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CIMdata News

Catalysts: Accelerating PLM Value: A CIMdata Commentary

5 September 2013

Key takeaways:

- *Companies are not consistently achieving the maximum value from their PLM investments*
- *To maximize benefits, implementations need to be tailored for a specific industry, and incorporate best practices and company-specific business needs*
- *Companies need to fully implement the PLM technology they acquire to maximize the value from their investment—there is often a Value Gap between investment potential and return realized*
- *Siemens PLM Software’s Catalysts provide a vehicle that enables more complete, industry tailored, best practice enabled implementations resulting in obtaining a higher return on investment and doing so sooner*

Introduction

Companies invest in product lifecycle management (PLM) as a means to transform their product development strategies, create innovative products and services, and improve their overall competitive position. PLM solution providers are delivering increasingly more complete solutions to help their customers undertake their business transformation. No matter which PLM solution provider(s) a company selects, how they implement the selected PLM technologies and solutions has a major impact on the overall value they realize from their investments. Maximizing PLM ROI is important for both short- and long-term business success.

There can be a substantial gap in the value that PLM implementations using similar technologies delivered to different companies in the same industry. A CIMdata study revealed a widening gap between technology capability and actual implementations. This gap reduces the rate at which a company receives a return on their PLM investment. The following figure illustrates the gap that exists between the investment companies make in PLM technologies and the value they receive from the implementations that they deploy.

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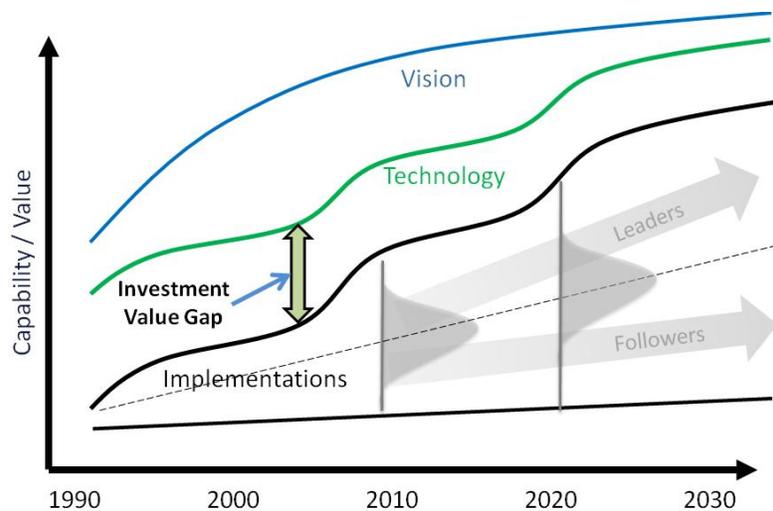


Figure 1—The Value Gap in PLM Implementations

CIMdata’s research shows that the Value Gap was wider for PLM implementation followers when compared to leaders. Followers consistently receive less value from the time and money they invest into PLM. As leaders continue to get more from their PLM investment, the gap in business performance will continue to increase.

What Causes the Value Gap?

The Value Gap shown in Figure 1 exists for several reasons:

- It takes time, resources, and money to tailor a typical PLM solution to a company’s industry and business model so as to achieve maximum effectivity
- Having to tailor (or in some cases customize) the PLM solutions results in companies not being able to take full advantage of the technology and solutions they have acquired
- Without effective industry tailoring, it takes time to absorb new technology and processes across the enterprise and get to a desired “To-Be” state of operation
- Improperly tailored solutions require additional cultural changes, user training, and operational changes to take full advantage of the new solutions and technology
- It is difficult to take advantage of new releases (e.g., new technology and expanded functionality) if companies do major customizations when they implement their chosen solutions

Each of these issues constrains the effectiveness of the implemented PLM solution and decreases the level of benefits and return on investment a company can achieve during any time frame. The difference between Leaders and Follows accentuates the Value Gap.

To narrow the Value Gap, a Leader company plans their PLM investment and establishes an implementation roadmap to meet their needs both for technology and solution acquisition as well as the breadth and depth of deployment. With that defined, they then more fully implement the PLM technologies they buy and update their business processes to better incorporate industry best practices

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that the new solutions enable. They establish a new “To-Be” state that the PLM solutions can enable and then transition to that “To-Be” state as those solutions are deployed. They also update their implementation as new functionality and technologies are introduced by their PLM solution providers and they expand the use of PLM across their extended enterprise—in other words, they invest and keep up to date.

Followers often focus on automating their current environment and processes, and not creating and adopting more effective and efficient processes (i.e., their “To-Be” state is often just an automated form of their “As-Is” state). They tend to implement only selected capabilities of the acquired solutions both in functionality and scope of deployment and do not take full advantage of industry best practices. By customizing the solution to support their old way of working, they make it harder to upgrade to new releases delivered by their PLM solution providers. This means that they deploy a reduced level of capability and then are slow to upgrade when new capabilities are available.

To narrow the Value Gap, companies need PLM technology and solutions that can help them better plan their implementations, incorporate the best practices and processes pertinent to their industry and business, provide tools and capabilities to help them implement faster, and are designed to minimize upgrade time and associated costs. One example of how PLM solution providers are addressing these needs is Siemens industry solution Catalysts.

What is a Catalyst?

Siemens PLM Software (Siemens) is creating Catalysts as part of their industry solutions. Siemens states that a Catalyst is designed to accelerate a customer’s deployment and solution productivity via a set of industry configuration components and best practice guides. As part of an industry focused solution, a Catalyst is intended to help a company achieve faster adoption of new and innovative PLM technologies and processes to reach their desired To-Be state and obtain a higher return on the PLM investment both short and long term..

According to Siemens, each industry Catalyst will include:

- A **Business Processes and Practices Guide** that is a reference for PLM across the entire product lifecycle for a particular industry and provides guidance on how PLM can best be deployed to impact that lifecycle
- A **Deployment Accelerator** that includes all of the necessary and recommended product selections, optimal network design, recommended configuration procedures, and specific best practices and training to ensure an effective PLM deployment
- **Configuration Components** tailored for each industry to help implementation teams control the behavior and appearance of the PLM implementation, ensure proper adherence to the desired business processes, and provide the foundation for faster, easier upgrades

CIMdata believes that Siemens’ Catalyst approach incorporates many of the elements that are needed to help companies making PLM investments narrow the Value Gap illustrated in Figure 1 and get more from their PLM investment.

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Benefits of a Catalyst

A Catalyst is intended to enable a company to implement a more complete solution for their business. It provides built-in industry best practices, training, and support services. Catalyst best practices, processes, and pre-configured components should help eliminate much of the customization that companies have been doing to their PLM environments. One of the major issues in implementing PLM is moving from a company's current way of operating to a new "To-Be" environment and method of working. By incorporating industry best-practices, a Catalyst can help a company define their tailored "To-Be" solution and deploy it more quickly and completely.

By providing a set of Configuration Components designed to work with Siemens industry solutions, a Catalyst enables the implementing company to leverage more of the technology available in the industry solutions more quickly, getting more value faster, and narrowing the Value Gap.

Siemens also states that they are designing each Catalyst to help "future proof" a company's PLM implementation. They indicated that once an industry solution is implemented using a Catalyst, the company should be able to incorporate and adopt technology jumps with significantly less time and cost.

Summary

No matter which PLM solution provider a company selects, they need to get more from their investments. Companies require solutions that are tailored for their industry that they can implement quickly so that their investment in PLM can help them achieve and maintain a competitive position in their chosen markets.

CIMdata believes that Siemens' Catalyst approach can help narrow the Value Gap. A Catalyst is intended help decrease the time it takes to configure a PLM solution for a company's industry and business model with appropriate best practices and processes. It is also designed to enable companies to reduce or eliminate over configuration of their PLM solution so that it will be faster and less expensive to upgrade over time.

Companies that are looking to improve their ability to deploy and maintain an industry focused, highly valuable PLM solution should evaluate Siemens PLM Software's Catalysts.

About CIMdata

CIMdata, an 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). CIMdata provides world-class knowledge, expertise, and best-practice methods on PLM. CIMdata also offers research, subscription services, publications, and education through international conferences. To learn more about CIMdata's services, visit our website at <http://www.CIMdata.com> or contact CIMdata at: 3909 Research Park Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48108, USA. Tel: +1 734.668.9922. Fax: +1 734.668.1957; or at Oogststraat 20, 6004 CV Weert, The Netherlands. Tel: +31 (0) 495.533.666.

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CIMdata Brings the PLM Industry's Premier Education & Training Program to Fond du Lac, Wisconsin

5 September 2013

CIMdata, Inc., the leading global PLM strategic management consulting and research firm announces that it will bring its highly acclaimed PLM Certificate Program to Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, from November 11 to 15, 2013. The program will be hosted by CIMdata's PLM Leadership Alliance member Mercury Marine. [CIMdata's 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.

CIMdata's PLM Certificate Program equips PLM professionals at several levels with the tools they need to successfully address the inherent challenges to PLM strategy development and implementation. This assessment-based certificate program includes a personalized classroom experience, individual and team-based exercises, and individual evaluations of achievement. In addition, the program provides intensive and extensive exposure to a team of CIMdata experts. Upon successful completion of the program, participants receive a CIMdata PLM Certificate and become a member of CIMdata's global *PLM Leadership* community.

