CIMdata

PLM Industry Summary

Christine Bennett, Editor

Vol. 11 No. 51 Friday 18 December 2009

Contents

CIMdata, Inc. 3909 Research Park Drive Ann Arbor, Michigan 48108 Tel: +1 (734) 668–9922 Fax: +1 (734) 668–1957
E-mail: c.bennett@CIMdata.com Web: http://www.CIMdata.com

CIMdata News

CIMdata Announces its 2010 PLM Vendor Forum Programs "PLM—Accelerating the Recovery"

16 December 2009

Consulting and research firm CIMdata, Inc. announces its 2010 PLM Vendor Forum schedule and program. These international one-day events will be held in Ann Arbor, Michigan, USA on March 25th, in Stuttgart, Germany on April 15th, and in Tokyo, Japan on April 21st, 2010.

CIMdata's 2010 PLM Vendor Forum will provide an insightful view of the impact of the current

economic climate and trends on PLM solution suppliers competing in an increasingly challenging market. As always, CIMdata's perspective on the state and trends of the current and future PLM market will be presented in detail, as well as providing our first public exposure to CIMdata's perspective on 2009 PLM market results—including our extensive analysis and forecasts regarding market growth and forecasts across PLM domains, industries, and regions, and the performance (revenue and market share analysis) of leading PLM solution suppliers. We will discuss two expansion areas—Social Networking and Compliance, and how they are accelerating the recovery and bringing new opportunities to the PLM market. "Social networking is changing how users work the product development process," said Ed Miller, CIMdata President. "These technologies are impacting the PLM solutions that companies need to deploy and that vendors need to provide."

The most recent economic downturn has proven to be painful for many companies around the world. Fortunately, many regions and industrial sectors are starting to see signs of recovery. The current economic cycle has had a major impact on many companies' businesses—including their ability to compete and expend resources. Companies need to accommodate economic cycles and know when and what investments to make in order to recover from a downturn's impact more quickly. The question is "What will help my company and the overall market recover faster?" Historically, delivering new products and services that consumers want to buy has had a positive impact on the economy—accelerating a return to business growth. "While it takes commitment, market-leading companies invest during downturns so that they can emerge leaner and stronger, with a portfolio of products that takes advantage of the upturn," said Ken Amann, CIMdata Director of Research. "These companies look at their core portfolio of products and invest in R&D to ensure that they have the first-mover advantage. This can significantly improve their market position and leadership."

Participants in CIMdata's PLM Vendor Forum should expect to gain a solid understanding of the current PLM market situation, dynamics that are impacting it, and expectations for its continued evolution. In addition, attendees will have the opportunity to gain further insights into opportunities and approaches they can use to navigate the PLM market environment during the current times.

About PLM

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

About CIMdata

CIMdata, an independent worldwide firm, provides strategic consulting to maximize an enterprise's ability to design and deliver innovative products and services through the application of Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) solutions. Since its founding more than 25 years ago, CIMdata has delivered world-class knowledge, expertise, and best-practice methods on PLM solutions. These solutions incorporate both business processes and a wide-ranging set of PLM enabling technologies.

CIMdata works with both industrial organizations and suppliers of technologies and services seeking competitive advantage in the global economy. In addition to consulting, CIMdata conducts research, provides PLM-focused subscription services, and produces several commercial publications. The company also provides industry education through international conferences. CIMdata serves clients worldwide from locations in North America, Europe, and Asia Pacific.

To learn more about CIMdata's services, visit our website at http://www.CIMdata.com or contact CIMdata at: 3909 Research Park Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48108, USA. Tel: +1 (734) 668-9922. Fax: +1 (734) 668-1957, or Siriusdreef 17-27, 2132 WT Hoofddorp, The Netherlands. Tel: +31 (0)23 568-9385. Fax: +31 (0)23 568-9111.

Click here to return to Contents

"Meeting the Challenges of Transitioning PLM Implementations" A New Program Review from CIMdata

15 December 2009

CIMdata, the leading global Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) consulting and research firm released a new Program Review entitled "Meeting the Challenges of Transitioning PLM Implementations." This Review describes some key challenges faced by companies as they transition their PLM implementations through the series of version and enhancement releases provided by their PLM supplier. As examples, CIMdata interviewed a number of long-term customers of Siemens PLM Software (Siemens) to assess their approaches and experiences in addressing this often-challenging issue.

Enterprises worldwide are faced with significant challenges as they strive to compete more effectively. Mr. Ed Miller, President of CIMdata, reported that, "In increasing numbers, businesses have committed themselves to transforming the way they operate in order to become more innovative, effective, and responsive to the markets they serve. In order to facilitate new processes, companies generally utilize information technologies as primary enablers." In this environment, Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) is one of the most significant initiatives to be introduced into industrial companies in the last several years.

IT-based initiatives offer significant opportunities to organizations, especially broad enterprise-focused ones like PLM, but they also bring their own set of issues. Mr. Miller stated, "A major issue that has challenged companies implementing PLM over the years has been the time, cost, and difficulty of evolving their PLM environment through the ongoing introduction of new versions of software that are provided to them by their PLM solution suppliers." He continued, saying, "A common complaint from companies with PLM implementations has been that technology changes introduced by their PLM suppliers have often caused them difficulties as those newer technologies have been inconsistent (with their previous versions) in both architecture and application software, and thus not easily evolved within the company's IT environment."

In this market environment, Siemens has consistently attempted to position itself as a PLM solution supplier committed to ensuring that customers can upgrade to successively newer versions of their software without significant trauma. In an effort to review Siemens' positioning and success in supporting upgrades and enhancements, CIMdata has interviewed a number of Siemens' customers to gain a better insight into their experiences. This Review provides CIMdata's perspectives on the results of those interviews and the recommendations that these companies provided to minimize difficulties. Some excellent examples emerged.

Copies of the "Meeting the Challenges of Transitioning PLM Implementations" CIMdata review are available here at no cost.

About CIMdata

CIMdata, a leading independent worldwide firm, provides strategic consulting to maximize an enterprise's ability to design and deliver innovative products and services through the application of Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) solutions. Since its founding more than 25 years ago, CIMdata has delivered world-class knowledge, expertise, and best-practice methods on PLM solutions. These solutions incorporate both business processes and a wide-ranging set of PLM enabling technologies.

CIMdata works with both industrial organizations and suppliers of technologies and services seeking competitive advantage in the global economy. CIMdata helps industrial organizations establish effective PLM strategies, assists in the identification of requirements and selection of PLM technologies, helps organizations optimize their operational structure and processes to implement solutions, and assists in the deployment of these solutions. For PLM solution suppliers, CIMdata helps define business and market strategies, delivers worldwide market information and analyses, provides education and support for internal sales and marketing teams, as well as overall support at all stages of business and product programs to make them optimally effective in their markets.

In addition to consulting, CIMdata conducts research, provides PLM-focused subscription services, and produces several commercial publications. The company also provides industry education through PLM certificate programs, seminars, and conferences worldwide. CIMdata serves clients around the world from offices in North America, Europe, and Asia Pacific.

To learn more about CIMdata's services, visit our website at www.CIMdata.com or contact CIMdata at: 3909 Research Park Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48108, USA. Tel: +1 (734) 668-9922. Fax: +1 (734) 668-1957; or at Siriusdreef 17-27, 2132 WT Hoofddorp, The Netherlands. Tel: +31 (0)23 568-9385. Fax: +31 (0)23 568-9111.

Click here to return to Contents

Product Lifecycle Management in the Health Insurance Industry (A CIMdata Brief)

15 December 2009

This CIMdata Brief looks at some of the issues impacting health insurance companies' ability to meet their customers' needs. The Brief describes how Product Lifecycle Management is being applied to enable those companies develop and maintain portfolios of innovative, personalized products in today's highly competitive health care industry while meeting state and federal mandates.

The health insurance industry continues to see an increase in the number and types of products being introduced in today's highly-competitive health care market. In order to compete effectively, insurers must be able to respond quickly to the demands of their clients who seek products tailored to their unique needs. In meeting these challenges, insurers need to be more innovative and agile, e.g., innovative in streamlining the product development process to create a broad range of new offerings, and agile enough to respond quickly to market and regulatory pressures.

So how can a health insurance company speed to market a growing portfolio of innovative products in a regulatory intensive environment while reducing the cost of creating them? Insurers are applying lifecycle management—an approach that has proven effective for companies in many industries. Lifecycle Management is a strategic business approach to developing, validating, and servicing products and policies from inception through retirement. It helps companies create business environments that foster innovation and provide the agility needed to compete successfully.

Lifecycle management was initially used in manufacturing companies and is broadly known as Product Lifecycle Management or PLM. However, the principles of lifecycle management are now being applied in many different industries. It does not matter what form the products or services take—whether a healthcare product or a medical device, automobile, pharmaceutical, or plant—the core, or fundamental concepts of PLM are the same, namely:

- **Centralized Repository**—Capture all pertinent information related to a product in a centralized location for access and management and leverage it to refresh or create new products.
- **Collaboration**—Provide a common environment and managed business processes for product development across the organization.
- **Product Structure & Definition**—Maintain the integrity of the product definition and related information throughout the life of a product and its variants.
- **Configuration Management**—Manage changes and relationships among product components of a product and its variants.
- **Product Distribution**—Once a product is developed, the ability to manage the associated content from the centralized repository and dynamically publish product information in any format for delivery to clients and regulatory bodies.

When these PLM concepts are applied, the product development process becomes a competitive advantage, delivering faster time-to-market of new and refreshed products, enabling lower product development costs, and a providing a more flexible environment to respond to market requirements and regulatory mandates. By collaboratively leveraging product information, product lifecycle management enables companies to not only define and manage a portfolio of more innovative products, but to also operate in a more effective manner.

How does an insurer take advantage of PLM? A product is ultimately comprised of a discrete set of components or modules, each with its own features and attributes. By standardizing product information into common structural elements like paragraphs, tables, and graphics, providers are able to re-use or re-purpose product components and elements. These can be premiums, riders, schedules, or terms. With lifecycle management, components can be quickly created or modified and incorporated into an existing product or combined with other components to create a product. The ability to copy, assemble, and modify standard modules illustrates the reusability inherent in this approach.

Central to effective lifecycle management is a product development repository. Within that central repository, all product definitions and associated components are securely maintained. This provides a single source for all product-related information, including components, images, and specifications, that are used to define a specific product variation. Change control processes are used to ensure that all information is accurate and appropriate for use. As these components are centralized in a validated centralized system, all product data that is accessed and reused is up-to-date, accurate, and compliant.

In the health care industry, providing products to meet individual consumers' requirements means that thousands of product offerings or variants need to be created and maintained. Insurers must be able to quickly assemble the appropriate set of product components in order to meet time-to-market requirements and mandate deadlines. Lifecycle management enables insurers to configure products dynamically based on fulfillment requirements of each customer. This can dramatically reduce the time to develop and refresh product offerings.

Developing innovative and profitable health insurance products is critical to the business, but how

insurers do that is just as important. Health plan providers today have to work quickly and deliver more with the same or fewer resources. PLM is not only focused on the product but also the related development processes. Using lifecycle management with a shared repository access control, and workflows enables an insurer to streamline its processes associated with product development. Accountability and collaboration become inherent throughout the entire development cycle.

An additional capability in lifecycle management is portfolio management. This enables health plan providers to create families of products or policies and to review and evaluate the business performance of that portfolio and the individual policies. It also provides a management process for determining when to modify or retire policy products as the needs of clients and the business change.

PLM and its enabling technologies provide health plan providers the ability to enhance their investments and efforts around product introduction. Insurers should take an ongoing interest in implementing a PLM strategy to maintain competiveness and compliancy in this dynamic environment.

About CIMdata

CIMdata, an independent worldwide firm, provides strategic consulting to maximize an enterprise's ability to design and deliver innovative products and services through the application of Product Lifecycle Management (PLM). CIMdata provides world-class knowledge, expertise, and best-practice methods on PLM. CIMdata also offers research, subscription services, publications, and education through international conferences. Visit http://www.CIMdata.com for more information.

Click here to return to Contents

Company News

ASCENT Releases New Revit® Structure® 2010 - Beyond the Basics Training Guide

16 December 2009

RAND Worldwide® announced that its courseware division, ASCENT– Center for Technical Knowledge®, released a new Revit® Structure® 2010 - Beyond the Basics training guide.

The Revit Structure 2010 - Beyond the Basics training guide introduces experienced Revit Structure users to more advanced techniques and concepts beyond those covered in ASCENT's Revit Structure 2010 Fundamentals. It is intended to broaden students' knowledge and maximize their use of the software. This training guide offers detailed information and practical exercises regarding creating families (tapered columns, precast slabs, tapered moment frame, and trusses), project sharing, preparing the Revit analytical model for analysis, and working with other formats. "With the addition of Revit Structure 2010 - Beyond the Basics to ASCENT's Revit Structure Fundamental offering, we are now able to accommodate a greater range of skills and experience," said Joe Oswald, executive vice-president, PLM Operations, North America and Europe, RAND Worldwide. "From the fundamentals to beyond the basics, our courseware is designed to help students improve efficiencies, accuracy and productivity."

Click here to return to Contents

Autodesk AutoCAD Exchange Connects Global User Community

17 December 2009

AutoCAD Exchange, the first comprehensive online community for AutoCAD users, has received nearly 300,000 unique visitors from more than 200 countries around the world. Since its introduction by Autodesk, Inc. in March 2009, the AutoCAD Exchange has become the premier global resource for users to network, share and learn more about the AutoCAD family of products.

AutoCAD Exchange is a content-rich destination for all AutoCAD software users from industries including manufacturing, architecture and construction to network with fellow users, connect with experts, access tips and learning material such as tutorials and Autodesk University courseware, and provide feedback to AutoCAD product developers. One of the most active areas of the site is "Ask the Expert," which provides a forum for AutoCAD users and CAD experts to discuss topics such as CAD manager best practices and user tips. There are roughly 50 different dialogues in a given week. In September 2009, Creg Dieziger, senior engineering technician, Morrison-Maierle, Inc., had one of the most popular "Ask the Expert" sessions, with more than 50 questions about topics ranging from technical "how-tos" to advice on specific projects.

"As a professor, I need to stay constantly up-to-date on AutoCAD, and the AutoCAD Exchange is a one-stop destination for me to keep learning and expanding my AutoCAD skills and knowledge," said Sunith Babu, CAD professor, M.S. Ramaiah Institute of Technology. "The world of design is constantly evolving, and the AutoCAD Exchange is a key resource on how to increase productivity with new capabilities in the 2010 software, including 3D design. AutoCAD Exchange regularly opens my eyes to new and different ways to use AutoCAD."

Autodesk is constantly refreshing the content on the AutoCAD Exchange to provide the most relevant and comprehensive multimedia tips, eLearning tools and CAD information. Current and upcoming features include:

"Ask the Expert" featuring Robert Stein, Autodesk Manufacturing; and Sean Campbell, Zahl-Ford, Inc. Structural Investigators & Consultants. You can ask these experts questions now through the end of December at http://autocad.autodesk.com/?nd=ask_the_expert_main

New AutoCAD tips from:

David Byrnes, author of the "AutoCAD for Dummies" book series

Heidi Hewett, AutoCAD technical marketing, gives the latest tips for AutoCAD 2010 users

David Cohn, CAD expert, gives tips around parametrics

Guillermo Melatoni provides the latest AutoCAD 3D tips

"The AutoCAD Exchange has become an indispensable tool for engineers, designers and CAD managers, allowing them to easily interact with peers in their field throughout the world to share experiences, get advice and grow their AutoCAD expertise," said Guri Stark, vice president, AutoCAD and Platform Products. "The AutoCAD Exchange also gives Autodesk an invaluable forum to connect daily with our users so we can see and hear about the unique projects that they're creating with AutoCAD, which ultimately helps us better address their design software needs."

To connect with the AutoCAD user community, visit www.autocad.autodesk.com

Click here to return to Contents

AVEVA Appoints New Executive Vice President for North America

14 December 2009

AVEVA Group plc announced the appointment of William Muldoon as Executive Vice President of North America (Canada and USA). With more than 20 years of experience in executive leadership and sales roles, Mr. Muldoon is ideally suited to lead AVEVA, Inc.'s operations and directly contribute to the company's overall growth in the engineering software industry.

Mr. Muldoon has held senior management positions at a number of high profile technology companies, including AspenTech, Tyco International, and Honeywell. As Sales Director for AspenTech, Mr. Muldoon was responsible for leading sales for the Chemicals, Alternative Fuels and Power industries and helped the company sign numerous major customers. Mr. Muldoon's expertise also spans across the Engineering & Design, Operations and Supply Chain offerings, which is applicable to AVEVA's customer base.

While at Tyco International, Mr. Muldoon was responsible for handling Mergers and Acquisitions in the industrial sector and leading a global services group that performed installation for Heat Tracing, Power Distribution and Piping insulation for owner operators and engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) firms around the globe. Mr. Muldoon received a BS Engineering and MBA from Texas A&M University.

Click here to return to Contents

Bentley Publishes 'The Year in Infrastructure 2009'

17 December 2009

Bentley Systems, Incorporated announced that the digital version of *The Year in Infrastructure 2009* is immediately available at www.bentley.com/YearInInfrastructure, and print copies are available upon request at www.bentley.com/2009Yearbook. This 200-page yearbook highlights the work of Bentley users improving the world's infrastructure and the quality of life for us all. It features descriptions and color images of the more than 250 project nominations recognized, 17 winners honored in the 2009 Be Inspired Awards competition, and four recipients of Be Inspired Special Recognition Awards. In addition, it provides links to special Be Connected online seminars presented by Be Inspired Award winners and finalists. Each seminar offers insight into the design innovations and best practices employed to achieve the outstanding results that placed these projects among the top choices of the Be Inspired Awards judges.

James H. McGraw IV, group publisher, McGraw-Hill Construction, said, "The projects that infrastructure professionals design and build are changing and improving the lives of people everywhere. I am truly amazed at the impact these projects have on communities. This work is enhancing the lives of millions, and we congratulate these architectural, engineering, construction, and geospatial professionals on their remarkable achievements."

CEO Greg Bentley said, "The extraordinary projects in our *Year in Infrastructure 2009*, like those in previous editions, are testament to the imagination, innovation, and dedication our users demonstrate in accomplishing the crucial task of sustaining the world's infrastructure. Through this publication, we proudly recognize and share these remarkable achievements, which combine higher-performing infrastructure and more cost-effective project realization, with business entities, government officials, industry organizations, and the media. We want the world to appreciate, as we do, the incredible value

of our users' work to our society, to our environment, and to our global economy."

