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CIMdata News

CIMdata's President Ed Miller Presents "Mechatronics Role in PLM Strategies" at EMM 2009

February 2009

Title: Mechatronics Role in PLM Strategies

Date: Thursday, 25-June-2009

Duration: 30-40 minutes

Main Topics:

- Challenges for Mechatronics solutions
- Mechatronics and PLM
- Industry status

Description: Products continue to become more complex, and have begun to include a range of mechanical, electronic, and embedded software components. Successful PLM strategies and environments must provide solid support for product definition and management in this environment and must be able to handle the full product definition. This session will focus on the importance of managing the complete product definition, successful approaches taken by industrial companies, and the impact on their ability to deliver more competitive products and services to their customers. The growing recognition that Mechatronics must be included in PLM strategies will be discussed, as well as the challenges that this presents. The session will also provide a perspective on the current industry situation regarding support for Mechatronics solutions from the major PLM suppliers.

EMM 2009 Conference details: www.emm2009.eu

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"PLM isn't just for big companies anymore" by Ed Miller

February 24, 2009

Historically, product life-cycle management (PLM) was practical mostly for large, distributed enterprises with the extensive resources needed to invest in and deploy the systems, understand the approach, improve the technologies, validate benefits, and establish organizational practices to make

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PLM effective. Companies that originally invested in PLM often were the big OEMs in industries such as automotive and aerospace, with complex global facilities and far-reaching supply chains.

For the most part, PLM solutions for these large organizations are all-encompassing enterprise systems focused on issues that affect multiple domains such as program management, engineering, manufacturing, purchasing, asset management, and quality. Typical functionality includes program management; CAD file management, CAD integrations, bill-of-material (BOM) and bill-of-information (BOI) creation and management, document management, visualization, strategic sourcing, and extensive workflow management capabilities to automate various complex processes.

Recognizing a tremendous market potential, PLM suppliers have and are continuing to adapt these same capabilities for small and midsize companies that aren't content to let PLM remain the domain of industry behemoths. These smaller companies desire the same support for global collaboration and creation of innovative approaches to their own product development problems.

Although these companies have many of the same requirements for PLM as their larger counterparts, they also have these differing characteristics:

- Limited information technology (IT) resources;
- Limited process improvement resources;
- Demand for low total cost of ownership;
- Demand for fast business impact; and
- Demand for minimized risk.

As a result, PLM for small and midsize companies must be provided in the form of:

- Cost-effective solutions (software and services) with low initial cost, and low ongoing costs;
- Limited installation/implementation support requirements to reach production operation; and
- Packaged solutions with pre-configured processes to provide templates and guidance in achieving best practices with the solutions.

For small and mid-sized companies that design or engineer simple parts or components, configuration management support typically isn't a critical PLM requirement. As a result, with these types of companies PLM solutions are implemented to support data vault management, workflow automation, and applications that sustain specific needs in the engineering or manufacturing process—e.g., change management, engineering release and quality assurance.

For companies that design or engineer medium to highly complex products such as engines, turbines or machine tools, these capabilities often are supplemented with configuration management support.

PLM solutions for small and midsize companies are delivered to such companies from various suppliers. Major PLM players all have such systems, generally licensed and supported by networks of value added resellers (VAR). In addition, smaller niche PLM providers and regional suppliers often are aimed primarily at small and midsize companies, frequently in certain industries.

Key factors for small and midsize enterprises to consider include the ability to deliver out-of-the-box applications and easily tailored solutions based on best practices that support the organization's product and process related information creation and management requirements.

Above all, the PLM solution must be simple enough to be clearly and easily understood. If not,

companies should keep looking for a solution that meets their basic requirements. Such a search takes time and effort, but the work soon pays off in benefits that give competitive advantage to forward-looking companies of all sizes that implement PLM.

This article by CIMdata's President, Ed Miller, was also published in [Manufacturing Business Technology](#).

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Company News

ASME and Autodesk Survey Shows Mechanical Engineers Increasingly Focused on Sustainable Design

25 February 2009

The first annual sustainable design-trend watch survey jointly commissioned by the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) and Autodesk found that two-thirds of respondents have worked on designing sustainable products.

The survey of ASME members is the first research conducted to understand the factors and impacts of sustainable design on mechanical engineers and their manufacturing businesses in industries including automotive and transportation, industrial machinery, consumer products and energy.

Sustainable engineering refers to the design and manufacture of an ever-increasing volume of goods and services while using the earth's resources more efficiently and producing less waste.

A key trend highlighted by the survey is that more than half of the practicing engineers responding reported they expect to increase their use of sustainable design practices in the next year. Primary design concerns focused on using less energy, reducing emissions and complying with environmental and regulatory standards.

Additionally, a separate survey of ASME student members found that half of the respondents have encountered sustainable design practices in their studies and are extremely interested in green and sustainable information and causes.

"Engineers have to understand the impact of their decisions on built and natural systems," said ASME Executive Director Thomas G. Loughlin. "They must be skillful at collaborating closely with colleagues in an increasingly interdisciplinary work environment to meet efficiency and resources goals impacting our only Earth."

"ASME is committed to being a strong player in the important discussion among engineers, legislators, and industry -- including suppliers like Autodesk -- to ensure that everyone is pointing in the same direction when it comes to sustainable engineering practices," Loughlin added.

"A few years ago our industry may have not been as focused on sustainable design, but these results confirm that designing with sustainability in mind is now a primary aim of mechanical engineers," said Robert "Buzz" Kross, senior vice president, Manufacturing Industry Group at Autodesk. "Autodesk is pleased to join with ASME to highlight the importance of making smarter, more sustainable design decisions. This underscores our continued commitment to providing engineers with the Digital Prototyping tools required to understand the environmental impacts of a new product."

Mechanical Engineering Priorities Trending Toward Renewable Materials

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Along with creating designs that use less energy, reduce emissions and comply with regulatory standards, respondents also indicated that design priorities include using renewable, recyclable and recycled materials, reducing material waste in manufacturing and improving manufacturing processes to use fewer resources.

However, cost is a major consideration when deciding to factor sustainability into developing a new product, according to the survey. One-third of the professional engineer respondents indicated that they would consider sustainable technologies for new products only if they are cost-competitive.

Survey Methodology and Demographics

The online survey of 50,000 ASME professionals and 18,000 ASME student members was conducted over a two-week period in December 2008. The questionnaire covered 16 questions and generated nearly 3,500 respondents in the U.S. Approximately 60 percent of the practicing engineers responding to the survey have careers spanning more than 20 years, with more than 25 percent focusing on the design and development of products, systems or equipment. Nearly 20 percent of the respondents work in the energy and power industry, and more than 10 percent, respectively, work in professional services and in manufacturing fields.

For more information on the ASME/Autodesk Sustainability Survey, visit <http://www.autodesk.com/green>.

Autodesk and Sustainable Design

The same Autodesk Digital Prototyping software that manufacturers use to design, visualize, and simulate their ideas can also enable customers to innovate in sustainable ways, such as saving energy and optimizing material use. Digital Prototyping helps manufacturers optimize materials use, decrease or eliminate waste, make sustainable materials choices, optimize energy use, and address a growing number of product-related environmental regulations and voluntary standards worldwide. To learn more about Autodesk commitment to sustainable design, please visit <http://www.autodesk.com/sustainabilityreport>.

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Aspen Technology Announces CFO Transition

25 February 2009

Aspen Technology, Inc. announced that Brad Miller will be leaving his post as chief financial officer in order to pursue other interests, effective February 26, 2009. The Company also announced that it has begun an executive search process to replace Mr. Miller, and that Mark Fusco will serve as interim chief financial officer pending completion of the search.

Mark Fusco, chief executive officer of AspenTech, stated “The Company and the Board would like to thank Brad for his service over the past two years, and for his efforts in getting the Company on file with its new independent auditing firm. With this important milestone achieved, we have a framework in place to help the Company complete its outstanding filing requirements. We wish Brad the best of luck in his future endeavors.”

Fusco added, “I believe the Company’s customer facing operations are executing at a high level, as evidenced by the solid license bookings performance in the most recent quarter and first six months of fiscal 2009. I am confident in the company’s ability to continue executing at a high level, and believe

that today's announcement will not impact our targets for bringing the company's financial reporting current."

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Bentley's "Be Employable" Initiative Provides Free Software and Training to Help Sustain Infrastructure Professions

23 February 2009

Bentley Systems, Incorporated launched its Be Employable initiative to help in sustaining the infrastructure professions. Be Employable is an addition to Bentley's Be Careers Network designed to help outplaced architectural, engineering, construction, and geospatial professionals update and upgrade their technology skill sets, giving them a significant competitive edge in today's challenging job market. It provides free access to Bentley's comprehensive software portfolio and training as well as the ability to earn learning units from the Bentley Institute, Bentley's training organization. A learning unit is earned for each hour of self-paced or instructor-led learning content completed. By taking advantage of these offerings, Be Employable participants will be better positioned as top candidates for employment opportunities across a broad spectrum of projects. Moreover, once back in the workforce, they will be able to deliver greater value to their new employers.

The enhanced Be Careers Network Resume Center, which can be found on the Be Communities networking site (<http://communities.bentley.com>), connects recent graduates entering the infrastructure disciplines and students seeking internships with hiring managers. Outplaced infrastructure professionals who have improved their skills using the Be Employable initiative can also use the Resume Center to connect with these same organizations.

The new Be Employable initiative makes the following tools available to any outplaced infrastructure professional throughout 2009:

- Access to Bentley's V8i software portfolio for noncommercial use,
- Instructor-led online distance learning to eliminate the travel time and cost of traditional training,
- OnDemand eLearning for self-paced learning,
- Comprehensive learning transcripts to help maintain professional accreditation.

Malcolm Walter, COO, Bentley Systems, said, "Worldwide, the infrastructure community is facing the relentless pressures of a difficult economy, and downsizing of design and engineering organizations has become widespread. Bentley's mission of 'sustaining infrastructure' encompasses the need to 'sustain the professions' that design, build, and operate our infrastructure, and the Be Employable program is designed to do just that."

Walter continued, "We conceived our Be Employable initiative to help transitioning infrastructure professionals overcome these challenges by giving them the opportunity to advance their software know-how for advantage in the job market. To extend its reach, we will encourage downsizing user organizations to make outgoing colleagues aware of the Be Employable opportunity. In addition, we will promote its availability to professional architectural, engineering, construction, and geospatial associations so they can extend Be Employable to members seeking new positions. Ultimately, our goal is to help enable as many infrastructure professionals as possible to resume rewarding careers as easily and quickly as possible."

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For additional information about Bentley's Be Employable initiative or for individuals, infrastructure organizations, and professional associations interested in pre-registering, visit <http://www.bentley.com/beemployable>.

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Bentley Extends Focus From Plant Creation to Value Creation

26 February 2009

Greg Bentley, CEO of Bentley Systems announced a series of products and initiatives that are a direct response to the realities of the weakened global economy and hiatus in new plant construction. "Now is the time for both the vendors and the users of plant engineering software to find new ways to create value from our existing resources," said Mr. Bentley. "We are committed to helping our users extract and reuse data from existing investments in models and drawings, to enabling them to use such information more effectively in the rehabilitation and reconstruction of existing facilities, and to ensuring that plant engineering professionals can get the training they need to maximize their 'value-creation' potential."

Bentley Systems is privately held company whose 2008 annual revenues increased to more than \$500 million.

"Our 25 years of leadership continuity, our subscription-driven cashflow predictability, and our negligible net debt enable us to focus uniquely on the long-term value proposition we can bring to our users, and to respond proactively to help them sustain their businesses through difficult times," Mr. Bentley added. "A majority of our revenues come from owner-operators, which has prepared us for a market in which improving the value creation of existing facilities and operations is essential to remaining competitive."

In support of this approach, Bentley Systems announced its new ProjectWise PDx Dynamic Review Service, which enables change-managed read access to visualize, query, analyze, and annotate complete PDS data and models extracted directly from the PDS project database, providing performance at a fraction of the cost of proprietary offerings. "We've just made ProjectWise, our industry-leading system of collaboration servers, 'PDx-wise,' extending all of its capabilities to PDS content. Gone now are the days when users are forced to pay for proprietary software – at price levels reminiscent of the bygone UNIX-workstation mindset – just to access and review the information locked in a PDS model," Mr. Bentley emphasized.

"OpenPlant PowerPID was previewed at this conference a year ago," said Mr. Bentley. "Bentley Systems has delivered on its promise and, since Q4 2008, we've been shipping the industry's first ISO 15926-based plant engineering product. The great thing about using this open standard is that our users can create new value from existing DGN- and DWG-based P&ID drawings by bringing them into the open ISO 15926 format, as well as use the best-in-class functionality of OpenPlant PowerPID to create a new P&ID model in less time, for less cost, and at a higher quality than competitive offerings."

Mr. Bentley also outlined the roadmap for ongoing additions to the OpenPlant software product range. The roadmap includes OpenPlant Modeler V8i, the first and only 3D plant modeling software based on the open ISO 15926 data model. OpenPlant Modeler V8i with a release during 2009, enables engineering, tracking, and management at the component level, in addition to conventional plant information deliverables. Mr. Bentley then made the following commitment, "Not only will all of Bentley's uniquely comprehensive plant portfolio be advanced for inherent interoperability through

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OpenPlant's ISO 15926 schema, but also all OpenPlant software will be priced to provide a breakthrough in value creation, with license costs that are less than our competitors' current maintenance charges."

With new plant construction slowed, Mr. Bentley described one proactive value-creating response for Bentley and plant engineering professionals as "embracing the work-face," referring to both the retrofit construction and operations/maintenance of existing plants. In particular, Mr. Bentley described Bentley's objective to specifically target IT functionality to improve safety, health, and environmental aspects.

Leading the way for business-effective value creation through plant safety is Jim Porter, former chief engineer at DuPont, past chairman of Construction Industry Institute and FIATECH. Mr. Porter was recently appointed by Bentley to head up a new committee of outside experts dedicated to thought leadership in using information to improve plant safety – from construction through operations. "We have to include the modeling of the crafts' work-facing processes in the planning, simulation, execution, and risk management of construction and retrofits in order to take us to the next level of safety performance in our industry," said Mr. Porter. "Thankfully, we can start with the use of Bentley's ConstructSim software, which is already bringing such benefits to projects. And I know from experience that the more safely the plant is constructed, the more safely it can be operated."

Also Bentley introduced two new initiatives, responsive to current market conditions, to help sustain the infrastructure professions: the Be Employable program and a groundbreaking enhancement to the Bentley LEARN subscription.

Be Employable has been added to Bentley's Be Careers Network to create value for individual practitioners impacted by the downsizing of design and engineering organizations. Be Employable is designed to help outplaced architectural, engineering, construction, and geospatial professionals update and upgrade their technology skill sets, giving them a competitive edge in today's difficult job market. It provides free access to a comprehensive portfolio of Bentley's software and training, plus additional benefits to help them resume rewarding careers as soon as possible. For additional information, visit <http://www.bentley.com/beemployable>.

The enhanced Bentley LEARN subscription will increase the value-creation potential of the infrastructure workforce by facilitating ongoing learning in order to take better advantage of new software advances to create and leverage information models. It adds Bentley Institute's instructor-led distance learning to the program's extensive OnDemand eLearning offerings, but keeps the subscription at an attractive price point. Instructor-led distance learning applies state-of-the-art virtual technologies to eliminate travel time and costs. Already, Bentley Institute's burgeoning instructor-led distance learning schedule covers a broad range of infrastructure disciplines, and is rated the highest by both learners and instructors.

Mr. Bentley added, "The pricing of our enhanced Bentley LEARN subscription is set at just a fraction of the cost of software maintenance and enhancements. But it provides even more leverage by upgrading and advancing the value-creating skills of the most vital and expensive resource – the practitioners, engineers, and operations professionals who design, build and run today's plant infrastructure."

For additional information about the Bentley OpenPlant family of ISO 15926-based products, visit <http://www.bentley.com/en-US/Promo/OpenPlant/default>. For additional information about Be Employable, visit <http://www.bentley.com/beemployable>.

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COADE to Resell Leica CloudWorx for Accurate Piping “As-Builts” from Laser Scanning

23 February 2009

COADE, Inc. and Leica Geosystems announced an agreement under which COADE will resell Leica Geosystems’ CloudWorx Basic software. CloudWorx, in conjunction with COADE CADWorx fieldPipe for CloudWorx, allows users to work efficiently and directly with rich, as-built laser scan data to produce intelligent plant models.

By offering both CloudWorx and CADWorx fieldPipe for CloudWorx, COADE not only expands COADE’s offerings of “as-built” software solutions, but also gives users single-point access to the tools they need to produce intelligent, full-featured as-builts from their valuable scanned data. Whereas in the past users had to use multi-step processes to produce such intelligence, this new tool does it in one step, enabling users to produce intelligent models from which can be produced isometrics, bills of material and bi-directional links to analysis packages.

“Adding CloudWorx to our product offerings makes it easier for our customers to take advantage of the rapid growth of laser scanning in the plant industry,” stated COADE’s Vornel Walker, marketing manager of COADE. “There is an enormous amount of rich, accurate as-built scanning data that currently exists in our industry, and COADE is excited to offer users the ability to take full advantage of this information. By partnering with Leica Geosystems, we are partnering with the leader in the laser scanning industry.”

“By teaming with [COADE](#) to resell Leica CloudWorx, Leica Geosystems is broadening our channel to better reach the plant market with laser scanning solutions,” added Chris Thewalt, director of scanning software business, Leica Geosystems. “COADE has a deep reach into the plant community that fits well with the deepening penetration of laser scanning into this important segment.”

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Delcam’s ArtCAM Forum Tops 10,000 Members

24 February 2009

Delcam reports that the online forum for its ArtCAM artistic design and manufacturing software (<http://forum.artcam.com/>) has recently gained its 10,000th member. Over the past six years, almost 35,000 articles, many with multiple postings, have been contributed by the members, covering all aspects of the use of ArtCAM software in applications as diverse as signmaking, furniture manufacture, engraving, woodworking and jewellery production. Items have also been posted on a wide range of related issues, including the selection of materials and equipment.

In addition, the site contains around 1,000 examples of models created in ArtCAM. These demonstrate not only the versatility of the software but also the skill and imagination of the users. People that don’t yet use ArtCAM are welcome to visit the site to see the kind of project that can be completed with the software. Recent enhancements to the site include the introduction of RSS feeds to give automatic notification of new information and enhanced security to protect users from spam and other unwanted mail.

“ArtCAM is targeted mainly at creative people who may not have the mathematical and engineering skills normally needed by CAD/CAM operators,” commented ArtCAM Development Manager, Edward Powell. “Even though we make the software as easy to use as we can, the tips and tricks on the forum are very valuable to our users. They range from introductory tips for those that are new to the software,

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right through to advanced help for experienced users undertaking especially complex projects. There is also extensive material on the use of ArtCAM as an educational tool, including comments and questions from lecturers and students.”

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DP Technology, Maker of ESPRIT, and Autodesk Italy Become Marketing Partners

24 February 2009

The Italian branches of [DP Technology](#) and Autodesk, a major producer of two-and-three-dimensional design software, have joined forces for the purpose of co-marketing their respective products.

"This collaboration will allow us to show the interoperability of our CAM solution to the world of Autodesk users," said Bruno Monelli, director of sales for DP Italy, of the new partnership. "Our ESPRIT software will empower users with a long list of benefits."

The first formal public collaboration between the two parties took place this month at Seatec 2009, in Marina di Carrara, Italy.

ESPRIT provides users with ESPRIT FX™, which is the latest in advanced CAD to CAM feature exchange technology. Going beyond transferring just the part geometry, the FX™ technology provides portions of the original Autodesk Inventor Feature Tree directly inside the ESPRIT user interface, thereby including the complete original design intent — features, tolerances, material properties, surface finishes, administrative data, etc.

Utilization of the CAD feature tree within ESPRIT speeds up the programming process while simultaneously increasing accuracy, providing programmers with truer descriptions of workpieces to be machined.

About ESPRIT

ESPRIT is a high-performance computer-aided manufacturing (CAM) system for a full range of machine tool applications. ESPRIT delivers full-spectrum programming for 2–5 axis milling, 2–22 axis turning, 2–5 axis wire EDM, multitasking mill-turn machining and B-axis machine tools, and high-speed 3- and 5-axis machining. ESPRIT's high-performance capabilities include machining any part geometry (solid, surface, or wireframe), universal post processing to format G-code for virtually any machine tool, and solid simulation and verification with dry runs rendered in dynamic solids for optimal part quality and consistency. ESPRIT is 100 percent pure Windows®, and provides a comfortable and familiar user interface for maximum productivity.

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Heike Auerbach Appointed to Lead T-Systems in North America

25 February 2009

The T-Systems Board has appointed Heike Auerbach Managing Director for T-Systems in North America. Ms. Auerbach will be responsible to set the strategic direction for the organization as well as ensure the achievement of the corporate strategy in the United States and Canada. The announcement was made by Joachim Langmack, Chief Sales Officer of T-Systems.

As Managing Director, Ms. Auerbach holds the top position at the North American business customer

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brand of the global telecommunications giant, Deutsche Telekom. She is also a member of both the T-Systems and Deutsche Telekom supervisory boards in North America.

"We are confident that under Heike's leadership, T-Systems will become a significant player in the North American market," said Langmack. T-Systems in North America will leverage its accumulated experience with existing corporate clients such as Shell Oil and T-Mobile to penetrate new accounts and significantly increase market share in North America.

Prior to joining T-Systems in North America as CFO in January 2006, Ms. Auerbach served a dual role as CFO and CIO of T-Systems in South Africa. She was an integral member of the leadership team that grew the company from its inception in 1997 to one of the leading IT and Telecommunications companies in South Africa by 2005.

From 1991 to 1997, Ms. Auerbach worked in various leadership positions in Finance and Controlling as well as in Consulting and Program Management roles for debis Systemhaus.

Ms. Auerbach holds a degree in Business Administration/Information Technology from Berufsakademie Stuttgart in Germany.

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INCAT Surpasses 4,000 Employees Worldwide

23 February 2009

INCAT announced that the Company's worldwide work force has surpassed 4,000 employees.

INCAT employees work throughout India and the Asia-Pacific region, Europe, and North America, providing engineering, design and enterprise solutions in SAP and Sibel CRM systems, as well as other consultancy services to the world's most ambitious automotive and aerospace manufacturers and their suppliers.

"Our organization has realized unprecedented growth within the past two years," said Milind Kaulgud, Head of HR – INCAT Asia-Pacific, who coordinates HR operations and initiatives worldwide. "To match the growth of our client portfolio, we have expanded our professional services delivery network by adding more than 1,100 employees in North America, Europe, and India during that period."

The Asia-Pacific region has seen the highest growth in employment for the Company, according to Kaulgud, but the INCAT ESO value proposition requires robust staffing in all regions.

In North America, where the automotive industry is seeing its greatest stress and downsizing, INCAT is focusing on retraining automotive engineering professionals to put their knowledge and experience to work in other industries, including aerospace. INCAT delivers its training with i get it®, its proprietary, Web-based tool for knowledge management.

In Michigan, the location of the Company's North American headquarters, INCAT is a licensed training provider through the MichWorks "No Worker Left Behind" program, an initiative of the State of Michigan, and is currently offering a cross-training program for displaced automotive designers seeking to apply their skills to aerospace design.

INCAT also participates in the MichWorks "Incumbent Worker Program," for companies seeking to retrain their current work force in new engineering and design software applications, to avoid downsizing, secure new projects and increase productivity.

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“[INCAT](#) has established a leadership position worldwide for engineering professionals who seek opportunities for both personal growth and career development,” Kaulgud added. “We have become an aspirational organization, attracting and retaining the industry’s very best professionals by creating an environment that offers challenge, values individual skills, puts the latest technologies into the hands of our engineers, and fosters performance excellence.”

