

Contents

| | |
|---|-----------|
| <i>CIMdata News</i> _____ | 2 |
| Accelerate 2014: A Growing PLM 360 Community: a CIMdata Commentary _____ | 2 |
| CIMdata Publishes PLM Geography Report _____ | 4 |
| Siemens PLM Software: Building Out Their Platform: a CIMdata Commentary _____ | 6 |
| SOLIDWORKS 2015 Launch: Broadening the Portfolio, Enabling the Community: a CIMdata Commentary _____ | 10 |
| SQS—Helping Execute Reliable PLM Upgrades: a CIMdata Commentary _____ | 12 |
| <i>Acquisitions</i> _____ | 15 |
| Bentley Systems Acquires SITEOPS to Advance Site Engineering to Site Optioneering _____ | 15 |
| Stratasys Completes Acquisition of GrabCAD _____ | 16 |
| <i>Company News</i> _____ | 17 |
| AVEVA Appoints Murphy Surveys as Strategic Sales Partner in Ireland _____ | 17 |
| COMSOL Opens a New Office in India _____ | 18 |
| Innovyze Expands Channel Partner Relationship with HR Wallingford _____ | 19 |
| New Italian Reseller for WorkPLAN and WorkXplore _____ | 19 |
| PTC and University of Utah Lassonde Entrepreneur Institute to Help Students Develop Smart Connected Product Design Skills _____ | 20 |
| Siemens Provides \$32 Million In-Kind Software Grant to Central Piedmont Community College to Educate and Train Workers for Manufacturing Industry _____ | 21 |
| Simpleware Partner with A-Ztech for Turkish Market _____ | 22 |
| Tata Consultancy Services Ranked Number One of Top 100 Companies in Asia in Sustainability Ranking _____ | 23 |
| TXT Appoints New Senior Vice President, Builds up Momentum in North American Retail _____ | 24 |
| <i>Events News</i> _____ | 25 |
| Autodesk Extends Invitation to Join Webcast of Investor Day Event _____ | 25 |
| Bluebeam Software to Discuss MAP-21 Incentives and Benefits of Digital Workflows at IHEEP Conference _____ | 25 |
| Delcam to Show PowerMILL CAM for High-Speed and 5-axis Machining at JIMTOF _____ | 26 |
| Fisher Unitech Adds SolidWorks Executives to Second Annual Design Excellence Forum _____ | 27 |
| GETRAG, Imperial Tobacco Group, Consilium, Titan X and more to Present PLM Strategy at Aras Conference October 21-22 _____ | 28 |
| JETCAM to Debut CrossTrack 3 at Autumn Trade Shows _____ | 29 |
| Singletree Technologies to Sponsor Yunique Solutions' Annual Software Conference, Ideation 2014 _____ | 30 |
| The Engineering Design Software Behind Renewable Energy Installations _____ | 30 |
| ZW3D Global Tour: Explore Possibilities of CAD/CAM Technologies _____ | 31 |
| <i>Implementation Investments</i> _____ | 32 |
| Autoliv Europe Will Use Dassault Systèmes for Lean Logistics _____ | 32 |
| Dongbu Daewoo Electronics Selects Siemens to Deploy New PLM Software System _____ | 32 |
| FS Dynamics Commits to CD-adapco Simulation Software Tools for Three More Years _____ | 33 |
| Happychic Group Selects Centric Software PLM for Jules, Brice, Bizzbee Brands _____ | 34 |
| Imperial Tobacco Group Selects Aras as Enterprise PLM Backbone _____ | 34 |
| Luxury Mobile Phone Manufacturer, Vertu, Selects Altair's HyperWorks Unlimited™ Plug-and-Play Private Cloud Solution for Computer-Aided Engineering _____ | 35 |
| Puma Energy Selects Intergraph® CADWorx® Plant Professional _____ | 36 |
| Rocky Brands Extends the Boundaries of Fashion PLM with Latest Implementation of NGC Software _____ | 37 |