To view the digital version of *The Year in Infrastructure 2009*, along with all previous editions of this publication, visit www.bentley.com/YearInInfrastructure. Searches can be conducted by year and/or through terms, titles, or keywords to find projects of special interest. To request a print copy of *The Year in Infrastructure 2009*, visit www.bentley.com/2009Yearbook.

Click here to return to Contents

Delcam.tv Features Videos of EMO Highlights

17 December 2009

Delcam has added videos from the recent EMO exhibition held in Milan to its online TV channel. The nine videos include new developments from Italian and international machine tool manufacturers, plus one covering the latest releases of Delcam's advanced manufacturing software. They can be viewed at www.delcam.tv/emo09.

EMO was the largest machining exhibition held during this year and so provided the platform for many leading manufacturers to launch their latest designs. The Delcam videos provide a chance for those unable to attend the exhibition to see several of these new machines in action.

The videos also show how using Delcam's range of software enables these machines to operate at their peak efficiency. In this way, they can provide greater increases in productivity, more improvements in quality and larger reductions in lead times.

"Companies that are investing in the latest machine tools are often concerned that their CAM software may not have kept up with any advanced technology incorporated in the new models," commented Delcam's Advanced Manufacturing Product Manager, Mark Forth. "As the world's largest CAM specialist, Delcam has strong relationships with most of the leading machine tool suppliers. This enables us to begin working on updates to our post-processors while new designs are still in development. As a result, we are able to support these new machines as soon as they are delivered to customers."

"Similarly, companies looking to invest in CAM software are often worried whether the toolpaths generated will work as well on the machine tool as they do on the computer," added Mr. Forth. "These latest videos provide more evidence of the high performance that Delcam software can produce on a range of different machines."

Click here to return to Contents

Eurostep Announces New Business Partners

14 December 2009

Eurostep announced additional business partners for the implementation of Share-A-space. The following partners have recently been added to the network of Eurostep partners.

- CostVision
- PartDB
- Solibri
- Syntell

"We are very pleased to see the Eco System around Eurostep and Share-A-space growing", says Håkan Kårdén, CEO Eurostep Group. "All these partners are very capable and adding much value to us. The partners add to the geographical presence as well as domain expertise. We are already doing business together and we expect to see this accelerating. This is good for the uptake of vital standards such as PLCS, STEP AP233, IFC and ISO 15926".

CostVision (http://www.costvision.com) is a value added reseller for Eurostep's in the US with technical expertise in PLM and CAD system interoperability using STEP. CostVision is also an independent software vendor of cost estimating and management software for discrete manufacturing. CostVision uses Eurostep's software to develop applications and adaptors, and to connect their cost models with other engineering tools. CostVision is based in Boulder, Colorado.

PartDB (http://www.partdb.com) is a reseller of Share-A-space based in Daejeon, South Korea. PartDB is a unique company providing solutions development and consulting services in the field of Engineering IT and Engineering VR based on international standards such as ISO(10303, 13584, 15926) and X3D. PartDB provides engineering services from methodology to solution implementation in the field of management and reuse of information throughout the product lifecycle within national Defense, shipbuilding, construction, and plant industry.

Solibri, Inc. (http://www.solibri.com) develops and markets Quality Assurance solutions for AECO field that improve the quality of Building Information Modeling (BIM) and make the entire design process more productive. Eurostep and Solibri work together and combine their software and expertise in the BIM area. Solibri is based in Helsinki, Finland.

Syntell AB (http://www.syntell.se) is a pioneering systems and logistics engineering consultancy company based in Stockholm, Sweden, capable of providing support for a whole range of life cycle processes, tools and disciplines required for complex technical systems. Syntell was originally founded to assist the business community in the defence sector in adopting new effective management methods for major military projects.

Click here to return to Contents

Facebook at the Factory: Manufacturing Software Must Become More Like Social Media, Study Says

14 December 2009

IFS North America is releasing the results of a study that shows that manufacturers want to see more integration between social networking tools and their enterprise resources planning (ERP) systems – and more social network-like, enterprise 2.0 functionality.

The study, conducted for IFS by a third-party research organization, found that while 40 percent of survey respondents said that ERP and social networking integration was extremely or very important, the vast majority indicated that they wanted their ERP system to help them perform functions typically associated with social networks and other Web-based collaboration tools. A full 62 percent of respondents said they wanted their ERP system to "capture and record the knowledge of senior experienced engineers and professionals so that it becomes part of your corporate knowledge base." Among manufacturers with more than $1 billion in revenue, 72 percent said they wanted this capability.

"Enterprise 2.0 and social media tools are designed to draw information out of people, to get them to talk," IFS North America Chief Technical Officer Rick Veague said. "This will become more of a

business critical issue as the current generation of senior manufacturing operations and maintenance professionals prepare for retirement, only to be replaced by a smaller, less experienced but more technologically sophisticated generation. Wikis, threaded discussion boards and other features of social media will become common fixtures in enterprise software—including IFS Applications."

According to IFS AB Chief Technology Officer Dan Matthews, IFS is taking seriously the challenges presented by the aging and shrinking workforce, and is introducing functionality to address these needs. IFS has already evolved IFS Applications in this direction with its new usability-enhanced interface, IFS Enterprise Explorer, which includes embedded search tools and innovative knowledge capture devices including "sticky notes," which allow users to informally add and edit comments to any record.

"We have been told that IFS is fairly unique in that we operate a Web 2.0 community for our users," Matthews said. "We are planning to integrate this community directly with the applications so that our customers can access the wisdom of users outside of their organization as they learn the finer points and more advanced features of IFS Applications. We are also working to structure our embedded help information not as static documentation, but in the format of wikis, so that our customers can document their business processes and indeed, capture the knowledge of senior people in a format that has lasting enterprise value."

The study was based on a survey of more than 260 manufacturing software decision makers. An in-depth report of the findings will be available from IFS North America later this month.

Click here to return to Contents

Lectra Appoints Philippe Ribera Group Software Marketing Director, to Support its PLM Strategy

14 December 2009

Lectra announced the appointment of Philippe Ribera as Software Marketing Director. Based at the company's headquarters in Paris, Philippe Ribera reports directly to Daniel Harari, Lectra CEO.

Philippe Ribera is responsible for the definition and implementation of the group's software marketing action plans for all industries. One of his main priorities will be to ensure the success of the company's Lectra Fashion PLM (Product Lifecycle Management) strategy.

Philippe Ribera's nomination crowns a career spanning more than 20 years with Lectra, where he has held various marketing and sales development posts in France and the USA. From 2004 to 2006, he was Sales Director of Lectra's U.S. subsidiary; since 2008, he has held the position of Marketing Director for France.

"Lectra is the leader in technology solutions specifically created for the fashion industry, as more than 20,000 companies worldwide can confirm. Our strategy aims to accelerate uptake of our Lectra Fashion PLM solution by many customers, whilst remaining faithful to our profession-specific software roots. With his in-depth knowledge of the fashion market and the issues it faces, Philippe is the best person to take up this ambitious challenge, where the stakes for the company are high," said Daniel Harari, Lectra CEO.

"Our PLM strategy, based on the integration of the applications necessary to plan, manage, create and develop collections, associated with our value-added offer, will be the cornerstone of Lectra's growth," explained Philippe Ribera. "In line with our desire to support our customers in overcoming their challenges, Lectra is the ideal technology partner. With our Lectra Fashion PLM, we offer a business-oriented approach for the whole value chain, based on best practices acquired over 35 years working

with the biggest names in fashion." Specially designed to meet the needs of fashion companies-brands, retailers and manufacturers-Lectra Fashion PLM is a collaborative, modular and scalable solution, unique on the market. With this technology, companies can streamline the complex business of collection lifecycle management and bring teams together, in real time, wherever they are in the world.

Philippe Ribera's expertise is also recognized by his active participation in the work of the International Apparel Federation. As a member of the Board of Directors, he takes part in the definition of international interoperability standards for technology and is also involved in education issues.

Click here to return to Contents

Magma Design Automation joins Si2's Low Power Coalition

15 December 2009

Silicon Integration Initiative (Si2) announced that Magma® Design Automation has joined Si2's Low Power Coalition (LPC), an open industry group focused on advancing low-power design flow capability through open standards. Magma products are used for both digital and analog/mixed-signal IC design and implementation including, analysis, physical verification, circuit simulation and characterization. The addition of Magma to the LPC raises the total number of corporate members to 13.

"The demand for low power continues to grow across all of the markets we serve," said Bob Smith, vice president of Product Marketing of Magma's Digital Implementation Business Unit. "Our implementation system considers power requirements and implements low-power design techniques throughout the entire flow. The LPC's focus on power-aware design throughout the design process, not in just one or two areas, is consistent with the Magma approach."

The Low Power Coalition is an open industry group operating under the auspices of Si2. All interested parties are invited to join existing LPC members and participate.

For further information on the Low Power Coalition, see http://www.si2.org/?page=726.

Click here to return to Contents

Manufacturers Lack the Technology to Manage Their Environmental Footprint, Study Says

17 December 2009

IFS North America is releasing the results of a study that revealed almost half of manufacturers lacked the enterprise technology to manage their environmental footprint, and another 28 percent had only limited capabilities.

The study asked manufacturers to what extent their enterprise-wide software allowed them to track their impact on the environment in the area of carbon footprint, solid waste, air and water pollution, product lifecycle and product end-of-life impacts.

When it comes to the ability to measure environmental impacts, middle-market manufacturers did more poorly than did companies with more than $1 billion in revenue. Among companies with between $250 million and $999 million in revenue, only 20 percent of respondents said they were tracking some environmental measures but not others in their enterprise software, while 36 percent of companies with $1 billion or more in revenue said they had this capability.

"It comes as no surprise that middle market companies report less capacity for environmental tracking

than larger enterprises," IFS North America Chief Technical Officer Rick Veague said. "Most mid-market manufacturers find their enterprise software does not support this type of environmental tracking. With a lean IT operation, acquiring and integrating a third-party software package can be expensive and problematic. Very large companies are in a better position to undertake this expense and risk."

The study, conducted for IFS by a third-party research organization, found that 83 percent of manufacturers said this software functionality was somewhat or very important, and 63 percent said they would like to see their enterprise resources planning (ERP) software vendor include this functionality as an embedded feature in their products.

"IFS has evolved its enterprise suite, IFS Applications, in the direction of integrated environmental footprint management," Veague said. "These research results reinforce our earlier belief that this is the way the market wants enterprise software to go."

The study was based on a survey of more than 260 manufacturing software decision makers. An in-depth report of the findings will be available from IFS North America later this month.

More information on IFS is available at www.IFSWORLD.com.

Click here to return to Contents

PTC Expands its Education Program in North American Colleges & Universities

17 December 2009

PTC announced that it has recently added seven new schools to its Education Program for North American Colleges and Universities, including University of Alaska Anchorage, Montana Tech and Itasca Community College. PTC now provides software to more than 400 colleges and universities, including most of the North America's top 50 engineering schools as ranked by US News and World Report.

The PTC Education Initiative is a design and technology program engineered for students from secondary through the university level. The college and university component of this, University Edition, combines PTC's product development software, Pro/ENGINEER®, with courseware that delivers a creative exploration of design, engineering and technology for university students. In addition, the University Edition enables students to master the number one product development solution in the world and prepares them to be tomorrow's innovators with credentials required for success in today's skills-driven job market.

"For almost two decades, we've used Pro/ENGINEER extensively throughout our curriculum at both the undergraduate and graduate level as the main software for training students in all their design related activities," said Sundar Krishnamurty, associate professor and site-director of the NSF e-Design Center at UMass Amherst. "More recently, we're seeing the need to provide our students with a more complete suite of PLM software, similar to what they'll employ in future real world settings, and are considering Windchill® ProductPoint® for use across our curriculum."

"We have been using Pro/ENGINEER since 1992, and we have always been pleased with PTC's academic support, and value the opportunity to train our students in the best-in-class computer aided engineering tools offered by PTC," said Tom Chase, director, Mechanical Engineering undergraduate program, University of Minnesota. "Pro/ENGINEER has provided invaluable support to several of our research projects, such as the design of the MINOS neutrino detector."

The University Edition license includes up to 500 seats of Pro/ENGINEER, an industry standard 3D design solution, along with about 55 other applications that include analysis tools, sheet metal and Behavioral Modeling® modules. In addition to the software, teachers and professors receive training and tutorials, technical support and software upgrades to enhance the teaching environment. Other software available for colleges and universities include Precision LMS, a complete learning management system, Mathcad®, which allows students to document mathematical work on a virtual white board, and Windchill® ProductPoint®, which enables collaborative product development leveraging the latest social computing technology.

"Pro/ENGINEER has been the CAD tool of choice for the past 15 years in the University of Florida Integrated Product and Process Design Program," said Keith Stanfill, director, Industrial Systems and Engineering, University of Florida. "Our students benefit from using the same tools used by professionals in the wide variety of industries participating in IPPD. In addition to an outstanding multidisciplinary product design education, experience with Pro/ENGINEER helps to differentiate our graduates as they transition out into industry."

"There is a shortage of engineers who have the product development skills PTC customers need, and this issue is accelerated as a large part of the engineering population start to retire in the coming years," said Mark Fischer, director, North American Education, PTC. "We are working to alleviate this problem and have made it our commitment to help inspire a new generation of technical thinkers. With programs like the PTC Education Initiative, we are dedicated to nurturing tomorrow's engineers in North America."

About PTC's Global Education Program

PTC's education program provides teachers and professors with complete learning solutions to prepare a new generation for success in a technological world. From secondary school to the university level, PTC gives students the ultimate in product development education by providing software, training and classroom materials to educators worldwide. The PTC education program is a part of a technological literacy movement that seeks to improve critical thinking and multidimensional problem-solving skills as well as preparing a growing number of students to become engineers.

Click here to return to Contents

Think3 partners with MINDPOWER for its CAD and PLM products in Tamilnadu

17 December 2009

Think3 joins hands with MINDPOWER (Mindpower Engineering Solutions Pvt. Ltd) to penetrate in the Tamilnadu territory. Mindpower is a technological solutions company for engineering design & manufacturing industry formed by a team of qualified and experienced professionals. Mindpower Engg's core strength is its domain expertise, consultant approach and ensuring confined deliveries for its customer requirements. It holds vast experience in the CAD/CAM/PLM industry with a qualified team of professionals to cater to the customer needs.

MINDPOWER would focus on the entire range of ThinkDesign suite of products for the TN territory. Think3's ThinkDesign Engineering addresses the needs of mechanical manufacturing companies by offering productive and reliable tools. From traditional 2D design controls, to integrated 3D design functionalities in a single environment, ThinkDesign Engineering provides a comprehensive CAD solution that allows companies to define their products in a faster, more efficient and flexible way. Part Modeling, 2D/3D/PLM Transparency, AutoCAD Compatibility, Interactive Solid Modeling, Smart Objects and Adaptive Measures, Integrated Sheet Metal, Advanced Assembly Management, 2D and 3D

translators, direct FEA/FEM interface, product data management are all in one intuitive and easy-to-use product. These are just a few aspects of ThinkDesign Engineering's world. Think3 and Mindpower would follow a strong strategy to cater to the market demands in Tamilnadu and offer the best and effective solutions to its customers.

"With this partnership think3 plans a strong go to market strategy and explores the potential market in Tamilnadu for CAD/PLM/PDM" adds Mr. Silvano Joly, Vice-President Sales and worldwide Marketing at think3. "With think3's advanced technology and MINDPOWER'S vast CAD/PLM experience we are positive to create a niche in the TN market by meeting the expectations of the prospects and delighting the customers with our service" he further adds.

"Tamilnadu Industrial Segment is huge and multi-segmented into various streams of engineering and interestingly think3 has the best technology addressing the each specific stream of engineering right from 2D Drafting, 3D Modeling, Engineering Design, Styling for New Product Development and Integrated Tooling Solutions from Concept to product. And to unleash the best, the unexplored PDM / PLM Market segment is wide open for Stable & Sustainable solutions from think3 Suite of offerings" states Mr.R. Krishnamoorthy, Director Mindpower

He further adds "MINDPOWER Relationship with Think3 will be a strategic partnership to offer the best in class engineering solutions to the market segment we address and ensure the implementation success will yield more referral customers in the industry". To add, he states a famous quote on Collaboration by Sir Issac Newton & MESPL go by that, "If I have seen further than others, it is by standing upon the shoulders of giants."

Click here to return to Contents

University of Michigan Taubman College Licenses Academic Version of LGD 3D Geometric Constraint Solver by LEDAS

17 December 2009

The University of Michigan's Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning and LEDAS Ltd., an independent provider of variational design tools, component technologies, and software development services for CAD/CAM/CAE/PLM market, announced that LGS 3D geometric constraint solver will be used for scientific research in the field of robotics.

Wesley McGee, a Researcher/Lecturer in Architectural CAD/CAM technologies at the University of Michigan Taubman College of Architecture and Urban Planning explains: "My current work, along with Dave Pigram of Pratt Institute includes developing robotic scripting applications using Rhinoceros 3D software. We are very interested in LEDAS Rhino Assembly plug-in and the geometric constraint engine it based on. One area we are investigating is the development of kinematic simulation of our robotic workcell in Rhino. We currently use several competing products to handle this, but to have a system completely based in Rhino would provide a lot of freedom. While our scripts are currently very successful at generating robotic code, we still simulate using an offline simulation package. We believe using the LGS 3D engine we may be able to build an offline simulation plug-in for Rhino."

LEDAS licensing policy for non-commercial academic and educational organizations assumes granting a free access to its LGS software in exchange to mentioning it in academic publications, which researchers will publish.

Free Academic Licensing approach provides an opportunity for researches and students to access state-

of-the-art parameterization technology.

"Several leading universities has already licensed our LGS software," said Dmitry Ushakov, Director of Product Management, LEDAS Ltd. "Examples are Purdue University in USA and Northwestern Politechnical University in China.

We are happy to extend our academic program by entering into a partnership with the world famous University of Michigan."

To learn more about LGS 2D/3D, visit the LEDAS Web site at http://www.ledas.com/products/lgs3d/.

