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Acquisitions

Autodesk Announces Intent to Acquire Electrical Computer-Aided Design ECSCAD Technology from Mensch und Maschine Group

20 August 2008

Further enhancing its Digital Prototyping Solution for manufacturing, Autodesk, Inc. announced that it has signed a definitive agreement with Mensch und Maschine Deutschland GmbH, a member of the Mensch und Maschine group, to acquire substantially all of the assets -- including the ECSCAD product

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line -- of Elektro-CAE-Software GmbH (ECS), a solution provider of electrical computer-aided design (CAD) software. Terms of the acquisition were not disclosed.

The agreement shows Autodesk's commitment to creating the most comprehensive and versatile electrical CAD software offering in the market, and is expected to expand the reach of [Autodesk](#) electrical CAD solutions to industry segments in the European marketplace that rely on database-driven methods for their designs. The acquisition complements AutoCAD Electrical software, which is used to create accurate schematic-based design. As both product lines are built on the AutoCAD platform, Autodesk will be positioned to enhance functionality and performance for both ECSCAD and AutoCAD Electrical customers, and create even more powerful tools for electrical controls design. The transaction is expected to close in Q3 of Autodesk's fiscal year and is subject to customary closing conditions including regulatory approvals.

"Autodesk can better serve electrical controls designers in Europe by offering the best solution for even the largest-scale projects," said Robert "Buzz" Kross, Autodesk Manufacturing Solutions senior vice president. "The addition of ECS technologies enhances the Autodesk solution for Digital Prototyping and helps a larger audience to create complete digital prototypes that integrate both mechanical and electrical designs."

"Extending Autodesk electrical CAD capabilities with Elektro-CAE-Software solutions opens the door to new and enhanced workflows currently unavailable from either drawing-centric or database-driven electrical CAD software alone," said Guenter Manz, Managing Director, Elektro-CAE-Software.

"Together, ECS and Autodesk solutions will give controls designers the ability to choose the tools and methods that best fit their design requirements."

About Mensch und Maschine Software

Mensch und Maschine Software SE (M+M) is a leading European supplier of Computer-Aided Design and Manufacturing (CAD/CAM) software with locations in Germany, Austria, Switzerland, France, Italy, UK, Belgium, Sweden, Poland, Romania, USA, Japan and APAC. M+M's diversified product range includes CAD/CAM solutions in different price / performance areas for key industries (e.g. mechanical and electrical engineering, architecture, geography). The company was founded in 1984 and is headquartered in Wessling near Munich. In 2007, group sales of EUR 212.9 million were achieved with 327 employees.

About Elektro-CAE-Software

ECS was founded in 1993 and is located in Donzdorf next to Stuttgart. ECS is one of the leading suppliers for databases oriented ECAD systems. The main focus of ECS is historically the mechanical engineering market but recently the number of users of energy suppliers and plant construction companies are growing. These customers use ECSCAD for electrical engineering and development of larger plants and benefit from the database oriented online multiuser concept of ECSCAD.

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Cadence Withdraws Proposal to Acquire Mentor Graphics

15 August 2008

Cadence Design Systems, Inc. announced that it has withdrawn its proposal to acquire all of the outstanding shares of Mentor Graphics Corporation common stock and that its Board of Directors has

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authorized a \$500 million increase to Cadence's stock repurchase program. The Company said:

Cadence also announced today that its Board of Directors has expanded the Company's authorized share repurchase by up to an additional \$500 million, subject to market conditions. Together with the Company's current share repurchase program, Cadence's total share repurchase authorization is now approximately \$912 million.

Cadence will repurchase the shares from time to time for cash in open market transactions or in privately negotiated transactions in accordance with applicable federal securities laws. The timing and amount of the repurchases will be determined by the company's management based on their evaluation of market conditions, share price and other factors. The stock repurchase program may be suspended or discontinued at any time.

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CIMdata News

CIMdata Reviews Siemens PLM Software's Velocity Series Portfolio "Product Lifecycle Management for Mid-Sized Companies"

21 August 2008

CIMdata announces that they have published a new review of Siemens PLM Software's Velocity Series Portfolio. This review provides an overall description of the market dynamics that drive mid-market companies to invest in PLM, CIMdata's assessment of the Velocity Series Portfolio program, and a brief review of experiences from a number of Velocity partners. The paper provides a perspective on the program since its inception, its current status, and observations about its progress. This is an assessment of the entire Velocity Series Portfolio program and is not focused on any individual component of it.

Ed Miller, President of CIMdata explained, "To become more effective, more innovative, and more successful, businesses around the world are investing in PLM at increasing levels." He added that while PLM has been implemented mostly by the world's larger organizations, "Mid-sized enterprises, faced with the same challenges as larger organizations, are turning to PLM to improve their competitiveness." He pointed out that "while the need is similar, the solutions and approaches that are required vary."

Mr. Miller further explained that most PLM solutions targeted at mid-sized and smaller companies have not included support for a full PLM approach. He said, "Typically, PLM-related offerings from the majority of technology suppliers have only included individual applications. As a result, customers are left responsible for finding all of the appropriate components that fit into their overall PLM strategy, acquiring them from different suppliers, and integrating them into a coherent PLM solution. Mid-sized companies simply do not have the resources to research and assemble such solutions in this way." Mr. Miller added, "Siemens understands that and with The Velocity portfolio they intend to support broad PLM strategies for mid-sized companies. Siemens believes that mid-sized companies are ready for PLM, and they are attempting to satisfy that demand."

CIMdata believes that mid-sized companies can benefit tremendously from PLM strategies and solutions, and that the lessons learned by mid-sized companies in their adoption of PLM will benefit all enterprises, regardless of size. Investments from mid-sized companies continue to grow faster than investments from larger companies as PLM solutions become more focused and tailored for them.

For more information please contact CIMdata at +1(734) 668-9922. Copies of the Program Review of

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the Siemens PLM Software's Velocity Series Portfolio are available at no cost through the [CIMdata](#) website.

About PLM

CIMdata defines PLM as a strategic business approach that applies a consistent set of business solutions in support of the collaborative creation, management, dissemination, and use of product definition information across the extended enterprise from concept to end of life—integrating people, processes, business systems, and information. PLM forms the product information backbone for a company and its extended enterprise.

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Only Five More Days Remain to Vote in CIMdata's Latest Opinion Poll!

Have you established formal metrics that you use to track improvement resulting from use of your PLM solution? [Vote Now](#)

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Company News

Altair Appoints Jean-Pierre Roux as President, Altair Canada

21 August 2008

[Altair Engineering, Inc.](#) announced that Jean-Pierre Roux will be named President of Altair Engineering Canada effective September 1, 2008. Roux will have complete responsibility for Altair operations across Canada.

Roux is an engineering graduate of INSA (Institut National des Sciences Appliquees de Lyon). He has been active in engineering design and finite element analysis since joining Mecalog, a French engineering company, in 1996. From 2001-2005, Roux was team leader on projects for a number of automobile companies, including BMW and the Automotive Exterior division of Plastic Omnium, a Tier One automotive supplier. He rejoined Mecalog in 2005 with a focus on aerospace clients. Mecalog was purchased by Altair in 2006. Roux is currently Altair Lead Account Manager for a major European rail industry corporation.

"Jean-Pierre's extensive experience in working as Account Manager with leading European companies will be of great value to our Canadian customers," said Robert Little, whom Roux will replace as President, Altair Canada. "He brings to the job not only account management skills but hands-on experience in the development of parts and subsystems."

Little is now in transition to head up Altair's new subsidiary solidThinking Inc., which markets a leading industrial design and styling software used by many major-brand companies.

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Altair Ports RADIOSS, MotionSolve, and OptiStruct CAE Applications to Sun's Solaris 10 OS on X86 Platform

20 August 2008

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Altair Engineering, Inc. announced the company has now ported solver solutions to Sun's Solaris™ 10 Operating System (OS) on x86 systems. The ported versions of RADIOSS, OptiStruct and MotionSolve are scheduled to be available by the end of this year.

"This agreement affirms our long-term relationship with Sun and our desire to work with them to give our customers powerful CAE solution choices," said Michael Humphrey, Altair vice president of partner programs. "We're also very pleased that Sun is a global Gold Sponsor for our HyperWorks Technology Conference (HTC) series this year, which will be held at locations around the world from July to November."

Altair has already modified the MPP and SMP versions of RADIOSS, as well as the OptiStruct and MotionSolve codes, to run on the Solaris 10 OS and provide compatibility with Solaris containers and future releases of the operating system. Altair has also received hardware and technical support from Sun.

"Sun is very pleased to collaborate with Altair in enabling HyperWorks users to take advantage of the Solaris 10 OS," said Steve Kimmey, HPC Community Manager of Sun Microsystems. "Running HyperWorks on the Solaris 10 OS gives engineers and designers a strong combination of reliability and performance that supports innovation and productivity."

More information on the Altair's products offered on Sun technology is available at <http://www.sun.com/altair>. Additional information on the Altair 2008 HTC series can be found at <http://www.altairhtc.com>.

RADIOSS, a linear/non-linear finite-element solver, is widely used for dynamic simulations. OptiStruct facilitates analysis by predicting optimal shapes early in the design process. MotionSolve provides powerful multi-body systems analysis based on a revolutionary new formulation technique.

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Canadian Software Producer Wants to Take a More Active Role; MKS is Now ProSTEP iViP Member

18 August 2008

ProSTEP iViP continues to grow. The most recent member is the Canadian software producer MKS, with its core business in Application Lifecycle Management. MKS' solutions allow industry and IT-companies an integrated management of their software development activities.

Manager Thomas Hornek expects additional benefits for his customers from the membership. "We would like to take a more active role in some problem matters of the automotive environment and bring our special knowledge to the table", says Hornek. "At this time our focus lies on the projected standardization and implementation activities for the Requirements Management exchange format RIF."

With its primary product MKS Integrity the company supports all software development activities with one application, what leads to improved cooperation and higher productivity for their customer. MKS operates worldwide, with offices in North America, Europe and Asia.

About the ProSTEP iViP Association

The ProSTEP iViP Association is an international branch-specific community comprising leading companies in the automotive and aerospace industries, system vendors and research institutes. The aim of the ProSTEP iViP Association is to find solutions for the challenges facing the manufacturing

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industry as a result of networked collaboration in a worldwide development network.

A concept based on a coherent, cross-organizational and cross-domain view of data, processes and systems provides a solid foundation for meeting these challenges. The Association's five main areas of focus reflect this approach: process management, system integration, product data standardization, engineering collaboration and knowledge transfer.

The ProSTEP iViP Association is headquartered in Darmstadt, Germany, and was founded in October 1993 by 38 industrial companies and a number of system vendors as part of the German STEP initiative. Members of the ProSTEP iViP Association currently include about 200 companies and organizations from 17 nations.

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Centric Taps PLM Industry Veteran Sachin Misra to Head Client Services Organization

20 August 2008

[Centric Software](#) announced that Sachin Misra has assumed the role of Vice President, Client Services at Centric. In this role, Misra will be responsible for services delivery and will report to Dave Guercio, who leads Centric's worldwide sales and professional services organizations as executive vice president of sales and client services. Misra brings to his role more than 15 years of experience in the PLM industry, and deep domain expertise in the architecture and delivery of PLM solutions, and in the reengineering of enterprise business processes.

“For the most part, our target markets are still struggling to bring speed, efficiency, and worldwide collaboration to business processes that are currently sustained on spreadsheets, emails and faxes,” said Guercio. “The adoption of Centric's powerful and comprehensive PLM solutions enables customers to achieve their business objectives, while it simultaneously transforms and empowers their organizations. Sachin's broad abilities to lead the implementation and business transformation processes is a tremendous asset for Centric and for our customers' successes.”

Prior to joining Centric, Misra was vice president of services and strategy at Valedge Solutions. At Valedge he was engaged as the Chief PLM Solution and Integration Architect and led customer deployments, including the global deployment of PLM at a high profile, consumer-driven Fortune 150 company. In this role, Misra was responsible for reengineering business processes for unparalleled growth, and designing SOA-based enterprise integrations to a variety of systems.

Prior to Valedge, Misra worked in various executive, services, and sales and marketing roles at leading PLM and content management solutions companies including Agile Software (now Oracle Agile), Matrix One (now Dassault Systemes Enovia), Aras, The Savo Group, and Workgroup Technologies. At these companies, Sachin played key roles in designing and implementing enterprise PLM strategies and solutions at fast moving, high growth, Fortune 1000 companies in the consumer electronics, contract manufacturing, medical device, and networking industries.

“Centric's enterprise PLM software offers the collaborative capabilities, ease of use, rapid implementation, comprehensive functionality, and enterprise-level value which are critical to customers in the apparel, retail and other fast-moving consumer goods industries,” said Misra. “My initial focus will be to help our implementation teams and partners scale to meet the growing demands of our business. A shared vision of delighting our customers as a core tenet was the reason I decided to join Centric. This is an exciting time to be part of the Centric organization, and I'm thrilled to be the newest

member of our growing team.”

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First Trace Adds New Resource Web Pages

20 August 2008

[First Trace, Inc.](#) has recently added a number of new Web pages and online Resources to its Web site. The complete First Trace **[White Paper Series](#)** is now available to all site visitors for free downloading. **[KinnosaONE](#)** product family **[Data Sheets](#)** are available for online viewing or download. A number of **[Kinnosa](#)** product **[Data Sheets](#)** have been added along with some at-a-glance comparisons between Kinnosa and other document management solutions.

Visit the First Trace **[White Paper Series](#)** page to access any of our new installments free of charge. White Papers now available include:

- **[ONE Enterprise: Breaking Down the Wall](#)** – Get a copy of this free White Paper and learn how unified document management can break down the traditional "Wall" that has separated Engineering from the rest of the Enterprise.
- **[The 5 Pillars of Engineering Document Management](#)** – Register for this White Paper that describes the core functional areas you should consider when evaluating document management solutions for your Engineering Enterprise.
- **[5 Ways Engineering Document Management Can Turn Compliance into a Competitive Strength](#)** – Learn how a new class of document management solutions can automate regulatory compliance initiatives within the standard business process.
- **[6 Ways Document Management Solutions Have Evolved to Drive Profitability](#)** – Read how document management solutions have revolutionized data unification, process management and change management to provide greater value and drive profitability.

KinnosaONE is a family of software products, based on open standards, that resolves the problems companies face when they attempt to include engineering into a greater enterprise document strategy. We have built some new pages that describe the **[Architecture](#)** of this product family, the features and benefits these products can provide your engineering enterprise, the system requirements, and data sheets available for viewing or downloading. Visit the Web page about the 5 Stages of Document Management to learn where your firm fits into the evolution of document management and determine the KinnosaONE solution best suited to your needs.

First Trace has developed the first and only document management solution that breaks down the traditional wall between engineering and the greater enterprise: Kinnosa. Get the Kinnosa Data Sheet to learn more about this service-oriented architecture (SOA) solution that provides engineers the advanced document management functionality they require to manage complex CAD files, file relationships and the collaborative design process. The **[Features and Benefits](#)** page will highlight those advantages Kinnosa can provide your engineering enterprise.

Keep checking the **[First Trace Web Site](#)** regularly as we are constantly adding new information and resources for our site visitors.

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From Strength to Strength: Zuken Expands Infrastructure for E³.series Business

20 August 2008

Zuken's growth in the electrical, cabling, panel building and fluid/hydraulics areas of software design with E³.series has been going from strength to strength over the last two years. This growth is set to continue as Zuken introduces a new strategy that will guarantee the long term growth of this area of the business and provide the infrastructure to deliver stable innovative solutions across market sectors. At the core of this organic expansion strategy is the formation of the E³.series indirect sales team, headed up by Tony Cadwell, Zuken's former Northern Europe General Manager. In addition to supporting the existing global E³.series indirect sales channel, Cadwell's team will work on expanding the scope of the business through the development of partnerships with other major industry players.

"We already have a loyal and committed distributor network for E³.series, and with the recent rise in business, they are increasingly calling for more and more support to meet the growing market's demands. This newly formed team is here to deliver that assistance and provide an international strategy that facilitates solid partnerships for globalized integrated software solutions," said Cadwell.

Also high on the priority list for Zuken's E³.series organic expansion strategy is expanding the sales network. Discussions are already underway with various major OEMs to establish partnerships that will enable more companies to readily purchase and experience the benefits of E³.series. Zuken is also embarking upon a recruitment drive to sign up more distributors with specific market segment expertise.