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Industry's First Low Power Verification Methodology Manual, Authored by ARM, Renesas Technology and Synopsys, is Now Available

23 February 2009

[Synopsys, Inc.](#) announced the availability of the Verification Methodology Manual for Low Power (VMM-LP), the culmination of a collaborative effort between ARM, Renesas Technology and Synopsys to document a methodology for the comprehensive verification of low power designs. The VMM-LP book enables broad deployment of industry best practices to accelerate the verification of low power designs. Leveraging the collective verification and IP experience of more than 30 companies with real-world low power verification experience, the new book builds on the methodology originally published in the Verification Methodology Manual for SystemVerilog book developed by ARM and Synopsys. A tutorial on the methodology described in the VMM-LP book will be presented at DVCon in San Jose on February 24, 2009.

"The task of verifying low power designs presents a significant challenge for today's verification engineers, as most are not yet well-trained on low power concepts," said Jianfeng Liu, senior low power verification methodology engineer at Samsung Electronics. "The Verification Methodology Manual for Low Power is a timely and valuable resource that addresses all aspects of low power verification, providing detailed rules and guidelines."

"Being able to create a power control architecture is more than just having something that looks pretty on paper and, theoretically, meets your power targets," said David Wheelock, SOC power architect at Seagate Technology. "The VMM-LP provides clear insight into the pitfalls and practicality issues for both the design and verification of low power systems. This handy volume comes with specific examples of design and verification issues that have been seen in actual chips. Its rules and recommendations will help move the electronics industry into a much greener future."

Low power design techniques have become increasingly complex and have led to an explosion in verification complexity, creating a need for a well-understood, robust, and reusable verification environment to achieve power goals and first-pass silicon success. The VMM-LP book documents the common causes of low power bugs, provides rules and guidelines for low power verification, specifies a SystemVerilog base class library facilitating the setup of a reusable verification environment, and recommends assertions and coverage techniques to accomplish comprehensive low power verification.

"Low power verification is the key challenge in low power design," said the K3 LP group at HiSilicon. "The VMM-LP helps create a reusable verification environment for low power that can leverage best practices from industry experts. It helps find low power bugs and finds them early in the design cycle rather than waiting for silicon - savings in terms of mask costs and engineering debug time can be huge."

The methodology described in the VMM-LP book allows verification teams to attain coverage closure and pinpoint bugs using assertions. It can be implemented using voltage-aware static and dynamic verification tools, such as MVSIM with the VCS® simulator and MVRC, which are part of the

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Ecylpse™ low power solution from Synopsys. These tools are capable of checking low power designs for the rules documented in the VMM-LP book. The base classes will enable the infrastructure to create a structured and reusable verification environment based on the VMM-LP.

"Because power consumption is one of the most critical factors of today's SoCs for mobile applications, the ability to accurately verify low power functionality is essential to achieving first-pass silicon success," said Ying-Chih Yang, technical director of Home Entertainment Products at Sunplus Technology. "The Verification Methodology Manual for Low Power is a comprehensive collection of necessary and reliable techniques that should help simplify and accelerate the complex task of verifying power-managed designs."

"We see a prevalence of low power designs in Japan and a strong need for a comprehensive verification methodology to tape out such designs with confidence," said Nobuyuki Nishiguchi, vice president and general manager, Development Department 1 at Semiconductor Technology Academic Research Center (STARC). "VMM-LP is the answer to this market need and completely and elegantly addresses all aspects of low power verification. The book covers what is needed to verify low power designs and get it right - the first time around."

"Low power requirements have caused a paradigm shift for the entire semiconductor ecosystem," said Dr. Ed Huijbregts, vice president of Product Development at Magma Design Automation. "Lacking an open, codified and documented methodology, accurate and comprehensive verification of low power designs has been a black art and a productivity drain. With its methodical and guidebook style approach, the VMM-LP provides a clear blueprint for successful verification of low-power designs - this one is a keeper."

About the VMM for Low Power

The lead authors of the VMM-LP book are Srikanth Jadcherla, group director of Research and Development at Synopsys and founder of ArchPro Design Automation, Inc., which Synopsys acquired in 2007; Janick Bergeron, Synopsys Fellow and moderator of the Verification Guild web site; Yoshio Inoue, chief engineer, Design Technology Division, Renesas Technology Corp.; and David Flynn, ARM fellow and co-author of the Low Power Methodology Manual (LPMM) [Springer].

The VMM-LP book defines a scalable verification architecture that can be used to setup and complete verification of low power designs. The methodology addresses all aspects of functional verification of power management functions, including suggestions for static versus dynamic verification, design-for-verification techniques, and use of assertions and coverage metrics to achieve rapid verification closure.

Availability

The VMM-LP book is available today for purchase through the VMM Central web site (<http://www.vmmcentral.org/vmmlp>). Additionally, customers can download a PDF version of the book and register to receive notification about the availability of the source code for the VMM-LP SystemVerilog base classes from VMM Central. To learn more about the VMM-LP, please attend the tutorial entitled A Structured Methodology for Verifying Low Power Designs at DVCon 2009 in San Jose on February 24, 2009.

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Korean and Italian Versions (Beta) of ZWCAD 2009 to be Released

19 February 2009

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ZWCAD Software Co, Ltd. announced the upcoming release of ZWCAD 2009 Korean (Beta) and ZWCAD 2009 Italian (Beta) — respectively on Feb. 23 and Feb. 27.

Thanks to a partnership with local distributors, ZWCAD 2009 will soon be available to both Korean and Italian markets, giving it an even greater international presence.

"We are extremely proud to have our partners to help bring our new Korean and Italian versions of ZWCAD 2009 to market," says Truman Du, CEO of ZWSOFT. "As ZWCAD 2009 continues to become localized for even more international design markets, its power and versatility gains greater global recognition."

ZWCAD 2009 Korean (Beta) and ZWCAD 2009 Italian (Beta) will be available immediately through ZWSOFT and its authorized Korean and Italian business partner channel. For more information, visit <http://www.zwcad.org>.

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Lectra Appoints Mark Lyness Managing Director of Lectra UK

24 February 2009

Lectra has appointed Mark Lyness Managing Director of Lectra UK.

Based in Lectra's UK headquarters in Bradford, West Yorkshire, Mark Lyness has been with [Lectra](#) for seven years. He reports directly to Daniel Harari, Lectra CEO, and will assume responsibility for all Lectra business in the United Kingdom and Ireland.

Since joining the company as Customer Services Manager in 2002, Mark Lyness has substantially increased the quality of Lectra UK's customer services. He was promoted to Sales and Services Manager in December 2007 and has an outstanding track record, which includes developing Lectra's activity in all its market sectors. This, along with his thorough knowledge of Lectra customers and solutions, places him in a very good position to further develop Lectra's presence in the United Kingdom and provide excellent customer service in the region.

"Mark Lyness is in an excellent position to steer our UK subsidiary," said Daniel Harari, Lectra CEO. "He has a thorough working knowledge of Lectra's United Kingdom and Irish markets, close relationships with our customers, and the technical skills required to make the appointment a success. Mark will be able to capitalise on Lectra's customer services offer to help designers, retailers, and manufacturers face our current difficult economic conditions and turn challenges into opportunities. Drawing on Lectra's expertise and years of experience with customers worldwide, Mark will concentrate on providing the very best support for our customers, enabling them to maximise their returns on investment."

"I have confidence in the Lectra team, Mark Lyness said. "All our UK consultants have worked for Lectra and with our customers for many years and have therefore acquired an in-depth understanding of the industry and specific issues across all of our market sectors (fashion, furniture, automotive and industrial fabrics). We see our customers as long-term partners for whom our experienced teams can provide valuable advice."

Mark Lyness first goal is to address the difficult economic conditions Lectra customers are now facing. Lectra provides technology solutions that enable companies to optimise their design processes and increase product development efficiency and accuracy while saving time and material in production.

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They take on particular importance in the current economic climate, where it is essential for companies to differentiate themselves from the competition, increase efficiency, and reduce costs. Lectra offers their customers the best and most up-to-date technology to compete in a tough and competitive market place.

”The changing supply chain structure and challenging economic environment have forced UK and Irish manufacturers and retailers to reassess their current business processes,” Mark Lyness added. “This includes product design and development, manufacturing, and product lifecycle management. Industry leaders with long-term strategies recognise that a combination of leading-edge technology and the best industry expertise is the solution with the highest potential for immediate impact and a quick return on investment.”

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Mentor Graphics Appoints General Managers

23 February 2009

[Mentor Graphics Corporation](#) announced it has appointed Robert Hum as vice president and general manager of the Deep Submicron Division, Glenn Perry as general manager of the Embedded Systems Division, and Guy Moshe as general manager of the Design Creation business unit in the Design Creation Synthesis Division.

Robert Hum, who formerly served as vice president and general manager of Mentor’s Design Verification and Test Division, joined Mentor Graphics with the IKOS Systems acquisition in 2002. Hum has over 25 years of experience in worldwide engineering, marketing, business development and operations. Prior to joining Mentor, he was the executive vice president and chief operating officer of IKOS Systems. He has also held senior business and technology positions at both Cadence Design Systems and Bell-Northern Research (Nortel). Hum has a MSEE from McGill University in Montreal, Canada.

Glenn Perry has served as the general manager of the ESL-HDL Design business unit at Mentor Graphics since 2004. He joined Mentor in 1999 as the engineering director for system-level simulation tools, bringing 20 years of experience in the electronics industry, focused in the simulation and analysis of systems and IC design. Prior to Mentor, Perry held engineering and management positions at Analog (now Synopsys), Harris Semiconductor, Sandia National Laboratories and the United States Air Force Weapons Laboratory. Perry studied electrical engineering in the USAF and University of New Mexico.

Guy Moshe has been with Mentor for four years and has held product line management responsibilities for the Vista product line, and the former Summit Design product lines. With over 20 years of electronics industry and EDA experience, Moshe’s extensive background includes a variety of technical, business, and general management positions. Prior to Mentor, he was the founder and CEO of Summit Design, a developer of HDL and System Level Design products. He held positions at Innoveda and Daisy Systems prior to founding Summit. Moshe has a BSEE degree from the Technion - Israel Institute of Technology.

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New Geomagic Labs Website Shares Emerging Technologies with Community

24 February 2009

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Geomagic has launched Geomagic Labs, a community website that provides early access to new technologies, innovation and product concepts before they appear in commercial software. Geomagic Labs can be accessed at: <http://labs.geomagic.com/>.

“Geomagic Labs is a vehicle for tapping into the collective intelligence of designers, engineers and manufacturers from around the world,” says Karl Matthews, director of product management for Geomagic. “The collaborative conversations opened up by Geomagic Labs will enable us to better understand user needs and tailor our products and solutions to meet those needs.”

The first major technology for preview and discussion on Geomagic Labs is Parametric Exchange, a new feature that reduces product development time by enabling transfer of parametric surfaces, solids, datums and curves from Geomagic Studio software to major CAD packages. The Parametric Exchange preview is available currently for Autodesk Inventor and Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire.

Other technology previews and utilities available on Geomagic Labs include:

- **GeoAutoMate** – a utility that improves productivity by monitoring a directory, automatically loading input files into Geomagic Studio or Geomagic Qualify, and executing a user-defined macro.
- **MakumDatum** – a program that provides drag-and-drop automation for creating datum points in Geomagic Studio and Geomagic Qualify.
- **American Board of Orthodontics (ABO) Base Add-On** – a new feature that enables the creation of digital orthodontic models for case presentation, model storage and rapid prototyping.

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No Engineer Left Behind: A Recession Busting Initiative for Displaced and Unemployed Engineers

26 February 2009

CD-adapco announced the launch of ‘No Engineer Left Behind’, an exciting new program that offers free CAE software and training, to recently unemployed or displaced engineers. This opportunity, which is valued at well over \$25,000 USD, offers qualifying engineers free licenses and training for [STAR-CCM+](#), CD-adapco's CFD code, with the aim of increasing their future employability:

“The unfortunate state of the global economy has left many highly talented engineers as its innocent victims.” says CD-adapco’s Senior VP of Operations, Dr Bill Clark. “The ‘No Engineer Left Behind’ program is specifically designed to enable these engineers to enhance their computer-aided engineering skills and improve their marketability into one of the most buoyant areas of the engineering business.”

Qualifying engineers are invited to attend free training courses at any CD-adapco training facility worldwide. The training will focus on the practical application of [STAR-CCM+](#) to the solution of industrial problems. Skills learned can easily be deployed in a wide range of industries, including: [Aerospace and Defense](#), [Automotive](#), [Biomedical](#), [Buildings](#), [Chemical](#), [Environmental](#), [Marine](#), [Oil and Gas](#), [Power Generation](#), and [Turbomachinery](#).

Available training courses cover topics in a number of application areas, including:

Introductory and Advanced STAR-CCM+ courses

Engineering Process Automation through JAVA Scripting

Virtual Tow Tank - Computational Simulation Training for Naval Architects & Marine

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Engineers

CFD Simulation of Rigid Body Motion for Engineering Analysis

Effective Heat Transfer Modeling

Powerplant and Engine Compartment Thermal Modeling

STAR-Tutor Online and Interactive courses

After completion of the first course, attendees will take home a certificate of competence, and a free software license of [STAR-CCM+](#). Gaining access to the code will allow attendees to practice and maintain the learned skills which are a global standard for CAE simulation.

Engineers can find more information about the No Engineers Left Behind program and register at: www.cd-adapco.com/nelb

For a complete list of available training courses in your area, please visit: www.cd-adapco.com/training



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OVM Extended to Efficiently Manage Coverage Metrics

25 February 2009

Mentor Graphics and Cadence Design Systems, Inc. announced they have extended the Open Verification Methodology (OVM) to include the Unified Coverage Database (UCDB) application program interface (API) and an XML interchange format. The availability of the UCDB API and complementary XML interchange format documentation will allow verification teams to manage coverage metrics in a multi-tool, multi-vendor verification environment, and represents a step toward a standardized approach to managing coverage metrics. Coverage metrics are used to quantify verification effectiveness and completeness, and to highlight areas of a design that require additional verification.

Coverage metrics come from numerous sources, including simulation, static design checking, functional formal verification, sequential equivalence checking and emulation. Each verification tool creates coverage metrics that may be discrete, overlapping, or subsets of one another. With the UCDB API and the XML interchange format, verification teams are given the building blocks to manage the enormous amount of information generated during the verification process in a consistent manner with greater flexibility, and to tailor data transfer and analysis capabilities best suited to their tool and verification environment.

The Mentor/Cadence® extension to OVM matches their recent donations to the Accellera Unified Coverage Interoperability Standards (UCIS) technical subcommittee. Documentation for both the UCDB API and XML interchange format is available in the Community Contributions area of OVM World (www.ovmworld.org) under the Apache 2.0 license in keeping with OVM license terms. By using the Apache 2.0 license for this functionality, the specifications are available to everyone in the OVM ecosystem, and the Accellera UCIS technical subcommittee can easily access the specifications and any enhancements as it completes the standardization task.

About the Open Verification Methodology

The Open Verification Methodology, based on IEEE Std. 1800™-2005 SystemVerilog standard, is the first open, language-interoperable, SystemVerilog verification methodology in the industry. It provides a

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methodology and accompanying library that allow users to create modular, reusable verification environments in which components communicate with each other via standard transaction-level modeling interfaces. It also enables intra- and inter-company reuse through a common methodology and classes for virtual sequences and block-to-system reuse, and full integration with other languages commonly used in production flows. The OVM and OVM World began in August 2007 as a joint effort by [Cadence Design Systems](#) and [Mentor Graphics](#).

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Rob Enslin Named President of SAP North America

25 February 2009

SAP America Inc., a subsidiary of SAP AG announced the appointment of Rob Enslin as president, SAP North America.

Enslin previously was chief operating officer and executive vice president of Fast Growth markets, Global Field Operations at SAP, responsible for the company's business operations, shared services and emerging markets significant to the company.

In his new role, Enslin is now responsible for all of SAP's business operations in North America, which span 25 different industries in companies ranging from small and medium businesses to America's largest Fortune 500 companies.

Enslin, a 16-year SAP veteran, has held several global executive positions with the company. He served as president and chief executive officer of SAP Japan Co., Ltd., the corporation's largest subsidiary in Asia. He held an earlier post as chief operating officer for SAP America, while simultaneously acting as interim president and CEO for SAP Latin America. Prior to SAP, Enslin spent 11 years in various roles in the IT industry.

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Surfware, Inc. Announces the Opening of the Surfware Demo and Training Center

23 February 2009

[Surfware, Inc.](#) announced the opening of the Surfware Demo and Training Center in Camarillo, California.

This state-of-the-art facility will serve many functions. It will be a multi-media center where live demonstrations of TrueMill and SURFCAM will be filmed and made available on the Surfware website, YouTube and other communication outlets.

The facility will host live webcasts, where people around the country and the world can view real-time demonstrations of using TrueMill for the high speed cutting of titanium on a Haas machine.

The Center will also serve as a R&D site where additional research on the vast potential of the TrueMill technology will take place. The results of this research will benefit the machining industry worldwide.

Finally, to ensure that visitors to the Demo Center feel at home, the facility is a bright, well-appointed and comfortable place to visit.

According to Stephen A. Diehl, President and CEO of Surfware, "With the launch of the Surfware Demo and Training Center, we now have an outstanding facility that will further demonstrate the

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tremendous cost savings and efficiency gains created by our TrueMill technology. With the opening of the Demo Center, Surfware is continuing its commitment to product excellence and innovation.”

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think3 signs Master Distributor Agreement with thinkUSA, Inc.

27 February 2009

think3, Inc. announced that it has signed a Master Distributor Agreement with thinkUSA, Inc. to distribute the company's line of CAD and PLM solutions in the North American market.

Headquartered in suburban Chicago, IL, thinkUSA, Inc. is a vertical market distributor in the manufacturing segment. The company is comprised of professionals with many years of expertise in the CAD and PLM markets. It provides CAD/CAM/CAE and PLM product development software solutions and professional services, including training, consulting and system integration.

thinkUSA, Inc. has training centers throughout the US and offers full-service sales and technical support. The founder, Mr. Victor Nassar, has 20 years of experience in the CAD, CAM and PLM industry and, before thinkUSA, Inc., managed successful PTC and UGS resellers.

thinkUSA's plan is to manage a network of VARs that would cover the entire North American market domain, from coast to coast. The company plans to be the premier think3 Master Distributor in North America: for this purpose, thinkUSA will recruit and support a network of value-added-resellers and drive its sales and business goals through this network. thinkUSA will provide go-to-market services, profitable VAR business know-how, aggressive prospecting, marketing support and accounting to such a network.

“The partnership with thinkUSA, Inc. will enable think3 to strengthen its presence in the US,” says Amedeo Brasolin, Sales Vice President of think3. “The ThinkUSA, Inc. management team has the proven entrepreneurial, industrial, and management skills to succeed in executing this plan. They have the rare combination of top engineering and business management school training, and a strong connection with the product development industry.”

“Our primary goal is to remain a step ahead of the competition through an exemplary service provision” states Victor Nassar, thinkUSA, Inc. President & CEO. “thinkUSA, Inc. operating credo is to combine, create, and customize CAD/CAM/CAE and enterprise PLM solutions to meet the individualized needs of each unique customer. We strive to provide our customers with strategic technologies that can positively impact and successfully transform their business.”

“Our business plan is to recruit a network of Value Added Resellers and Agents and support such a network with proven Go-to-Market activities, sound business practice consulting, significant prospecting and Customer Relationship Management tools in order to acquire market share and maximize profitability.”

For more information or if you are interested in becoming an agent or Value Added Reseller with thinkUSA Inc, please email: var@thinkUSAinc.com or call our office at (847) 821-2727

think3 counts more than 50 VARs in more than 20 countries that are carefully selected and supported with technical and sales training. To see think3's global VAR network, go here:

http://www.think3.com/en/company/var_world.aspx

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usb GmbH Launches European Training Center for Aras Enterprise Open Source PLM Software Solutions

23 February 2009

Aras® announced that Aras gold certified partner usb GmbH is launching the first Aras certified European Training Center to provide hands-on interactive courses on the Aras PLM software solution suite. Located in Munich Germany, the modern training facility will begin conducting sessions in March 2009.

Comprehensive training sessions will be offered for end users, administrators, and developers and will combine lectures, exercises, and labs to provide in-depth education on the functionality and capabilities of the Aras Innovator PLM software solution suite.

“We are proud to offer a full series of hand-on training seminars on the PLM solutions from Aras,” said Detlef Haesner, Managing Director for [usb](#) GmbH. “Our professional training personnel have years of experience in PLM software processes and provide deep expertise on the Aras software solutions as well as the advanced Aras model-based SOA technology.”

“Now, community members all over Europe can gain the skills necessary for PLM success with Aras,” said Martin Allemann, Vice President EMEA for Aras. “We recognize the growing demand for education on the Aras PLM software solutions and are pleased to have the usb partnership which combines knowledgeable PLM professionals and state of the art training facilities.”

To register for training sessions, view course details, and see the training schedule visit:

<http://www.aras.com/university/>

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Events News

CGTech Announces 17 North American VERICUT Users' Exchange Events

26 February 2009

In coordination with the upcoming release of VERICUT 7, [CGTech](#) has scheduled 17 North American VERICUT User's Exchange (VUE) events in 2009. Attendees will learn about new software features, tips & tricks for improving manufacturing efficiency, and will have the opportunity to express ideas about the future direction of the software. All of the tips & tricks on the agenda were customer-driven following a survey of VERICUT users.

After the events, one attendee from North America will be selected at random to win two days of on-site training and consulting for his company. A CGTech Support Engineer will travel to the winning company to provide two days of custom training and/or implementation services, depending on the company's needs (a value of \$3,500.00, plus CGTech will pay all necessary expenses).

“We decided to offer this award to underscore that in our experience, long term, the most successful shops are those that take full advantage of the slower times,” said Jon Prun, President, CGTech. “We recognize that some manufacturers are struggling, but bear markets always turn back to bull at some point and it's important to be ready. In recent years we have heard from many of our customers that they are too busy to send their programmers to training, or to spend the time required to implement new software. The trepidation over spending any money during slow times is understandable, but it is the

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perfect time to research and implement new tools and strategies for becoming more efficient.”

“Having been in business for more than 21 years, we’ve been around long enough to have seen most of the challenges manufacturers face,” Prun continued. “We seek out and are constantly exposed to new manufacturing methods and technologies and we encourage all our customers to use us as a resource – beyond VERICUT support – to help improve their NC manufacturing effectiveness.”

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

At VUE, CGTech will also be demonstrating recent advancements in VERICUT Composite Applications. VERICUT Composite Applications are machine-independent off-line programming and simulation software solutions for automated composite tape and fiber-placement CNC machines. There are two separate applications: VERICUT Composite Programming (VCP) & VERICUT Composite Simulation (VCS).

North American VERICUT Users’ Exchange schedule (<http://cgttech.com/usa/cgttech/vue/>):

Monday, March 9 - Irvine, CA

Monday, April 20 - Charlotte, NC

Tuesday, April 21 - Windsor Locks, CT

Wednesday, April 22 - San Jose, CA

Wednesday, April 22 - Atlanta, GA

Thursday, April 23 - Dallas, TX

Thursday, April 23 - Novi, MI

Thursday, April 23 - Quebec, Canada

Friday, April 24 - Orlando, FL

Tuesday, Apr 28 - Indianapolis, IN

Tuesday, April 28 - Wichita, KS

Tuesday, April 28 - Dayton, OH

Thursday, April 30 - Ontario, Canada

Thursday, April 30 - Cleveland, OH

Thursday, April 30 - Milwaukee, WI

Tuesday, May 12 - Seattle, WA

Thursday, May 14 - Minneapolis, MN

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Cimatron and American Machinist Web Seminar Explores the Role of Lean Strategies in Battling the Economic Downturn; Registration is now open for February 26th webinar

25 February 2009

Cimatron Limited announced a new web seminar will be held on February 26, covering the topic of “Doing More with Less in a Sluggish Economy.”

Toolmakers and manufacturers are searching for ways to weather the current financial storm and economic crisis. To help them in this quest, Cimatron and American Machinist are holding an educational online seminar exploring how Lean strategies can be used by tooling and manufacturing shops to keep their businesses afloat in this tough economy.

