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CIMdata News

“PLM is vital for today’s systems engineering” by Ed Miller, President of CIMdata

24 March 2009

Developing highly complex products often requires contributions from diverse technical disciplines including mechanical engineering, electronics, software-based control, fluid mechanics, hydraulics, and pneumatics. In aircraft design, for example, engine designers concentrate on the propulsion system while aerodynamicists work on flight surfaces, mechanical engineers on landing gears, and other specialists on seating, lighting and acoustics.

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Ensuring the overall product design is complete and that the various subsystems all work together properly is the objective of systems engineering, a traditional holistic approach to product development that is receiving much more attention recently due to the increasing complexity of many products.

Systems engineering is closely tied to customer requirements management in meeting the many user, business, technical, and functional requirements in product development. So systems engineering solutions from various suppliers often include requirements management as a fundamental capability. Requirements management is all about ensuring that the “voice of the customer” is captured and managed throughout the product life cycle. Consequently, well-documented requirements must be managed from the customer’s point of view, shared with diverse groups, tightly linked to product deliverables, and strictly controlled to analyze the impact of changes.

Systems engineering is certainly not a new concept. Indeed, the approach has been used for decades in the aerospace, defense and automotive industries—mostly with in-house database management programs, spreadsheets, file folders, PERT charts, requirements listings, and other manual methods. These were slow, cumbersome, and often barely adequate in handling myriad details in highly complex product development programs that can last for years and involve hundreds—sometimes thousands—of individual groups, facilities, departments, and suppliers in global extended enterprises.

Today such limitations can be overcome by performing systems engineering with the help of product life-cycle management (PLM) solutions that support the collaborative creation, management, dissemination, and use of product definition information across the product lifecycle and throughout the extended enterprise.

Systems engineering solutions are offered by several PLM suppliers. Using a combination of technologies, the approach is much faster than manual methods and better able to manage the complex multitude of details for multidisciplinary relationships, product configurations, workflows, information-sharing, and decision-making. This radically increases the efficiency and effectiveness of systems engineering programs and helps avoid noncompliance issues and other problems by meeting these requirements with balanced designs early in the development cycle instead of spending time and resources hurriedly making changes later in the cycle.

Because of the size and growth potential of this market, systems engineering solutions are receiving higher priority from PLM providers, with solutions especially targeted at automotive, aerospace, defense, and other industries.

The good news for the general user community is that the lessons learned and best practices developed for these systems can now be leveraged by companies of all sizes across a broad range of industries including consumer products, electronics, home appliances, ship building, heavy machinery, medical equipment and many others.

With the newer commercial solutions being made available, an expanding range of companies can implement systems engineering for balancing the numerous interrelated requirements that absolutely must be met for manufacturers to survive in today’s turbulent markets and economic downturns.

This article also appeared in [Manufacturing Business Technology](#).

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Company News

ANSYS Expands HPC Capacity for Enhanced R&D

23 March 2009

[ANSYS, Inc.](#) announced the addition of large-scale high-performance computing (HPC) systems from HP that will enhance the Company's software research and development efforts. The new HP solution expands the organization's computing capacity and is key to ensuring the continued leadership position of ANSYS in engineering software for HPC scalability.

Two HPC systems, totaling 76 server nodes with 576 cores, are being deployed to support today's increasingly compute-intensive engineering simulation workloads. The systems include 28 HP ProLiant DL 165/160 server nodes located in the United States and 48 HP ProLiant BL465c blade server nodes in Germany. The systems are based on quad-core processors from AMD and Intel.

The HPC systems provide ANSYS with the capacity and throughput needed for support of large-scale industrial problems being addressed by a wide range of ANSYS customers. "As our user community demands more and more from simulation, we implement greater depth and breadth into our multiphysics technology, which together provides functionality that mirrors the real world. These improvements require more computational resources. Today's state-of-the-art systems are handling simulations of a size that we could not even imagine a few years ago. It is a critical area for continued research and investment by ANSYS," said Jim Cashman, president and CEO of ANSYS, Inc.

"Customers in the computer-aided engineering field are demanding high-performance computing systems that reduce the turnaround time of product development to maintain a competitive advantage in the marketplace," said Ed Turkel, product marketing manager of the Scalable Computing & Infrastructure organization at HP. "HP's industry-standard server technology combined with solutions from ANSYS ensures that customers have the high-performance systems they need to support large, more complex simulations with the throughput required."

Current engineering simulation problems can involve whole systems, meaning increasingly larger model sizes as product development teams include more geometric detail and consideration of full CAD assemblies. In addition, high-fidelity representation of complex physical phenomena — including time-varying treatment of turbulence, aero-acoustics, vibration and multiphysics — has dramatically increased the demand for computing capacity to support engineering simulation. HPC systems are essential to provide the capacity required for large models and to achieve the turnaround time required for engineering decision making, reducing tasks that might have taken weeks or months to days or mere hours. With shortened turnaround times, engineers have more bandwidth to conduct simulation studies on multiple design points instead of conserving simulation horsepower and development time for one portion of the design puzzle.

The HP clusters deployed by ANSYS are being used for software tuning and performance testing, using large-scale industrial simulation workloads. "The new systems underscore our strong technical and commercial involvement with HP and provide us with outstanding ability to support our mutual customers. We expect the demand for large-scale simulation to grow, and these additional resources position us to ensure that we have the infrastructure and the foresight to drive areas of future opportunity for our customers," Cashman added.

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ASCON Announces the Winner of LT Modelling Contest

25 March 2009

ASCON Group, developer and integrator of CAD/AEC/PLM solutions, announced the results of KOMPAS-3D Modelling Contest for users of Light version of the solution. It was held from November 2008 till 15th February 2009. Author of the winner project, Mr. Michal Prech from Poland with its “Milling plotter” was awarded with a prize – the full version of KOMPAS-3D for one year.

Models were judged according to:

Idea of project - an interesting theme, applicability, creativity of design;

Project complexity (number of created features, sketches, and etc);

Project quality (existence of mistakes in the model, in links, in design tree, in 2D geometry of sketches and etc);

Capacity of used functional: using different features in 2D and 3D;

Using of collaboration;

Using additional functional: applying own application and creation of it.

Mr. Prech is an experienced CAD user – he has worked with these systems for 8 years and now is an employee of Polish division of developer and producer of next-generation products for the automobile industry, BOWA-electronic GmbH & Co. The Project of the winner was made by 278 operations in KOMPAS-3D V10 LT and is dedicated for milling of light materials, such as plastic and aluminum (CNC steering).

“The contest project was the first solid one for me in KOMPAS-3D. I was becoming familiar with the solution, which is is very intuitive, during preparation of “Milling plotter”, - said Mr. Michal Prech.

KOMPAS-3D V10 LT is functionally reduced version of the three-dimensional solid modelling system, which could be used and downloaded free of charge at <http://ascon.net/download.php> It is a perfect way for those who are to familiarize themselves with a new, complex MCAD solution. Light version of KOMPAS combines all basic features for classical parametric 3D modelling, 2D drafting, design, release of documentation and interactive learning system KOMPAS-ABC in one and allows designers worldwide to learn advantages of using professional

“I was very nice surprised with KOMPAS-3D – the way of usage is very clear, all functions I needed I found without problems, user interface is very friendly and creations of models intuitive. It gives the wide range of possibilities for edition of operation during its creation. For me it took just about 10 hours to prepare a project, including familiarization with the software. Abilities as for free version of 3D software are very ample, it is a pleasure to use it and KOMPAS is really high level solution. It is difficult to find disadvantages of the software. I am very curious of Professional version and its possibilities – for sure they are very big”, - claimed Michal Prech. For more information please visit

www.ascon.net

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COADE President/CEO Van Laan Interviewed in Pump Engineer Magazine Discussing Today's Challenges for Plant Designers and Engineers

25 March 2009

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COADE announced that Thomas J. Van Laan, PE, the company's president/CEO, is featured in an interview in the January issue of Pump Engineer magazine in which he discusses the challenges in the plant design and engineering industry and COADE's response to these challenges. As discussed in the article, COADE's approach emphasizes monitoring plant design industry trends, listening to customers and designing products and support for customers that deliver responsive solutions that save them time and money.

The Pump Engineer article discusses how COADE's approach has resulted in 7,500 different customers in 85 countries and sales growth of 30%+ compounded annually. In fact, the company saw a sales increase for this year (fiscal year ending March 31) despite the economic downturn of the last several months.

"Our aim has been to help engineers and designers solve their problems," states Van Laan in the article. "We also believe in listening closely to the needs of our customers." He describes how, with over 50% of COADE's employees having a background as engineers or designers in the plant design industry, they can relate in a personal way to the challenges facing plant engineers today. Because the support staff at COADE is also the development staff, unique in the software industry, customers receive knowledgeable support in real time directly from those responsible for the software without any intermediate personnel to confuse the issue.

The article also discusses the changing face of plant design and engineering for software developers, with today's engineers being much younger and often with little if any specialized training. "On average, our customer base had a much higher level of experience 10-15 years ago than they do today," Van Laan explains regarding the company's current approach to product development for these less experienced designers and engineers. "We want them to be able to press a button to get the answers they need."

Information on COADE and its products can be found at <http://www.coade.com>.

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Configit Partnership with 2C change

26 March 2009

Configit just entered a Partnership with Danish SAP partner 2C change. In Denmark 2C change is SAP service partner within manufacturing and a leading competence within configuration in SAP.

The new partnership was officially announced at the recent Configit Configuration seminar in Copenhagen on February 26th 2009.

"Entering into this partnership Configit is now able to service existing and new SAP costumers even better" says Lars Høgsted, VP of Sales at Configit and continues "this partnership is another – very important - piece of the puzzle that falls into place for Configit and the expansion strategy for the coming years".

Lars Olesen - development director at 2C change is pleased with the partnership: "Our partnership with Configit allows us to offer our SAP customers certified best practice configuration solutions which can extend the usage of configuration - especially off-line".

2C change has 110 employees and offices in Horsens, Aalborg, Århus, Copenhagen and Oslo.

About Configit A/S

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Configit is a Copenhagen-based independent software vendor that offers third generation configuration solutions to companies with product configuration needs. The configurators are used for exploring the variance in product development, for sales configurations, and for maintenance, service and overhaul of complex products. A standalone version of the software tool can be freely downloaded in a trial version from the company. More information on Configit can be found on the web at: <http://www.configit.com>.

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DP Technology Corp, Developer of ESPRIT CAM Software, Gears up in Europe

27 March 2009

Philippe Albert, director of DP Technology Europe, has announced that growth plans have been met in 2008 with a steady 30 percent increase in revenue, and that he has recruited three new Channel Managers to deal with ESPRIT's strong growth in the major areas.

Patrick Burgun is now in place in Germany – #1 market – within a growing network of resellers. Luca Ruggiero is joining the Italian group – #2 market – with a dedicated support team, and David Meynaud is in place in France, in the ESPRIT European headquarters, in charge of market development. These three new high-level profiles are set with long-term objectives, dedicated to stability and support of the Strongest European Network of ESPRIT CAM Centers.

Patrick Burgun has acquired very strong experience in indirect business at Autodesk Intergraph and IBM.

After earning a bachelor's degree in math and mechanics, Patrick — fluent in French, German and English – went on to obtain a bilingual degree in mechanical engineering at the Institut Supérieur Franco-Allemand de Techniques, d'Economies et de Sciences (ISFATES), for which he studied in both Metz, France, and Saarbrücken, Germany.

He began his career in 1985 at IBM, where he worked as a CAD/NC specialist in APT/AC and CADAM NCII. "CAM has always been in my life," he says. "I grew up in an industrial environment and manufacturing was part of my college classes, so CAM is in my blood."

In the intervening years, Patrick served in various aspects of the industry, including, but not limited to, pre-sales, sales development and channel management. Contact him at patrick.burgun@dptechnology.com

Luca Ruggiero was born in Turin. He studied at the Pininfarina Institute of Moncalieri and became a specialist in mold design, time management, marketing and sales strategies. Luca has both technical and business backgrounds in CAD and CAM, having worked in the past at Open Mind, Think 3 and Autodesk. He lives in Trofarello, near Turin, and will be in charge of Italy as channel manager. Contact him at luca.ruggiero@dptechnology.com

Another DP's new face is **David Meynaud**, who is in charge of market development. He will increase DP Europe's ability to support its growing body of resellers and partners.

After studying engineering sciences at Ecole Nationale des Arts et Métiers in Lille, David worked for a decade in business-to-business software sales for French companies LECTRA Systems, and the CEGID Group.

David's background in software and business-to-business activities are expected to ease his transition at DP, where he will work as a channel manager dedicated to regions of Northern and Eastern Europe.

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Contact him at david.meynaud@dptechnology.com

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Lake Superior State University Increases Use of Dassault Systèmes DELMIA software for Undergraduate Robotics Program

27 March 2009

Dassault Systèmes ([DS](#)) announced that Lake Superior State University ([LSSU](#)) has selected DELMIA Robotics to support its \$1 million Robotics Lab and extend the multi-year relationship between the university and Dassault Systèmes.

LSSU is unique because it is one of only two public universities in the United States with a designated robotics specialization in its curriculum at the undergraduate level, a differentiator that drives a nearly 100 percent placement rate for LSSU engineering graduates. The university's reputation as a leader in integrating robotics into its computer, electrical and mechanical engineering programs demonstrates its commitment to hands-on specialization that provides students with a strong background in robotics applications, robotics system design and integration, machine vision, sensors, communications, manufacturing simulation, and automation.

Since 2003, the university has leveraged Dassault Systèmes DELMIA solutions to drive this program. Students participate in small class sizes complete with a state-of-the-art robotics lab equipped with 14 industrial robots, machine vision systems, and intelligent sensors. The LSSU engineering program's success can in part be attributed to DELMIA, which creates digital manufacturing process environments on the desktop, such as those involving robotic productions systems, before moving to physical implementation.

"Leading companies from the robotics, advanced manufacturing and automation industries are recruiting our students due to the specialized skills and experience they have gained from simulating digital manufacturing environments in DELMIA," said Jim Devaprasad, professor, Department of Engineering and Technology, Lake Superior State University. "DELMIA allows us to go far beyond the theoretical and helps students simulate and run multiple scenarios, just as they would in an industry production environment. That practical experience is one of the key differentiators we offer, and is borne out by our demonstrated success."

DELMIA is specifically designed to provide users with a digital manufacturing process environment that optimizes production systems, ahead of physical implementation.

"DELMIA is pleased to be involved, starting in 2003, with one of the premier robotics technology educational programs in the country," said Roy Smolky, worldwide academic sales operations, DELMIA, Dassault Systèmes. "By making our software available to academia, we also learn from them ways to further refine our solutions for the next generation of innovators in this field."

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Logica Builds Internet Based Platform for New Generation Car

27 March 2009

Logica unveiled the essential internet based platform that will be used by transport specialists, designers and others to design the c,mm,n, the green car of the future. Starting on April 1 the participants will

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engage in virtual discussions using the Online Collaboration Platform, or OCP developed by Logica.

The platform will unite a great number of specialists from different disciplines in a structured discussion about products and services connected to the c,mm,n-car. OCP helps designers make connections between ideas and presents them in an easy to understand manner to help enrich and speed up the design process.

A prototype of the c,mm,n will be presented at the Amsterdam auto show starting on April 1.

The project has been initiated by the Dutch environmental organisation Stichting Natuur en Milieu and is sponsored by Logica, Athlon Car Lease and Rabobank. The technical universities of Delft, Eindhoven and Twente join the development process, as well as engineering consultancy DHV.

For more information about the project, [click here](#).

The essence of the OCP-system is the power of crowd sourcing: using the knowledge of a large number of independent creative minds. This approach ends the limitations of traditional ways of innovation within companies and institutions by breaking down barriers.

Logica has recently delivered a similar internet platform to Dutch central government. In a pilot civil servants use the system for brainstorm sessions about policy issues. This proves that OCP can be a powerful tool especially so for local governments that want to engage citizens in discussions.

Commenting on the project Gerben Mak, director of innovation of Logica Netherlands, said, "The c,mm,n-project shows that crowd sourcing is a powerful instrument to create new services and products. Without the burden of traditional walls creative minds search for the optimal solutions. Crowd sourcing is a valuable addition to innovation processes."

To know more about Logica's innovation capabilities, visit <http://www.logica.com/innovation+homepage/400013072>

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SAP Announces Availability of 2008 Annual Report and U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission Filing on Form 20-F

27 March 2009

SAP AG announced that its Annual Report to Shareholders (including the IFRS audited financial statements) for the year ended December 31, 2008 is now available, and that SAP's Annual Report on Form 20-F (including the U.S. GAAP audited financial statements) has been filed with the U.S. Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC). Both reports can be accessed via SAP's Web site at <http://www.sap.com/investor> and <http://www.sap.de/investor>. Hardcopies of both reports can be ordered free of charge (i) online at <http://www.sap.com/investor> and <http://www.sap.de/investor>, (ii) via phone +49 6227 7-67336 or +1-877-727-7862 or (iii) by sending an e-mail to investor@sap.com.

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Schott Systeme Retain 2008 Pricing for High End CAD/CAM

26 March 2009

Helping design and manufacturing companies to continue to invest in high end CAD/CAM solutions during the current economic climate, Schott Systeme GmbH is reinforcing a 10 year old policy of not

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raising the price of their CAD/CAM software 'Pictures by PC'.

With competition continuing to drive down profit margins on even the most complex of manufacturing jobs, the German software house has for the 11th year running refrained from raising the standard price of their CAD/CAM solution. Still remaining at €9,800, customers are able to purchase a fully integrated 2D/3D design and machining suite complete with hybrid solid, surface and mesh modelling, moldtool design, dedicated graphic design and technical documentation, in addition to 2.5D milling and drilling, 3D freeform machining, 3+2 axis multisided mill/drill and engraving, complete with free machine post processors. Schott Systeme has in addition maintained their stance of providing free yearly support with no maintenance cost. Module prices for 5 axis simultaneous milling, turning and wireEDM also remain unchanged at €2,500, €2,000 and €2,000 respectively.