“We are delighted to be partnering with Mercury Marine to bring the CIMdata PLM Certificate program to Fond du Lac. This location ensures that a wide range of PLM professionals will have the opportunity to participate in this world-class program, and provides a unique opportunity to combine the CIMdata curriculum with a series of case studies presented by members of the Mercury PLM Services team. Attendees will be able to participate in a plant tour as well, to learn firsthand how PLM is used at Mercury Marine,” said James McKinney, CIMdata's PLM Leadership Practice Manager.

According to Peter Bilello, CIMdata's President, “Since the program's introduction in 2009, over 150 global PLM professionals have received their PLM Leadership certificate from CIMdata. In many ways, our program has become the de facto standard in PLM education. We are extremely excited with the program's success and we look forward to delivering this valuable information throughout much of the industrial world.”

The CIMdata PLM Certificate Program is built on CIMdata's 30 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 that are considering or are already implementing PLM, and to PLM solution and service 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

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About the CIMdata PLM Certificate Program

The CIMdata PLM Certificate Program consists of nine educational sessions. These sessions can be completed by either attending the full program delivered over five consecutive days, or attending the prerequisite core PLM Certificate sessions offered over three consecutive days and at a later time, within a 12-month period, completing the remaining sessions over two consecutive days.

Built on CIMdata's 30 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 that are considering or are already implementing PLM, and to PLM solution and service providers.

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 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, 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.

About Mercury Marine

Headquartered in Fond du Lac, Wis., Mercury Marine is the world's leading manufacturer of recreational marine propulsion engines. A \$2 billion division of Brunswick Corporation (NYSE: BC), Mercury provides engines, boats, services and parts for recreational, commercial and government marine applications, empowering boaters with products that are easy to use, extremely reliable and backed by the most dedicated customer support in the world. Mercury's industry-leading brand portfolio includes Mercury and Mariner outboard engines; Mercury MerCruiser sterndrive and inboard packages; MotorGuide trolling motors; Mercury propellers; Mercury inflatable boats; Mercury SmartCraft electronics; Attwood marine parts; Land 'N Sea marine parts distribution; and Mercury and Quicksilver parts and oils. More information is available at mercurymarine.com.

About Mercury PLM Services

Mercury PLM Services configures and services the product development systems for Mercury Marine

that support product definition, project planning, and team collaboration. Global users rely upon our technical staff to continually evolve their environment while coming up with creative solutions for today's challenges, as well as tomorrow's opportunities. Industries Mercury PLM Services have served include: Aerospace, Automotive (Tier 1 and Tier 2), Consumer Durables, Defense, Heavy Industry, High-Tech Electronics, and Railroad.

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Acquisitions

Accelrys Acquires Environmental Health and Safety Leader ChemSW

3 September 2013

[Accelrys, Inc.](#) announced that it has acquired ChemSW, Inc., an Environmental Health & Safety (EH&S) compliance solutions provider. This acquisition furthers Accelrys' scientific innovation lifecycle management strategy by providing solutions for managing and tracking the source, use and disposal of chemicals along the entire lab-to-plant value chain. The ability to manage chemicals across the full product lifecycle helps organizations across industries enhance compliance with increasingly complex global, national and local environmental health and safety regulations, and is critical to advancing their sustainability strategies.

[ChemSW](#) provides a unique EH&S compliance portfolio that eliminates the inconsistencies and errors associated with the disconnected paper-based methods of chemical inventory management often used today. Errors and lack of accurate information on the location, quantity and usage of chemicals from lab to plant slows innovation, impacts operational efficiency, can threaten health and safety and puts organizations at risk of non-compliance with environmental health and safety regulations. With the acquisition of ChemSW, Accelrys offers customers an automated inventory system for tracking and tracing chemicals including: monitoring and tracking location and quantity specifics; monitoring usage; generating reports and quickly assessing hazard information during an emergency. The offering is available both on premises and via the cloud.

Combined with Accelrys' solution portfolio, ChemSW's EH&S compliance software also enables Accelrys to help support the sustainability initiatives of customers in almost every industry. Specifically, the solutions address three key areas critical to meeting the complete business sustainability challenge: improving operational efficiency, delivering innovation and meeting compliance requirements.

"Accelrys is taking a major step forward in delivering solutions that support predictive sustainable innovation; we look forward to welcoming the ChemSW team and integrating their software solutions into our larger platform," said Accelrys President and CEO Max Carnecchia. "Environmental health and safety is critical for companies across industries that rely on science to innovate – from specialty chemicals and consumer packaged goods to food and beverage, agro-science, biopharmaceuticals, and oil and gas. By adding this solution to our portfolio, we continue to set ourselves apart, providing scientific innovation lifecycle management solutions that close the productivity gap, reduce costs and

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ultimately speed innovation while ensuring sustainability measures are intensified."

While environmental health and safety regulations exist to protect workers, equipment, facilities and the environment from the hazards associated with chemicals, the management of evolving local, state, federal, and international EH&S regulatory requirements required throughout the product development lifecycle has become complex and time-consuming. By making current, real-time chemical safety and inventory data available on demand, the ChemSW system meets the vital and evolving business need to manage EH&S requirements as a synergistic whole along the entire lab-to-plant value chain. EH&S compliance complements Accelrys' robust laboratory informatics solution portfolio, including Electronic Laboratory Notebooks (ELNs) and Laboratory Information Management Systems (LIMS), and will be integrated with the scientifically aware Accelrys Enterprise Platform for managing the end-to-end scientific innovation lifecycle.

Brian Stafford, President and CEO of ChemSW said, "Outdated modes of tracking chemicals have posed a significant challenge for companies that need to meet and document EH&S compliance requirements. This acquisition and the integration of our inventory management software into Accelrys' robust platform brings significant value to existing ChemSW and Accelrys customers, offering a comprehensive set of software tools for optimizing chemical and materials selection and processing throughout the scientific innovation lifecycle. The ChemSW team looks forward to joining Accelrys and working together to deliver new value to the scientific ecosystem."

Offering on-premises and cloud-based solutions, ChemSW software makes current, real-time chemical safety and inventory data available on-demand through:

- Support of customer-specific processes and workflows;
- Complete digitalization through barcode labeling and remote inventory control;
- Integrated Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) management;
- Comparison of chemicals and chemical inventory with defined hazard and regulatory criteria to meet the most demanding EH&S standards;
- On-demand communication and reporting of hazard and regulatory compliance; and
- Country-specific safety and compliance inspection planning, management and reporting.

ChemSW offers cloud-based, secure multi-tenant solutions that drive down IT cost. The on-premises solutions allow customization options to meet company-specific security requirements. Both solutions help customers comply with EH&S regulations while reducing the costs associated with chemical purchases and waste.

In consideration for acquiring all of the outstanding capital stock of ChemSW, Accelrys agreed to pay to the ChemSW shareholders a total of approximately \$15.3 million in cash, subject to working capital and other adjustments. In addition, certain executives of ChemSW may be entitled to receive up to \$2.0 million based on achievement of certain operating milestones during the first two years following the date of the closing of the transaction. Accelrys will retain the entire ChemSW management team and employees as part of the transaction. The transaction is expected to be modestly accretive to Accelrys'

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Non-GAAP earnings per share for the year ending December 31, 2013 on \$1-2 million in Non-GAAP revenue contribution.

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Dassault Systèmes Acquires Safe Technology Limited

4 September 2013

[Dassault Systèmes](#) today announced the acquisition of [Safe Technology Ltd.](#), the technology leader in fatigue simulation for predicting product durability. The acquisition of Safe Technology, based in Sheffield, UK, expands Dassault Systèmes' 3DEXPERIENCE platform and its realistic simulation applications (SIMULIA), providing the most complete and accurate durability prediction solution on the market. Safe Technology, developer of the fe-safe durability simulation application suite, has more than 500 customers, including General Motors, Caterpillar Inc., Cummins Inc., Emerson Climate Technologies, Honda Jets, Harley Davidson Motor Company and Hyundai Motors. The amount of the transaction was not disclosed.

“Consumers want a product that is built right. They want a product that lasts. Durability deeply affects the emotional attachment between brands and their users. The 3DEXPERIENCE platform is all about building brand loyalty for a company's business and the products it offers. This is why Safe Technology is such a good fit for Dassault Systèmes,” said Bernard Charlès, President and CEO, Dassault Systèmes. “Advanced fatigue and durability software solutions are an essential part of the product design process. Safe Technology will enhance Dassault Systèmes' SIMULIA structural simulation to predict and analyze product life quickly and accurately.”

“Safe Technology has been working closely with Dassault Systèmes and its SIMULIA applications for more than 15 years and in that time has developed cutting edge technology that we deliver to a global customer base. We enjoy significant synergy with Dassault Systèmes business strategy and ethos and as such, we are proud to be joining their operation. Dassault Systèmes is committed to keeping fe-safe at the forefront of fatigue technology as well as to delivering an open solution that supports all the leading FEA solvers,” said John Draper, Founder and CEO, Safe Technology. “Acceleration of product development, integration of fatigue solutions into designer-orientated software tools and a high quality, global support network are critical to our growth plans, and being part of Dassault Systèmes and its SIMULIA team will enhance our ability to do all three.”