Attending the web seminar (webinar) is at no charge but registration is required and [available online now](#).

“Doing more with less is now a matter of survival,” said Bruce Vernyi, American Machinist’s Editor In Chief and the session’s moderator. “Whether you are already using Lean strategies or not, now is the time to revisit Lean and make sure you make the most out of it.”

“While many books have been written about Lean, this will be a practical ‘how-to’ session tailored specifically to the tooling and manufacturing shop environment,” added Hari Sridharan, VP of Engineering at Cimatron Technologies Inc. and the webinar keynote speaker.

Topics to be covered in the webinar include:

- How to eliminate wasted time and effort in your shop
- How to get more productivity out of your existing resources
- How you can deliver every job faster and at lower cost
- A Lean case study

The online presentation will take place Thursday, February 26, 2009 at 2pm EST. Registration is available now at www.cimatrontech.com.

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COE Extends Early Registration Discount for 2009 Annual Conference

February 2009

COE understands that the current economic climate is making it even more challenging to receive approval for education and training expenditures in 2009. As such, they have extended the early registration deadline for the [COE 2009 Annual PLM Conference & TechniFair](#) by two weeks to **Friday, March 6, 2009**.

This year’s conference April 19-22 in Seattle, Washington, provides an opportunity to join together with Dassault Systèmes end users from around the world to discuss the challenges of today while looking toward the future. There is practical education and hands-on training - developed by and intended for end users.

For information about the COE 2009 Annual PLM Conference & TechniFair, occurring April 19-22, at the Washington State Convention & Trade Center, in Seattle, Washington please visit www.coe.org or download the fully-interactive [advance program \(PDF\)](#).

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[Register](#) by March 6 and save \$300 off the full registration rate.

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ESPRIT 2009 by DP Technology to be Exhibited at Industrie Lyon 2009, Lyon, France, March 10-13

25 February 2009

ESPRIT® 2009 will be showcased at Industrie Lyon, slated to take place March 10-13 in Lyon, France.

Presenting solutions for an array of machine tools, in addition to components, products and services in every industrial manufacturing sector, Industrie Lyon is expected to feature roughly 1,000 diverse exhibits — including those related to conception, production and subcontracting.

Opportunities for one-on-one demonstrations, product overview presentations and interaction with DP staff will be made available to visitors of the ESPRIT exhibit, located at booth H20, in Hall 6.

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

New features in ESPRIT 2009 on display at Industrie Lyon increase the performance of the CAM software by reducing the time required to produce part programs and increasing the quality of those programs while helping to reduce machining cycle times.

About ESPRIT

ESPRIT is a high-performance computer-aided manufacturing (CAM) system for a full range of machine tool applications. ESPRIT delivers powerful full-spectrum programming for 2–5 axis milling, 2–22 axis turning, 2–5 axis wire EDM, multitasking mill-turn machining and B-axis machine tools, and high-speed 3- and 5-axis machining.

ESPRIT's high-performance capabilities include machining any part geometry (solid, surface, or wireframe), universal post processing to format G-code for virtually any machine tool, and solid simulation and verification with dry runs rendered in dynamic solids for optimal part quality and consistency. ESPRIT is 100 percent pure Windows®, and provides a comfortable and familiar user interface for maximum productivity.

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ESPRIT 2009, by DP Technology, to be Exhibited at Design & Manufacturing South, Charlotte, N.C., March 11-12

26 February 2009

ESPRIT® 2009 will be showcased at Design & Manufacturing South, slated to take place March 11-12 at the Charlotte Convention Center in Charlotte, N.C.

Design & Manufacturing South features exhibitors who represent each facet of the machining industry from design to manufacturing and distribution, and who strive to provide technologies that lower costs. With hundreds of exhibitors, Design & Manufacturing South is a one-stop shop for innovations in

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computer-aided design and manufacturing, and much more.

Those who visit the ESPRIT booth, No. 456, will have the opportunity to speak directly to DP staff who will be conducting presentations and one-on-one demonstrations of the upgrades available in ESPRIT 2009.

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

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

Designed to distribute heat and wear more effectively than a single-point lathe tool, the new turning spinning-tool technology available in ESPRIT 2009 can increase productivity by up to 500 percent and tool life by up to 2,000 percent.

About ESPRIT

ESPRIT is a computer-aided manufacturing (CAM) system for a full range of machine tool applications. ESPRIT delivers powerful full-spectrum programming for 2–5 axis milling, 2–22 axis turning, 2–5 axis wire EDM, multitasking mill-turn machining and B-axis machine tools, and high-speed 3- and 5-axis machining.

ESPRIT's high-performance capabilities include machining any part geometry (solid, surface, or wireframe), universal post processing to format G-code for virtually any machine tool, and solid simulation and verification with dry runs rendered in dynamic solids for optimal part quality and consistency. ESPRIT is 100 percent pure Windows®, and provides a comfortable and familiar user interface for maximum productivity.

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Hankook Delcam to be Biggest and Best for CAM at Intermold

26 February 2009

Hankook Delcam is set to be the biggest and best exhibitor of machining and inspection software at the Intermold exhibition to be held in Ilsan, Korea, from 18th to 22nd March. The company will, as it always does at this event, have the largest booth of any CAM supplier, where it will demonstrate the broadest range of machining and inspection software available from any provider.

Hankook Delcam President Chan-Oong Jeong is predicting a successful exhibition for his company. “For this year’s Intermold, we have prepared an extensive set of new presentations and live demonstrations,” he said. “Our booth has always received great feedback in the past and we expect an even greater reaction from our visitors this year. With PowerMILL, FeatureCAM, PartMaker and ArtCAM, we now offer a CAM system to machine virtually any product, in any material on any type of equipment. No other supplier has such a broad range of software to increase productivity, improve

quality and shorten delivery times in so many applications.”

The latest release of Delcam’s PowerMILL CAM software offers more comprehensive strategies for high-speed milling and five-axis machining, plus the introduction of new strategies to provide greater functionality for 2D machining, including 2D cutter compensation, and 2D pocketing and profiling directly from wireframe curves.

An important area for the new release of FeatureCAM 2009 is increased support for mill-turn equipment. These machines are becoming more popular because of their ability to complete parts in a single set-up on one machine, instead of having to use multiple set-ups on two or more different pieces of equipment. With FeatureCAM, turning features and milling features can be programmed together, so that both programming time and machining time can be reduced. Additional post-processors for these types of machine have also been introduced.

The new versions of PartMaker and SwissCAM feature a wide range of improvements including a new, more productive user interface, enhancements to the system’s synchronization functionality, plus improvements in 3D simulation and handling of solid models, and 3D surface machining. PartMaker also has a Full Machine Simulation module, which allows users to view a photo-realistic 3D model of the machine which they are programming.

ArtCAM 2009 continues with the upgrade path for small businesses that want 2D drawing and basic 3D machining but the possibility to move into 3D modelling and machining as their business needs grow. ArtCAM has been particularly successful in the sign making, woodworking and jewellery industries, where it allows users to increase productivity and deliver new designs more quickly.

The latest version of Delcam’s PowerINSPECT inspection software will be demonstrated on a Cimcore portable co-ordinate measuring machine. The new release includes the ability to use multiple alignments within parts or assemblies, additional GD&T features, more flexible best-fit algorithms, improved CMM connectivity and more versatile report generation.

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Financial News

Arena Solutions Announces Record Growth in New Bookings and Net Retention for the Fourth Quarter and Fiscal Year 2008

25 February 2009

Arena Solutions announced a fourth quarter gain of 18 percent in new customer annuity subscriptions and a corresponding FY2008 gain of 25 percent, as compared to the same periods in the year prior. This strong performance was influenced by new customer acquisition and existing customers continuing to renew their subscriptions and increase their Arena investments. In the fourth quarter, 44 percent of the existing Arena customers increased their subscription, demonstrating that in a down economy, the value Arena provides in helping companies succeed and grow is more important than ever.

In 2008, Arena took significant steps to remove real and perceived financial and implementation obstacles, making its application not only affordable, but more simple than ever to adopt. Given the ease of transitioning from ineffective spreadsheets to a dedicated bill of materials (BOM) management system, Arena attracted many new customers who were finding it a liability to use Microsoft Excel to manage critical product information, especially as their businesses became more complex and the

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economic climate became more pressing. With an average deployment of nine weeks from start to finish, or 12 weeks with a fully automated integration to an enterprise resource management (ERP) system, new Arena customers benefited from implementation times more competitive than anything on the market.

Many of the small and mid-size manufacturers that adopted Arena for its ease of use, fast ROI and on-demand (also called software-as-a-service or SaaS) advantages were from the dynamic medical, electronics and consumer products industries. A few of the new customers that joined the Arena community during the fourth quarter are:

- Semtek Innovative Solutions Corporation, which designs, develops, and manufactures magnetic stripe card readers and software applications for businesses to conduct mobile commerce transactions.
- ICE-O-Matic, which is a leading manufacturer of commercial ice makers and dispensers for the global foodservice industry.
- Cohera Medical Inc., which is developing a revolutionary line of wound management products and surgical adhesives.

During 2008 Arena Solutions also focused on strategically expanding its partnership programs. To help connect its customers with partners that can provide additional complementary solutions, Arena added 17 new partnerships. These include new reseller relationships with PLMplus LTD in Israel, J-Squared Technologies in Canada and Matrix Solutions in New Zealand to help address the growing demand for Arena throughout the world.

Other significant highlights of 2008:

- Arena surpassed its 99.5 percent service level agreement for the 11th consecutive quarter, with 100 percent scheduled uptime in Q4 2008 and a continued commitment to building and delivering the most secure, reliable, collaborative BOM management solution available.
- During 2008, the company made a series of new management appointments, including a new CEO and CFO and three new vice presidents in charge of engineering, product design and marketing.
- [Arena Solutions](#) delivered two major software releases, its 50th and 51st software releases in eight years. These Arena releases, which feature a new EDA adapter and an integration with SolidWorks PDMWorks Enterprise software, solidify the Arena application's position at the epicenter of the broader product lifecycle management landscape, with deeper integrations that enable the connection with systems like CAD, EDA, PDM and ERP.

"Having recently joined Arena Solutions -- and having a chance to see how other companies are faring in this challenging economy -- I am sincerely impressed by the company's ability to consistently increase its new bookings growth and its footprint in existing accounts. It's a sign that we are making the right product decisions and offering real value to our customers," said Ken Bozzini, chief financial officer of Arena Solutions. "This last year's efforts to remove obstacles to adoption are helping make Arena a no-brainer choice for any company feeling the pain of using spreadsheets to manage product information. Companies that are positioning themselves for success know that there's no better time than now to move to Arena."

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Autodesk Reports Fourth Quarter And Full Year Fiscal 2009 Financial Results

26 February 2009

Autodesk, Inc. reported revenue of \$490 million for the fourth quarter of fiscal 2009, a decrease of 18 percent over the fourth quarter of fiscal 2008. GAAP diluted loss per share in the fourth quarter was \$0.47, compared to earnings of \$0.40 per diluted share in the fourth quarter last year. Non-GAAP diluted earnings per share in the fourth quarter were \$0.31, compared to \$0.52 per diluted share in the fourth quarter last year. Non-GAAP diluted earnings per share exclude a pre-tax impairment charge of \$0.56 related primarily to a reduction in the carrying of goodwill in the company's Media and Entertainment business segment, \$0.18 for restructuring charges, \$0.08 related to stock-based compensation expense, \$0.11 for the amortization of acquisition related intangibles and in-process research and development, and the offsetting tax impact of \$0.15 related to these items.

For fiscal 2009, revenue was a record \$2.315 billion, an increase of 7 percent compared to fiscal 2008. Fiscal 2009 net income was \$184 million, or \$0.80 per diluted share, on a GAAP basis and \$448 million, or \$1.95 per diluted share, on a non-GAAP basis. A reconciliation between GAAP and non-GAAP results is provided at the end of this press release.

"We have much to be proud of in fiscal 2009, including achieving record annual revenue results, expanding our market presence into new territories, and adding several new and exciting technologies to our portfolio of world-class products," said Carl Bass, Autodesk president and CEO. "While the global economic conditions in the first and second half of fiscal 2009 were very divergent, we are taking actions to reduce our cost structure to better fit the realities of today's economic conditions. Our strong market position and best-in-class products give us confidence that Autodesk will emerge from this downturn better positioned and more operationally efficient."

Operational Overview

Combined revenue from Autodesk's model-based 3D design solutions decreased 1 percent over the fourth quarter of fiscal 2008 to \$144 million and comprised 29 percent of total revenue for the quarter. Autodesk shipped approximately 30,000 new commercial seats of its model-based 3D design products including approximately 6,100 seats of 3D manufacturing products, and 24,000 seats of its 3D Architecture Engineering and Construction products.

EMEA revenue was \$219 million, a decrease of 16 percent as reported over the fourth quarter of fiscal 2008, and a decrease of 8 percent on a constant currency basis. Revenue in Asia Pacific was \$99 million, a decrease of 25 percent as reported year-over-year, and a 28 percent decrease on a constant currency basis. Revenue in the Americas decreased 17 percent to \$172 million compared to the fourth quarter of fiscal 2008. Revenue from emerging economies decreased 31 percent, compared to the fourth quarter of fiscal 2008 to \$80 million and represented 16 percent of total revenue.

Business Outlook

The following statements are forward-looking statements which are based on current expectations and which involve risks and uncertainties some of which are set forth below. Given the uncertainty of the current markets, Autodesk is only providing guidance for its fiscal first quarter of 2010 at this time.

First Quarter Fiscal 2010

Net revenue for the first quarter of fiscal 2010 is expected to be in the range of \$400 million and \$440 million. GAAP loss per diluted share is expected to be in the range of \$0.20 and \$0.08. Non-GAAP earnings per diluted share are expected to be in the range of \$0.00 and \$0.12 and excludes \$0.07 related

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to restructuring charges, \$0.08 related to stock-based compensation expense and \$0.05 for the amortization of acquisition related intangibles. The GAAP EPS range assumes a tax rate of 31% and the non-GAAP EPS range assumes a tax rate of 27%.

In addition, operating cash flow for the first quarter is expected to be negative as a result of lower revenues combined with cash outlays in the quarter for payments of the annual employee incentive plan and payments relating to the restructuring plan.

Earnings Conference Call and Webcast

Autodesk will host its fourth quarter conference call today at 5:00 p.m. EST. A replay of the broadcast will be available at 7:00 pm EST at <http://www.autodesk.com/investors>. This replay will be maintained on our website for at least twelve months. Click [here](#) for an unabridged press release containing financial tables.

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Centric Achieves Record Year, 60 Percent Sales Growth

25 February 2009

Centric Software, Inc., recently closed out its fiscal year with record sales, significant growth and positive performance across operations.

Effectively leveraging investments, the company grew aggressively and improved awareness and leadership position in targeted consumer markets, while developing the foundation for additional products in its core Centric 8 product suite.

[Centric](#) provides product lifecycle management (PLM) and sourcing solutions for companies in the fast-moving consumer goods industries, including those that globally source private-label products. At a time when many businesses are struggling to survive, Centric closed out its fiscal year, which ended Jan. 31, on an upswing, continuing a three-year trend of year-over-year sales growth. “We continue to build traction in our target markets,” says Chris Groves, president, “as evidenced by new customer wins and significant additional investments from existing customers. Especially in the current environment, customers seek the rapid, economic results our solutions deliver.”

Among the company’s highlights:

- **Sales and bookings growth.** Centric experienced 60 percent year-over-year sales growth from new licenses and expansion of deployments in targeted vertical markets.
- **Management and staffing.** The company expanded global operations to drive growth and better serve its customers with the addition of PLM and sourcing industry experts in its sales, marketing, product development, and services departments.
- **Funding.** In January 2008, Centric announced closing of \$14.3 million in series B venture capital financing. Oak Investment Partners led the funding round, which included Masthead Venture Partners and BancBoston Ventures (a Bank of America company), Centric’s current investors. Centric is using the additional financing to expand product development, and sales and marketing efforts.
- **Product investment.** Centric continues to aggressively invest in its product offerings, with the overarching goal of satisfying customer demand for solutions that deliver economic benefits and measurable results.

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• **Market and industry recognition.** Centric received accolades throughout the year for its technology and industry leadership.

“This year has demonstrated that, despite a challenging economy, Centric provides the value companies need to improve their competitive position and to ensure their ongoing success,” says Groves. “Our customers are taking a leadership position in their respective markets by investing now in Centric solutions to improve their operations today and into the future. Customers tell us they are expanding their use of Centric PLM and sourcing to improve efficiency and do more with less, and thereby create a competitive advantage. We see customers achieve real impact to their profit and loss statements within the first fiscal year after deploying Centric solutions.”

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Magma Beats Guidance for Third Quarter With Revenue of \$30.7 Million

26 February 2009

Magma Design Automation Inc. reported revenue of \$30.7 million for its fiscal 2009 third quarter, ended Feb. 1, 2009. This exceeded the revenue guidance range of \$28 million to \$29 million the company issued on Dec. 4, 2008. Third-quarter revenue decreased 45 percent from the \$55.7 million reported for the year-ago third quarter, ended Jan. 6, 2008.

"Magma beat revenue targets in the third quarter, an accomplishment we're quite pleased with given the difficult macroeconomic environment," said Rajeev Madhavan, Magma's chairman and chief executive officer. "Customers face difficulty in this economy but continue to recognize the technology advantage Magma products offer for their business-critical designs."

GAAP Results

In accordance with generally accepted accounting principles (GAAP), Magma reported an estimated net loss of \$(78.1) million, or \$(1.73) per share (basic and diluted), for the third quarter. This result was below the guidance range issued by the company on Dec. 4, 2008 of a loss between \$(0.67) and \$(0.65) a share and compares to a net loss of \$(5.9) million, or \$(0.14) per share (basic and diluted), for the year-ago third quarter. Third quarter losses exceeded guidance because of an estimated \$60.8 million goodwill impairment charge. As a result of the decline in stock price in light of the current adverse macroeconomic business environment on Magma's long-term financial outlook, Magma's market capitalization fell significantly below the recorded value of its consolidated net assets, resulting in the impairment charge. Magma is in the process of finalizing its asset impairment analysis and expects to report the final amount of the goodwill impairment charge and other impacted financial statement line items in its Form 10-Q for the third quarter to be filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission. Magma will not be required to make any current or future cash expenditures as a result of this impairment.

Non-GAAP Results

Magma's non-GAAP net income was a net loss of \$(4.3) million for the quarter, or \$(0.09) per share (diluted). This result was better than the guidance range issued by the company on Dec. 4, 2008 of a loss between \$(0.17) and \$(0.15) a share and compares to non-GAAP net income of \$7.5 million, or \$0.16 per share (diluted), for the year-ago third quarter.

Non-GAAP net loss for the third quarter of fiscal 2009 excludes the effects of amortization of developed technology, amortization of intangible assets, amortization of deferred stock-based compensation,

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amortization of debt issuance costs and debt discount accretion, charges associated with losses on equity and other investments, restructuring charges, asset impairment charges, and acquisition-related expenses and the related provision for income taxes. A reconciliation of non-GAAP results to GAAP results is included in this press release. Non-GAAP net income for the third quarter of fiscal 2008 excluded the above items, except charges for restructuring and asset impairment, and also excluded in-process research and development, litigation settlement and related legal expenses and interest expense.

Business Outlook

For Magma's fiscal 2009 fourth quarter, ending May 3, 2009, the company expects total revenue in the range of \$33.0 million to \$34.0 million. GAAP net loss per share is expected to be in the range of \$(0.39) to \$(0.37) and non-GAAP net income per share is expected to be in the range of \$0.01 to \$0.03.

For Magma's fiscal year 2009, ending May 3, 2009, the company expects total revenue in the range of \$146.0 million to \$147.0 million, an increase from the previous guidance range of \$144.0 million to \$146.0 million. The company expects GAAP net loss per share for fiscal 2009 to be in the range of \$(2.99) to \$(2.95), compared to the previous expectation of a loss in the range of \$(2.03) to \$(1.99). The company expects non-GAAP net loss per share for fiscal 2009 to be in the range of \$(0.21) to \$(0.19), compared to the previous expectation of a loss in the range of \$(0.29) to \$(0.25). All guidance issued by the company before Feb. 26, 2009 is no longer in effect.

A Financial Data Supplement containing detailed financial information intended to provide guidance and further insight into our business is available online in the Investor Relations section of the Magma website.

GAAP Reconciliation

Magma provides non-GAAP financial information to assist investors in assessing its current and future operations in the way that Magma's management evaluates those operations. Magma believes that this non-GAAP information provides useful information to investors by excluding the effect of some expenses that are required to be recorded under GAAP but that Magma believes are not indicative of Magma's core operating results, or that are expected to be incurred over a limited period of time.

Magma's management evaluates and makes operating decisions about its business operations primarily based on bookings, revenue and the core costs of those business operations. Management believes that the amortization of developed technology and intangible assets, stock-based compensation, in-process research and development expenses, amortization of debt issuance costs, debt discount accretion, charges associated with losses on equity and other investments, restructuring charges, asset impairment charges, acquisition-related expenses, litigation settlement and related legal expenses, and the tax effects of its non-GAAP and other significant unusual items are not operating costs of its core software and service business operations. Therefore, management presents non-GAAP financial measures, along with GAAP measures, in this earnings release by excluding these items from the period expenses. To determine its non-GAAP provision for income taxes, Magma recalculates tax based on non-GAAP income before income taxes and adjusts accordingly.

For each such non-GAAP financial measure, the adjustment provides management with information about Magma's underlying operating performance that enables a more meaningful comparison of its financial results in different reporting periods. For example, since Magma does not acquire businesses on a predictable cycle, management excludes acquisition-related charges, such as in-process research and development charges, to make more consistent and meaningful evaluations of Magma's operating expenses. Similarly, since Magma does not undertake significant restructuring or realignments on a

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predictable cycle, management would have difficulty evaluating Magma's profitability as measured by gross profit, operating profit, income before taxes and net income on a period-to-period basis unless it excluded these charges. Management also uses these measures to help it make budgeting decisions between those expenses that affect operating expenses and operating margin (such as research and development, sales and marketing, and general and administrative expenses), and those expenses that affect cost of revenue and gross margin (such as product development expenses).

Further, the availability of non-GAAP financial information helps management track actual performance relative to financial targets. Making this non-GAAP financial information available also helps investors compare Magma's performance with the announced operating results of its principal competitors, which regularly provide similar non-GAAP financial information.

Management recognizes that the use of these non-GAAP measures has limitations, including the fact that management must exercise judgment in determining whether some types of charges, such as stock-based compensation relating to stock grants and acquisition-related charges, should be excluded from non-GAAP financial measures. Management believes, however, that providing this non-GAAP financial information facilitates consistent comparison of Magma's financial performance over time. Magma has historically provided non-GAAP results to the investment community, not as an alternative but as a supplement to GAAP information, to enable investors to evaluate Magma's core operating performance in the way that management does.

Conference Call

Magma will discuss the financial results for the third quarter, along with forward-looking guidance, during a live earnings call today at 1:30 p.m. PST, available live by both webcast and telephone.

Following completion of the call, a webcast replay of the call will be available at <http://investor.magma-da.com/medialist.cfm> through March 5, 2009.

Those without Internet access may listen to a replay of the call by telephone until 11:59 p.m. PST on March 5 by calling:

U.S. & Canada: (888) 203-1112 , code #4739185

Elsewhere: (719) 457-0820 , code #4739185

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Mentor Graphics Reports Fiscal Fourth Quarter Results

26 February 2009

Mentor Graphics Corporation announced fiscal fourth quarter revenues of \$242.6 million, non-GAAP earnings per share of \$.35, and GAAP earnings per share of \$.33. For full fiscal 2009, the company reported revenues of \$789.1 million, non-GAAP earnings per share of \$.20, and a GAAP loss per share of \$.97.