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

| | |
|--|----|
| Semir, One of China's Top Ten Fashion Retailers, Adopts Gerber Technology's YuniquePLM _____ | 38 |
| Service Electric Cable TV Chooses Bentley's Hybrid Fiber-Coaxial Solution to Increase Network Design and Management Efficiency _____ | 39 |

| | |
|--|-----------|
| Product News _____ | 40 |
| AMC Bridge Releases New Version of Drawing Diagnostics™ plug-in for Autodesk® AutoCAD® 2015 _____ | 40 |
| ANSYS Enables Virtual Systems Prototyping _____ | 41 |
| Bentley's New ProjectWise Essentials Delivers Proven ProjectWise Collaboration and Work Sharing Advantages Through 'Software at Your Service' _____ | 42 |
| BOPC™ BIMobject Open Property Cloud Revealed _____ | 43 |
| Customer Feedback Drives Enhancements in Latest Viewpoint Release _____ | 44 |
| Design Data Announces Release of SDS/2 Connect 2015 _____ | 45 |
| ecVision Takes the Work out of Conflict Minerals Traceability _____ | 45 |
| Faster, Smarter Programming from FlowXpert 2015 _____ | 46 |
| Infinite Skills' "Autodesk AutoCAD 2015 - Beyond The Basics Collection" Provides Comprehensive Resource For Designers, Engineers, and Students _____ | 47 |
| TraceParts Offers Component Suppliers A Dedicated Mobile Application To Promote Their Products In 3D _____ | 48 |
| Official Release of ZWCAD+ 2015: Extended Usability in 3D and GIS _____ | 49 |
| Version 9 of LGS released: Constraint-Driven Parametric Design and Optimization _____ | 50 |

CIMdata News

Accelerate 2014: A Growing PLM 360 Community: a CIMdata Commentary

25 September 2014

Key takeaways:

- *Autodesk held their first ever Autodesk PLM 360 user event, Accelerate 2014, in Boston, MA, a fitting location*
- *Customers showed their delight with the solution, supporting many varied use cases, some traditional for PLM and many extending to new areas*
- *Autodesk is transforming their company and their offerings to respond to overarching trends in products, and means of production and consumption*
- *Autodesk is thinking differently about enabling product development, and is addressing longstanding technical and usability issues in PLM in innovative ways*

On September 16 and 17, 2014, Autodesk held their first ever Autodesk PLM 360 user event, Accelerate 2014, in Boston, MA. This was a fitting location for several reasons, as outlined by the event host Ron Locklin from Autodesk. Most notable is the fact that almost exactly three years ago Autodesk changed course and formally announced their entrance into the PLM market at an analyst event in Boston. The company and their solutions have come a long way since then.

This event was mainly a celebration of some of Autodesk's most innovative PLM 360 customers, including:

- OYO Sports, a local Boston manufacturer of Lego-compatible figures, puts other companies to

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

shame with time to market measured in hours, helping them quickly react to trades and other changes in the sports world to produce and stock sports figures that help create memories for fans.

- Quirky helps make “invention accessible” and is relying on PLM 360 to be agile, track resources, communicate clearly, connect with manufacturing partners, and much more.
- Electrical Components International, a provider of wire harnesses to customers from automotive OEMs to small companies, uses PLM 360 to support “classic” PLM processes like BOM management and change control.

The word celebration was chosen carefully because the excitement in the room was palpable. These customers and others in attendance are happy to be able to move from a world of network drives, spreadsheets, and Microsoft SharePoint to the cloud-based PLM 360. Based on presentations on day two, this is only the beginning.

