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CIMdata News

CIMdata Releases its 2008 PLM Market Analysis Report: Comprehensive Information and Analysis of the PLM Market

29 August 2008

CIMdata announces the availability of its annual PLM Market Analysis Report. The report provides detailed information and in-depth analysis on the worldwide PLM market. It contains analyses of major trends and issues, leading PLM solution suppliers, PLM purchases investments in software and services for geographical regions and industry sectors, and historical and projected data about market growth. In addition, the 2008 PLM Market Analysis Report presents an analysis of the 2007 PLM market that includes analyses of the overall PLM market and its various sectors: collaborative Product Definition management (cPDM), Tools and Tools sub-sectors, and Digital Manufacturing with special emphasis on the cPDM segment and Digital Manufacturing.

Ken Amann, CIMdata Director of Research said, “This analysis provides our perspective on PLM across a variety of industry and geographic sectors. We reviewed investments in PLM-related software and services during 2007, and forecasted PLM investments for 2008 through 2012.” The forecasts are based on data available through the first quarter of 2008. “It is important to note that the data and revenue information presented in this report are CIMdata’s estimates of the PLM revenue performance of the various suppliers.” Mr. Amann added.

The PLM Market Analysis Report comes in two modules. ‘Module 1’ presents CIMdata’s overview of the PLM market, overall market statistics, and an analysis of PLM suppliers’ performance in 2007 and CIMdata’s overall forecast for 2008 through 2012. ‘Module 2’ builds on the information presented in Module 1 by providing detailed geographic and industry 2007 revenue results and forecasts for 2008 to 2012. The [PLM Market Analysis Report](#) is sold as a stand-alone report or as part of the [CIMdata PLM Community Gold](#) membership. The [Table of Contents](#) and further details including pricing information are available [here](#).

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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The Greatest Interoperability Challenges With Your PLM Systems is our New Opinion Poll

5 September 2008

Visit our opinion poll on the greatest interoperability challenges with your PLM Systems and [vote](#). The results will be informative for the PLM industry as well as for your benchmarking.

The results of these polls are tabulated as you vote. The results are completely anonymous.

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Company News

CNC Software, Inc. Makes the CAD/CAM World a Little Greener

August 2008

[CNC Software, Inc.](#), developer of Mastercam® CAD/CAM software, made a conscious commitment to incorporate environmentally friendly and socially responsible practices ever since the company was founded, 25 years ago.

“I have a strong interest in the environment and doing whatever I can within reason to minimize our company footprint on the planet,” says Mark Summers, co-founder and President of CNC Software.

When the company built a new 38,000 sq. ft. headquarters facility in 1989, in rural Tolland, Connecticut, Mark specified that geothermal heat pumps be installed rather than conventional oil or gas boilers used in most buildings in New England. A new 12,000 sq. ft. addition also features a soon to be completed 72kw photo voltaic solar array that will hopefully generate 25% of the electricity used in the building. Electricity is the only energy source used in the building.

“The upfront investment is slightly higher, but more companies are transitioning to alternatives as the cost of conventional energy sources rise,” says Summers. “The return on investment happens quicker now, and money is the driver in many businesses. Paying attention to currently energy technology will save money if you’re patient enough to wait a few years for the payback.

CNC Software provides glasses, dishes, and silverware and energy efficient dishwashers to its employees to reduce the everyday use of paper goods. Its building is maintained with environmentally safe cleaning products. The company even makes available alternative, biodiesel fuel for its employees.

Other environmental initiatives at CNC Software include reducing the size of product brochures and posting more content to the Mastercam web site. Product packaging is changing from four-color printed boxes with coatings to a smaller box using recycled, unprinted cardboard, and Mastercam manuals are printed on 100% post-consumer recycled paper that is fully compliant with the Forest Stewardship Council (FSC).

“For disposable paper goods, we use products that are made from 100% recycled paper with 80% post-consumer content,” says Summers. “The white disposable paper products we use are whitened with an environmentally safe process – never with chlorine bleach. Our buildings are cleaned with environmentally safe products, made from renewable, non-toxic, phosphate-free, and biodegradable ingredients as much as possible, and are never tested on animals. We have established company-wide practices by which we can recycle and compost appropriate materials.”

While working on the recent 12,000 sq. ft. addition to its corporate facilities over the last several months, CNC Software had the opportunity to incorporate even more “green” materials and components. Some were developed within the last 20 years and some were improvements on former systems considered efficient in 1989. These include:

- Geothermal heating and cooling
- Radiant floor heating
- Spray foam insulation

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- Insulation under the concrete slab
- Energy efficient Andersen windows
- FSC certified lumber – Forestry Stewardship Council (both environmentally and socially responsible solution)
- Enviro interior doors – no formaldehyde
- Energy efficient T8 lighting
- Dual flush toilets and low water use urinals (1 pint)
- Super engineered thermally efficient NanaWall garage door
- Solar photovoltaic panels
- Low VOC paints and finishes
- Low VOC carpet – no PVC
- Fresh air exchange
- Herman Miller modular furniture (Herman Miller is also deeply committed to the environment)

“Each individual and company has a direct impact on the environment through daily consumption of energy and resources,” says Summers. “One of CNC Software’s goals is to build on our history of quality products and services while continuing to explore more ways to reduce our environmental impact as we grow the company.”

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Halmstad University Grooms Sweden’s Next Generation Engineers with the Help of Dassault Systèmes

3 September 2008

Dassault Systèmes (DS) announced that this fall Sweden’s Halmstad University will launch a new program “CAD Technician” to prepare Sweden’s next generation engineers for the workplace. The core of the program’s curriculum is based on PLM solutions from Dassault Systèmes used by leading companies throughout the region including CATIA for virtual product design, ENOVIA for collaborative product innovation, and SIMULIA for realistic product simulation.

“At Halmstad University we work in tight collaboration with regional industries. Most of them are using Dassault Systèmes PLM solutions, and they say this is because the software is extremely powerful and scaleable. Dassault Systèmes’ vision is bold and carving a clear path to the future, so it’s important for our university to prepare our students for this future,” says Håkan Petersson, digital product development lecture at Halmstad University.

Halmstad University and Dassault Systèmes have been working together to bring students cutting-edge CAD education since 1999. CAD Technician will focus on the latest digital tools in combination with traditional engineering design instruction. The curriculum will include eight specialized courses on the same software used by local industries, including CATIA V5, ENOVIA SmarTeam and Abaqus FEA from SIMULIA. An important component to the program is the university’s cooperation with Dassault Systèmes and the use of its software. With the addition of CAD Technician to its curriculum, Halmstad University reconfirms its position as one of Sweden’s top Dassault Systèmes academic educators.

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“This is an excellent local example of Dassault Systèmes’s investment in academics. Halmstad University has very good relationships with local industrials, watches the market attentively, and its small size helps it to quickly adjust to changing industry needs. Throughout the past eight years, Halmstad University has supported local industry by educating highly qualified graduates trained in engineering design and digital tools,” says Pär Lindhe, nordic sales manager at Dassault Systèmes AB.

"I think that the new CAD Technician program at Halmstad University offers a very promising education and feel that the range of the courses is very well thought through. It’s important to understand the connection between CAD, CAE and PDM" says Bo P Nilsson, manager PD training, Volvo Information Technology AB.

For more information about Dassault Systèmes education offering, please visit

<http://www.3ds.com/education/>.

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NSF Grant Furthers Geomagic’s Work to Transform Product Design & Development

2 September 2008

The National Science Foundation has awarded [Geomagic](#) a Phase IIB grant to extend research into technologies that will have a profound impact on product design and development.

The latest grant comes on the heels of successful Phase I and Phase II projects aimed at giving designers the ability to easily create accurate digital representations of scanned physical parts.

Work on the Phase IIB grant has major implications in mechanical design applications. It addresses customer needs for automation, computational efficiency, and high-quality surfacing. The research will further extend the core technology found in Geomagic’s recently introduced Fashion module, which captures the original design intent of a scanned physical object and transforms it into a CAD-ready surface model.

“These technologies are tearing down the walls between physical parts and their digital representations, speeding iterations of design, engineering, manufacturing and maintenance throughout the product life cycle,” says Dr. Michael Facello, principal investigator for Geomagic’s research. “The new software algorithms we are developing have the potential to reduce design cycles from months to days, improve quality through better analysis, shorten maintenance and repair cycles, dramatically reduce waste, and enable product customization on a mass scale.”

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RAND Worldwide Updates CATIA V5 Training with R18 Courses

2 September 2008

RAND Worldwide announced CATIA V5 R18 as the standard version for all its public CATIA V5 training classes. Curriculum developed by RAND’s ASCENT –Center for Technical Knowledge® division provides a detailed focus on the latest enhancements in CATIA V5 R18.

RAND’s R18 courses include:

CATIA V5: Introduction to Modeling

CATIA V5: Introduction for NC and FEA Engineers

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CATIA V5: Introduction for Managers and Reviewers

CATIA V5: Introduction to Surface Design

CATIA V5: Advanced Assembly Design & Management

CATIA V5: Advanced Part Design

CATIA V5: Advanced Surface Design

CATIA V5: Functional Tolerancing & Annotation

CATIA V5: Generative Drafting (ANSI or ISO)

CATIA V5: R18 Update for R17 Users

CATIA V5: Sheet Metal Design

DMU V5: Navigator & Space Analysis

DMU V5: Kinematics

DMU V5: Fitting Simulator

ENOVIA SmarTeam V5: Editor Author

ENOVIA SmarTeam V5: Web Editor

ENOVIA SmarTeam V5: Administration Installation

ENOVIA SmarTeam V5: Application Administration, I

ENOVIA SmarTeam V5: CATIA Integration

ENOVIA SmarTeam V5: CATIA Integration Advanced

ENOVIA SmarTeam V5: JAD Session Preparation

“By offering our training in Version R18, we are enabling our clients to gain greater utilization of the newest application version release and take advantage of the latest enhanced features for improved application utilization,” said Joe Oswald, Executive Vice President PLM Operations, North America and Europe, RAND Worldwide. “We have continuously developed and offered training to our clients as they adopt the latest software version release, allowing RAND to be the trusted training provider they have come to expect and timely in meeting their training requirements.”

