announcement is aligned with our mission to enable seamless factory automation through collaboration with leading equipment and software providers.”

“Siemens PLM Software is committed to creating partnerships to help enhance the end-user experience of our customers,” said Andrew Swiecki, Head of Partner Processes and Software & Technology Partners, Siemens PLM Software. “We are pleased to work with Cogiscan to provide open, integrated solutions that help to improve the productivity of our mutual customers.”

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Dell Partners with Leading System Integrators, Providing Customers More Choices for IoT Deployments

10 October 2016

Dell has expanded its IoT Solutions Partner Program to include service providers, such as Systems Integrators. These new additions to the program include Action Point, Datatrend Technologies, L&T Technology Services and Mobiliya.

This program expansion is reflective of Dell’s effort to build a holistic ecosystem of IoT solutions that span industries from energy to manufacturing to transportation. With the addition of SIs, there’s now a broader selection of partners that can help customers navigate the IoT landscape, identify the right solution to address their needs and take projects from proof of concept to a robust deployment.

“We’re passionate about providing our customers with a comprehensive IoT ecosystem to help them innovate and move an idea from concept to reality,” said Jeff Brown, Vice President, Global IoT and Embedded PC Sales, Dell EMC, Global OEM Solutions. “By adding SIs into the mix, we are helping to bridge the gap between IT and OT, and transform IoT into a profitable market reality.”

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NextLabs Announces Expansion of Global Reseller Agreement with SAP

11 October 2016

NextLabs®, Inc., an SAP partner and provider of data-centric security software for large enterprises, today announced that SAP will resell NextLabs Enterprise Digital Rights Management (EDRM) for SAP as SAP® Enterprise Digital Rights Management by NextLabs. The application is available now and provides enterprises with a policy-driven solution for protecting data across the enterprise.

"SAP Enterprise Digital Rights Management is designed to provide simple yet powerful data protection for today's digital enterprises. It is designed to integrate data protection into core business processes to offer the best user experience," said Keng Lim, CEO and Founder of NextLabs. "We strive to protect data regardless of where the data is stored and used. Our mission is to continue to deliver best-in-class security solutions to protect applications and data on premise and in the cloud."

SAP Enterprise Digital Rights Management supports SAP ERP applications natively. NextLabs has developed deep integration with the SAP ERP application object model and core business process transactions to incorporate digital rights management into the ERP application layer in order to help make data protection transparent to the end user. Data protection becomes an integral part of the business process and, based on security policies, protection happens immediately and follows content no matter where it goes – whether on premise or in the cloud.

"A sound enterprise-data security strategy is essential in today's digital business environment. SAP customers are looking for a scalable, flexible and easy-to-use solution to safeguard vital data against breaches," said Justin Somaini, chief security officer, SAP. "NextLabs is empowering this shift with an innovative data-centric security solution that works across SAP applications to help make security transparent to our end users."

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PacifiCAD Inc. Named Newest Value Added Reseller for Dassault Systems

10 October 2016

PacifiCAD announces that it has been named as the newest Value Added Reseller for Dassault Systèmes SOLIDWORKS software products to the Pacific Northwest, covering Washington, Oregon, Montana, Idaho and Alaska. Powered by the Dassault Systèmes 3DEXperience Platform, SolidWorks 3D applications help millions of engineers and designers succeed through innovation. SolidWorks delivers an intuitive experience in product design, simulation, publishing, data management, and environmental impact assessment.

“We are very excited to partner with Dassault Systèmes SOLIDWORKS, and bring their products to market in the Pacific Northwest. Our business model is focused on our customers’ success. This can only be achieved by helping our customers to develop improved and more efficient workflows for bringing their projects to market faster and with fewer mistakes than ever before,” said Bill Inman, President of PacifiCAD, “and we believe SOLIDWORKS offers one of the most productive platforms for product development available anywhere in the world.”

Ron Reed, Co-Founder and CEO of PacifiCAD added, "All of us at PacifiCAD are extremely proud to have been chosen by Dassault Systèmes SOLIDWORKS to be the first new addition to their partner channel in ten years. This represents their appreciation of PacifiCAD’s ongoing commitment to our customers’ success and the hard work that our team has accomplished to bring world-class customer service, technical expertise and a longstanding foundation of highly ethical business practices. SOLIDWORKS is an extraordinary company and all of us at PacifiCAD look forward to this new relationship bringing heightened success to our customers, our team and to Dassault Systèmes SOLIDWORKS."

“We are pleased to welcome PacifiCAD to SolidWorks’ family of VAR partners, said Ken Clayton, Senior Vice President Sales Dassault Systèmes Professional Channel. “PacifiCAD has a rich history of success in delighting its customers and has built a strong brand throughout the region. PacifiCAD’s leadership team understands the importance of helping each SolidWorks user receive world class

support. We anticipate many new business relationships to emerge through this exciting new partnership.”

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Propel PLM Joins Salesforce Startup Incubator

3 October 2016

Salesforce this week unveiled its new startup incubator. Located in San Francisco, the hub was first revealed in June as part of the company’s broader mission to expand the role of developers within the Salesforce ecosystem.

14 companies are part of the first batch. The program is five months long and includes peer-to-peer collaboration and provide access to the Salesforce ecosystem, including ISV and Consulting Partners in the Salesforce Partner Community. The inaugural batch is focused on SaaS.

Propel is one of 14 companies included in the launch. Propel is a PLM solution built 100% on the Salesforce platform to help everyone involved in launching new products coordinate the information needed for a product to be successful.

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Razorleaf Corporation Joins Infor Partner Network as an Alliance Partner to Help Support Infor PLM Accelerate Customer Implementations

13 October 2016

Razorleaf Corporation (“Razorleaf”) is pleased to announce its official participation in the Infor Partner Network (IPN) Alliance Partner Program to help support implementations of Infor’s Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) Accelerate offering. Infor has developed the IPN Alliance Partner Program to give it the opportunity to work with those vendors that it believes can bring thought-leadership, industry knowledge and subject matter expertise to its customer implementations.

“Infor has seen more than 40 percent license growth in 2016 from software-as-a-service (SaaS), so having a subscription-based PLM offering was critical to supporting the growth needs of our customers.” said Neil Wilson, vice president, Global Alliances, Infor. “Razorleaf has a well-established, strong track record for successfully completing PLM implementations in the market and has tremendous technical expertise to offer our customers. We want to see our install base benefiting from applying PLM in their organizations to support overall business transformation initiatives. We are excited to have Razorleaf in our Alliance Partner Program helping to support Infor customers and enabling PLM in the enterprise.”

