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CIMdata News

CIMdata Brings Acclaimed PLM Certificate Program Back to The Netherlands

15 August 2012

CIMdata, Inc., the leading global Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) consulting and research firm announces that it will bring its highly acclaimed PLM Certificate Program to Amsterdam, The Netherlands from November 12-16, 2012. The [CIMdata PLM Certificate Program](#) is the flagship offering of *CIMdata PLM Leadership*, the PLM industry's most comprehensive non-biased education and training offering available for today's PLM professionals.

The CIMdata PLM Certificate Program prepares PLM professionals at several levels to successfully address the challenges inherent in PLM implementations. This assessment-based certificate program includes a personalized classroom experience, individual and team-based exercises, and individual evaluations of achievement. Additionally, the program provides intensive and extensive exposure to a team of CIMdata experts. Upon successful completion of the program, each participant receives a CIMdata PLM Certificate and becomes a member of CIMdata's global *PLM Leadership* community.

"We are excited to be holding our final European CIMdata PLM Certificate program of the year in Amsterdam. The demand for well-educated PLM professionals continues to grow, across all industries and regions. We are convinced that our decision to make CIMdata's world-class PLM Certificate Program, available at this central location, fulfills that need. Being located near one of the main international transportation hubs in Europe makes CIMdata's world-class PLM education program in Amsterdam easily accessible by air, train, and automobile." said Gerard Litjens, CIMdata's Director of European operations.

The CIMdata PLM Certificate Program is built on CIMdata's more than 28 years of extensive worldwide experience guiding industrial companies in successfully defining and implementing best-in-class PLM strategies and tactics. The program is available to industrial companies who are considering or are already implementing PLM, and to PLM solution providers. PLM Certificate Program participants may register online for either a 3-day or 5-day program. For more detailed information about the CIMdata PLM Certificate Program and how to register, visit CIMdata's website at http://www.cimdata.com/services/education/plm_certificate.html.

About CIMdata

CIMdata, a leading independent worldwide firm, provides strategic management consulting to maximize an enterprise's ability to design and deliver innovative products and services through the application of Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) solutions. Since its founding in 1983, CIMdata has delivered world-class knowledge, expertise, and best-practice methods on PLM solutions. These solutions incorporate both business processes and a wide-ranging set of PLM-enabling technologies.

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

CIMdata works with both industrial organizations and suppliers of technologies and services seeking competitive advantage in the global economy. In addition to consulting, CIMdata conducts research, provides PLM-focused subscription services, and produces several commercial publications. The company also provides industry education through PLM certificate programs, seminars, and conferences worldwide. CIMdata serves clients around the world from offices in North America, Europe, and Asia-Pacific. To learn more about CIMdata's services, visit our website at www.CIMdata.com or contact CIMdata at: 3909 Research Park Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48108, USA. Tel: +1 (734) 668-9922. Fax: +1 (734) 668-1957; or at Oogststraat 20, 6004 CV Weert, The Netherlands. Tel: +31 (0) 495 533 666.

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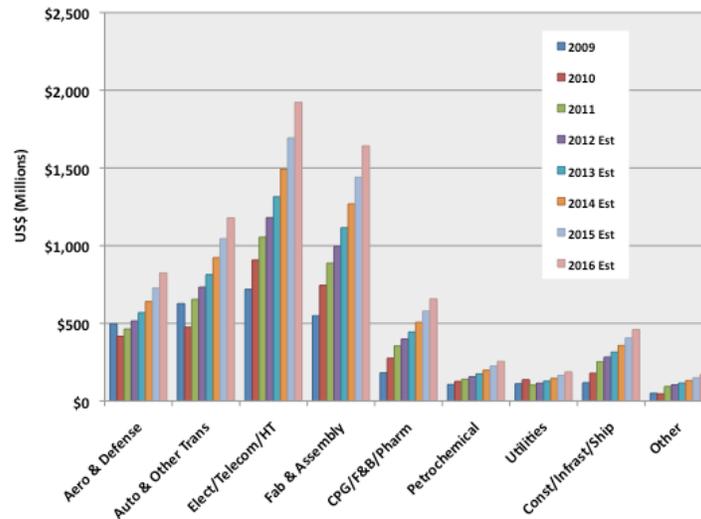
CIMdata Publishes PLM Market Industry Analysis Report

14 August 2012

CIMdata, Inc., the leading global PLM management consulting and research firm announces the release of the CIMdata 2012 PLM Market Industry Analysis Report, the fourth of five modules of the CIMdata PLM Market Analysis Report Series. The MAR Series provides detailed information and in-depth analysis of the worldwide PLM market during 2011. It contains analyses of major trends and issues, leading PLM providers, revenue analyses for geographical regions, industry sectors, and historical and projected data on market growth.

“While the global economy sputtered, the PLM economy grew faster in 2011 than in 2010, which was a very good year,” according to Stan Przybylinski, CIMdata’s Director of Research, “Most segments of the market that CIMdata tracks saw high double digit growth, with very strong license sales. Given that new license sales are often precursors to more software and services investment, this is a strong indicator that 2012 could be another solid year for PLM solution and services providers. Strong growth continued in industries with long-time PLM investments, such as automotive, high-tech and fabrication and assembly (F&A). Some other small markets, like shipbuilding and infrastructure also saw increased spending.” This report provides Mainstream PLM and segment estimates for 2011 and forecasts for 2012 through 2016 for all industry sectors covered by CIMdata, with a special focus on the cPDM segment.

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary



cPDM Revenue by Industry, History & Forecast through 2016 (CIMdata Estimates)

The CIMdata PLM Market Analysis Report Series is packaged as five modules:

1. The CIMdata 2012 Executive PLM Market Report provides an overview of CIMdata's complete global analysis. It includes key charts on PLM market investment statistics through 2011, forecasts of investments for 2012 through 2016, and a summary of PLM providers' performance in 2011.
2. The CIMdata 2012 PLM Industry Review and Trends Report is mainly qualitative in nature, and focuses on key issues facing the global PLM ecosystem of solution providers and end user organizations. It highlights changes that occurred in 2011, what effects those changes may have in the short and medium term, and what is on the horizon in the years to come.
3. The CIMdata 2012 PLM Market and Solution Supplier Provider Analysis Report details measures of and forecasts for the overall PLM market and key segments, including Tools, cPDM, and Digital Manufacturing. The Tools section has additional details on sub-segments, including MCAD, NC, S&A, EDA, and AEC. It also includes CIMdata's estimates of PLM solution supplier provider revenues in these segments and sub-segments for 2012 through 2016.
4. The CIMdata 2012 PLM Market Geographic Analysis Report provides an additional view of the 2011 market results, by major geography. CIMdata's 2011 estimates and market forecasts for PLM and the major PLM market segments are provided for the Americas, EMEA, and Asia-Pacific. In addition, the report includes estimates and forecasts for the cPDM segment within specific European and Asia-Pacific countries and regions.
5. The CIMdata 2012 PLM Market Industry Analysis Report provides an industry segmentation view of the 2011 market results. CIMdata's 2011 estimates and market forecasts for Mainstream PLM and cPDM are provided for eight different industry sectors: aerospace and defense; automotive and other transportation; electronics/telecommunications; fabrication and assembly; process-packaged goods; process—petrochemical; utilities; and construction, infrastructure and shipbuilding.

The CIMdata PLM Market Analysis Report Series is available as a five-module set or each module can

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

be purchased separately. It is also available as part of the CIMdata PLM Community Gold Membership. Further details and pricing information about the report and Community Memberships are available at www.CIMdata.com.

About CIMdata

CIMdata, a leading independent worldwide firm, provides strategic management consulting to maximize an enterprise's ability to design and deliver innovative products and services through the application of Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) solutions. Since its founding in 1983, CIMdata has delivered world-class knowledge, expertise, and best-practice methods on PLM solutions. These solutions incorporate both business processes and a wide-ranging set of PLM enabling technologies.

CIMdata works with both industrial organizations and providers of technologies and services seeking competitive advantage in the global economy. In addition to consulting, CIMdata conducts research, provides PLM-focused subscription services, and produces several commercial publications. The company also provides industry education through PLM certificate programs, seminars, and conferences worldwide. CIMdata serves clients around the world from offices in North America, Europe, and Asia-Pacific. To learn more about CIMdata's services, visit our website at www.CIMdata.com, follow us on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/CIMdataPLMNews>, or contact CIMdata at: 3909 Research Park Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48108, USA. Tel: +1 (734) 668-9922. Fax: +1 (734) 668-1957; or at Oogststraat 20, 6004 CV Weert, The Netherlands. Tel: +31 (0) 495 533 666.

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Company News

Advanced Solutions Excels with Autodesk Customer Satisfaction Program

12 August 2012

Advanced Solutions, Inc., today announced that it has surpassed its 2012 goal within the Customer Satisfaction Program launched by Autodesk, Inc. As an Autodesk Platinum Partner, Advanced Solutions has shown that they have delivered the highest levels of value to their customers through proven customer satisfaction. Autodesk reseller partners earn Platinum Tier status by demonstrating deep industry expertise, satisfying rigorous training and certification requirements and satisfying the highest customer satisfaction requirements.

Advanced Solutions has continued to evolve within the Autodesk Customer Satisfaction Program, improving their process and creating customer loyalty along with a consistent positive customer experience. The program evaluates customer experience using fundamental objectives. These objectives include:

- Creating a consistently positive customer experience
- Identifying opportunities to further customer relations
- Measuring customer loyalty using Net Promoter Score (NPS) methodology
- Strengthening customer relationships through closed-loop customer feedback process

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

Net Promoter Score (NPS) is a management tool that can be used to gauge the loyalty of a firm's customer relationships. Companies such as Amazon, eBay, Costco and Dell utilize NPS to drive growth and customer loyalty. The Autodesk Customer Satisfaction Program evaluates Autodesk partners in the areas of referrals to friends and colleagues, understanding of design process, ease of doing business, product recommendations, customization/consulting, installation/configuration, technical support and training. Advanced Solutions is using customer feedback in each of these areas to improve the overall Autodesk customer experience.

