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Top Story

CIMdata Announces its 2007 PLM Vendor Forum Program: "PLM Matures: The community's strategy for success"

17 January 2007

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

Consulting and research firm CIMdata, Inc. announces its 2007 PLM Vendor Forum schedule and program. These international one-day events will be held in Detroit, Michigan, USA on March 29th, in Stuttgart, Germany on April 19th, and in Tokyo, Japan on April 25th, 2007.

CIMdata's 2007 PLM Vendor Forum, whose theme is "PLM Matures: The community's strategy for success", will provide a focused review of challenges and opportunities that the maturing PLM market and its continued expansion creates for suppliers, along with a discussion of effective strategies for success in this rapidly-evolving market. As always, CIMdata's perspective on the state of the PLM market and trends will be reviewed in detail, as well as the first public exposure to CIMdata's analysis of the PLM market through 2006 and early 2007. This includes statistics regarding market growth across industries and regions, and the performance (revenue and market share analysis) of leading PLM solution providers. CIMdata's 2007 PLM Vendor Forum will provide a solid background for suppliers who want to both better understand the market trends and benefit from them. For detailed agenda and registration information, go to [CIMdata 2007 Vendor Forum](#).

Commenting on the state of the PLM Market, Mr. Ken Amann, CIMdata Director of Research explained, "The market is now recognized as a major enterprise-solution opportunity. The consolidation among major market suppliers of PLM solutions is an indication of the scale and attractiveness of the opportunity." He added that increasing focus is being given to leveraging the basic PLM investment in a variety of different way. "For example," Mr. Amann said, "Within the industries that have traditionally invested in PLM, new niche offerings that expand the scope and value of PLM solutions are being developed. Industries that have not traditionally invested in PLM are gaining an appreciation of its potential value and are encouraging the development of solutions that address their specific needs." While this PLM expansion reinforces the maturing of the base market, it nevertheless highlights the tremendous potential that remains.

Today's PLM market situation creates a challenging environment for suppliers of PLM-related methods, technologies, and services. Mr. Amann recommended that, "To be successful, suppliers must clearly understand and articulate their focus and differentiation, and establish the right mix of partner relationships to enable effective market support." He explained that consolidation among major high-end "core" PLM suppliers has increased the intensity of competition between them as they seek to enhance the depth and the breadth of their offerings and their transition to enterprise-focused solution providers. Mr. Amann added. "Expansion into new industries has created opportunities for new software suppliers as well as industry-focused services forms; niche-focused offerings from new competitors continue to expand the PLM solution footprint; and major computing infrastructure suppliers drive even harder to position themselves as an integral component of PLM strategies. All of these market dynamics encourage ever more partnering relationships among suppliers."

What is PLM?

PLM is a strategic approach that applies a consistent set of business solutions in support of the collaborative creation, management, dissemination, and use of product definition information. It spans the extended enterprise from product concept to end-of-life—integrating people, processes, business systems, and information. Leading solution providers recognize the importance of PLM to business, and major industrial firms are already reaping significant benefits from their PLM implementations, in sectors ranging from aerospace and automotive to consumer packaged goods and petrochemical.

PLM ties together design, manufacturing, field service, purchasing, marketing, suppliers, customers, and other organizations and disciplines throughout extended intercompany supply chains. PLM allows companies to maximize their investment in resources, supply chain participants, and current and future IT technologies. It enables companies to unleash their past investments in multiple IT solutions, while maximizing their return-on-investment.

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Acquisitions

Altair to Acquire Controlling Interest in Hicare, Italian Developer of Business Intelligence Software

16 January 2007

Altair Engineering, Inc. announced it has entered into an agreement to acquire controlling interest in Hicare Srl, a privately held business intelligence software company headquartered in Torino, Italy. Specific financial terms of the transaction are not being disclosed.

Hicare is the developer of Lilith Enterprise and Web Server business intelligence software, a decision-making support system with graphing and reporting capabilities for interactive visualization of information. Built on a database architecture that combines relational, hierarchical and multidimensional database models, Lilith provides the ability to view and analyze captured data from multiple perspectives and user profiles. Hicare's diverse client base includes notable firms such as adidas, Diageo, Ferrero, Fiat, Levi Strauss & Company, Porsche Italia and TNT Global Express.

"At Altair, we focus on helping our clients manage and gain insight from the growing volumes of corporate and product performance data," said James R. Scapa, president and CEO of Altair Engineering. "With an emphasis on technology for data analysis and visualization, we see the integration of Hicare's technology as fundamental for our clients to interactively search, mine, view and dashboard complex business and engineering information for rapid decision-making."

"The global development resources and support infrastructure that Altair brings as part of this acquisition will greatly accelerate the strategic development of this groundbreaking technology and provide world-class support for its users worldwide," said Roberto Marchisio, president and co-founder of Hicare. "Our entire organization is excited to become an integral part of Altair's vision for client information capture and visualization."

Lilith HyperCubes (data containers) are limitless in size and can contain different types of homogenous and non-homogeneous data. In fact, a single HyperCube can contain all the information for the entire enterprise. Uniquely positioned in the market, Hicare's HyperCube technology allows daily refreshing of business data and the ability to dynamically perform large-scale and complex operations through an integrated calculation engine, without the need to rebuild the HyperCube information.

Altair plans to centralize Hicare's business activities as part of its United States-based world headquarters operations, and Hicare will continue the development of its business intelligence software in Italy. In addition, Altair will begin leveraging and integrating Hicare technology within Altair's commercial product offerings for data management, computer-aided engineering and grid computing.

More information regarding this acquisition is available at <http://www.altair.com/hicare>.

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T-Systems Successfully Completes Gedas Integration

18 January 2007

Approximately one year after taking over gedas AG, [T-Systems](#) has concluded integration of the company. The complex project was completed on schedule while simultaneously creating numerous synergy effects. T-Systems has reached an important milestone in its international growth strategy with the successful completion of the integration project.

The successful integration of gedas AG has enabled T-Systems to strengthen its position as one of the leading service providers for information and communications technology (ICT). "We're now able to offer unique expertise, especially to the automotive and manufacturing industries, and to do so on an international scale," says Lothar Pauly, Deutsche Telekom Board Member and T-Systems CEO. With over 50 international locations in 13 countries, gedas has made a significant contribution to T-Systems' international growth and to extending the company's international reach.

The integrated gedas areas form an important element of T-Systems' new Automotive Industry Line. "With this Industry Line, we are now the number three ICT service provider for the automotive industry worldwide," says Lothar Pauly. "And with the successful takeover of gedas AG, we're on our way to becoming number one." The merger is accelerating the positive international growth of T-Systems: In the third quarter of 2006, the company registered a revenue increase of 25.7 percent outside of Germany in comparison to the previous year.

In December 2005, T-Systems announced the takeover of the Volkswagen subsidiary gedas AG. At the same time, the business customer unit of Deutsche Telekom and Volkswagen AG signed a framework contract for IT services worth 2.5 billion euros over seven years. After the deal had been sealed, a project team took on responsibility for managing the integration of the company with its 5,500 employees and annual sales of over 600 million euros.

Long-term outsourcing experience pays off

"Over a year after the takeover, we can look back at a successful and smooth integration process," says Lothar Pauly. He adds that the rebranding process, i.e., the transition of the company name gedas to the T-Systems brand, has also been finalized. During the integration, it became obvious that the solutions and services of the two companies complement each other perfectly. The ICT provider was able to take advantage of numerous synergy effects immediately following the takeover. According to Pauly, over the past year the two companies have already begun working jointly on an international basis – such as e-government projects for the Catalonian government and the city administration of Madrid.

"We were able to complete the integration on schedule and keep overall costs under the level of the costs initially budgeted," Pauly says. "We've benefited from our long-standing outsourcing experience. As an

ICT service provider, we have the expertise to successfully and independently, i.e., without external consultants, integrate acquired corporate entities." He adds that this capability has ensured a constant level of service quality for all of our customers.

Pauly adds that constructive cooperation with employee representatives contributed to the smooth implementation of the integration project. The negative effects frequently associated with takeovers – such as high fluctuation and the resulting loss in expertise – did not occur. A global survey showed that former gedas employees were highly satisfied with the integration process. Additionally, many former gedas managers are now working in top management positions at T-Systems.

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Company News

Avatech Solutions Experts Reach Autodesk Civil 3D Implementation Expert Status

17 January 2007

Avatech Solutions, Inc. announced that each of their fifteen civil application engineers have successfully passed the stringent standards established by Autodesk to become official Autodesk Civil 3D 2007 Implementation Certified Experts (ICEs).

"I would like to congratulate the entire team for their achievement. Of note is the fact that four members of our team passed with perfect scores," said Avatech's Vice President, Infrastructure Solution Group, Bruce White. "These certifications underscore Avatech's strong commitment to continually grow our expertise in civil engineering so that we can offer the highest standard of service to our customers."

The hands-on exam, which spans three and a half days, covers implementation analysis, end-user workflow analysis, data migration and much more. To make the grade, students must demonstrate a full breadth of knowledge of Autodesk Civil 3D software. The certification indicates that the Avatech professionals—combining theoretical excellence with real-world success-know how to plan, deliver, and maintain successful implementations. Being a certified expert means recipients have demonstrated their ability to creatively identify opportunities for improved process efficiency to meet an organization's goals while at the same time avoiding lost productivity due to technology change.

John Walton, infrastructure solutions training and partner development manager at Autodesk added, "We are pleased to see partners like Avatech supporting and encouraging their staff to obtain Autodesk certification. This certification ensures that Avatech is at the forefront of providing a high level of technical expertise in the marketplace."

[Avatech](#) also announced that their GIS Application Expert received certification for Autodesk Map 3D 2007. This means that every one of Avatech's sixteen Infrastructure Solutions Group technical specialists has attained the distinction of Implementation Certified Expert.

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AxSTREAM™ Turbomachinery Optimization Software Poised for Strong Growth Worldwide

16 January 2007

SoftInWay, Inc., a provider of advanced turbomachinery design software, and the creator of the AxSTREAM™ Design and Optimization suite of programs, announced that Robert M. (Bob) Brown has joined the company as Vice President of Sales and Marketing. Brown is responsible for managing revenue generation and new market penetration worldwide.

“We are excited to have an experienced sales and marketing professional of Bob’s caliber at SoftInWay,” said SoftInWay President Dr. Leonid Moroz. “The company is poised to further expand our market penetration in the U.S., Asia and Europe, and we believe Bob is the right person to take us to the next level.”

Before joining [SoftInWay](#), Brown was VP Sales and Marketing for Business Strategies America, a marketing/sales services and consulting company focused on establishing new and alternative energy products and companies. Bob has over 25 years of experience within the turbomachinery industry. While at GE Aircraft Engines, he was responsible for the launch and marketing programs for the LM6000 gas turbine, and he led the development of the U.S steam turbine rotor retrofit program at ALSTOM Power.

“When first introduced to AxSTREAM, I was truly impressed by its speed, versatility and ability to interface with the design programs currently in use by our customers,” said Mr. Brown. “With AxSTREAM, engineers can now design turbine and compressor flow paths from the very beginning and not be constrained by having to work from an existing design.”

Mr. Brown is also tasked to expand SoftInWay’s engineering services business which provides consulting services in the areas of thermal and structural stress analysis and CFD modeling.

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Jasper Design Automation Names Thierry Le Squeren as Sales Director for Europe and Middle East

16 January 2007

Jasper Design Automation named Thierry Le Squeren as Director of Sales for Europe and the Middle-East. Mr. Le Squeren is an EDA veteran with more than 16 years of experience in sales and sales management positions. He comes to Jasper with an extensive knowledge of the verification market, having worked for companies such as Quickturn, Synopsys, Verplex/Cadence and OneSpin. At Verplex Systems, Mr. Le Squeren set up and developed that company’s successful European operations. While at Cadence, he worked as Sales Director, helping to introduce the recently acquired verification technologies. Most recently, Le Squeren was involved in the commercial launch of OneSpin Solutions, a European startup specializing in verification services.

“Thierry’s strong background in the formal verification space, combined with his understanding of the market in Europe, makes him ideally suited to lead our growing sales presence in Europe,” said Kathryn Kranen, president and CEO of Jasper. “His depth of understanding of the customer’s needs, together with his excellent sales management skills and leadership, will serve to drive Jasper’s industry-leading formal technology forward in the European market and will help to deliver exceptional value to our customers.”

“Having seen the tremendous accomplishments Jasper has made to ease formal verification adoption and integration, I am delighted to be joining the team at this time of high growth,” said Le Squeren. “Jasper is winning top tier customers by making it easy for them to reap the full benefits of JasperGold’s powerful technology. And, I’m excited by the timely convergence between the market demand here in Europe and the mature development of Jasper’s formal verification offering. This is a great time to be joining Jasper, and I look forward to serving our European customers.”

Jasper Design Automation’s Growing Presence in Europe

Jasper’s new Sales and Support headquarters for Europe and the Middle East is located in France. The telephone number is +33 240 704 637.

The new office adds to Jasper’s already significant European presence, which includes a large technology development site in Gothenburg, Sweden, and customer support offices in Sweden and Israel.

See Jasper at the DATE Conference

[Jasper Design Automation](#) will be exhibiting its advanced, easily adopted formal verification solutions in stand M33 at the Design Automation and Test in Europe ([DATE](#)) Conference in Nice, France on April 16-20, 2007.

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Mentor Graphics Names New Chief Information Officer

12 January 2007

[Mentor Graphics Corporation](#) has named Ananthan Thandri chief information officer (CIO). Thandri was most recently at Oracle Corporation as vice president, Information Technology. At Oracle Thandri was responsible for the IT organization supporting the Server Technologies Division.

Prior to Oracle, Thandri worked for Cadence Design Systems for eleven years as vice president, Information Technology. At Cadence, Thandri implemented a variety of systems including SAP, Siebel, and a complete electronic fulfillment system. Prior to joining Cadence he held technical leadership roles at Mastech Corporation, ITC Ltd. and Fujitsu ICIM Ltd. Thandri has participated in several CIO conference panels throughout the United States. He was profiled in the January 2004 issue of Technology Venture Capital journal. Thandri graduated in mathematics from the University of Madras, India and holds an MBA from St. Mary’s College, California.

“We are delighted to welcome Ananthan to the Mentor team,” said Gregory K. Hinckley, president. “The combination of his strong background in information technology and his deep experience in electronic design automation makes him an excellent fit for Mentor Graphics.”

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MSC Software Announces Streamlining of Global Operations

19 January 2007

[MSC Software Corporation](#) announced that it will streamline its global operations by reducing its current workforce by approximately 85 people. The Company is also taking additional steps to further reduce operating expenses through facility consolidations and other overhead cost reductions. Severance costs and other one-time charges associated with these reductions and consolidations will total between \$6 and \$8 million, most of which will be recognized in the first quarter of 2007.

"We believe that streamlining our global operations is the next step in positioning MSC for sustained profitable growth aligned with our new enterprise sales strategy," said Bill Weyand, Chairman and CEO of MSC Software. "We have implemented this cost improvement program in order to more efficiently align our operating expense structure with our evolving business model as we move to larger value enterprise transactions. This realignment has effectively flattened the sales organization and eliminated layers of management and overhead within our corporate marketing, product development and global sales organizations. Our ability to execute our multi-discipline and enterprise strategy remains intact, given our off-shore R&D investment and continued growth of resources in India."

"Along with our new global business partners, we feel that MSC is well positioned to efficiently and profitably execute our 2007 plan," continued Mr. Weyand.

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NGC® Expands New York Office to Meet Demand for Rapid Deployment of its PLM and Global Sourcing Solutions

15 January 2007

New Generation Computing® ([NGC](#)) announced that it is expanding its New York City office in response to customer demand for rapid deployment of NGC's end-to-end PLM and global sourcing solutions.

“NGC is adding experienced technical personnel to support our sales growth and momentum in the New York market,” said Alan Brooks, president, New Generation Computing. “Our implementation experts will be working closely with customers to ensure rapid deployment of NGC software solutions, and to help customers quickly realize the benefits of supply chain visibility and faster speed to market.”

NGC's solutions include e-PDM software for Product Lifecycle Management (PLM), e-SPS® software for Global Sourcing, and RedHorse® software for Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP). Together, these

products offer the only modular, integrated end-to-end suite of solutions for the apparel and sewn goods industries.

NGC's New York office is located at 1412 Broadway in the heart of the garment district, phone 212-768-0101.

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Right Hemisphere Appoints Solidcore Co-Founder Rix Kramlich to Vice President of Worldwide Marketing

16 January 2007

[Right Hemisphere](#)® announced the appointment of software marketing veteran Rix Kramlich to vice president of worldwide marketing. Kramlich joins Right Hemisphere from Solidcore Systems of Palo Alto, CA where he was a co-founder and the executive vice president of marketing. At Right Hemisphere, Kramlich will report to CEO Michael Lynch and be responsible for all marketing and product management personnel.

“Rix has a strong track record of success in both large enterprise and start-up environments. With his balanced operational experience, I believe he has the vision and execution skills necessary to see where we need to go and get us there,” said CEO Michael Lynch. “He’s energized by challenges and welcomes opportunities that can make a big impact. We expect him to make a very big impression here as we continue to build market awareness for Right Hemisphere’s value proposition, software tools and enterprise solutions.”

Prior to Right Hemisphere, Kramlich was at Solidcore Systems where he was a co-founder and executive vice president of marketing. At Solidcore he helped raise \$30 million in venture funding and developed the go-to-market strategy that established the company as a well recognized and leading solutions provider in the IT software market.

Before Solidcore, Kramlich was the director of global e-marketing for i2 Technologies. Prior to i2, Kramlich was at custom parts sourcing start-up Supplybase where he established and led the company’s marketing efforts and executed the go-to-market strategy that resulted in the company’s acquisition by i2 Technologies.

Earlier in his career, Kramlich spent eight years working in various senior product management positions at Macromedia (now part of Adobe Systems) involved in 3D visualization, e-learning, authoring and graphics production products. He began his professional career as a designer with Jorge de Quesada, Inc. Architects specializing in computer-aided design and visualization, and holds a bachelor’s degree in architecture from the University of California at Berkeley.

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Right Hemisphere Technology Incubator Takes Shape in Auckland, Appoints VR Expert Dr. Roy Davies to its Head

15 January 2007

[Right Hemisphere](#)® has appointed Kiwi virtual reality expert Dr. Roy Davies to manage a new technology development lab it is creating in Auckland called Nextspace. An extensively published and world-renowned expert on the subject of virtual reality, Dr. Davies returns home to New Zealand from Sweden where he established a research-focused virtual reality centre from the ground up at the University of Lund.

After completing his Master of Science degree with first class honours at the University of Auckland, Dr. Davies lectured in Computer Studies at the then Auckland Institute of Technology. In 1995, Dr. Davies left New Zealand and carried out significant research in virtual reality and associate technology at the University of Lund, Sweden, where he was also awarded his Doctorate.

Nextspace is a wholly-owned subsidiary of Right Hemisphere and not-for profit organisation slated to open for business later in the year. Nextspace will conduct research and development but will also have a more commercial dimension, bringing together technologies to create commercial applications and potential new 3D graphic communication products and solutions. The company will seek to establish close links with both New Zealand universities and other research organisations.

"Nextspace aims to make graphical communications technology a major industry and export for New Zealand," said Dr. Davies.

Nextspace has already established a relationship with the New Zealand Supercomputer Centre (NZSC) to access the supercomputing resources necessary to support its programme. Dr. Davies said Nextspace's collaboration with the NZSC would also allow Nextspace users to gain easy access to processing capabilities for important calculations, simulations or time-critical solutions.

Right Hemisphere established Nextspace as part of its commitment to the New Zealand government for a U.S. \$8 million loan it received last September. Part of the government's loan agreement provided for Right Hemisphere to lead research and development initiatives associated with its technology to foster a New Zealand 'cluster' in imaging and 3D graphics technologies.

Nextspace will operate a visual communication centre to assist ventures develop and commercialise business opportunities utilising Right Hemisphere's Product Graphics Management platform. This will include an "Inspiration Shed" consisting of high-end, big-screen visualisation and interaction tools for use with commercial applications.

Dr. Davies said that, in addition to its collaboration with the NZSC, Nextspace would also work closely with KAREN - the Kiwi Advanced Research & Education Network - to connect to research and innovation partners throughout New Zealand and around the world. KAREN is maintained by REANNZ (the Research and Education Advanced Network New Zealand Ltd), a Crown-owned company

established to own and operate a high-speed telecommunications network for the research and education sectors.

"Nextspace is a great opportunity to push the boundaries of 3D visualisation technology and bring New Zealand to the forefront of the new wave of ICT applications," said Dr. Davies.