Click here to return to Contents

Events News

COE 2010 Annual PLM Conference & TechniFair Registration is Now Open

December 2009

Take advantage of any remaining 2009 education funds to secure attendance at the **COE 2010 Annual PLM Conference & TechniFair** held April 18-21, 2010 at the Rio All-Suite Hotel in Las Vegas, Nevada.

There will be more than 100 user-driven, technical and hands-on training opportunities on the entire Dassault Systèmes PLM product suite - CATIA®, ENOVIA®, DELMIA®, SIMULIA® and 3DVIA®, including:

- What you need to know about V6
- How to successfully work in a heterogeneous environment
- How to navigate issues of accessibility, data migration and usability as PLM technologies change
- How you can implement PLM and what you can learn from other implementations
- What are the challenges of collaboration in a PLM environment including product development, production within the supply chain and post-delivery issues

Reserve your seat in a COE University hands-on training session

View the 20+ COE University sessions and reserve your seat when registering online for the conference. Seats are filled on a first-come, first-served basis

Register today and save $300 off the regular rate!

The COE 2010 Annual PLM Conference & TechniFair is a *members-only* event. Renew your membership at www.coe.org or find out more information on a COE membership and apply today!

Visit www.coe.org for frequent event updates including technical sessions, featured speakers, networking events and more.

Click here to return to Contents

ESI Announces Keynote Speakers for ESI Global Forum 2010

18 December 2009

ESI Group announced its keynote speakers for ESI Global Forum 2010. Designed for ESI customers worldwide, ESI Global Forum 2010 provides an opportunity to share best practices, challenges and successes in Virtual Prototyping.

ESI Global Forum 2010 will take place on May 19-20, 2010 in Munich, Germany. Attendees include designers, engineers, analysts and managers of customer and partner companies from around the world in the automotive, transportation, aeronautics, aerospace, marine, energy, heavy industry, high-tech & electronics, and other industries as well as leading European academic institutions.

"The line-up of keynote speakers and customer contributions for ESI's first global users' conference promises to be strong," *commented* ***Vincent Chaillou****, Product Operations President & COO, ESI Group.* "The combination of technical expertise, academic knowledge and industry experience will give attendees at the Forum access to proven best practices in Simulation-Based Design and allow them to learn from each other's experiences. We are delighted that Roger Herdy, Stéphane Baril and Dr. Bernd Mlekusch have agreed to come share their insights and expertise in Virtual Prototyping."

Keynote speakers in ESI Global Forum 2010's plenary session will address the following topics:
* Roger Herdy, Program Manager, **Qualis Corporation** on 'Vdot™: A Software Tool to Optimize Aerospace Applications'
* Stéphane Baril, Head of Composite Product Engineering, MU Equipment and Services, **EADS Astrium** on 'Satellite Antenna Reflector Design and Optimization using Rayon Software'
* Dr. Bernd Mlekusch, Head of Functional Body Design and Technikmodell, **AUDI AG** on 'CAE Aided Car Body Design'

The plenary session at ESI Global Forum 2010 will be followed by parallel sessions covering eight themes: Casting, Composite , Crash, Impact & Safety, Electromagnetism, Fluid Dynamics, Sheet Metal Forming, Vibro-Acoustic, and Welding.

In these sessions, participants will hear from a broad spectrum of peers in the area of Virtual Prototyping, from SKODA AUTO, AUDI AG, PSA Peugeot Citroen and Volkswagen, to Faurecia Interior Systems, German Aerospace Center (DLR), Teuchos, DSB Euro s.r.o, Tokoz a.s, Kovolis Hedvikov a.s, Ecole Polytechnique de Montréal and Munich Technical University.

Further information on how to join us, conference topics, as well as exhibition & sponsorship opportunities is available at www.esi-group.com/globalforum2010

Online registration is now available at www.esi-group.com/globalforum2010/registration with an Early Bird rate not to be missed before February 1st, 2010!

Click here to return to Contents

Mentor Graphics Chairman and CEO to Present Keynote at the International VLSI Conference in

Bangalore, India

17 December 2009

Mentor Graphics Corporation announced that Dr. Walden C. Rhines, Chairman and CEO, will present a keynote address at the 23rd annual International Conference on VLSI Design in Bangalore, India.

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

What: Presenting "Delivering 10x Design Improvements"

When: Wednesday, January 6, 2010 at 8:30 AM – 9:15 AM

Where: NIMHANS Convention Centre, Hosur Road, Bangalore, India

In his keynote address, Dr. Rhines will discuss the challenges that engineers and companies face as the electronic design automation industry moves towards adoption of 28nm and below, with its exponential rise in complexity. He will also explain why in the next five to seven years 10x improvements in design methodologies will be needed in four principal areas: high-level system design, verification, embedded software development, and back-end physical design and test. For more details, read the full abstract.

Click here to return to Contents

Financial News

ESI Group: Sales of third quarter 2009/10 - Good Resistance Trends Reaffirmed

15 December 2009

ESI Group announced its consolidated sales for its third quarter to October 31 2009 and the first 9 months of 2009/2010.

9-month sales

In € million	**9 months 2009/10**	**9 months 2008/09**	**Δ % (actual)**
Licenses	*29.3*	*30.3*	*-3.6%*
Services and other revenue	*15.7*	*12.3*	*+27.7 %*
Total	***45.0***	***42.6***	***+5.4%***

NB: The Group's FY ends January 31

Breakdown of 9-month sales by quarter

	2009/10			2008/09		
In € million	**Q1**	**Q2**	**Q3**	**Q1**	**Q2**	**Q3**
Licenses	*11.1*	*9.6*	*8.5*	*10.8*	*10.5*	*9.1*
Services and other revenue	*5.3*	*5.1*	*5.3*	*3.9*	*4.1*	*4.3*
Total	***16.4***	***14.8***	***13.8***	***14.7***	***14.6***	***13.4***

NB: The Group's FY ends January 31

Sales for the third quarter of the Group's 2009/10 fiscal year totaled 13.8 million euros, up +3.2% compared to the third quarter of the previous fiscal year and up +1.7% in terms of volume (constant exchange rates).

Licenses, on which external growth only has a slight effect, recorded sales of 8.5 million euros, down -5.7%. Services recorded an increase of +21.9% in sales, to 5.3 million euros. Excluding the contribution of the acquisition of Mindware, which is consolidated since mid-December 2008 and totaled 1.4 million euros, Services activity would have been down -11.1%. However, the moderate down change in Services sales over the third quarter 2009/10 should be put in perspective of the negative base effect (with Services sales for the 3rd quarter 2008/09 recording substantial organic growth of +17%). Given the Group's business model and its third quarter where Licenses activity is traditionally weaker, the Licenses / Services product mix, which is 62% for Licenses and 38% for Services over this period, should thus, for the full fiscal year, be closer to the normative split of about 70% for Licenses and 30% for Services.

Over the first 9 months of the current fiscal year, Group sales totaled 45.0 million euros (+5.4%). In line with what had previously been observed, the -3.6% fall in Licenses activity is explained with a -25.6% decrease in New Business which highlights the cautious attitude of some clients in the current environment. On the other hand, the rate of License repeat business, linked to annual rentals, has remained at a high 77% rate compared to 76% for the first 9 months of the previous fiscal year. Reflecting the solidity of the Group's business model, the installed base of repeat business thus increased by +3.3% in actual terms.

Regarding Services, sales were up +27.7% in actual terms and down -6.8% in organic terms. Mindware, whose business recorded significant organic growth, contributed €4.2 million to sales.

On a geographic level, over the first 9 months of the current fiscal year the Americas accounted for 23% of sales, versus 15% a year earlier. This reflects the integration of Mindware, whose business is highly concentrated in the United States.

Alain de Rouvray, ESI Group's Chairman and CEO, says "*Our third quarter is traditionally the least significant, given the seasonality of our business. Nonetheless, these figures reveal a continuation of the trend observed since the start of the year, i.e. a wait-and-see attitude on behalf of clients in terms of new diversification orders, but a reaffirmation of the renewal of the installed base for Licenses, essentially in rental mode, and the maintaining of Services with a highly innovative dimension. In a period marked by weak visibility, albeit with a slight improvement but with significant uncertainty still remaining, this is a positive sign for us that reflects the confidence our clients have in our virtual prototyping solutions, which generate exceptional gains in productivity and competitiveness*."

Click here to return to Contents

IGE+XAO Turnover for First Quarter of 2009/2010 (in IFRS Norms)

15 December 2009

The IGE+XAO Group announced: turnover almost stable in a very tough international context

In a struggling international economic context, with the Computer-Assisted Design market facing substantial drops in business, IGE+XAO posted a turnover of €4,735,624 for the 1st quarter. This figure is slightly down by 1.9% at a constant exchange rate (2.6% at real exchange rate) as compared with the 1st quarter of the previous year, which represented the best quarterly performance in 2008/2009 (+7.1%).

Over the period, the solid fundamentals of IGE+XAO (diversified customer portfolio, strong international presence and high profitability), will enable the Group to apply a dynamic action plan, while optimising costs. The Group will therefore launch two major new versions of its most popular software, SEE Electrical Expert V3R7 and SEE Electrical V5R1, internationally. In parallel, IGE+XAO is continuing to deploy its SaaS (Software as a Service) range for SME/SMI. This new mode of commercialisation, which protects recurring medium-term Group income, particularly meets the requirements of companies in the current context, enabling them to control their investment.

In the context of this crisis, the solid financial structure of the Group is a decisive advantage, (on 31 July 2009: 17 million euros in equity, virtually no bank debt and 14.3 million euros in cash and cash equivalent). This asset will allow IGE+XAO to maintain a substantial level of investment while protecting its ability to take up any opportunity for internal or external growth with a view to playing a leading role from the first signs of recovery.

Finally, in keeping with the policy set forth by the IGE+XAO Group, at the Annual General Meeting the Board of Directors will propose the distribution of a gross dividend of €0.43 per share.

Click here to return to Contents

Oracle Reports Q2 GAAP EPS OF 29 Cents up 15%, Non-GAAP EPS OF 39 Cents up 15%

17 December 2009

Oracle Corporation announced fiscal 2010 Q2 GAAP earnings per share of $0.29, up 15% compared to last year. Second quarter GAAP total revenues were up 4% to $5.9 billion, while quarterly GAAP net income was up 12% to $1.5 billion. GAAP new software license revenues were up 2% to $1.7 billion. GAAP software license updates and product support revenues were up 14% to $3.2 billion. GAAP operating income was up 10% to $2.2 billion and GAAP operating margin was up 200 basis points to

37%. GAAP operating cash flow on a trailing twelve-month basis was $8.7 billion, up 7%.

Second quarter non-GAAP earnings per share were up 15% to $0.39. Non-GAAP total revenues were up 3% to $5.9 billion, while non-GAAP net income was up 12% to $2.0 billion, compared to the same quarter last year. Non-GAAP operating income was up 9% to $2.9 billion and non-GAAP operating margin was up 280 basis points to 49%.

"We delivered results which were substantially better than we expected on both the top and bottom line, growing non-GAAP operating margins by 280 basis points to 49%, the highest Q2 non-GAAP operating margin in our history," said Oracle CFO Jeff Epstein. "Our solid top line growth, coupled with disciplined expense management, was key in generating $8.4 billion of free cash flow over the last twelve months."

“We expect the European Commission to unconditionally clear the acquisition of Sun in January,” said Oracle President Safra Catz. “I want to thank all of our customers for the overwhelming support they have given us during this process.”

“For the fourth consecutive quarter, Oracle took market share from SAP in every region around the world,” said Oracle President Charles Phillips. “In constant currency, our applications business grew 1% in the Americas and 2% in Asia Pacific versus a negative 35% and negative 34% respectively for SAP.”

“Sun’s new SPARC Solaris system and Sun’s new Exadata database machine both run the Oracle database faster than IBM’s fastest computer,” said Oracle CEO Larry Ellison. “We expect Sun to rapidly improve both its market share and margins once this merger closes.”

In addition, Oracle’s Board of Directors declared a cash dividend of $0.05 per share of outstanding common stock to be paid to stockholders of record as of the close of business on January 19, 2010, with a payment date of February 9, 2010. Future declarations of quarterly dividends and the establishment of future record and payment dates are subject to the final determination of Oracle’s Board of Directors.

The full press release with financials is available here:
http://www.oracle.com/corporate/investor_relations/earnings/2q10-pressrelease-dec.pdf

Click here to return to Contents

Implementation Investments

AppliedMicro Standardizes on Cadence Encounter Digital Implementation System

8 December 2009

Cadence Design Systems, Inc. announced that Applied Micro Circuits Corporation has selected the Cadence® Encounter® Digital Implementation (EDI) System for its large, complex advanced-node designs. EDI System joins other multiprocessing-capable offerings in the AppliedMicro™ methodology to form a standardized design infrastructure based set of tools.

“The Cadence EDI System has fast and comprehensive floorplanning capabilities, advanced node-ready hierarchical design closure, low power and integrated yield optimization features. We achieved significant area reduction and higher utilizations on our toughest designs, which were unroutable using our previous methodology,” said Amal Bommireddy, vice president of engineering at AppliedMicro. “With our Encounter RTL Compiler global synthesis and Encounter Conformal technology adoption last year, and EDI System this year, we’re achieving greater productivity and faster time to market for our

area-critical, high connectivity, advanced digital networking chips. Its innovative floorplan synthesis, multiprocessor enabled placement, partitioning, budgeting and advanced power planning techniques brought faster, easier hierarchical design closure."

Cadence's Nanoroute routing enabled AppliedMicro to port its design from a 90-nanometer process technology to 40 nanometers, while addressing advanced techniques such as multi-cut vias and litho-aware routing.

"Last year, AppliedMicro brought us in to evaluate our Encounter RTL Compiler and Conformal technologies, which were ideally suited for their needs," said David Desharnais, group director of Implementation Product Management at Cadence. "This year, they decided to conduct a reevaluation of their entire design flow, to ensure that they were getting the most efficient and robust digital solution for their complex 40-nanometer designs. The selection of the Cadence EDI System rounds out AppliedMicro's design methodology, joining the Cadence Virtuoso® custom IC solution and Cadence Allegro® PCB and packaging technology to enable world class design solution for AppliedMicro."

Click here to return to Contents

Aras Delivers PLM Software Solution for International Engineering Company Klöckner Desma Schuhmaschinen

16 December 2009

Aras® announced that Klöckner Desma Schuhmaschinen GmbH will deploy the Aras Innovator suite to replace the existing PLM system from Oracle Agile and improve the product design and development process. Desma, based in Achim near Bremen, is a leading supplier of robotic systems, machinery and moulds for the footwear industry.

The implementation of Aras PLM software solution will occur during the first quarter of 2010 with a full production rollout across the company in the second quarter. The deployment will span the global design and development organization and include process planning, tooling, and NC programming departments, as well as, other groups across the company.

Desma will use Aras as the central repository for all product data management providing secure online access for all worldwide locations including factories and warehouses. All of the critical design and development processes will be managed in Aras including configuration management, Bill of Materials (BOM) management, and change management. Desma will also utilize Aras for CAD file management of Siemens NX and integrate the PLM software solution with the SAP ERP system for bi-directional data exchange.

With the Aras training Desma's IT staff will work independently and self sufficiently to automate additional business processes and continuously adapt the PLM solution to new customer requirements, regulations, and future market conditions. Every download of the enterprise open source PLM software suite from Aras includes a powerful graphical solution studio that enables real-time changes to workflows, forms, business rules, data schema and other aspects of the PLM solution without the need for complex programming.

Click here to return to Contents

Award-Winning 'Urban Trees' Development Rejuvenates Seattle Block

14 December 2009

Architects have transformed a blighted Seattle lot into an award-winning commercial/residential complex featuring flexible "live-work" units, green design, and a plaza on which pedestrians and cars can coexist.

Designed with ArchiCAD building information modeling (BIM) software from Graphisoft, Urban Trees is a winner of an AIA Seattle "Future Shack" award recognizing progressive solutions for urban living.

Bradley Khouri of B9 Architects designed the 11-unit project to create a community enriched by commercial businesses such as the restaurant/bar on the corner.

Five of the 11 Urban Trees residences are live-work units. The first floors are retail spaces opening onto the sidewalk, and the upper three floors serve as family living spaces in a variety of configurations. In the back, homes open into a courtyard and a woonerf, a plaza shared by pedestrians and cars (a concept borrowed from the Dutch).

ArchiCAD was instrumental in helping B9 save time and money, manage a complex design project, maximize sustainability, and win over key stakeholders. "ArchiCAD helped us execute at every step, including orienting Urban Trees' windows and courtyard to optimize solar energy, producing special faux-watercolor renderings, and supplying all the necessary visualizations to expedite the public review."

Khouri added that it would have cost his firm $3,000 each to create water-color style renderings like the ones he produced in ArchiCAD and Adobe Photoshop software, plus $1,500 to commission solar studies he also performed in ArchiCAD.

Urban Trees buildings are made from sustainable materials, including façade panels of seasoned fir boards reclaimed from old buildings, floors made of recycled pallets, and concrete courtyard pavers recovered from a car dealer's surplus. As befits its name, the project provides and preserves cherry, linden, maple and black hawthorn trees on the site.

Click here to return to Contents

Catadent Cuts its Teeth on Sescoi's WorkNC®Dental

17 December 2009

Based in Barcelona, Catadent is a dental laboratory located at the heart of the Spanish market for dental prostheses. Catadent had been searching for the best system to rapidly manufacture high quality dental prostheses at a competitive cost to counter the growing low cost competition from overseas.

Pedro Ruiz, Dental Technician at Catadent said, "We needed a reliable and easy to use CAM system which would be flexible enough for us to manufacture each unique prosthesis from a solid block in a predictable way." The company evaluated several systems and selected WorkNC Dental from Sescoi based on its in-built technology.

Pedro Ruiz continued, "Other systems we looked at relied heavily on the programmer's skill, and had significant weaknesses in detecting cutter collisions. WorkNC Dental has intelligent machining strategies, powerful toolpath editing capabilities, and excellent simulation and collision avoidance technology, which is especially important for 5-axis machining. Some of the most expensive systems on

the market have this type of capability, but their price is far too high for small and medium sized prosthesis manufacturers. WorkNC Dental gives us the functionality we need affordably, making it a very cost effective solution for us."

Sescoi has drawn on its 20 years of experience in the CAM market in the development of WorkNC Dental. The software includes automated machining wizards, which greatly simplify the programming task required to generate collision free 3 and 5-axis toolpaths. Additionally, cutting methodology has been optimized to suit the types of materials used in prostheses such as zirconia, titanium and alumina, and the types of prosthesis required for example, copings and bridges.