"Advanced Solutions has been our reseller for years. Their knowledge in our industry as well as Autodesk's products, keeps them as our go-to-source for everything software related. They are the definition of Excellence." - Garry M., Advanced Solutions Customer.

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Arbela Technologies and Saratech, Inc. Announce Strategic Partnership

14 August 2012

Arbela Technologies Corporation has announced that it is forming a strategic partnership with Saratech, Inc., a national platinum partner of Siemens PLM software, to offer proven process and data integration between Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) and Product Life Cycle Management (PLM) business solutions to the aerospace and defense, hi-tech, automotive, industrial equipment, and life sciences industries.

"Combining Saratech's PLM market leadership with the ERP and Supply Chain expertise of Arbela allows both companies to extend their services and capabilities to deliver a tight integration between Microsoft Dynamics AX and Siemens PLM Software for faster new product introduction, quicker quotation, order, and engineering change management improving customer service and profitability," says Nima Bakhtiari, President and CEO of Arbela Technologies.

"Saratech's partnership with Arbela gives customers access to industry experts in ERP and Supply Chain Management," says Saeed Paydarfar, CEO of Saratech. "This partnership falls in line with our goal of being a trusted resource for our customers by providing them with quality engineering and management solutions."

About Arbela Technologies

Arbela Technologies (www.arbelatech.com) provides industry specific financial, supply chain and customer relationship management expertise for Microsoft Dynamics AX and Dynamics CRM. Arbela's vertical focus includes building material manufacturing and distribution, specialty retail grocery, life science, and industrial and high tech manufacturing and distribution.

Arbela has been architecting Dynamics AX implementations and supporting them for midsize to large

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

enterprises in North America and Europe. In addition, Arbela develops markets and supports critical add-ons to Microsoft Dynamics AX 2009 and 2012 such as [Master Data Centralization](#) for multi-company implementations enabling financial, order management, and purchasing shared services, [Security Management and Auditing](#) solutions for mid-size to large private and public companies, and advanced purchasing solution for high velocity distribution enterprises.

About Saratech

Saratech, Inc. provides Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) solutions to support customers in the aerospace and defense, automotive, hi-tech and medical industries. The company is dedicated to the success of its customers by providing world-class software tools along with unparalleled services and support. Saratech, Inc. is headquartered Southern California with regional offices across the United States. Visit www.saratechinc.com for additional information.

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Arena Announces a Net New Renewal Rate Of 118% for the Second Quarter of 2012

16 August 2012

Arena Solutions today announced a net new renewal rate of 118% for the second quarter of 2012 and a 21% increase in net new subscriptions as compared to the same period a year ago.

Additionally, Arena saw a 38% increase in first year customer subscriptions. According to chief financial officer Ken Bozzini, the increase is due largely to the solution's ease of use, as well as an enhanced onboarding process that makes Arena BOMControl easy to implement. "Earlier this year we invested in making our trial process and implementation track more approachable for customers. We're now seeing that pay off as customers are up and running sooner, and are quicker to increase their BOMControl investments as the value is realized."

In its second quarter, Arena also leveraged strategic partnerships to develop new add-ons and integrations for its cloud PLM solution. Leveraging its partnership with Octopart, an electronic component aggregator, Arena released [Supplier Item Lookup](#), a BOMControl add-on that pulls up-to-date supplier information from Octopart about market availability, lifecycle status and regulatory or environmental compliance.

Arena also announced a new partnership with ERP Logic, an SAP channel partner and global business solutions implementation and consulting company. This partnership fueled an integration that enables the automatic transfer of up-to-date product data from Arena BOMControl to SAP Business ByDesign. According to Andrea Pitts, vice president of sales and strategic alliances at Arena, "We are extremely pleased by the innovative and high quality solutions we've been able to launch by connecting with other cloud companies in the space. We will continue to work with our partners to develop solutions that automate the flow of product information between companies and radically reduce transaction costs."

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

Also in Q2 of 2012, Arena surpassed its 99.5% service level agreement with 99.99% scheduled uptime and a continued focus on delivering the most secure and reliable collaborative BOM and change management solution available.

Arena attracted a variety of innovative new customers in the second quarter from industries including high-tech electronics, clean technology, consumer products, medical device manufacturing and more. New subscribers included:

- Data Translation Ltd.—A designer and manufacturer of data acquisition solutions for test and measurement.
- Lighting Science—A manufacturer of energy efficient LED lighting bulbs and fixtures.
- Remote Controlled Lighting, Ltd.—A designer and manufacturer of low cost remote controlled spotlights.
- PapaBravo Innovations—A manufacturer of electric mining vehicles designed specifically for underground environments.
- UpWind Solutions—A leading third party provider of asset management operations and maintenance services.
- Zeelander Yachts—A designer and manufacturer of high-end yachts.

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EMA Earns Autodesk Simulation Specialization

14 August 2012

EMA Design Automation (ema-eda.com) today announced that it has earned the new Autodesk Simulation Specialization designation for VARs from Autodesk, Inc. As an Autodesk Specialized Partner, EMA has shown that they have made a significant investment in their people, have a solid business plan specific to their specialization area, have customer references, and can offer a high level of experience and support to customers in the manufacturing industry.

The new Autodesk Partner Specializations enable VARs to highlight and brand their expertise in delivering services in key industry areas. By completing the required curriculum and training, as well as meeting required levels of service and standards set by Autodesk, EMA demonstrates, through their strong customer service and support in sales, what it means to be a trusted adviser to Autodesk customers throughout the world.

“When Autodesk increased their simulation offerings, we saw it as a perfect opportunity to expand our electronics simulation experience into the mechanical realm,” said Manny Marcano, president and CEO of EMA. “Now we can help our customers predict product performance and optimize designs earlier in the design process with a comprehensive set of simulation tools ranging from mechanical stress, vibration, and motion to computational fluid dynamics, plastic injection molding, and multiphysics.”

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

Companies are using digital simulation more than ever before to meet the challenges associated with the complexity of today's mechanical designs. The Autodesk [simulation software](#) imports most [3D CAD](#) formats, allowing designers to simulate faster because they can take the 3D models they have already created and test them upfront under various conditions. Multiple design variations can quickly be evaluated allowing engineers to experiment with many more alternatives and reach an optimal design faster.

For more information about EMA and the Autodesk Simulation family of products, visit EMA at ema-eda.com/Solutions/MCAD/Simulation.aspx or call 800-813-7494.

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TCS Expands Student Technology Awareness Program to Michigan

14 August 2012

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), announced its inaugural goIT summer camp in Midland, Michigan – an expansion of the company's annual goIT program for students that began four years ago in Cincinnati, Ohio. The Midland camp is designed to foster high school students' interest in pursuing a career in the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) fields. Since its beginnings, the goIT program has reached over 2,000 students across numerous districts through in-school workshops and its summer camp.

The TCS goIT program, which is free for all students, provides in-school IT career and awareness workshops, and hands-on technology education. Throughout the school year, over 40 TCS volunteers conducted workshops and other training to introduce students to cutting-edge technologies and provide IT career education. The topics covered include basic programming lessons and technology hot-topics such as Web 2.0, social media and mobile technology.

During the summer camp, students participate in a series of analytical and interactive challenges surrounding the IT industry and specific computer science problems. The highlight of the camp is a robotics competition in which student teams program robots under the guidance of TCS mentors and then compete in a series of challenges, such as obstacle courses and automation activities. At the end of the summer camp, students are recognized for their achievements at a Parent-Student award ceremony.

“At TCS, we know firsthand that to succeed in tomorrow's workforce, students across America must have a solid foundation in STEM and be fluent in the technologies that will power the global economy of the 21st century,” said Surya Kant, President, TCS North America, UK and Europe. “That is why we are so proud to expand the goIT program into new regions of the country and extend its benefits to more students and inspire them to discover their potential to be leaders in science and technology.”

“The ultimate goal of our reinvention of Michigan is to provide employers and employees with

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opportunities for success in the new economy, Michigan 3.0,” said Governor Rick Snyder. “TCS has made a real investment in our young people and in our community through the innovative program, goIT. I look forward to its success in encouraging more students to pursue STEM careers.”

Recent statistics show that over the past decade, university enrolment in STEM-related fields has decreased by over 60 percent in the US, while in 2012 alone over 150,000 tech jobs are projected to be available leading to roughly 2.5 jobs available for every IT graduate in the US. The goIT program began in the Cincinnati area four years ago to help combat this negative trend and in addition to Midland, Michigan, has also expanded to Columbus, Ohio reaching over 25 individual schools. In the coming years, TCS plans to expand the goIT program’s reach to more high school students throughout the US.

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Third Wave and Liechti Engineering Agree to Cross-Promotional Partnership

9 August 2012

Software developer Third Wave Systems (USA) and machine tool manufacturer Liechti Engineering AG (Switzerland) have joined forces to promote Third Wave software within the Liechti customer community. The partnership allows Liechti to incorporate Third Wave’s NC program optimization software, [Production Module](#), into process setup and machining overviews conducted at its demonstration facility in Langnau. Visitors to the facility identify the appropriate Liechti machine for their needs while also gaining exposure to technologies that could further improve their manufacturing processes, such as Third Wave Production Module. Liechti Engineering has been using Third Wave Production Module for almost a year, recognizing the technology as something that could be beneficial for their customers, as well as customizable to Liechti machine tool capabilities.

“We have absolute confidence in Third Wave’s product,” said Andreas Finger, Development Projects Lead for Liechti Engineering AG. “We are sure that it is the right toolpath analysis and optimization product for our machines and our customers’ applications.”

Additional details regarding Liechti’s application of Third Wave Production Module will be showcased at the upcoming International Manufacturing Technology Show (IMTS) in Chicago, Illinois (USA), September 10-15, 2012. A Liechti case study will be on display in [Third Wave’s IMTS booth, E-3229](#).