Included in the R18 releases are the following course updates:

The *CATIA V5: Introduction to Modeling* course provides instruction on the new Chordal Fillet tool included in the R18 Generative Shape Design and Part Design workbenches. CATIA V5 users learn to create a fillet measured by a chord length, not a radius value, for greater fillet dimensioning flexibility. Students taking the course also benefit from new chapter review questions designed to recap the information presented in each section of the curriculum, which enable students to measure their knowledge retention before moving on to the next lesson.

The updated *CATIA V5: Advanced Surface Design* course contains two chapters discussing the enhanced Connect Checker functionality, which now combines the Surface Connect Checker and Curve Connect Checker tools. Students taking the course are instructed to properly analyze curves and surfaces using the enhanced functionality and interface. Enhancements to the Twisted areas management functionally within the Sweep tool are also covered. CATIA V5 users will discover the new options available when

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working with twisted or overlapping sweep geometry and learn how to create geometry that, in previous releases, would have required additional independent features outside of the sweep. Similarly to the *CATIA V5: Introduction to Modeling* course, the course also focuses on the new Chordal Fillet tool included in the R18 Generative Shape Design and Part Design workbenches. Industries conscious of deformation during the manufacturing process will also benefit from *CATIA V5: Advanced Surface Design*'s newly added content related to creating ruled developable Blend surfaces.

The *CATIA V5: Generative Drafting* course contains new curriculum focusing on the Add Callouts and Reorder Sheets functionality added to the R18 release. CATIA V5 users are exposed to the new Reorder Sheets functionality and learn to rearrange sheets within a drawing, eliminating the need to copy and paste drawing sheets into a specific or desired order. The course also teaches students how to re-establish an inadvertently deleted callout using the Add Callout feature, eliminating potential design rework and loss.

CATIA V5: R18 Update for R17 Users is an online course available through RAND's ProductivityNOW SOLO (Searchable Online Learning Objects) solution, which also contains RAND's entire collection of CATIA V5 R18 curriculum. The course focuses on the enhancements within the core R18 workbenches and includes instructional videos in the online curriculum to visually demonstrate and represent topics discussed in the course content. ProductivityNOW SOLO is a searchable online knowledgebase providing learning objects and technical issue resolutions; discussion forum access to share knowledge with fellow application users around the world; previously recorded virtual training seminars; eLearning courses to improve targeted application skill sets; and the option to securely incorporate a company's own best practices and intellectual property. RAND employs 50 full-time certified instructors globally and provides extensive, high-quality professional development programs for Autodesk®, Dassault Systèmes and PTC® software solutions. In addition to standard classroom training, RAND offers a variety of training solutions for CATIA V5 users, including customized training and development programs, a personalized learning service to provide users with a desk-side mentor and knowledge assessment tools designed to assist CATIA V5 users to identify knowledge gaps for targeted training and improvement. In addition to its training services, RAND offers a portfolio of internally developed software products, software development and Product Lifecycle Management consulting and implementation services. For additional information about RAND Worldwide and its training and professional services, please visit <http://www.randservices.com>.

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SoftInWay Introduces an Innovated Educational Version for Turbomachinery Flow Path Design

5 September 2008

SoftInWay relaunches its AxSTREAM™ Educational Version for Design and Optimization of Turbomachinery Flow Paths. The current version has its new key element – Streamline Solvers.

The beginning of this academic year was marked by a special offer from SoftInWay focused on improving the turbomachinery design experience. The company announces a bundle for its turbomachinery education version meant for use in colleges and universities. The bundle, which is available with discount till September 30, 2008, can provide multiple students with simultaneous access to new technology and practice for turbomachinery design.

The well-known AxSTREAM™ educational suite was launched in 2006. The recent version features new Streamline Solvers created to perform analysis of flow path of multistage turbomachinery and to

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analyze flow paths with counter-rotating blade rows, enhancing the overall flow path design practice for turbine and compressor.

Nowadays AxSTREAM™ Educational Version for Turbomachinery Flow Path Design by SoftInWay is used worldwide, including the USA, Germany, Korea, China, South Africa, etc. Portable and easy-to-handle, it runs on standard PC and does not imply special setup requirements.

To enhance the efficiency of educational process and to enable users to keep up to date with its newest developments, SoftInWay offers a bonus for colleges and universities who order at least a bundle of 10 licenses: they will take advantage of 50% discount for SoftInWay training in Boston on October 7-9 in the context of 2008 Turbomachinery Flow Path Design and Optimization Course. The unique proposition is open till September 26.

More detailed information about this offer, such as terms and prices, can be found on the SoftInWay website or by contacting sales@softinway.com.

Website: <http://www.softinway.com>, Telephone 1-781-862-7867.

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Events News

Altair's HyperWorks Technology Conference Offers More Than the Average PLM Event

3 September 2008

Altair Engineering, Inc. (<http://www.altair.com>) presents a stellar lineup at its HyperWorks Technology Conference to be held Sept. 16-17 at the Rock Financial Showplace in Novi, Mich. The leading global provider of technology and services announces that Sun Microsystems, which recently introduced a direct port of Altair's solver solutions to its Solaris platform, is a Gold sponsor and co-host of the evening entertainment and networking reception to be held Sept. 16. Altair is also pleased to announce Piston's legendary R&B show-band, the Sun Messengers, will be the evening reception's featured entertainment.

"Altair looks forward to providing professionals in product lifecycle management (PLM) and engineering software with an annual forum that explores the topics, issues and information relevant to the growth and development of their industries with the annual HyperWorks Conference," said Michael J. Kidder, vice president of corporate marketing of Altair. "As a global leader and influencer in these industries we feel that it is important to share this wealth of information free of charge, and thanks to the support of our industry partners we are able to do so."

Altair Engineering's HyperWorks is an engineering simulation platform that supports product lifecycle management processes. It ranks as one of the leading simulation-driven design solutions for product development across the world's top corporations in the advanced manufacturing community. Altair's annual HyperWorks conference is one of the premier PLM technology events for the advanced manufacturing community. The two-day conference brings together hundreds of industry professionals and technology leaders from a broad range of vertical markets and highlights the latest industry trends in enterprise simulation.

Among the highlights scheduled during the conference include a welcome from Altair CEO James Scapa and a keynote address from Nand K. Kochhar, executive technical leader, Global CAE, for Ford

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Motor Company. Other conference keynoters include Terry Swack, co-founder and CEO of Sustainable Minds; and Giovanni Greco, director of engineering for Sea Ray.

The conference will also feature an expert panel on "The Relevance of Simulation in Today's Enterprise" moderated by Anthony J. Lockwood, editor at large of Desktop Engineering magazine, a media sponsor of the conference. The highly anticipated panel session will include such industry experts as Aberdeen Group Vice President, Product Innovation & Engineering Chad Jackson; CIMdata, Inc. Director of Research Kenneth Amann; Collaborative Product Development Associates (CPDA) Chairman Donald H. Brown; and Cyon Research Corporation Vice President and Chief Visionary, engineering-automation consultant and prolific author Dr. Joel Orr.

For free registration to Altair's Americas HyperWorks Technology Conference or for more information, please visit <http://www.altairhtc.com/na>

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AVEVA to Showcase Powerful New Release of AVEVA NET at ADIPEC 08

4 September 2008

AVEVA announced that it will be showcasing the latest release of its AVEVA NET technology in the Middle East at ADIPEC in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, one of the largest oil and gas events in the world, between 3-6 November 2008.

AVEVA NET extends and enhances the information management capabilities that were first developed in AVEVA's VNET solution, which has been proven in multiple customer deployments since 2003.

AVEVA NET allows plant operators to maximize safety and productivity through providing access to mission critical data including real-time plant operating information. Working with companies such as Data Systems & Solutions (DS&S) and ISS Group Ltd has enabled AVEVA NET to deliver sophisticated monitoring and management of vital real-time plant information and KPI's. Through AVEVA NET, plant operators can track plant performance characteristics and other "vital statistics" which can be made constantly visible on-screen, alongside all other types of information.

The new release also features extensive collaboration and work process management capabilities. These enable AVEVA's customers and partners to develop solutions which integrate and control the processes used to manage information content and flows within their business. These capabilities encompass workflow management, configuration management, impact assessment, management of change, and a range of other features designed to ensure information integrity and optimise business processes.

What is AVEVA NET, who needs it, and what are its benefits?

AVEVA NET addresses a key concern for Owner Operators, namely the ability to view, manage and actively exploit information from many disparate sources.

Owner Operators often use several different technologies to address these needs, but there is typically little or no communication between these technologies. The result: often, critical information simply does not arrive at the right place and is not acted upon, or its impact remains unforeseen.

Derek Middlemas, Executive Vice President Business Strategy at AVEVA, explained: "We laid down a roadmap - particularly for existing customers using our VNET solution - to put intelligent, fully managed collaboration within reach. AVEVA NET now delivers on that promise. For example, applications can interpret and enforce the management of change process; they can flag up the

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consequences of a component that's about to fail; they can issue a challenge if a work package is assigned to an engineer who is not qualified. AVEVA NET works automatically across teams, departments, offices, countries and continents, organising and adding value to digital information according to each operator's needs."

AVEVA's principal Oil and Gas consultant, Steve Gibbons, will also be giving a complementary paper at the ADIPEC conference, the subject of which will be overcoming the challenges that the management of large volumes of plant information poses.