Dassault Systèmes entered into a definitive acquisition agreement with Safe Technology whereby Dassault Systèmes acquired the company in an all-cash transaction. This transaction was completed on August 7, 2013.

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SofTech Agrees to Sell CADRA Product Line

3 September 2013

SofTech today announced that it has agreed to sell its CADRA product line to Mentor Graphics Corporation for a purchase price of \$3.2 million, plus potential earn-out payments of up to an additional \$750,000 based on 10% of CADRA revenue generated by Mentor in the three year period following the closing. The closing of this asset sale, which is subject to stockholder approval and other customary closing conditions and terms (including a holdback of a portion of the purchase price to secure any indemnification claims arising under the asset purchase agreement), is expected to occur no later than November 30, 2013. The transaction is not subject to any financing condition.

The transaction is subject to stockholder approval by two-thirds of SofTech's shareholders. SofTech intends to file a proxy statement with respect to a special meeting of the stockholders to seek that approval. The SofTech Board of Directors unanimously approved the transaction and recommends that the company's stockholders vote in favor of the asset sale. Board members own 27.8% of the outstanding shares and control voting rights for an additional 11.6% of the shares.

Joe Mullaney, SofTech CEO commented: "In March 2011, the existing SofTech management team bought a controlling interest in the company after it had struggled to meet its financial obligations. Over the last two and a half years we have repositioned SofTech by significantly improving its financial position, investing in new products, and entering into technology partnerships with disruptive technology companies to offer compelling solutions in the PLM market. This transaction will allow us to focus our attention and resources on those strategic initiatives, certain of which we have experienced demonstrated market activity, while also significantly enhancing our financial position," he added.

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Company News

3D Systems Repeats Fortune's 100 Fastest-Growing Companies List

3 September 2013

[3D Systems](#) announced today that for the second year in a row, the company has made Fortune Magazine's 2013 list of the fastest-growing companies, ranking number 2 in tech and number 5 overall out of 100 global companies listed. Fortune points out that even in stagnant times certain companies thrive, and the annual list of high achievers shines the spotlight on the most vibrant parts of the global economy.

Fortune highlights that, "Additive manufacturing, or 3D printing, is being increasingly used to create cost-effective models and real parts for machines and end-use products. 3D Systems designs and sells printers and associated materials and services for both home and commercial use. In mid-2012 it

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doubled its R&D expenditures and improved marketing to expand its products and boost sales. Those efforts seem to be paying off.”

“We are honored to have made this prestigious list for the second year in a row, moving up from 12th to 5th place along with some of the largest and most celebrated companies in the world. It has been a true team effort by our global teammates, partners and supporters to deliver the results that earned this esteemed recognition,” said Avi Reichental, President and CEO of 3D Systems.

Read more about 3D Systems on Fortune Magazine’s Fastest Growing Companies.

<http://money.cnn.com/magazines/fortune/fastest-growing/index.html>

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Aras and IHS Partner to Deliver Next-Generation Cloud-based Component Engineering Embedded in PLM

4 September 2013

Aras® today announced a partnership with HIS to connect the IHS cloud-based CAPS Universe Electronic Component Data into the Aras PLM platform for component engineering of new products and systems. The new component engineering capabilities will enable global companies to quickly find the right parts, compare electronic component details, part availability, environmental compliance, end-of-life obsolescence and more from within the PLM environment.

IHS CAPS Universe is a leading electronic component database containing part attribute data and documentation on hundreds of millions of parts from more than 2000 manufacturers worldwide. Aras users will be able to seamlessly access the IHS CAPS Universe data of electronic and electro-mechanical with powerful analytics from within Aras Innovator.

“As new products and systems include more and more electronics, having the component information needed for new designs integrated directly into the PLM workflow in Aras speeds innovation, improves productivity and assures compliance,” said Bob Braasch, Sr. Director Parts Management at IHS.

“Partnering with IHS enables us to embed interactive component data and analytics inside PLM for better design decisions,” said Peter Schroer, President of Aras. “Automatic product change notices, counterfeit alerts, end-of-life forecasts and other proactive notifications will help our enterprise customers reduce risk and improve component lifecycle planning as well.”

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GRAITEC Expands into Indian Market

4 September 2013

[GRAITEC](#) has signed two new business partnerships with Engineering Software Solutions (ESS) in Hyderabad and Sriresh Infotech Services in Bangalore.

According to Pascal Bergougnou, Managing Director Asia-Pacific, "we have been continuously working this past year to expand our partner network and reach. With the appointment of Engineering Software Solutions (Hyderabad) and Sriresh Infotech Services (Bangalore), our value added reseller program is enriched with companies that combine the knowledge and contacts within their local markets with a comprehensive appreciation of our technology solutions. These two new partners consolidate the network of our existing partners in Pune (Metric Imperial) and Mumbai (Parascadd)."

Engineering Software Solutions (ESS), a Hyderabad-based company, have been marketing and reselling diverse engineering software some for prestigious companies in Andhra Pradesh State for many years. With 15-year-plus experience they have acquired proven expertise in the fields of Structural, Architectural and Mechanical engineering. Their engineers and consultants have a thorough understanding of the engineering and structural design.

Sriresh Infotech Services is an engineering consultancy and training firm in Bangalore, Karnataka State. A distributor of CAD/CAM/CAE and CIVIL Engineering software products, Sriresh Infotech services has expanded into engineering consultancy services and offers solutions in engineering design and analyses across various domains.

GRAITEC, ESS and Sriresh Infotech Services all share the goal of creating technology solutions that will increase their customer responsiveness and reach. These new relationships will greatly improve the Structural ([Steel](#), [Concrete](#)) BIM value chain and act as a win-win for both the companies and the customers.

Francis Guillemard, President and CEO of Graitec, was in India a few weeks ago to welcome aboard the new team members and review Graitec presence in the Indian subcontinent region.

Anindya Maity, Business Manager of GRAITEC, Mumbai office, comments: "This is a very exciting time for Graitec. The Indian region has endless opportunities as it continues to mature in 3D CAD technologies. With our new partnerships we are given the opportunity to attack these new segments locally and continue our leadership in the Structural Steel BIM market".

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intrinSIM Extends its Resources with AMCBridge

5 September 2013

intrinSIM announces an agreement with AMC Bridge to extend the intrinSIM resources network to include AMC Bridge software development services. The agreement allows intrinSIM and AMC Bridge to provide more comprehensive solutions for their respective customers to include custom software and integration projects.

AMC Bridge is a leading provider of software development services in the areas of computer aided design, engineering and manufacturing. Since 1999 they have delivered solutions for CAD, CAE, CAM, PDM, and PLM applications leveraging expertise in the fields of mathematical modeling, analytical geometry, 3D graphics, finite elements, and structural analysis, as well as data and process management.

AMC Bridge has participated in the development of 3D and 2D modeling software products, data, document and community management technologies, CAD data interoperability, and many other aspects of software development for the engineering markets based on the variety of platforms from desktop and web to mobile and clouds.

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LEDAS Attracts Ever More Software Development from Global CAM Market

2 September 2013

LEDAS Ltd. announced that for the first time CAM software development represented 50% of the company's revenue. Revenues from CAD development are in second place, while the PDM sector holds third place. Income this year increased over last year's record income, which had benefited from a large government RGK contract.

“Unlike the CAD market in which a few dominant vendors earn billions of dollars a year, the CAM arena is spread among dozens of mid-size and hundreds of small companies providing niche solutions,” explains Alexey Ershov, CEO of LEDAS. “This is due to the variety in capabilities of machines from many hardware vendors, and so this diversity requires development of an assortment of software, each one narrowly specialized.”

Machining companies put on the market brand new manufacturing devices and are often primarily focused on the hardware. Only later do they see that advanced software is needed to unleash the full potential of their hardware. These companies find it is easier to contract software development services from a company like LEDAS than to write it in-house. LEDAS has [proven experience](#) in this field, and so is highly qualified and more cost effective than for hardware firms to set up their own software development divisions, and then hire and train new employees within this area of specialization.

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“LEDAS is constantly broadening the range of its expertise in CAM, covering more and more manufacturing processes,” adds Ivan Rykov, CTO of LEDAS. “We began with the [motion simulation](#) project for Cimatron, which was aimed primarily at mold design. Our long-term [cooperation with JetCAM](#) in the development of JetCAM Expert and CrossTrack products allowed us to extend our experience to punching, laser, and water jet cutting. For German company OR Laser, we developed an [advanced trajectory builder/editor for laser welding, marking, and engraving processes](#). We then gained experience in drilling and milling through our software development for a leading CAM vendor by writing a module that computes optimal tool paths automatically.”

LEDAS continue to expand intensively its expertise and services in CAD and PLM. The company works with Russian software leaders ASCON and Top Systems, as well as with international companies in Germany, Australia, and elsewhere.