“Large accounts fared well in the quarter, with modest growth in the company’s top ten renewal contracts. This strength was significantly offset, however, by weakness in smaller transactions,” said Walden C. Rhines, chairman and CEO of Mentor Graphics. “For the year, our diversity of product line and breadth of served markets, as well as growth in newer product segments, helped sustain the business. In particular, automotive and design for manufacturing both showed solid growth for the year. Looking forward, we see the opportunity to take advantage of this period of weakness to help customers

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consolidate on Mentor's leading design platforms.”

During the quarter, the company launched an expansion of capacity to 512 million gates for its Veloce® emulation product line, now double the capacity of competitive offerings. The company qualified its Olympus-SoC™ place-and-route solution for Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company's (TSMC) 40nm processes in record time, winning an award from TSMC for the speed of its qualification.

The company extended its leadership in electronic system level (ESL) design by acquiring the high level synthesis assets of Agility Design Solutions as well as with its announcement of a scalable design methodology with its Vista™ design tools based on the new 2.0 transaction level modeling standard. In functional verification, the company announced the availability of an open source solution that allows users of the industry standard open verification methodology (OVM) to incorporate their legacy verification methodology manual (VMM) code. The company also launched Capital® Architect, an extension to its cabling product line, which helps automotive manufacturers and their suppliers develop lighter and more cost-effective electrical distribution systems in vehicles. In analog simulation, the company released a multiprocessor version of its ELDO® simulator that can increase the speed of circuit simulation by 3 to 10 times.

“Given the environment, the company has further strengthened its existing cost control efforts with new reductions in compensation and travel, targeted personnel reductions and strict hiring limits. We will continue to assess our cost envelope as the year unfolds,” said Gregory K. Hinckley, president of Mentor Graphics. “Our relatively strong balance sheet will also allow us to consider opportunities this market is presenting.”

Guidance

For fiscal first quarter 2010 ending April 30, 2009, the company expects revenues of \$200 to \$210 million, non-GAAP earnings per share between \$.05 and \$.10, and a GAAP loss per share between \$.08 and \$.13.

Discussion of Non-GAAP Financial Measures

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

Purchased and other identified intangible assets consist primarily of purchased technology, backlog, trade names, customer relationships, and employment agreements. In-process research and development charges represent products in development that had not reached technological feasibility at the time of acquisition. Special charges consist of post-acquisition rebalance costs including severance and benefits, excess facilities, and asset-related charges, and also include strategic reallocations or reductions of personnel resources. Equity plan-related compensation expenses represent the fair value of all share-

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based payments to employees, including grants of employee stock options, as required under Statement of Financial Accounting Standards No. 123 (revised 2004), "Share-Based Payment" (SFAS 123R). For purposes of comparability across other periods and against other companies in our industry, non-GAAP net income (loss) is adjusted by the amount of additional taxes or tax benefit that we would accrue using a normalized effective tax rate applied to the non-GAAP results.

During the year ended January 31, 2008, we excluded \$1.1 million of interest expense attributable to net retirement premiums and write-offs of debt issuance costs. The amounts were expensed in connection with the refinancing or repurchase of certain convertible debt. The amounts were excluded as management does not consider these transactions a part of its core operating performance. There were no debt repurchases during the year ended January 31, 2009.

During the year ended January 31, 2009, we excluded \$1.4 million of equity in losses of unconsolidated entities. The amounts represent our equity in the losses of a common stock investment accounted for under the equity method. The amounts were excluded as management does not consider these transactions a part of its core operating performance. We had no equity in unconsolidated entities during the year ended January 31, 2008.

During the year ended January 31, 2009, we excluded \$4.6 million of charges related to the impairment of long-lived assets. The amounts represent the write-off of fixed assets and purchased technology associated with our emulation division. The amounts were excluded as management does not consider the impairment part of its core operating performance. We had no impairment of long-lived assets during the year ended January 31, 2008.

During the year ended January 31, 2009, we excluded \$3.5 million for the impairment of cost method investments. The amounts represent the full write-off of two cost method investments. The amounts were excluded as management does not consider these transactions part of its core operating performance. We had no impairment of cost method investments during the year ended January 31, 2008.

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

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

Management excludes from our non-GAAP measures certain recurring items to facilitate its review of the comparability of our core operating performance on a period-to-period basis because such items are not related to our ongoing core operating performance as viewed by management. Management considers our core operating performance to be that which can be affected by our managers in any particular period through their management of the resources that affect our underlying revenue and profit generating operations during that period. Management uses this view of our operating performance for purposes of comparison with our business plan and individual operating budgets and

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allocation of resources. Additionally, when evaluating potential acquisitions, management excludes the items described above from its consideration of target performance and valuation. More specifically management adjusts for the excluded items for the following reasons:

- Amortization charges for our purchased and other identified intangible assets are inconsistent in amount and frequency and are significantly impacted by the timing and magnitude of our acquisition transactions. We therefore consider our operating results without these charges when evaluating our core performance. Generally, the most significant impact to inter-period comparability of our net income (loss) is in the first twelve months following an acquisition.
- Special charges are primarily severance related and are due to our reallocation or reduction of personnel resources driven by modifications of business strategy or business emphasis and by assimilation of acquired businesses. These costs are originated based on the particular facts and circumstances of business decisions and can vary in size. Special charges also include excess facility and asset-related restructuring charges. In fiscal 2009 fees incurred in response to the unsolicited bid by Cadence Design Systems were included as a special charge. These charges are not specifically included in our annual operating plan and related budget due to the rapidly changing technology and competitive environment in our industry. We therefore exclude them when evaluating our managers' performance internally.
- In-process research and development charges are largely disregarded as acquisition decisions are made, since they often result in charges that vary significantly in size and amount. Management excludes these charges when evaluating the impact of an acquisition transaction and our ongoing performance.
- Management supplementally considers performance without the impact of equity plan-related compensation charges and believes this information is useful to investors to compare our performance to the performance of other companies in our industry who present non-GAAP results adjusted to exclude stock compensation expense. We view equity plan-related compensation as a key element of our employee retention and long-term incentives, not as an expense that should be an element of evaluating core operations in any given period. We therefore exclude these charges for purposes of evaluating our core performance.
- Impairment of long-lived assets can occur whenever events or changes in circumstances indicate that assets' carrying amount may not be recoverable. These charges are inconsistent in amount and frequency. We therefore consider our operating results without these charges when evaluating our core performance.
- Impairment of cost method investments can occur when the fair value of the investment is less than its cost. This can occur when there is a significant deterioration in the investee's earnings performance, significant adverse changes in the general market conditions of the industry in which the investee operates, or indications that the investee may no longer be able to conduct business. These charges are inconsistent in amount and frequency. We therefore consider our operating results without these charges when evaluating our core performance.
- Equity in losses of unconsolidated subsidiaries represents the net income (losses) in an investment accounted for under the equity method. The carrying amount of our investment is adjusted for our share of earnings or losses of the investee. We do not influence or control the results of operations for this investment. We therefore consider our results without the charge when evaluating our core performance.
- Income tax expense (benefit) is adjusted by the amount of additional tax expense or benefit that we

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would accrue if we used non-GAAP results instead of GAAP results in the calculation of our tax liability, taking into consideration our long-term tax structure. We use a normalized effective tax rate of 17%, which reflects the weighted average tax rate applicable under the various tax jurisdictions in which we operate. This non-GAAP weighted average tax rate is subject to change over time for various reasons, including changes in the geographic business mix and changes in statutory tax rates. Our GAAP tax rate for the year ended January 31, 2009 is (14)%, which considers tax expense on our international operations. The GAAP tax rate considers certain mandatory and other non-scalable tax costs which may adversely or beneficially affect our tax rate depending upon our level of profitability.

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

- Amortization of purchased intangibles, though not directly affecting our current cash position, represents the loss in value as the technology in our industry evolves, is advanced or is replaced over time. The expense associated with this loss in value is not included in the non-GAAP net income (loss) presentation and therefore does not reflect the full economic effect of the ongoing cost of maintaining our current technological position in our competitive industry, which is addressed through our research and development program.
- We regularly engage in acquisition and assimilation activities as part of our ongoing business and therefore we will continue to experience special charges on a regular basis. These costs also directly impact our available funds.
- Our stock option and stock purchase plans are important components of our incentive compensation arrangements and will be reflected as expenses in our GAAP results for the foreseeable future under SFAS 123R.
- Impairment of long-lived assets occurs when events or circumstances indicate that the value of the asset may not be recoverable. The impaired assets may still be in use in our current operations, however, and the expense associated with the asset impairment may not reflect the full economic effect of the ongoing cost of maintaining the associated assets. We will continue to evaluate the fair value of our assets and investments and will record impairment charges when appropriate.
- Our income tax expense (benefit) will be ultimately based on our GAAP taxable income and actual tax rates in effect, which often differ significantly from the 17% rate assumed in our non-GAAP presentation.
- Other companies, including other companies in our industry, may calculate non-GAAP net income (loss) differently than we do, limiting its usefulness as a comparative measure.

Please visit http://www.mentor.com/company/investor_relations/news/2009_q4_fy/upload/Q4FY09-earnings_pdf.cfm for the unabridged press release with financial tables.

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MSC.Software Reports Financial Results for the Fourth Quarter and Year Ended December 31, 2008

26 February 2009

MSC.Software Corporation reported results for the fourth quarter and year ended December 31, 2008. Financial highlights include the following:

Fourth quarter:

- Total fourth quarter revenue of \$65.0 million, with software revenue of \$24.7 million, maintenance revenue of \$33.4 million and services revenue of \$6.9 million,
- Fourth quarter operating loss of \$4.5 million, which includes restructuring charge of \$1.3 million and impairment charge related to intangible assets of \$10.0 million.

Full Year:

- FY 2008 total revenue of \$254.4 million versus \$246.7 million last year, an increase of 3%,
- FY 2008 operating loss of \$6.2 million, which includes restructuring charges of \$3.3 million and impairment charges related to intangible assets of \$10.0 million,
- Cash and investments at December 31, 2008 totaled \$152.6 million versus \$135.0 million at December 31, 2007.

Revenue

Total revenue for the fourth quarter ended December 31, 2008 was \$65.0 million compared to \$71.1 million for the fourth quarter in 2007. Software revenue for the fourth quarter totaled \$24.7 million compared to \$28.8 million for the fourth quarter in 2007. For the fourth quarter ended December 31, 2008, maintenance revenue totaled \$33.4 million and services revenue totaled \$6.9 million, compared to \$33.3 million of maintenance revenue and \$9.0 million of services revenue for the fourth quarter in 2007.

Total revenue for the year ended December 31, 2008 was \$254.4 million compared to \$246.7 million last year. Software revenue for 2008 totaled \$89.3 million compared to \$94.7 million for 2007. For the year ended December 31, 2008 maintenance revenue totaled \$137.0 million and services revenue totaled \$28.1 million, compared to \$125.5 million of maintenance revenue and \$26.5 million of services revenue for 2007.

"Although 2008 presented its challenges to MSC as we continued our strategic product transition, our simulation software solutions continue to be strategic components of our customers' product development processes," said Bill Weyand, CEO and Chairman of MSC.Software. "With a strong balance sheet and a focus on cost control we are able to weather the current uncertain and volatile economic environment."

"Our recently announced partnership with EADS, where we were chosen as the simulation backbone for their global PLM harmonization project, demonstrates the importance of MSC applications as a collaborative platform within the aerospace industry. We will continue to assist our customers in accelerating engineering innovation through collaboration and thereby saving time and money," continued Mr. Weyand.

"With the planned releases of version 4 of our multi-discipline and enterprise simulation solutions during the first half of 2009, we will strengthen our role systems integrator for all simulation software implemented by our customers today. This will allow our customers to reduce the number of software

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vendors and save on their overall cost of ownership."

Revenue by Geography

Total revenue in the Americas for the fourth quarter and year ended December 31, 2008 was \$21.3 million and \$80.3 million, respectively, compared to \$22.0 million and \$75.3 million for the same periods last year. Total revenue in EMEA for the fourth quarter and year ended December 31, 2008 was \$22.8 million and \$96.4 million, respectively, compared to \$30.0 million and \$95.9 million for the same periods last year. Changes in the Euro decreased EMEA revenue by \$2.7 million in the fourth quarter and increased EMEA revenue by \$6.2 million in FY 2008. In the Asia Pacific region, revenue for the fourth quarter and year ended December 31, 2008 totaled \$20.9 million and \$77.7 million, respectively, compared to \$19.1 million and \$75.5 million for the same periods last year. Changes in the Japanese Yen increased Asia Pacific revenue during the fourth quarter and FY 2008 by \$2.7 million and \$9.4 million, respectively.

Results of Operations and EPS

Total operating expenses for the fourth quarter and year ended December 31, 2008 were \$58.4 million and \$212.7 million, respectively, compared to \$59.1 million and \$210.7 million for the same periods last year. Operating loss for the fourth quarter was \$4.5 million and for the year end was \$6.2 million, compared to an operating loss of \$1.2 million and \$10.3 million for the fourth quarter and year ended December 31, 2007. Including in the operating loss are restructuring charges of \$1.3 million and impairment charges related to intangible assets of \$10.0 million in the fourth quarter of 2008 and restructuring charges of \$3.3 million and impairment charges related to intangible assets of \$10.0 million in FY 2008.

For the fourth quarter ended December 31, 2008, loss from continuing operations totaled \$22.5 million or (\$0.50) per diluted share, and includes a net tax charge of \$17.3 million, resulting primarily from establishing a valuation allowance totaling \$22.9 million. For the fourth quarter last year, income from continuing operations totaled \$2.3 million or \$0.05 per diluted share. For the year ended December 31, 2008, loss from continuing operations totaled \$21.3 million or (\$0.47) per diluted share, compared to a loss from continuing operations of \$2.6 million or (\$0.06) per diluted share for FY 2007.

Balance Sheet

Cash and investments at December 31, 2008 totaled \$152.6 million and after the repayment of \$6.5 million of certain outstanding debt in the fourth quarter, the Company had effectively no long term debt at year end. Deferred revenue totaled \$75.8 million at December 31, 2008.

Outlook

The Company will discuss the outlook for 2009 on the conference call scheduled for today. See conference call details below.

Conference Call

The Company will host a conference call to discuss the fourth quarter financial results today at 1:30 pm pacific (4:30 pm eastern). An archived version of the conference call will be available at <http://www.mscsoftware.com/ir/>. The teleconference replay will be available for 48 hours and can be accessed by dialing in to: U.S. (800) 642-1687 or Intl. (706) 645-9291 using the conference ID code: 82229401.

Click [here](#) for an unabridged press release that contains financial tables.

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Nemetschek Holds its Ground in Times of Crisis

18 February 2009

Nemetschek AG managed to hold its ground in the last fiscal year despite the worldwide economic crisis and grew profitably in 2008 too. According to the provisional figures, revenues increased by 2.9 percent from 146.2 million euros to 150.4 million euros and are thus slightly higher than the most recently announced expectations.

Revenue growth in 2008 is largely attributable to sales in Germany, where the building industry managed to stay relatively stable. At 57.4 million euros, sales in Germany accounted for a third of overall revenues. The company achieved 39 percent of its revenues with long-term maintenance contracts. The consequences of the financial crisis first became noticeable in the last three months: in Q4, which is traditionally the strongest sales quarter, year-on-year revenues dropped by 4.6 percent from 43.4 million euros to 41.4 million euros.

EBITDA 31.4 million euros

The EBITDA in 2008 amounted to 31.4 million euros after 33.6 million euros in the previous year. This corresponds to an EBITDA margin of 20.9 percent after 23.0 percent 2007. In Q4 the EBITDA margin was 21,0 percent. The operating result (EBIT) was 21.0 million euros after 23.9 million euros in the previous year, the net income dropped from 15,3 million euros to 11,3 million euros. In particular, as a result of the drop in the interest level, the new market valuation of the interest rate swaps, which the company had entered into as part of the acquisition of Graphisoft, made a significant difference. This revaluation resulted in a one-time impact on interest of 2.5 million euros, which, however, did not have any effect on the cash flow.

The cash flow for the period is around 30 million euros and is thus at the same level as the previous year. The company managed to reduce the liabilities from the Graphisoft acquisition by more than half within two years. The debt now stands at 49.3 million euros. Nemetschek AG's equity ratio increased from 33.7 to 39.7 percent.

In view of the uncertain global economic situation, the Managing Board will not provide a specific outlook. The complete annual report 2008 will be published on March 27, 2009.

Explanations

"Despite the economic downturn in the second half of the year we managed to increase our revenues and to cross the revenue threshold of 150 million euros for the first time in 2008", says Ernst Homolka, CEO of Nemetschek AG. He added that the Nemetschek Group had survived the crisis largely unaffected to date but that from today's perspective a sustainable forecast for 2009 could not be made and that the worldwide recession would also leave its mark on Nemetschek. However, the group had several strengths that would come to bear in the crisis. Among these were the comprehensive product portfolio and the broad customer base as well as the fact that the company achieved almost 40 percent of its revenues from long-term maintenance contracts. "Nemetschek will definitely remain a significantly profitable company", emphasized Homolka.

About Nemetschek

The Nemetschek Group is Europe's largest vendor of software for architects, engineers and the building

industry. Worldwide, the group's companies support their customers with solutions for the complete lifecycle of buildings. These encompass the entire value chain – from design and visualization to the actual construction process to usage and occupancy. The closely interlinked software solutions facilitate interdisciplinary collaboration among all those involved in the building process and thus make the process itself more efficient.

Nemetschek products are used by more than 270,000 customers in 142 countries worldwide. The company was founded in 1963 by Prof. Georg Nemetschek and has more than 1,100 employees worldwide. Nemetschek AG, which has been listed since 1999, achieved revenues exceeding 150 million euros in fiscal 2008.

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Implementation Investments

AMD Selects Cadence Incisive Palladium Series To Verify Complex Graphics Design

25 February 2009

[Cadence Design Systems, Inc.](#) announced that AMD successfully used the Cadence® Incisive® Palladium® II Accelerator/Emulator to deliver the first working silicon for its complex ATI Radeon™ HD 4800 series graphics design produced in 2008. The ATI Radeon HD 4800 series includes over 800 million transistors and is the most complex AMD graphics design shipped to date.

The Palladium system was thoroughly evaluated by AMD and found to be the most appropriate solution versus alternatives on the market. The system was critical for the overall success of the project and played a key role in verifying overall system operation, including both hardware and software. The ease of bring-up and integrated software debugging capabilities helped the team at AMD to quickly ramp up its system-level verification environment and to begin system validation much earlier in the ASIC design cycle, saving significant time in the overall schedule and ensuring better product quality.

"Cadence's Palladium II system and its integrated verification solution provide the most efficient way to test complex interactive ASIC designs," said Jean Boufarhat, vice president of Design Engineering at AMD. "System-level testing had become a critical aspect of our overall design methodology and the Palladium emulation system offers first-rate value for our development teams."

The Palladium series provides the highest throughput for validation of complex hardware, software and full systems in the wireless, graphics, networking and consumer markets. The series delivers debug, system-wide management, and advanced verification automation features such as assertion- and transaction-based acceleration, and can bring-up a new design in emulation in less than a week.

"We are delighted to be working closely with AMD as they continue to push the envelope delivering complex graphic designs for this fast moving market," said Tom Cooley, senior vice president of Worldwide Field Operations. "The Palladium series continues to lead the market in the area of verification of full SoC designs with embedded processors, saving months in the overall schedule and reducing the risk of finding costly post-silicon bugs."

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CB&I Expands Use of Intergraph® SmartPlant® Enterprise Materials

23 February 2009

CB&I, a leading global engineering, procurement and construction (EPC) company, has expanded its use of Intergraph® SmartPlant® Materials material management software.

As part of CB&I's implementation of SmartPlant Materials as its materials management system across its global network of 80 offices and 18,000 employees, CB&I will migrate legacy data and business processes to SmartPlant Materials.

CB&I will focus its use of SmartPlant Materials on its energy and natural resources projects, including oil and gas and offshore installations, across the complete project execution life cycle. From materials specification and BOM change management, through procurement and inventory tracking, to forecast, and material issuing, Intergraph anticipates improved efficiencies for CB&I across all material management work processes.

Designed to drive efficiency in plant engineering and construction, SmartPlant Materials can help avoid costly material surpluses and shortages, and reduce overall project risk. The resulting savings on multi-million dollar projects can be significant.

SmartPlant Materials provides strong material management workflow and functions, from preliminary plant design through detail engineering and purchasing to construction. With the flexibility and openness to make it adaptable to a company's own work processes, it allows the sharing of data with different design systems, clients, subcontractors and suppliers.

Gerhard Sallinger, president of [Intergraph](#) Process, Power and Marine said, "This is yet another company working in the oil, gas, and offshore industry who is turning to Intergraph solutions to meet their business needs. We are excited that we are playing an integral role in helping CB&I – a world-leading EPC – manage its large projects with enhanced efficiencies."

About CB&I

CB&I combines process technology with global capabilities in engineering, procurement and construction to deliver comprehensive solutions to customers in the energy and natural resource industries. With more than 70 proprietary licensed technologies and 1,500 patents and patent applications, CB&I is positioned to take projects from conceptual design, through technology licensing, engineering and construction and final commissioning. Drawing upon the global expertise and local knowledge of approximately 18,000 employees in more than 80 locations, CB&I safely and reliably executes projects worldwide.

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Deuce Snowboards Uses PTC CoCreate to Design Revolutionary New Multi-Edge Snowboard

24 February 2009

PTC® announced that Deuce Snowboards is using PTC CoCreate® to design and launch a new category of snowboard, the multi-edge snowboard. CoCreate, PTC's explicit 3D CAD software enabled the company to develop and launch the revolutionary, multi-edge snowboard while also keeping the upfront product development costs as low as possible.

Finding a snowboard design that would allow boarders to experience the same stability and performance

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

benefits of two-board skiing quickly led Todd Belt, executive manager at Deuce Snowboards to an innovative design idea for a new multi-edge snowboard. In order to support the production and innovation process of this new board prototype, Belt realized he would need to create multiple virtual 3D CAD prototypes. This ability would be fundamental to the product's success because it would enable design adjustments without the expense of developing costly physical prototypes for each adaptation.

When evaluating software design systems, Belt placed strong emphasis on user friendliness and the flexibility to design product prototypes that incorporate feedback during the extensive field testing. Deuce Snowboards selected CoCreate explicit modeling software because it addressed that criteria as well as proving to be a natural fit with Belt's innovation process, one of exploring and learning through continuous improvement and design modification.

The multi-edge snowboard launch faced continuous and unpredictable changes through the design process. This is where CoCreate delivered a second, key advantage for Deuce Snowboard—software that dynamically evolves product designs in response to unexpected changes and new information throughout the innovation process. In short, an intuitive design tool that enabled adjustments based on engineering analysis or results from field testing.

“PTC CoCreate makes changes easy for complex parts as the design progresses from variation to variation,” says Belt. “A key advantage from using CoCreate is the ability to easily make instant design changes to the model's geometry. We plan to continue using CoCreate in the design of this exciting new snowboard.”

“CoCreate provides speed, flexibility and responsiveness-to-change for customers facing short design cycles, unique product designs, or companies demanding a lightweight design process,” says Martin Neumueller, director product management, CoCreate products, [PTC](#). “This explicit approach to 3D design delivers faster design cycles and greater flexibility in the design process for companies like [Deuce Snowboard](#). We look forward to continue working with them.”

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Hatch Associates Saves Time and Money on Pueblo Viejo Mining Project With Bentley Software

25 February 2009

[Hatch Associates Ltd.](#), a supplier of technical and strategic services to mining owners and operators, won a 2008 Be Award of Excellence in the “Innovation in Metals and Mining” category for Barrick Gold Corporation's Pueblo Viejo mining project in the Dominican Republic. The primary goal of this complex undertaking was to design and build facilities for the extraction and processing of gold from a refractory sulphide ore body at a throughput rate of 24,000 tonnes per day. The use of Bentley's PlantSpace and other intelligent 3D modeling tools enabled Hatch to save design time and reduce the risk of rework in the field. The project is featured in the new publication “The Year in Infrastructure 2008,” available online from Bentley Systems at <http://www.bentley.com/YearInInfrastructure2008>. Hatch's task was to create the first chemical process step in the recovery of gold. To successfully complete the project, the Hatch team needed to design four large pressure oxidation vessels (autoclaves) as information became available without continuously redesigning the plant. In addition, it had to overcome the site's space constraints by creating the most compact layout possible while maintaining access and safe operation.