When asked about their pricing policy and Schott Systeme's thoughts on manufacturing in general during the current economic climate, company founder Mr Hans Joachim Schott stressed "Firstly we believe that for manufacturing companies to remain both productive and competitive in the current climate, every CNC machine should be accompanied by an integrated CAD/CAM package. The problem companies face is that high purchase prices and the continued yearly subscription costs do not make this goal financially viable. In fact we still encounter companies almost on a daily basis that continue to actually manually programme CNC machine tools as a direct result."

Relating this to Schott Systeme's pricing policy, Hans Joachim continued "Our customers have to remain competitive, and this is the reason behind our pricing policy. We offer a single fully integrated solution with no need to purchase additional software or numerous add-on modules. We want our customers to earn money with us, and thus do not continually ask for yearly support and maintenance costs. This coupled with a low purchase price makes it possible for our customers to both buy, but more importantly continue to own a CAD/CAM package to sit beside every single CNC machine."

As testament to the longevity of such a pricing policy, the company marked their 25th anniversary by launching the latest 64bit version of their software during the Euromold 2008 exhibition last December in Frankfurt.

For product information, download the 2009 brochure at <http://www.schott-systeme.com/en/Downloads/SchottBrochure-EN-Internet.pdf>

Product demonstrations can be viewed at <http://www.schott-systeme.com/en/newintrowideo-en.htm>

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Siemens PLM Software Expands CADIMP Relationship

23 March 2009

[Siemens PLM Software](#) announced that CADIMP, an existing software training partner, will expand its offering to include consultancy services for the implementation and use of Siemens PLM Software solutions.

CADIMP has been offering training and e-learning services for Siemens PLM Software for the past twelve years. The company provides training in [NX™](#) and [Teamcenter®](#) software, Siemens PLM Software's comprehensive digital product development and digital lifecycle management solution, respectively. CADIMP uses online assessments in order to determine the skills and knowledge of software users.

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As a training partner, [CADIMP](#) is closely involved in implementation projects and has a good understanding of working methods and processes used by Siemens PLM Software's customers. The move to provide consultancy services was a natural next step in the expansion of the relationship.

“CADIMP is a proven partner with in-depth knowledge of our industry-leading PLM technology,” said Edwin Severijn, vice president and managing director Benelux, Siemens PLM Software. “The expansion of our partnership to include consulting services will bring additional benefits to our customers.”

As part of this expansion, CADIMP has founded a new business unit: CADIMP Consulting. This new unit will work closely with Siemens PLM Software on implementation projects. CADIMP also provides support to end users and the CADIMP consultants advise companies in building successful working methods and processes.

“CADIMP is pleased to expand our relationship with Siemens PLM Software,” said Gerard Smulders, managing director at CADIMP. “During the last twelve years, we have proven to be complementary partners. With the introduction of CADIMP Consulting next to CADIMP Training, we can now better support companies that use Siemens PLM Software technology. We can now offer services from project research to software installation, defining working methods and training in e-learning format. It's an approach that will offer integrated advantages to our customers.”

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Surfware's SURFCAM Gallery Contest Winners Announced

26 March 2009

[Surfware, Inc.](#) announced three winners of the SURFCAM Gallery Contest. All contestants' entries can now be seen on the SURFCAM Gallery.

First prize – Ludek Solc, Fonak - Harley Davidson frame

Second prize – John Welden, Welden Design - titanium engagement ring

Third prize – Salvador Aguillon, Creative Teknologies - Lexus model car frame

“The SURFCAM Gallery contest proved the versatility and breadth of our SURFCAM Velocity product line,” says Stephen A. Diehl, President and CEO of Surfware. “We have customers using TrueMill to create the smallest parts in titanium and customers using SURFCAM to create a range of parts from boating to automotive to aerospace. The proof is in the wonderful products our customers produce as well as their positive feedback.”

For example, Ludek Solc, first prize winner, reports, “I use SURFCAM and TrueMill for machining hardened steels where I'm using high cutting speeds with shallow cutting depths in Z axis. SURFCAM has helped me every time to solve every practical problem and challenge I have faced. SURFCAM is how we can offer the best quality in the shortest time, and this has proved very helpful to beat the competition. Our company is well known for the quality of our work.”

John Welden, second prize winner, states: “People would be insane not to use TrueMill on small medical parts involving titanium, which – besides jewelry design -- is the main hat I wear. TrueMill is so much better. With Truemill you can decide exactly how much engagement angle you'd like. When using tiny end mills this is invaluable. It's the only way to go with confidence and speed.”

According to Salvador Aguillon, third place winner, “SURFCAM is really capable. We've done

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everything from intricate aerospace parts to art pieces. We worked with an artist to recreate a real cloud and covered it with titanium sheets. Most of our projects have been really challenging, and there has not been one that we have not been able to do perfectly with SURFCAM.”

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TraceParts Catalogs Library Reaches Autodesk Inventor 2010 Product Certification

25 March 2009

Trace Software announced that its TraceParts library of suppliers and standard parts catalogs has successfully passed the Autodesk Inventor 2010 certification. Through this technical and marketing achievement, Trace Software reinforces its partnership with Autodesk, having been a member of the worldwide Autodesk Developer Network (ADN) for more than 15 years.

The TraceParts 3D component library is one of the largest parts libraries in the world, offering 100+ million 3D CAD models & 2D drawings, including both industry standard parts as well as products from hundreds of manufacturers' catalogs. Users can browse or search for products, configure product options, create dynamic 3D previews, and insert native Inventor 3D product models directly into their designs together with their Bill of Materials (BoM) attributes.

“Engineers are far more dependent on manufactured content than ever before, and this certification demonstrates our commitment to meeting the needs of our global customers,” said Robert “Buzz” Kross, vice president of Manufacturing Solutions Division at Autodesk.

“[TraceParts](#) provides easy and quick access to millions of native-format Autodesk Inventor models of the parts our customers use every day. So now, the Inventor Community can concentrate on designing and innovating new products instead of wasting time and effort modeling parts they don't manufacture.”

"We are extremely pleased to be working so close with Autodesk," said Gabriel Guigue, Managing Director of TraceParts. "Time to market is crucial to Autodesk Inventor customers and we know that over 70% of CAD models that a mechanical designer adds to his parts list are later purchased. This is why we strongly believe this Inventor 2010 certification will bring a fantastic additional exposure to our many 3D catalogs.”

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Valor Appoints Southwest Systems as Representative in Mexico

18 March 2009

Valor Computerized Systems, Inc. announced that Southwest Systems Technology, Inc. will represent Valor throughout Mexico.

“Southwest Systems Technology, Inc. has proudly represented Valor in Texas, Oklahoma, Arkansas and Louisiana since 2005. We are grateful and excited to provide our sales support for Valor in Mexico, a growing and dynamic market,” said Dee Claybrook, President, Southwest Systems Technology, Inc.

Southwest Systems Technology has several long-time professional sales engineers in Mexico. Each has numerous years' experience and is able to technically present the myriad of products that Southwest Systems represents in a thorough and professional manner. The company sells products in both the electronic and semiconductor manufacturing industries. It sells capital equipment and materials, and its

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sales engineers are trained in the latest industry processes and technologies.

“Valor offers a solid product that is the very best for improving yields and enhancing productivity,” Claybrook continued. “Valor adopters save money on every assembly every time. The current market demands that ‘value engineering’ is perpetual and Valor provides that capability with the broadest product offering in software automation.”

For more information about Southwest Systems Technology, Inc., visit <http://www.swsystems.com>. For additional information about Valor and its suite of products and technologies, visit <http://www.valor.com>.

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Events News

CGTech Announces European VERICUT Users Exchange Events for 2009

23 March 2009

CGTech has announced details of the 2009 season of VERICUT User’s Exchange (VUE) events. Attendees will learn about new software features for improving CNC manufacturing efficiency, and will have the opportunity to express ideas about the future direction of the software. The next version of VERICUT, version 7 will be demonstrated at these VUE events.

VERICUT 7 features significant performance-improving enhancements that reduce the time required for manufacturing engineers to develop, analyze, inspect and document the CNC programming and machining process. Instead of focusing on new features or add-on modules, CGTech developer resources have prioritized on diligent code optimization and customer-driven enhancements.

At VUE, CGTech will also be demonstrating recent advancements in VERICUT Composite Applications. VERICUT Composite Applications are machine-independent off-line programming and simulation software solutions for automated composite tape and fiber-placement CNC machines.

European VERICUT Users’ Exchange 2009 schedule:

Thursday April 23 – Coventry, United Kingdom

Wednesday May 13 – Billund, Denmark

Wednesday May 13 – Schwarzenfeld, Germany

Friday, May 15 – Stockholm, Sweden

Tuesday May 19 – Treviso, Italy

Thursday May 21 – Piacenza, Italy

Tuesday May 26 – Paris, France

Thursday May 28th – Brive, France

Additional VUE events are planned for later in the year in Strasbourg France, Netherlands, Czech Republic, Russia and Northern Ireland.

For more information, visit the CGTech website at <http://www.cgtech.com> Or contact John Reed at john.reed@cgtech.com or call +44 (0)1273 773538

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Cimatron to Demonstrate New Version at WESTEC 2009

23 March 2009

[Cimatron Limited](#) announced that a new version of CimatronE will be demonstrated at WESTEC 2009. The exhibition will take place March 30 – April 2, 2009 at the Los Angeles Convention Center in Los Angeles, California. Cimatron will co-exhibit with Gibbs and Associates in booth #3268.

Helping tool makers and manufacturers deliver higher quality tools and products at lower costs and shorter cycle times, the CimatronE CAD/CAM solution suite addresses the entire process from quoting through design, engineering changes, NC, and EDM programming to delivery.

Highlights of the new and enhanced capabilities in CimatronE 9.0 include:

- A new application for transfer die design

- A new die quote generator

- Greater mold design automation

- A new application for defining electrode measuring points and probe path

- New machining strategies for High Speed Machining (HSM) and 5-Axis milling

- New capabilities for handling Product Manufacturing Information (PMI) throughout the design and manufacturing process

“We are excited to be presenting the latest enhancements to our two product lines, CimatronE and GibbsCAM, at the west coast’s largest cutting-edge machine tool and manufacturing event”, said Bill Gibbs, President of Cimatron Technologies Inc. and Gibbs and Associates. “With economic times being what they are, the need for tool shop optimization and efficiency has never been greater. We are proud to be able to help Mold, Die, Tool Makers and Manufacturers stay ahead of the competition with our advanced solutions,” concluded Mr. Gibbs.

The CimatronE solutions will be presented at booth #3268, March 30 – April 2, 2009 at the Los Angeles Convention Center in Los Angeles, California. For information and registration, visit www.sme.org/westec.

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COADE Discovery Tour Scheduled for April 2nd in Bogota, Colombia, to Feature CADWorx Plant Design Suite

26 March 2009

COADE announced that the first 2009 COADE Discovery Tour event featuring the CADWorx Plant Design Suite will be held on April 2, 2009, in Bogota, Colombia, with the event organized in conjunction with [Xsystem](#), COADE’s dealer in the region. This educational session will feature the latest capabilities of the company’s CADWorx Plant Design Suite and include introductions to CADWorx P&ID, CADWorx fieldPipe and CADWorx fieldPipe for CloudWorx.

COADE Discovery Tour events held in 2008 in the USA, Europe, Australia, Asia, Mexico, Africa, the Middle East, and South America attracted plant designers and engineers. “The excellent attendance we

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saw at these events confirmed the growing popularity of CADWorx Plant Design Suite as the future of plant design in the global market,” explained Paulo Moncores, the business development chief for Latin America, Portugal and Spain at COADE. “We know that plant designers and engineers in the South American markets want to see these plant design tools in person and learn how they will help them improve productivity, eliminate errors and waste, and produce quality deliverables in substantially less time.”

Upcoming COADE Discovery Tour events featuring CADWorx Plant Design Suite are scheduled for April 21st in Madrid, and April 23rd in Barcelona, Spain; April 28th in Santa Cruz, Bolivia; April 30th in Trinidad and Tobago; May 12th in Buenos Aires; and May 14th in Bahia Blanca, Argentina. Details and registration are available at COADE’s website, <http://www.coade.com>

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Delcam to Focus on Customer Success at EASTEC

24 March 2009

Delcam will demonstrate the success that its customers have enjoyed recently by featuring a selection of their work at the EASTEC exhibition to be held from 19th to 21st May in Springfield Massachusetts. Parts featured will be from companies such as Amphenol, Parlec, Glidewell Laboratories, Royal Canadian Mint and Wegner Automotive, just to name a few.

The companies come from a wide range of different industries, including automotive, medical, dental, and coin and medal manufacture. “The common link is that they all realise that they need to embrace technology if they are going to excel in this troublesome economy,” commented Delcam VP of US Sales, Maida Koller. “We want to celebrate these successes.”

As well as the various customer parts, visitors to the Delcam booth (5322) will be able to see programming demonstrations with the latest versions of Delcam’s machining software. The range consists of PowerMILL for high-speed and 2- to 5-axis machining, FeatureCAM for feature-based programming for mills, lathes and complex multi-tasking and multi-axis machines, PartMaker for knowledge-based machining to automate programming of turn-mill equipment and Swiss-type lathes, and ArtCAM for engraving and routing. Together, these programs comprise the world’s most comprehensive range of CAM software from a single supplier.

The new release of PowerMILL will use the latest multi-processor technology for faster toolpath calculation. There is a full range of enhancements to the existing functionality, like improvements to 2-axis machining and new 3- to 5-axis surface finishing options. Other enhancements include tool database improvements, the ability to transform multiple toolpaths using groups, and integrated machine simulation.

FeatureCAM 2009 also incorporates enhancements across its complete range of functionality. An important focus has been increased options for more complex machines, such as multi-tasking and multi-axis machines. This will allow users to tackle more sophisticated parts than could be programmed before. Developments have also continued in the more fundamental 2 – 2.5D machining operations such as DrillMill, which automatically selects the best usage of tools, and simultaneous B-axis turning to reach difficult areas.

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

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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 an even easier to learn, more capable CNC programming platform.

The main emphasis within the latest release of ArtCAM has been on improved strategies for harder materials to enable more efficient and faster engraving of metal tooling. Typical applications that will benefit include the engraving of decorations, logos and lettering into moulds, the manufacture of stamping dies for coins and medals, and the production of embossing dies for cards, packaging and book covers. In addition, the machining simulations have been made much more realistic as part of a general improvement in the ability to visualize designs in a variety of materials.

Delcam also provides software for product design, tooling design, reverse engineering and inspection, providing a complete product development solution.

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Delcam to Promote CAM Software and Services at MetalTech

24 March 2009

Delcam will be promoting its full range of CAM software and services at the MetalTech exhibition to be held in Kuala Lumpur from 6th to 10th May. The company recently established a new division of its Professional Services Group in nearby Singapore and the Group's services will be featured for the first time at MetalTech.

Even though Delcam's software has been sold throughout Asia for more than twenty years, the Singapore site is the first office in the region for the Professional Services Group. Like the existing team based in the UK, the new office will provide process development and prototyping services based on Delcam's range of CAD/CAM software. A similar focus on helping companies with the manufacture and repair of aerospace components will be the main priority, although the Singapore team will also provide its services to other industries.

Most of the projects undertaken by the Professional Services Group involve the development of turn-key work cells using Delcam's adaptive machining technology. Adaptive machining uses a combination of machining and inspection technology to allow the production of complex components to a consistently high level of accuracy and quality. Typically, the systems involve a high level of automation, allowing them to be operated by lower-skilled staff.

Delcam will also be demonstrating the latest versions of its machining software. The complete range 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. Together, these programs comprise the world's most comprehensive range of CAM software from a single supplier.

The new release of PowerMILL 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 includes a range of enhancements to existing functionality to enable both faster programming and faster machining.

FeatureCAM 2009 also incorporates enhancements across its complete range of functionality. An important focus has been increased options for more complex machines, such as mill-turn equipment,

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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 an even easier to learn, more capable CNC programming platform.

The main emphasis within the latest release of ArtCAM has been on improved strategies for harder materials to enable more efficient and faster engraving of metal tooling. Typical applications that will benefit include the engraving of decorations, logos and lettering into moulds, the manufacture of stamping dies for coins and medals, and the production of embossing dies for cards, packaging and book covers. In addition, the machining simulations have been made much more realistic as part of a general improvement in the ability to visualise designs in a variety of materials.

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ESPRIT 2009, by DP Technology, at the MicroManufacturing and NanoManufacturing Conferences& Exhibits, Bloomington, Minn., April 1-2

23 March 2009

The latest version of computer-aided-manufacturing (CAM) software created by [DP Technology](#) will be on display April 1-2 in Bloomington, Minn., where ESPRIT® 2009 will be featured at the MicroManufacturing and NanoManufacturing Conferences & Exhibits.

Highlighting current and developing nanotechnology applications, in addition to how that technology is changing the way products are manufactured, the NanoManufacturing Conference & Exhibit is co-located with the MicroManufacturing Conference & Exhibit, which explores various micro-manufacturing processes.

ESPRIT will be exhibited at booth No. 104, where conference guests will have the opportunity to see firsthand demonstrations of upgrades available within the latest software release — as well as interaction with knowledgeable ESPRIT representatives.

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.

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ESPRIT 2009 by DP Technology at the 11th China International Machine Tool Show Beijing, China, April 6-11

24 March 2009

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[DP Technology](#) will present ESPRIT® 2009, the latest version of its CAM software, at the 11th China International Machine Tool (CIMT) Show, to take place April 6-11 in Beijing, China.