As the first Infor IPN Alliance Partner for Infor PLM Accelerate, Razorleaf will provide certain consulting and implementation services for Infor’s latest addition to its best-in-class PLM offerings. The addition of Infor PLM Accelerate to Infor’s product development suite allows customers the option of cloud-enabled offerings designed to better fit the unique goals of each organization. This partnership also creates an opportunity for Razorleaf to share best practices for PLM and platform expertise with the Infor team.

“Razorleaf brings more than sixteen years of overall PLM experience and eight plus years of experience with PLM Accelerate’s technology platform. We are well prepared to fast track Infor customers with their PLM implementations and get them realizing the benefits of PLM sooner rather than later,” stated Eric Doubell, CEO of Razorleaf. “Our organization offers a deep level of functional and technical PLM

knowledge for Infor customers.”

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Talend Announces Strategic Big Data Partnership with T-Systems

11 October 2016

Talend today announced a strategic partnership with T-Systems for the latter's offerings in the area of Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS). T-Systems, a German subsidiary of Deutsche Telekom, is using Talend Big Data Integration software to streamline the collection and cleansing of data from a broad range of sources as part of T-Systems' Big Data platform services.

"We are very proud to be one of the few companies to be a strategic partner of T-Systems, a leading systems integrator in Germany," says Harald Weimer, managing director of Talend Deutschland GmbH. "T-Systems is a leader in the field of cloud service providers and a key player in Germany in the area of cloud security."

T-Systems' Big Data Cloud platform is part of the company's comprehensive cloud ecosystem. The platform is built on the Hadoop Distributed File System (HDFS), which it utilizes to integrate and aggregate large data volumes in several different formats. The HDFS framework is suitable for the acquisition, back-up, and processing of large volumes of unstructured information that are primarily generated from machine-to-machine communication, the Internet of Things, and digital networking.

"We decided to partner with Talend because their solution is the leading data integration product in big data in terms of capabilities and value," clarifies Frank Strecker, SVP Global Cloud Computing & Partner Eco-Systems at T-Systems. "This way, we know that the data integration component of our Big Data Platform is being delivered by a leading technology partner."

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USDM Life Sciences Announces Collaboration with PTC

12 October 2016

USDM Life Sciences, a global regulatory compliance firm in the life sciences and healthcare industries, is pleased to announce an expanded collaboration with PTC. The collaboration with PTC will enable USDM Life Sciences to provide life science and medical device companies with more solutions and thought leadership around connected healthcare, FDA Case for Quality and digital engineering transformation.

For customers of PTC's Application Lifecycle Management (ALM), Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) and Internet of Things (IoT) solutions, USDM provides expert teams that can help companies design, manufacture and service connected medical device products with PTC technologies. USDM Validation Accelerator Packs (VAPs) for Windchill®, Thingworx®, and PTC Navigate help companies quickly meet compliance requirements so they can focus on innovation and growth.

"PTC's powerful set of solutions enable customers in the life sciences industry to achieve their goals of connecting products from design, manufacturing, operations and service," said Kim Hutchings, Vice President of Alliances at USDM Life Sciences. "We are very happy to be working with PTC to help our customers on their digital engineering journey."

"By combining USDM's leadership in the global life science industry with PTC's transformational solutions, we are working together to improve standards for compliance, control and innovation in healthcare organizations across the world," said Swapan Jha, Vice President, GTM, IoT Solutions

Group, PTC. "This collaboration with USDM will help give our customers and prospects greater confidence to transition towards value-adding technologies within IoT and the Cloud."

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Utegration Adds Application Development to its Existing Service and Reseller Partnership with SAP®; Announces Availability of its MOBIUS: Customer Self Service for Cloud Running on SAP HANA® Cloud Platform

11 October 2016

Utegration announces today that it has added application development to its existing services and reseller partnership in the SAP® PartnerEdge® program, enabling Utegration to design, develop and build software integrated with SAP solutions. As a result, Utegration is now publicizing the availability of its MOBIUS: Customer Self Service for Cloud, which runs on SAP HANA® Cloud Platform. The solution provides customers with a user-friendly way to interact with their utility online and while using mobile platforms, allowing them to pay their bill, view their balance and make service requests. The solution is built on SAP Multichannel Foundation software and utilizes SAP UI5 design, providing an intuitive UI that can be customized for each utility client's individual requirements. The application can be quickly deployed and will help reduce customer service costs. The company has launched its new application on the SAP App Center, where it will market its MOBIUS application.

"Utegration is thrilled to add application development to our SAP partnership," said Bin Yu, President and CEO of Utegration. "We are excited to have the opportunity to leverage SAP's innovative program to unveil MOBIUS: Customer Self Service for Cloud, which we believe will benefit both utility companies and consumers alike."

As an SAP partner in SAP PartnerEdge, Utegration is empowered to build, market and sell software applications on top of market-leading technology platforms from SAP. The program provides the enablement tools, benefits and support to facilitate building high-quality, disruptive applications focused on specific business needs – quickly and cost-effectively. The program provides access to all relevant SAP technologies in one simplified framework under a single, global contract.

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Events News

Geospatial Enterprise Solutions from Hexagon Span the Lifecycle at Intergeo 2016

11 October 2016

Hexagon AB is showcasing its geospatial solutions at Intergeo at the Messe in Hamburg, Germany. The main focus from Hexagon at Intergeo will be reality-capture solutions and delivering geospatial information in a way that facilitates mission-critical and business-critical decision-making from urban planning to utility mapping. The newest technologies within Hexagon's expansive geospatial offerings will be on display and available for hands-on demonstrations.

Hexagon's technologies encompass the complete geospatial information life cycle – from data capture to industry-specific information delivery. Its portfolio includes sensors for capturing data from land and air, as well as sensors for positioning via satellites. The sensors are complemented by a range of software applications and solutions that enable data processing, interpretation and analysis for more informed decision making in industries such as surveying, construction and agriculture.