The use of PlantSpace and other Bentley products allowed all disciplines to work simultaneously while sharing design information on a real-time basis. Hatch implemented a user-friendly 3D environment that

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allowed the team to develop a compact layout, general arrangements, and isometric drawings by extraction; import terrain maps and structural steel and concrete models; and produce integrated models for design reviews, presentations, and clash detection. It also deployed Bentley software to create a central storage system that allowed fast information transfer across all design disciplines.

Commenting on the project, Murray Pearson, lead mechanical engineer for the Pressure Oxidation Facility, said, “The use of PlantSpace and other Bentley 3D products has greatly enhanced our ability to make the most efficient use of available space in plant layout, produce cost-effective designs, visually demonstrate operational and maintenance concepts to the client, and to convey the construction methodology and sequence to the project team. It has saved the project thousands of hours in checking, design revisions, and drawing production.”

Glenn Sakaki, managing director of project execution at Hatch, said, “Without the assistance of Bentley software, this project, which is very important to the Dominican economy, would have taken much longer to execute and would have required more staff for coordination, checking, and supervision. Moreover, through our collaboration with other companies and our emphasis on quality, we were able to optimize this technology and effectively deliver and supervise the construction and operation of the facility.”

For additional information about Bentley’s PlantSpace and other intelligent 3D modeling tools, visit <http://www.bentley.com/en-US/Products/Plant+Design+and+Engineering>.

For information about how to enter projects for consideration in the 2009 Be Awards of Excellence competition, visit <http://www.bentley.com/BeAwards>.

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Homeowners Go Green with Wind Turbines Designed in SolidWorks 3D CAD and Simulation Software

23 February 2009

Homeowners and small businesses throughout the U.K. are using micro wind turbines designed in SolidWorks® 3D CAD software by Windsave, Ltd. to cut their energy costs while reducing their carbon footprint. The Scottish company is also using SolidWorks Simulation Professional to improve overall performance and efficiency. Windsave standardized on SolidWorks to refine the technology and accelerate development of its wall-mounted micro-wind turbine system to reduce the amount of power a home or business draws from the national electricity grid.

Key facts

Founded in 2002 in Glasgow, Windsave is the largest micro wind turbine installer in the U.K. and at the forefront of a movement to bring green energy choices to consumers.

The micro wind turbine stands just over three meters (nearly 10 feet) tall with a bladespan of 1.7 meters (5.5 feet) and is attached to a building.

As wind spins the blades, the turbine generates electricity that supplements the incoming electricity from the grid, reducing the amount the customer has to pay for, and decreasing overall carbon emissions.

Windsave has reduced the number of prototypes to test new products or features from four to one, saving up to £3,000 (\$4,400), using SolidWorks and SolidWorks Simulation.

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The company has also reduced the prototype production and testing process from eight weeks to two.

As the company expands sales internationally in 2009, Mike Lumsdaine and his team will explore the possibility of mounting smaller versions of the micro turbines on street lights so municipalities can cut energy costs.

The Global Wind Energy Council predicts that the global wind market will grow by over 155 percent to reach 240 gigawatts (GW) of total installed capacity by 2012.

The amount of wind energy produced globally will represent nearly three percent of global electricity consumption by 2012, according to a Global Wind Energy Council report.

More than one third of European Union electricity must come from renewable resources by 2020, according to the recently signed Renewable Energy Directive. Wind power will account for most of that renewable energy.

Visit the SolidWorks [micro-site](#) for more information on sustainable design.

Quotables

From Mike Lumsdaine, mechanical engineer at Windsave

“With SolidWorks and SolidWorks Simulation, we’ve been able to refine the action of the tailfin so that it is more efficient and aerodynamic. Additionally, prototyping costs and time kept adding up with Pro/ENGINEER. SolidWorks and SolidWorks Simulation allow us to produce and test a sample on screen to see if we’ve over- or under-engineered it. That’s a huge benefit when optimizing a design.”

[Windsave](#) relies on authorized SolidWorks reseller [Thom Microsystems](#) for ongoing software training, implementation, and support.

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Jaguar Land Rover Chooses MSC.Software's SimEnterprise Solutions to Optimize Their Simulation Processes

26 February 2009

[MSC.Software](#) announced that Jaguar Land Rover has selected the company's SimEnterprise solutions including MD and SimManager, as well as core engineering products including MSC Nastran and Adams, to optimize their simulation processes. This deal provides Jaguar Land Rover with the core engineering tools for their transition from Ford as well as the foundation for simulating more effectively and efficiently and attaining higher levels of productivity. Under the new agreement, Jaguar Land Rover will implement MSC.Software's solutions at their two main design facilities located in Whitley and Gaydon, as well as at several other production facilities across the UK.

Jaguar Land Rover has been a customer of MSC.Software's core products for many years and is pleased to continue this long association. At the same time that the automotive market is becoming increasingly competitive, premium luxury vehicles are becoming increasingly complex and loaded with new technology. Jaguar Land Rover is, therefore, progressing a strategy to maximize their use of simulation in the development of its vehicles to ensure these highly complex products can be delivered robustly, with the highest quality and in the most efficient way. The deal with MSC.Software enables the company to utilize MSC.Software's Multi Discipline and SimManager applications to further enhance the company's simulation capability and optimize the simulation process, thus helping Jaguar Land

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Rover achieve its new product development goals.

"It's very exciting to see trends occurring with multiple major automakers taking the path forward with our SimEnterprise solutions," said Bill Weyand, Chief Executive Officer. "Business is extremely competitive for automotive manufacturers and it is a testament to our solutions ROI value when companies see the success of enterprise simulation installations and recognize how their businesses can also be making better products faster and at a lower cost by adopting our solutions."

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Klippan Safety AB Selects Technia and Q-checker to Enable Product Data Quality (PDQ)

24 February 2009

Technia recently received an order from Klippan Safety for a design solution, based on Qchecker from Transcat PLM GmbH & Co. Q-Checker is a management system tool for Product Data Quality (PDQ) which enables companies to meet and control internal and external design standards. With this order Technia continues the expansion of its new offering "Design Solutions" that is focusing on 3D services and products, which also complements Technia's other offering in the PLM area, ENOVIA MatrixOne and ENOVIA SmarTeam.

Klippan Safety is a system partner for the international automotive industry with competence in the fields of safety and comfort. The company is Europe's leading developer and manufacturer of complete bed systems with integrated occupant restraint systems for trucks. The production of bed systems is supplemented by the development and manufacture of safety nets and seat belts, making Klippan Safety an obvious global partner. Their vision is that Klippan Safety shall be the most widely recognised, preferred system supplier of products and solutions that enable OEMs to guarantee outstanding personal safety and comfort for truck drivers and occupants.

Q-Checker is used by many large OEM's (original equipment manufacturer) today. The basic idea of a PDQ tool such as Q-checker is to streamline the design processes and make sure that all designers in the process are following the rules. These rules not only affect how the internal design department is working, they are also making sure that the FEM calculation departments, the NC departments and the external suppliers are following the OEM's quality requirements.

Our large OEM customers within the truck industry are using Catia V5 and Q-checker. They are requiring that we as their supplier are delivering CAD data in a certain format. To ensure that we are delivering the CAD data with the right quality we are using Q-checker. This is a supporting tool that helps the engineering to assure that the data have the required quality. Q-checker is also used internally at Klippan Safety to increase the quality level of the CAD data, says Gabriel Lindén, R, D & E Manager, Klippan Safety AB.

"During the last six months we have noticed that more and more companies have shown interested in the Q-checker solution. It simply looks like the market has matured and that the companies have discovered the possibilities that Q-checker offers", says Johan Schenning, Director Design Solutions, Technia AB.

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Magma's Talus Selected by IDT as Standard RTL-to-GDSII Platform for Low-Power, High-Performance Chips

24 February 2009

Magma® Design Automation Inc. announced that IDT® (Integrated Device Technology, Inc.), a leading provider of essential mixed-signal semiconductor solutions that enrich the digital media experience, selected Magma's Talus® IC implementation software. IDT has deployed the Talus software to its design teams worldwide resulting in the successful tape out of several designs. IDT chose the Talus platform because it offers integrated capabilities that enable the company to reduce the power consumption and increase the performance of its advanced integrated circuits (ICs).

The Talus platform provides key capabilities that enable IDT to meet design requirements. The integrated synthesis and place-and-route capabilities of Talus Design and Talus Vortex deliver better quality of results while increasing designer productivity. Talus Power Pro's integration with Talus Design and Talus Vortex provides efficient handling of multiple-voltage threshold (multi-VT) libraries, significantly reducing power.

"For IDT, productivity is very important. We must continuously deliver innovative technologies and at a rapid pace in order to meet the demands felt by our customers in the computing, communications and consumer markets," said Camille Kokozaki, director of Design Automation Services at IDT. "Our objective is to provide silicon solutions that provide higher performance, lower cost and better power efficiency. The Talus platform, by providing unique integrated features that directly address our design challenges, allows us to significantly accelerate design optimization and thereby achieve our productivity goals."

"Magma's Talus IC implementation software provides advanced capabilities, unequaled integration and automation, and a proven predictable flow," said Kevin Moynihan, general manager of Magma's Design Implementation Business Unit. "IDT's selection of Talus for its ICs confirms Magma software's ability to enhance designer productivity and address tough design challenges."

Talus: The Platform for Low-Power, High-Performance Designs

Magma's Talus IC implementation software provides advanced capabilities for high-speed, low-power designs within an integrated and highly automated RTL-to-GDSII flow. The front-end product allows logic designers to synthesize, visualize, evaluate and improve RTL code quality, design constraints, testability requirements and floorplan. Talus also integrates fast, full-featured, high-capacity predictable synthesis capabilities, full and incremental static timing analysis, and power analysis. Magma's physical design solution includes optimization, place and route, useful skew clock generation, floorplanning, power planning, RC extraction and a single, built-in incremental timing analyzer. Based on Magma's unified data model, this platform accurately predicts final timing before detailed placement, eliminates timing closure iterations and enables rapid design closure while taking into account nanometer effects such as on-chip variation (OCV).

The [Magma](#) platform also includes advanced power optimization and management capabilities, and implements multiple power-saving design strategies to achieve maximum power reduction. The Magma system integrates low-power analysis and optimization engines throughout the entire RTL-to-GDSII flow. The system supports advanced techniques such as native multi-Vt, automated multi-voltage designs, adaptive voltage scaling using concurrent multicorner optimization and multi-Vdd, and physical implementation that meets leading foundries' nanometer dynamic and leakage power requirements.

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MIPS Technologies Selects Berkeley Design Automation Analog FastSPICE™ Platform and AFS Nano™

24 February 2009

[Berkeley Design Automation Inc.](#) announced that MIPS Technologies, Inc., a leading provider of industry-standard architectures, processors and analog IP, has selected the company's Analog FastSPICE™ unified verification platform including the AFS Nano SPICE simulator for analog/mixed-signal IP verification and characterization.

"MIPS Technologies is the leader in analog/mixed-signal IP targeted for advanced connectivity, audio, data conversion, RF and wireless communications, and power management," said Cesar Martin-Perez, Vice President and General Manager, Analog Business Group, MIPS Technologies. "Our analog/mixed-signal IP design flow requires stringent verification and characterization. Analog FastSPICE provides us true SPICE accurate results significantly faster than traditional SPICE. With this faster turnaround time, our design teams can work much more efficiently, and rigorously characterize even our most complex circuits."

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

"We are excited that MIPS Technologies selected Analog FastSPICE for their analog/mixed-signal IP verification flow," said Ravi Subramanian, president and CEO of Berkeley Design Automation. "Delivering an advanced and extensive analog/mixed-signal IP portfolio is a tremendous challenge. MIPS Technologies' selection of Berkeley Design Automation tools further validates the strong competitive advantage our Precision Circuit Analysis technology provides to leading-edge analog/mixed-signal IP designers."

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ORLEN Projekt Upgrades to SmartPlant 3D Design and Expands Use of Intergraph® SmartPlant® Enterprise Solutions

23 February 2009

After realizing an approximately 30 percent increase in design speed during a pilot project, [ORLEN Projekt SA](#), one of the largest design and engineering firms in Poland, has upgraded to SmartPlant 3D design solution and expanded its use of Intergraph® SmartPlant® Enterprise's engineering software, adding additional SmartPlant 2D modules and data integration.

Specializing in plant design for the refinery, petrochemical and chemical industries, ORLEN Projekt obtained results for the Claus sulphur recovery unit that have so far proven to speed the design process by approximately 30 percent using SmartPlant 3D design tools.

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While working on the live project, the company had the confidence to implement additional SmartPlant Enterprise solutions, seeking improvement of overall productivity by another 20 percent. These include instrumentation, P&ID, electrical, reference data, and enterprise data management solutions. The new software was put into production after less than three months of training.

"After just a few months working with the project, we realized the system helps us speed the design process by approximately 30 percent using new 3D design tools," said Wlodzimierz Garwacki, technical director at ORLEN Projekt. "We expect to further improve productivity by an additional 20 percent, integrating the design applications and control the documentation of design data exchange," he added.

Gerhard Sallinger, [Intergraph](#) Process, Power & Marine president, said, "ORLEN Projekt's successful implementation of SmartPlant Enterprise is yet another example of the value and benefits our solutions provide to EPCs in the chemical and refining industries. With a single integrated environment across all disciplines, the company's project quality and productivity have measurably increased resulting in accelerated projects and cost savings."

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QThink Design Services Adopts Magma's Titan and Talus to Implement Next-Generation Mixed Signal Designs

23 February 2009

Magma® Design Automation Inc., a provider of chip design software, announced that QThink® Design Services has added Titan™ Chip Finishing to its Talus®-based design flow to implement next-generation digital and mixed-signal designs. By leveraging Titan's integration with the Talus IC implementation system, QThink can automate what are traditionally manual, repetitive and time-consuming steps in the chip finishing process, allowing them to provide their customers with shorter development cycles and reduced development costs.

"With third-party chip finishing, an inordinate amount of time is spent performing manual chip integration tasks such as top-level routing, connecting to the package routing layers, implementing last minute ECOs and adding manufacturing data," said Urban Jangren, vice president of Engineering at QThink. "Titan is significantly faster and provides higher capacity than any other chip finishing tool we've used. It has turned several days of manual work into a scripted flow executed in minutes"

"The [Magma](#) software offers the highest level of integration and automation, allowing designers to deliver ICs with better quality of results with less effort and in less time," said Suk Lee, general manager of Magma's Custom Design Business Unit. "QThink's decision to use the Magma software is a strong endorsement of its ability to improve designer productivity."

Titan: Lightning-Fast, Automated Chip Finishing and Live Integration with Digital Implementation

In traditional flows, chip finishing -- the point at which the digital and analog blocks of a design are integrated together -- is a time-consuming and manual task. Titan Chip Finishing provides complete and automated chip finishing capabilities. This fast, high-capacity system integrates mixed-signal layout with the Talus place-and-route capabilities. Titan Chip Finishing can manipulate the largest designs with ease, automates analog and special-net routing through an efficient constraints-based approach and makes all mixed-signal layout changes immediately available for physical and timing verification sign-off analysis through a live interface with Talus, Quartz™ DRC and Quartz LVS. Titan Chip Finishing

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can implement late engineering change orders (ECOs) that affect both analog and standard-cell components without significantly delaying the schedule.

About QThink

QThink is a global leader in providing ASIC and SoC design services to leading semiconductor companies worldwide. QThink offers flexible technical and business engagement models spanning the full range of implementation tasks, from architecture and specification through logic design, verification, and physical implementation. QThink's optimized methodology, coupled with our extensive team of design experts, has continuously demonstrated on-time delivery and right-by-construction silicon tape-outs for complex designs ranging from 130 to 45 nanometers. Partnering with QThink has allowed our customers to lower their operating costs as proven by successful delivery of over 200 designs to date through our design centers in San Diego, San Jose, and Bangalore, India.

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Samsung Heavy Industries Signs USD 3M Agreement with AVEVA

26 February 2009

AVEVA announced that [Samsung Heavy Industries](#), Korea has signed a contract valued at over USD 3M to extend their subscription to AVEVA Engineering, Design and Lifecycle Management solutions. These solutions will be implemented in Samsung's Marine Engineering Offshore Operations.

Today AVEVA solutions are used by 43 of the top 50 shipyards worldwide for all their operations; covering commercial and naval shipbuilding as well as offshore facilities, conversions and new-builds.

Peter Finch, President, AVEVA Asia Pacific, said:

"Many companies in Asia Pacific are embracing our marine industry solutions to further improve their competitiveness. The AVEVA range of products covers the full lifecycle of complex engineering projects from early project definition, through the design and production stages into operational management of the vessels and facilities. These projects are often carried out in a global collaborative environment supported by the AVEVA portfolio of products. By implementing the AVEVA suite of products, Samsung Heavy Industries will now have the tools to successfully drive every phase of their projects."

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Sargent & Lundy Reduces Drawing Production and Distribution Requirements by 85 Percent With Bentley Navigator

25 February 2009

Sargent & Lundy LLC, a worldwide leader in professional services for the electric power industry, won a 2008 Be Award of Excellence for "Innovation in Power Generation." The \$1 billion project, the new Dry Fork Station Unit 1 power plant near Gillette, Wyo., will provide a highly reliable, environmentally sound, and economical source of electric power needed to support the region's growing economy. In addition, it will burn locally mined Powder River Basin coal, further supporting the area economy. The project is featured in the new publication "The Year in Infrastructure 2008," available online from Bentley Systems at <http://www.bentley.com/YearInInfrastructure2008>. The Dry Fork Station Unit 1 power plant presented the large project team – spread over many organizations, locations, and design

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platforms – with a complex industrial-design challenge. The team was able to substantially reduce the quantity of issue-for-comment drawings through collaborative model reviews using Bentley Navigator. This desktop application enables users to visualize, navigate, and interact with intelligent 3D models of large, complex facilities using both graphical and non-graphical facility information. Of the estimated 7,600 physical-plant drawings expected to be issued, approximately 85 percent of the review-cycle prints were eliminated, saving many thousands of man-hours due to decreased document handling, printing, and mailing. The project moved smoothly into the construction phase on schedule, with an optimized design and the necessary foundation for efficient construction and operation.

Commenting on the project, Rich Marshalla, project manager and vice president, [Sargent & Lundy](#), said, “We executed a very successful, advanced-generation, clean-coal technology project. The Bentley software tools were instrumental in allowing us to effectively meet the schedule and the customer’s expectations for the highly complex project.”

Marshalla continued, “For example, use of MicroStation and Bentley Navigator empowered us to improve online collaboration and reduce the quantity of comment drawing releases during the design-comment cycle phase. It also allowed us to improve contractor understanding by performing online constructability reviews and to facilitate contractor input early in the design phases. At the same time, the software made it possible for us to establish and control space allocation within the 3D model by enabling us to conduct regularly scheduled design reviews, thereby allowing the project team to reduce interferences and to stay on schedule.”

For additional information about MicroStation, visit <http://www.bentley.com/microstation>. For additional information about Bentley Navigator, visit <http://www.bentley.com/bentleynavigator>.

For information about how to enter projects for consideration in the 2009 Be Awards of Excellence competition, visit <http://www.bentley.com/BeAwards>.

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Selete Selects Mentor Graphics Calibre nm Platform for EUV Flare Compensation

26 February 2009

Mentor Graphics Corporation announced that Semiconductor Leading Edge Technologies, Inc. (Selete) has selected the Calibre® nm Platform for simulation and correction of flare in its Extreme UV Lithography (EUV) research program for memory and logic ICs.

“We have conducted exhaustive experiments and have verified that the Calibre platform’s flare modeling capability accurately models and corrects for the strong flare effects in EUV,” said Ichiro Mori, Director and General Manager, Research Department 3, Selete. “This level of accuracy, combined with the Calibre platform’s high performance and reliability, makes it the best alternative for use in full chip-level evaluation on a process liability test site in our EUV research program.”

EUV Lithography is one of the strong candidates for production of integrated circuits below 22nm. EUV exposure systems utilize a 13.5nm wavelength illumination source to enable printing of feature sizes expected at future nodes. However, EUV exposure systems suffer from a very high level of scattered light known as “flare.” The expected flare levels will create unacceptably large distortions in printed features, leading to degraded circuit performance if not properly compensated.

The Calibre hierarchical polygon processing engine with its “Density Convolve” capability simulates the level of scattered light at all points within the chip utilizing fractal kernel convolution models, and then

compensates for the scattered light's effect on the printed image. Teams of researchers from Selete and Mentor Graphics have validated the accuracy and performance of the Calibre flare compensation flow at Selete.

"We are extremely pleased that [Mentor](#) has been chosen as Selete's EDA vendor of choice for partnering on solutions for EUV mask development," said Joseph Sawicki, vice president and general manager for the design-to-silicon division at Mentor Graphics. "We have a very strong partnership with Selete that has already resulted in significant successes on the Calibre nm Platform. We're looking forward to extending our research as we continue to meet the critical need for pattern fidelity at new semiconductor nodes."

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Sondrel Adopts Magma's Titan Chip Finishing

23 February 2009

[Magma® Design Automation Inc.](#) that Sondrel, Europe's leading physical implementation design consultancy, has adopted Titan™ Chip Finishing. Sondrel adopted the Magma software after an extensive evaluation in which Titan's highly automated flow and integration with the Talus® digital implementation and Quartz™ DRC physical verification products were shown to reduce turnaround time and deliver better quality of results within an easy-to-use, repeatable flow.

With conventional tools, chip integration tasks such as DRC and DFM cleanup, incorporating last-minute engineering change orders (ECOs) and adding manufacturing data, require manual, repetitive steps. Based on Magma's unified data model, Titan, Talus and Quartz DRC work efficiently together to reduce turnaround time. Titan's tight integration eliminates time-consuming, error-prone file transfers between tools and allows the system to retain custom layout edits when other changes have to be made, so designers don't have to re-do manual edits after each ECO. Its high capacity shortens GDSII load times of full layers and enables the GUI to provide real time interactivity even on massive data sets.

"To maintain its leadership position in IC implementation, Sondrel intelligently invests in advanced electronic design automation (EDA) solutions that enable us to deliver highly complex products to market on time and on budget," said Graham Curren, CEO of Sondrel. "With its proven ability to accelerate chip finishing and tight integration with Magma's implementation and physical verification products, Titan is an excellent addition to our flow."

"Incorporating custom elements into an IC greatly increases the design complexity, often causing delivery schedules to slip," said Suk Lee, general manager of Magma's Custom Design Business Unit. "With complete, automated chip finishing and migration capabilities and integration with the digital design flow, Titan provides designers with a significant productivity boost. Sondrel's evaluation results and adoption of Titan validate its ability to deliver high quality of results and reduce turnaround time for analog/mixed-signal ICs."

Titan: An Evolution in Analog/Mixed-Signal Design

Today, analog design flows and teams are isolated from the digital world. Analog integrated circuits are still largely full-custom and painstakingly crafted by hand. In addition to being time-consuming and prone to error, this transistor-level design style does not allow an existing design to be easily transferred to a new foundry or process/technology node. Instead, the migration of such a design effectively requires the circuit to be re-implemented from the ground up. With Titan, analog designers will still

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apply their expertise in defining the first circuit topology, but porting to new nodes will be significantly easier.

Similar to the leap in efficiency enabled by integration into the digital place-and-route flow, Titan is a giant step forward in automating and standardizing the routing of analog and special signals. Through an intuitive application of layout constraints, either interactively or fully automated through scripts, Titan performs bus routing, shielding, differential pair routing, star routing and other specialized routing in a matter of minutes. Existing manual approaches may take days. This becomes especially useful in the context of ECOs as rerouting can be automatically done with essentially no delay in the schedule.

