PLM Industry Summary

Editor: Christine Bennett
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CONTENTS

CIMdata, Inc. 3909 Research Park Drive Ann Arbor, Michigan 48108 Tel: +1 (734) 668–9922 Fax: +1 (734) 668–1957
E-mail: c.bennett@cimdata.com

CIMdata News

Ask the Expert: Integrating PLM and ERP

March 2007

CIMdata Director of Research, Ken Amann addresses the question of "What are the main points to be taken into account in a PLM/ERP integration?" in Managing Automation's Ask the Expert column.

Ken's answer:

There are three categories of issues that must be addressed:

- Business practice factors
- Organization and cultural factors
- Technology factors

Each of these areas impacts the type, depth, breadth, and scope of integration required for success at a specific company or installation. For example, technical factors include:

- The type of information to be integrated
- The processes to be supported
- The type and complexity of integration required
- The tools and methods to be used to create and maintain the integration

Under "business practice" and "organization" are factors such as process flow within/across business functions, information ownership, etc. For a more detailed discussion, please go the CIMdata web site and, under complimentary reports, download PLM and ERP Integration: Business Efficiency and Value.

Click here to return to Contents

Ask the Expert: Sorting Through Revisions

March 2007

Through Managing Automation's Ask the Expert service, Ken Amann, CIMdata Director of Research received the following question:

Each time a design change (ECO) is needed, the same question pops up: Is the modified item a rev-up of the old, or a new item? The most common way to answer that question is to find out whether the old and modified items are still interchangeable. When in the design phase, engineers like to release the current state of their design to ease communications. However, these released documents may still need to be changed. So, when in the design phase, the interchangeability criteria don't seem practical, as most changes are not interchangeable, meaning that a new item number shall be assigned to the modified items most of the time. Do you think it's OK not to use the interchangeability rule while still in design and keep the item numbers unchanged following revision of items? If so, how would you manage prototypes? Would you generate complete product trees for the various prototypes built throughout the design phase?

Ken's answer:

What most people do is have design revisions and then part revisions. In other words, a design undergoes design revisions until it is released (i.e., released outside of the design environment). Then it would undergo part revisions. While in the design revision state, interchangeability rules don't apply. In the released state, interchangeability rules do apply. This also usually means different ECO processes. When a design is in the design state, people often place it in a rather light ECO process. Once in any type of released state, all the information about that part is under a strict ECO process.

As far as dealing with prototypes, most people use different part numbers for prototypes and have them managed in their own revision scheme.

Click here to return to Contents

CIMdata in the News: PLM Roundtable, Part 1 Closing in on Nirvana?

March 2007

In the March 2007 issue of Desktop Engineering, a panel of experts sees future PLM systems as easier to implement and less expensive to maintain. They discuss keeping the implementation costs of product data management reasonable and what technologies would enable PDM to become more effective and flexible.

Regarding implementation costs, Ed Miller, President of CIMdata comments:

> A key driver is fundamental program and project management. Companies really need to think about where they want to go with their business, what is important to them that PLM provides, what are their priorities, what achievements or metrics will indicate success, and then put together a genuine management program with clear objectives.One mistake that many companies have made is to define too big a first step in their implementation programs. Although an overall vision is necessary to guide decisions and priorities, it's important to implement portions of the overall PLM strategy in the form of smaller steps that can deliver visible and early success to the company. These initial successes help build confidence and momentum into the next phases. One of the inherent problems with a large implementation is that if you don't start delivering value within a reasonable timeframe, people lose confidence in the program and support declines. Then the project starts floundering and before long it is viewed as unsuccessful, regardless of what the end results might be.

For a full discussion by these experts please visit PLM Roundtable, Part 1, (Desktop Engineering, March 2007), Written by Nancy Rouse-Talley.

Click here to return to Contents

Podcast: Interview with Ed Miller, of CIMdata

23 January 2007

Ed Miller, president of CIMdata, an Ann Arbor, Mich., consulting firm, talks with Automation World's Wes Iversen about trends in mass customization, or "build-to-order" manufacturing.

Mass customization involves the ability to build products specifically to customer order, in lot sizes as small as one, and to deliver those products relatively quickly, often at price points similar to those of mass-produced products.

Today, terms such as "build-to-order" or "configure-to-order" are often used to describe this approach to manufacturing. But whatever you call it, a growing number of companies are moving in this direction, as a way to improve their competitiveness and customer responsiveness.

Automation World Managing Editor Wes Iversen recently discussed these trends with Ed Miller, president of CIMdata, an Ann Arbor, Mich., consulting firm.

That conversation follows.

Listen to podcast

Click here to return to Contents

Company News

BEASY in South America

March 2007

BEASY announced the recent agreement with Engineering Simulation and Scientific Software (ESSS), to become a distributor of BEASY products. BEASY provides software applications which supply the tools needed to quickly and accurately simulate the life and performance of products. Applications include: Mechanical Analysis, Durability and Crack Growth Analysis, Corrosion and Cathodic Protection, Corrosion Related Electric & Magnetic Fields and Acoustic Design and Noise Control.

"We are very excited about this agreement with ESSS, we believe it to be of great longterm benefit, not only to BEASY customers but to all customers of ESSS"- Dr R Adey, Managing Director of BEASY

ESSS brings to the South American market technology for numerical simulation of engineering problems and scientific software development. For the past 11 years they have been servicing a wide variety of markets such as oil, aerospace, automotive, appliances and power generation industries. ESSS have considerable experience in understanding their customer's requirements and advising on the engineering services and training best suited to satisfy these needs.

ESSS have been working with structural analysis, CFD, Optimization, advanced visualization. They are also a member of the Technet Alliance, having implemented CAE tools in more than 300 commercial companies and 100 universities throughout the whole of South America. ESSS have offices in Florianópolis, São Paulo and Rio de Janeiro and employ more than 70 people, most of them with advanced degrees.

'After a deep research on the tools available on the market we chose BEASY products to complement our solution portfolio. The decision was based on the quality of the products and BEASY's very strong technical background that will certainly compliment our ability to service the market with high-end tools and excellence in services to a broader range of applications.' - Sergio Rodrigues, Director of Structural products ESSS.

Click here to return to Contents

CEI's EnSight Visualization Suite to Be Distributed by LEAP in Australia and New Zealand

20 March 2007

Computational Engineering International (CEI) announced that the Australia-based firm LEAP Australia will distribute all of the American developer's visualization software in both Australia and New Zealand. Best-known for its industry-leading EnSight software, CEI produces a full range of software applications for the scientific and engineering community covering aspects of simulation including meshing, plotting, process workflow, animation, and visualization.

"We're very pleased to be represented by LEAP, given their strong reputation as the leading provider of computer-assisted engineering software in Australia and New Zealand," said Darin McKinnis, CEI's vice president of marketing and sales. "CEI already has numerous customers in the region, and we're very optimistic about the many new directions this partnership will take us."

One of Australia's top CAE consultancies, LEAP distributes numerous CAE applications throughout Australia and New Zealand and offers training and support for a wide variety of engineering applications. The firm, which was founded by managing director Greg Horner, has gained a strong reputation for its expertise in applying technology, and for its ability to help customers achieve efficient product development, manufacturing, and product lifecycles.

CEI's EnSight suite and its other advanced visualization applications will complement the technology that LEAP currently employs, broadening the company's CAE expertise. "CEI's products will strengthen our capabilities and we are very pleased to be able to partner with them to provide their unique technology to Australia and New Zealand," said Greg Horner, managing director at LEAP.

For more information about CEI or any of its software, visit http://www.ensight.com/. To learn more about LEAP and its services, visit http://www.leapaust.com.au/.

Click here to return to Contents

IMAGINiT Technologies Wins Four Platinum Club Awards at Autodesk One Team Conference

15 March 2007

RAND A Technology Corporation ("RAND Worldwide™" or the "Company"), announced that its IMAGINiT Technologies division received top honors last week at the Autodesk One Team Conference (OTC) in Las Vegas, Nevada. IMAGINiT garnered four Autodesk Platinum Club Awards; the most awards given to any Autodesk channel partner for 2006.

IMAGINiT received awards for: top overall revenue performance, top Canadian reseller and highest MEP revenue growth in the Building Solutions Division. In addition, Matthew Sadler, IMAGINiT's Country Manager for United States operations, received the fourth Platinum Club award, a Special "Shooting Star." This award is determined by votes from Autodesk employees for reseller partners they believe deserve special recognition.

Click here to return to Contents

Invention Machine Continues Global Expansion with Opening of New Japanese Office

19 March 2007

Invention Machine Corporation announced that it has opened a regional office in Japan and has appointed Kiyoshi Shikakura as Invention Machine’s Vice President of Sales, Asia Pacific North Rim. The new office, located in central Tokyo, builds upon Invention Machine’s long-standing commitment to the Asia Pacific region and reflects the growing regional demand for Invention Machine’s flagship product, Goldfire Innovator™.

Invention Machine has been working with resellers and distributors in Asia Pacific for more than ten years, and has amassed a customer base that includes some of the foremost names in electronics, appliance, automotive, industrial and life sciences manufacturing, including: Toshiba Medical, SONY, LG Electronics, Omron Corporation, Samsung, LG Micron, NEC, POSCO, Matsushita, Hyundai Heavy Industries, Taiwan Power, JFE Steel, and Hitachi LTD.

The new regional headquarters will provide strategic sales support for Invention Machine’s growing base of channel partners and customers across the Northern Rim of Asia Pacific. In his new role, Kiyoshi Shikakura will direct the opening of the new office in central Tokyo, and will oversee Invention Machine’s operations in Japan, South Korea and Taiwan.

Shikakura brings to Invention Machine more than 18 years of software sales and management experience. Shikakura comes to Invention Machine from Mathsoft Engineering and Education, Inc. (acquired by Parametric Technology Corporation in April 2006), where he served as Director of Asia

Pacific Sales and Marketing, first established Mathsoft's Japan office and led direct and channel sales for the company's North Rim territories. Prior to MathSoft, Shikakura worked for Cybernet Systems Co, Ltd., a Japanese-based company specializing in sales and support of scientific and engineering software, for more than fifteen years. At Cybernet, Shikakura's responsibilities included sales, marketing and operations. Shikakura has an economics degree from Waseda University in Tokyo.

"The Asia Pacific region continues to be very strategic for Invention Machine, and building out an infrastructure in Japan to support the growing Asia Pacific distributor and customer-base is strategically significant for the company's continued success," said Mark E. Atkins, Chairman, President and CEO of Invention Machine. "Shikakura-san is a key addition to the Invention Machine executive team. His sales and management strength along with his strong relations with the Japanese and other Asian manufacturing and engineering communities will enable Invention Machine to further dedicate itself to the success of its distributors and customers – in Japan and throughout Asia Pacific. We look forward to building a strong long-term presence in Asia Pacific."

Click here to return to Contents

OPTIS Welcomes Jiangda of China into its Distribution Partner Network

13 March 2007

OPTIS announced that Jiangda Technology Development Ltd is to distribute OPTIS' light and vision simulation software in mainland China.

Jiangda will distribute the OPTIS software SPEOS CAAV5 BASED which is 100% integrated in CATIA V5, the PLM CAD solution by Dassault Systèmes. OPTIS, based in France, and with offices on 3 continents, develops and markets software dedicated to the simulation and optimisation of light behaviour in a CAD system. Manufacturers for a wide array of design applications from automotive headlamps to cockpit controls, to architectural lighting, to laser systems to cell phone displays, have adopted the OPTIS technology. OPTIS has over 1200 customers including Audi, Bombardier Aerospace, Bosch, EADS, Honda, Konica Minolta, LG, Porsche, Samsung, Sony, Renault, and 3M.

Jiangda Technology Development Ltd has been the largest supplier of Dassault Systems solutions in China since 2002. Its customers include China's major automotive, aerospace, shipbuilding and electronics manufacturers.

"Our customers are increasingly seeking advanced software solutions to carry out and manage light simulation as an integral part of their product development. Thanks to our distribution agreement with OPTIS we will be able to provide them with world-class light and human vision simulation solutions" says Ian Wu, Managing Director, Jiangda Technology Development Ltd.

"OPTIS and Jiangda will work hand-in-hand to deliver integrated software and services to enable Chinese customers to improve their products' light performance, whilst making considerable cost savings

and reducing time-to-market. We look forward to collaborating closely with Jiangda, and benefiting from their already well-established market presence" says Jacques Delacour, CEO & President, OPTIS.

Click here to return to Contents

SoftInWay Appoints Eksen Engineering as Turkish Distributor

23 March 2007

Softinway announced that it has broadened the company's world sales network by completing an agreement with Eksen Muhendislik Test ve Simulasyon Tic. Ltd Sti to provide distribution of its AxSTREAM™ Suite of Multidisciplinary Design Optimization software to the Turkish turbomachinery industry.

Eksen Engineering is the leading seller of CAE software in Turkey, representing brands such as MSC.Software, Nika, Ensight, nCode, dataM, LS-DYNA and Vibrant. "SoftInWay's AxSTREAM product suite will be a great compliment to our existing portfolio," said Mr. Aydin Kuntay, General Manager. "Turkey's R&D investments are increasing to strengthen its growth in automotive, defense, machinery and manufacturing industries. The turbomachinery sector will benefit from this growth and we aim to contribute to this sector with high-tech tools such as SoftInWay's products."

We are very pleased to be forming a partnership with such an experienced CFD/CAE solutions provider as Eksen Engineering stated Dr. Leonid Moroz, President of SoftinWay. "Their strong knowledge of the turbomachinery market and leadership position in CAE sales and technical support will be great strengths in establishing our design optimization software in our target markets."

Click here to return to Contents

SpaceClaim Announces Addition of Michael McGuinness as Chief Operating Officer

21 March 2007

SpaceClaim Corporation announced the addition of Michael McGuinness to its Executive Team. McGuinness brings to SpaceClaim 25 years of strategic vision, and successful execution in high technology, management, and business development. With broad executive experience across several industries and deep experience in bringing to market software for the manufacturing sector, he is well-qualified to lead SpaceClaim's customer-facing activities.

"Michael McGuinness' rich background and considerable experience in generating customer-focused growth will help the market realize the full potential of SpaceClaim's ground-breaking 3D mechanical design technology," commented Mike Payne, SpaceClaim CEO. "We are pleased to welcome Mike, a seasoned software executive with relevant industry experience, to this key leadership position."

Most recently, McGuinness was the President and CEO of PanGo® Networks, Inc., a market leading provider of its PanOS Platform® and applications that leverage RFID technology in support of the real time asset tracking market. Joining just prior to product launch, McGuinness helped position the company with key partners, including Cisco, and generate dozens of successful customer deployments

before negotiating a merger with a larger RF technology company to achieve greater critical mass in the marketplace.

Prior to joining PanGo, McGuinness held the position of President and CEO of NuGenesis® Technologies Corporation. During his tenure, McGuinness orchestrated the company's transition from a pre-production, technology focused software company into the leading provider of Scientific Data Management Systems (SDMS)—commanding over 85 percent market share. Within a four year span, NuGenesis completed over 400 enterprise software deployments at over 200 companies involving over 30,000 end user licensees. Waters Corporation acquired the company in February 2004.

Beginning in 1987, McGuinness spent 10 years at Parametric Technology Corporation® (now PTC®), joining before its first product shipment and helping the company grow to become the dominant software vendor in the multi-billion dollar Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) market. As Senior VP of Worldwide Sales and Services, McGuinness successfully grew the company's revenue from $267M to over $800M in a span of three years, ultimately, he held the position of Executive Vice President of Research, Development and Marketing responsible for executing the company's product strategy and market positioning.

McGuinness serves on the Boards of Trustees of Fairfield University of Fairfield, CT and The Rivers School of Weston, MA. He holds a BS from Fairfield University.

Click here to return to Contents

Events News

Agile to Speak at Future Medical Forum by Virtus International

23 March 2007

WHO: Todd Hein, senior director life science solution of Agile Software will present "Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) in the Medical Device Industry" at the Future Medical Forum by Virtus International in Florida.

WHAT: The Future Medical Forum centers around the challenges that face the medical manufacturing organizations to sustain their competitiveness and to realize the extraordinary possibilities that lie ahead for truly world class organizations in this industry. This forum will bring some of the world's leaders and some of the medical manufacturing industry's greatest minds together for two days of think tanks, round table discussions, workshops and keynote presentations. In his presentation, Todd Hein of Agile will discuss the power that product lifecycle management has in making the creation, development, and market adoption of new technologies and processes a reality in the medical device industry. Backed with the evidence of customer success, Todd Hein's presentation will address how PLM fosters innovation and manages risk amid a highly regulated environment, allowing and encouraging the advent of cutting-edge, cost-effective, higher quality, compliant, successful products. In addition, executives from Agile customers Medtronic, Cardiac Science and Avail Medical Products are among those presenting at the conference.

WHEN/WHERE: Agile's presentation will be held on March 26 as part of the 2007 Future Medical Forum by Virtus International in Florida on March 25 - 27. For more information on the conference, visit http://virtusinternational.com/medical2007/index.html.

Click here to return to Contents

Altair UK Announces Its Biennial CAE Technology Conference

22 March 2007

Altair Engineering, Inc. announced that it will hold its Fifth CAE Technology Conference on the 17th April at the Heritage Motor Centre, Gaydon, Warwickshire. Online registration and a complete seminar schedule are available at http://www.uk.altair.com/conference.

The biennial conference will showcase companies that have accelerated their product development processes through virtual design software. The event has again attracted an industry A-list of keynote speakers and technical presentations. Conference keynote addresses will discuss current business challenges and the vision of the future by prominent industry leaders:

- John Sullivan, Director of Process, Methods, Tools and Information, International Operations at Ford Motor Company
- Alan Humble, Head of Stress Function ESAW, Site Coordinator ESA at Airbus UK
- Mark Garrett, Group Director Engineering and Products at Ricardo PLC.

Technical presentations chosen for the conference reflect the diverse industry sectors that are currently benefiting from advances in CAE and virtual design technology. The conference line-up includes presentations by Ford Motor Company, Jaguar & Land Rover, Airbus UK, McLaren Cars, Bombardier Aerospace and Unilever. These presentations will showcase innovative computer-aided-engineering (CAE) technologies and identify current trends and future directions in virtual product design and development.

"I am pleased to say that our conference agenda has gone from strength to strength. Our first Technology Conference was held in 1999 and has earned a reputation for presenting innovative and successful CAE applications that demonstrate real business benefits," explains Dr Royston Jones, Managing Director of Altair Engineering Ltd. "That is why it attracts such high calibre speakers and delegates, ensuring we create a forum for debate and discussion among the leading thinkers and practitioners involved in engineering design today. As always, we welcome familiar and new faces to this year's event and look forward to another exciting day of learning and networking."

In addition to the conference programme, visitors can experience the Exhibition Zone which will include physical examples of products which have benefited from Altair's virtual design process. This will include components from the automotive, aerospace, offshore, packaging and medical industries (e.g.

Airbus A380 Drop Nose Ribs, Jaguar Cars knee bolster system etc). This provides a historical perspective of how the technology increasingly delivers world class products.

Further information and free registration is available at http://www.uk.altair.com/conference, tel +44-01926-468-600 or email events@uk.altair.com.

Click here to return to Contents

Call for Papers for PDT Europe 2007

March 2007

Conference topics and requested contributions

Download the Call for papers-Flyer in PDF-format.