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ITI Features Interoperability Solutions at PLM Europe

4 October 2016

International TechneGroup Incorporated (ITI) will be exhibiting at PLM Europe – the Siemens PLM Connection 2016 event in Berlin, Germany, 17 – 19 October. ITI has been a Siemens PLM partner for over 20 years and is a Gold sponsor at PLM Europe. ITI PLM migration and data conversion experts will be available at PLM Europe to discuss interoperability solutions for Teamcenter, NX and JT.

“We are seeing a significant increase in the demand to implement and support PLM migrations from legacy systems as more companies consolidate on Teamcenter as their system of choice.” states Peter Heath, ITI’s PLM Business Development Manager. “We have worked with many customers on successful migrations to Teamcenter and support hundreds of customer implementations of the IPEM and SWIM CAD integrations. PLM Europe is one of the highlights of the year and provides a fantastic opportunity for us to meet with customers to review PLM and CAD migration projects and offer guidance. I look forward to another great event this year.”

PLM migration projects frequently incorporate a requirement for the conversion of 2D and 3D CAD data into NX. ITI is actively engaged deploying CAD conversion and validation solutions such as Proficiency, CADIQ and CADfix to streamline CAD data conversion from CATIA, Creo, SOLIDWORKS, Inventor, and Solid Edge into NX, ensuring that customers get optimum value from their PLM investments.

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Vero’s Edgcam Software Solution to be Exhibited at the SIANE Trade Fair in Toulouse

12 October 2016

Edgcam, Vero’s solution for production CAM, will be exhibited from the 18th to 20th of October at the SIANE 2016 Trade Fair which will be held at the Exhibition Centre in Toulouse, France.

With over 700 companies represented and more than 9000 visitors, the SIANE Trade Fair is recognized as the major event for manufacturers in the South of France. Toulouse is already famous as the European capital for aeronautic and aerospace engineering, but the SIANE Trade Fair also attracts other sectors of activity such as the automotive, electronic and medical device industries.

Vero Software will present its Version 2016R2 solutions: VISI, the fully integrated CAD/CAM solution; WorkNC, the 2 to 5 axis CAM solution; PartXplore, the collaborative Viewer & Analyzer solution along with Edgcam, the production oriented Turning and Milling solution for the Aeronautics sector.

Aeronautic applications regularly require 3, 4 and 5 axis lathes but nowadays multifunction mill/turn machines are often the most suitable alternative. Edgcam initially detects the machining environment, fully simulates milling and turning operations - the rotary movements of the stock and the spindle to detect any eventual collisions and ensures a totally secure environment. Designed to guarantee minimal production leadtimes, Edgcam integrates the "Waveform Roughing" strategy from Vero Software.

The Version 2016R2 of Edgcam is now a 64-bit application. The program can now load very large solid models 20 times quicker than the previous version.

The Rough Turning cycle now offers a Ramp strategy. It is used for turning deep areas with double-edged inserts while ensuring longer tool service life because the contact point on the insert varies

constantly thus avoiding cutting edge chipping. This new strategy can also be used on sloping surfaces.

The latest version of Edgcam also offers improved collision detection and NC code for hole machining. Through interaction with the clamping system updating command, drilling cycles can avoid collisions with clamps using retract and safety plane distances.

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Financial News

Nemetschek Group Increases Revenue Forecast for 2016

10 October 2016

The Nemetschek Group is raising the forecast for its revenue and operating earnings (EBITDA) for the current financial year 2016. The new forecast envisages revenues in the range of EUR 338 million to EUR 341 million (previously: EUR 319 million to EUR 325 million). Compared to the previous year, this results in a planned growth in revenue (EUR 285.3 million) of +18% to +20% (previously: +12% to +14%). The operating EBITDA (adjusted for the positive one-time effect of EUR 1.9 million which occurred in the 2nd quarter) is now expected to be in the range of EUR 89 million to EUR 91 million. Compared to the previous year's value (EUR 69.5 million), this would correspond to a rise of +28% to +31% (previous forecast: EUR 77 million to EUR 80 million).

The positive business development, which continued in the third quarter of 2016, is attributable in particular to strong organic growth and increased internationalization. Further growth effects are as a result of Solibri, based in Finland, which was acquired at the end of 2015, and Design Data in the USA, which was acquired as of August 1, 2016.

The Nemetschek Group will be releasing the 9-month report and all key figures on Q3 2016 as planned on October 28, 2016.

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Implementation Investments

Jharkhand Selects Tech Mahindra as its Strategic Technology Partner

30 September 2016

Tech Mahindra has been selected by the Government of Jharkhand as a strategic partner to help the state in its digital journey. Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to this effect was signed between officials of Jharkhand government and Tech Mahindra in presence of state chief minister Raghubar Das, and Ulhas N Yargop, Director, Tech Mahindra.

According to this, as a strategic IT partner, Tech Mahindra will work towards promoting technology adoption by the citizens in the state apart from helping build an ecosystem with greater participation of industry players. The partnership also requires Tech Mahindra to work with the Government of Jharkhand to promote digital literacy and skill development working with various industry organizations including Nasscom Foundation.

Tech Mahindra, with the help of the state government, will work towards enhancing industry-academia collaboration by supporting local universities and technical institutions in areas like robotics, process management, cloud computing and software development cycle among others.

The Government of Jharkhand has been aggressively pushing various technology led programmes and initiatives such as Skill India, Digital India and Startup India initiatives. Over the next five years, the state has set a target to skill over 2,000,000. To position the state as a preferred IT destination, Jharkhand has also announced very progressive IT/ITeS, BPO/BPM, ESDM (Electronics System Design and Manufacturing) and Start-up policies.

“State Government of Jharkhand is very happy to ink strategic MoU with global giant Tech Mahindra under its Digital Jharkhand Programs to promote IT/ITeS sector, Start up, Incubation and skill development,” said Raghubar Das, Chief Minister, Jharkhand. “We look forward to Tech Mahindra as our partner in the journey to provide our citizens state of art services through state’s network upto grass roots level. Tech Mahindra’s proposal to state is perfectly aligned to states IT/ITeS, ESDM, BPO & Start Up policies. We are very excited & do look towards them as our partner in this journey,” he added.

Tech Mahindra has been working closely with many governments, both at the state and the Central levels, offering unique solutions. “Tech Mahindra is proud to be associated with the Jharkhand government is enabling the state in its digital transformation journey. We believe that technology is going to significantly impact the governance process, especially the way governments interact with the citizens, and also creating skilled and digitally literate workforce. Our partnership with Jharkhand is a step in this direction,” said Jagdish Mitra, Chief Strategy and Marketing Officer, and Head of Growth Factories at Tech Mahindra.