As the largest international machine tool exhibition in China, this major event is an ideal platform from which to present the latest in technological advancements. The newest achievements in machine tools will be featured — including turning, milling, mill-turn, wire EDM and special purpose machines — attracting exhibitors and attendees from around the globe.

Those who visit the ESPRIT booth will have access to personal demonstrations of features available within the newest generation of the product, as well as discussion with knowledgeable DP Technology representatives.

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. For that reason, most improvements to the software are to the benefit of all programmers.

Other new or upgraded features highlighted in the 2009 release include improvements 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).

In addition to increasing the performance of the CAM software, the upgrades on display at CIMT 2009 and available 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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KOMPAS-3D for Mechanical CAD at Hannover Messe in Hall 17 Stand F59

27 March 2009

[ASCON](#) Group annually participates at Hannover Messe and 2009 will not be an exception. From 20 till 24 April in Digital Factory the company will exhibit with a booth in Hall 17 Stand F59 and present its flagship product for professional Mechanical Computer-Aided Design, KOMPAS-3D V10.

Visitors and participants of the fair will be able to learn about KOMPAS-3D benefits — a perfect for professional results. During Hannover Messe 2009 the team of ASCON and its German partners will present live the functional abilities, comfortable interface, easy-to-use and learn features of the improved version - KOMPAS-3D V10 SP2. Visitors will be welcomed to compare KOMPAS functional and cost with their current CAD systems.

Freeware of the solution in LT and Demo mode will be distributed at the fair. In today's economic situation more and more companies, as well as individual users have reduced their spending and choose a professional solution at a lower costs. ASCON always tried to meet demands of its customers.

Currently the company has several special offers: discounted update from Demo or Light version of KOMPAS-3D to Professional License within one month after downloading of freeware, software for rent, Educational License, cross updates and CAD trade-in. All will have a great chance to get all the information about offers, programs and its conditions direct from ASCON specialists at the stand.

ASCON welcomes You to visit Hall 17 Stand F59 at HM 2009 to acquaint with:

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- Showcases and demonstration of software solutions for Mechanical CAD - KOMPAS-3D;
- Tutorials and Trainings of ASCON's highly qualified CAD experts;
- Functional comparison for KOMPAS-3D vs other CAD solutions;
- FREE Light and Demo Versions of KOMPAS-3D V10;
- Presentation of ASCON Educational Program;
- Special offers for KOMPAS-3D Professional and Educational License.

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Lectra Announces its Latest Innovations for the Textile Industries at the 2009 IMB Trade Show, April 21 to 24, in Cologne, Germany Hall 8.1, Booth A/010—B/019

25 March 2009

Lectra is pleased to participate in the 2009 IMB Trade Show from April 21 to 24, in Cologne, Germany. During the event, Lectra will be announcing this summer's launch of the new version of Kaledo®, its professional design software platform and presenting its latest innovations, including the new Vector FX Extended range.

"At Lectra, we believe it is our role to support our customers and take advantage of every opportunity to reinforce our relationships with them," said Daniel Harari, Lectra CEO. "Our presence at IMB, one of the main textile shows in Europe, is a proof of our commitment to the industry. The new value-added solutions that will be announced show that we are continuing to strive to fulfill our customers' requirements and to help them overcome the challenges of their industry such as the need to increase profitability and make significant savings."

Lectra announces the release of Kaledo (V2R1), the latest breakthrough in textile and style development and collection management

Lectra's Kaledo suite provides designers with advanced textile and fashion development and management capabilities. Kaledo Collection, the foundation of the suite, is a forum that unites business, creative, marketing and management teams in order to collaborate in the development of trends and collections. In addition, the suite comprises the Kaledo Textile modules which are used to simulate realistic prints, knits, and woven fabrics.

With the V2R1 release of the Kaledo suite, fashion companies can achieve improvements in branding and product design not only by accessing day-to-day functional tools, but also by streamlining the design development process. As a result, companies can reduce their time-to-market, capitalize on design-related investments, and produce more innovative products in keeping with brand and marketing objectives.

Lectra's Kaledo textile solutions offer opportunities to enhance performance when dealing with extremely large repeats and achieve more accurate color management for improved color communication throughout the supply chain. The suite also provides a host of new and improved tools including multicolor, space-dye, and fancy yarns for the development of complex knits and woven fabrics. Benchmark tests show that, compared to previous versions, Kaledo Print (V2R1) performs over 50% faster when manipulating repeats, especially with very large files. In addition, Kaledo Print (V2R1) offers considerable time savings compared to the industry's previous gold standard, U4ia, Kaledo's

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predecessor. The yarn libraries found in Kaledo Weave and Knit (V2R1) offer a variety of options. Kaledo's fancy yarns allow designers to see the interplay of texture and color—how fibres, strands, and yarns blend to form the structure and texture of a fabric.

The new Kaledo (V2R1) design suite will be available in summer 2009.

Lectra will also demonstrate the latest version of Modaris (V6R1), announced this March

Lectra will also showcase the latest version of Modaris, its pattern-making solution for the apparel industry, launched in March 2009. Modaris has been the industry standard for more than 15 years and is used by the biggest names in fashion worldwide.

With this new version of its pattern-making solution, Lectra enables apparel professionals to fully optimize their product ranges and associated patterns. The solution supports brands, retailers, sub- and co-contractors, service bureaus, and fashion schools alike in their quest to uphold the most stringent quality standards for finished products. This tool responds to the industry's constant search for innovative technological solutions and, by facilitating the creation of different models more quickly, Lectra helps users to stay ahead of the competition and build customer loyalty.

Modaris V6R1's construction tools allow apparel professionals to develop more patterns in less time and to accelerate collection renewal in stores. With this solution, the number of physical prototypes necessary for the finalization and validation of models is reduced, and initial production runs can be made sooner and at reduced costs. Its high-performance capacities for all-size grading guarantee the quality and fit of garments and permit companies to optimize the development of new models and collections by drawing on existing elements. By making pattern information exchange simpler and clearer, Modaris (V6R1) enables users to capitalize on resources and best practices in pattern-making and manage product development in a collaborative environment.

At the IMB, Lectra will also announce a range of innovative new products to enhance its Vector cutting offer

Lectra's solutions allow manufacturers to operate a just- in-time production model, make substantial material savings, and cut operating costs, while benefiting from high levels of productivity and impeccable cut quality.

To meet the challenges its customers now face, Lectra has developed a range of new products to add to its Vector range. Lectra has chosen the IMB to launch a new range of cutting solutions: the Vector FX Extended, and a new Vector Pilot (V1R2). In addition, it will present new versions of Mosaic, its system for processing patterned fabrics, and Offload, its offloading assistance system.

Lectra presents the Vector FX Extended range

Lectra is also adding two new specialist models to its range of fabric cutters—one for the wind energy sector and the aerospace industry, both of which use significant quantities of composite materials, and the other for the production of high quality suits.

The VectorTechTex FX Extended has been designed to meet the needs of companies cutting very long pieces in composite materials, such as blades for wind turbines and helicopter rotors. The VectorTechTex FX Extended offers an increase in productivity of up to 20% when cutting long pieces compared with the standard VectorTechTex cutters. Able to cut pieces up to 4.2m long and 2.5cm thick, this model can also be fitted with an inkjet printer to ensure the traceability of cut pieces, and is therefore perfectly able to fulfill the stringent requirements of aerospace industries.

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The VectorFashion FX Extended has been designed especially for fashion industry professionals cutting luxury suits, a sector which requires lengths to be cut in a single movement in order to achieve a very high level of precision. When used in conjunction with the Mosaïc option, this model is perfect for performing one of the most difficult tasks within the industry—processing patterned fabrics which have to match, such as stripes and checks. The model's production cycle is particularly suited to processing cut lengths in all the different materials used to make up a suit. As a result, it offers unparalleled cut quality and the possibility to significantly increase productivity.

Mosaïc: increase productivity by up to 20%

Lectra is also able to announce a new version of Mosaïc, Lectra's pattern motif recognition and processing solution, available as an option on Vector FX cutting systems and the new Vector FX Extended range.

With Mosaïc, fashion and furniture manufacturers can cut pieces accurately to meet pattern motif matching requirements, even when the fabric is distorted. Directly integrated with the cutter pilot, Mosaïc combines new software and a state-of-the-art digital camera, enabling users to increase their productivity by up to 20% when matching patterned fabrics. Used with the Eclipse function, allows enables the Vector to continue cutting even as the spread advances, Mosaïc offers productivity levels close to those achieved with plain fabrics.

A number of patents have been taken out for Lectra's Mosaïc offer, and the company has received several industry awards for this technology.

Offload system: a new, even smoother cutting process

Offload is now available as an option on the entire range of Vector cutters. Lectra's offloading assistance system helps manufacturers in the fashion, automotive, furniture, and industrial fabrics sectors to streamline the process of unloading pieces and prevent sorting errors. This system opens up the possibility of producing more complex cut orders, which can be a way of making very significant material savings.

A large flat screen integrated into the Vector cutters allows users to view different combinations of pieces so that offloading can be performed much more quickly and without errors. With Offload, companies strengthen their capacity for just-in-time production of a larger number of models and their variants, helping them to respond to the changing buying habits of their customers.

New Vector Pilot (V1R2)

Launched in February 2007, the Vector range of cutting systems has proved an absolute triumph. The Vector Pilot software, which brings a new level of intelligence to the automated cutting system, has played an important role in this success. The software helps ensure excellent cut quality at high speed on tangent pieces and also incorporates a new concept of pro-active services.

The new version of Vector Pilot (V1R2) makes the Vector cutting equipment an even more powerful system. Through significant improvements in cutting strategy, the software ensures a high-quality result, even when performing difficult maneuvers and optimizes the blade path for greater efficiency. This version of the Vector also incorporates new options and production process functions, widening the range of possibilities offered. What's more, the Vector Pilot V1R2 is easier to use through the original concept of "simplicity": a sophisticated piece of software that aims to make a complex application as simple to use as possible.

Lectra participates in the IMB 2009 Forum and Speakers' Corner

Lectra and Van de Velde will participate in the IMB Forum. As part of a conference on the theme "Opportunities for the future with CAD/CAM & Management solutions," to be held on April 22 from 11:10—11:40a.m, Van de Velde will be giving a talk entitled, "Cutting to the details: the art and technology of luxury lingerie production." During the event, speakers from Van de Velde will be accompanied by Philippe Heckenbenner, Lectra Director Northern Europe. Van De Velde's team will explain how the company uses Lectra solutions and the advantages of these technologies for the company. Established in 1919, Van de Velde designs and manufactures luxury women's lingerie under the brand names Marie Jo©, Marie Jo L'Aventure©, and PrimaDonna© with impeccable product quality as their main objective.

[Lectra](#) will also take part in the IMB 2009 Speakers' Corner on April 23, at 3:30p.m. Speaker, Anastasia Charbin, Product Manager - Design Solutions, Lectra, will give a presentation entitled: "Design Lifecycle Management: Leveraging in-house talent and design assets to capitalize on creative investments and improve design quality."

Lectra and the second IMB Innovation Awards ceremony

Under the patronage of The European Commission, IMB 2009 will, for the second time, be putting the spotlight on outstanding marketable innovations for the processing of flexible materials. Prizes will be awarded in three categories: Research & Development, IMB Exhibitor, and, new this year, Students & Young Professionals.

Lectra will compete in the IMB Exhibitor category with DesignConcept Auto.

DesignConcept Auto is Lectra's flagship solution for automotive textile-based product design and development. Equipped with this solution, users can create virtual models, run feasibility analyses, develop templates, and estimate costs, resulting in reduced time-to-market for finished products.

Recently launched, the new version of DesignConcept Auto (V4R1) offers a novel approach to 3D/2D design and product development. One of its many significant benefits is its automatic marker-making module which calculates estimates of fabric consumption and related costs according to the customer's business model. These calculations are carried out during the design phase and hence very early in the design and development process. The new automatic marker-making module provides project leaders with valuable and detailed information about the different fabric savings possible for each design option, thus allowing them to make the wisest decisions. When this module is used in conjunction with feasibility analyses, companies equipped with DesignConcept can shorten production cycle times through perfect project management in line with the business model chosen initially and the company's main criteria—cost, quality, time-to-market. With the new DesignConcept Auto offer, costs are no longer imposed but foreseen and managed.

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Manufacturing Webinar Delivers 6 Easy Steps to Revolutionizing Your Manufacturing Productivity

23 March 2009

[Lattice Technology](#), partnership with ConnectPress, publisher of CAD/CAM/CAE Communities, announced a new, informative webinar that can help manufacturers successfully apply 3D to achieve lean manufacturing and productivity goals.

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Titled “6 Easy Steps to Manufacturing Process Improvement”, this webinar will allow participants to quickly understand the tangible productivity benefits that are delivered when 3D data is used sensibly throughout entire manufacturing operations, and how easily 3D data can be used, analyzed, shared and deployed.

Actual customer examples will be used to demonstrate innovative uses of 3D across the enterprise and show how 3D is agile enough to deliver the following kind of productivity improvements in manufacturing (actual customer results):

93% reduction in design rework

55% reduction in outsourcing

66% reduction in time spent on Design Review

30% increase in parts ordering accuracy

60% improvement in product lead times

Dan Raker, president, ConnectPress, said, “Lean times have made it even more critical that companies make meaningful change to improve productivity. While we all understand that 3D data has very high value, the issues of proprietary formats, expensive software and simple resistance to change have made it difficult to leverage that value. It is time to look at solutions that promise the needed change in a practical, effective and sensible way. This webinar will introduce one such solution, which is XVL by Lattice Technology.”

Bill Barnes, GM, Lattice Technology said “Our customers are from every market, and of every size, but all have one thing in common – the need to significantly increase productivity quickly and affordably. This webinar delivers simple ideas and customer examples on how those productivity gains can be sensibly and affordably delivered by using 3D across the enterprise – and how acceptance for change can be quickly gained in traditionally resistant departments such as the shop floor, procurement and production.”

The webinar, “6 Easy Steps to Manufacturing Process Improvement” is being held at Connectpress’ CAD community web sites on April 7, 2009, at 9.00 am Pacific Daylight Time. To see details of the presentation, and to register, visit: <http://www.lattice3d.com/solutions/webinar.html>



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ODA Announces ODA World Conference Agenda and Keynote Speaker

25 March 2009

The Open Design Alliance (ODA) announces the agenda and keynote speaker for the ODA World Conference 2009.

The conference agenda includes a keynote presentation by Bjørn Stangeland, co-CEO of buildingSMART, speaking on Building Information Modeling (BIM) technology.

Throughout the multi-day conference, discussions will also be presented by third-parties on Spatial 3D ACIS® Modeler, Siemens PLM Software D-Cubed, Tech Soft 3D HOOPS®, and Redway3d® Redsdk. ODA development staff will provide in-depth presentations on DWGdirect™, DGNdirect™, DWGdirect.NET, and other ODA platform components, including technical training and discussions on strategic planning.

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The ODA World Conference will be held in Leiden, The Netherlands, April 27 – 29. For complete conference agenda details, see <http://www.opendesign.com/agenda>

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PTC To Host Webcast: What's New in Pro/ENGINEER

18 March 2009

PTC announced that it will host a seminar designed to showcase the newest capabilities of [Pro/ENGINEER®](#), its integrated 3D CAD/CAM/CAE software and a key component of the PTC® Product Development System. Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire 4.0 enables customers to optimize global design processes to create products with faster time-to-market, improved quality and reduced costs.

In this live webcast and Q&A session, Michael Campbell, senior vice president, product management, PTC will discuss the key productivity enhancements for all users, the new industry leading modules, and the new CAE Lite, CAM Lite, and Manikin Lite capabilities which are now included in all Pro/ENGINEER packages. Attendees will learn how Pro/ENGINEER helps:

- Accelerate detailed design process

- Improve design outsourcing process

- Enhance verification and validation process

- Optimize manufacturing tooling and factory equipment design process

When: Wednesday, March 25th, 2009

Time: 2:00 - 3:00 p.m. ET

To register, please visit: <http://www.ptc.com/go/proengineer/webcast>

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solidThinking, Inc. Connecting with the Design Community at IDSA Conferences March 27-May 3 Nationwide

27 March 2009

WHAT: [solidThinking, Inc.](#) developer of the industrial design/styling software solidThinking 7.6 available today on both PC and Mac -- aims to spark interest among designers during a nationwide tour of the Industrial Designers Society of America's (IDSA) regional conferences, taking place March 27 through May 3, 2009. As a sponsoring partner, solidThinking will lead presentations and workshops for conference attendees to explore how technological advances in software design can influence the future of the design industry.

solidThinking will kick off its IDSA tour by presenting at the Northeast District Conference on March 28. Jim Hassberger, solidThinking, Inc.'s vice president of business development and customer relations, will speak about the challenges and opportunities in product design arising from the combination of human thinking and computational inspiration. Hassberger will use practical examples to demonstrate the new methods that have emerged for designers to generate and explore forms that are aesthetically stimulating and well-adapted to their intended functions.

WHY: The capability to innovate is essential for succeeding in today's crowded marketplace, and

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creativity is a key factor for innovation. solidThinking will showcase for visitors its features, including its interactive construction history that encourages designers to maximize their creativity and change their minds at any point in the development process, as well as its ability to exchange data with CAD/CAM/CAE systems, helping accelerate the product development cycle and improve collaboration between designers and engineers.

WHO: solidThinking industrial designers and company executives will be available for interviews leading up to and throughout each conference.

WHAT'S COOL: Industrial designers will showcase the transformation of sketches into 3D designs using solidThinking 7.6, which includes many advanced capabilities focused on designers' needs and aimed at easing and expanding design flexibility, such as simultaneous parameter editing and control-point editing functionalities, a fast rendering engine that produces photorealistic images with a wide array of color options, finishes, global illumination, and more. To see solidThinking in action, check out: <http://www.solidthinking.com/demos/Demos.aspx>.