To discuss the opportunities for working with Zuken as a third party distributor contact Tony Cadwell by emailing tony.cadwell@zuken.co.uk

For general information on E³.series visit <http://www.zuken.com/e3>

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Geometric Granted Patent for Shape-Based Search Technology

20 August 2008

Geometric Limited was granted a patent titled "Geometry based search method for 3D CAx/PDM repositories" by the US Patent and Trademark Office (Patent no. 7,397,473). The patent outlines algorithms and methods to locate 3D CAD models based on shape data, unlike text and attribute based search methods.

Geometric's 3DSearchIT® is a shape-based search engine technology, built on patented algorithms such as this. Shape-based search is an intuitive process and improves productivity by enabling and encouraging information reuse through product lifecycle stages such as design, planning, manufacturing, procurement and inventory management. By encouraging reuse, it also has a potential to reduce overall product development time and costs.

Geometric's Desktop Products and Technologies (DPT) business unit develops technologies and out-of-the-box (OOTB) software products that address productivity and knowledge management challenges for the engineering and manufacturing industry. The unit creates Intellectual Property and contributed close to 7% to the company's revenues in Q1 FY09. Geometric licenses these technologies to OEM partners besides using them to design and implement customized process solutions for industrial customers. In the past, Geometric has received several patents for its Feature Recognition technology which is licensed to several OEMs in the CAD, CAM and CAE space.

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For more information on 3DSearchIT please visit <http://3dsearchit.geometricglobal.com>.

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Global New Product Development Study White Paper Now Available

21 August 2008

International TechneGroup Incorporated (ITI) and iTiD Consulting Ltd. (iTiD) announce the availability of a white paper on new product development capabilities. The report details findings on organizations who participated in a 2007 study to measure new product development process effectiveness. The paper can be downloaded as follows:

http://www.itid.co.jp/english_iti/projects/whitepaper/index.html.

Future Studies

A continuation of the study is currently being conducted in North America and Europe. To date, survey data has been very successful collecting data from nearly 7,000 participants representing companies around the globe and throughout industry. The goal is to continue to expand the study globally in order to build upon the current findings.

Participating companies receive a report detailing study findings along with highlighted areas where improvement should be focused. Those interested in joining the study should contact:

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Invention Machine and IEEE Announce Strategic Collaboration

19 August 2008

Invention Machine and IEEE announced a strategic collaboration that will expand Invention Machine Goldfire Innovator's knowledge-base with 1.3 million technical documents housed within the IEEE Xplore® digital library. The ability to research additional solutions from various fields -- aerospace and biomedical engineering to electric power and consumer electronics -- will further empower Invention Machine customers and engineers to accelerate their product development process and drive sustainable innovation.

IEEE Xplore hosts 30% of the world's technical and engineering literature in computing, electrical engineering, and related technologies. Innovators using Invention Machine Goldfire Innovator® can now discover IEEE documents, including journal articles and conference proceedings, as part of the software's concept retrieval process. This will further aid in the innovation process by generating new ideas and solutions from various engineering functions. IEEE's scientific and technical articles are cited in United States Patent and Trademark Office patents four times as often as the nearest competitor, making IEEE a natural choice for innovators.

"Our clients depend on our technology to further their sustainable innovative agenda," said James Todhunter, chief technology officer, Invention Machine. "This partnership will allow engineers to tap into IEEE's vast knowledge-base and further empower them to design quality products that will help drive corporate profitability."

Invention Machine's innovation software helps enterprises innovate repeatedly, accelerating and sustaining their product innovation process. Its unique semantic technology translates ideas into commercialized products by generating and validating the right ideas the first time - whether it's creating a folding box spring, an engine for NASA or a new printer. With its broad knowledge-base and methodologies, Goldfire Innovator also serves as a virtual subject-matter expert, allowing users to tap into knowledge that is outside their domain of expertise. For example, carpet manufacturer Interface is using Goldfire Innovator to incorporate RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) technology into their floor tiles.

"[IEEE](#) supports scientific and technical professionals and technology that fosters innovation," said Barbara Lange, staff director, Product Management and Business Development, IEEE. "Access to IEEE content and expertise will allow researchers to retrieve precise concepts that will help them understand and solve problems even faster."

This collaboration will enable [Invention Machine](#) customers to discover relevant content from the IEEE Xplore digital library. New IEEE content will be automatically updated in Goldfire Innovator, ensuring that the software's knowledge-base is constantly up-to-date. IEEE members and subscribers to IEEE online collections through the digital library can link from Goldfire results to freely access the full text of the subscribed content. Non-subscribers may easily gain access to documents by purchasing an IEEE subscription, becoming an IEEE member or purchasing single articles online.

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New and Updated Autodesk® Courses Added to ASCENT Curriculum

19 August 2008

RAND Worldwide announced that its courseware division, ASCENT – Center for Technical

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Knowledge®, released two Autodesk® 2009 software training guides: Revit Structure 2009 Fundamentals and Inventor 2009 Sheet Metal Design.

ASCENT's new training guide, Revit Structure 2009 Fundamentals, provides another extension to the company's existing Revit® curriculum offering. The course teaches the concepts and principles from building design through construction documentation. Specifically, the curriculum delivers the tools that users require in order to effectively create, document, and print a variety of Revit® Structure 2009 parametric models. Students are exposed to the interface, available design tools, and the steps to creating a new structural project including Architectural Overlay creation, beginning a structural model, and adding and reinforcing foundations. Framing systems such as beams, brace frames, and flooring; and elevator shafts, stairs and ramps are also covered along with the annotation object styles for creating them.

"Our professional services experience in assisting Revit Structure users in fully leveraging the application's capabilities was the key driver for the creation of the Revit Structure 2009 Fundamentals course," said Joe Oswald, Executive Vice-President, PLM Operations North America and Europe, RAND Worldwide. "While working with clients, we have identified a successful workflow methodology based on real world use and have applied this to ASCENT's newest training guide to enhance Revit Structure 2009 users with their application knowledge and usage."

The updated Inventor 2009 Sheet Metal Design training guide introduces users to the concepts and techniques of sheet metal modeling in Autodesk® Inventor® 2009. The course focuses on features specific to the process of sheet metal part creation and editing, flat pattern generation, and design drawing documentation. Specific topics in the training guide include design processes, sheet metal styles, rules and parameters, and creating commonly used sheet metal features such as flanges, hems, folds, and bends.

ASCENT is an Authorized Author, Publisher and Developer of the Autodesk® curriculum. All of the company's Autodesk® courses are available to educational institutions, individuals, and corporations.

ASCENT will be releasing the following titles later this summer 3ds Max 2009 Fundamentals for Design Visualization and Revit Architecture 2009 Advanced. To see the company's complete courseware lineup for Autodesk, Dassault Systèmes, and PTC software solutions, please visit <http://www.ASCENTed.com>.

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Surfware, Inc. Announces U.S. Patent Office Notice of Allowance for Engagement Milling (TrueMill)

19 August 2008

[Surfware, Inc.](#) announced that it has received a Notice of Allowance from the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) for its Engagement Milling technology. A Notice of Allowance signifies that the application has been examined and is allowed for issuance as a patent.

The U.S. Patent Office accepted all key aspects of the company's patent application.

"We are pleased to receive this Notice of Allowance because it serves to protect the intellectual property and proprietary technology that we have developed," says Stephen Diehl, President and CEO of Surfware. "The mathematics and science behind Engagement Milling are revolutionary, and we have incorporated that technology into our SURFCAM product line as TrueMill(R). SURFCAM Velocity 4

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Powered by TrueMill(R) creates toolpaths that dramatically increase material removal rates (MRR), reduce cycle time, and extend tool life.

"Milling pockets in Titanium or other exotic materials is easy with TrueMill," Diehl states. "Actual machining tests demonstrate that the harder the material, the more dramatic the results. We're delighted and proud that the U.S. Patent Office agreed that we have a unique invention, and has allowed all critical aspects of the application. These claims will provide strong patent protection for current and future versions of TrueMill."

Three of the main components of the patent application are:

1. The isoloop method creates families of concentric circles that define the path the tool will travel as it maintains constant engagement with the material.
2. The tangent arc method creates efficient tool paths to machine corners and slots while not exceeding pre-defined engagement.
3. The concentric circle method allows for different spacing schemes between the circles (the stepover) to manage the tool engagement angle.

While other machining methods generate tool paths based on a given stepover value and the geometry being machined, this technology increases the material removal rate (MRR) by creating engagement-controlled tool paths that eliminate all sharp directional changes. Not having to slow the machine down for corners allows far more aggressive cutting parameters, resulting in dramatically reduced cycle times. The tool never plows into corners, and it works on all part shapes.

The origin of the patent application goes back to early 2002 -- Surfware's R&D Department. Robert (Pat) Patterson came up with the core idea for engagement milling, and he and Surfware co-founder Alan Diehl, set out to develop it into a workable product. Within one year they had developed two different versions of TrueMill, both covered in patent applications.

Over the next several years, the pair went on to supervise the project based on their core ideas, with some assistance from the SURFCAM product manager. In 2005, the initial patent application for engagement milling was filed with the co-inventors listed in alphabetical order, without regard to their actual contribution.

"We are just beginning to demonstrate what this powerful technology can do," Diehl states. "Because TrueMill is useful to a wide spectrum of industries, Surfware will be providing custom and turnkey solutions, as well as partnering with vendors of complementary technologies."

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Events News

Altair Announces Keynote Speakers and Dates for its Annual Americas HyperWorks Technology Conference

18 August 2008

Altair Engineering, Inc. announced that it will host its 2008 Americas HyperWorks Technology Conference on Sept. 16-17, 2008, at the Rock Financial Showplace conference and expo center located in Novi, Michigan. Conference registration is complimentary for industry professionals at <http://www.altairhtc.com/na>.

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

Altair's Americas HyperWorks Technology Conference has grown into one of the premier PLM technology events for the advanced manufacturing community. This two-day conference brings together hundreds of industry professionals and technology leaders from a broad range of vertical markets. Thought-provoking keynote addresses and client presentations will highlight industry trends in enterprise simulation and how manufacturers are enabling innovation through simulation.

Keynote speakers representing the advanced automotive, sustainable design and pleasure boat industries will headline this year's event.

Nand Kochhar, Executive Technical Leader Global CAE, Ford Motor Company

Terry Swack, Co-Founder and CEO, Sustainable Minds, LLC

Giovanni Greco, Director of Engineering, Sea Ray Boats

Over 30 industry presenters from Brazil, Canada, Mexico, and the U.S. will address an audience of engineering decision makers and members of the product development community. In addition, the conference's exhibitor pavilion will host more than 16 technology companies that will be on hand to share the latest advancements in software, hardware and information technology for enterprise simulation.

For more information on this conference and to register, please visit <http://www.altairhtc.com/na>.

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COADE to Feature CADWorx Plant Design Suite and PV Elite for Pressure Vessel Design at Manufacture and Maintenance Solutions Show 2008 in Tokyo, Japan, September 10-12

15 August 2008

COADE announced that it will be exhibiting at the Manufacture & Maintenance Solutions (MMS) Show 2008 on September 10-12 at the Tokyo Big Sight (Tokyo International Exhibition Center) in booth M-406, with demonstrations of CADWorx, the company's complete AutoCAD-based package for intelligent plant design modeling and automatic isometrics; PV Elite, for pressure vessel and heat exchanger design and pressure vessel analysis; and CAESAR II, a leading pipe stress analysis program. Participation is in conjunction with Venture Japan, COADE's dealer in the region.

COADE's booth will feature new and updated capabilities of CADWorx Plant Professional 2009, now with enhanced valve top-works capabilities that allow users to place valve hand wheels, levers, actuators, etc., using specification-driven selection routines. Also improved are the placement and representation of piping insulation for more accurate collision checking, bills of material and insulation weights. Featured enhancements in CADWorx P&ID Professional enable process and instrumentation diagrams to be checked out and checked back into the main project database, and powerful multi-component editing provides additional benefits for users.

Details about the MMS Show 2008 (in English) are at <http://www.jma.or.jp/mms/en>. Information about Venture Japan and COADE are at <http://www.venturejapan.com/> and <http://www.coade.com>, respectively.

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Delcam to Demonstrate New ArtCAM family at IMTS

19 August 2008

[Delcam](#) will demonstrate the new 2009 versions of its ArtCAM family of engraving software on stand D-3005 at the IMTS exhibition to be held in Chicago from 8th to 13th September. The range comprises the entry-level version ArtCAM Express, for users new to CNC machining, ArtCAM Insignia for production machining and ArtCAM Pro for more complex design and manufacturing, plus the ArtCAM JewelSmith edition for the jewellery industry. While the software is best known for its applications in the woodworking and signmaking industries, it is also used for a wide variety of metal-cutting applications, including the engraving of decorations, logos and lettering into moulds, the manufacture of stamping dies for coins and medals, and the production of embossing dies for cards, packaging and book covers.

The 2009 versions include enhanced machining options across the complete range of products. The main emphasis has been on improved strategies for harder materials to enable more efficient and faster engraving of all types of metal tooling. In particular, area clearance has been made more robust to allow higher feed rates to be used and rest machining has been made more efficient by improving the ordering of toolpaths.

The machining simulations have been made much more realistic as part of a general improvement in the ability to visualise designs in a variety of materials. In addition, an option has been added to display boundaries and other design vectors on the simulation of the machined model. Both these improvements give users a much better guide to the finished quality of the part and allow them to check, for example, that the most appropriate size of cutting tool has been used.

The key enhancements to the design functionality are new sculpting and embossing tools in the Pro and JewelSmith versions. The sculpting tools in ArtCAM duplicate, in the virtual world, the ability to sculpt physical materials but with the added advantage that material can be added as well as taken away.

The new embossing tool allows low-level reliefs that are typically needed for coins, medals or signs, to be created from deeper models. The user can move the model into any position to give the desired perspective and then reduce it to the desired height. Even though the height can be reduced significantly, the design will still preserve all the detail and the illusion of depth from the original.

An important enhancement across the complete ArtCAM range is the ability to export designs in the 3D pdf format used by the Adobe Acrobat reader. This allows designers to send files to potential customers or retailers in a lightweight form that can be viewed in freely-available software. Other general improvements include auto-recovery of data, for example if there is a power failure to the computer, and the ability to hide options that are rarely used so simplifying the user interface.

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Delcam's Range of ArtCAM Software on Show at the Sign Show

22 August 2008

Delcam's new release of the ArtCAM family of products for the signmaking industry will be showcased at the Sign Show to be held at the Ricoh Arena, Coventry, from 2nd to 4th September. Like the previous ArtCAM range, the ArtCAM 2009 family is aimed at artisans rather than engineers. Features are designed to minimise the learning curve so even beginners to CNC technology can start using the programs as quickly as possible. All products within the ArtCAM range offer upgrade options so that

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

users can move from entry level programs to more advanced solutions as their businesses require.

The entry-level package, ArtCAM Express offers basic 2D drawing, and 2D and 3D machining functions, plus the ability to import different file types including STL files, making it a very versatile entry level program for smaller businesses. In addition, the software includes a range of drawing tools for creating designs, and for editing or repairing designs. The options for text creation support a wide range of fonts and also give complete control over spacing, kerning and formatting of lines and paragraphs.

Once the design has been finalised, the software offers a variety of strategies for CNC machining. To aid in machining, the software is supplied with a tooling database that can be edited or added to by the user at any time.

The main advances to ArtCAM 2009 can be found in the Insignia and Pro versions and concentrate on the design process. A new “Embossing Wizard” will allow users to tilt and rotate their 3D model to change the viewers’ perspective. Within seconds ArtCAM’s new embossing tool can modify a true 3D shape. The resulting design still maintains the salient details and the illusion of depth from the original model.

Another new and innovative feature in ArtCAM is the ‘Relief Analysis Tool’. This will highlight any sharp edges or discontinuities within the design that could cause problems in manufacturing. The user can easily see and make the necessary design modifications avoiding any subsequent timely or costly delays.

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Design Teams around the World to Explore Powerful New SolidWorks 2009 Product Line at Hundreds of Seminars

18 August 2008

WHO: Dassault Systèmes SolidWorks Corp. (DS SolidWorks) along with its authorized resellers around the world.

WHAT: SolidWorks resellers will conduct hundreds of free seminars around the world for SolidWorks users and non-users alike, to demonstrate the new performance in the SolidWorks 2009 product line and the software’s time-tested ability to help teams design better products.

DETAILS: Seminars will demonstrate the documented 65-percent improvement in speed over SolidWorks® 2008 software, as well as more than 260 new customer-requested product enhancements. Non-users contemplating using SolidWorks 2009 software will see for themselves how its powerful 3D modeling technology drives design of better products in any organization from day one.