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PetSmart Selects CBX Cloud

11 October 2016

CBX Software announced today that PetSmart Inc. has selected CBX Cloud to streamline product development, sourcing, quality management and vendor collaboration as part of the retailer's new direct sourcing strategy. The adoption of CBX Cloud's Product Lifecycle Management (PLM), Sourcing Management, Quality Management, and Critical Path Management technology solutions is expected to help PetSmart realize supply chain efficiencies by simplifying processes, eliminating redundant activities and synchronizing information across the sourcing chain.

PetSmart is the leading specialty pet retailer in North America. The company employs more than 53,000 associates and operates 1,477 stores in the United States, Canada and Puerto Rico, providing a broad range of competitively priced pet food and pet products, as well as services including pet training, pet grooming, pet boarding and pet adoption services.

To enhance its ability to innovate and deliver vital pet products to pet parents, PetSmart launched a direct sourcing initiative for hardgoods products with a new Global Sourcing team with offices in Shanghai and Hong Kong. With these changes, the company recognized it needed a solution that could help it dramatically improve operational efficiency and enterprise-wide visibility, as well as speed up the product development and supply chain process.

"We are excited to roll out CBX Cloud to better connect all of our internal product development, sourcing and quality teams, as well as our expanding network of suppliers and manufacturers," said Jim Persinger, vice president of Global Sourcing, PetSmart. "We're confident CBX Cloud is the right tool to help us improve our operational efficiencies and expand our direct global sourcing capabilities."

CBX Cloud will be used by PetSmart's domestic and international teams, as well as suppliers located across the globe. The efficiencies are also expected to enable the pet specialty retailer to expand its global sourcing capability and optimize supply chain workflows to deliver even better service for its pet

parent customers.

"PetSmart has exciting growth plans for its global sourcing operations, and implementing the right technology is a key component needed to assist in meeting the company's strategic goals," said Michael Hung, CEO at CBX Software. "We are proud to help PetSmart in its new strategic direct sourcing strategy, and we look forward to supporting the PetSmart team in attaining new heights."

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Product News

3D Scan to CAD with Artec 3D and Geomagic Design X

13 October 2016

Artec 3D announces the new arrival of Geomagic Design X and Artec 3D Scanner Bundles.

Artec 3D scanners such as the Artec Eva, Space Spider or both scanners paired with Geomagic Design X can 3D scan to CAD. Geomagic Design X allows a user to convert 3D scanned data into quality feature-based CAD models.

Geomagic Design X has native outputs to SOLIDWORKS®, Siemens NX®, Solid Edge, Autodesk Inventor®, PTC Creo® and Pro/ENGINEER®.

Geomagic Design X Features:

- Supports import of over 60 file formats including polygons, point clouds and CAD
- Expertly handles massive mesh and point cloud data alignment, processing and refining, mesh construction
- Mesh repair tools deliver rapid hole filling, smoothing, optimizing, rewrapping and polishing tools such as Smart Brush
- Automatic, feature-based solid and surface extraction direct from 3D scans
- Rapidly creates solids or surfaces like users would in CAD
- Automated Accuracy Analyzer™ tools compare and validate surfaces, solids and sketches against original scan data
- Live Transfer™ supports the output of data to the industry's leading CAD systems
- Exact Surface creation converts organic shapes to precise CAD models
- Supports comprehensive export of neutral CAD or polygon files
- Instantly create high-quality renderings of designs in KeyShot

3DSCANHQ.com is an authorized reseller for Artec 3D products and can assist with the purchase of an Artec 3D scanner with Geomagic Design X.

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Arena Partners with Altium to Enable Bidirectional Integration

28 September 2016

Arena Solutions today announced it has teamed up with Perception Software from Altium to deliver a bidirectional integration leveraging EDAConnect for Altium/Arena.

Engineers juggle many applications during the course of their work. In the enterprise space, for PLM to attain the maximum potential impact in the organization, every stakeholder in the product design and manufacturing process must be enabled with an easy and effective way of interacting with the product system of record.

EDAConnect for Altium/Arena contains two components: Library Sync and BOM (bill of materials) Publish. Library Sync provides engineering with the latest item and approved manufacturer list information from Arena PLM. BOM Publish provides engineering with seamless BOM publishing to Arena PLM. With this integration, Altium Designer® users will enjoy a direct flow of parts metadata between Arena PLM and Altium, along with transparent BOM publishing from Altium to Arena PLM. As a result, EDAConnect enables engineers to deliver prototypes faster and speed the time to product launch.

“We are excited to have an integration partnership with Altium,” said Steve Chalgren, EVP, Product Management and Chief Strategy Officer at Arena Solutions. “This will deliver significant time savings in the detailed work of creating new, innovative products.”

“Arena PLM is rapidly expanding its customer base, growing far faster than the PLM market as a whole,” said Henry Potts, Chief Product and Operations Officer at Altium. “With this new integration product, we’re helping ensure that it’s easier than ever for engineers to keep the product record current and ensure that data informs product design.”

The new product will be sold by Altium.

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BIMobject® Announces Support for Autodesk Fusion 360 for BIMscript® and LENA

13 October 2016

BIMobject AB ("BIMobject") today announces its plans to release the cloud based development platform BIMscript® and LENA to the Autodesk Fusion 360 solution. The first version of BIMscript and LENA for Fusion 360 is planned to be launched in Q1 of 2017.

Fusion 360 is a cloud-based 3D CAD, CAM, and CAE platform for product development. It combines industrial and mechanical design, simulation, collaboration, and machining in a single package. The tools in Fusion 360 enable fast and easy exploration of design ideas with an integrated concept-to-production toolset. BIMobject's strategy with BIMscript and LENA is to make it available for as many as possible to enable a fast and effective way of producing parametric BIM objects.

More than 100 external developers have received their accreditation and develop today in BIMscript and LENA, that currently exists on top of 3D CAD system Rhino. To broaden the usage of BIMscript, BIMobject will make it available for Autodesk Fusion 360.