About Sondrel

Established in 2002, Sondrel is Europe's leading IC consultancy. Its team of highly experienced engineers has completed over 120 designs, all of which were designed right the first time. Having completed 55 designs in process geometries ranging from 90 to 40 nanometers, Sondrel has proven expertise in the most advanced technologies. With offices in the UK, France, Italy, Israel, Sweden and China, Sondrel provides implementation services and methodology consulting to many top semiconductor companies, enabling them improve timescales and to reduce costs. Design capabilities range from design for test (DFT) to place and route (P&R). Utilizing proprietary low-power and optimization methodologies and software solutions, Sondrel engineers are behind many of the most cost-effective solutions on the market today.

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Superior Sound Amplifies Quality of Life for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing

27 February 2009

Autodesk has named Cochlear Bone Anchored Solutions, a division of Cochlear Ltd (Cochlear) and a global leader in the development and manufacturing of implantable hearing solutions, as Autodesk Inventor of the Month for February 2009.

Cochlear used Autodesk Inventor software to develop a digital prototype of the Baha bone conduction hearing solution. The Baha system uses direct bone conduction to transfer sound to the cochlea, the auditory center of the inner ear. This method has the advantage of bypassing the outer and middle ear -- which might be blocked, damaged or otherwise impaired -- when transmitting sound vibrations to the inner ear. As a result, individuals with hearing loss can experience clearer sound in everyday situations like phone calls and group meetings.

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

Precise Digital Prototyping

"To design the bone conduction implant and the external sound processor that constitute the Baha system, we need to be able to precisely design, engineer and manufacture parts on the scale of one hundred-thousandths of a millimeter," said Daniel Radberg, senior design engineer and CAD manager at Cochlear BAS, which is responsible for the Baha product line. "Autodesk Inventor is invaluable in helping us achieve that precision by giving us detailed 3D views of our products before we've built

anything."

Traditional hearing aids use air conduction to transmit sound through the ear canal. However, people with a damaged middle ear cannot benefit from this type of device. The Baha system, by contrast, uses a titanium implant in the skull bone behind the ear. An external sound processor snaps onto the implant, transmitting sound vibrations from the outside world directly to the cochlea, bypassing damaged or problematic areas.

This direct transmission route provides several important advantages when it comes to sound quality. While conventional hearing aids over-amplify sounds to compensate for the damaged or blocked area, the Baha re-routes the sound naturally, thereby eliminating the annoying feedback and occlusion often associated with traditional air conduction hearing aids.

"[Cochlear](#) is making great strides toward improving quality of life with their innovative hearing solutions," said Robert "Buzz" Kross, senior vice president, Manufacturing Industry Group at Autodesk. "We are pleased that Inventor software has been able to play a role in helping Cochlear transform 3D digital concepts into reality for consumers."

Each month, Autodesk selects an Inventor of the Month from the more than 800,000 users of Autodesk Inventor software, the foundation for Digital Prototyping. For more information about Autodesk Inventor of the Month, contact IOM@autodesk.com.

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TransMagic Helps Superlift Raise Productivity

24 February 2009

TransMagic Inc. announced that Superlift Suspension Systems has integrated TransMagic into its design process.

[Superlift](#) is leveraging the power and flexibility of TransMagic software to exchange 3D data between differing computer-aided-design (CAD) systems and relied on TransMagic to complete products for the 2008 SEMA show. Using TransMagic, designers visually select, automatically repair and group the needed portions of 3D CAD data from automotive OEMs before importing into SolidWorks. Superlift engineers use the improved data to more efficiently create new product designs.

"TransMagic has made it possible to open any neutral or native CAD file we receive, quickly isolate, repair and retrieve what we need," said Kevin Dill, Product Development Lead Engineer, Superlift. "Repairing damaged files and grouping what we need prior to importing has saved us lots of time. Our time is now better spent working with clean, manageable files that we can rely on as we design new products."

"TransMagic makes a big difference for our customers by allowing them access to CAD files from multiple sources for use in their preferred 3D application," said Todd Reade, President of TransMagic. "By integrating our unique all-in-one data exchange application into the design process, customers can quickly improve productivity and get their products to market faster."

Superlift has reduced reverse engineering processes and file re-creation by integrating TransMagic. Quality is also improved since new product designs are based on original OEM data rather than measurements taken in the field.

TransMagic reduces the costs of translating, repairing and repurposing 3D CAD files to any design and

manufacturing applications. Visit <http://www.transmagic.com> for a free trial.

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Triple Eight Race Engineering Drive Increased Simulation Accuracy with MSC.Software's Multi-Discipline Simulation Solutions

26 February 2009

[MSC.Software](#) announced that Triple Eight Race Engineering, the motorsport company responsible for the design, build and racing of the cars of the Vauxhall VX Racing team has extended their relationship to include the company's multi-discipline (MD) solutions. With the addition of MSC.Software's MD solutions, Triple Eight Race Engineering aims to progressively increase the scale, complexity, and ultimately the reliability of their race car simulations. Since becoming MSC.Software partners in 2004, Triple Eight and VX Racing have won nine championships, including the triple crown last season.

Under this new agreement Triple Eight will migrate their existing simulation environment to a new standard platform based on the multi-discipline (MD) solutions including MD Nastran. The migration to the new MD Solution portfolio is managed via Enterprise Advantage, a flexible scaled licensing system, allowing a cost effective technology expansion, while maintaining the heritage of experience and investment in their existing engineering products environments. By using the MD solutions, the design team at Triple Eight focus on overall structural optimisation of the race car chassis and detailed simulation both at component and system level of critical performance items such as the suspension assemblies. In addition to a more accurate representation of complex non-linear race applications, the new MD capabilities will provide substantial productivity gains in the areas such as multi-body free and glued contact, and topology optimization.

"We are enthusiastic about adding MSC.Software's MD solutions to our existing simulation capability," said Kevin Berry, Technical Director at Triple Eight Race Engineering. "Our designers and engineers heavily rely on having not only the best software technology but also support at hand, whenever it is required to avoid any down time. In these ways, MSC.Software has played a key part in helping us to achieve success and we look forward to having many more championships to celebrate."

MD Nastran is the core solution technology behind MSC.Software's SimEnterprise portfolio. By combining all of the most common analysis types into a single integrated solution, MD Nastran enables a wide range of multi-discipline applications to be addressed with greater accuracy and speed than was traditionally possible. The coupled nature of the MD Nastran simulation allows significant improvements both in the physical representation of the simulation model, and in the computational efficiency of the solution. It also eliminates the inefficiencies and potential for error in the re-modelling and data translation associated with a traditional chained analysis approach of multiple point technologies.

"Through its extensive experience with Triple Eight Race Engineering, MSC.Software has developed a special understanding of the unique demands of the industry", said Amir Mobayen, Executive Vice President for Worldwide Sales and Services, MSC.Software. "The migration to multi-discipline simulation at Triple Eight Race Engineering is another example of one of the major MD standardization projects around the globe, as customers seek to maintain competitive advantage and maximize their return on investment by using the latest simulation technology."

About Triple Eight Race Engineering

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Based in Oxfordshire, UK, Triple Eight Race Engineering was formed in 1996, primarily to design, build and race Vauxhalls on behalf of the General Motors (GM) brand in the British Touring Car Championship (BTCC). A close working alliance has developed during a decade of success and Triple Eight is now Vauxhall's technical partner for motorsport. Triple Eight also has commercial interests through the Performance Vehicles section of the company, that transfer race winning performance onto road going models. Triple Eight has spearheaded several special projects for Vauxhall, starting with the 2001 manufacture of 100 Astra Coupé special edition's, dubbed the T8 and then the production of a high performance limited edition Astra Sport Hatch turbo diesel. Most recently Triple Eight have enhanced the Astra Nürburgring special edition and tweaked 500 Arctic Edition Corsa's.

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Vaillant Group Deploys PTC Product Development System to Drive Innovation and Streamline Global Collaboration

23 February 2009

[PTC](#) announced that Vaillant Group, a leading internationally operating heating, ventilation and air-conditioning technology concern headquartered in Germany, has successfully implemented Windchill® as its global platform for product development content and process management. With Windchill, Vaillant Group has reached an important milestone by creating an efficient enterprise-wide product development system formed to increase process transparency and collaboration thus driving product innovation. In the mid 90's, Vaillant Group standardized on Pro/ENGINEER®, PTC's parametric CAD/CAE/CAM software for designing innovative products. Vaillant Group originally used PTC Pro/INTRALINK®, for Pro/ENGINEER data management, but has since upgraded to Windchill to take advantage of its broad and deep capabilities for content and process management as well as its superior Pro/ENGINEER data management capabilities. The implementation of Windchill creates a single, integral platform for global collaboration among the R&D departments across Europe and China as well as controlled access to product development for non-engineering departments and third party suppliers. As part of the project, the PTC Global Service Organization migrated 1.6 million product data files with a total system downtime of less than two days.

Like many organizations, Vaillant Group is faced with some extreme product development challenges including increasing competition from overseas companies as well as higher prices for raw materials that are critical for the production of its products. In fact, the more than 130 year-old, family-owned company has a long-term growth strategy to create a competitive edge through innovation and execution of a clear R&D strategy by highly qualified engineering teams. Vaillant Group's R&D centers in Europe and China form one of the largest development teams in the industry. Around 70 percent of heating technology sales are achieved with products less than three years old. Accordingly, the company is investing significantly in research and development (64 million Euro in 2007) in order to safeguard its ability to respond quickly and efficiently to customers' requirements in product development. The PTC product development system is an integral component of Vaillant Group's R&D strategy with Pro/ENGINEER supporting the general development and, in particular, the development of technologies based on renewable energies. Solar thermal systems, photovoltaics, heat pumps and ventilation with heat recovery, all being designed in Pro/ENGINEER, have shown tremendous success with sales increased by 25 percent in this product segment. The newly developed heat pump proved to be an even stronger growth driver with a 40 percent sales increase. Additionally, Vaillant Group is making strides with the development of fuel cell heating appliances. These efficient, environmentally-friendly, hydrogen-fuelled

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combined heat and power (CHP) units generate 50 percent less CO₂ and consume about 25 percent less primary energy.

In order to continue to drive its competitive advantages, Vaillant Group keeps improving efficiency. In fact, the implementation of Windchill is one more milestone in optimizing development processes and driving innovation. With the implementation of Windchill, the Vaillant Group established global 3D CAD file access, control and visualization as well as improved collaboration between R&D and non-engineering departments. Furthermore, PTC enabled controlled, online 3D CAD data exchange with suppliers and established design workflows to enable repeatable and predictable product development processes.

“One of the greatest challenges for product development in the next few years will be how to share the right information with the right people at the right time. Engineering and non-engineering departments need to collaborate on a global scale and independently of the software system that created the original data. We are convinced that PTC products will help us overcome this challenge in the future,” said Dr. Gamal Lashin, head of R&D tools and standardization, Vaillant Group.

“To unlock business value by deploying PLM technology, you need to have the right processes in place and full management support through to each individual user,” said Josh Fredberg, senior vice president market and strategy, PTC. “Customers like the fact that our out-of-the-box solutions can meet their requirements without customization so that they can focus their services investments on process optimization and user adoption to ensure that they realize the maximum value from their software investments.”

About Vaillant Group

Vaillant Group is an internationally operating heating, ventilation and air-conditioning technology concern based in Remscheid, Germany. The company develops and produces tailor-made products, systems and services for domestic comfort. The product portfolio ranges from efficient heating appliances based on customary fuels to system solutions for using regenerative energy sources. In financial year 2007 the company, which has been family-owned since its founding in 1874, achieved with almost 12,400 employees sales totalling about €2.4 billion.

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ZiiLABS Tapes Out With Magma's Quartz Physical Verification Products

26 February 2009

[Magma® Design Automation Inc.](#) announced that ZiiLABS, pioneers of StemCell™ Computing, used Magma's Quartz™ DRC and Quartz LVS Physical Verification system to tape out the recently announced ZMS-05 processor. The Quartz tools are part of ZiiLABS' ultra low-power, 65-nanometer (nm) system-on-a-chip (SoC) implementation environment based on Magma's Talus® platform. The scalability of the Quartz products and the integration with Talus enabled ZiiLABS to significantly reduce the time to tape out of the ZMS-05.

The ZMS-05 is a media-rich application processor that delivers high-performance application, graphics and multimedia capabilities within a low-power environment to enable its customers to develop a broad range of products to deliver enhanced mobile internet browsing, media playback and capture, navigation, video communication and gaming.

The multi-core design includes 24 fully programmable processing elements, dual ARM cores, and a

broad range of I/Os and peripheral functions. The ZMS-05 achieves ultra low-power consumption through its unique architecture and implementation methodology. The design features dynamic voltage and frequency scaling, multiple clock domains, RAM standby and voltage islanding, allowing independent power down of 16 regions in the chip.

"As a market innovator in low-power SoCs, [ZiiLABS](#) invests in advanced electronic design automation (EDA) solutions that enable us to deliver highly complex products to market on time and on budget," said Paul Pontin, vice president of Technical Strategy at ZiiLABS. "Using a multi-CPU methodology during full-chip verification, Quartz DRC and Quartz LVS reduced runtime from 2.5 days to 9 hours - making it an overnight run. This provided a significant productivity gain during tapeout. Foundry runsets for both 90 nm and 65 nm were readily available to download and Magma's focused support provided a high degree of confidence in achieving success on this critical tapeout."

"With the inherently faster speed enabled by its scalable multi-CPU architecture, using Quartz DRC and Quartz LVS for final sign-off dramatically reduced final physical verification turnaround time of the ZMS-05," said Suk Lee, general manager of Magma's Custom Design Business Unit. "That speedup coupled with the integration of Quartz DRC and Quartz LVS into the Talus implementation environment also dramatically reduced overall implementation time and effort."

Quartz DRC and Quartz LVS are architected to process integrated circuit (IC) designs of any size, at any technology node, in the least amount of time. Magma's is the first truly scalable physical verification solution, able to provide turnaround time that is up to an order of magnitude faster than existing solutions by leveraging existing compute resources. The Quartz tools are fully compatible with third-party IC implementation flows and can read file formats used by traditional physical verification tools. Integrated with Magma's Talus platform for digital implementation, Quartz DRC and Quartz LVS offer additional time savings by eliminating the need to stream data between the implementation system and the physical verification tool.

The latest release of the Quartz DRC/LVS products also offers an enhanced power/ground short-detection capability that pinpoints the exact location of shorts rather than just the path, and detects multiple shorts in a single run. This makes shorts easier to correct and speeds full-chip debug.

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Product News

Agilent Technologies Announces High-Frequency/High-Speed EDA Release for Integrated Circuit, Package and Board Co-Design

23 February 2009

Agilent Technologies Inc. announced the 2009 release of Advanced Design System (ADS) for high-frequency/high-speed co-design of integrated circuits (IC), packages and boards. The ADS electronic design automation (EDA) release helps circuit, package, board and system designers work with a single EDA platform to share simulation models and minimize design rework, costs and delays in communications product design.

The ADS EDA co-design platform enables verification of high-frequency or high-speed system performance as soon as IC, package and PC board designs become available, either in real parts or in simulated models. With the common system-verification test benches in ADS 2009, designers can

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identify and correct component interactions that can negatively affect the ability to meet system performance specifications. Catching these interactions early in the design cycle prevents costly rework during final hardware integration.

Applications include:

- designing the latest 4G LTE phones, where multimode/multiband compatibility with 3G, 2G, WiFi and Bluetooth® must be maintained in the size and price demanded by consumers;

- signal integrity analysis and fast eye-diagram optimization of multigigabit, high-speed serial links, where layout geometry, pre-emphasis and equalization are optimized for the lowest bit error rate; and

- aerospace-defense communication and radar system integration with costly military-specification components procured through long purchase cycles, where failure leads to project delay, cost overrun and eventual cancellation.

Agilent's ADS EDA co-design platform is the result of more than two decades of continuous innovation and refinement. Its wireless, high-speed and aerospace-defense system integration includes the co-design of Agilent's own test and measurement instruments.

ADS 2009 offers unique capabilities for co-design with the widest variety of models available today, including:

- X-parameters -- the latest Agilent innovation in accurate, non-linear measurement -- can be used directly in ADS simulation to accurately represent off-the-shelf components such as amplifiers and transistors;

- 3D electromagnetic parameterized components representing metal shields, antenna radomes, absorbers, packages, interconnects, finite dielectric substrates and wire bonds;

- transistor-level circuits on RFIC, MMIC, LTCC or laminate RF modules and PC boards;

- behavioral models of all types, including Verilog-A/AMS, HDL, MATLAB®, IBIS, C++ and neural networks;

- netlists from HSPICE and Spectre;

- measured signal stimulus and data from Agilent signal, network and logic analyzers; and

- prebuilt simulation libraries and sources compliant with the latest wireless standards such as LTE, WiMedia and VWAN wireless HD with MIMO antenna characteristics.

“Prebuilt simulation libraries and standards-compliant sources mean that IC and component design houses can collaborate with their system-integration customers to refine specifications and designs before committing to costly and time-consuming hardware sampling and system integration trials,” said How-Siang Yap, ADS product marketing manager with Agilent's EEsof EDA division. “Reducing even one month-long hardware spin can save up to \$1 million. Our customers are excited about this potential savings.”

ADS 2009 also interoperates with Cadence and Mentor back-end design platforms, allowing designers to import:

- Cadence Allegro PCB, Advanced Package Designer and System-In-Package physical design data for co-designing with active components; and

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Design Rule Check results from Cadence Assura, Mentor Calibre or Triquint MailDRC for viewing and correcting within ADS cost-effective layout environment.

More information about ADS 2009 is available at <http://www.agilent.com/find/eesof-ads2009>. To request a demo of ADS 2009, visit <http://www.agilent.com/find/eesof-ads2009-demo>.

U.S. Pricing and Availability

ADS 2009 is available now, with prices starting at approximately \$18,000. It is also available in time-based bundles with ADS, starting at approximately \$20,000 per year.

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AspenTech Announces Availability of 7.1 Release of aspenONE® V7 Engineering Software

26 February 2009

Aspen Technology, Inc. announced the 7.1 release of aspenONE V7 Engineering software. The updated release enhances aspenONE V7 Engineering's ability to help companies increase efficiency and productivity in the face of today's challenging economy.

aspenONE V7 Engineering supports the [7 Best Practices of Engineering Excellence](#). These best practices are based on proven engineering work processes used by leading AspenTech customers such as BP, BASF, Dow, Fluor Corporation, KL Energy, SNC Lavalin and URS Corporation.

Supporting Quotes:

Paul Mathias, Technical Director, Fluor Corporation

“The Aspen Properties Enterprise Database in aspenONE V7 provides valuable new capabilities to Fluor. It ensures that our process engineers will obtain validated and consistent physical-property calculations for process design and simulation, and that our proprietary information is protected.”

Jim Leatherwood, Manager of Estimating, SNC Lavalin

“The cost estimation capability in aspenONE V7 streamlines the flow of project information and shortens the cycle for developing accurate cost estimates. This enables us to do projects faster and more cost-effectively, resulting in increased productivity.”

Dave Litzen, Vice President & CTO, KL Energy Corporation

“The improvements made to the Aspen Exchanger Design and Rating in aspenONE V7 are very useful for specialty heat exchanger designs, which are common in Biofuels processing. With these improvements, we can turn around designs in less than a week, compared to waiting up to six weeks and countless iterations for vendor-supplied designs.”

Kay Smith, IT Resource Manager – Process & Energy, URS Corporation

“We recently installed and configured the Aspen Licensing Center Auto Upload Tool and found the process to be quick and easy. The ‘hands free’ feature gives us peace of mind knowing that our usage log files are processed and transmitted without burdening our IT resources. This allows us to seamlessly monitor and track our use of AspenTech solutions, further optimizing our software investment.”

Enhancements in Release 7.1

Batch process development innovations

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Faster integrated conceptual engineering with simulation, sizing, and economic analysis

Expansion of the process industry's most comprehensive physical property database

Additional bioethanol, gasification, and CO₂ capture process models

A new equipment design solution tailored to cryogenic processes, such as LNG

With the 7.1 release of aspenONE V7 Engineering software, AspenTech has also nearly completed its ongoing effort to enable XML export capability for all features of HYSYS. AspenTech anticipates this capability will be available for all features of HYSYS, through the release of a software patch as necessary, in the coming months. AspenTech is further committed to including comparable export functionality to facilitate interoperability among versions of future releases of HYSYS and of the Exchanger Design & Rating (HTFS+) suite of products.

General Availability Date

The general availability date of the 7.1 release of aspenONE V7 Engineering is February 27, 2009.

Supporting Resources:

To learn more:

[aspenONE V7 Engineering – 7.1 release enhancement details](#)

[aspenONE V7 Engineering – online tutorials and webinars](#)

[The 7 Best Practices of Engineering Excellence](#)

[What the Industry is Saying about aspenONE V7 Engineering](#)

[AspenTech 2009 User Conference](#)

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Cadence Extends the Open Verification Methodology Beyond SystemVerilog to Include SystemC and e Language Support

23 February 2009

[Cadence Design Systems, Inc.](#) announced the release of open source libraries for e and SystemC languages to support the Open Verification Methodology (OVM). Cadence® has contributed these libraries, with accompanying usage examples and documentation, to the OVM World Web site (<http://www.ovmworld.org>). The OVM was originally developed for SystemVerilog; the Cadence contribution enables the development of OVM-compliant verification components and testbenches in any of the three IEEE-standard languages used for verification and modeling: SystemVerilog, e, and SystemC.

"We are working with Cadence on several projects deploying the OVM," said Suhas Belgal, senior verification manager at Magnum Semiconductors. "The new e libraries will be a great benefit for the verification community, since they will allow us to train all of our engineers on a single methodology regardless of the language they use. Also, being an SoC design house, it will enable us to use VIPs from various IEEE standard languages under the OVM umbrella. Our engineers will be able to integrate sophisticated verification environments faster with the new libraries provided by Cadence."

"We are delivering advanced verification technology in multiple languages to our customers today," said

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Takahiro Kobori, senior general manager, LSI Design and Development Division of OKI Network LSI Co., Ltd. "This OVM multi-language new feature can help us to implement one methodology while continuing to deliver verification IP in each IEEE standard language required by our customers. The new open source OVM e and SystemC libraries introduced by Cadence will improve the design of verification environments throughout our intellectual property."

The OVM was architected from the beginning with multi-language verification in mind. By using transaction-level modeling (TLM) channels as the basis for communication, OVM SystemVerilog verification components can communicate easily with existing e and SystemC components without changing those existing methodologies. The new libraries allow verification engineers to develop new components and testbenches in any of the three languages, using corresponding library elements with the same methodology and reuse guidelines.

"The reality is that to be globally effective, verification must be a multi-language proposition," said Michal Siwinski, product marketing group director for Verification Solutions at Cadence. "Many of our customers use verification IP from other sources, share verification components across projects, or engage in joint development with other companies. Now, participants in this ecosystem can use a single methodology with industry support for interoperability, reuse, and scaling from block to system in all three standard languages."

In addition to its contribution of the libraries, Cadence supports the OVM with a broad range of products and services. The OVM is fully integrated into the Cadence metric-driven verification flow, which combines results from simulation, formal analysis, hardware acceleration, and in-circuit emulation for a thorough assessment of verification progress. Other unique offerings from Cadence include a tremendously broad range of multi-language OVM verification IP, builders to help create OVM-compliant verification components, and services to aid in OVM startup and validation of compliance to standard protocols.

Also today, Cadence announced the availability of a new single-license model that grants verification teams access to the extensive Cadence Incisive® Verification IP (VIP) Portfolio.

Availability

The e and SystemC library source code, examples, and documentation are available immediately in the "Community Contributions" area at <http://www.ovmworld.org>.

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Cadence Incisive Verification IP Portfolio Delivers 'All-in-One' Flexibility and Higher Value for SoC Developers

23 February 2009

Cadence Design Systems, Inc. announced availability of a new single-license model that grants verification teams access to the extensive Cadence® **Incisive® Verification IP** (VIP) Portfolio.