Papers are sought for PDT Europe 2007 Geneva, Switzerland 24th - 26th of September on how to establish, implement and support the continuous transformation of PLM. PLM is often describing the "classic" challenges around mechanical products including calculations, design and manufacturing.

Looking at the Big Picture requires us also to include additional stages in the product life cycle such as requirements and product support. A vital component in product support/after-sales is technical documentation; so papers covering Technical Documentation in a PLM context are welcome.

The Big Picture PLM must take into account the impact of the increased content of software in almost any product. Defence systems, cars, telecom systems, aircraft etc move more and more in the direction of software with all its issues around configuration management. Managing software in the PLM context is increasingly important and papers about this are welcome.

Systems Engineering is very much about the Big Picture. Papers on Systems Engineering in the PLM context are welcome.

Besides learning about new technologies, there is a much increased need to learn how to manage PLM to get the return on investments and in parallel continue along the route towards the lean and agile enterprise.

This 'Call for Papers' invites original contributions concerning any of the following specific or general topics, or other related material:

Business & ROI

Focus of PDT Europe 2007: Business Value, Innovation, Tangible Business Values – Case Study, Security and Trust.

Other topics include Business development by increased information control and accessibility, deployment case studies, Return On Investment of PLM introduction, Life cycle costing, cultural and social changes from PLM introduction.

Processes & Methodologies

Focus of PDT Europe 2007 - Collaboration, Mechatronics, Systems Engineering, , Technical Documentation, Digital Manufacturing.

Other topics include Efficient reuse of PLM data, Configuration Management, Legacy systems integration, Data warehousing, PLM and ERP, Archiving and Long term preservation, Product Support, PLM introductions, PLM in the extended/virtual enterprise, Managing the engineering supply chain, PLM at SMEs.

Technology & Standards

System architectures and SOA (Service Oriented Architecture), standards for PLM and how they relate, standards work in ISO STEP, OASIS, OMG, W3C etc., information modeling, ontologies for PLM and the semantic web.

Submission of papers for PDT Europe 2007

Speakers are invited to submit abstract of a maximum of 1200 characters. Please respect the closing date for abstracts on April 30th. Time slots of 30 minutes will be available for the final presentations. Authors of accepted papers will receive a 40% discount of the conference fee!

Submission schedule

Closing date for submitting abstracts	30 April
Abstracts selected, authors advised	14 May
Publication of complete conference programme	18 June
Deadline for submission of complete manuscripts	27 Aug
Publication of proceedings (ISBN 978-91-631-8855-8)	22 Sept

Proceedings will be printed before the conference. Please note that final acceptance of papers to be included will be based on the quality of the manuscript, and its conformance with submitted abstract and formatting instructions (to be issued on acceptance of abstract).

Copyright of papers

By presenting a paper at PDT Europe 2007, authors will have assigned the copyright of their paper to the organizers for the purposes of publishing the conference proceedings under ISBN 978-91-631-8855-8. The organizers place no restriction on subsequent publication of papers, but any subsequent publication of a paper, in whole or in part, should acknowledge its initial presentation at PDT Europe 2007.

Click here to return to Contents

Delcam to Preview Automated Blisk Machining at Eurostampi

16 March 2007

Delcam will preview new automated functionality in its PowerMILL CAM system for much faster programming of the machining of blisks and impellors at the Eurostampi exhibition to be held in Parma, Italy, from 22nd to 24th March. Typically, the new option will allow even complex blisks and impellors to be programmed in around 30 minutes, compared with the many hours of work that would have been needed previously. To prove that the programs will run on a machine tool as well as they do on the computer, toolpaths generated with the new functionality will be used for live machining demonstrations on a Mazak Integrex machine.

To generate the CAM program, the user simply has to divide the CAD geometry between the shroud, hub and blade, plus the splitter blade if appropriate. Then, the tools to be used have to be chosen from the tool database within the software and the type of leads and lifts specified. Next, the user needs to decide whether to undertake the roughing either by pocket or level by level. The latter option involves more air moves but avoids deflection of thin blades that can result when machining pocket by pocket. A further choice may be made between finishing the blades either by machining the opposite faces of the pair of blades across a pocket or by machining around each blade. Finally, the predominant tool angle must be set. This will usually be normal to the hub, or to the shroud or to the centre line of the part. During the calculations, PowerMILL will automatically adjust this angle by the minimum amount required to maintain adequate clearance at all times and also to give smooth tool axis movement.

PowerMILL will then calculate the three type of toolpath needed to machine the item – a roughing toolpath to remove the bulk material, plus separate finishing toolpaths for the blade and the hub. A warning is given automatically if the cutter chosen for roughing will not remove sufficient material so that finishing can be undertaken safely. In these cases, a stock model can be produced showing the material remaining. This allows the user to choose either to reduce the size of the roughing cutter and so enable better access and increased material removal, or to create an additional semi-finishing toolpath to leave a safe amount of material for finishing.

To further speed the calculation times, if the blades are evenly spaced, PowerMILL will automatically count the number of blades and produce a complete set of toolpaths in a single operation. When the blades have different spacings, toolpaths must first be produced for a single blade and then copied around the hub at the appropriate angles.

Click here to return to Contents

Delcam to Show New PowerINSPECT Release at Control

22 March 2007

Delcam will demonstrate the latest release of its PowerINSPECT software on stand 6308 at the Control exhibition to be held in Sinsheim, Germany, from 8th to 11th May. This new version of the inspection software includes support for multi-axis On-Machine Verification, improved ease of use and compatibility with the AIMS Metrology System used by leading aerospace companies, such as Boeing and Lockheed Martin.

The multi-axis option for On-Machine Verification will allow companies with four-, five- or six-axis equipment to undertake comprehensive verification of their parts on these more complex machine tools, both during and after machining. The main advantage of the new option will be the ability to check undercut regions, without any need to re-position the workpiece.

The main improvement to the system's ease of use is the introduction of a colour-coded scheme for the points to be measured – an enhancement known as the 'bouncing ball'. Under the scheme, all points to be inspected are initially coloured blue, apart from the position for the first measurement which is shown in red. As the inspection proceeds, the next position to be measured is always shown in red, while each point that has already been taken is turned to grey.

The new scheme can be applied either when using teach-and-learn inspection of the first item in a production run or when programming a sequence for a number of parts off-line. In both cases, it will make it easier for any user to reproduce exactly an inspection sequence developed by a different operator. Similarly, it will help when duplicating an inspection last undertaken some time before, when the user cannot remember the complete sequence.

The new compatibility with AIMS will allow seamless sharing of CAD geometry, inspection plans and measurement results back and forth between PowerINSPECT and other hardware and software platforms. It will, therefore, make it easier for companies to introduce the Delcam software alongside any existing inspection systems. Similarly, it will simplify the comparison of results obtained with PowerINSPECT with any legacy data collected using older systems.

Click here to return to Contents

Flomerics and AWR Have Teamed Up to Host a Joint European Seminar Series

March 2007

"The integration between Flomerics' MicroStripes and AWR's Microwave Office provides RF and Microwave Designers with an enhanced design flow. This now gives them access to full-wave 3D EM analysis, including a full treatment of the radiation conditions for extremely accurate antenna analysis. In addition, this integration also allows full interaction with the full 3D model geometry," says David Dupuis, Global EM Line of Business Manager for Flomerics, who goes on to say …"This seminar series offers an interactive way to share leading high frequency design solutions, helping engineers to solve today's RF and microwave design problems easier and faster."

State-of-the-art techniques for 3D EM, Circuit and System simulation will be presented by both Flomerics and AWR. Areas of interest to include wireless antenna design, system in package, RF modules and wireless system design. Customer-driven applications, examples and challenges will be given allowing an insight into a superior RF/Microwave Design Flow.

Dates and locations include:

24th April 07	Utrecht, Netherlands
25th April 07	Paris, France
26th April 07	Bracknell, UK
3rd May 07	Stuttgart, Germany
9th May 07	Gothenburg, Sweden
10th May 07	Helsinki, Finland
15th May 07	Milan, Italy

To get your detailed agenda and to register, visit:
http://www.flomerics.com/microstripes/events/ or email: info@flomerics.co.uk

Click here to return to Contents

44th Design Automation Conference Announces Impressive Slate of Keynote Speakers; Dr. Lawrence D. Burns of General Motors, Dr. Oh-hyun Kwon of Samsung Semiconductor Business and Dr. Jan Rabaey of University of California at Berkeley to Speak

23 March 2007

The Design Automation Conference (DAC) announced three distinguished keynote speakers for the 44th annual DAC, which will be held in San Diego, Calif., at the San Diego Convention Center, June 4 – 8, 2007. Lawrence D. Burns, Ph.D., vice president of R&D and Strategic Planning for General Motors Corp., will deliver a Monday automotive-theme keynote address on June 4 titled, “Designing a New Automotive DNA.” Oh-hyun Kwon, Ph.D., president of the System LSI Division of Samsung Semiconductor Business, will present the opening session keynote address on Tuesday, June 5, on the challenges facing the semiconductor industry and his vision for future solutions. On Thursday, June 7, Dr. Jan M. Rabaey, the Donald O. Pederson Distinguished Professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences at the University of California at Berkeley, will deliver a special keynote, “Design without Borders -- A Tribute to the Legacy of A. Richard Newton.”

In his talk, Dr. Burns will discuss the DNA of the reinvented automobile that exchanges the internal combustion engine, petroleum, and mechanical linkages for fuel cells and batteries, hydrogen and electricity, and electronic systems and controls. He will highlight why the new automotive DNA will be a paradigm shift for the industry and address the design challenges and opportunities presented by the requirement for new electrical and electronics-based architectures, systems, and software for our vehicles.

Dr. Kwon will present a keynote address titled, "Perspectives on the Future of the Semiconductor Industry: Challenges and Solutions." He will outline the complex technology and business challenges facing the semiconductor industry in this era of declining chip prices and soaring R&D costs and offer insights on the kinds of innovations that will be required to overcome them, including new collaborations and partnerships, as well as new technological breakthroughs.

Dr. Jan M. Rabaey will deliver a special tribute to the late Richard Newton that promises to be an exciting glimpse into the emerging and future applications for EDA design techniques. These techniques, originally developed in the silicon era, are now beginning to be applied to the nano- and bio-constructions that physicists, chemists and biologists are working with. Dr. Rabaey's keynote will show that design methodology is a legacy that will live long after Moore's law has finally come to a halt. To quote Richard Newton, "The Future is BDA (Bio Design Automation)."

Keynote Speaker Biographies

Dr. Lawrence Burns is vice president of General Motors Research & Development and Strategic Planning, overseeing GM's advanced technology, innovation programs, and corporate strategy. In addition to driving innovation in today's vehicles, Dr. Burns is championing GM's "reinvention" of the automobile around advanced propulsion, electronics, telematics, and materials technologies.

He began his career in 1969 as a member of the research & development staff, where his research focused on transportation, logistics, and production system, and subsequently held executive positions in several GM divisions in the areas of product program management, quality, production control, industrial engineering, and product and business planning. In May 1998, he was named a vice president of General Motors, with responsibility for R&D and Planning.

Dr. Burns holds a Ph.D. in civil engineering from the University of California at Berkeley. He also has a master's degree in engineering/public policy from the University of Michigan and a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from General Motors Institute (now Kettering University).

Dr. Oh-hyun Kwon was appointed president of the System LSI division at Samsung Electronics in 2004. Before joining the System LSI division of Samsung Electronics in 1997, he led the team that developed the industry's first 64M DRAM in 1992, and he was also in charge of various memory technology developments, such as DRAM, SRAM, and flash memory.

Dr. Kwon has a Ph.D. in electrical engineering from Stanford University. He received his master's degree in electrical engineering from the Korea Advanced Institute of Science and Technology and a bachelor's degree in electrical engineering from Seoul National University.

Dr. Jan M. Rabaey is the Donald O. Pederson Distinguished Professor in the Department of Electrical Engineering and Computer Sciences (http://www.eecs.berkeley.edu) at the University of California at Berkeley (http://www.berkeley.edu), and his current research interests include the conception and implementation of next-generation integrated wireless systems.

He has been a visiting professor at the University of Pavia (Italy), Waseda University (Japan), Technical University Delft (Netherlands), Victoria Technical University and the University of New South Wales (Australia). He was the Associate Chair (EE) of the EECS Dept. at Berkeley from 1999 to 2002, and is

currently the scientific co-director of the Berkeley Wireless Research Center (BWRC), as well as the director of the GigaScale Systems Research Center (GSRC). Previously, Dr. Rabaey was a research manager at IMEC, Belgium, and prior to that, he was a visiting research engineer the University of California, Berkeley.

Dr. Rabaey received his EE and Ph.D. degrees in applied sciences from the Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, Belgium.

Click here to return to Contents

44th Design Automation Conference (DAC) Announces Technical Program

23 March 2007

The Design Automation Conference (DAC) released the complete technical program for the 44th DAC, to be held June 4 – 8, 2007, at the San Diego Convention Center in San Diego. This year's technical program features 161 papers selected out of 713 submissions, and is supplemented by eight special sessions, seven full-day tutorials, eight panels, 18 pavilion panels, and seven hands-on tutorials. The technical breadth of the program will offer insights and information on the latest advances in EDA for the approximately 11,000 attendees that visit DAC each year, including academics, researchers, developers, designers, managers, and executives in EDA, chip, and electronics companies. The complete program is now available on the DAC Web site at http://www.dac.com/.

This year's conference features an automotive electronics theme, which will be seen in special presentations and sessions throughout the week. Automotive electronics will be the focus of an all-day track on Wednesday, June 6, including a special session, invited talks, a panel, and regular papers all providing an opportunity for attendees to hear from EDA, semiconductor and automotive industry representatives about the issues impacting automotive design. For example, a special session will feature presentations on aspects of defining, designing and using virtual automotive platforms to implement applications on shared hardware. In a pavilion panel that afternoon, presenters will explore the special needs for correctness and reliability in automotive software, and how car makers and the research community are meeting those requirements.

The program includes more than 53 technical sessions divided into 10 tracks: Analog/Mixed-Signal/RF and Simulation; Automotive Electronics; Business; DFM and the Manufacturing Interface; Interconnect and Reliability; Low-Power Design; New and Emerging Technologies; Physical Design, Synthesis and FPGA; System Level and Embedded Design; and Verification and Test. While this year's technical program submissions did cover all ten tracks, more than 40 percent focused on the following hot topic areas: system design, low-power design, verification, and design for manufacturability, and as a result each of these topics is represented prominently throughout the program.

Tuesday afternoon will include a much-anticipated new WACI (Wild and Crazy Ideas) session highlighting out-of-the-box thinking. After receiving 54 submissions presenting early expositions of new ideas, the program committee selected eight papers, which will be presented in a short format designed to promote discussion among attendees.

Tuesday, June 5, will also focus on DAC's business track beginning with a morning keynote, and continuing with an all-day management seminar titled "Innovation or Extinction – the choice is yours!" Three notable speakers – Dr. Geoffrey Moore, best-selling author and the founder of The Chasm Group; Dr. Raul Camposano, formerly chief technical officer and general manager of the Silicon Engineering

Group at Synopsys, Inc.; and Dr. Jim Smith, general partner at Mohr Davidow Ventures – will provide a variety of perspectives on innovation with a focus on the unique challenges and opportunities of the electronics, semiconductor and EDA industries.

The program also features an array of panels spread throughout the conference with free-form discussions headed by EDA luminaries, addressing emerging and important areas in the field. The panels cover topics such as EDA mega-trends under shortening consumer cycles, handoffs between design and manufacturing, early power-aware design, and challenges in functional verification. On the exhibit floor, DAC will present an exciting series of pavilion panels on a variety of timely topics to stimulate discussion, such as trends in EDA, managing mixed-signal designs, DFM, system-level wireless design, and how to anticipate "the next killer app."

Seven full-day tutorial presentations are scheduled for Monday, June 4, and Friday, June 8. These are presented by experts in the field, and cover themes such as yield and fabrication, system level design, verification using formal assertions, reliability under soft errors, power delivery concerns for die and package design, and low-power design techniques. A special tutorial on variability in design has been organized to foster joint education and research amongst the DAC and the International Solid State Circuits Conference (ISSCC) attendees.

Seven vendor-presented, hands-on tutorials are scheduled throughout the conference, covering a variety of DFM topics.

On Sunday, June 3, five workshops will be offered on the following topics: the design and verification of low-power ICs; integrated design systems; low-power design intent; UML for SoC design; and hardware-dependent software. On Monday, June 4, 2007, the annual Workshop for Women in Design Automation (WWINDA) will be held at DAC.

Registration

Advance conference registration opens today. To register for DAC visit http://www.dac.com or call 800-321-4573 in the U.S. to request registration materials. The advance conference registration discount deadline is May 7, 2007.

Click here to return to Contents

GibbsCAM Machine Simulation for Multi-Tasking, Mill/Turn and Turning Demonstrated at WESTEC 2007

9 March 2007

Gibbs and Associates announced that they will be introducing the GibbsCAM Machine Simulation option at WESTEC 2007 at the Los Angeles Convention Center in Los Angeles, California on March 26th – 29th, 2007. This capability which complements GibbsCAM Cut Part Rendering process simulation functionality, allows for entire machine tool motion of a CNC program to be validated in an accurate simulation.

"As machine tools become more and more complex, the need for an accurate simulation of the machine tool motion become more and more critical," states Bill Gibbs, president and founder of Gibbs and Associates. "The latest class of multi-tasking machine tools represent just the beginning for machine tool complexity and configurability. We fully expect that multi-tasking machine tools will continue to evolve and place even more extreme requirements on programming systems. The foundation that we've put in place with GibbsCAM will allow it to keep pace with this evolution."

Multi-task machine tools represent one of the fastest growing machine tool segments in the market. Multi-task machine tools have become so popular primarily due to their ability to fully machine a wide variety of parts entirely within their working space without human intervention. Today, Gibbs and Associates has formed key partnerships with a number of machine tool vendors, which are focusing on multi-tasking as part of their strategic market position, such as Index, Matsuura, Mazak, Mori Seiki, and Nakamura Tome.

The updated version of GibbsCAM Machine Simulation being demonstrated at WESTEC adds support for turning, mill/turn and multi-task machine tools to the previous version which supported milling machine tools. Machine tools models can be built and setup like the real machine tool, then the CNC program is simulated to validate it prior to running the CNC program on the actual machine tool. Not only does this allow potential programming errors to be visually identified before they become very expensive mistakes out on the shop floor, but program inefficiencies can also be recognized and addressed.

WESTEC visitors can stop by the company's booth, #3268, to see first hand the GibbsCAM Machine Simulation option being demonstrated along with the latest productivity enhancements available in the latest version of GibbsCAM.

Click here to return to Contents

Hanover Fair: PLM Solutions From CENIT Optimise the Production Capacity of the Electronics Industry and Mechanical Engineering

13 March 2007

CENIT will be exhibiting an interface for the exchange of data between Electronic Design Automation (EDA) tools and SAP in hall 17 (booth E66) at this year’s digital factory at the Hanover Fair from 16 April to 20 April 2007. This direct integration between mechanical, electronic and SAP systems enables continuous SAP PLM processes in this field for the first time.

