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Top Story

Mentor Graphics and PTC Deliver Industry's First Bi-Directional ECAD-MCAD Collaboration Capability

18 September 2008

[Mentor Graphics Corporation](#) announced delivery of the industry's first design collaboration capability between Electrical (ECAD) and Mechanical (MCAD) design solutions enabling teams to use this solution from the design inception to the manufacturing process. Based on the ProSTEP iViP Association-approved electromechanical interchange standard whose development was initiated and driven by Mentor, Mentor Graphics' ECAD-MCAD Collaborator product enables bi-directional, digital communication of incremental design changes and automates the review and approval processes between the respective domains.

Today, companies across many industries are incorporating more sophisticated electronics within more complex mechanical form factors to address expanding customer requirements. Electronics and high-tech companies, particularly consumer electronics, are at the forefront of this trend. However, companies in the automotive, medical device, aerospace and defense and industrial industries are also experiencing these trends. To design these products successfully, these companies need to break down the organizational and technical barriers that have traditionally limited design collaboration across disciplines.

“Seamlessly integrating the electronic and mechanical design processes continues to become more essential for manufacturing companies,” stated Ken Amann, Director of Research, CIMdata, Inc. “The merging of electro-mechanical design (often referred to as mechatronics) enables companies to more effectively and quickly develop products in which electronics is the differentiating factor. Mentor Graphics and PTC have developed new solutions, built on industry standards, to enhance their joint level of ECAD-MCAD collaboration. Used together, their solutions can help electronics companies reduce electro-mechanical design conflicts and develop complex products faster.”

PTC is the first supplier of mechanical design solutions to adopt this standard and implement

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

complementary collaboration capability. Together, PTC and Mentor offer the industry's first complete end-to-end collaboration solution between MCAD and ECAD designers. These capabilities will significantly improve design process efficiency and cycle times by replacing paper-based methods and static file formats with standards-based processes and easy-to-use graphical visualization in both the mechanical and electrical design domains.

"As a supplier of design automation software, Mentor's strategy is to extend our focus beyond just PCB and ECAD design into areas that can improve the efficiency of a company's complete electronic product development process," said Dan Boncella, director of marketing of Mentor Graphics Systems Design Division. "The design of these products requires continuing communication between the electrical and mechanical domains as the design proceeds and changes in either domain are proposed. Our ECAD-MCAD Collaborator automates this process and delivers needed functionality to our customer base."

"Our customers' products increasingly involve tighter linkages between electrical and mechanical design, and the lack of integration and collaboration capabilities in their current tools makes it hard for them to meet quality, cost and time-to-market goals," said Chad Hawkinson, vice president of solutions marketing, PTC. "These new products from PTC and Mentor Graphics will overcome these obstacles, and enable our joint customers to deliver more tightly integrated electromechanical products to market faster."

Driven by Suppliers, Their Customers and Standards

The collaborative effort to define and develop the ECAD–MCAD collaboration methodology was first introduced by Mentor Graphics at the ProSTEP conference in 2005 and has been actively driven by Mentor Graphics. PTC and a select set of ECAD-MCAD customers also actively participated in a three-year definition effort. In early 2008, the EDMD (Electrical Design Mechanical Design) schema was accepted and published by ProSTEP as a standard for incremental, bi-directional communication of proposed changes between ECAD and MCAD systems. Based on this EDMD standard, Mentor Graphics and PTC have implemented the industry's first true collaboration capabilities. It is anticipated that additional MCAD and ECAD suppliers will adopt this standard and implement collaboration functionality.

ECAD-MCAD Design Collaboration

ECAD and MCAD systems have existed in separate domains for many years and have evolved to optimize their own domain's productivity and functionality using their own data constructs and formats. Communication between the respective tool sets has previously been through bulk data interfaces with little capability to identify and update incremental changes.

The efforts of Mentor Graphics and PTC have produced collaboration tools in both domains that enable mechanical and electrical engineers to propose incremental design changes, have those changes viewable in an easy-to-use tool, enable analysis/review/comment/approval of the proposed changes, and finally, upon acceptance, update the incremental changes into the respective databases. The initial capability focuses on commonly used geometric objects such as board outline, components and holes.

Availability

Design collaboration between Expedition Enterprise™ and Board Station® XE PCB design flows through Mentor's ECAD-MCAD Collaborator product, and PTC's Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire 4.0 ECAD-MCAD Collaboration Extension is available now. To find out more please attend a joint webinar being broadcast live September 23 or on demand by going to the following link:

<http://www.pcbshows.com/webinars/events/mentor/ecad.shtml>.

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Acquisitions

DP Technology Corp. acquires BinarySpaces Software Technology GmbH

16 September 2008

DP Technology Corp. announced the cash acquisition of BinarySpaces Software Technology GmbH, a virtual machining software company based in Teltow (Berlin), Germany.

“This acquisition provides DP Technology with direct access to simulation technology that will allow us to further develop our OEM partnerships with machine tool builders around the world,” said Chuck Mathews, vice president of DP Technology. “We are also excited about the opportunity to offer our ESPRIT end-users a stand-alone simulation product, a tool that is increasingly important for today’s complex multi-axis and mill-turn machine tools.”

Both companies will continue to operate independently, as BinarySpaces will maintain its current headquarters in Berlin, where all existing staff will remain. The most significant immediate result to be gained from this acquisition are the technological enhancements derived from a commitment by BinarySpaces to double its investment in research and development (R&D) over the next 12 months.

BinarySpace offers its virtual machining (simulation) technology as a software component, SIMNC Core API, to be embedded in individual OEM products. The company also offers pre-packaged CNC machine simulation products directly to end-users under the trade name of SIMNC. BinarySpaces has an extensive end-user customer base in Europe, as well as a number of large European and Japanese machine tool builders as OEM customers, who then distribute the combined products world-wide.

About SIMNC

The BinarySpaces product family, SIMNC, produces 3D simulation of complex multi-axis machine tools, including collision detection, material removal and other non-cutting processes. The SIMNC Core API, the foundation of the entire product line, is built using the latest software architecture, which optimizes its use of memory and CPU power — allowing the product to run on-line on a machine tool control, or off-line on a stand-alone PC.

This modern architecture supports parallel processing that maximizes graphics performance on 64-bit and/or multi-core computers. SIMNC includes a Machine Tool Builder to aid in defining the computer representation of the machine tool. The SIMNC Control Emulator allows the simulation engine to run off-line directly from the end user’s G-Code part programs, while the SIMNC Part Set-up aids the end-user in defining the cutting tools and fixtures related to each individual CNC program.

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CIMdata News

Ask the Expert: How Will PLM Evolve?

September 2008

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

CIMdata Director of Research, Ken Amann, addressed this question in the Ask the Expert column at [Managing Automation](#):

Question:

What are the challenges for the growth of PLM solutions? And what will be the future trends in PLM?

Answer:

There are many challenges for growth in PLM solutions. These include providing solutions that address industry-specific issues and include best practices tailored to each industry. As new areas of functionality are brought into a PLM environment, business practices must be updated to better utilize the underlying technologies and to improve business processes. This impacts organizational standards and cultures. As PLM expands, new users must be provided access to PLM-managed information and processes without their having to be experts in the domains that created the information. The broader the PLM environment, the more business systems will be touched, and this requires integration with those systems and the information/processes managed by them.

Other issues include expanding the ability to collaborate across more organizations and users while maintaining the security of each company's IP (intellectual property). The broader the solution, the more need for better, more comprehensive, and easier-to-use search methods, as well as more product information-related analytics.

As for coming trends, there are several that are impacting the PLM industry. These include Digital Manufacturing, integration with factory production systems (automation), improved and expanded product portfolio management, design for X (compliance, manufacturing, serviceability, etc.), increased use of system engineering and mechatronics, expanded use of PLM information (3D and other) by casual users/consumers, use of PLM solutions and methods in new industry sectors, e.g., finance and services, green design and manufacturing, broader use of strategic sourcing methods, and others.

If you have a PLM related question for Ken, you can submit it at <http://www.managingautomation.com/maonline/channel/ProductLifecycleManagementPLM/expert>.

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CIMdata in the News: “Broadening the PLM Footprint”

1 October 2008

In the “Broadening the PLM Footprint” article in **IndustryWeek** John Teresko notes “Product lifecycle management (PLM) technology is reaching record levels, with analysts predicting sustained growth for the next five years.”

In the article CIMdata President Ed Miller offers this insight:

"Executive-level recognition of the significant business value of PLM will continue to drive the increased implementation of the approach," says Miller. "Increasingly, many of these far-reaching systems extend beyond engineering design to a broader range of activities -- from early-stage product strategy development and planning, to product engineering and manufacturing engineering, and through to product maintenance and support." He explains that the impact of this broader PLM footprint is that many diverse, previously isolated disciplines and pockets of automation are now being tightly integrated, with processes optimized for the entire enterprise and across the full product lifecycle.

To learn more please access:

[Broadening the PLM Footprint](#)

(IndustryWeek, October 1, 2008)

By John Teresko

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Company News

Bentley Launches Building Performance Group, Names Noah Eckhouse Vice President

17 September 2008

Bentley Systems, Incorporated announced the launch of a new group dedicated to helping architects, engineers, construction professionals, and owner-operators design, build, and operate better-performing, more sustainable buildings. Bentley's new Building Performance Group will focus on software solutions and products that address the immediate global need to create and maintain energy-efficient, environmentally friendly, safer buildings that also set the benchmark for occupant comfort. Among the new group's current offerings are Bentley's recently acquired [Hevacomp](#) line of building services design software that includes products for energy analysis, heating and cooling load calculations, pipe and duct sizing, and electrical system design, and [Tas](#) software for fast, in-depth energy analysis and simulation of demanding and challenging large-scale building environments. Together, these products make Bentley the clear global leader in building analysis and simulation products for improved building performance.

The Building Performance Group will be headed by Noah Eckhouse, former director of business development supporting Bentley's portfolio development function and recently named vice president of the new group. Eckhouse will lead a team of highly skilled business developers, industry experts, and sales and support professionals with specialized knowledge and broad experience in building performance issues. He reports to John Riddle, Bentley senior vice president, Global Plant and Building.

Commenting on the launch of the new group, CEO Greg Bentley said, "The creation of our new Building Performance Group underscores Bentley System's long-term commitment to providing comprehensive software solutions for sustaining infrastructure. It will make available a growing number of highly integrated, advanced software tools that architects, engineers, and low-carbon consultants can deploy to address the increasing demand for buildings designed with lifecycle performance in mind. These better-performing buildings will be more energy- and water-efficient, will emit less carbon waste, and will be safer to operate and work or live in."

Mr. Bentley continued, "Setting the course for this important new initiative is a senior Bentley executive with the vision and experience to ensure its success and future growth. Noah Eckhouse's expertise in the emerging building performance sector, coupled with the sincere passion he brings to this field, uniquely qualifies him. We welcome him to his new role at Bentley."

Added Tony Baxter, Bentley director of Product Management, Building Performance, "I am delighted that, through Bentley's new Building Performance Group, we are gaining extensive new global resources to help accelerate the international propagation of our Hevacomp and Tas products. This localization process has already begun for our Hevacomp product line, as evidenced by our new

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Australia and New Zealand release and our soon-to-be-announced U.S. release.”

“The software tools the Building Performance Group offers enable those who design, build, and operate buildings, stadiums, plants, and other structures to fulfill three vital aspirations: first, to fully comply with existing and emerging government regulations around the world associated with energy efficiency, carbon emissions, water consumption, earthquake, wind, and flood resistance, and other performance-related parameters; second, to timely consider and compare design alternatives with early-stage conceptual design software; and third, to reliably calculate, with engineering precision, the impact of design and design changes on building performance.”

Prior to joining Bentley in 2005, Eckhouse was president of Optram, Inc., chief executive officer of TrailBreaker.com, an e-commerce analytics software firm, and vice president of Player Systems Corp. He was also a research specialist in the department of ocean engineering at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Eckhouse graduated from Tufts University with a Bachelor of Science degree in electrical engineering.

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PTC® Global Education Program Sponsors U.S. Department of Energy “Real World Design Challenge”

16 September 2008

PTC® announced that it will provide [Pro/ENGINEER®](#) and [Windchill®](#) software solutions to create the technology foundation for the U.S. Department of Energy “[Real World Design Challenge](#)” (RWDC). The Real World Design Challenge aligns secondary education with 21st Century workforce needs, and strengthens professional development for teachers by providing training and support from mentors in National Laboratories, the Federal Aviation Administration, industry, and higher education, to improve science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) skills. Through its Global Education Program, PTC will donate licenses of Pro/ENGINEER and Windchill to all participating schools. Pro/ENGINEER is PTC’s integrated parametric MCAD/CAM/CAE software that companies use to develop detailed, intuitive and realistic digital product models and related deliverables. Windchill allows organizations to manage product content and business processes throughout the entire product lifecycle.

The RWDC is being launched as an annual event that will provide high school students the opportunity to work on real world engineering challenges in a team environment. Each year student teams from participating states will be given the opportunity to design a solution to resolve a challenge that confronts one of our nation’s leading industries. The first stage of the challenge will consist of state level “Governor’s Design Challenge” competitions. Winning teams from the state competitions will be invited to compete in a National Challenge in Washington, D.C. hosted by the Department of Energy.