Right Hemisphere President and CTO Mark Thomas said Nextspace offered an exciting environment in which to collaborate on research and commercial applications.

"Graphics technologies are key to global communications as more and more companies operate and compete globally. Nextspace is designed to connect New Zealand innovation with a global customer base and provide a platform for development of any graphically oriented IT or business solution," said Mr. Thomas. "We expect collaborations with Nextspace to provide a direct path to Right Hemisphere's top automotive and aerospace customers or to simply provide a technology platform second to none for graphics software development."

About Nextspace

Nextspace is a not-for-profit company established by Right Hemisphere to operate a Virtual Reality Centre in Auckland that will enable research and development, and commercial collaboration between New Zealand technology researchers and firms, especially in the area of 3D visualization and imaging. Nextspace has been designed to connect New Zealand innovation with a global customer base to provide a platform for development of any graphically oriented IT or business solution. Nextspace aims to enable New Zealand organizations to concentrate on solving high level, graphically oriented, business problems rather than low-level graphics coding problems. These solutions will, where appropriate, utilise Right Hemisphere's Graphics Management System.

About REANNZ

REANNZ (Research and Education Advanced Network New Zealand Ltd) is the Crown-owned company set up to establish, own and operate a high-speed telecommunications network for the research and education sectors. It supplies high-capacity, high-speed interconnections between research and education institutions (and organisations associated with them in New Zealand) and with overseas counterparts.

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Events News

Agile and Deloitte Present at the 3rd Annual Meeting 'Achieving Pharma Marketing Excellence'

16 January 2007

WHO: Marc Sluijs, business consultant of [Agile Software Corporation](#) and Chris Wellinger, from Deloitte, will present "Enabling Effective Product Lifecycle Management," an overview of solutions and customer case studies.

WHAT: This presentation will discuss how leading pharmaceutical companies' key strategic driver is around the role marketing plays in innovation to deliver profitable growth. Marc and Chris will outline how pharmaceutical companies are looking at ways to maximize brand value through consistency, collaboration, and visibility; improving product profitability throughout the lifecycle of their products; and finally, how the effective use of technology is yielding results in helping leading pharmaceutical companies drive innovation across their organizations and throughout their partner networks.

WHEN/WHERE: The 3rd Annual Achieving Pharma Marketing Excellence conference will take place at the Radisson SAS Hotel in Rome, Italy on 18-19th January, 2007. The Agile and Deloitte presentation is at 14.10 on 18th January 2007.

FOR INFORMATION: For more information, visit http://www.jacobfleming.com/buxus/generate_page.php?page_id=321

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Avatech Presents Autodesk® Civil 3D® Styles and Autodesk® Vault Workshops

15 January 2007

Avatech Solutions, Inc. invites civil engineers to participate in the 11 Autodesk® Civil 3D® styles and Autodesk® Vault workshops it is hosting across the country in January and February.

These seminar-style training sessions offer participants an opportunity to gain a greater understanding of two of the most important innovations on the market, designed to improve business processes and collaboration throughout a project lifecycle.

Avatech experts will share the knowledge of best practices they've gained while implementing Autodesk Civil 3D at firms across the industry. Civil 3D provides a powerful style management system that, when implemented properly, enables organizations to define design standards for use throughout their entire workflow. Attendees will learn how Civil 3D styles help firms work smarter by understanding style hierarchies, how styles relate to objects and how templates ensure drawings use styles for common elements. Participants will also learn how to create styles based on Autodesk® Land Desktop standards as well as from scratch to define new standards for consistency and efficiency.

Autodesk Vault, combined with Civil 3D, facilitates the organization of files, distribution of files over a network, version control, check-in and check-out functions, and coordinates document restoration and archiving. Vault provides rapid payback in increased revision control, design reuse, support for quality initiatives, and regulatory compliance.

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

"Attendees will leave with a firm understanding of these tools and how they can use them to build new, more efficient and collaborative ways of conducting their day-to-day business," said Bruce White, Vice President, Infrastructure Solutions, Avatech Solutions.

Dates, Times and Locations

All workshops run from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Cleveland, OH; February 6, 2007

Fort Collins, CO; January 23, 2007

Fort Myers, FL; January 25, 2007

Grand Rapids, MI; January 24, 2007

Lexington, KY; February 7, 2007

Pittsburgh, PA; January 23, 2007

Richmond, VA; January 17, 2007

St. Paul, MN; January 17, 2007

Tallahassee, FL; January 17, 2007

Virginia Beach, VA; January 18, 2007

Waco, TX; February 8, 2007

Cost: \$129 (Breakfast and Lunch are included)

To Register

<http://www.avat.com/web/civil3d> or call 1-800-520-8000

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Cyco Software Kicks Off Inaugural European User & Reseller Conference

15 January 2007

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[Cyclo Software](#) announced that it will kick off the new year with its first-ever [European User & Reseller Conference](#) at the Sheraton Algarve Hotel in Albufeira, Portugal from January 14-16.

The year 2006 has been a very successful year for the Cyclo organization. Cyclo Software has seen significant revenue growth and commercial success with their new strategic focus of "Taking EDM to the Enterprise" in asset management-related markets.

The year 2007 promises further growth, many more exciting developments and new solution offerings that are currently in the pipeline. There will be a major focus on intensifying relationships with customers and business partners – Cyclo Software is therefore commencing the year with its first European User & Reseller Conference in Albufeira this month, following the great success of its User & Reseller Conference held in Atlanta, USA last June.

“This is an exciting time for Cyclo Software. With our rapid growth and expansion in the global EDM market, it is one of our highest priorities to listen to our customers and be in tune with their needs,” says Martijn Janmaat, Cyclo Software CEO. “The conference will not only be an event where customers will gain valuable knowledge, but will also provide a forum for our customers to air any questions, issues and what they wish to see in our product roadmap.”

To be held at the Sheraton Algarve Hotel, a venue near the city of Faro that is part of Starwood’s coveted Luxury Pine Cliffs Collection, the conference will present a mix of technical and strategic information.

The theme of the conference is “Taking EDM to the Enterprise”. This slogan refers to Cyclo Software’s mission to provide best-of-class technology, integration, applications and services that will help organizations to leverage engineering information throughout the enterprise.

It will be an event where Cyclo Software customers will meet and mingle to learn how best to exploit their Cyclo AutoManager solutions, how to get the most enterprise-wide benefits from engineering data management for their companies, hear case-studies from their peers, gain invaluable technical insight and get a sneak preview of what to expect from Cyclo Software’s future product development.

“We are looking forward to a great, action-packed event and to hosting our valued customers and business partners in beautiful Albufeira,” says Mr Janmaat. Cyclo Software will hold another conference in Miami, USA this June.

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Delcam to Show World’s Most Comprehensive CAM Range at WESTEC

15 January 2007

[Delcam](#) will demonstrate the latest versions of all three of its CAM product ranges, PowerMILL, FeatureCAM and PartMaker, on Booth 3368, at the [WESTEC](#) exhibition to be held from March 26th to 29th in Los Angeles.

The latest release of PowerMILL, a leading CAM system for complex machining operations, includes new and improved functionality for roughing and finishing with both three-axis and five-axis machines. The enhancements include a wider range of five-axis strategies for both roughing and finishing, including the ability to generate a five-axis toolpath from any three-axis toolpath, three-axis swarf machining and parametric surface finishing, together with faster calculation times, improved point distribution and easier data management.

FeatureCAM 2007, the latest version of this feature-based machining software, includes major enhancements to the software's automatic feature recognition functionality and additions to its range of 3D machining strategies that have enabled significant improvements in calculation speeds and the surface finish that can be achieved. In addition, creation and editing of toolpaths has been made quicker, easier and more flexible.

PartMaker pioneered the field of CAM software for Turn-Mills and Swiss-type lathes with its patented Visual Programming Approach for programming multi-axis lathes with live tooling. It provides substantial gains in programming efficiency by remembering the tools, material and process information necessary to machine individual part features. Version 8 features a wide range of improved functionality, including the introduction of the PartMaker Full Machine Simulation module which allows the user to view a photo realistic 3D model of the machine for which they are programming a part.

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DesignCon 2007 Exhibition Plays Host to Hundreds of Cutting-Edge Design Tools this Month in Santa Clara

17 January 2007

The International Engineering Consortium (IEC) hosts a record-breaking number of exhibitors at DesignCon 2007, which takes place this January 29 through February 1 at the Santa Clara Convention Center in Santa Clara, CA.

IEC President John Janowiak commented, "Our growing exhibition floor once again has a record-breaking number of exhibitors with an added group of exciting new companies. And dedicated to continuing education, we are thrilled to present the Exhibits Plus Pass to all industry professionals, which grants full and complimentary access to the entire exhibition, keynote addresses, along with plenary and technical panels and receptions."

Major sponsors exhibiting at DesignCon include Agilent Technologies (Official Sponsor), RAMBUS, Inc., LeCroy Corporation, Tektronix, Inc., BERTScope, Computer Simulation Technology, Sigrity, Inc., ANSOFT Corporation, Molex, MOSAID Technologies, Samtec and REED Electronics Group.

The DesignCon exhibition features leading organizations presenting EDA tools, test and measurement equipment, PCBs and related technologies, semiconductor components and IP, interconnect technologies and more.

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Exciting new companies joining the DesignCon exhibition include: Accurel Systems, Anritsu Company, ANSYS, Inc., Appro, Arch Pro Design Automation, Inc., ASSET InterTech, Inc., Bogatin Enterprises, CA Design, Carbon Design Systems, Cascade Microtech, ChipEDA, Chip Estimate, Coretec, Corning Gilbert, Inc., Coverity, DuPont Electronic Technologies, Flomerics, Inc., FuturePlus Systems, Innov-x Systems, Inc., Memcore Inc., Merix Corporation, Mixel, NCI Logic Analyzers, NEL Frequency Controls, Nicomatic, Noise Com, Oak-Mitsui Technologies, Paricon Technologies Corporation, Perfectus Technology, Rosenberger of North America, LLC, San Francisco Circuits, Semiconductor Store/Symmetry Electronics, Simberian, Inc., Solarflare Communications, Inc., Springer Science + Business Media, LLC, Starnet and TES Electronic Solutions.

The DesignCon exhibition also features three Technology Pavilions this year providing attendees with hands-on demonstrations in specific technology areas including semiconductor and IP, PCB and verification.

Also on the floor are the DesignCon Poster Sessions, which will be presented by industry authors during the Exhibition Floor Evening Reception on Tuesday and Wednesday. Poster topics include 3D-packaging technologies, advanced interconnect technologies, system-in-package (SiP) design and wafer-level testing.

The TecPreview theatre takes the stage previewing some of the latest industry advancements using multimedia. Presenters include BERTScope, CA Design, eASIC, FuturePlus Systems, LeCroy Corporation, NEL Frequency Controls, Inc., Samtec, Synplicity, Inc. and Tektronix, Inc. More information on TecPreviews can be found at www.designcon.com/2007/exhibition/tecpreviews.html.

The annual DesignTOUR also takes place at the show adding another exciting element. High-tech prizes fitting the theme of DesignCon will be given away to attendees from DesignCon sponsors such as Agilent Technologies, BERTScope, LeCroy Corporation, Molex, MOSAID Technologies, Rambus, Inc., Samtec and Tektronix, Inc.

Also on this year's DesignCon exhibition floor will be the newly-announced DesignVision award winners recognizing the most successful design tools released in 2006. Many of the industry's best innovators in electronic design will share their latest developments with attendees.

Industry professionals can preview these and many other hot technologies in the Exhibitor Product Guide available at http://www.designcon.com/2007/exhibition/exh_product_guide.html.

DesignCon's full exhibitor listing is available at: www.designcon.com/2007/exhibition/exh_list.html.

For complete information, visit <http://www.designcon.com/2007/> or contact Lisa Reyes at lreyes@iec.org or +1-312-559-3325.

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Lectra Launches the Newest Version of its 3D Upholstery Product Development Solution at the IMM-Cologne and Salon du Meuble-Paris Trade Shows

15 January 2007

Lectra presents a selection of its solutions specially designed for the upholstered furniture market in two major European trade shows. The newest version of DesignConcept Furniture, Lectra's e 3D virtual prototyping and product development solution, will be presented at the IMM trade show held in Cologne, Germany from January 15 to 21 (pavilion 4.1, stand G.23), and the Salon du Meuble held in Paris, France from January 20 to 25 (pavilion 7.3, stand H.69).

A 3D solution specially designed for upholstery applications

Representing the first CAD solution entirely dedicated to the furniture market, DesignConcept Furniture enables prototyping and product development specialists to explore numerous ways for creation through virtual design. This solution enables 3D upholstered product design directly from designers' sketches—a major CAD breakthrough in the market—while respecting their stylistic ideas. With high-performance display tools, this solution allows designers to model virtual prototypes and marketing managers to rapidly make stylistic decisions, before building the physical prototype, thus shortening time to market.

With its unique pattern flattening capability (for coverings and wadding) and numerous enhanced modeling features (for wood structures, foams, cardboards...), DesignConcept Furniture accelerates product development in matching the needs and requirements for both traditional furniture and more complex contemporary models.

“This newest version of DesignConcept Furniture gives total freedom to upholstered furniture designers,” explains Christophe Dupiol, Product Manager for Lectra's furniture software solutions, “Our 3D technologies bring tremendous competitive advantages to furniture companies, while maintaining standards of excellence and productivity.”

Successfully used by major furniture companies around the world, DesignConcept Furniture received the “Adriano Ribera-Euroclifal 2006 award for technical innovation” from a panel of furniture manufacturing professionals at the 2006 Paris Salon du Meuble trade show.

New version of pattern-making solution showcased

In association with DesignConcept Furniture, Formaris Furniture provides pattern makers with a high-performance solution to industrialize patterns in the quickest and simplest way and handle an increasing number of styles, thus reducing the time needed before production while maintaining flawless quality. Working on the basis of a unique prototype, either created with DesignConcept Furniture or digitized, pattern makers create a complete line of products and can rapidly fine-tune the different variants. For a simple and reliable automated cutting process, Formaris Furniture also enables users to define matching rules and leather quality zones. This newest release further enhances its capabilities of designing,

importing leather pattern data, checking, adjusting, and organizing models efficiently prior to the marker-making (performed with Lectra's Diamino Furniture) and cutting processes, all in record time.

Complete and flexible cutting solutions for leather and fabrics

To optimize production while meeting the quality demands of industry professionals, Lectra also proposes the market's most complete, flexible cutting solutions for leather as well as fabric, adapted to various production environments.

The furniture sector is going through a phase of profound change, marked by increased international competition, ever-shorter product lifecycles and the need to constantly innovate," explains Bruno Blain, Director of Lectra's furniture business. "We are convinced that technology is a key factor for stimulating the upholstered furniture sector, as it simplifies and accelerates all processes."

Resulting from partnerships spanning more than 15 years with the leading players of the industry, the solutions developed by Lectra cover the entire product lifecycle—including design, product development, industrialization and production (product development, pattern making, marker making, and leather and fabric cutting)—thus enabling furniture companies to control costs and optimize the development and production of upholstered products.

Largest international trade shows in France and Germany

One of the world's leading trade shows for the furniture sector, [IMM Cologne](#) (which welcomed 1,300 exhibitors from 50 countries in 2006, and 116,000 visitors) is the first event of the year to present the latest trends for Europe and other countries.

The [Salon du Meuble](#) is one of Europe's major events, showcasing a selection from the international furniture and home furnishings market. One thousand brands from more than 50 countries are on display at the show in order to promote their production. The show attracted 40,000 visitors in 2006.

Visitors of both shows include international furniture and furnishings professionals, interior designers and decorators.

For more information, please visit <http://www.lectra.com>.

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OPEN MIND Technologies: New CAD Integration hyperMILL® in SolidWorks

January 2007

The new CAD integration hyperMILL® in SolidWorks will be presented at [SolidWorks World](#) in New Orleans from February 4 to 7, 2007 at OPEN MIND booth 727. It allows CAM programs to be created

with hyperMILL® under the familiar user interface. Thanks to the integration, the CAM software takes on the 'look and feel' of SolidWorks. Both CAD and CAM access an identical database, thus working on a uniform data model throughout the entire process.

[OPEN MIND Technologies](#) AG's hyperMILL® CAM software is used worldwide by mechanical engineering, automotive and aerospace industries as well as by tool and mould manufacturers. Users value the versatile machining strategies, ranging from 2D and 3D through multi-axis machining. The user-friendly, intuitive control panel with graphical user interface and the high ease of programming ensure reliable operation. At the same time, integrated automation features reduce programming effort and help to prevent faulty entries. In addition, the sophisticated feature technology allows the reliable transfer of geometry information from the design to hyperMILL® and its subsequent processing. Existing production expertise is thus efficiently utilised and programming efforts are kept to a minimum. Many programming tasks can be automated and standardised using macros.

Integrated processes through CAD integration

Integrated processes with universal data models guarantee security and transparency in the production process. Familiar user interfaces simplify operation and increase user acceptance. These are the reasons why OPEN MIND Technologies AG has long been providing integration with leading CAD systems.

All strategies under one interface

hyperMILL® in SolidWorks offers the user an array of strategies for 2D, 3D, HSC and 5-axis simultaneous machining. They allow an optimum machining of prismatic parts, making this solution perfectly suited for mechanical engineering. These include 2D cycles for face and contour milling, for milling various pocket geometries, as well as drilling and helical drilling.

Roughing of any stock, 3D finishing, free path milling, ISO machining, automatic rest material machining and multiple-job stock tracking offer numerous options for an efficient 3D machining. A number of intelligent additional functions let the experienced user realise optimum machining quality and machining times. With 3D roughing, for example, functions such as automatic plane detection, outside-in machining, automatic rounding of corners, milling area boundaries and the definition of infeed macros ensure optimised machining to meet user requirements. With 3D finishing, plane level detection, slope-dependent machining, sorting paths and smoothing are some of the optimisation possibilities. When drilling, the retract plane checking feature guarantees that every movement is collision tested against the model. As a result, the clearance plane within the individual drilling templates can be placed very close to the part being machined. This reduces the number of tool paths to a minimum.

Easy programming of 5-axis tasks

Whether for indexing or 5-axis simultaneous milling, many users shy away from having to define tool positions themselves. To address this, OPEN MIND Technologies has developed a range of automated functions that make the programming of 5-axis machining steps as simple as 3D programming. This was made possible by a fully automatic collision avoidance feature. All that is required for generating the 5-

axis simultaneous machining job are the preferred and maximum tilt angles. The software automatically calculates the best collision-free position for the model.

High-performance postprocessors

Postprocessors are the link between the CAD/CAM system on the one side and the machine and controller on the other. So as to ensure that the quality and performance of the CAM programs are not lost to the controller and the machine, OPEN MIND Technologies has developed postprocessors individually adapted to the machines, controllers and components used. In this way, for example, the controller's capabilities – control cycles, path correction, program part repetition and free work planes – can be used more efficiently.

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PTC® to Host Worldwide SMB Media Event

15 January 2007

PTC announced that it will host and simultaneously webcast its executive presentations at its Worldwide SMB Media Event on January 17, 2007. At 8:30 a.m., PTC executives Dick Harrison and Jim Heppelmann will present the company's corporate and product strategies for small and medium businesses. Following the formal presentations, Mr. Harrison and Mr. Heppelmann will host a question and answer period for their audience. The session is expected to end at 11:00 a.m.

WHO: Dick Harrison, president and chief executive officer, Jim Heppelmann, chief product officer

WHEN: January 17, 2007, 8:30 a.m. (ET)

WEBCAST: To access the live webcast of the conference call, please visit <http://www.ptc.com/for/investors.htm>.

REPLAY: A replay of the webcast will be available until 5:00 p.m. (ET) on January 15, 2007. To access this replay, please visit <http://www.ptc.com/for/investors.htm>.

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Synergis Engineering Design Solutions Sponsors Regional AUGI Manufacturing User Conference

15 January 2007

[Synergis® Engineering Design Solutions](#), a division of Synergis Technologies and an Autodesk Premier Solution Provider, announced it is the exclusive sponsor of the North Atlantic region's Autodesk User

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Group International (AUGI) Manufacturing User Conference to be held on Tuesday, February 6, 2007 at the Hotel Bethlehem in historic Bethlehem, PA. The event is a half-day of quality, professional, productivity training that is perfect for AutoCAD® users, customers not using their Autodesk Inventor® software to capacity, and those using competitive software and curious about what they're missing.

AUGI has enlisted highly acclaimed instructors, who are among the top professionals in their respective fields, such as Robert Green, David Piggott and Matt Murphy, to deliver practical advice, technical training, and a working plan to help 2D users make the most of their transition to 3D and enhance their Autodesk manufacturing product skills. They will also share best practices and information aimed at helping 2D and 3D users stay up-to-date on the continuous advances in Autodesk technology and the key trends and issues facing the manufacturing industry.