Following the integration of mechanical engineering with the CENIT software CDI in SAP, CENIT will be presenting, in the form of the new EDA/eCAD interface, another innovative solution to increase efficiency in the collaboration between ERP and the world of design at the Hanover Fair. The standardised SAP integration of these important disciplines will make a major contribution to increasing quality in product development in the electronics industry. The linking of all documents (or elements from mechanics, electronics and software) belonging to a product configuration ensures data transparency and documentation for all relevant areas and beyond.

Tailor-made solutions for mechanical engineering

Mechanical engineering generates a substantial proportion (32%) of total sales from product innovations. Together with Dassault Systèmes, CENIT wants to further support and optimise market-driven, rapid development in this area. To this end, visitors to the Hanover Fair will be offered a special promotion for solutions in the field of CATIA V5 in mechanical engineering.

Collaboration in the digital factory

Another focal point of this year's appearance by CENIT is providing support for digital production planning using DELMIA-based approaches which have been tried and tested in practice. For example, the fundamental improvement of collaboration between all those involved in planning. The advantages of direct access to the product geometry will also be explained: planning errors can thus be recognised at an early stage and avoided. Clear strategies for the reuse of plans already drawn up will round off this topic.

Learn more: http://www.cenit.de/hannovermesse.

Click here to return to Contents

Lectra Presents its New Generation of Automotive Solutions at the Lectra World 2007 for Automotive Conference

20 March 2007

Lectra unveiled its new generation of value-added solutions specifically developed for automotive professionals in Bordeaux, France on March 5.

Lectra CEO Daniel Harari welcomed 110 guests from 15 countries, including globally renowned automotive equipment manufacturers such as Faurecia, Johnson Controls, Lear Automotive, Milliken, Prevent, Toyota Boshoku, and TRW, among others.

"Lectra is firmly committed to the value-added partnerships that we have established with the world's leading automotive equipment manufacturers," said Daniel Harari. "We strive continuously to join our experience and expertise with that of our customers, to work closely with them in order to provide them with the technological tools they need to succeed in today's highly competitive market."

Lectra World 2007 for Automotive launches new software, equipment and services

Lectra presented its latest innovative solutions and related services dedicated to the automotive market at its new International Conference Center at the company's industrial site in Bordeaux-Cestas. "Our Bordeaux-Cestas site is much more than a facility to showcase our technology solutions," continued Daniel Harari. "It is a genuine international conference center dedicated to technological innovation in the service of our customers."

DesignConcept Auto: Lectra's innovative new 3D virtual prototyping solution

The first 3D/2D solution entirely dedicated to the automotive market, DesignConcept Auto provides extremely realistic virtual simulations to facilitate the analysis of finished product quality and estimate costs, enabling companies to make key decisions in the product development phase and thereby minimize manufacturing costs. Developed in close collaboration with customers, the new 3D virtual prototyping capabilities of DesignConcept Auto enable designers and product development professionals to explore a multitude of creative paths for the development of auto interior components while reducing the cost of prototyping.

VectorAuto: Lectra's powerful, intelligent new-generation cutting solution

The VectorAuto automated cutting solutions form the heart of Lectra's complete, intelligent cutting room offering. These multi-ply cutting systems provide a powerful response to the needs of automotive manufacturers and subcontractors, including optimization of productivity and quality, reduction of costs, and improved process flexibility and reliability. The system's on-board intelligence provides a revolutionary response to manufacturer's demand for reliable solutions in a context in which delays are heavily penalized.

The VectorAutoFX is fully dedicated to flexible production, allowing companies to optimize their small to medium-run production. It's advanced pilot software guarantees perfect cutting quality even for pieces with edges at a tangent; its usage is simple and secure and its smart maintenance system ensures constant availability.

The VectoAutoMH provides cutting precision on a wide range of products. Controlled by a new generation of software specifically developed for processing the foams and fabrics used in the automotive industry, it reduces fabric consumption by optimizing markers and cutting pieces at a tangent. It proposes the market's highest production speed, and generates activity reports which allow production managers to improve cutting room efficiency and decision making.

The VectorAutoMX9 combines production flexibility, exceptional output, and high-volume cutting capacity with unprecedented production speed and cutting quality. Even the most complex orders are handled swiftly, enabling manufacturers to multiply orders without upsetting lead times or consuming raw materials allocated to different orders.

FocusAirbag OPW: Lectra's innovative laser-cutting solution for a rapidly expanding sector

The new FocusAirbag OPW solution, dedicated to the production of One Piece Woven (OPW) airbags, optimizes manufacturing processes to guarantee increased productivity and substantial material savings. Its new operating software provides a more effective tool path, and traceability is ensured through detailed activity reports. The solution's new vision system automatically scans and analyzes the material, taking account of the geometry of the components, the position of the airbag, and any possible distortions.

HLC Leather Auto: Lectra's high performance leather-cutting solution

Lectra's new HLC Leather Auto solution provides high cutting quality and process repeatability. The solution automatically scans leather hides with an integrated camera to instantly calculate quality zones. Its double beam cutter can cut up to 10 hides per hour, and a complete statistical database provides real-time production information and tracking. The HLC Leather Auto's intelligent, automated nesting permits material savings of up to 10%.

Lectra's Smart Services: bringing still more added value to customers

Lectra's new Power service solutions provide customers with tailored expertise and high value-added benefits to help them improve the overall performance of their production systems and protect their investment. This new offering includes complete, real-time monitoring of customers' systems by Lectra's experts in the International Call Centers, a program of preventive maintenance, and upgrading of pilot software. The flexibility of these made-to-measure contracts enables Lectra customers to choose the most efficient combination of their own internal competencies and those of Lectra's experts.

"Because we work in close cooperation with our customers, Lectra's innovation policy has enabled the company to develop a complete, coherent solution which ensures productivity, flexibility and a secure process, the most important requirement of the automotive business," said Roy Shurling, Director of Lectra's worldwide automotive and transportation markets.

Click here to return to Contents

Mastercam's Maintenance Release Delivers Enhanced Toolpath Control; CNC Software's New Capabilities Demonstrated at EASTEC 2007

March 2007

The EASTEC show ushers in the latest CAD/CAM software from CNC Software Inc. Mastercam X2's Maintenance Release (MR1) will be showcased in booth # 5245 at the Big E Fairgrounds in West Springfield, MA on May 22-24. This release introduces significant new capabilities, including improved toolpaths for high speed machining, multiaxis enhancements, and much more.

Pencil Rest Material Optimization

The high speed machining Pencil toolpath has been enhanced to provide much smoother motion with fewer retracts when used with rest material. Also, Mastercam can now calculate the appropriate number of offset passes needed, based on tool diameter.

Core Roughing Trochoidal Controls

Trochoidal motion in high speed toolpaths assists with the machining of harder materials. Trochoidal motion maintains an acceptable tool load, allowing feeds and speeds programming to be reliable. In MR1, Mastercam gives you the ability to control when and how the trochoidal motion occurs in a toolpath.

Multiaxis Enhancements

Mastercam's 5-Axis Flowline toolpath has been enhanced to support undercuts. On complicated files where controlling the normal direction of the surfaces are cumbersome, Mastercam has an option that lets you either allow undercuts or ignore the surface normal direction, greatly simplifying the process.

The Advanced Multiaxis toolpaths have also been enhanced to support solid geometry. When a solid model is present, Mastercam provides the option to select solid geometry.

Viewsheets

New to Mastercam, viewsheets will save time when working with multiple views or working with different levels at the same time. Viewsheets let you create different user-defined sheets consisting of the view orientation, zoom scale, and visible levels of the part. Bookmarks allow you to save a specific state inside the viewsheet and recall it later. Mastercam saves the current view orientation, zoom, and visible level information each time you move from one viewsheet to another.

Additional MR1 Enhancements

- Z Oscillation contour type has been added to minimize tool wear. Z Oscillation is especially useful when cutting thinner materials or laminated materials.
- The high speed Scallop toolpath has been enhanced to optimize toolpath retracts during shallow applications.
- The high speed toolpaths have been modified to allow the user to control when automatic feeds, speeds, stepovers, and stepdowns are calculated.

Click here to return to Contents

PDT Europe 2007 Sept 24th-26th 2007, Geneva, Switzerland

19 March 2007

The annual symposium Product Data Technology Europe (PDT Europe) will take place at the Hotel Royal in Geneva, Switzerland, between the 24th and the 26th of September. During this year's conference, the participants will have the unique possibility to visit CERN where the world's largest particle accelerator is currently under construction. The visit will take place on Sept. 24th.

PDT Europe is a conference covering all aspects of PLM. The theme of PDT Europe 2007 is "PLM - The BIG PICTURE; Managing HW, SW, and Documentation!" The conference will span across a diversity of topics such as innovation, integration, SOA, PLM processes, ROI, and people and organization development.

PDT Europe is a conference where presentations by PLM experts are complemented with tutorials and interactive workshops. This concept has been much appreciated by participants at previous PDT conferences for giving them the opportunity to broaden their perspectives on PLM.

Quotes from participants at PDT 2006:

"The conference had very concrete presentations with real users' point of views"

Frédéric Feru, EADS

"The conference had a good pace of lectures and nice balance between workshops, lectures and discussions. Thanks a lot for the very good organization!"

Stephan Petit, CERN

PDT Europe is organized by Eurostep, in cooperation with CIMdata and Pathway Guidance.

Please visit http://www.pdteurope.com/for more information about the event.

Click here to return to Contents

PLM: The Fabric of Innovation Seminar for Apparel

April 2007

Learn how leading Apparel brands are meeting challenges with Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) solutions from ENOVIA MatrixOne. Find out how PLM is the fabric of innovation for new product development and introduction.

Join this seminar for the Apparel Industry and hear directly from the innovators, including GUESS?, Gap, REI, Quiksilver and more. Get all the information you need about the benefits of PLM in this one single event.

What: PLM: The Fabric of Innovation

When: Tuesday, April 17, 2007
Where: La Costa Resort & Spa, Carlsbad, CA

Details:

Seminar: 10:00am–5:00pm
Networking Reception: 5:00pm–7:00pm
Complimentary admission

REGISTER NOW >>

Sponsored by Walter Wilhelm Associates & ENOVIS MatrixOne
Preview the Agenda
See how this information-packed seminar will unfold with presentations and panel discussions from leading brands, both new and experienced with PLM. Mingle with your industry peers while you have numerous opportunities for learning, interaction, Q&A and networking.

Who should attend?
People in the following departments at mid-to-large sized Apparel enterprises: Director-level and above for IT, Design, Sourcing, Production, Product Management, Product Development, Technical Design or Technical Services, Merchandising and Supply Chain.

Click here to return to Contents

Teksoft to Demonstrate "Machining Intelligence" with CAMWorks at WESTEC 2007

20 March 2007

Teksoft Inc. announced that it will be featuring CAMWorks's technologies and advanced automation tools which maximize machining efficiencies at WESTEC 2007, March 26-29, 2007 in Los Angeles, California. Teksoft will be offering personalized one-on-one demonstrations of Camworks 2007 plus the opportunity for users to speak with the company's top application engineers and executives.

"In today's manufacturing landscape, the most successful shops are constantly evaluating their entire process and methodology to streamline operations," said Domenic Lanzillotta, vice president of Sales for Teksoft. "By investing in the best-of-breed technologies and world-class adaptable automation tools in CAMWorks, shops worldwide have created more efficient workflows and instituted continually repeatable best practices to maximize machining efficiencies."

CAMWorks was the first fully integrated CAM solution designed exclusively to operate inside SolidWorks. This seamless integration facilitates machining processes with familiar and easy-to-use commands with the click of a button, never having to leave your SolidWorks session to generate toolpath, the elimination of time-consuming file transfers, utilization of SolidWorks geometry ensuring that the part machined is exactly the same part modeled. In booth #3482, Teksoft will provide in-depth demonstrations of all the new capabilities in CAMWorks throughout the four day show.

Click here to return to Contents

Financial News

Agile Reports Third Quarter Results

19 March 2007

Agile Software Corporation announced results for the third quarter of fiscal 2007, which ended January 31, 2007. Total revenues for the quarter were $33.2 million, compared to $32.8 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2006. License revenues for the third quarter of fiscal 2007 were $11.5 million, compared to $13.4 million in the third quarter of fiscal 2006.

Net loss for the third quarter of fiscal 2007, on a generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) basis, was $5.8 million, or ($0.10) per share, compared to a net loss of $4.1 million, or ($0.08) per share for the third quarter of fiscal 2006.

Non-GAAP net income for the third quarter of fiscal 2007 (which excludes amortization of intangibles, stock compensation and stock option review costs) was $488,000 or $0.01 per share. Non-GAAP net loss for the third quarter of fiscal 2006 (which excludes amortization of intangibles, stock compensation and restructuring charges) was $122,000 or $0.00 per share. Reconciliation between our net income (loss) on a GAAP and non-GAAP basis is provided in a table immediately following the Condensed Consolidated Statements of Operations below.

Management Commentary

"We were pleased with our results in Q3, yet we remain intensely focused on driving more top line revenue going forward," said Jay Fulcher, Agile president and CEO. "In Q3, we again set new company records for revenues in our small and medium enterprise business. We also had several strategic customer wins that confirm our PLM leadership in the high tech and electronics vertical, with particular momentum in the semiconductor industry. The adoption of our Agile 9.2 release continues to go very well, and we expect that the launch of our next major release in Q4, Agile 9.2.2, will likely help us drive more revenue from our installed base in subsequent quarters."

Customer Wins and Expansions

Agile continues to gain momentum across its key industries, including electronics and high tech, life sciences and consumer products. Organizations that purchased new or additional licenses in the third quarter include ADVA AG Optical Networking, Advantech, Alcatel, Altera Corporation, Avail Medical Products, Ball Aerospace, Brocade Communication Systems, Cisco Systems, Form Factor, Freescale Semiconductor, GlaxoSmithKline, GN Netcom, Haemonetics, Heidenhain, International Flavors and Fragrances, Nvidia, Parata Systems, SanDisk, Scientific Atlanta, Sprint PCS, UEC Technologies and Universal Avionics.

Quarter Highlights

Highlights from the quarter include the following:

Agile continued to see strong adoption of its Agile 9.2 product line in the quarter, announcing Agile 9.2 deployments at contact lens manufacturer CooperVision, quality measurement systems manufacturer Instron, and semiconductor solutions leader Micron. Agile continued to gain particular traction in the semiconductor vertical in the quarter, winning a strategic selection at Freescale Semiconductor, which selected Agile as their global product data management solution, and announcing that Spansion selected Agile to streamline supply chain collaboration across their global enterprise. Agile also announced that Numico, an industry leader in baby food and clinical nutrition, had selected the Agile Prodika food & beverage solution to streamline its product processes.

Over the course of the quarter, Agile held its regional AGILITY seminar series in Taipei, Taiwan, Shanghai, China, Tokyo, Japan and Paris, France. The multi-country tour attracted hundreds of attendees and featured presentations from PLM industry leaders, Agile partners, and Agile customers, including

Arima Communications, Foxlink, Funai Electric Co., Ltd., and SI Solutions Co., Ltd. Agile also held a customer summit in San Jose, which focused on the company's strategy for its Agile e6 product line.

Conference Call Details

Agile will discuss its third quarter results and management's forward looking guidance on a conference call today beginning at 2:00 p.m. Pacific Time. A Web cast of the conference will be available on Agile's Web site at http://www.agile.com/ under the 'Investor Relations' section. You may access replays of the Web cast for ninety days after the call at http://www.agile.com/investors. Financial and statistical information to be discussed in the call will be available on the company's Web site immediately prior to commencement of the call. Additional investor information can be accessed at http://www.agile.com/ or by calling Agile's Investor Relations at (408) 284-4011.

Non-GAAP Financial Measures

In addition to reporting our financial results in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles, or GAAP, we are also providing with this press release non-GAAP net income (loss) and non-GAAP net income (loss) per share information, together with a reconciliation between the GAAP and non-GAAP information. In preparing our non-GAAP information, we have excluded where applicable, stock-based compensation (a non-cash charge), acquisition- related amortization of intangible assets and acquired in-process research and development (non-cash charges), stock option review and other investigation costs and gain on sale of investments (non-recurring charges), and restructuring charges. Because of the non-recurring or infrequent nature and/or non-cash nature of these charges, we believe that excluding them provides both management and investors with additional insight into our current operations, the trends affecting the Company and the Company's marketplace performance. In particular, management finds it useful to exclude the non-cash charges in order to more readily correlate the Company's operating activities with the Company's ability to generate cash from operations, and excludes the non-recurring and infrequently incurred cash items as a means of more accurately predicting liquidity requirements. Accordingly, management uses these non-GAAP measures, along with the comparable GAAP information, in evaluating our historical performance and in planning our future business activities. Please note that our non-GAAP measures may be different than those used by other companies. The additional non-GAAP financial information we present should be considered in conjunction with, and not as a substitute for, our financial information presented in accordance with GAAP.

Click here to return to Contents

Serena Software Reports Fourth Quarter and Fiscal 2007 Results

22 March 2007

Serena Software, Inc. announced results for the fourth quarter and fiscal year ending January 31, 2007.

Total revenue was $76.5 million in the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2007 and represented a 9% increase over total revenue in the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2006. Software license revenue was $30.5 million, maintenance revenue was $37.0 million and service revenue was $9.0 million for the fourth quarter of

fiscal year 2007. For fiscal year 2007, total revenue was $255.3 million, software license revenue was $86.5 million, maintenance revenue was $134.6 million, and service revenue was $34.2 million. Excluded from revenue is $1.5 million and $12.5 million of maintenance revenue written down in the purchase accounting for our merger with Spyglass Merger Corporation, an affiliate of Silver Lake Partners, for the fourth quarter and full fiscal year of 2007, respectively.

Net (loss) income computed in accordance with generally accepted accounting principles ("GAAP") for fiscal year 2007 was $(57.2) million compared to $35.3 million in fiscal year 2006. Included in the fiscal year 2007 results were $43.8 million of transaction costs related to the merger transaction involving Silver Lake Partners.

Adjusted earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation and amortization (“Adjusted EBITDA”) for the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2007 increased 32% to $34.5 million from $26.0 million in the fourth quarter of fiscal year 2006. Adjusted EBITDA for fiscal year 2007 increased 12% to $103.3 million from $92.0 million for fiscal year 2006.

Adjusted EBITDA excludes amortization of intangible assets and charges relating to the purchase accounting adjustments for the merger transaction involving Silver Lake Partners, stock-based compensation, depreciation, amortization of acquired technology and other intangible assets, restructuring, acquisition and other charges, and acquired in-process research and development. Adjusted EBITDA also excludes the revenue impact of the deferred maintenance write-down to fair value. A reconciliation of Adjusted EBITDA to GAAP financial results is included in this press release.

Total cash and equivalents as of January 31, 2007 was $68.5 million and total deferred revenue was $78.4 million.

Serena also announced today that it expects to amend its existing credit agreement in order to reduce the interest rate on the term loan. The amendment will require the approval of certain term loan lenders in accordance with the terms of the credit agreement.