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Cimatron Group to Present Complete Line of CAD/CAM Solutions at AMB Exhibition

2 September 2008

[Cimatron Ltd.](#) will present its complete line of CAD/CAM solutions for tooling and manufacturing at the upcoming AMB International Exhibition for Metal Working, which will take place September 9-13 in Stuttgart, Germany.

Solutions demonstrated at the show include the CimatronE and GibbsCAM product lines. The GibbsCAM product line is sold in Germany under the name of Virtual Gibbs.

"This event provides an exciting opportunity for the Cimatron Group to present the breadth and depth of our two product lines in front of the industry's leaders," said Dirk Dombert, Cimatron GmbH's General Manager. "AMB attendees will find this show a unique venue to get up to speed on the latest advancements in tooling and manufacturing under one roof."

The CimatronE suite provides integrated CAD/CAM solutions for mold, tool, and die makers, as well as manufacturers of discrete parts. CimatronE solutions streamline the entire design to manufacturing cycle, enabling tool makers and manufacturers to shorten product delivery time. Specialized applications for mold and die makers save time with high level of automation, while empowering the experienced user with full flexibility to control the entire process. The hybrid environment enables toolmakers to work in 2D or 3D and use surface or solid operations interchangeably to best match the task at hand.

GibbsCAM provides a broad range of CNC programming capabilities for milling, turning, mill-turn, rotary milling, tombstone-fixtured, wire-EDM, high speed machining, 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, the solution empowers manufacturers to increase productivity and elevate responsiveness to customer requirements and design changes.

A new module that will be demonstrated at the Cimatron booth allows programmers to define measuring points for the Renishaw measuring solutions, streamlining product delivery with tighter integration of the post-production inspection process.

The AMB International Exhibition for Metal Working will be held September 9-13 in Stuttgart, Germany. For information and registration, visit <http://www.messe-stuttgart.de/cms/index.php?id=4753&L=1>.

Visit Cimatron at AMB, September 9-13, 2008

Stuttgart, Germany

Hall 4 B60

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COADE CADWorx Plant Design Webinar September 18th to Introduce CADWorx Design Review

4 September 2008

COADE announced a new Webinar, scheduled for September 18, 2008, at 12 pm CDT, introducing the new CADWorx Design Review package and featuring David Little, director of Technology Research & Development for COADE. Model review is an important part of today's design process. Little will demonstrate the use of CADWorx Design Review in the modeling environment.

Details on this and other COADE webinars can be found on the CADWorx User Blog at http://coade.typepad.com/cadworx/webinar_future/index.html. CADWorx product details are available at <http://www.coade.com>.

About David Little, webinar leader:

David Little, director of Technology Research and Development for COADE, is responsible for all new technologies used by COADE in the development of all the company's software applications. He is the author of CADWorx Design Review as well as the Caesar II and PVElite user interface.

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ESPRIT 2008 and ESPRIT Mold v9 at Machine Tool Fair OTA 2008

2 September 2008

ESPRIT® 2008 and ESPRIT Mold v9, the latest versions of computer-aided-manufacturing (CAM) software created by DP Technology, will be on display Sept. 11-13 at Machine Tool Fair OTA 2008, in Tokyo, Japan.

Visitors to ESPRIT booths at Plaza Industrial Ota can expect one-on-one interaction with staff from DP Technology's resellers, as well as demonstrations of new software upgrades.

Upgrades available in the new release include turning stock automation for lathes, EDM machine specific machining technology, improved 3D machining performance, open pocket milling, expanded CAD to CAM feature exchange (FX), enhanced KnowledgeBase™ machining (KBM) functionality, and B-axis turning for 5-axis mill-turn machines.

The latest release of ESPRIT Mold includes significant performance increases for the 3D programmer that result in the reduction of cycle times of 25-50 percent or more while simultaneously increasing part quality and reducing programming time and effort.

On display at Machine Tool Fair OTA 2008, enhancements within ESPRIT 2008 and ESPRIT Mold v9 reduce the time required to produce part programs, increase the quality of those programs and help reduce machining cycle times.

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Free Sept. 23, 2008 ECAD-MCAD Webinar Announced

September 2008

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

Tuesday, September 23

11 AM PDT / 2 PM EDT

[Register](#)

Webinar Overview:

This session will explore business drivers and their impact on electro-mechanical design, as seen by the product lifecycle development experts at CIMdata. It will also introduce the industry's most advanced solution for ECAD/MCAD collaboration, jointly developed by PTC and Mentor Graphics.

What You Will Learn:

How to link the disconnected ECAD-MCAD domains, enabling real-time collaboration

How to easily track incremental updates instead of reviewing large databases with unknown changes

How to eliminate design re-spins and missed schedules

How to reduce product development costs while optimizing performance

Who Should Attend:

Mechanical engineers developing electronics products

PCB layout designers

Engineering management responsible for electronics product development

Presenters:

Larry Kenyon, Product Marketing Manager, Mentor Graphics

Pawel Chadzynski, Vice President of Product Management, PTC

Ken Amann, Director of Research, CIMdata

Register Today for this Free Webinar

This timely and informative Webinar is brought to you at no charge from Mentor Graphics and UP Media Group. Space is limited, so register today.

[Register](#)

What is a Webinar?

A UPMG Webinar is an interactive Webcast that combines audio, video, synchronized slides and polling sent over the Internet to provide a complete multimedia communications experience. Webinars allow you to access the content at your convenience either as a live debut or on-demand training experience.

The live debut is the initial broadcast of the Webinar, during which time you will hear the speaker live in an interactive setting that allows you to type in questions, as well as respond to poll questions. The on-demand Webinar is not interactive, but it allows you to view the recorded debut in its entirety, including the Q&A session.

About UP Media Group Inc.

Headquartered in Smyrna, GA, UP Media Group Inc. (www.upmediagroup.com) is a privately held company that specializes in serving the global PCB community through print, digital and online

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products, as well as live and virtual events. UPMG publishes two trade magazines, *Printed Circuit Design & Fab* (pcdandf.com) and *Circuits Assembly* (circuitsassembly.com), and one daily e-newsletter, PCB Update (www.pcbupdate.com). UPMG produces a variety of regional and national trade shows and conferences, including these industry-leading shows: Virtual PCB (www.virtual-pcb.com), PCB West (www.pcbwest.com) and PCB East (www.pcbeast.com). UPMG also produces live and on-demand technical Webinars for electronics industry professionals. Visit www.pcbshows.com for links to upcoming regional shows and Webinars.

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Geometric to Showcase CAMWorks 2009 at the IMTS Show

4 September 2008

[Geometric Technologies, Inc.](#) (formerly TekSoft, Inc.), a subsidiary of Geometric Limited, will showcase CAMWorks® 2009 at the International Manufacturing Technology Show ([IMTS 2008](#)) at booth number D3110 in Chicago, IL from September 8 to 13, 2008.

The CAMWorks 2009 release will have over 80 user-driven features and enhancements to enable users to program parts faster and more easily. In addition, it will provide a significant number of new machining options that will further strengthen CAMWorks' manufacturing capabilities.

CAMWorks is a SolidWorks® certified Gold CAM product that provides state-of-the-art machining capabilities seamlessly integrated in SolidWorks. CAMWorks can run within SolidWorks or as part of a cost-effective CAD/CAM package that includes CAMWorks Solids, an integrated solid modeler.

"At IMTS, attendees will see demonstrations of the latest innovations in CAMWorks 2009 that facilitate machining processes and boost shop productivity," said Bruce Wiener, Geometric Technologies' Director of Research & Development. "In today's manufacturing landscape, most successful shops are constantly evaluating their methodology to stay competitive and we constantly strive to improve CAMWorks functionality for the mold making and machining industries."

Some of the key enhancements for performance efficiencies in CAMWorks 2009 include:

Multiple Process Support: Users will immediately notice performance improvements due to CAMWorks' ability to generate 3-5 axis tool-paths as separate threads and in separate processes that allow them to continue working in other areas, or on other CAM models.

CAM Data Reusability: While the CAMWorks Technology Database has always provided the ability to capture and reuse a facility's manufacturing best practices, data reusability has been extended further to enable the import of CAM data from CAD part models into assembly models. This allows parts to be programmed and applied to different jobs, and with other parts. In addition, library features can be created for selective CAM data that is to be reused in other jobs.

Visualization: CAMWorks 2009 has improved graphic display performance, expansion in part and machine simulation, and a new XML-based user-defined setup sheet which allows machining information to be viewed in a web browser.

Additional Enhancements: Turning features and tool-paths have been made more intelligent, thus resulting in safer and more simplified programming of turn and mill/ turn parts. Wire EDM users will benefit from the new and easy creation of multiple glue stops and a much more powerful post processing environment. Simultaneous 4/5 axis improvements include enhanced toolpath control, expanded

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collision avoidance and creation of multiple tool-paths using rotate and copy options. Automatic Feature Recognition has been improved and continuous enhancements to the intuitive user-interface make CAMWorks even easier to use.

CAMWorks modules for 2-5 axis milling, turning and wire EDM are available in a variety of bundles or combinations that provide an advanced collection of cutting strategies and time-saving features.

At IMTS, the attendees will also learn about Geometric's range of cutting-edge productivity solutions aimed at enhancing design and improving manufacturing operations, like DFMPro®, eDrawings® Publishers and GeomCaliper®.

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ICAM Introduces Integrated PSE at IMTS 2008 – Booth D-3106

2 September 2008

ICAM Technologies Corporation ([ICAM](#)) will be introducing Integrated PSE (Post-processing, Simulation and Emulation) at IMTS 2008 at Booth D-3106.

Integrated PSE is a new NC manufacturing methodology that allows for interactive post-processing, machine simulation and control emulation within a tightly integrated software solution which includes: CAM-POST®, Virtual Machine® and Control Emulator™.