Resellers will also offer seminars in SolidWorks Simulation, SolidWorks Enterprise PDM, and 3DVIA Composer software. All SolidWorks products work together using the same design data, so each change is updated automatically across all applications.

WHEN: Seminars run in October.

WHERE: Resellers around the world will host these seminars. To attend, visit the SolidWorks 2009 launch site <http://www.solidworks.com/2009> for more information, or contact a local authorized SolidWorks reseller.

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SolidWorks 2009 launch sponsors include HP, Intel, and NVIDIA.

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Inforum 2008: Customers Will Learn How to Connect to the Future with Innovations from Infor

15 August 2008

Infor Chairman and CEO Jim Schaper will present insights into the future of business software during Connecting to the Future, his keynote at Inforum 2008, Infor's annual customer conference. On Wednesday, Oct. 15, Schaper will discuss the impact of major business trends in the software industry, including globalization, mobility and collaboration, and how the use of business software will evolve. Subsequent speakers will elaborate on Infor's specific development plans and provide a glimpse "under the hood" of the innovations users can expect from Infor.

Inforum, to be held Oct. 14 – 16 at The Venetian-Palazzo Hotels and Sands Expo and Convention Center in Las Vegas, is the largest annual gathering of Infor customers, partners and experts who want to connect, learn and maximize the value of their Infor solutions. More than 700 educational sessions across 14 Inforum Connections product tracks and product-specific networking opportunities will be offered, connecting attendees with others in similar business environments.

New this year, computer-based product training provides attendees with a hands-on learning experience coached by Infor product experts who will discuss the latest features, tips and tricks. Additionally, the Solutions Expo, which includes more than 70 partner and live demonstration exhibits, will open the first evening of the conference.

"Inforum 2008 offers each customer an opportunity to attend educational sessions on the products they use to achieve greater visibility into their business," said Rick Parker, senior vice president, marketing, Infor. "This year's event provides more education and networking opportunities than ever, including computer-based training and Inforum Connections tracks. These enhancements make it easy for attendees to identify highly-focused sessions and activities relevant to their product groups and specific areas of interest."

Inforum 2008 highlights:

- Early bird registration will close on August 22. Attendees who register prior to or on this date will receive a registration fee discount. After Oct. 7, attendees will be required to register on-site.

Registration information can be found at <http://www.inforum2008.com/registration/registration-information/>.

- Inforum attendees will be treated to a private concert featuring Grammy-award winning artist and recent Rock and Roll Hall of Fame inductee John Mellencamp.

- Winners of the 2008 Excellence in Action Awards, which celebrate Infor customers who best demonstrate creative use of Infor applications to drive innovation, performance, and profitability, will be honored during the conference and invited to attend an exclusive luncheon with Infor executives.

Awards will be given in categories such as Operational Excellence, Customer Excellence, Financial Excellence, Innovation, and Customer of the Year. Nominations can be made online through Monday, August 25 at http://web2.infor.com/inforum_awards/.

For more information on Inforum 2008, please visit <http://www.inforum2008.com>.

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JETCAM at Fabtech 2008 in Las Vegas

18 August 2008

JETCAM International s.a.r.l. will be showcasing its fully automatic high performance nesting solution at booth no 7074 at Fabtech International 2008, to be held in Las Vegas between 6th and 8th October.

JETCAM Expert, now in its 16th version has recently seen considerable development on its punching automation, and a number of new features are also planned for release. Functionality such as tool teach mode allow JETCAM Expert to intelligently learn preferred tooling methods, which can then be applied automatically using JETCAM's four nesting modules. Automatic common line punching saves both time and material by using a single cut to separate parts. Numerous other features have been included to reduce programming time, machine cycle time and material waste.

Said Mike Weber, Managing Director; "With the costs of metal doubling since the beginning of this year, coupled with many other costs such as fuel skyrocketing companies now have to look harder than ever at possible areas of savings. Fortunately many can make significant savings through nesting efficiency, or by automating the processes between orders being raised by MRP and NC code being available on the shopfloor."

Visitors to the booth can request a free benchmark comparison. By providing DXFs of existing parts together with a sample nest of those parts, customers can receive a sample nest produced by JETCAM's free form high performance nesting (FFHPN) module, which will show them exactly how much they can save over current methods, and will often pinpoint exactly when they will achieve full return on investment for the software.

The booth will be hosted by JETCAM US reseller NestOne Solutions LLC.

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Mentor Graphics Chairman and CEO to Present Keynotes at 2008 EDA Tech Forum Events

22 August 2008

Mentor Graphics Corporation announced that Walden C. Rhines, Chairman and CEO, will present the keynote "A Demographic Driven Design Evolution" at a number of upcoming EDA Tech Forum events. For more information, or to register for any of the events, please visit

<http://www.edatechforum.com/events/>.

Who: Walden C. Rhines, Chairman and CEO, Mentor Graphics

What: "A Demographic Driven Design Evolution" -- Rhines will examine mega trends in global demographics and how they are altering the electronic landscape. He will explore the implications on electronic design and the evolution it is undergoing to accommodate these changes.

Where/When: Rhines will keynote at the following EDA Tech Forum Events:

Date	City	Country
Aug. 27	Hsin-Chu	Taiwan
Aug. 29	Seoul	Korea
Sep. 02	Shanghai	China
Sep. 05	Tokyo	Japan

Sep. 11	San Jose	California
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About EDA Tech Forum Events

EDA Tech Forum events provide an excellent opportunity for designers and engineers to network with their peers and, conversely, for EDA solution providers to reach those markets. Event activities include hands-on workshops, a vendor fair with new product demonstrations, and technical sessions focused on achieving yield for high performance and low power, low power: ESL to RTL, low power: RTL to FAB as well as the challenges surrounding system design. To register for upcoming EDA Tech Forums, or to obtain more information about the EDA Tech Forum journal, please visit <http://www.edatechforum.com> or call 1-800-547-8016.

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Registration is Open for the 17th Annual PDT Europe -The Major European Event within Product Data Technology

August 2008

PDT Europe is the major European event within the Product Data Technology area, neutral and open for industry, vendors and academia. PDT Europe started in 1992 as a project sponsored by the European Commission, as a communication place for like-minded specialists in the then emerging field of product data technologies. Eurostep has organized the event since 2004.

PDT Europe 2008 29-30 September 2008 in Gothenburg, Sweden is expected to attract 150 delegates from major engineering business sectors of Aerospace, Automotive, Building and Construction, Defence, Telecom, Ship Building, Power Generation, Pharmaceutical, Process & Plant Engineering and Manufacturing as well as from Research and Academia.

Theme 2008: Product Data Standards – Positioned for Success

Speakers include:

Kari Penttinen, Senior Technology Adviser, Tekes (Finnish Funding Agency for Technology and Innovation).

James O Colson, Chief, Logistics Engineering Division, US Army LOGSA

Tekes in Finland in 2008 initiated a programme for the Digital Product Process looking to boost the competitiveness of companies by improving the utilization of information technology in their product process. The goal of the programme is to improve the customer oriented business and increase the productivity of company networks designing and delivering products, systems and services to global markets. The programme is large in scope and involves PLM and Enterprise Interoperability as well as the utilization of standards in the digital product process.

Kari Penttinen is working in the area of Products, Production Systems and Manufacturing Technologies mainly for Mechanical Engineering Industry. He is the programme manager of the Digital Product Process programme, initiated by Tekes in 2008. The goal of the programme is to develop further the customer oriented product based business and increase the productivity of company networks designing and delivering products, systems and services to global markets by means of using advanced IT-systems and practices. He has industrial background from Metso Corporation, where he has worked as R&D

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manager and has been in charge of implementation of the first global CAD and PDM solutions in Metso Automation business area.

James O Colson, US Army will present at PDT Europe 2008: "Using the DEX concept of PLCS to integrate between other standards in use at US Department of Defense".

The US Army has a large need for standardized product data but at the same time its operation and size present a huge challenge to set the long term vision, the strategy and above all to implement what is best short and long term. This presentation will describe the current situation as well as the road ahead.

During his 20 year federal career, James Colson, Chief, Logistics Engineering Division, US Army LOGSA has worked on the MIL-STD-1388-2B Software Validation Team, was the Lead Technical Engineer on LOGSA's Post Fielding Support Analysis Team, was on the GCSS-Army ERP blueprint team, and was the team lead for Life Cycle Logistics related Standards and Policy, including Gov co-chair of GEIA-927, GEIA-STD-0007 & MIL-PRF-49506 groups.

Jim chaired the Army's Product Data & Engineering Working Group Standards group. Jim holds a Masters in Industrial Engineering from Texas A & M, he also holds Bachelors Degrees in General Engineering (EE) and in French Language & Literature from Idaho State. Jim holds DoD level 3 certification in Life Cycle Logistics.

Registration has opened. Click [here](#) for more details and to register.

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Financial News

Cimatron's Q2/2008 Results Release Scheduled for August 27th, After Markets Closed

18 August 2008

Cimatron Limited announced that it will be releasing its Q2/2008 financial results on Wednesday, August 27th, 2008, after the US markets close.

Cimatron's management will host a conference call on Thursday 28th, at 9:00 EST, 16:00 Israel time. On the call, management will review and discuss the results, and will answer questions by investors.

To participate, please call one of the following teleconferencing numbers. Please begin placing your call at least 5 minutes before the conference call commences.

USA: +1-888-668-9141

Israel: 03-9180610

International: +972-3-9180610

For those unable to listen to the live call, a replay of the call will be available from the day after the call under the investor relations section of Cimatron's website, at: <http://www.cimatron.com/>

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Mentor Graphics Reports Fiscal Second Quarter Results

20 August 2008

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Mentor Graphics Corporation announced fiscal second quarter revenue of \$182.4 million, a GAAP loss of \$.19 per share, and a non-GAAP loss of \$.02 per share.

“Mentor Graphics continues to execute against its plan in an environment which remains challenging,” said Walden C. Rhines, chairman and CEO of Mentor Graphics. “Our young and innovative product portfolio has enabled Mentor Graphics to continue to perform as customers adopt new process nodes. Customer adoption of leading-edge physical place and route technology at 45nm is accelerating, and is rapidly expanding Mentor’s base of Olympus-SoC users.”

During the quarter, the company unveiled its sub-45nm integrated circuit (IC) implementation strategy, blending the strengths of its Calibre® design for manufacturing (DFM), Olympus-SoC™ place and route, design for test (DFT) and yield learning solutions. The company also built on its leadership in automotive electrical system design with a new version of its CHS™ software. The company’s inFact™ intelligent testbench software was updated to allow it to automatically scale across a server farm of up to 1000 CPUs. The company announced that it had enhanced its award-winning support with personalized support web portals, allowing customers to quickly and easily access the support content they need.

The company made two acquisitions in the quarter. It acquired substantially all of the assets of Ponte Solutions to extend the company’s Calibre DFM product line. The company also acquired Flomerics, a market leading provider of thermal simulation and analysis tools.

“We predicted a tough environment this year, and we continue to see it. Despite this, the company performed better than our guidance for the quarter,” said Gregory K. Hinckley, president of Mentor Graphics. “We saw some bright spots in our newer products with Calibre DFM and automotive both performing quite well. Additionally, consulting was up 25% over last year. I view increased bookings in consulting as a leading indicator of an improving business climate. Lastly, our cost-saving initiatives are on track to meet or exceed our goals. Mentor is committed to delivering the most effective cost control program within the EDA industry.”

GUIDANCE

For fiscal 2009, the company continues to expect revenue growth of about 4% to \$915 million, with non-GAAP earnings per share in the range of \$1.05 - \$1.10 and GAAP earnings per share in the range of \$0.22 - \$0.27. For fiscal third quarter, the company expects revenue of about \$220 million with Non-GAAP earnings per share of approximately \$.15 - \$.20 and GAAP earnings of \$0.03 - \$0.08.

Discussion of Non-GAAP Financial Measures

Mentor Graphics management evaluates and makes operating decisions using various performance measures. In addition to our GAAP results, we also consider adjusted gross margin, operating margin and net income (loss), which we refer to as non-GAAP gross margin, operating margin, and net income (loss), respectively. These non-GAAP measures are derived from the revenues of our product, maintenance, and services business operations and the costs directly related to the generation of those revenues, such as cost of revenue, research and development, sales and marketing, and general and administrative expenses, that management considers in evaluating our ongoing core operating performance. These non-GAAP measures exclude amortization of purchased and other identified intangible assets, in-process research and development, special charges, equity plan-related compensation expenses and charges, and gains which management does not consider reflective of our core operating business.

Purchased and other identified intangible assets consist primarily of purchased technology, backlog,

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trade names, customer relationships, and employment agreements. In-process research and development charges represent products in development that had not reached technological feasibility at the time of acquisition. Special charges consist of post-acquisition rebalance costs including severance and benefits, excess facilities, and asset-related charges, and also include strategic reallocations or reductions of personnel resources. Equity plan-related compensation expenses represent the fair value of all share-based payments to employees, including grants of employee stock options, as required under Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 (revised 2004), "Share-Based Payment" (SFAS 123R). For purposes of comparability across other periods and against other companies in our industry, non-GAAP net income (loss) is adjusted by the amount of additional taxes or tax benefit that we would accrue using a normalized effective tax rate applied to the non-GAAP results.

During the six months ended July 31, 2007, we excluded \$164 thousand of interest expense attributable to net retirement premiums and write-offs of debt issuance costs. The amounts were expensed in connection with the refinancing or repurchase of certain convertible debt. The amounts were excluded as management does not consider these transactions a part of its core operating performance. There were no debt repurchases during the six months ended July 31, 2008.

During the six months ended July 31, 2008, we excluded \$643 thousand of equity in losses of unconsolidated entities. The amounts represent our equity in the losses of a common stock investment accounted for under the equity method. The amounts were excluded as management does not consider these transactions a part of its core operating performance. We had no equity in unconsolidated entities during the six months ended July 31, 2007.

In certain instances our GAAP results of operations may not be profitable when our corresponding non-GAAP results are profitable or vice versa. The number of shares on which our non-GAAP EPS is calculated may therefore differ from the GAAP presentation due to the anti-dilutive effect of stock options in a loss situation.

Non-GAAP gross margin, operating margin and net income (loss) are supplemental measures of our performance that are not required by, or presented in accordance with, GAAP. Moreover, they should not be considered as an alternative to any performance measure derived in accordance with GAAP, or as an alternative to cash flow from operating activities as a measure of our liquidity. We present non-GAAP gross margin, operating margin and net income (loss) because we consider them to be important supplemental measures of our operating performance and profitability trends, and because we believe they give investors useful information on period-to-period performance as evaluated by management.

Management excludes from our non-GAAP measures certain recurring items to facilitate its review of the comparability of our core operating performance on a period-to-period basis because such items are not related to our ongoing core operating performance as viewed by management. Management considers our core operating performance to be that which can be affected by our managers in any particular period through their management of the resources that affect our underlying revenue and profit generating operations during that period. Management uses this view of our operating performance for purposes of comparison with our business plan and individual operating budgets and allocation of resources. Additionally, when evaluating potential acquisitions, management excludes the items described above from its consideration of target performance and valuation. More specifically management adjusts for the excluded items for the following reasons:

- Amortization charges for our purchased and other identified intangible assets are inconsistent in amount and frequency and are significantly impacted by the timing and magnitude of our acquisition transactions. We therefore consider our operating results without these charges when evaluating our core

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performance. Generally, the most significant impact to inter-period comparability of our net income (loss) is in the first twelve months following an acquisition.

- Special charges are primarily severance related and are due to our reallocation or reduction of personnel resources driven by modifications of business strategy or business emphasis and by assimilation of acquired businesses. These costs are originated based on the particular facts and circumstances of business decisions and can vary in size. Special charges also include excess facility and asset-related restructuring charges. These charges are not specifically included in our annual operating plan and related budget due to the rapidly changing technology and competitive environment in our industry. We therefore exclude them when evaluating our managers' performance internally.
- In-process research and development charges are largely disregarded as acquisition decisions are made, since they often result in charges that vary significantly in size and amount. Management excludes these charges when evaluating the impact of an acquisition transaction and our ongoing performance.
- Management supplementally considers performance without the impact of equity plan-related compensation charges and believes this information is useful to investors to compare our performance to the performance of other companies in our industry who present non-GAAP results adjusted to exclude stock compensation expense. We view equity plan-related compensation as a key element of our employee retention and long-term incentives, not as an expense that should be an element of evaluating core operations in any given period. We therefore exclude these charges for purposes of evaluating our core performance.
- Income tax expense (benefit) is adjusted by the amount of additional tax expense or benefit that we would accrue if we used non-GAAP results instead of GAAP results in the calculation of our tax liability, taking into consideration our long-term tax structure. We use a normalized effective tax rate of 17%, which reflects the weighted average tax rate applicable under the various tax jurisdictions in which we operate. This non-GAAP weighted average tax rate is subject to change over time for various reasons, including changes in the geographic business mix and changes in statutory tax rates. Our GAAP tax rate for the six months ended July 31, 2008, is 36% after consideration of discrete items. Without discrete items of \$1,425 thousand, our GAAP tax rate is 38%. Inclusive of discrete items, our full fiscal year 2009 GAAP tax rate is projected to be 46%. The GAAP tax rate considers certain mandatory and other non-scalable tax costs which may adversely or beneficially affect our tax rate depending upon our level of profitability.