[AUGI](#) will offer something for everyone at this conference with both management and technical tracks to choose from. Managers will gain organizational insight, cost control strategies and information on how to minimize disruptions during their company's transition to 3D solid modeling. In addition, they will walk away with clear, proven plans for managing and implementing a successful migration from AutoCAD to Autodesk Inventor software. Those on the technical track will get practical technical training specifically designed for 2D users entering the 3D world of mechanical design- including instruction on how to successfully move AutoCAD drawings into Inventor and back. The technical take home materials, alone, should help facilitate a smooth transition to 3D.

Not-to-be-missed sessions include:

- Survival Skills for Today's Manufacturing Industry
- Understanding the Benefits of Adding 3D to your 2D Mechanical Design Environment
- Planning Your Migration Strategy
- Practical Advice for Moving to 3D with Autodesk Inventor
- Managing a Successful Transition
- Successfully Leveraging The Manufacturing Community
- New Steps/New Directions

The cost is \$69 for AUGI members and \$79 for non-members and includes classes, courseware, continental breakfast, refreshments, and boxed lunch.

Guests may register online at <http://www.augimanufacturing.com/allentown/default.asp> or over the telephone at 800-836-5440. For the full agenda, see: <http://www.augimanufacturing.com/allentown/agenda.asp>.

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TESIS PLMware and UGS Present the Teamcenter Gateway for SAP at the PLM 2007 in Barcelona

January 2007

Together with UGS, TESIS PLMware will present the [Teamcenter Gateway for SAP](#), the solution for seamless, controlled data exchange between product development processes in Teamcenter and SAP.

The Teamcenter Gateway for SAP covers all necessary connectivity requirements and guarantees trouble free operation - the basics to realize quick und substantial synergies.

Get more information at our booth at the [PLM 2007](#).

Or just [contact us](#) - - for productivity enhancements by integrated processes using Teamcenter and SAP.

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TriCorn Showcases its New Job Management Software at Southern Manufacturing

10 January 2007

After a successful Dublin show, [TriCorn Systems](#) is bringing its newest manufacturing software for SMEs to the [Southern Manufacturing](#) show on 7th and 8th February at Thorpe Park, on stand Q20.

Visitors will be able to see the latest SQL version of TriCorn's Job Processing Software, which starts with an accurate quotation built up from past events formatted in an easy to use template. Throughout the manufacturing process TriCorn keeps control, producing shop floor documentation such as job cards, planning sheets and delivery notes. Tracking on the shop floor is simple, swiping barcodes to record operations and processes. Having up to date information allows managers to use the reporting inside TriCorn to measure the performance of key business drivers, helping them to operate profitably. The software also has a positive impact on quality, recording the material source and the batch numbers to provide full traceability for customers. Stewart Court, Managing Director, SJC Engineering said, "We now have accurate knowledge of stock levels. Additionally, we also know the drawing release of stocked items and the material from which they have been made. This will encourage our customers to place higher value orders spread over longer lead times. We can then pass on the cost savings and allow them to call off the quantities they require to suit their fluctuating production requirements. The TriCorn system gives us far more flexibility."

Also on show will be the TriCorn RTS production planning and scheduling software, and TriCorn's ISO Quality Management System. TriCorn RTS uses a drag and drop interface to reschedule jobs, helping companies to meet the demanding delivery requirements of their customers, while the ISO Quality Management System ensures continued compliance with quality standards such as ISO 9001 with its

audit diary. This controls documentation, procedures, calibration, and inspection results to provide a reliable audit trail for finished parts.

Jane Williamson, General Manager for TriCorn Systems said, “The Southern Manufacturing Show gives us an ideal opportunity to showcase our products to local companies and for our customers to see the latest version of the system. Everyone is looking for a competitive edge. Our management software enables companies to achieve this by optimising the productivity of their existing resources.”

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Virage Logic and Tensilica Team to Deliver Technical Webinar on Core-Optimized IP Kits for Accelerated Silicon Success

18 January 2007

[Virage Logic Corporation](#) announced that it will partner with [Tensilica](#) to present a free online technical webinar titled “Optimize for Performance or Power with Tensilica and Virage Logic Core-Optimized IP Kits.” The live webinar will be broadcast via TechOnLine on Wednesday, January 24, 2007, at 11:00 a.m. PST and 2:00 p.m. EST. Registration and information about the free, one-hour webinar is available at http://seminar2.techonline.com/s/viragegr8_jan2407.

Join this informative webinar to learn how customers can utilize easy, instant access to a series of jointly developed Core-Optimized IP Kits that are specifically tuned for each of the Tensilica Diamond cores, allowing designers to optimize for performance or power requirements that can help deliver a greater competitive advantage and shorten time-to-market. The Core-Optimized IP Kits target Tensilica’s Diamond Standard processors, a set of six off-the-shelf synthesizable cores that range from area-efficient, low-power controllers to an audio processor and a high-performance DSP, all of which lead the industry in their respective categories both in lowest power and highest performance. The Core-Optimized IP Kits provide access to Virage Logic’s silicon proven embedded memory IP and standard cell libraries to meet a variety of market requirements.

“As the industry’s trusted IP partner, Virage Logic is pleased to jointly provide our mutual customers with physical IP that is tuned to optimize the performance of Tensilica’s Diamond Standard product line processor cores,” stated Ken Potts, vice president of product marketing at Virage Logic. “By making the Core-Optimized IP Kits easily available on our website, this solution helps our customers to accelerate their silicon success.”

“We are pleased to work with Virage Logic to provide customers with physical IP optimized for our Diamond Standard processors,” said Steve Roddy, vice president of marketing at Tensilica. “With the introduction of the Core-Optimized IP Kits, we expect to help deliver a greater competitive advantage to our customers.”

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Financial News

ANSYS to Release Fourth Quarter Earnings February 20, 2007

18 January 2007

ANSYS, Inc. announced that the global innovator of simulation software and technologies designed to optimize product development processes expects to release its fourth quarter earnings on Tuesday, February 20, 2007. The Company will hold a conference call conducted by James E. Cashman III, President and Chief Executive Officer, and Maria T. Shields, Chief Financial Officer, at 10:30 a.m. Eastern Time to discuss fourth quarter results and future outlook.

CONFERENCE CALL INFORMATION:

What: ANSYS Fourth Quarter Earnings Conference Call

When: 2/20/07 at 10:30 a.m. Eastern Time

Where: <http://www.ansys.com/corporate/investors.asp>

The conference call dial in number is 913-312-1264 or 888-802-2278, passcode ANSYS

The call will be recorded with replay 719-457-0820 or 888-203-1112 passcode ANSYS (26797)

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Geometric Software Solutions Total Organic Q3 Revenues Increase by 56% YoY; Total Revenue Increase with Modern Engineering Consolidated is 101% YoY

15 January 2007

[Geometric Software Solutions](#) announced its result for the third quarter of FY 2006-07.

Organic operating revenues for the quarter increased by 7% in US Dollar terms and 3% in Rupee terms as compared to previous quarter. As compared to Q3FY06, operating revenues increased by 40% in Dollar terms and 37% in Rupee terms. EBITDA increased by 13% as compared to Q2, but Operating Profit (PBT less other income) declined by 5%, primarily due to Rupee appreciation and interest on debt to fund the acquisition of Modern Engineering.

Operating revenues including Modern Engineering grew 80% in US Dollar terms and 78% in Rupee terms YoY. EBITDA including Modern Engineering increased by 107% YoY. Modern Engineering was consolidated with Geometric with effect from 1st November 2006. During this two month period Modern contributed USD 5.6 Million in revenue and USD .09 Million in PAT.

Commenting on the results, Dr. Ravi Gopinath, CEO and MD said “We are on track with respect to our plan for organic business in this financial year. With the consolidation of Modern Engineering, Geometric has a significantly enhanced business portfolio and delivery footprint. As we continue the process of business integration we will increasingly capitalize on this. ”

The Company, excluding Modern, added 14 new clients in Q3. The business mix has remained the same in comparison with Q2 of FY07. In comparison with Q3 of FY06, products revenue share decreased from 18% to 13% and engineering services has increased from 6% to 10%. European share of business showed a 6% increase over Q2, primarily due to peak load on a European PLM project. Offshore revenue as a percentage of total services revenue remained at 68%. Revenue from software product companies comprised 40% of the total, and industrial customers contributed 47% of revenues.

The Company had 1931 employees on its rolls as of Q3, a 10% increase over Q2. Including Modern, the total number of employees was in excess of 2400. Annualized attrition (excluding Modern Engineering) came down from 23% to 20% from Q2. Utilization including trainees reduced from 87% to 84% and from 92% to 91% excluding trainees. Attrition in Modern Engineering was negligible.

Highlights for the quarter:

Modern Engineering became a subsidiary of Geometric Inc. with effect from 1st November 2006. For the two months ending December 2006, Modern’s operating revenue was USD 5.6 Million and Profit After Tax was USD 0.09 Million. The CAE solutions business in Engineering, introduced in Q2, has seen increased traction particularly among automotive customers in the US and Asia Pacific.

The PLM business recorded an increase in revenue from direct selling to industrial customers and won 3 major projects in Europe. The PLM business also successfully delivered the beta version of a large PLM program for an industrial customer, aimed at reducing design time cycle by over 30%.

Geometric added new service offerings of technical support and documentation to its portfolio of offerings to software product companies. The ODC with a major software product company completed one year of operations and recorded strong growth.

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IBM Reports 2006 Fourth-Quarter Results

18 January 2007

IBM announced fourth-quarter 2006 diluted earnings of \$2.26 per share from continuing operations, an increase of 12 percent as reported, compared with diluted earnings of \$2.01 per share in the fourth quarter of 2005; the fourth-quarter 2005 diluted earnings include \$0.10 per share for a one-time pretax curtailment charge of \$267 million related to pension changes. Diluted earnings per share for the fourth-quarter 2006 grew 7 percent compared with the year-ago quarter of \$2.11 per diluted share, without the

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one-time per share charge. Fourth-quarter 2006 diluted earnings per share include a \$0.06 benefit as a result of a lower tax rate.

Fourth-quarter income from continuing operations was \$3.5 billion compared with \$3.2 billion in the fourth quarter of 2005, an increase of 8 percent. Income from continuing operations for the fourth quarter grew 2 percent compared with the fourth-quarter 2005 income from continuing operations of \$3.4 billion, excluding the one-time charge. Total revenues for the fourth quarter of 2006 of \$26.3 billion increased 7 percent (4 percent, adjusting for currency) from the fourth quarter of 2005.

Samuel J. Palmisano, IBM chairman, president and chief executive officer, said: "IBM had a terrific quarter and a good year with record cash performance, profit and EPS, as well as record payouts to shareholders. We are well-positioned in the growth areas of a changing IT industry, focused on our evolving business model, and poised for long-term success for our clients and shareholders."

From a geographic perspective, the Americas fourth-quarter revenues were \$11.1 billion, an increase of 6 percent as reported (5 percent, adjusting for currency) from the 2005 period. Revenues from Europe/Middle East/Africa were \$9.3 billion, up 11 percent (3 percent, adjusting for currency). Asia-Pacific revenues increased 7 percent (5 percent, adjusting for currency) to \$4.8 billion. OEM revenues were \$1.0 billion, down 3 percent compared with the 2005 fourth quarter.

Revenues from the Software segment were \$5.6 billion, an increase of 14 percent (11 percent, adjusting for currency) compared with the fourth quarter of 2005. Revenues from IBM's middleware brands, which include WebSphere, Information Management, Tivoli, Lotus and Rational products, were \$4.4 billion, up 18 percent versus the fourth quarter of 2005. Operating systems revenues decreased 2 percent to \$642 million compared with the prior-year quarter. Revenues from other software and services increased, which includes the Product Lifecycle Management portfolio of products.

For the WebSphere family of software products, which facilitate customers' ability to manage a wide variety of business processes using open standards to interconnect applications, data and operating systems, revenues increased 22 percent. Revenues for Information Management software, which enables clients to leverage information on demand, increased 28 percent. Revenues from Tivoli software, infrastructure software that enables customers to centrally manage networks including security and storage capability, increased 25 percent, and revenues for Lotus software, which allows collaborating and messaging by customers in real-time communication and knowledge management, increased 30 percent year over year. Revenues from Rational software, integrated tools to improve the processes of software development, increased 12 percent compared with the year-ago quarter.

For the Global Services business, segment revenues from Global Technology Services increased 7 percent (4 percent, adjusting for currency) to \$8.6 billion, and segment revenues from Global Business Services increased 6 percent (3 percent, adjusting for currency) to \$4.2 billion. IBM signed services contracts totaling \$17.8 billion, up 55 percent year over year, and ended the full year with an estimated services backlog, including Strategic Outsourcing, Business Transformation Outsourcing, Global Business Services, Integrated Technology Services and Maintenance, of \$116 billion, an increase of \$5 billion from the prior-year period.

Revenues from the Systems and Technology Group (S&TG) segment totaled \$7.1 billion for the quarter, up 3 percent (flat, adjusting for currency). S&TG revenues from System z server products increased 5 percent compared with the year-ago period. Total delivery of System z computing power, which is measured in MIPS (millions of instructions per second), increased 6 percent. Revenues from the System p UNIX server products increased 4 percent compared with the 2005 period. Revenues from the System

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x servers increased 7 percent, and revenues from the System i servers decreased 10 percent. Revenues from Microelectronics decreased 6 percent and revenues from System Storage increased 9 percent.

Global Financing segment revenues increased 3 percent (flat, adjusting for currency) in the fourth quarter to \$620 million.

The company's total gross profit margin was 44.6 percent in the 2006 fourth quarter compared with 44.1 percent in the 2005 period.

Total expense and other income increased 11 percent to \$6.9 billion compared with the prior-year period. SG&A expense increased 7 percent to \$5.6 billion. RD&E expense increased 9 percent compared with the year-ago period. Intellectual property and custom development income increased to \$241 million compared with \$228 million a year ago. Other (income) and expense contributed income of \$150 million in the fourth quarter of 2006 versus income of \$334 million in the fourth quarter of 2005. In the fourth quarter of last year, gains on real estate transactions were unusually high due to several large transactions compared with real estate activity in the fourth quarter of this year, resulting in a decrease of \$140 million year to year.

IBM's effective tax rate in the fourth-quarter 2006 was 28.0 percent compared with 29.5 percent in the fourth quarter of 2005. The decrease in the tax rate was caused by the favorable effect of several items in the quarter, including the retroactive reinstatement of the U.S. research tax credit and changes in the mix of income in various tax jurisdictions.

For total operations, net income for the fourth-quarter 2006 was \$3.5 billion, or \$2.31 per diluted share, which included a gain from discontinued operations related to country tax settlements of \$76 million, compared with the fourth quarter of 2005 net income of \$3.2 billion, or \$1.99 per diluted share, which included a gain from discontinued operations of \$3 million and a charge for the cumulative effect of the FASB Interpretation No. 47 accounting change of \$36 million.

Share repurchases totaled approximately \$1.4 billion in the fourth quarter. The weighted-average number of diluted common shares outstanding in the fourth-quarter 2006 was 1.53 billion compared with 1.60 billion shares in the same period of 2005.

Full-Year 2006 Results

Total revenue of \$91.4 billion, up 4 percent excluding the divested PC business;

Income from continuing operations of \$9.4 billion, up 18 percent as reported, or up 9 percent excluding 2005 non-recurring items;

Diluted earnings of \$6.06 per share from continuing operations, up 23 percent as reported, or up 14 percent excluding 2005 non-recurring items;

Net cash from operations of \$15.3 billion, up \$2.2 billion, excluding Global Financing receivables.

Diluted earnings per share from continuing operations were \$6.06 compared with \$4.91 per diluted share for the 2005 period, including \$0.40 per diluted share for the one-time items, an increase of 23 percent. Without the one-time items in 2005, diluted earnings in 2006 increased \$0.74 per share, or 14 percent versus the comparable period last year.

Income from continuing operations for the year ended December 31, 2006 was \$9.4 billion, compared with \$8.0 billion in the year-ago period, or up 18 percent, which includes a charge of \$525 million for taxes in connection with the 2005 repatriation of foreign earnings, and non-recurring pretax items for a curtailment charge of \$267 million relating to the pension change and incremental restructuring charges of \$1.7 billion, offset by the \$1.1 billion gain on the sale of the Personal Computing (PC) business, and

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the \$775 million legal settlement received from Microsoft. Excluding the non-recurring items and tax charge for 2005, the growth for income from continuing operations was 9 percent year over year.

Revenues from continuing operations for 2006 totaled \$91.4 billion, essentially flat as reported and adjusting for currency compared with \$91.1 billion for 2005, which includes PC revenues of \$2.9 billion for the first four months of 2005 only. Excluding the divested PC business, revenues increased 4 percent (3 percent, adjusting for currency) compared with the 2005 period.

From a geographic perspective, the Americas full-year revenues were \$39.5 billion, an increase of 2 percent as reported (4 percent, adjusting for currency and PCs) from the 2005 period. Revenues from Europe/Middle East/Africa were \$30.5 billion, essentially flat (up 2 percent, adjusting for currency and PCs). Asia-Pacific revenues decreased 6 percent (up 2 percent, adjusting for currency and PCs) to \$17.6 billion. OEM revenues were \$3.9 billion, up 18 percent compared with 2005.

Software segment revenues in 2006 totaled \$18.2 billion, an increase of 8 percent (7 percent, adjusting for currency). Revenues from the Global Technology Services segment totaled \$32.3 billion, an increase of 3 percent (2 percent, adjusting for currency) compared with 2005. Revenues from the Global Business Services segment were \$16.0 billion, flat (up 1 percent, adjusting for currency). S&TG segment revenues were \$22.0 billion, an increase of 5 percent (4 percent, adjusting for currency). Global Financing revenues totaled \$2.4 billion, a decrease of 2 percent (2 percent, adjusting for currency).

For total operations, net income for 2006 was \$9.5 billion, or \$6.11 per diluted share, which included a gain from discontinued operations related to country tax settlements of \$76 million, compared with the 2005 net income of \$7.9 billion, or \$4.87 per diluted share, which included a loss from discontinued operations of \$24 million and a charge for the cumulative effect of the FASB Interpretation No. 47 accounting change of \$36 million.

IBM ended 2006 with \$10.7 billion of cash on hand and net cash provided from operations, excluding the year-to-year change in Global Financing receivables, was \$15.3 billion - an increase of \$2.2 billion from last year. The balance sheet remains strong, and the company is well positioned to take advantage of opportunities.

In December, the company adopted Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 158 (SFAS 158), new accounting guidance related to pension and other postretirement plans released by the Financial Accounting Standards Board in September 2006. This accounting standard requires companies to recognize the funded status of their postretirement plans in the statement of financial position (or balance sheet). The funded status is measured as the difference between the value of pension plan assets and the company's benefit obligations to its current and retired employees. The adoption of SFAS 158 at December 31, 2006 reduced the company's assets by \$9.2 billion, increased its liabilities by \$0.3 billion and reduced stockholders' equity by \$9.5 billion. These changes to the company's financial statements were non-cash and will have no impact on the company's existing debt covenants, credit ratings or financial flexibility.

Share repurchases totaled approximately \$8.0 billion in 2006. The weighted-average number of diluted common shares outstanding in 2006 was 1.55 billion compared with 1.63 billion shares in 2005. As of December 31, 2006, there were 1.51 billion basic common shares outstanding.

Debt, including Global Financing, totaled \$22.7 billion, compared with \$22.6 billion at year-end 2005. From a management segment view, the non-global financing debt-to-capitalization ratio was 1.5 percent at the end of 2006, and Global Financing debt increased \$1.8 billion from year-end 2005 to a total of \$22.3 billion, resulting in a debt-to-equity ratio of 6.9 to 1.

Presentation of Information in this Press Release

In an effort to provide investors with additional information regarding the company's results as determined by generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), the company has also disclosed in this press release the following non-GAAP information which management believes provides useful information to investors:

IBM Results:

- without non-recurring and unique items;
- without divested PC business;
- adjusting for currency (i.e., at constant current);
- net cash from operations excluding Global Financing receivables.

The rationale for management's use of non-GAAP measures is included as part of the supplementary materials presented within the fourth- quarter earnings materials. These materials are available on the IBM investor relations Web site at <http://www.ibm.com/investor> and are being included in Attachment II ("Non-GAAP Supplementary Materials") to the Form 8-K that includes this press release and is being submitted today to the SEC.