The PTC Global Education program provides software, curriculum and tutorials to nearly five million students, twenty-three thousand teachers, and twelve thousand schools in twenty-eight countries around the globe. Through this program, PTC will provide free licenses of Pro/ENGINEER Schools Edition design software, project based curriculum and tutorials to RWDC participating schools upon completion of teacher training. Students will take advantage of Pro/ENGINEER’s design capabilities to develop their solutions to the challenge. Additionally, PTC is offering free licenses of its collaboration solution, Windchill, hosted on Hewlett Packard servers located at the Department of Energy’s Oak Ridge National Laboratory, to be used by RWDC teams to improve collaboration among team members and with industry mentors. Windchill offers tools for storing, managing and sharing 3D design and project

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data. Working within Windchill's virtual workspace, teams of student designers – situated anywhere in the world – can access up-to-the minute data pertaining to their project. Windchill will be used by the mentors to collaborate with and support the work of the teachers and students and will be used by the school teams to manage their Challenge solutions.

“We are pleased to include PTC as a founding sponsor of the Real World Design Challenge,” said Bill Valdez, Director of the U.S. Department of Energy's Office of Workforce Development for Teachers and Students. “The Real World Design Challenge is a prime example of how the government, private industry, and our educational system can work together to keep our workforce the best in the world.”

“PTC is proud to be the design and collaboration technology sponsor for the Real World Design Challenge,” said Dr. Ralph Coppola, director, worldwide education, PTC. “This donation underscores PTC's longstanding commitment to advancing Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics education initiatives through its support of programs like the RWDC and the FIRST (For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology) Robotics Competition.”

For more information please visit: <http://www.ptc.com/company/community/doi>.

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Surfware Adds Two Physicist/Programmers to Its Expanding R&D and Programming Staff

18 September 2008

[Surfware, Inc.](#) announced that Nolan Snell has joined Surfware as a Senior Software Developer and Maurice McKay has joined the firm as a R&D Engineer. Both will focus on ongoing enhancements to Surfware's patented TrueMill technology and will report directly to Stephen Diehl, President and CEO of Surfware.

Snell has a long career in the software industry. He has a Master's Degree in Geophysics/Computer Science from Northwestern University in Evanston, Illinois, a Master's Degree in Physics from Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond, Kentucky and a Bachelor's Degree in Physics from Eastern Kentucky University in Richmond, Kentucky.

McKay is a recent graduate of Loyola Marymount University in Los Angeles. He received his Bachelor of Science Degree in Physics and Applied Mathematics. While attending Loyola Marymount, Maurice was a Research Assistant in the Physics and Math Departments.

Besides adding McKay and Snell to the technical staff, in the past several months, Surfware has hired two additional senior programmers, Ismael Guerra and Igor Luzanov. "The technical excellence of our programming staff is taking Surfware to the forefront of CAM software," says Diehl. "In October, we are releasing a world-class version of our CAM software, SURFCAM Velocity 4, and we have an exciting product roadmap for the year ahead."

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Events News

Aras Sponsors 2008 International CMII Conference

18 September 2008

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Aras® announced that the company will sponsor the Institute for Configuration Management's 2008 International CMII Conference. The annual CMII Conference is the leading global event for configuration management and business process improvement professionals.

The conference is at the Rozen Plaza Hotel in Orlando, Florida from October 5-8, 2008. Aras will present on Monday, October 6 and Tuesday, October 7 at 1:00 PM EST.

The presentation will explain how the open approach leverages advanced enterprise PLM solutions from Aras implementing CMII configuration and change management to achieve better product definition and faster change processes across the extended enterprise and with suppliers and customers.

[Aras](#) is CMII certified with a 4 star rating by the Institute for Configuration Management, and is the only enterprise PLM solution to achieve certification on all of the Microsoft products for enterprise SOA technologies delivering industry best practices on the trusted .NET platform for corporate confidence and CMII success.

To learn more and register for the CMII Conference visit http://www.icmhq.com/conf_detail.htm

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Call for Speakers: COE 2009 Annual PLM Conference & TechniFair

September 2008

The success of all COE events is based on the advanced knowledge sharing between COE members. Share your story with the COE community by submitting your abstract for consideration by the conference planning committee.

Submit Your Abstract

Important Dates

Abstracts due by October 31, 2008

All accepted presenters will be contacted by January 2009

Final presentations are due by March 5, 2009

Hot Topics

The 2009 Annual Conference Program development is guided by current PLM Business Issues. These issues are referred to as our COE Hot Topics list.

Before you submit an abstract to speak at the 2009 Annual Conference, review the list of **Hot Topics**.

Presentation Tracks

All of the education presented at this user-driven PLM conference is divided in tracks. Before you submit your abstract to speak at this year's conference, review the list of **presentation tracks**.

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CD-adapco to Unveil New Technology for the Simulation of Floating Vessels

18 September 2008

At SMM 2008, the leading international trade fair for shipbuilding and marine design, September 23-26

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in Hamburg, Germany, CD-adapco will be unveiling the latest version of its Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) software, STAR-CCM+. In line with the theme of SMM 2008, "innovation to meet today's rising standards for competitive ships", CD-adapco will be demonstrating its new Dynamic Fluid Body Interaction model, which enables engineers to simulate the fluid induced movement of a body, for everything from a tanker listing under heavy seas to an aerodynamic body tumbling in free fall.

"The significant advantage of our new DFBI model is that it allows the fluid induced motion of an object to be predicted in six degrees of freedom, with no additional effort from the user, compared to performing a simple steady state simulation of flow past the same body," says Jean-Claude Ercolanelli, CD-adapco's Vice President of Product Management. "The meshing process for a DFBI simulation is identical to that for a simple non-moving calculation and the DFBI model accomplishes its task without invoking the complex and time-consuming re-meshing schemes used by other Computational Fluid Dynamics tools."

CD-adapco staff and senior management will be on hand throughout the show (Booth 222 in Hall B2 EG), to demonstrate STAR-CCM+ and its DFBI capability, as well as to explain the benefits of CFD technology applied to the marine design industry. Show attendees are also invited to a reception being jointly held with CD-adapco's partner Germanischer Lloyd, on September 25 from 1-2pm, Booth 150, Hall B4 EG. Dr Ould el Moctar, GL's Head of Department Fluid Dynamics, explains:

"Germanischer Lloyd and CD-adapco have already been working together for many years. Both parties have considerable experience in the field of CFD analyses. The true value offered by advanced engineering providers lies in the symbiosis of software or hardware and highly skilled staff."

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Delcam and Renishaw to Hold CMM Five-Axis Inspection Seminars

19 September 2008

Delcam will combine with the metrology company Renishaw to hold two half-day seminars on CMM five-axis inspection during November. The first of these free events will be held on 4th November at Renishaw's Wotton-under-Edge site and the second at Delcam's Birmingham headquarters on 18th November.

Each of the meetings will cover Renishaw's Renscan5™ five-axis measurement technology, including the REVO™ measuring head, and the five-axis inspection capabilities in latest version of Delcam's PowerINSPECT software. The sessions will include presentations on the operation and applications for the new Renishaw system, including its potential as a retrofit option. These will be followed by live demonstrations of the new technology, highlighting the huge throughput benefits that the new technology can bring to users of co-ordinate measuring machines.

Early adopters of the REVO five-axis measuring system have seen remarkable benefits since implementation, including TURBOCAM in the USA, who remarked, "What used to take three days to program now takes three hours", whilst a large aerospace company has seen the inspection time of airfoils fall dramatically from sixteen hours to just five hours.

PowerINSPECT 5 is one of the first inspection software packages to support Renishaw's REVO for the verification of both geometric and free-form shapes on CMMs. The combined solution offers faster and more accurate measurement of feature-rich parts, such as powertrain components, and complex doubly-curved surfaces, including those found in aerofoils and turbine blades.

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The software incorporates proven five-axis simulation and collision-detection technology from Delcam's PowerMILL CAM system. As a result, users can be confident that the inspection routines will operate safely and efficiently.

At each seminar, delegates will be able to discuss their individual measurement requirements with a team of experts from Renishaw and Delcam. A free lunch will be provided after the demonstrations.

To register for the seminars, please use the on-line booking form at <http://www.renishaw.info/roadshow>, or contact Katie Hibbitt on 01453 524414.

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Delcam's Complete New CAM Range on Show at BIMU

15 September 2008

New versions of all of Delcam's CAM products will be shown at the BIMU exhibition to be held in Milan from 3rd to 7th October. The complete range of Delcam machining software comprises PowerMILL for high-speed and five-axis machining, FeatureCAM for feature-based programming, PartMaker for Swiss-type lathes and turn-mill equipment and ArtCAM for engraving and routing.

The new release of Delcam's PowerMILL CAM software will offer a more complete solution for complex machining operations, together with more control for experienced machinists that know exactly how they wish to machine a particular part. The program also incorporates a number of improvements to reduce calculation times, together with some simplification of the user interface that makes it easier to select the required command and so makes programming faster. In addition, toolpath ordering has been made more efficient, especially for roughing and rest machining, so ensuring that the cutter spends more time machining and minimal time making air moves.

FeatureCAM 2009 incorporates enhancements across its complete range of functionality, reflecting the increased investment in product development following Delcam's acquisition of the software in 2005. An important focus has been increased options for more complex machines, such as mill-turn equipment, and four- and five-axis mills. This will allow users to tackle more sophisticated parts than could be programmed before. Developments have also continued increase the efficiency of the more fundamental machining operations, including turning and three-axis milling.

Major highlights of the new release of PartMaker include a revamped and more productive user-interface, improved capabilities for programming directly on solid models and more realistic machine simulation for the increasingly-complex machine architectures of today's multi-axis turn-mill centres and Swiss-type lathes. The enhanced user interface will make PartMaker users even more productive in programming their CNC equipment, while offering new users and even easier to learn, more capable CNC programming platform.

Improvements across the ArtCAM family of software include new sculpting and embossing tools in the Pro and JewelSmith versions. On the machining side, the main emphasis has been on improved strategies for harder materials to enable more efficient and faster engraving of metal tooling. Other enhancements across the complete ArtCAM range include the ability to export designs in the 3D pdf format used by the Adobe Acrobat reader, autorecovery of data, for example if there is a power failure to the computer, and much more realistic simulation of machining in a variety of materials. If you have any enquiries on this or any article, select to view contact details.

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ESPRIT 2009 at Micronora 2008

17 September 2008

DP Technology will present ESPRIT® 2009, the latest version of its CAM software, at Micronora 2008, the 17th International Microtechnology Fair, to take place Sept. 23-26 in Besançon, France.

On display at Micronora 2008 will be technologies for those in search of precision in small dimensions, including exhibits related to micromechanical engineering, microelectronics, machine tools and other machinery, measuring instruments and systems, tools, robotics and much more. The last installation of Micronora drew 990 exhibitors and 15,000 professional visitors.

Visitors can find ESPRIT exhibits in Hall A2, booth 617, as well as at booths 141-143, 240-242, 443-447 and 542-546. Those who visit the booths can expect one-on-one interaction with DP Technology's resellers, as well as demonstrations of new software upgrades.

This latest version of the ESPRIT software is the result of a balanced effort focusing on both the shorter terms needs of its existing customers and the longer term direction of the metal-working community. A significant number of new technologies in the areas of 3- and 5-axis milling, feature recognition and user interface are being introduced with this new version, as well as a long list of productivity enhancing features for milling, turning and wire EDM part programming. ESPRIT 2009 is designed to run on both the Microsoft Windows XP and Microsoft Vista operating systems.

On display at Micronora 2008, enhancements within ESPRIT 2009 reduce the time required to produce part programs, increase the quality of those programs and help reduce machining cycle times.

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MSC.Software to Host European Summit on Simulation in the Aerospace Industry

15 September 2008

MSC.Software Corp. announced that keynote presentations from Airbus, Alenia and others will be featured at the forthcoming MSC.Software European Aerospace Summit. The Summit will take place on October 7-8, 2008 at the Atria Mercure Hotel in Toulouse, France.

Addressing both technical and business aspects of simulation in the aerospace industry, the MSC.Software European Aerospace Summit will describe current and future simulation technologies, and showcase the innovative applications and best-practice processes of its leading European practitioners.

The agenda will include in depth strategy and technology reviews from MSC.Software's executive management, industry specialists, and solution partners, together with case-study presentations from leading European Aerospace companies including Airbus, Alenia Aeronautica, EADS Sogerma, and EADS Innovation Works.

"Drawing from our vast aerospace experience, the 2008 Summit will feature a gathering of prestigious aerospace industry specialists, providing a valuable forum in which to discuss the technologies, processes, and benefits of simulation," said Glenn Wienkoop, President of MSC.Software. "Our objective is to provide the aerospace community with state-of-the-art information that they can

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immediately use to enhance their design, testing and manufacturing processes, and ultimately enhance their business performance."

The Summit is intended for business executives, management and project leaders, and design and development technologists within the Aerospace industry. In addition to keynote presentations it will offer delegates a valuable networking and education opportunity, allowing attendees to share their respective experiences and expertise with their peers. Taking advantage of the location in the heart of the Toulouse Aerospace environment the Summit will be preceded by a presentation of the A380 program and guided tour of the Airbus facilities on Monday, October 6th. For further information on the event, details on the agenda, and full on-line registration, visit <http://www.mscsoftware-marketing-eu.com/Newsletter/en/home1/>

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PLM Automotive Symposium 2008 in Munich

16 September 2008

On the 19-20th November 2008, the 2nd Automotive Symposium will be held in Munich, Germany. Initiated by CONTACT Software and supported by reputed trade representatives, the symposium addresses the special challenges of Product Lifecycle Management (PLM). It intends to articulate – beyond hype issues– insider know-how and brings together practitioners and technologists. Renowned automotive experts contribute to the agenda for both decision makers and domain experts. Contributions by AUDI and BMW offer insights into OEM strategies. Suppliers and consultants report about their current PLM concepts. The symposium covers key notes, speeches and workshops under the slogan: "Synchronized engineering: innovation, creativity and flexibility for systematic product development".