Non-GAAP net income (loss) also facilitates comparison with other companies in our industry, which use similar financial measures to supplement their GAAP results. However, non-GAAP net income (loss) has limitations as an analytical tool, and you should not consider this measure in isolation or as a substitute for analysis of our results as reported under GAAP. In the future we expect to continue to incur expenses similar to the non-GAAP adjustments described above, and exclusion of these items in our non-GAAP presentation should not be construed as an inference that these costs are unusual, infrequent or non-recurring. Some of the limitations in relying on non-GAAP net income (loss) are:

- Amortization of purchased intangibles, though not directly affecting our current cash position, represents the loss in value as the technology in our industry evolves, is advanced or is replaced over time. The expense associated with this loss in value is not included in the non-GAAP net income (loss) presentation and therefore does not reflect the full economic effect of the ongoing cost of maintaining our current technological position in our competitive industry, which is addressed through our research and development program.

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- We regularly engage in acquisition and assimilation activities as part of our ongoing business and therefore we will continue to experience special charges and in-process research and development charges on a regular basis. These costs also directly impact our available funds.
- Our stock option and stock purchase plans are important components of our incentive compensation arrangements and will be reflected as expenses in our GAAP results for the foreseeable future under SFAS 123R.
- Our income tax expense (benefit) will be ultimately based on our GAAP taxable income and actual tax rates in effect, which often differ significantly from the 17% rate assumed in our non-GAAP presentation.
- Other companies, including other companies in our industry, may calculate non-GAAP net income (loss) differently than we do, limiting its usefulness as a comparative measure.

Please access http://www.mentor.com/company/news/upload/082008Q2FY09Earnings_pdf for full financials.

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Open Text Reports Fourth Quarter and Fiscal Year-End 2008 Financial Results

19 August 2008

Open Text™ Corporation announced unaudited financial results for its fourth quarter and fiscal year ended June 30, 2008. (1)

Total revenue for the fourth quarter was \$200.3 million, up 14% compared to \$175.2 million for the same period in the prior fiscal year. License revenue in the fourth quarter was \$68.2 million, up 15% compared to \$59.2 million in the fourth quarter of the prior fiscal year.

Adjusted net income in the quarter was \$33.3 million or \$0.63 per share on a diluted basis, up 25% compared to \$26.7 million or \$0.52 per share on a diluted basis for the same period in the prior fiscal year. Net income in accordance with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("US GAAP") was \$27.3 million or \$0.51 per share on a diluted basis, compared to \$8.2 million or \$0.16 per share on a diluted basis for the same period in the prior fiscal year. (2)

Total revenue for fiscal year 2008 was \$725.5 million, up 22% compared to \$595.7 million for the previous fiscal year. License revenue for fiscal year 2008 was \$219.1 million, up 20% compared to \$182.5 million in the previous fiscal year.

Adjusted net income for fiscal year 2008 was \$107.0 million, or \$2.03 per share on a diluted basis, up 44% compared to adjusted net income for the previous fiscal year of \$74.3 million, or \$1.46 per share on a diluted basis. Net income for fiscal year 2008 in accordance with US GAAP was \$53.0 million, or \$1.01 per share on a diluted basis, compared to the prior fiscal year's net income of \$21.7 million, or \$0.43 per share on a diluted basis. (2)

Operating cash flow in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2008 was \$44.6 million, compared to \$28.5 million in the fourth quarter of the prior fiscal year. For the full 2008 fiscal year, Open Text generated \$166.0 million in operating cash flow compared to \$110.9 million in fiscal 2007.

The cash, cash equivalents and short-term investments balance as of June 30, 2008 was \$254.9 million. Accounts receivable as of June 30, 2008, totaled \$134.4 million, compared to \$128.8 million as of June

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30, 2007, and Days Sales Outstanding (DSO) was 60 days in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2008, compared to 66 days in the fourth quarter of fiscal 2007.

"I am very pleased with our performance in the quarter and for the full fiscal year," said John Shackleton, President and Chief Executive Officer of Open Text. "We have achieved our goal of strong license growth, record profitability and exemplary cash flow accumulation. As we enter into fiscal 2009, we remain confident in our momentum and look forward to continued growth in the coming year."

Please see note (2) below for a reconciliation of non-US GAAP based financial measures used in this press release, to US GAAP based financial measures.

Teleconference Call

Open Text will host a conference call on August 19, 2008 at 5:00 p.m. ET to discuss the final financial results of its fourth quarter and fiscal year-end 2008.

Date: Tuesday, August 19, 2008

Time: 5:00 p.m. ET/2:00 p.m. PT

Length: 60 minutes

Where: 416-640-1907

A replay of the call will be available beginning August 19, 2008 at 7:00 p.m. ET through 11:59 p.m. on September 2, 2008 and can be accessed by dialing 416-640-1917 and using pass code 21276674 followed by the number sign.

For more information or to listen to the call via Web cast, please use the following link:

<http://www.opentext.com/events/wa-event.html?id=6789650>. For more detail including financial please visit <http://www.opentext.com/news/pr.html?id=2089>

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Synopsys Posts Financial Results for Third Quarter Fiscal Year 2008

20 August 2008

Synopsys, Inc. reported results for its third quarter ended July 31, 2008.

For the third quarter, Synopsys reported revenue of \$344.1 million, a 13.2 percent increase compared to \$304.1 million for the third quarter of fiscal 2007.

"Our technology and product pipeline are strong throughout our broad portfolio, and we are seeing good competitive momentum," said Aart de Geus, chairman and CEO of Synopsys. "Even at a time of increased customer caution around spending, Synopsys continues to perform well."

GAAP Results

On a generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP) basis, net income for the third quarter of fiscal 2008 was \$57.7 million, or \$0.39 per share, compared to \$24.9 million, or \$0.17 per share for the third quarter of fiscal 2007. GAAP earnings per share included a \$17.3 million tax benefit associated with the settlement of an IRS tax issue for fiscal years 2000 and 2001.

Non-GAAP Results

On a non-GAAP basis, net income for the third quarter of fiscal 2008 was \$64.5 million, or \$0.44 per

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

share, compared to non-GAAP net income of \$47.7 million, or \$0.32 per share, for the third quarter of fiscal 2007.

Non-GAAP net income consists of GAAP net income excluding employee share-based compensation expense calculated in accordance with FAS 123® and, to the extent incurred in a particular quarter or period, amortization of intangible assets (which could include in-process research and development charges), facilities realignment charges, and other significant items, including a tax benefit from a settlement with the IRS in the third quarter, and the related tax-effect of each, which, in the opinion of management, are infrequent or non-recurring. See "GAAP Reconciliation" below.

Financial Targets

Synopsys also provided its operating model targets for the fourth quarter and full fiscal year 2008. These targets constitute forward-looking information and are based on current expectations. For a discussion of factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from these targets, see "Forward-Looking Statements" below.

Fourth Quarter of Fiscal Year 2008 Targets:

- Revenue: \$348 million - \$356 million
- GAAP expenses: \$295 million - \$310 million
- Non-GAAP expenses: \$273 million - \$283 million
- Other income and expense: \$0 - \$3 million
- Tax rate applied in non-GAAP net income calculations: approximately 27 percent
- Fully diluted outstanding shares: 147 million - 152 million
- GAAP earnings per share: \$0.23 - \$0.29
- Non-GAAP earnings per share: \$0.36 - \$0.39
- Revenue from backlog: greater than 90 percent

Full Fiscal Year 2008 Targets:

- Revenue: \$1.332 billion - \$1.340 billion
- Tax rate applied in non-GAAP net income calculations: approximately 26 percent
- Fully diluted outstanding shares: 147 million - 150 million
- GAAP earnings per share: \$1.20 - \$1.26
- Non-GAAP earnings per share: \$1.65 - \$1.68
- Cash flow from operations: \$300 million - \$325 million

GAAP Reconciliation

Synopsys' management evaluates and makes decisions about the Company's business operations primarily based on the bookings, revenue, and direct, ongoing and recurring costs of those operations. Management does not believe amortization of intangible assets (including in-process research and development charges), facilities realignment charges and other significant infrequent items, including a tax benefit from a settlement with the IRS, are ongoing and recurring operating costs of its core software, intellectual property and service business operations. In addition, while employee share-based

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compensation expense calculated in accordance with FAS 123® constitutes an ongoing and recurring expense of the Company, such expense is excluded from non-GAAP results because it is not an expense that requires cash settlement by the Company and because such expense is not used by management to assess the core performance of the Company's business operations. Therefore, management excludes such costs, to the extent incurred in a particular quarter, from the following historical and targeted GAAP financial measures included in this earnings release: total cost of revenue, gross margin, total operating expenses, operating income, income before provision (benefit) for income taxes, provision (benefit) for income taxes, net income and net income per share.

For each such measure, excluding these costs provides management with more consistent, comparable information about the Company's core performance. For example, the Company does not undertake significant restructuring or realignments on a regular basis, and, as a result, excludes associated charges in order to enable better and more consistent evaluations of the Company's operating expenses before and after such actions are taken. Management also uses these measures to help it make budgeting decisions, for example, as between product support expenses (which affect cost of revenue and gross margin) and research and development, sales and marketing and general and administrative expenses (which affect operating expenses and operating margin). Finally, the availability of such information helps management track performance to both internal and externally communicated financial targets and to its competitors' operating results.

Management recognizes that the use of these non-GAAP measures has certain limitations, including the fact that management must exercise judgment in determining whether certain types of charges, such as those relating to workforce reductions executed in the ordinary course, should be excluded from non-GAAP results. However, management believes that, although it is important for investors to understand GAAP measures, providing investors with these non-GAAP measures gives them additional important information to enable them to assess, in a way management assesses, Synopsys' current and future continuing operations.

Reconciliation of Third Quarter Results

Financial tables are available at <http://synopsys.mediaroom.com/index.php?s=43&item=604>

Earnings Call Open to Investors

Synopsys will hold a conference call for financial analysts and investors today at 2:00 p.m., Pacific Time. A recording of the call will be available by calling +1-800-475-6701 (+1-320-365-3844 for international callers), access code 956118, beginning at 4:00 p.m. Pacific Time today. A webcast replay will also be available on the website from approximately 5:30 p.m. Pacific Time today through the time Synopsys announces its results for the fourth quarter and full fiscal 2008 in December. Synopsys will also post copies of the prepared remarks of Aart de Geus, chairman and chief executive officer, and Brian Beattie, chief financial officer, on its website following the call. In addition, Synopsys makes additional financial information available in a financial supplement posted at Synopsys' corporate website at <http://www.synopsys.com/corporate/invest/invest.html>.

Availability of Final Financial Statements

Synopsys will include final financial statements for the third quarter of fiscal 2008 in its quarterly report on Form 10-Q to be filed by September 11, 2008.

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Valor Announces Q2/08 Results

19 August 2008

Valor Computerized Systems Ltd. announced its financial results for the period ending June 30, 2008.

“Q2 was a good quarter for Valor, despite the slowdown in global economy and the weakness of the US\$.” -- said Dan Hoz, Valor’s CEO -- “In addition, our efforts to improve overall profitability are working out well and we saw a very nice increase in profits in the first six months of 2008, visible all the way from EBITDA to Net profits, despite a one-time expense of \$0.7 Million related mainly to the retirement of the former CEO. We also had a positive cash flow from operations of \$5.7 Million, bringing our current cash position to over \$33 Million. In order to support our future growth, we are currently exploring some M&A opportunities which we plan to act on when the time is right, and our strong cash position will assist us in doing so.”

“During the quarter we established 3 new OEM agreements with major machine vendors, who will be selling our products together with their machines. This will allow us to expand our distribution channels, mainly in the Electronic Assembly Process Engineering arena at the moment. We are also in the process of releasing new products for quality management and business intelligence for electronics manufacturing. We see growing demand for solutions in those areas, and we believe that our knowledge and technology can allow us to come out with winning products for those markets” added Hoz.

In addition to investing in its business development, Valor has recently engaged in a process of repurchasing its own shares, up to a total of \$US 3 Million (at management discretion). “We consider this to be an attractive investment opportunity for us and believe that it will also have a positive contribution to the earnings per share. We have confidence in our long-term growth and profitability, and have therefore chosen to engage in this process.” explained Hoz.

	H1 / 2008 (Unaudited)	H1 / 2007 (Unaudited)	% Change	Q2 / 2008 (Unaudited)	Q2 / 2007 (Unaudited)	% Change
Product Sales	12,396	12,626	(1.8)%	6,137	6,173	(0.6)%
Maintenance Income	8,966	8,226	9.0%	4,573	4,377	4.5%
Total Revenues	21,362	20,852	2.4%	10,710	10,550	1.5%
Gross Profit	18,226	18,126	0.6%	9,173	9,247	(0.8)%
One Time Expense	731	0	100.0%	731	0	100.0%
EBITDA*	2,431	2,101	15.7%	773	863	(10.4)%
EBIT*	1,347	1,150	17.1%	256	453	(43.7)%
Net Profit*	2,083	1,456	43.0%	602	569	5.8%

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	H1 / 2008 (Unaudited)	H1 / 2007 (Unaudited)	% Change	Q2 / 2008 (Unaudited)	Q2 / 2007 (Unaudited)	% Change
EPS in US\$ (diluted)	0.10	0.07	42.9%	0.03	0.03	0.0%
Shareholder's Equity	48,389	40,963	18.1%	48,389	40,963	18.1%
Total Assets	61,988	53,913	15.0%	61,988	53,913	15.0%
Research & Development	5,822	6,895	(15.6)%	2,984	3,408	(12.4)%
Employees (Period End)	256	259	(1.2)%	256	259	(1.2)%

* Including a one-time expense of \$0.7 Million related mainly to the retirement of the former CEO

Revenues in the first six months of 2008 were \$21.4 Million, an increase of 2% as compared with \$20.9 Million in the first six months of 2007. Revenues in the second quarter of 2008 were \$10.7 Million, an increase of 2% as compared with \$10.6 Million in the second quarter of 2007.

Positive cash flow from operating activities in the second quarter of 2008 was \$5.7 Million, as compared with a negative cash flow from operating activities of \$66 thousand in the second quarter of 2007.

Net profit increased by 43% in the first six months of 2008, standing at \$2.1 Million as compared with \$1.5 Million in the first six months of 2007. Net profit in the second quarter of 2008 accumulated to \$0.6 Million, an increase of 6% as compared with \$0.57 Million in the second quarter of 2007.

EBITDA increased by 16%, standing at \$2.4 Million in the first six months of 2008 as compared with \$2.1 Million in the parallel period of the previous year. EBITDA in the second quarter of 2008 was \$0.8 Million, a decrease of 10% as compared with \$0.9 Million in the second quarter of 2007.

EBIT excluding a one-time expense was \$2.1 Million in the first half of 2008, an increase of 81% as compared with \$1.2 Million in the first half of 2007. The one-time expense of \$0.7 Million was related mainly to the retirement of the former CEO. In the second quarter of 2008, EBIT excluding the one-time expense was \$1 Million, an increase of more than 100% as compared with \$0.5 Million in the second quarter of 2007.

Earning per Share (diluted) in the first half of 2008 was \$0.10, as compared with \$0.07 in the parallel period of the previous year.

The complete financial report can be downloaded from the Investor Relations section on the Valor corporate website: www.valor.com

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Implementation Investments

Autodesk Names Wipaire as Inventor of the Month for August 2008

20 August 2008

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Autodesk announced that Wipaire, Inc. ([Wipaire](#)) has been named as the Autodesk Inventor of the Month for August 2008. Wipaire, a leading manufacturer of aircraft floats and pontoons, used Autodesk Inventor software to design the water-scooping pontoons of the FIRE BOSS, a fire-suppression plane that provides a versatile tool in the fight against wildfires,

The Inventor of the Month program recognizes the most innovative design and engineering advancements made by the extensive community using Autodesk Inventor software -- the foundation of the Autodesk solution for Digital Prototyping. A digital prototype is a realistic 3D digital simulation of the entire end product, used to virtually optimize and validate a product before it is built to reduce the necessity of constructing physical prototypes.