NON-GAAP FINANCIAL INFORMATION: Serena’s management evaluates and makes operating decisions using various operating measures, including earnings before interest, taxes and amortization (EBITA). Serena’s management uses EBITA as a supplemental financial measure in evaluating the performance of Serena's business, making forecasting, budgeting and operating decisions and establishing operating targets, budgets and performance-based compensation arrangements. In addition, our lenders use similar operating measures to evaluate our operating performance and compliance with certain financial covenants. One such measure used by our lenders is Adjusted EBITDA, which is calculated in accordance with the debt covenants under our credit agreement. Adjusted EBITDA differs from GAAP operating income in that it excludes amortization of acquired technology and intangible assets, writedown of maintenance revenue and acquired in-process research and development and other charges relating to purchase accounting adjustments from our merger with Spyglass Merger Corporation and our acquisition of Pacific Edge Software, Inc.; restructuring, acquisition and other charges; stock based compensation under SFAS 123R; and depreciation. Adjusted EBITDA is not an alternative to operating income as calculated in accordance with GAAP. Lenders and investors should not rely on the use of Adjusted EBITDA as a substitute for any GAAP financial measure. In addition, our calculation of Adjusted EBITDA may or may not be consistent with that of other companies. Lenders and investors are encouraged to review the reconciliations to the comparable GAAP financial measures that are included below and not to rely on any single financial measure to evaluate our business.

For financial tables, please visit http://www.serenainternational.com/News/PR/sPR_03222007.asp.

Click here to return to Contents

Implementation Investments

Acrobat 3D Software to Accelerate Design Collaboration Processes at Renault Group

21 March 2007

Adobe Systems Incorporated announced that Renault Group has adopted Adobe® Acrobat® 3D software to extend 3D visualization and design collaboration capabilities across its extended enterprise of employees and supply chain partners. Renault plans to deploy the product throughout its engine and body organizations, and expects to harness PDF to more reliably and securely share 3D designs via widely available, free Adobe Reader® software. The agreement involves 5,000 seats of Acrobat 3D.

Many large manufacturing companies rely on different computer-aided design (CAD) formats, software applications and operating systems in the design and development of products. The structured CAD and digital mock-up workflows within Renault's Product Data Management (PDM) system already support the ability to share native file formats among engineers. At the same time, PDM and digital mock-up infrastructures can be further extended to teams to speed product development, while also helping to maintain the accuracy and security of proprietary information. With Adobe PDF already an existing component of Renault's core business processes, Acrobat 3D will deliver 3D engineering content at the document level in the same familiar and reliable cross-platform format.

"The pressure to deliver better products faster, in the face of fierce competition and the continued growth of outsourcing, is top-of-mind for manufacturing organizations worldwide, from automotive and aerospace companies to those in areas such as industrial machinery," said Tom Hale, senior vice president, Knowledge Worker Business Unit at Adobe. "Acrobat 3D will enable Renault to drive document-based design collaboration processes across extended teams more quickly, securely and cost-effectively using proven, time-tested technologies in PDF and the ubiquitous, free Adobe Reader."

Acrobat 3D allows Renault teams to convert 3D models from a wide variety of major CAD formats and embed them into PDF files through a simple drag-and-drop process or by capturing the OpenGL displays—regardless of whether they have the specific CAD application. Three-dimensional objects can be combined in a single PDF document with relevant product development information, such as spreadsheets, presentations, images, and even dynamic XML data extracted from the company's PDM system. Engineers can then quickly share the PDF file with other departments or external partners in an immediate, iterative feedback process alongside more structured design reviews. When enabled by Acrobat 3D, Renault's extended team members using Adobe Reader can interact with the 3D content in PDF, view product structure, apply digital signatures, and leverage commenting, measurement and cross-section tools directly on 3D objects1.

Moving forward, Renault is eligible to upgrade to Acrobat 3D Version 8 software. The major upgrade to Acrobat 3D is expected to ship in Spring 2007, and will include new and enhanced capabilities for producing highly compressed PDF documents with accurate geometry from large, complex CAD assemblies. The product also will enable users to distribute product manufacturing information—used to

convey geometric dimensioning and tolerancing, annotations, and dimensions directly on a 3D model—in Adobe PDF.

Adobe Reader and Adobe Flash® Player, the company's cross-platform client technologies, are installed on over 700 million connected PCs and devices worldwide.

1 Requires Adobe Reader 7.0.7 or later

Click here to return to Contents

Autodesk Announces BigToys, Inc. as Inventor of the Month for March 2007

19 March 2007

Autodesk, Inc. announced that BigToys, Inc. (BigToys), a manufacturer of environmentally friendly commercial playground equipment, has been named as the Autodesk Inventor of the Month for March 2007. The Inventor of the Month program recognizes the most innovative design and engineering advancements made by the extensive community of customers using Autodesk Inventor software, which provides manufacturing companies with the power of 3D design without compromising investments in 2D processes.

For nearly 35 years, BigToys has earned a reputation as a manufacturer of high-quality commercial playground equipment for children. With an emphasis on caring for the environment as much as on children, BigToys continues its role as a leader in the playground equipment industry by promoting environmental awareness and responsible stewardship of natural resources.

BigToys makes significant use of recycled, recyclable and renewable materials for its commercial playground equipment. BigToys' sturdy and durable steel and plastic structural system contains 100% U.S. made recycled materials. This gives BigToys one of the highest percentages of recycled content available in playground equipment today, and their use of post-consumer, high-density polyethylene plastic in its decks, roofs and enclosures helps keep hundreds of thousands of milk jugs out of landfills every year.

Autodesk Inventor software plays a vital role in helping BigToys design these environmentally friendly play structures. The world's best-selling 3D mechanical design software, Autodesk Inventor creates 3D digital prototypes that help companies experience their ideas before they're real. As a result, companies can optimize and improve their designs early in the design process, saving time, money and valuable resources.

BigToys has used Inventor software exclusively for design and development since 2004, having previously used Autodesk Mechanical Desktop with great success. During the transition period, Big Toys' staff relied on IMAGINiT Technologies, a leading provider of Autodesk software solutions, for support of the design and engineering functions and the use of Inventor.

The flexibility and faster iterative capability that BigToys has realized through the use of Inventor has led to more innovative product design and a more efficient design process.

"Designing with Inventor software is seamless," said Brian Lovgren, Engineering Manager at BigToys. "We can go from a crazy initial idea to a finished part with very little redesigning or duplicated effort. We also have the added benefit of sophisticated rendering and animation which helps us better communicate our design intent to others, and eliminate potential manufacturing errors."

"BigToys is using digital prototyping to be more efficient in its manufacturing operations and to create a safer, more environmentally friendly play space for our children," said Robert "Buzz" Kross, vice president of Autodesk Manufacturing Solutions. "We are pleased at the role Inventor is playing in this endeavor, and happy to name BigToys as our Inventor of the Month for March."

Each month, Autodesk selects an Inventor of the Month from the more than 600,000 users of Autodesk Inventor software. For more information on Autodesk Inventor of the Month, contact IOM@autodesk.com or visit the manufacturing community at http://mfgcommunity.autodesk.com/.

Click here to return to Contents

Catalog Data Solutions Adopted by Advanced Antivibration Components

20 March 2007

Catalog Data Solutions (CDS) announced that Advanced Antivibration Components has adopted its CAD model download solution.

Advanced Antivibration Components is a New Hyde Park, New York based operating division of Designatronics Incorporated, a company that began in 1960 as a manufacturer of small mechanical products. Advanced Antivibration Components (AAC) markets products exclusively related to the elimination of vibration, energy absorption and protection of components and devices from shock and possible destruction.

Offering CAD models for designers was part of an overall plan to provide Advanced Antivibration Components customers with an online solution including product catalog and CAD model downloads. "Responding to customer requests for CAD models of our products, we decided to offer 3D CAD models of parts for download because we believed it would boost our online sales, get products 'locked' into new designs and compliment our online eStore," said Dorothena Bonham, Product Manager. "We chose CDS for their leadership in this area and their excellent and proven quality CAD modeling services. So far CDS has built over 1,300 CAD models for us.

"We are delighted to have Advanced Antivibration Components as a long term customer", said John Major, CEO Catalog Data Solutions. "Online 3D models are an important sales and marketing tool for all industrial suppliers and distributors. With many customers moving from 2D to 3D CAD systems providing online 3D CAD model downloads often 'locks' products into a design so suppliers later benefit

from the sales success of that design. Suppliers without 3D models on their website are at risk of losing customers to their competition who do offer 3D models".

Studies show that over 90% of designers and engineers now use the Internet to locate components for their new designs. Catalog Data Solutions helps industrial suppliers and distributors grow sales and strengthen customer loyalty through interactive online catalogs, ecommerce, 3D CAD model delivery and product configurator solutions.

Click here to return to Contents

CENIT: the Most Successful CATIA Partner in Germany, Austria and Switzerland for the 12th Time in Succession

19 March 2007

The PLM consultancy and software company has been selling the most licenses for 3D PLM solutions CATIA and ENOVIA SmarTeam in Germany for 15 years now. In terms of sales, CENIT was far and away the most successful CATIA partner in Germany, Austria and Switzerland in 2006 for the 12th time in succession. The Stuttgart-based company succeeded in increasing sales of licenses for both solutions by over 20% compared to 2005. CENIT was also rewarded by IBM Deutschland and Dassault Systèmes as the partner with the highest share of new customers.

"This success was mainly generated by contracts concluded with small and medium-sized engineering companies, suppliers to the aerospace industry as well as the automotive supplier industry," explains Martin Thiel, who, as director of PLM Solutions, is in charge of the sales and consultancy activities of CENIT. He continues: "However, expanding solutions for existing customers in innovative applications such as generative mechanical design, finite element method or mechatronic solutions also impressed the decision makers from industry."

In total, more than 1,300 CATIA and ENOVIA SmarTeam customers currently place their trust in the many years of practical experience which CENIT can boast of. A large number of these customers are looked after by the CENIT medium-sized business community distribution centre. The special requirements of the medium-sized business community are optimally covered by this unit. The customers benefit in particular from the experience which CENIT gains by working with technological leaders and OEMs from all branches of industry. "It is precisely the holistic PLM approach of CENIT with the complete range of services offered by Dassault - CATIA, ENOVIA SmarTeam, ENOVIA VPLM, DELMIA – and CENIT's own software products which plays an important role for our customers," says Martin Thiel confidently.

Click here to return to Contents

Chengda Engineering Corporation of China Joins Bentley's Power Program

15 March 2007

Bentley Systems, Incorporated announced that Chengda Engineering Corporation of China, a leading full-service engineering corporation specializing in engineering design, has joined Bentley's Power Program and has selected the PowerDraft Enterprise subscription option.

Bentley's Power Program, which was launched less than a year ago and is available only in China, offers the MicroStation PowerDraft professional computer-aided drafting and detailing (CADD) product through a subscription-based model. The PowerDraft Enterprise option is an add-on service for enterprises that is designed for users with large quantities of MicroStation PowerDraft licenses. Enterprises receive full technical support, pooled licenses, single enterprise registration, home licenses, and tailored on-site training and OnDemand eLearning.

Commenting on the firm's new five-year PowerDraft Enterprise subscription, Deng Xiang, deputy chief engineer of Chengda/IT director, said, "Among the many reasons why we standardized on the MicroStation PowerDraft solution for our staff of 500 are the ability it provides to read and write DWG files and its ease of use. Each staff member was trained in the software's many features and functionality and became adept in its use in less than two weeks.

"In addition, Bentley's Power Program eliminates the administrative overhead involved in dealing with licenses, upgrades, and the like across distributed enterprises. As a result, the program makes it possible for us to confidently base our business on this solution."

The MicroStation PowerDraft solution will replace Chengda's AutoCAD 2D drafting products and be deployed in a variety of projects. Among them will be chemical as well as oil and gas plant engineering design projects in China, in other parts of Asia, and in Europe.

MicroStation PowerDraft

MicroStation PowerDraft is professional-level CADD used for 2D/3D production drafting and detailing. It is the world's easiest-to-use CADD product, reads and writes more versions of DGN and DWG than any other CADD product, and works for plant, building, civil, and geospatial users.

In a recent survey of MicroStation PowerDraft CADD users in China, many said that their favorite features of MicroStation PowerDraft include its extensive plotting support, its ability to generate PDF files, its support for Microsoft Visual Basic for Applications, and its full suite of referencing tools for both MicroStation reference files and AutoCAD xref files.

PowerDraft Private Option

The Power Program also includes the PowerDraft Private option, which offers users and developers in China a first-year subscription to MicroStation PowerDraft for free; the price for future years is 200 RMB per year. The software is supplied as a full product (not a demo) in the Chinese language. It can be downloaded from the Bentley Web site at http://www.bentley.com.cn and is also available on a CD. The subscription includes all updates, email support, and Web-based OnDemand eLearning.

Because Bentley offers a comprehensive portfolio of software for infrastructure, PowerDraft Private users and PowerDraft Enterprise organizations can easily expand their solutions to meet the needs of distributed enterprises developing major infrastructure.

Partnering with Chinese Developers

The Power Program also offers local software developers a platform for building local applications. Through this platform and the Bentley Developer Network (BDN), developers will benefit from Bentley's success in the region. Bentley is supporting a number of BDN members in their development efforts. Recent applications include the Intelligent Electrical Design on PowerDraft (Promis.e 2007) from ECT China and the TSSD Structure Detailing system for PowerDraft from TSZ.

Developers from the building, civil, geospatial, and plant verticals are welcome to join BDN. Members have access to local technical and training support services, and their users also receive a free year's subscription to MicroStation PowerDraft.

Next Steps for Interested Parties

End users can subscribe to MicroStation PowerDraft online at http://www.bentley.com.cn Third-party developers can join the BDN by contacting Terry Teng at china.bdn@bentley.com or by calling +86 10 6569 3060. General information on all of Bentley's products and services can be found online at http://www.bentley.com.cn.

Click here to return to Contents

Cyco Software's AutoManager Meridian and AutoManager MAXIMO Module Selected by Met-Mex Peñoles, S.A. de C.V.

21 March 2007

Cyco Software and DataCore Technology, a systems integrator specializing in the implementation of ECM solutions, announced that Met-Mex Peñoles, S.A. de C.V. has selected DataCore Technology to implement Cyco Software's AutoManager Meridian ECM solution with the Cyco AutoManager MAXIMO Module. IT Consol, S.A. de C.V., an authorized MRO MAXIMO reseller located in Mexico, has also been chosen to assist DataCore with the implementation. Met-Mex Peñoles, part of the Metals-Chemicals Division of Industrias Peñoles, S.A. de C.V., is the largest non-ferrous metallurgical complex in Latin America, and the fourth largest in the world in terms of production value. It is also the largest sodium sulfate plant in the world.

As a company with over 1200 MAXIMO users, Met-Mex Peñoles did not need help managing their maintenance data. What they needed was a way to manage their engineering documents, as well as a way to connect maintenance and engineering. "Cyco AutoManager Meridian will not only help us manage our engineering documents, but its seamless integration with MAXIMO will enable us to properly document and manage the entire lifecycle of our manufacturing facilities," says José Rodriguez de León,

Engineering Manager at Met-Mex Peñoles. “When maintenance and engineering can easily exchange documents and information, we will be able to reduce our risk of lengthy process downtime and continue our mission to add value to non-renewable natural resources in a sustainable manner.”

DataCore Technology and IT Consol will work together closely on the implementation of Cyco AutoManager Meridian and the Cyco AutoManager MAXIMO Module at the Met-Mex Peñoles facilities in Mexico. “Our partnership with DataCore allows us to leverage their significant knowledge and experience in implementing Cyco Software solutions, such as Cyco AutoManager Meridian,” says Edgar Martinez, President of IT Consol. “We plan to use this in combination with our knowledge and experience with MAXIMO to provide Met-Mex Peñoles with a robust solution to improve their operational efficiency, reduce their risk, and ensure their regulatory compliance at a reduced cost.”

Click here to return to Contents

Delcam’s FeatureCAM Makes Bike-Builder’s Dream a Reality

21 March 2007

A combination of Delcam’s FeatureCAM CAM software and a Haas machine tool has allowed Ted Tanouye, owner of custom bike builder Chumba Wumba, to take the leap into design and manufacturing, and so realise his dream to build the best bikes on the market. Mr. Tanouye is one of many small business owners to take advantage of the changes in the face of manufacturing over the past few years. The boom in smaller, more affordable machine tools and PC-based CADCAM systems has opened the world of CNC machining to a much wider audience.

Chumba Wumba initially began as a retail bike shop in Anaheim, California, but requests for custom-built bike frames eventually took over the business. Now the company not only designs and builds custom bike frames, it also runs a professional racing team where all the designs are tested to the limit.

The machined parts were originally outsourced but the long lead times slowed down the creative process, leading to frustration for both the designer and the customer. There is a big difference between going from concept to finished part on the same day and waiting two weeks for the same part.

"Quit dreaming about it and do it!” resolved Mr. Tanouye. With an engineering background but no practical machining experience, he took the leap into manufacturing by purchasing a compact Haas VMC machine and FeatureCAM CAM software.

Mr. Tanouye admits that his decision wouldn’t have been possible ten years ago because of the large cash outlay. However, things have changed over the past few years. Machine tools and the software to run them have become more and more affordable.

Both equipment and software has also become easier to use. "I purchased the Haas and FeatureCAM at about the same time,” remembered Mr. Tanouye. "I had one week of training on the Haas and learned FeatureCAM on my own. Within two weeks, I was designing and machining my own parts.”

"I chose FeatureCAM because it's a native Windows program so the look and feel of the software is very intuitive," he added. "I also like the automatic selection of tools and feeds and speeds. It is very fast and very easy to design and program parts in FeatureCAM. Creating features is just point and click, then the NC programming is done automatically."

"I really believe that no experience is necessary. The software is so intuitive that anyone with an engineering background can sit down with FeatureCAM for the first time and be creating code in just a few hours."

"Thirty-five parts, that means every item on the racing chassis down to the cable guides, are designed and manufactured in-house with the use of FeatureCAM," claimed Mr. Tanouye. "Other programmers are amazed by how fast and easily parts can be produced with FeatureCAM and it keeps getting better with every upgrade."

Click here to return to Contents

iVivity Selects Mentor Graphics Ethernet Intellectual Property (IP) Family for iDiSX State Machine Architecture

21 March 2007

Mentor Graphics Corporation announced that iVivity, a leader in I/O and application processors for networking and storage applications, has selected Mentor Graphics' 10/100/1000 Mbps and 10G Ethernet Intellectual Property (IP) cores for the iVivity iDiSX architecture. Mentor's Ethernet IP family was chosen due to its robust characteristics, including standards-compliance and ease of integration.

The iVivity iDiSX processor is the industry's only proven hardware state machine architecture that delivers full 10Gbps line rate throughput regardless of packet size with optimized power management providing easy integration and lower costs for next generation Ethernet-networked products, such as servers, switches, storage and networking appliances. iVivity products serve as fundamental building blocks for leading networking technologies, such as voice, video and data networks.

"We chose Mentor Graphics Ethernet IP based on their seamless integration of the IEEE 802.3 standard in the PCS and MAC layers. Mentor's IP provides us with a relatively small pin count connectivity solution to the physical layer device," stated Ben Sum, senior staff engineer at iVivity. "Low latency and larger frame size support is another important feature we found with Mentor's IP, which allows our design to process the frame efficiently in the storage environment."

The iDiSX hardware-based TCP acceleration provides the highest performing platform for designers to build on, without impacting the host or associated applications. This provides higher levels of throughput with feature-rich applications, critical for today's LAN/WAN Ethernet networked environments.