The event ties in with the great success of the proceeding symposium. It sets value on automotive focus, practical experience, networking with peers and the 360° perspective human factors, organization and technology. Besides fundamentals such as mechatronics, integrated product models and open PLM systems, other topics cover dedicated PLM functionality like product costing, project management and requirements management. Challenges linked with the delivery of PLM projects are highlighted by a focus point on change management and organizational perspectives of PLM.

Further information concerning the event and online registration can be found at <http://www.contact.de/events/VA19-11-08>

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Implementation Investments

ANSYS Helps Speedo Take Home Medals at Beijing Olympics

16 September 2008

[ANSYS, Inc.](#) announced a strong presence at the Beijing Olympics in the swimming competition: The majority of medals won and world records broken there were achieved by competitors wearing swimsuits designed in part with software from ANSYS. Speedo®'s LZR RACER® suit features panels that reduce drag and are positioned precisely based on fluid flow analysis results simulated with technology from ANSYS. The software was used to guide, test and refine the final design of the suit.

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Twenty-three out of 25 world records, 47 gold medals, and 89 percent of all swimming medals were won by athletes wearing the Speedo LZR RACER suit. Even prior to the Olympic swim competition, 52 world records were set in 2008, and 48 of those were accomplished by swimmers wearing Speedo LZR RACER suits. In fact, within just a week of the suit's launch in February of this year, athletes wearing it had broken three world records.

“The statistics speak for themselves, and we are proud to be a strategic technology behind the product that helped elite swimmers shave seconds off their competitive times,” said Chris Reid, vice president, marketing, at ANSYS, Inc. “From the earliest stages of our work with Speedo, we anticipated that our involvement would contribute to their success. Because of the power of our engineering simulation software, the development team was able to run more ‘what if’ analyses prior to actual physical prototypes. Beyond these experimental benefits, our software provided researchers with a better understanding of drag forces, thus revealing potential ways to reduce them. This was a real-world example of engineering simulation driving innovation that ultimately contributes to a customer’s business success.”

A Speedo computational fluid dynamics expert, the late Barry Bixler, utilized ANSYS® software to simulate the flow of water around a virtual swimmer’s body. Researchers used the simulation results to identify areas of passive drag — the friction produced by a swimmer’s body while it is in a streamlined position, which the swimmer typically assumes after the initial dive and following each lap’s turn off the pool wall. This glide position accounts for about 30 percent of the race, so lessening drag in this position is critically important in a competitive race situation. The engineering simulation results pinpointed areas of higher resistance on the athletes’ bodies, such as across the chest. This work guided the ultimate position of the Speedo LZR RACER suit panels — deliberately shaped sections of low-friction material that reduce skin friction drag by a total of 24 percent compared to the base material of the suit. In tests, swimmers saw a 4 percent increase in speed for starts, sprints and turns when wearing the suit compared to runs in their training swimwear. Speedo’s extensive tests showed that the LZR RACER swimsuit is the fastest suit in the world: Its LZR RACER panels exhibit 38 percent less skin friction drag than ordinary swimsuit material and 10 percent less passive drag than Speedo’s FASTSKIN FSII swimsuit, launched in 2004 prior to the Athens Olympics.

Working with engineering experts from ANSYS and the University of Nottingham in the U.K., Bixler used analyses to identify areas where both skin- and form-drag occur. Skin-drag is inherent in the properties of any material over which a fluid flows, and to the local flow conditions (particularly speed). It is induced by the local velocity gradients that create a shear force due to the viscous properties of the fluid. Form-drag is a result of the swimmer's body travelling through the fluid; the goal is to make the flow path as smooth and undisturbed as possible, thereby decreasing the drag. The fluids simulations involved precise boundary layer meshing techniques using software from ANSYS and resolved fine fluid-flow details using the precision scanned geometries of elite swimmers.

The project, which took three years, brought together a range of research work. Other partners included NASA in the United States, whose wind tunnel helped evaluate the drag of various fabric candidates; the University of Otago in New Zealand, which assessed drag and measured swimming economy performance in its water flume tests; and the renowned sports science team at the Australian Institute of Sport, which put water flume and wind tunnel test results into practice in the real world.

“The connection between leaders in the sports industry with ANSYS is inescapable. Many organizations compete, but only a few achieve excellence — and the margin of separation can be extremely small. For example, in one of the Olympic swim finals, medallist Michael Phelps won by one-one hundredth of a

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second!” said Jim Cashman, president and CEO of ANSYS, Inc. “There are countless opportunities to do even more with engineering simulation in the future to analyze the swimmer throughout the race. The success looking at passive drag sets the stage for more complex multiphysics simulations, in particular as the Speedo swimsuit continues to evolve, and in general with the continued proliferation of sports applications.”

The [Speedo](#) LZR RACER swimsuit also played a part in making history at the Olympics. American swimming sensation Phelps won a total of eight gold medals competing in the Speedo LZR RACER suit, helping him to overtake Mark Spitz’s 36-year old record for the number of gold medals won by an athlete in the games, which makes him the greatest Olympian of all time.

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Delcam Crispin Software Prompts Success for New Orthotics Company

18 September 2008

One of the first users of Delcam Crispin’s OrthoModel software for the design and manufacture of orthotics was Colorado-based Mile High Orthotics Lab, a new business started by two experienced industry professionals, Greg Armstrong and Mark McMahon. The software has played a big part in the early success of the new venture.

“We wanted to start our own orthotics lab and needed software that could help our design and manufacturing processes,” remembered Mr. Armstrong. “We approached Delcam Crispin to see if the company offered anything because we had heard about its other products for the footwear industry. Our timing was perfect – the staff there had just prepared a beta version of the OrthoModel software and were looking for orthotics companies to help with the final stage of its development.”

“We acquired a scanner and a router, and began using the OrthoModel software in November last year,” he continued. “Since then, we haven’t looked back. We produced 200 pairs of orthotics in the first month, and became profitable in only six months.”

While Mile High Orthotics Lab is certain that it couldn’t have been so successful without the OrthoModel software, Maida Koller from Delcam is equally convinced about the importance of collaborators from the industry in its development. “We like to test all our software in real applications, with real deadlines before we release it,” Ms. Koller explained. “This is an essential part of the development process. It ensures that the software works in the way that we expect and also enables us to test the ease of use for people that might be experts in their industry but that might not have previous experience of computer-aided design and manufacturing.”

OrthoModel is a highly-automated system for the design and manufacture of orthotic insoles. The software provides a complete solution, from the import of scanned data from the customer to the machining of the orthotic, that will produce high-quality insoles for both the comfort and medical markets.

The complete OrthoModel process is driven by a series of menus that incorporate the specific terminology used in the industry to describe the various features of the orthotic. This ensures that the system can be used by technicians in the industry without any need for extensive training in general CAD/CAM technology.

The software is also completely “open” in that it can take data from any scanning system or use manual measurements, and can output machining instructions to any milling machine. Delcam Crispin is happy

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to recommend the type of equipment that is required to companies that are new to computer-aided manufacturing.

Once the customer's details have been imported, OrthoModel includes a full range of options to design the orthotic, including features such as Kirby skive, cobra cut-out, deep heel cups and medial arch flange. Text and logos can be added to the design to engrave customer details and/or company information.

OrthoModel can then arrange a series of orthotics inside a block to give the most efficient use of material and automatically add the machining tabs needed to hold the items in place during machining. The complete set of toolpaths for the group of items can then be created automatically. The resulting toolpaths can be simulated on the computer to check that the results are exactly as required.

Using OrthoModel reduces the time needed to prepare orthotics so giving the faster turn-around times that customers demand. In addition, the use of computer-based design and manufacturing techniques brings huge benefits in accuracy and quality.

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Florida Department of Transportation Adds Autodesk's AutoCAD Civil 3D for Road and Highway Design

17 September 2008

[Autodesk, Inc.](#) announced that the Florida Department of Transportation (FDOT) will implement AutoCAD Civil 3D software, part of the Autodesk building information modeling (BIM) product portfolio, to develop roadway designs. FDOT's implementation of AutoCAD Civil 3D enables its engineers to access and integrate existing data from across the Department, including both design and geospatial information, into coordinated 3D transportation models.

FDOT requires highly sophisticated roadway design software capable of integrating design data from multiple sources. AutoCAD Civil 3D should meet FDOT's expectations in providing additional ways for their consultants and customers to develop and exchange design data.

With AutoCAD Civil 3D, FDOT's design workflow can be supported and further automated, providing additional interoperability with a variety of systems.

Also, the software's information modeling for roadway corridors means designers can quickly implement design changes and revisions with automated redrafting, and identify geometric conflicts well before they begin construction. In addition, 3D models of the design can be provided to contractors for use with automated machine guidance for grading projects, enabling significant savings potential during construction. Automated machine guidance has become even more valuable as fuel prices and equipment operation costs continue to increase.

Florida's taxpayers entrust FDOT to maximize their dollar value invested for roadway design and construction. The challenge at FDOT is to create sustainable transportation facility designs more efficiently and at a managed cost.

AutoCAD Civil 3D provides FDOT with a straightforward migration path from legacy software systems, capitalizing on their previous investment in Autodesk CAiCE software products, and allowing designers to leverage information from a broader spectrum of providers.

"From design through construction and into operations, the AutoCAD Civil 3D software helps

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transportation agencies like FDOT easily create and share coordinated digital design information and documentation," said Bill Goodson, vice president, Autodesk Government. "Civil 3D will help support FDOT's efforts to shorten the time to contract letting, reduce errors and omissions, and expedite project delivery."

"This is truly exciting," said Jim Lynch, vice president, marketing for Architecture, Engineering and Construction Solutions at Autodesk. "The AutoCAD Civil 3D software, part of the Autodesk building information modeling (BIM) product portfolio, allows our customers to create, predict, and deliver roadway designs more efficiently and with increased accuracy. BIM and 3D technologies are introducing new levels of efficiency and automation into workflows."

Autodesk's transportation solutions offer state and local governments the ability to better design and construct infrastructure projects to meet community needs. Through an integrated workflow built on coordinated, reliable information, Autodesk solutions enable transportation departments to create and share digital design information and documentation; use that information to accurately visualize, simulate and analyze performance and cost; and reliably deliver their projects faster and more economically.

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Fresco Microchip Selects Berkeley Design Automation Analog FastSPICE™ and Noise Analysis Option™ for Single-Chip Broadcast TV Receiver

16 September 2008

[Berkeley Design Automation Inc.](#) announced that Fresco Microchip Inc., a developer of digital/analog broadcast TV receivers has adopted the company's Analog FastSPICE™ circuit simulator and Noise Analysis Option™ device noise analyzer for verification of their nanometer-scale ICs .

"At Fresco we pride ourselves on being able to deliver high performance, superior quality products to our customers whom are addressing the growing analog-digital broadcast market," said Dr. Stephen Jantzi, director of Analog/RF Design at Fresco Microchip. "Our low-power, single-chip TV receivers require extensive complex-block characterization, full-circuit performance simulation and transistor-level noise analysis. Traditional and accelerated SPICE tools do not have the capacity, performance, and accuracy for our complex circuits. With Analog FastSPICE, we are characterizing our complex analog/RF circuits 5x-12x faster than traditional SPICE with true SPICE accuracy and are able to simulate top-level circuits. We use the Noise Analysis Option on our sigma-delta ADC, and its results correlate very well with silicon measurements."

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

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

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HEIDENHAIN Selects Valor DFM

17 September 2008

Valor Computerized Systems has been selected by HEIDENHAIN to provide its DFM (Design for Manufacturability) software for design verification.

HEIDENHAIN develops and provides products to manufacturers of machine tools and manufacturers of automated facilities and machines, especially for semiconductor and electronics manufacturing.

Valor's DFM software will enhance HEIDENHAIN's ability to validate the quality of designs and ensure that they are ready for bare board fabrication, assembly and testing, as well as provide more efficient communications between the various stages of the CAD-CAM process thanks to the use of the ODB++ data format. The ability to automate the operation of the software will enable HEIDENHAIN to implement the new tool with minimal interference to their normal operation.

"Valor has stated before that it sees a lot of potential in the German market, and in accordance with that statement we are working to provide companies such as HEIDENHAIN with best-in-class solutions that will enable them to ensure their manufacturing flow and maximize quality," said Stephan Häfele, President of Valor Europe.

Valor's DFM software is a virtual manufacturing system which enables the simulation of the entire production process of a chosen PCB, from design to manufacture to assembly, concurrently with the design process. It helps to optimize designs for excellence using a physical model of the PCB assembly, resulting in improved product quality, and revision spins being practically eliminated.

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Ivory International Chooses NGC's e-PLM and e-SPS Software for Integrated PLM and Global Sourcing

16 September 2008

[NGC](#)® (New Generation Computing®) announced that Ivory International, a private label manufacturer of men's and women's apparel for leading retailers, has selected NGC's e-PLM and e-SPS software to provide an integrated, end-to-end solution for PLM and global sourcing.

Together, e-PLM and e-SPS form a widely installed and comprehensive solution encompassing the entire product lifecycle for apparel, footwear and accessories. e-PLM and e-SPS cover every step of the complex design/production process - from design concept through sourcing and product quality, to receipt at the DC - with a web-based solution that centralizes information, enhances collaboration, and streamlines workflows to transform the product lifecycle.

"When it came to selecting a strategic partner for PLM and global sourcing, NGC was the logical choice," said Roger Mayerson, executive vice president of product development and global sourcing, Ivory International. "I had experience implementing e-PLM and e-SPS prior to joining Ivory International, and NGC's software proved to be a best-in-class solution. I know firsthand the power of e-PLM and e-SPS to improve supply chain efficiency, speed to market and quality, while also driving down costs."