WHERE & WHEN:

IDSA Northeast District Conference

March 27-29

Hyatt Regency - Cambridge, Mass.

<http://ned.idsaboston.org/>

IDSA Midwest Conference

April 3-5

Hyatt Regency - Minneapolis, Minn.

<http://www.idsa.org/absolutenm/templates/?a=4080&z=173>

IDSA Southern District Conference

April 3-5

Hilton St. Charles - New Orleans, La.

http://www.idsa.org/DistrictConferences/IDSA_SE_2009/index.htm

IDSA Western District Conference

April 24-26

Sheraton Delfina - Santa Monica, Calif.

<http://www.idsa.org/absolutenm/templates/?a=4127&z=175>

IDSA Mideast Conference

May 1-3

Renaissance Pittsburgh Hotel - Pittsburgh, Penn.

<http://www.idsa.org/absolutenm/templates/?a=4168&z=177>

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Valor to Feature Manufacturing Visibility and Management Software Tools at APEX 2009

17 March 2009

Valor Computerized Systems, Inc. announced that it will feature manufacturing visibility and management software tools in booth 1373 at the upcoming APEX exhibition and conference, scheduled to take place March 31-April 2, 2009, in Las Vegas.

Real-time Performance Visibility

Valor's Manufacturing Visibility Dashboard Solution provides real-time performance visibility. Valor's dashboards display the key performance indicators (KPIs) that enable critical visibility into each specific operational environment. The dashboards identify trends or patterns in-progress, and help derive the insights needed for early corrective action. The dashboard displays real-time and historical machine, line, and factory level KPIs such as OEE, changeover time, first pass yield, nozzle/feeders errors, scrap and material consumption, and more. Valor or its customers also can create custom dashboards to suit individual manufacturing needs and specific KPIs.

Real-time Process Visibility and Closed Loop Control

Valor also provides real-time process visibility and closed-loop control. Using advanced machine interfaces and real-time data collection, combined with material management, Valor can provide advanced functionality, such as feeder setup verification, material traceability, screen printer setup verification, feeder/tooling maintenance, paperless and analytical repair loops, work order and WIP tracking, moisture sensitive device monitoring and control, and more.

Real-time Drill Down Visibility

Valor's quality management system is a shop floor traceability and control system designed to improve visibility to quality data, and process metrics from the manufacturing floor. Quality data and WIP can be viewed in real-time as products move through the factory. Additionally, Valor provides the tools needed to analyze test and inspection results, and to manage and enforce repair loops for optimal process control and tracking. Utilizing the tools offered by Valor, users can increase profitability by bringing real-time visibility to their process, therefore improving the response to negative changes in critical yield and DPMO data. This visibility provides Web-based pivot table-based reporting for analysis of test and inspection results, WIP tracking, root cause analysis, yield improvements, and data for corrective actions.

"We are excited to continuously bring innovative products to the electronics manufacturing market. With today's market conditions, electronics manufacturers need every edge to help improve profitability and performance. To meet these needs, Valor has a suite of software tools to provide manufacturers with real-time visibility to their factory floor and effective management tools for materials and processes," said Dan Weitzman, President of Valor Computerized Systems, Inc.

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Webcast: Real Savings Through PLM-Enabled Collaboration: A Review of Industry Experiences

March 2009

Sponsored by PTC

Thursday, April 30, 2009 - 2:00 p.m. EDT (GMT -4, New York)

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Estimated Length: 1 hour

During this webcast, Ed Miller, President of CIMdata, will discuss how companies are better managing their internal and external collaboration and the economic benefits they're realizing. Miller will share how product lifecycle management (PLM) solutions play an important role, and why companies need to invest in PLM-enabling collaborative solutions during stressful as well as prosperous economic times.

You'll also hear the experiences of product development experts from Schneider Electric and PTC in a panel discussion moderated by IndustryWeek.

Speakers

Adrienne Selko **eMedia Editor** **IndustryWeek**



Adrienne Selko manages the editorial content of **IndustryWeek's** Web site. Before joining the staff in 2004, Selko was managing editor of corporate publications at a large regional financial institution. She was also an editor for the U.S. based publication of a medical manufacturing company. Prior to that she ran a public relations and marketing company that published a best-selling healthcare book. Selko received a bachelor's of business administration from the University of Michigan.

Ed Miller **President** **CIMdata**



Ed Miller, President of the consulting and research firm [CIMdata](#), is an internationally-recognized authority on Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) and a frequent keynote speaker at conferences and seminars around the world on trends, directions, strategies, methods, and technology issues. A graduate of the University of Michigan and Purdue University, he has more than 30 years of experience in the application of information technology (IT) for engineering and manufacturing. Miller has been instrumental in defining PLM, and is one of the most quoted experts in the field, articulating the overall industry vision and broad business implications of this rapidly-evolving field. He has authored numerous papers and research reports on PLM and related topics, and his articles, commentaries, and perspectives regularly appear in publications throughout North America, Europe, and Asia.

Tom Shoemaker **Vice President Product Marketing** **PTC**



Thomas Shoemaker is VP of product marketing at PTC. Shoemaker is responsible for the marketing of [PTC](#) products and communications about Product Lifecycle Management to customers, industry/financial analysts, and press. Since joining PTC in 1992, Shoemaker has held various positions in technical pre-sales and R&D. Prior to PTC, Shoemaker worked as a process engineer for semiconductor test equipment supplier, Teradyne.

Shoemaker attended Babson College, where he earned his master's of business administration. He received a bachelor's degree in mechanical engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Lori Michel
Staff Analyst
Schneider Electric

Complimentary Gift

As our way of saying thank you to the audience, 50 randomly-selected individuals will receive a Starbucks Card loaded with \$10. [Click here](#) for full rules.

[Click here to register for this Web-based conference.](#)

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Financial News

Sopheon Preliminary Audited Results For The Year To 31 December 2008

26 March 2009

Sopheon plc, announced its results for the year ended 31 December 2008 together with an outlook for the current year. Sopheon shares are traded on AIM in London and on Euronext Amsterdam.

HIGHLIGHTS:

Revenue for the year was £9.3m (2007: £6.3m). All territories grew strongly and the Vision Strategist solution acquired with Aligned contributed 13% of revenues. Full year revenue visibility for 2009 already stands at £5.4m.

The EBITDA result for the year was a profit of £1.1m (2007: £113,000). The Group generated a maiden profit before tax of £44,000 (2007: loss of £443,000).

We closed 53 new license orders and extensions during the year, and grew our customer base to 157 licensees for our core software platforms. Our recurring revenue base coming into 2009 was £3.7 million compared to £2.6 million at the start of 2008. Existing customers contributed over 60% of revenue for the second year in a row.

The combination of Accolade and Vision Strategist is the first in the industry to integrate and synchronise product planning and product development execution. Four product releases were completed during the year, two for each product. Sopheon can now bring immediate value to recession-plagued companies that need to reduce costs, without undercutting their prospects for long-term growth.

Barry Mence, Chairman, commented: *“We are very proud to deliver such material progress in 2008. Our solutions are ideally placed to support major companies in their efforts to maintain strategic investment in innovation, while containing costs during these turbulent times. However, that same market turbulence makes it hard to predict our own business development in 2009 and we will adopt a cautious stance with respect to our own cost base.”*

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Implementation Investments

ASUSTek Computer, Inc. to Accelerate Electronic Product Innovation with Dassault Systèmes Realistic Simulation Solutions

26 March 2009

Dassault Systèmes (DS) announced that ASUSTeK Computer, Inc. (ASUS), a leading manufacturer of consumer electronics, has selected Abaqus finite element analysis (FEA) software from Dassault Systèmes [SIMULIA](#) brand to accelerate innovative product design, performance, and reliability with realistic simulation solutions.

In 2007, one in three desktop PCs sold was powered by an ASUS motherboard. The addition of Abaqus FEA to their product development process will allow ASUS to significantly reduce time and costs while maintaining their focus on excellence.

“The extremely quick pace of innovation, particularly in the electronic industry, makes it critical to diminish time-to-market as much as possible,” stated Benson Chan, Manager, Analysis Design Section, Mechanical & Industrial Design Center, ASUS. “Abaqus FEA will enable our engineering teams to reduce costly, time consuming physical tests by using virtual simulations such as mobile phone drop, twisting, bending simulation, hinge-operating simulation, pressure-on-NB cover simulation, and others.”

“Our number one goal is to help our customers be more successful by providing the most reliable and realistic simulation technology as well as the best services and support in the industry,” stated Ken Short, VP Strategy and Marketing, SIMULIA, Dassault Systèmes. “By selecting Abaqus FEA, ASUS is affirming that our robust simulation solutions will give them a competitive advantage by enabling ASUS to evaluate product performance faster and more affordably.”

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Autodesk Inventor Helps Designers Focus on World's Largest Telescope

26 March 2009

The world's largest telescope is under development, and when complete in 2018, astronomers will have the clearest and most far-reaching views of the universe yet.

The telescope will be housed in an astronomical observatory created by [Dynamic Structures](#). For its innovative design, British Columbia-based Dynamic Structures has been named as the Autodesk Inventor of the Month for March 2009.

Dynamic Structures is using [Autodesk](#) Inventor software--the foundation of the Autodesk solution for Digital Prototyping--to accelerate design of the Thirty Meter Telescope (TMT), the ground-based astronomical observatory that will house the 14-story, 2,000-pound telescope. The core technology of TMT will be a 492-segment, 30-meter diameter primary mirror capable of providing up to 10 times the magnification power of existing ground-based telescopes.

A digital prototype is a realistic 3D digital simulation of the entire end product, used to virtually optimize and validate a product before it is built, reducing the need for physical prototypes.

"With Digital Prototyping, we don't have to worry about spending thousands of dollars on physical prototypes only to find out that a part doesn't work the way we thought it would," said Craig

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Breckenridge, drawing office manager at Dynamic Structures. "I'm not sure how we'd even begin to tackle a project of this size without Inventor--the resources required would just be overwhelming."

Making Massive Projects Manageable

The world's largest existing telescope is only 10 meters in diameter, making the TMT much larger and more ambitious than anything ever constructed before. The TMT enclosure itself weighs around 2,000 tons. Together, the telescope and structure will have nearly 200,000 parts.

Using Inventor software--in combination with collaboration from Autodesk reseller and training partner, [IMAGINiT Technologies](#)--has helped Dynamic Structures validate design functionality and catch errors before anything is built. It has also reduced the time required to create and revise part and assembly drawings by more than 20 percent, helping the TMT project to stay on schedule.

For more information about Autodesk Inventor of the Month, contact IOM@autodesk.com.

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Brown Shoe Drives Global Product Development with PTC Footwear Solution

23 March 2009

PTC announced that [Brown Shoe Company, Inc.](#), a footwear company with worldwide operations, has taken steps to improve collaboration and enhance visibility within its global product development process by implementing as its technology tool the PTC Footwear and Apparel solution FlexPLM™. This move is Brown Shoe's first step in the implementation of its previously announced enterprise-wide information technology initiatives.

FlexPLM delivers a single Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) platform to Brown Shoe, and is expected to enable the company to gain early visibility into its product development processes, improve collaboration, effectively manage costs and reduce development times. Brown Shoe is a \$2.3 billion global footwear company that inspires people to look and feel good every day, with a compelling portfolio of loved and trusted brands. The company operates the more than 1,100 store Famous Footwear chain, offering more than 80 brands for the whole family, and markets leading footwear brands including Naturalizer, Franco Sarto, LifeStride, Dr. Scholl's, Via Spiga, Etienne Aigner and Carlos by Carlos Santana for adults, as well as Buster Brown children's footwear.

Based on PTC's Windchill® technology, FlexPLM is an intuitive, Web-based solution that streamlines communication, tracks milestones, pre-empts performance bottlenecks, and provides instant visibility throughout the product development value chain. Highly scalable and fully configurable, FlexPLM enables global product teams to work more efficiently and productively.

More than 18 months ago, Brown Shoe's product development team across the U.S. and China began an analysis of the company's systems and how its global supply chain could become even more streamlined, efficient and disciplined, while also cutting costs. The company sought a PLM solution that was created specifically to serve the needs of the footwear industry. Following an extensive review, Brown Shoe selected and implemented FlexPLM because it supports footwear industry best practices, offers global access to a centralized library with version control, provides the ability to manage, streamline and reduce product development cycles and enables Brown Shoe to connect and communicate with its global suppliers and factory partners. Brown Shoe utilizes FlexPLM to connect the development of its line calendar, the structure of line planning/sample planning, and the management of product specifications in one system that is accessible to everyone involved in the process. It offers

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the company critical visibility for planning and budgeting, and enables product developers to focus on creating great footwear for consumers.

“Ultimately, we expect FlexPLM to enable Brown Shoe to be an even better partner to retailers, factories and suppliers, while introducing trend-right footwear into the marketplace. This solution is designed to create a more cohesive product development process, which is important to managing our business well. It is still up to our teams to put in the work, but we expect FlexPLM to make it easier for product teams to speed up the development process, obtain visibility at every step and streamline one system for planning,” said Brown Shoe’s Senior Vice President-Product and Sourcing Dan Friedman.

"PLM is one of the fastest growing areas of technology investment in the footwear and apparel industry because of its ability to deliver product development efficiencies," said Kathleen Mitford, vice president, vertical market strategy, PTC. "Brown Shoe understands the value of PLM because it offers process standardization that can maximize collaboration across the business. We are happy to work with Brown Shoe and offer our expertise to help them achieve their strategic objectives."

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CAF Streamlines Decision Making with Infor PM 10

18 March 2009

Infor announced that [CAF](#) (Construcción y Auxiliar de Ferrocarriles), a company with more than 100 years' experience in the design, manufacture, maintenance and supply of equipment and components for the global railway industry, has deployed Infor PM 10. The performance management application creates a balanced scorecard for managing global projects, streamlining decision making due to faster data acquisition.

Infor PM Application Studio, a component of Infor PM 10, enables data compilation and knowledge sharing by gathering information from different internal sources through Web reports. This information can then be filtered, analysed and distributed throughout the company at any given time. It also enables the creation of flexible reports, facilitates partitioning, and allows access to independent areas of the database.

Aránzazu Romanos, industrial engineer from the department of information and communication systems, CAF, said: "The main advantage from implementing Infor PM technology is that we now have a broader global vision of projects. Before, we relied on manual information gathered from each department, but now our management team has a single point from which to obtain an overall view of operations."

The scorecard project began to take shape in the summer of 2006, in response to a request from CAF's financial department. Until that time, information relating to projects was stored in various sources and the company did not have a single solution for isolating different project indicators (including costs, revenues and developments).

The first stage was to analyse and define the different indicators for projects and the way that each of them was to be itemised. This stage was developed by a team of CAF professionals from the different departments involved (financial, project management and technical division) together with Deloitte consultants.

The second stage involved choosing the technological platform. "We chose Infor PM Application Studio to create the scorecard for various reasons. Value for money was a determining factor, as were Web

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access, the ease of programming different scorecard views and the straightforward learning process for end users. The fact that the application can be integrated easily with different data sources was also decisive in our choice of Infor," concluded Aránzazu Romanos.

The main advantages for CAF in implementing the scorecard created with Infor PM Application Studio were:

- Information is no longer processed manually, so data is gathered more quickly.
- Integration with multiple information sources, as well as a function for separating information from people, producing a global rather than departmental vision of the business.
- Browsible analysis thanks to multi-dimensional logic and graphics.
- Streamlined decision making.

For more information on Infor Performance Management solutions: <http://www.infor.com/solutions/pm/>

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Finnish Paint Manufacturer Teknos Chooses IFS Applications to Modernize its Business Processes

25 March 2009

Teknos has chosen IFS Applications to increase visibility, integration and collaboration between companies and countries within the group. The solution will be implemented in Teknos' operations in Finland, Scandinavia, Germany, the United Kingdom, Poland, Slovenia and Russia.

IFS Applications will replace several ERP systems, reducing IT cost as a result of economies of scale by supporting all of Teknos' operations and processes in a single modern ERP solution. Operations will also benefit from the standardization of data structures and processes throughout the group. Teknos will use IFS Applications components for financials, supply chain, manufacturing, sales and marketing, service and maintenance, document management, quality management, e-invoice and business analytics, as well as an interface to Atrion Intelligent Authoring, to handle regulatory requirements and product compliance specific to the chemical industries.

IFS was chosen based on its strong functionality, references, and knowledge of the paint manufacturing industry:

“We evaluated several solutions and vendors in our industry, but no one came close to the experience and successful implementations that IFS could demonstrate,” said Raimo Anjala, CFO of Teknos. “IFS Applications offers deep functionality for the specific processes of the paint industry. By using a standard application with a large customer base in the industry, we will get the benefit of ongoing development of new industry-specific functionality and technologies in the future.”

About Teknos

Teknos is one of Scandinavia's leading suppliers of industrial coatings and a major participant in the retail and architectural paint markets. Group companies operate in Scandinavia, Germany, the United Kingdom, Poland, and Russia, and through a well-established network of agents and representatives in about twenty other European countries. Teknos employs around 1000 staff, with over 150 working in research and development. Group turnover is €250 million. Teknos' strengths lie in its strong technical know-how, supported by sustained investment in R&D, and a desire to become the preferred Paint Partner of all of its Customers. Teknos was established in 1948 and it is one of the largest family

businesses in Finland.