Post-processing - CAM-POST® is an independent single source NC post-processing development and deployment software product supporting all major CAD / CAM / PLM systems, CNC controllers and machine tools.

Advanced forward-looking optimization features are offered in CAM-POST including path planning, rotary axes pre-positioning and winding to optimize the machining process while avoiding dwell marks, over-travel and rotary repositioning.

CAM-POST also supports advanced machine tool features such as tool-tip programming, coordinate frame transformations, NURBS interpolation and arc fitting of point-to-point data.

Simulation - Virtual Machine® is a comprehensive CNC machine tool simulator that enables NC programmers to graphically simulate and test programs, easily and automatically, against collisions and over-travel.

Deploying Virtual Machine with CAM-POST provides an interactive post-processing and simulation environment that allows modeling of the physical CNC machine and detection of errors while CAM-POST calculates alternative options to optimize the generated NC code.

Emulation - Control Emulator™ (CE) is a new software product allowing NC programmers to simulate and test NC programs using Machine Code Data (MCD) within Virtual Machine and / or CATIA / DELMIA V5.

Implementing Virtual Machine with CE allows NC programmers and machine operators to emulate and simulate the final MCD before running the NC program on the actual NC machine. This process enables the user to avoid costly prove-outs and reduce scrape material while increasing machine utilization on the shop floor.

"What makes Integrated PSE so unique is that NC programmers can create, simulate and optimize post-processors independently from their CAD / CAM systems within a single integrated software solution,"

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said Brian Francis, ICAM's Director of Research and Development. "Integrated PSE accommodates a complete in-process or on-demand NC manufacturing environment as opposed to the existing multiple process loop currently offered by other solutions."

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solidThinking, Inc. to Show Off Latest Software at the IDSA 2008 Polar Opposites Conference

3 September 2008

Leading industrial design/styling software company solidThinking, Inc. (<http://www.solidthinking.com>), which recently launched its latest version for Windows and Mac users worldwide, announced it will participate in the 2008 IDSA Polar Opposites Conference to be held Sept. 10-13 at the Arizona Biltmore Resort & Spa in Phoenix. The company will showcase the new 7.6 version software at booth 30 for the nearly 800 design professionals expected to attend the conference.

"We feel that a conference such as this, which unites designers from all industries from all over the world, presents an ideal venue to showcase solidThinking 7.6," said Alessandro (Alex) Mazzardo, vice president of product strategy and marketing, who started solidThinking in 1991 with his brother Mario Mazzardo, vice president of product strategy and management. "We are excited to highlight the new and innovative features solidThinking offers designers and look forward to a successful conference.

"With solidThinking we are aiming to set new standards for design productivity and minimize design constraints for users by providing them with the flexibility to produce high-quality photorealistic 3D renderings while easily exploring materials, colors, shapes and finishes. We welcome conference attendees to view firsthand the benefits inherent in solidThinking 7.6 by visiting our booth at the show."

solidThinking is already the dominant tool of choice for Italian design firms and industrial designers for everything from jewelry and electronic devices to furniture and yachts. Version 7.6 includes an updated rendering engine, a streamlined user interface, rich photorealistic content functionality and a number of other user-centric enhancements. The global rollout of this latest version follows the recent acquisition of the company's assets by Michigan-based Altair Engineering, Inc. (<http://www.altair.com>). A leading global technology provider, Altair is providing solidThinking with its demonstrated experience in developing sales channels and support expertise to increase the software's adoption across numerous business sectors and geographies.

Companies that rely on solidThinking already include many of the world's leading designers of furniture, electronic devices, automobiles, lighting, shoes, jewelry, timepieces, sports equipment, yachts, consumer packaging and other products. Thousands of designers use solidThinking to develop products and packaging for such renowned companies and brands as Azimut Yachts, Bulgari, Cartier, Diesel, DuPont, Fujitsu, Hugo Boss, Italdesign Giugiaro, Korg, MacGregor Golf, Mares, Masterfoods, Merck, Nestle, Nikon, Panerai, Peg Perego, Pininfarina, Scavolini, Thomson, Tisettanta, Toshiba, Toyota, Volkswagen and Volvo.

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Spatial to Explore Multi-threaded Application Development at Upcoming 3D Insiders' Summit

4 September 2008

Spatial Corp. announced that [conference registration](#) is open for the 3D Insiders' Summit, to be held on

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October 13-14 at the St. Julien Hotel & Spa in Boulder, Colorado. The [annual Summit](#) enables the Spatial user and prospect community to gain in-depth knowledge of Spatial components and have direct exchange with Spatial developers and executive management team. This year's Summit also provides an opportunity to learn about the latest industry advances in developing multi-threaded applications.

"This is my fourth year attending the 3D Insider's Summit. Running a development team, I do not always get the opportunity to drill down to the details. The Summit has served me really well, introducing new features in a very good and concentrated package and advice on how to implement them. Our time from learning about a new feature to the time it is available in our application decreased by one or two release cycles since I've started attending the Summit," stated Mauritz Botha, CTO at IMSI/Design™. "Networking and access to the developers is fantastic, and the advice that I get from these discussions alone makes the trip a permanent feature on my calendar."

This year's keynote speaker, James Reinders, Chief Software Evangelist and Director for Intel Software Development Products, shares practical advice for the development of effective multi-threaded software applications. Mr. Reinders' presentation, "[Parallel or Perish!! - Are You Ready?](#)" addresses the industry shift to multi-core hardware architectures and how software applications can best take advantage of this shift. Duncan McCallum, Chief Executive Officer of Cilk Arts, presents "[Multicore-enabling C++ Applications](#)" and the new programming skill sets required to address the challenges of multi-core architectures.

The 3D Insiders' Summit provides Spatial users and guests with a unique opportunity to gain in-depth technical information on Spatial 3D software components and future product direction. Developer presented sessions provide details on what's new in Spatial's core software components including the 3D ACIS Modeler, 3D Interoperability, and 3D Visualization (HOOPS/3dAF) product lines. Presentations cover recently introduced application-specific components — 3D Springback and EDA 3D Analysis Suite, and provide an in-depth look at exchanging product manufacturing information (PMI) and use within applications. Spatial's product development leadership outlines each product's roadmap. New this year is the Developer's Roundup, which provides attendees' access to Spatial developers in an exhibit-like setting, complete with technical demonstrations.

The Summit is a great way to learn how to best utilize and implement Spatial's 3D software components, to see what the future holds for Spatial's products and the industry, and to network with industry colleagues.

For more information and to register please go to [3D Insiders' Summit](#).

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Surfware to Announce Features of SURFCAM Velocity® 4 Powered by TrueMill®, Patent Allowance at IMTS, 2008

4 September 2008

[Surfware, Inc.](#) announced that it will demonstrate new features of SURFCAM Velocity 4 Powered by TrueMill at Booth D3210 during September, 2008's IMTS (International Manufacturing Technology Show).

In addition, Surfware recently 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

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all key aspects of the company's patent application.

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. We are pleased to receive this Notice of Allowance because it serves to protect our intellectual property and proprietary technology that we developed and are demonstrating at IMTS."

SURFCAM Velocity 4 offers major improvements to 3-axis finishing, 4- and 5-axis machining and TrueMill.

-- 3-Axis Finishing: New high-speed machining strategies featuring faster processing, multiple processor support, automatic arc filtering, excellent tool control for difficult corners, tapered tools, improved surface finish --- and more.

-- 4/5-Axis Machining: precise control over every aspect of multi-axis machining ensuring safe tool motion in the most challenging applications. Drive surface gouge checking, advanced check surface gouge scenario handling, additional retract and swarf cutting options -- and more.

-- TrueMill: provision of recommended Truemill™ speeds and feeds, improved feedrate optimization, greatly reduced rapid motions, availability of Swift-carb custom designed TrueMill Series tools designed to further improve performance with TrueMill. With TrueMill, the more difficult to machine the material, the greater the competitive advantage.

"We are delighted to introduce SURFCAM Velocity 4 at IMTS," says Diehl. "This release adds additional world-class features to SURFCAM and solves issues that limited TrueMill's performance. It takes the unique, patent- pending TrueMill technology to a new level of excellence.

"We are just beginning to demonstrate what this powerful technology can do," Diehl adds. "Because TrueMill is useful to a wide spectrum of industries, Surfware looks forward to providing custom and turnkey solutions, as well as partnering with vendors of complementary technologies as we continue to build on the great quality and scalability of our product."

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University of Michigan "Focus on the Future" Automotive Research Conferences

September 2008

Who: University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute Automotive Analysis Division

What: "Focus on the Future" Automotive Research Conferences The Business of IT: Transforming the Organization and the Vehicle

When: Wednesday, September 17, 2008, 9am to 4:30pm

Where: University of Michigan, The Michigan League, Michigan Ballroom (2nd Floor) 911 North University Avenue, Ann Arbor, MI 48109-1265

Details:

Though information technology (IT) has lost some of the attraction that generated so much interest at the turn of the century, automotive companies have continued to try to leverage what IT brings to the company both internally and within the vehicle itself. The University of Michigan is offering a conference that will help bring you up to date on how IT is currently being used to transform companies

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internally and also within the vehicle itself. UM and industry speakers will also focus on the future direction of IT in the auto industry. Confirmed speakers include:

Bruce Belzowski, Assistant Research Scientist, University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute, will introduce the key issues and moderate the conference.

Transforming the Organization

M.S. Krishnan, Professor, Ross Business School, University of Michigan, will describe the new business models, enabled by IT, that will transform the company and the relationship between the vehicle and its owner. He will draw on his new book, co-authored with C. K. Prahalad, titled, "The New Age of Innovation."

Jeff Liedel, Chief Strategy Officer IS&S, General Motors, will talk about GM's innovative IT strategy and its future direction.