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Moldflow to Release Second Fiscal Quarter 2007 Financial Results on February 6, 2007

16 January 2007

Moldflow announced that it expects to release second fiscal quarter 2007 financial results on February 6, 2007. In addition, the Company will hold a conference call conducted by Roland Thomas, president and CEO, and Christopher Gorgone, executive vice president of finance and CFO at 11:00 a.m. Eastern time to discuss second quarter results.

What: Moldflow Second Quarter 2007 Earnings Conference Call

When: 2/6/07 at 11:00 a.m. Eastern time

Where: <http://www.moldflow.com>

Click on Investors, then Audio Presentations

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SAP Full-Year Financial Results Press Conference on January 24, 2007

17 January 2007

SAP AG will release its preliminary fourth-quarter and full-year results for 2006 on January 24, 2007;

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Following the announcement, Henning Kagermann, CEO, Werner Brandt, CFO; and Leo Apotheker, President of Customer Solutions and Operations and Executive Board Member, will host a press conference for international media to present and analyze the earnings for the full-year 2006 and give an outlook for 2007.

The press conference will be broadcast live via Webcast, available at <http://www.sap.com/press> at 10:00 a.m. CET / 4:00 a.m. EST / 9:00 a.m. GMT.

Alternatively, media can dial in to the press conference

(listen-only mode):

Tel.: +49 (0) 69-5007 1314

Password: "SAP Q4 Press Conference"

During the press conference, questions can be submitted online to press@sap.com.

The conference is being held at Taunustor Conference Center, Taunustor 2, 60311 Frankfurt, Germany.

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SofTech Announces Second Quarter Financial Results for FY 2007

17 January 2007

SofTech, Inc. announced Q2 fiscal 2007 results. Revenue for Q2 FY 2007 was \$3.0 million as compared to \$3.4 million for the same period in fiscal 2006. The net loss for the current quarter was (\$223,000) or (\$.02) per share as compared to (\$102,000) or (\$.01) per share for the same period in the prior fiscal year.

Revenue for the six months ended November 30, 2006 was about \$5.5 million as compared to about \$6.5 million for the same period in the prior fiscal year. The net loss for the six months ended November 30, 2006 was (\$961,000) or (\$.08) per share as compared to a net loss of (\$436,000) or (\$.04) per share for the same period in the prior fiscal year.

The net loss adjusted for non-cash expenses related to amortization of intangible assets resulting from acquisitions, a non-GAAP financial measure, was \$131,000 for the current quarter as compared to \$451,000 for the same period in the prior fiscal year. This same non-GAAP financial measure for the six months ended November 30, 2006 was \$(253,000) as compared to \$728,000 for the same period in the prior year. A reconciliation is provided on the attached Financial Summary.

The Company's revenue is derived almost entirely from technology acquisitions completed between 1997 and 2002. As a result, management believes the Company's financial profile is very unique, at least

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

in the industry in which it operates. As of November 30, 2006 approximately 73% of its assets are composed of intangible assets related to these acquisitions. For the current quarter, the amortization of these intangible assets was approximately 11% of its total expenses and 12% of its revenue. Further, the periods over which these intangible costs are expensed are highly judgmental.

It is management's opinion that comparing results of operations from period to period and to other companies in our industry absent these non-cash expenses related to acquisitions is a more meaningful measure of our performance given the Company's unique financial profile detailed above. It is also management's belief that this non-GAAP measure of performance is one of the most critical measures of Company valuation for investors. Lastly, this measure of performance has been, and is expected to continue to be, a significant component of the incentive compensation plan for the Company's President.

"Our Q2 showing was much improved over our first quarter performance, said Jean Croteau, President of SofTech. "While our legacy technologies experienced a decline in revenue, ProductCenter revenue increased almost 5% in Q2 as compared to the same period in fiscal 2006. While the Company remains committed to improving our legacy technologies and ensuring their compatibility with current operating systems, our spending related to those product lines has been reduced to reflect the reality of the revenue trend. I am optimistic that with continued revenue momentum with ProductCenter and reduced spending on our legacy technologies we can improve on our operating results for the coming quarters," he added.

SOFTECH, INC.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

(in thousands, except per share data)

Statements of Operations:

	For the Three Month Periods Ended	
	November 30, 2006	November 30, 2005
Revenue	\$ 3,006	\$ 3,391
Income from operations	144	184
Net loss	(223)	(102)
Loss per share	(.02)	(.01)

	For the Six Month Periods Ended	
	November 30, 2006	November 30, 2005
Revenue	\$ 5,502	\$ 6,459
Loss from operations	(254)	93
Net loss	(961)	(436)
Loss per share	(.08)	(.04)

Reconciliation of Net Loss to Pro Forma Net Income:

The net loss calculated in accordance with GAAP is adjusted below by non-cash expenses related to amortization of intangible assets resulting from acquisitions. It is management's view that this non-GAAP financial measure of cash flow provides important information in understanding the Company's financial performance.

For the Three Month Periods Ended

	November 30, 2006	November 30, 2005
Net loss	\$ (223)	\$ (102)
Plus: Non-cash amortization	354	553
Pro Forma net income	131	451

For the Six Month Periods Ended

	November 30, 2006	November 30, 2005
Net loss	\$ (961)	\$ (436)
Plus: Non-cash amortization	708	1,164
Pro Forma net income (loss)	(253)	728

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Implementation Investments

Acorn Product Development Chooses PTC® Solutions to Support Global Development Initiatives

16 January 2007

PTC announced that [Acorn Product Development](#), an engineering outsource design firm developing products for consumer, computer, communication and medical companies, has begun an enterprise-level upgrade to PTC Windchill® PDMLink™ to support its global product initiatives and sustain its current rapid growth.

Unlike many traditional design companies, Acorn offers its clients an optimized range of product development services from architectural analysis through manufacturing floor support worldwide. Recent Acorn projects include new product releases for Logitech, Network Appliance, Siemens and Sun designed using Pro/ENGINEER®. With development locations in Silicon Valley, Boston and China, Acorn has adopted a global product development strategy, successfully executing complex projects with geographically dispersed teams of engineers.

To support this strategy, the company needed an enterprise product lifecycle management solution that would enable it to increase the efficiency of its processes for getting new products to market. An established user of Pro/ENGINEER with over 60 licenses of various PTC products, Acorn chose to expand its PTC technology investment to include Windchill for content and process management. Windchill will enable Acorn to manage data across a distributed product development environment with advanced controls for data that can be accessed by multiple entities inside and outside the company. The Acorn implementation was driven by NxRev, a leading PTC channel partner.

“The combination of [PTC](#) technology with the experience of our value added reseller NxRev provided the most compelling solution to help us implement a global product development strategy in order to sustain and increase our competitive advantage,” said Ken Haven, chief executive officer, Acorn Product

Development. “The single integral technology architecture of PTC’s Product Development System was the key differentiator for us because it simplifies product development while also providing the power and scalability to support our continued growth. As we open new geographies, we feel confident that the remote staff, using Windchill, can immediately participate and contribute to product development.”

“Acorn is representative of many small and medium businesses that are leveraging PTC solutions to enable them to successfully compete with larger companies,” said Joshua Fredberg, vice president, product and market strategy, PTC. “We are very pleased that Acorn has chosen our integral solutions to help them optimize their product development processes and welcome the opportunity to help them achieve their business goals.”

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ACTECH Expands Use of Moldflow Simulation

18 January 2007

[Moldflow Corporation](#) announced that [ACTECH](#), a research consulting firm based in Angers, France, recently invested in Moldflow Plastics Insight® (MPI®). The investment enables ACTECH to further support its customers on global projects that involve design to manufacturing. MPI is the world’s most widely used plastics CAE software for the in-depth analysis of the injection molding process and it can be used to predict and solve potential manufacturing problems before they are encountered in a production environment.

Jocelyne Marinaro, Regional Sales Director of West Europe for Moldflow Design Analysis Solutions explains, “We view ACTECH’s investment in Moldflow as an important relationship that will greatly benefit both companies. For ACTECH, they are now able to help their customers optimize their entire plastic part lifecycle.” She continued, “For Moldflow, it further validates our position as the leading provider of injection molding simulation software and we look forward to supporting ACTECH and their customers who are involved in the design and manufacture of plastic parts.”

Mr. B. Finet, ACTECH’s Engineer of Business states, “The simulation results from Moldflow’s software are critical in analyzing the initial stages of injection mold filling and predicting molded part quality. We believe these capabilities allow us to offer more complete solutions to our customers.”

MPI is a comprehensive suite of software tools for simulating, analyzing, optimizing and validating plastics part and mold designs. Powerful and easy to use, MPI offers a state-of-the-art solution that can be used to simulate nine unique molding processes and is currently used by top manufacturers in the automotive, medical, consumer, electronics and packaging industries.

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Bianchi Chooses SolidWorks to Design Better High-End Bicycles

16 January 2007

Bianchi, a venerable Italian bicycle producer for more than a century, has chosen SolidWorks® and COSMOS® software to design better bicycles that display a combination of high technology, design, and innovation.

Founded in 1885 and synonymous with “made in Italy,” the Bergamo firm produces approximately 60,000 bicycles a year, including racing bicycles, mountain bikes, and bikes for children. Using SolidWorks Office Premium 3D CAD and COSMOSWorks® analysis software, Bianchi has shortened time to market and reduced materials usage by minimizing reliance on physical prototypes.

The company has always adopted tools and techniques that can advance the Bianchi brand through superior technology, rapid product delivery, and flexible design capacity. To that end, 3D CAD and SolidWorks are now essential for Bianchi’s bike and part design, whether in aluminum alloy, carbon fiber, or titanium.

“A bicycle must very much account for consumers’ tastes, which demand new materials and exquisite designs,” said Luca Minesso, Bianchi’s design and production chief. “To meet these goals, it is essential for us to use advanced engineering tools like SolidWorks and COSMOSWorks software – tools that save us time and money by letting us finalize the finest details before designs are built. As such, SolidWorks software represents a fundamental competitive advantage for our firm today, both for its high-end features and its integration with other systems. And its widespread usage makes it easy to share designs with our suppliers in Asia, where SolidWorks is well known and highly regarded.”

Bianchi uses COSMOSWorks Designer, which is completely integrated into SolidWorks software, to help ensure products are sufficiently strong, especially in a bike’s high-stress areas.

“Bianchi is a time-honored Italian firm with unique products and the highest standards,” said Luca Rossetini, SolidWorks country manager for Southern Europe. “In order for Bianchi to maintain its leadership, it is fundamental to equip Bianchi with the best available design and analysis tools. SolidWorks and COSMOSWorks analysis software are those products – flexible, easy to use, and ideal for the design of better bicycles or any two-wheeled machine.”

[Bianchi](#) works with authorized [SolidWorks](#) reseller [Solid Technology](#), supplier of solutions and certified competence in the CAD and design automation sectors, for ongoing software training, implementation, and support.

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Delcam’s PowerMILL Keeps TREK on Track

16 January 2007

Delcam’s PowerMILL CAM system has played key role in helping TREK, a premier bike designer and manufacturer, to stay ahead of its competitors with increased design flexibility, improved quality and shorter time to market. TREK is best known as the supplier of bikes to seven-time Tour de France winner

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

Lance Armstrong. The Delcam software is used to program a multi-axis laser to cut the tubing for bicycle frames at the Waterloo, Milwaukee, headquarters and frame manufacturing plant of the company.

TREK manufacturing engineers face two main challenges. First, they must keep up with design changes; in 2005, 13 new models were designed and produced in titanium, steel or aluminium, with an average of seven different sizes of each. Second, they must manufacture about 300 frames each day, while assuring a high quality fabrication and finish.

"When I first started here, we had round, oval and a few arrow-shaped tubes," says Dean Garner, TREK manufacturing engineer, weld/frame build. "The development of the laser cutting programming started several years ago with round tube, which was fairly simple to program. Now, with changing surface shapes, without a five axis program, we would be writing the laser code one line at a time which would take about a day per tube compared to about 10 minutes with PowerMILL."

Most of the tool path calculations which TREK engineers would have had to do manually, PowerMILL now does automatically. "All we have to do is set up the frame model in our desktop computer so PowerMILL can find the ends of the spline tube and generate a tool path for the laser," Mr Garner said.

"Once the tool paths are created, we can post that code to an automated post processor for the laser added by our Delcam reseller, Programming Plus. This shows how the laser will respond to what we have just done. If we like it, we can run that chunk of code," Mr. Garner explained.

"With PowerMILL, we are getting a much tighter fit, piece to piece, and minimal gaps, which means we can hold our overall frame geometry much better. With our previous CAM techniques, gaps between parts before welding could have been 1 mm or more. Today, it is rare to see a gap greater than 0.1 mm," Mr. Garner said. The closer tolerances make it easier and less time-consuming to put the frame together.

PowerMILL is a big help while TREK is in the validation stage and proving out a bike concept. "We sometimes may have four or five iterations before we are ready for production so we have to go back and re-program our laser code. However, because we are holding tighter tolerances, the number of iterations is being reduced, resulting in faster time to market," Mr. Garner claimed. "PowerMILL has made it possible for TREK to design some exciting, aerodynamic shapes into the bike frames and then produce them quickly."

Other applications are on the horizon at the innovative company. "We have worked out other potential uses for PowerMILL, such as making die sets for producing the carbon frames, which saves us up to \$30,000 each," Mr. Garner said. "Now we can do them in-house, we also get better results."

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ECCO and IBM Announce \$12M, 5-Year Services Agreement

16 January 2007

[ECCO Sko A/S](#), the global shoemaker, and [IBM](#) announced a 5-year services agreement for IBM to support the company's existing SAP R/3 environment and the implementation of a new ERP business solution with several new modules that will enable the company to continue its aggressive growth and global expansion strategy. The contract has the potential value of more than \$12M.

As a leading brand manufacturer, ECCO has tanneries, shoe factories, selling companies and more than 500 own or franchise shops in 60 countries. The shoemaker has decided to implement a more flexible and modern version of SAP with several new modules including customer relationship management, supply chain management and supplier relationship management. IBM Global Business Services consultants will implement and manage the new modules, while also supporting ECCO's current SAP installation.

"As one of relatively few brand owners, ECCO insists on owning the entire value chain from product design and development to tanneries, factories and wholesaling. Moreover, we own about 100 shops and are closely integrated with the hundreds of outlets that are operated by partners all over the world," says Mikael Thinghuus, COO at ECCO. "IBM's expertise combined with SAP's integrated solution design will increase our flexibility and enable us to handle the continuous adjustments that are necessary in the supply chain. Also, it's our aim to increase the visibility of the supply chain metrics and performance."

"Having a better and more integrated view of the entire business allows ECCO to better predict product demand, understand the financial implications, and respond quickly to meet it," said Jens Hassel, vice president, IBM. "Working with IBM and SAP to quickly implement this solution, ECCO will now be positioned to be even more responsive to its customers needs while still meeting its growth objectives."

The contract was signed December 22, 2006.

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Faraday Adopts Magma's FineSim SPICE Circuit Simulator

16 January 2007

[Magma® Design Automation Inc.](#) announced that [Faraday Technology Corporation](#), a leading ASIC and silicon IP provider, has selected Magma's FineSim SPICE circuit simulator as the simulator of choice for its high-performance designs after it displayed better accuracy and faster runtime than a number of popular commercial circuit simulation products – cutting simulation time to less than 24 hours on designs that required 26 days to simulate with a widely used competitive simulator.

"We have been using seven different circuit simulators, but we needed a higher-performance transistor-level SPICE circuit simulator for our newest PLL chips, which operate at high frequencies," said Jim Wang, director of Faraday's IRDC (Infrastructure Research Development Center). "By using FineSim SPICE for our 10/100/1000 Ethernet controller, 10/100 fast Ethernet PHY cores, and GHz PLL IPs for UMC's 90-nm processes, we were able to increase the frequency yet maintain low jitter rates. We expect to standardize on FineSim SPICE for much of our circuit simulation."

PLL (Phase-Locked Loop) designs, widely used in consumer electronics applications such as cellular telephones and satellite televisions, require a low jitter rate, the variance between two signals' phases.

“Our goal is to achieve first-cut design success, which ultimately shortens the time to market,” Wang said. “FineSim SPICE’s accuracy and the fast runtime delivered by its distributed processing helped us complete very advanced designs more quickly – our previous simulator took 26 days, whereas FineSim SPICE took less than 24 hours for the same design.”

“Our primary focus is to improve design productivity, and FineSim SPICE is targeted at delivering better accuracy faster,” said Suk Lee, general manager of Magma’s Custom Design Business Unit. “With FineSim SPICE, designers can simulate very high-performance chips that would have been impractical to simulate with traditional products.”

FineSim SPICE is a SPICE-level simulation analysis tool that incorporates transistor-level simulation analysis capabilities for mixed digital and analog designs. FineSim SPICE contains a full SPICE simulation engine with distributed processing that enables customers to simulate large-scale mixed-signal system chips at the transistor level. By providing increased speed and capacity while maintaining full SPICE accuracy, FineSim SPICE enables designers to simulate advanced circuits – such as PLLs, ADCs (analog-to-digital converters), DACs (digital-to-analog converters) and gigahertz SERDES (SERIALIZER/DESERIALIZER) – that they previously would not even attempt using slower traditional SPICE simulators.

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J D Williams Goes Live with TradeStone for Global Sourcing and Product Lifecycle Management

16 January 2007

[TradeStone Software](#) announced that J D Williams is the latest customer to go live with the TradeStone Suite. J D Williams, one of the UK’s leading direct home shopping retailers, which includes the J D Williams and Simply Be brand catalogues, as well web sites such as VivaLaDiva.com, uses TradeStone’s software to track critical milestones during the import and domestic purchasing process, eliminating redundant spreadsheets and facilitating timely and accurate management reporting.

J D Williams offers an extensive range of clothing, footwear, household and electronic goods through their catalogues and website. Their most popular offerings include an extensive selection of women’s corsetry and a growing line of menswear. The recent influence of “Fast Fashion” on the market has greatly increased the number of collections offered. These collections are provided through a variety of market offerings, of which there are in excess of 500, via major catalogues, leaflets and the web. The need to quickly collaborate with suppliers around the world and develop new seasonal offerings and limited edition programs is critical for J D Williams’ success. J D Williams’ buyers and merchandisers are using the TradeStone Suite to create product briefs and collaborate with suppliers on the design and specifications for each item and aim to reduce errors and compress the design-to-delivery cycle.

“With the increase in consumer pressure and competitiveness on the High Street across Europe, we’re seeing retailers shift from two main seasons of fashion collections to six, nine, and twelve per year, rolling new merchandise into the business on an almost continuous basis. This can be very taxing on the

supply chain, especially if it is stretched out into the Far East, across several countries and product groups,” stated Marilyn Stemler, Retail Merchandising & Supply Chain Business Solutions for IBM Global Business Services. “As in the case with J D Williams, the best way to merge global sourcing initiatives with fast fashion imperatives is to unify the buying process and the systems used to manage it. Retailers need to streamline their buying process and not over-complicate it.”

Key to this particular retailer is the ability to work with suppliers on costing a wide range of size offerings. Understanding the changing amount of fabrics, trims, and construction components across a broad range of sizes is critical to costing out a garment, as well as properly assigning the price point and margin.

“On our base of around 600 suppliers we now have the ability to break out the costing for a wide range of sizes on our requests for quote,” said Paul Short, buying and merchandising director at Manchester-based JD Williams. “With this delineated costing information, we’re able to make better buying decisions for our own customers based on cost, quality, and time to market.”

“Rapid adoption is important when introducing any new enterprise-wide software into an organization; but especially so when the software facilitates collaboration and product development across the globe,” stated Sue Welch, CEO of TradeStone Software. “With TradeStone for PLM and Sourcing, J D Williams buyers, quality controllers and merchandisers are able to translate customer requests into new products, quickly delivering fashionable garments and footwear that meet J D Williams’ high quality standards. This is the Unified Buying Process in action and is why TradeStone is becoming known as the software that merchants love.”

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Korry Electronics Utilizes Anark to Enhance Marketing Communications Solutions for the 2007 Paris Air Show

16 January 2007

Korry Electronics and Anark announced a partnership to create a sophisticated 3D product and aircraft visualization tool. This solution will be used to interactively display the Korry line of custom-built control panels embedded within a virtual aircraft cockpit. This marketing-focused application will augment existing customer communication capabilities by providing highly detailed product images that emphasize individual component attributes and enhance consistency in product messaging.

Communicating the full breadth and capabilities of Korry's control panels is an essential part of their sales and marketing process. Because of the highly custom nature of Korry's products, creating accurate and compelling product visualization material for potential customers has historically been challenging. By utilizing Anark's advanced 3D applications, Korry is developing a solution that enhances customer communications while highlighting individual product features and benefits. By providing accurate product visualizations, these applications also serve to strengthen Korry's interactions with the international community.