"We are enabling leading companies like iVivity to provide better solutions for their customers with our standards-based IP," stated Bill Martin, Mentor Graphics IP Division general manager. "Ease of

integration, standards compliance, technical support and responsiveness to customer needs, are just some of the many benefits in using a qualified IP provider, but ultimately, our IP helped facilitate iVivity's goal of optimized network performance with minimized impact on system resources."

For more information on Mentor's Ethernet IP products and product portfolio, go to http://www.mentor.com/IP

Click here to return to Contents

Koenig and Bauer Chooses TopSolid

20 March 2007

The Koenig and Bauer Group (KBA) chose TopSolid'Cam as its CAM software in May 2006 after a lengthy and demanding selection process. Missler Software's TopSolid'Cam solution will be implemented in all KBA sites and complete use of the system is planned over the coming 3 years. The Koening and Bauer Group is one of the largest press manufacturers worldwide and has the broadest press range in the industry.

The contract signed between Missler Software and KBA is for a total of 56 TopSolid'Cam licences which will be implemented in 3 German sites (Würzburg, Frankenthal, Radebeul) and one Austrian site (Mödling). In addition, Missler Software and resellers will provide training, maintenance and advice together with approximately 100 post-processors for the group's impressive range of machines.

In order to satisfy the group's needs Missler Software coordinates the KBA project with 3 of its experienced resellers NCDATA (Switzerland), Moldtech GmbH (Germany) and Comdata (Austria). The qualitative and local support from Missler Software's resellers was, in fact, a key factor in the company's choice of TopSolid'Cam.

According to Dominique Laffret, Vice-President of Strategic Relationships at Missler Software: "Our strong expertise in the programming of multi-function machines used in the 4 KBA sites helped us convince KBA that TopSolid'Cam was the best solution for the Group. Our German-speaking resellers as well as our internal CAM development team are at KBA's disposition to ensure the best support and service possible. This includes carrying out certain adaptations and specific add-ons requested by KBA to integrate the group's work processes and to ensure a successful transfer of 3D CAD data and the transfer of geometrical data."

Dr. Andreas Göttker, Machining/Foundry Manager and key decider in the choice of TopSolid'Cam adds "TopSolid'Cam's multi-function capabilities are very important for KBA. The integrated milling and turning functions in 2-5 axis, the software's intuitive nature and the software's advanced simulation functions convinced our internal operators. Another important point, related more to Missler Software than to its software, was the company's flexibility. Missler Software accepted a commercial contract in which the company engages itself to defined actions and shares in the risk undertaken. Managing this project with Missler Software has been much easier than in our past experience with other editors."

Click here to return to Contents

Land O'Lakes to Deploy Sopheon's Product Life Cycle Management Solution

20 March 2007

Sopheon announced that Land O'Lakes, Inc., a leading dairy cooperative, is implementing Sopheon's Accolade product life cycle management (PLM) system as the technology foundation for its product innovation processes. The solution will be used initially within the company's Dairy Foods business unit, where it will support cross-functional teams responsible for developing and commercializing new products. Plans include subsequent enterprise-wide deployment.

Headquartered in St. Paul, Minn., Land O'Lakes generates annual revenues of more than $7 billion and is one of the largest dairy co-ops in the U.S. It markets milk, spreads, cheeses and deli products to consumers, food services and food manufacturers throughout the world. Land O'Lakes also offers an extensive line of agricultural supplies and state-of-the-art production, distribution and business services. During its 86-year history, the company has established a reputation for quality, strong brands and innovation.

Land O'Lakes has stated that one of its principal strategic goals is to incorporate best practices into all aspects of its operations. This focus is part of an overarching plan for driving additional revenue and profit growth from core businesses. Actions include an initiative aimed at enhancing the company's processes for product innovation.

Sopheon's system will be used to automate the Stage-Gate product development methodology being deployed by Land O'Lakes. Accolade will streamline the process, making it easier to use and reducing the administrative burden otherwise associated with its implementation. Step-by-step task guidelines and Land O'Lakes' best-practice based report templates have been embedded in the software to aid efficient process execution and successful completion of deliverables. The system will strengthen innovation process governance by providing decision support and controls that enable more informed prioritization of product development projects.

"Innovation is essential to our business success," said Tom Gruetzmacher, vice president of research and development at Land O'Lakes. "Accolade will automate our product development process and assist us in setting project priorities. Its capabilities will help to ensure that the right new products get to market, and get there on time. In designing our system we benefited from Sopheon's domain expertise in product-development best practices and the fact that they have installed and supported similar, successful systems for a substantial number of consumer packaged goods companies. Their industry-specific know-how gave us an important leg up in developing a process in which we can have confidence."

"Business process improvement is a central strategic thrust for most companies today," said Andy Michuda, chief executive officer of Sopheon. "And recent surveys consistently place product and service development processes among the top improvement priorities. The reasons are all about business. Improved innovation means substantial increases in portfolio net-present-value and, ultimately, higher profits, revenues and stakeholder returns. Land O'Lakes' aim is to compete not only with superior products, but also with superior product development processes. We are committed to helping them achieve that goal."

Land O'Lakes' deployment continues an extended pattern of Accolade adoption by major consumer goods manufacturers. Ten of the 100 companies comprising Consumer Goods Technology magazine's current registry of the world's largest consumer goods producers are using the Sopheon system. Examples include Cadbury Schweppes, Electrolux, Nestle, and Reckitt Benckiser.

Click here to return to Contents

Leading Spirit and Wine Company Taps EMC Documentum to Help Reduce Cost and Complexity of Managing Enterprise Content

20 March 2007

EMC Corporation announced one of the largest American-owned spirits and wine companies is leveraging EMC® Documentum® software to help manage a wide array of unstructured and interactive content types within three of the company's key marketing applications.

Brown-Forman Corporation is recognized as one of the top-10 largest spirits companies, employing 4,750 people worldwide. It sells 37 brands internationally including Jack Daniel's, Southern Comfort and Finlandia Vodka. The company implemented the Documentum enterprise content management (ECM) platform to help it manage interactive content and brand assets for marketing and advertising programs, such as high-resolution artwork, photography, presentations and branded digital press room web sites.

Brown-Forman places a premium on managing its brand assets and interactive content, deeming these to be critical to engaging customers with information that educates, involves and entertains. Taking advantage of the EMC Documentum platform and EMC Captiva® software for document capture, Brown-Forman is able to consolidate information silos and more efficiently manage content across the enterprise -- from invoices and paper documents to photographs and digital videos.

"Because we are faced with an ever-increasing amount of business content to manage, the task of finding an enterprise content management solution became a top priority for us," said Brown-Forman Lead Systems Engineer Rob Price. "In EMC Documentum, we found a solution that enabled us to reduce cycle time for invoice processing, seamlessly deliver brand assets and quickly publish on the Web. Taking this one step further, the platform has also allowed us to reduce mailing costs and advertising agency fees, increased our visibility and facilitated outsourcing of non-strategic tasks. We look forward to unlocking even more of the power of EMC Documentum in the months and years to come."

In addition to managing diverse content types for its marketing applications, Brown-Forman uses the combined Documentum and Captiva solution to save money and create efficiencies by automating processes including web publishing, invoice processing and packaging design, as well as coordinating tasks with outside advertising agencies and partners. Brown-Forman has also leveraged specialized third-party applications built on Documentum's open content management platform to help it greatly reduce paper invoice mailing between its own offices and partner sites located across 135 countries.

"In today's highly brand-conscience marketplace, people focus on communications that inform, involve and entertain them. That's why companies like Brown-Forman now incorporate and need to manage interactive content such as images, audio, video, web pages, blogs, wikis, mashups and flash," said Mark Arbour, EMC General Manager, Interactive Content and Compliance Application Software. "We feel immense pride when customers like Brown-Forman experience success and gain value using EMC Documentum and EMC Captiva solutions. Our customers are realizing the true business value of our platforms by managing almost any content type across multiple departments and geographies."

Listen to Rob Price of Brown-Forman describe how his team developed a successful interactive content management solution using Documentum digital asset and web asset management technologies.
http://www.emcsoftware-info.com/mk/get/02-21-07_PODCAST_BROWN_FORMAN_EXP

Click here to return to Contents

Record Setting Weekend for UGS Sponsored Race Teams

23 March 2007

UGS Corp. announced UGS-sponsored racing team KB Racing and Hendrick Motorsports – whose cars are developed with the help of UGS® PLM technology – dominated last weekend's NASCAR and NHRA Pro Stock racing events.

Hendrick Motorsports driver Jimmie Johnson, the 2006 NEXTEL Cup champion, claimed his 25th career victory at the NASCAR NEXTEL Cup Series at Atlanta. Johnson also won the UAW-DaimlerChrysler 400 at Las Vegas Motor Speedway the week prior, making this his second consecutive win in as many weeks.

KB Racing driver Greg Anderson, the three-time NHRA Pro Stock world champion, set a new elapsed time record of 6.536 seconds on his way to winning the ACDelco NHRA Gatornationals in Gainesville, Fla. Anderson and teammate Jason Line also became the first Pro Stock drivers to break the 210 mph speed barrier with 211.49 mph and 211.69 efforts respectively. In setting the new elapsed time record, winning the race and qualifying No. 1 Anderson earned the maximum allowable points for a national NHRA event. Anderson, who also won the first race of the season, the CARQUEST Auto Parts Winternationals, became the only Pro Stock driver to win two of the first three races of the season.

"UGS congratulates KB Racing and Hendrick Motorsports on the new records and milestone wins," said Dave Shirk, executive vice president of Global Marketing for UGS. "UGS is excited to partner with innovative race teams that leverage technology to push the envelope and is pleased to know that our solutions help the teams win and break records in the process."

Click here to return to Contents

SolidWorks Helps Trek Bicycle Invent the 'Lime'

19 March 2007

Remember the bike you had as a kid? Remember the color? And how you felt riding it?

Of course, and it's those rapturous feelings that Trek Bicycle Corp., with the help of SolidWorks® 3D CAD software, is recreating with the launch of the Trek Lime. It's a new kind of bike for a different type of bicycle consumer – those who long ago abandoned cycling but just might want to ride again.

The Trek Lime is an "everybike" with a coaster brake, fully automatic shifting (like in your car), no cables, ultra-simple lines, a comfortable seat and – for the cool factor – swappable chain guards and handgrips in six different colors. You've heard of the mood ring? Call it a mood bike. And it's maintenance-free.

SolidWorks software was instrumental in the design of the breakthrough machine, which underwent myriad iterations based on research with an entirely different cohort from the company's usual target market of die-hard cyclists. As Trek industrial designers blazed through concept after concept, they were able to sketch directly on SolidWorks models by employing pressure-sensitive monitors that served as drawing tablets. These were powered by powerful Opteron® 64 processors provided by Trek partner AMD.

"The combination of SolidWorks software and the pressure-sensitive monitors enabled our industrial designers to try many different concepts quickly and easily," said Michael Sagan, Trek product development technology lead. "You completely preserve design intent when you combine sketching and CAD modeling together, then save the ideas as a SolidWorks file. Working this way allows our designers to be more creative and is a huge advantage for us."

Despite the high number of iterations, complete data compatibility across applications served to shorten time to market, according to senior industrial designer Hans Eckholm. "With SolidWorks software, we can use eDrawings® files for internal reviews, send STL files to vendors to create rapid prototypes, and work with our engineering team to resolve any fit or clearance issues," he said.

Although Trek is probably best known for the bikes Lance Armstrong rode to seven Tour de France victories, it's also the company that wants to get you out of your family van and back on two wheels.

"Lime brings back the joy of bikes for millions of soon-to-be born-again cyclists without the complicated gadgetry that captivates the competitive end of the bicycle market," said SolidWorks Vice President of Worldwide Marketing Rainer Gawlick. "Quite fittingly, Trek used SolidWorks software to reinvent the bicycle design process, enabling designers to work smarter and faster and design a better product."

Trek works with authorized SolidWorks reseller Graphics Systems Corporation for ongoing software training, implementation, and support.

Click here to return to Contents

Synopsys TetraMAX Diagnostics for Rapid Yield Learning Adopted by UMC

19 March 2007

Synopsys, Inc. announced that UMC has adopted Synopsys TetraMAX® diagnostics to accelerate yield learning for designs that utilize the Synopsys DFT MAX scan compression automation solution. Rapid yield learning depends on the accuracy and efficiency of failure analysis, a manually intensive and time-consuming process of identifying the individual circuit in a design that could cause a device to fail. Using Synopsys TetraMAX diagnostics to perform this task automatically on DFT MAX-compressed scan patterns, UMC engineers were able to substantially decrease the time and effort required for failure analysis.

"As part of UMC's leading-edge manufacturing products and services, we are continuing to build upon our portfolio of robust rapid learning tools," said S. R. Sheu, product engineering director at UMC. "When evaluating the TetraMAX diagnostics, we observed high accuracy in identifying failure candidates. TetraMAX improves the accuracy and efficiency of failure analysis on highly compressed scan designs, making it a valuable addition to our suite of rapid yield learning tools."

Yield learning depends on the ability to gather cumulative failure statistics across wafer lots. Synopsys TetraMAX diagnostics automates this process by quickly and accurately identifying logic in a manufactured part that could contribute to mismatches between expected results generated by the TetraMAX automatic test pattern generator (ATPG) and observed responses of the device under test. Working with secure TetraMAX databases provided by their customers, foundries can collect precise diagnostics during volume production runs of designs that utilize DFT MAX scan compression to reduce test data volume and test application time. Because the Synopsys flow for collecting and diagnosing failure data is the same for both scan-compressed and regular scan test patterns, failure analysis teams using the TetraMAX diagnostics flow with regular scan can quickly ramp up designs using DFT MAX.

"Synopsys TetraMAX diagnostics is an essential ingredient of yield learning platforms for nanometer processes," said Bijan Kiani, vice president of Marketing, Synopsys Implementation Group. "Foundries like UMC and their fabless clientele benefit from diagnostic solutions that accelerate yield learning and reduce time spent debugging first-silicon and production parts."

Click here to return to Contents

TactonWorks Boosts Customer Response Capability for Berg Propulsion

21 March 2007

Tacton Systems announced that Berg Propulsion AB has implemented TactonWorks in its SolidWorks 3D applications to support its sales force and speed the process of providing customized marine propeller solutions.

Berg Propulsion is one of the world's leading designers and producers of Controllable Pitch Propellers (CPP) and Tunnel Thrusters for use in merchant shipping. Since almost all ship designs are unique, a lot of work goes into designing the shaft and propeller arrangement for the combination of hull, engine, and propeller.

Berg Propulsion has previously used AutoCAD to produce the individual 2D drawings for customer approval and manufacturing, a manual process that could take a week. It has now automated this process by using TactonWorks in SolidWorks instead, allowing the interactive engineering-to-order of complete 3D designs simply by defining the customer's requirements, and reviewing how the design changes for each selection.

The company has been working with 2D ACAD together with its own basic version of a configurator. In 2001 they started with 3D design using SolidWorks. The added complexity of upgrading to 3D design, plus the increasing number of choices in product elements and customer constraints, meant that the company had been looking for a means of streamlining and boosting the flexibility of the design phase of its propulsion systems.

"With such an infinitely variable range of options to cope with, the TactonWorks/SolidWorks solution provides us with the ideal way to generate drawings automatically. It gains a lot of time, and ensures a specification system that is virtually error-free," says Anders Thoresson, Technical Manager, Berg Propulsion AB.

For more information, contact:

Tacton Systems

Klas Orsvärn, Executive Vice President, R&D

Telephone: +46 (0)8 690 07 50

Cell: +46 (0)70 657 58 70

E-mail: klas.orsvarn@tacton.com

Berg Propulsion

Anders Thoresson, Technical Manager

Telephone: +46 (0) 31 976 524

Email: anders.thoresson@bergpropulsion.com

Click here to return to Contents

Zweave's Design Automation Solutions Streamline Next Generation Body Armor Development for ARMORsmith

12 March 2007

Zweave, Inc. announced that it will provide services to ARMORsmith, a leading provider of next generation body armor. ARMORsmith has signed a two year subscription agreement to Zweave's Zdesign™ to manage product development data associated with the research, development, and manufacture of lightweight body armor solutions for Military and civilian police.

With a unique focus on human factors in the product lifecycle and defense industry specific features, Zweave's on-demand design automation solutions support the collaborative product lifecycle management of clothing and individual equipment items. Zdesign™ is a comprehensive, integrated suite of Collaborative Design Studios in which creative and sourcing teams come together to manage all aspects of product development. "After spending twenty years in product development with inefficient tools and processes to support color, fit, design, trend research, merchandising, sampling and sourcing, our team of product development and technology experts have created the tools we have always wanted for design and product development activities," says McCann, an Apparel Industry Product Development Veteran and the President and Founder of Zweave. "We have received seven Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) grants from the US Department of Defense to develop clothing and equipment design automation solutions to support the defense acquisition community. After five years of government funded R&D, we are launching Zdesign™ and Fit Studio™ our first products for the Consumer Products Markets in May 2007 with our partner OptiTex usa."

"ARMORsmith required a system that would support both male and female 3D data from medical imaging, full body scans, landmarks, 3D fit, pattern making, and portfolio management" said Alex Gallo, President of ARMORsmith. "Zdesign™ lets us replace manual product data management systems with an integrated and automated solution that supports versioning, change control and secure collaboration with our internal and external partners in the defense industry. Zdesign™ supports our requirements for managing complex anthropometric and human factors information together with pattern making, grading and 3D CAD solutions from OptiTex while supporting our workflow and business processes to guarantee ARMORsmith's solutions reach our troops on the battlefield today and not in ten years."

"Our partnership with Zweave has allowed us to integrate OptiTex's 2D and 3D design tools with Zweave's Fit Studio™, enabling ARMORsmith's design team to maximize product development efficiencies through the use of Anthropometric Virtual Models, custom patterns and Fit Workspaces" said Yoram Burg, President of OptiTex USA. "The Warfighter depends on the fit of their body armor and our tools combined with Zweave's PLM approach to managing fit data will save lives."

"The adoption of Zdesign™ by ARMORsmith further validates Zweave's on-demand design automation solutions as a highly attractive alternative to expensive, risky, and cumbersome, non apparel-specific PLM client-server applications," said David Buck, CEO of Zweave. "For the first time, Zweave is offering access to apparel focused, web-based Product Lifecycle Management software as an ASP with a yearly subscription fee instead of as an enterprise solution necessitating expensive software license fees. Our approach makes it possible for small and medium size companies on the cutting edge of product

design, whether fashion or defense focused, to minimize their internal IT resource obligations. We lower their overall costs, reduce the implementation complexity and speed up the time to launch, while providing access to cutting edge software."

About ARMORsmith

ARMORsmith Company develops next generation armor solutions for both male and female protection that incorporate the latest in nanotechnology, high strength lightweight materials, microclimate systems, transparent armor, data-communications, and power systems. The lightweight & scalable defensive technological advancements greatly enhance protection for the warfighter and police officer with anthropometrically developed armor solutions that can be produced cost effectively in volume.

About OptiTex

Founded in 1987, OptiTex specializes in the development of CAD/CAM solutions for sewn products and other related industries. Its native Microsoft Windows based software packages for digitizing, pattern engineering, grading, marking, advanced automatic nesting, made to measure and draping, are specifically designed to meet the needs of today's manufacturers of industrial fabrics, apparel, upholstery, transportation, composites, home furnishings, and other sewn products. OptiTex's open architecture system comes amply equipped with a multitude of import/export formats, enabling OptiTex users to interface with a wide range of software and hardware. OptiTex also offers the convenient option of purchasing a completely integrated package, including OptiTex software solutions, digitizer, and pen or ink jet plotter. Available in more than 20 languages, OptiTex products are sold and supported around the world through certified distributors and OEMs.