Autodesk Fusion 360 is the first 3D CAD, CAM, and CAE tool of its kind. It connects the entire product development process in a single cloud-based platform that works with both Mac and PC. The added capabilities in Autodesk Fusion 360 means that in an intelligent way, a BIM object is created directly from the product design and manufacturing solution. In a smart way the digital product is published on BIMobject.com to enable it to be downloaded into building projects as a part of a BIM model. This will shorten the cycle from design to market considerably, and allow, product development and manufacturing to be in sync with digital marketing, product information and configuration. The solution will also support e-business with BIMobject's newly released BIMsupply platform.

Fusion 360 with BIMscript and LENA has the potential to open up a whole new target group of product

designers and developers that directly can launch their products digitally, be specified and even sell their products on-line through BIMsupply.com. A digital flow from design to market.

"The support for Fusion 360 with BIMscript and LENA will make it much easier for designers and developers to develop, maintain, publish, distribute and sell their products as BIM objects on-line. BIMscript with LENA simplifies the use of Fusion 360 to create smart, parametric BIM objects in multiple languages, level of detail, with all classifications and standards for properties", says Jim Quanci, Senior Director Partner Development at Autodesk Inc.

"As BIMsupply has many components from Autodesk Forge, there will be very interesting synergies to use LENA on top of Autodesk Fusion 360 to keep a consistent information flow between product development, BIM integration and later supply management with fabrication, orders and maintenance", says Ben O'Donnell CTO of BIMobject.

"It's all about connecting things, as we go fully digital, every connection point to another saves time, makes it easier to use, and in the end provides a single source of truth in an information infrastructure. Connecting the Autodesk Cloud solutions together with BIMobject Cloud solutions will create a seamless flow for digital products through the life cycle, connecting both BIMobject Cloud and BIMsupply. This is the future of digital development and product information delivery", says Stefan Larsson, CEO and founder of BIMobject.

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Dassault Systèmes Launches the “Design for Fabrication” Industry Solution Experience for Architecture, Engineering & Construction

13 October 2016

Dassault Systèmes today announced the launch of the “Design for Fabrication” industry solution experience for architecture, engineering and construction (AEC). Architects, engineers, contractors, fabricators and building products manufacturers now have access to a digital, collaborative environment on the cloud for civil and building projects, from concept through fabrication detail with shop floors that reduces waste and rework.

Each architecture, engineering and construction project brings together new teams of designers, fabricators and contractors who use their own building information modeling (BIM) solutions. The detailed information created in an initial design model might not reflect a fabricator’s needs, and must still be converted into usable shop drawings. These fragmented solutions and lack of data continuity can lead to project delays and construction waste at levels of more than 25 percent due to redundant engineering, inefficient use of materials, idle labor, and rework.

Based on Dassault Systèmes’ 3DEXPERIENCE platform, the “Design for Fabrication” industry solution experience provides end-to-end, collaborative BIM for design through fabrication of any building, structure or building element including bridges, tunnels, industrial buildings, high-rise buildings, concrete and steel frames, precast concrete, building façades, as well as building system elements of any scale, from single occupant to campus and city infrastructures.

With this solution, design and fabrication teams have simultaneous, real-time access to project data in the context of the 3D model. They can work from the same design models and leverage the insight of experts in the supply chain to create more informed designs, reduce later rework, and more accurately predict project costs and timelines.

“We use the 3DEXPERIENCE platform to perform multiple tasks in a single environment, optimize

workflows and save time—from modeling and coordinating all building systems of large and complex projects in one 3D model, to developing detailed simulations of construction processes and generating data outputs for prefabrication of mass timber, steel, mechanical, electrical and plumbing systems,” said Javier Glatt, CEO, CadMakers Virtual Construction. “We believe the 3DEXPERIENCE platform may be the most powerful solution available to the AEC industry.”

“While BIM usage has gradually improved design coordination and construction coordination independently, there remains a lack of continuity between design data and the fabrication model for the shop floor,” said Marty Doscher, Vice President, Architecture, Engineering & Construction Industry, Dassault Systèmes. “The 3DEXPERIENCE platform bridges the gap between designers and fabricators. By adopting seamless collaborative processes that connect people and data from start to finish, multiple project stakeholders can create efficiencies, realize significant savings in time and money, and improve the quality of project delivery.”

Specifically, “Design for Fabrication” solves several AEC business challenges including:

- Design anything: Comprehensive design and simulation capabilities for any building, structure, building element, or object from the conceptual level down to the fasteners, with the scalability of the cloud.
- Deliver higher performing buildings to delight customers: Save time, limit dead ends, validate requirements, and lower lifecycle operating costs.
- Design for manufacturing and assembly: Achieve project control and reduce waste by extending models. Use integrative, parametric, associative, and computational modeling methods to increase productivity and optimize project value through iterative design.
- Improve collaboration: Multi-BIM approach to project development using a data-centric collaborative environment with a single 3D version of the truth. “Same page” authoring tools scale to huge amounts of data to coordinate the whole supply chain.

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Elysium and DotProduct Announce InfiPoints DP On-tablet Feature Extraction for DPI-8

11 October 2016

Elysium and DotProduct LLC are announcing the release of InfiPoints DP. This new Android application will allow DotProduct users to extract planar surfaces and cylinders from their scan data and export them to industry standard solid modeling formats, all on the same tablet used to capture the data. This greatly enhances the effectiveness of the DPI-8 Kit for use in surface-based CAD and BIM design environments, both on and off the tablet. The end-to-end workflow is being demonstrated live at the DotProduct booth all week at INTERGEO in Hamburg, Germany.

With the latest release of Phi.3D 2.1, all new and updated DPI-8 handheld scanners are ready for direct integration with InfiPoints DP. The new “Send Scene To” function in Phi.3D 2.1 offers several sharing and integration features, including direct export to InfiPoints DP on the tablet.

Within InfiPoints DP, DPI-8 users can extract planes and cylinders from the scanned point cloud data, and export these features directly to IGES and DWG CAD files. This scan to CAD workflow can now come full circle right on the tablet, with the ability to export DPI-8 scanned data into mobile CAD tools such as OnShape or Autodesk Fusion 360. Off the tablet, this workflow is enabling import into mainstream solid modeling programs such as SOLIDWORKS, Creo Parametric, and others.

All new DPI-8 Kits will soon begin shipping with InfiPoints DP pre-installed, giving new DotProduct customers immediate access to InfiPoints DP, including a free 30-day trial. Existing DotProduct

customers can also download and install the app from www.dotproduct3d.com.