By utilizing an immersive 3D virtual environment, components are now displayed in highly detailed configurations within a virtual aircraft cockpit. These components can be individually selected and explored, allowing for the clear and effective highlighting of product differentiators. This application represents a significant step forward for Korry's product communication capabilities.

"Korry Electronics has always possessed a drive to operate on the leading edge of both our product technology and our customer support and communication," remarked Bruce Mitchell, Vice President of Sales for Korry. "By utilizing Anark's wide variety of 3D authoring and deployment capabilities, we are now offering a new level of product communication that is unmatched by our competition. Anark is helping us take our product marketing efforts to a whole new level."

Korry has developed a multi-tiered distribution plan for the new visualization application. Public displays will be offered at two upcoming aerospace tradeshows, [Aero India](#) and the [2007 Paris Air Show](#). This will be complemented by one-on-one sales presentations, internal product familiarization, and executive overviews.

"With our growing list of aerospace manufacturing customers, the upcoming Paris Air Show will be introduced to a whole new level of product visualization," noted Anark CEO Stephen Collins. "Two-dimensional product drawings, photographs and physical prototypes were once considered the standard; however they are increasingly being replaced by immersive interactive 3D presentations. Now individual components can be interactively explored or shown as an integrated element of system-wide visualizations."

[Anark Corporation](#) provides enterprise software and solutions to organizations that need to cost effectively deliver high-end, interactive 3D based applications.

[Anark](#) customers such as Boeing, Cessna, Panasonic Avionics, Moog, Sony and Maserati improve efficiency, save money and communicate more effectively with mission-critical interactive Product Visualization, Training, Marketing Communications and User Interface applications.

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LMS Test.Lab Helps DaimlerChrysler Buses Ensure Greater Passenger Comfort in New Bus Designs

16 January 2007

LMS announced that DaimlerChrysler Buses has selected LMS Test.Lab noise and vibration systems for implementation in its vehicle development process. To strengthen its dominant market position, DaimlerChrysler Buses is designing the broadest range of new vehicle types in the industry to meet the unique mass transportation requirements for cities, small towns, rural areas and long distance traffic in countries worldwide. A business unit of DaimlerChrysler, DaimlerChrysler Buses is headquartered in Stuttgart, Germany, and is world market leader for buses and coaches.

LMS Test.Lab was selected to increase the efficiency of the company's NVH testing group in ensuring that strict sound emission standards are met for this growing number of vehicle models. With passenger comfort a critical differentiating factor in this competitive market, DaimlerChrysler Buses has reduced interior noise on the average by more than 6 decibels from previous levels so that today buses are much quieter than a single bus decades ago. LMS technology enables test engineers in the group to establish a highly efficient testing process in which the root cause of any noise or vibration exceeding its exacting specifications can be identified and the design quickly modified.

In the state-of-the-art testing configuration deployed by DaimlerChrysler Buses, signals from accelerometers mounted on engine, axles or chassis and microphones in the passenger compartment are monitored by either of four LMS SCADAS front-end data acquisition systems with 20 or 40 high-speed channels. Engineers at DaimlerChrysler Buses cover all standard tests to access noise and vibration amplitudes with this channel count. For more detailed studies that require measurements at additional locations in the bus, the system enjoys the inherent flexibility to easily expand the channel count to 60 by connecting LMS SCADAS units together. The system can be set up quickly to add these channels, and the scalability enables the performance of a wide range of simultaneous tests in a very short time.

The multi-channel data acquisition system is combined with the comprehensive LMS Test.Lab suite of analysis, post-processing and report generation tools in a single system for performing a wide range of test-based engineering tasks. The on-line monitoring capability in the integrated LMS Test.Lab solution is particularly valuable for DaimlerChrysler Buses. Using this feature, NVH measured data are compared with target levels and results displayed in real time as run-up, run-down, idle and open-throttle operational tests are being run in the field.

The engineering team at DaimlerChrysler Buses reported that Test.Lab's on-line monitoring using color maps, 2D diagrams immediately shows them if noise and vibration are above or below maximum reference values. In this way, they can very quickly determine if further study is required, which frequencies should be investigated and what components might be the cause of excessive vibro-acoustic levels. Making these assessments on the spot saves weeks of time compared to blind-test systems that only record raw data.

When target levels are not met, more in-depth analysis of field test data can be performed back at the DaimlerChrysler Buses local NVH office using LMS Test.Lab tools for further study. To investigate resonant frequencies of individual components, for example, LMS Test.Lab modal analysis animates mode shapes or operational deflection shapes, reveals sources of vibrations and guides engineers in determining corrective actions.

The ability to perform a wide range of vibro-acoustic tests with the integrated LMS Test.Lab solution provides DaimlerChrysler Buses with greater flexibility and saves considerable time compared to the hassle of working with separate systems. Another key feature is the automated reporting feature that saves additional time, with engineers generating test documentation in a few minutes instead of days otherwise required.

DaimlerChrysler Buses values LMS Test.Lab as the perfect partner to increase the efficiency of their NVH testing operations. Overall integration and ease of use allow their engineers to concentrate on NVH

issues rather than spending precious time figuring out how to run the system. Bringing NVH passenger comfort to an outstanding level is the primary focus of NVH development at DaimlerChrysler Buses. Coupled with the expertise of DaimlerChrysler Buses NVH engineers, LMS Test.Lab is the centerpiece of this effort.

For more information on LMS Test.Lab, please visit <http://www.lmsintl.com/testlab>.

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Mahle Filtersysteme GmbH Expands the Use of Moldflow Injection Molding Simulation

17 January 2007

Moldflow Corporation announced that Mahle Filtersysteme GmbH purchased an additional license of Moldflow Plastics Insight® (MPI®) for its development center in St. Michael ob Bleiburg, Austria. While Mahle has been using MPI software for several years in Stuttgart, Germany, the consistently positive results obtained motivated its daughter company, Mahle Filtersysteme Austria GmbH, to invest in an additional software license for its own site.

Andreas Schmedding, Regional Sales Director of Moldflow Design Analysis Solutions in Central Europe states, “Given that Moldflow is the world’s most widely used plastics simulation software, we are driven to provide our customers with innovative, technologically advanced and reliable solutions that add value to their operations. We are pleased that Mahle Filtersysteme has chosen to expand its use of MPI as this provides further validation that we are meeting our customer’s high expectations.”

Kurt Urnik, Manager of Purchasing at Mahle Filtersysteme Austria GmbH adds, “We have used Moldflow products to accomplish projects both with our mother company and with external partners for many years, and have seen the benefit of injection molding simulation and experienced the reliability of [Moldflow](#) products. Our decision to setup internal competence for injection molding simulation and to standardize on Moldflow products helps us to secure process planning by simulation at an early stage and to continuously improve.”

MPI is a comprehensive suite of software tools for simulating, analyzing, optimizing and validating plastics part and mold designs. Powerful and easy to use, MPI offers a state-of-the-art solution that can be used to simulate nine unique molding processes and is currently used by top manufacturers in the automotive, medical, consumer, electronics and packaging industries.

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MSC.Software's SimManager Helps TI Automotive Reduce Design Time by 25%

16 January 2007

[MSC.Software](#) announced that [TI Automotive](#) has achieved \$1.5 million in cost savings through their prior purchase and subsequent deployment of SimManager, which allows business to harness the sea of data produced in product development and save time and costs with easy management and integration of engineering data within the IT infrastructure. The deployment of SimManager has allowed TI Automotive to gain additional collaborative abilities and create an enterprise solution that has delivered a 25% reduction in design time.

TI Automotive is the only global supplier of fully integrated fuel storage and delivery systems for cars and trucks, as well as the leading supplier of fluid carrying systems for braking and powertrain applications to automakers worldwide. The Fuel Systems group has led the way at TI Automotive by actively seeking out best-of-breed technology solutions. To help streamline the design and development process for engineering teams serving 29 countries, TI Automotive has utilized enterprise solutions from MSC.Software to help unify work in each of these regions. The addition of SimManager has allowed the company to gain additional management efficiencies throughout these regions.

"We are constantly on the lookout for proven technology solutions that cut our design time, save our customers money and allow us to reduce time-to-market," said Brian Brandner, Design Engineering Manager for TI Automotive. "We have again turned to MSC.Software to enable us to create a highly efficient environment by harnessing all of our simulation information. The results have been impressive, and we have achieved a substantial return on investment in a short period of time."

MSC.Software embeds and optimizes IBM technology, including DB2, Websphere and Tivoli, as a part of SimManager, pre-configuring and testing these technologies for ease of installation, rapid scalability and aligning smoothly with enterprise architecture strategies such as the adoption of an enterprise Service Oriented Architecture. The combination of IBM's technology, services and integration expertise along with SimManager's capabilities provides a complete solution stack for the management of simulation processes and product performance data, ensuring scalability for global deployments.

"TI Automotive is a great example of what innovative forward-thinking companies can achieve by capturing and leveraging their engineering best practices," said Bill Weyand, chief executive officer of MSC.Software. "With their enterprise approach to simulation and in particular, SimManager, TI Automotive has been able to realize extraordinary return on investment while delivering better products faster."

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NASA Eyes Open Standard Software for Next-Generation James Webb Space Telescope

19 January 2007

[IBM](#) announced the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) is using IBM software to develop the software and systems that will operate the James Webb Space Telescope. The Next Generation Telescope which will succeed the Hubble Space Telescope will look much closer to the beginning of time and hunt for the unobserved formation of the first galaxies.

The Telescope, expected to be launched by 2013, will study galaxy, star and planet formation in the Universe. In order to study how the very first stars and galaxies formed in the early Universe, NASA will look 'back in time' and deep into space using light time to travel from the present to the past. To study the earliest star formation in the Universe, NASA will observe infrared light, using special instruments optimized to capture this part of the spectrum.

Nearly 20 years ago when the components and instruments on the Hubble Telescope were developed, software was built by multiple organizations using proprietary software for systems development. This approach meant that maintenance, changes and fixes to components and instruments made required multiple tools. Over the life of the mission HST developed software tools to resolve most of these issues.

Because separate space agencies from several different countries around the world are developing the software that will operate the Telescope's Guidance, Navigation and Control (GNC) systems, Command and Data Handling (CNDH), and the Integrated Science Instrument Module (ISIM) that houses the four primary instruments on the James Webb Space Telescope, it was critical for NASA to weave a common thread throughout the project that would circumvent expensive and time consuming software issues.

To address this hurdle, NASA mandated that each agency develop their systems using open standards-based software from IBM. The software, called IBM Rational Rose Real-time, is a UML-based visual modeling development software that acts as a blue print for the entire multi-decade project, allowing the developers of the various Telescope systems to "drag and drop" software code directly into the blue print where it is then automatically available across the entire project.

Rational Rose Real-time helps these systems developers write applications faster without compromising quality. The IBM software continually verifies project quality along each step of the development process -- including code generation, testing, debugging and ongoing changes -- so that systems development stays on course and without error. This allows the many space agencies working on the James Webb Space Telescope to be more productive and able to deliver reliable code on time -- meeting broader project requirements and industry compliance regulations. Some of the agencies working on the Telescope are also using IBM Requisite Pro, IBM Rational ClearCase and IBM Rational ClearQuest which allows them to synchronize changes within their globally dispersed project teams resulting in faster innovation.

"It was important that NASA be forward-looking with the James Webb Space Telescope by using a systems development platform that would be reliable and ahead of the market throughout the extensive life of the mission," said Glenn Cammarata, ISIM Flight Software Development Lead, Satellite Software Corporation, a contractor for NASA. "Since it's based on open standards, the consistent and unified nature of the IBM software architecture helps curtail any problems that might present themselves down the road. Rational Rose Real-Time software was the right choice for the critical nature of the James Webb Space Telescope. The software is much easier to manage and maintain pre and post launch."

NASA will continue to use IBM Rational software to maintain the Telescope after the launch and throughout the life of the mission. Additionally, the UML-based approach allows NASA to create a standard architecture for this mission, while its reusable nature will allow it to be deployed on additional missions moving forward.

"Integrated systems development, whether for a national treasure like the James Webb Space Telescope, or for aircraft or automobile design, is a highly complex process of analysis, design, implementation and maintenance," said Daniel Sabbah, general manager, IBM Rational Software. "IBM software takes the chaos out of the project by applying governance and control to the systems development process,

allowing organizations like NASA to deliver projects on time, and meet compliance regulations while protecting against expensive unforeseen software issues."

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Novatek Uses Synopsys Nanosim Simulator with HVMOS to Improve Design Yield

15 January 2007

Synopsys, Inc. announced that Novatek, a global leader and provider of flat panel thin-film transistor (TFT) liquid crystal display (LCD) driver ICs, successfully verified several designs using the Synopsys NanoSim® FastSPICE simulator with the newly available, built-in HSPICE® High-Voltage MOS (HVMOS) device model. With the foundry-endorsed HVMOS model, the NanoSim simulator enabled Novatek design engineers to accurately predict circuit behavior, thereby improving design yield while significantly reducing over-design.

"We constantly seek to improve our product quality and reduce cost," said Tommy Chen, vice president of engineering at Novatek. "The Synopsys NanoSim simulator with HVMOS model provides us with an accurate and robust top-level circuit verification solution. The NanoSim simulator enabled us to achieve a 50 percent reduction in the required design margins with our last chip. The NanoSim simulator is clearly superior to competitive offerings, and we intend to deploy it in our other product lines."

Synopsys' high-performance NanoSim simulator with the HVMOS model is a comprehensive solution for LCD driver verification. This HVMOS model incorporates all of the critical physical effects of various high-voltage transistor technologies deployed in applications such as flat panel displays and automotive electronics. Synopsys' unique HSPICE model technology enables the NanoSim simulator to provide simulation results that correlate within a few percent of the actual silicon.

"The NanoSim simulator has long been accepted as the industry standard for simulating complex integrated circuit designs, and our innovative HVMOS modeling is addressing application-specific IC designs such as flat-panel LCDs," said George Zafiropoulos, vice president of marketing for verification products at Synopsys. "NanoSim clearly helps leading-edge companies like Novatek to deliver more competitive products."

Availability

[Synopsys'](#) HVMOS device model is currently available in the HSPICE and NanoSim simulators, as well as in the Aurora™ model parameter extraction tool.

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Numico Selects Agile Software to Streamline Product Processes Across Entire Enterprise

16 January 2007

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

[Agile Software Corporation](#) announced that Numico, the European and Asia Pacific market leader in baby food and clinical nutrition, has selected Agile PLM to manage product data and streamline product processes across the entire enterprise. Agile is a leading food & beverage PLM solution in the consumer packaged goods industry, providing comprehensive, end-to-end capabilities across the entire product lifecycle.

"We selected Agile because of the company's unrivaled reputation in helping the world's leading food and beverage companies address the industry's unique set of challenges," said Daniel Flipse, business project manager, product data management, Numico. "It was clear from the start that Agile really understood our business and could provide concrete examples of how their solution will help us accelerate revenues, reduce the cost of goods, drive quality, and ensure compliance across the entire lifecycle."

Based in the Netherlands, Numico is acknowledged as the European and Asia Pacific market leader in baby food and clinical nutrition. Numico is the world's fastest growing international special nutrition company, with famous brands, like Nutricia, Milupa, Cow & Gate, Mellin and Dumex, which are delivered to over 100 countries.

Faced with global raw materials and packaging specifications, tremendous international growth, and an increasingly extensive product portfolio, Numico required a way to manage its product data across its global operations. Numico selected Agile's solution due to its track record in helping some of the world's largest food and beverage companies with product lifecycle management. Agile's food & beverage solutions are based in part on a solution developed by Prodika, a company that Agile acquired in June 2006.

Agile will provide [Numico](#) with an end-to-end PLM solution to manage all product specifications from raw materials to finished products, supplier approvals across the global supply chain, formulas, and packaging and labeling, while providing a basis to ensure compliance with rules and regulations about labels and product quality. As a single source for all product related data, Agile will help Numico integrate enterprise-wide data management processes, while seamlessly integrating systems to improve efficiency and drive quality.

Numico will use Agile PLM to coordinate the cross-functional product data across its worldwide organizations. With more than 13,000 global employees, Numico requires the close coordination of research, manufacturing, and support functions across its global operations to deliver high-quality products that meet customers' demands while still achieving low cost production. Agile PLM provides Numico with the ability to get detailed product information throughout the enterprise in a simple and easy fashion and then consistently manage this product data.

"In the competitive and highly regulated food & beverage industry, PLM can provide the competitive edge that makes the difference between product success and failure. Our acquisition of Prodika provides the market with the broadest and richest PLM solution for this large but under-penetrated industry," said Jay B. Fulcher, Agile president and CEO. "Working with a global leader like Numico further validates our strategy in the global food and beverage industry, and further positions us as the leading PLM provider in consumer packaged goods. We will continue to help our customers accelerate innovation,

increase profits and drive competitive advantage through lower product costs and improved product performance -- all while ensuring product and supplier compliance."

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Pacific Sunwear Selects TradeStone to Unify Global Buying, Sourcing and Streamline Brand Management

16 January 2007

TradeStone Software announced that retailer Pacific Sunwear of California, Inc. has selected the TradeStone Suite to unify its global buying and sourcing process and to streamline its brand management. The clothing retailer turned to TradeStone in order to speed design to delivery cycle time and work more closely with its manufacturers around the globe.

Pacific Sunwear sources nearly 40 percent of its product internationally with a blend of proprietary brands and those from other suppliers. TradeStone Software will enable them to unify the buying process so they can see both branded and proprietary product mixes, the margins on each, and gain visibility across the supply chain from concept to delivery. In all, the TradeStone Suite will bring together as many as 250 suppliers with Pacific Sunwear distribution centers in California and Kansas.

"Brand management is the heart and soul of our overall strategy, so we focus on having the best and most complete portfolio of leading action sports brands," said Teresa Nersesyan, vice president of Global Supply Chain Operations at Pacific Sunwear. "Key to this brand management strategy is utilizing our own proprietary brands to respond to new fashion trends and expanding the breadth of our merchandise assortment and price points. TradeStone and the Unified Buying Process will play a central role in building on this strategy."

Pacific Sunwear will be using the TradeStone Suite to build a streamlined purchasing process for both its branded and proprietary goods in order to ensure that the right merchandise reaches the right one of its 1,200+ stores at the right time. Part of that process is improved communication with vendors, factories and service providers, all of whom will be using the TradeStone Suite as a central collaboration platform.

"Key to selecting any software for our business is a deep understanding of its technical underpinnings and scalability to support our own growth," stated Ron Ehlers, vice president of Information Services at Pacific Sunwear. "But even more impressive is the TradeStone Suite's flexibility and built-in best practices. This is truly software that merchants love."

The TradeStone Suite enables buyers, merchants and sourcing professionals to quickly develop product specifications and communicate to potential suppliers by generating Requests for Quotes (RFQs) that are put out to bid to manufacturers worldwide. By normalizing disparate currencies, languages and lead times, and automatically calculating the estimated landed costs for goods, the TradeStone Suite enables product managers and buyers to easily and accurately compare offers from different manufacturers, regardless of their location.

“Proprietary branding will continue to be a key growth strategy for most retailers as we head into 2007,” said TradeStone CEO Sue Welch. “Companies like Pacific Sunwear are leading the charge by blending their own proprietary brands with other products. But key to making it all work is gaining a strong handle on costs, margins and speed through the supply chain. For that retailers need a Unified Buying Process.”

With the [TradeStone](#) Suite, buyers make an order and then the software automatically sets milestones such as quality assurance testing, pre-production plans and production plans that are managed between both the supplier and buyer. This ensures that quality goods are delivered on-time and on-budget. In all, TradeStone provides a financial and merchandise view of sourced and ordered items across all lifecycle phases.

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SAP Launches Awards Program to Recognize Leadership and Excellence in Industry Best Practices

16 January 2007

[SAP AG](#) announced that Siemens VDO Automotive and Wacker Chemical Corporation are the inaugural recipients of the new SAP Industry Leadership Awards. The awards program, which launches this year, recognizes SAP customers that demonstrate business process excellence through adoption and application of industry best practices. Award winners are selected based upon the highest average best-practices scores from the Americas' SAP Users' Group (ASUG) and SAP benchmarking and best practices surveys. The SAP Industry Leadership Awards are being presented to representatives of Siemens VDO Automotive and Wacker Chemical Corporation at the SAP Americas annual field sales kick-off meeting, being held in Las Vegas, Nevada, January 14-18.