About Zweave

Zweave, Inc. is a leader in on-demand design automation software, serving the needs of Defense acquisition programs, the Defense industry, and consumer products manufacturers. For the thousands of people working in organizations that design, source and manufacture clothing, footwear, equipment, textiles and consumer products, Zweave's software solutions make it as easy as possible to share and manage product development information anytime, anywhere. Product research, design and development are the first steps in delivering a product to market. Every decision including fit, color, material and trim impacts cost, sourcing location and time to market.

Click here to return to Contents

Product News

Alibre Design Version 9.2 Release Provides Support for Windows Vista and Enhanced PDF Publishing

16 March 2007

Alibre, Inc. unveiled the newest release of its 3D parametric CAD software, Alibre Design 9.2, and also announced plans to expand its Reseller Program to further promote 3D CAD worldwide. Among the major enhancements in version 9.2 are compatibility with the new Windows Vista operating platform and an expansion of Adobe Acrobat PDF publishing capabilities for 3D mechanical design projects.

Support for Vista ensures that Alibre Design is readily accessible to everyone, including those with the latest computer hardware and software. A major aspect of Vista support in Alibre Design 9.2 is the recently released operating system's use of DirectX for real-time accelerated graphics, a function crucial to rendering models in 3D CAD. Alibre Design has always employed DirectX, while most other 3D CAD applications rely on OpenGL-based graphics. Previous versions of Microsoft operating systems directly supported OpenGL whereas in Vista, OpenGL is layered on top of DirectX which can significantly degrade graphics performance in OpenGL-based applications.

"We've based our graphics pipeline on DirectX from the beginning and we took a lot of shots for it from CAD vendors and insiders in the beginning," says Greg Milliken, President and CEO of Alibre, Inc. "I suppose they're thinking twice about that decision now. When you couple position in the market as the most affordable 3D CAD product on the market with our new position as a performance leader for Vista, you've got a pretty tough value proposition to beat."

Alibre Design 9.2 also boasts expanded PDF publishing that will build upon Alibre's commitment to Adobe's rapidly expanding 3D PDF strategy including support for 3D PDF in all versions of Alibre Design along with a bundle consisting of Alibre Design Expert and Adobe Acrobat 3D. The pending release of Acrobat 3D 8.0 will include the ability to interoperate with the native file formats of virtually every major CAD system, dramatically expanding Alibre Design customers' ability to import, edit and augment 3D designs from much more expensive CAD systems including SolidWorks, Pro/ENGINEER, Unigraphics, CATIA and Autodesk Inventor. Instead of having to purchase costly translators or multiple 3D CAD programs, users can now take different 3D file formats, edit them or create related parts and then publish them in PDF files that can be opened, commented on and marked up using Adobe's free Acrobat Reader. This will allow companies of all sizes to empower more designers while continuing to use the CAD systems they currently use.

"This is another step in opening up 3D CAD to more people," says Milliken. "We're bringing together elements that used to require several purchases, a good deal of money and lots of training and offering them in one affordable and easy to use bundle that is accessible by anyone."

Internationally, Alibre announced plans to expand its global reach. Alibre molds its support and sales to provide easy access around the world where CAD systems are even more expensive than in the US. Alibre Design 9.2 will ship with support for a total of 17 languages across the globe. A cornerstone in making 3D CAD globally available is Alibre's International Reseller program, which provides direct sales and marketing support to distribution partners in over 67 countries. The program gives resellers sales assistance and commissions while giving customers in the area responsive support and service. Due to the success of this approach, Alibre is expanding the program and looking for new participants.

"Our resellers are an extension of the Alibre business and we work closely together to provide customers with an exceptional level of service and a local presence," says Scott Erickson, Vice President of

International Sales at Alibre. "We have honed our business model to cost effectively bring professional parametric 3D CAD to the global market at unbeatable prices."

Click here to return to Contents

Altium Designer Demystifies High-Speed Design

19 March 2007

Altium Limited announced the addition of a raft of new productivity-enhancing features for its Altium Designer unified electronics development system to assist engineers with handling high-speed design issues resulting from the fast changing nature of today's mainstream board-level design and its convergence with the wider electronics development process. Dispelling the mystique that typically surrounds high-speed design issues that is often used to justify the inflated cost of high-speed, high-density board design features, Altium is making these capabilities accessible and useable by all designers working at the physical level today.

With the latest electronic components offering a wide range of fast-switching I/O and dense packaging options, particularly in the latest generation programmable devices, Altium has focused recent developments for the latest version of its Altium Designer system -- Altium Designer 6 -- to include a wide range of high-level interactive and automated tools designed to allow all engineers to easily assess, manage and troubleshoot signal integrity issues. Altium Designer now adds interactive net length tuning, enhanced board layer navigation and more powerful polygon area fill placement modes to its arsenal of high-speed, high-density capabilities that already includes interactive differential pair routing, impedance-controlled routing, built-in signal integrity analysis and termination matching, automatic BGA escape routing, automatic FPGA board-level pin optimization and full PCB-FPGA bi-directional design synchronization.

These new and enhanced features form part of Altium Designer's advanced yet easy-to-use suite of capabilities aimed to reduce overall design time for high-speed, high-density PCBs, to increase the ease and efficiency for working with high-speed digital signals and to harness the full power of the latest electronic devices and technologies, such as high-capacity programmable logic, that have made their way onto everyday board designs.

"Mainstream engineers today face a completely new set of problems that cannot be solved with design methodologies that were developed to deal with discrete devices and separate design flows. And while the challenges associated with high-end programmable device integration and high-speed PCB design are well-acknowledged, most EDA vendors have treated the technology solutions as a premium area," commented Nick Martin, Founder and CEO, Altium Limited. "However, with sophisticated electronics device technology finding its way into everyday design projects, all designers now need access to tools that tackle the proliferation of challenges these converging forces present. More importantly they need access to intelligent solutions that are easy to use without the need to re-skill or purchase additional high-cost tools. These are the barriers we're committed to breaking down with our ongoing development of Altium Designer."

Altium Designer's intelligent interactive routing system has been enhanced with the addition of a new interactive length tuning tool specifically for high-speed designs. This new feature allows designers to quickly optimize and control net lengths by dynamically inserting 'accordion' segments into a track. Tuning can be manual or rules-driven, and designers can select from a number of amplitude styles available in the system. This feature combines seamlessly with impedance-controlled, differential pair and multi-trace routing capabilities to give Altium Designer users a comprehensive interactive solution tuned for the high-speed, high-density board design projects that are being significantly impacted by modern day programmable devices.

Board navigation has been made more efficient with enhanced control and display over PCB layers, and will deliver significantly enhanced productivity when moving around large complex designs. The placement and editing of polygons has been streamlined to make the creation of large copper-filled areas fast and intuitive. Significant improvements have also been made to the way components and libraries are identified and used within the system to deliver greater levels of user control and flexibility. Creating and delivering output for designs that contain embedded board arrays has been improved with added intelligence for identifying layer stackup violations. In addition, enhanced output dialogs for Gerber and ODB++ now make it even easier for users to make decisions about whether to proceed with output or resolve compatibility violations.

Pricing and availability

These board-level system enhancements, and more, are now available with the latest software update for Altium Designer 6 -- Altium Designer 6.7. All Altium Designer 6 license holders can download this update for free at http://www.altium.com/Community/Support/SoftwareUpdates/. Altium Designer 6 is available for purchase through Altium's sales and support centers worldwide. For information on pricing and flexible product licensing options, customers should contact their local Altium sales and support center. Details can be found at http://www.altium.com/contacts.

Click here to return to Contents

ANSYS and PCA Engineers Announce Software Integration

22 March 2007

ANSYS, Inc. announced that it has partnered with PCA Engineers Limited to allow engineers to develop better turbomachines in shorter time. Working together, the companies have integrated PCA's Vista™ (VISual Turbomachinery Analysis) software within ANSYS® solutions to improve turbomachinery design and simulation. The integration -- now available in ANSYS 11.0 -- makes it possible for turbomachinery designers to use PCA's proven engineering codes to develop preliminary blade designs, which then can be modified using ANSYS® BladeModeler™ and analyzed for fluid dynamic, thermal and/or structural performance within ANSYS software.

PCA is an international engineering consultancy specializing in turbomachinery design. Its meanline design codes, Vista CCD for centrifugal compressor design and Vista CPD for centrifugal pump design, have been integrated within ANSYS BladeModeler. Given the machine duty -- such as speed, mass flow

and pressure ratio -- and geometric constraints, these codes will configure the impeller blade shape and provide essential non-dimensional performance parameters on which to base design decisions.

"The recent addition of PCA's Vista CCD and Vista CPD compressor and pump design software into the ANSYS product line has considerably streamlined our turbomachinery design process," said ANSYS user Nicholas D'Orsi, partner and chief engineer of Turbo Solutions Engineering LLC. With a broad range of experience with computer-aided engineering (CAE) software, the company utilizes ANSYS solutions to help customers in industries as diverse as aerospace and HVAC to develop new machines. "By using Vista and ANSYS software, we can rapidly complete iterative sizing and performance estimation for centrifugal turbomachinery. A key feature of this new interface is the transfer of an initial impeller three-dimensional design into ANSYS BladeModeler. Once inside this software, the analysis features of ANSYS® CFX® allow for quick optimization of the design."

The Vista CCD and CPD design codes are fully integrated within ANSYS BladeModeler and are included when customers purchase or license ANSYS BladeModeler. ANSYS BladeModeler saves the Vista input parameters as part of the blade design so that new design iterations can be started from a previous design.

"The integration of PCA's software into ANSYS BladeModeler gives customers what they have asked for: built-in meanline design tools to help them rapidly develop new blade designs in the early stages of design," says Brad Hutchinson, vice president, global marketing, aerospace and turbomachinery at ANSYS, Inc. "This component of the blade development process was not previously available in the ANSYS turbomachinery solution. This new integration addresses compressor and pump designs, and we believe the partnership between ANSYS and PCA will benefit customers in the future as we apply such expertise to the full range of turbomachinery equipment."

As a consultancy, PCA Engineers serves many of the world's leading manufacturers of axial and radial turbomachinery. "PCA has enjoyed the extensive experience of ANSYS design and CFD tools over 10 years' use in the optimization of turbomachinery components in support of our consultancy business," said Chris Robinson, managing director of PCA Engineers. "We respect ANSYS enormously for their technical capability and attitude toward ongoing improvement in enhanced user interfaces -- which all continue to improve productivity. We are delighted to be able to contribute toward this success."

Click here to return to Contents

CollabNet® Partners with Ivis Technologies to Meet the Needs of Managers of Globally Distributed Projects

22 March 2007

CollabNet announced that it has partnered with Ivis Technologies to deliver improved project scheduling and process compliance to its global network of developers. By integrating Ivis xProcess with CollabNet Enterprise Edition, project managers can more accurately manage and optimize time to market in their globally distributed software development projects.

CollabNet Enterprise Edition is a Subversion-based collaborative software development solution that helps organizations gain greater control of their software development assets as they progress through the application lifecycle. When paired with xProcess (which is also Subversion-based), teams can collaboratively define the totality of work remaining in a project phase, and then execute on that work using customizable process templates. Process templates are available for a wide variety of contemporary development processes.

"The collaborative nature of CollabNet's business coupled with its history of leadership in distributed development with Subversion made the partnership a strategic fit," said Christopher Lank, CEO and President at Ivis Technologies. "With xProcess and CollabNet Enterprise Edition together, teams can now apply business-specific process patterns, improve real-time visibility of status and forecasts, support business-critical decisions and maximize project success rate throughout the organization."

By partnering with Ivis, CollabNet now offers its customers the ability to create and manage project schedules that span the entire project lifecycle, from upfront requirements to late breaking defects and customer enhancements. By storing everything in CollabNet's underlying Subversion repository, all project activities are tracked and remain auditable throughout the project lifecycle. Furthermore, by applying specific xProcess compliance patterns, the combined solution can also help address compliance requirements, such as Sarbanes-Oxley, HIPPA and HEPA.

To learn more about the integration between Ivis xProcess and CollabNet Enterprise Edition and how the combined solution represents a significant leap forward for software project managers, please visit http://ivis.open.collab.net.

"Our customers want the flexibility and agility to handle the increasing demands on distributed software teams, and we address customer needs through quality solutions and tools in an open development environment," said Chris Clarke, senior director of solution architecture at CollabNet. "Extending the Ivis xProcess solution to the CollabNet Platform enables software project managers to tightly manage complex software lifecycles."

Click here to return to Contents

Configit and eSpline Increase Value of SAP Product Models

16 March 2007

Configit and eSpline announce a partnership to deliver solutions using Configit's patented Virtual Tabulation® technology, and eSpline's product configuration software tools for SAP.

Tuning and Deployment kit

VT Distiller Suite for SAP is a tuning and deployment kit for companies that use the SAP Variant Configurator (SAP-VC). The VT Distiller Suite unlocks the value in the SAP-VC product model and makes SAP configurator knowledge and definitions available outside SAP. The Suite extracts, translates,

transforms, and distills SAP–VC product models with their business logic and rules into Virtual Tabulation®-files and make the models available throughout the extended enterprise.

World's largest modeling community?

Many of the Global 2000 companies rely entirely on SAP configurator applications to define what products they manufacture, quote, sell, and deliver.

Faster, Smarter and Self Containing

Organizations that use the SAP Variant Configurator (SAP-VC) are now able to leverage and expand their investment in their SAP-VC knowledge base by using Configit Software's VT Distiller Suite to get the following three fundamental advantages:

1. Significant performance improvements
2. Interactive and more user friendly versions of SAP configurators
3. Stand-alone configurators that are easy to deploy and use outside the SAP environment

Pitfalls

VT Distiller Suite eliminates the traditional pitfalls of maintaining multiple product modeling environments with duplication of data and rules. SAP-VC remains the only and authoritative product modeling environment. The distilled VT-files correspond exactly to their SAP-VC configurator siblings but they are safe and easy to distribute and they constitute a well defined interface to SAP-VC.

Behind every great product is a great model

If you buy products with variants (or options) such as with a car, a cell phone, an insurance policy, a pump, etc., it is very likely that rules in a product model in SAP ultimately define what options are available for sale.

Now these SAP-defined products can be loaded into Configit Software's VT Distiller and companies using SAP-VC can be confident that their SAP product definitions behave the same except that they are displayed outside of SAP.

Skills and Technology

This new capability is enabled as a joint effort between Configit Software and eSpline, LLC. eSpline's consultants offer an in-depth knowledge and experience of many SAP-VC and SAP Internet Pricing & Configurator (IPC) customer projects and a history of successful SAP projects. The people at eSpline

bring expertise of SAP configuration applications and projects that is comparable with the best in the industry.

"Our partnership with eSpline gives us a complete offering to SAP customers. eSpline comes from the SAP world with unique skills and understanding of the SAP product modeling environment. Configit comes from the world of formal logic and formal verification. eSpline's application provides the information download to Configit's VT Distiller and eSpline experts will set up business processes in SAP that leverage this new opportunity for externalized configurators," says Lars Høgsted, Vice President, Configit Software.

"When product models define what you are able to sell and every order has to pass through a corresponding configurator, the value of your product models are proportional to the speed, user friendliness and availability of your configurators. The more you configure - the better for business. I think of the VT Distiller Suite like a chip-tuning of the mass customization process that boosts the value of existing product models by increasing both use and usability of configurators," says Anders S. Rasmussen, Senior Developer at Configit Software.

"We are excited about this partnership and opportunity with Configit Software and believe that the synergy of the Configit applications and eSpline's SAP knowledge will help leverage any SAP customer's investment in their product knowledge base and make it a cost effective alternative for placing complex product quotes on the web, PC's, laptops, or other mobile devices," explains Don Cochran, VP Sales and Business Development, Co-Founder, eSpline LLC.

Learn more

Learn more about VT Distiller Suite at http://www.configit-software.com/and http://www.espline.com/

Click here to return to Contents

Dassault Systèmes, Walter Wilhelm Associates Partner to Deliver Industry-Specific PLM Solutions to Global Footwear and Apparel Companies

20 March 2007

Dassault Systèmes (DS) announced a partnership between its ENOVIA MatrixOne brand and Walter Wilhelm Associates, the leading process technology consulting firm in the apparel and footwear industries. The two companies will work together to provide customers with PLM solutions that reduce costs and time to market by streamlining front-end product development processes.

This partnership teams two significant players in apparel technology and consulting. ENOVIA MatrixOne's Accelerator for Apparel Design & Development™ is used widely to coordinate design, procurement and suppliers; standardize development procedures; and integrate product data, workflows and business processes into a cohesive information infrastructure. Walter Wilhelm provides decades of deep experience in apparel industry processes and technology. The firm specializes in helping companies

reduce their product development time by synchronizing key design and merchandising processes. These complementary strengths are already helping joint ENOVIA MatrixOne-Walter Wilhelm customers boost profitability through agile, responsive product development processes supported by PLM solutions tailored to their specific needs.

“Our previous engagements with ENOVIA MatrixOne have delivered excellent results for our clients,” said Derek Jones, managing director of WWA. “Formalizing our relationship enables us to provide the same gains in efficiency and profitability, but through unified efforts that make the process easier on our clients.”

Between them, ENOVIA MatrixOne and Walter Wilhelm count among their customers some of the biggest names in apparel and footwear, including Quiksilver, Guess? Inc., and Jerry Leigh. The two companies expect to grow their footprint in the apparel industry by expanding the services they can offer customers.

“When it comes to apparel industry processes and technology, Walter Wilhelm Associates has seen everything and done most of it,” said Mike Segal, senior vice president of sales, services and operations for ENOVIA MatrixOne. “Their knowledge and experience touches every facet of front-end product development and dramatically extends our in-house knowledge. Between our technology leadership and their industry expertise, we offer apparel and footwear companies the industry’s best resource for improving profitability through more efficient front-end development processes.”

Click here to return to Contents

Flow Science Announces Release of FLOW-3D Version 9.2

12 March 2007

Flow Science, Inc. announces the availability of a new release of its FLOW-3D computational fluid dynamics software. Version 9.2 of FLOW-3D offers faster solutions, decreased computer resource requirements, unique physical modeling and unparalleled accuracy in solving free-surface problems.

The following summary highlights the key benefits in Version 9.2, including our one-of-a-kind General Moving Objects (GMO) Collision Model that allows moving objects to interact with other solid objects in a realistic fashion, increased speed with Unstructured Memory Allocation and Locally Implicit Advection, and enhanced visualization tools.

General Moving Objects (GMO) Collision Model

A unique model among CFD packages, the GMO Collision Model gives users the ability to model collisions of multiple moving rigid bodies with other moving and fixed objects. The new collision model extends the current 6-DoF GMO model and is valuable for all application areas of FLOW-3D. Exciting new modeling possibilities include debris flows, opening and closing valves and counter-meshing gears.

Collisions are computed for coupled-motion rigid bodies when coming in contact with other moving or stationary objects. Continuous contact, such as sliding, rolling and sitting of one body on top of the other, is modeled through a rapid series of micro-collisions. Collisions can be perfectly elastic, partially plastic or completely plastic and include friction between the colliding objects.