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GKN Aerospace Purchases Simulayt's Advanced Fiber Modeler Fiber Simulation Software

19 March 2009

SIMULAYT Limited CAA V5 ADOPTER partner of DASSAULT SYSTEMES, the specialised composites modeling software house announced that GKN Aerospace has purchased its Advanced Fiber Modeler for CATIA V5 product. “The best feature of Simulayt’s Advanced Fiber Modeler with CATIA V5 CPD is that what you see on the screen is what you get on the shop floor,” said Tonya Cole of GKN Aerospace. Tonya is the NC Lead of the CATIA Composite Manufacturing effort on the GKN CH-53K Aft Transition Program. “Additionally, Simulayt’s support has been outstanding. They, along with our PLM partner INCAT, have been willing to work with me to make sure I am successful.” Dr John Klintworth, CEO of Simulayt commented “We are delighted to be working closely with GKN in activities worldwide to deliver process improvements for state-of-the-art composites structures for the most demanding applications.”

GKN Aerospace

Headquartered in the United Kingdom, [GKN Aerospace](#) is a First Tier supplier to the global aviation industry, working on every major fixed and rotary-wing aerospace platform. A leader in composite and metallic technologies, its business is equally focused on military and civil markets. It is a world leader in aerostructures, engine products, nacelles and transparencies. Design and production technologies have resulted in the delivery of many ‘firsts’ to the aerospace sector including the first large engine composite fan containment case for the GENx engine, the first all electric de-icing system for a civil aircraft (the Boeing 787 Dreamliner), and the first primary aircraft structure made of composites (the wing spars for the A400M military lifter).

Simulayt Limited

[Simulayt](#) develops and licenses the Layup Technology, which incorporates advanced fiber simulation and ply modeling capabilities. This technology allows the efficient and integrated design, analysis and manufacture of fiber reinforced products. By simulating manufacturing processes and linking this data to analysis and design models, the engineer can develop better products with robustness at lower cost. With the continuous expansion of composite materials, the Layup Technology is now used extensively in the aerospace, automotive, marine, energy, leisure and other industries utilizing fiber reinforcement. Simulayt’s products include Advanced Fiber Modeler for CATIA V5, Composites Link for CATIA V5, Composites Modeler for Abaqus/CAE and Composites Modeler for Femap. In addition, the Layup Technology is licensed for use in MSC Software’s Patran Laminate Modeler and Anaglyph Limited’s Laminate Tools. Simulayt offers solutions which bridge all engineering disciplines to offer a composites engineering solution of proven capability and broad application.

Advanced Fiber Modeler

AFM allows instantaneous generation of flat patterns as a check on fiber simulation, and allows the user to simulate material application with greater accuracy using a seed curve or order of drape regions. The seed curve capability allows the user to guide warp, weft or bias directions along a curve to constrain the fiber directions along a chosen path. The order of drape capability models the sequential application of fabric to a surface to allow highly accurate modeling and the generation of complete manufacturing data.

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These capabilities are fully-integrated within the CATIA V5 Composites Workbench. Simulayt has been a software partner of Dassault Systemes' since November 2005 and AFM was the first product it released allowing the two companies' software to be used together.

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Infor Gets to Work on PLM at Dimensions Clothing Ltd

25 March 2009

Infor announced that Dimensions Clothing Ltd, a provider of corporate clothing to some of the UK's largest companies has deployed Infor PLM Runtime to streamline its global product lifecycle management and support growth plans. The solution, which will help manage thousands of clothing patterns for more than 1 million products each month, went live in February 2009 for 25 users following a 10 month implementation.

Following significant expansion plans, Dimensions needed a proactive solution that could manage the lifecycle of all products across the world in an accurate and consistent fashion, facilitate high quality standards and innovation, and ensure fast speed to market.

After conducting research on potential PLM solutions, Infor PLM Runtime was selected as it was a user-friendly solution and contained inherent flexibility to grow with the company's global expansion plans. One of Dimensions' greatest challenges is managing multi-faceted products and millions of different SKUs, and through working with Infor's professional services team, the system was tailored to meet these specific needs.

"In order to ensure strong business growth while maintaining rigorous customer service standards, it was imperative that our chosen solution could support our entire product lifecycle management, integrating design and engineering information with sourcing and the overall supply chain, ensuring compliance and facilitating fast, high quality product development," comments Derek Boyden, technical director at Dimensions. "Through using Infor PLM we expect to achieve greater consistency and economies of scale as well as realise significant efficiencies."

For more information about Infor PLM Runtime please visit:

http://www.infor.com/product_summary/plm/runtime/

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Infor Keeps Amey on Right Track with Asset Management Solution

20 March 2009

Infor announced that leading support services provider Amey has deployed Infor EAM Enterprise Edition. The solution will help deliver cost-effective, planned and preventative maintenance services, reduce asset downtime, and improve both the productivity of Amey's 9,000 staff and the quality of services it delivers.

Infor EAM will help Amey deliver operational and service excellence to infrastructure providers (both road and rail), schools, government offices and private sector buildings. By the end of 2009, Amey plans to manage 15 contracts using the solution. Amey's enhanced service offering will include the monitoring of employee productivity, assessment of the physical condition and energy consumption of

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assets, and optimising work schedules and performance to align with tight service level agreements.

After conducting an extensive review of potential solutions, Amey chose Infor EAM because of its configurability, ability to manage both property and linear assets, and integration capabilities. Based on Infor's service-oriented architecture (SOA), Infor EAM integrates with a host of Infor and non-Infor applications including finance, mobile communications and GIS functions. In addition, because Infor EAM is web-based it can be accessed anywhere. This is vital for Amey, as it has a presence in over 200 UK locations.

"Infor EAM has enabled us to innovate in many ways," commented Martyn Capes, head of ICT improvement at Amey. "We are now using information gathered by our mobile workforce, entered via handheld computers, to gain real time insights into the condition of assets. Because Infor EAM can cross-reference the GIS data from engineers' locations with their skill sets we can dynamically deploy our workforce to meet service level agreements. This is having a huge, positive impact on our productivity."

"The analytics within Infor EAM have also made a big improvement to our operations. By spotting trends by location, time periods, or even asset class, we can deliver real insight into the state of both linear and fixed assets for our customers. When you realise that these assets include schools, rail stations in major UK cities, military construction vehicles and over 20,000 kilometres of the UK's road network, you begin to see just how critical that insight can be."

Amey is now looking to deploy Infor EAM Asset Sustainability Edition to assess the energy consumption of assets. This will help Amey offer advice and services to customers to derive maximum energy efficiency. This can be of huge value to asset-intensive institutions.

"Effective asset management can be the most important tool for preventing operational surprises as well as uncovering hidden profits and productivity," said Phil Ballance, enterprise asset management solutions specialist, Infor. "Infor EAM enables services organisations like Amey to deliver a superior offering to its customers while at the same time saving time and money by optimising maintenance resources, improving productivity as well as increasing inventory efficiency. These all add up to helping support services organisations become stronger, more responsive and ultimately more cost effective."

For more information about Infor EAM please visit: <http://www.infor.co.uk/solutions/eam>

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Iv-Oil & Gas Expands Use of Intergraph® SmartPlant® Enterprise Solutions Set

25 March 2009

Iv-Oil & Gas B.V., a Dutch multidisciplinary engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) company, has expanded its use of Intergraph® SmartPlant® Enterprise solutions to further increase productivity and cost savings throughout the design, engineering, purchasing and construction cycle for its onshore and offshore oil and gas projects.

A SmartPlant Enterprise user since 2002, Iv-Oil & Gas has already experienced productivity gains and the ability to accelerate projects using Intergraph's 3D modeling and visualization, instrumentation, and electrical design software solutions. Now, by integrating its existing solutions with SmartPlant Materials and SmartPlant Reference Data, the EPC will be positioned to manage project materials and reduce costs for its customers' capital intensive oil and gas projects from preliminary design through detail engineering and purchasing to construction.

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“SmartPlant Enterprise has already shown significant increases in productivity. We expect SmartPlant Materials to enable Iv-Oil & Gas to provide procurement and material specifications information in a faster, more accurate and efficient way providing us with another boost to our efficiency,” said Wim Bal, general manager of Iv-Oil & Gas. “We, as well as our project partners, vendors, suppliers and construction companies, will benefit throughout the procurement and materials management processes.”

Gerhard Sallinger, [Intergraph](#) Process, Power & Marine president, said, “We are always pleased when our customers realize the benefits of integrating our SmartPlant Enterprise solutions and how it helps boost productivity and accelerate projects. With SmartPlant Materials and SmartPlant Reference Data, Iv-Oil & Gas can now integrate its engineering enterprise with its supply chain enterprise, ensuring that what engineering designs is what procurement acquires and construction builds.”

SmartPlant Materials handles bills of material and requisitions, procurement and supply chain functions, fabrication tracking and site tasks including receiving, warehousing and construction material planning. It allows customers to share materials data with design and line-of-business systems, clients, contractors and suppliers. It also can reduce engineering hours up to 15 percent, restrict surplus materials to less than one percent and reduce total installation cost up to three percent.

SmartPlant Reference Data is a pre-configured solution that eliminates the need for customers to re-enter the same standard reference data. Intergraph has built a standard database for SmartPlant Reference Data that delivers a comprehensive range of commodity codes that can be used to uniquely describe materials throughout a project life cycle. The standard database employs sophisticated and exhaustive rules to maintain material descriptions, and is delivered configured to support 90 piping component definitions according to U.S. standards (ASME/ANSI, ASTM, and API). The content of these 90 piping components includes more than 10,000 commodity codes and more than one million individual parts with full dimensional data, including weights.

Iv-Oil & Gas offers a full range of engineering services tailored to the needs of its oil and gas clients including process, mechanical, structural, electrical, instrumentation, piping design, piping engineering and procurement expertise.

About Iv-Oil and Gas

Iv-Oil & Gas is a multidisciplinary engineering company. Its range of services encompasses projects in the oil and gas industry at both onshore and offshore (fixed or floating) locations. The capabilities range from feasibility studies to turnkey contracts, including project management, engineering and design, procurement, construction and commissioning activities.

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Mentor and NXP Achieve Major Milestone in Silicon Test Partnership

26 March 2009

Mentor Graphics Corporation announced that Mentor and NXP have reached a major milestone in the IC manufacturing test and yield analysis partnership [announced last April](#). A manufacturing test flow that integrates the Mentor TestKompres® ATPG product has been released to NXP designers worldwide following a comprehensive development, integration and qualification project. The new flow is designed to meet NXP's requirements for test quality and provides the highest pattern compression available.

“This is the culmination of nearly eight months of close cooperation between NXP and the Mentor

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Consulting Division and DFT product teams, and demonstrates exactly the kind of mutual benefits we anticipated when we entered into the agreement,” said René Penning de Vries, senior vice president and chief technical officer, NXP Semiconductors. “Having met all the qualification criteria set out by NXP, our developers are confident that this flow will meet all their test requirements. In addition, NXP can now enjoy the benefits of a commercially supported environment with an aggressive technology roadmap.”

“This partnership works because we have a common vision of test requirements and technologies, and a huge mutual respect for our respective technical skills and experience,” said Joseph Sawicki, vice president and general manager for the design-to-silicon division at Mentor Graphics. “We’re looking forward to new projects and an expanding relationship to meet the future challenges of advanced silicon testing.”

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Mentor Graphics Provides Innovative CHS Electrical Systems Design Tools for Truck OEM

19 March 2009

[Mentor Graphics Corporation](#) announced the deployment of the CHS electrical systems design tool suite by a leading truck OEM. CHS is a fully integrated application suite for electrical system design, electrical analysis, system integration/wiring design and harness engineering. It has embedded data management capabilities (vehicle configuration management, workflow control, design comparison, etc). CHS is architected for large organizations (multi-user, multi-site) and includes substantial enterprise integration capabilities.

Electronic innovation is placing substantial demands on electrical systems design. Especially truck OEMs with strong requirements on variant management will benefit from significant efficiency gains by implementing common design environments, re-using design data, and consolidating component usage. Truck OEMs will also benefit from enhanced integration to suppliers via emerging data automotive standards such as KBL available within CHS.

One of Mentor Graphics Corporation’s customers is Daimler Trucks. Daimler Trucks deployed CHS electrical design software in Mercedes-Benz in Germany. CHS is also made available at Mitsubishi Fuso Trucks and Buses in Japan.

CHS modular construction will allow the two companies to employ different design flows, both supported by CHS to meet local project needs for engineering and consistent data management. Within a common CHS infrastructure in Germany the CHS interactive flow was used, while in Japan the CHS generative flow (which automates electrical system integration) has been implemented. Both groups operate a full system design to harness flow using Capital® Logic, Capital Integrator and Capital HarnessXC for the progressive design steps as applicable. Design data is now being exchanged with Daimler Trucks’ harness suppliers in Germany via KBL.

CHS software is now broadly deployed onto production projects in all major regions worldwide, in both automotive and aerospace applications. Martin O’Brien, general manager of Mentor’s Integrated Electrical Systems Division, said, “Commercial vehicles represent an important market segment for us as it has unique technical challenges that has helped extend the reach of our technology. For example, configuration complexity can be very high in the numerous commercial truck applications, so our software must be able to manage this complexity efficiently. We are delighted that Daimler Trucks is seeing good success with CHS and value our association with this leading team of engineers.”

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Rossignol Schuss Down with PTC

24 March 2009

[PTC](#) has announced that Rossignol, the manufacturer of Alpine and Nordic skis, snowboards, boots and bindings, has chosen the Pro/ENGINEER® solution and its MDX kinematics and MDO dynamic simulation modules for the development and design of its products. The design office also uses Pro/INTRALINK to facilitate inter-site collaboration and communication. The deployment of the PTC solutions and the training of the Rossignol technicians and engineers have been provided by the PTC reseller and partner, 4CAD France, the premier distributor and integrator of PTC solutions in France.

For 100 years, the mountains have been the driving force for the technicians and engineers assigned the task of designing Rossignol products and equipment. On the sites of Moirans (Southern French Alps) and Sallanches (Northern French Alps), the Rossignol teams design Alpine skis along with Alpine ski and snowboard bindings, sold under the brand names of Rossignol and Dynastar. Rossignol ski boots are manufactured in the Italian Alps.

The legendary reputation of Rossignol demands the highest levels of quality from its products. A key feature, whether of ski or snowboard, is the binding; the user's safety depending on its quality and robustness. For the technicians and engineers of the design office, the strong point of Pro/ENGINEER® Wildfire™ is its capacity to handle the mechanical development of the most sophisticated of bindings, associated with its simulation functions that reduce the prototyping timescale. The MDX kinematics module enables visualisation of the interferences between mechanisms in movement, while the MDO dynamic simulation module enables integration of functions such as springs, and observation of the stresses and forces to which the other parts are subjected.

"The responsiveness and user-friendliness of PTC solutions are field-proven," says Pierre Rullier, R&D Rossignol Associate Manager. "Pro/ENGINEER has allowed us to bring genuine quality improvements to our products, as well as reducing the development and debugging timescale. Previously, it took us two months to produce a prototype. Now, we can have one in less than three weeks and, what is more, it is of better quality. In addition, this mode of simulation using CAD and calculation significantly reduces the number of prototype phases."

For Rossignol, interoperability and communication between the working groups are also essential factors. The company has chosen Pro/INTRALINK in order to facilitate collaborative working between its technicians and to facilitate file management. All protagonists can now work simultaneously on the same project, with no risk of conflict or error.

For Marc Diouane, Divisional Vice-President Europe of PTC: " We are very proud to be able to help Rossignol design more innovative products and to contribute to improving the quality of their products. The combination of Rossignol expertise and PTC know-how in the field of product design demonstrates once again our capacity to generate productivity and optimise quality."

About the Rossignol Group

The Rossignol Group (owned by Chartreuse & Mont Blanc SAS since November 12, 2008) designs, produces and markets equipment, clothing and accessories relating to the world of the mountain and winter sports under the brands Rossignol, Dynastar, Lange, Look, Risport, Kerma, Roxy and Ferrari.

About 4CAD France

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The number one value-added reseller of PTC® solutions, 4CAD France aims to place its technical expertise at the disposal of its clients when choosing and integrating innovative solutions. 4CAD France, through its subsidiary 4CAD Software, also proposes its own configuration solution for technical products.

4CAD France has also joined forces with major partners from the world of simulation: MSC.Software, Blue Ridge Numerics (CFdesign, the innovative solution for simulating fluid flow and heat transfer) and Sigmetrix (CETOL 6 Sigma, a comprehensive tolerance management solution). 4CAD France has put its skills to work in industrial sectors as diverse as specialist machinery, farming equipment, plastics processing and general mechanics, providing support to and enhancing the competitiveness of all the companies with which it has worked, from international corporate clients to regional SMEs.

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Satyam to Implement SAP at Vijay Dairy & Farm Products (P) Ltd.

23 March 2009

Satyam Computer Services Ltd. announced that it was awarded a contract to implement SAP® Business All-in-One solutions for Vijay Dairy & Farm Products, one of the leading dairy processors in India. The solution automates and integrates key business processes across the company, speeding workflow, improving quality, and lowering costs.

“Managing our supply – especially procurement and pricing – is a complex process that will now be greatly simplified. Stand-alone processes will be integrated for the first time, and we will be able to monitor product quality at multiple points during procurement and production, enabling us to deliver the freshest quality products to customers at lower costs,” J. Madhan Mohan, Managing Director, Vijay Dairy & Farm Products said.

“We selected Satyam for their unrivaled SAP credentials, their strong domain knowledge, and their ability to deliver a cost-effective solution in less time. Satyam also demonstrated excellent partnership abilities – especially to a small and mid-sized enterprise (SME) – and their successful Proof of Concept demonstration means lower risk and faster deployment,” he added.

Satyam’s solution is based on SAP® Business All-in-One, along with SAP’s Best Practices, and offers complete end-to-end business process integration across financial accounting, materials management, quality management, milk processing, milk procurement, sales and distribution and plant maintenance. Once implemented, the solution will streamline procurement and accounting, ensure that returnable packaging are tracked, and provide complete information about the availability of products at different locations.