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Events News

Advanced Solutions Partners with Advantiem to Offer a Working SMART with BIM Special Event

12 August 2012

Advanced Solutions today announced that it will partner with Advantiem to offer a Working SMART with BIM Special Event for Architecture, Engineering, and Construction (AEC) Professionals in the Columbus and surrounding Ohio Valley area.

The event will provide a hands-on BIM collaboration with Autodesk Navisworks Manage software, idsDesignTOUCH and SMART Board technology. Advanced Solutions and Advantiem will allow attendees to explore the features and benefits of Autodesk Navisworks Manage for a Building Information Modeling (BIM) design environment, while demonstrating the use of the new idsDesignTOUCH™ Autodesk Navisworks Manage plug-in for SMART Board, a software app that allows Autodesk Navisworks Manage to integrate seamlessly with SMART Board® interactive whiteboards.

Attendees will get to experience firsthand the use of SMART Board interactive whiteboards across geographically dispersed AEC teams, leading to improved collaboration, better communication and fewer design revisions down the road.

Advanced Solutions provides complimentary educational seminars and workshops to the AEC industries on a regular basis. For more information visit <http://www.advancedsolutions.com/events/>

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Bluebeam Software to Showcase Project Collaboration Solutions at 2012 Tekla User Conference

15 August 2012

[Bluebeam® Software](#), developer of PDF-based collaboration solutions for the architecture, engineering and construction (AEC) industry, is exhibiting at this week's 2012 [Tekla® North American User Meeting](#). During the event, Bluebeam will show attendees how its platform solution, [Revu® 10](#), enables users to digitally collaborate on shop drawings and 3D designs with project partners downstream.

"Bluebeam Revu 10 is the perfect solution for digital project collaboration," said Sasha Reed, Bluebeam Software Director of Account Services. "Whether you need to store project files in the cloud, easily collect feedback from multiple reviewers or quickly markup drawings while in the field, there are no limits to how Revu can help you engage project partners in digital conversations."

With Revu, Tekla users can create PDF shop drawings or import U3D files to create 3D PDFs. Users can then add customizable markups, measurements and stamps to PDF shop drawings, and even add text, shapes, clouds, leaders and CAD symbols to 3D PDFs. When 3D PDFs are annotated, a new view

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

is created and a 3D markup indicator is placed in the model so reviewers can quickly navigate to related comments. By leveraging the PDF file format to share 3D data, Bluebeam is opening up project collaboration to team members who normally would not have access to BIM models.

To further streamline communication, users can leverage Revu's integrated collaboration technology, [Bluebeam Studio™](#), and store PDFs and other files in a Studio project. Files added to this simple document management system in the cloud can be checked out, edited offline and checked back in with changes. Users can invite others to view their files with either Revu or Bluebeam's free PDF viewer, [Bluebeam Vu™](#).

When more design feedback is required, PDFs can be added to a Bluebeam Studio session for online collaboration. Multiple reviewers can add markups to the same PDF simultaneously or separately on their own time. To make it easy to engage project partners in collaboration sessions, only the session host needs a full copy of Revu. Invited attendees can participate using Bluebeam Vu, [Bluebeam Revu iPad](#) or [Bluebeam Vu iPad](#).

The 2012 Tekla North American User Meeting is taking place today through Friday, August 17th at the Hyatt Regency Grand Cypress Resort in Orlando, Florida. For a demo and 30-day free trial CD of Bluebeam Revu 10, visit Bluebeam in booth #11.

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Cabinet Announces 2012 Regional Conference Series

14 August 2012

[Cabinet](#) (formerly Cabinet NG) today announced it will take its annual user conference on the road as four, one-day conferences across the country this fall.

Throughout the year, Cabinet releases product upgrades, new features and software enhancements based on industry trends and user requests. The goal of this conference series is to help customers, partners and VARs stay on the cutting edge of these enhancements and help them take their company's document management utilization to a higher level. The customer conference series will provide all attendees the opportunity to explore best practices, exchange ideas, and learn more ways about how Cabinet's document management, workflow and content sharing solutions can improve efficiency and maximize profits.

Conference dates and locations include:

- Dallas - [The Magnolia](#) - September 13
- Los Angeles - [The Westin Airport](#) - September 20
- Memphis - [The Westin Beale St.](#) - October 4
- Baltimore - [Hilton Baltimore](#) - October 11

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

"After receiving feedback from our annual conference over the past few years, we realized it was becoming increasingly difficult for employees to be out of the office for a multi-day event. That, teamed with rising airfare and travel costs, and the overall hassle of traveling, were becoming a burden to our customers," said Andrew Bailey, president, Cabinet. "With that, we decided to shake things up a bit and take our conference on the road. Offering single-day events held in different regions will maximize attendance and also allow interaction between fellow Cabinet users from those major hub locations across the country."

Each conference will follow the same format starting with a welcome reception held the evening prior. Welcome and introductions will begin at 8:00am the next day with the conference adjourning at 5:00pm. Attendees will gain tips and tricks, learn how to update or expand their document management projects, receive training on new products and features, and hear new ideas for using [Cabinet SAFE](#) in their business. Additionally, attendees will have the opportunity to speak with fellow SAFE users and Cabinet experts throughout the day.

Who Should Attend?

All document management technology users, VARs, partners, and prospective clients are encouraged to be part of the conferences. The event spans industries and occupations. Attendees range from document management end users to senior executives.

For additional information and pre-registration, visit: <http://www.cabinetpaperless.com/events/>

The preliminary agenda is available at: http://www.cabinetpaperless.com/wp-content/uploads/2012/08/2012_Customer_Conference_Agenda.pdf

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Delcam GmbH to Show Latest in Machining and Inspection at AMB

16 August 2012

Delcam GmbH will demonstrate new versions of Delcam's machining and inspection software on stand B 47 in Hall 4 at the AMB exhibition in Stuttgart, Germany, from 18th to 22nd September. Programs on show will include the FeatureCAM feature-based programming system; the PowerMILL CAM software for high-speed and five-axis machining, and for the programming of robots; the Delcam for SolidWorks integrated CAM system; and the PowerINSPECT inspection software.

FeatureCAM was the world's first feature-based programming software when it was launched in 1995. Constant development since then has ensured that the system has retained its leadership in programming speed and ease of use, while an increased range of strategies has been added to provide more efficient toolpaths giving greater productivity on a wider range of machines. The main change to the 2013 FeatureCAM product family has been the introduction of three levels of 3D machining functionality.

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FeatureMILL 3D Lite is a new option offering single-surface machining with a basic range of strategies and so provides an introductory product for companies moving into 3D machining for the first time.

The most important new option in the 2013 release of PowerMILL will be the new Vortex strategy for high-speed area clearance. Vortex, for which Delcam has a patent pending, has been developed by the company specifically to gain the maximum benefit from solid carbide tooling, in particular those designs that can give deeper cuts by using the full flute length as the cutting surface. It can be used for two- and three-axis roughing, three-plus-two-axis area clearance and for rest machining based on stock models or reference toolpaths. Like other Delcam roughing strategies, Vortex toolpaths are calculated to give more efficient machining by following the shape of the part and by keeping air moves to a minimum.

Delcam for SolidWorks is a fully integrated CAM system for SolidWorks that combines the benefits associated with PowerMILL and FeatureCAM. It provides PowerMILL's exceptional speed of toolpath calculation, plus the advanced strategies for high-speed and five-axis machining, to ensure increased productivity, maximum tool life and immaculate surface finish, while also offering the same strong focus on ease of use as FeatureCAM. The 2013 release includes a new entry-level 3D milling option, plus many of the enhancements made to the 2013 version of FeatureCAM on which it is based. As a Gold Partner CAM product, it is, of course, fully compatible with the latest release of SolidWorks.

Finally, Delcam's PowerINSPECT system is the world's hardware-independent inspection software, able to compare parts, prototypes and tooling against CAD models using a wide range of portable, optical and CNC coordinate measurement machines. Improvements to the inspection functionality in the latest release include a new, simplified procedure enabling users to quickly calibrate the probe assembly by probing a single point anywhere within the measuring envelope; a new offset-alignment method that aligns the part with the axes of the CMM while setting the position with a single point measurement; and new point-cloud options that make it easier to modify and reuse digitised curves and points, with options for editing, deleting and resuming measurement of the points and curves. In addition, the automated section-measurement functionality, which was previously only available in the manual version of PowerINSPECT, is now available in both the OMV and CNC offline-programming versions.

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Delcam Turkey to Show Latest in CAD/CAM at MAKTEK Eurasia

17 August 2012

Delcam Turkey will demonstrate new versions of Delcam's extensive range of CAD/CAM software on the UK pavilion in Hall 11 at the MAKTEK Eurasia exhibition to be held in Istanbul, Turkey, from 2nd to 7th October. Delcam offers software for product and tooling design, reverse engineering, machining and inspection, with all its systems aimed at helping manufacturers to increase productivity, reduce lead times and improve quality.

Delcam's PowerSHAPE provides a comprehensive range of modelling techniques available in a single CAD program, including options for solid modelling, surface modelling, direct modelling and reverse

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engineering. Having all the different technologies in the same package reduces the need to transfer data between multiple programs and so streamlines the whole product-development process. The broad range of functionality makes PowerSHAPE ideal for the re-engineering of existing products into improved designs or for creating specialized items. At the same time, the combination of quick and easy direct modelling options, together with powerful and flexible surface modelling, also means that PowerSHAPE is the perfect choice for design for manufacture, especially when converting product designs into tooling designs.

The most important new option in the 2013 release of Delcam's PowerMILL CAM system for high-speed and five-axis machining will be the new Vortex strategy for high-speed area clearance. Vortex, for which Delcam has a patent pending, has been developed by the company specifically to gain the maximum benefit from solid carbide tooling, in particular those designs that can give deeper cuts by using the full flute length as the cutting surface. It can be used for two- and three-axis roughing, three-plus-two-axis area clearance and for rest machining based on stock models or reference toolpaths. Like other Delcam roughing strategies, Vortex toolpaths are calculated to give more efficient machining by following the shape of the part and by keeping air moves to a minimum.