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TCS' CEO & MD, N Chandrasekaran, Receives Honorary Doctorate from the Netherland's Top Private Business School

3 September 2013

At the opening of its academic year 2013-2014, Nyenrode Business Universiteit has granted an honorary doctorate to Natarajan Chandrasekaran (Chandra), CEO and Managing Director of TCS. The university conferred the title of Doctor Honoris Causa to Chandra for his significant contributions toward business and society with a relentless focus on delivering value to global businesses, his stakeholders and local communities around the world. The Nyenrode Business University is the only private university in the Netherlands. It was founded in 1946 by leading Dutch companies with the motto “for and by business.”

Prof. Dr. Désirée van Gorp, Professor of International Business Strategy and promoter, said, “Chandra is a true inspiration for the global business community. His achievements as an entrepreneur and business leader have made a great impact on both global economy and society. He is a true advocate of corporate stewardship, and this is demonstrated by the refined sustainability program at TCS, which focuses on education, environment and wellness. We are pleased to grant Chandra this honorary doctorate since Nyenrode Business Universiteit recognizes the core values of leadership, entrepreneurship and stewardship in his achievements.”

In his response to the honorary doctorate, Chandra said, “This is a great privilege for me to have this honor conferred on me by a university that has a proud heritage of having produced some of this country’s finest business leaders. At Tata Consultancy Services, it has always been a priority for us to focus on the twin path to achieve industry-leading business excellence and working sustainably in the communities where we operate.”

TCS has been operating in the [Netherlands](#) since 1992 and has over 2500 employees catering to a strong

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client base in the country, comprising leading Dutch corporations such as ABN AMRO, Royal Haskoning, ING Group, KLM Royal Dutch Airlines and NXP Semiconductors. The company has been stepping up its presence across [Europe](#) and in the Netherlands, through an expansion in both its business and community engagement. Through its involvement with over 140 schools across Europe, it is working with young people across the continent to prepare them for successful careers in the digital age.

In October 2012, the [TCS Amsterdam Marathon](#), a venture that the company supports, comprised 38,000 runners who jointly raised Euros 115,000 for the official charity – the VUMC Cancer Center Amsterdam. TCS was recently rated by the CRF Institute as the Top ICT Employer of the year 2013 in the Netherlands. The award underlines the high quality of TCS’ human resource practices, focusing on personal growth and development of its employees worldwide. Chandra was also previously awarded the Medal of the City of Amsterdam – “Frans Banninck Coqc” medal in recognition of his endeavor to promote trade and economic relations between Amsterdam and India.

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Zuken appoints Vice President of Marketing for Americas

5 September 2013

Zuken has appointed Bob Potock as Vice President of Marketing for the Americas. Potock, in a newly created position, will be instrumental in expanding the company’s marketing efforts and presence across the Americas.

Potock will be responsible for increasing company awareness and demand generation to drive growth. In this effort, Potock will focus on forging closer relationships with the electrical and electronic design community, and communicating how Zuken can uniquely solve today’s design challenges.

“Bob is a great addition to the Zuken Americas team. He not only brings extensive industry knowledge and experience, but he also understands the mechanics behind developing and executing successful marketing programs. As we increase our focus on the Americas, Bob will play a significant role in expanding our marketing efforts and making the design community more aware of the benefits that Zuken offers.” -Steve Chidester, Head of International Marketing

Potock is well established in the EDA community with more than 20 years of experience. Recent positions include roles at Mentor Graphics and Altium where he led the Americas marketing efforts and successfully executed marketing programs leading to significant revenue growth.

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Events News

Aras to Present at Boeing and Northrop Grumman 2013 GPDIS Conference on Using 3D PDF to

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Integrate PLM Visualization with Secure Social

3 September 2013

Aras® announced that the company will present at the 2013 Global Product Data Interoperability Summit (GPDIS), September 9-12, in Chandler, Arizona. Hosted by The Boeing Company and the Northrop Grumman Corporation, GPDIS offers attendees a forum to share ideas, solutions and best practices for improving PLM and product data exchange across the supply chain in aerospace, automotive, shipbuilding and other industries.

The theme of GPDIS 2013 is “Enabling Productivity with Common Data Streams.” Presentations will explore the new challenges in design, production and visualization, and discuss industry solutions and open standards for product data interoperability. GPDIS moves to a new venue in 2013 to accommodate greater attendance and will showcase an even wider range of technologies across PLM/CAD/CAM/CAE.

John Sperling, Aras Vice President of Product Management, will present “Using 3D PDF to Integrate PLM Visualization into Secure Social” at 9:30am on Wednesday, September 11th. Aras, a GPDIS sponsor and founding member of the 3D PDF Consortium, will highlight the combination of secure social capabilities in the PLM platform with product data visualization using 3D PDF for collaboration throughout the enterprise and extended supply chain.

For more information about GPDIS please visit <http://www.gpdisonline.com>

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CGTech to Highlight latest VERICUT Developments at Advanced Engineering 2013 Events

4 September 2013

CGTech (**Hall 5, Stand D202**) will demonstrate the latest version of VERICUT CNC machine simulation and optimisation software at the Advanced Engineering 2013 group of events, which include the Aero Engineering and Composites Engineering shows, held on 12 and 13 November 2013, at the NEC, Birmingham.

VERICUT 7.3 includes over 400 customer requested enhancements, significantly improving performance and further simplifying the process of simulating a CNC machine. Changes to the user interface further improve VERICUT’s workflow, and are a direct result of CGTech’s philosophy of continuous product improvement based on customer feedback.

“We have thousands of customers around the world and their needs vary greatly,” says CGTech Managing Director, John Reed. “VERICUT has been designed to meet the needs of all types of CNC users – from the small subcontractors to the OEM and supply chain companies who regularly push the

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limits of CNC technology. VERICUT is constantly refined to provide the flexibility and tools our customers require.”

The VERICUT user interface is extremely customisable, and VERICUT 7.3 features all-new icons, available in multiple sizes and with several selectable colour themes. Every window and icon can be optionally displayed or hidden.

User-configurable ‘Favourites’ further simplify setting up a simulation session. Favourites can consist of commonly used folders and files, and each item can be drag/dropped into a project. To help objects stand out in the machine simulation scene, an ‘Edge Display’ option analyses models, finds and displays their edges, all without affecting simulation speed.

During simulation, a user can create a list of ‘Stop At’ events. These events, such as ‘Collisions’, ‘Warnings’, ‘Tool changes’ or ‘End of each setup’, can be managed interactively in the NC program dialog. The user can add, move, remove, or temporarily disable the events that pause the simulation.

VERICUT 7.3 performance is now between five and 10 times faster when the NC program moves the simulated machine into potential collision conditions. Constant gouge check simulation with very large design models is also around two to five times faster. A significant development effort has produced enhancements to VERICUT’s industry leading collision algorithms, removing the need to adjust complex machine models to improve performance.

CGTech will also showcase its expanded range of software applications for the aerospace industry at the show. VERICUT is widely used in the aerospace and defence industries to improve the efficiency of all types of CNC machine tools. Proving-out NC programs for multi axis milling, drilling and trimming of composite parts, water jet cutting, robotic machining and mill-turning centres.

Demonstrations of VERICUT Composite Paths for Engineering (VCPe), VERICUT Composite Programming (VCP) and VERICUT Composite Simulation (VCS) will provide visitors with an opportunity to understand the steps needed to get from a CAD designed composite part to CNC programs that drive automated composite machinery. There will be updated information on projects that highlight the implementation and use of machine independent off-line NC programming and simulation software for Automated Fibre Placement (AFP) machines including robotic AFP cells. In addition, CGTech will demonstrate its new programming and simulation software for Automated Tape Laying (ATL).

“Manufacturers of AFP and ATL machinery typically supply in-house developed off-line NC programming software that uniquely supports their machine. Therefore companies need to adopt multiple software applications if they implement multiple machine brands,” explains John Reed. “Because CGTech composites software products are machine-independent, able to support multiple different machine brands from a single software application, companies can select the best equipment for the job, while avoiding the added cost and time associated with implementing and supporting varied

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software applications for different CNC machines.”

VERICUT Drilling and Fastening (VDAF) is a new software application for simulating and programming auto-drilling and fastening machines. As these machines are used to assemble large aero-structures it is essential to avoid programming errors and collisions, given the late stage in the aircraft manufacturing process. VERICUT allows the user to program drilling and fastener assembly operations in a virtual machine tool environment and provides simulation to check for a variety of potentially disastrous error conditions. Like all VERICUT software, the new module interfaces to leading CAD/CAM/PLM systems and is completely independent of the assembly machine manufacturer.

CNC machine simulation, verification and optimisation software, VERICUT enables users to eliminate the process of manually proving out NC programs. It reduces scrap loss and rework, and the software also optimises NC programs in order to both save time and produce higher quality surface finish. VERICUT simulates all types of CNC machine tools, including those from leading manufacturers such as DMG-Mori Seiki, Mazak, Makino, Matsuura, Hermle, Starrag, Heller and Chiron. VERICUT runs standalone, but can also be integrated with leading CAM systems such as Dassault Systemes CATIA, Siemens NX, MasterCAM, Delcam PowerMill, Vero EdgeCAM, Open Mind hyperMILL, DP Esprit and Missler TopSolidCAM.

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ModuleWorks and Bosch show Real-time CNC Simulation at EMO 2013

6 September 2013

ModuleWorks has confirmed its partnership with Bosch Rexroth and will show real-time CNC simulation technology at EMO.