“While the DPI-8 has proven itself as an excellent tool for reliable point cloud capture, there has always been a gap between point cloud scans and solid modeling and BIM tools. With the addition of InfiPoints DP to the DPI-8, we are one step closer to closing that gap, all on the tablet,” states Tom Greaves, Chief Marketing Officer of DotProduct LLC.

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Huge SAP IoT Investment Commitment Announced

28 September 2016

SAP today announced investment plans of €2 billion over five years to help business and government entities benefit from the proliferation of sensors, smart devices and Big Data that is transforming business with the Internet of Things (IoT).

SAP plans to accelerate innovation in its IoT solution portfolio, increase sales and marketing, scale service, support and co-innovation, and grow its ecosystem of partners and startups in the IoT market, which is estimated to reach €250 billion by 2020.

“With billions of connected devices, we now have the potential to reshape society, the economy and the environment,” said Bill McDermott, CEO of SAP. “SAP HANA is the data platform we knew would unlock the Internet of Things. Today SAP is making another bold investment to help our customers seize the benefits of live business. Only SAP empowers businesses to innovate from the core to the edges to the networks.”

SAP IoT: From Information to Insights, Action and Live Business

While business and public sector entities have unprecedented access to more information and real-time feeds, they still have difficulty tying it all together across operating locations, business units and functional teams. SAP IoT aims to make sense of Big Data from the multitude of things through IoT solutions that apply machine learning and integrate with the core business applications of SAP S/4HANA. SAP IoT includes solutions connecting people, partners, things and the physical environment, enabling organizations to extend and enrich business processes with real-time, live intelligence so that they can see where opportunities exist, achieve new operational efficiencies, and reimagine business models, products and services to deliver more immediate customer and stakeholder value. SAP IoT seeks to enable connected business and connected society, addressing urban and rural areas and spanning agribusiness, infrastructure and energy, health, defense, manufacturing, consumer and transportation industries.

Innovation in New Solutions: Industry 4.0 Solution Packages

SAP is introducing Industry 4.0 packages that feature IoT solutions to enable customers’ digital business strategies. The jump-start package is designed to initiate operational and business system connectivity as a foundation to monitor equipment effectiveness and provide insight into shop floor operations. The accelerator package also has this functionality, and adds an automated, paperless, manufacturing execution and control environment by supporting manufacturing planning and execution, performance analytics and advanced plant maintenance. Both packages are complemented by the SAP Distributed Manufacturing application for additive manufacturing 3D printing services. The jump-start and accelerator packages are available immediately. SAP plans to introduce the third Industry 4.0 solution package, the “advanced” package, at a later date to provide advanced manufacturing insight and controls, machine learning functionality and predictive analysis for quality and maintenance operations.

SAP also plans IoT package solutions to address the unique digital operations of cities, agriculture and energy industries.

Innovation in the IoT: PLAT.ONE, Fedem

SAP IoT provides a comprehensive, integrated technology stack from connectors to the IoT foundation and applications, business network and business process layer, enhanced by machine learning and predictive analytics. SAP has acquired PLAT.ONE, an enterprise-grade IoT provider that simplifies the process of creating, deploying and managing complex IoT solutions. Founded in northern Italy, PLAT.ONE provides expertise and technology to accelerate the availability of key IoT capabilities in SAP HANA Cloud Platform, such as advanced lifecycle management for IoT devices, broad device connectivity, strong IoT edge capabilities that work seamlessly with a cloud back end, end-to-end role-based security and rapid development tools for IoT applications.

SAP has also recently acquired Fedem Technology, a Norwegian company specializing in advanced engineering analysis and building software for multibody dynamic simulation and lifetime calculation of structures and mechanical systems under the influence of complex loads. With this acquisition SAP plans to build an end-to-end IoT solution in which a digital avatar continuously represents the state of operating assets through feeds from sensors, replacing the need for physical inspection with a “digital inspection.” Additionally, the solution is intended to consider complex forces in play and detect both instantaneous consequences of one-off events and long-term health effects of cyclic loads, making possible accurate monitoring of maintenance requirements and remaining-life prediction for assets.

SAP IoT Labs: Enabling Global IoT Transformation Across the Globe

SAP plans to establish locations around the world to collaborate on Industry 4.0 and the IoT with customers, partners and startups. SAP IoT labs are intended as lighthouse locations and primary access points for IoT research, development, proof-of-concept modeling and incubation, with IoT showcases, thought leadership, expertise and infrastructure for strategy and product co-innovation. SAP plans to increase investment in consulting and knowledge transfers with dedicated innovation adoption consulting and IoT universities at the sites. Planned locations include Berlin, Johannesburg, Munich, Palo Alto, São Leopoldo and Shanghai, with SAP and partner experts in areas of specific IoT focus native to each region, such as Industry 4.0, logistics, cities and digital farming. The labs are intended to provide customers with access to co-innovation resources including design thinking experts and workshops, and interactive demos of IoT-related technology including autonomous systems (such as drones and robotics), IoT security, machine learning and 3D printing.

The SAP IoT Promise in Real Life: Trenitalia and SAP Event

SAP’s IoT announcement comes on the eve of an IoT customer showcase event, where SAP will join with executives from Trenitalia, Italy’s largest train company, to display technology innovations and the way predictive maintenance technologies are currently transforming the modern transportation industry.

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Mentor Graphics Partnership with RTI Enables Secure Embedded Solution for Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT)

13 October 2016

Mentor Graphics Corporation today announced its partnership with Real-Time Innovations (RTI), the industry’s largest embedded middleware vendor for Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) development. The combination of Mentor® Embedded technologies and the RTI Connexx DDS (Data Distribution

Service) middleware now provides security from the hardware up through the software stack for secure distributed embedded systems communications, suitable for industrial, medical and mil-aero applications.

Pre-integrated with Mentor Embedded runtime platforms, RTI Connex DDS enables OEMs and systems integrators to develop high-performance, real-time, safe and secure embedded systems with reduced risk, lower development costs and faster time to market.

"The IIoT disruption will bring immense value to nearly every industry. To meet the challenges, IIoT builders need end-to-end connectivity with security," said Stan Schneider, CEO of RTI. "Combining many technologies is a real challenge. An ecosystem of vendors with integrated products accelerates projects with much lower risk."