Unstructured Memory Allocation (UMA)

Simulations now run faster than ever using UMA where solution arrays are allocated only on active parts of the mesh, saving valuable computer resources. Large problems that were not possible to run on common desktop workstations can now be solved. Combined with the multi-block meshing, UMA enhances meshing flexibility and solution accuracy. Casting problems requiring very large grids to resolve small or thin-wall regions benefit most from this new approach.

GMRES Pressure Solver

The convergence of the GMRES pressure solver in multi-block meshes has been greatly improved. Due to its efficiency and scaling on parallel SMP machines, GMRES has become the solver of choice in most flow problems, from MEMS to hydraulics.

Locally Implicit Advection

A new implicit advection technique has been incorporated into FLOW-3D, breaking a long-standing tradition of using only explicit advection methods. The implicit treatment of advective fluxes is applied selectively in cells where it speeds up the calculation without affecting the accuracy. Users benefit from the new method by being able to obtain solutions up to 50% faster.

Flow Science has commenced shipment of the new release to customers under maintenance contracts.

Flow Science, Inc. is a privately held software company specializing in high fidelity fluid dynamics modeling software for industrial and scientific applications worldwide. Flow Science has distributors for FLOW-3D sales and support in nations throughout Europe, Asia and North America.

Click here to return to Contents

Geomagic Unveils Open-Platform Dental CAD/CAM Software Technology

20 March 2007

Geomagic® (http://www.geomagic.com/) announced the launch of Geomagic Piano, a modular dental CAD/CAM software package with a built-in open-development platform. Clinically tested for over a decade by visionary dental equipment manufacturers, Geomagic Piano's technology enables the integration and creation of best-in-class turnkey solutions for the digital preparation and production of dental restorations.

Geomagic Piano supports dental chair-side and laboratory systems with the accuracy and automation needed to meet the most challenging chair requirements. Geomagic Piano streamlines the imaging, design and production workflow. It is the only fully open software system that provides interoperability with all types of input imaging devices, including intra-oral scanners, CBCTs and desktop scanners, as well as a full range of output devices, such as CAM software, CNC milling equipment and rapid prototyping machines.

Geomagic Piano enables better dental care for patients and dramatic productivity gains for dental labs. Based on more than 10 years of research and development performed in close collaboration with leading dental companies, including KaVo in general dentistry, Align Technology and Ormco in orthodontics, and Atlantis Components in custom abutments, Geomagic Piano is proven as a trusted platform for custom dental software development. Geomagic Piano was designed by the company's research and development team, who are experts in 3D imaging technology, CAD/CAM software systems and dental best practices.

“Geomagic Piano is an expression of our vision for the future of digital dental technology and services,” says Ping Fu, Geomagic chairman, president and CEO. “Geomagic Piano provides a world-class, customizable, modular solution that gives the dental industry an open digital platform for dental reconstruction. The launch of Geomagic Piano establishes a foundation for new standards, paradigms and quality in dental patient care and dental lab productivity.”

Geomagic Piano accurately reconstructs scan data of teeth, maxillary and mandibular arches, and jaw structure to facilitate work that ranges from custom implant abutment design to the design of crowns and bridges. Built on Geomagic's Agile Development Platform, Geomagic Piano is designed to allow dental equipment manufacturers to quickly integrate it into their own applications and customize the software to meet their specific needs.

By leveraging Geomagic Piano technology and the Geomagic Agile Development Platform, dental equipment manufacturers can achieve a rapid development framework that shortens time-to-market and permits the integration of legacy systems with leading-edge technology. Geomagic Piano's open platform enables immediate interoperability with imaging and manufacturing systems to provide a standardized software interface that reduces training times for distributors and end-users.

Geomagic offers a range of solution options, including the integration of the standard suite of Geomagic software modules, creation of custom add-ons that extend the standard suite, and the development of completely customized applications built to a particular manufacturer's specifications. Throughout the customization and integration process, Geomagic experts are available every step of the way from requirements definition to solution design and implementation.

The Geomagic Piano suite of software modules includes Geomagic Prepare, Geomagic Implant, Geomagic Work, and Geomagic Restore. Geomagic Prepare and Geomagic Implant are the first modules available in the suite; the remaining modules will be available in the fall of 2007. To learn more about Geomagic solutions for the dental industry, please visit http://www.geomagic.com/en/products/dental/

Geomagic dental technology experts will be on-hand to showcase Geomagic Piano in hall 4.1, booth F090 at the International Dental Show (IDS) 2007 in Cologne, Germany, March 20-24.

Click here to return to Contents

GibbsCAM Support of Tornos TB-Deco Machine Tools Announced

8 March 2007

Gibbs and Associates, developer of GibbsCAM®, software for programming CNC machine tools, announced that GibbsCAM now supports the entire product line of Tornos Deco machine tools, including the TB-Deco model. This recent accomplishment was realized through the combined efforts of Gibbs, Tornos and Productec, the GibbsCAM Reseller located in Switzerland.

"GibbsCAM MTM is an ideal programming environment for multi-task machine tools," observes François Steulet, Productec's CEO, "but the Tornos TB-Deco's unique style of programming which uses pulses instead of G-code. This required extremely specialized post processors to be developed. Fortunately, we had the necessary post processor and GibbsCAM DTK experience and were able to work closely with Tornos to develop a solution."

The TB-Deco line was implemented using pulses because Tornos believe these machines provide customers greater accuracy and repeatability compared to machines which operate off G-code. But because these speciality machines are not G-code based, they require a unique implementation in order for a CAM system to support them. Tornos has begun to work with a limited number of CAM providers to provide assistance in integrating their CAM systems with the Tornos TB-Deco machines. As the leader in CNC programming support of MTM machines, GibbsCAM was one of the CAM products Tornos selected.

The GibbsCAM MTM solution for Tornos Deco required the development of 7 custom post processors, which correspond to specific machine tool configurations. Special Tornos functions, such as 'tourbillonning' and 'polygoning', are supported by the post processors. The series of baseline posts developed were:

- Deco 7/10a with 5-axis, C, 1 spindle
- Deco 7/10a with 7-axis, C1, C4, 2 spindle.
- Deco 7/10a with 9-axis, C1, C4, 2 spindle
- Deco 13 with 10 axis, C1, C4, 2 spindle
- Deco 20 and 26 with 5-axis, C1, C4, 2 spindle
- Deco 20 and 26 with 8-axis, C1, C4, 2 spindle
- Deco 20 and 26 with 10-axis, C1, C4, 2 spindle

The GibbsCAM MTM Tornos software makes use of Tornos TB-Deco 2007 toolkit which is expected to be available from Tornos in the first quarter of 2007.

Other Tornos machine tools, which operate off of more conventional G-code, can be supported by GibbsCAM using factory-supplied, custom post processors which generate machine-specific G-code.

Click here to return to Contents

INCAT to Serve CADD Centers Clients in Florida

22 March 2007

INCAT announced a partnership agreement with CADD Centers of Florida under which INCAT will meet the product and support needs of CADD Centers' Autodesk® Mechanical clients effective immediately.

CADD Centers of Florida is focusing its business operations on supporting the Building and Infrastructure solutions markets.

To better serve the engineering and manufacturing needs of CADD Centers clients, INCAT will serve as the primary point of contact for their Autodesk Mechanical needs including Inventor Series, Inventor Professional, AutoCAD Mechanical, Mechanical Desktop, AutoCAD Electrical, Vault, Product Stream and Streamline.

INCAT is the largest Autodesk Mechanical provider in the United States. The company's size, expertise and focus on the manufacturing market were all key factors in identifying INCAT as the right partner to meet the needs of CADD Center clients, according to Richard Neiman, President of CADD Centers.

"CADD Centers' clients will get the same personal service and pragmatic application of our expertise that other INCAT clients have come to expect and rely upon," said Daniel Saperstein, INCAT Sales Director - General Manufacturing Solutions Group. "And, they'll learn that not only is INCAT their best source for products and services in Florida, but that INCAT's Global Delivery Model leverages worldwide resources that can be put to work for them as well."

Click here to return to Contents

Innovate3D Offers Free Solid Modeling Service

12 March 2007

Innovate3D, a TenLinks service that creates solid models, announced today that it will create 500 solid models for free*

"We thought this was a good way to introduce our new service to as many people as possible so we dropped our already low price of $49 all the way down to zero," says Roopinder Tara, president and CEO, of TenLinks, Inc., the company that operates Innovate3D. "We wanted to remove every hurdle, no matter how low. Now, a company does not have to generate a purchase order in order to try our modeling service."

*Free models are limited to one model per company per month until a total of 500 models are made. Companies that need more than one model per month can pay the low $49/model introductory price. Models are limited to formats supported by the most recent versions of Autodesk Inventor,

Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire and SolidWorks programs. Additional terms and conditions apply and provided in detail to people who register for free parts on the Innovate3D website.

Find our more information at www.Innovate3D.com/parts/

About Innovate3D

Innovate3D is a service to create solid models and online 3D catalogs. It is wholly owned and operated by TenLinks, Inc. the online CAD, CAM and CAE online media company, founded in 1999.

Founded in 1999, the TenLinks' network includes several websites and newsletters and a blog. TenLinks offers a daily news service for the CAD, CAM and CAE industry. Its 3 newsletters provide information and tools for engineers, architects and designers. Its flagship, TenLinks.com, is the only online directory where industry experts organize the Internet into TopTen lists. CADdepot.com is a leading destination for CAD shareware. CADdigest.com finds and organizes CAD-related articles. FreeCAD.com is a vast directory for free CAD, CAM and CAE programs. TenLinks also publishes three newsletters: TenLinks Daily, CADdepot Update and CADdigest Weekly. CAD Insider is a CAD-related blog.

Click here to return to Contents

Maplesoft Enhances Simulink Connectivity with New Tool

12 March 2007

Maplesoft™ announced the launch of BlockImporter for Simulink®, a Maple™ add-on tool that further enhances connectivity with the MathWorks® suite of products. The new product imports Simulink® diagrams into Maple and converts them to mathematical expressions for analysis and problem-solving.

Once these diagrams are converted into mathematical equations, they can be analyzed, optimized, and simplified, then converted back to Simulink using another Maplesoft product, BlockBuilder™. This enables the user to validate the mathematical integrity of the model, perform further analysis, document the system, eliminate algebraic loops, and increase Simulink execution speed.

“Simulink is an excellent tool for defining mathematical models using schematic blocks. However, many engineers experience problems when the project becomes large and/or when several people contribute to the model,” said Jim Cooper, CEO and President, Maplesoft. “With BlockImporter for Simulink, engineers can validate such complex models easily, and significantly increase speed without losing model fidelity.”

BlockImporter joins a comprehensive suite of offerings from Maplesoft that support MathWorks products. This includes the Maple Toolbox for MATLAB® and BlockBuilder for Simulink.

Availability and Pricing

Professional, single user licenses of BlockImporter for Simulink are available for $4995. Maplesoft is also offering a bundle of BlockImporter and BlockBuilder for $5995. Academic and volume discounts are available. The product is available directly from the Maplesoft Web Store and via Maplesoft Sales at 1-800-267-6583. Outside of the US & Canada, it can be obtained from Maplesoft's reseller partners. A list of partners is available online at http://www.maplesoft.com/contact/international/index.aspx.

Click here to return to Contents

'Matereality for ALGOR' Connects Users With Material Property Data for CAE Applications

22 March 2007

ALGOR, Inc. announced that it has in cooperation with Matereality, L.L.C. of Ithaca, NY, a provider of industrial-strength IT infrastructure for secure material information storage and exchange, developed an interface that connects Matereality® to ALGOR software. 'Matereality for ALGOR' allows users to mine databases for ALGOR-relevant data with Matereality's MiRo wizard and then seamlessly export the selected data for their finite element analysis (FEA) and simulation needs.

Matereality contains the largest repository of CAE-suitable data on plastics, metals, rubber, foam and composites, including stress-strain curves; rate-dependent data; tensile, compressive, creep and fatigue data. It allows users to access well-known databases such as the MMPDS-02 (formerly Mil-handbook), used widely by the aerospace and defense manufacturing industries, and the NIST Lead-Free Solder Database for the electronics industry.

In addition, Matereality's ability to house any material and any data means that ALGOR users can build enduring collections of material properties for ALGOR and PLM-wide use. Materials are never lost, always there and can be viewed using Matereality's cutting-edge visualization tools, subjected to instant unit conversion and CAE/FEA export capabilities. "'Matereality for ALGOR' provides our users with customized access to an industry-leading resource for material property data," said ALGOR Product Manager Bob Williams. "Using Matereality, customers can easily expand our default material library and conveniently apply properties to enhance the accuracy of their analyses."

Matereality satisfies the needs of users to have private databases, while providing valuable access to external databases. "Our vision is to create a global material data pipeline, serving various companies and PLM products. We are happy to add connectivity to ALGOR, a prominent player in this space," says Hubert Lobo, Matereality President.

Click here to return to Contents

McGraw-Hill Construction / Dodge and ReproMAX to Provide AEC Community With Seamless Document Management Solution

22 March 2007

McGraw-Hill Construction, part of The McGraw-Hill Companies announced the availability of a new project lifecycle and document management service, Project Document Manager (PDM), co-developed with its partner ReproMAX. The service will provide the AEC community with the ability to manage all

project intelligence and construction documents on a secure platform. Project Document Manager is being launched at the Associated General Contractors of America (AGC), annual national convention, March 21-24, 2007, in San Antonio, TX.

The Project Document Manager service, powered by ReproMAX, will offer more efficient management of the entire workflow process-from design through bidding, project management, project closing, and even operations-- the entire lifecycle. Construction documents will be available online and easily shared or routed to ReproMAX local printing outlets for printing and shipping. Whether an AEC firm relies on paper documentation or is gradually moving toward a paperless process, Project Document Manager will make critical daily tasks easier to manage and control, including the ability to:

- track, view, share the McGraw-Hill Construction Network® (Dodge Reports) -- news, plans, and specs-- through the entire project lifecycle
- upload or scan documents -- including version control -- for plans, specifications, addenda, bid packages, RFI's and submittals;
- organize and route documents electronically to any project member; manage and organize contact by project, construction code, or any other attribute;
- manage bids; pre-qualify subs; send out notifications for addenda, Invitations to bid (ITB's) or invitations to pre-qualify, automatically;
- markup or comment on documents, online or offline;
- access project information from any remote location;
- integrate with leading project and risk management systems;
- closeout projects electronically; and,
- archive projects accurately and easily, with the ability to provide easy online access to a searchable database

"Construction is a team-sport and starting now, it's going to be easier to share critical information with the members of that team," said Norbert Young, president, McGraw-Hill Construction. "Our large AEC customers tell us that they could run their projects much more efficiently if they had a document management system that made it easier to manage, view, track and share the construction documents for a project from beginning to end.

That's what we created Project Document Manager and are very proud to be launching at the AGC with our partner, ReproMAX. While we are all excited about the digital world, we still must deal with today's reality -- lots of paper. This will make it significantly easier."

PDM's flexible, "open architecture" makes it compatible with project management tools that AEC firms use today, enabling easy integration with current business processes and practices. This holds true whether a company's preference is to work in a fully digital environment or in a partially digital/partially print environment. Should a company choose to operate in a fully digital environment, the addition of PDM further enables the workflow process and reduces the need for paper, thus setting the stage for significant sustainability improvements across the industry.

"Project Document Manager provides immeasurable long term value to the AEC community -- enabling interoperability throughout the project lifecycle. The level of business efficiency and flexibility associated with PDM's digital and print capabilities is unprecedented. No matter what the work environment, PDM will provide increased productivity and savings," said Rick Bosworth, president, ReproMAX.

"From design and development to close-out, PDM makes every aspect of the workflow more productive and with fewer risks," says Doug Bower, president, Adenium, the leader in document management technology for the AEC community and creator of the PDM software. "With the integration of project intelligence from McGraw-Hill Construction and its ability to connect industry players with the people, projects and products that are core to any successful design and construction practice, the future is now."

What some current PDM customers are saying:

Hill International, a leading global Construction Manager, needed integration of applications (interoperability). "We are always looking for ways to improve communication and collaboration in project management," said David L. Richter, President and COO of Hill International. "McGraw Hill Construction's project information management solution will help us maximize project lifecycle communication and minimize our client's risk," he added.

"Through the use of McGraw-Hill Construction's project database, combined with PDM and further integrated with our existing project management tools, we were able to integrate everything on a collaborative scale," says Shaun Pressley, project controls engineer, Hill International. "The ROI is clear and helps us differentiate our services with owner relationships as well as mitigate potentially costly risks throughout a project."

When Skanska USA Building Inc. a leading international and local provider of construction, preconstruction consulting, general contracting and design build services, wanted a solution easily accessible by the subcontractors and capable of managing, tracking and reviewing subcontractor's qualifications responses, they turned to PDM. According to Chris Stockley, senior vice president and chief information officer,

Skanska, "The existing solution was a burden on Skanska and our subcontractors. We wanted a solution that would simplify the entire bidding process which as a result would encourage our subcontractors to bid on our projects. PDM provided us that solution. The new pre-qualification processes helped Skanska increase accuracy, reduce the number of pre-qualifications to review, created a single, central information repository and increased the number of bidders per project."

If you want more information on this new product, please call:

1-866-239-4261.

Click here to return to Contents

Mentor Graphics Announces Synthesis Support for New Altera Cyclone III FPGAs

19 March 2007

Mentor Graphics Corporation, announced that its suite of advanced synthesis products supports the newly introduced Cyclone® III field programmable gate arrays (FPGAs) from Altera Corporation. Both companies have been in close cooperation to ensure Precision® Synthesis support for the full range of Cyclone III devices. Beta support for the new family is currently available in Precision Synthesis with production support scheduled for release in April.

The Cyclone III family is Altera's third-generation of low-cost FPGAs offering lower power with greater logic, memory, and multiplier densities than previous generations. “With the Cyclone III family’s combination of power and functionality, designers of cost-sensitive high-volume applications will require a robust synthesis tool to maximize every drop of performance and logic density,” said Simon Bloch, general manager, Mentor Graphics Design Creation and Synthesis Division. “Customers wanting to take full advantage of the value of Cyclone III FPGAs will need Precision Synthesis.”

The companies began collaboration in the middle of last year on support for the Cyclone III FPGA family within the Mentor Graphics family of synthesis tools. Cyclone III beta customers were also given access to early versions of Cyclone-III-specific Precision Synthesis libraries for testing and check out. “We expect our Cyclone III customers to be focused on driving new products to existing markets as well as developing new applications, and part of the challenge is design cycle time,” said Danny Biran, vice president of product and corporate marketing at Altera. “Our customers will benefit from Precision Synthesis’ rapid design-cycle and advanced design-analysis capabilities in getting their products to market quickly.”

Precision Synthesis forms the centerpiece of the Mentor Graphics FPGA flow with support for design creation, verification and printed circuit board (PCB) integration — the industry's most comprehensive vendor-independent solution for FPGA design. With advanced support for ASIC prototyping (support for DesignWare® libraries, Synopsys design constraints (SDC), gated-clock handling, etc.) plus advanced implementation and optimization techniques such as automatic mapping and inferencing of dedicated digital signal procession (DSP) and random-access memory (RAM) blocks, Precision Synthesis is

uniquely suited to handle today's high-end FPGAs. In addition, Precision Synthesis features an award-winning design analysis capability, allowing designers to cross-probe between multiple views as well as perform interactive static timing for rapid "what-if" analyses. Precision Synthesis reduces design iterations, and enables faster, more predictable completion of designs, while delivering high quality of results (QoR).