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NGC's software will enable Ivory International to provide faster turnaround for its customers, which include many of the world's best-known apparel and general merchandise retailers. "In today's challenging retail climate, it's more important than ever for us to deliver high-quality products on time and at the right price, and to provide the highest possible level of service to our retailers," Mayerson said. "NGC's software will enable us to do that."

e-PLM and e-SPS will help Ivory International manage its vendors around the world and will allow the company to:

- **Design closer to the trends.** By shortening the product lifecycle and improving workflows and supply chain efficiency, NGC's software will enable Ivory International to postpone style decisions until the last minute. This will allow the company to design closer to the trends and take advantage of fast-changing consumer preferences.
- **Improve supply chain agility.** By replacing inefficient supply chain management tools such as spreadsheets and emails with NGC's web-based solution, Ivory International can develop a highly responsive, agile supply chain. With real-time visibility and collaboration, the company can quickly react to the latest sales and merchandising data from its customers, communicate information to the factories and make adjustments as needed at the factory level.
- **Enable future growth.** e-PLM and e-SPS will easily scale to meet Ivory International's future growth, allowing the company to quickly expand its business to meet increased demand from its customers.

"Ivory International has an impressive customer base of leading retailers, and e-PLM and e-SPS will provide a strategic supply chain solution that can help take the company's business to the next level," said Alan Brooks, president, NGC. "NGC is excited to be working with Roger Mayerson, and we look forward to a successful partnership."

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PTC® Pro/ENGINEER® Helps Cue Acoustics Excite Listeners with Contemporary Radio

15 September 2008

PTC announced that [Cue Acoustics, Inc.](#) used [Pro/ENGINEER](#) exclusively to design its inaugural product – “The Cue Radio Model r1”, a premium AM/FM tabletop radio system with support for the iPod® digital mobile device. [Pro/ENGINEER](#) is PTC’s integrated parametric MCAD/CAM/CAE software that helps companies develop detailed, intuitive and realistic digital product models and related deliverables. Cue Acoustics used Pro/ENGINEER to create the complex curvature continuous surfaces that embody the Model r1’s stylish design.

The challenge of introducing a new product into the highly competitive consumer electronics market can be a daunting proposition for any company. For Cue Acoustics, a Massachusetts-based start-up co-founded by CEO Sam Millen, a veteran industrial designer and product development specialist, choosing the right design solution was a critical first step to developing a next generation best-in-class tabletop audio system. The company needed design software that would enable it to maintain the core design intent while providing the flexibility to quickly incorporate late stage changes without impacting time to market. Familiar with competitive CAD tools, Millen immediately selected Pro/ENGINEER for its flexibility and superior top down design, complex surfacing capabilities, and ability to seamlessly integrate with ECAD data.

Pro/ENGINEER enabled the design team to create the complex curvature continuous surface of the Cue

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

radio in one week and supported an iterative design process to achieve the desired final shape. With Pro/ENGINEER, the team was able to adjust the outside depth of the product by a microscopic one – one-hundred-thousandth of an inch to accommodate a late stage change to internal subcomponents and ensure manufacturability - without having to rebuild from scratch.

Cue Acoustics enlisted the services of Boston Engineering, a PTC reseller, to help complete manufacturing engineering work and chose a vendor in Singapore that uses Pro/ENGINEER to tool the plastic parts for the radio. By using Pro/ENGINEER, the Cue radio was developed in one year from design to manufacturing.

“Our goal was to develop a premium radio that would be differentiated in the market by its superior sound quality, elegant design and tactile user interface,” said Sam Millen, co-founder and chief executive officer, Cue Acoustics, Inc. “As an industrial designer, I have experience using all of the well known tools and Pro/ENGINEER was my top choice. It delivers top down design capabilities that other solutions only promise.”

“Using Pro/ENGINEER helps small and medium businesses like Cue Acoustics level the playing field in highly competitive industries like consumer electronics by providing them with the same powerful design capabilities used by leading companies already established in the market,” said Matthew McGovern, director, vertical market strategy, PTC. “PTC is committed to delivering solutions that help customers drive innovation and create high quality products.”

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Sanyo Machine Works Selects Dassault Systèmes' DELMIA Automation

16 September 2008

[Dassault Systèmes](#) announced that its DELMIA Automation platform was selected by Sanyo Machine Works, Ltd., a leading industrial automation systems provider based in Kitanagoya City in Aichi Prefecture, Japan. With this deployment, Sanyo Machine Works completes the integration of the manufacturing validation process from product design to digital manufacturing.

Sanyo Machine Works initiated an enterprise-wide digital manufacturing project in 1991 using Dassault Systèmes' PLM solutions, designing innovative products with CATIA and verifying automated assembly lines and welding lines with DELMIA. Now, to further improve its product quality and streamline the product development process, Sanyo Machine Works decided to adopt DELMIA Automation. The solution will enable the Sanyo Machine Works' control system design team and mechanical design team to collaborate by sharing information at an earlier stage, making it possible to virtually validate production control systems before they are installed.

"Validating our entire design and manufacturing operations through simulations has been our long-standing goal," says Mr. Keita Horiba, managing director at Sanyo Machine Works. "Now that we have the capability to virtually verify our production control processes, we feel we have attained true frontloading, meaning that all of our production issues will be resolved even before manufacturing actually starts. That would also add value to our design operations."

With DELMIA Automation the user can debug a PLC program weeks or months before it is installed by connecting to the actual PLC. Previously, production control systems could not be tested and optimized until they were actually installed. With this improvement, virtual tests in advance can replace physical tests, which significantly reduce product development time along with any potential adjustments at

physical facilities.

Mr. Masatoshi Ohshima, Executive Managing Director at Sanyo Machine Works, shares Mr. Horiba's enthusiasm: "If any unsolved issue were to be discovered after the production system has gone online, it would be very difficult to reconfigure the equipment on the spot. By proactively iterating the cycle of virtual debugging and verification, we can totally eliminate rework."

"We are pleased that Sanyo Machine Works has chosen DELMIA Automation to virtually verify the controls of their automotive assembly and welding lines," says Bertrand Saint-Martin, President of Delmia Japan, Ltd. " Sanyo Machine Works will leverage DELMIA Automation's unique technology on the market to debug the controls and validate the industrial performance of their production systems months before physical build and integration happens. With DELMIA Automation customers can virtually commission their production validating as many 'what if' scenarios as needed to fully debug the controls and by properly training operators in a safe environment." This means the same virtual simulation can be used to train operators on production tasks and work instructions.

About Sanyo Machine Works

Sanyo Machine Works is a provider of industrial automation systems. With 500 employees, its main activity is the design, manufacture, and sale of automated assembly and welding line systems for the automotive and consumer electronic markets. The company has a worldwide presence, with its headquarters and plants in Japan, as well as production sites in the USA and Canada. Well-known Sanyo Machine Works Japanese customers include Honda Motor, Fuji Heavy Industries Ltd, Isuzu, Mazda, Matsushita, Mitsubishi Electric, Nissan Motor, Toyota Motor Corporation and Mitsubishi Heavy Industries, Ltd. Sanyo Machine Works has also International customers like General Motors, DaimlerChrysler and Ford.

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SNC-Lavalin Group Inc. Expands Investment in Intergraph® SmartPlant® Enterprise to Industrial, Mining and Metallurgy Divisions

17 September 2008

SNC-Lavalin Group Inc. has expanded the use of Intergraph® SmartPlant® Enterprise engineering design and data management software to streamline operations, optimize work processes and increase productivity and profitability.

After a successful SmartPlant Enterprise implementation in its Nuclear division and months of intense evaluation, SNC-Lavalin enhanced its existing 3D CAD technology in its Light Industry and Mining and Metallurgy divisions, enabling true worksharing between regional offices and consortium partners and adding repeatable design flexibility to its projects. Standardizing on the Intergraph platform in the three divisions also will allow SNC-Lavalin to optimize resources, work processes and efficiencies due to the superior technology SmartPlant® Enterprise provides.

SNC-Lavalin is currently using SmartPlant software in partnership with Atomic Energy of Canada Limited (AECL) for the design of its new Generation III+ nuclear reactor ACR-1000, the upgrade of a Valero Refinery in California and other projects.

"Intergraph's breadth of integrated solutions and the availability of highly skilled local support were pivotal in our decision to expand our use of SmartPlant Enterprise products to help us achieve increased profitability through greater engineering efficiency," said Derek Pinder, manager of Engineering at

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SNC-Lavalin. “This expansion will continue as SNC develops new projects.”

Gerhard Sallinger, [Intergraph](#) Process, Power & Marine president, said, “We look forward to entering into this new phase with SNC-Lavalin and to delivering new efficiencies and results across the entire company.”

SNC-Lavalin will be presenting additional details about their implementation at Intergraph's Canadian user conference series, Intergraph Canada 2008, in Mississauga, Ontario on October 1, 2008. Visit <http://www.intergraph.ca/iuc> for more information or to register for the conference.

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Wärtsilä Embarks on its PLM Journey with Infosys Technologies

17 September 2008

[Infosys Technologies Limited](#) announced that it has been selected by Wärtsilä as the services partner to enable the company's multi-year transformation of its product innovation and lifecycle management. Under the terms of the agreement, Infosys will deliver consulting and implementation services to Wärtsilä so it may migrate to a global Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) system to improve the speed, quality and innovation delivered to its customers.

In response to varying global market demands, Wärtsilä which provides power solutions to ship manufacturers and power plants around the world, launched a Product Data Management (PDM) initiative to gain greater harmonization in its engineering design and production processes. The company engaged Infosys for its PDM initiative that will enable it to utilize better existing knowledge, increase business agility and streamline information flow in its engineering design manufacturing and service operations globally.

Wärtsilä employs more than 17,000 professionals across 160 locations in 70 countries all working on projects that require collaboration across geographies. The company needed a single source of product information that could be shared and exchanged, keeping teams focused on collaboration, communication and swift decision-making to ensure tasks were coordinated effectively from the same up-to-date design specifications.

The four-phase transformation will involve an end-to-end PDM solution deployment across Wärtsilä's global sites. Upon completion, Wärtsilä will benefit from enhanced collaboration on product design between sales, engineering and manufacturing, ensuring accelerated time to market with customer focused products as a result of enhanced information flow across its global sites. As part of the cooperation, Wärtsilä will be able to leverage Infosys' PLM capabilities, CMM level 5 quality practices, engineering process consulting skills, best practices and expertise gained via other similar global PLM implementation executed and additionally take advantage of its innovative Global Delivery Model (GDM).

Valmeeka Nathan, VP and Head, Product Lifecycle and Engineering Solutions, Infosys said: “The opportunity to work with Wärtsilä aligns with our PLM transformation leadership and strategy to forge relationships with global industry leaders. We look forward to continuing to help Wärtsilä leverage our industry knowledge and engineering expertise to enhance its product innovation capability and competitive edge.”

About Wärtsilä

When creating better and environmentally compatible technologies, Wärtsilä focuses on the marine and energy markets with products and solutions as well as services and has more than 17,000 professionals manning 160 Wärtsilä locations in 70 countries around the world.

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Product News

Agilent Technologies' New Electronic System-Level EDA Platform Helps Algorithm Developers, System Architects Cut Design Time in Half

15 September 2008

Agilent Technologies Inc. introduced [SystemVue](#) 2008, a new electronic design automation (EDA) platform for electronic system-level (ESL) design. The new platform cuts physical layer (PHY) design time in half for high-performance communications algorithms and system architectures, for both wireless and aerospace/defense applications.

The new SystemVue 2008 platform goes beyond previous Agilent EDA offerings for system-level design, representing a new category of design tool from Agilent for system architects and algorithm developers at the highest levels of the communications product design chain.

“In the absence of an ESL tool that also ‘speaks RF,’ our wireless and aerospace/defense customers are getting by with general-purpose digital design environments, in-house software and math tools for system design,” said Jim McGillivray, vice president and general manager of Agilent’s [EEsof EDA](#) division. “SystemVue 2008 unifies this flow and creates a standard ESL toolset that’s fast and easy to use. System designers finally have a place where they can innovate on both sides of the A/D converter, instead of overcoming limitations of tools that were never intended for their task.”

The new Agilent SystemVue 2008 provides an environment with innovative simulator and modeling technologies, along with links to hardware implementation and test. It allows algorithm creation and prototyping for challenging communications system architectures at the physical layer. SystemVue bridges an important design flow gap between algorithm developers and the mainstream design community and lowers the cost of ownership by unifying a disjointed flow at an affordable price. SystemVue complements existing general-purpose EDA tools used to design field-programmable gate arrays (FPGAs), digital signal processors (DSPs), application-specific integrated circuits (ASICs) and Analog/RF components.

SystemVue 2008 is ideally suited to system architects of high-performance PHYs as well as to algorithm developers for emerging wireless PHYs, such as 3GPP LTE. Aerospace/defense applications, such as software-defined radio (SDR), satellite communications and radar will also benefit from SystemVue 2008.

Key features of Agilent’s SystemVue 2008 include:

Advanced Simulation

Dataflow simulator handles multirate and multicarrier signals with RF-true effects up to 10x faster than general-purpose simulators.

RF architecture tools provide valuable analog insights.

Advanced modeling

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Richer set of accurate RF/Analog models allows effective system partitioning.

Hundreds of extendable block libraries save time for communications, signal processing, RF, fixed-point and standards-compliant functions.

Native polymorphism switches easily between language-based C++, m-code, Verilog/VHDL or GUI-based blocks, to work naturally with ESL design flows.

Native math language support

This feature maintains compatibility with existing algorithms and processes.

It also supports creation, simulation, debugging, TCP/IP instrument connectivity and scripting.