The Mentor Embedded-RTI solution is standards-based, flexible and supports leading-edge multicore runtime platforms. Mentor Graphics was the industry's first embedded software vendor to provide a comprehensive heterogeneous multicore framework for system-on-chip (SoC) development. Together with RTI, Mentor's solution can be extended to provide real-time communications for heterogeneous distributed systems, independent of physical transport (Ethernet, wireless, shared memory, serial, etc.). Mentor customers can now rely on consolidated distributed industrial systems for components to share data securely with each other – critical for IIoT embedded development.

"Secure real-time communications for distributed systems is crucial for the IIoT market. Our broad portfolio of embedded technologies integrated with the RTI's DDS middleware ensures system communications that are reliable, real-time, and secure," stated Scot Morrison, general manager of Mentor Graphics platform business unit. "Our expertise in heterogeneous multicore enablement and security provides the ideal embedded solution that our customers require for today's IIoT development."

Product Support and Availability

The RTI Connex DDS technology supports the Mentor Embedded portfolio of runtime and tools products including Mentor Embedded Linux® with Connex DDS Professional, and the Nucleus® real-time operating system (RTOS) with Connex DDS Micro. As the relationship expands, additional integrations are planned with Connex DDS Secure and for systems requiring safety certification, Nucleus® SafetyCert with Connex DDS Cert.

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New NIST Test Bed Makes the 'Digital Thread' Accessible

7 October 2016

Researchers at the U.S. Commerce Department's National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) have launched the Smart Manufacturing Systems (SMS) Test Bed. The test bed is an innovative model factory that will facilitate the advanced manufacturing technology known as the "digital thread" and help manufacturers cut costs, shorten production time, reduce errors and provide higher quality goods.

"The SMS Test Bed joins the many resources NIST offers to help U.S. manufacturers drive innovation and compete in a global market," said Under Secretary of Commerce for Standards and Technology and NIST Director Willie E. May. "Digital manufacturing represents an exciting advance that is expected to yield significant operational and bottom-line benefits for manufacturers of all sizes."

Until recently, manufacturers have predominantly used two-dimensional (2D) drawings--what we know as blueprints--in either printed form, computer-aided design (CAD) plans or a combination of both to guide a product through its life cycle. Because these methods require humans to interpret, translate, re-

enter and transmit data at each step in the process, there can be significant expenditures of time and money, as well as multiple opportunities for errors to occur. In spite of the disadvantages, however, 90 percent of small manufacturers still rely on traditional 2D methods to make their products.

The digital thread relies on standardized, three-dimensional (3D) models for electronically exchanging and processing product and manufacturing information all the way from design through inspection of the final part. Researchers estimate that moving manufacturing from 2D paper-based systems to 3D digital manufacturing could cut production time by as much as 75 percent.

NIST's SMS Test Bed is designed to make the digital thread and the resources needed to make it work accessible to all who want to explore its capabilities and contribute to its advancement. It also serves as a platform for measuring the effectiveness of standards for collecting and distributing production data that support the digital thread.

The test bed consists of three major components:

- A computer-aided technologies laboratory with a suite of standardized software tools for controlling design, fabrication, inspection, data management, and verification and validation testing;
- A real-world manufacturing facility at NIST's Gaithersburg, Maryland, headquarters, featuring a variety of computer numerical control (CNC) machine tools (such as milling and turning centers) and precision inspection devices (such as coordinate measuring machines and digital micrometers); and
- Online data streaming, collection, storage and publication services that provide real-time, universally compatible data links for experimenting with the digital manufacturing process; a searchable repository of all SMS Test Bed data generated; and preset data packages for model products previously fabricated using the digital thread that manufacturers can try at their own facilities.

"The goal of the SMS Test Bed is to create a shared resource that enables smart manufacturing research and development," said NIST mechanical engineer Thomas Hedberg, co-coordinator of the project. "We are actively seeking collaborators who are willing to link their manufacturing data sets, fabrication processes and product data exchange systems with our test bed so that we can help them make their way toward digital manufacturing, and at the same time, let others who participate in the project gain from their knowledge and experience."

According to NIST mechanical engineer and project co-coordinator Moneer Helu, future plans for the test bed include offering manufacturers the opportunity to compare the fabrication of test products (with preset designs and datasets) using their standard procedure and with an optimized "digital thread" plan. "We also hope to assist with the creation and launch of test beds like ours across the country so that eventually, a national network is established," he said.

To establish the SMS Test Bed, NIST is working with the Association for Manufacturing Technology (AMT), an organization that represents and promotes U.S.-based manufacturing technology; DP Technology Corp., a developer and supplier of computer-aided manufacturing (CAM) software; Mazak Corp., a maker of advanced machine tools and automation systems; Mitutoyo America Corp., a maker of measurement equipment and software; the MTConnect Institute, a standards development organization; and System Insights Inc., a provider of predictive analytics software for manufacturing.

Researchers from academic institutions and public-private consortia have already begun using data available from the SMS Test Bed, including: Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, Virginia Tech, the

Commonwealth Center for Advanced Manufacturing (CCAM) in Virginia and the Digital Manufacturing & Design Innovation Institute (DMDII) in Illinois. DMDII is a member of the Manufacturing USA (link is external) network, which NIST supports through the Advanced Manufacturing National Program Office.

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New SAP Master Data Governance Announced

4 October 2016

SAP today announced the newest version of the SAP Master Data Governance application. Updates include intuitive analytics and enhanced mobile functionality with SAP Smart Business cockpits powered by SAP HANA and new SAP Fiori apps for master data governance. This announcement was made at the 2016 San Diego TDWI conference.

“Information governance is crucial to the success of all digital transformation initiatives — be it a business network, Internet of Things or Big Data and analytics undertaking,” said Philip On, vice president, product marketing, Enterprise Information Management, at SAP. “Our newest version of SAP Master Data Governance offers a strong technology foundation to manage SAP and non-SAP data across any master data domain in one single application. It simplifies master data management and helps customers accelerate their digital business journey.”

The latest version of SAP Master Data Governance expands master data consolidation functionality to the material data domain in addition to supplier and customer data. New integration scenarios facilitate an exchange of master data across SAP S/4HANA, the Ariba Supplier Information and Performance Management solution and SAP Hybris e-commerce solutions, helping customers better manage data across hybrid cloud and on-premise applications and processes.

SAP Master Data Governance provides companies a unified architecture to manage consolidation and central governance of master data. The application uses the SAP HANA platform to increase performance and scalability.