Rexroth IndraMotion MTX is the individually scalable CNC platform with integrated PLC for successful machining and metal-forming applications. Excellent performance data and comprehensive technology functions open new horizons for maximum productivity and flexibility. Whether you control a standard machine or a fully automated production system – IndraMotion MTX always ensures highly dynamic processing with minimized downtimes in your application.

ModuleWorks have been providing software components for simulation and verification to the CAD/CAM industry for almost a decade and provide this technology to many leading CAD/CAM vendors.

ModuleWorks and Bosch Rexroth will collaborate to integrate real-time simulation on the CNC. They will jointly demonstrate this simulation solution on both the Bosch Rexroth booth in Hall 25, Booth B32 and the ModuleWorks booth in Hall 25, Booth L12.

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Mark Foti, Integration Manager for ModuleWorks comments, “We have been working hard on the technical challenges posed by CNC hardware and are delighted with the results. The ModuleWorks simulation kernel is ideally suited to obtaining optimum performance across a range of hardware specifications. It is great that everyone will be able to see the results of this at EMO.”

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ModuleWorks to show 2013.08 CAD/CAM Components at EMO

2 September 2013

ModuleWorks will debut the latest release of its CAM components, version 2013.08 at the EMO trade fair for metalworking technology in Hannover (Hall 25, Stand L09) from 16th to 21st September 2013.

ModuleWorks is at the forefront of 5-Axis machining and Simulation technology, providing the machining and CNC simulation technology that powers many of the leading CAM systems available today.

At EMO, they will be showing the latest release of their components; highlights are shown below.

5-Axis Machining

2013.08 introduces a new caching mechanism for 5-Axis toolpath generation, providing much faster regeneration when parameters are changed. Time consuming intermediate steps of the calculation are cached and those applicable are re-used when re-calculating the toolpath.

Additional toolpath extension options for SWARF Machining have been added to allow the overcutting of tilted edges. Multiblade has additional lead-in/out options to allow arc motion on the approach and retract for each pass.

A new extrude machining toolpath strategy has been added. This features automatic tilting and collision control and is optimized for large stone cutting tools.

Simulation

A new proximity alert function has been provided. Alerts may be triggered at different points as the tool moves closer to the stock. These alerts can be set up individually for the holder, arbor and shaft parts of the tool allowing users and integrators a high degree of control.

The compare functionality which allows gouges and excess material to be shown and measured now has additional control options such as show only gouges, excesses or both using different color selections.

Woodworking applications can now apply different textures for cut and uncut wood. To aid

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visualization the red coloring of tool and stock collisions can be turned off.

Simulation of turning application now allows a MESH to be used to represent the lathe tool insert, allowing a more accurate representation of the tool.

Simulation has been optimized for the latest generation nVidia GeForce GTX 7000 graphics cards and speed has been dramatically improved by a factor of 3 – 10 times.

The 2013.08 release is now available to all partners by logging into the customer download area at www.ModuleWorks.com

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Registration Now Open for Aras ACE 2013 Europe Conference

5 September 2013

Aras® today announced ACE 2013 Europe, an international Aras Community Event (ACE) to be held October 29 & 30 in Bad Soden, Germany. ACE 2013 Europe offers business and technology professionals the opportunity to meet and learn about next generation product lifecycle management and collaborate on PLM best practices for dealing with complexity challenges from global product development and systems engineering to enterprise quality and supply chain management. Registration is now open at <http://www.aras.com/ACE2013EUROPE>

The theme of ACE 2013 is “DO MORE” which emphasizes the many things Aras is doing so that global businesses can Do More with PLM. Advancements include more solutions, applications and capabilities on a more scalable, secure and open platform to support more collaboration, integration and communication. Attendees will see and learn how leading global companies have transformed their businesses and talk with peers who are working on PLM with Aras to drive results.

ACE 2013 Europe Topics include:

- Future of PLM by Aras CEO, Peter Schroer
- User Case Study Presentations
- Introduction to Aras 9.4 – Latest Open Release
- Technical Presentations
- Product Demonstrations
- Showcase of New Solutions & Projects
- Partner Networking & Exhibits
- Aras Roadmap and more

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Date: October 29 & 30, 2013

Location: Ramada Hotel Bad Soden (near Frankfurt, Germany)

Cost: Free to Attend - No Fee (Space is Limited - Registration Required)

Details and Registration: <http://www.aras.com/ACE2013EUROPE>

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Synopsys to Present at the 2013 Deutsche Bank Technology Conference

5 September 2013

Synopsys, Inc. announced that John Chilton, senior vice president and general manager of strategy and business development, will speak at Deutsche Bank's 2013 Technology Conference in Las Vegas, on Sept. 11, 2013.

This event will be broadcast live over the Internet via the Synopsys corporate website at <http://www.synopsys.com/Company/InvestorRelations> on Wednesday, Sept. 11, 2013 at 11:00 a.m. PT (2:00 p.m. ET). To access the live audio webcast, please go to the website at least ten minutes early to register and to download and install any necessary multimedia software. The webcast replay of the presentation can be accessed at the Synopsys corporate website approximately thirty minutes following the conclusion of the live event.

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Three 2014 Vero Releases to Unveil at UK's Northern Show

4 September 2013

The 2014 releases of three key Vero Software products will be unveiled at the Northern Manufacturing Show, which runs in Manchester in the UK on October 2 and 3.

Alphacam, Edgecam and Radan will be demonstrating new and enhanced functionality on stand D46 at the Event City venue.

As a showcase for manufacturing excellence in the North of England, the exhibition is ideal for visitors to see how the forthcoming releases of Alphacam, Edgecam and Radan bring added value to the manufacturing process.

Alphacam: New functionality for turning includes the Part-Off cycle now being supported on the bottom turret; editable lead-in/out for balanced finishing; the Project Manager has an option to edit lead-in/out on finishing operations; and there is a new angle settings option for auto lead-in/out.

For solid lathe tools and turrets there is now full support for Solid, STL and extruded geometry type

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tooling and turrets; support for rotary, linear and tool changer type turrets; multiple turret and spindle support with full synchronisation and simulation; and B and Y axis support.

The release introduces background 3D machining, and the ability to abort a 3D machining process. Several 3D machining operations can now be processed simultaneously. The operations tab shows which are being processed, and the user can abort, then edit parameters and restart.

Other enhancements include improved tool selection dialog, and CDM and APM improvements.

Edgecam: With Edgecam's recent development of the game-changing Workflow in the 2013 R2 release, 2014 R1 builds on customer feedback, further enhancing the user experience. Additional streamlining of stock, part and fixture set up sees features such as dynamic preview and manipulation, which take place in real time, reduce the process users take to set up parts for manufacture.

A new chamfer/deburring cycle is introduced which will automatically break edges from the vertical axis, removing the need to prepare geometry before machining. All surface machining cycles will see the benefit of 3D cutter radius compensation (CRC) which is becoming more and more popular in complex industries requiring tight tolerances. And the powerful solid modelling environment, Part Modeler, has additional manufacturing preparation features, including automatic fillet recognition and sizing, allowing users to efficiently prepare third-party solid models for manufacture.

Radan: Improvements have been made to simulation and time calculation by moving them into the area where sequences are defined, instead of running the processes based on the NC code. The simulation graphics now include which tools have finished and which are not done, feed rates, and accelerations.

Enhancements to the 3D workflow mean considerably fewer mouse clicks, saving on time and errors. For a single part, it's reduced from around 28 to just three or four. The same automated process applies to parts for assemblies.

Additional safety measures have been introduced to prevent profiles tipping on flat-bed lasers. This is achieved by cutting profiles in danger of tipping, into smaller pieces before cutting the final shape. Instead of cutting it in one go, it cuts a grid across it first, so when the final profile is cut, the small parts of the grid simply fall away.

The 2014 release adopts the same common cutting strategy for punching as is used for profiling machines. And there are also enhancements to how Radan manages cluster tools and asymmetric wheel tools.

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Financial News

Oracle Sets the Date for Its First Quarter Fiscal Year 2014 Earnings Announcement

3 September 2013

Oracle Corporation today announced that its first quarter fiscal year 2014 results will be released on Wednesday, September 18th, after the close of the market. Oracle will host a conference call and live webcast at 2:00 p.m. Pacific Time to discuss the financial results. The live webcast will be available on the Oracle Investor Relations website at www.oracle.com/investor.

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Implementation Investments

Belmont Technology Selects Software Components from Siemens

5 September 2013

Belmont Technology Incorporated ("Belmont"), a venture backed software start-up founded by CAD industry veterans, has licensed Siemens' Parasolid® software and D-Cubed™ software components to be the foundation of a new generation of cloud-based applications for the computer-aided design, manufacturing and engineering (CAD/CAM/CAE) market. The Belmont team, which includes Founder and Chairman, Jon Hirschtick, and CEO John McEleney, will use Parasolid and D-Cubed components to provide the solid modeling and geometric constraint solving capabilities that are fundamental to modern CAD/CAM/CAE applications. Parasolid and D-Cubed components are developed by Siemens' PLM software business unit.