As a part of the Mentor Graphics synthesis product line, LeonardoSpectrum™ offers customers a well-proven, mature synthesis solution for both FPGAs and application specific integrated circuits (ASICs). Support for Cyclone III FPGAs within the LeonardoSpectrum tool suite will follow the production support within Precision Synthesis.

Click here to return to Contents

Missler Software and Mori Seiki: Approved TopSolid'Cam NT Machine Post Processors

20 March 2007

Mori Seiki has recently approved TopSolid'Cam post processors for its NT family of machines. Missler Software and Mori Seiki have worked in close collaboration for many years now. An ever closer working relationship since 2005 means that the machine tool manufacturer has approved TopSolid'Cam's post processors for its NT series of machines. (TopSolid'Cam, in addition, is capable of driving the rest of the Mori Seiki range of machines.)

TopSolid'Cam offers very powerful functions to drive Mori Seiki's complex multi-function machines. Machine simulation, collision check, spindle synchronization, raw part updating and visualization of material removal are important elements of TopSolid'Cam for the tool path programming of multi-function machines. In addition TopSolid'Cam offers a unique CAM solution in that it is capable of piloting 2 axis turning, 2 & 3 axis milling, 4 & 5 axis continuous milling, synchronization of multiple turrets and complex simulation.

Close collaboration between Missler Software and Mori Seiki offers greater certainty to clients. According to Dominique Laffret, Vice-President of Strategic Relationships at Missler Software, "Post-processors are a tricky business. We need to work closely with machine manufacturers if we want to get it right. Mori Seiki has worked with us throughout the development of the NT series post-processors. The result is that both companies can guarantee a machine tool and CAM software that work together. This offers an assurance to our respective customers that the machine will work when it arrives on their shop floor"

As an added value, Mori Seiki has pioneered in actively helping with creation of the machine solid models for NT machine. TopSolid'Cam will henceforth be able to integrate the solid models of the NT machine for the benefit of our mutual customers.

"By working with leading CAM software vendors such as Missler Software," adds Dr. Fujishima, Development Director for Mori Seiki, "we are able to give our customers the assurance that there is a programming solution available to meet their needs when investing in our latest generation NT range of our multi-tasking machine tools."

Missler Software and Mori Seiki currently work closely together in Austria, France, Germany and the USA. TopSolid'Cam is used in the Roissy, France demonstration centre.

Click here to return to Contents

MSC.Software Announces MD Adams: Moving Multi-Discipline Simulation to the Next Level

19 March 2007

MSC.Software Corp. announced the release of MD Adams, a new addition to its MD Solutions suite which adds integrated multi-body dynamics, structural, and controls systems simulation capabilities. MD Adams enables powerful extensions to system simulation including component flexibility, active control systems, and frequency response prediction. Such high fidelity simulation capabilities result in fewer physical prototypes and faster design cycles thereby enabling time to market and right to market.

The advanced functionality incorporated into MD Adams includes tight integration with MD Nastran for NVH and durability analyses as well as a module for the treatment of mechatronic subsystems. Through integration with MD Nastran, validated MD Adams vehicle models can be easily exposed in MD Nastran for use in detailed NVH analyses. Automotive OEMs and suppliers receive additional value through the new MD Adams/Car Mechatronics module. With new control system components, a signal manager, and an easy to use graphical interface, MD Adams/Car Mechatronics facilitates the incorporation and management of active control systems in complex mechanical systems like an automobile.

"MD Adams is another step in MSC.Software's commitment to enterprise simulation solutions," said Reza Sadeghi, senior vice president and chief technology officer, MSC.Software. "The integrated multi-body structural simulation that it provides eliminates multiple steps of pre and post processing, providing substantial time and financial savings for manufacturers."

The MD Adams package includes the full set of Adams extension modules including Adams/Controls, Adams/Durability, Adams/Flex, Adams/Vibration, and more. The MD Adams/Car package includes the following modules for vehicle design and analysis: Adams/Car, Adams/Car Ride, Adams/Chassis, Adams/Driveline, Adams/SmartDriver, Adams/Tire, and Adams/3D Road.

Pricing and Availability

MD Adams is available now. It can be licensed as nodelocked or network licensed and is also available under MSC.Software's new Enterprise Advantage licensing system. For more information, please visit http://www.mscsoftware.com/or contact (714) 540 8900.

Click here to return to Contents

New GibbsCAM 5-Axis Module Announced

9 March 2007

Gibbs and Associates announced that a new GibbsCAM option, which supports 5-axis simultaneous milling, will soon be released. The new option, GibbsCAM 5-Axis, further extends GibbsCAM's existing machining capability and provides the user with a complete range of 5-axis milling functionality.

"In addition to multi-task machining, we are seeing an increased use of 5-axis machine tools in production manufacturing," states Bill Gibbs, founder and president of Gibbs and Associates. "Not only do 5-axis machine tools minimize the number of set-ups required to machine a part, but many of the models being created by today's CAD systems contain geometry that can only be machined using 5-axis technology. Impellers, turbine blades, porting on cylinder heads, and wing spars are great examples of parts whose geometry requires 5-axis."

The new 5-Axis module introduces the following capabilities:

- Multi-surface 5-axis roughing and finishing.
- Multi-surface 5-axis flowline machining.
- Surface edge 5-axis swarf cutting (trimming vacuum-formed parts)
- Adaptable interface, based on part type strategy, shows only what is needed
- Advanced gouge checking ensures safe cuts in even the most complex operations.
- Complete control over entry/exit, cut-to-cut, and between cut moves.
- 5-axis depth cuts machining.

"5-axis technology provides the user with the ultimate amount of control when applying tooling to a part," explains Mr. Gibbs." Because of this, collision avoidance, improved surface finish, and reduced tool wear are some of the numerous benefits realized. With the new 5-Axis module, GibbsCAM users will not only be able to machine parts they couldn't before, but may even be able to improve the machining of parts they could."

Click here to return to Contents

Proficiency Launches Collaboration Gatewaytm Version 6.0; Offers Manufacturers Complete Solution for CAD Product Knowledge Migration

20 March 2007

Proficiency, Inc. introduced version 6.0 of its Collaboration Gatewaytm, an advanced computer-aided design (CAD) interoperability solution. The new version introduces a higher level approach to the overall CAD migration process, as well as additional market-driven functionality and support for model-based definition (MBD) methodology.

The new product release is available immediately worldwide. Customers of previous versions of the Collaboration Gateway can easily upgrade to the new version.

Proficiency's Collaboration Gateway is used by leading organizations to more effectively extract and share implicit product knowledge from diverse engineering and manufacturing environments. The solution enables organizations from different industries, such as automotive, aerospace and heavy machinery, to significantly reduce the cost and time of product design and development by automating

the exchange of product knowledge between product development teams regardless of the CAD system being used.

Proficiency offers solutions in conjunction with certified service providers to deliver solutions that enable the sharing of product knowledge between supported CAD systems. The service providers add details to complete the solution and configure it to meet specific customer conventions and best practices.

"Proficiency's Collaboration Gateway offers manufacturers a unique solution for CAD Product Knowledge Integration (PKI). This new version offers a comprehensive package for migration from CATIA V4 to CATIA V5, which enables a reliable and controllable migration process for the most complex 3D models," said Alex Shapira, President and CEO, Proficiency, Inc. "Combining state-of-the-art methodology and technology, Proficiency's unmatched solution has an impact similar to that of Lean Six Sigma processes: it dramatically reduces the variability of the migration process, compresses the migration time, and increases the parallel reliability and output quality," added Shapira.

Far beyond the traditional translators, which offer only geometry, limited feature support and no record of what was successfully exchanged, Proficiency's Collaboration Gateway addresses the complete product knowledge incorporated in the CAD and PDM models. Precise geometry, feature and history tree manufacturing information can be exchanged and shared with partners and throughout the supply chain.

Proficiency's Collaboration Gateway version 6.0 is a major release, including important new functionality that was developed based on feedback from key Proficiency customers. It supports industry-leading programs and initiatives. The new capabilities in this most recent release have been proven in production with leading customers in the automotive and aerospace industries to effectively handle some of the most complex real-life challenges encountered by their engineering teams.

Highlights of the new release include:

Support for Model-Based Definition Methodology:

Collaboration Gateway version 6.0 now offers the exchange of Product Manufacturing Information (PMI), such as Datum Features, Datum Targets, Dimensions and Feature Control Frames, which are commonly used to place manufacturing data directly on CAD models and drawings. The PMI retains its associativity to the 3D model during a translation.

Support for Top-Level Design Methodologies

CATIA V4 Multi-Model Link (MML): Proficiency now translates complex CATIA V4 designs that use Multi-Model Link methods, while maintaining the associative nature of the design. MML methods are commonly found in automotive engine and transmission designs, such as those typically found in Powertrain. This new support enables users to migrate designs built with links to external bodies and models.

Support for CATIA Hybrid Modeling (V4 and V5 Combined)

Proficiency now translates the CATIA V5 hybrid environment (an environment composed of both CATIA V5 CATParts and CATIA V4 Model files) to any supported CAD application.

Additional enhancements include:

- Support for Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire 3
- Support for I-Ideas Open Body methodologies.
- Support of Entity Delete and Surface Delete features.
- Support for most common surface modeling Boolean operations.
- Remastering hints added during import to CATIA V5

Click here to return to Contents

SmartCAM V14.0 Boasts ACIS Kernel, Machining From Surfaces/Solid, Open GL Graphics, and More

28 February 2007

SmartCAMcnc has announced the field test release of all SmartCAM V14.0 applications. The SmartCAM product family consists of Production Milling, Advanced Milling, FreeForm Machining, Production Turning, Advanced Turning, Advanced Wire EDM, and Advanced Fabrication. The company plans to release the product to all maintenance and new customers in April of this year.

SmartCAM V14 represents SmartCAMcnc's most significant release to date, and demonstrates a strong commitment to the modernization of the product family, offering substantial improvements in Solid CAD compatibility, productivity, usability, and visualization.

"SmartCAM Version 14 is another great leap forward for the entire SmartCAM product line. By providing complete 3D solid model support in all SmartCAM applications, users can make full use of their solid CAD data in SmartCAM," said Doug Oliver, SmartCAMcnc's Director of Product Planning.

"We also continue to build on our core strength: total toolpath control. Other CAM systems might dabble in editable toolpath, but most systems don't allow it. Only SmartCAM provides full toolpath editing, right down to individual toolpath elements. Our users depend on SmartCAM to give them complete control of the entire manufacturing process."

Highlights of SmartCAM V14 include:

ACIS Solid Modeling Kernel in all SmartCAM applications – All SmartCAM V14 products now include the ACIS® Solid Modeling Kernel (previously found in FreeForm Machining and Advanced Milling). Full 3D application support has also been added to all applications. This new capability allows

all SmartCAM applications to import 3D solids, surface, and wireframe data via SAT, IGES, DXF, and DWG files.

OpenGL Solid Model Graphics in Main Window – SmartCAM has been updated to use OpenGL graphics in the main user window. OpenGL is the most widely adopted 3D graphics API in the industry. This change provides several significant benefits, specifically the rendering of a solid with transparency, integrated dynamic viewing of the model, shaded-surface picking, and overall improved graphics performance. (Due to the higher system requirements for OpenGL Modeling, users should review the new system requirements for SmartCAM at SmartCAMcnc's website, http://www.smartcamcnc.com/.)

Machining from Solids – the new Create from Solids geometry capabilities allow creation of boundary and slice profiles from a group of surfaces.

- The Boundary function creates a composite boundary from multiple adjacent surfaces which share common edges.
- The Slice function creates a slice from an entire solid, or from a subset of user-specified surfaces.
- A new Hole Flip option automatically changes the entry side of through holes from one side to the other.

New High-Speed Milling Features – Three new high-speed machining capabilities have been added to Production Milling, Advanced Milling, FreeForm Machining, and Advanced Turning that are especially beneficial to both production shops and mold and die shops. These include:

True Spiral Pocketing – This new pocket milling pattern generates a continuous spiral path between the pocket boundary and a central location within the region. This technique reduces spikes in tool load by eliminating the stepover moves that would otherwise exist in a conventional offset pocketing path, thereby extending tool life.

Trochoidal Slotting – A new trochoidal rough milling process clears a path of material using a smooth series of continuous small arc loops and lines which advance the tool along the profile in small increments. This technique allows high federates for slotting cuts, providing faster material removal while limiting the maximum tool load, and thus providing longer tool life.

Plunge Roughing – A new plunge rough milling process clears a boundary of material using a pattern of drilling style plunge cuts placed at a specified increment along a series of rows. The plunge rough toolpath output uses either drilling canned cycles or conventional long-hand commands. This technique directs the cutting forces along the tool axis rather than radially, and allows purpose built tools to remove large amounts of material very quickly.

Several other new enhancements greatly improve everyday usability, including:

Invert Visibility – This new display control allows quick manipulation of visible and hidden elements by switching between visibility modes. This capability allows elements that are hidden to be selectively redisplayed.

File Preview – A new file open dialog box provides an image preview prior to loading process models, custom tool graphics and font files. The thumbnail image can be expanded to a larger image for improved clarity.

Tool Tip Help – Tool tips "pop-up" display whenever the cursor hovers over an icon or menu pick.

Click here to return to Contents

Synplicity Provides Cost Advantage for Altera's Cyclone III FPGAs

19 March 2007

Synplicity, Inc. announced immediate support for Altera Corporation's low-cost Cyclone III FPGAs. Synplicity optimized its Synplify Pro ® FPGA synthesis software to provide a fast, easy-to-use solution that enables Cyclone III customers to quickly reach their timing goals, while achieving cost reduction through optimal area utilization. The optimizations made within the Synplify Pro software are a result of the long-standing partnership and close development activities between the two companies. Through this partnership, Altera provided Synplicity access to its new device architectures months ahead of the public release, enabling Synplicity to deliver best-in-class RTL-based solutions tailored for Altera's device families.

"Our Cyclone III FPGAs provide customers with an unprecedented combination of power consumption, functionality, and cost," said Danny Biran, vice president of product and corporate marketing, Altera. "Together with Synplicity's synthesis solutions, our Cyclone III FPGAs enable high-volume FPGA designers to get more value from their devices, sooner, and for lower costs. We continue to recommend the Synplify Pro software to customers who require the best performance and area results from Altera FPGAs."

"Synplicity and Altera share a common goal of delivering high-performance, high-productivity solutions that reduce overall development and system costs," said Andy Haines, senior vice president of marketing at Synplicity. "The Cyclone III family-specific optimizations made to our Synplify Pro software enable designers to fully leverage the flexibility and other cost-saving features of Cyclone III devices. This announcement reinforces the commitment we have to our customers to provide timely support for the latest FPGA architectures so they can easily achieve their performance, cost and time to market goals."

By using less logic to implement a Cyclone III design the Synplify Pro software can reduce design cost by enabling use of a smaller, less expensive device. The Synplify Pro software contains true timing-driven synthesis algorithms which work first to meet timing requirements, then to reduce the logic used while maintaining the timing requirement. With the Synplify Pro product Cyclone III customers will be able to achieve aggressive performance and cost objectives while at the same time differentiating their products in order to respond to changing market opportunities.

Pricing and Availability

The Synplify Pro software, offering support for Cyclone III devices, is available now. Pricing for the Synplify software starts at $10,450 (U.S.). For more information, contact your local Synplicity sales office or visit Synplicity's Web site at http://www.synplicity.com.

Click here to return to Contents

Telelogic Optimizes Requirements Definition & Management for Software Development Projects

20 March 2007

Telelogic announced a new requirements definition and management solution that is optimized for the needs of software development projects. Called Telelogic DOORS® Fastrak™, the new Web-based solution provides requirements definition and management for collaborative development projects with short delivery timelines.

"Telelogic recognizes that good requirements definition and management are critical to the success of any development project," said Ingemar Ljungdahl, Chief Technology Officer, Telelogic. "We have led the way in providing requirements-driven development solutions for the world's most complex engineering projects. With DOORS Fastrak, we are now applying our expertise to meeting the requirements process needs of rapid software development projects."

DOORS Fastrak provides a solution that:

- Promotes quick and easy adoption by development teams - simple Web-based forms, an 'out-of-the-box' automated workflow and step-by-step guidance provide a requirements solution that meets the dynamic needs of software development projects.

- Engages the customer in the requirements process – Web-based access and role-based views make it simple to involve stakeholders directly in the requirements capture and review process, and keeps them up-to-date on the progress and completion of their requirements.

- Delivers high value at low cost – DOORS Fastrak is available either as an installed application or as Software as a Service (SaaS). DOORS Fastrak doesn't need additional client software – just a Web browser. The SaaS option lowers the cost of deployment and administration even further. Starting at just over $1 per user per day, DOORS Fastrak is a simple, low cost, effective way to improve the requirements process of fast-paced software development projects.

DOORS Fastrak is available now.

Click here to return to Contents

UGS Announces New Releases for its D-Cubed 2D Component Software Solutions

22 March 2007

UGS Corp. announced the immediate availability of new releases of two of its D-Cubed™ component software products. Version 51.0 of 2D Dimensional Constraint Manager (2D DCM) and Profile Geometry Manager (PGM) contain new enhancements to improve function and performance.

Detailed descriptions of the enhancements are available online at: http://www.ugs.com/products/open/d-cubed/latest_releases.shtml.

D-Cubed

D-Cubed software is part of UGS' PLM Components suite of solutions and represents a family of geometric software components that enable key functionality in CAD, CAM, CAE, and PLM applications, including sketching, part and assembly modeling, motion simulation, collision detection, clearance measurement and hidden-line visualization. For more information, please visit http://www.ugs.com/d-cubed/

Click here to return to Contents

Zuken Offers Free Footprint Design Data for Altera's Cyclone III FPGA Family within Zuken's CR-5000 Enterprise Wide Design Suite

19 March 2007

Zuken announced the availability of free footprint data for Altera Corporation's recently announced low-cost Cyclone III FPGA family. Zuken's CR-5000 enterprise wide design solution users can download the Cyclone III footprint design templates, eliminating the task of manually entering footprint data into their CR-5000 libraries.

"At Zuken we see it as an important objective to do everything we can to facilitate the adoption of new technology for our customers. Through our partnership with Altera, we are continuing to provide the integration needed within the electronics industry for our customers to remain competitive in the marketplace," said Werner Rissiek, Zuken General Manager Engineering Europe.

The Cyclone III family is Altera's third-generation of low-cost FPGAs offering lower power with greater logic, memory, and multiplier densities than previous generations. The availability of the footprint data as a free download from Zuken is another means to enable the efficient adoption of this new technology.

"Like Zuken, we are committed to providing technology that allows our customers to easily develop innovative products at the lowest cost. The availability of free Cyclone III footprint data from Zuken meets this goal and further eliminates the barriers of designing with programmable logic," said Danny Biran, Vice President of Product and Corporate Marketing at Altera.

Free downloads are available for Zuken customers with a LinkZ login. Visit http://www.zuken.com/linkz

Click here to return to Contents