At the TDWI conference SAP customer VMware Inc. received the Best Practices Award for Data Management Strategies, which recognizes companies that have demonstrated best practices in developing, deploying and maintaining solutions for data management.

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Renesas Electronics Delivers 32-bit RX65N and RX651 Groups of Microcontrollers Providing Safe and Secure Communication Capability and Control to Industrial Machinery

13 October 2016

Renesas Electronics Corporation today announced the RX65N and RX651 Groups of 32-bit microcontrollers (MCUs), which will be the new mainstream among Renesas’ next-generation RX Family lineup. The RX65N/RX651 Groups can be used in various application fields such as networked industrial machinery, building automation, and so forth. By adopting the new RX65N/RX651 Groups, system manufacturers can increase the basic performance of their systems while also adding the ability to safely reprogram the MCU’s built-in memory over a network such as wireless local area network (WLAN) or Ethernet, and so forth. This makes it easier to develop end devices that allow timely changes to machine settings or control programs, as well as flexible machine control to accommodate changes in the installation environment or end-user requirements.

The expansion of the Industrial Internet of Things (IIoT) and Industry 4.0 has increased the need for secure network connectivity devices in manufacturing environments. Network connectivity makes it possible to monitor the operating state of machinery from both inside and outside the factory, to exchange data and make changes to production instructions, and to reprogram the MCU's memory to update equipment settings. System manufacturers also need the capability to safely reprogram firmware or data in the MCU's on-chip flash memory to update machine control functions in a timely manner.

The new RX65N and RX651 MCU Groups reduce development workload while making it easier to build systems for the IIoT and Industry 4.0.

Key features of the new RX65N and RX651 MCU Groups:

- (1) 40nm process for five times the power efficiency of competing MCUs of the same class and significantly extended battery operation time

System developers require MCUs with improved power efficiency, processor performance and advanced communication features that can execute middleware, process sensor data and control functions essential for network connectivity of battery-powered devices in manufacturing environments. The new RX65N and RX651 MCUs are manufactured with an RXv2 CPU core that adopts the 40 nanometer (nm) process, delivering a CoreMark® score of 516. With an operating current of 15 milliamperes (mA) (typ.), power performance is 34.4 CoreMark/mA – up to five times higher than that of comparable 32-bit MCUs in the 120 megahertz (MHz) operating frequency class. With 1 megabyte (MB) of flash memory and 256 kilobytes (KB) of RAM, software can be developed to run exclusively in internal memory. The built-in memory alone can accommodate software for communication middleware processing of network connection, as well as buffer areas. This eliminates the need to access external memory results in reduced power consumption, and therefore contributes to further extend the battery operation time.

- (2) Adds performance and new features while supporting control capabilities from previous-generation MCUs

The high-performance RXv2 CPU core delivers 1.3 times the processing performance of comparable 32-bit MCUs in the 120 MHz operating frequency class. This high level of performance enables the new RX65N and RX651 Groups to handle communication functions and added functions that make use of network connectivity, in addition to conventional measurement data operations and sequence control.

The new RX65N and RX651 Groups retain legacy communication functions, such as Ethernet, USB, CAN, UART, SPI, and I2C, of the RX63N and RX631 Groups, both of which have a proven track record in various industrial machinery application fields. Additionally, the new MCUs provide a WLAN module connection through an SD host interface capable of 4-bit data communication, as well as Quad SPI with support for connections to serial flash memory. To manage all required communication stacks, a 256 KB embedded RAM can be used to handle the buffers.

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SAP Jam Collaboration Gains New Features to Help Improve Information Access with Modern Intranets

4 October 2016

SAP today announced new capabilities to consolidate disparate, siloed and legacy systems into one modern, cloud-based, mobile-ready collaboration platform, enabling information technology (IT) teams to more easily provision and maintain enterprise collaboration technology.

“Business units are demanding more from IT than ever before,” said Steve Hamrick, vice president,

Product Management, Collaboration Software, SAP. “Often, lines of business opt to deviate from officially endorsed systems and solutions, leading to disparate and potentially vulnerable information systems. In this environment, streamlining business processes is critical to improving employee productivity and keeping up with the pace of the market. This ultimately helps IT deliver a more productive and secure collaboration infrastructure.”

To enable IT to strengthen a company’s collaboration experience with fewer manual resources and support, SAP Jam Collaboration can help improve business agility and shorten the time to respond to customer needs by helping to simplify the process to engage stakeholders and subject-matter experts to obtain answers to questions; offering employees self-service access to collaboration and information; and bringing the right content, people and information together.

The new release of SAP Jam helps IT with the following new capabilities:

- Company home page: SAP Jam allows IT administrators to create customized home pages for contextually relevant groups of colleagues, helping IT leverage the solution as an intranet supplement or replacement.
- Administrative area home pages: IT can also designate home pages for specific employees and departments.
- Administrative area delegation: IT can equip specific organizations and departments to manage their own collaboration area, providing them with contextually relevant colleagues to collaborate with, while freeing IT from having to manually add and remove users and information.

SAP Jam aims to provide an enterprise collaboration solution that’s rooted in adding business value while removing complexity.

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Wipro Launches AgileBase Platform on Microsoft Azure, Enhances DevOps Adoption

7 October 2016

Wipro Limited today announced that it has successfully launched its DevOps platform, AgileBase, on Microsoft Azure. This solution enables global enterprises to adopt DevOps in a fast and cost effective manner. The Wipro AgileBase platform has been published on Azure Marketplace. The AgileBase platform can potentially reduce the DevOps set-up time by up to 90 percent, while eliminating manual efforts vis-a-vis traditional deployments.

Enterprise customers have started adopting DevOps tools to be agile and automate their development, testing and operations environment. However, in the process, these enterprises end up with a large set of disparate tools in the IT landscape and a huge set of automation scripts. Wipro’s AgileBase DevOps platform complements the existing investments made by customer organizations and helps accelerate the software delivery process by providing a comprehensive continuous delivery environment.

AgileBase leverages the existing ALM (Application Lifecycle Management) tool investments, uses industry-best practices to build and release orchestration, and provides real-time dashboards and analytics. It captures metrics for pre-emptive analysis, compliance, and audit. Its Process Templating feature ensures repeatability and standardizes the adoption of DevOps across projects in a predictable manner.

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