Pedro Ruiz said, "The machining toolpaths are highly optimized and the machine runs very smoothly, which means less wear and tear, lower tool loads, and peace of mind for the operator."

For Catadent, the smooth running of its manufacturing operations is crucial to its success, so ease of use and reliability are very important. Pedro Ruiz commented, "Once we had set-up WorkNC Dental for our way of operating there was no need for ongoing CAM management, as the system was then virtually automatic. This greatly increases productivity as programming times are very short and our staff are then free to carry out other tasks. Anyone who has experienced a poorly optimized CAM system will appreciate the importance of WorkNC Dental's reliability." Pedro Ruiz has been delighted by the pre and post sales service supplied by Sescoi from its Spanish offices. He said, "They quickly understood our requirements, offering us a solution that matched our needs exactly. Now that we have the software, we find the service and response first class. Sescoi's technicians are always very helpful and knowledgeable. For us, this level of support and collaboration is an essential part of the service."

The intelligence in the software has the capacity to surprise Catadent with its automatic problem solving capabilities. Pedro Ruiz said, "The biggest benefits of WorkNC Dental are precisely the things we take for granted, such as its highly optimized toolpaths and collision avoidance. When we are machining more complex shapes the ability of the software to produce a really ingenious cutterpath is extraordinary." He concluded, "WorkNC Dental has become an essential resource for our company, every manufacturing project goes through it now."

Click here to return to Contents

CAMWorks® Accelerates Machining Operations at Roush

1 December 2009

Roush Industries a leading automotive supplier, with a comprehensive portfolio of services has further optimized its machine tool operations using CAMWorks® 2009, an intuitive solid-based CAM solution from Geometric Limited.

Roush Industries serves an array of customers spanning automotive, aerospace, medical equipment, electronics and consumer goods industries. The range of services offered by Roush include motorsports management, product design, engineering, testing, prototype development, and manufacturing services. The company is required to process a diverse range of parts with widely varying lot sizes, lead times, and levels of complexity through its machining operations.

To maximize its investments in machine tools, Roush Industries decided to acquire a new CAM software program that could help optimize five-axis machining. After considering a number of options, the company opted for CAMWorks. With CAMWorks, Roush could program a job as one operation, or, as two operations and then merge the two programs together and run them as one. This feature,

combined with the company's new hardware, has improved Roush's machining operations by as much as 73%.

Mr. Rob Mank, Job Planning Supervisor for Roush Industries said, "We consider ourselves a very technologically advanced operation, but the combination of the new machine tools coupled with CAMWorks 2009 has enabled us to take things to a whole new level in terms of speed, productivity and machining complexity. This has been groundbreaking for us."

CAMWorks, the first SolidWorks® certified Gold CAM product, and the first CAM solution to offer knowledge-based feature recognition and associative machining capabilities, helps eliminate the drudgery of CNC programming. The latest release of CAMWorks 2009 has over 100 new features and enhancements to machine faster and more accurately. This release also has significant advances in 3-axis functionality, new features and cutting strategies for 2 to 5 axis milling, turning and wire EDM.

To know more about CAMWorks, visit www.camworks.com.

Click here to return to Contents

CENIT's FASTTIP Software Lauded as "Innovation of the Year" by BAE Systems

15 December 2009

CENIT has earned the BAE Systems Bronze Award 2009 in the innovation category for its efficient implementation of 6-axis programming using CENIT's FASTTIP software. BAE Systems is one of the largest defence manufacturers worldwide. The corporation's management confers the award annually to individuals or companies whose activities have given BAE a sustainable competitive advantage.

CENIT's FASTTIP software is a 3D offline programming solution for riveting and drilling processes. Having convinced customers with its high quality standards and absolute reliability, FASTTIP has become popular in the aerospace industry. "For BAE Systems, FASTTIP is an important factor in protecting the millions of Euros we have invested in high technology and multi axis numerical control machinery as part of our complex development projects", says Paul Thompson, Team Leader, Typhoon Major Units Build Support at BAE Systems in outlining the award decision. "Thanks to the CENIT software, we can now quickly and easily generate collision-free drilling programs with a wide array of drilling positions."

Background: Technology

CENIT is the only supplier of this 6-axis programming solution, which is fully integrated into the CAD software CATIA V5 and features two supplementary axes for machining the fuselage components of BAE's Typhoon Eurofighter aircraft. Thanks to the V5-integrated programming and simulation of the MTorres 6-axis drilling machine, BAE achieved significant time benefits of up to 50 percent during program introduction. The simulation saw the first use of CENIT's Controller Emulator (CCE), an upgrade of the CENIT Machine Control Emulator (MCE).

Background: Project

The time framework specified for implementation was met exactly. The award now presented by BAE Systems extends to the full range of project content provided by CENIT, such as process consulting, software development, and user training.

CENIT CEO Kurt Bengel is pleased: "Receiving this award from one of the most important defence contractor in Europe is a major milestone for us and makes us proud. Aside from being a great

motivation for our employees, the award underscores CENIT's deep process understanding and software competency in the aerospace sector."

CENIT's PLM expertise has been recognized and appreciated by many aerospace OEMs and suppliers for years. The customer list includes Airbus, Boeing, Embraer, Spirit, and Eurocopter.

Click here to return to Contents

Cosmic Circuits Adopts Cadence Virtuoso 6.1 for Complex Analog and Mixed-Signal Designs

10 December 2009

Cadence Design Systems (I) Pvt Ltd., a subsidiary of Cadence Design Systems, Inc., announced that Cosmic Circuits, a leading provider of differentiated analog IP cores, has adopted the Cadence® Virtuoso® IC 6.1 custom design platform. After extensive and rigorous testing, Cosmic selected Virtuoso IC 6.1 for its complex analog and mixed-signal layout flow, and immediately gained 30 percent improvement in productivity and turnaround time over its previous flow.

Cosmic Circuits successfully deployed Virtuoso technology in full production for its leading-edge analog/mixed-signal IP cores targeting consumer applications. These advanced features include automation to accelerate custom block authoring, as well as Virtuoso space-based routing technology, which automatically comprehends and enforces advanced process and design-rule compliance during interactive routing.

“We were looking for a next-generation technology that could help us with designing correct-by-construction layouts efficiently, thereby minimizing overall design cycle time. We achieved this by using Virtuoso IC 6.1, boosting our efficiencies further. This platform looks very promising and our designers experienced at least 30% improvements, even while ramping-up quickly on this new technology. Its enhanced productivity features, ease of use, and the support we received from Cadence effectively complemented our internal design processes,” said C. Srinivasan, vice president of engineering, Cosmic Circuits. “By deploying the IC 6.1 platform we were able to increase productivity of the layout engineers, thereby saving time when thoroughly verifying designs prior to tapeout,” he added.

Click here to return to Contents

Cummins Filtration to Implement aPriori for Product Cost Management

15 December 2009

aPriori announced that Cummins Filtration, a division of Cummins, Inc., has selected the aPriori Product Cost Management software platform to provide real-time product cost assessments that are automatically generated throughout the design, sourcing and manufacturing processes.

About Cummins Filtration

Cummins Filtration Inc. is a wholly owned business unit of Cummins Inc. and the world's leading designer and manufacturer of filtration and chemical technology products for all engine-powered equipment. In North America, customers can call Cummins Filtration Customer Assistance at 1-800-22FILTER (1-800-223-4583) for more information. To find a local Fleetguard product retailer, customers can visit the Worldwide Retail locator on http://www.cumminsfiltration.com.

To see an overview demonstration of aPriori, click here.

Click here to return to Contents

Emergency One Puts Out the Fire with Zuken's E³.series

17 December 2009

Specialist fire rescue and emergency vehicle manufacturer Emergency One UK Ltd has selected Zuken's E³.series software for its electrical harness design. This will enable the company to produce wire harnesses to standardize and reap the cost and reliability benefits, while also delivering flexibility through modular based customization to aid the manufacturing process and enable straightforward retrofit options.

Emergency One UK has grown rapidly over the last few years. In recent months a bottleneck had arisen in the factory, caused by lengthy electrical installation times; which was leading to a delay in the completion of vehicles. There were three main reasons; the extent of customization involved in each vehicle, not being able to test and verify the electrical system on screen at the design phase, and a low supply of specialist electricians who could perform the installations. This called for a solution that would give them the power to design-out errors up front early in the product development process and deliver high quality detailed schematics that would take out the requirement for highly specialist vehicle electrical installers.

Quality and control through design, while delivering the flexibility to manage the customization process, was the driving force behind the move to E³.series.

"Every fire and rescue service wants a highly customized vehicle - from individual features and functions down to the colour of the red used. Documentation wise, this was an absolute nightmare. We had to create a new schematic every time. We wanted to introduce a new design control system that would allow us to standardize harness set-up, and make the vehicles more plug and play to allow for future retro-fit upgrades." commented Graeme Shields, Design Manager at Emergency One UK Ltd. E³.series is a Windows® based solution for the design and documentation of complex electrical and electronic systems. Emergency One UK Ltd is using the core module, E³.schematic, the specialist design documentation suite E³.cable for the wiring, cable and wire harness creation, and E³.formboard for the creation of nailboard displays. E³.formboard was a very important part of the solution package. The add-on will allow them to send professional documentation to their harness manufacturers and is excellent for fault finding. The documentation output from E³.series will also enable Emergency One UK Ltd to provide full detailed schematics in the owner's manual, to support the total life time of the vehicle.

E³.series is available direct from Zuken or through the distributor network. In this case, Emergency One UK Ltd turned to UK distributor High Peak Systems to deliver a complete solution to their problems, for further details about High Peak Systems visit www.highpeaksystems.com For more information about E³.series visit the Zuken product web pages www.zuken.com/e3.series

Click here to return to Contents

Fairchild Semiconductor Selects Cadence as Primary EDA Partner System

14 December 2009

Cadence Design Systems, Inc. announced that Fairchild Semiconductor, a leading global provider of energy-efficient semiconductor technology, has named Cadence as its primary EDA partner following the signing of a multi-year agreement for key Cadence® mixed-signal technology. Fairchild selected Cadence for its ability to provide an interoperable, mixed-signal design and verification solution using Cadence Virtuoso®, Encounter®, Incisive® and Allegro® technologies. A key technology for Fairchild is the Virtuoso Accelerated Parallel Simulator combined with Virtuoso AMS Designer, both part of the Virtuoso Multi-Mode Simulation suite. These technologies accelerate full-chip verification, leading to higher quality products and faster time to market.

"We selected Cadence because of its strong product portfolio, superior technology innovation, dedication to product quality and outstanding customer care," said Benny Chang, vice president of analog technology at Fairchild. "Cadence is the leader in mixed-signal design and verification, and transitioning to a complete Cadence mixed-signal flow permits us to enhance our design productivity."

Click here to return to Contents

Just One Place Pty Ltd Signs Australian Weaving, Aussie Bum and Icebreaker to its PLM Software Solution

18 December 2009

Just OnePlace Pty Ltd announced recent new deals with Australian Weaving Mills, AussieBum and IceBreaker.

These companies are keeping ahead of their competition by continually reducing their time-to-market, increasing margins on the back of on-time delivery of quality product, and increasing internal productivity through the use of the Just One Place Pty Ltd PLM software solution.

Australian Weaving Mills (AWM) is a brand manager of home textiles whose business began manufacturing Dickies towels in Yarraville, Melbourne. Today, AWM is a leading manager of the most recognised home fashion brands including Dri Glo, The Cottonfield Collection and Tara Plus. AWM also design and manufacture a range of products under licence such as Esprit Home, Koala Blue, Freckles and Country Road.

AussieBum is a men's swimwear and underwear producer manufacturing exclusively in Australia and focusing on online sales internationally. In recent years aussieBum has also increased its product line to include highly creative products, such as Essence underwear; which contains vitamins locked in the fibre which releases through the skin.

Icebreaker is a clothing designer and manufacturer based in Wellington, New Zealand. Established in 1995, the company specializes in the production of merino thermals. Icebreaker Merino comes in various weights from the 150 Superfine for tee-shirts and tank-tops to the 320 very thick merino, usually made into sweater styles, or double layered to make toques and gloves.

Just OnePlace is a supplier of product lifecycle management (PLM) and workflow solutions specifically designed for use in the consumer goods industry. Just OnePlace is a Microsoft Gold Certified Partner. Its OnePlace PLM solution extends the value of traditional PLM systems with its visual, Dynamic Workflow engine that enables companies to create a management-by-exception environment with the simplicity of a drag-and-drop design.

Click here to return to Contents

Kontron AG Expands its Mentor Graphics Expedition PCB Environment with HyperLynx Power Integrity Solution

14 December 2009

Mentor Graphics Corporation, announced that Kontron AG, headquartered in Eching, Germany, has expanded its Expedition™ Enterprise PCB installation from Mentor Graphics, with worldwide usage of the Mentor Graphics HyperLynx® solution for signal and power integrity.

Kontron selected the HyperLynx signal and power integrity product for its accurate analysis and simulation capabilities, ease-of-use, and quick setup time, ideal for today's high-performance/density/pin-count ICs that require multiple PCB power and ground structures. Combined with the Expedition Enterprise platform and the Mentor Graphics DMS (Data Management System), the HyperLynx product formulates a comprehensive solution for high-performance electronic product design that reduces design cycle times, prototypes, manufacturing re-spins and overall product performance and development costs.

"With the worldwide installation of Mentor Graphics HyperLynx product, we are able to address the increasing verification needs of today's design complexity, and tomorrow's future designs," stated Dirk Finstel, CTO at Kontron AG. "This solution is critical for us because it enables our customers to achieve the highest-performance and overall product quality results, while meeting faster time-to-market windows."

Kontron first tested the HyperLynx solution in their German and Canadian offices on an embedded ATX dual Xeon server motherboard prior to its decision of worldwide adoption. Finstel and his team realized advantages in using the HyperLynx product for analyzing embedded components and managing design complexity. The high-density board was comprised of four layers and over 17,000 connections without microvias, plus key considerations for heat sink mechanical attachment tolerances and high current requirements. Using the HyperLynx solution, the Kontron team succeeded in meeting all targets for signal and power integrity, product cost, design for manufacturability, performance, reliability, and government compliance.

For more info on the Mentor Graphics HyperLynx technology and other solutions, visit the company website at: http://www.mentor.com/products/pcb-system-design/circuit-simulation/hyperlynx-signal-integrity/

Click here to return to Contents

Livengood Engineering Uses PTC® CoCreate® to Design Industry-First Mobile Medical Device Platform

16 December 2009

PTC announced that Livengood Engineering is using PTC® CoCreate® to design the Livengood Platform, a healthcare industry-first mobile medical device platform that consolidates the multiple cumbersome medical devices used for inpatient care. CoCreate is PTC's explicit modeling software that provides companies with a lightweight and flexible approach to designing products.

Livengood Engineering is an entrepreneurial company that recognized the need for a consolidated medical device platform which could also function as an ambulatory-assist device to improve patient independence and mobility. The Livengood Platform was designed so that any device attached to a patient has a position on the platform, eliminating the need to attach devices to the bed, wall and IV

pole.

Livengood selected CoCreate because it enabled the company to tackle the often unpredictable and frequent design modifications faced during the design and build of a completely new product. CoCreate's out of the box installation enabled Livengood to transition directly from working with 2x4 wooden mock-ups of the product to 3D computer models on the same day it installed the software. Additionally, CoCreate allows every team member to make immediate and unhampered changes to the Livengood Platform design, allowing for contract designers to add their expertise without being delayed by working through the design history.

"If we couldn't make last minute changes, we couldn't exist. Our new product is first to market, but that market is comprised of many different hospitals and facilities, each having a specific set of requirements," said Joe Livengood, M.D., chief executive officer, Livengood Engineering. "Our ability to quickly modify detailed portions of the design using CoCreate is essential to meeting our customers' needs."

"When Livengood develops a first-to-market product, the ability to adapt to changing requirements late in the product development cycle is essential," said Martin Neumueller, CoCreate product management director, PTC. "CoCreate delivers a fast, flexible approach that enables Livengood to quickly respond to changing customer requirements, which helps them be more responsive to its customers' product needs."

Click here to return to Contents

MSC.Software Drives Engineering Innovation at Proton

3 December 2009

MSC.Software announced that PROTON, one of Asia's leading automobile manufacturers, has been using MSC.Software's computer aided engineering (CAE) solutions to help drive its product development efficiency.

Based in Malaysia, PROTON has established itself as a unique automobile manufacturer by providing its customers with innovative products that adhere to strict advanced technology standards, leveraging its engineering expertise to meet customer requirements for quality, cost-competitive products.

PROTON has adopted MSC.Software's full range of engineering analysis solutions including Nastran, Patran, Adams and Marc to create a reliable engineering environment that develops and tests virtual prototypes of components and subsystems, saving time and resources when compared to the conventional "build and test" process. PROTON's engineering innovation goes beyond simple component level design, extending into complex mechanical assembly engineering including chassis design with compliant parts and connections. PROTON also faces complex, multidiscipline engineering scenarios like vibration, friction and noise that require a full range of engineering analysis tools to provide quick, accurate, and reliable virtual prototypes. Using MSC.Software solutions, PROTON has been able to optimize important vehicle characteristics like performance, safety and comfort, introduce innovative high-quality products in ever-shorter time cycles, and react more flexibly and quickly to changing customer requirements.

"Our primary focus has been on building a reliable engineering organization capable of meeting PROTON's objectives in delivering innovative and cost-efficient vehicles," said Hj Tajul Zahari Abu Bakar, Director of Engineering, PROTON Holdings Berhad. "We have been successful in doing so, and able to cut costs while improving quality and reducing time-to-market. Computer aided engineering

technology has been a significant competitive edge for succeeding in a highly competitive automotive industry and MSC.Software has helped to support these initiatives. Our drive for engineering innovation will enable us to continue enhancing our competitiveness by improving our engineering development process and driving production efficiency."

"Engineering simulation is more important to the automotive industry than ever before," said David Yuen, Vice President and Managing Director, MSC.Software Asia Pacific. "The changing automotive landscape is challenging automotive manufacturers to reduce costs while increasing their level of sophistication in the manufacturing process. Engineering simulation has never been so much in the forefront than now in helping automotive makers in achieving their business goals."