Delcam's FeatureCAM was the world's first feature-based programming software when it was launched in 1995. Constant development since then has ensured that the system has retained its leadership in programming speed and ease of use, while an increased range of strategies has been added to provide more efficient toolpaths giving greater productivity on a wider range of machines. The main change to the 2013 FeatureCAM product family has been the introduction of three levels of 3D machining functionality. FeatureMILL 3D Lite is a new option offering single-surface machining with a basic range of strategies and so provides an introductory product for companies moving into 3D machining for the first time.

ArtCAM is Delcam's system for artistic applications, such as jewellery manufacture, engraving and woodworking. The new release has made it much easier to create complex designs, especially those that include repeated elements that are similar but not identical within the design. This new way of working is called 'Free Relief Modelling'. It allows previously-created reliefs to be picked up and swiftly moved, rotated, rescaled and copied, either individually or as part of a group. Any part of the design can be isolated, edited and then recombined into a group for duplication or further editing within the group.

Finally, Delcam's PowerINSPECT system is the world's hardware-independent inspection software, able to compare parts, prototypes and tooling against CAD models using a wide range of portable, optical and CNC coordinate measurement machines. Improvements to the inspection functionality in the latest release include a new, simplified procedure enabling users to quickly calibrate the probe assembly by probing a single point anywhere within the measuring envelope; a new offset-alignment method that aligns the part with the axes of the CMM while setting the position with a single point measurement; and new point-cloud options that make it easier to modify and reuse digitized curves and points, with options for editing, deleting and resuming measurement of the points and curves. In addition, the automated section-measurement functionality, which was previously only available in the manual version of PowerINSPECT, is now available in both the OMV and CNC offline-programming versions.

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GibbsCAM's Next Generation MTM Capabilities to be Shown at IMTS 2012

15 August 2012

Cimatron limited announced today that Gibbs and Associates, developer of GibbsCAM®, its CAM software for programming CNC machine tools and a Cimatron company, will be demonstrating the next generation of its MTM programming solution and Automated Programming capabilities at the International Manufacturing Technology Show (IMTS 2012), September 10-15, 2012, at McCormick Place, Chicago, in Booth # E-3310.

Gibbs will be demonstrating its latest developments in this area of complex machine programming. Always focusing on helping customers program parts quickly, accurately and efficiently, the next generation of GibbsCAM's MTM solution helps customers utilize the full capabilities of complex MTM machines, including 5-axis rotary head and Swiss-style machines. MTM machines pose special challenges to users, including programming machines with multiple spindles and turrets cutting multiple parts simultaneously. GibbsCAM's signature easy-to-learn and use interface walks customers through such complex part programming. Stunning graphics enable users to see an accurate simulation of the part being machined, providing full visualization of errors like tool interference and gouges long before the part gets to the shop floor, preventing costly mistakes.

Also highlighted at IMTS will be GibbsCAM's newest improvements in Automated Programming, including the introduction of "smart features." Smart features help users program parts faster by retaining data about the feature itself, including depths, clearances and feature types (pocket, boss, slot, etc.). Customers can create automatic processes for different features, which will quickly and automatically create programs to customer specifications. Improvements to the Knowledge-Based Programming capabilities continue to enable customers to automatically program families of parts and parts with similar features.

Demonstrating recently released GibbsCAM 2012+, Gibbs will be showcasing tremendous speed gains made possible by utilizing multi-core and multi-threading technology. Speed gains of up to 30 times enable customers to realistically render complex parts with startling speed. A leading, best-in-class CAM system, GibbsCAM 2012+ boasts new features and improvements throughout its broad product line.

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hyperMILL® 2012 Makes its Debut

17 August 2012

OPEN MIND is exhibiting at AMB from 18 to 22 September 2012. Featured in the booth will be the new version of hyperMILL® 2012 with innovations such as automatic programming options for rectangular pockets, optimizations for 3D roughing and new strategies for 5axis machining. This

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software version contains meaningful improvements in all technology segments, as is typical with hyperMILL® releases.

The new 'adaptive pocket' machining mode allows for automatic programming of rectangular pockets. Within a machining job, classification occurs automatically in closed and open pockets and rectangular levels. According to the various accessibility conditions for the tool and relative sizes of the tool and pocket, hyperMILL® automatically selects the most suitable machining method: spiral, contour-parallel or peeling. The optimized clearing movements take place in long, straight paths with constant cutting conditions. Critical full cutting areas are parameterized separately, allowing control over feedrate values and reduced production times.

Time-saving 5axis strategies

The ways in which machining times have been shortened are both simple and ingenious: During 5axis shape offset machining with hyperMILL®, users now avoid redundant movements thanks to the new axial sorting option that makes it possible to divide machining by area. This allows corners or pockets, for example, to be machined individually one after another. The user can decide whether to create toolpaths with offset level sorting or axial sorting.

There are several new features for roughing in the 5axis impeller and blisk package. For machining of impellers, for example, it is now possible to divide the machining region into a left and right pocket between the main blade and the splitter. This new option means that these areas can now be machined with different tools in a targeted manner.

The flank mode during roughing enables swarf cutting near blade surfaces. The user can decide whether to use the swarf mode for every step or just for the last step. This extension results in a consistent stock allowance for finishing. Production time can also be reduced here as preliminary finishing can be skipped.

Optimal tool use

hyperMILL® 2012 supports tapered tools for 3D ISO machining - including automatic collision avoidance. In the process, the entire tool is checked for collisions against the model, which ensures high process reliability. Tapered tools offer more stability, reduce tool vibrations and improve surfaces simultaneously.

For turning operations, hyperMILL® functionality has been extended to include inclined grooving. This is why offset tools can now also be used. The tool database has therefore been expanded to include these recessing tools.

Toolpaths

Pocket milling has been improved in the 3D roughing area. As a result, for the machining of pockets, the ramp is moved continuously in one direction. The pocket is then cleared from the outside in. Advantage:

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Thanks to the continuous inward movement of the ramp, the tool path is optimized, and zig-zag movements are avoided.

Additional information is available upon request or from their website at www.openmind-tech.com.

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JETCAM Showcases Multiple New Products at Fabtech International 2012

14 August 2012

JETCAM International s.a.r.l. today announced that it would be showcasing a range of new and updated products at this year's [Fabtech International trade fair](#), held in Las Vegas between 11th and 13th November 2012.

To compliment [CrossTrack](#) for composites JETCAM will also release a sheet metal specific version, providing complete visibility of orders/material stock/nests/machine workloads and full traceability, delivering reduction of errors and massive time savings. Paper can be massively reduced or in many cases eliminated. All information is updated in real time across the network, so all staff are working from the same live data. Barcode scanning removes the possibility of error, and the need to enter data across different systems is eradicated. CrossTrack works in conjunction with JETCAM Expert nesting software to provide true dynamic high performance nesting, which alone can often pay for the system within months.

A completely re-written version of [JETCAM Orders Controller Lite](#) (JOC Lite) will also be demonstrated. Available for all JETCAM Expert customers using automatic nesting, JOC Lite provides a quick and clean method of remotely importing orders for either parts or complete assemblies for nesting, drawing its new interface design from CrossTrack. Users can simply drag and drop parts or assemblies into multiple worksheets, which can then be queued for nesting. CSV import is also supported, allowing for easy data transfer from legacy data systems such as MRP/ERP.

The latest version of [JETCAM Expert](#) sports new material management features, upgraded remnant sheet management, support for high end part unloading systems and new automatic destruction algorithms, along with many other minor enhancements and additions. It is available free of charge to all customers under maintenance.

Finally, existing JETCAM users with a current maintenance contract have been rewarded with a free part costing application. [QuickCost](#) allows the user to specify material and machine hourly runtime costs, after which they can simply drag and drop JETCAM geometry files into the main window to instantly see costs. The application is simple to set up, drawing its main settings from the user's machine(s) and materials already configured within JETCAM Expert. Users can switch between different machines to quickly identify the most cost-effective way to manufacture a part. CSV export completes the picture. QuickCost is available for immediate download for all customers with a current

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maintenance contract and is provided with English, French, German, Dutch, Portuguese, Polish and Czech languages.

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Luxion Introduces KeyShot 3.3 at IDSA 2012 International Conference

16 August 2012

Luxion is pleased to sponsor the IDSA 2012 International Conference, where they will introduce KeyShot 3.3 and with it new technology and features.

Last week at SIGGRAPH 2012, Luxion previewed a line of new technology and features to speed and compliment the product design process. This week, Luxion travels to Boston, Massachusetts for the IDSA 2012 International Conference, August 15th-19th at the Westin Boston Waterfront, demonstrating new technology featured last week, along with updates and new features in the upcoming release of KeyShot 3.3. Here are the highlights of this year's show and what to expect.

IDSA Sponsorship

Luxion is proud to be a sponsor of the Regional IDSA Design Dialogues throughout 2012 and equally proud to be among the esteemed sponsors for the IDSA International Conference. Luxion will be taking part in various IDSA activities as well as providing KeyShot demonstrations at booth #306 each day of the conference.

Student Merit Award

Congratulations to: Emmanuel Carrillo, Yasemin Uyar, Ryan Geraghty, Haley Toelle and Reid Schlegel. Luxion is delighted once again to be the exclusive sponsor of this year's Student Merit Awards, recognizing the best and brightest for excellence in Industrial Design education. Find out more about this year's winners and see their portfolios at IDSA.com.

KeyShot 3.3

Luxion will also be previewing new technology and features coming to KeyShot 3.3. New features in KeyShot 3.3 include the added support for Autodesk Inventor 2013 and AutoCad 2013 formats, a new color-picker to grab any color off the screen for use on the model and [DuPont Paint](#) materials from a partnership between Luxion and DuPont Performance Coating. Additionally, Luxion will showcase [KeyShotVR](#), a KeyShot rendering add-on that generates interactive 3D models for viewing on the web, as well as [LuSt](#), a web-based product configuration tool, born out of a partnership between Luxion and Sabertooth Interactive, that delivers real-time product variations to clients and design departments.