Like a traditional air tanker plane, the FIRE BOSS is able to carry retardant from a tanker base to the fire. What sets it apart, however, is that it can remain on-site, scooping water from nearby lakes and rivers, until other tankers return with more retardant.

Although this type of fire-suppression aircraft has been around for decades, Wipaire improved on several aspects of the underlying technology. Most notably, Wipaire created a unique hull design and scooping system that more effectively scoops up water and pushes it up into the hopper of the airplane for storage. This design innovation reduces the amount of time it takes the hopper to fill with water -- an important trait when time is of the essence.

Digital Prototyping Speeds Development

Autodesk Inventor 3D modeling software played a key role in making FIRE BOSS floats a reality. Inventor software's sheet metal functionality and finite element analysis (FEA) analysis capabilities helped Wipaire to visualize, simulate and analyze its scooping system before anything was built, generating a working prototype in just two months.

"We completed all our designs in Inventor," said Chuck Wiplinger, chief engineer at Wipaire. "As a result, when we laser-cut parts, we knew that they would all fit when we put them together because we'd already analyzed the motion of the assembly. Autodesk Productstream further increased our productivity by serving as the pipeline between different workgroups in our Digital Prototyping workflow, allowing us to easily manage our design data, and readily handle engineering change orders and version control."

Autodesk Inventor Helps Wipaire Meet Demand

This combination of Digital Prototyping technologies has enabled Wipaire to shave an average of 200 hours off its production time for a FIRE BOSS -- allowing the company to increase how quickly its gets the product into the hands of the firefighting teams that need it. The FIRE BOSS currently has more than twenty units in operation with various agencies in the European Union and North America.

"Digital Prototyping has helped Wipaire meet the demand for innovative new firefighting tools by evolving its product in less time and with less costs," said Robert "Buzz" Kross, senior vice president of Autodesk Manufacturing Solutions. "Their innovation is responsible for enhancing public safety and helping to protect natural environments across the globe. It is a pleasure to name Wipaire as our Inventor of the Month for August."

About the Autodesk Inventor of the Month Program

Each month, [Autodesk](#) selects an Inventor of the Month from the more than 800,000 users of Autodesk Inventor software, the foundation for Digital Prototyping. Winners are chosen for engineering excellence and groundbreaking innovation. For more information about Autodesk Inventor of the

Month, contact IOM@autodesk.com.

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BitWave Semiconductor Selects Berkeley Design Automation Analog FastSPICE™ and Noise Analysis Option™ for Programmable CMOS RF Transceiver Verification

22 August 2008

Berkeley Design Automation Inc. announced that BitWave Semiconductor, Inc., a fabless semiconductor company and innovator of programmable radio frequency integrated circuits (RFIC), has selected the company's Analog FastSPICE™ circuit simulator and Noise Analysis Option™ device noise analyzer for verification and noise analysis of their programmable CMOS RF transceiver.

"Verifying our programmable CMOS RF transceivers requires full-circuit simulation and transistor-level noise analysis," said Geoff Dawe, CTO at BitWave. "We selected Analog FastSPICE for our next-generation products after verifying its true SPICE accuracy and performance on our current products. We also chose the Noise Analysis Option so we could perform transistor-level device noise analysis on our complex analog/RF circuits including ADCs, mixers, and PLLs."

[Berkeley Design Automation](#) tools include Analog FastSPICE™ circuit simulation, Noise Analysis Option™ device noise analyzer, RF FastSPICE™ periodic analyzer, and PLL Noise Analyzer™. The company guarantees true SPICE accuracy, defined as identical waveforms to the leading "golden" SPICE simulators down to noise floor (typically 0.1% or less) while delivering 5x-10x higher performance and 5x-10x higher capacity. It achieves this by using advanced algorithms and numerical analysis techniques to rapidly solve the full-circuit matrix and the original device equations without any shortcuts that could compromise accuracy.

Design teams from top-10 semiconductor companies to leading startups use Berkeley Design Automation tools to solve big analog/RF verification problems. Typical applications include characterizing complex blocks (e.g., PLLs, ADCs, DC:DC converters, PHYs, Tx/Rx chains) and running performance simulation of full circuits (e.g., wireless transceivers, wireline transceivers, high-speed I/O macros, memories, microcontrollers, data converters, and power converters).

"We are excited that BitWave Semiconductor has selected Analog FastSPICE and Noise Analysis Option for their programmable CMOS RF transceiver," said Ravi Subramanian, president and CEO of Berkeley Design Automation. "Delivering high performance, low-power multi-standard programmable RF transceivers is a tremendous challenge. BitWave's selection of Berkeley Design Automation tools further validates the strong competitive advantage our Precision Circuit Analysis technology provides to leading-edge designers of highly-integrated analog/ RF transceivers."

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Cosmic Circuits Experiences 8X Performance Gains by Adopting Cadence Virtuoso Spectre with Turbo Technology

21 August 2008

[Cadence Design Systems](#) (I) Pvt Ltd., a subsidiary of Cadence Design Systems, Inc. announced that Cosmic Circuits, a leading provider of analog IP-cores, has experienced up to eight times improvement in performance after adopting the new version of the Cadence® Virtuoso® Spectre® Circuit Simulator,

featuring "turbo" technology.

With the increased level of complexity of today's ICs and the pressure to hit market windows, accuracy and runtimes are of paramount importance. Cosmic Circuits was looking for a SPICE simulator that would deliver a significant boost in speed without compromising on accuracy. The Spectre simulator, with its recently introduced turbo technology, enabled Cosmic Circuits to improve simulation runtime for design verification—accelerating time to market—with no loss in SPICE accuracy.

“Even in the short time that we have been using the Spectre turbo capability, we have found that the speed advantage it has given us has enabled us to simulate large intellectual property blocks which were not possible earlier,” said C Srinivasan, vice president of Engineering, Cosmic Circuits. “We now can do high-performance simulation of full 10-bit analog to digital converters (ADC's), DC-DC converters, and phased locked loops with parasitics in real time to be of great benefit during the design phase. The confidence in the released design is much higher due to the level of verification possible now.”

“We are very pleased to see that Cosmic Circuits has joined the growing ranks of leading companies enjoying the dramatic speed benefits of our Spectre with turbo technology,” said Sandeep Mehndiratta, group director for the custom IC platform at Cadence. “And, as Cosmic Circuits has verified, the improved speed enables in-depth verification, which translates to higher confidence that your chip is bug-free and ready for first-pass silicon.”

The Spectre turbo technology, which includes advanced device model analysis techniques and a built-in multi-threaded algorithm, addresses a broad variety of challenges across all analog design methodologies and process nodes by delivering up to a 10 times performance gain over existing solutions without any loss in accuracy. The turbo technology also efficiently analyzes the potential impact of physical parasitics that can threaten designs in advanced process nodes, delivering up to 20 times performance gains for designs with large amounts of parasitics.

The turbo technology was introduced in April 2008 as a key element of Cadence's advanced node solutions. Virtuoso's turbo technology boosts performance while ensuring silicon accuracy, enabling designers to verify their complex large analog designs, such as phase-locked loops, analog-to-digital converters, transceivers, clock data recovery circuits and power supply circuits.

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Delcam's PartMaker Helps Manage the Chaos

21 August 2008

Using [Delcam's](#) PartMaker CAM software is helping medical equipment manufacturer Criterion Tool & Die to continue its success in an increasingly demanding market. “The biggest issue in medical device manufacturing is that the components are getting more difficult to make,” explains Tanya DiSalvo, the company's President and grand-daughter of the founder Mike Ondercin. Being successful requires more than just being able to produce good parts quickly; it also demands that the company is able to respond to the ever changing demands of its customers.

“We have learned that sometimes, when you are doing product development work, the engineer doesn't know exactly what he wants the part to look like at the end,” claims Ms. DiSalvo. “The engineers can still be tweaking the design of the part, so we are managing the chaos because we're making products to get somebody up and running, or to ramp up a company to send the equipment out to its sales people so they can demonstrate it to the doctors. All the while, they can still be making design changes, even

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wholesale engineering changes, not just ‘wouldn’t it be nice if...’ modifications.”

Further adding to the challenge is the variety of ways in which customers provide data to Criterion. Parts come through in all sorts of formats, from faxed prints, to emailed PDF files, to electronic 2D drawings, or 3D solid models. Criterion does not get to choose how the part designs are provided, or the engineering format in which they are supplied, but it does need to deal with them all expediently. This an important area where PartMaker helps, as it allows Criterion to either redraw parts quickly from hard-copy part prints or import geometry in a 2D or 3D format, regardless of which engineering system the customer used to create the part design.

Once the design is finalised, PartMaker’s offline programming speeds the move into production on the company’s Swiss-type lathes and other advanced equipment. “Programming plays a major role because of the complex geometry that is now required. Everything is blended or rounded, nothing is flat, and one feature flows into the next,” explained Ms. DiSalvo. “That’s all a function of maths and geometry that you cannot calculate in the old-fashioned, manual way.”

Criterion’s entry into the medical device machining business began innocently enough. In the early ‘90s, while at a trade show, Ms. DiSalvo’s father, Dennis Ondercin, came across a group of engineers asking how much it would cost to make a component for them. Mr. Ondercin took a look at the part design, shrugged his shoulders and said, “I don’t know – how many would you buy?” When one of the engineers responded: “As many as you can make,” he knew that the medical device industry was where his business needed to be.

Until then, since being founded in 1953, Criterion had made its name in the Cleveland area as a high-quality precision machine shop largely serving the needs of local aerospace and defence contractors like Martin Marietta. At the time, the company employed nine people and relied on conventional CNC lathes and mills to meet its customers’ demands. Today, Criterion has grown to thirty staff with a variety of CNC Swiss-type lathes and turn-mill equipment, all programmed with PartMaker.

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Hartz Mountain Licenses ProductVision®

19 August 2008

Advanced Software Designs welcomes Hartz Mountain to its family of ProductVision users.

ProductVision provides a strategic tool to compile and manage product information from various locations and divisions into a centralized data source. Open communication among departments, security, and speed-to-market are just some of the valuable benefits that customers achieve through the implementation of ProductVision, resulting in faster product development and increased speed-to-market.

Focusing its efforts to ensure that pets thrive physically and emotionally is something that Hartz has been doing for over 80 years. [Hartz](#) operates as a company with a strong focus on customer service and innovation with more than 2,000 quality pet products for dogs, cats, parakeets, canaries, parrots, cockatiels, finches, goldfish, tropical fish, reptiles, ferrets, chinchillas, guinea pigs, hamsters and rabbits. Hartz is committed to animal health and is actively involved in the community, supporting shelters and other humane animal organizations.

About ASD

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ASD exemplifies its commitment to world-class integrated product development software solutions through its implementations at many major global and domestic companies. ASD serves the food and beverage, cosmetic, paint and coatings, chemical, and ink markets. Customers include Pepsi-Cola, Gerber Foods, Avon Cosmetics, Dreyers Ice Cream, Akzo, ICI, Sherwin Williams and many more. For more information, consult our [Customer List](#).

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Impress Group Standardizes Simulation on MSC.Software's MD Nastran and SimXpert

19 August 2008

MSC.Software announced that the Impress Group, global market leaders in the consumer metal packaging industry, have extended their investment in MSC.Software's enterprise simulation technology and will standardize their simulation efforts on the company's SimEnterprise solutions, MD Nastran and SimXpert.

Designers at [Impress](#) will use the new simulation technology to accurately predict the in-service performance of their packaging products, optimize the structural mass and improve the industrialization processes of their manufacturing. By introducing simulation at an earlier stage in the process, Impress will be able to simulate more accurately and efficiently. They expect to realize increased levels of design innovation and a 30% efficiency gain in engineering productivity.

With 59 production facilities across Europe, North America, Africa and Asia-Pacific Impress is a global leader in the manufacture of metal container packaging for food and other consumables. Impress first selected MSC.Software in April 2005, creating a nonlinear solution capability based on MSC.Software's Engineering Products, mainly the Marc solver, accessed via the flexible MSC Masterkey licensing system. MSC.Software's heritage in Aerospace design was an influential factor in the selection, with Impress' Vice-President of Strategic Development, Richard Moore recently commenting that "space rockets and metal cans have a surprising number of similar design complexities."

In order to extend their competitive advantage, and specifically to bring the simulation earlier into the design phase of their products, Impress subsequently conducted a full Economic Value Assessment (EVA) of their growing technology and business requirements, and a Proof of Value (POV) study of a number of available solutions. The conclusion was the extension of the existing MSC MasterKey environment in order to additionally include MSC.Software's latest multidisplinary (MD) solution technologies, most notably MD Nastran and SimXpert.

"MSC.Software's simulation technology enables us to pursue ambitious design projects, and create new packaging designs in a completely virtual environment. New ideas can quickly be developed and modified, with the virtual prototypes being verified for performance and manufacturability, delivering significant savings in both the time and cost of traditional physical prototyping," said Richard Moore, Impress Vice-President of Strategic Development. "MSC.Software plays a key role in the Impress design process, helping us to create innovative products while reducing metal consumption at source, a strategy fully in line with the Company's pursuit of technologies which enable sustainable development."

SimXpert is MSC.Software's next-generation CAE solution that enables manufacturers to accelerate the speed and accuracy of simulation, increase design productivity, and bring better products to market faster. Designed exclusively for dedicated analysts, SimXpert is built around MSC.Software's multidiscipline (MD) core solutions, effectively combining all of the most common FE solutions into a

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single, common data model framework. The SimXpert interface comprises interchangeable workspaces (including Structures, Motion, Thermal, and Explicit) each designed to efficiently guide the analyst through the set-up, solution, and results interpretation for the chosen application. Of particular interest to designers at Impress, the SimTemplate Studio also allows SimXpert users to capture, share, and reuse all stages of the simulation process, thereby mobilizing the inherent design intellect, and promoting consistency and best-practice throughout the organization.

"Thanks to the swiftness and expertise of MSC.Software's Professional Services team, we have already implemented MD Nastran and SimXpert," said Philippe Niec, Impress Numerical Simulation Leader "The new functionality has brought immediate results and return on our investment."

"The use of advanced simulation at Impress demonstrates both the growing adoption and the benefits of MSC.Software's enterprise simulation solutions outside of mainstream aerospace and automotive applications", said Amir Mobayen, Executive Vice President for Worldwide Sales and Services, [MSC.Software](#). "We were pleased to recognize Impress with MSC.Software's award for outstanding manufacturing innovation at our Virtual Product Development Conference in Frankfurt last year and we are confident that our companies will continue their relationship and enjoy maximum, mutual benefit."

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IQS Speeds NDI Medical's Time to Market, Eliminating Waste, Errors and Cost as a part of NDI's overall LEAN Initiative

19 August 2008

IQS announced that Neurostim Design and Innovation (NDI) Medical has chosen IQS for Advance Quality Management of its implantable and external medical devices. IQS will enable NDI Medical to accelerate time-to-market while ensuring that Class III medical devices meet all FDA regulatory and ISO system standards.

"Medical device companies can't sacrifice quality. Their only choice is how much money to spend on it, and how much risk to take," says Michael Rapaport, CEO of IQS. "IQS provides companies like NDI a centralized fully integrated quality and compliance solution that not only reduces errors and decreases time to market, it allows companies to simultaneously reduce costs."

"IQS stood out from the other options because it was like a carefully woven web," said Michael Haessly, Director of Operations and Quality at NDI Medical. "If we wanted to reduce our time to market and our costs, we couldn't simply look at document management or quality in isolation; we needed a system that addressed cross-functional workflow. Document management for us wasn't simply routing the documents, but providing access to all of the information needed to make sound business decisions, at the click of a mouse. The automated routing of information through IQS drastically shortened our approval times, reduced data entry errors, and has reduced the amount of time needed for issue analysis and resolution. In addition, the centralized data, and user friendly "to do" lists virtually eliminate the time we previously spent tracking down missing documents, such as Nonconformance's and Corrective Actions. IQS has truly made us a much more efficient organization."

IQS Benefit Highlights for NDI Medical;

- Quality has become a value-added tie-in with LEAN initiatives
- Improved manufacturing through-put by increased Change Order processing from 62 to 860 annually

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- Improved response time to customers
- Pinpoint quality issues early in the manufacturing process
- Turnkey Compliance
- Reduced audit times from days to hours

“Quality experts know the best way to improve timing and cost without sacrificing quality is to eliminate non-value added tasks, wait time, and waste,” says Lori Gipp, VP of Marketing at IQS. “IQS’ enterprise approach to quality connects dependent quality processes together to reduce costs and improve product quality – a direct tie-in with an organization’s LEAN initiatives.”