“Satyam understands the business challenges faced by Vijay Dairy & Farm Products, and will deliver a powerful, proven solution to transform their entire Procurement-to-Sales process,” said Manish Mehta, Global Head, SAP and Managed Testing Practices at Satyam. “Decision-makers at Vijay will have much faster access to more – and more accurate – information from across their enterprise, resulting in improved operational efficiency and effectiveness,” he added.

About Vijay Dairy & Farm Products (P) Ltd

Vijay Dairy & Farm Products (P) Ltd. began in 1995 as a committed vision to procure surplus cow milk from farmers for a reasonable price and to produce milk and milk products through superior technology and process.

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Today, Vijay Dairy & Farm Products is one of the leading milk processors in India with an annual turnover of Rs 500 million and over 190 employees. Vijay Dairy is a MMPO-certified dairy company with a large processing capacity, and multiple offices and chilling centers covering entire Tamil Nadu. The products produced include ghee, paneer, curd, buttermilk, flavored milk in bottles, and khoa; a spray drying unit is in progress.

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Sequans Speeds Tapeout of 65-Nanometer Mobile WiMAX Single Die Baseband Chip with Cadence Low-Power Solution

25 March 2009

Cadence Design Systems, Inc. announced that Sequans Communications, an industry leader in fixed and mobile WiMAX chipmaker, has used the Cadence® Low-Power Solution to implement power-efficient design techniques into its newest 65-nanometer Mobile WiMAX baseband and RF single die chip, the SQN1210, which was unveiled at the Mobile World Congress in Barcelona.

Sequans' new chip represents another milestone reached in advancing WiMAX technology, as it integrates baseband and triple band RF into a single die, and does not require an external DRAM memory bank, resulting in even more area savings for system integrators. In addition, the chip is capable of operating at 600MHz while still operating with minimal power consumption of less than 350mW, with fully loaded MIMO traffic. During standby mode, the chip's total power drops to less than 0.5mW, leading to prolonged battery life for devices powered by the chip. The Cadence Low Power Solution contributed to these innovative low power achievements.

Sequans was able to optimize the power by using multi-mode, multi-corner analysis and multi-supply voltages to reduce power consumption by up to 95 percent in power shut-off mode. Total design turnaround time was accelerated by using the Common Power Format (CPF)-enabled flow, which preserves design intent (thereby eliminating painfully slow manual translations), and by calling upon Cadence Design Services for expert advice. Finally, Sequans employed a closed-loop power verification methodology to fully validate the design before tapeout, resulting in first-pass silicon success.

"One of our key is our ultra-low-power consumption," said Laurent Sibony, IC design director of Sequans Communications. "The Cadence Low-Power Solution allowed us to meet and exceed our performance and power targets for this important device. In addition, the Cadence Design services organization's commitment to our success played a key role in allowing us to achieve our market window."

The Cadence Low-Power Solution continues its role as a solution used in dozens of production tapeouts. Sequans used the complete CPF-enabled Cadence Low-Power Solution for this project, including the Incisive® Enterprise Simulator, Encounter® Conformal® Low Power, Encounter RTL Compiler and Encounter Digital Implementation System. Cadence Design Services provided expertise on physical implementation and signoff power analysis for this design.

Using the integrated signoff power analysis capabilities in the Encounter Digital Implementation System, Cadence Design Services was able to obtain real-time signoff power analysis during implementation, including voltage drop and power switch electrical verification, significantly reducing design turnaround time.

"Sequans' tremendous success is a tribute, in part, to the efficiency of the Cadence Low-Power Solution

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and the Cadence Design Services team," said Steve Carlson, vice president of Low-Power Solutions at [Cadence](#). "The Sequans tapeout experience demonstrates that the Cadence Low-Power Solution delivers on rigorous power budgets, while improving design efficiency."

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Stantec Improves Collaboration and Saves Time on Ohio Power Plant Project with COADE

27 March 2009

COADE, Inc. announced the publication of a new Case Study about how Stantec, a leading design and engineering firm in North America, improved collaboration and cut costs using COADE CADWorx Plant Design Suite and COADE CAESAR II pipe stress analysis software on a recent engineering project upgrading the W.H. Sammis Plant located in Stratton, Ohio. The project involved designing an ammonia unloading and storage facility consisting of eight railcar unloading stations, two truck unloading stations, six storage tanks and a control building.

The case describes how creating collaboration among all engineering disciplines was one of the biggest challenges because the project involved civil, structural, electrical and mechanical disciplines. "With CADWorx we were able to create individual models and have multiple designers work on them simultaneously", said Wade Foehrenbach, technical supervisor at Stantec. Using CADWorx and interfacing with CAESAR II allowed Stantec to create individual 3D models for reference among these multiple disciplines, to export bills of material early in the project for procurement and CAESAR II files with support locations for the stress engineers, and to create piping isometrics with ISOGEN for fabrication and erection. Placing piping restraints in CADWorx saved Stantec numerous hours because stress engineers did not have to manually input geometry and support locations within CAESAR II. The case also explains how 3D modeling in CADWorx saved costs and reduced interferences on the project.

The case is available at <http://www.coade.com/productfiles/CADWorx/san.pdf>.

About Stantec

Founded in 1954, Stantec provides professional consulting services in planning, engineering, architecture, interior design, landscape architecture, surveying, environmental sciences, project management and project economics for infrastructure and facilities projects. Approximately 9,000 employees operate out of more than 150 locations in North America. Stantec's Scarborough, Maine, office was mainly involved with the Sammis project in Ohio.

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Summit Microelectronics Selects Berkeley Design Automation AFS Nano™

24 March 2009

[Berkeley Design Automation Inc.](#) announced that Summit Microelectronics, Inc., a manufacturer of programmable power management ICs, has selected the company's Analog FastSPICE Nano SPICE simulator (AFS Nano) for block-level characterization of its precision programmable power management ICs.

"At Summit we have been using Analog FastSPICE for over one year for transistor level simulation of our programmable, highly integrated precision power management ICs, and we consistently get up to 14x faster results than traditional SPICE simulators with identical waveforms," said Sridhar

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Kotikalapoodi, Vice President of Design at Summit Microelectronics. "Now with AFS Nano we get block-level simulation with true SPICE accuracy at a superior price/performance. This makes it compelling even compared to traditional SPICE tools."

Analog FastSPICE is a unified circuit verification platform for analog, mixed-signal, and RF design. Always delivering true SPICE accurate results, it provides 5x-10x higher performance than traditional SPICE, >1 million-element capacity, and the industry's only comprehensive noise analysis. The AFS Platform is a single executable that uses advanced algorithms and numerical analysis to rapidly solve the full-circuit matrix and original device equations without any shortcuts. AFS Platform tools include: AFS Nano SPICE simulator, Analog FastSPICE circuit simulator, Noise Analysis Option™ device noise analyzer, and RF FastSPICE™ multi-tone periodic analyzer.

"We are delighted that Summit Microelectronics has chosen AFS Nano for block-level characterization of their programmable power management ICs," said Ravi Subramanian, president and CEO of Berkeley Design Automation. "Now, more than ever, mixed-signal design teams are required to get more complex designs done with greater cost-efficiency. Summit's selection of AFS Nano further validates the strong ROI the Analog FastSPICE Platform provides to leading-edge design teams of complex analog and mixed-signal devices."

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Western Electronics Uses Arena Software to Control Revisions, Reduce Errors and Improve Customer Documentation Management

25 March 2009

Arena Solutions announced that Idaho-headquartered Western Electronics, a regional contract electronics manufacturer serving primarily the western portion of the United States, has taken a strategic step forward to advance its organization and remain at the forefront of the contract manufacturing industry.

Western Electronics further boosted its competitive position by adopting Arena software, a collaborative bill of materials (BOM) and change management solution that helps the company better deliver the kind of customer service and expertise that has earned it many lucrative long-term client relationships. Arena helps the company harness and control the tremendous amount of product data and engineering change information that Western Electronics exchanges daily with its clients to stay on track for getting their products to market in a timely, accurate and cost-effective manner.

As a contract manufacturer, Western Electronics doesn't manufacture its own products, but instead manufactures electronics assemblies on behalf of its customers, many which are in start-up mode and often lack direct manufacturing experience. Customers regularly deliver BOMs without any consistent structure and often do not use revision control when communicating changes, putting themselves at high risk for time-draining miscommunications, costly errors and possible rework. These customers rely on Western Electronics to ensure their products are built correctly the first time and meet compliance requirements. Western Electronics, in turn, relies on Arena to help it assert control over the process and lead its customers into following the industry's best practices.

"We have about 40 active customers between two sites in Idaho and Colorado, each with an average of six or more SKUs [stock keeping units]. This means we manage more than 200 active assemblies at all times," said Rob Subia, chief executive officer of Western Electronics. "Since margins for our industry are low, we must manage activities and expenses very tightly."

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

With data complexity amplified by multiple clients and projects, Western Electronics is using Arena to help control the tremendous amount of data that is being exchanged daily. The company's success often hinges on accuracy and timeliness -- both of which can cost it and/or its customers dearly if done poorly. In this tight-margin business, when some manufacturers believe going overseas is a reasonable option, Western Electronics can't afford to get it wrong, or the errors will quickly eat into company profits.

Arena is helping Western Electronics eliminate errors created by using ineffective desktop tools like Excel for enterprise-level activities. "I can't believe we used Excel for so many years -- it was very inefficient. The structure offered by Arena works well for us and our customers. Now, engineers, program managers, functional area managers and others who once had to dig through data to find something can go straight to it. It saves so much time, frustration and money," said Randy Manfull, Western Electronics' Idaho plant manager.

"There are companies that provide essentially the same services we do. However, we offer a team of professionals that have a tremendous amount of industry and manufacturing experience, and now have the tools to offer structure and ensure accuracy. Using Arena, every single one of us is well supported to do our jobs in the best possible way and help our customers bring their products to market on time and on budget. We've been very successful at out-servicing our competitors in the areas of delivery, quality, continuous improvement, flexibility, responsiveness and overall total cost," said Subia.

"Western Electronics is an example of a forward-thinking, customer-centric company that, for a relatively low cost, has been able to reap the benefits of using the Arena collaborative BOM and change management solution to contribute to both its customers' and its own success," said Craig Livingston, chief executive officer of Arena Solutions. "With the current economic situation, we see more and more small and mid-size manufacturers taking advantage of the low cost and high return of Arena to gain a competitive edge. Implemented in a matter of weeks, Arena is a quick and easy way for companies to boost their operational efficiencies and ultimately, their bottom line."

To learn more about Western Electronics' success with Arena, click here:
<http://www.arenasolutions.com/westernelectronics>.

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Product News

Autodesk 2010 Design and Engineering Software Product Line Now Available

24 March 2009

[Autodesk](#) began shipping its new 2010 line of 2D and 3D design and engineering software. More than 50 new products offer new features and functionality as well as improved tools for [Digital Prototyping](#), [Building Information Modeling \(BIM\)](#), Infrastructure Modeling, sustainable design and analysis, which will help architects, engineers and designers meet increasing commercial and public sector demand for more energy-efficient buildings, products and infrastructure.

"The new functionality in our 2010 products will help design professionals worldwide improve the efficiency of their workflows and increase competitive advantage," said [Carl Bass](#), Autodesk CEO. "As governments around the world invest billions in infrastructure and development projects, 3D design modeling technology will be vital for project planning, tracking spending, ensuring accountability, minimizing errors and maximizing sustainable performance."

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The 2010 software for Infrastructure Modeling -- which includes [AutoCAD Map 3D](#) software, [Autodesk MapGuide Enterprise](#) software and [Autodesk Topobase](#) software -- allows users in telecommunications firms, state and local governments, and utilities to improve performance and increase ROI of their infrastructure projects. New features now enable users to more easily aggregate multiple sources of data, improving the design of smart electric utility grids, making planning city projects easier, and enabling more efficient design and repair of highways.

Autodesk has enhanced sustainable design and engineering functionality across the product portfolio. In its Digital Prototyping solution for manufacturers, the new assembly stress analysis and motion simulation tools in [Autodesk Inventor](#) Professional 2010 help users simulate and optimize their designs early in the process -- reducing both material waste and cost. A new circuit builder tool in [AutoCAD Electrical](#) 2010 software enables designers to analyze the energy efficiency of circuits and make more sustainable engineering decisions. [Autodesk Moldflow 2010](#) software now includes an energy usage indicator so designers can further decrease manufacturing energy requirements, and with access to the world's largest plastic materials database of its kind, easily evaluate different materials and make product design choices that can contribute to sustainability initiatives.

For architects, engineers and contractors, Autodesk's 2010 portfolio provides significantly expanded tools for energy analysis including the new [Autodesk Ecotect Analysis](#) 2010 green building software, a comprehensive sustainable analysis tool that delivers a wide range of simulation and analysis functionality including energy, water, and carbon analysis capabilities with desktop tools to conduct detailed environmental simulations and visualize results. Users of the 2010 Revit software platform for BIM can now make more informed decisions to optimize sustainable building performance. [Revit MEP](#) 2010 software now makes it easier for mechanical, electrical and plumbing engineers to determine energy demands of a building with native heating and cooling loads analysis, and export enhanced gbXML that provides the ability to examine analytical models of a project before export.

Other 2010 product updates include new free-form 3D design tools in [AutoCAD 2010](#) software, new conceptual design tools in the Revit platform and extended simulation capabilities in the Autodesk Inventor family for Digital Prototyping. Autodesk previewed the new software releases last month in three virtual press conference webcasts, which are available for viewing at www.autodesk.com/2010webcasts. Details on the full portfolio of 2010 software are available at www.autodesk.com.

Availability

English language versions of Autodesk's 2010 products will begin shipping over the next several weeks in North America, with availability in other languages and regions in the coming months. Full details are available at www.autodesk.com/purchaseoptions.

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AVEVA Extends AVEVA NET Portal Further in Plant Operations

23 March 2009

AVEVA announced the immediate availability of the latest release of AVEVA NET Portal. This significant update responds to direct customer feedback by incorporating features that improve the collaboration, security and usability of the product, further closing the gap between disparate systems and the need for an 'integrated operations' working environment.

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AVEVA NET Portal, an integral part of AVEVA NET, the web-based, information management solution already trusted by customers worldwide, now benefits from tools that enhance collaboration yielding time and cost savings by breaking down the 'silos' that have traditionally developed across different systems within plant operating environments.

This has been achieved by adding universal markup capability for all 2D and 3D documents managed by the system. These comments can be used, for example, in the creation of maintenance work packs to indicate areas or items requiring physical inspection for safety checks. Mark ups are associated with the original document and stored within the central database becoming accessible to those granted access to them.

"Based on customer feedback we're seeing a greater sense of urgency towards integrated operations, the ability to use information across the business, reducing risk and helping plants remain safe and meet regulatory compliance. By making data available wherever and whenever it is required, regardless of which programs created the data in the first place, AVEVA NET helps meet this imperative," commented Dave Coppin, Executive Vice President, AVEVA NET Solutions.

Derek Middlemas, Group Operations Director at AVEVA, commented: "AVEVA NET fits closely with our customers' requirement for 'integrated operations'; where information is made available, and the tools are always there to view it, share it, collaborate on it and add value to it, so that risk is greatly reduced. This is a huge issue in an industry where the emphasis on safety and accountability is growing every day."

For further information on AVEVA NET Portal 3.6 please contact your nearest AVEVA office or view the product pages at [AVEVA NET Portal](#)

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Blue Ridge Numerics Introduces CFdesign V10 for Autodesk Inventor 2010

24 March 2009

Blue Ridge Numerics, Inc. announced the availability of CFdesign V10 for Autodesk Inventor 2010, which provides a fully integrated and certified digital prototyping solution for solving CAD-driven fluid flow and heat transfer challenges within the Inventor environment. With new capabilities in Inventor 2010, previous obstacles to simulation have been reduced, enabling design engineers create precise flow and thermal simulations to optimize product design. Mechanical and electronics engineers with all levels of experience will benefit from new features in Inventor 2010 that help bring focus to the defined component or element of importance to be evaluated in CFdesign, allowing for faster meshing, analysis, and more accurate flow and thermal simulation results.

A long-time Autodesk partner solution, CFdesign V10 for Autodesk Inventor 2010 empowers engineers who want to find answers to their fluid flow and heat transfer questions early in the design process, but don't have time to work through the inherent barriers found in traditional CFD tools. CFdesign provides a flow and thermal digital prototyping platform for companies planning to use Inventor 2010 to design machinery, electronics enclosures, pumps, valves, and any kind of flow control device.

"CFdesign from Blue Ridge Numerics brings full spectrum fluid flow and heat transfer simulation to Autodesk Inventor 2010," said Andrew Anagnost, vice president of engineering & simulation products, MFG Industry Group, Autodesk, Inc. "Our partnership with the Blue Ridge Numerics team is an important part of our strategy to bring Digital Prototyping to manufacturers of all sizes."

New Inventor Features Enhance the CFdesign Experience

Simulation tools continue to evolve and single-click capabilities in Inventor 2010, such as shrinkwrap, create substitute, and multi-body parts, make the process of incorporating simulation with 3D modeling even easier. With these new capabilities in Inventor, previous barriers to simulation have been minimized, so more engineers will be able to leverage the benefits of CFdesign in their product development process.

- **Shrinkwrap** – Shrinkwrap enables an engineer to simplify a production-level model by suppressing detail without requiring the user to edit the production geometry. This simplifies simulation set-up and produces simulation results much faster.
- **Create Substitute** – This new feature combines an assembly into a single component, so an engineer working on a valve or electronic assembly for example, no longer needs to be concerned with the many parts that make up the assembly. Instead focus can be brought to the element of interest to, for example, simulate and analyze the airflow through the assembly. This capability allows users to focus on the optimization of the product in a much faster, reliable way.
- **Multi-Body Parts** - The multi-body parts feature allows for creation of models that can be divided up into parts for segmented meshing automatically or manually. This allows users to analyze a model from multiple perspectives much more efficiently than ever before, providing more accurate answers with a finer mesh in the parts that a user is most interested in.