More information

KeyShot 3.3 will be shipping shortly, with early visibility available prior to release, for registered customers in the KeyShot forums. If attending IDSA and would like a demo, please visit the Luxion

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booth (#306) in the IDSA Conference Exhibit Hall. For additional information on KeyShot products and features, please visit keyshot.com.

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Success for the Missler Software Italy Client Days

2 August 2012

Summer time was a busy time for Missler Software Italy with the organization of 3 client days in Turin, Modena and Treviso. These 3 meetings were the ideal occasion to focus on TopSolid 7 as many TopSolid V6 clients expressed high interest in migrating to the new 7 version quickly. This enthusiasm for the new version reflects in fact the role of Missler Software Italy as a pioneer in successfully launching and selling the CAM part of the new 7 version, with a lot of positive feedback from clients.

September will also be a busy months for the Italian subsidiary of Missler Software with the TopSolid on Tour 2012 resuming, this time in Albarate and Rivarolo. These next clients seminars will also shed light on the new V7 technology, which can answer mechanical manufacturers and sub- contractors specific needs.

Despite a severe economic crisis at the moment in Italy, Missler Software Italy maintains a good revenue level with a turn over increase by 15% during the first semester of 2012, as opposed to 2011, which had actually also been a good year.

Missler Software Italy is the exclusive Italian distributor of TopSolid. A devoted team on 3 national agencies (Turin, Modena and Treviso) has been using skills and know-how for more than 10 years to accompany clients in the wood, mechanical engineering and tooling industries.

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Financial News

Agilent Technologies Reports Third-Quarter 2012 Results

16 August 2012

Agilent Technologies Inc. today reported revenues of \$1.72 billion for the third fiscal quarter ended July 31, 2012, 2 percent above one year ago. Third-quarter GAAP net income was \$243 million, or \$0.69 per share. Last year's third-quarter GAAP net income was \$330 million, or \$0.92 per share.

During the third quarter, Agilent had intangible amortization of \$32 million, acquisition and integration costs of \$41 million, and asset impairment and write-down charges of \$15 million. The company also recognized a tax benefit of \$58 million. Excluding these items and \$5 million of other net charges,

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Agilent reported third-quarter adjusted net income of \$278 million, or \$0.79 per share⁽¹⁾.

Bill Sullivan, Agilent president and CEO, said, "Agilent's performance in the fiscal third quarter did not meet our revenue and EPS guidance. We have clearly entered an environment of much slower growth, resulting in deals taking longer to close and customers delaying their order deliveries.

"Despite the global environment, however, we delivered a strong operating margin performance that underscores Agilent's ability to proactively respond to rapidly changing market conditions."

Electronic Measurement third-quarter revenues were down 1 percent over the prior year. Orders declined 4 percent from the same period last year. Growth in communications was driven by wireless manufacturing and was offset by weaker aerospace and defense and industrial demand.

Chemical Analysis revenues were flat with a year ago. Orders were down 7 percent. Food and forensics markets held steady, while petrochemical and energy were impacted by the global economy.

Life Sciences revenues grew 2 percent over last year, while orders declined 2 percent year over year. Growth in the pharma market was offset by a decline in academic and government.

Diagnostics and Genomics, which includes the recent Dako acquisition, had revenues of \$106 million.

Agilent generated \$240 million of cash from operations in the quarter. Third-quarter ROIC was 18 percent⁽³⁾.

Fiscal fourth-quarter 2012 revenues are expected to be in the range of \$1.76 billion to \$1.78 billion. Fiscal fourth-quarter non-GAAP earnings are expected to be in the range of \$0.80 to \$0.82 per share⁽²⁾.

To view an unabridged version of this press release, visit: <http://www.agilent.com/about/newsroom/presrel/2012/15aug-gp12015.html>

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Infor to Hold Investor Conference Call to Discuss Q4 and Fiscal Year 2012 Results

16 August 2012

[Infor](#) announced that it will host an investor conference call to discuss Q4 and fiscal year 2012 results for current holders of Infor securities on Thursday, August 23, at 11 a.m. Eastern time.

Attendance is limited to current holders of Infor securities. Materials and dial-in details will be available

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at www.infor.com/company/investor-information/ after 8 a.m. Eastern time Thursday, August 23.

Current Infor securities holders can request secure login credentials through the investor section of Infor's website, or they can login directly if they have previously requested and received credentials.

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Mentor Graphics Corporation to Release Fiscal Q2 2013 Financial Results

13 August 2012

Mentor Graphics Corporation today announced they will release financial results for the company's second fiscal quarter, ended July 31, on Thursday, August 23, 2012 at approximately 1:15 pm Pacific.

- Live audio webcast at http://www.mentor.com/company/investor_relations. Please register at this website prior to the scheduled call time of 2:00 pm Pacific.
- Conference call replay: Begins August 23, 2012 (4:00 pm Pacific); Ends August 30, 2012 (11:59 pm Pacific). USA 800-475-6701; International 320-365-3844; Access code: 255848

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Implementation Investments

Delcam ArtCAM Upgrade Pays for Itself on First Project at Island Cabinetry

14 August 2012

An upgrade from Delcam's ArtCAM Express to ArtCAM Pro paid back more than double its cost on the first project undertaken by Island Cabinetry and Millwork (ICM). The project was a unique ceiling for a new home that included multiple arches and beams intersecting with each other.

ICM is a woodworking shop in Patchogue, New York, that produces custom cabinetry, arches and millwork for new and renovated homes. Five years ago, the company substantially increased its productivity and accuracy by designing arches and other 2D products in ArtCAM Express and cutting them out on a CNC milling machine. ICM could design and build a door arch in three hours, compared to 16 hours that was required previously. It won many new customers through its ability to offer high-quality work at an affordable price.

More recently, the company has taken another major leap forward by upgrading to ArtCAM Pro to design and generate CNC programs to produce 3D millwork. The purchase was prompted by a high-end design-and-build firm which asked ICM to bid on designing and building an unusual 3D ceiling design

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for a multimillion-dollar, custom-specification home. The design consisted of an oval forming the centre of a grid, with both the oval and the grid consisting of arched crown mouldings. The customer had three designers on its staff but they were unable to produce the design internally.

"The builder had tried to get other cabinet shops to bid on the job but none of them could handle it," said Robert Borgstede, President of ICM. "I called up my ArtCAM distributor and asked him if ArtCAM Pro would be able to facilitate the project. He showed me how it could be done very easily with ArtCAM Pro."

"As soon as I got my hands on the new software I started to work on the project. We designed, built and assembled the ceiling in 14 days. We earned more than double the cost of the ArtCAM Pro upgrade on this one job."

It took two days to design the ceiling, seven days to cut out the components on the CNC mill and five days for assembly. "This project would have been impossible to do by hand and was also apparently beyond the capabilities of the software used by our competitors," Mr. Borgstede said. "I called Delcam when I completed the project to tell them how happy I was with the software. The builder was also very happy. After the ceiling was completed, he raised the price of the house by a substantial amount. ArtCAM Pro has taken our company into a new league by making it possible to complete jobs that other cabinet shops are unable to do."

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MSC Software's Adams plays Key Role in Curiosity's Descent & Landing on Mars

16 August 2012

[MSC Software Corporation](#) today announced that its [Adams](#) multibody dynamics software played a crucial role in enabling the extraordinary descent and landing of the Curiosity Rover onto Mars on Sunday evening (August 5th). A team of engineers at the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) performed a series of critical computer simulations of the sky crane maneuver sequences. In graceful fashion, the JPL team successfully and precisely placed the rover onto the Red Planet, in what many are calling an "immense technical achievement."

The computer simulations that JPL performed in Adams were essential to the mission. For instance, during the rover separation, they had to prevent the flight hardware from clashing or coming into contact with each other during the "two body phase" of the Descent Rate Limiter (DLR)/bridle deployment. Using Adams, the engineers were able to model and simulate this event, which was critical for them.

The dynamic event studies performed by the JPL team were unlike most performed for products functioning here on Earth. The team knew they needed to rely on computer simulations to study the extreme loading conditions that Curiosity potentially would face during the final descent, separation, and landing stages. Many conditions could not physically be tested anywhere on our own planet. The

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engineers dealt with complexities involving Martian gravity, atmosphere, surface slope, and landing velocities that could not be duplicated exactly here on Earth, and relied on the simulations to gain the insight they needed to feel confident in the execution of the mission. The series of Adams simulations took place in parallel with design – but it was insight from the simulations that helped guide the design to maturity, and to prevent any failures resulting from potentially harsh loading conditions during the mission.

In addition to the separation event, Adams simulations were used to study a complete series of events beginning with power descent to touchdown. The craft carrying the rover was traveling at a speed of 13,000 mph and had to decelerate to a speed at which the sky crane maneuver could lower the rover safely down onto the Mars surface. The team of engineers at JPL created several Adams sub-models including a high-fidelity detailed model of the rover itself. This effort was many times more difficult than that for previous rovers, and included development of a mobility deployment model, a model for the rover separation, and a model for touchdown.

“The employees at MSC are extremely proud of what the JPL team has accomplished,” said Dominic Gallelo, CEO & President at MSC Software. “We congratulate the NASA team, and are delighted that our software supported such an extraordinary feat. It is always inspiring to acknowledge the ways in which our customers gain value from simulations, and at times even rely exclusively on the technology to execute sophisticated missions like Curiosity. It is an event we will always remember.”

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Product News

2013 Versions of Autodesk Revit Software Add-on Apps Released by Ideate, Inc.

14 August 2012

Ideate, Inc. has released the 2013 version for two Ideate-developed Autodesk® Revit® software add-ons: Ideate BIMLink and Ideate Explorer for Autodesk Revit. Both apps work with Autodesk Revit, Autodesk Revit Architecture, Autodesk Revit MEP and Autodesk Revit Structure.