"Collaborating with leading automotive companies such as PROTON enables MSC.Software to continue defining the increasing the role of engineering simulation applications in the future of vehicle development. We are proud to play an active part in PROTON's process of automotive development," said Alias Isa, regional director, MSC.Software ASEAN.

About PROTON
PROTON, established in 1983, is Malaysia's largest manufacturer of automobiles. With operations in key market centers from UK and Western Europe to the Middle East, and across South-East Asia and Australasia, PROTON produces cars to suit a range of consumer demands and preferences. The offerings include versatile and reliable four-door family vehicles, two-door hatchbacks for the young-at-heart, luxurious and stylish executive sedans, spacious and affordable multi-purpose vehicle, as well as the world-renowned sports cars from Lotus.

PROTON's inception as a key driver of national development has seen the brand accelerate its learning curve through technology transfer with strategic partnerships and technical collaborations. PROTON cars are now steadily on track to achieving the mission for the future, gearing up to achieve the promise of a marquee brand which builds cars with passion and soul; cars which are a delight to drive and a pleasure to own.

Click here to return to Contents

Russian JSC 'Information Satellite Systems Reshetnev Company' Uses Dassault Systèmes PLM in Satellite Design

15 December 2009

Dassault Systemes (DS) and one of the leading enterprises in the Russian Space Industry JSC Information Satellite Systems (ISS) Reshetnev Company have announced that they successfully implemented an integrated CATIA and ENOVIA solution improving the collaboration between key functions within the organization to speed the design of telecommunications and navigation satellites. This approach has also enabled ISS Reshetnev Company to expand its reach and to take advantage of opportunities in the international aerospace market.

Founded in 1959 the ISS Reshetnev Company has taken part in more than 40 space programs in communication, TV broadcasting, navigation, geodesy and research. More than 1,200 spacecraft have been manufactured at ISS Reshetnev Company which encompasses the management of the whole product lifecycle, from design to controlling the space craft while in orbit. Since 1993 the enterprise started to trial and use different CAD systems. In 2008, ISS Reshetnev Company launched a project of implementing Dassault Systémes solutions to design spacecraft structure components and onboard cable systems.

"After the successful completion of the DS PLM implementation in 2008 - 2009, our new strategic goal is to switch to the complete electronic definition of the spacecraft with all-round automation of business-processes and development cycles", comments Sergey Gorokhov, Chief of CAD Department JSC ISS Reshetnev Company. "Dassault Systemes PLM-solutions give us the opportunity to design and manufacture spacecraft in the most cost efficient manner. Implementation of PLM solutions is a prerequisite for taking part in international aerospace projects and tendering for foreign contracts."

CATIA has significantly facilitated data exchange among international suppliers and partners. It also has enabled ISS Reshetnev Company to design not only separate units, sets, and components, but the entire digital model of a spacecraft, including CNC programming. Engineers switched to the automotive data exchange technology using 3D annotation technology. 3D models are agreed through ENOVIA SmarTeam.

"The implementation of Dassault Systémes' latest PLM-solutions for collaborative and sustainable innovation has already generated improvements in accordance to international quality standards, which enabled ISS Reshetnev Company to consolidate its hold on the global market of telecommunications and navigation spacecraft," says Laurent Valroff, director, Russia & CIS, Dassault Systèmes.

About JSC "Information Satellite Systems – Reshetnev Company"

The JSC "Information Satellite Systems – Reshetnev Company" is one of the leading enterprises of Russian space industry. The JSC "ISS – Reshetnev Company" owns technologies of total space complex development cycle starting with a satellite design, including the satellite control in all orbits from low circular to highly elliptical ones. During its activity the enterprise has taken part in more than 40 space programs in the spheres of communication, TV broadcasting, navigation, geodesy and research activities. It has designed, manufactured and launched about 50 different satellite types of high reliability, dedicated for application in low circular, circular, HEO and GEO orbits. Long experience of the spacecraft design, qualified personnel, advanced technologies, up-to-date manufacturing and reliable business partners allow the JSC "ISS" to be the Russian leader in the satellite building industry and successfully operate in market competition.

Click here to return to Contents

UK Design Firm Uses SolidWorks to Help Snowboarding Helmet Become Hit in Auto Racing

14 December 2009

A UK-based design firm used SolidWorks® 3D CAD software to transform a snowboard helmet design into an instant hit among Formula One racing crews looking for light, strong head protection.

Industrial design firm Curventa helped client RuRoc create the "Storm Trooper" snowboarding helmet that launched the company in 2007. Developed in SolidWorks software, the molded plastic helmet's edgy styling and its seamless combination of goggles, face mask, and head protection quickly won over snowboarders and the British version of GQ magazine, which named it a Product of the Year before it was even in full production. However, the helmets gained even wider acceptance when Formula One race crews started wearing them as safety gear in the pit during races.

"Crews usually wore motorcycle helmets, but a lot of the mechanics found them too hot and heavy to wear during races," said Curventa Director Ian Murison. "In 2008, the Red Bull team contacted RuRoc and said they wanted to use the snowboarding helmets for their crews. We made some modifications and

added flame retardant materials to the helmets, and they broke on the Formula One scene last season. Pretty soon, the McLaren team ordered chromed helmets for their pit crew. Now RuRoc has distributors in North American, Canada, and Europe selling to other motorsport teams."

Curventa did the design work for RuRoc founder, Rob Gavin, when he came to the London firm with a rough physical model of a snowboarding helmet that protected faces from extreme cold while venting enough to prevent goggles from fogging over. Curventa laser scanned the helmet design then entered the data into the SolidWorks 3D design environment.

"We created the early designs in blue foam, and once approved by the client we laser scanned them into SolidWorks. From then on, we were designing and detailing on the fly within SolidWorks," Murison said. "We did a lot of adjusting inside SolidWorks, tweaking the helmet design to adjust how it fit in the back, for example, or how it moved when the wearer turned their head. SolidWorks really held up well during that process."

SolidWorks Freeform feature enables designers like Curventa to create, modify and manipulate complex shapes in a virtual environment, which is faster and cheaper than working with physical models. Freeform enabled Curventa to modify the helmet's shape quickly through dozens of iterations until it was ready for production.

"Innovative design is becoming the standard in every consumer-oriented market," said Simon Booker, European marketing manager at Dassault Systèmes SolidWorks Corp. "SolidWorks has continuously added features and functionality that enable designers to do creative design work – making a product ergonomically and aesthetically superior – on the computer screen so they can innovate freely."

Curventa relies on SolidWorks Authorized Reseller NT CADCAM for ongoing software training, implementation, and support.

Click here to return to Contents

University Of Mississippi Implements MathWorks Software Campus-Wide

14 December 2009

The University of Mississippi has implemented a campus-wide license of MATLAB and several other technical computing products from The MathWorks. The license gives students and faculty access to MATLAB in their labs and classrooms and off-campus, helping them with research and preparation for careers in engineering and the sciences.

University officials recognized that integrating MATLAB into the curriculum with a campus-wide license would support faculty efforts to help students build skills with tools commonly used in engineering fields, said Atef Elsherbeni, associate dean for research and graduate programs in the UM School of Engineering. The license also enables lab researchers to access the tools they need in order to help secure grant projects.

By purchasing a standardized license of MATLAB, the university can centrally manage its license. This approach reduces administrative and technical costs within academic departments, such as time spent fielding helpdesk calls from students attempting to access MATLAB from home or through the university network.

“The decision to adopt a campus-wide MATLAB license was a collaborative effort between faculty members, administrators, department heads and IT personnel, all of whom recognized the value of universal MATLAB access to address their respective interests,” Elsherbini said.

Jason Hale, interim director of the Mississippi Center for Supercomputing Research, concurs.

“In today’s economic environment, the University of Mississippi, along with other public institutions of higher learning in Mississippi, is looking for more efficient models to enhance research infrastructure while creating amazing learning experiences for students,” Hale said. “Means- and needs-based, voluntary pooling of departmental funds for site licensing of specific tools such as MATLAB, brokered and supported by centralized IT, tears down barriers to access across the entire institution, while decreasing institutional cost per unit.”

MathWorks products are fundamental teaching and research tools used by the world's leading universities and learning institutions. The MathWorks also supports student competitions that provide students with practical experience overcoming complex engineering challenges. For more information about The MathWorks in academia, visit www.mathworks.com/academia.

Click here to return to Contents

X-FAB Now Supports Synopsys Galaxy Custom Designer

17 December 2009

Synopsys, Inc. and X-FAB Silicon Foundries, a leading analog/mixed-signal foundry, announced that X-FAB has expanded its support to include Synopsys' Galaxy Custom Designer™ implementation solution. X-FAB now fully supports Synopsys' Galaxy™ Implementation Platform across its wide range of advanced modular CMOS process technologies for analog/mixed-signal (AMS) applications.

Custom Designer is a modern-era mixed-signal implementation solution that delivers superior ease-of-use and leverages Synopsys' Galaxy Implementation Platform to provide a unified solution for custom and cell-based designs. X-FAB has validated comprehensive support for Synopsys' custom implementation solution, including Custom Designer, HSPICE® circuit simulation, CustomSim™ verification, Hercules™ LVS/DRC and StarRC™ extraction tools. The Custom Designer toolset, used in conjunction with X-FAB process technology, can help designers achieve higher productivity and reduce time to market with a comprehensive, verified custom implementation solution.

"We have a large, growing and diverse global customer base that depends on us to deliver competitive technology and cost-optimized solutions," said Dr. Jens Kosch, chief technical officer at X-FAB. "Many of our customers also depend on Synopsys EDA tools, including Custom Designer. Synopsys and X-FAB have worked together to provide customers with both leading-edge CMOS technology and a productive, modern AMS implementation solution."

X-FAB's analog and mixed-signal technology is ideally suited for industrial, automotive and telecommunication applications. Based on a mixed-signal CMOS process, it features core and process modules such as low Vt, low leakage, embedded non-volatile memory and high-voltage options. In addition, it offers a standard or thick top-metal layer, PIP (Polysilicon-Insulator-Polysilicon) and MIM (Metal-Insulator-Metal) capacitors, and high-resistance polysilicon. A variety of MOS and bipolar transistors also are available.

Click here to return to Contents

Zoran Deploys Cadence Virtuoso Software for Complex, Advanced Technology, Mixed-Signal Chip

14 December 2009

Cadence Design Systems, Inc. announced that Zoran Corp., a leading provider of digital solutions in the digital entertainment and imaging markets, taped out a complex, advanced technology mixed-signal chip using the Cadence® Virtuoso® suite of design and simulation products. Zoran adopted the Virtuoso technology to address the growing complexities and challenges its engineers faced moving to advanced nodes.

Zoran used the Virtuoso Analog Design Environment XL and GXL to verify and optimize its design, and several advanced features in Layout GXL—namely, predefined modules (MODGENs) and Floorplanner—to accelerate layout. The MODGENs reduced days of layout work on highly matched layout structures to a few hours of work. The company used the Virtuoso Spectre® simulator with turbo technology and the Virtuoso Accelerated Parallel Simulator to speed simulation, and AMS Designer to design and verify mixed-signal regions of the design.

“Using these latest Cadence Virtuoso custom and mixed-signal technologies has given us a productivity boost as we’ve moved to advanced-node geometries,” said Tzach Hadas, vice president of Operations and general manager of Zoran Microelectronics Ltd. “Throughout the design and verification process, the Cadence products have proven invaluable. In particular, the verification phase was greatly improved – the improved simulation speed allowed us to do more verification, and the mixed-signal capabilities allowed for verification of aspects we previously could not check ”

“Like so many other companies developing at advanced nodes, Zoran found itself faced with the significant new challenges that accompany growing complexities,” said Steve Lewis, Virtuoso product marketing manager at Cadence. “Cadence has the technology companies like Zoran can rely on to help speed high-quality complex chips to market.”

Click here to return to Contents

Product News

Animech Technologies Announces the Release of Version 2.0 of their Innovative Solution for 3D Visualization of Product Configurations

17 December 2009

With aniDim3nsion™ the user can visualize a complex product configuration in front of customers directly in real time 3D graphics. By providing sales personnel with aniDim3nsion™ one can reduce customer uncertainty, shorten the sales process and allow the sales department to focus on the main agenda – increasing sales.

This latest release introduces functionality like the possibility to change colors and material properties, generate images from 3D to be used in quotes and parametrically resize product modules. In addition to the core changes many customer driven feature enhancements have been implemented.

View a video showing some of the new features in anidim3nsion and try the online demo.

Click here to return to Contents

AspenTech Releases New Local Language Versions of aspenONE® Software in Asian, European

and Latin American Markets

15 December 2009

Aspen Technology, Inc. announced the release of aspenONE V7 software in nine languages -- Chinese, French, German, Italian, Japanese, Korean, Portuguese, Russian and Spanish -- adding to the existing English language version.

Expanding aspenONE to more local languages:

- Makes it possible for companies to train employees faster, helping create a larger skilled workforce in the face of shortages in experienced engineers and technical staff.
- Extends the process optimization benefits delivered by aspenONE to a broader community of engineering and operations professionals in local environments.
- Allows companies to replicate process optimization best practices more easily across multi-site, global organizations.
- Simplifies installation of aspenONE software on localized Microsoft operating systems.

AspenTech customers may download language packs for the localized products from the AspenTech Support Center.

Click here to return to Contents

Autodesk Enhances Algor Simulation Software Portfolio

15 December 2009

Autodesk, Inc. has announced that Autodesk Algor Simulation customers on subscription will now receive Fatigue Wizard, software that uses a wizard interface to guide designers and engineers of any expertise level through the steps required to perform complex fatigue analysis.

Fatigue Wizard adds extra functionality and ease of use to the Autodesk Algor Simulation line of products — part of the Autodesk solution for Digital Prototyping — helping to bring even the most advanced simulation capabilities to designers and engineers of all abilities. Fatigue analysis is vital for products such as steel rails, beams, girders and rotating stepped shafts that can experience mechanical failure under repeated or varying loads. Fatigue Wizard helps to predict fatigue-based failure and helps users design for durability by subjecting a product to cyclic stresses to determine its endurance limit and thereby increase safety.

Users can access Fatigue Wizard functionality though a menu option in Autodesk Algor Simulation products. From there, Fatigue Wizard provides step by step guidance through the process of setting up a fatigue analysis. Users can choose between stress- and strain-based analysis types; specify material information using an extensive, editable database; enter data to simulate real-world conditions, such as local stress concentrations and surface-finish effects; and more.

Fatigue Wizard functionality is available through an Autodesk Subscription Advantage Pack for Autodesk Algor Simulation 2010, one of many benefits for Autodesk Subscription customers. Autodesk Algor Simulation software’s multi-CAD interoperability applies to Fatigue Wizard as well, so users can take advantage of the new fatigue analysis tools regardless of the CAD package they use.

"Fatigue Wizard makes complex fatigue life assessment both achievable and affordable," said Robert "Buzz" Kross, senior vice president, Manufacturing Industry Group at Autodesk. "The benefits of performing durability tests as part of the design process are well known. Fatigue Wizard will help those customers who previously may not have had the skills or budgets to realize these benefits firsthand."

Click here to return to Contents

AVEVA Releases Major Enhancements to its AVEVA Marine Solutions

14 December 2009

AVEVA has released an extensive set of enhancements and additions to its AVEVA Marine solutions for shipbuilders. These new and improved features provide increased productivity in many areas of vessel design and production, and include the latest release of AVEVA Marine (12 series), which provides a range of minor product improvements.

Several of these enhancements are also shared with AVEVA Plant; the new features in AVEVA Outfitting reflect those in AVEVA PDMS for example. This illustrates the way in which AVEVA is achieving ever closer integration between these two families of engineering IT solutions. Increasing integration enables more efficient collaborative working and the creation of complex vessels within a common design environment.

Among the more noteworthy enhancements are:

AVEVA Outfitting:

- Improved piping design and fabrication features, providing more options for the piping designer and enabling more production-friendly (i.e. cheaper to fabricate) pipe configurations.

- A new Status Control feature, providing powerful and flexible design status reporting and management. This delivers benefits both at the project management level and to the practising designer, who will be able to monitor the maturity of the design as it evolves. It enables the flexible selection of appropriate items to be monitored (for example: individual tagged items, catalogue components and so on) and appropriate status levels for each (for example: not started, 50% complete, clash-free, approved for construction, issued and so on.) Status Control can be tightly integrated with full status management of project data and documents in AVEVA NET.

AVEVA Hull Structural Design:

- Improved creation and use of Reference Surface Objects. This enables better-quality design by making design changes easier. This will be of particular interest in naval projects, where specification and design changes tend to be more frequent and extensive than in commercial shipbuilding. The new ability to import and export Reference Surface Objects via XML increases interoperability with third-party analysis applications.

AVEVA Review:

- AVEVA Review now includes the ability to position and render both streamable and non-streamable models in the same view. AVEVA's advanced model streaming technology - as used in AVEVA ReviewShare and AVEVA NET - enables much bigger and more complex designs to be easily reviewed.

- In addition to rendering objects created in AVEVA PDMS or AVEVA Marine, imported third-party models in STEP, IGES, ZGL or SAT format may be automatically converted for streaming. Complementing Review's ability to handle laser scans of ‘as-built' design, this provides valuable extra functionality when integrating suppliers' equipment models.

- Using Review's unique database connection capability, reserved and obstruction volumes can now be transferred from AVEVA PDMS or AVEVA Outfitting and rendered as translucent colours for ease of understanding during design reviews.

In addition, a range of useful day-to-day productivity enhancements are provided for AVEVA Initial Design, AVEVA Hull Detailed Design and AVEVA Diagrams. As part of AVEVA's policy of continual progression, AVEVA P&ID Manager is being replaced by AVEVA Schematic Model Manager, which will progressively provide a broader range of capabilities across different schematics-based disciplines.

Commenting on these new releases, Bruce Douglas, AVEVA Vice President, Product and Marketing Strategy, said:
‘These important enhancements to AVEVA Marine deliver on our commitment to continually increase the capabilities, quality, and business value of our technology.

‘AVEVA Marine has now achieved new levels of capability and technology integration. These new features will help shipbuilders to be more efficient, more profitable and more successful in meeting today's tough trading conditions.'

These enhancements are available for immediate installation into AVEVA Marine (12 series products) deployments.

More information about AVEVA Marine can be found at www.aveva.com/marine.