The single-license model provides verification teams flexible, cost-effective access to **Open Verification Methodology** (OVM)-compliant, multi-language VIP for dozens of commonly used protocols.

Under the new model, users purchase a single license to get access to the growing library of metric-driven and assertion-based verification IP from Cadence. This single license can be used to check-out any of the Cadence VIP resources into a user's verification environment and can be reconfigured on a

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moment-to-moment basis, providing access to new technologies and protocol VIP as they are released. VIP implementation services are available to further speed time to productivity.

"The flexibility of a single multi-language VIP Portfolio that can be used for a variety of protocols and technologies as needed on a daily basis allows SiRF to optimize our verification IP investment," said Mohammed E. Haque, ASIC DV lead at SiRF Technology. "The ability to draw on one license for new protocols and features as needed speeds productivity and allows earlier verification of new IPs."

Cadence VIP supports protocols used widely in wireless, networking, storage, multimedia, and automotive technologies. Having the full force of the broad Cadence portfolio of VIP at their fingertips will help system-on-chip (SoC) integrators quickly build and regress verification environments and take advantage of the deep specification expertise built into each Cadence VIP component. When deployed with Incisive Enterprise Simulator or Incisive Enterprise Specman Elite® Testbench, Incisive Formal Verifier, and Incisive Enterprise Manager in concert with the unique metric-driven Compliance Management System, VIP Portfolio users can increase their confidence that their SoC will meet protocol standards.

"The introduction of portfolio licensing for Incisive VIP is a significant step forward in providing easier-to-implement, OVM-enabled, metric-driven verification methodology," said Michal Siwinski, marketing group director of Enterprise Verification at Cadence. "We believe that out-of-the-box solutions such as Incisive verification IP will help our customers meet their end-users' growing demands for predictable time to market and quality, while improving engineering team productivity."

Also today, Cadence announced the [release of open source libraries](#) for *e* and SystemC languages to support the Open Verification Methodology (OVM), extending the OVM beyond SystemVerilog support.

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CCE's EnSuite Updated With Useful Features for Manufacturing Support and Supply Chain

24 February 2009

CCE announced that it has added several key capabilities in the latest update of EnSuite version 2.2 – its flagship software for sharing detailed product knowledge across the extended enterprise, with ease. "We are very excited at the latest EnSuite update that comes packed with productivity tools for people in Manufacturing Support and Supply Chain job functions", says CCE's V.P. of Sales & Marketing, Mr. Vinay Wagle. He adds, "The focus of EnSuite continues to be in providing critical engineering information to non-CAD-savvy users in the extended enterprise in a simple, intuitive way and this latest update does just that."

EnSuite's latest release provides access to Product Manufacturing Information (PMI) stored in annotated 3D models. This type of information, typically required by manufacturers & fabricators, include geometric dimensions, tolerances, surface roughness, datums, etc. and are collectively referred to as Product Manufacturing Information (PMI). Most of the major CAD systems provide tools for annotating parts or assemblies with PMI but often name it differently. For example, CATIA V5 uses 'Functional Tolerance Annotation' (FTA), CATIA V4 uses "Geometric Dimensioning and Tolerance" (GD&T) while Siemens' Unigraphics NX uses PMI. By providing PMI data, EnSuite helps manufacturers improve collaboration throughout the supply chain by providing accurate product specifications, enable increased usage of 3D product information throughout the product lifecycle, dramatically reduce design and fabrication errors caused by the misinterpretation of 2D data or paper documents, not to mention

shave off paper handling and document delivery costs.

The latest EnSuite update also includes a new Shrink Wrap tool that can be used to combine all the solid bodies available in an assembly file to a single solid. The result would provide an accurate external representation of the model. This model can be shared with people, where sharing the detailed information of the design is not required. This is especially useful in a supply chain environment to reduce the detail of production data for intellectual property protection as also to create simplified data for complex purchased assemblies.

EnSuite supports files from multiple CAD formats including latest software versions including CATIA V5 R19, SolidWorks 2009 and NX6 among others. EnSuite is designed to provide quick access to critical engineering information residing in CAD data, no matter which CAD system was used to author it. Its user-friendly interface is designed with non-designers in mind.

The latest EnSuite update will be available to all active subscription license customers as well as to new customers.

For additional information, or to view demo videos, please visit <http://www.cadcam-e.com/EnSuite2>.

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CFdesign HPC Module From Blue Ridge Numerics Accelerates Flow and Thermal Design Studies Without Breaking the Bank

26 February 2009

Blue Ridge Numerics, Inc. announced that design engineers can experience speedup of simulation time for complex flow and thermal projects using the latest **CFdesign high performance computing (HPC) Module**. The module allows CFdesign users to harness the power and investment of their existing Windows HPC networks, whether in a data center or a smaller cluster environment. The module allows customers to conduct more design studies in less time and reduce the time it takes to achieve solutions for large complex models. Mechanical and product design engineers in either scenario described above will benefit from the decreased time required to optimize flow and thermal performance during the digital design phase, resulting in increased productivity and a more optimized final product design.

Results Verify the Benefits of the CFdesign HPC Module

The CFdesign HPC Module provides significant value to companies across industries and with varying applications. The examples below exemplify the increased speed for simulations spanning natural convection, HVAC airflow patterns, and drilling in the oil & gas industry.

-- The HPC Module reduced a natural convection simulation solution time by 550% (5.5X) during a design study conducted to optimize surface cooling of a commercial jet in a hanger after exposure to full sun. (A cluster of 4 computers with 16 cores was used.)

-- During an energy audit of a university laboratory, the HPC Module reduced simulation time to optimize the lab's HVAC airflow patterns by 525% (5.25X). (A cluster of 4 computers with 16 cores was used).

-- While conducting a design study to decrease erosion effects by improving the internal flow of liquids in a tricone bit that is used for drilling by the oil & gas industry, the HPC Module reduced the solution time by 400% (4X). (A mini-cluster of 2 computers with 8 cores was used).

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"We are committed to taking the complexity out of CFD and that expands to removing barriers for our customers to leverage the power offered by HPC to significantly speed up simulations," said Derrek Cooper, product manager, Blue Ridge Numerics. "CFdesign users can implement the HPC Module in a data center or on a simple and cost-effective HPC mini-cluster, allowing design engineers from small or large companies or with limited CAPEX resources to increase productivity."

Gaining the Benefits of HPC Without Breaking the Bank

Blue Ridge Numerics developers have confirmed that even a modest two-computer Windows HPC mini-cluster with the CFdesign HPC Module creates enough horsepower to speed up solution times by 400%. As an example, a transient pump simulation might have previously taken 10 hours, but with the mini-cluster setup, the time is reduced to 2.5 hours. The time saved can be used to test additional designs or move on to the next project, providing a significant increase in productivity.

How to Create Your Own HPC Mini-Cluster

For customers interested in creating a simple two-computer mini-cluster, which is all that is needed to utilize the power of the CFdesign HPC Module, the components have been included below. A Dell system has been used as an example, but could be replicated with HP or other similar computers. Additional computers can be added to the setup at an extra cost.

- Two Dell T7400 desktops running Windows Server 2008 HPC Edition with HPC Pack installed.
- Two Mellanox Infiniband Host Channel Adapters (HCAs). One HCA is required for each PC, each with Mellanox drivers including Network Direct support and OpenSM Infiniband Fabric Manager.
- One Infiniband cable connecting the two Mellanox Infiniband HCAs

About the CFdesign HPC Module

CFdesign v10 and the HPC Module are available as an integrated, associative solution for Autodesk Inventor, CATIA, CoCreate, NX, Pro/ENGINEER, SolidWorks, Solid Edge, and SpaceClaim. The Company will continue to expand the capabilities of the HPC Module with the upcoming release of V11 later this year.

The CFdesign HPC module is available immediately. For further information on purchasing CFdesign and the CFdesign HPC Module contact a local sales office or visit the Company's website:
<http://www.cfdesign.com/products/hpc-module.aspx>

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Dassault Systèmes Delivers New Solutions for Simulation Automation and Optimization

25 February 2009

Dassault Systèmes (DS) announced the availability of Isight and Fiper 3.5, the first new release of these simulation process automation and design optimization solutions following SIMULIA's acquisition of Engineous Software.

By using Isight and Fiper, product development engineers are able to integrate cross-disciplinary models and applications together in simulation process flows, automate their execution across distributed compute resources, and explore the resulting design space. These solutions enable manufacturing companies to improve the efficiency of identifying optimal design parameters and accelerate the process of bringing better-performing products to market.

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“The addition of the open and industry-proven Isight and Fiper technology to SIMULIA’s product suite provides our customers with an unmatched capability for automating and accelerating design exploration,” stated Steve Crowley, director of product management, SIMULIA, Dassault Systèmes. “The new capabilities in Isight and Fiper 3.5 will help customers reduce design time and manufacturing costs, while improving product performance, quality, and reliability.”

Isight 3.5 (formerly known as iSIGHT-FD) is an open desktop solution for creating simulation process flows. It interconnects any commercial software—including but not limited to CAD/CAE, Microsoft Excel™, and customer-developed applications—to automate the exploration of design alternatives.

Isight includes advanced engineering techniques such as optimization, Design for Six Sigma, approximation methodologies, and Design of Experiments that enable design engineers to optimize designs against key performance parameters. It also provides powerful interactive postprocessing tools allowing engineers to explore the design space from multiple points of view.

Fiper, an add-on product to Isight, enables users to share Isight simulation process flows, distribute and parallelize their execution across available compute resources, and share multidisciplinary simulation results. The Fiper add-on can be accessed directly from Isight or from a Web interface.

With the new releases of Isight and Fiper 3.5, SIMULIA is delivering on its promise to expand the ecosystem for its open scientific platform. SIMULIA is enabling a rich assortment of components to be developed for use in simulation process flows that connect commercial applications. Customers can use the Isight component software development kit to develop their own components. Third-party component development is now being facilitated through the Dassault Systèmes partner program.

Additional Highlights in Isight and Fiper 3.5:

- New 64-bit native support improves performance and enables running more complex and larger models.
- An advanced search capability in Isight assists in finding any component, parameter, or file in a simulation process flow.
- The ability to view contour plots with superimposed constraint violations within the Visual Design Driver.
- Enhanced reliability and performance for Distributed Resource Management (DRM) of simulation jobs through the integration of Platform Computing’s Load Sharing Facility (Platform LSF).

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

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EMSigmaPro™ Launched for Product Environmental Lifecycle Management

18 February 2009

Papros Inc. launched EMSigmaPro™, which consists of a series of analytical tools for performing Product Environmental Lifecycle Management using principles of Lean Six Sigma. Papros Inc.’s solution differentiates itself from other offerings in the market in that EMSigmaPro™ goes beyond water, energy and greenhouse gases and can, in fact, include other parameters such as the wastes going to landfills, or other modes of disposal as compared to reuse and recycle, or those incinerated or for that matter any parameter that the user may choose to add to the analysis. This offering is synergistic with

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Papros Inc.'s two other offerings - product content and footprint reporting offering MRPRO™, and EMSPRO™, which is a complete enterprise level environmental management system offering.

MRPRO supports Design for the Environment by exchanging product footprint, obsolescence information and due diligence communications in the realm of Montebello Agreement, REACH, RoHS, RoHS-like (China, Korea), JMOSS, WEEE, EuP, Green Chemistry Initiative, Extended Producer Responsibility and other existing and emerging regulatory regimes. MRPRO enables compliance by full support for data conforming to EIA, JEDEC, JIG (supports the latest JIG), IPC, SAE and ASTM' standards.

MRPRO offers the spreadsheet interface for product footprints in addition to industry and W3C compliant XML formats for the data. By easily exchanging data on the web or the desktop, the entire web is the database for MRPRO and the spreadsheet is the interface.

EMSPPRO™ is a complete environmental management enterprise level system that tracks and performs complex analytics on the facility's direct and indirect use of raw materials (including the full cradle-to-point-of-delivery footprint for the raw materials and parts/components), fuel, electricity, water, and creation of multiphase wastes-into air, or discharged/discharged as liquids and solids in all activities of the enterprise-be it manufacturing, shipping and receiving including global inter modal transport and warehousing, facility overheads, business travel, employee commutes and any other specific activity that the user may choose to add to the subjects of focus on a for an enterprise.

About Papros Inc:

Papros Inc. has been committed to providing Total Environmental Management solutions to US and International companies. "Optimizing the Greenback and the Green Environment" has been the slogan of Papros Inc. since its inception more than twenty-one years back. Based in San Jose, California, Papros Inc.'s solutions span the entire spectrum of Environmental Management and feature informational instruments to enable corporations worldwide to deploy and manage product environmental lifecycle data by methods that are efficient, easy-to-use and economic.

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GibbsCAM Certified by Autodesk for Inventor 2010

23 February 2009

Gibbs and Associates announced that GibbsCAM 2009 has been certified for Autodesk Inventor® 2010 under the Autodesk Inventor Certified Applications Program. Certification is granted only after a product has been thoroughly tested by internal staff at Autodesk. Certified applications meet certain implementation guidelines and have demonstrated the highest levels of quality and interoperability with Autodesk Inventor software.

"The timing couldn't be better to be certified under the Autodesk Inventor Certified Applications Program so soon after the release of GibbsCAM 2009, which allows Inventor users to take advantage, with great confidence, of the latest and most recent enhancements made to GibbsCAM," says Bill Gibbs, founder and president of Gibbs and Associates. "Our joint customers can continue to easily and quickly machine parts from their Autodesk Inventor designs, but now using the powerful additions we have introduced in GibbsCAM 2009."

Robb Weinstein, Gibbs' Senior Vice President of Sales and Strategic Planning, adds, "With the ever expanding capabilities of GibbsCAM, Inventor users can drive their simplest and most complex machine

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tools, from 2-axis lathes to multi-axis, multi-task and Swiss turn machines, from 2- and 2.5 axis mills to 3- through 5-axis machining centers. They will find the recent, advanced 3D, high speed machining capabilities, lathe and 5-axis additions extremely productive, all offered within the same, easy-to-use interface for which GibbsCAM is known worldwide.”

GibbsCAM is able to directly read native Autodesk Inventor models and assemblies for process planning and toolpath generation. The Inventor-to-GibbsCAM add-in also allows Autodesk Inventor models and assemblies to be transferred directly from Autodesk Inventor to GibbsCAM. Updates to part geometry and process parameters are accommodated by GibbsCAM’s full associativity across geometry, processes and toolpaths. GibbsCAM allows users to take advantage of its capabilities – from minimizing the time it takes to learn use of the software, to making manufacturing engineering tasks and production machining extremely intuitive and efficient.

For more information about GibbsCAM and other Gibbs programming solutions, or to locate your local GibbsCAM Reseller, go to <http://www.GibbsCAM.com>, call 1-800-654-9399, or email info@GibbsCAM.com.

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Intergraph® Introduces Validation, Transformation, and Loading module for SmartPlant® Enterprise for Owner Operators

24 February 2009

Intergraph® has released the Validation, Transformation and Loading module for [SmartPlant® Enterprise for Owner Operators](#) (SPO VTL), a comprehensive solution that enables companies to significantly reduce the time and costs associated with validation of data handover and data quality insurance in greenfield and brownfield environments.

Performing a high-quality data handover is critical to ensure the safe, reliable and effective operation of a process plant. If the quality of information handed over to operations is questionable, there is a constant need to physically verify the true physical state of the plant. This can drive up the cost of plant modifications by 30 percent. The handover from a US\$1 billion CAPEX plant can typically cost US\$10-15 million and take up to one year to successfully validate and load operations systems. SPO VTL can minimize these costs, increase data accuracy and accelerate the handover process. VTL can also be used to validate and upgrade the quality of data on existing brownfield plants and assist the migration from legacy data systems.

SPO VTL manages data acquisition from multiple sources and verifies the quality of incoming data prior to loading into target project or operations systems. Data are held in a staging area, subject to rigorous quality control before being extracted for loading into target systems, including Intergraph’s [SmartPlant Enterprise suite](#) and other enterprise applications. SPO VTL also improves the range, quality, consistency and traceability of validation performed and enables EPCs to check the quality of information deliverables before sending them to customers.

Managing the handover of data and documentation from CAPEX projects and turnarounds to operations is a formidable and labor-intensive task. The volumes of data handed over are enormous, with a typical US\$1 billion CAPEX plant having 200,000 tags, 100,000 documents and up to 20 million characteristics and relationships. Data are submitted from multiple sources and are often delivered incomplete and with errors.

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The challenge of validating and correcting errors can be compounded if data are delivered very late in the project life cycle, with staff demobilized, budgets exhausted and management focused on how to finish the project as quickly as possible.

"Intergraph's SmartPlant Enterprise captures and manages engineering data from design through construction," said Gerhard Sallinger, Intergraph Process, Power & Marine president. "With SPO VTL, we combine our many years of experience in lifecycle asset information management, data quality control, and handover to provide a new means for customers to increase productivity and reduce costs."

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Intergraph® SmartPlant Isometrics with INOVx Creates Piping Isometric Drawings from “As-Built” Plant Models

25 February 2009

Intergraph® and [INOVx®](#) announce the integration of the industry-standard Intergraph SmartPlant® Isometrics with the INOVx RealityLINx® Asset Virtualization™ software to allow process industry operations and maintenance personnel to create piping isometric drawings directly from “as-built” virtual plant models.

The integration allows plant based operations, maintenance and engineering staff to create up-to-date and accurate piping isometric drawings with SmartPlant Isometrics for inspection, fabrication and construction, based on the “as-built” high definition laser scanned model in RealityLINx Asset Virtualization.

SmartPlant Isometrics together with RealityLINx provides plant personnel with a cost-effective way to update and then maintain old plant layout drawings and asset documentation. SmartPlant Isometrics is a cornerstone of SmartPlant Enterprise for Owner Operators (SPO), enabling information associated with a pipe to be maintained and presented in different forms during the lifetime of the plant. Through the RealityLINx virtual asset model, plant operations and maintenance personnel can work within a laser scanned 3D virtual plant model and gain seamless, role-based access to asset related information across the enterprise.

“Asset Virtualization is transforming best practices to take advantage of accurate virtual plant models,” said Costantino Lanza, CEO of INOVx Solutions. “Through our cooperation with [Intergraph](#), we are able to provide a convenient bridge to legacy work processes that depend heavily on isometric drawings. This is very important to our mutual customers.”

Gerhard Sallinger, Intergraph Process, Power & Marine president, said, “Our work with INOVx provides exciting new capabilities for plant staff to leverage “as-built” laser scans in the context of an integrated enterprise during the operational phase of the asset lifecycle. This development not only demonstrates our openness but also our continued efforts to integrate innovative solutions into the engineering enterprise to help owner operators operate their plants more safely and efficiently.”

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KKM SOFT Releases iConfigure – Product Configurator for Autodesk Inventor Professional 2009

16 February 2009

KKM SOFT Pvt. Ltd., one of India's leading Mechanical Design Solutions companies and partner to

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Autodesk has announced the release of iConfigure, product configurator engine for Autodesk Inventor Professional 2009.

“KKM SOFT ‘s iConfigure in its current version will be an engine that can be customized with a GUI developed using Microsoft .NET technology to configure and create robust part configurations, assembly configurations as well as drawings on industry’s leading Digital Prototyping Platform Autodesk Inventor Professional” says Mr. Ramasamy, Director of KKM SOFT.

He adds “As a Mechanical Design Solutions and ETO (Engineering to Order) Company, we felt that there was a need for an external rules based configurator that can automate 70% of the standard designs that exist in the product design portfolio of any mass customization manufacturing company. To cut short our Inventor customization time, we created a set of tools and libraries, which could speed up our ETO customization process, this later transformed into a fully developed configurator engine”.

Today KKM SOFT executes all its customization on Autodesk Inventor Professional and other Autodesk products using the iConfigure engine to bring down the development time by 50%. Projects customized with iConfigure have capabilities to reduce design and detailing time of mass customized products by up to 90% through custom UI and rules based design automation.

About iConfigure

KKMSoft has created a Product configuration engine called iConfigure ® to execute its strategy to help customers innovate and deliver projects more efficiently and rapidly. KKM SOFT’s Configurator employs an open ended, customizable and scalable methodology that allows modifications or expansions existing product development systems or workflows.

iConfigure works in conjunction with Autodesk Inventor and various other Microsoft office products to produce seamless interface to all your drawing needs.

iConfigure features include:

- Externally configurable Assembly sequence
- Assembly parts compatibility list
- Fully automatic rules and script based assemblies
- Also supports interactive assemblies and allows saving configured assembly script or rules instead of assembly files.
- Rules can be defined as an Access database that will be queried by the engine.
- Configurator API and external GUI compatibility for other developers in future versions.

"iConfigure has revolutionized the drawing creation process through simple user friendly input screens. In the process we could not only de-skill the drafting job and get error free output, but also phenomenal reduction in time" says R.B.SATISH KUMAR, President at Flowserve Sanmar Limited. “In times when there is more competition, choice and a feeble economy; design innovation is the only way to get ahead”, he also added.

About KKMSoft

KKM SOFT as a Mechanical Design Solutions and a value added reseller to Autodesk in India is involved in providing digital prototyping solutions for the past 11 years on the Autodesk Inventor Professional platform. KKM SOFT, with its team of software developers and an Authorized Developer

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under ADN, has been creating custom built ETO solutions and design automation tools that have reduced design cycle and sales quoting time by almost 90% in all the customization projects it has ventured into.

KKM SOFT's accumulated domain expertise serves over 2000 customers; and goes about its solution offering in a user-centric 360 degree way by providing training, implementation, support and software development.

“Though most of our deliverables with iConfigure is a framework of processes and services based on customer input and feedback, we can quickly transform to add to current and Autodesk's future ETO initiatives like Intent and iLogic. We will continue to closely look at Autodesk's strategy in providing Digital Prototyping and Sustainability solutions to our shared customers; and adhere to VAR and Autodesk customer acquisition and service objectives”, says Kirubakaran, the Chief Architect of KKM's Solution.

KKM SOFT is now reaching out to working with Autodesk customers and resellers worldwide. “We are looking at partnering with Autodesk Manufacturing VARs to implement customized design solutions using its iConfigure engine on Autodesk Inventor Professional and AutoCAD that has the potential to phenomenally reduce design and drafting time by up to 90%”, says Ramasamy

More information can be found at <http://www.kkmssoft.com> and <http://www.kkmssoft.com/sts.htm>

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Lattice Technology Announces XVL v10, Lightest 3D XVL Format Ever

24 February 2009

Lattice Technology announced the imminent release of its most lightweight 3D format ever. XVL v10 is a next-generation format that delivers 2 times more compression of 3D data than the previous XVL formats, along with vastly improved memory consumption and speed of viewing.

Lattice Technology's XVL format, already the industry's most compressed format which also retains very high accuracy of 3D data, forms the basis for the easy sharing, reuse, simulation and testing of 3D assemblies in a sensible and productive manner no matter what the size of the data. As 3D design data assemblies have increased in size in the last few years, so the demand for much smaller – yet usable – iterations of the design data has increased.

XVL v10 (codenamed U-XVL) delivers yet more compression than the previous XVL formats while retaining accuracy of the design, reduces memory usage by another 25-40% and can be viewed, manipulated and checked more than 2 times faster than ever before.

Features of XVL v10:

- Compresses 3D data up to 0.5% of its original size
- Memory usage 25-40% improved
- 3D viewing at least 2 times faster than previous version
- Retains accuracy of the data with no compromise for file size/usability
- Further speed improvements with graphic accelerators deliver even faster viewing and usage of your 3D data, especially with NVIDIA graphics cards

- The industry's most compressed 3D format

Why Lightweight 3D formats are important

Demand for the highly compressed XVL format has increased in recent years, in line with a corresponding increase in the size of 3D data for such products as airplanes, satellites, space stations, and vehicles. While manufacturers using 3D quickly start to experience the benefits of complete 3D assemblies in the design and development stage, so they also immediately hit significant barriers when trying to share, reuse, simulate and test the data in other areas of manufacturing.