With Ideate BIMLink, the Revit project team and non-Revit using data contributors can access information appropriate to their needs within a platform that safeguards the BIM model against error. Users can pull data from an Autodesk Revit file, use Microsoft® Excel® to calculate and manipulate data then push the data back into Autodesk Revit. Volumes of data editing take minutes instead of days. Ideate BIMLink gives users unprecedented access to and control of BIM data and a diversity of workflows including:

- Automatic creation of unplaced rooms, spaces and sheets
- Ability to rename all families and types to align with project standards
- Manage sheet and view parameters to streamline production
- Access to detailed information to support Virtual Design and Construction

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- Standalone and network licensing (FlexLM) to easily support the entire team

Ideate Explorer for Autodesk Revit 2013 gives users an easy, intuitive and profound way to search, filter, quantify and select the 100,000+ building elements in an Autodesk Revit model. Users can audit Autodesk Revit models to keep them trouble-free. A 250 MB RVT can be audited in less than one minute. The 2013 update includes new elements that correspond to Autodesk Revit 2013:

- Stair elements
- Support for view references—scan and zoom to any reference location
- Enhanced support for parts

"[Ideate BIMLink](#) and [Ideate Explorer](#) are helping our customers lead the way into the next generation of BIM by supporting powerful project and data management workflows," said Ideate, Inc. president Bob Palioca.

About Ideate, Inc.

[Ideate, Inc.](#) is an Autodesk Authorized Developer with 25+ years' experience in software development and specific focus on Building Information Modeling (BIM) and is an Autodesk solutions provider offering quality software, training, support and custom consulting services to the AEC industry since 1992. Headquartered in San Francisco, California, Ideate is recognized as an Autodesk Gold Partner, for Architecture, Engineering and Construction, one of Autodesk's highest levels of authorization.

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Cadence Publishes Comprehensive Book on Mixed-Signal Methodology

13 August 2012

Cadence Design Systems, Inc. today announced availability of the comprehensive design methodology book for chip designers and CAD engineers that focuses on current and future advanced mixed-signal design challenges and solutions. The "Mixed-Signal Methodology Guide" provides an overview of the design, verification and implementation methodologies required for advanced mixed-signal designs. The book brings together top mixed-signal design experts from across the industry -- including authors from Boeing, Cadence®, ClioSoft and Qualcomm -- to address the complex problems facing the mixed-signal design community.

The growing complexity of today's mixed-signal designs requires major changes in design methodology to both increase productivity and deliver high quality products on time. This wide-ranging compendium examines in depth such topics as AMS behavioral modeling, mixed-signal metric-driven verification, concurrent mixed-signal physical implementation, analog scaling at advanced nodes, IC package integration and data management for mixed-signal designs.

The volume is intended for design teams looking for improvements in their mixed-signal design flows. For managers, it provides an overview of modern mixed-signal methodologies to make it easier to

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understand and plan for investment in design capabilities and skills. The guide also helps analog and digital designers value the domains and disciplines of one another and learn about more efficient ways to collaborate, which is critical for the overall success of mixed-signal projects.

Comments from leading mixed-signal design companies:

"The Mixed-Signal Methodology Guide is an outstanding resource for both new and experienced circuit designers to understand the many facets of mixed-signal design and verification," said Dr. Kush Gulati,, general manager for Advanced IP Development at Maxim Integrated Products and co-founder of Cambridge Analog Technologies. "The many real-world examples provided in this book, along with the provided example code, make this book a must-read for anyone involved in the day-to-day design of mixed-signal systems."

"Modern mixed-signal design require new methodologies to improve productivity, reduce design time and achieve silicon success," said Hao Fang, engineering director at LSI. "The Mixed-Signal Methodology Guide is a thorough reference book on advanced verification and implementation methodologies. It will be particularly useful to mixed-signal verification engineers for its coverage of analog behavioral modeling, and assertion and metric driven verification methodology as applied to analog and mixed-signal design."

"With the growing demand for mixed-signal ICs, now is the time for the industry to upgrade their approach to mixed-signal design," says David Peterman, EDA Strategy Manager, Texas Instruments, "The Mixed-Signal Methodology Guide is a solid step in the right direction. The verification and implementation techniques and design examples provide valuable guidance for engineers addressing the challenges in advanced mixed-signal designs."

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Centric Software Introduces Agile Deployment(SM) Methodology

15 August 2012

Centric Software, Inc., is introducing its branded implementation methodology for the Centric 8 product lifecycle management (PLM) system for the apparel, footwear, luxury goods and consumer goods markets.

The [Agile Deployment \(SM\)](#) methodology from Centric—provider of PLM software for apparel, luxury goods, footwear and consumer goods companies—maximizes derived value, minimizes risk, and speeds benefit delivery. Results include system deployments within three to four months, which is three to five times faster than the typical time for a [PLM implementation](#), according to Chris Groves, Centric CEO.

“Centric saw an urgent need by customers in the fast moving consumer goods markets for a rapid-value delivery implementation methodology for PLM,” says Groves. The company leveraged many of the

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principles of agile software development to create a new iterative and interactive Agile Deployment, he explains. “The result is Agile Deployment, field-tested and proven to generate customer value and ROI very quickly.”

Iterative process

Agile Deployment employs an iterative, vs. serial, process in the implementation of Centric 8 [PLM for apparel, footwear, luxury goods and consumer goods](#) companies. Frequent and repeated interaction between business users and the implementation team—as well as extensive hands-on PLM system involvement—enhances the ability to meet all user needs at each step of the way, says Groves. Changes are included almost instantaneously, without long delays from rewriting code or reprogramming the system. Removing these delays eliminates the communication disconnects that often result in errors, cost overages, and slower implementation times.

In contrast, traditional, or waterfall, deployment, is by definition a serial process. Analysis, design, test, confirmation, retest and deployment happen sequentially with little or no reliance on the collaborative/iterative dynamic that characterizes agile methods.

“Customers understand Agile Deployment right away, because it uses the same approach they use during their product development process: rapid generation of iterative samples,” says Groves. “With Agile Deployment, customers can truly experience what is being implemented. User adoption is vastly better.”

Configurability

The easy and powerful configurability of Centric’s PLM system is critical to the success of Agile Deployment. “We architected Centric 8 to deliver value as an out-of-the-box, flexibly configurable system that avoids time-consuming customization,” says Groves.

The PLM software incorporates industry business best practices and underlying industry-standard business and data models into the core system. Neither users nor IT staff need to change this pre-developed core layer during deployment. Centric 8 PLM users use intuitive GUI features—such as drop-down lists, menus and dialog boxes—to tailor the system to meet their exact requirements.

This configurable, out-of-the-box approach stands in sharp contrast to PLM systems that require customization through software programming, explains Groves. Those systems begin implementation with a much smaller core system layer that does not include the data models and other information necessary to support industry business best practices. Rather, he says, the PLM provider creates this domain expertise for each implementation through customization—a process requiring extensive systems knowledge and software programming skills by IT professionals, along with time and expense. The result is a longer implementation cycle that, in turn, delays the benefits of PLM.

“With Agile Deployment, we are leveraging the latest Web 2.0 technologies to deliver value rapidly while making the customer central to an iterative and highly collaborative implementation approach,”

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states Groves. “Results—delivered significantly faster than PLM industry standards—go straight to the bottom line in terms of both risk mitigation and value delivery.”

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Gibbs and Associates Releases New GibbsCAM 2012+

13 August 2012

Gibbs and Associates announced today the release of the latest version of GibbsCAM CNC programming software. Called GibbsCAM 2012+, this new version includes tremendous speed and performance improvements, including a rendering option specifically geared for multi-axis parts, improved cutting strategies and many productivity enhancements. The new version includes improvements for all levels of GibbsCAM, including the Mill and Lathe Production, SolidSurfacer, Radial Milling, MTM and 5-Axis options.

GibbsCAM 2012+ includes a Multi-Axis Rendering option free of charge with each seat of the software. Formerly a \$2,000 option, Multi-Axis Rendering provides significant accuracy improvements for rotary milling applications, especially when displaying toolpaths with continuous changes in both tool position and orientation. Improved gouge and tool interference checking for tilting tools shows customers programming errors before they become costly mistakes on the shop floor.

“We are pleased to be able to offer our customers such a valuable option free of charge,” says Bill Gibbs, President and CEO of Gibbs and Associates and Cimatron North America. “A picture may be worth a thousand words, but being able to catch a tool collision before it gets to the shop floor can save customers thousands of dollars.”

To boost speed and productivity for all GibbsCAM users, the GibbsCAM 2012+ rendering engine takes full advantage of multi-core and multi-threaded computer hardware to drastically boost processing speed. Part rendering speed is now up to 33 times faster, depending on specific computer hardware and part complexity. Increased rendering speed saves programming time and reduces programming costs.

Improvements to Radial Milling include the ability to produce a smooth, unsegmented, helical toolpath, which takes advantage of native machine-based linear and circular interpolation capabilities. The benefits of this type of toolpath include vastly simplified post processor output, potential savings of hundreds of lines of G-code, and reduced machining time. Also included are new cutting strategies for parts with open-sided pockets, very thin walls, shallow cut areas and a highly efficient G-code program. In addition, material only clean-up areas provide customers with optimized toolpaths.

For more information about Gibbs and Associates and its CAM software packages, visit its web site (www.GibbsCAM.com) or call 1-800-654-9399 (outside of North America, call +1-805-523-0004).

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hyperMILL® 2012 Makes its Debut

14 August 2012

OPEN MIND is exhibiting at the International Manufacturing Technology Show (IMTS) from September 10-15, 2012. Featured in the booth will be the new version of hyperMILL® 2012 with innovations such as automatic programming options for rectangular pockets, optimisations for 3D roughing and new strategies for 5axis machining. This software version contains meaningful improvements in all technology segments, as is typical with hyperMILL® releases. OPEN MIND will also be showcasing and providing previews of the newly developed CAD solution hyperCAD®-S at booth E-3351 in McCormick Place, Chicago.