“Through an extensive evaluation against comparable products, the Parasolid and D-Cubed components proved themselves to be the leading technologies for us to deliver the best possible products to our future customers, and we are convinced that Siemens will ensure that is the case for many years to come,” said Hirschtick. “The Belmont team is happy to once again be partnering with Siemens, who have proven themselves to be a great partner to us over the years in supplying such technologies.”

Belmont will use the Parasolid Designer software, along with the D-Cubed 2D DCM (Dimensional Constraint Manager) and the D-Cubed 3D DCM. The company cited the products' superiority across a broad range of criteria, including functionality, performance, quality, compatibility with cloud computing platforms, and compatibility with multi-processor architectures. Belmont also noted that its confidence in Siemens as a trusted, open supplier of PLM software component technology was a critical factor in their decision.

“It is particularly gratifying when people with the deep industry knowledge and experience of Belmont's

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founders select our technology as the foundation for their own products,” said Chuck Grindstaff, president and CEO, Siemens PLM Software. “This important new relationship is a clear indication of Siemens’ technical leadership and our reputation as the most trusted supplier of PLM software component technology on the market. Our philosophy of licensing our PLM Components toolkits to other software vendors enables more end-users and suppliers to benefit from proven technology and strengthens our position as the one PLM software company with a culture of openness.”

For more information on Belmont visit www.belmonttechinc.com.

For more information about Siemens’ PLM Component software solutions, please visit www.siemens.com/plm/open.

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Dutch Company Basil Selects WFX Cloud PDM / PLM Software

6 September 2013

Basil is a successful Netherlands-based producer of contemporary bicycle accessories such as bicycle baskets, panniers, fastening systems, seat covers and accessories. The brand is known for its quirky, bold and striking designs in fashionable colors and great functionality. With stylish accessories Basil encourages the use of the bicycle. They use recycled materials where possible and aim to produce products with ‘fair’ principles.

Basil is implementing WFX Cloud PDM / PLM to improve product development and product data management. To stimulate and manage the creative process bringing designers, technicians, quality controllers, suppliers and marketing / brand management employees together on the same platform, working with one version of centralized (product) information. Netherlands based Product Stream (www.productstream.eu) is leading the implementation in collaboration with WFX.

Basil uses UNIT4’s ERP system Agresso Wholesale to support daily transactional processes. The collection and product data from WFX will be exchanged with Agresso Wholesale with an interface.

WFX Cloud PLM will contribute to Basil's growth by:

- Expanding product lines and brand strategy
- Process management and overview
- Further improvement of product quality
- Shorter lead time of products
- Reducing product cost

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iBASEt Selected to Implement Solumina's Manufacturing and Supplier Quality Software at Cirrus Aircraft

5 September 2013

iBASEt, the developer of the Solumina Product Lifecycle Execution software suite, announced today that Cirrus Aircraft, a recognized leader in general aviation, selected Solumina's Manufacturing Execution System (MES) software package to be implemented at its Duluth, Minn., facility and Solumina's Supplier Quality Assurance (SQA) suite to be used by 10 supplier sites.

In addition, Cirrus will be utilizing Solumina's catalog PTC Windchill integration package, receiving manufacturing bill of materials (mBOMs) and 3D Visualization of CAD models from Windchill. Solumina will also integrate to Cirrus' current enterprise resource planning (ERP) system to create one seamless, integrated manufacturing enterprise.

"We're very excited to offer Cirrus our out-of-the-box Windchill integration," said Michel Gadbois, iBASEt, Vice President of Global Sales and Marketing. "We expect Cirrus to see a return on their investment quickly by allowing concurrent product and manufacturing process definition."

Cirrus selected Solumina to eliminate many of its disparate systems; improve part and resource traceability and visibility; and improve quality by reducing the probability of errors from data re-entry and data duplication.

"To support Cirrus' rapid growth, we needed to find a solution that utilized our existing resources, while maintaining our performance and quality goals. That's where Solumina comes in," said Chris Mitchell, Cirrus Aircraft, Executive Director, Quality and Airworthiness. "Solumina utilizes built-in industry best practices that will help us streamline our manufacturing process, creating more efficient and compliant operations internally and at our supplier sites."

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Product News

3D Systems Quickparts Enhances Its Instant Quote Functionality

4 September 2013

[3D Systems](#) announced today the enhancement of its patented Quickquote[®] capabilities to deliver instant quoting of parts directly from native CAD data with increased accuracy for custom manufactured parts. Quickparts is 3D Systems premier on-demand parts service that delivers the industry standard in quick-turn custom manufacturing. Quickparts provides precise and instant parts quoting the covers the most diverse portfolio of materials and is powered by 3D Systems advanced manufacturing platform.

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QuickQuote produces a unique quote for the process and quantity specified instantly, delivering the industry's most competitive pricing, immediately, worldwide.

Customers can now upload common CAD files in addition to ready-to-print STL files through the QuickQuote system for pricing of custom designed parts for production using Quickparts range of advanced manufacturing solutions. QuickQuote now supports native CAD data from CATIA[®], SolidWorks[®], Pro/ENGINEER[®], as well as industry-standard formats such as Parasolid[®], ACIS[®], IGES, STEP and STL.

“We are delighted to enhance the capabilities of our patented QuickQuote instant pricing systems for the benefit of our worldwide users,” said Ziad Abou, Vice President and General Manager, Quickparts for 3D Systems. “Quickparts provides unprecedented access to our latest advanced manufacturing technologies for small businesses, independent entrepreneurs and professional artists while providing established manufacturers with overflow services and an affordable option to try new materials and processes.”

See a full list of supported formats and learn how Quickparts can integrate seamlessly with your business to improve your design-to-manufacturing workflow at www.Quickparts.com.

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Cincom Acquire Adds CAD Capabilities to Its List of Integrated Tools

29 August 2013

[Cincom Acquire](#)[®], a guided selling and product configuration software solution from [Cincom Systems](#) has added CAD drawing and 3D model generation as an accelerator for Solidworks, a 3D CAD design, analysis and product data management software. The addition of the CAD component to Acquire's list of available tools will help companies improve their sales effectiveness with the addition of a visual component. With this addition, channel reps and engineers can now configure, price and quote offerings, as well as generate drawings based on the configuration within the Cincom Acquire platform.

“Selling complex products can be complicated without a visual representation of the product to show,” said Jerry Miller, director of Cincom's Intelligent Selling Solutions division. “Cincom Acquire allows sales reps to configure a product and generate a 2D drawing or 3D model that can be shared on the spot, or that can be included within a sales proposal.”

Acquire's CAD drawing capabilities are available for both Acquire for Microsoft Dynamics[®] CRM and Acquire Express.

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Fast and Dynamic Industrial 3D Plant Design with MPDS4 Version 5.2

6 September 2013

Version 5.2 of the MPDS4 2D/3D factory layout and 3D plant design software includes new P&ID functionality, dynamic routing and component moving tools, parametric component selection and placement enhancements, and a new 3D DWG plant export option.

MPDS4's catalog-driven design approach saves huge amounts of time compared to regular MCAD 3D modelling techniques, both during the pre-sales and detailed design stages of industrial projects.

“With this release, we've extended our dynamic routing and intelligent design tools even further, shortening project times while producing high quality engineering data, which can easily be exchanged with customers and suppliers, and managed consistently through the PDM system of choice,” says Product Line Manager Mark Simpson.

New in MPDS4:

<http://www.cad-schroer.com/products/medusa4/new-in-m4/new-in-medusa4-and-mpds4-version-5-2.html>

P&ID Enhancements

The latest P&ID module offers a new configuration tool for administering symbol libraries and attributes, as well as element selection enhancements.

Dynamic Piping, Duct and Conveyor Design

Version 5.2 introduces new functionality for fast and intuitive routing of pipes, ducts and conveyors, dynamic design editing, and intuitively moving components in assemblies via grab handles and new sliding functionality.

Parametric Component Selection and Loading

The Parametric Equipment Library offers new selection, editing, loading and intelligent component positioning functionality.

3D DWG and AutoCAD® Support

There are new flexible 3D data exchange and colour mapping options, including bi-directional 3D DWG conversion of model files, as well as the option to export an entire plant, or parts thereof, to the 3D DWG format. The CADConvert interface now supports the AutoCAD® file format from AutoCAD R. 12 through AutoCAD 2013.

Data Exchange and Data Management

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MPDS4 has extensive data import/export capabilities (2D: DXF, DWG, 3D: DWG, STEP, IGES, STL, COLLADA™ (Google Earth), VRML, VDA-FS) enabling users to obtain and share drawings and models with customers and suppliers. A new Windchill® PDMLink™ Workgroup Manager for MEDUSA4 (the advanced 2D/3D drafting systems delivered with MPDS4) is now available, and this release sees many enhancements to the many PDM/PLM integrations developed by CAD Schroer.

MPDS4 version 5.2 is available as a free upgrade to CAD Schroer's maintenance customers. New customers working on sustainable energy projects currently benefit from a 70% discount.

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Infinite Skills "Learning Autodesk Inventor 2014 Training Video" Teaches Fundamentals to Learn to Model and Present Projects

1 September 2013

Software training firm Infinite Skills Inc. this week introduced its "Learning Autodesk Inventor 2014 Tutorial," a course designed to assist inventors in beginning to model their projects with this powerful 3D modeling application.