Click here to return to Contents

AVEVA Releases Major Enhancements to its AVEVA Plant Solutions

14 December 2009

AVEVA has released an extensive set of enhancements and additions to its AVEVA Plant solutions. Delivered to customers together with the latest releases of the 12 series products, these new and improved features provide a range of user benefits which increase productivity in many areas of plant engineering and design.
Among the more noteworthy enhancements are:

AVEVA PDMS:

- A new Status Control feature, providing powerful and flexible design status reporting and management. This delivers benefits both at the project management level and to the practising designer, who will be able to monitor the maturity of the design as it evolves. It enables the flexible selection of appropriate items to be monitored (for example: individual tagged items, catalogue components and so on) and appropriate status levels for each (for example: not started, 50% complete, clash-free, approved for construction, issued and so on.) Status Control can be tightly integrated with full status management of project data and documents in AVEVA NET.

- Improved piping design and fabrication features, providing more options for the piping designer and enabling more production-friendly pipe configurations ,which minimise construction costs.

AVEVA Review:

- AVEVA Review now includes the ability to position and render both streamable and non-streamable models in the same view. AVEVA's advanced model streaming technology - as used in AVEVA ReviewShare and AVEVA NET - enables much bigger and more complex designs to be easily reviewed.

- In addition to rendering objects created in AVEVA PDMS or AVEVA Marine, imported third-party models in STEP, IGES, ZGL or SAT format may be automatically converted for streaming. Complementing Review's ability to handle laser scans of ‘as-built' design, this provides valuable extra functionality when integrating suppliers' equipment models.

- Using Review's unique database connection capability, reserved and obstruction volumes can now be transferred from AVEVA PDMS or AVEVA Outfitting and rendered as translucent colours for ease of understanding during design reviews.

In addition, a range of useful day-to-day productivity enhancements are provided for AVEVA Diagrams, AVEVA ISOMET and AVEVA P&ID. As part of AVEVA's policy of continual progression, AVEVA P&ID Manager is being replaced by AVEVA Schematic Model Manager, which will progressively provide a broader range of capabilities across different schematics-based disciplines.

Commenting on this new release, Bruce Douglas, AVEVA Vice President, Product and Marketing Strategy, said:
‘These latest releases give us an opportunity to deliver a number of important upgrades to AVEVA Plant. Many of these new features have come about as a result of requests and suggestions made by our customers, illustrating the close cooperation that exists between us. AVEVA Plant has achieved new levels of technology integration will help AVEVA users be more efficient, more profitable and more successful in meeting today's tough trading conditions.'

The latest upgrades are available for immediate installation into AVEVA Plant (12 series products) deployments.

More information about AVEVA Plant can be found at www.aveva.com/plant.

Click here to return to Contents

Cadence Strengthens Virtuoso Custom IC Design Leadership Collaboration

7 December 2009

Cadence Design Systems, Inc. extended its leadership position in analog and mixed-signal chip design technologies with the introduction of improvements to its Virtuoso® IC design platform. Cadence® announced powerful performance, capacity and usability enhancements in Virtuoso IC6.1.4 that reduce overall design time while ensuring high-quality production ICs.

These enhancements will benefit design teams working along the full spectrum of design complexity, from the most advanced-node, cutting-edge designs to more traditional chips.

The new Virtuoso release has been extended to work efficiently at advanced nodes down to 28 nanometers and now supports 64-bit processing for improved capacity and performance. The Virtuoso Space-Based Router has been integrated into the Virtuoso Layout Suite cockpit, making it easier to access. More importantly, it now provides design teams a single common router they can use from start to finish to help ensure consistent results. Additional time-saving, quality-enhancing updates have been made to the Virtuoso Analog Design Environment XL, and Cadence design constraints technology.

“We recently reviewed the custom design technology from multiple EDA providers and felt the Cadence Virtuoso suite gives us the most complete design flow, efficiently connecting one design stage to another,” said Paul Browne, vice president of Engineering at Vitesse, a leading provider of advanced IC solutions for Carrier and Enterprise networks. “We expect to reduce our overall design time using Virtuoso technology, and we expect additional benefits as we adopt some of the more advanced capabilities of this new release.”

Integrating the Virtuoso Space-Based Router into the Virtuoso Layout Suite brings the power of a 1 million net-capable router to the desk of every layout engineer. Interactive wire editing and full chip automatic finish routing share the same algorithms, providing a seamless flow for a higher quality of design, from IP module creation through full chip sign-off.

Improvements to the Virtuoso Analog Design Environment XL include new display capabilities within the product that can now produce more, and better, datasheets. The ability of Virtuoso Analog Design Environment XL to analyze multiple tests simultaneously, including those across corner and statistical variations, helps engineers pick the best circuit design directions early in the design cycle, and verify those choices efficiently post implementation.

The Cadence design constraints methodology, which can help engineers reduce layout optimization and design refinement times by as much as 20 percent, received a boost in the new release, with enhancements that make it easier to add design constraints. In addition, there are new design constraints specifically geared to address sub-45-nanometer design yield challenges.

The new release extends the Cadence Express Pcells capability to support multiple-user sites. Now customers can use their vast libraries of SKILL-parameterized cells anywhere and see up to an 8 times performance improvement. Cadence also improved the analog display technology to handle multi-gigabyte waveform files more efficiently and removed the two-gigabyte limit on waveform databases to account for today’s larger, more complex designs.

“Our new Virtuoso release offers enhancements that will translate to significant time and quality benefits for users of our leading custom IC and mixed-signal technology,” said John Stabenow, technical

marketing group director at Cadence. “There is a reason Virtuoso remains the leading technology in its space, and, as our customers are discovering, this latest release will only further advance the Virtuoso brand.”

Click here to return to Contents

CyberGlove Systems Announces Technology Partnership with Siemens PLM Software

16 December 2009

CyberGlove Systems, makers of the CyberGlove® family of data glove and haptic devices, announced a technology partnership with Siemens PLM Software.. CyberGlove Systems joins the Siemens Solution Partner Program as a Software and Technology partner, formalizing a long standing relationship with Siemens PLM Software supporting the CyberGlove. This partnership will continue to deliver solutions that complement both companies' product lines. Siemens PLM Software will now support the wireless CyberGlove® II as an approved peripheral for use with its Jack® software. Jack is a digital human modeling application enabling enhanced ergonomics and product design, and is part of Siemens' Tecnomatix® software suite of digital manufacturing solutions. Siemens PLM Software also provides a specialized hardware device driver that will enable real-time hand motion analysis with the CyberGlove® II.

"This marks a momentous occasion for us as it not only shows that Siemens PLM Software, a major software developer, has confidence in the CyberGlove, but also it cements our company as a key supplier to the human modeling and ergonomics product segment," remarks Faisal Yazadi, CEO of CyberGlove Systems. "I look forward to further collaboration with Siemens PLM Software as we continue to enhance the Jack and CyberGlove product lines for our customers."

"CyberGlove's official membership in the Siemens Solution Partner Program is a testament to the strong commitment both our companies have to offering the latest technologies for enhancing customer productivity and value," said Ziyon Amram, vice president, Digital Manufacturing Solutions, Siemens PLM Software. "The addition of CyberGlove II functionality in Jack software further enhances the Tecnomatix users' ability to perform ergonomic studies."

For more information, contact Faisal Yazadi, CEO of CyberGlove Systems, at fyazadi@cyberglovesystems.com.

About CyberGlove Systems LLC (http://www.cyberglovesystems.com)

CyberGlove Systems is a worldwide leader in data glove technology and offers the most sophisticated hand-centric motion capture solutions in the marketplace. CyberGlove Systems' products include four different data glove solutions (CyberGlove®, CyberTouch®, CyberGrasp® and CyberForce®) and its VirtualHand Software Development Kit (SDK). Its products allow users to capture detailed finger, hand, and arm movement in virtual reality, allowing users to interact with digital objects in virtual reality.

CyberGlove Systems technology benefits customers by allowing them to more quickly prototype and animate in virtual reality thereby saving them both time and money. Furthermore, CGS is the only data glove solution offering both kinesthetic force and vibrotactile feedback. This haptic technology benefits customers by simulating realistic physical forces such as gravity and touch for industrial engineering, military, and academic research applications. CGS customers include Fortune 500/Global 500 corporations, government agencies, and universities in the U.S., Europe, Asia, Middle East and South America.

The base CyberGlove® system is a wireless data glove that accurately captures the movement of a user's fingers and hand, and, in conjunction with the software, maps the movement to a graphical hand on the computer screen, allowing users to "reach in and manipulate" digital objects as if they were physical objects. The most sophisticated product, the CyberForce®, adds whole-arm force feedback allowing users to experience the complete sensation of object manipulation in virtual reality.

 *Click here to return to Contents*

Delcam Launches Solid Doctor for CAD Data Repair

15 December 2009

Delcam has launched the Solid Doctor for the repair of CAD models as part of the new releases of its PowerSHAPE CAD software and the CopyCAD Pro reverse engineering program. Both programs now incorporate Parasolid® software, the geometric modelling component from Siemens PLM Software. The addition of Parasolid, together with Delcam's existing tools, allows the Solid Doctor to read in and repair models from all sources, including IGES and native CATIA files, and output a Parasolid XT file that can be read directly into all software based on Parasolid, including IronCAD, SolidWorks, TopSolid, T-Flex and VisiCAD, as well as Siemens PLM Software's own Solid Edge® software and NXTM software products.

The Solid Doctor is a major step towards true interoperability with many popular CAD systems. Parasolid is the component modelling engine on which more CAD systems are based than any other, while others such as Autodesk's Inventor and PTC's Pro/Engineer, have import/export filters for the Parasolid native XT file format. As such, once a valid Parasolid model has been created, these systems can exchange the data without translation and the inherent further re-work such translation entails.

With the Solid Doctor, users will be able to tackle all the common problems that can be found when translating low precision and incomplete data, including gaps and overlaps between surfaces, or duplicated and missing surfaces, and generate a valid, high-precision Parasolid model.

The Solid Doctor uses the automatic data repair tools that are provided as part of Parasolid, together with the surface creation and editing options that are available from PowerSHAPE. This combination means that simple repairs can be carried out quickly and easily, while more complex problems can be overcome by deleting and replacing the existing surfaces within the model.

The first stage in using the Solid Doctor is to analyse the model using the Parasolid checking mechanisms, to determine the extent of any inconsistency issues in topology or geometry when the data is examined with the high levels of precision of Parasolid. Solid Doctor divides these issues into separate categories and labels the model. For each category or class of inconsistency, Solid Doctor recommends the most appropriate course of action, including a possible automatic fix.

The user then applies the automated repair sequence. This uses a combination of the healing technology in Parasolid, plus some extra Delcam tools, for example, to correct surfaces that have had their orientation reversed. These automated tools are typically different for each class of inconsistency, as experience has shown that what is effective in one case does not necessarily work for another. Each corrected issue has its label changed from red to green as it is repaired. The repairs can be inspected individually to ensure that the results are as required or the whole model can be checked again to highlight any further inconsistencies.

The second repair stage involves using Delcam's unique trim region editing tools to correct larger issues

that require manual repair by a skilled user, such as mismatches between the edges of the various surfaces within the model. These include direct editing options for the trim boundaries, which allow very quick and flexible adjustment of the surface edges to overcome errors in the model.

For the more serious problems that remain, it will usually be necessary to generate replacement surfaces in the affected area. This can be done easily using PowerSHAPE's Smart Surfacing technology. The user simply deletes the existing surfaces and sketches around the area to be repaired. PowerSHAPE will then analyse the boundary and suggest the most appropriate type of surface to fill the space. Tangency can be maintained with the surrounding surfaces if required. If the user is not happy with the initial selection made by the software, he can run through alternative solutions until he is satisfied with the result.

Once the user is happy with the quality of the repaired surfaces, they are automatically incorporated back into the Parasolid model. This process continues until all the inconsistencies have been resolved and a valid Parasolid model created. By giving the user total control over how the part is repaired, even very poor quality or badly damaged data can be repaired quickly and efficiently to create a valid Parasolid model.

Despite the many improvements made in data translation in recent years, it still remains a multi-million dollar problem for manufacturers that need to pass CAD data up and down a supply chain. Delcam's Solid Doctor will provide a quick and easy solution to this problem and so allow faster and more efficient new product development.

 *Click here to return to Contents*

Fujitsu Upgrades 3D Mechanical CAD Software; Shortens Product Design and Production Time

16 December 2009

Fujitsu Limited and Digital Process Ltd. (DIPRO) announced the development of ICAD/SX V6L2 (version 6, level 2), a software package supporting the three-dimensional design of machinery and devices, which is now available in Japan.

The ICAD/SX series has been developed based on the concept of "digital verification," whereby the design and production preparation stages take place concurrently, allowing users to shorten the time involved with the design and production of machinery and devices.

The new software represents a vast improvement over previous versions by speeding up the data-read time by approximately two times and the data-copy time by approximately ten times. In addition, ICAD/SX V6L2 includes enhanced assembly/disassembly functions which address both production preparation and manufacturing stages, as well as functions verifying workability. With this upgrade, Fujitsu addresses previously unresolved issues, such as slow software response time and excessive design and production lead times faced by customers employing three-dimensional CAD systems to design machines.

Background

A number of challenges arise in machine and device design when the number of individual product parts reaches the thousands. These issues include the amount of time required to read and store general three-dimensional CAD data, the sluggish display interface after data has been loaded, and the inability to smoothly make edits while displaying the entire device on-screen. Furthermore, manufacturers often discover design-related problems, including conflicts between parts once a product has entered the

production stage, forcing them to go back and make design revisions. As a result, machine and device makers have been searching for a way to avoid lost time and increased operating costs in their manufacturing stages, while at the same time also trying to reduce design and production time.

Fujitsu and DIPRO have released ICAD/SX V6L3 with the aim of resolving these challenges.

Service Features

1. **High-speed processing enables smoother design work**

Up until this point, commonly used three-dimensional CAD systems have been limited to reading the data of a few thousand parts, making it impossible to smoothly perform design work. The ICAD/SX V6L3's enhanced high-speed configuration processing engine has increased data read time by approximately two times over previous products. Not only does the application allow quick data downloads of tens of thousands of product parts, including information on the entire device and its production line, it also enables the user to make the necessary design revisions to layouts involving large quantities of connected parts immediately after the data has been downloaded. As well, by increasing the speed of inspecting design layouts and replicating the overall image of the device, essential for design reformulation, by approximately ten times, the software allows for stress-free CAD operations and editing.

2. **Assembly/disassembly and verification functions**

In both enlarged and overview display modes, the software is able to render three-dimensional images showing the appropriate types of holes for attaching bolts or screws. This feature makes three-dimensional models easier to view, enabling efficient verification of operations at early design stages. For example, by standardizing the shapes of holes, it is possible to reduce the steps involved in processing, as well as the cost of materials. In addition, there is a function that automatically links the original placement of parts prior to assembly to their location post-assembly. This increases efficiency when providing explanations to the manufacturing or assembly division, as well as streamlining collateral work, including the production of maintenance manuals and explanatory materials for customers on product handling.

Fujitsu PLM User Forum 2010

The ICAD/SX V6L3 will be on display at Fujitsu PLM User Forum, a specialized event for PLM (Product Lifecycle Management) intended for customers in the manufacturing industry, on February 2 in Tokyo and February 9 in Osaka.

Pricing and Availability

Service Name	Pricing (excluding tax)	Availability in Japan
ICAD/SX Mechanical PRO V6L2	1,380,000 JPY	Available immediately

Target Sales

5,000 software packages in the first year

About Fujitsu

Fujitsu is a leading provider of IT-based business solutions for the global marketplace. With approximately 175,000 employees supporting customers in 70 countries, Fujitsu combines a worldwide

corps of systems and services experts with highly reliable computing and communications products and advanced microelectronics to deliver added value to customers. Headquartered in Tokyo, Fujitsu Limited reported consolidated revenues of 4.6 trillion yen (US$47 billion) for the fiscal year ended March 31, 2009. For more information, please see: http://www.fujitsu.com.

Click here to return to Contents

Geometric Releases GeomCaliper® Version 2.4 for Pro/ENGINEER®

15 December 2009

Geometric Limited announced the release of version 2.4 of GeomCaliper®, supported and integrated with the PTC Pro/ENGINEER GRANITE Interoperability Kernel to provide improved accuracy.

Major advancements in this release include:

- More accurate and improved thickness analysis results for Pro/ENGINEER CAD models.
- Support for Windows Vista OS (32-bit and 64-bit)

GeomCaliper® is a tool that facilitates measurement and checking of wall thickness of 3D CAD models. It accelerates the design review process for manufacturability, enabling faster prototyping and production of designs, thus reducing the overall design cycle time.

A preview of the new feature and free 15 days trial version of GeomCaliper for Pro/ENGINEER and CATIA® V5 platforms can be downloaded from http://geomcaliper.geometricglobal.com/.

Click here to return to Contents

Geometric Releases NestLib® 2009 R3

9 December 2009

Geometric Limited announced the release of NestLib® 2009 R3 with improvements in algorithms for material utilization for sheet metal punching.

NestLib focuses on optimizing two dimensional packaging. It has been licensed by over 90 independent software vendors and original equipment manufacturers worldwide. The highlights of the new version include:

- Introduction of a new algorithm that allows punch profiles to be nested outside the sheet boundary. This results in improved material utilization in sheet metal punching operations.
- Extension of support for inclined guillotine cuts by providing the edge matching feature, for the wood working industry
- A new feature that allows sharing of punch profiles only with copies of the same part. This makes the punching operations easier and safer
- Enhancements to the Grid Fit module which lets users specify their preferred nesting direction, when optimizing nested layouts

NestLib provides optimized, high speed and robust algorithms for fully automated True Shape nesting. The NestLib portfolio consists of a base module and a set of optional advanced modules, each of which provides specialized functionality. These include:

Shear nesting module for saw parts requiring end to end cutting

Common Punch module specially designed for parts to be cut using punching machines

Leather nesting module for leather parts with different quality patterns

Remnant generation module for automatic remnant creation after nesting

Tube nesting module for tube cutting and pipe cutting

Common Cut module for nesting adjacent parts such that they share a common flame path.

NestLib is available as a static library, Dynamic linked library (DLL), and COM DLL. It also supports Java and .NET framework. NestLib is available for 32 -bit and 64 -bit Microsoft Windows OS as well as for Sun Solaris and Linux platforms. It can be ported to Mac OS on demand. NestLib also supports multi-core computing for both dual core and quad core computers.