Easy-to-use environment

The environment is built for fast-turnaround communication system design with convenient verification.

VHDL/Verilog generation includes support for FPGA rapid-prototyping.

U.S. Pricing and Availability

Agilent SystemVue 2008 is expected to be available in November 2008, with prices starting at approximately \$14,000.

For more information about SystemVue 2008, visit <http://agilent.com/find/eesof-systemvue>.

Through October 2008, Agilent is offering special incentives to eligible customers to receive the new SystemVue 2008 software as a product upgrade for older versions of the Eagleware-Elanix "SystemView" system design software. Eagleware-Elanix was acquired by Agilent Technologies in 2005.

For more information regarding Eagleware Heritage Promotion 1.055, visit <http://www.agilent.com/find/eesof-systemvue-bts>.

About Agilent EEsof EDA Software

Agilent EEsof EDA software is compatible with and is used to design the company's test and measurement equipment. Additional information about all of Agilent's EDA software offerings is available at <http://www.agilent.com/find/eesof>.

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AWR® and Mentor Graphics® Unveil High-Frequency PCB Co-Design That Obsoletes File Translation

16 September 2008

AWR and [Mentor Graphics Corporation](#) announced AWR Connected™ for Mentor Graphics. This new synergy of design flow between AWR and Mentor Graphics obsoletes file translation between Mentor Graphics' Expedition Enterprise design environment and AWR's Microwave Office® microwave and RF design environment. The resulting design and simulation solution is easy to learn and use and its operation is fully transparent to the user.

"The PCB and RF/microwave design worlds have been merging for some time, but the first-generation design flows built around file translation have proven not to be flows at all", according to Mike Heimlich, Microwave Office Product Marketing Director at AWR. "This solution truly creates a useful

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flow in which libraries are no longer an issue and co-design is a reality. We are committed to continuing this avenue of cooperation with Mentor Graphics as it delivers real benefits to the design community."

PCB designers are increasingly tasked with creating products that integrate analog, digital, and RF or microwave circuits on the same PCB. Until now, translating files between PCB and high-frequency EDA tools has consumed many minutes if not hours and impeded designers' ability to rapidly create mixed-technology products. AWR Connected for Mentor Graphics Expedition eliminates file translation and reduces the time to move from one tool/environment to another to nearly zero.

Library data for all design components is continuously synchronized between the Expedition Enterprise parts library and AWR Design Environment™ for microstrip, stripline, and copper components. Circuit and electromagnetic (EM) simulation is available on demand throughout the flow regardless of which tool is being used to view or manipulate the design. The combined tools transfer not just tool data but messages as well, so that EM analysis and circuit simulation can be performed in Microwave Office software from Mentor's tools either on the same computer or across a network or Internet. Multiple Microwave Office projects can also be simultaneously connected to the same Mentor PCB design, allowing design partitioning across the toolsets.

Extractions can be created for AWR's ACE™ circuit extraction tool or AXIEM™ EM simulator as well as any third-party EM solver integrated within AWR's open design environment. The extractions are performed while preserving the ability to perform circuit simulations with AWR's Microwave Office, APLAC® harmonic balance, or HSPICE® circuit simulators directly from Mentor circuits, or after transferring schematics and layouts from Mentor to AWR at any point in the design flow. This capability eliminates the need to create a duplicate library in AWR tools based on the Mentor library by dynamically generating the required AWR-specific parts library "on the fly", including symbols, part numbers, footprints, and even models.

Pricing & Availability

AWR Connected for Mentor Graphic's Expedition is available now. Readers should contact their local AWR or Mentor Graphics sales office for pricing. Visit <http://www.awrcorp.com> for more information and to view a video demonstration.

About Microwave Office Software

The Microwave Office design suite is a fast growing RF and microwave design platform that integrates the innovative tools to allow users to create designs in the shortest time with the greatest flexibility. From design capture and synthesis to simulation, optimization, layout, extraction, and verification, the Microwave Office design environment delivers high levels of accuracy and speed, along with the ability to integrate third-party tools. AWR recently introduced Version 2008 of the Microwave Office design suite, which incorporates more than 100 enhancements including sweeping changes to the user interface that increase its flexibility for the user.

About Expedition Enterprise

The Expedition Series offers advanced functionality with ease-of-use for the creation of complex PCB designs. It features a place-and-route environment, powered by AutoActive® technology and is ideal for high-speed, complex, and advanced technology boards. The scalable product configuration of the Expedition Series allows designers to choose the right level of automation for their design needs. Expedition's tightly integrated systems design environment features a common database and common user interfaces and rules to ensure data integrity is maintained from concept to manufacturing.

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Bentley and Tsinghua University to Support Sustainable Building Development in China

18 September 2008

[Bentley Systems, Incorporated](#) and [Tsinghua University](#), School of Architecture, Building Energy Research Center, announced the signing of a memorandum of understanding (MOU) that will support sustainable building development in China. It also will further strengthen and deepen Bentley's commitment to improving building performance around the globe through its recently launched Building Performance Group. The MOU sets the stage for cooperation between Bentley and Tsinghua University in the development and distribution of integrated software for Building Information Modeling (BIM) and energy analysis. The integrated design and analysis software will incorporate the Bentley Architecture BIM application and the Tsinghua University Designer Simulation Toolkit (DeST), a standard building energy analysis and simulation platform in China that has been used in about 20 million square meters of floor space in building design and commissioning. Architects and designers employing the new integrated software will benefit from the ability to launch an energy analysis application directly within Bentley Architecture, enabling them to immediately evaluate the impact of design changes on energy efficiency.

The first two versions of DeST were based on AutoCAD software. Under the MOU, Tsinghua University and Bentley will develop DeST v. 2 and DeST v. 3 – newly integrated core design and analysis software – on Bentley Architecture, gaining the advantages of its 3D BIM environment. The MOU calls for Tsinghua University to enroll in and receive all of the benefits of the Bentley Development Network, and for Bentley to provide Tsinghua University with assistance and support for the evaluation and implementation of Bentley Architecture as the platform for the integrated design and analysis software.

Dr. Jean-Baptiste Monnier, senior vice president, Bentley Asia-Pacific, said, “We are excited to be working with Tsinghua University in the development of this new software that will put powerful 3D BIM and energy analysis capabilities in the hands of architects and designers across China. This new standard platform for flexible design and highly accurate energy simulations will further advance the country's sustainable development efforts, and reinforce Bentley's global leadership in building analysis and simulation products for improved building performance. Bentley's new Building Performance Group focuses on software applications that address the global need to create and maintain energy-efficient, environmentally friendly, safer buildings that also set the benchmark for occupant comfort.”

Yi Jiang, a professor at Tsinghua University and an academician of the Chinese Academy of Engineering, said, “Through this agreement, architects and designers using the DeST software application will enjoy all the benefits of developing a 3D Building Information Model with Bentley Architecture, including the ability to design in an integrated, multidisciplinary environment, easily explore an array of design options, make better-informed design decisions, and predict costs and performance. Then, within the Bentley Architecture environment, they can use DeST to easily perform an energy analysis of the 3D model data. These integrated capabilities will help designers create buildings that are much more energy-efficient.”

DeST helps architects and HVAC engineers simulate and analyze building energy use and factors such as artificial lighting, natural lighting, ventilation, and thermal performance, as well as heating, ventilation, and air-conditioning systems. It helps improve the reliability of system design, ensure the

quality of system performance, and reduce the amount of energy that buildings consume.

DeST is widely used in China for research, design, and education. More than 4000 users are now employing DeST as a building simulation tool. Among the many projects that have benefited from its use are:

- 12 Olympic Games buildings in Beijing, including The National Stadium (The Bird's Nest) and The National Aquatics Center (The Water Cube),
- State Grand Theatre of China,
- Beijing South Railway Station,
- Guangzhou Railway Station,
- Tianjin Railway Station,
- The Bank of China Headquarters,
- Shanghai Jinmao Tower.

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CCE Updates its Mastercam Interoperability Product to Support Mastercam X3

16 September 2008

[CCE](#) announced that its CAD interoperability product for translating Unigraphics data (NX till NX5) to Mastercam (MC/Ug) has been updated to support Mastercam X3 files. This recent update also includes support for Windows Vista as well as the ability to import datum planes and coordinate systems directly into Mastercam as views.

MC/Ug is a C-Hook integrated into Mastercam and provides data exchange between the two systems. MC/Ug cuts the time to generate tool paths from Unigraphics data by eliminating iterations between design and manufacturing due to lack of accurate and reliable data exchange. It is ideal for Mastercam users who work with Unigraphics data but do not have access to Unigraphics software.

The latest MC/Ug update will be available to all customers on active maintenance/subscription as well as to new customers.

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Dassault Systèmes SolidWorks Corp. Unveils SolidWorks Enterprise PDM 2009

18 September 2008

Dassault Systèmes SolidWorks Corp. (DS SolidWorks), in a worldwide press event unveiled SolidWorks® Enterprise PDM 2009. The new version of the product data management solution introduces deeper integration with SolidWorks® 3D CAD software, expanded bill of material (BOM) functionality, and Item-Centric product data management.

Key facts

- Because of the new, deeper integration with SolidWorks, users of SolidWorks Enterprise PDM can access a new array of PDM productivity capabilities directly from within their CAD interface, including “Change State” and “Where Used.”

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- A new preview pane in the interface displays a part thumbnail with detailed version data, sparing users the need to open files or check properties.
- Custom “drawing/assembly BOMs” that are created in SolidWorks CAD software are now passed intact to SolidWorks Enterprise PDM 2009, reducing rework.
- “Named” BOMs, which can be used beyond the engineering organization, are now associated with the SolidWorks assembly. This means that if a designer changes a part, the BOM is automatically updated.
- New Item-Centric PDM provides a gateway between engineering and purchasing/finance/ERP systems.
- SolidWorks Enterprise PDM is especially suited to companies that span multiple geographic sites, desire the benefits of automated workflow, or require the rich database functionality provided by Microsoft® SQL Server®.

Quotables

From Spencer Smith, mechanical design engineer, Pro Brand International, Inc.:

“The BOM enhancements in SolidWorks Enterprise PDM 2009 extend the value of PDM further across our organization to purchasing, marketing, finance, and beyond. Although the enhancements for designers and engineers make a big impact on our product quality, PDM isn’t just for engineers anymore.”

From Austin O’Malley, CTO of Dassault Systèmes SolidWorks Corp.:

“SolidWorks Enterprise PDM 2009 has a lot of new features inside for both the new and existing customer. We’ve combined the best innovations of DS SolidWorks’ R&D with the requests of our customers to come up with one of the most significant product releases in our history.”

Availability and platforms

SolidWorks Enterprise PDM 2009 is available now for purchase in 14 languages worldwide through SolidWorks authorized resellers. SolidWorks Enterprise PDM 2009 now runs on the Microsoft Windows Vista® operating system in either 32- or 64-bit versions and continues to support Microsoft Windows XP®. It will support the Microsoft Windows Server® 2008 and Microsoft SQL Server 2008 platforms when they are released. Contact a SolidWorks authorized reseller for pricing. To locate one in your region, visit <http://www.solidworks.com/locateVAR/>.

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DP Technology Releases ESPRIT 2009 CAM Software

15 September 2008

DP Technology announced the release of the latest version of its flagship product, ESPRIT® 2009.

This latest version of the ESPRIT software is the result of a balanced effort focusing on both the shorter terms needs of its existing customers and the longer term direction of the metal-working community. A significant number of new, innovative technologies in the areas of 3- and 5-axis milling, feature recognition and user interface are being introduced with this new version, as well as a long list of productivity enhancing features for milling, turning and wire EDM part programming. ESPRIT 2009 is designed to run on both the Microsoft Windows XP and Microsoft Vista operating systems.

New 3- and 5-axis machining cycles

Twenty-two new 5-axis machining strategies have been added to the existing 5-axis functionalities of both ESPRIT SolidMill and SolidMillTurn FreeForm®. These new simultaneous 5-axis machining cycles are available for both milling and mill-turn machines, translating to even greater machining flexibility and improved cycle times. The full performance of these machining cycles is realized when they are run on multi-core computers, which results in an up to 145 percent performance increase for each core added (1 to 2, 2 to 4, etc.).

The new patent-pending FreeForm 5-axis composite machining cycle debuting in ESPRIT 2009 allows the user to independently define the machining pattern and the tool orientation strategy to be used when creating the simultaneous 5-axis tool path and includes 20 different machining strategies (cycles) in one, resulting in a wide range of easily manageable possibilities. The new ESPRIT composite machining cycle gives the user the ability to perform simultaneous 5-axis machining for a wide variety of different parts and industries, including aerospace, medical, and automotive, through one simple user interface.

Five-axis swarf milling, 5-axis contour milling and 3-axis z-level undercut machining round out the list of new machining cycles available for FreeForm machining in this new software release. By using these new multi-axis machining cycles, customers can gain flexibility by running their parts on either traditional mills or on the more advanced mill-turn machines while gaining productivity by reducing the number of setups required to completely machine their parts.

FX Technology for advanced Feature Recognition

In ESPRIT 2009, the ESPRIT FX™ feature tree, which has been upgraded and now includes better rendering and visualization options, now supports multiple CAD models and assemblies. The new associative technology introduced in ESPRIT 2009 is also fully integrated into the ESPRIT FX feature tree, linking design features built inside the CAD system with manufacturing features built inside ESPRIT.

ESPRIT 2009 includes new support for CATIA, Pro Engineer and Autodesk Inventor (support also exists for SolidWorks and Solid Edge), in addition to support for assemblies and the ability to merge multiple CAD bodies — even when they are created in different CAD applications. Additional upgrades include support for multiple SolidWorks configurations, functionality that allows users to view the status of CAD files in the CAD feature tree, the ability to update imported CAD models that have been altered outside of ESPRIT, and the ability to customize the background of the CAD feature trees.