Autodesk Inventor is a 3D mechanical CAD program for creating digital prototypes used in the design and simulation of products. Inventor uses an integrated motion simulator in an assembly stress environment, allowing users to input load and friction characteristics to simulate how a product will function in real-world conditions.

In the beginning-level "Learning Autodesk Inventor 2014 Training Video," designers learn an essential skill-set for using this powerful software.

[Learning Autodesk Inventor 2014 Tutorial Video - DVD](#)

An Inventor user since 1999, course author Adam Cooper is a career mechanical engineer, designing primarily plastic installations in the automotive industry. He is also an accomplished trainer and a regular speaker at Autodesk University. He is an Autodesk Certified Instructor in Inventor and several other Autodesk programs.

"This course really focuses on providing a basic knowledge of the software," Cooper says. "It's a great way to build an essential vocabulary in Inventor's tools and concepts."

The course begins with an overview of the Inventor 2014 interface, explaining concepts that will be further explored in later chapters and establishing best practices for using Inventor.

Cooper then dives into Inventor's functionality, explaining the tools involved in sketching, such as using lines, circles, arcs, and more, as well as establishing guidelines for creating successful sketches.

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The course continues with chapters explaining how to work with dimensions, and exploring some advanced features of sketches like extrude, revolve, and sharing sketches.

Throughout the video tutorial, Cooper teaches fundamental concepts. As students create an assembly from individual parts, he teaches how to construct, annotate, and standardize their projects, finally creating a presentation of the final assembly.

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Intergraph® Increases the Power of Image Compression

5 September 2013

Intergraph® has released an updated SDK that will increase flexibility and performance for the industry-leading Enhanced Compressed Wavelet (ECW) and ISO JPEG 2000 image compression formats.

The latest version of [ERDAS ECW/JP2 SDK](#), Version 5, allows software developers to enable rapid and efficient file handling in their applications by including robust support for selected wavelet compression formats and protocols. The new release includes support for ECW Version 3, 16-bit support and a re-architected compression algorithm for vastly improved performance.

"Users worldwide rely on our ECW technology to save time during imagery processing and transfer, and reduce the hardware requirements for their geospatial workflows," said Mladen Stojic, Vice President – Geospatial, Intergraph. "By expanding the use of this technology across multiple solutions, users can more easily compress bulky imagery files into manageable sizes while preserving the visual quality of the images."

As de facto standards adopted by GIS, CAD and remote sensing packages worldwide, ECW and JPEG 2000 accelerate the delivery and display of imagery to provide the best performance and user experience. Serving imagery as ECW files minimizes the impact of managing and distributing large image data, ultimately reducing hardware and network costs. Organizations can now compress petabytes of imagery down to five percent of its original size, enabling faster, more efficient management and delivery of data, while preserving image quality. ISO-certified JPEG 2000 is a numerically lossless compressed image format commonly used for geospatial imagery.

The ERDAS ECW/JP2 SDK has produced stable, high-quality commercial applications for over 10 years, and consistently enables third party developers to provide the robust and unrivalled imagery support their customers expect. ECW support is virtually ubiquitous across leading geospatial and CAD software packages, including those from Intergraph, as well as software from AutoDesk, Blue Marble, CadCorp, ENVI, ESRI ArcGIS, Geomatica, LizardTech, GeoExpress, FalconView, Global Mapper, MapInfo, Manifold System, MicroStation, and Smallworld. ECW is also supported by open source

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geospatial packages such as GDAL, QGIS, GeoServer and MapServer.

[ERDAS APOLLO](#) users benefit the most from ECW technology, with the ability to directly create, read and serve ECW files. Users can compress data to manageable sizes, while retaining the richness of the data quality and appearance, as well as use the catalog to organize any data type in their enterprise into one comprehensive library. With ERDAS APOLLO, you can easily disseminate extensive archives to multitudes of end-users without putting extra pressure on enterprise systems.

To learn more about ERDAS ECW/JP2 SDK, please visit the official [product page](#) on [geospatial.intergraph.com](#).

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MathWorks Announces Release 2013b of the MATLAB and Simulink Product Families

6 September 2013

MathWorks today announced [Release 2013b](#) (R2013b) of its [MATLAB](#) and [Simulink](#) product families. R2013b delivers new analysis, design, code generation and implementation and other features in MATLAB and Simulink, two [new Polyspace products](#), as well as updates to 79 other products.

Highlights include:

MATLAB Product Family

- MATLAB: Data types for mixed-type tabular data, and ordered and unordered categorical data
- MATLAB Compiler: Revamped MATLAB Compiler app and automatic download at install time of version-compatible MATLAB Compiler Runtime
- Statistics Toolbox: Linear mixed-effects regression models
- Database Toolbox: Fast access to ODBC connections via a native ODBC driver
- Instrument Control Toolbox: Communication with integrated circuits using SPI protocol
- Financial Toolbox: Mean-Absolute Deviation (MAD) portfolio optimization
- Trading Toolbox: Support for CQG Integrated Client API and Interactive Brokers TWS API
- Image Processing Toolbox: GPU acceleration, working with PCT, for 22 additional functions, including `bwmorph`, `edge`, `imresize`, and `medfilt2`
- Mapping Toolbox: Web map display with dynamic base maps from OpenStreetMap and other sources

Simulink Product Family

- Simulink Editor: Enhancements including transparent subsystem preview, line crossings and "comment through" blocks
- Simulink System block: New block for incorporating MATLAB System objects in Simulink models

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- Simulink hardware connectivity: Arduino enhancements including support for Mac OS X, Arduino Ethernet Shield and Arduino Nano hardware
- Simulink models: Native modeling of single-precision designs
- Simscape: Block libraries for modeling thermal liquid systems
- SimPowerSystems: Block libraries based on Third Generation technology, fully utilizing Simscape capabilities
- Simulink Verification and Validation: Requirements linking and traceability for MATLAB code

Polyspace Product Family

- Polyspace Code Prover: A new product for proving the absence of run-time errors in software
- Polyspace Bug Finder: A new product for identifying software defects via static analysis

System Toolboxes for Design in MATLAB and Simulink

- Phased Array System Toolbox: C/C++ code generation support with MATLAB Coder
- Computer Vision System Toolbox: Camera calibration functions and app

Code Generation and Implementation

- HDL Coder and Embedded Coder: Integrated C and HDL code generation and workflow support for Xilinx Zynq and Zedboard
- Simulink Coder: Creation of multi-level password protected Simulink models
- HDL Coder: Support for user authored MATLAB system objects and incremental code generation for Model Reference blocks
- MATLAB Coder: Support for 64-bit integers, software-in-the-loop (SIL) verification with Embedded Coder, and probability distributions in Statistics Toolbox
- Fixed-Point Designer: Long long integer data type for efficient simulation and generated code for 64-bit processors
- Simulink Code Inspector: Support for Stateflow objects and classic action language

Availability:

R2013b is available immediately. More information is available

at: http://www.mathworks.com/products/new_products/latest_features.html

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MecSoft Compatible with Geomagic Design 2014

5 September 2013

MecSoft Corporation has officially certified that Alibre CAM 3 is now fully compatible with Geomagic Design 2014 software.

“As a fully integrated CAM solution partner for 3D Systems, MecSoft is committed to supporting their

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latest product offering,” stated Uday Honnalagere, Support Manager for MecSoft. “With our most recent service release, Alibre CAM 3 is fully certified to run inside Geomagic Design 2014, while continuing to maintain its compatibility with Geomagic Design 2013 and Alibre Design 2012.”

MecSoft’s reputation for great support remains strong with their commitment to always providing timely compatibility of their CAM product for any new releases of their companion products.

For more information, please visit mecsoft.com or call (949) 654-8163.

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New AVEVA Activity Visualisation Platform brings the power of Industrial Gaming to the plant industries

3 September 2013

AVEVA announced today the launch of its brand-new, AVEVA Activity Visualisation Platform (AVEVA AVP). AVEVA AVP, built on Industrial Gaming technology enables: highly efficient facility familiarisation; staff training; construction planning and simulation; operations and maintenance planning. It aids the rehearsal of safety and schedule critical activities, without putting either personnel or the plant itself at risk.

The platform supports customers to create immersive, interactive multi-user plant environments, AVEVA AVP generates its realistic simulations direct from 3D design models, even before the physical plant has been built. With operator error recognised as the leading cause of safety incidents, AVEVA has created a solution that addresses this by revolutionising the way in which Owner Operators and engineering contractors (EPCs) can train staff. This powerful simulation solution will enhance plant operational safety while reducing costs and overall risk.

“Preparing people to work safely in potentially hazardous plant environments is absolutely essential,” said Derek Middlemas, COO and Head of Enterprise Solutions, AVEVA. “People learn best by doing and providing effective training is a vital aspect of plant operation. AVEVA AVP enables users to practise anything, from the simplest inspection walk-around to the most complex maintenance, safely in a realistically simulated live plant environment. Operations staff can now learn and practise tasks in complete safety before going onsite, instead of having to do so for the first time in a potentially dangerous environment.”