“Autodesk Inventor 2010 significantly reduces barriers for CAD engineers to leverage the benefits that simulation tools, such as CFdesign bring to the digital prototyping process,” said Derrek Cooper, product manager, Blue Ridge Numerics. “New and improved capabilities in Inventor 2010 now enable any engineer, not just CAD power users, to more easily and quickly move from 3D CAD to simulation, making it easier and faster to conduct extensive design studies of fluid flow and thermal scenarios, resulting in a more optimized final product design upfront in the development process.”

About CFdesign V10 for Autodesk Inventor 2010

CFdesign V10 for Autodesk Inventor 2010 software turns an Inventor workstation into a fully interactive flow bench, thermal test rig, and wind tunnel. 3D assemblies become associative, zero-cost prototypes revealing critical engineering information not available from physical tests. Geometry changes made within Inventor 2010 are automatically reflected in CFdesign without any translation or conversion process, eliminating the time-consuming and confusing process of creating and managing multiple geometry models during a project lifecycle. With CFdesign there is always only one product model, and it is updated and managed within the Inventor 2010 environment.

CFdesign v10 for Autodesk Inventor 2010 is available immediately. For further information on purchasing CFdesign contact a local sales office.

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Bluebeam Releases Bluebeam PDF Revu 7.0 for PDF Markup and Editing

24 March 2009

Bluebeam Software announced the release of **Bluebeam PDF Revu 7.0**. Bluebeam continues its quest to improve PDF creation, markup and editing and reduce paper consumption in the Architecture, Engineering and Construction (AEC) industry and business community at large.

Flexible Options for PDF Creation

Bluebeam simplified PDF creation with plug-ins for Microsoft® Office, AutoCAD® and SolidWorks® applications and its PDF printer to convert to PDF from any Windows file. Revu 7.0 takes PDF creation further with Batch for Office, Scan to PDF, and native image conversion. Batch for Office allows users to quickly create PDFs from Word, Excel and PowerPoint files in just a few clicks while Scan to PDF and native image conversion eliminate unnecessary steps when converting various images.

Faster Document Review

In addition, Bluebeam added spell check and PDF flags to make it easier to review PDF documents. Spell check identifies and suggests changes for misspelled words found in markups, form fields and PDF content. Further, dictionaries can be imported to use with spell check for languages other than English. Bluebeam's exclusive PDF flag serves as a virtual sticky flag, placing visual markers on PDFs to designate signature lines or other important content.

More Markup Tools for AEC

Bluebeam continues to focus on the AEC industry with the development of hatch patterns, arcs and curve markups, and improved stamp options. Users can select from a list of hatch patterns included in Revu to fill in markups or takeoffs, create and save custom hatches, and import AutoCAD .pat files into Revu. Plus, AEC professionals can now redline PDF drawings with the arc tool and create custom text stamps with the revised stamp editor. The measurement tool also incorporates curves technology for more accurate area, perimeter and volume calculations.

Better PDF Distribution

Finally, Bluebeam PDF Revu 7.0 provides new file sharing options to significantly reduce the need to print and ship documents. The Reduce File Size feature gives users more control over PDF compression by estimating the new file size and including an interface to adjust settings such as PDF version, image resolution and embedded fonts. Additionally, Bluebeam now supports PDF packages for organizing multiple files and file types into a single package for archiving or delivering documents to clients. Quick Security uses security profiles to secure sensitive documents with one click while a new batch security feature allows users to apply security to multiple PDFs simultaneously.

“In order to be more competitive, business leaders require solutions that make their firms more efficient and sustainable,” said Richard Lee, President and CEO of Bluebeam Software. “Each new feature in 7.0 is designed to do just that - enable our customers to achieve real results - reduce printing and shipping costs by up to 80% and increase productivity by up to 60%.”

More information about Bluebeam PDF Revu 7.0 including case studies and a 30-day trial can be found at www.bluebeam.com.



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Eurostep Develops Software for STEP AP233 with a Beta Release of the AP233 Toolbox for the Java Platform

24 March 2009

The AP233 Toolbox is ideally suited for creating interfaces to legacy systems within the domain of Systems Engineering (SE), thus making seamless import and export of SE data possible. The Toolbox from Eurostep provides an environment which enables rapid development and deployment of ISO

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10303-233 based applications and interfaces. The Toolbox provides functionality which significantly reduces the time taken to develop and deploy AP233 implementations such as data importers and exporters that are of a high quality, highly efficient, and conformant to the standard.

“While STEP started out with the exchange of CAD files it has enjoyed much success in recently developed PLM areas such as Product Life Cycle Support (PLCS) and Systems Engineering. These are areas with a large number of software vendors as well as in-house systems. Until now, it is areas where exchange and sharing of data is less developed than within CAD”, says Håkan Kårdén, CEO Eurostep Group. “We see much interest in our Toolboxes these days, for PLCS, AP233 and IFC. We are committed to bring software to the market to ease the use of standards and the AP233 Toolbox is one of those. We are also committed to support both the .NET and the Java platforms with our solutions”, ends Mr Kårdén.

“The development of AP233 has delivered its goal”, says Dr Phil Spiby, Eurostep Limited, INCOSE member and Joint Technical lead in the development of AP233. “Eurostep has been very active in this development and played a key role for many years. It is with great pleasure we see the rapidly increasing interest in using AP233 and we are pleased that we are able to bring software to the market to ease the uptake of the standard. We know the market is large and for the last couple of years we have been working close to many large and small software vendors as well as end users”, ends Dr Spiby.

“INCOSE’s support has been instrumental for the completion of AP233”, says Mr. Mark Sampson, INCOSE Assistant Director, Modeling and Tools. “The exchange and sharing of Systems Engineering data has been high on the INCOSE agenda for the last couple of years. We are very pleased to see that the AP233 team delivered and we are pleased to see vendors like Eurostep bringing commercial software to the market”, ends Mr. Sampson.

What is AP233?

AP233 is an ISO standard information model for the interchange of Systems Architecture and Engineering data. The AP233 development team works closely with the OMG SysML™ development team, INCOSE and the US DoD to ensure support for and alignment with those standards communities. However, AP233 is designed to be neutral of any specific Architecture Framework (e.g. DoDAF), modelling language (e.g. OMG SysML™) or vendor application. Formally, AP233 is ISO 10303-233 Systems engineering, one of the STEP family of standards. AP233 is a STEP-based data exchange standard targeted to support the needs of the systems engineering community, consistent with emerging standards in CAD, structural, electrical, engineering analysis and support domains. The scope of AP233 is broad and includes:

- Requirements Management
- Product Data Management (PDM) - also known as Product Lifecycle Management (PLM)
- Project Management (e.g. Cost and Schedule)
- Systems structures and functional breakdowns
- Systems function-based and state-based behavior
- Risk and Issues Management
- Decision support (including Trade Studies)
- Validation and Verification

What is INCOSE?

INCOSE is a not-for-profit professional organization, with a strong base in the United States, serving about 7000 members in over 22 countries. INCOSE's mission is to advance the state of the art and practice of systems engineering in industry, academia, and government by promoting interdisciplinary, scalable approaches to produce appropriate solutions that meet societal needs. Their Web site is <http://www.incose.org>.

About Eurostep:

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

Eurostep Group has been an international venture from its inception in 1994, and all subsidiaries have access to the leading edge PLM knowledge base in Eurostep Group.

For more information, please contact:

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For the Well-Being of the Patient: CAM Solutions from OPEN MIND

23 March 2009

Products for the medical industry benefit from the high manufacturing quality offered by hyperMILL® – injection moulds for medical products as well as implants made from hard metal or titanium, for example. The high-precision machining offered by OPEN MIND Technologies AG's CAM solution is essential for achieving the high surface quality that is crucial for the compatibility of implants. The fully automated hyperDENT® programming system is available to users in the dental industry.

OPEN MIND's software package offers an extensive range of machining operations for use in medical engineering that are particularly useful for the complex milling and mill/turn processes required for implants as well as the manufacture of injection moulds. hyperMILL®'s 5axis technology enables the use of shorter and therefore more stable tools. Improved cutting conditions and less risk of chatter and tool breakage translate into better milling results. Tool wear can also be reduced to increase the performance of the machining process.

Milling in 5axis simultaneous machining avoids approach and retraction marks often found in 3+2 machining. The comprehensive 5axis strategies provided by OPEN MIND's solution, such as 5axis swarf cutting with barrel-shaped tools, result in a significant reduction in machining times. Furthermore, the precision and high finish of the machined free-form surfaces created by hyperMILL® reduce the often expensive and time-intensive manual rework to a minimum. The CAM solution thus combines a high level of performance and machining efficiency with an excellent surface quality of the individually manufactured product, which is crucial for ensuring the compatibility of implants in the human body.

hyperMILL®: Integrated all-round solution for medical engineering

Widely used standard CAD interfaces and direct interfaces allow CAD data imports to hyperMILL® from CATIA V4® and CATIA V5®, Pro/ENGINEER®, NX™, Parasolid® and SolidWorks®, for example. The CAD-integrated hyperMILL® solutions, which are available for thinkdesign, SolidWorks®, Autodesk® Inventor™ as well as OPEN MIND's own hyperCAD® application, provide even greater convenience for users. They allow users to carry out their CAM programming directly within their familiar CAD environment.

hyperMILL® offers 2D, 3D, HSC, 5axis milling and mill/turn strategies. All the programs can be generated in the intuitive and consistent user interface. The millTURN module is integrated so that stock tracking, collision avoidance and the tool database are available for all operations. This ensures quick and easy programming as well as superb process safety. Thanks to fully automated collision checking, programming is very easy. Tool angles and positions are largely generated automatically. Depending on the part geometry and the machine kinematics, users can choose between “3+2”, “automatic indexing” and “5axis simultaneous machining”.

Error-free from CAM to NC program: The postprocessors from OPEN MIND Technologies AG generate optimised NC programs from the machine- and controller-independent toolpaths created with hyperMILL®. Each NC program is tailored to the machines and controllers used by the customer. OPEN MIND's expertise and many years of experience make it possible for the company to develop an individual solution for each system that optimally satisfies all existing requirements.

hyperDENT®: Open system specially developed for dental engineering

OPEN MIND Technologies AG's hyperDENT® software is a fully automated CAM programming system for manufacturing customised dental solutions. The programming system is closely geared towards dental technology processes and allows the digital precision manufacturing of crowns, multi-unit bridges, abutments, caps or implants, for example. As the open CAM system is integrated in the process chain comprising scanner, CAM software and milling machine. hyperDENT® allows dental laboratories and dental technicians to flexibly set up solutions or modernise existing solutions to suit their own requirements.

hyperDENT® guides users through the entire programming process in a well-structured manner, so that even users who are new to CAM programming can generate complete NC programs with only a few mouse clicks. Once the machine and holder have been specified, the stock has been loaded and the part has been placed by clicking the mouse, the parts are simply and optimally aligned with the help of gouge control, and tooth preparation limits are automatically detected. Connectors are set automatically while sintering pins are set simply by clicking the mouse. In addition, hyperDENT® provides experienced CAM users with additional options for manually optimising and controlling individual programming steps.

The toolpaths are calculated automatically. The comprehensive collision check and avoidance feature, which also incorporates the fixtures, ensures maximum process reliability. Likewise, the machining simulation feature performs a thorough and detailed check of the generated programs before these are released for machining. (Where required, each step can be checked individually.) All of these features offered by hyperDENT® ensure exceptional high-quality parts and reliable production in dental technology applications.

Typical applications: Efficient and reliable machining

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hyperMILL®, the hyperMILL® millTURN module and the hyperDENT® dental solution each provide a wide range of optimal machining strategies for machining different implants. These include:

Bone anchor machining: Larger step-over between paths in 5axis swarf cutting reduce milling times and ensure an excellent surface quality. Multiple axial and lateral infeeds also make this strategy suitable for roughing. Defined stop and milling surfaces and stock tracking allow machining operations to be optimised.

Milling of a bone plate: 2D machining supports the output of controller canned cycles. Tool radius compensation, feed rate compensation and subsequent editing on the controller are possible. hyperMILL® also offers various 3D roughing and finishing strategies. This means that the user can always choose the most efficient method for the surface shape. Where the geometry enables swarf cutting, the machining time can be greatly reduced by 5axis swarf cutting. Here, the cycle supports tapered and barrel-shaped tools.

Milling of a bone rasp: Job list-oriented stock tracking facilitates the simple yet effective roughing of complete models and is also an ideal method for rest material roughing with different tool orientations.

Mill turning of a spinal implant – turn roughing with millTURN: Sloping structures are also included in axial or radial roughing. Add-on functions such as tool position definition, stock trimming and path compensation allow users to adapt machining jobs to suit their specific requirements. Stock tracking: The stock is recalculated after each turning or milling step. Thanks to precise machining status feedback for the blank, milling only proceeds in areas where rest material is detected.

Using hyperDENT® to manufacture a dental bridge: With the roughing strategy the surface profile is milled in a single step while preserving the defined allowance on the stock. The rest material areas are machined subsequently with smaller milling tools. The Z constant finishing strategy is used for the fine machining of the manufactured bridge. The material is removed plane by plane with a constant Z stepdown. Collision with holder, fixture and workpiece are avoided. Rework machining: Cavities and undercuts are machined collision-free using 5axis simultaneous machining.

OPEN MIND Technologies AG is a Mensch und Maschine company (<http://www.manandmachine.co.uk>).

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GHS Transition for Chemical Manufacturers Facilitated with Atrion's Product Compliance Solution

20 March 2009

Atrion International announced that its Product Compliance Solution fully supports the Globally Harmonized System (GHS). The solution automates the creation of globally compliant and multi-lingual MSDS/SDS, labels, hazard summary sheets as well as documents related to transportation, inventory reports and more, enabling global chemical formulators and manufacturers to produce GHS-compliant documents with minimal IT, EH&S resources or additional content expenditures.

“Atrion’s Product Compliance Solution combines software applications, up-to-date Managed Regulatory Content, access to regulatory portals as well as post-sales implementation and service support,” said Frank Arcadi, Vice President, Product Strategy & Direction. “This helps manufacturers to create, manage and distribute a variety of hazards communication documents and reports using a single enterprise-wide solution. These companies are now able to easily and cost-effectively adapt, manage and respond to global GHS legislative changes while controlling any existing or future product compliance

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risk such as loss of sales, regulatory fines, customer issues and bad customer relationships.”

Atrion’s product compliance solution fully automates the creation of hazards and communications documents—combining regulatory data, toxicology and physical properties, compliant forms, standardized rules and translated phrase libraries—in compliance with GHS legislation. By simply using product information, customers are able to generate complete country-specific compliant documents for multiple economies (NA, EU, Asia-Pacific) and in over 40 languages. In addition, Atrion’s Managed Regulatory Content is designed to enable the assessment of GHS classification only ‘once’ based on available data, and the country-specific rules embedded in the system will apply country-specific nuances.

Atrion also provides manufacturers with the option of cost-effectively outsourcing their SDS production using Atrion’s Authoring Services. This enables companies to reduce internal IT and EH&S overhead and regulatory content maintenance costs, and re-allocate these scarce resources to core business activities.

In addition, manufacturers are able to leverage the expertise of Atrion’s in-house Regulatory Experts who monitor and stay on top of global regulations and work with regulators to get official interpretations. This combined with access to ‘forums’ of experts such as customer peer groups for discussions and information exchange on GHS implementation offers manufacturers a distinct advantage when dealing with business issues surrounding a disharmonized GHS.

More About Atrion’s Product Compliance Solution

Atrion's Product Compliance Solution is comprised of four suites, all of which are powered by Atrion’s Managed Regulatory Content:

- Materials Compliance Suite (MCS) is an innovative and highly flexible component-based suite of stand-alone compliance products specifically designed to provide seamless raw materials management, auto creation and authoring of MSDS and other safety related documents in over 40 languages.
- Chemical Management Solution (CMS) provides the technological infrastructure for companies using chemicals at any stage of the supply chain—to reduce costs and optimize efforts, while remaining in compliance with legislations.
- Compliance Suite for EH&S complements SAP’s EH&S offering and is delivered as a pre-packaged solution allowing organizations to easily integrate Atrion’s Managed Regulatory Content and expertise into their existing SAP EH&S environments.
- Regulatory Analysis Solution (RAS) provides regulatory compliance within Infor PLM Optiva.

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IMSI/Design Launches Significant TurboCAD Professional V16 Upgrade Collaboration

25 March 2009

IMSI®/Design announced that it is shipping a significant upgrade to its flagship product, TurboCAD® Professional Version 16.

"TurboCAD Professional v16 may be the strongest upgrade we've ever had to the TurboCAD series," stated Bob Mayer, COO of IMSI/Design. "There is a lot of innovation in this product, particularly in 2D drafting and 3D modeling and rendering."

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An overview of new and improved features include (please see <http://www.TurboCAD.com> for a complete listing):

Drafting and Detailing:

- **Drafting Palette.** Capabilities that expedite the drafting-to-detailing process. Create associative 2D sections based on standard views or sectional planes of 3D surface or ACIS® solid models, including XREFs and imported models from ADT and Google™ SketchUp™. Create nested, associative sections (i.e., cross-sections of cross-sections). 2D views may be placed in paperspaces (layouts), hatched, dimensioned, and annotated.
- **XREF Manager.** Built into the Block Palette. Manage external references more effectively. XREFs can be exported with .DWG or .DXF drawings for greater Autodesk AutoCAD® file compatibility.
- **Bezier Curves.** New node editing options include Equal Curvatures-at-point, Non-equal Curvature-at-point, Non-smooth-at-point; all offering much better control over curve fitting with nodes handles.
- **Dimensioning.** Create standard styles for exchange of standard conventions. Dimension scaling in Paper Space now matches scale from Model Space to ensure accurate dimensioning of displayed entities in Paper Space Viewports.
- **Format Painter.** Provides ability to automatically extract and save selected formats (even from imported files) as preset property values for any object property type. Access from drop down menu.
- **Filleted Corners.** Automatically add from local menu, streamlining the process of filleting corners when drawing polygons, irregular polygons, rectangles, and irregular rectangles.