Graphics upgrades available in ESPRIT 2009 include panning, zooming and rotate-the-view functions that have been improved in the latest software release to more closely align with the viewing functionality in each CAD application. Controlling the graphic view is now possible from a 3D mouse, a standard mouse, or from the keyboard.

New associative technology in ESPRIT 2009 — defined as the recognition of a given part and its subsequent downstream activities — allows for the recognition of engineering changes made to a part model and the association between the original and changed part. ESPRIT retains the link to the original CAD file as well as a link to the faces utilized for each manufacturing feature created inside ESPRIT. If the CAD model changes, ESPRIT recognizes which faces have been changed, added or deleted, and will update the associated ESPRIT feature and ultimately the manufacturing processes.

Innovative new user interface

ESPRIT 2009 takes the previous redesign of the software's Operation Manager one step further with a

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new graphical user interface (GUI) for the ESPRIT Cutting Tool Manager. This new GUI presents the same look and feel for both milling and turning tools, with cutting tools being grouped by the milling head or lathe turret they belong to. The new tool manager also has better integration with the KnowledgeBase™ (cutting tool database). Icons show which tools have been added from the KnowledgeBase and which tools were created individually in the ESPRIT document, which can be easily added to the KnowledgeBase so they may be reused in other programs or by other programmers. Additional GUI upgrades include new dialogs for the definition of individual cutting tools, which are significantly simplified and now support the definition of the tool shank. The new GUI displays more accurate images of the tools to aid in more easily defining tool geometry.

The new ESPRIT 2009 FreeForm machining cycles also include a new style of user interface (technology page), which is docked on the left side of the screen and inside the ESPRIT Project Manager. This new user interface maximizes the area of the screen used for graphics, allowing the programmer to more easily identify which parameters should be used and what part features (geometry) should be machined. Selection of the machining parameters can now be made directly from the graphics and/or the dialog box. The new GUI is dynamic, only displaying those parameters that are required and pertinent to the task the user is performing. This new 3D user interface also includes a new 3D FreeForm Feature, which simplifies the definition of the multiple machining steps commonly performed in 3- and 5-axis - rough cutting, semi-finishing and finish cutting.

For wire EDM programmers, ESPRIT 2009 has a new Wizard technology that is now available to programmers of Charmilles and Sodick wire EDM machines. This Wizard technology leads the user step-by-step through the programming process, providing a “recipe” for users with little experience or training to quickly produce part programs. This new technology is also well suited to casual users who occasionally use the software, eliminating the need for them to remember exactly how to program a part since the Wizard technology leads them through the process.

What’s New in SolidMill and SolidTurn

ESPRIT 2009 places a heavy emphasis on integrated machining, the use of milling and, or turning in any combination on any type of machine tool — Swiss-turn, mill-turn, B-axis machines, etc. Therefore, as with the 3- and 5-axis improvement listed above, most improvements to the software are to the benefit of all programmers.

Other new or upgraded features highlighted in the 2009 release include improvement to the following machining cycles: facing, open-pocket machining, slot milling, chamfer milling and thread milling. Additional support for advanced coordinate systems has been added, including Rotate Tool Center Point (RTCP) programming for 5-axis milling, support for co-linear axes, and more automated tools for addressing the differences between the coordinate system used in the original design and the machining coordinate system (workpiece orientation).

Designed to distribute heat and wear more effectively than a single-point lathe tool, the new turning spinning-tool technology available in ESPRIT 2009 can increase productivity by up to 500 percent and tool life by up to 2,000 percent. This new cutting technology employs a specialized insert — similar in design to a round, or full-radius insert — mounted at the bottom of a cylindrical tool shank held in a rotary spindle. The advantage of the spinning tool is that there is no one single point on the tool that is in contact with the work piece all the time, and this is very good for heat dissipation and tool wear. Cutting conditions are no longer limited by the heat generated in the process, but by power available in the machine.

Wire EDM

The technology pages (user interface) for Agie 123 and AgieVision have undergone a complete transformation in ESPRIT 2009, bringing them to parity with all other wire EDM technology in ESPRIT. Agie customers can now take advantage of all the enhanced technology and advantages in ESPRIT Wire EDM, including automated draft feature recognition for geometry and solids, an underlying application programming interface (API), ease of use, and a new expert system for AgieVision and AgieVision V controls.

ESPRIT now contains an integrated ESPRIT cutting condition database that will generate factory recommended cutting parameters for all four Sodick Linear Controls (LP, LQ33W, LQ and LN). If a machine type is unavailable in the ESPRIT database, users now have the ability to add new machine data into the database by importing their Sodick machine's cutting data files directly into ESPRIT. This new ESPRIT database for Sodick is accessed directly from ESPRIT's Sodick-specific user interface (technology pages).

Multiple cut-offs, commonly referred to as "bridges," are necessary when a punch or slug (in the case of a die), may be too heavy or cumbersome to be extracted without trouble. By selecting the multiple cut-off locations, stress can be effectively released and the punch or slug can be extracted without trouble. Through the new multiple cut-off function in ESPRIT 2009, multiple cut-off locations are linked to "punch," "die" or "open" features. "Multiple cut-off" works on both draft conic (2-axis) and ruled features (4-axis). SolidWire® technology has been updated to recognize the multiple cut-off locations on the feature and will apply the same cut-off length to all cut-off locations.

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JETCAM Announces Dassault CATIA Integration

September 2008

JETCAM International s.a.r.l. announced details of developments that will benefit Dassault customers using CATIA for composite or routing technologies.

For sheet metal customers using technologies such as routing, laser etc. running CATIA v5 release 14 or above there is a free UDF (User Defined Feature) plugin available for download from the JETCAM website that will assist in automating the export of 2D part and manufacturing information for processing within JETCAM's suite of manufacturing applications.

Composite customers will also benefit from a similar level of integration. JETCAM Orders Controller can now automatically process composite ply XML data passed from CATIA, providing full geometry and part programming information, which is then ready for processing through JETCAM Expert. As with routing this process can be fully automated using JETCAM's RCP (Remote Control Processing) technologies.

Although the two developments above relate to separate manufacturing technologies they will deliver the same benefits to the user – the ability to completely automate the CAM process, from CATIA through to applying cutting technologies, nesting, generation of NC code, reporting, and additional integration with MRP systems and conversion of the customers legacy data.

Commented Mike Weber, Managing Director for JETCAM International s.a.r.l; "These developments are in line with our common aim of providing complete unmanned processing from CAD file to nested part. Joint JETCAM Dassault CATIA users such as in the aerospace industry have already integrated

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JETCAM's RCP to automatically process files provided to JETCAM from CATIA – these developments will extend the reach of this automation a stage further. Users worldwide running the latest versions of both packages will be able to take advantage of these features at no extra cost, yet these powerful links in the manufacturing chain will help to cement a further return on their CAD/CAM investment.

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LEDAS Releases 64-Bit Version of its Variational Geometric Solver

15 September 2008

Following to the customers and potential market demand [LEDAS Ltd.](#), an independent software provider of computational components for PLM and ERP, releases 64-bit version of its geometric solver. With new LGS version CAD/CAM/CAE software developers and their customers can greatly exploit all benefits of 64-bit technology:

Access more physical memory. This is most important moment for modern CAD/CAM and especially CAE applications. Native x64 code, combined with Windows x64 OS and suitable hardware can access up to 2 terabytes (TB) of physical RAM, empowering today's most demanding geometry modeling applications.

Relieve Virtual Address Limitations. Unlike 32-bit systems, where memory allocation can become a bottleneck regardless of the system's physical RAM capacity, x64 applications provide an 8-TB virtual address space for the kernel, and for each process on the system.

Improved Performance. While 32-bit applications perform similarly on Windows x64 editions, native x64 applications can see significant performance improvements, particularly for computationally intensive applications, which is the case for parametric geometry modeling.

Data Execution Prevention. Windows x64 can help prevent buffer overflow exploits with Data Execution Prevention. Whether via software or the hardware support of AMD and Intel processors, memory that is used for data can be marked as data, preventing it from being treated as executable code, thus helping to prevent such exploits.

Virtualization. The most powerful virtualization solutions of tomorrow will make use of processor features such as Intel's Virtualization Technology and AMD Virtualization, available on recent x64 processors. Making use of this technology will require 64-bit operating systems and native applications running on them.

The first customer, receiving 64-bit version of LGS is Engineering Technology Division of JRI Solutions, Ltd, a Japanese company developing CAE software solutions for electromagnetic field analysis under [JMAG](#) brand. Due to large number of elements to be analyzed (counted virtually by millions) the ability to access more of physical memory is crucial for JMAG applications.

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NEi Fusion V1.4 Release Provides Designers with Easy-to-Use, Industry Proven Nastran Simulation

17 September 2008

NEi Software (NEi) announced the release of NEi Fusion V1.4. NEi Fusion is an engineering simulation

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software package that combines 3D parametric solid modeling with Nastran FEA solvers. Typical users include CAD designers, engineers new to FEA, companies that need an affordable way to add Nastran capabilities, and FE analysts who would like to add a pre post tool with a 3D CAD orientation. NEi Fusion's V1.4 release adds 64-bit support along with enhancements to meshing capabilities, material library, load and boundary conditions, and post processing displays. A detailed description of the new features and enhancement is at http://www.nenastran.com/NEiFusion_v14. The release builds on an existing platform intended for design-stage needs with features like associativity of FEA and CAD data, extensive 3D CAD tools for easy model creation, and a Report Generator. In addition, NEi Fusion includes a number of highly sophisticated simulation tools specifically configured to meet the budget and ease-of-use considerations at the CAD design stage. Examples include: Automated Impact Analysis (AIA™) for drop testing, Optimization Analysis, Automated Surface Contact Generation (ASCG™), and Composites Analysis. A full description of NEi Fusion along with a 90-second video is at <http://www.nenastran.com/NEiFusion>.

Dave Weinberg, CEO of NEi Software, summarized the role of NEi Fusion, "Everyone recognizes the need for design to be faster, more innovative, and lower cost. For product development managers, NEi Fusion helps accomplish that. NEi Fusion with Nastran replaces the guesswork and make-and-break methodology that consumes so much time and money in prototypes, testing, and redesign with a simulation solution that is affordable and professional."

In addition to covering the different needs of each stage of the product development process, NEi's software portfolio provides comprehensive coverage of the full range of analyses types. Product development professionals gain technical insight with images, contour plots, graphs, and animations of linear and nonlinear structural stress, deformation, dynamics, vibration, impact, thermal, heat transfer, and fluid mechanics simulations.

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Nemetschek North America Releases the Vectorworks 2009 Product Line

15 September 2008

Nemetschek North America announced the 2009 release of their Vectorworks® line of design software, including: Designer, Architect, Landmark, Spotlight, Machine Design, Fundamentals, and Renderworks. The Vectorworks 2009 product line features a new engine that gives users superior 2D and 3D capabilities, at speeds that are up to 4-5 times faster for modeling operations. In addition, new features and enhancements were developed with direct input from Vectorworks users, resulting in a new version with enhanced usability, improved 3D modeling, and optimized workflows that will turbo-boost productivity and facilitate collaboration.

The Vectorworks 2009 product line is powered by Parasolid®, the CAD/CAM/CAE modeling kernel from Siemens PLM Software. Given the large-scale modeling requirements of the A/E/C industry, Nemetschek North America believes the best way to build a strong modeling platform is to leverage the investment the manufacturing industry has made in software development. Embedding a mature modeling software engine like Parasolid into the Vectorworks products—which already had free-form solids and surface modeling capabilities—establishes Vectorworks as a best-in-class architectural 3D solution. If you can imagine it, Vectorworks can represent it.

"For years the MCAD industry has been taking advantage of the robustness that the Parasolid modeling kernel provides, and with Vectorworks 2009 product line, we've laid the foundation for bringing that

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true modeling robustness to the A/E/C industry" says Dr. Biplab Sarkar, Nemetschek North America's Chief Technology Officer.

Additionally, innovative new interface functionality in Vectorworks 2009 products enhances usability. The pre-selection indication feature provides intelligent feedback from the cursor. Used in conjunction with drawing tools, SmartCursor snapping allows users to draw with more precision.

"Using Parasolid modeling, and the simplicity of smart point and smart edge snapping with pre-selection highlights on every move, makes designing a breeze," says Katerina Panagiotakis of Thalassi.

There are more than 70 other features in version 2009 that provide users with a software application that gives them the flexibility to design the way they want, the versatility to address all phases of design, and the intuitiveness to enable them to work the way they think.

For a product-by-product breakdown of all the new version 2009 improvements, and to see some of these features in action, visit <http://www.vectorworks2009.net>

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OptiTex's Colorful Future

15 September 2008

[OptiTex](#) has added Color Manager, a dynamic new tool, to its already feature-laden 3D Runway Designer software. Color Manager ensures optimal communication between the designer and the manufacturer, faithfully promoting the production of beautiful designs. Designers now have a much higher degree of color control over their collections.

"We have always maintained a commitment to provide designers with the latest features to enhance the design process," states Ran Machtinger, OptiTex's President and CEO. "Now, our new Color Manager will appear anytime a user clicks on a color control, providing an extended set of tools that promote both creativity and collaboration."

OptiTex's Color Manager provides significant advantages over the old Windows color unit. Color Manager facilitates designers' ability to select a color scheme for both individual garments and full collections and to provide the scheme to everyone involved in the design process.