“IQS gives NDI Medical a tremendous competitive advantage in terms of customer satisfaction and quality improvement: the ability to initiate and approve change orders has dramatically impacted our response-time to the needs of our internal (manufacturing process) and external customers, and for quality issues, we’re catching them earlier in the manufacturing process – and in many cases preventing them back in the design cycle before they actually impact production,” adds Haessly.

A by-product of IQS’ high-level of connectivity and traceability was that by using the product on day to day basis, NDI Medical ended up with turnkey compliance. Audits and validation became events that took hours, not days and weeks,” adds Haessly. “In addition, we’re able to generate immediate observations and findings, and take immediate action to correct any issues identified.”

“We take tremendous pride in the quality of our products because of the improved quality of life our products bring to the individuals who need them,” says Geoffrey Thrope, President and CEO of NDI Medical. “Clearly we see IQS as a competitive advantage and a smart investment in the future success of our products and company.”

To download the NDI Medical case study, please go to <http://www.iqs.com/downloads>.

About NDI Medical

Founded in 2002, Neurostim Design and Innovation (NDI) Medical develops, manufactures and markets implantable neuro-stimulation products including leads and implantable pulse generators (IPG), external devices for patient controllers, and clinician programmers.

NDI Medical’s products undergo rigorous quality control throughout design, testing, and manufacturing phases, and are produced in compliance with ISO standards and U.S. Food and Drug Administration regulations.

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Netxen Uses Magma's Integrated IC Implementation Flow for the NX3031 Next-Generation Networking Chip

18 August 2008

Magma® Design Automation Inc. announced that Netxen, a leading provider of breakthrough 10-Gigabit Ethernet (10GbE) technology and products, has released to production the NX3031, a multimillion-gate, 90-nanometer (nm), enterprise-class network interface controller that was implemented with Magma's software. Leveraging the Magma system's integrated power, signal integrity, timing analysis and physical synthesis capabilities, Netxen was able to achieve extremely high utilization, eliminate crosstalk and minimize DRC errors.

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

"In large, complex 90-nm designs the wires are very close to each other, and without a fast and advanced router, addressing crosstalk can become a time-consuming and costly challenge," said Ross Werner, vice president of Hardware Engineering at Netxen. "We adopted the [Magma](#) flow after it was shown to dramatically shorten the physical design cycle while allowing us to achieve high utilization and meet aggressive timing requirements."

"Netxen's network adapters are used by the world's top server manufacturers," said Premal Buch, general manager of Product Development of Magma's Design Implementation Business Unit. "Their impressive product line and exacting requirements makes their products a good fit for Magma's software capabilities. We're pleased to be working with a leader in the networking market."

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Piemme Arredamenti Reduces Programming Time by 30% with JETCAM

18 August 2008

Piemme Arredamenti, based in Tuscany, Italy manufactures specialist furniture for supermarkets, shops and offices. They purchased an Amada LC2415 laser in 2006 along with an Italian CAM system recommended by the machine tool reseller, however the software proved unstable, complicated to use and did not generate accurate NC code with the programmers often having to manually amend it.

In 2007 they decided to evaluate the CAM market. Their main requirements were the ability to import batches of files from SolidEdge automatically, integrate the CAM into their MRP and generate accurate NC code. They finally selected JETCAM Expert, provided by local reseller SGR Consulting.

Two licenses of Expert 1 and one Expert Premium were installed in March 2008, with three staff being fully trained over two days. The Expert 1 licenses were used for converting and manage geometry. The Expert Premium license included free form nesting capabilities. Said Marco Primavera, Owner; "Immediately the problem of poor NC code was removed as the JETCAM postprocessor generated accurate code every time. The system itself was also stable; never crashing or generating errors of any kind."

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TAW Sees CAM Software Pay for Itself in Four Months

19 August 2008

TAW Inc, based in Tampa, Florida, provides metal fabrication services, specializing in the electrical distribution and control equipment sectors. After the purchase of a Cincinnati laser in 2005 to compliment their Amada punch press problems became apparent, with two incompatible systems in operation that provided limited functionality.

Robert Huneke, Engineering Manager commented; "With the original system, programming the Amada was difficult, with only one person being able to use it. This created a massive bottleneck, with any change to either a part or a nest having to go through engineering. Furthermore I refused to use the auto-tooling functions as they were complex and rarely worked as expected. Simple functions such as prompting to save on exit simply weren't there, so we often lost changes to parts. Neither software could drive the other machine, so we had to reprogram parts from scratch if we could not run them on the intended machine."

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After considering upgrading their Amada software they decided to evaluate the market; “I quickly discounted upgrading the current product and did a search online for alternative systems. I briefly investigated a couple of others before settling for JETCAM.”

In May 2006 two licenses of JETCAM Expert with Free Form High Performance Nesting (FFHPN) were installed. Floating licenses were installed to allow two operators to work concurrently over the network. Training was provided and completed in a single day, with staff able to provide complete downstream training for new staff.

Immediately, the programming requirement was reduced by 75%. Parts could be imported and dynamically tooled, with functions such as applying tabs to corners automatically. As a result the company’s entire programming methodology has changed, with shop floor operators all able to create/modify parts or nests, thus removing the bottleneck of a single programmer. Jobs can also be seamlessly moved between the punch and the laser depending on capacity, with JETCAM intelligently applying method-specific technology such as lead-ins, common line cutting or tabs to parts accordingly. Robert noted; “From day one JETCAM was set up to correctly apply tabs - I’ve only ever manually set up one tab when cutting plastic once in two years.”

The company plans to implement JETCAM’s Remote Control Processing (RCP) module to remove the remaining 25% programming time by completely automating the import, tooling, nesting, NC code generation and reporting processes. SolidWorks generates the CAD files that can be imported into JETCAM, while Visual Basic scripts running through Excel automatically populate JETCAM’s orders lists. RCP will then automate the entire process. Robert added; “We decided to run the system in semi-automatic mode initially and then move to full automation.”

TAW also saw a 20% reduction in material due to FFHPN’s ability to nest over a maximum specified length of time, coupled with other material saving features such as common line cutting.

A maintenance contract is also in place, allowing TAW to immediately download the latest version. Beneficial functions in later versions include SolidWorks integration, remnant sheet management, enhanced sequencing and tool teach mode, allowing JETCAM to learn a user’s preferred tooling selection on particular contours and intelligently apply this logic automatically on future parts.

With new parts and nests being created daily, automating the process provides considerable savings, with TAW seeing a return on investment in only four months. Robert concluded; “We’ve had great support from the local reseller, with any questions resolved the same day. Normally when you bring in new products you meet with resistance, but all of the shopfloor and engineering staff like JETCAM because of the ease of use and the time it saves.”

Benefits Achieved:

- Return on investment in just four months
- 20% reduction in material waste
- Reduction in programming time of 75%
- Eliminated the bottleneck of a single programmer
- All shopfloor staff can now amend parts and make nests
- Ability to move jobs between machines seamlessly
- Replaced two CAM systems with one

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- Using floating license capability for access to the system from any PC on the network
- Plan to totally automate programming through RCP
- Operators trained in a single day
- Local dealer excellent pre and post sales support

Machines in use:

- Cincinnati Laser CL-7A
- Amada PEGA 305072 Turret Punch

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Ubidyne Accelerates Development Process with Aras

19 August 2008

Aras® announced that Ubidyne GmbH, a global leader in digital antenna embedded radio technology for wireless communications, is now using the Aras Innovator solution for enterprise product lifecycle management [PLM] to accelerate product development, simplify product management, and increase product quality.

[Aras](#) provides Ubidyne with a single view of all product-related information across the extended enterprise including product costing for the Bill of Materials with complete version control. Aras will be expanded to quality management processes for collaboration and control across the entire organization from development to purchasing, finance, and operations with executive visibility.

“We selected Aras because of the comprehensive PLM functionality in the solution combined with the innovative enterprise open source business model which eliminated the up-front license expenses required by the other PLM system providers,” said Thomas Hartmann, Director of System Testing at [Ubidyne](#). “Because of the open source format Aras enables us to rollout processes incrementally. We are implementing new processes without worrying about the user licensing expenses.”

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Product News

Agilent Technologies Announces Integrated, 3D EM Simulation Solution for RF Module Design EMDS-for-ADS Eliminates Need for Standalone EM Tools, Improves Productivity

18 August 2008

Agilent Technologies Inc. announced an integrated design flow solution that includes full 3D EM simulation for RF Module Design. Called [EMDS-for-ADS](#), the full 3D electromagnetic (EM) simulator is integrated into Agilent’s [Advanced Design System](#) EDA software platform and eliminates the need for standalone EM tools.

EMDS-for-ADS helps designers accurately predict the 3D EM interactions of embedded passive components in RF modules while co-simulating with active circuits to maximize the wireless sub-system performance. The integrated 3D EM simulator improvements allow designers to analyze larger circuits faster without leaving their familiar design flow. This capability increases productivity in the

overall design and verification process.

“The 3D EM simulator allows our RF module designers to replace standalone tools such as HFSS,” said Bob Wong, R&D engineer with Agilent’s Component Test (Network Analyzer) Division. “As a result, we’ve more than doubled our design efficiency because we can interactively co-simulate the circuit and physical 3D effects without leaving the ADS design flow.”

EMDS-for-ADS accounts for the finite dielectric boundaries of RF modules. In addition, it is useful for verifying the accuracy of faster Planar EM simulators such as Agilent’s Momentum, which assumes infinite dielectric planar layers in its analysis. EMDS-for-ADS also features a new finite element mesher and high-capacity iterative solver that delivers better accuracy, speed and capacity for RF SIP (system-in-package) and RF module designs.

The most common applications for EMDS-for-ADS are RF modules based on LTCC (low temperature co-fired ceramics) and laminates with embedded passive structures. They are found in almost all RF modules produced today. EMDS-for-ADS saves time when drawing these structures with its planar RF layout macros. These macros automatically draw RF components such as spiral inductors and meander lines – which are time-consuming to construct using a generic 3D drawing and simulation tool.

EMDS-for-ADS is part of the new Agilent [Advanced Design System 2008 Update 2](#). [Advanced Design System](#) is an electronic design automation platform, offering complete integration to designers of consumer and commercial wireless electronic products such as mobile phones, wireless networking and GPS, as well as radar and satellite communications systems, and high-speed digital serial links.

More information about ADS 2008 Update 2 is available at www.agilent.com/find/eesof-ads2008-update2-pr. To request a demo of ADS 2008 Update 2, visit www.agilent.com/find/eesof-ads2008-update2-demo-pr.

A high-resolution image of Agilent’s ADS 2008 Update 2 software is available at www.agilent.com/find/eesof-ADS-2008-U2_images.

U.S. Pricing and Availability

EMDS-for-ADS and ADS 2008 Update 2 is available now, with prices starting at approximately \$18,000. It is also available in time-based bundles with ADS, starting at approximately \$20,000 per year.

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Autodesk Unveils First Flexible Software Delivery Model for CAD Industry

20 August 2008

Autodesk, Inc. is adopting a new Flexible Software Delivery model for AutoCAD software.

[Autodesk](#) is the first company in the CAD industry to introduce this new software development and delivery model, which is designed to increase customer satisfaction and subscription value by providing AutoCAD customers with earlier access to new features, delivered on demand, and provide them with the flexibility to choose which features to install and use.

"Many leading software companies, including Microsoft, Symantec and Intuit, have adopted this new model of software delivery to help their customers maximize their technology investments. We are excited to introduce this innovative approach to AutoCAD," said Guri Stark, vice president, AutoCAD

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and Platform Products. "Customers on subscription will have earlier access to advanced features and no longer need to worry about upgrades -- they can just plug in the new feature packs they want and bypass those they may not need.

We're also automating the delivery of product updates and hotfixes to all users of AutoCAD, ensuring all our customers now have access to the latest technologies as quickly as possible."

The new Flexible Software Delivery model for AutoCAD consists of two primary components: Subscription Bonus Packs and Product Updates.

Subscription Bonus Packs

Subscription Bonus Packs containing new software features are now available to AutoCAD subscription customers through the Autodesk Subscription Center.

Subscription customers account for about 75 percent of licensed AutoCAD users. Subscription Bonus Packs will be released regularly and customers will be able to pick and choose which bonus packs to install, providing them greater flexibility in how they deploy their software. AutoCAD customers not on Autodesk Subscription may have access to features from the Subscription Bonus Packs in future product releases. The first AutoCAD 2009 Subscription Bonus Pack, now available for download, provides many useful features that were requested by members of the AUGI (Autodesk User Group International) community.

"Having the option to improve and extend the capabilities of AutoCAD with the use of the Subscription Bonus Pack between full product releases is valuable to our company and is accelerating our ROI," said Keith Rice, CAD Administrator, Pennoni Associates Inc.

Automatic Product Updates

Relying on critical data from the AutoCAD Customer Involvement Program (CIP) and Customer Error Reporting (CER) utility, Product Updates are now automatically delivered to all licensed AutoCAD customers, providing faster and more regular access to patches and fixes. AutoCAD CIP and CER information also provides the development team with near real-time information on product usage, guiding them on key focus areas within the application. The CER system also provides customers with immediate solutions to product failures by automatically sending users emails after a product crash. To date, about 200,000 solutions have been delivered to users, helping to reduce the impact to customer productivity.

AutoCAD 2009, released earlier this year, boosts efficiency with customizable, extensible features and enhancements that improve drafting productivity by decreasing the number of steps needed to run a command.

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CAD Schroer Partners with 3D PRO to Bring Integrated Drafting to Pro/ENGINEER® Customers in Poland

13 August 2008

CAD Schroer Group (CSG) welcomed a new reseller, 3D PRO in Poland, focusing on STHENO/PRO®, a drafting solution fully integrated with Pro/ENGINEER, Pro/INTRALINK® and Windchill PDMLink™ and is ideal for consolidating model and drawing-based product development processes.

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CSG, known for its MEDUSA4® and STHENO/PRO MCAD software suites, has a strong international presence with offices in Germany, Switzerland, France, the United Kingdom, Italy, and the United States. "Offering local, friendly, and technically competent advice to our customers has always been our fundamental strength," says Michael Schroer, founding Director of the company that has grown from strength to strength since its beginnings as a CAD-based engineering services provider in 1986.

New Partners in Key Locations

Its extensive reseller network, which subscribes to the same ethos, already covers much of the globe, but there is plenty of room for growth in specific countries and market niches. "Our latest partner drive focuses on suppliers to Pro/ENGINEER® customers, who recognise STHENO/PRO as an unrivalled solution", says Joep Brouwers, CSG's International Channel Manager. "This month we are pleased to welcome 3D PRO, a PTC Silver Level Software Partner."

About 3D PRO

Established in 1995, 3D PRO, located in Lodz, Poland, today has a team of 15 technical and sales experts with over 240 customers, offering engineering software solutions and consultancy all around the PTC® product range, as well as providing training, support and implementation services.

"We are extremely pleased to become a CAD Schroer partner," says Marius Szenfelder, the company's Managing Director, "Adding STHENO/PRO to our product offering means completing our portfolio. We can now offer the ideal 2D/3D solution to new and existing customers. Most Polish companies moving to 3D don't want to give up a strong drafting solution, and that means they need a product that works seamlessly within their Pro/ENGINEER data management environment and integrates with Windchill® PDMLink™ or Pro/INTRALINK®. STHENO/PRO allows them to consolidate data from the 2D and 3D worlds and move forward with best-in-class tools for the entire design process."

3D PRO is already in the process of implementing a Pro/ENGINEER + Windchill PDMLink + STHENO/PRO solution at a client site.

Developed in Partnership with PTC®

"PTC and CSG have been working in close partnership to ensure that STHENO/PRO's development is tightly aligned with PTC's Pro/ENGINEER strategy," says Michael Campbell, Vice President of Product Management at PTC. "The product has now reached an impressive degree of maturity and technical innovation, and we fully endorse it as the ideal 2D partner application for Pro/ENGINEER, obviating some of our customers' need for separate drafting packages, such as AutoCAD®. Pro/ENGINEER and STHENO/PRO work hand-in-glove to form the ultimate 2D to 3D solution in companies with a considerable 2D legacy or supply chain."