Steve Nykerk, Solutions Specialist, PLM Business Solutions, IBM Global Services, will reveal the results of our recent global benchmarking study on Product Lifecycle Management (PLM)

Globalizing IT

Greg Martin, Director IS&S Strategy and Planning, General Motors, will discuss the challenges of globalizing IT.

Bill MacFarlane, CIO, Continental AG, will describe the IT transitions companies must make during M&A's as well as while globalizing their organizations.

Transforming the Vehicle

Ralph Robinson, Research Scientist, University of Michigan Transportation Research Institute, will talk about the IT-related opportunities that are being developed within the vehicle for both safety and business.

Jason Flinn, Assistant Professor, Computer Science and Engineering, University of Michigan, will discuss his research with Ford Motor Company focusing on pervasive computing within vehicles.

Cost:

Registration: \$200

UMTRI-AAD Affiliates and UM Students, Faculty, and Staff: Free

Reservations: Ms. Lee Burge at 734-936-2723 or leeburge@umich.edu

Sponsor: Hewlett-Packard Corporation

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Financial News

Oracle Sets the Date for its First Quarter Fiscal Year 2009 Earnings Announcement

3 September 2008

Oracle Corporation announced that its first quarter fiscal year 2009 results will be released on Thursday, September 18, after the close of the market. The company will host a conference call and live web

broadcast at 2:00 p.m. (PDT) / 5:00 p.m. (EDT) to discuss the financial results. A live web broadcast of the event will be available on the Oracle Investor Relations website at <http://www.oracle.com/investor>. Please hold down your control key while pressing refresh to ensure that the weblink is visible.

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Implementation Investments

Flexsteel Fashions Furniture Design Advantage with SolidWorks Software

2 September 2008

Dassault Systèmes SolidWorks Corp. announced that Flexsteel Industries, Inc. is using SolidWorks® 3D CAD software in its quest to become the fastest, most accurate, and most interactive furniture maker in hospitality design.

Hospitality presents a demanding design challenge as hotels, motels, time-shares, and similar businesses constantly update their rooms. They use furniture design as a critical brand differentiator, whether introducing comfort into the commercial setting or moving toward the contemporary with glass, chrome, and metal.

Since embracing SolidWorks software, Flexsteel, of Dubuque, Iowa, has increased design speed while simultaneously improving accuracy and quality. “We’re on track to double production in 2008 of designs for chairs, tables, sofas, and other furnishings,” said Don Meurer, Flexsteel’s manager of product sourcing and development. “SolidWorks’ 3D capabilities give us and our customers a tremendous advantage in speed, accuracy, quality, and flexibility. It used to take us three weeks to go from concept to finished design. With SolidWorks, it takes half that time or less.”

“We have to be fast, we have to be creative, and we have to be accurate,” said Jessica Coleson, Flexsteel’s head hospitality designer. “SolidWorks software has helped us tremendously on all counts. Its 3D capabilities make it easy to reuse existing designs and quickly modify them for new customers, or to transform customer concepts into manufacturable designs. We have a distinct advantage over competitors, including the many still using AutoCAD® software and working in 2D.”

SolidWorks’ efficiencies, for example, have helped give Flexsteel additional time to develop a product line of highly innovative prototypes for the HD 2008 Expo in Las Vegas and the HD Boutique show in Miami.

Deeper customer involvement

Flexsteel creates new designs for every customer, some from scratch and others from sketches, shop drawings, and specification charts. Flexsteel has tightened collaboration with these customers through the use of SolidWorks’ eDrawings® email-enhanced collaboration program. Engineers can take clients’ materials and dimensions, design a piece, and send them an eDrawings file with a lightweight 3D digital model. The customer can review, rotate, pan, zoom, and mark up the new design. The customer need only install a simple software plug-in, the free downloadable eDrawings Viewer, not a full CAD application. “Collaborating with SolidWorks eDrawings takes a lot of the guesswork out of a design review, enabling revisions to be precise and saving everyone time and money in prototyping and manufacturing,” Coleson said.

[Flexsteel](#) seeks [SolidWorks](#) experience in new hires, many of whom come from Mississippi State

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University, whose Starkville, Miss., campus is located near Flexsteel's Starkville plant and whose engineering students increasingly use SolidWorks software. Several engineering interns from the University came to Flexsteel with SolidWorks experience, which enabled them to hit the ground running in their positions, according to Meurer.

"Furniture can make or break a hotel brand," said DS SolidWorks Corp. Director of Marketing Alliances Efrat Ravid. "That's why Flexsteel is harnessing all of the capabilities of advanced solid modeling tools to design better products and ultimately deliver a better hospitality experience."

Flexsteel relies on authorized SolidWorks reseller [Tridaq, Inc.](#) for ongoing software training, implementation, and support.

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Jerry Leigh Selects NGC's e-SPS® Software as Strategic Platform for Global Sourcing and Visibility

3 September 2008

[NGC](#)® (New Generation Computing®) announced that Jerry Leigh, a multi-faceted apparel company that develops licensed products for the nation's top retailers, has selected NGC's e-SPS™ software for global sourcing and visibility across all of its divisions.

Jerry Leigh will use e-SPS to control all facets of production for thousands of licensed products in fashion, apparel and accessories. The solution is being rolled out to all four Jerry Leigh divisions – Kids, Adults, Resort and Premium – for P.O. management, production tracking, quality, and inbound tracking and visibility.

"Jerry Leigh designs and develops merchandise for many of the world's most recognized brands and retailers, and quality and timing are critical to our success," said Jeff Silver, vice president and CFO, Jerry Leigh. "When our customers are developing new brand concepts and promotion, we have to be able to turn licensed products very quickly at our manufacturing operations in Asia and Central America. Jerry Leigh needed a solution to help us streamline production and improve communications with customers and trading partners around the world. e-SPS was the right answer for us."

Key benefits of NGC's solution for Jerry Leigh include:

- **Streamlined communications through web-based updates.** e-SPS provides Jerry Leigh with a single, web-based platform that allows the company to instantly exchange and update information with supply chain partners around the world. All communications are tied to specific styles or purchase orders, greatly enhancing collaboration. Centralized data ensures that everyone views "a single version of the truth" throughout the supply chain at all times.
- **Faster speed to market.** e-SPS makes extensive use of role-based calendars, exception management and executive dashboards. The system automatically generates triggers and alerts based on user-defined events, helping to ensure that critical deadlines are met and production problems are quickly resolved. "e-SPS will be invaluable for ensuring that Jerry Leigh continues to meet the increasing demand for rapid turnaround and faster time to market," said Silver.
- **Improved product quality.** e-SPS includes an integrated quality module that will help Jerry Leigh monitor quality at its remote manufacturing facilities, ensuring the highest level of quality for the company's licensed brands.
- **Enhanced customer service.** Jerry Leigh has built its business on superior customer service to its

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brand and retail partners, and e-SPS will allow Jerry Leigh to further enhance its customer service. e-SPS will also enable Jerry Leigh to continue its rapid growth by enabling the company to more easily handle the demands of new licensed brands.

“[Jerry Leigh](#) is one of the most established, successful licensed brand manufacturers in the world, and NGC is pleased that the company selected e-SPS as its global sourcing platform,” said Alan Brooks, president, NGC. “We are working closely with Jerry Leigh on the implementation, and we look forward to developing a highly successful long-term partnership.”

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Lamborghini Takes Simulation by the Horns and Selects MSC.Software

2 September 2008

[MSC.Software](#) announced that Italian world-leading sports car manufacturer Lamborghini Automobili S.p.A. has selected MSC.Software's simulation solutions including the Adams automotive product suite to enhance their product development process. The new software capability will bring enhanced reliability into the Lamborghini simulation process and allow designers to increase the number of virtual prototypes to be performed, especially in the early phases of the development cycle. By doing this, engineers are able to simulate more reliably and reduce the need for physical prototypes. The Simulation Technologies will be licensed under MSC.Software's flexible Masterkey licensing system.

Lamborghini cars are worldwide known for their stunning performance in terms of vehicle handling and engine power delivery. In order to achieve such outstanding results, the research and development team in Sant'Agata Bolognese, Italy, where the Lamborghini Headquarters are located, must take advantage of best-in-class virtual prototyping software solutions to predict system performances in the early design stage. To realize this scenario, Lamborghini has now enabled their technical team full access to the broad range of Simulation Technology products from MSC.Software.

"The Masterkey licensing system allows us to access the full MSC.Software product portfolio, in particular, the Adams automotive product suite, such as Adams/Car and Adams/Driveline. These products will help Lamborghini in building virtual prototypes related to our future models, and to test them before building the real prototype", said Fabrizio Montagnani, Coordinator of Suspension Engineering and vehicle dynamic simulations, Lamborghini Research & Development Group. "We will also be able to test our virtual prototype vehicles in different working conditions, to try different design solutions and to exchange sub-models with our suppliers using a standard simulation platform."

"I am proud that a world respected company such as Lamborghini has chosen MSC.Software's simulation solutions to further enhance the performance of their sports cars," said Amir Mobayen, Executive Vice President, Worldwide Sales, MSC.Software. "Lamborghini builds cars that combine the pleasure of driving with a skilled understanding of modern technologies and engineering innovation. High performance automotive manufacturers like Lamborghini produce a limited number of exclusive designs, and a reliable and highly cost-effective use of simulation is critical to their commercial success. Thanks to the flexibility offered by our MasterKey licensing system, such companies can meet their demands for constant innovation and faster product development cycles, as well as ensure high product quality."

About Lamborghini Automobili S.p.A.

Automobili Lamborghini S.p.A. is an Italian manufacturer of high performance Sports Cars based in

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Sant'Agata Bolognese, near Bologna, Italy. The company, founded in 1963 by businessman Ferruccio Lamborghini, is now a subsidiary of German car manufacturer Audi AG, which is in turn a subsidiary of Volkswagen Group. Lamborghini's latest model, the Reventón, is one of the fastest and most expensive of the Italian supercars.