Color Manager, as with all OptiTex features and products, was crafted for a user-friendly experience. Toward this end, the Color Manager is divided into three main sections. The first is Color Pickers and Color Spaces, which supports four-color spaces: RGB, HSV (hue, saturation, value/brightness), CMYK, and HEX (hexadecimal). The second is Harmonious Color Schemes for work in monochromatic colors. Lastly, the Color Banks section allows designers to create edit and store color schemes in color banks, facilitating collaboration among users and more efficient communication with other graphic software.

Designers can now choose and change colors in real time and view the results immediately. Previously, designers could neither see the colors and how they matched nor convey them to others accurately. Ultimately, Color Manager will revolutionize the way large manufacturers set their specs for production.

"The design of our 3D Runway system is the natural outgrowth of our philosophy about facilitating collaboration, ensuring that all players in the production process are on the same page," concludes Machtinger. "In the end, it's all about an efficient, streamlined process that results in remarkable, beautiful designs."

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RAND Adds 3DVIA Composer Package to Rapid Deployment Program, QuickStart

16 September 2008

RAND Worldwide announced that it has expanded its rapid deployment Product Lifecycle Management (“PLM”) program, QuickStart, with the addition of a new offering: the 3DVIA Composer package.

The 3DVIA Composer QuickStart package provides organizations with a low cost, rapid deployment of 3DVIA Composer for CATIA, Pro/ENGINEER, SolidWorks, STEP, and IGES to streamline product deliverable creation. RAND’s certified implementation team works onsite to provide organizations with configuration, process development, training, and desk side mentoring services enabling rapid 3DVIA Composer user adoption. The package allows users to learn and begin using 3DVIA Composer to automatically create specialized corporate documentation such as assembly and disassembly procedures, technical illustrations, interactive 3D animations, training materials, marketing materials, and sales tools.

“In as little as five days, our 3DVIA Composer QuickStart enables organizations deploying 3DVIA Composer to quickly get the solution configured, establish a well defined process development procedure for its users, and eliminate the learning curve users typically have associated with the deployment of a new application,” said Joe Oswald, Executive Vice President, PLM Operations, North America and Europe, RAND Worldwide. “As a result, engineering, manufacturing and non-technical users can more quickly adopt the new application and take full advantage of 3DVIA Composer’s ability to create accurate associative 2D and 3D product deliverables.”

Launched in April 2006, QuickStart also offers a selection of deployment solutions for CATIA V5 and ENOVIA SmarTeam that are faster and more cost effective to implement than a standard PLM and PDM deployment. The program assists in building a proper PLM foundation for organizations with limited internal knowledge of CATIA V5 and ENOVIA SmarTeam set-up and administration, or a need to improve the progress of an existing implementation, with minimal upfront investment.

QuickStart leverages RAND’s TAKE AIM (Assured Implementation Methodology) program, a four-phase project implementation approach, derived from RAND’s extensive experience with PLM and PDM deployments across a variety of industries.

Launch timeframes for the CATIA V5 and ENOVIA SmarTeam programs start at just 10 days by RAND’s dedicated and experienced professional services team. All implementations provide the foundation for a fully functioning PLM system, without any limitation for expansion to the full capabilities of CATIA V5 or ENOVIA SmarTeam.

To learn more about RAND’s QuickStart programs, please visit <http://www.rand.com/quickstart>.

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Right Hemisphere Software Powers 2D and 3D Viewing and Publishing for SAP PLM 7.0

15 September 2008

Right Hemisphere® expanded its Deep Server™ enterprise software line with two new offerings, including one specifically designed for customers of the new SAP® PLM 7.0 product. Right Hemisphere’s new “Deep Server View Edition” software enables users to take full advantage of the new SAP PLM 7.0 solution’s 3D-ready visualization capabilities. With Deep Server View Edition, SAP PLM

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7.0 users can effectively “turn on” the embedded 3D viewing technology, dynamically generate visual product information from their PDM and ERP systems, view it in 2D or 3D from within the SAP PLM application, and then save it back into the PDM vault.

“We’ll make the Deep Server View Edition a standard part of our SAP PLM deployments,” said Horst Heckhorn, CEO of CENIT North America, “as we at CENIT fully understand the value that Deep Server can provide to our SAP PLM customers. This is especially true with the Deep Server Enterprise Edition which we know from our own hands-on experience greatly optimizes a wide variety of core business processes and leverages our customers’ even larger investment in SAP software. We are proud that SAP and Right Hemisphere have chosen CENIT as a key strategic partner for system integration, development and deployment.”

In addition to Deep Server View Edition, Right Hemisphere announced the new “Deep Server Workgroup Edition” today. The Workgroup Edition is a comprehensive solution that is designed to meet the needs of corporate workgroups and SMBs from both a cost and functionality perspective.

“Our Deep Server Enterprise software has matured into a highly scalable, robust technology that helps some of the world’s largest and most admired manufacturers get their products and support materials to market faster,” said Right Hemisphere CEO Michael Lynch. “Now that more companies are realizing the value of merging visual product data and business data throughout the enterprise, we’re seeing very strong market growth. These new Deep Server products were created to address new business opportunities and to provide a more accessible price and configuration point of entry.”

Deep Server View Edition

Available immediately, Right Hemisphere’s Deep Server View Edition is designed to enable 2D and 3D viewing, measurement, and cross sectioning of dynamically generated visual product information in SAP PLM 7.0. It does this by working with the Right Hemisphere Deep View™ software already integrated in the SAP PLM 7.0 solution. SAP AG licensed Right Hemisphere’s 2D and 3D visualization technology in June of 2008 to serve as the new visualization standard for the SAP NetWeaver® platform. SAP PLM 7.0, which is expected to begin shipping to customers in November, is the first SAP enterprise application to integrate Right Hemisphere’s visualization technology.

Functionally, Right Hemisphere Deep Server View Edition:

- Enables delivery of accurate visual product information directly into SAP PLM 7.0;
- Improves communication and effectiveness of applications that present complex information to users by associating text-based content with visual content; and
- Is upgradeable to full Deep Server Enterprise Edition for content publishing and/or integration of intelligent visual data into other business workflows.

Deep Server Workgroup Edition

Deep Server Workgroup Edition is a comprehensive bundled solution that allows Deep Server to be used in limited scale environments that include corporate workgroups and SMBs. The software is also packaged for ease of deployment by Right Hemisphere’s strategic partners and VAR channel partners such as CENIT AG. Functionally, the Right Hemisphere Deep Server Workgroup Edition:

- Automates the publishing, management, and delivery of visual product data for corporate workgroups or small businesses;
- Is a comprehensive solution that enables downstream users to access and collaborate with engineering

data; and

- Provides an affordable solution that leverages the enterprise-class performance and robustness of Deep Server Enterprise Edition.

Deep Server Enterprise Edition

The flagship of the Right Hemisphere product line, Deep Server Enterprise Edition software extends the value of 3D product information and traditional PLM systems beyond engineering to the rest of the enterprise. Deep Server Enterprise Edition is a state-of-the-art solution for 2D and 3D product data processing, management and publishing. It is currently deployed at respected manufacturing companies such as Bell Helicopter, Chrysler, Halliburton, Joy Mining Machinery, and Sikorsky Aircraft. With its highly flexible architecture, it can be configured for a number of specific use cases and supports over 130 2D and 3D formats. Functionally, Deep Server Enterprise Edition:

- Has proven enterprise class performance, scalability and robustness;
- Automates the publishing and delivery of intelligent product media to the right people, integrated directly into their business process, dynamically;
- Integrates data directly from engineering and ERP systems, and produces use-specific product content, files and documents based on business rules;
- Creates universal access to all product media and information across the enterprise; and
- Speeds products to market with better communication and collaboration across all departments.

For more information about the Deep Server product line, please go to <http://www.righthemisphere.com>.

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RLM Launches FashionManager™ Concept-to-Consumer Software Solution

17 September 2008

RLM Apparel Software Systems Inc. (<http://www.ronlynn.com>) announced the release of FashionManager™, its latest end-to-end business software solution designed specifically for the apparel, footwear, accessories, and other fashion-related industries. The new software was developed in cooperation with existing RLM clients and is already in use at Creative Design Studios (CDS), Halston, John Varvatos, Tory Burch and other notable clients. The result of the company's 25-year fashion industry focus, FashionManager offers clients more than 40 fully integrated software modules that, when used in combination, manage the entire fashion product lifecycle - from concept to consumer.

FashionManager is an industry-specific enterprise solution that spans a wide range of traditional software categories such as product lifecycle management (PLM), supply chain management (SCM), warehouse management (WMS), salesforce automation (SFA), enterprise resource planning (ERP), and e-Commerce.

FashionManager Platform Options Include:

FM On-Premise or FM On-Demand: Clients may choose to implement the system on their in-house servers, or deliver it to their global teams through a secure internet connection.

Upfront Purchase or Monthly Subscription: Traditional perpetual licensing lets clients pay once and use forever; subscription offers low upfront costs and a pay-as-you-go software rental.

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All-in-One or Modular Deployment: RLM clients choose from more than 40 modules to build the fully integrated system they need to address their current and future needs.

New and Improved Functional Highlights Include:

New PLM Capabilities: line planning, product data management (PDM), image management, tech pack management, time & action calendars, raw materials and trim management.

Enterprise Costing: early development estimated costing, production costing, WIP costing by production stage, inventory and sales costing using standard, actual weighted, or FIFO.

Package Sourcing or Production: bid request and management, finished goods purchasing, import management, production planning and tracking, alerts and notifications.

Logistics, Warehouse, Distribution: easy-to-use EDI, automatic ASN and invoice generation, integrated RF warehouse management, advanced finished goods inventory and order allocation.

Sales and e-Commerce: online order placement and sales dashboard, analyze POS (852) data, multi-currency, fully integrated B2B & B2C web stores.

"FashionManager brings together the best of our previous systems with the latest software tools and computing platform options needed to succeed in today's fast-paced and demanding fashion industry", stated Rick Lynn, RLM vice president of product development. "FM On-Demand allows companies of any size to better manage their entire business with only a small investment of time and money. With this combination of power and simplicity, both growing and mature business can unleash their true business potential without the need for larger staffs and computing expertise."

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Siemens PLM Software and Nemetschek North America Announce the Launch of Vectorworks 2009 Featuring Parasolid

15 September 2008

Siemens PLM Software and [Nemetschek](#) North America announced the launch of Nemetschek's Vectorworks® 2009 design software featuring for the first time the integration of Parasolid® software, Siemens PLM Software's 3D solid modeling technology.

The key theme of Vectorworks 2009 is the addition and simultaneous release of the sophisticated Parasolid 3D solid modeling functionality to all modules of the product suite, in solutions tailored to the needs of architectural, landscape, entertainment, and multi-disciplinary firms. The functionality of Parasolid has been proven and refined through widespread usage in the mechanical CAD market, combining high performance and exceptional quality in an easy- to-integrate component.

With a prominent position in the AEC market already established, Nemetschek is targeting its Vectorworks Architect 2009 product at architectural firms wishing to explore creative, free-form designs with increased productivity, while retaining full geometric integrity at all times. While Parasolid offers substantial benefits to Vectorworks' architectural users, it also brings significant speed gains in the entire product suite including Vectorworks Fundamentals, Landmark, Spotlight, and Machine Design.

"We selected Parasolid as the modeling foundation for Vectorworks 2009 because of Siemens PLM Software's reputation for high-quality components and proven record of supporting open solutions," said Sean Flaherty, CEO of Nemetschek North America. "Integrating Parasolid into all modules of our

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suite was the key focus for the 2009 release, which has been achieved smoothly, thanks to excellent technology and support from Siemens PLM Software. We expect Vectorworks 2009 to be a landmark release.

“There has been a strong movement towards the adoption of Building Information Modeling within the A/E/C market,” adds Flaherty. “The level of interest in BIM is steadily increasing due to the desire to integrate more efficient design practices. However, many are not adopting BIM due to the barriers to 3D use, such as the inability to realize cutting edge, free-form architecture. As opposed to other players in the CAD market who are trying to solve the barriers to 3D with in-house, self-built technologies, we have decided to license the absolute best solution in 3D, by integrating Parasolid technology. With a purpose-built 3D modeling kernel, Vectorworks 2009 will better manage building complexity, which previously tested the limits of most BIM applications.”

“We are proud that a company of Nemetschek’s stature and vision has selected Parasolid to provide the core technology for its flagship design software,” said Bruce Feldt, vice president of Open Tool, [Siemens PLM Software](#). “We are confident that Nemetschek’s users will be impressed by the productivity and creative freedom enabled by the new Parasolid functionality. We look forward to a long relationship with Nemetschek and to continued success in the AEC market.

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

16 September 2008

Siemens PLM Software announced the immediate availability of new releases of two of its industry-leading D Cubed™ component software products. Version 54.0 of 2D Dimensional Constraint Manager (2D DCM) and Profile Geometry Manager (PGM) contain new enhancements to improve function and performance.

Detailed descriptions of the enhancements are available online at:

http://www.plm.automation.siemens.com/en_us/products/open/d-cubed/latest_releases/

About PLM Components; Parasolid and D-Cubed

PLM Components are software tools that support innovation and promote interoperability in CAD, CAM, CAE and PLM applications. Siemens PLM Software develops these components, uses them throughout its own applications and licenses them to independent software vendors and end-user organizations. PLM Components include the Parasolid® software and D-Cubed products, widely used technologies that provide 3D part and assembly modeling, editing and interoperability, 2D/3D parametric sketching, motion simulation, collision detection, clearance measurement and visualization functionality. Applications include mechanical CAD, CAM, CAE, mold design, sheet metal, AEC, GIS, structural, plant and ship design, CMM, reverse engineering and sales configuration. For more information, please visit <http://www.siemens.com/plm/open>.