STHENO/PRO replaces the need for a 3-tier (Pro/E – 2D – paper) approach, working hand-in-glove with Pro/DETAIL™, offering bi-directional data exchange, and the incorporation, editing and maintenance of raster data. It allows for the quick and easy creation of things like 2D concepts, layouts and tender designs, as well as 2D adaptations of Pro/DETAIL® sheets for product designs, technical manuals, and installation designs.

"No matter which corner of the globe you visit, design engineers have much in common: they need competent advice, backed by reliable, efficient, integrated tools that work the way engineers do – freeing, rather than restricting, creativity," Michael Schroer concludes. "STHENO/PRO has managed to capture the imagination of customers throughout the world, precipitating our move for further expansion. We are always pleased to find partners who, as leaders in their field, share our passion for

friendly and competent customer support, providing real added value to any systems implementation.”

For more information, please visit: <http://www.3dpro.com.pl>

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Cadence Introduces Constraint-Driven High-Density-Interconnect Design Flow for PCB

18 August 2008

Cadence Design Systems, Inc. announced a sweeping set of improvements to the Cadence® Allegro® and OrCAD® families of products aimed at boosting performance and productivity through new features and functionality. Part of the Cadence SPB 16.2 release, the new technology helps deliver shorter, more predictable design cycles for PCB designs. With significant improvements for designers using high-density interconnect (HDI), the technology will be of particular value to customers in the high-end consumer electronics market, as well as those in segments such as computing and networking where users are seeking a constraint-driven HDI design flow.

New technology introduced in Allegro PCB for HDI designs includes new objects, an extensive set of new rules for micro-vias, an enhanced via-transition use model, and changes to the entire PCB design flow to enable a comprehensive constraint-driven HDI design flow. Design partitioning has been enhanced with new capabilities for partitioning the design horizontally and adding soft boundaries to allow users to work in parallel more efficiently, further shortening the design cycle.

“NVIDIA designs require a PCB design solution that offers a robust constraint-driven PCB design flow,” said Greg Bodi, senior manager, System Design, NVIDIA. “Having HDI capabilities that are driven by a constraint-driven flow is necessary for us to meet our time-to-market objectives. With the significant improvements for HDI designs in the Allegro PCB16.2 release, we expect to shave off up to 25 percent from the PCB layout design cycle time for our designs.”

Customers can shorten their time to market and reduce development costs for high-frequency signals such as those found in PCI Express 2.0, Serial ATA II, SAS II. Using Allegro PCB SI users can quickly and accurately simulate and validate for BER compliance using new and advanced eye mask capabilities, high-frequency field solver technology. In addition, Allegro PCB SI provides simulation support for interoperable, multi-vendor IBIS 5.0 AMI-compliant transceivers.

“Shrinking BGA pin pitch is forcing customers in many market segments to use high-density interconnect on their designs,” said Steve Kamin, product marketing group director at [Cadence](#).

“Cadence has excelled in constraint-driven PCB design flow for many years now, but customers also demand the HDI capability. With the significant improvements in the SPB 16.2 release, Cadence now offers both capabilities, and some of our customers already are seeing the benefits of our constraint-driven HDI design flow. These improvements, along with the many others, make this a very important release for PCB designers.”

With the layout-driven RF PCB design capability introduced in the new release, users can eliminate the need to manually update schematics for RF circuit elements added into the layout. Combined with an improved bi-directional integration with Agilent’s ADS environment, the Allegro PCB RF option allows users to shorten time to create mixed-signal digital-analog-RF designs.

The SPB 16.0 release made a significant investment in improving the ease of use of Allegro and OrCAD PCB Editor. The new release continues this emphasis on improving ease of use for all products in the Allegro family, from design creation tools in the front end to PCB layout tools in the back end.

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OrCAD Capture boasts productivity and usability improvements including an updated GUI, enhanced search capabilities and new capability for designing-in FPGAs. New FPGA design-in features include the ability to create split symbols, import and export FPGA pin assignments for leading FPGA vendors tools, and ease-of-use improvements for supporting the ECO process for FPGAs.

Finally, engineers can specify and embed physical and spacing constraints for critical high-speed nets in the design to improve chances of first-time success while eliminating traditional error-prone verbal, email and spreadsheet-based communication. This can help shorten design cycles and eliminate unnecessary iterations between hardware designers and PCB layout designers.

SPB 16.2 will be available in Q4 2008. Customers can see demos of Allegro PCB and IC packaging/SiP flows at the CDNLive! Silicon Valley conference Sept. 9-11, or enroll in a techorial on SPB 16.2 on Sept. 8. SPB 16.2 also will be demonstrated at the EMA booth at the PCB West in Santa Clara Sept 14-19.

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Cimatron's German Subsidiary to Sell and Support GibbsCAM Machining Solutions

21 August 2008

[Cimatron Limited](#) announced that its German subsidiary is now selling and supporting the GibbsCAM advanced machining software solutions, marketed in Germany under the name of Virtual Gibbs.

The German subsidiary is the latest Cimatron office to offer the GibbsCAM solutions following the companies' merger earlier this year. With offices in Ettlingen, Hamm, Ismaning, Cologne, and Nuremberg, Cimatron GmbH has been serving a strong customer base of thousands of German tool makers and manufacturers for over 10 years.

GibbsCAM solutions provide a broad range of CNC programming capabilities for milling, turning, mill-turn, rotary milling, tombstone-fixtured, wire-EDM, and multi-turret/multi-spindle machining. Modeling functionality tuned specifically for manufacturing supports the creation and manipulation of wireframe, surface, and solid geometries.

Featuring an intuitive user interface, built-in associativity, and simulation capabilities, GibbsCAM empowers manufacturers to increase productivity and elevate responsiveness to customer requirements and design changes.

GibbsCAM supports control and machine tools from leading vendors including GE Fanuc, Infimatic, Siemens, Doosan Infracore, Haas, Index, MAG Fadal, Matsuura, Mazak, Mitsubishi, Mori Seiki, Nakamura Tome, and Tornos.

"Tapping into the resources and knowledge offered by Cimatron GmbH provides a quick and reliable route for expanding the GibbsCAM global distribution network," said Robb Weinstein, Gibbs's and Associates' Senior Vice President of Sales and Strategic Planning. "Cimatron GmbH will be working with the GibbsCAM Resellers already established in the territory to further capitalize on potential synergies."

"The GibbsCAM software will enable us to better respond to the demand for manufacturing solutions in the German market" said Dirk Dombert, Cimatron GmbH's General Manager. "We look forward to offering such a highly reputable solution to complement the rest of the Cimatron product suite."

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Conformia Integrates SOA-Based Product/Process Lifecycle Management Into IBM Platform for Pharmaceutical Development

18 August 2008

Conformia, supplier of enterprise solutions for product/process lifecycle management (PPLM) for regulated process manufacturing industries, announced it has integrated its solution into the IBM platform to provide an end-to-end solution for drug development to the pharmaceutical industry. The solution incorporates service oriented architecture (SOA) capabilities that have been validated by IBM. Conformia's SOA approach enables other applications running on the IBM stack and infrastructure to exchange crucial pharmaceutical data with Conformia's products. Furthermore, data from non-IBM products can now be integrated into Conformia and IBM product stacks creating the first commercial off-the-shelf, integrated information environment solution for pharmaceutical and biotech drug development.

Conformia fulfilled the IBM PartnerWorld® SOA validation criteria for their solution in December, and is working with IBM to deliver both the strategic business transformation and the commercial off-the-shelf software systems that pharmaceutical developers need to support sustainability of their transformation strategies. With the Conformia SOA platform, drug developers will be able to reduce development lifecycles, increase operational visibility and traceability, improve product quality, and decrease the costs associated with regulatory non-compliance -- all while achieving major gains in data integration.

Working together, Conformia and IBM provide the pharmaceutical industry with enterprise software on a reliable technology stack that links data around early experiments, pilot plant scale-up as well as full-scale manufacturing, along with proven business processes and deployment capabilities.

"As one of the most heavily regulated and complex industries, the pharmaceutical sector presents a myriad of unique challenges to organizations during their product-development lifecycles, and, until now, few have stepped forward to help," said Dan Pelino, general manager, IBM Global Healthcare and Life Sciences. "Together, Conformia and IBM are helping to deliver a clear path for these organizations to follow -- one that allows them to create an integrated data and information environment resulting in more effective knowledge-management programs, which they are now demanding."

"Combining our deep pharmaceutical and biotech expertise with IBM's strength in pharmaceutical industry business transformation delivers a groundbreaking new approach to help companies implement new development strategies such as the Quality by Design Paradigm or the ICH Quality Vision. This helps solve some of the biggest issues in drug development," said Anjali Kataria, founder and chief marketing officer of [Conformia](#). "Our work with IBM both validates and strengthens our continued dedication to making product development more efficient so scientific leadership can do more with the same resources."

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Cross-Departmental Management of Client Versions; New release of CENIT's software ECLISO features new functionalities

20 August 2008

The new release 3.2. of CENIT's software ECLISO, a digital file that is based on the IBM Enterprise Content Management platform, features additional functionalities. A special feature is the "Enterprise

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Managed Client" concept that includes several new functionalities and is especially of interest for companies that utilize ECLISO in various configurations on many workplaces.

ECLISO can be used in various configurations for the different departments. As such, e.g. tax departments can use ECLISO for the management and processing of tax documents, or, an engineering department for the management of construction data and project reports. With the "Enterprise Managed Client" administrators can now decide from one central location in the company, which ECLISO functions to make available for the different user groups. The concept thus facilitates the company-wide management of the various client versions in a very easy way.

Another new functionality of the "Enterprise Managed Client" concept is the licence management. This automatically protocols which user signs up when and with which role. Thus, it becomes very easy for a company to retrace how many users actually use the various roles. Through this, the customer gains a clear overview over his licence management - a highly relevant factor especially in regard to Compliance.

For additional information please visit <http://www.cenit.de/en/corporate.html>

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DP Technology Expands Reseller Network with Hi-Tec De Mexico

20 August 2008

DP Technology, maker of ESPRIT® software, announced that it has added Hi-Tec De Mexico, the largest Mexico-based machine-tool distributor, to its expanding network of international resellers.

“ESPRIT is one of the very best selections out there — and we wanted the best,” said Mariano Conde, market analyst for Hi-Tec De Mexico, regarding the company’s decision to carry and recommend ESPRIT for its extensive customer base. “ESPRIT provides a great compliment to the machines that we sell.”

Founded in 1992, Hi-Tec De Mexico — which boasts seven offices and a sales team of 30 stationed all over the country — has since become Mexico’s exclusive distributor of Haas Automation machine tools and is currently one of the largest Haas dealers in the world. In addition to Haas tools, the company carries machine tool manufactured by Mori Seiki, Citizen Machinery and Mitsubishi EDM, and has garnered a roughly 2,000-member client base since its inception.

Chosen by Hi-Tec De Mexico because of its ability to efficiently handle an array of complex machining demands, ESPRIT was singled out, Conde said, due to its ease of use and ability to “take production to new levels.”

“This software has a lot of different competencies — for instance, with its 5-axis machining capabilities and collision detection — and that was something we wanted to offer to increase efficiency,” Conde said.

To jumpstart cooperation between the two companies, 16 of Hi-Tec De Mexico’s applications engineers recently received extensive ESPRIT training in Mexico City, Mexico. Hi-Tec De Mexico is also preparing to embark on a major marketing campaign designed to inform new and existing clients that the company has expended its repertoire.

“We at DP Technology are excited about teaming up with Hi-Tec de Mexico,” said Robert Capp, West Coast sales manager. “They are off to a very good start and I am sure that this will be the trend as we

continue to develop the ESPRIT brand in all markets of the world.”

DP Technology and Hi-Tec De Mexico plan to join forces in March of 2009 for the next installation of Tecma, a major biennial machine-tool show that takes place in Mexico City. Hi-Tec De Mexico is now “fully up and running in terms of serving the Mexican market,” said Capp, who added that the company is performing technical support, ESPRIT demonstrations, and training in both English and Spanish.

“Hi-Tec De Mexico is very serious and selective about all products they represent and had been searching for a CAM partner for some time,” Capp said. “After witnessing the technical advancements, passion, energy and enthusiasm at ESPRIT World Conference 2008, they were left with no doubt that ESPRIT really was ‘The Right Choice.’ ”

For more information about Hi-Tec De Mexico, visit the company’s Web site, accessible in English and Spanish, at <http://www.hitec.com.mx>.

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ESI Group Announces VA One 2008.0

20 August 2008

[ESI Group](#) announced the release of VA One 2008.0. VA One is a complete solution for simulating noise and vibration across the full frequency range. It seamlessly combines Finite Elements, Boundary Elements, and Statistical Energy Analysis (SEA) in ONE model.

This second major release of [VA One](#) in 2008 comprises over 40 major enhancements across all modules.

Fast Multipole Boundary Element Solver

A significant highlight of VA One 2008.0 is the inclusion of a fully-integrated Fast Multipole Boundary Element (FMM) solver. Due to constraints on memory and computational resources, traditional acoustic Boundary Elements are typically limited to models involving less than 20,000 degrees of freedom. FMM represents a significant breakthrough in low frequency vibro-acoustic analysis, enabling Boundary Element Models with a million degrees of freedom to be solved in a matter of hours using only a standard PC. The benefits are wide-ranging, and include an extensive array of new applications such as improved models of pass-by noise and the use of FMM to define exterior loads in system level SEA models.

Enhanced Productivity

VA One 2008.0 has specifically focused on the market’s demands for improved productivity and customization. VA One’s extensive scripting functionality has been enhanced to include quick access to recently used scripts and the ability to quickly edit and modify scripts using saved settings. Scripting is also supported on Windows 64, enabling customization and process automation for large models. Additional support also has been added for quickly creating SEA cavities from ‘shrink-wrapped’ geometry, thereby reducing the time required to create models from complex geometry.

Integrated CAE Environment

VA One 2008.0 also includes enhanced CAD and FE geometry import. Import of ESI Group’s PAM-CRASH (.dsy) file format enables users to create more accurate models of the acoustic transmission loss of rubber seals (by importing deformed seal geometry from Visual-Seal). CAD import has also been

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improved with additional ‘stitching’ options and improved support for CATIA V5, Pro/ENGINEER, and STEP.

“At ATA Engineering our clients count on us to deliver accurate solutions to challenging vibro-acoustics problems, under tight schedule and cost constraints,” said Dr. Paul Blelloch, Vice President of Aerospace Analysis at ATA Engineering Inc. “The core SEA capability in VA One has played a key role in our analysis solutions for a number of years, but the recent advances in FEM, BEM and Hybrid capabilities have allowed us to tackle a whole new range of problems. We can now provide accurate force and stress as well as acceleration results across a broad frequency spectrum. The ability to model the same problem in multiple different ways, mixing BEM and FEM as well as SEA also gives us the ability to better understand the response of very complex systems”.

“VA One 2008.0 continues ESI Group’s commitment to providing our customers with the state-of-the-art in vibro-acoustic analysis methods,” said Dr. Phil Shorter, Director of Vibro-Acoustic Product Operations at ESI Group. “With the introduction of Fast Multipole Methods, our customers can now easily simulate the low frequency response of systems that were previously too large to be analyzed with traditional Boundary Element methods. Furthermore, by combining Fast Multipole with other analysis methods in VA One, our customers can now create more accurate ‘system level’ models of noise and vibration across the full frequency range.”

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ICAM Releases the Latest Version of CAM-POST - Version 18

18 August 2008

ICAM Technologies Corporation ([ICAM](#)) announced the release of CAM-POST® V18, the latest version of its graphical NC post-processing software solution.

Version 18 delivers technological improvements based on the evolution of the NC manufacturing industry and the market intelligence gathered upon solving current manufacturing issues faced by leading aerospace and automotive companies.

CAM-POST V18 is an interactive NC post-processing development and deployment software product supporting the most popular CAD / CAM systems, CNC controllers and machine tools.

Unlike competing post-processing products that restrict programmers to develop post-processors using complex macros, CAM-POST V18 provides the environment for a tightly integrated post-processing and machine simulation solution allowing users to create and automatically test NC programs against collisions and other programming errors within a single user-friendly graphical interface.

Building on its advanced "forward-looking" features such as path planning and rotary axes pre-positioning / winding, developed to enhance the machining process while avoiding dwell marks, over-traveling and rotary repositioning, CAM-POST V18 offers an array of new features to its end-users including:

- Rotary head support for 5-axis Mill / Turn machines
- New polar interpolation (TRANSMIT, G12.1...) and emulation support for Mill / Turn and Mill machines
- Rotary axis "singular positioning" optimization to avoid linear axis over-traveling conditions

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- Automatic switching between Cartesian (xyz) and Polar (zxc) to avoid linear axis over-traveling

ICAM's complete NC manufacturing product line including CAM-POST V18 is now available for 64-bit processors and supports Windows Vista®. The ICAM database supports extended post-processor names and virtually unlimited saved post-processor revisions.