We established the SAP Industry Leadership Awards to give recognition to those customers who are leaders in their field, and to show our appreciation for their commitment to the SAP solutions that help them achieve business excellence," said Bill McDermott, CEO, SAP Americas. "I am pleased to recognize both Siemens VDO Automotive and Wacker Chemical as inaugural winners of the SAP Industry Leadership Award, and I personally want to thank them for their long-standing confidence in SAP in partnering with us to help realize their business objectives. Both organizations are proven leaders in the manufacturing industry and are preeminent examples of the success that comes with the practical application of industry best practices."

With an initial focus on the manufacturing industry, the SAP Industry Leadership Awards evaluates customers based on the importance they place on industry best practices, and on the level of deployment they have reached to achieve those best practices. Companies from both the process manufacturing and discrete manufacturing models were judged on best practices such as quality management, environmental health and safety, manufacturing integration and plant maintenance. The winners, Siemens VDO Automotive and Wacker Chemical, represent the leading survey participants in the manufacturing industry. SAP will be announcing additional winners representing various industries over the coming months.

"We deployed SAP technology in 2002 and it has revolutionized our business process infrastructure," said Paul Borrer, manager, SAP Center of Competence North America at Siemens VDO Automotive. "It serves as the foundation upon which our business is run, and a platform to continuously improve and harmonize processes within the region and globally. Additionally, we've been able to rapidly integrate growth and acquisitions. To be recognized as a leader in our industry as a result is truly an honor for myself, our entire project team and Siemens VDO Automotive as a whole."

"Wacker Chemical is honored to receive the SAP Industry Leadership Award," said Joachim J. Reichel, CIO, Wacker Chemical. "By leveraging SAP software, Wacker Chemical has realized efficiencies that allow us to adhere to business process best practices that have resulted in significant overall improvement of our business. We are proud to be recognized as one of the first winners of this award and look forward to many more years of success in the chemical industry leveraging our partnership with SAP along the way."

The ASUG/SAP Benchmarking and Best Practices Program

Beginning in 2005, ASUG and SAP have collaborated on a number of benchmarking programs to help customers compare their organizations' key performance indicators (KPIs) with best-in-class KPIs. The programs provide an opportunity for organizations to assess areas of excellence and determine those for improvement. They allow participants to learn about current and emerging best practices and to adopt ideas fueling excellence at world-class organizations. Participation in the programs is free. More than 400 SAP customers have participated in the benchmarking and best practices program since its introduction, with more than 650 studies completed.

About the Americas' SAP Users' Group (ASUG)

The Americas' SAP Users' Group ([ASUG®](#)) is an independent, volunteer-run organization that facilitates knowledge transfer among the community of SAP customers by providing user-driven educational opportunities, professional networking and a forum that provides insight and influence to

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Sescoi Collaborates With Aylesbury Training Group's CoVE for Vocational Training

15 January 2007

Following the supply of WorkNC CAM/CAD software, SESCOI has established a collaborative agreement in the UK with Aylesbury Training Group's Engineering CoVE (Centre of Vocational Excellence). The centre's aim is to produce appropriately qualified and skilled workers, with excellent employment and career prospects, through vocational training to meet the needs of the UK economy.

The Engineering CoVE works in collaboration with five partner organisations: Aylesbury Training Group, ISIS Training Services, Abingdon and Witney College, Pera and Rutherford Appleton Laboratory. The introduction of WorkNC for the 5-axis programming of its Mikron machining centre

will enable CoVE students to study the latest techniques in metal cutting, including high speed machining using the smooth trochoidal cutterpaths in the software. It will also help them to understand the benefits of 5-axis machining with the unique Auto 5 module in WorkNC, which automatically converts 3-axis toolpaths into 5-axis. With the Engineering CoVE's customers in the automotive, aerospace, marine, motorsport and general mechanical industries, access to the technology and training partnerships centred around it will be particularly valuable to these highly sophisticated sectors.

[Sescoi](#) anticipates that the CoVE will be a valuable training resource for its customers, and an ideal venue for events, seminars and machining trials, enabling it to evaluate cutting technology in a controlled environment. Additionally, the collaboration will allow SESCOI to network with the partner companies and their clients, enabling it to bring them the same benefits from 5-axis machining as it has brought to the CoVE.

The collaboration has also given SESCOI the opportunity to introduce the partner companies to MyWorkPLAN, its easy to use job management software. Colm Fox, UK Sales Manager for SESCOI concluded, "We are very excited about the benefits of working with the CoVE and its partners. Not only will we be able help trainees use the most advanced machining techniques, but we will also be able to showcase all our software at the new venue in the South of England, and be part of technology transfer programmes when recommended by the partner companies."

Russell Barton of ATG commented on WorkNC and SESCOI, "I am delighted we are now using WorkNC to run our 5-axis milling machine. Having used several machining packages in the past and at present, I am very impressed with the ease of generating programs. The benefits have been immediately obvious, with a reduction in machining times and an improvement in surface finish on many of our components. The Auto 5 function which converts 3-axis toolpaths to 5-axis simultaneous toolpaths is superb, and very quick and easy to use".

"This new partnership between ATG and SESCOI can only benefit all concerned. With the resources now available to offer CAD/CAM and CNC Milling training, and the use of the facilities for companies wishing to see the benefits of these applications on their products, I believe we will see a steep rise in the number of companies realising their production potential"

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SkyCross Drives Wireless Antenna Technology in Hand-Held Device Market with PTC® Mathcad®

17 January 2007

[PTC](#) announced that SkyCross, a global wireless company providing antenna-centric solutions, is using Mathcad, PTC's engineering calculation software to optimize design requirements of its wireless antennas. Using PTC solutions, SkyCross can quickly respond to market demands for more powerful antennas on ever-smaller wireless products.

Wireless technology is complex. With hundreds of options available for any particular wireless antenna design, engineers must evaluate which combination will deliver the best customer experience relative to both aesthetics and reception. Investigating which design options will result in a final product can prove to be time consuming and costly. Because SkyCross is in the supply chain for device manufacturers and makes several million antennas per year, designing and delivering innovative antennas that address market requirements in the most efficient and cost-effective way is critical to their success.

In 2003 SkyCross began using Mathcad to help its radio frequency engineers perform many signal simulations and complex design computations in a lab setting where mathematical principals and variables can be easily controlled and adjusted. Before using Mathcad, SkyCross depended on manipulating lab built models for one particular class of antennas, the Quadrifilar Helical Antenna. Mathcad enabled predictable antenna performance which led to faster development times and reduced costly product development processes. Now with Mathcad, the company can develop solid initial designs leading to a more efficient product development cycle with fewer errors, fewer iterations and less money and time spent on prototypes. Additionally, the Mathcad calculation documentation capabilities enable SkyCross radio frequency engineers to communicate engineering calculations easily across its distributed engineering and manufacturing sites in the United States, China and Korea using mathematics, the universal language of engineering.

[SkyCross](#) is also using PTC Pro/ENGINEER®, the core design offering within the PTC Product Development System (PDS), as the global CAD/CAM/CAE solution. Pro/ENGINEER helps SkyCross ensure that antennas are designed with manufacturing in mind, using practical materials and minimizing complicated assembly processes. Using Pro/ENGINEER, SkyCross is able to minimize cost with practical materials and clever fabrication techniques.

“We constantly strive to develop and deliver innovative RF and antenna technology,” said Dr. Chris Morton, CEO of SkyCross. “PTC solutions enable SkyCross engineers to develop the kind of next-generation designs that the market demands while also enabling us to remain committed to our partners production schedules. We look forward to continuing our work with PTC.”

SkyCross is currently piloting Mathcad 14.0 and Pro/ENGINEER integration which will help customers ensure that mathematical parameters derived in Mathcad worksheets can be used to drive Pro/ENGINEER geometry directly, providing for greater design, development, lower cost and time-to-market efficiencies.

“PTC solutions enable organizations like SkyCross to continually expand the technology that drives product innovation,” said Chad Hawkinson, vice president product strategy, electronics, PTC. “The integration between Mathcad and Pro/ENGINEER supports our commitment to develop technologies that work tightly together to streamline product development processes for our customers. We are proud to continue our work with SkyCross as it builds and delivers the technology that sets it apart from competitors.”

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Small and Medium Businesses Overcome Growth Challenges with PTC® Windchill®

16 January 2007

PTC announced that Windchill, the PTC solution for content and process management, continues to gain momentum as the PLM solution of choice for small and medium businesses (SMB). Windchill helps companies control product development data and enable internal and external product development collaboration, solving key challenges for growing businesses. In fiscal 2006, total revenue from the PTC reseller channel grew 24% to \$171.5 million compared to the same period last year. The growth reflects continued success in selling PTC's Pro/ENGINEER, as well as increased sales of Windchill solutions in the SMB market.

“Because of their size, SMB customers experience some unique challenges including resource and infrastructure constraints that can hinder the success of their product development initiatives,” said Tom Shoemaker, vice president solutions marketing, PTC. “Windchill provides an optimal solution for overcoming these obstacles with an enterprise class tool that offers powerful capabilities for content management and collaboration with the scalability needed to support their ongoing growth.”

RollEase is a PTC customer that designs and manufactures patented manual window covering systems for residential and commercial applications. Like many small businesses lacking the resources and IT infrastructure often available to larger enterprises, RollEase had implemented a home-grown filing system for product data management. The labor-intensive system relied upon the constant creation of new folders to manage data as new products were developed and as revisions were made to existing parts and products. The process initially satisfied the company's requirements but quickly became outdated. As the product line grew, RollEase found it increasingly difficult to manage revisions, data reuse and modeling techniques using the old system. To resolve these challenges, RollEase enlisted the help of Performance Engineering, a PTC reseller. After careful evaluation, the company selected Windchill PDMLink™ to help manage all forms of product data – including mechanical, electrical and software. “Windchill provides us with a closed loop change management system that enables us to easily track and manage revisions,” said Joseph Cannaverde, Project Manager, RollEase. “Moreover, it increased our ability to efficiently use library parts for data reuse, lowering development costs and increasing speed to market.”

Gencoa Ltd, a manufacturer of magnetron sputtering cathodes, selected Windchill PDMLink and Windchill ProjectLink™ to streamline its product development process and improve cross-functional collaboration and data visibility with off-site manufacturing plants and customers based across Europe, the United States and Asia Pacific. The new product development system will reduce rework and translation of documented information. Used in conjunction with Pro/ENGINEER, Windchill will improve data search, version control, collation and accelerate the quotation process and production cycle. In the past, the design process was a bottleneck and a major component of production costs. “PTC's product development system enables us to realise product standardisation and improved parts management. The system will give us better control of the design and drawings inside the enterprise and working with external partners and customers,” said Gencoa founder and CEO Dr. Dermot Monaghan. “Windchill helps us share new ideas with our customers, and improves our time to market for innovative products serving a wide range of industries.”

Canadian based Venmar Ventilation has been one of North America's leading manufacturers of innovative Indoor Air Quality products for residential applications for more than 25 years. Venmar selected Windchill PDMLink as the PLM tool of choice and BRT Solutions, a PTC channel partner, as implementer, to meet its challenges to manage and share information relating to its growing, innovative product lines. Windchill PDMLink enables the Venmar design team and multiple users in different divisions to concurrently work on the same assembly without compromising each other's revisions. "Windchill PDMLink has enabled us to make significant improvements in our product development process," said Marc-Andre Verville, design technician, Venmar. "We're able to produce more products in the same amount of time and have shortened our time to market by twenty-five percent. Ultimately, this leads to more revenue."

About PTC Solutions for SMB

[PTC](#) solutions for the small and medium business (SMB) market are designed to provide easy-to-use, yet scaleable 3D CAD/CAM/CAE solutions for manufacturing companies at an affordable price. In addition PTC provides dedicated product lifecycle management (PLM) solutions for the unique product data management and collaboration requirements to the midrange market. PTC currently serves over 35,000 SMB customers in 41 countries through more than 320 Value Added Resellers (VARs).

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'The Virtual Vehicle' Chooses Altair Data Manager and HyperWorks Engineering Software to Tighten Product Development Processes

18 January 2007

[Altair Engineering, Inc.](#) announced that "The Virtual Vehicle Competence Center" (vif) has implemented Altair Data Manager (ADM) as their simulation data management system at vif's Mechanics Department and has extended their use of HyperWorks computer-aided engineering (CAE) software. ADM was implemented at vif to address automotive industry requirements regarding simulation data management and is used jointly with the institute's research and industry partners. The HyperWorks suite is used to solve problems in areas of mechanical stress; handling; powertrain optimization; multi-body dynamics; linear and nonlinear structural analysis; and pedestrian and passenger safety.

"As an independent research center, we are confronted daily with individual customer demands, especially regarding data management, software tools and solvers, and must react quickly and flexibly," said Harald Schluder, area manager in Mechanics at vif. "To efficiently realize research projects for the automotive industry and to better serve the needs of our customers, we have implemented ADM as the CAE data management tool. Certainly, one reason was the large variety of Altair products included in the HyperWorks suite. The Altair products work well in combination with the data management system and enable us to customize software in response to our customers' requirements."

Altair HyperWorks is an integrated CAE framework containing best-in-class solutions for complete virtual product development. HyperWorks delivers an open, programmable platform that is easy to integrate into existing processes. ADM enables CAE analysts to manage, organize and control processes and data.

"CAE data management is a major issue in today's automotive industry," said Dr. Detlef Schneider, managing director, Altair Germany. "We are pleased that vif has chosen ADM to manage its CAE data and is using HyperWorks to generate that data. Close cooperation with research and competence centers such as vif continues to be of great importance to us. We know that they collaborate with leading automotive companies and define the future of vehicle development and technology with their research projects. We expect to see a growing use and acceptance of ADM in all areas of the automotive industry. Altair is proud to be an active part of the process to shape the future of automotive development with our customers and tools."

About The Virtual Vehicle (vif)

Founded in 2002, "The Virtual Vehicle" research and competence center is a well-known player in the area of vehicle development. As part of the Graz University of Technology (TU Graz), the center is a neutral platform for research and development activities. With 85 employees, the center offers services and performs research in the following areas: mechanics, thermo and fluid dynamics, electrics and electronics, as well as virtual manufacturing and virtual engineering. The center strives for full vehicle analysis using a multi-disciplinary approach. Thanks to good relations the TU Graz enjoys with more than 20 other institutes and industries, vif is capable of offering complex solutions such as a Simulation Data Management System to international customers, including Audi, AVL, BMW, MAN, MSF, Siemens and ThyssenKrupp Automotive. The Institute's Mechanics Department employs 25 researchers, who work in the areas of vehicle safety, vehicle dynamics, forming and materials. To learn more about vif, please visit <http://www.v2c2.at>.

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Industry-Wide News

EDA Consortium Reports Continued Growth in Third Quarter 2006

17 January 2007

The EDA Consortium's Market Statistics Service (MSS) announced that the electronic design automation (EDA) industry revenue for Q3 of 2006 grew to \$1,309 million compared to \$1,122 million in Q3 2005. This increase reflects both the continuing growth of the industry as a whole and the growth of the MSS program, which enjoyed a net increase in the number of participating companies compared to the same quarter last year. The MSS average annual growth rate comparing the most recent four quarters to the same four quarters in the prior year was 12 percent. When comparing the same quarter in 2005, revenue in Q3 2006 jumped by 17 percent.

"The MSS is not only a key indicator of the health of the EDA industry, it also tells us how the industry landscape is shifting in response to global competition and strong consumer demand for our customers' semiconductor products," said Aart de Geus, chairman of the EDA Consortium and chairman and CEO of Synopsys, Inc. "Long-standing EDA categories are registering their strongest growth in at least five years. This is alongside our most recently expanded segment, semiconductor IP, which is currently growing at a fast pace."

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

The number of EDA industry employees has also grown worldwide. Companies tracked in the MSS employed 25,018 professionals in Q3 2006, up 11 percent from 22,462 in Q3 2005.

While individual company revenue is not revealed in the MSS, a complete listing of reporting companies for each major product category is shown in the full report. A net total of six new reporting companies were added to the MSS between Q3 2005 and Q3 2006. Because the total number of companies reporting to the MSS can change from quarter to quarter, comparing revenue growth for the most recent four quarters with the same four quarters in the previous year provides a longer-term industry view as well as mitigates seasonal fluctuations.

Revenue by Product Segment

EDA's largest product segment, Computer-Aided Engineering, generated revenue of \$533 million in Q3 2006, 13 percent more than the same period in 2005. In Q3 2006, CAE represented 40 percent of industry revenue.

IC Physical Design & Verification revenue increased 19 percent to \$354 million in Q3 2006 compared to the same quarter in 2005. This segment is the second largest in the MSS, representing 27 percent of industry revenue.

Semiconductor Intellectual Property (SIP) revenue totaled \$246 million in Q3 2006, a 24 percent increase compared to Q3 2005. SIP has become the third-largest segment in the MSS, delivering 19 percent of industry revenue.

Printed Circuit Board and Multi-Chip Module revenue increased 24 percent to \$101 million in Q3 2006 compared to Q3 2005. In Q3 2006, PCB represented 8 percent of revenue.

Services revenue was \$75 million in Q3 2006, up 4 percent from Q3 2005. Services represented 6 percent of industry revenue in the quarter.

Revenue by Consuming Region

North America, EDA's largest region, purchased \$634 million of EDA products and services in Q3 2006, a 19 percent increase over Q3 2005.

Western Europe revenue was up 14 percent in Q3 2006 with revenues of \$249 million.

Q3 2006 revenue from Japan grew 8 percent in Q3 2005 to \$262 million.

Revenue in the rest of the world (ROW) increased 27 percent to \$164 million in Q3 2006 compared to the same quarter a year earlier.

About the MSS Report

The EDA Consortium's Market Statistics Service reports EDA industry revenue data quarterly and is available by annual subscription. Both public and private companies contribute data to the report. Each quarterly report is published approximately three months after quarter close. MSS report data is segmented as follows: revenue type (product licenses and maintenance, services, and SIP), application (CAE, PCB/MCM Layout, and IC Physical Design and Verification), operating system (UNIX vs. Windows) and region (North America, Western Europe, Japan, and Rest of World), with many subcategories of detail provided. The report also tracks total employment of the reporting companies.

About the EDA Consortium

The EDA Consortium is the international association of companies that provide tools and services that enable engineers to create the world's electronic products. EDA is the critical technology used to design electronics for the communications, computer, space technology, medical and industrial equipment and consumer electronics markets among others.

For more information about the EDA Consortium, or to subscribe to the Market Statistics Service, contact EDA Consortium, 111 West Saint John Street, Suite 220, San Jose, Calif. 95113, USA, office 408-287-3322, fax 408-283-5283, email mss@edac.org, or visit <http://www.edac.org>.

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Product News

Actel and Mentor Graphics Expand Partnership

15 January 2007

[Mentor Graphics Corporation](#) and Actel Corporation announced the signing of a new OEM agreement between the two companies, expanding the companies' existing technology and marketing partnership. With this agreement, Actel will provide the rich feature set of Precision® Synthesis, Actel-edition, as part of the new Libero® Integrated Development Environment (IDE) 7.3 Web download product bundle. In addition, Actel and Mentor Graphics will continue to cooperate to further improve tool integration, thereby increasing productivity and enhancing customer design success and quality of results (QoR).

“Our customers have greatly benefited from our existing ModelSim OEM agreement with Mentor, which makes accessible to them an industry-standard advanced FPGA verification environment,” said Rich Brossart, vice president, product marketing at Actel. “Now, with the addition of Precision Synthesis to our Libero IDE, designers have the option of leveraging an industry-standard logic synthesis solution with advanced analysis tools and SystemVerilog support.”

As a supplier of single-chip FPGAs, Actel addresses a wide variety of applications, including those requiring low power, security, reliability, live at power up and even radiation hardening. “We see Actel

in many sophisticated applications, requiring engineers to push their designs to the maximum,” said Simon Bloch, general manager, Mentor Graphics Design Creation and Synthesis Division. “These customers will need more than a push-button synthesis solution — they need the superior capabilities of Precision Synthesis.”

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

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Agentrics and Muddy Boots Partner to Offer Retailers Food Safety and Quality Assurance Solution

15 January 2007

Agentrics announced a strategic partnership with U.K.-based Muddy Boots Software to improve the retail industry's ability to develop private label food products and more effectively respond to urgent quality and safety issues. The Muddy Boots Quickfire mobile auditing and quality assurance solution will be available to retailers as part of the Agentrics GenNovation private label management suite. Muddy Boots is a leading provider of food traceability and quality assurance solutions for the agricultural and food industry.

“Most private-labels foods compare favorably with the national brands, however, one area where retailers still lag in comparison to major manufacturers is in the ability to accurately track the source of an ingredient and react quickly to critical food safety issues,” said Kieran Forsey, Agentrics vice president for product lifecycle management solutions. “By offering Muddy Boots Quickfire as part of our private label solution, retailers can now incorporate a higher level of audit control and responsiveness into the product development and launch process.”