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Siemens PLM Software Uses its D-Cubed Components to Drive Design Productivity in NX 6

19 September 2008

Siemens PLM Software announced its D-Cubed™ 2D Dimensional Constraint Manager (2D DCM),

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Profile Geometry Manager (PGM) and 3D Dimensional Constraint Manager (3D DCM) software components are making significant new contributions to design productivity in Version 6 of NX™ software, the company's flagship digital product development solution.

NX 6 advances its use of the 2D DCM and PGM components, introducing further improvements to 2D sketching and profile operations. Thoroughly field tested with more than 1.5 million commercial licenses in use worldwide, the 2D DCM is the computer-aided design (CAD) industry's preferred solution for configuring sketches by solving geometric constraints. The PGM builds on this capability, supporting higher level sketch operations, such as offset profiles. Examples of new functionality enabled by these components in NX 6 include an advanced 2D DCM constraint for locking lines normal to spline curves and a new PGM function for constraining a point to a loop of connected edges, rather than just an individual curve.

The 3D DCM solves a wide range of dimensions, constraints and equations simultaneously, and is compatible with all geometry types found in modern 3D CAD models, making it suitable for a variety of applications in NX 6. The extended use of the 3D DCM has brought improvements to NX Routing, the design environment for electrical and mechanical subsystems. 3D DCM constraints solved in NX Routing now have bi-directional associativity with 3D DCM constraints applied to parts in NX Assemblies. This has been complemented with better performance when solving routes that include splines with a fixed length.

“The D-Cubed components provide a wide array of constraint based capabilities in 2D sketching and profile operations, 3D sketching/routing and assembly modeling,” says Joan Hirsch, vice president of NX development, Siemens PLM Software. “By continuing to optimize our use of the D-Cubed components, we have once again strengthened our innovative leadership position in the CAD industry with the release of NX 6.”

About PLM Components: Parasolid and D-Cubed

PLM Components are software tools that support innovation and promote interoperability in CAD, CAM, CAE and PLM applications. Siemens PLM Software develops these components, uses them throughout its own applications and licenses them to independent software vendors and end-user organizations. PLM Components include Parasolid® software and D-Cubed products, widely used technologies that provide 3D part and assembly modeling, editing and interoperability, 2D/3D parametric sketching, motion simulation, collision detection, clearance measurement and visualization functionality. Applications include mechanical CAD, CAM, CAE, mold design, sheet metal, AEC, GIS, structural, plant and ship design, CMM, reverse engineering and sales configuration. For more information, please visit <http://www.siemens.com/plm/open>.



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solidThinking Names FISHER/UNITECH its First Value-Added Reseller in the U.S.

15 September 2008

[solidThinking, Inc.](#) has signed [FISHER/UNITECH](#) as a value-added reseller (VAR) to promote, sell and support solidThinking and its portfolio of features to the industrial design community in the Midwest. solidThinking recently introduced its new 7.6 software for Windows and Mac users worldwide.

With 10 offices serving the Midwest, FISHER/UNITECH is a leading reseller of SolidWorks, PDMWorks Enterprise and the Dimension 3D Printer. FISHER/UNITECH plans to market

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solidThinking, an official SolidWorks Partner Product, as part of its diverse product-offerings suite to customers in Michigan, Ohio, Indiana, Kentucky, Illinois, Kansas, Missouri and Wisconsin.

Mazzardo started solidThinking in Italy in 1991 with his brother Mario Mazzardo, vice president of product strategy and management. The global rollout of solidThinking 7.6 -- which includes an updated rendering engine, a streamlined user interface, rich photorealistic-content functionality and a number of other user-centric enhancements -- follows the recent acquisition of the company's assets by Michigan-based [Altair Engineering, Inc.](#)

Thousands of designers use solidThinking to develop products and packaging for such 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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SolidWorks 2009 Delivers Dramatic Speed Increase Plus More Than 260 Customer-Driven Enhancements

18 September 2008

Dassault Systèmes SolidWorks Corp. in a worldwide press event unveiled SolidWorks® 2009 Premium, the newest version of the its 3D CAD software with a documented speed increase of up to 65 percent over SolidWorks 2008. No 3D CAD software is faster or easier to use in helping users transform their innovative ideas into intelligent 3D models that are ready for manufacturing.

Key facts

- The new software reflects an intensive R&D effort focused on performance.
- Customer workflows were studied and tested to ensure that the overall design process was being improved, not just specific functions and tasks.
- SolidWorks 2009 introduces SpeedPak (video: <http://www.solidworkslaunch.com/VideoPage.aspx?id=1>), a new approach to large assembly handling that reduces the amount of computer memory needed while maintaining full graphic detail and associativity.
- SolidWorks 2009 includes a new Simulation Advisor that helps users analyze designs for hidden flaws, guiding them through every stage of a simulation.
- SolidWorks 2009 includes numerous drawing enhancements that directly benefit those many users whose final output is a manufacturing drawing. (<http://www.solidworkslaunch.com/VideoPage.aspx?id=4>).
- PhotoView 360, a feature based on SolidWorks Intelligent Feature Technology (SWIFT), helps beginning CAD users achieve expert results. It is a new simple-to-use progressive rendering tool that lets users photorealistically render a scene while allowing the user to continue working on the same scene, unlike software that forces users to wait until scenes are complete.

Quotables

From Mike Baljak, SolidWorks CAD administrator, ATS Automation Tooling Systems
(<http://www.atsautomation.com>):

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“With SolidWorks 2009, I’ve noticed a huge improvement in assembly and drawing performance, especially when working with large assemblies. SolidWorks 2009 will enable us to quickly open large layouts, make changes to the design, and update the associated drawing with ease, which will make our design process more efficient. This will ultimately help ATS get our SolidWorks-generated designs to manufacturing faster, shorten the design and build cycle, and enable our customers to get their products to market quicker than their competition.”

From John MacKrell, senior analyst at CIMdata:

“Given that the point of software solutions is to automate tasks and the point of automation is to make common tasks happen faster, then a significant increase in performance will deeply benefit every designer and engineer. SpeedPak technology increases performance while decreasing resource consumption, providing a double benefit for designers, especially those who work with large assemblies.”

From Austin O’Malley, CTO of Dassault Systèmes SolidWorks Corp.:

“Designers and engineers want a great user experience, allowing them to focus on the product they are developing, not the software, and perform their work faster without compromise. We listened hard to our customers, and the early SolidWorks 2009 feedback shows that we’ve successfully advanced this objective.”

Availability and pricing

SolidWorks 2009 is available now for purchase in 13 languages worldwide through SolidWorks authorized resellers. Contact a SolidWorks authorized reseller for pricing. To locate one in your region, visit <http://www.solidworks.com/locateVAR/>. For more information about SolidWorks 2009, including video demonstrations, please visit <http://www.solidworkslaunch.com> or contact a reseller.

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3D Content Creation Made Even Easier With the Release of 3DVIA Shape 2.0

15 September 2008

Dassault Systèmes ([DS](#)) Management (PLM) announced 3DVIA Shape 2.0, the latest release of its free 3D modeling software featuring an all new and expanded 3D remix capability. This latest update will make creating and publishing online 3D content easy by allowing users to construct or “remix” complete 3D scenes using models contributed by other users on the 3DVIA.com content library.

The new 3D remix functionality is accessed through a search panel within the product. Users simply enter a search term, select a model from the results and insert the model they need into their projects. With a few clicks of a mouse, users can create complete 3D models of just about anything and publish them online. For example, a user could build a 3D model of her house and accessorize it with furniture, cars and many of the models posted by the more than 45,000 registered users of the site.

“The new 3DVIA Shape further extends 3D content creation to a whole new set of users and provides a new outlet for our existing 3D artists to share their work,” said Lynne Wilson, senior vice president and general manager, 3DVIA, Dassault Systèmes. “The new 3D remix capability not only makes 3D publishing easier, but also more fun. We’re excited to see what our user community will create.”

The free 3D modeling software is available immediately and can be downloaded at <http://www.3DVIA.com/shapeit>. With the addition of the new 3D remix feature, 3DVIA Shape 2.0 will

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now provide three main areas of functionality.

- **Shape:** Simple, but powerful 3D modeling technology designed to be easy enough for anyone to quickly express ideas in 3D;
- **Remix:** Edit and modify Shape models published by other users, or skip right to constructing complete 3D scenes with models posted by the 3DVIA community; and
- **Publish:** Users can publish and share their work directly through 3DVIA.com and on their blogs, profiles or most Web pages through the embeddable 3DVIA interactive player.

Additional features of this release include upgrades to the user interface, video tutorials and other design and performance enhancements based on feedback from the fast-growing 3DVIA.com community.

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Tacton and Cadmes Enter into Reseller Agreement for TactonWorks

18 September 2008

Tacton Systems announced that [Cadmes B.V.](#) has signed a reseller agreement for TactonWorks – whereby Tacton Configurator is embedded in SolidWorks as an add-in product. TactonWorks supports manufacturers in generating custom configured quotations and drawings for order processing. The agreement covers sales throughout the Netherlands, Belgium and Luxembourg.

Cadmes provides industry expertise and solutions for the entire development process, supplying software within CAD, CAM, PDM and analysis. Cadmes is the largest SolidWorks reseller in Benelux, with more than 1,100 customers. Cadmes is certified with the CTSP and CASP certificates and awarded as an "elite-reseller" by SolidWorks.

TactonWorks is geared to manufacturers with a need for order-specific customization of the product design, e.g. engineer-to-order, assemble-to-order, or configure-to-order, where rules can define what is a valid design for the customer's requirements. TactonWorks offers significant advantages in interactivity, validation, and ease of maintenance over competing Knowledge Based Engineering solutions for SolidWorks, in much the same way as 3D CAD has these advantages over 2D CAD.

"[Tacton](#) is a good addition to our portfolio, due to its added value for our customers. Our customer's questions are more and more related to the improvement of quality and quicker time-to-market. By applying a proven solution such as TactonWorks, we are able to completely meet the wishes of our customers," said Gerbert Thelissen, COO of Cadmes.

"We are pleased to have an industry leader like Cadmes to sell our product configurator software. Thanks to this agreement, more companies will be able to design better products by automating routine engineering tasks," said Christer Wallberg, CEO at Tacton Systems.

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Think3 Signs Up Rashi Peripherals as Their National Distributor in India

17 September 2008

Think3 Inc. has recently commenced commercial operations in India. The Company has a dedicated direct sales and marketing team of twelve highly experienced professionals across India. To strengthen its reach and network in India, the company has appointed [Rashi Peripherals](#) as its National Distributor

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of 2D products. The company is also looking to seal a slew of partnerships with a host of VARs (value added re-sellers) as well over the next few months. The company is targeting education, engineering and manufacturing verticals, which it sees as replete with immense potential.

Rashi is one of the largest distributors in India with over 50 branches and 7000 channel partners across the country. Rashi has a good reach in the market for engineering and design products. Commenting on the tie-up, Mr. Kapal Pansari, Director-Marketing, Rashi Peripherals said, “Rashi peripherals has successfully established itself in IT (Hardware) Industry & now with Think3 we are all set to venture into software segment. Think3 will complement a part of our product portfolio further strengthening our presence in CAD industry. Since with think3’s solid history in the industry and Rashi’s geographic presence in the market it is a win win situation.”

Think3 has adopted this strategy of working with world class partners to help companies to have easy access to its technology. Each partner is chosen by their capability to cover an assigned geography and provide support to their clients with great attentiveness and competence.

Think3’s partners follow a series of technical and sales training courses to ensure they can provide solutions that resolve their customer's problems. Think3 works hard to ensure that partners can grow their business by creating healthy happy clients by continuously supplying them with an evolving product line targeted at resolving customer problems.

Think3 Intel business exchange collaboration: Think3 has collaborated with Intel on its Business Exchange programme to reach out to new customers and network with new vendors through an innovative module (Intel’s portal <http://www.bxindia.intel.com>).

Intel® Business Exchange offers the latest informative resources on business solutions, making it a perfect first stop for customers/vendors to find all information to make wise purchasing decisions and use an online quoting system to reach solution providers.

Through this initiative, Think3’s ThinkDesign Suite will be available to all SMEs through online and offline mode. ThinkDesign Suite includes ThinkDesign Styling, ThinkDesign Engineering, ThinkDesign Tooling and ThinkDesign Professional.

Recently Think3 tied up with HP, who is their preferred hardware vendor. They will co-promote each other.

Think3’s 2D solution, ThinkDesign Drafting, offers a complete range of tools that makes it totally independent and productive. In ThinkDesign Drafting, companies find the exact 2D drawing tool they need, so that draughtsmen and designers can do their daily work quickly and well.

ThinkDesign Drafting guarantees the creation of drawings that conform to international standards. ISO, ANSI, JIS and GB drawing standards are fully supported, and each new entity is generated in conformity to user settings. Existing drawings and drawings imported via converters can be quickly and easily converted to a specific standard or unit of measurement.

“think3 is aggressively looking to establish a foothold in India after its success in China, Japan & European markets” said Tom Davis, Vice President International Business at think3. “The exponential growth in the manufacturing, engineering and education verticals presents an immense opportunity before us, which we would like to leverage and tap into. India is a key market for think3 globally and our solutions in the areas of Industrial Design, Product Design, Tool Design and PLM offer an end to end solution for this market. In fact, in that sense think3’s entry will affect the Indian market more by catalyzing more world-class product development and innovation at these companies. Over the next 3

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years we see India emerging as among the Top 3 market for think3 globally. Our existing R&D/support presence in India coupled with think3's global expertise presents a formidable combination as we enter the Indian market since we are building on a firm base."

To see think3' global VAR network: http://www.think3.com/en/company/var_world.aspx



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