To know more about the product and download the evaluation version, please visit

http://nestlib.geometricglobal.com or write to tech.sales@geometricglobal.com

Click here to return to Contents

IBM Expands Offerings to Help Businesses Simplify and Manage Advanced Systems Software Development

16 December 2009

IBM announced new software that helps companies simplify and integrate their business processes, enabling them to advance the development of new products and services.
As a critical first step in determining how all aspects of product delivery will be managed, new IBM Rational software helps to enable software developers and systems engineers to meet precise design criteria, comply with industry standards and compatibility challenges and ensure accurate data exchange among design and development teams.
Today, organizations are struggling with the need to manage thousands of systems, integrate their development resources around the globe and adopt industry standards to meet compliance mandates. As increasingly complex products become interconnected with disparate systems, other devices, global users and online services, organizations need an all-encompassing approach to software design and development. In the growing field of sustainable energy, for example, sophisticated wind turbines, control stations, power generation systems, power grids and utility companies must operate as one to provide clean electricity to consumers' homes.
"Software has become the invisible thread that makes 'smarter' products possible," said Danny Sabbah, general manager of IBM Rational Software. "An unprecedented level of coordination is now required among the companies, partners and customers who produce, manage and consume them. These efforts must span the entire product lifecycle, and IBM's extensive cross-industry expertise, business transformational services and software solutions are helping customers meet these challenges."
IBM Rational Software has extended its portfolio of offerings in three areas to create the environment necessary to support the complex solutions to help manage the smart product proliferation including:
Systems Management -- Organizations require a high-level systems view of their solution architecture and information systems infrastructure to improve processes and manage various scenarios. Rational System Architect enterprise architecture management software helps businesses evaluate the potential impact of change and other modifications. The new version of Rational System Architect is integrated

with Rational Focal Point, which includes advanced analysis and decision support capabilities to help organizations execute the right projects at the right time.

Defining Product Requirements -- In order to help businesses, requirements management software defines and manages product and project requirements when building and connecting systems. New enhancements to IBM Rational DOORS Web Access allow users to create new requirements and add traceability links to demonstrate compliance with critical design criteria through a simple Web browser interface.

Innovative Development -- Software developers and systems engineers must be able to evaluate software designs before they are written into code. New enhancements to IBM Rational Rhapsody include features that increase collaboration between development and quality assurance teams, improve the specification, capture and documentation of systems engineering designs and extend Rhapsody's native language capabilities to include Japanese.

New IBM Rational Software Architect for WebSphere Software helps developers who have little or no service oriented architecture experience develop SOA solutions with greater speed and use them to connect and support distributed smart devices. IBM Rational Software Architect also includes features that allow the design and development of next-generation communication services, such as "click-to-call" features and integrated voice, video and web.

And, with the explosion of intelligent devices in industries, from telecommunications to energy to consumer electronics, IBM's new Enterprise Verification Management Solution creates a comprehensive test and simulation environment that helps "System on a Chip" manufacturers improve quality, reduce development costs and deliver products faster.

Market Advantage for EADS

EADS, a global leader in aerospace, defense and related services with headquarters in the Netherlands, is using IBM software requirements management and enterprise architecture solutions in the design of an increasing number of its complex products and systems for its Airbus and Security divisions. "The IBM Software platform helps us to differentiate ourselves in the market. We will be able to increase our quality while reducing the time to market for our products," said Simon Bradley, vice president, Technology Capability Centre, Engineering, Physics, IT, Security Services & Simulation at EADS Innovation Works.

Click here to return to Contents

Invensys Releases Wonderware Enterprise Integrator 3.5

10 December 2009

Invensys Operations Management unveiled version 3.5 of its Wonderware® Enterprise Integrator software solution, enabling secure integration of Wonderware manufacturing execution software (MES) applications, such as Operations, InBatch™, Intelligence and other shop-floor applications, with enterprise resource planning, product lifecycle management, supply chain management, laboratory information management and other enterprise systems. The Wonderware Enterprise Integrator 3.5 solution allows a consistent approach in operations-to-enterprise integration, eliminating high maintenance point-to-point integration scenarios.

The newest version of the Wonderware Enterprise Integrator solution represents the latest evolution of Invensys Operations Management's enterprise integration capabilities. The software offers out-of-the-box, site-to-enterprise integration services for Wonderware MES, with complete message history, secured delivery and store forward. Technology support for industry standards such as S95 and B2MML, as well as for service-oriented architectures, helps further reduce the total cost of ownership of

integration and IT landscapes.

“Our Wonderware Enterprise Integrator software leverages the benefits of off-the-shelf software with the ability to extend to address specific data management capabilities, which are always required in integration projects,” said Michael Schwarz, MES and EMI marketing programs manager, Invensys Operations Management. “The software is designed to manage additional connectivity and data transformations as reusable add-ons, which enable effective multi-site integration rollouts and support company standards.”

Easy-to-use configuration, administration and status views offer fast, maintainable and more cost-effective enterprise integration compared to non-standard or custom, one-off software-based integration solutions. The product also allows customers to achieve business continuity in the case of ERP or business system unavailability and the ability to maintain data consistency by a menu-driven, web-based user interface.

Click here to return to Contents

Lattice Technology Releases XVL Studio Version 9.0

16 December 2009

Lattice Technology® Inc. released the updated version of its core DMU, simulation and technical authoring application, XVL Studio version 9.

XVL Studio is a leading application for Digital Mock Up (DMU) and creation of technical documentation using 3D design data. Available in three versions, Basic, Standard and Pro, XVL Studio delivers e tools that enable advanced, accurate and rapid design review, motion simulation, kinematics, process design, and reporting in standard document formats. XVL Studio also provides the core platform for creation of print-ready and interactive digital documentation including 3D spreadsheets, mBOMs, process instructions, high quality 2D illustrations, and more, directly from 3D.

“This latest release of XVL Studio continues to keep Lattice Technology at the forefront in digital manufacturing,” said Bill Barnes, GM, Lattice Technology. “Whether mocking up assembly processes or creating digital and print documentation, this release has exciting new features that will enable our customers to further improve their productivity. Driven by requests from our customers across the globe, everyone will be happy with what they find in this release”.

XVL Studio version 9 delivers new functionality for DMU and Technical Document creation including:

Dynamic measurement during movement of 3D parts: XVL Studio now delivers dynamic measurement between moving parts, allowing process engineers to accurately understand the impact of a part being moved during a process or assembly, or the clearances between moving parts in a design during an animation.

Cross sections during animations of 3D data: XVL Studio now allows dynamic cross-sections to be viewed while an assembly animation is played, allowing for greater understanding and increased accuracy of a process design.

User Interface improvements: Important enhancements to the user interface include dramatically improved manipulator tools, improved toolbar icons and more intuitive viewing tools.

Rapid shape comparison between 2 selected parts: The Difference Detection option has been enhanced so that users can rapidly and visually compare two assemblies. This allows a designer or

engineer to quickly and visually understand the impact of a change to a design.

Hyperlinks from 3D data now available: XVL Studio will now allow hyperlinks to be defined on 3D part data. This is especially useful for downstream users wishing to see additional information about a part without increasing the size of the 3D data file.

Improved annotation and dimensioning tools: Enhanced dimensioning and annotation tools allow for dimensions created in XVL Studio to be displayed with color backgrounds and boxes, and for circle callouts to have filled backgrounds in an illustration. Trace lines, leader lines and notes created can now be clearly shown and are free from surrounding detail, in compliance with many standard guidelines.

Auto detection and update of process and disassembly trees: If the original 3D CAD data has been changed, XVL Studio will allow the original process and disassembly trees created in XVL Studio to be accurately updated using a combination of auto detection and manual verification that the trees have been updated appropriately.

XVL Studio is available in three versions and can be purchased via discounted software bundles tuned for specific needs including the Illustration Pack, 3D Parts List Pack and the Work Instructions Pack. Find out more at: http://www.lattice3d.com/solutions/packages.html

XVL Studio version 9 is available for download now for customers on maintenance programs and can be tested at no charge at: www.lattice3d.com.

To view short demonstrations of some highlighted features of XVL Studio version 9.0, please visit: http://www.lattice3d.com/news/press/press_studio_9_1.html

Click here to return to Contents

LEDAS Enhances Parametric Drawings with Updated 2D Geometric Constraint Solver

14 December 2009

LEDAS Ltd., an independent provider of variational design tools, component technologies, and software development services for the CAD/CAM/CAE/PLM market, announced version 3.0 of its LGS 2D geometric constraint solver. As a core component of parametric drawing applications, LGS 2D allows users to express design intent through geometric constraints and driving dimensions applied to 2D points, lines, curves, and other elements of sketches and drawings.

Since its first release in 2004, the LGS 2D software component has been licensed and embedded by several CAD/CAM/CAE vendors into parametric drawing applications. In five years, LEDAS has released eight intermediate versions of LGS 2D.

New Features in LGS 2D 3.0

Version 3.0 of LGS 2D adds support for NURBS curves, equal curvature geometric constraints, memory management, and many additional improvements.

NURBS (non-uniform rational B-spline) curves are commonly used in computer-aided design and computer graphics applications. Previous versions of LGS 2D supported NURBS curves, but required that they be evaluated on the application side. Whereas application developers before had to implement callback functions to regenerate the shapes of curves, they will now find that working with NURBS curves is as easy as working with lines and circles in LGS 2D 3.0. The application simply calls the spline creation function, passing all needed parameters (algebraic degree, control points, knots and

weights), and then the solver evaluates the spline. This new feature reduces the software development cycle and shortens the time to market for a new parametric drawing application.

An even greater advantage to using the new NURBS curves support is the significant performance improvement. The derivatives of NURBS evaluation functions needed for numerical methods of constraint solving are now expressed analytically and computed by the solver.

Version 3.0 supports a new form of geometric constraint, equal curvature. It is useful for parametric drawing applications that require smooth (G2) tangencies between curves. In this case, application developers create both tangency and equal curvature constraints between two curves (or between a curve and a circle or a line) and then make the corresponding "help" parameters equal.

Version 3.0 allows application developers to define custom sets of memory management tools for controlling and optimizing memory use. This new feature is critical for applications that deal with large drawings, which are typically composed of thousands of geometric elements.

LGS 2D 3.0 also contains many other improvements, such as alignments for tangency constraints with curves, versioning for binary dump, and journaling enhancements. Several bugs in the autoconstraining function have been fixed, and issues reported by LEDAS customers have been resolved.

"LGS 2D is used by our customers to implement powerful parametric drawing functions, which are compatible with the capabilities of mainstream MCAD systems, but at an affordable price," said Dmitry Ushakov, Director of Product Management, LEDAS Ltd. "Our new version 3.0 is another significant step towards this direction: it introduces new functions aimed at supporting advanced user requirements yet shortening the application development time."

An integration module has also been created, which allows version 3.0 of LGS 2D to be used with applications based on DWGdirect of the Open Design Alliance (ODA). This integration module was developed jointly by LEDAS and the ODA, and it provides DWGdirect-based applications with support for constraints contained in the DWG 2010 file format.

About LGS Software

The LGS 2D and 3D geometric constraint solvers are used as parametric engines for 2D sketching and drawing, history-free 3D modeling, assembly design, motion analysis, and other geometric modeling applications. LGS 2D and 3D are cross-platform software packages running on 32- and 64-bit versions of Windows, Linux, Mac OS X, *BSD, AIX, HP-UX, Sun Solaris, and other OSes. Coded in C++, LGS 2D and 3D have a C-style API for easy integration into a broad range of software applications using a variety of wrappers, such as .NET, Java, and C++.

LGS 2D/3D supports the creation and modification of geometric models by means of explicit or implicit constraints. (Geometric objects include points, lines, circles, planes, cylinders, spheres, parametric curves, surfaces and swept surfaces.) Objects can be fixed in the absolute coordinate system or relative to each other. Supported geometric constraints include logical constraints between geometric entities (coincidence, parallelism, tangency, and so on), and dimensional constraints that specify the required values for distances, angles, or radiuses. LGS 2D/3D moves and rotates objects to positions that satisfy all constraints, yet minimizes transformations from initial configurations. Other LGS functions implement advanced features of CAD/CAM/CAE systems, such as diagnostics of over- and under-defined parts of models, engineering variables and equations, "help" points, and tolerance management.

Sample applications named "Lege'n'd 2D/3D" are available for free download from the LEDAS Web site. These representative examples show the kinds of 2D sketches and 3D assemblies made possible by

LGS. The applications can be used by anyone to test the functionality, robustness, and performance of LGS 2D/3D. The sample applications were created with the Open CASCADE open-source application framework, and their source code is available to all licensees.

To learn more about LGS 2D/3D, visit the LEDAS Web site at http://ledas.com/products/lgs2d.

Click here to return to Contents

Magma Announces SiliconSmart ACE -- New Standard in IP Characterization for 28 nm and Below

14 December 2009

Magma(R) Design Automation announced SiliconSmart(R) ACE, a next-generation intellectual property characterization and modeling tool and the latest addition to the industry-standard SiliconSmart product line. By leveraging new Accelerated Circuit Engine (ACE) technology and embedding Magma's ultra-fast FineSim™ SPICE simulator, the fully automated SiliconSmart ACE flow delivers more accurate models and faster turnaround time than other tools, setting a new standard in IP characterization and modeling for designs targeted at 28-nanometer (nm) and smaller process nodes.

SiliconSmart ACE is an advanced characterization system that automatically performs static structural analysis on transistor-level netlists of simple standard cells and very complex custom cells or macros. It uses the results of this analysis to set up complete characterization constraints and then leverages the foundry-certified, highly accurate and ultra-fast FineSim SPICE simulator to increase the overall throughput of timing, power, noise and statistical static timing analysis (SSTA) model generation. SiliconSmart ACE not only offers faster characterization capabilities than other tools, it supports all industry-standard model formats and includes a closed-loop model validation flow that allows users to seamlessly launch third-party tools within the Magma system to verify the generated models.

"With SiliconSmart ACE, IP developers no longer need in-depth knowledge of a circuit's electrical operation to properly set up a characterization run. Delayed delivery of critical models for system-on-a-chip (SoC) sign-off or errors in modeling can be virtually eliminated," said Anirudh Devgan, general manager of Magma's Custom Design Business Unit. "The breakthrough technology in SiliconSmart ACE extracts functionality, identifies all electrical arcs, and optimizes the complete characterization methodology for efficiency and accuracy, significantly reducing the time and effort to model any IP component."

SiliconSmart ACE: Faster, Easier Sign-off

At the heart of SiliconSmart ACE are Magma's proprietary circuit functional recognition, vector generation and FineSim SPICE simulation technology. Each contributes to the ease of setup, accelerated characterization throughput and improved quality of model sign-off in Magma's characterization solution.

* Leveraging advanced algorithms, SiliconSmart ACE automatically recognizes and models the functionality of standard cell and complex circuits and generates an efficient vector set for all timing arcs. By eliminating time-consuming, manual analyses, SiliconSmart ACE reduces the time required to set up and characterize complex components across a wide range of

process points, supply voltages and junction temperatures. The ability to efficiently handle the increasing number of process, voltage and temperature (PVT) points is critical to 28-nm design success.

* SiliconSmart ACE's intelligent topology-driven vector generation features structure-based vector optimization and an intrinsic, simulation-induced constraint acceleration algorithm. These features eliminate vector redundancy and avoid unnecessary simulation while maintaining characterization accuracy. SiliconSmart ACE also offers a flexible methodology, allowing the user to supply a vector set and its sequence for specific measurements.

* SiliconSmart ACE supports commercially available SPICE simulators, including Magma's FineSim SPICE. When used in conjunction with FineSim SPICE, SiliconSmart ACE's optimized vector generation capabilities deliver order-of-magnitude faster throughput than previous generations of SiliconSmart, without any loss of accuracy. FineSim SPICE is a full SPICE simulator that is certified by a major foundry for 65-, 40- and 28-nm nodes and is widely used by analog and mixed-signal designers.

Pricing and Availability

SiliconSmart ACE is available now. Pricing and other information on SiliconSmart ACE are available from Magma representatives.

Click here to return to Contents

Oracle Project Portfolio Management Integration Packs Integrate Project Management with ERP

16 December 2009

Project management and enterprise resource planning (ERP) are now integrated with the availability of Oracle® Application Integration Architecture (AIA) Release 2.5 PPM Process Integration Packs (PIPs).

Oracle Project Portfolio Management Integration Pack for Primavera P6 and the Oracle E-Business Suite connects Oracle’s Primavera P6 with the Oracle E-Business Suite to integrate project management and financial information for complete enterprise project portfolio management (PPM) functionality. It

allows users to synchronize information regardless of whether they create projects in Oracle Project Portfolio Management or Primavera P6 Enterprise Project Portfolio Management.

Oracle is delivering Oracle Project Portfolio Management Integration Pack for Primavera P6 and JD Edwards EnterpriseOne, connecting Primavera P6 and Oracle's JD Edwards EnterpriseOne, offering integration that allows users to synchronize information between the two solutions regardless of whether they create projects in JD Edwards EnterpriseOne Project Management or Primavera P6 Enterprise Project Portfolio Management.

With either pack, users can synchronize project structures, resource details, budgets, actual costs, progress and cost to complete. This provides one cohesive look into all projects and portfolios within an enterprise.

The PPM Integration Pack for Primavera P6 and the Oracle E-Business Suite helps synchronize activities and resource assignments, while the PPM Integration Pack for Primavera P6 and JD Edwards EnterpriseOne enables synchronization of timesheets between P6 and JD Edwards.

The project management PIPs in Oracle AIA Release 2.5 help project managers, and project finance and accounting teams to:

- Synchronize business and project objectives;
- Successfully deliver more projects per financial and time investment;
- Integrate actual costs, schedules and forecasts;
- Accurately communicate progress, performance and business intelligence;
- Connect the schedule with the supply chain; and
- Maximize resource productivity.

With pre-built integrations, Oracle AIA Release 2.5 helps organizations reduce business process integration complexity and accelerate delivery of enterprise application solutions with a proven and reliable SOA-based framework.

Oracle AIA provides an open, standards-based approach for organizations to integrate end-to-end business processes across a broad range of custom, Oracle or third-party applications, while gaining efficiencies, increasing competitive edge and enabling lower total cost of ownership.

The PPM Integration Pack for Primavera P6 and JD Edwards EnterpriseOne was co-developed by Oracle and CSS International. CSS is a Certified Advantage Partner in the Oracle PartnerNetwork.