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Mentor Graphics Veloce Deployed by Mitsubishi to Deliver High-Quality HDTV Video Decoder Chip

2 September 2008

[Mentor Graphics Corporation](#) announced that the Veloce® hardware-assisted verification platform, one of EDN's 2007 Hot 100 products, was used by Mitsubishi to verify its next generation HDTV Video Decoder IP. Mitsubishi has deployed a hardware-assisted (emulation) verification strategy over the last several years to help accelerate the verification cycle, validate circuit functionality with “real/live” data and ensure efficient pre- and post-silicon debug.

“Time-to-market pressure is severe for multimedia consumer products. We realize that hardware-software co-verification with real image data is mandatory for system-level sign-off,” said Noriyuki Minegishi, Manager, LSI Design Methodology Team, SoC Technology Department. “We decided to transition to Veloce due to better capacity in a smaller foot-print, faster compile and MHZ-class run-time. We taped-out a design of a multi-standard HDTV video decoder using Veloce so far – the HDTV video decoder emulation identified over sixty bugs prior to tape-out, ensuring high quality of the RTL.”

Most multi-media SoC designs consume billions of verification cycles. So design projects of this nature are well suited for an emulation-centric verification strategy where software simulation alone is not practical and hardware/software co-simulation with actual video image data is necessary. The use of an emulation-centric verification flow based on the Veloce product reduces hardware development time, allows verification teams to run more verification cycles, and prevents ‘tape-out’ delays and respins--ultimately allowing more verification while reducing verification cycle time.

“Mitsubishi routinely pushes the technology envelope to develop highly complex multimedia SoCs. Being part of their verification methodology re-affirms Veloce's unmatched value proposition for functional verification of complex chips,” said Eric Selosse, general manager and vice president of Mentor's Emulation Division. “Mitsubishi joins a growing list of leading-edge customers who have incorporated Veloce into their functional verification flow.”

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Nikon Precision Inc. Selects PTC® Arbortext® to Streamline Product Information Delivery

2 September 2008

PTC announced that Nikon Precision Inc., a wholly owned subsidiary of Nikon Corporation and a leading provider of precision photolithography equipment, has selected PTC's Arbortext Product Information Delivery software to streamline the editing and publishing processes of its service manuals. Using Arbortext, Nikon Precision will be able to deliver a better customer experience by providing its field service technicians with precise, up-to-date information to diagnose problems and perform maintenance and repair procedures.

Nikon Precision builds large scale, complex photolithography equipment that is customized based on

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individual customer requirements. The technical documentation to support this equipment can be more than 3,000 pages and include many illustrations to guide a technician through a maintenance and repair procedure. In addition, historically, this documentation was only available in print or large-size PDF files that were located on several web portals. As a result, Nikon's field service technicians spent 20-30% of their time with a customer searching for documentation to find the precise information needed to maintain and repair the equipment.

[Nikon Precision](#) required a solution that would allow them to create information that could be easily searched, reused and published in multiple format types. Additionally, the documentation had to be easy to access since its field service technicians were often on site with customers when the information was needed. Nikon selected The PTC Arbortext service manual application because of its out-of-the-box capabilities for creating, publishing and delivering technical service information. This solution will enable Nikon to publish high-quality service information with embedded interactive illustrations quickly with minimal configuration. Using the Arbortext solution, Nikon plans to improve first-time fix rates and reduce machine downtime which ultimately can lead to an enhanced experience for its customers.

"Nikon Precision products deliver an important service to our customers, and so it is with that mindset that our strategic goals are to support the customer experience," said Dan Rice, senior manager global technical communications, Nikon Precision Inc. "We chose PTC's Arbortext service manual application because it is the industry's first and only integral solution that will help us collaboratively author, manage, publish and dynamically deliver accurate documentation. We look forward to continuing our work with PTC as we implement this innovative product information delivery solution."

"Information quality and the capability to deliver product and customer-specific information to service technicians play a critical role for the success of organizations like Nikon Precision," said Peter Velikin, director, product and market strategy, [PTC](#). "We are pleased to be working with Nikon Precision as they strive towards this goal and look forward to remaining a long-term strategic partner with the company."

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Pernoud Cuts Data Handling and Quoting Time by up to Half

4 September 2008

Pernoud is a French moldmaking group, founded in 1971 by Georges Pernoud, the father of Gilles and Philippe Pernoud, both the current Group CEOs.

The Pernoud Group has a staff of 90 over three different sites. The main Georges Pernoud Company is based in Oyonnax, France and specializes in manufacturing new molds and employs around 40 people. A second Group company, FMP, is located close to the Georges Pernoud site and has a staff of 35 specialized in tooling maintenance, technical development and repairs. 15 people work at a third site in Bratislava, Slovakia providing tool maintenance, technical development and repairs to the Slovakian, Czech and Polish markets.

The group's 2007-2008 turnover was around Euro 14 million, with 70% of this turnover derived from the production of car engine parts.

Pernoud has always invested in the best manufacturing software and recognized that it could gain a range of productivity and communication benefits from acquiring collaborative 3D viewing software.

CEO Gilles Pernoud analyzed the company's existing range of software applications to determine how a collaborative 3D viewer could best integrate within their set-up. An analysis of solutions available on

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the market was carried out with the main criteria being for the software to be able to open all specified CAD files as quickly as possible.

The Company initially identified 3 solutions that were potentially a good fit. WorkXPlore 3D was finally selected due to a number of technical criteria: its high-speed handling of CAD files: its reliability (two applications were tested in parallel), user interface quality and suitability of its analysis tools.

Gilles Pernoud explains: "The product is tailored to moldmaking and has benefited from SESCOI's 20 years' experience in this industry. This product is exactly what moldmakers need."

WorkXPlore 3D's attractive pricing and its flexibility to meet different user requirement levels were further determining factors in its selection. The software comes in three versions from the 3D Viewer through to the full advanced functionality of the Manufacturing Pro version (the latter also available as a floating licence), and includes users' rights management.

The final criteria in the selection process was the responsiveness of the software supplier. Gilles Pernoud appreciated the "10 years of collaboration between Pernoud and [SESCOI](#) and their willingness to work with us to develop products that meet our requirements."

Pernoud Group companies generate around 350 quotes per year, of which between 10 and 15% become orders. This meant that a considerable amount of time was devoted to converting and reading 350 CAD data files, with an average of 10 to 15 minutes spent on each CAD file. Gilles Pernoud comments: "In the past, we received various documents such as part drawings, views and images. Now, we receive a single data file and we don't even know what it contains until we convert it." With WorkXPlore 3D, the CAD files are opened immediately and it now takes Pernoud only around 15 minutes to confirm part feasibility to a customer and 30 to 40% of CAD data files conversions are no longer wasted effort.

During the design phase, WorkXPlore 3D enables 3D data to be quickly disseminated internally and externally. Gilles Pernoud explains: "We have to dialogue with our customers – explaining, justifying and validating the design...and internally in the workshops, we need to carry out preliminary studies of the mold."

WorkXPlore 3D is used to create customer technical records. Gilles Pernoud adds, "It's becoming increasingly difficult for customers to handle drawings - we have to give them information and material that they can manage easily and these need to be user-friendly, particularly when working in an international environment. Our CAD data can now be exported very easily - WorkXPlore 3D generates smaller files and you can leave presentations with your customers, which is a neat feature."

When sourcing, Pernoud may request quotations from 3 different suppliers and each supplier used to have to be provided with around 10 drawings. Pernoud therefore spent a lot of time and money on drafting, paper and postage costs and response times were slow. Now with WorkXPlore 3D sourcing is much faster as the executable files (for spare parts, mold frames, etc) are simply e-mailed to suppliers.

Pernoud is aware that, even with a high performance CAD application, the cost of CAD workstations is still very high, not necessarily at the time of purchase but certainly in terms of the ongoing training and maintenance requirement. Pernoud will therefore continue to reduce long term CAD costs by no longer running multiple CAD systems and, with WorkXPlore 3D on the shop floor, its machine operators have to learn only one, easy-to-use piece of software for displaying and analyzing the parts they need to machine.

With its ability to create IGES files, WorkXPlore 3D has greatly facilitated the quotation process. Gilles Pernoud explains, "We can read all types of files, customers can send us whatever they want, we simply

convert the files to the IGES format."

Pernoud is using the software's animation module for technical records. Gilles Pernoud again explains: "We add animated scenes of the mold to the technical records so that customers can easily view how to assemble and disassemble the mold. Before we had WorkXPlore 3D, we had to provide written assembly / disassembly instructions for highly complex molds. We can now add animation scene files really easily and it's that little extra attention to detail which customers like."

WorkXPlore 3D's ability to create executable files is another feature much appreciated by the Company's customers who don't need to download a plug-in via the Internet (which isn't always available) in order to read the files received from Pernoud, all they have to do is click to open the e-mailed file.

WorkXPlore 3D has proved itself to be very easy to learn and use. Today, after an initial 1-day training session, around ten people are using the software at Georges Pernoud Company.

In its design office WorkXPlore 3D is used to retrieve data files, create technical data and generate customer presentations; the Engineering Office uses the software for supplier consultations; project managers and sales people use it for creating customer quotations, preliminary study presentations and PowerPoint presentations (images, photos); machine operators use it to view parts and toolpaths. And finally, in every company department, WorkXPlore 3D is used to ensure that each employee knows instantly what he or she needs do on a particular job.

Gilles Pernoud estimates that use of WorkXPlore 3D has resulted in time-savings of between 25 and 50%, particularly for data retrieval. He concludes "Like email, WorkXPlore 3D has become the most efficient tool we have for communicating and sharing information inside and outside our company with customers, suppliers and employees. We intend to implement WorkXPlore 3D on all our sites."