The new 'adaptive pocket' machining mode allows for automatic programming of rectangular pockets. Within a machining job, classification occurs automatically in closed and open pockets and rectangular levels. According to the various accessibility conditions for the tool and relative sizes of the tool and pocket, *hyperMILL®* automatically selects the most suitable machining method: spiral, contour-parallel or peeling. The optimised clearing movements take place in long, straight paths with constant cutting conditions. Critical full cutting areas are parameterised separately, allowing control over feedrate values and reduced production times.

Time-saving 5axis strategies

The ways in which machining times have been shortened are both simple and ingenious: During 5axis shape offset machining with *hyperMILL®*, users now avoid redundant movements thanks to the new axial sorting option that makes it possible to divide machining by area. This allows corners or pockets, for example, to be machined individually one after another. The user can decide whether to create toolpaths with offset level sorting or axial sorting.

There are several new features for roughing in the 5axis impeller and blisk package. For machining of impellers, for example, it is now possible to divide the machining region into a left and right pocket between the main blade and the splitter. This new option means that these areas can now be machined with different tools in a targeted manner.

The flank mode during roughing enables swarf cutting near blade surfaces. The user can decide whether to use the swarf mode for every step or just for the last step. This extension results in a consistent stock allowance for finishing. Production time can also be reduced here as preliminary finishing can be skipped.

Optimal tool use

hyperMILL® 2012 supports tapered tools for 3D ISO machining - including automatic collision avoidance. In the process, the entire tool is checked for collisions against the model, which ensures high process reliability. Tapered tools offer more stability, reduce tool vibrations and improve surfaces

simultaneously.

For turning operations, *hyperMILL*[®] functionality has been extended to include inclined grooving. This is why offset tools can now also be used. The tool database has therefore been expanded to include these recessing tools.

Toolpaths

Pocket milling has been improved in the 3D roughing area. As a result, for the machining of pockets, the ramp is moved continuously in one direction. The pocket is then cleared from the outside in. Advantage: Thanks to the continuous inward movement of the ramp, the tool path is optimised, and zig-zag movements are avoided.

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Mastercam Offers OptiRest 3D Toolpath

13 August 2012

OptiRest is the latest 3D high speed toolpath from Mastercam. It performs rest rough milling operations to remove stock left from roughing passes with large cutters. This powerful new toolpath compares the in-process stock model to the intended shape to create an optimized dynamic milling cleanup pass. The result is precise, efficient motion that is easier on your tooling and your machine.

The toolpath supports cutters capable of machining very large depths of cut. It uses an aggressive, fast, intelligent roughing algorithm based on Mastercam's 2D high speed dynamic milling motion. A single toolpath can cut material in two directions: on step downs (-Z) and step ups (+Z). This highly efficient bi-directional cutting strategy removes the maximum amount of material with the minimum of step downs, significantly reducing cycle times.

“The beauty of OptiRest is that you don't need any special tooling to use it. It simply uses the tools you have now, but in a much more efficient way,” says Gary Hargreaves, VP, Business Development.

For more information on Mastercam's OptiRest toolpath, please visit www.mastercammill.com.

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New Release of InspectionXpert for AutoCAD Mechanical 2012

15 August 2012

InspectionXpert Corporation today announced the release of InspectionXpert for AutoCAD Mechanical 2012. InspectionXpert for AutoCAD Mechanical 2012 automates the ballooning of AutoCAD drawings and creation of Inspection Sheets for AS9102, PPAP and other quality control inspections.

“The new features make it even easier for quality inspectors to shave hours of time off their documentation processes”, explains President Jeffery N. Cope. The single window integration into AutoCAD lets users see all of the dimensions and notes that are instantly extracted from their drawing file, and changes can be made on the fly. Then with a couple of clicks, they can create a first article or in process inspection report. “Because inspection project data is saved in the AutoCAD drawing file, the inspector can easily make changes, or quickly handle drawing revisions,” Cope remarks.

InspectionXpert for AutoCAD Mechanical 2012 Features:

- Single window integration into AutoCAD
- Updated interface for better user experience
- Inspection projects are saved with the AutoCAD drawing file
- Refresh Project feature for easy updates to inspection projects when drawing data changes
- Drag and Drop reordering of balloons in the Characteristic Tree
- Better control over the order and placement of balloons in the AutoCAD drawing
- Mapping of Custom Properties to the InspectionXpert Project Properties, such as part number, part name, revision, etc.
- Support for AutoCAD Mechanical 2012

The InspectionXpert product line eliminates the manual ballooning of inspection drawings and manual creation of inspection sheets for first article and in process inspections. InspectionXpert integrates with popular CAD programs including Solid Edge, CATIA, SolidWorks and Pro/ENGINEER, and InspectionXpert for PDF and InspectionXpert OnDemand work with any PDF and TIFF files. Also new to the Inspection product line is CMMXpert, which imports CMM results data from almost any CMM directly into InspectionXpert projects. Visit <http://www.inspectionxpert.com> for more information.

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New RobotExpert Software Helps Small and Medium Size Manufacturers Improve Robotic Efficiency

14 August 2012

Siemens PLM Software introduces RobotExpert software, a new, intuitive, easy-to-deploy robotic simulation and programming solution for small and medium size manufacturers that helps minimize downtime and increase throughput for shop floor robots. RobotExpert, which supports industry applications, such as pick-and-place, arc welding, polishing, gluing and more, expands Siemens PLM

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Software's digital manufacturing solutions which include its industry leading [Tecnomatix®](#) portfolio for digital manufacturing, automation and simulation.

The use of industrial robots to perform complex, repetitive tasks is expanding rapidly across a variety of industries and as such there is a need for an out-of-the-box solution for robotic simulation and programming. RobotExpert enables the design, simulation, optimization and offline programming of robotic applications to maximize the speed, flexibility and operation of automated systems. Featuring an intuitive 3D environment, the software combines the simplicity to optimize robotic paths and improve cycle times with the power to simulate virtual mockups of complete manufacturing cells and systems. RobotExpert can be used to generate the most suitable combination of equipment to meet specific manufacturing needs, supporting faster product introduction as well as early evaluation of manufacturing times, costs and project investments.

Industrial robots are traditionally programmed manually, which means production downtime and non-optimized robot programs. RobotExpert provides an offline programming and simulation tool which helps to minimize downtime by allowing the majority of the programming work to be done virtually while optimizing the program to reduce the cycle time and increase throughput. Simulation capabilities also help to reduce hazards to shop floor personnel and equipment.

“Manufacturers, big and small, are under a great deal of pressure to maximize return on capital investment, and production line automation provides an excellent opportunity to help increase efficiency,” said Zvi Feuer, senior vice president, Manufacturing Engineering Software, Siemens PLM Software. “Specifically, small and mid-size manufacturers needed an intuitive and easy-to-deploy solution that removes the complexities involved with implementing a robotic simulation and programming solution. That is why we have developed RobotExpert as an independent software solution, which builds on Siemens PLM Software's proven leadership in digital manufacturing. We have taken more than two decades of experience delivering robotic solutions for some of the most complex applications and created a simple intuitive solution which will help small and medium size manufacturing companies across industries build better products by making smarter manufacturing decisions.”

RobotExpert is available immediately. For more information please visit www.siemens.com/plm/robotexpert.

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New Waveform Roughing Strategy in Alphacam 2012 R2 from Vero

17 August 2012

A number of new and improved functions in Alphacam CNC software – including a high-speed machining technique – give manufacturers a competitive edge by allowing them to maximize the potential of their cutting machines.

Alphacam 2012 R2 is the latest release in the CNC software's ongoing program of development and enhancement. General Manager Nick Spurrett says: "These latest updates ensure Alphacam not only keeps pace with the changing needs of manufacturers throughout the world, but also delivers maximum return on investment."

The main addition to this latest release is a new Waveform 3D Roughing Strategy, which is a high speed machining technique that maintains a constant tool cutting load by ensuring the tool engagement into the material is consistent.

The tool moves in a smooth path to avoid sharp changes in direction, maintaining its velocity and can dramatically decrease the machining cycle time.

This strategy is superior to the traditional Roughing cycle where machinable geometry features are offset – inward or outward – by a stepover. Traditional tool paths have to run slower feeds and speeds because of the variable width of cut conditions encountered in corners. Tool load spikes as chip thickness increases in areas where the tool finds more material than it did while cutting in a straight line.

Amongst the other new and improved functionality in Alphacam 2012 R2:

- Automatically optimising a Rough/Finish Toolpath to only remove the area left by a previous sawing operation. "This minimises the cycle time and increases productivity – which manufacturers tell us are vital aspects of their shopfloor processes," says Nick Spurrett.
- There are two simulation enhancements: improved support for rapid moves with an all-new Automatic Rapid Manager – rapid positioning moves between 5-axis operations and work plane operations are now automatically created by setting just one "Safe Level" value. And integrating MachineWorks 7.1 provides multi-threading support and significant improvements in speed.
- One of several upgrades to the Feature Extraction function is the ability to recognise 'open air' areas. This is an automatic routine that recognises the areas to be machined by a pocketing type strategy, rather than recognising the areas for profiling.
 - Configurable alignment datum points gives greater control over the automatic positioning and alignment of Solids for machine ready setups.
 - And there is now the ability to run a Geometry Query after extraction to sort specific types of geometry into specific layers, ready for processing with Machining Styles or Autostyles.
- A new add-in for CAD Extensions provides special functions while importing third-party CAD files – for example, splines can automatically be converted to geometries when importing DXF/DWG files.

In addition, Alphacam 2012 R2 contains a number of Graphical User Interface enhancements, along with modifications to make the software easier to use.