3D Modeling Enhancements:

- **ACIS® Solid Modeling Engine.** Now updated to Version 18. From Spatial.
- **Quick Pull.** Productivity enhancement for modeling 3D objects. Select any enclosed geometry on a 3D face and then press or pull it out of the design. Even specify draft angle and add a chamfer or fillet to the geometry being modified. Works with solids or surfaces.
- **Mesh Simplifier Tool.** Degenerate (simplifies to a specific number of triangles) TurboCAD surfaces. Useful for simplifying large, imported meshes from popular 3D scanners.
- **Helix.** New tool that allows users to quickly draw 2D and 3D spirals.
- **Curve.** Split a 3D Curve into two pieces. Handy for extracting extrusion or sweep profiles from part of a larger curve.
- **Extrude, Revolve, Sweep.** New offset property allows for the creation of a body with constant thickness, as offset.
- **Measurement.** Measure length of 3D Curves as well as the area of ACIS faces. Also, measuring the volume of ACIS solids is conveniently included in the Measurement menu.
- **3D Mouse Support.** Speed design as you move along and rotate about your drawing's X, Y, and Z axes without having to also use your keyboard or other on-screen navigational aids.

Architectural Enhancements:

- **Enhanced Doors and Windows.** Right/Left and Inside/Outside flip options now available in Node Editing. The following Vertical Alignment properties have also been added: Head and sill height for

windows; head and threshold height for doors.

- **Stairs.** Ability to edit a stair's height in Edit Node.

Lighting and Rendering Enhancements:

- **LightWorks® Rendering.** Now updated to Version 7.9. From Lightwork Design. Provides global illumination, final gather, tone mapping, gamma correction, lens flare, ambient occlusion, and dozens of new material shaders. Benefit from advanced shader descriptions as well.
- **Materials to Facet.** Drag and drop materials from the Material Palette onto a 3D object's face. Add multiple material finishes to a single object.
- **Material Scaling.** New methods to accurately scale materials and preview changes on-the-fly.
- **Render Styles and Style Editor.** Render using pre-defined styles that optimize dozens of settings for specific effects, photorealistic or non-photorealistic. Render Style Editor allows for unlimited new styles to be created for one-click access to a style from project to project.

Improved Compatibility and Interoperability:

- **Database Connect Palette.** Data link to any data source (ODBC database, Excel, CSV, SQL, Access, Oracle, Sequel Server) on either local machine or company network. Reference data in a TurboCAD table as well as data associated to objects. CAD file automatically updates with changes to external database. Improves bill of material handling, real time pricing.
- **Improved .DWG/.DXF Import/Export.** Ability to export XREFs with .DWG or .DXF drawings.
- **Google™ SketchUp™ Import.** Enhanced. Not only is more information about the Google (NASDAQ: GOOG) SketchUp model imported, but supplemental rendering, lighting and materials information is imported if the SketchUp model has been rendered with IMSI/Design's IDX Renditioner product, a plug-in to SketchUp.
- **Google SketchUp Export.** New ability to convert models into native SketchUp (.SKP) files for opening directly in Google SketchUp.

Availability and Pricing

TurboCAD Professional v16 is now available at a suggested retail price of \$1,295.

TurboCAD Professional v16 Architectural Edition and TurboCAD Professional v16 Mechanical Edition are available for \$1,395.

TurboCAD Professional v16 Platinum Edition (containing both Architectural and Mechanical Edition features) is available for \$1,495.

Upgrades are available online at <http://www.turbocad.com> or by calling IMSI/Design at 1-800-833-8082.

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LMS Releases Enhanced Data Processing Solution for Accelerated Durability Testing

24 March 2009

LMS announced the release of LMS TecWare Rev 3.6. LMS TecWare is a modular solution for durability load data analysis and synthesis. It integrates and automates raw data processing and

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streamlines the process from data importation to reporting. The latest version provides a complete and user-friendly solution for durability load data processing and validation and significantly accelerates everyday processing tasks, which increases data quality considerably. Rev 3.6 comes with an interactive LMS TecWare TimeEdit feature and an extended LMS TecWare ProcessBuilder to easily set up repetitive data handling.

“LMS TecWare Rev 3.6 is designed to increase test productivity and reduce the time to analyze and document measurement data. It reduces downtime of test rigs, delivers more insights from fewer prototype tests and completes faster design cycles. In a nutshell, LMS TecWare Rev 3.6 helps you achieve a higher return from existing testing facilities,” stated Bruno Massa, Vice-President LMS Test Division.

To support large data sets, the LMS TecWare TimeEdit tool edits and analyzes time signals and has been enhanced with overlay capabilities, freehand zooming and keyboard short cuts for fast data scrolling. These new features help visually inspect and rescale measured time series, clean up data sets and detect anomalies in a fully interactive environment.

Thanks to the LMS TecWare ProcessBuilder automation functionality, errors and user interventions are reduced to a minimum. Users can set up processes in the graphical user interface, consolidate data, visualize it in various analysis domains, and create automated reports, which can be integrated in Microsoft Office.

“The latest LMS TecWare Rev 3.6 offers answers to the most pressing load data processing needs: it streamlines large data set analysis, designs customer correlated test schedules and accelerates test scenarios based on usage profiles. LMS TecWare Rev 3.6 helps customers perform high quality and accelerated durability engineering thanks to the application’s interactive load data processing,” commented Bruno Massa.

Many automotive OEMs and suppliers are currently using LMS TecWare to automate their durability load data processing. These include, among others, GM Europe (Adam Opel), Audi AG, Bentley, BMW AG, Chrysler, Daimler AG, Porsche AG, FIAT, Ford, Daewoo, Honda, Skoda, Volkswagen, Bosch, Continental, Behr, Donaldson, Freudenberg-NOK, Magneti Marelli, Schaeffler, TRW, and the ZF Group.

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mental images Introduces mental mill

23 March 2009

[mental images](#)® introduced mental mill. mental mill is available in two editions. The Standard Edition is a complete visual development environment that includes powerful debugging capabilities, shader authoring features, exporters to DCC and CAD software, and instant mental ray® preview rendering; and the Artist Edition, a subset of the mental mill toolset, that come bundled with Autodesk 3ds Max® 2010.

With the Artist Edition, one can quickly assemble complex shader graphs from the provided library of shaders, tweak the parameters, and save them as files which 3ds Max reads natively. In 3ds Max one can then assign the shaders to 3D objects, continue to tweak the parameters in context with other shaders and lighting, and fine-tune the look of the final renderings.

For taking shader creation to the next level, mental images releases the mental mill Standard Edition. In

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addition to the tasks that can be performed in the Artist Edition, with Standard Edition one can write and edit shader code, and visually debug shaders by interactive, visual inspection of graphical representations of the variables while stepping through the code. Also, one can export shaders for use in targeted software applications including Autodesk's 3ds Max®, Maya®, Softimage®, Dassault Systemes' CATIA® and NVIDIA's FX Composer, through the supported, customizable back-end formats such as CgFX, HLSL, and GLSL. With the included mental ray preview plug-in, it is easy to see the rendering results of a shader with mental ray's photorealistic ray tracer. The Standard Edition will be available for purchase and download from the mental images website www.mentalimages.com in April 2009.

“The mental mill Standard Edition greatly facilitates the creation of complex and visually compelling shaders. In addition, thanks to their representation in MetaSL, these shaders are future-proof and will not need to be recreated or modified to take full advantage of future technology and performance advancements in GPUs, multi-core parallel processing, and rendering algorithms,” said Rolf Herken, CEO and COO of mental images.

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New Release of NEi® Nastran V9.2 Finite Element Analysis Software Focuses on Productivity and Realism in Engineering Simulation

27 March 2009

NEi Software (NEi), a developer of [Nastran engineering analysis and simulation software](#), announced the release of NEi Nastran V9.2, a major upgrade to its FEA solver for high end [Finite Element Analysis](#) (FEA). The new NEi Nastran version incorporates over 85 customer driven enhancements. The following is a list of key additions: nonlinear composite Progressive Ply Failure Analysis (PPFA™), concrete material model, direct enforced motion, bolt preload, enhanced rigid element features, visualization support for various entities, automatic dynamic plots during nonlinear analysis, transparent max/min, and a new look and feel for its industry unique Editor. A complete detailed description of all the new capabilities in NEi Nastran V9.2 can be downloaded at www.nenastran.com/AnnouncingV92.pdf.

Technology Differentiators

The new technology in NEi Nastran V9.2 is of particular interest to engineers who are looking for more realistic simulations, and want to cut man-hours from analyses that typically are very time consuming and tedious. Technology differentiators in NEi Nastran include :

[Automated Impact Analysis](#) (AIA™) for transient impact studies

[Automated Surface Contact Generation](#) (ASCG™) for easier and more realistic simulation involving assemblies

[Automated Edge Contact Generation](#) (AECG™) for increasing productivity on shell type structures typically found in aircraft, ships, and automobiles

[Linear Surface Contact](#) for performing true surface-to-surface contact analysis in a linear static solution

[Composite Tools](#) like [Progressive Ply Failure Analysis](#) (PPFA™) and 3D Composite Solid Element

Vibration Fatigue Analysis

[64-Bit Large Model Capability](#)

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Industry specific tools for aerospace and maritime users

Go to www.NEiNastran.com/PressReleaseImage for downloadable images for this release.

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Software Helps Apparel Companies Streamline the Production Process

24 March 2009

Patternworks, Inc. announced the release of StyleFile, its affordable answer to product lifecycle management (PLM) for the apparel industry. StyleFile PLM is an organizational software system that documents, tracks and stores product details.

StyleFile was developed in a production environment with the input of actual users such as designers, pattern makers, technical designers and production personnel. An in-house programming team has developed 30 different reports - from the initial concept through all phases of production - and a variety of tools such as imagine voice technology and report customization.

"In this economic climate," said Patternworks Chief Financial Officer Humberto Ortiz, "it is more important than ever for apparel companies to streamline the development through production process, thus reducing costly errors.

"As one of the leading pattern services on the West Coast, we have seen companies spend up to double the amount necessary due to lack of organization," said Ortiz. "Everyone knows the importance of PLM software, but most are apprehensive to purchase the software due to cost. Although our package price is very affordable, we are also offering financing and subscription options in hopes of reaching out to companies of any size, whether domestic producers or those with overseas sourcing."

"We are the only PLM software on the market today," said Ortiz, "that allows you to enter information using voice-recognition technology."

Planned upgrades include an ERP (Enterprise Resource Planning) module to include all facets of the apparel business, including planning, manufacturing, sales and marketing. Also planned are integrated CAD-style drawing tools to create complete graphics within StyleFile.

StyleFile is competitively priced; a full license, including 90 days of free updates and 30 days of technical phone support, is \$2,395. A full license to use StyleFile on a monthly basis with unlimited updates runs \$179/month. Financing is available from Patternworks on a 24-month term at 17.99 percent, which comes to \$119.56/month.

A web access add-on module enables outside users to check style tracking reports, enter garment measurements, check work in progress, and download authorized reports. A purchase license costs \$995, and subscriptions are available for \$79/month.

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

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VISTAGY's New FiberSIM® 2009 Software Significantly Enhances the Composites Design-to-Manufacturing Process

24 March 2009

[VISTAGY, Inc.](#) announced the latest version of its suite of composites engineering software,

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FiberSIM® 2009, which enables users to more easily define composite parts, provides improved functionality for resolving manufacturing issues and enhances the link between analysis and design. All these new improvements place FiberSIM even further ahead of the competition and confirm its status as the leading software for composites.

FiberSIM 2009 simplifies composite part design with the addition of the global stagger profile, partial boundary editor and design checker as well as enhancements to zone-based design and core definition tools:

- **Global stagger profile** – Users can select a desired drop-off profile and FiberSIM will assign that profile to the entire part, which improves the ability to update designs by eliminating the need to manually adjust each transition.
- **Partial boundary editor** – This gives the user the ability to reduce layer boundary calculations by highlighting a specific region of the part, which reduces time spent waiting for recalculations.
- **Design checker** – A new design status report alerts users when flat patterns need to be generated, plies need to be spliced or objects are out of date. For example, the report validates boundaries and identifies poor modeling practices so problems with overlapping geometry can be avoided.
- **Simplified zone-based design** – Users can define a trimming or extending angle for zone transition areas, which greatly simplifies the generation of complex transitional shapes. In addition, the ability to display zone name, thickness and ply count as well as control zone highlight colors based on assigned laminate specifications also enhances zone visualization, making it easier to interpret designs.
- **Core definition** – FiberSIM 2009 defines additional core types that simplify core panel definition. The software also improves error detection and reporting while eliminating inconsistencies.

In addition, VISTAGY has developed improved tools for resolving manufacturability issues in FiberSIM 2009 with significant enhancements to the (ADD) optional module: Automated Deposition Design

- **Design for manufacturing** – The ADD now automatically creates and places bird beaks and bat ears in the preliminary stages of design.
- **Producibility feedback** - Early identification of minimum course length issues streamlines the product development cycle.
- **Minimum trim angle** - Automated tape laying machines have a minimum deposition angle between the path of the machine and the ply boundary. A new utility identifies portions of the ply boundary that violate this minimum angle in the design phase, when it is far less costly to identify than once it reaches the manufacturing floor.
- **Automated deposition machine database** - Database enables users to define the tape laying and fiber placement parameters of their particular machines to ensure standard use of machine parameters across all parts.

Finally, FiberSIM 2009 features expanded integration of analysis and design with enhanced definition and interoperability between CAE and CAD for composite design. By maintaining separate analysis and design zones with linked laminate specifications, users can propagate analysis updates without manual intervention. This speeds the preliminary design process so a greater number of iterations can be performed, resulting in an optimized design.

“The new features in FiberSIM 2009 will enable our customers to enhance and streamline their

composite part development processes so they can meet their goals on-time and on-budget,” said Bob Flory, vice president of product development at VISTAGY. “This new version demonstrates our commitment to maintaining FiberSIM’s status as the best-in-class solution for the design-to-manufacturing process for composite parts and assemblies.”

FiberSIM 2009 will be available for shipment in April 2009.

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VISTAGY Introduces First Comprehensive Engineering Solution for Design, Assembly and Validation of Aerostructures

24 March 2009

VISTAGY, Inc. announced the introduction of VISTAGY AeroSuite™, a comprehensive solution that enables aircraft manufacturers to more effectively manage the evolving product development process and deliver optimized parts and assemblies in less time at lower cost. The AeroSuite consists of FiberSIM® composites engineering software, SyncroFIT™ software for assembly development and the Quality Planning Environment™. By combining these production-proven software products with the company’s consulting services and partnerships with industry leaders, VISTAGY is able to offer the first truly complete solution for aerostructures development—spanning analysis, design, manufacturing, assembly and quality planning.

”There is no question that developing complex composites structures and highly engineered assemblies presents substantial challenges,” said Steve Luby, president and CEO of VISTAGY. “But the key to overcoming these inherent challenges is recognizing that the composite definition and assembly definition of an airframe are inextricably linked and must be considered as an integrated system.

“We believe that the companies that adopt this approach will be best suited to meet the challenges and will thrive because they will be the ones most capable of producing robust aircraft on time and on budget.”

The [VISTAGY](#) AeroSuite was inspired by the realization that trying to achieve all three of these goals simultaneously was problematic because changes in one area often had profound effects on the other two areas, resulting in missed deadlines, increased costs, overweight designs and substandard performance. By contrast, VISTAGY AeroSuite enables engineers to work how they think with vocabulary and tools specific to aerostructures design. They can capture design intent, manage complex design and assembly relationships, automatically propagate changes throughout the design, and validate the design, resulting in better performance, reduced costs and shorter product cycles.

The VISTAGY AeroSuite is comprised of the following components:

1. **FiberSIM®** - The only comprehensive software suite that addresses the entire composites engineering process, from conception, laminate definition and ply creation through simulation, performance optimization, flat pattern generation, documentation and manufacturing.
2. **SyncroFIT™** - A group of software products (formerly known as Airframe Development Environments™) for designing and manufacturing airframe assemblies and large aerostructures. SyncroFIT enables the user to easily author and capture complete digital representations of airframe assemblies and share critical design and manufacturing detail more efficiently across the enterprise and the global supply chain. The software provides a thorough representation of the airframe assembly, including the relationships defined by joints between mating parts and the definition of fasteners and

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holes. It also manages the interactions of composite details within assemblies and allows engineers to validate that fastener design rules have been met.

3. **Quality Planning Environment™ (QPE)** - Specialized software that enables quality planning engineers to ensure airframes are manufactured properly based on condition of supply definitions. With the QPE, quality engineers are able to generate their plans based on design and manufacturing data created by FiberSIM and SyncroFIT and saved in the CAD model, thus shortening the time it takes to generate inspection plans, reducing errors in planning, and tailoring plans to the needs of the quality inspectors.

4. **Custom Consulting Services** – Based on over 15 years of experience working with the industry’s leading designers and manufacturers of advanced aircraft, VISTAGY has developed comprehensive service offerings to assist its customers in implementing optimized processes for developing composite aerostructures. VISTAGY uses a four-phase deployment methodology that is customized to meet the goals of each specific organization. Experienced VISTAGY technical consultants interview designers, analysts and manufacturing engineers to assess capabilities and objectives, then develop design methodologies for specific part types and, finally, focus on large scale deployment and the implementation of those part-specific design methodologies. Custom Consulting Services enable aerospace firms to fully leverage the potential of the VISTAGY AeroSuite™ and, ultimately, meet their program objectives.

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