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Schueco Improves Photovoltaic Solar Panel Performance Using FLOVENT Thermal/AirFlow Simulation Software from Flomerics

4 September 2008

Schueco used Flomerics' Flovent computational fluid dynamics (CFD) software to redesign its products to improve their thermal performance so that 15% to 20% more panels can be used in a given space. Today's photovoltaic panels present a major thermal design challenge since every degree Centigrade of temperature rise reduces the power produced by 0.5%. "The CFD results helped us understand exactly how the panels were being heated and guided us as we made major improvements to the design," said Hamid Batoul, Technical Director of Solar Department, Schueco International, Paris, France. "As the first in our industry to perform CFD simulation, we believe that we are now able to provide our customers with substantially higher power output than an equivalent competitive design."

Schueco provides complete solar energy systems including all components needed to produce energy from the sun including panels, collectors, tanks, mounting system, control units and monitoring electronics. Sunlight hits the photovoltaic panels and generates direct current. The UK government sponsored Energy Saving Trust estimates that microgeneration could reduce the UK's carbon emissions by 15% compared with the present mix of energy generation. The Rocky Mountain Institute in Snowmass, Colorado recently released a study that showed that output of small scale power sources will soon outstrip the world's nuclear power industry.

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Schueco was the first company in the solar energy business to recognize that substantial improvements in photovoltaic panel performance could be achieved by optimizing thermal design. “I previously worked for several companies making telecommunications equipment and used thermal simulation to solve thermal challenges,” Batoul said. “I found that Flomerics’ Flotherm CFD software was the most powerful tool available in that space. Performing thermal simulation of solar energy systems requires different software because of the need to model building materials that play a role in thermal performance. Flomerics offers Flovent CFD software designing for addressing heating, ventilation and cooling problems in buildings. We tried Flovent and found it met all our requirements such as modeling the thermal characteristics of glass and simulating the effects of radiation on the panels.”

Batoul uses Flovent to model complete solar systems. Flovent simulates the absorption and reflection of solar energy by the panels, the transfer of heat to aluminum profiles and the surrounding air, etc. “The CFD results helped us understand exactly how the panels were being heated and guided us as we made major improvements to their design,” Batoul said. “Examining the flow of air under the photovoltaic panels showed that the size of the passageway was constricting the flow of air. We increased the depth of the profile that supports the photovoltaic panels to increase the distance between the panels and the roof. Re-running the simulation demonstrated that this increased the airflow and reduced the temperature of the photovoltaic panels. Through these studies, we optimized the design of the solar energy systems and also gained an understanding of how temperature is affected by different arrangements of panels and ambient conditions.”

For more information about Flovent, visit <http://www.flovent.com>.

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Tycos Continues Collaboration with think3 to Deliver High Standard Tooling Solutions

3 September 2008

Tycos, a Canadian provider of automotive tooling, continues to deliver cutting edge products and tooling services thanks to continued collaboration with think3, the only supplier to offer technology solutions that combine product concept, engineering and tooling environments.

ThinkDesign solutions by think3 provide a single design environment which streamlines design processes and allows for an interoperability that reduces margin of error. This significantly cuts design time and costs which allows products to hit the market much quicker, and directly translates into real benefits to the bottom line.

“We chose think3 many years ago for its high reliability of tooling solutions” said Patrick Radice, General Manager at Tycos. “Over the years this has proved successful and thanks to ThinkDesign and HyperCAD we’ve been able to meet the needs of increasingly demanding customers all over the world.”

Tycos has also benefited from the quality of service and support provided by SolidCAD, Ontario's leading provider of software, training and technical support for the CAD/CAM industry. SolidCAD plays an integral role on think3’s support team for Tycos, bringing a wealth of experience in the automotive market and in third party applications, such as hyperMill, for manufacturing and hardware integration.

[Think3](#) has recently released its 2008.1 version of ThinkDesign solutions designed for toolmakers and technicians. ThinkDesign features improvements to the Compensator functions and offers a powerful

solution for calculating the compensation required for sheet metal spring back. The improvements concern mesh loading, calculation, checking and the extraction of curves and points to ensure better performance and optimised results in comparison with the initial shape. The Die Design module, for designing dies in sheet metal environments, is a new module featuring functions that allow users to better define cutting lines and compensate local and targeted GSM spined twist.

“At think3 we constantly develop cutting edge design and PLM software to meet customer demands and help them deliver innovative products,” said Filippo Zuccarello, CEO, think3. “We are pleased to contribute to Tycos’ success and we believe our consolidated experience working with such an important tooling company will help us improve our offer of tooling solutions to help customers meet the competition”.

[Tycos Tool and Die](#) of Concord, ON, is a division of Decoma International, and one of the plastics industry’s largest mould makers.

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Product News

Agilent Technologies and T-Tech Announce Agreement on RF Printed Circuit Board Design and Prototyping

3 September 2008

Agilent Technologies Inc. and T-Tech Inc. announced a joint agreement to offer a solution for fast RF printed circuit board (PCB) design, verification and fabrication. The collaboration combines Agilent’s [Genesys](#) RF and microwave circuit design and verification software with T-Tech’s [Quick Circuit](#) System for PCB prototyping. The combination is expected to represent the industry’s first complete PCB design, verification and prototyping solution.

“Collaborating with T-Tech, Agilent can provide a complete turnkey design and fabrication flow for high-speed/high-frequency PCB designers,” said Todd Cutler, marketing and services manager of Agilent’s [EESof EDA](#) division. “It will enable our customers to work from idea to physical prototype all within the Genesys software environment.”

“By partnering with Agilent to integrate its Genesys suite of EDA tools with our high-frequency, precision PCB fabrication machines, we will give our shared customers the ability to go from desktop design to physical prototype in hours instead of weeks or months,” said John Taylor, president of T-Tech.

Agilent’s Genesys is an integrated EDA software platform for RF and microwave designers and workgroups. From initial system architecture through final documentation, Genesys provides state-of-the-art performance in a single, easy-to-use design environment that is fast, powerful and accurate.

T-Tech’s [Quick Circuit System](#) is a rapid-prototyping solution used in the fabrication phase of circuit board prototypes. By bringing prototyping methods in-house, it enables engineering teams to save both time and money. The [Quick Circuit](#) can drill, mill and route traces and spaces as fine as 0.100mm / .004 inches, making it ideal for producing analog, digital or [RF/microwave prototypes](#).

U.S. Pricing and Availability

Genesys 2008.07 configurations for high-yield physical board design start at approximately \$4,000,

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which includes the first 12 months' support.

T-Tech's Quick Circuit Systems start at approximately \$12,000 for basic circuit board fabrication, which includes the first 12 months' support.

For more information about Genesys suites, visit eesof.tm.agilent.com/products/genesys.

For more information about T-Tech's Quick Circuit systems, visit <http://www.t-tech.com>.

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GibbsCAM Post Processors Available for Mori Seiki's new NZ Series

2 September 2008

Gibbs and Associates, a Cimatron Limited company, developer of GibbsCAM® software for programming CNC machine tools, announced the release of GibbsCAM post processors developed for Mori Seiki's NZ series of machine tools. GibbsCAM's posted output effectively supports the advanced capabilities of these multi-tasking machine tools, because of a collaborative effort with Mori Seiki. As competitive pressures grow, so does the market demand for high-efficiency mass production machine tools like the Mori Seiki NZ line which can dramatically reduce machining time.

“As the complexity of today's advanced machine tools increases, sophisticated post processors are required to program them effectively,” explains Bill Gibbs, founder and CEO of Gibbs and Associates. “Working directly with Mori Seiki engineers, we were able to acquire the expertise needed to develop and validate these post processors for their NZ Series.”

The Mori Seiki NZ series of machine tools are ideally suited for mass-production machining. The NZ series machines can be configured with up to three turrets, all using Mori Seiki's BMT™ (Built-in Motor Turret) technology. By placing the motor inside the turret, heat generation and vibration are kept to a minimum and transmission efficiency is improved. Cutting performance, speed and precision are also significantly increased. The new NZ Series of multi-axes machines offers not only turning, but also excellent milling with the Y-axis. With the longest Y-axis stroke in its class, it achieves high-precision, high efficiency machining. In addition to developing post processors for the Mori Seiki NZ series line, GibbsCAM post processors are also available for Mori Seiki's NMV series of 5-Axis machine tools.

For more information about GibbsCAM or to locate your local GibbsCAM Reseller, go to <http://www.GibbsCAM.com>, call 1-800-654-9399, or email info@GibbsCAM.com. For more information about Mori Seiki and their line of machine tools, visit <http://www.MoriSeiki.com>.

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hyperCAD® 2008.1 from OPEN MIND; New Version with Numerous Innovations

4 September 2008

With hyperCAD® 2008.1 OPEN MIND brings a new version of its CAD software on to the market, again with numerous innovations. These improvements serve to increase the clarity of the software, to increase productivity and to better support users in their day-to-day work.

hyperCAD® from OPEN MIND Technologies AG is a flexible, versatile CAD system that is based on the think3® kernel. The 2D and 3D CAD system can be intuitively operated, is easy to learn and is especially user-friendly. Direct interfaces to data files coming from CATIA V4® or V5®,

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Unigraphics®, PTC, SolidWorks and Parasolid® as well as standard data exchange formats such as STEP, IGES, STL, VDAFS, DWG and DXF make importing and exporting data flexible.

One of hyperCAD®'s greatest strengths is its ability to work with curve, surface and solid data in a single environment. Transitions from solids to surfaces and from surfaces to solids are possible. The designer can use various tools to check the quality of the curves and surfaces to ensure that at the end of the design process, models with excellent data quality are available and more time can be saved, for example, in the subsequent CAM programming.