“When a company starts relying on 3D, so they find that downstream users who do not have expensive CAD seats and accompanying hardware struggle to view the data. Networks strain to handle massive 3D assembly data files. And simply getting the data to other stakeholders in the manufacturing process becomes an exercise in frustration,” stated Rachael Dalton-Taggart, Director of Marketing, Lattice Technology. “Lightweight 3D formats address this problem directly, but users’ focus has to be on ensuring that the accuracy of the data is maintained – and not compromised – by making the data light. With the industry’s best compression, without loss of accuracy, XVL delivers precisely to those needs.”

Bill Barnes, GM, Lattice Technology, added “XVL is a best-of-breed format that immediately delivers productivity, efficiency and cost savings into every kind of lean manufacturing effort. The XVL applications ensure that 3D data in XVL remains highly reusable and can be easily integrated with existing IT infrastructures such as ERP, PLM, MES and PDM systems to enable fully-automated use of product design data of all kinds throughout the manufacturing enterprise and supply chain.”

XVL data, which allows 3D data to be displayed with inter-related BOM information, process instructions, assembly animations and more, can be viewed using the free XVL Player. Lattice Technology’s applications also support the same variety of very lightweight data in Microsoft Excel, HTML and PDF to ensure corporate standards are supported.

XVL v10 Availability

As a result of the very high compression of XVL v10, main Lattice Technology applications are being updated. These will roll-out during Summer 2009 and are available at no charge to existing maintenance customers.

To find out more about XVL v10, please visit: http://www.lattice3d.com/company/xvlv10_1.html

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LEDAS Helps CAD/CAM/CAE Developers Efficiently Model Large Assemblies with LGS 3D Geometric Solver Version 1.5

26 February 2009

LEDAS Ltd. (www.ledas.com), an independent software provider of computational components and services for PLM and ERP markets, released the next version of its LGS 3D variational geometric solver that is used by CAD/CAM/CAE software development companies to implement parametric modeling capabilities in engineering applications.

New version 1.5 of LGS 3D significantly improves the performance of moving under constraints functionality that now runs five times faster than previously, as measured on a test base extracted from several hundred user scenarios of LEDAS customers. This functionality is used in the context of assembly design and kinematics simulation applications, where a mechanical assembly is composed of

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3D parts linked with assembly constraints or kinematic joints. LGS 3D 1.5 is able to follow a user's trajectory as close as possible while keeping hundreds of constraints/joints satisfied in real time, so it serves as a base for efficient modeling of large assemblies in CAD/CAM/CAE applications.

LGS 3D performance on static constraint solving (model updating functionality) has been improved by 30%, as measured on a test base of 3,000 industrial parametric models.

LGS 3D 1.5 also provides new integration possibilities for CAD/CAM/CAE developers. Its new thread-safe code solves an arbitrary number of parametric models simultaneously. The Lege'n'd 3D demo application has been moved to Open CASCADE version 6.3.

The robustness of LGS 3D has been proven by its integration into several industrial software packages including ADEM Assembly by ADEM Technologies and ClassCAD by AWW. More than 4,000 users worldwide appreciated the added value of LGS 3D during beta testing of the Driving Dimensions plugin for Google SketchUp, a popular 3D modeling software application. This plugin combines direct geometry editing with parametric modeling capabilities and implements the so-called variational direct modeling approach. Everyone can use Driving Dimensions for free to test the power of LGS 3D. For more details visit <http://www.DrivingDimensions.com>.

About LGS 3D

Variational geometric solver LGS 3D, developed and supported by LEDAS, is offered for licensing to all CAD/CAM/CAE software development companies at an affordable price. It is used as a parametric engine for 3D modeling, assembly design, kinematics analysis, history-free geometry editing, and other applications. LGS 3D is a cross-platform software package. It is a set of binary libraries running under all 32- and 64-bit Windows, Linux, *BSD, AIX, HP-UX, Sun Solaris and other OS. Coded in C++, LGS 3D has a C-based API that allows integration into a broad range of software applications.

LGS 3D supports creation and modification of the geometric models by means of either explicit or implicit constraints. Typical geometric objects are points, lines, circles, planes, cylinders, spheres, parametric curves, surfaces and swept surfaces. Objects can be fixed in the absolute coordinate system or with respect to each other (last feature is provided by so-called rigid sets of objects). The supported set of geometric constraints includes logical constraints between geometric entities (coincidence, parallelism, tangency, etc.) and dimensional constraints that specify the required values for given distances, angles or radii. LGS 3D moves and rotates objects to positions where all constraints are satisfied with minimal possible transformations of initial configuration. Other LGS 3D functions implement advanced features of CAD/CAM/CAE systems - diagnostics of over- and under-defined parts of a model, engineering variables and equations, help points and tolerance management.

A sample 3D modeling application called Lege'n'd 3D is available as a free download at the LEDAS web site with a set of representative examples of different 3D assemblies. This application can be used by anyone to test functionality, robustness and performance of LGS 3D. It was created with the Open CASCADE open-source application framework. The source code of Lege'n'd 3D is available under special request.

To learn more about LGS 3D, visit the LEDAS web-site at <http://ledas.com/products/lgs3d/>.

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Magma's Latest Version of Talus Vortex Delivers Industry-Best Quality of Results for Advanced Designs

24 February 2009

[Magma® Design Automation Inc.](#) announced availability of an updated version of Talus® Vortex, Magma's physical design environment for advanced integrated circuits. The January 2009 release includes the advanced features required for leading-edge design, such as full-flow multi-mode/multi-corner optimization and low-power clock-tree synthesis.

With enhanced algorithms that run efficiently on multi-CPU machines, Talus Vortex is ideally suited for the most challenging designs -- especially for wireless, graphics, networking and multimedia chips with tens of millions of gates, at technology nodes ranging from 130 to 32 nanometers (nm). Talus Vortex has been production proven on more than 100 designs, including dozens at 45 nm or smaller.

"For our customers' toughest designs, Talus Vortex continues to set the standard for the best quality of results and provides unmatched productivity," said Kevin Moynihan, general manager of Magma's Design Implementation Business Unit. "The January 2009 release increases Talus Vortex's effectiveness and offers significant performance improvement over the 2008 versions."

Talus Vortex's multi-mode and multi-corner analysis capabilities have been enhanced for better memory and runtime efficiency and are performed earlier in the flow. This release delivers timing, power and area results that are up to 20 percent better compared to the 2008 versions, and turnaround time has been cut nearly in half. Talus Vortex has enhanced automation for better usability and offers the industry's best full-flow multithreading speedup.

Talus Vortex: Best Design Flow for Advanced Chips

Talus Vortex improves the productivity of physical designers by offering complete design closure. This integrated implementation and sign-off system delivers improved timing and signal integrity, smaller area, lower power, better manufacturability, faster turnaround time and higher capacity than conventional point-tool flows. These capabilities, combined with optional automated distributed processing on multiple computers, enable Talus Vortex to implement any size design from RTL to GDSII in a predictable fashion.

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MapleSim Connectivity Toolbox to Help Enhance and Extend Simulink Models

24 February 2009

Maplesoft™ announced the availability of the MapleSim Connectivity Toolbox. This new product enables users to export high-performance MapleSim models into Simulink®, thus taking advantage of the intuitive, multi-domain physical modeling environment of MapleSim as part of their toolchain.

Using this toolbox, high-performance, high-fidelity MapleSim models are automatically converted to S-Function blocks for inclusion in Simulink diagrams. Models created this way are highly efficient due to MapleSim's symbolic preprocessing and optimized code generation. For many systems, using MapleSim to create the original model is the only way to create a simulation that is fast enough for use in real-time applications. In addition, this toolbox allows engineers to better understand and more easily reuse their models with the help of MapleSim's analysis tools and design documentation abilities.

"The MapleSim Connectivity Toolbox allows engineers to construct their models in shorter time and

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with less effort,” said Laurent Bernardin, Chief Scientist and Vice President of Research and Development, Maplesoft. “Users can build the complex portions of their models more easily using MapleSim and get better results. Not only does that provide significant time savings, but it also enables engineers to enhance and extend their Simulink models in ways that would be extremely difficult, and sometimes impossible, without MapleSim.”

Please visit the Maplesoft [web site](#) for more information on these products.

Pricing and availability

The MapleSim Connectivity Toolbox costs USD 995. Academic and volume discounts are available. As a special introductory offer, anyone who purchases MapleSim before March 31, 2009, will receive this toolbox at no additional cost. The products are available directly from the Maplesoft Web Store or by contacting Maplesoft Sales at 1-800-267-6583. Outside of the US and Canada, the products are available from a local Maplesoft reseller.

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New IFS Solution Helps Businesses Cut Cost and Carbon

25 February 2009

IFS launches a fully-integrated Eco-footprint Management tool as part of an Enterprise standard applications suite – helping businesses meet impending environmental regulations.

IFS launched its Eco-footprint Management tool to provide organizations with control and transparency on the environmental impact of their operations. The tool offers customers for the first time an Enterprise standard methodology to help them control costs and meet an urgent need to prepare for compliance with environmental legislation.

Eco-footprint Management will be added to IFS’s software suite, IFS Applications. Users will be able to configure IFS Applications to capture environmental impact information from throughout their business just as easily as they configure their financial system to capture cost. IFS customers will be able to track the impact of a broad spectrum of activities ranging from raw material sourcing to product design to logistics and emissions – helping them analyze their operations, learn environmental patterns and plan for urgent legislative requirements.

“Existing components within IFS Applications that capture financial cost will now be able to monitor carbon monoxide, lead, sulphur and other environmental impacts as an additional cost,” said IFS Vice President Product & Marketing Thomas Petersson. “For example, users will be able to assign different carbon footprints to various methods of transport helping them see the environmental as well as financial cost of shipping materials by train versus truck, and compare the carbon footprint of local versus offshore sourcing.”

The new application will support IFS customers around the globe who are under increasing pressure to comply with upcoming environmental legislations such as Europe’s EuP Directive, the Environmental Liability Directive and the EU Restriction, Evaluation, and Authorization of Chemicals (REACH) regulation as well as Australia’s National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Regulation and the US Climate Action Partnership’s recently proposed ‘Blueprint for Legislative Action’ against climate change.

The EuP Directive: http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/eco_design/index_en.htm

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The Environmental Liability Directive (Environmental Liability Directive 2004/35/ EC) (ELD)

<http://www.netregs.gov.uk/netregs/legislation/future/63682.aspx>

The REACH regulation Registration, Evaluation, Authorization and Restriction of Chemical substances.

http://ec.europa.eu/environment/chemicals/reach/reach_intro.htm

National Greenhouse and Energy Reporting Regulations 2008:

<http://www.climatechange.gov.au/reporting/index.html>

US Climate Action Partnership (USCAP) Blueprint for Legislative Action <http://www.us-cap.org/blueprint/overview.asp>

Industrial Professor Bo Hjort Christensen of the Norwegian School of Management said he has seen a growing demand for enterprise software with integrated environmental footprint. “Companies are looking for environmental footprint solutions to provide green branding with credible measurement, respond to governmental requirements and to identify possible cost-cutting opportunities. IFS’ customers will be the first to benefit from this functionality as part of an integrated applications suite.”

Brad Roderick, executive vice president at IFS customer InkCycle, a leading recycler of toner and ink jet cartridges, said he is looking forward to the availability of this functionality.

“InkCycle has aggressively reduced its environmental footprint and we are now faced with the challenge of documenting our environmental efforts for our customers,” Roderick said. “With a great number of environmental legislations impending, this functionality will help us prove the environmental case for our recycled printer cartridges and our low-footprint green cartridge product – helping us create a very compelling proposition for our customers”

IFS AB President and CEO Alastair Sorbie said: “Whether our customers are complying with government mandates to reduce their environmental impact or are executing on a proactive sustainability initiative, this is precisely the kind of tool they will need. IFS is able to rapidly develop and deploy this fully-integrated, Enterprise standard functionality because we have structured our product and our company with agility and speed to market in mind. This tool will help our customers manage board-level risk, position themselves in the market and comply with those more stringent regulations. That is why environmental foot-printing is a high priority for IFS.”

The Eco-management Footprint tool is available to early adopter customers as of today.

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OptiTex in Arabic

24 February 2009

OptiTex announced the anticipated release of their leading software in Arabic.

With customers in countries such as Tunisia, Kuwait, Egypt and Saudi Arabia, OptiTex is pleased to reach out to Arabic speakers in the textile industry worldwide by expanding their leading software to the Arab market.

OptiTex ‘s user-friendly features and fully customizable interface make it the software of choice for leading designers such as Tommy Hilfiger, Hugo Boss and Zorana Kozomara.

“The expansion of OptiTex to serve Arabic speakers worldwide provides key opportunities for those in the Arabic textile industry. We are very excited for this opportunity to extend our reach to new

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distributors and further geographical coverage of the OptiTex software.” states Yoram Burg, OptiTex USA President.

By developing tools and expanding the OptiTex software into more languages, OptiTex succeeds in giving industry customers the opportunity to improve their fashion and textile businesses and increase ROI. In addition to Arabic, OptiTex software functions in more than 20 languages including English, French, Spanish and Chinese.

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QMC and Covisint to Provide OEMs With Global Supply Chain Visibility

23 February 2009

QMC, developer of CM4D software, a market leader in Product Quality Validation (PQV), and Covisint announced they are working together to provide OEMs and suppliers with a collaborative workspace enabling instant visibility into the quality status of parts anywhere across a global supply chain.

In spite of today’s abundance of manufacturing data, companies often face the challenge of not being able to surgically provide the right information about parts to the right people at the right time. To do this, manufacturers need to create a virtual product using information from the factory floor as they manufacture the physical product. This virtual product can then be transmitted instantaneously and simultaneously throughout the supply chain. Often, however, this information is buried in a complex labyrinth of incompatible systems and formats, or it is just not known that one part of an organization has information that would be valuable to another part. As a result, designs take longer and cost more, products are recalled, shipments are missed or contain faulty parts and other errors are needlessly made.

“QMC understands the entire product life cycle and global supply chain extremely well, giving it a unique perspective from which to pinpoint and address the key problems facing manufacturing,” said David McGuffie, President of Compuware Covisint. “With Covisint’s heritage in securely connecting entire communities of users, QMC now has an incredibly strong platform to leverage and extend their PQV capabilities. This has exciting potential.”

The QMC relationship with Covisint will make the right quality information strategically actionable and timely to achieve business goals. QMC will leverage Covisint’s secure collaboration platform to provide instant visibility into the quality and status of parts across the global supply chain.

“This Covisint/QMC relationship promises a great marriage of technology and business, providing organizations anywhere on the planet with the information they need to get the job done in the most accurate and efficient way,” said Dale Mahrle, President of QMC LLC. “When it comes to securely exchanging information across systems, geographies and organizations, Covisint is the gold standard.”

Covisint

Covisint’s on-demand collaboration platform helps virtual communities securely access, use and share time sensitive information. [Covisint](#) solves business problems by streamlining and automating processes globally--connecting state and nationally based communities, organizations and systems in the healthcare, automotive and financial services industries, as well as the public sector.

QMC

Developer of CM4D software, [QMC](#) offers manufacturers a single automated solution for leveraging measurement information across their enterprise so that critical quality problems are identified early,

before they become larger build issues. Also a provider of in-process metrology integration and dimensional management services, QMC is a full-service source for integrated quality solutions.

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Synopsys, Powerchip and Nikon Collaborate on 42-nm Flash Memory Optimization

24 February 2009

[Synopsys, Inc.](#) announced a joint collaboration with Powerchip and Nikon to deploy the Nikon Scanner Signature Files (NSSF) as a means to increase Proteus ProGen model accuracy on 42-nanometer (nm) flash memory designs. The NSSF parameters provide factory-averaged empirical data from the illumination source, lens and stage, which ports directly into Proteus ProGen models to capture the unique scanner signatures. Some or all of these parameters can be deployed to provide increased model accuracy for critical designs, like memory cells, with little to no impact on optical proximity correction (OPC) runtime. The migration from ideal to empirical scanner parameters enables enhanced physical modeling and progression to future technology nodes in which customized or aggressive off-axis illumination is common with memory processes.

"We expect the stepper-specific NSSF parameters can provide the additional modeling accuracy required in this highly competitive memory market," said Nelson Lai, OPC department manager for the Nano-Printing Technology Group at Powerchip, a Taiwan-based manufacturer of memory products and foundry services. "This NSSF collaboration will be instrumental in increasing yield for our unique 42-nanometer flash memory and in future designs."

"We are committed to providing regular progressions in modeling accuracy to equip our customers with the tools necessary to increase yield in highly competitive markets," said J. Tracy Weed, director of marketing for the Silicon Engineering Group at Synopsys. "Our strong collaboration with Nikon has been very effective in our drive toward sub-nanometer model accuracy by creating a more physical system."

"By incorporating proprietary Nikon scanner information into the Proteus software, customers can gain a competitive advantage through improved OPC accuracy and faster optimization time," said Toshikazu Umatate, operating officer and general manager, Development Headquarters, Precision Equipment Company, Nikon Corporation. "Through this collaboration with Synopsys we have been able to show clear benefits to our customers."

This phase of NSSF deployment is the latest milestone in an ongoing collaboration between Synopsys and Nikon to develop the required model accuracy value links between OPC software and Nikon hardware.

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Tech Soft 3D Announces the Release of HOOPS® v17.0

24 February 2009

Tech Soft 3D (TS3D) announced the availability of their latest HOOPS release 17.0, another customer-driven release for the engineering software industry.

Gavin Bridgeman, Director of Product Strategy for Tech Soft 3D, noted, "The 200+ software teams relying on HOOPS asked us to focus this release on three key areas: developing extreme performance

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with large models, creating enhanced use of shaders in our rendering pipeline, and expanding the number of file formats HOOPS can import/export. We're proud to say that HOOPS v17.0 delivers on all of these primary goals."

View a video demonstration that highlights some of the latest capabilities of HOOPS.

A free evaluation version of HOOPS 17.0 is possible through Tech Soft's 60-Day Evaluation program: http://www.techsoft3d.com/products/licensing_evaluation.html.

About HOOPS

HOOPS is a high-performance graphics framework used within applications from engineering software companies such as Autodesk, SolidWorks, PTC, MSC.Software, ANSYS/Fluent, COADE, Bentley, Siemens PLM Solutions, Mitutoyo, IronCAD and 200+ others. By leveraging the set of HOOPS libraries, software teams are able to develop high-performance, visually rich applications and get those applications to market quickly and cost effectively.

Highlights of HOOPS 17.0 include:

- **Interactive Rendering of Large Models:** This release continues the pattern of significant performance gains through advanced algorithms, allowing smooth interaction with large models
- **Adobe 3D OEM Platform Integration:** With this add-on toolkit, HOOPS applications can now easily import 25+ CAD as well as export rich 3D PDF content.
- **File Format Extensions:** In addition to special handling for large DWG files, HOOPS' format support has been extended to include import of the SketchUp and PTS/PTX (point cloud) formats.
- **DirectX Enhancements:** The shader-based DirectX driver has been enhanced to support additional capabilities such as ambient occlusion, weighted silhouettes and gooch rendering.
- **WPF and C# Enhancements:** Multiple extensions have been made to our C# interface and a new sample implementation of HOOPS alongside Windows Presentation Foundation has been created.
- **New Memory Manager:** HOOPS' memory manager and certain internal data-structures have been redesigned to ensure HOOPS is as lightweight as possible. This work is particularly important when dealing with large datasets. Developers desiring more control over HOOPS' memory allocations can also now register their own memory manager.

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Transoft Solutions Launches the Revolutionary Roundabout Design Software, TORUS

23 February 2009

Transoft Solutions announced the launch of its one-of-a-kind roundabout design software, TORUS. Powered by the AutoTURN engine and the result of two years of development, TORUS is the first swept-path roundabout geometry designing software.

"This application makes the roundabout design process more practical and efficient," says Transoft Solutions' Senior Civil Engineer, Daniel Shihundu P.Eng. "After seeing TORUS in action, designers in the AEC industry will immediately see the value of how this software can save time on roundabout projects."

Designing modern roundabouts is an iterative process. Small changes in the design can result in large

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safety and performance issues later on in the design process. Designing roundabouts is a balancing act between geometry, operational performance and safety. Traditionally, this balancing act process has been a manual and a labour intensive exercise. The application was developed around dynamic editing tools which give a user the ability to considerably reduce the number of iterations needed while receiving immediate feedback on fastest drive paths and critical sight lines as the result of design changes. TORUS provides users with the ability to instantly visualize the effect minor changes have on traffic safety as well as the operational performance of a roundabout's design.

TORUS gives designers an innovative new tool to generate roundabout geometries, in single or double lane initial configurations based on design vehicle movements and clearance offsets. This functionality generates dynamic theoretical edges. This means roundabouts are designed based on idealized vehicle swept-path manoeuvres with the geometry and edges to fit the movements. TORUS ensures the roundabout design has the space for the desired movements which means post-design modifications and alterations don't have to wait until the post design phase.

Throughout the roundabout design process a significant task is iteration management. TORUS' Design Manager gives designers the ability to manage multiple iterations within a single CAD drawing. For designers this means that they can save, recall, and compare iterations easily without the need to create layers thereby allowing the user to instantly select the optimal preliminary layout iteration in order to move on to the final design.

"The ease of use and flexibility of fastest path checks, sight line checks, design movements and its dynamic immediate feedback are the features that really catch designers' attention," commented Mr. Shihundu after a launch webcast presentation of TORUS. "All of the features and capabilities of this software address the challenges associated with the underlying concepts of roundabout planning and design."

For further information about TORUS' features and functions, and/or Transoft Solutions' suite of productivity enhancing tools, training solutions, or to download free software demos or sign up for web-based demonstrations, visit <http://www.transoftsolutions.com>.

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Zuken Implements Mechatronics Design Strategy and Launches New 3D Modelling Solution

24 February 2009

Zuken has made another step to strengthen the link between the electronics and mechanical design worlds by enabling parallel MCAD/ECAD design with a new collaborative software tool called Board Modeler. This forms part of company-wide strategy underway to deliver increased versatility and reliability between the mechanical, electrical, and electronics design disciplines. Board Modeler docks in Zuken's electronic systems and PCB design suite CR-5000, allowing layout and mechanical engineers to work more closely together in synchronization from as early in the process as floor planning. In this way Board Modeler gives engineers the power to rise to the challenge of integrating PCBs into ever more mechanically complex products, while saving time through parallel working and the elimination of design re-work.

Layout Engineer Gets True 3D

For the first time, with Board Modeler the layout engineer can easily work in a 3D environment modeller. The true component shape is now visible, rather than just showing items approximated as a cuboid or cylinder (2.5D). This is achieved by performing 3D conversions of footprint data, importing

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parts made by MCAD, or by using Zuken's online component database, which contains over 4.5 million accurately detailed 3D components. This enables the engineer to carry out floor planning, perform collision checks between the PCB housing, components or other PCBs; all working with the true 3D component shapes. Board Modeler also eliminates duplication of effort between electronic and mechanical design by permitting the layout engineer to import board outlines, pre-placed parts and obstacles directly from mechanical CAD tools. It also automatically back-annotates any board and placement changes, as board outline and restriction areas, into the PCB design, whether new or imported, so any required layout action, like re-routing, can be done easily. Industry standard neutral file formats, including STEP, ACIS, STL and IDF, are used to bridge the gap to virtually any mechanical CAD system.

This solution is the logical step forward from Zuken's previous tools - EM Designer and EM Checker, and improves 3D capabilities through direct integration with board design solution CR-5000 Board Designer and manufacturing board panelling solution Board Producer, allowing users to handle more complex 3D data. This smooth integration also means board layout structures, with all the material properties and electrical constraints can be exported via Board Modeler into numerical simulation tools for mechanical, electrical or thermal verification. Simulation results can then be easily back annotated into CR-5000 tools for design modifications.

Board Modeler also features a multi-board option that allows design verification of multiple boards and chassis on a multi-site global basis.

Board Modeler 4.0 is now available across the globe; for more information visit http://www.zuken.com/3D_design or contact your local Zuken representative.

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