Agentrics GenNovation features a comprehensive and customizable set of modules that guide each stage of the product development lifecycle; from collaborative project management and artwork design to product introduction, auditing and issues management. The addition of Muddy Boots Quickfire to the Agentrics GenNovation suite allows retailers to better manage their private label ingredients, reduce risks associated with food quality and more effectively address important consumer safety issues.

“With Agentrics GenNovation, we can develop or re-launch more than 4,000 private label products each year,” said David Gregory, head of food technical for U.K.-based retailer Marks & Spencer. “The

integrity of the Marks & Spencer brand depends on the quality of each and every one of these products. With Muddy Boots Quickfire supporting our 'Field to Fork' initiative, we can better audit our primary producers to ensure the highest standards. This is an essential step to meet our corporate and social responsibility goals for 2007."

"Retailers cannot take auditing lightly," said Jonathan Evans, managing director for Muddy Boots. "Outbreaks such as the 2006 E. coli issue in the U.S. demonstrate the need for this level of control in the quality process, as retailers must be able to quickly respond when their store brands might be affected."

About Muddy Boots

[Muddy Boots Software](#) is a leading provider of risk management, quality assurance and food traceability solutions for the global food industry. Muddy Boots has experience in developing intelligent, mobile data capture and process auditing software. These systems act as building blocks to help deliver integrated compliance management solutions for the entire supply chain -- from growers through food processors to the retailer. Muddy Boots serves many top customers in the U.K. and Europe, including Tesco, Marks & Spencer, Unilever and Compass Food service

About Agentrics

Agentrics assists retailers, manufacturers and their trading partners to optimize shared business processes to more effectively serve the consumer. Their customers rely on Agentrics' product offerings, practical forums and deep domain expertise to drive real business results. In the last six years, Agentrics has generated more than \$5 billion in cost savings for their customers by partnering with them on the development and effective use of our technology and services.

Agentrics serves over 250 customers, including 17 of the world's top 25 retailers, in sourcing, supply chain collaboration, global data synchronization and product lifecycle management. Agentrics customers include Aeon, Ahold USA, Alcampo, Auchan, Best Buy, Canadian Tire, Carrefour, Casino, Chedraui, Coles Myer, Coop Italia, Coop Switzerland, CVS/pharmacy, Dairy Farm, Dansk Supermarked Gruppen, Delhaize Group, Diageo, El Corte Ingles, Food Lion, GlaxoSmithKline, Izumiya, KarstadtQuelle, Kesa, Kesko Food Ltd., Kingfisher, Kroger, Lotte, Makro Asia, Makro S.A., Manor, Markant, Marks & Spencer, Metro Group, Migros, Modelo Continente Hipermercados, S.A., Panasonic, PPR, Publix, REWE Group, Royal Ahold, Safeway, Sainsbury's, SCA Hygiene Products, Sears Canada, Sears Holdings Corp., Shopko, Smart and Final, Tesco, and Walgreen's.

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Altair OptiStruct/Analysis Solver Technology Integrates Seamlessly with AMLS

17 January 2007

Altair Engineering, Inc. announced that OptiStruct/Analysis, Altair's next-generation finite-element (FE) solver technology for linear statics and dynamics applications, has been integrated with the Automated

MultiLevel Substructuring (AMLS) commercial technology. AMLS is a new simulation method that significantly reduces the computation time required to perform frequency response analyses on complex structures such as automobiles, submarines and airplanes.

"As manufacturers push for higher-fidelity models to improve quality and shorten design cycles, model sizes continue to grow exponentially to capture more detail," said Harold Thomas, director of solver technology at Altair. "This trend negatively impacts computation time and the ability to solve system-level noise, vibration and harshness (NVH) problems. With the AMLS integration, OptiStruct/Analysis easily handles models with millions of degrees-of-freedom, allowing more time for trade-off studies and multi-disciplinary optimization."

Part of Altair's popular HyperWorks computer-aided engineering (CAE) technology suite, OptiStruct/Analysis is a robust FE solver for linear and nonlinear contact analysis solutions. Leveraging the power of today's sparse matrix and Lanczos solver technologies, OptiStruct/Analysis includes the most popular solution sequences for linear statics, eigenvalue, buckling and frequency response.

Commercially developed by Dr. Jeffrey K. Bennighof at the University of Texas at Austin and distributed by Germany-based CDH AG, AMLS reduces the simulation time to perform frequency response and eigenvalue analyses on large FE models. In AMLS, the FE model is automatically subdivided into thousands of substructures in a tree topology. Calculated substructure modes, which run very quickly, are used rather than global modes to accurately represent vibration. Highly parallelized, AMLS quickly solves large frequency response problems that were previously impossible using conventional methods.

"We are very pleased to see the growing adoption of AMLS technology, and are working closely with Altair to support OptiStruct/Analysis and AMLS deployments," said Leo Dunne, co-founder and president of CDH AG. "As a HyperWorks customer ourselves, we look forward to leveraging this integration throughout our consulting operations worldwide."

HyperWorks and AMLS technologies have significant penetration within the global automotive industry, including OEMs such as BMW, Daihatsu, DaimlerChrysler, Ford, Honda, Mazda, Mercedes-Benz, Mitsubishi, Nissan, Saab, Subaru and Toyota Motor Company. In addition to the automotive market, Altair sees growth opportunities in the aerospace, heavy machinery and consumer products industries. Company sites with both HyperWorks and AMLS installed can take immediate advantage of this integration, which requires no additional end-user effort or licensing.

For more information on OptiStruct/Analysis and AMLS, please <http://www.altair.com/osa/amls>.

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Ansoft Releases TPA v5; New Version Targets Package Extraction and Design Automation Needs for Advanced SiP, CSP and Stacked Packaging Technologies

17 January 2007

[Ansoft Corporation](#) announced Turbo Package Analyzer™ (TPA) v5. This latest version of TPA introduces new automation, design flow and simulation capability needed for the extraction of the electrical characteristics of complex high-performance ball-grid array (BGA) style packaging, including wirebond (WBBGA), flip-chip (FCBGA), chip-scale packages (CSPs) and System in Packages (SiP).

TPA v5 increases the capacity of the solver to address larger-sized packaging problems and introduces greater automation for generating and/or modifying 3D package layouts. TPA v5 introduces a new user interface that includes new 2D editing and 3D viewing capabilities, unlimited undo/redo capability, powerful new editing and automation features, such as geometry validation checking and support for VB scripting.

Combined with AnsoftLinks™, a tool for simplifying data import and export between EDA and CAD packages, TPA v5 generates resistance, inductance and capacitance (RLC) models directly from popular package design tools. It accepts CAD data and fully characterizes the entire package in three dimensions. Extracted sub-circuits can be exported into Nexxim®, the company's high-performance circuit simulation software, or existing SPICE tools (SPICE/IBIS format) for subsequent transient analyses, such as crosstalk, overshoot and TDR.

TPA v5 highlights include:

- AC RLC computation for 3D structures
 - Automated coupled full-package AC RLC extraction using efficient surface triangulation algorithms
- DC resistance computation for 3D structures
 - Automated net-by-net full-package DC resistance extraction using a volumetric (tetrahedral) mesh
- Ability to designate source and sink terminal assignment on any given net
- New 2D layout editor and 3D viewer
 - Create advanced wirebond or flip-chip designs from scratch or modify/correct designs imported from third-party layout tools

- System-in-Package (SiP) design with multiple wire bond configurations including Trace-to-trace, Die-to-die and Cascaded
- User-defined wirebond profiles expanding shapes from JEDEC 4- and 5-point to include arbitrary polylines
- Complex solderball models capture true shape and subsequent electrical performance of solderballs and flip-chip solder-bumps
- New layer stack-up editor
- New via pad stack editor
- VB scripting support
- Validation check to verify setup, including detection of self-intersecting polygons; disjoint nets; overlapping (DC-short) nets, vias and bond wires; illegal connections between bonding pads and bond wires
- Microsoft Windows® XP Professional x64 support

Pricing and Availability:

TPA v5 is available for Microsoft Windows XP Professional, Windows XP x64 Edition and Windows Server 2003. Contact your nearest Ansoft sales office for pricing information.

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Aras Delivers Microsoft-Based Open Source Enterprise Solutions

15 January 2007

Aras® Corporation announced the immediate availability of the Aras Innovator® open source solution suite. The version 8 release offered exclusively on the Microsoft .NET platform includes business ready enterprise solutions along with a solution studio for customization, extension, and integration. The free download, additional open source solution projects, and further information are available at <http://www.aras.com>.

Aras simplifies enterprise software solution licensing and technology by delivering Aras Innovator as a commercial open source offering on the Microsoft platform. Companies can now take advantage of existing Microsoft skill sets and infrastructure while realizing the licensing flexibility and IT control of open source.

Aras Innovator Enterprise Open Source Solutions Highlights

Aras Innovator enterprise open source solutions address strategic business processes such as new product introduction [NPI], advanced product quality planning compliance [APQP], and enterprise product lifecycle management [PLM]. Solutions include:

Program Management – Phase-gate project management of milestones and deliverables for executive visibility and team collaboration

Quality Planning – Failure mode & effects analysis and closed-loop actions for mitigating risks and achieving compliance

Product Engineering – Bill of materials, document management, and change management workflows for development control and cost tracking

In addition, the comprehensive functionality of the solutions can be tailored to support a range of other enterprise lifecycle processes such as project lifecycle management, asset lifecycle management, and service lifecycle management. Aras Innovator solutions are designed to operate either as stand-alone enterprise applications or as an integrated complement to existing systems.

“Aras brings a new value proposition to the enterprise software solution market by delivering direct customer benefits to companies running Microsoft technologies,” said Bill Hilf, general manager of Platform Technology Strategy at Microsoft Corp. “We are supportive of Aras’ move to offer enterprise open source solutions on the Microsoft stack, and we continue to see tremendous growth in the Microsoft partner ecosystem as a variety of industry partners are finding innovative ways to take advantage of the value of the Microsoft platform under a wide range of licensing models.”

“Aras recognizes the urgent need to simplify enterprise software complexity and reduce risks,” said Peter Schroer, President of Aras Corporation. “By delivering the Aras Innovator solutions as enterprise open

source on the Microsoft platform we provide software licensing simplicity and align with the technologies that companies already have and understand.”

Aras Innovator Specifications

Developed exclusively on the Microsoft .NET platform, Aras Innovator’s proven application framework technology is a unique model-based, service-oriented architecture [SOA] that delivers flexibility enabling companies to deploy quickly and adapt easily while maintaining upgradeability. Aras Innovator requires minimal infrastructure to run:

Microsoft Windows Server 2003 with .NET 2.0

Microsoft SQL Server 2005

Aras Innovator supports Windows Vista and Internet Explorer 7 and provides configuration options [not required] for: the 2007 Microsoft Office system; Microsoft Office SharePoint Server 2007 or SharePoint Portal Server; Microsoft Office PerformancePoint Server 2007 or Business Scorecard Manager; Microsoft BizTalk Server 2006; and Active Directory.

Aras Innovator is based on open standards, including XML / SOAP Web services, for simplified integration with conventional enterprise systems such as SAP, Oracle, UGS, PTC, Dassault, and Infor legacy applications; enterprise application integration suites; or enterprise service bus [ESB] products.

Aras Innovator open source projects for new solutions, solution extensions, Microsoft Office clients, and system integrations are hosted on the Microsoft CodePlex collaborative development site at <http://www.codeplex.com>.

Availability and Pricing

Aras Innovator version 8 is immediately available. Aras provides unlimited user access to all the solutions. Because there is no charge for the enterprise production-ready software Aras removes the need for up-front capital and eliminates expensive software licensing requirements for users, modules, and servers.

Aras sells enterprise-class support subscription packages. Standard package prices are \$8,300 / month for the Enterprise Edition and \$4,100 / month for the Small Business Edition. Implementation consulting services and training are also available. Support subscription packages are purchased directly from Aras, for details visit <http://www.aras.com>.

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Autodesk Updates Technology Preview to Make Illustrative Graphics a Snap

19 January 2007

Incorporating the experiences of more than 10,000 users, Autodesk, Inc. unveiled the latest preview of Autodesk Impression software that gives architects and other CAD users a helping hand with creating illustrative presentation graphics from DWG and DWF files. The technology preview found on Autodesk Labs improves teams' productivity, and ultimately client satisfaction, by virtually eliminating the manual labor previously required to develop compelling images from CAD drawings.

Autodesk Impression now makes it easier than ever to create great-looking presentation graphics, equipping users with the tools necessary to help their clients experience ideas in the early stages, explore alternatives and arrive at solutions with minimal time and expense. From customer interviews, comments e-mailed directly to Autodesk Labs, hundreds of discussion forum exchanges, and other feedback mechanisms, Autodesk has improved features and added new ones.

"Participation in the Autodesk Labs program has been instrumental in the evolution of Autodesk Impression," said Mark Strassman, vice president of Marketing, Autodesk Platform Technology Division. "Thanks to plenty of dialog between our users and our development team, we've been able deliver a greater number of powerful features, while improving usability."

Enhancements Help Extract More Value from AutoCAD Drawings

In response to user comments and designers' needs, the latest preview of Autodesk Impression reflects new features, updated user interface elements and overall performance enhancements.

- **Redesigned user interface elements.** Product developers have redesigned the layers, style and style-editing palettes for a dashboard-like display of content on navigation panes instead of on tabs. In addition, the Autodesk Impression toolbar now looks and feels more like the toolbar in other Autodesk products.
- **Workflow improvements.** New in the latest preview of Autodesk Impression, the CAD Update feature lets users refresh their presentation graphics when they modify the originating CAD drawing, so that illustrations evolve in sync with projects. Block and style- scaling capabilities let users adjust the scale of applied styles and blocks in order to easily take advantage of pre-built content for drawings of all scales.
- **Overall performance enhancements.** In addition to more stable and robust performance, Autodesk Impression is more responsive to users working with drop-shadow effects, overshoot properties and other tools and commands.

"Autodesk Impression has saved my company countless hours in the production of great quality presentation drawings," said Mark Northcott, CAD Technician, Aboud and Associates, Inc. "The program is simple to use and learn, and amazingly effective. I know the quality of the output will give our company the leading edge when it comes to scoring the big contract."

Added Northcott, "I've seen Autodesk Impression go through many changes, and every time there are changes, it gets simpler, more efficient and more effective to use. This is an amazing product that I would recommend to anyone."

Availability

Autodesk Impression is available immediately for download at Autodesk Labs. To learn more about the application and download the software, visit <http://www.autodesk.com/impression>.

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Cohesia Teams with BCT Technology for Ongoing Joint Quality Programs; Customers Get One-Click Access to BCT Directly from within the Cohesia Product

16 January 2007

Cohesia Corporation, a provider of technology that eliminates ambiguity in the flow-down of detailed product requirements through manufacturing supply chains, is broadening its relationship with BCT Technology by embedding access to BCT in the Cohesia product.

As specialists in the identification and extraction of design information in every format from paper drawings to 3D CAD models, BCT Technology serves many of the same customers as Cohesia in the aerospace industry. Both organizations serve critical roles in Product Lifecycle Management and First Article Inspection. The complimentary synergy will now be immediately accessible from within the Cohesia product.

Principals at both organizations believe this is a natural fit and agree customers will have even greater benefit from this close relationship. Bob Mann, US Sales Manager, says, “In combination with Cohesia’s products, we can provide complete identification and change verification of the design criteria that defines any part, from Engineering out thru the supply chain for the lifecycle of any part.”

Cohesia President and CEO, Jim Kanir, believes the BCT tools for characteristic extraction will quickly become a very popular addition to the Cohesia system. “The value of the BCT Technology – Cohesia combination is already proven in critical, complex projects. With an even closer relationship, we’ve taken yet another important step in offering Cohesia customers the most comprehensive offering available for aerospace First Article Inspections,” says Mr. Kanir.

The power of the Cohesia – BCT combination was recently demonstrated at a project sponsored by the National Center for Manufacturing Sciences (NCMS). Phase I of the project used software from [Cohesia](#), [UGS Corp.](#), and [BCT](#) along with consulting services by Manufacturing Resources Inc. (MRI), industry participation by GE Aircraft Engines, and DoD participation by the U.S. Army, Air Force, and Navy, to analyze the complete product life cycle, including change management and repair and maintenance, of a GE F114 engine components. BCT Inspector was found to improve productivity between 70 and 80 percent over manual methods of characteristic identification and extraction for both first time parts and design changes.

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Flomerics Releases Version 7.3 of EFD Engineering Fluid Dynamics Analysis Software

January 2007

Flomerics Ltd. has announced the release of the latest version of its Engineering Fluid Dynamics (EFD) analysis software suite. Version 7.3 includes: 64-bit processor support for increased analysis power, speed and user convenience; support of CATIA V5 R17 in both 32- and 64-bit formats; and an integrated interface with MSC Patran for finite element analysis. The new capabilities are now available for EFD.Pro - a fully embedded CFD solution within the Pro/ENGINEER environment; EFD.V5, - a fully embedded CFD solution within the CATIA environment, and EFD.Lab – a general-purpose fluid analysis tool that includes a built-in solid modeler. The EFD product family is used by manufacturers to develop and optimize various products within aerospace, automotive, HVAC, valves and regulator, medical device as well as fire protection industries.

We strongly believe that for fluid flow analysis to become an integral part of the design process it must use native 3D CAD data and not force you to change your design process” said Ivo Weinhold, line of business manager, Engineering Fluid Dynamics, at Flomerics. “By offering access to the right information at the right time, version 7.3 empowers the engineer to focus on developing good quality products as opposed to transferring data back and forth.”

Technical Notes for Version 7.3

Among the most significant features of version 7.3 are:

64-bit processor support: The EFD family can now be run on 64-bit machines. As a result, users will be able to analyze very large problems, those generally regarded as too large or too time consuming, directly on the desktop. With a scalable solution that can readily adapt to user needs, the EFD suite can now be deployed across the enterprise.

Integrated interface with MSC Patran: To help engineers solve design problems involving both fluid and structural issues, EFD results can now be applied as loads for structural analysis inside Patran, the popular MSC pre- and postprocessor. Fully integrated into Patran, the automated interface drastically reduces the amount of time necessary for updating analysis models.

Support of CATIA V5 R17: To ensure full compatibility with the latest release of CATIA, EFD.V5 now offers full support of CATIA V5 R17 in both 32- and 64-bit formats. Therefore organizations who have standardized on CATIA V5 R17 can maintain an up-to-date development platform.

EFD 7.3 is available for immediate shipment. Interested readers may download their choice of free EFD software demos at: www.nika.biz



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FullTilt Announces the Release of Perfect Product Suite 6.0

15 January 2007

[FullTilt Solutions, Inc.](#) announced the release and availability of Perfect Product Suite 6.0. Perfect Product Suite 6.0 aggregates and manages product information which provides businesses with a unified, comprehensive view of their product information that allows them to increase their ecommerce revenue, support multi-channel sales strategies, increase collaboration and reduce costs.

Release 6.0 continues to expand capabilities provided by Perfect Product Suite™ through its metadata-driven model that allows users to define and extend data definitions including definitions specific to trading partners. The release provides new and improved automation and user control specifically addressing extensible, custom workflow; the ability to conditionally route information; capabilities to develop scripts for comprehensive editing and transformation; the ability to define attributes specific to product relationships; comprehensive price information management and powerful new reporting capabilities.

“With our 6.0 release, we are continuing our leadership in this market with functionality that meets our customers’ needs,” says Tim Wallace, CEO, FullTilt. “One of the reasons that we have the highest level of customer satisfaction is that we create our product roadmap with our customers’ input and we deliver what we promise. This release enhances our customers’ ability to scale beyond tens of millions of items and provides powerful new functionality that will continue to provide our customers with competitive advantage. “

Among the new functionality the 6.0 release provides:

- An extensible workflow process to insert specific business logic and rules to properly manage exceptions during the often complex data import process.
- Data validation and transformation capabilities based on source and target specific business rules for optimally processing product data synchronization internally and externally between manufacturers, distributors and retailers.
- Price management capabilities including proper management of multiple price, cost, and margin data with comprehensive exception processing including internal and external notifications and alerts.
- Improved reporting capabilities providing management and key business users’ better visibility to product information and key business processes.

About FullTilt’s Perfect Product Suite

Perfect Product Suite™ automates and manages enterprise product information processes to enable business-to-business commerce.

Perfect Product Suite provides a comprehensive Product Information Management (PIM) solution that addresses specific business and industry needs. This PIM solution helps to assemble an accurate,

consistent centralized internal repository that can link critical business information --- including items, locations, trading partners, organization and terms of trade.