Intelligent functions

A number of high-end functions make complex processes simpler and reduce the time needed to carry out routine work. Models and variations of models can be developed especially quickly and efficiently with hyperCAD®. It is also possible to switch between 2D and 3D modes at any time. The Smart Objects technology allows predefined or user-defined intelligent design elements and concepts to be stored and used again later. The automatic adjustment to differing topologies and geometries puts an end to time-consuming routine tasks. MODEL SPLITTING is a particularly efficient tool for mould construction. A single mouse click can quickly separate surface and solid models into upper and lower pieces. With GLOBAL SHAPE MODELING, existing models can be very quickly modified and variations created, saving the user time and money. Portions of the surface or solid model can be fixed, while adjacent areas are bent, rotated, modelled or extruded individually or together, with specified blend constraints.

New version of hyperCAD® 2008.1

The properties of work planes and references systems, which can be configured using a shortcut menu, are examples of the optimisations and improvements that have been made. Users also have a considerable amount of freedom with the configuration and appearance of the work planes, allowing them to adapt these according to their individual needs. The completely revised layer management also provides more clarity. It can be activated in the browser's taskbar and is always available. The status of each layer can be discerned at a glance: name, colours, line type and thickness, number of elements or the status, i.e. whether the layer is locked or unlocked. Additional password protection prevents unauthorised access to critical data. If the layer is password protected, then the data can neither be graphically edited or manipulated nor deleted. The lock with snap serves to make locked elements available for selection for snap functions. Thanks to the layer filters it is possible to make selections according to specific criteria for a reduced view.

Improvements have also been made for simple 3D surfaces and solid functions. New functions, such as 'rotational extrusion' or 'triple tangential rounding' have been implemented in hyperCAD® 2008.1, which makes modelling even easier for the user.

New graphic interface increases performance

A completely revised graphic interface brings significant advantages when working thanks to improved element representation. This advantage is especially relevant when working on large STL networks. The performance increases in this case, compared to the previous version, by a factor of 4 to 5. The stock representation in hyperMILL® also benefits from this improvement. With hyperCAD® 2008.1 the last step towards a uniform user interface has been carried out. All 2D drawing functions have been transferred to the proven 3D user interface. These powerful functions make 2D drafting even more effective.

With exact information between the individual elements, the representation of solids and surfaces has again been improved in hyperCAD® 2008.1. With the optimised section view the section can be optimally defined and the section area can be assigned its own colour. Additional functionality include new selection options for contours or model quality control. The model comparison now offers the user the possibility of recognising the remaining material or analysing statuses and thus adapting the machining strategy accordingly.

Additional information is available on request or from our website at <http://www.openmind-tech.com>.

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Rasterex Releases RxAutoImage R9.0

5 September 2008

Rasterex Software announced the new release of their software for raster editing and raster to vector conversion inside AutoCAD. Rasterex is a world leading provider of sophisticated software for raster editing and raster to vector conversion.

RxAutoImage is an ARX application running directly inside AutoCAD, while **RxSpotlight** is the complementary solution for Windows. Both solutions are now up for a major update to version R9.0. You can read more about the RxSpotlight R9.0 release [here](#).

RxAutoImage solves the problem of incorporating scanned raster data into AutoCAD. RxAutoImage allows users to clean up, edit and update scanned drawings, maps, sketches and other graphics directly inside AutoCAD. Through semi-automatic or fully automatic raster to vector conversion, the raster data can be converted to vector and hybrid information for further drawing production inside AutoCAD. Built on the true ObjectARX technology from Autodesk, RxAutoImage uses AutoCAD's own dialogs and settings together with an advanced customizable CAD-style interface.

"With the new version R9.0, our users can perform all raster editing and vectorization inside AutoCAD", says Per Christian Lindstad, CEO at Rasterex Software. "RxAutoImage turns AutoCAD into a true hybrid editor for effective CAD drawing production".

New features in RxAutoImage R9.0:

- Updated AutoCAD 2009, 2008 and 2007 support
- Since this version, RxAutoImage eliminates limitation on the size of loadable images. The width of image is increased up to 16 million pixels, height to two billion pixels
- Collect Polylines command is designed for assembling polylines resulting from the trace or automatic vectorization commands
- Total integration with Autodesk in technology, operational control and engine
- Scanning module with full direct support wide-format and TWAIN scanners
- Image enhancement and restoration inside AutoCAD
- CAD style raster selection, snapping and editing
- Various automatic raster-to-vector conversion and tracing options for black and white, colour and grayscale images
- Several rasterization modes with help of a precise rasterization engine

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- Adaptive Binarization - unique tool for blueprints and sepias
- Smart colour palette manager - Colour Classifier
- Search and Replace on colour images with support of Symbol Recognition Template Libraries - for symbol tracing, raster-to-vector conversion, hybrid selection and Search & Replace
- Vector Automatic Correction with a rich set of options
- Polylines Automatic Correction with a rich set of options for merging, and combining polylines
- Adaptive Blur filter for blurring non-uniform colour areas inside colour transition boundaries in grayscale and colour images

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Rasterex Releases RxSpotlight R9.0

5 September 2008

Rasterex Software announced the new release of their software for raster editing and raster to vector conversion for Windows. Rasterex is a world leading provider of sophisticated software for raster editing and raster to vector conversion.

RxSpotlight is the standalone application for Windows, while **RxAutoImage** is the complementary solution running directly inside AutoCAD. Both solutions are now up for a major update to version R9.0. You can read more about the RxAutoImage R9.0 release [here](#).

RxSpotlight has for many years been recognized as the leading solution for cleaning up drawings and converting scanned drawings into CAD. With version R9.0, Rasterex takes the solution a huge step further, and introduces full CAD vector processing and intelligent image processing. RxSpotlight has become the ultimate workspace for hybrid operations, where image processing, raster editing and vector processing are blended into one cost-effective application.

"We are proud to present the perfect one-stop solution for companies working extensively with raster and CAD drawings", says Per Christian Lindstad, CEO at Rasterex Software. "Whether the user starts with a scanned drawing, retrieves a file from the archive or imports a DWG file from AutoCAD, he can clean up and edit the raster, make lossless data reduction and advanced image enhancements, convert between raster and vector data and complete the CAD processing up to final CAD output - all without leaving the application".

New features in RxSpotlight R9.0:

- Microsoft Windows Vista compatible
- Import of DWG and DXF files for full AutoCAD compatibility
- AutoCAD 2009 supported
- Workspace includes Drawing Layouts and Viewports as in AutoCAD
- Extended line styles and hatch type support
- Dimension style support, new dimension objects
- Proxy and complex entities processing

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- User Coordinate System AutoCAD-style support
- New angular units in coordinate settings
- AutoCAD style editing
- Construction objects (ray, line) and primitive object (polygon) added
- AutoCAD style object grips and dragging
- Node selection mode for polylines
- Object tracking snap mode on vectors (similar to AutoCAD) extending also onto raster objects
- COM and DDE interface
- Languages such as C++, Java and scripts available for improved usability
- Updated internal format, more compact and robust
- Autosave and Recover
- Print Setup dialog redesigned for better usability
- Added feature - individual clip for multiple raster insertion

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Zuken Opens Access and Gives Control to Users of Latest Version of CR-5000

4 September 2008

The newly released Version 11 of CR-5000 mirrors Zuken's business strategy of solid development for a long-term future. The focus of this version is to launch the new Dragon Router while opening up the tool suite to allow more designers to access additional functions across the full environment without having to purchase full licenses of add-on tools.

"We identified that opening access to our cutting-edge technology to a broader segment of users and improving cross-tool integration is critical to enabling our customers to improve design efficiency – a key reason why this is the focus for CR-5000 11," said Global Development Manager, Kazuhiro Kariya.

CR-5000 Lightning Unleashes the Power of the Dragon, taking the stress out of routing

The Dragon is here. This brand new intelligent autorouting solution combines intelligence and a methodology-driven approach that guides the user through the right-first-time creation of high-speed boards in shorter time frames.

To automate the process even further, a sophisticated new automatic floorplanning tool, directly linked to CR-5000 System Designer design capture, is available with CR-5000 Lightning 11. Design engineers can floorplan boards without the need for accessing a complex PCB layout tool.

Signal integrity analysis accuracy has been enhanced to consider effects of arbitrary power and ground conductors anywhere in the layer stack. This kind of analysis is essential when more intricate signal transmission techniques such as coplanar waveguides are used. A powerful new multiple-parameter sweep analysis has been added, enabling design engineers and PCB designers to easily optimize high-speed net topologies.

CR-5000 System Designer – for tighter control at the schematic level

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For the design engineer, Zuken focuses on providing more control. CR-5000 System Designer provides major improvements in constraints to support PCB design. Relative skew, important for source-synchronous technologies such as DDR memory, can be entered without requiring additional software licences. This helps users to front-load electrical constraint management, eliminating unnecessary redesign work further down the line.

CR-5000 Board Designer – opens the door to new CR-5000 technology

PCB designers gain significantly with version 11 in the area of routing, which includes the integration of Zuken's Trunk Router*. Other enhancements facilitate more effective use of downstream tools. For example, the ability to insert 45-degree angle pin exit directions upfront within Board Designer eliminates the need to manually modify exit directions later within CR-5000 Lightning.

Another significant area of development focus was the increasingly necessary differential pair. Per-layer track-to-track spacing can now be specified within CR-5000 Board Designer, allowing the designer to control signal integrity more effectively and define constraints earlier in the design cycle.

CR-5000 Version 11 also takes a big step forward in version management. Users can now make comparisons between two different PCBs and generate reports detailing variations, providing complete ECO (electronic change order) details with no manual effort.

The PCB designer can now access assembly rules and perform checks against the board without having to use a separate tool to report the errors, for a more integrated approach. This means that everyone with Board Designer can achieve far more reliable designs without the time and effort involved in extensive design rework.

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