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PartMaker Version 2013 Features Restyled User Interface, More Powerful Surface Machining

16 August 2012

PartMaker Inc., a division of Delcam Plc, will begin shipping PartMaker Version 2013, the latest version of PartMaker Software for programming CNC Mills, Lathes, WireEDM, Turn-Mill Centers and Swiss-type lathes in the fourth quarter of 2012. Among a number of other enhancements, this new version will feature a totally revamped surface machining module offering PartMaker users powerful CAM machining algorithms for 3, 4 and 5 axis simultaneous milling operations on a variety of machining platforms including CNC Mills, Turn-Mill Centers, Bar-Fed Mills and Swiss-type lathes. PartMaker 2013 also features a restyled, more productive user interface.

“PartMaker Version 2013 is probably the most significant PartMaker release made in the history of the product” says PartMaker Inc. division President Hanan Fishman. “With a new ultra-sleek user interface and a host of new, advanced milling strategies, PartMaker Version 2013 offers its users perhaps the most comprehensive and powerful CAM system on the market today for the full spectrum of production machining applications, all while maintaining the software’s hallmark, industry-leading ease of use.”

"PartMaker’s new Advanced Surface Machining (ASM) functionality is based on the same technology and algorithms underpinning Delcam’s PowerMILL, the leading CAM system on the market for the manufacture of complex shapes," says Fishman. “The new functionality being offered in PartMaker’s ASM answers the needs of our customers making ever increasingly more complicated parts, particularly for those in the medical device and aerospace arena. Also, machine tools are becoming more complex, with 5-axis simultaneous milling now even becoming available on a number of Swiss-type lathes.”

Restyled User Interface

PartMaker Version 2013 features a sleeker, restyled user interface. Headlining the improvements in the user interface in PartMaker 2013 is the Job Explorer tree which makes navigating Machining Function Face Windows and Part Features faster. Additionally, a number of new controls have been added to the software to make working even more intuitive. Also, a number of diagrams in the software have been recast and revamped to give PartMaker 2013 a fresh new look. While the user interface enhancements are numerous, PartMaker 2013 has retained the software’s traditional work flow with its industry leading ease of use so existing users will not have to worry about any relearning, they will just be able to be more productive.

Introducing the Advanced Surface Machining (ASM) Module

The new high-end milling functionality available in PartMaker Version 2013 will be known as the Advanced Surface Machining module, or ASM for short. ASM will replace PartMaker’s Surface Machining Wizard (SMW) module for three, four and five axis machining. For existing PartMaker users, the upgrade to ASM will be provided free of cost and the transition will be very easy to make.

The benefits of the ASM module for PartMaker users are numerous. The will allow for faster tool path calculation, greater tool control and improved surface finishes, among other benefits.

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The ASM module will feature a wide variety of high-end milling strategies that can be applied across the entire suite of PartMaker CAM applications including PartMaker Mill, PartMaker Turn-Mill and PartMaker SwissCAM. The powerful surface machining strategies in ASM are the same as those found in PowerMILL, Delcam's CAM system for the manufacture of complex shapes. Each strategy provides for full tool control enabling them to be used in either traditional 3-axis methods or up to 5-axis simultaneous machining methods, depending on a machine tool's capability.

The advent of ASM extends PartMaker's 5-axis simultaneous milling functionality to CNC milling centers, making PartMaker an unsurpassed solution for production oriented manufacturers to solve all of their CNC programming challenges, Milling, Turning, Wire EDM, Turn-Mill and Swiss with one, unified programming platform.

Vortex Technology for High Speed Machining

PartMaker 2013 will feature Delcam's new Vortex High Speed Machining Strategies (as part of ASM). The Vortex area-clearance strategy, for which Delcam has a patent pending, has been developed by Delcam specifically to gain the maximum benefit from solid carbide tooling, in particular those designs that can give deeper cuts by using the full flute length as the cutting surface. It can be used for 2.5 and 3-axis roughing, 3+2-axis area clearance and for rest machining.

Like other Delcam roughing strategies, Vortex toolpaths are calculated to give more efficient machining by following the shape of the part and by keeping air moves to a minimum. This is particularly important for rest machining operations. One fundamental problem with conventional area-clearance strategies is that the optimum cutting conditions only occur during a straight-line cut. Any internal corners within the model significantly increase the engagement angle of the cutter. To protect the cutter, this increase needs to be balanced by setting a lower feed rate. The user then has the choice of using this lower rate over the whole toolpath, which increases the machining time, or varying the feeds and speeds as the cutter moves around the model and so increasing wear on the cutter.

Unlike other high-speed roughing techniques that aim to maintain a constant theoretical metal-removal rate, the Vortex strategy produces toolpaths with a controlled engagement angle for the complete operation. This maintains the optimum cutting conditions for the entire toolpath that would normally be possible only for the straight-line moves. As a result, the cutting time will be shorter, while cutting will be undertaken at a more consistent volume-removal rate and feed rate, so protecting the machine.

Because Vortex toolpaths have a controlled engagement angle, tools will never be overloaded and so will achieve the maximum tool life. Shock loading caused by changes in the contact angle is minimized, preventing chipping of the flutes. In addition, the stability of the cutting conditions gives more consistent edge temperatures, so prolonging the life of the tool coating and removing heat damage to the surface of the part. Finally, the ability to use stepdowns of up to two, or even three times, the tool diameter spreads the tool wear evenly over the cutting surface of the tool, again contributing to longer tool life.

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Tasktop Sync Brings Requirements to Developers and Testers, and Back Again, with New Integrations

14 August 2012

Tasktop Technologies (tasktop.com), creator of Eclipse Mylyn and the leader for Application Lifecycle Management (ALM) integration, today announced Tasktop Sync 2.4, the latest version of its integration platform for connecting cross-functional enterprise teams and tools. The new Tasktop Sync enables cross-tool traceability and collaboration by connecting requirements tools, and the business analysts that use them, with existing Agile project management, development and test functions. Together with new analytics and web interface capabilities, Tasktop Sync provides organizations with a holistic view of the entire software development lifecycle, across a diverse set of enterprise, Agile and open-source ALM tools.

"Due to the disruption caused by Agile, requirements management is one of the fastest-changing parts of the ALM landscape," said Mik Kersten, CEO of Tasktop and creator of the Eclipse Mylyn open source project. "The problem is that the new breed of requirements management tools is just as disconnected from popular development tools like JIRA, and test tools like HP Quality Center, as the legacy tools they are trying to replace. Tasktop Sync 2.4 bridges that gap, enabling business analysts, developers and testers to work in their tool of choice, while ensuring that business analysts never lose track of a requirement as it makes its way through the lifecycle."

IT organizations with separate test, development and business analysis/planning functions are increasingly using Tasktop Sync to improve collaboration, productivity and agility. By connecting requirements management to development and testing, this new version of Tasktop Sync extends its value to address the needs of business analysts and project managers. In addition to connectors for more than a dozen project management, development and testing tools, Tasktop Sync now connects IBM RequisitePro (ReqPro), IBM Rational Requirements Composer (RRC) and CA Product Vision into the Tasktop ALM ecosystem. With Tasktop Sync, business analysts, and the tools they use, are fully integrated into the software delivery lifecycle. IT organizations also have complete traceability back to each requirement as it crosses IT functions and departments, transforming software maintenance into a quality-improving discipline and ensuring that development efforts are focused and relevant to the exact needs of the business.

In addition to change management and requirements integrations, the new version of Tasktop Sync includes:

- New Dashboards and Analytics – empower and provide more functionality for systems administrators through improved notifications and monitoring tools that speed recovery time and drive uptime of underlying ALM systems. In addition they improve visibility, and the measurement of the connectivity of tools within a software delivery organization, through a set of metrics on how the connections are working, and how many work items, defects or

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requirements are moving around the system.

- New Web UI – provides ALM process managers and administrators with access and visibility into the status of tool connections without having to log onto the servers that run them. These new capabilities extend Tasktop Sync administration beyond the Eclipse IDE interface to provide more convenience and flexibility to manage multiple ALM tool stacks via the Web.

"The value of this Tasktop Sync release is to connect the entire software lifecycle as a means of creating efficiencies to improve change management across departments and ensure complete visibility and traceability," said Dave West, Chief Product Officer for Tasktop. "With earlier versions of Tasktop Sync, we focused on connecting testers to developers. With this latest release, we now extend the benefits of Tasktop Sync to requirements to provide customers, especially those within highly regulated industries, the ability to trace work items, defects and test plans back to requirements."

Tasktop continues to solve major challenges for software organizations that are implementing enterprise-wide Agile and ALM modernization initiatives by connecting developers, through Tasktop Dev, and cross-functional enterprise teams, through Tasktop Sync, to automate the entire application lifecycle. All Tasktop products leverage the Eclipse Mylyn task-based integration framework to provide a more strategic and lightweight synchronization solution than standard REST API and pure data-store integrations. Its tools provide visibility into ALM work flow, real-time data sharing of cross-function activities and context into actual performance and business value. Sync Studio, Tasktop Sync's visual monitoring, analytics and management tool for ALM systems, helps IT organizations get control of the heterogeneous toolsets used to deliver software, resulting in an ability to deliver market value quicker, reduce inefficiencies and promote collaboration and innovation by connecting individuals and teams across the enterprise.

For more information, visit (<http://tasktop.com>).

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Version 3.0 of PROSTEP PDF Generator 3D Even More Powerful

15 August 2012

The new Version 3.0 of PROSTEP PDF Generator 3D offers numerous new features that provide greater efficiency and versatility for everyday work. The consistent use of a 64-bit architecture in the product means that even extremely big CAD assemblies can be converted quickly and reliably. Furthermore, a marked improvement in performance is achieved if multi-core processors are used.

The new version supports a total of 19 different CAD formats and system versions, including the latest software from leading manufacturers such as Siemens PLM Software, Dassault Systèmes and PTC. New versions of key CAD formats have been added, including NX 8, CATIA V5 R21 and Creo Parametric 2.0. A complete list can be found on the PDF Generator 3D website (see link below).

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The range of new features offered by Version 3.0 is neatly rounded off by the improved handling of product manufacturing information (PMI), enhanced conversion options, support for Adobe LiveCycle ES 3 and much more.

All information available at www.pdfgenerator3d.com

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