Sophisticated workflow features help guide users through the steps, staging and approvals for product life-cycle processes --- such as new product introductions, campaign launches and end-of-life efforts for a product. The business rules required for these complex processes are easily built into the FullTilt Workflow Manager Module by users enabling the system to reflect your best practices. Perfect Product Suite also delivers rich product information to web sites, e-commerce applications, print catalogs, marketing collateral, kiosks, as well as electronically to customers and partners.

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Lattice Technology Signs Gedas of the Czech Republic as a New Reseller

18 January 2007

Lattice Technology, Inc. announced the addition of Gedas of the Czech Republic as a new reseller.

The signing of Gedas of the Czech Republic as a new reseller for Lattice Technology is significant, as the two international powerhouses are in the business of efficiently optimizing processes. The 3D software and XVL technology provided by Lattice Technology benefits a wide variety of industries including: automotive, manufacturing, architecture, aerospace, high-tech, consumer electronics, as well as medical. The connection of Lattice3D and Gedas of the Czech Republic opens further opportunities for businesses worldwide to create interactive 3D documents.

The worldwide reach of Lattice Technology extends to over 250,000 users. The XVL technology, well versed in 3D publishing and digital manufacturing, will allow Gedas to continue with a reputation of providing clientele with tools necessary for efficiency and success.

"I am excited to be working with an established industry leader like Gedas," said Bill Barnes, General Manager, Lattice Technology. "Their proven ability to supply and support leading technology solutions to manufacturing companies makes them the ideal partner to grow Lattice Technology business in the region."

Gedas is a world-renowned global information technology service provider with a unique brand of full service solutions. Gedas has positioned itself in a leading role in the automotive and manufacturing industries, as well as logistic processes.

"Lattice Technology will allow Gedas to continue to deliver our promise to clientele of providing innovative high-performance information technology to effectively achieve their business goals," said David Musil, Chief Executive of automotive division, gedas CR. "Reselling Lattice Technology will substantiate our ability to effectively provide our clientele with efficient high-performance technology."

For more information please visit: <http://www.lattice3d.com> and <http://www.gedas.com>.

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Lectra Unveils Modaris 3D Fit, the Most Powerful Virtual Prototyping Solution in the Apparel Industry

18 January 2007

[Lectra](#) announced the release of Modaris 3D Fit, its state-of-the-art 3D virtual prototyping solution for pattern makers, designers, product developers, and marketing and sales teams.

The integration of 3D prototyping and product visualization into the collections development and marketing cycle will enable apparel professionals to shorten lead times and reduce development costs while facilitating collaborative work and decision making between all participants involved.

Prototyping as a key factor in the success of a collection

"More than half of a garment's cost depends on decisions made during the design and development phase. Thus, prototyping plays an important part in the success of a collection," according to Astrid Marlier, Lectra's product manager for pattern making and marker making for the fashion market. "Modaris 3D Fit provides fashion companies with an additional competitive advantage."

Modaris 3D Fit represents a major CAD breakthrough. This innovative solution will help reduce the number of physical prototypes required and facilitate communication inside the company and between brands and subcontractors, regardless of their number and location.

Control and validation of garment design and fit, and collections content

Associating fabric information (with a library of 120 fabrics and their mechanical characteristics), 2D patterns, and 3D virtual mannequins (standard and configurable), Modaris 3D Fit enables simulation and realistic visualization of three-dimensional garments, with their various fabrics, motifs and color ranges. It allows garment fits to be checked for ease, balance, sewing lines, proportions in various fabrics and sizes, and the fine-tuning of product specifications. Taking into account the creative constraints of the designer and the production constraints of the pattern maker, Modaris 3D Fit optimizes the review of virtual prototypes and decision making prior to realization of physical prototypes.

Modaris 3D Fit, which has undergone conclusive testing in its different applications for women, men and children, will be released in February 2007. This innovation is the outcome of eight years of research and development, and capitalizes on more than 30 years of experience that Lectra has acquired in the worldwide fashion market and its various businesses. It also demonstrates Lectra's unique and thorough knowledge of human body measurement and 3D representation, as well as fabrics.

A value-added solution associated with expert services

In line with Lectra's strategy of accompanying its customers in "project mode," Modaris 3D Fit will be coupled with expert services. These services—such as customer process audit and additional parameter-

setting sessions on fabric characterization and specific 3D mannequins—are all supported by Lectra's solutions experts and consultants.

Paired with Lectra's world-renowned pattern-design solutions (Modaris and PGS), Modaris 3D Fit enables apparel professionals to manage the constant acceleration of collections and customization of styles. Modaris 3D Fit completes Lectra's offering for design, development, manufacturing and product lifecycle management (PLM).

A solution that highlights Lectra's strategy

"Technology—and from now on 3D—is a key to stimulating the fashion sector," said Daniel Harari, Lectra's CEO. "By evolving each of our business applications, such as our product development and pattern-making solutions, in close partnership with our customers, Lectra demonstrates its ongoing commitment to fashion companies, around the world, to respond to their strategic challenges and ensure their success."

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Mentor Graphics Nucleus POSIX Software Adds Support for Networking Applications

16 January 2007

Mentor Graphics Corporation announced that the new version of the Nucleus® POSIX software now includes support for networking applications. Developers of embedded network applications who need a POSIX-compliant application programming interface (API) can use the Nucleus POSIX software in combination with the Nucleus NET TCP/IP networking stack in order to create POSIX-compliant applications.

Many companies have designed their applications around the universal system APIs provided by the IEEE 1003.13-2003 Standard Application Environment Profiles. Using standard APIs allows these companies to easily migrate to a different operating system (OS) if the need arises. This version of the Nucleus POSIX software gives these companies the option to quickly and easily migrate to the Nucleus OS.

“Unlike the market for operating systems for PCs, the embedded OS market is highly competitive. Companies will switch operating systems with a new design that places additional requirements on the OS. With the Nucleus POSIX software, customers can move their applications from their legacy operating system to the Nucleus OS with minimal investment,” said Glen Johnson, product marketing manager, Embedded Systems Division, Mentor Graphics.

The Nucleus POSIX software includes the basic POSIX library, along with the POSIX Asynchronous I/O library, POSIX File System Library, POSIX Run-Time library, and POSIX Net library. Nucleus products supported under the Nucleus POSIX software include the Nucleus PLUS RTOS, Nucleus FILE file management software, the Nucleus File Abstraction Layer (FAL) software, the Nucleus MMU memory

management software, the Nucleus USB software, the Nucleus Inter-Process Communication (IPC) software, the Nucleus DDL dynamic download software, and now the Nucleus NET stack. Together, the Nucleus POSIX software and the Nucleus NET stack give developers a complete, integrated networking solution in a well-known programmable environment.

Pricing and Availability

The Nucleus embedded software is sold in source code format and without royalty fees. Licenses for the Nucleus POSIX software begin at U.S. \$3,495.00. For more information, please contact Mentor Graphics embedded systems division at 800-468-6853 or embedded_info@mentor.com.

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Mentor Graphics Nucleus I2C Software Helps Integrate On-Board Devices

17 January 2007

Mentor Graphics Corporation announced that the Nucleus® I2C software is now available for developing applications needing access to on-board peripherals connected via the I2C bus. Demand is increasing, particularly in convergent consumer electronics devices, for using the low-cost I2C bus to connect peripherals, such as liquid crystal displays (LCDs), light emitting diodes (LEDs), and non-volatile random access memory (NVRAM), with the central processing unit (CPU). Developers of these devices that use the Nucleus RTOS now have a robust Internet Protocol (IP) software tool to drive the I2C hardware.

Today's consumer electronic devices increasingly require more peripherals. With the I2C bus technology, adding additional peripherals is now easier and more manageable than ever before. The Nucleus I2C software, when used in conjunction with products from the Nucleus RTOS portfolio, provides a comprehensive solution for device integration and communication for a wide range of applications. These include consumer electronics, medical devices, industrial control, automotive infotainment and mobile platforms.

“As peripheral devices become more compact on circuit boards, we are seeing products containing not one or two peripherals, but several,” said Glen Johnson, product marketing manager, Embedded Systems Division, Mentor Graphics. “The Nucleus I2C software allows the I2C bus to seamlessly integrate the connections between the CPU and the on-board peripherals. No longer do application developers need to worry about device integration capabilities on the latest platforms.”

The Nucleus I2C software is an embedded implementation of the I2C Bus Specification Version 2.1. The implementation provides the user with two sets of APIs. The first, termed as automated APIs, automates the start, transmit/receive and stop functions for the developer and provides the result. The second, termed as fine control APIs, gives developers full control on the behavior of an I2C node's communication. This allows the developer to design an application according to its requirements.

The Nucleus I2C software supports both 7-bit and 10-bit addressing schemes according to specification, along with special address schemes. The Nucleus I2C software stack also provides support for handling an indefinite number of communication channels (data transfer between master and slaves on multiple I2C networks).

Pricing and Availability

The Nucleus embedded software is sold in source code format and without royalty fees. Licenses for the Nucleus I2C software begins at U.S. \$7,495. For more information, please contact Mentor Graphics embedded systems division at 800-468-6853 or embedded_info@mentor.com.

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PTC Extends Windchill® to Support Microsoft SQL Server 2005: Enhances Infrastructure Options and Reduces Total Cost of Ownership for Customers

17 January 2007

PTC announced that its Windchill solution for content and process management will support Microsoft SQL Server 2005. A Gold Certified Partner in the Microsoft Partner Program, PTC is committed to delivering solutions that maximize the value of its customers' technology investments.

Increasing complexity, heightened competition and the need to optimize product development processes in a globally distributed environment are common challenges for many manufacturing companies. Windchill, an integral component of the PTC Product Development System (PDS), delivers the collaboration and data management capabilities needed to speed time-to-market, increase product quality, and reduce product development costs. The ability to deploy Windchill on SQL Server 2005 will allow customers using the Microsoft database to take advantage of Windchill for strategic product lifecycle management (PLM) initiatives.

“SQL Server 2005 provides a powerful, scalable and secure database platform that complements the powerful content and process management capabilities of PTC’s Windchill,” said Don Richardson, Director, Global PLM Industry Strategy at Microsoft Corporation. “Microsoft is pleased to work with Gold Certified, global partners such as PTC that demonstrate an ongoing commitment to help customers achieve success in their product development initiatives.”

“Speed, scalability, and cost effectiveness are critical to product development organizations of all sizes,” said Brian Shepherd, division vice president, product management, PTC. “Our close relationship with Microsoft has allowed PTC to deliver these attributes to our customers via Windchill running on Microsoft SQL Server 2005. The combination is an outstanding system for product development and innovation.”

Availability

Initial support for SQL Server 2005 is currently scheduled to be available in April 2007 in the next maintenance release of Windchill (Windchill 8.0 M040), and is expected to include all nine Windchill supported languages. Windchill will support the SQL Server 2005 Enterprise, Standard and Workgroup Editions. The timing of any product release, including any features or functionality, is subject to change at PTC's discretion.

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PTC Releases FlexPLM™ 6.1 To Improve Quality Management For Apparel Industry; Enhanced Retail, Footwear and Apparel Solution Adds Management of Testing Processes

15 January 2007

[PTC](#) announced the general availability of its Retail, Footwear and Apparel solution, FlexPLM version 6.1. In addition to the FlexPLM solution capabilities leading brands already rely on for product lifecycle management, this version delivers specific enhancements for managing material and product testing processes and gives organizations the ability to control product variations of new product lines by providing a single point of visibility to key testing conditions and methods on selected material. As a result, a consistent, repeatable testing environment can be developed and apparel manufacturers are able to improve product quality, reduce costs typically associated with ineffective products, and improve time-to-market.

For every new product design there are specific testing requirements that must be achieved in order to meet corporate, customer and regulatory demands. Product components like zippers, linings and pockets, as well as product characteristics like material durability, ability to repel water and flame retardant levels each have different testing procedures. These challenges can be further complicated by custom requirements for products sold globally.

FlexPLM, PTC's Retail, Footwear and Apparel solution, focuses on solving these challenges. The solution leverages the power and scalability of Windchill®, PTC's web-based product data management and collaboration solution, to enhance the product development process. FlexPLM is the only enterprise Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) solution that is Web-based, fully configurable, scalable and able to manage complex workflow processes of a trend-based retail, footwear and apparel industry. The PTC solution enables apparel organizations to manage the interdependent relationships among material suppliers, testing service providers and other third party vendors in order to facilitate communication among the groups. It offers a library of both current and historical performance test information to support product development, provides a vehicle to report testing results to the entire supply chain, and provides valuable feedback on testing timelines in order to support line planning decisions impacted by the material approval status.

Highlights of this release designed to improve testing processes and quality management include:

- Testing specification module for materials and products with enhanced functionality to manage the development and testing of materials and product performance.
- Comprehensive library of building blocks for the test process that include testing properties, methods, conditions and standards that can be defined and aggregated depending on material and product type.
- Reusable test templates that can be utilized among product lines and variable material selections.
- Enhanced collaboration capabilities between supplier, design center and customer.

“The apparel industry requires a solution that supports quality management initiatives by managing complex testing processes among global supply chains,” said Kathleen Mitford, vice president vertical market strategy, PTC. “The latest version of our Retail, Footwear and Apparel solution builds on our commitment to continually develop scalable, sustainable technology to manage the complexities of the product development process in this industry. Organizations that implement PTC solutions are able to have more control over the quality of their products.”

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SCATE Technologies Joins Dassault Systèmes' CAA V5 Adopter Program

18 January 2007

SCATE® Technologies, Inc. announced that it has joined the Dassault Systèmes CAA V5 Adopter Program.

The agreement between SCATE® and Dassault Systèmes means that SCATE® will now be able to offer SCATE's MVV® (Multi-Vector Vision) software and services suite to CATIA® V5 users. SCATE released MVV® in January 2006 for the NX® (previously Unigraphics®) CAD platform, and it has helped some corporations save well over \$500 million by reducing design and development costs, and by creating cost avoidance opportunities. The agreement with Dassault Systèmes will dramatically increase the market opportunities for MVV® by making it available for the tremendously popular CATIA® V5 platform.

Multi-Vector Vision is used by organizations that have analysis and governmental reporting requirements for vision and obscuration studies such as cockpit/instrument panel visibility, angular forward vision, 3D visual mass, and day/night visibility. MVV® is revolutionary in that it “quantifies” and “ranks” various designs for their visual effectiveness in a completely virtual setting using SCATE's trademarked VMU® (Visual Mass Unit) unit of measure. MVV® performs studies on raw computer-aided design (CAD) data, thus enabling the user to catch vision and ergonomic design flaws before they reach engineering and prototype phases, or worse... the production phase.

“By becoming a CAA V5 Adopter, SCATE has gained access to the complete CATIA® V5 development environment and all of the tools and support needed to ensure seamless integration with CATIA® V5”

said Steve Sadler, SCATE® President and CEO. “While the NX® market is substantial, the CATIA® V5 market is far larger, and dramatically expands the potential customer base for MVV®” added Sadler.

For more information, please visit: <http://www.scate.com/services/mvv>.

SCATE® Technologies, Inc. is a privately-held Orion, Michigan-based technology company that focuses on making complex software applications simple to use and applicable to any industry. These technologies are changing the way companies do business by saving them time, costs, and enabling them to rapidly capture and share best practices.

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Schott Systeme Showcase Advanced 3D Modelling

January 2007

Highlighting one of several advanced 3D modelling tools included within their CAD CAM software ‘Pictures by PC 3.2’, German developer Schott Systeme have published a new video outlining how ‘3D Bending’ can help customers in the fields of mechanical, concept and jewelry design.

Advanced Deformation

Differing to the usual modelling tools found within 3D CAD software, such as extrude, rotate and skinning, 3D bending forms part of a set of advanced ‘deformation’ functions. Simple but very powerful, the user needs only enter a bend ‘radius’ and/or bend ‘angle’, in addition to the bend direction and neutral axis.

Real World Applications

Obvious applications for such a tool include the creation of sheet metal parts, with the bending of flanges and lips. However Schott Systeme are using their latest CAD CAM ‘Tricks n Tips’ video to showcase some more imaginative uses of the bending tool. Featured examples include jewelry design and the transformation of intricate 2D bracelet and ring designs into 3D sculpted forms. In addition, concept designers will also get a glimpse of how such a tool can help in the initial stages of product design.

Bending Video Demo - <http://www.schott-systeme.com/en/CADCAMtricktip-bending-en.htm>

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Si2’s Low Power Coalition Receives Common Power Format Parser Source Code Enabling Technology to Speed Development

17 January 2007

In response to a Request for Technology issued last week, the Low Power Coalition (LPC) of Silicon Integration Initiative (Si2) announced that Cadence Design Systems has provided full source code for a

Common Power Format (CPF) version 1.0 parser to the LPC. The parser, which is TCL based, will enable LPC members to more quickly bring products to market that support CPF, which was approved as a Si2 Specification last week.

“As a member of the LPC, STMicroelectronics is pleased with the rapid progress and approval of the CPF 1.0 Specification, as well as the contribution of the CPF Parser,” says Philippe Magarshack, group vice president, Central CAD and Design Solutions general manager, STMicroelectronics. “The CPF Parser will facilitate the evaluation of the specification and the integration of a coherent low-power design solution for our key applications in cellphone baseband and application processors, connectivity, data storage, and imaging.”

“The CPF parser donation is evidence of the strong technology behind the CPF specification,” said Vic Kulkarni, President & CEO of Sequence Design. “We intend on taking advantage of the CPF parser capabilities as we further develop our leading-edge tools for power-aware SoC designs.”

“Atrenta welcomes the contribution of a CPF parser to the Si2 Low Power Coalition,” said Ajoy Bose, president & CEO of Atrenta. “We are actively participating in driving power standards so our customers benefit from a simple industry-wide low-power design flow. Availability of this reference implementation parser will ease the addition of CPF support to our SpyGlass Low Power and Power Estimation products.”

“With the approval of CPF 1.0 last week, users have spoken and CPF is a reality,” said Jan Willis, senior vice president of Industry Alliances at Cadence. “Now is the time for the industry to converge on one standard through Si2. Our parser submission to the Si2 Low Power Coalition will help accelerate adoption of CPF across the industry.”

“Si2 is pleased with this donation to the LPC as it will allow companies to provide support for CPF in their tools more rapidly,” says Steve Schulz, president and CEO of Si2. “Validation of the concepts embedded in the CPF specification can only be accomplished by deploying tools in real low power design flows.”

The CPF Parser will be available from Si2 to all LPC members.

About the Low Power Coalition (LPC)

The Low-Power Coalition (LPC) will deliver enhanced capabilities in low-power Integrated Circuit (IC) design flows in particular relating to specifications of low-power design intent, architectural tradeoffs, logical/physical implementation, design verification and testability. Members include: Apache Design Solutions; ArchPro Design Automation Inc.; Atrenta; Azuro (UK) Ltd.; Cadence Design Systems, Inc., ChipVision Design Systems AG; Golden Gate Technology; IBM, Intel Corporation, Magma Design Automation, Inc., NXP Semiconductors; Sequence Design, Inc.; STMicroelectronics, Texas Instruments, Virage Logic.

About Si2

[Si2](#) is an organization of industry-leading semiconductor, systems, EDA, and manufacturing companies focused on improving the way integrated circuits are designed and manufactured in order to speed time to market, reduce costs, and meet the challenges of sub-micron design. Si2 is uniquely positioned to enable collaboration through a strong implementation focus driven by its member companies. Si2 focuses on developing practical technology solutions to industry challenges. Si2 represents over 100 companies involved in all parts of the silicon supply chain throughout the world.

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Top Systems Delivers Punching Functionality in T-FLEX CAM

15 January 2007

[Top Systems](#) introduced a new module of [T-FLEX](#) CAM software for CNC turret punch presses. T-FLEX CAM's punching module includes an entire set of commands for interactive insertion and positioning of single tool hits or cycles with full support of micro-joint placement and editing, including support for special tools. When a new tool is created with T-FLEX CAM punching module, the definition includes all of the information necessary to provide the greatest control over tool use. The tool-path can be reviewed at any time with tool-path simulation. Tool hits can be stepped through one at a time, by tool sequence, or full simulation. T-FLEX CAM provides automatic tool-path optimization to minimize CNC machine run-time.

"We have a very strong and dedicated user base in Russia. They constantly tell us how much they enjoy using T-FLEX CAM, especially its advanced parametric features based on T-FLEX CAD functionality", said Anatoliy Kalinin, T-FLEX CAM project director of Top Systems. "T-FLEX CAM is a powerful tool for programming CNC punch presses and other types of machines. Yet many people outside Russia have never known about T-FLEX CAM because until recent time our software was not translated into other languages. I believe the latest steps of our company aimed at expanding its activities on the foreign markets will change this".

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