"What makes CAM-POST V18 such a unique post-processing solution is that advanced posts can be generated, tested and automatically optimized concurrently during the programming phase," said Brian Francis, ICAM's Director of Research and Development. "The benefit of these features is that it allows programmers to develop high-quality post-processors at a fraction of the time it would have taken using other solutions."

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Lattice Technology Releases New 64 bit CAD Converters

18 August 2008

[Lattice Technology Inc.](#)®, announced a series of upgrades to its 3D CAD Conversion tools. As a result of these upgrades, XVL now supports data from the most current 3D CAD tools, including 64-bit CAD platforms.

Lattice Technology's XVL format allows for accurate, compressed 3D CAD data to be used by others, who don't have a CAD platform, but who are integrated within a digital manufacturing workflow. Lattice Technology's XVL Converters use conversion technologies to enable the translation of 3D CAD data from every major 3D CAD format. The Converters are available as plug-ins into a CAD seat, or as Servers that work within a manufacturing IT system or enterprise workflow. Recent upgrades to these converters include support for:

Pro/ENGINEER® WildFire® 4, Autodesk Inventor® 2009, in both Plug-in and Server versions, 64-bit versions of NX™, 64-bit versions of SolidWorks®.

The converters already support current and older versions of CATIA®, Pro/ENGINEER, I-DEAS, CoCreate®, Autodesk Mechanical Desktop®, SolidWorks, NX, Solid Edge® and many neutral 3D CAD file formats.

In addition, the Converters already support 64-bit versions of CATIA and Pro/ENGINEER.

"As XVL becomes more deeply integrated into digital manufacturing processes, so we respond with very advanced support of current 3D CAD formats to enable our customers to easily simulate, validate and animate the designs," said Bill Barnes, GM, Lattice Technology Inc. "Our converters use the industry's best translation technologies and allow massive 3D data to be compressed, very accurately, into files that are 1% or less of the original size. This makes even the biggest assemblies easily manageable and usable."

Lattice's digital manufacturing applications leverage the highly accurate and ultra-compressed XVL 3D format, enabling even the largest 3D designs to be easily and quickly reviewed for accuracy, simulated, checked for tolerances and clearances and reused in all areas of engineering, design, sales, marketing, maintenance and customer support. Lattice's technologies represent the new era in reliably using and accessing 3D data across the enterprise in a digital manufacturing environment. They are used by designers, production and manufacturing engineers, support staff and illustrators worldwide.

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McLaren Software Releases Work Manager

18 August 2008

McLaren Software announced the release of McLaren Work Manager designed to simplify business processes involved with management of engineering and other business critical documents.

McLaren Work Manager and Enterprise Engineer provide an ideal solution for any organization requiring teams of people to create, review, approve and publish engineering documentation. Whether for compliance or internal efficiency purposes McLaren Work Manager presents a familiar Microsoft interface masking the complexity of the business processes to be applied.

McLaren Work Manager is a Microsoft .Net Smart Client utilizing the Microsoft Fluent User™ user interface as used in Microsoft Office 2007™. Ribbon bars change according to options available to a user at any given step in a process. The graphical look and feel accelerates user adoption and reduces the need for re-training. Super-tooltips provide on-screen help describing the purpose of an individual button. The quick access bar allows users to configure their own shortcuts allowing a degree of personalization.

Gray Knowlton, Group Product Manager, Microsoft Corp. commented:- “McLaren Software is an active proponent of the Microsoft Office Business Application (OBA) strategy as demonstrated by the Enterprise Engineer for Projects integrations with both Microsoft Office 2003 and 2007. McLaren Work Manager is an excellent example of how to leverage Microsoft technology to simplify and ensure complex work processes are followed intuitively by end users”.

Paul Muir CEO of McLaren Software added:- “The ability to provide evidence that business processes have been followed by geographically dispersed engineering teams during the creation to publication of documentation is an increasing regulatory and internal business issue. The challenge for organizations is how to ensure the integrity of documentation without requiring users to learn new applications or interfaces. McLaren Work Manager has been developed with valuable input from the McLaren Customer Advisory Board to meet that challenge”.

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Mentor Graphics and Altera Partner on DO-254

19 August 2008

Supporting the growing number of avionics and military applications requiring DO-254-certifiable components, Altera Corporation and [Mentor Graphics Corporation](#) announced the companies are working together to develop tools and methodologies for use in creating DO-254-certifiable intellectual property (IP) that targets Altera’s field programmable gate array (FPGA) and HardCopy® application specific integrated circuit (ASIC) solutions. As part of this announcement, Mentor will join Altera’s DO-254 Global Partner Network in order to establish design and verification best practices for DO-254-certifiable IP development and integration flows.

Under this initiative, Mentor will leverage its expertise and design and verification solutions in the development of DO-254-certifiable IP. The primary tools in Mentor’s DO-254 suite include HDL Designer™, Precision® Synthesis, ModelSim®, Questa®, the 0-In® suite of formal verification tools, and a new solution for automating requirements traceability. Mentor also offers DO-254 compliance training, design methodology assessments, and consulting services, including a DO-254 Jumpstart package aimed at establishing advanced verification methodologies for DO-254 designs. More

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information on Mentor's DO-254 offering can be found at <http://www.mentor.com/go/do-254>.

"DO-254-certifiable IP is a huge productivity gain for our customers who have to comply with the DO-254 standard," said Amr El-Ashmawi, senior business unit manager of Altera's military/aerospace market. "Now instead of having to reverse engineer or re-develop a commonly used component, companies can actually reap the productivity benefit of off-the-shelf certifiable networking and processor IP, with the confidence of knowing that it supports the design assurance needs of their flows and thus does not present a certification risk."

Altera, through its DO-254 Global Partner Network, currently offers a safety-critical version of its Nios® II embedded processor. The certification aspects of this core were developed by HCELL Engineering using Mentor tools.

Tammy Reeve, president of Patmos Engineering Services, a firm that acts as a certification authority under the guidance of the FAA, stated, "Dealing with COTS IP under the guidance of DO-254 has been one of the industry's biggest challenges to date. I'm excited to see vendors like Altera and Mentor taking the initiative to address a very important aspect of these flows to make COTS IP compliant with DO-254. Their efforts could save hardware applicants a lot of resources and frustration."

"Working with Altera on DO-254-certifiable IP is the next step for us in supporting the needs of this market," said Michelle Lange, DO-254 program manager, Mentor Graphics. "Mentor recognized the importance of DO-254 at its inception and has been investing in solutions for DO-254 certification for several years. This initiative lets us leverage both our methodology expertise and tools to not only provide the industry with high-quality IP but also the tool and methodology guidance that many are seeking."

About Altera's DO-254 Global Partner Network

Enforced by worldwide aviation safety agencies since 2005, the DO-254 standard was developed by the avionics industry to establish design assurance and guidance for airborne electronic hardware designs. Altera's DO-254 Global Partner Network provides a comprehensive environment of DO-254-certifiable IP cores, best practice methodologies, best-in-class tools and in-house DO-254 expertise. The DO-254 Global Partner Network supports the needs of companies developing hardware that requires DO-254 Level A, B, C or D compliance. For more information about Altera's DO-254 Global Partner Network, visit <http://www.altera.com/military>.

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New Cadence Design Technology Tackles Miniaturization, Product Design and Low-Power Challenges for IC Package/SiP Designers

18 August 2008

[Cadence Design Systems, Inc.](#) announced its SPB 16.2 release, which focuses on addressing current and emerging chip package design challenges. This latest release delivers advanced IC package/system-in-package (SiP) miniaturization, design cycle reduction and DFM-driven design, along with a new power integrity modeling solution. These new capabilities can boost productivity of digital, analog, RF and mixed-signal IC package designers involved in single and multi-die packages/SiPs.

Design teams can expect improvements in the reduction in overall package size through the introduction of rules and constraint-driven automation capabilities that address the design methodology of high-density interconnect (HDI) substrate manufacturing that is a key enabler for miniaturization and

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increased functional density. Overall design time can be reduced through the enablement of team-based design, where multiple designers can work concurrently on the same design in order to reduce design cycle times and speed time to market.

With today's focus on low-power design, especially in wireless and battery-powered devices, an efficient package power delivery network (PDN) is critical for meeting power-management goals. The new power integrity technology allows designers to efficiently address the power-delivery design goals of sufficiency, efficiency and stability.

“Leading-edge complex high-speed ICs create very challenging IC package designs, both from a physical implementation and a signal and power integrity aspect,” said Kevin Roselle, chief technology officer at Bayside Design. “With today's focus on product miniaturization, increased designer productivity and efficient PDN design, we feel that SPB16.2 will help designers better address their design challenges.”

In addition, through an agreement with Kulicke & Soffa, a manufacturing equipment leader, Cadence enables DFM-driven wirebond design by using Kulicke & Soffa-verified wirebond IP profile libraries, increasing yield and reducing manufacturing delays.

“With wirebond packages becoming increasingly complex, the designer is being challenged to design-in DFM compliance in order to avoid manufacturing issues,” said Paul Reid, product marketing manager at Kulicke & Soffa. “By joining forces, we can now deliver DFM-proven loop profile libraries to the design community's desktop.”

“This new release provides significant enhancements to our IC Packaging and SiP technologies, and we're glad to see companies such as Bayside Design benefiting from its use,” said Steve Kamin, product marketing group director at Cadence. “We are committed to evolving our technology and building relationships with key design-chain players in order to maintain our leadership role in helping designers meet and exceed their design goals.”

SPB 16.2 will be available in Q4 2008. Customers can see demos of Allegro PCB and IC packaging/SiP flows at the CDNLive! Silicon Valley conference Sept. 9-11, or enroll in a techorial on SPB 16.2 on Sept. 8. SPB 16.2 also will be demonstrated at the EMA booth at the PCB West in Santa Clara Sept 14-19.

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Plataine Enables SolidWorks Users to Optimize Production with Advanced Nesting Capabilities

20 August 2008

[Plataine](#), a leading provider of integrated production optimization solutions, announced that its Total Production Optimization product supports integration with SolidWorks® 2008 3D CAD software and has been certified as a SolidWorks Solution Partner Product.

Plataine's Total Production Optimization is a complete production management system that combines real-time shop-floor data with the most advanced nesting and production scheduling capabilities. Plataine's advanced nesting capabilities have a track record of providing manufacturers with material savings of up to 20%.

SolidWorks 2008 delivers a host of features to help companies design better products more quickly. The software includes more than 250 customer-requested enhancements and significant innovations that

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break new ground in engineering efficiency. SolidWorks 2008 provides a new intuitive, time-saving user interface (UI) as well as impressive 3D graphics, builds on the company's SolidWorks Intelligent Feature Technology (SWIFT), accelerates better product design, and includes more advanced design analysis capabilities.

Using the two products, manufacturers are able to design a 3D model of the product or part and then transfer the 3D model into a 2D format for nesting optimization, eliminating numerous manual tasks and potential conversion errors.

The integration of SolidWorks and Plataine Total Production Optimization is already in use by leading manufacturers, enabling these companies to streamline and compress manufacturing cycles from design to production.

"Plataine has strong reputation for delivering production optimization capabilities," said Dassault Systèmes SolidWorks Corp. Director of Marketing and Alliances Efrat Ravid. "The integration of Plataine's Total Production Optimization and SolidWorks 2008 removes manual steps and ensures the accuracy of the results, allowing manufacturers to streamline production and expedite product delivery."

"By partnering with SolidWorks and integrating our products, we enable manufacturers to focus on providing the customer with the right product at the right time for the lowest possible cost," said Avner Ben-Bassat, Plataine's President. "Together, the products also help manufactures increase productivity and reduce material waste—contributing to the company's bottom line as well as to the preservation of the environment."

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Stoneworks Software Introduces RMLink® for Windchill® an Enhanced Requirements Management Integration

13 August 2008

Stoneworks Software Corporation has partnered with PTC® and IBM® to launch a new product offering, Requirements Management Link. Also referred to as RMLink®, this solution is an essential middleware product that facilitates the communication between Telelogic DOORS® Server and PTC's Windchill Product Suite. RMLink®, with its sleek design and intuitive web-based user interface, is integrated throughout the PTC Windchill® web-based application. PTC has recently signed a Co-Sell/Referral Plan with Stoneworks Software Corporation and has begun efforts to offer the solution internationally.

"We are pleased that PTC views this as a tool that is important to its customers, and we are delighted to have been included in the Partner Advantage™ Program," stated Joe Gardenghi, Chief Operations Officer of Stoneworks Software Corporation."

Andy Barlow, PTC's Senior Director of Business Development, stated, "With the addition of Stoneworks Software Corporation to the PTC Partner Advantage Program, Windchill PDMLink® users have access to the a unique and powerful solution with RMLink® solution." He continued, "The partner program is comprised of software providers selected for their expertise. Through our review process, Stoneworks Software Corporation demonstrated its expertise in enhanced requirements management integration. The company is a great addition to the program." Remarkably, RMLink® allows project management and development teams to view DOORS® requirements and their attributes within seconds. RMLink® further allows configuration management and DOORS® requirements management

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information to be uniformly retrieved and traced.

RMLink® is loaded with features that are essential to the success of product development teams. The capabilities and cost benefits that RMLink® provides are the tools needed to keep integrated product development teams on track, focused, and aligned. RMLink® is distributed via CD and is installed with minimal effort providing turnkey integration. The RMLink® package-based installer allows Systems Administrators to deploy RMLink® Server and components. The RMLink® installation package is offered in shrink wrap and click wrap packages. Regardless of the preferred installation method, the RMLink® Setup Wizard easily guides one through the install.

Stoneworks Software Corporation, a Lanham, MD USA based company, is an international leader in delivering solutions that take Product Life Cycle Management (PLM), Configuration Management (CM), and Requirements Management (RM) to the next level.

Stoneworks, with its product RMLink®, is the very first validated IBM Rational Telelogic DOORS® partner. Stoneworks is demonstrating industry leadership in bringing innovative software product line tools and integrations to the forefront of the mainstream software development community. As a validated PTC and IBM partner, Stoneworks can continue to expand its collaboration and technology co-development efforts with the IBM Rational Product Suite, Telelogic DOORS® and PTC Windchill®, as well as build market credibility and shorten customer evaluation cycles.

To learn more about RMLink® and the Stoneworks Software Corporation please visit: <http://www.sws-corp.com>

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Tekes, the Finnish Funding Agency for Technology and Innovation Supports Eurostep in the Development of PLM Software Solution for Virtual Enterprise Networks

22 August 2008

The VEPS project (Virtual Enterprise PLM Solutions) is a part of the Digital Product Process programme, initiated by Tekes in 2008.

- The emphasis in the project is in piloting virtual enterprise PLM collaboration.
- The PLM solution development will be based on Eurostep's server solution Share-A-space®, which supports ISO STEP/PLCS standards based product data exchange and sharing.
- The project enables participating companies to establish and gain experience from PLM in collaborative company networks.

The general goal of the Digital Product Process programme is to develop Finnish manufacturing industry and to increase the productivity of company networks designing and delivering products, systems and services to global markets. The programme advances the efficiency and quality of the innovation process, product development and customer service within companies by making better use of product related information and information technology. The objective is also to increase the knowledge and understanding of product life-cycle management in small- and mid-sized enterprises (SME).

“We are very proud to be part of Digital Product Process programme together with the Finnish industry,” says Mr Leo Torvikoski, Managing Director Eurostep Oy. “We have a long history of partnership with Tekes, and we are delighted that we have been selected to develop further strategic

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solutions within the programme,” ends Mr Torvikoski.

“The VEPS project is an interesting effort to fast take full advantage of PLM technology and standards in company networks” says Mr Kari Penttinen. “This project offers Finnish industry tools and knowledge that will make us even more attractive as global business partners,” ends Mr Penttinen.

About Tekes:

Tekes funds innovative research and development projects in companies, universities and research institutes.

About Eurostep

Eurostep delivers software and consulting services for product life-cycle management with a particular focus on the exchange and sharing of data within and between enterprises. Services range from pre-studies to the implementation of systems. The flagship product, Share-A-space®, (<http://www.share-a-space.com>), is software that supports collaborative engineering across the life cycle of products. Eurostep has subsidiaries in Sweden, the UK, Finland, France and the US and has blue-chip customers in a variety of industries including automotive, aerospace, defence, telecom, building & construction, and process industries.

For more information, please contact:

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