The oil & gas, power and process plant industries make extensive use of 3D models. Because the AVEVA AVP simulations are created directly from the plant’s original design model, they are visually convincing, realistic and accurate. Trainees can be immersed in a hands-on scenario and interact both with the model and with each other as avatars in a realistic virtual environment. They can quickly become familiar with ‘must know’ areas of the plant, such as access, maintenance locations and evacuation routes. They will even be able to answer practical questions such as ‘Can I drive a forklift

around this area?'

Mr Middlemas added, "AVEVA is committed to delivering more ways for our customers to exploit their investments in the creation and maintenance of their digital asset. We are showing the industry how to derive maximum use and value from valuable 3D models. Now trainees can practise any type of task, as often as required, without the financial and safety risks of working in the real plant. AVEVA AVP offers a zero-risk, minimum-cost route to maximum operator effectiveness."

To learn more visit www.aveva.com/aveva_avp.

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Siemens New Industry Catalyst Series Designed to Further Enhance ROI for PLM

4 September 2013

Siemens introduced a new series of industry-specific offerings today at its annual PLM Software Analyst Conference in Boston. The [Industry Catalyst Series™](#) offerings consist of a pre-packaged combination of industry best practice guides, templates and software aimed at accelerating PLM deployment and tailoring the system to the needs of specific industries. The series is designed to increase a company's overall return on its PLM investment, as well as the speed at which ROI is realized. The new offerings will also make it faster and easier to adopt, and gain value from, the latest PLM technology. The Industry Catalyst Series will work with one or more Siemens PLM Software offerings and – in accordance with the company's open business model – in combination with third party PLM solutions. Individual Industry Catalyst Series offerings will be announced over the next several months.

"Two years ago we began our transition from a product-focused organization to one focused on the unique requirements of industries," said Chuck Grindstaff, president and CEO, Siemens PLM Software. "Today's announcement represents a pivotal step forward in that transition. Each offering in the Industry Catalyst Series will be built around a specific industry's best practices, based on in-depth knowledge we have collected over more than 30 years of working with customers. By imbedding that knowledge and experience in each offering, our customers will not only experience accelerated PLM implementations, but those implementations will be tailored to each company's business in a way that facilitates the adoption of new technology. The result is more business value, faster ROI, and the ability to benefit from the latest technology as soon as it becomes available."

Over the past several years, most organizations have come to appreciate how PLM technology and processes can help them increase productivity and efficiency. At the same time, however, many of these organizations have been slow to implement a full scope PLM solution, or to adopt the latest technology for their existing PLM system. This often stems from concern about costs and business disruptions associated with the need to customize standard PLM technology to their specific processes, data

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structures and workflow.

The Industry Catalyst Series minimizes that disruption by delivering an industry-tailored deployment more quickly. As the name implies, each individual Industry Catalyst Series offering will work like an industry-specific “agent” to accelerate a PLM implementation. This is accomplished through the three main components of each Industry Catalyst Series offering:

- Industry Best Practices – a set of digital guides and templates which function as a reference for the best processes and practices across the product lifecycle in a particular industry.
- Deployment Accelerators – a set of industry-specific recommendations for product selections, systems design decisions, configuration procedures and best practices for deployment.
- Open and Configurable Industry Solution Components – software components that enable the implementation team to easily control the appearance and behavior of a Siemens PLM implementation, without the need for custom programming.

“Building interfaces and custom coding can add significantly to the cost of a PLM system,” said Georg Vogl, executive Program Manager PLM at BSH, a Siemens PLM Software customer. “Over the past several years, Siemens has evolved its PLM software solutions to minimize these efforts by allowing us to configure the system to our needs rather than developing custom software. This has already helped us reduce our total cost of PLM ownership by 25 to 35 percent. Now with the introduction of the Industry Catalyst Series, we see the potential to implement new PLM technology even faster and reduce costs even further.”

“The natural time lag between the introduction of the latest PLM technology and its adoption by customers may be extended due to tailoring to meet industry and company-specific needs,” said Peter Bilello, President of CIMdata, a leading PLM consulting firm. “The longer this time lag lasts, the greater the amount of ‘missed value’ the customer will experience and the greater the risk to their competitive position. Siemens’ new Industry Catalyst Series is aimed at reducing this time lag for companies seeking to deploy a new industry-tailored PLM system, or those seeking to adopt the latest technology into their existing PLM system. In either case, the Industry Catalyst Series is designed to enable these companies to accelerate their time to value and enhance their competitive position.”

Over the next several months, individual Industry Catalyst Series offerings will be announced for a variety of industries including automotive, electronics, consumer products, marine, energy, machinery, medical device and aerospace. In addition to supporting multi-vendor PLM implementations, the Industry Catalyst Series offerings will work with all of Siemens’ enterprise-level PLM software products including [NX™](#) software for digital product development, the [Teamcenter®](#) portfolio for digital lifecycle management, the [Tecnomatix®](#) portfolio for digital manufacturing, and LMS software for test and mechatronic simulation.

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TFTLabs offers Autodesk Inventor 2014 Support

3 September 2013

TFTLabs S.A.S, announces today in this latest release the support of new Autodesk Inventor 2014 for company products TFTWeb™, TFTPpad™, TFT4iT™ and free JSON3D Gallery™.

TFTLabs products support all major 3D formats, which now include latest release of CAD System, Autodesk Inventor 2014

Entities treated:

- Assemblies, parts,
- Visibilities, Colors, Transparency, Attributes,
- All 3D Entities
- File extensions : .iam .ipt

“In CAD interoperability business, the #1 customer requirement is the responsiveness in delivering updates compatible with the latest versions of any CAD format. This is also our #1 priority for the 20+ formats we support and, thanks to our Web software available on most popular Web browsers such as Google Chrome, Firefox, Internet Explorer, Safari or Opera. Deployment to end-users is instantaneous and transparent. Check it out with our free JSON3D Gallery starting today! ”
says Francois Chretien, CEO and Chief Scientist.

“We are proud of our development team who managed to release this update. Our technology reads and visualizes all 3D native formats without any license of 3D software from a simple Web browser. ”
says Jean-Luc Brocard, COO and Quality and Customers Support Manager.

TFTLabs products work directly on 3D data from all native or generic CAD formats (more than 20 formats) up to their latest revision.

With TFTLabs technology visualize and share 3D models from web browser or mobile devices.
Test for free [JSON3D Gallery](#) on the web, or from your mobile with TFTPpad app, available on [Google Play](#).

Within TFTPpad, interact with 3D models using the intuitive touch interface. Pinch to zoom, single finger drag to rotate, two fingers drag to pan and double tap on the screen to fit all the model.

With TFTWeb, the instant messaging system for 3D, communicates and collaborates on 3D native data on various operating systems and browsers. Create pages together with annotations, dimensions, detailed or exploded views, textual information.

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With TFT4iT, software editors can easily integrate their 100 % web-based 3D toolkit and access directly to all major 3D CAD file formats. Software editors can now take benefit of the JSON3D format real openness and perenity.

The whole technology behind the products is owned by TFTLabs, whose key people have a unique experience in 3D interoperability since 20 years.

TFTLabs SAS is a company dedicated to 3D Open solutions for Web Computing in the Manufacturing Market founded by CAD and Interoperability Veterans.

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ZW3D 2013 SP Released with Improved 3D CAD Modeling

3 September 2013

[ZWSOFT](#) today released [ZW3D 2013 SP](#). Available in 64-bit and 32-bit versions, ZW3D 2013 SP features greatly improved 3D Modeling and 2D Drafting as well as more than 200 other improvements, enabling designers to work seamlessly with ZW3D 2013 SP and other 3D CAD platforms.

Enhancing 3D Modeling with Optimized Functionalities

The [ZW3D](#)-based Wrap function supports the shaping of geometries to the contours of 3D modules. In ZW3D 2013 SP this functionality is made extremely user-friendly, providing designers with three different approaches to wrap all kinds of geometries, including curves, shapes and 2D designs etc., with great flexibility. A few clicks in ZW3D 2013 SP can integrate geometries perfectly into a 3D surface, saving significant time for designers. Furthermore, the reverse engineering process has been simplified greatly in ZW3D 2013 SP by Point Cloud which can impeccably convert millions of points to a 3D surface with ease.

Strengthening 2D Drafting with More Accurate Projection

One of the most anticipated highlights of ZW3D 2013 SP is the enhancement of 2D Drafting, providing a convenient approach to integrate 2D workflows in 3D CAD design to create innovative technical drawings. As projection accuracy and multi-CAD data communication have been considerably improved in ZW3D 2013 SP, the 2D Drafting functions more efficiently with well-displayed lines, increasing productivity and accelerating the drafting of a 3D model with higher precision.

Quick Glance at Key Features

- Two versions to support 32-bit and 64-bit operation systems
- Upgraded File Translator to ensure seamless data exchange
- Much-improved Modeling & Drafting to elevate design efficiency

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“Being a user of ZW3D 2012 SP2, I find this new version of ZW3D 2013 SP Beta has taken a huge leap on data communication,” said Dave Bebbington, Chief Engineer of Sketch Evolution Ltd. “I have tried importing a Catia V5 file to the 64-bit ZW3D 2013 SP Beta. This works amazingly well with open edges reduced by 70%. ”

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