Supporting Quotes

"In construction management one of the most crucial tasks is maintaining a complete view of project data to ensure plans and budgets are on track. The availability of the AIA PPM Process Integration Packs for P6 and the Oracle E-Business Suite supports quicker implementation of an integrated solution and savings in the development of customized integration and in terms of maintenance and updates," said Marie Gunnerson, Global Primavera Manager, Parsons Brinckerhoff. "This is the most exciting recent advance in project management systems because it offers a strong, supported, and automated link between the two most important systems for project management – our Primavera P6 for plan and execution information and the Oracle E-Business Suite for financials, human resources and supply chain management."

"The ability to fully integrate and synchronize information between Oracle's Primavera P6 and JD Edwards systems could be beneficial," said Ugo Ferrante, Vice President Enterprise Applications, Lafarge North America. "It would be an advantage to be able to seamlessly reconcile budgets with actual spends, update time sheets, see effects on progress and schedules, and provide a quick and complete up to date view of project status to stakeholders."

"Organizations that rely on successfully completed projects to create value for their business need an enterprise-wide solution that connects key project-based business processes that are currently fragmented across their ERP and PPM systems," said Joel Koppelman, senior vice president and general manager, Oracle's Primavera Global Business Unit. "The Oracle PPM Integration Packs bridge the gap between ERP and project management to deliver true enterprise PPM for the first time, helping ensure projects adhere to committed budgets and timeframes."

Supporting Resources

Oracle Application Integration Architecture

Oracle Application Integration Architecture Blog

Oracle Project Portfolio Management

Oracle Primavera Enterprise Project Portfolio Management

Oracle® E-Business Suite Projects

Oracle's JD Edwards EnterpriseOne Project Management

Oracle PartnerNetwork

Click here to return to Contents

Oracle's Demantra 7.3 Now Available;Enhancements Enable Customers to More Precisely Plan Configure-to-Order Products, Manage Product Lifecycles and Achieve Integrated Business Planning

16 December 2009

Oracle is unveiling Oracle's Demantra 7.3 versions for Demand Management, Advanced Forecasting and Demand Modeling, Real-Time Sales and Operations Planning and Predictive Trade Planning.

This latest release offers an enhanced new product introduction capability that improves customers' ability to accurately forecast demand for items with little or no history, and provides better insight into product lifecycles, seasonal demand peaks and the impact of promotions.

Demantra 7.3 also provides improved capabilities to plan for Configure-to-Order (CTO) products with multiple optional or mandatory sub-components, tracking interaction between items and components including automatic calculation of dependent demand.

Additionally, this release delivers integrated business planning, enabling customers to more easily tie financial and operating plans together, which can lead to more reliable financial results.
Demantra 7.3 also delivers worksheet usability improvements and performance, security and scalability enhancements.

Advanced Features Enable More Accurate Forecasts and Better Financial Results

Demantra 7.3 enables customers to better manage demand and simplify product lifecycle management with the following enhancements:

New support for multi-level configure-to-order products gives users the flexibility to forecast and manage custom products that are a configuration of multiple optional components, depending on customer selections.
Improved user interface enables customers to create a new product based on an existing product history, manage product launch and lifecycle process and model the gradual phase out of existing products.
Forecasting analytics have been extended with pooled time series modeling that provides an alternative to traditional time series aggregation to model demand patterns across multiple product times series.
Leveraging Oracle Application Integration Architecture (AIA), integrated business planning is delivered by linking Demantra Real Time Sales and Operations and Planning and Oracle Hyperion Planning.
Demantra 7.3 now runs on Oracle Enterprise Linux allowing customers to gain benefit in performance and cost of ownership by standardizing on an open source operating environment.

Supporting Quote

"To achieve revenue and profitability goals, our customers need solutions that help create accurate forecasts in order to plan for seasonal demand shifts and unplanned supply chain events," said Oracle Senior Vice President, Applications Development, Rick Jewell. "With Oracle's Demantra 7.3, we are giving customers the functionality they need to not only predict and respond to demand, but to also better align strategic, operational and financial plans in order to impact their bottom line."

General Availability

Oracle's Demantra 7.3 is now available and includes translations for 8 languages.

Supporting Resources

Oracle's Demantra
Oracle's Demantra Real-Time Sales and Operations Planning
Oracle Hyperion Planning
Oracle Application Integration Architecture
Oracle Value Chain Planning Applications
Cabot Microelectronics Reduces Forecasting Cycle Time by Nearly 50 Percent with Oracle's Real Time Sales and Operations Planning Solution
Industry Leaders Adopt Oracle Value Chain Planning Applications

Click here to return to Contents

Spatial Components Provide Seamless CAD Translation for Armonicos 3D Inspection Software

15 December 2009

Spatial Corp. announced Armonicos Co., Ltd., a leading CAD/CAM and Computer-Aided Testing (CAT) provider, has recently released their latest version of spGate, a multi-data exchange platform, and spGauge, a 3D inspection solution for industrial products. Both products rely on Spatial's 3D InterOp components to provide high-quality CAD file translation for data reuse. Since 2003, Armonicos has used Spatial 3D software components in the development of their software solutions. The partnership enables Armonicos internal resources to focus on the development of key value-add capabilities, rather than CAD translator development, while reducing their time-to-market.

"The ability to import and repair to ensure useable CAD models is one of our key selling points. Consequently, we chose Spatial's CAD file translation components because they provide the highest

quality translation capabilities in the market. They also deliver a high level of service and support to help us meet the demanding needs of our customers," stated Shigeki Morikawa, the Executive Director of the Geometry Product Room (GPR). "We are very pleased with Spatial's continued focus on advancing their CAD translation product line, including the addition of product manufacturing information."

Armonicos provides data translation, inspection, and reverse engineering solutions to many of Japan's leading manufacturers. spGate is a multi-data exchange platform that reduces or eliminates translation problems commonly encountered when translating between design, analysis, manufacturing, and inspection systems. spGauge is a CAT solution for 3D inspection of industrial products. spGauge enables an accurate inspection by 3D pattern matching the imported point cloud data with the 3D design model. spScan is a reverse engineering system which uses non-contact measurement data and automatically generates high quality surfaces for use in CAD/CAM/CAE solutions.

"Our 3D InterOp product line has grown to be the clear market leader. Our customers include application developers across a wide range of industries with a variety of CAD file translation needs and geometry kernels. Their needs go beyond visualization and include the need to reuse the data within their applications," commented Ray Bagley, Spatial Director of Product Planning and Management. "We are pleased that companies such as Armonicos depend on Spatial as a trusted development partner."

About Armonicos Co., Ltd.

For over 25 years Armonicos has provided 3D solutions for all areas of the design process. Their three main package products, spGate, a data translator and repair tool, spScan, a reverse engineering application, and spGauge, a product inspection tool, are designed to help users increase both the quality and speed of their design process. For more information, please visit http://www.armonicos.co.jp/english/index.html or send email to info@armonicos.co.jp.

Click here to return to Contents

SYCODE Releases CATIA V4 and V5 File Import Add-Ins for SolidWorks

14 December 2009

SYCODE has released CATIA V4 and V5 file import add-ins for SolidWorks. These add-ins give SolidWorks the ability to read CATIA V4 and V5 parts and assemblies without the need of a CATIA license.

"SolidWorks CEO Jeff Ray could not put it better when he recently said in an interview that SolidWorks customers are fed up with not being able to share data between CATIA and SolidWorks," says Deelip Menezes, Founder and CEO of SYCODE. *"As a SolidWorks Solution Partner, SYCODE has taken the initiative to offer a solution to this long standing problem. Using these add-ins SolidWorks users will now be able to open CATIA V4 and V5 parts and assemblies without needing a license of CATIA installed on the computer or network."*

These add-ins are powered by the widely used 3D InterOp technology from Spatial. Besides data exchange 3D InterOp also offers powerful repairing and healing features which are extensively used in these add-ins. Repairing involves checking the file for corrupted data and fixing invalid data. Healing corrects the differences in precision. The add-ins also create detailed log files which are extremely useful in identifying data translation problems and aid in locating and fixing errors.

The add-ins have been tested to work with the 32 bit as well as the 64 bit versions of SolidWorks and are available as a fully functional trials. They come with installers and detailed documentation in the form of compiled HTML help files which contains step-by-step tutorials to get end users started in the shortest possible time.

More information about the add-ins and free downloads can be found at the SYCODE web site:

CATIA V4 Import for SolidWorks - http://www.sycode.com/products/catia_v4_import_sw/

CATIA V5 Import for SolidWorks -

CATIA V4 Import for SolidWorks can read CATIA V4 .model, .exp and .session files from CATIA version 4.1.9 to CATIA 4.2.4. Whereas *CATIA V5 Import for SolidWorks* can read CATIA V5 .CATPart, .CATProduct and .cgr files from CATIA V5 R2 to CATIA V5 R19. It is important to note that the CATIA V5 import add-in uses authentic CATIA V5 libraries from Dassault Systemés, thereby offering a quality of data translation which is second to none.

Click here to return to Contents

SYCODE Releases CATIA, NX and Pro/ENGINEER 2D Drawing File Import Add-Ins for SolidWorks

17 December 2009

SYCODE has released CATIA, NX and Pro/ENGINEER 2D drawing file import add-ins for SolidWorks. These add-ins give SolidWorks the ability to read CATIA, NX and Pro/ENGINEER drawings without the need of a CATIA, NX or Pro/ENGINEER license.

"Suppliers to users of high end MCAD systems like CATIA, NX and Pro/ENGINEER often use SolidWorks as their MCAD system," explains Deelip Menezes, Founder and CEO of SYCODE. "These SolidWorks users often receive design data in the form of 2D drawings in the native file format of the high-end MCAD system. SolidWorks does not offer any way to read these 2D drawings, which can be a huge problem. The add-ins that we are releasing today are designed to solve this exact problem."

The add-ins have been tested to work with the 32 bit as well as the 64 bit versions of SolidWorks and are available as a fully functional trials. They come with installers and detailed documentation in the form of compiled HTML help files which contains step-by-step tutorials to get end users started in the shortest possible time.

More information about the add-ins and free downloads can be found at the SYCODE web site:

- CATIA V4 2D Import for SolidWorks - http://www.sycode.com/products/catia_v4_2d_import_sw/
- CATIA V5 2D Import for SolidWorks - http://www.sycode.com/products/catia_v5_2d_import_sw/
- NX 2D Import for SolidWorks - http://www.sycode.com/products/nx_2d_import_sw/

- Pro/ENGINEER 2D Import for SolidWorks - http://www.sycode.com/products/pro_engineer_2d_import_sw/

Click here to return to Contents

3Dconnexion 3D Mice Help Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire 5.0 Users Design Without Barriers

11 December 2009

3Dconnexion's full line of 3D mice now support PTC® Pro/ENGINEER® Wildfire® 5.0, complementing the productivity improvements, user interface and model editing enhancements inherent in the new 3D CAD/CAM/CAE environment.

3Dconnexion 3D mice provide a superior 3D navigation experience to Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire 5.0 users, enhancing new efficiencies in the design workflow. Highlights include:

Enhanced Control and Performance: Augmenting new enhancements made to the Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire 5.0 application interface and dynamic model editing capabilities, 3Dconnexion 3D mice allow users to navigate and position models with a level of control that is not possible with a traditional mouse and keyboard. By gently pushing, pulling, twisting, and tilting the 3D mouse controller cap, Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire 5.0 users can simultaneously pan, zoom and rotate models or camera views, encouraging levels of design review that are crucial to identifying errors earlier in the design process.

Advanced Productivity: When using a 3Dconnexion 3D mouse, Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire 5.0 users benefit from a balanced and cooperative work style. One hand engages the 3D mouse to position the model, while the other hand simultaneously uses the traditional mouse to select, create or edit. In addition, certain 3D mouse keys are pre-configured for the most commonly used Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire 5.0 commands in each environment, ensuring a seamless and powerful connection to the application.

Increased Comfort: By spreading the workload across both hands, traditional mouse clicks are reduced by up to 50%, providing users with a more comfortable working experience and a reduction in work-related fatigue.

Pricing and Availability

Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire 5.0 supports 3Dconnexion's entire 3D mouse product line on Windows® XP, Windows Vista®, and Unix systems. The 3Dconnexion product line, including the Professional Series with the new SpacePilot PRO (MSRP $399), SpacePilot™ (MSRP $299 with promotion) and SpaceExplorer™ (MSRP $299), and the Standard Series with the SpaceNavigator (MSRP $99) and SpaceNavigator for Notebooks (MSRP $129), are available from professional CAD resellers and major online resellers. For a complete list of resellers or to buy directly, visit www.3Dconnexion.com.

Click here to return to Contents

3Dconnexion 3D Mice Now Supported by Siemens NX 7 and Tecnomatix 9

16 December 2009

3Dconnexion's line of 3D mice – including its flagship SpacePilot™ PRO 3D mouse – is now supported by Siemens NX™ 7 digital product development solution, and Tecnomatix® 9 digital manufacturing suite, including Plant Simulation, Process Designer and Process Simulate.

3Dconnexion 3D mice provide advanced 3D navigation and control for MCAD and manufacturing process engineers working in these applications, and deliver advanced product design and manufacturing planning. Additional highlights include:

Enhanced Control: Complementing productivity enhancements made to NX 7 and Tecnomatix 9, 3Dconnexion 3D mice allow users to manipulate views while editing a model more intuitively. Providing an enhanced user experience and improved design performance, engineers can move in all three dimensions simultaneously – by gently pushing, pulling, twisting, or tilting the controller cap, users can pan, zoom and rotate models or camera views.

Advanced Productivity: When using a 3Dconnexion 3D mouse, NX 7 and Tecnomatix 9 users benefit from a balanced and cooperative work style. One hand engages the 3D mouse to position the model while the other hand simultaneously uses the traditional mouse to select, create or edit. In addition, certain 3D mouse keys are pre-configured for the most commonly used commands in each environment (part, assembly, drawing, sketch, etc.), ensuring a seamless and powerful connection to the application.

Design Performance: The superior navigation experience offered by 3Dconnexion 3D mice encourages new levels of design review that are crucial to identifying errors earlier in the design process. For example, when using a 3D mouse with Tecnomatix Process Designer, Process Simulate, and Plant Simulation, engineers experience unified 3D navigation across manufacturing disciplines, from process layout and design, simulation and validation, to manufacturing execution.

Increased Comfort: By spreading the workload across both hands, traditional mouse clicks are reduced by up to 50%, so users benefit from a more comfortable working experience and a reduction in work related fatigue.

Siemens NX 7 and Tecnomatix 9 software supports the entire 3Dconnexion 3D mouse product line, including the Professional Series with the SpacePilot PRO (MSRP $399), SpacePilot (MSRP $299 with promotion) and SpaceExplorer™ (MSRP $299), and the Standard Series with the SpaceNavigator (MSRP $99) and SpaceNavigator for Notebooks (MSRP $129). For additional information regarding 3Dconnexion's 3D mice, visit http://www.3dconnexion.com

Click here to return to Contents

TransMagic 64-Bit Shatters the Limits to Large CAD File Translation

17 December 2009

TransMagic, Inc. announced the first release of a true 64-bit version of their flagship product, TransMagic EXPERT. Translating large 3D design files is a memory-intensive operation that has been very challenging, primarily due to system memory restrictions. TransMagic 64-Bit permanently changes the landscape for large CAD file translation by solving this common manufacturing problem. TransMagic reports that the new platform offers 10-20% better performance and a tremendous increase in file size capability. Translating multi-gigabyte files on a single computer is now a reality, with TransMagic 64-Bit.

The new TransMagic 64-Bit release renders the 3GB memory limit of 32-bit applications obsolete for the purpose of translating large files. The ability to efficiently reuse design data in any application offers tremendous value and efficiency to manufacturing organizations. Companies that can easily leverage their design investments in downstream manufacturing or simulation applications will reduce their costs and have a competitive advantage. Medium size files can quickly exhaust memory resources on a

traditional 32-bit computer. To translate a file in a standalone application the computer must simultaneously maintain both the source file and the target file in memory during the process until the translation is complete. This creates an upper limit on the file size capability of all 32-bit 3D translation products. With modern 64-bit applications like TransMagic, memory access and hence file size can be virtually unlimited.

“For some time we’ve been seeing complex assembly files larger than 1 gigabyte at automotive and aerospace companies, ” states Craig Dennis, CTO of TransMagic. “In the past there was no way to access enough memory to support the translation process for these large files. Being first to market with 64-bit means these limitations are now footnotes of a bygone era.”

For more information or to schedule a demonstration of TransMagic 64-Bit, please email sales@transmagic.com or call +1 303-460-1406.

Click here to return to Contents

Trimble Introduces Update to Powerful 3D Laser Scanning Software for Industrial Plant Applications

18 December 2009

Trimble introduced version 6.5 of its Trimble® RealWorks™ software. The software provides an intuitive and efficient solution for integrating 3D laser scanner data into the plant lifecycle work process. Version 6.5 includes new features for the rapid management of 3D data including an automated target extraction and registration function for data collected with the Trimble FX™ and Trimble CX™ 3D laser scanners. The automation significantly reduces the data processing time which can improve productivity.

"Trimble RealWorks software allows 3D information to be integrated into the plant lifecycle work process, extending beyond the basic management of 3D scanning data," said Patricia Boothe, business director for Trimble's Power, Process and Plant Division. "The new release integrates data from Trimble's broad range of 3D laser scanning solutions so that accurate information can be extracted for plant design, construction and ongoing operations and maintenance. This ability increases productivity, reduces costs and can contribute to increased worker safety during plant projects and operations."

In addition to addressing survey and civil engineering applications, Trimble RealWorks version 6.5 offers industrial plant customers with tailored modules--building upon the base level functionality of 3D data visualization, registration and manipulation. The RealWorks Advanced module takes visualization and manipulation to the next level by providing functions to perform detailed analysis and generate enhanced deliverables. The RealWorks Plant module provides advanced modeling and automated extraction functions to generate 3D Computer Aided Design (CAD) models for use in plant and project design. Data can also be seamlessly transferred to Trimble LASERGen™ software to use directly within CAD design packages.

A downloadable application, the Trimble RealWorks Viewer, allows clients to visualize the data captured by their service providers. In addition, clients can perform basic measurements and attach annotations.

Trimble RealWorks version 6.5 software is available now. For more information, visit: http://www.trimble.com/ppp/realworks.aspx

For more information about Trimble's Power, Process and Plant solutions visit: www.trimble.com/plant.

Click here to return to Contents