Andrew Anagnost, Autodesk Senior Vice President, Industry Strategy & Marketing, spoke about “The Future of Making Products.” His stated goal for his talk: to have the “weirdest” presentation at the event. In that, he failed, because he did an excellent job talking about the megatrends affecting the means of production, preferences in consumption, and even in what it means to be a “product.” He spoke of the move toward fables production, with networks of experts around the world coming together quickly to develop and deliver products, forming temporary organizations that are increasingly replacing traditional enterprises and even extended global value chains. Today’s consumers have very different expectations for what they are buying. People care about where products are designed, sourced, and made. It is even better if they can participate in some way in the product’s definition and creation, with Quirky a perfect example of this trend. People jump in to fund ideas so that they can quickly get products that they can relate to in fundamentally new ways. The notion of a product is also changing, with an expectation that just about everything will be “connected.” This is true even if it makes no apparent sense to do so, making this new trend just like many before it follow the precept that people do things because they can, not because they should. Mr. Anagnost and Autodesk are convinced that these trends are creating the biggest Industrial Revolution since the first one. To respond, Autodesk is changing their products, how they bring them to market, and just about everything about their business. One good example is their Spark open source 3D printing platform. They envision a day when rows of CNC machines will be replaced with 3D printers delivering products locally just as apps are downloaded today to our smartphones.

Brian Roepke, Director of PLM and PDM at Autodesk followed with some exciting new announcements for the Autodesk PLM 360 platform. From its initial release, PLM 360 has focused on enabling business processes in the cloud, and left the heavy lifting of mechanical CAD (MCAD) data management to their on-premise Vault solution. No more. In an upcoming release, Autodesk will add MCAD data management on the cloud to PLM 360. Many users will access this functionality through a familiar Windows Explorer interface, making it look just like any other network drive, an approach used by at least one Autodesk competitor. This approach makes check-in/check-out and other product data management (PDM) functions almost transparent and addresses an objection to PDM adoption by many engineers. Mr. Roepke also spoke of an innovative approach to addressing another objection to MCAD data management on the cloud, moving large amounts of data to and from the MCAD user. Using technology from the Ilesfay acquisition, “transfer avoidance™” in PLM 360 will enable it to learn about the contents of the files moved with each upload and download, and subsequently only move the data that was changed. The company claims that this will be possible with a wide range of MCAD data formats and will reduce bandwidth by 5 to 30 times over traditional approaches. If successful and widely

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

used (and mimicked), this technique will help to eliminate that objection to PLM.

Many PLM solution providers are talking about providing access to their solutions across a wide range of platforms, from desktops to mobile devices. Some believe that you can only build a high quality mobile application if you think “mobile first.” Others are focusing on HTML5 as a cross-platform technical solution. Autodesk is using HTML5 too, but demonstrated some new techniques they are using to dynamically change the UI for different form factors. This can help address the issue of UI elements that are the perfect size on the desktop being too large for fingers on a touchscreen. CIMdata looks forward to seeing this functionality in action upon release. For users the most exciting thing about all of this new functionality may be that it will be included in the PLM 360 release at no additional cost.

In conclusion, this first-ever Autodesk PLM 360 user event went off without a hitch, and the excitement among the attendees and the Autodesk team was infectious. Over 90% of PLM 360 customers are new to PLM, which is only good for the market as a whole. New delivery models like Autodesk PLM 360 serve to shake up the status quo. It is true that most of their customers are small enterprises, but others are taking notice. Accenture, an Autodesk PLM 360 partner, had a prominent role in the event, echoing the remarks of Mr. Anagnost about the changing nature of products and product development, and showing their interest in the platform and the disruptive role it might play. Autodesk showed some exciting new functionality that expands the processes and use cases they can support, and their pricing and packaging could start to attract larger and larger firms. This is where things get interesting.

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.

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

CIMdata Publishes PLM Geography Report

25 September 2014

CIMdata, Inc., the leading global PLM strategic management consulting and research firm announces the release of the CIMdata 2014 PLM Geography report, the fourth of five modules of the CIMdata PLM Market Analysis Report Series. The MAR Series provides detailed information and in-depth analysis on the worldwide PLM market during 2013. It contains analyses of major trends and issues; revenues of leading PLM providers; and revenue analyses for geographical regions, industry sectors, and historical and projected data on market growth.

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

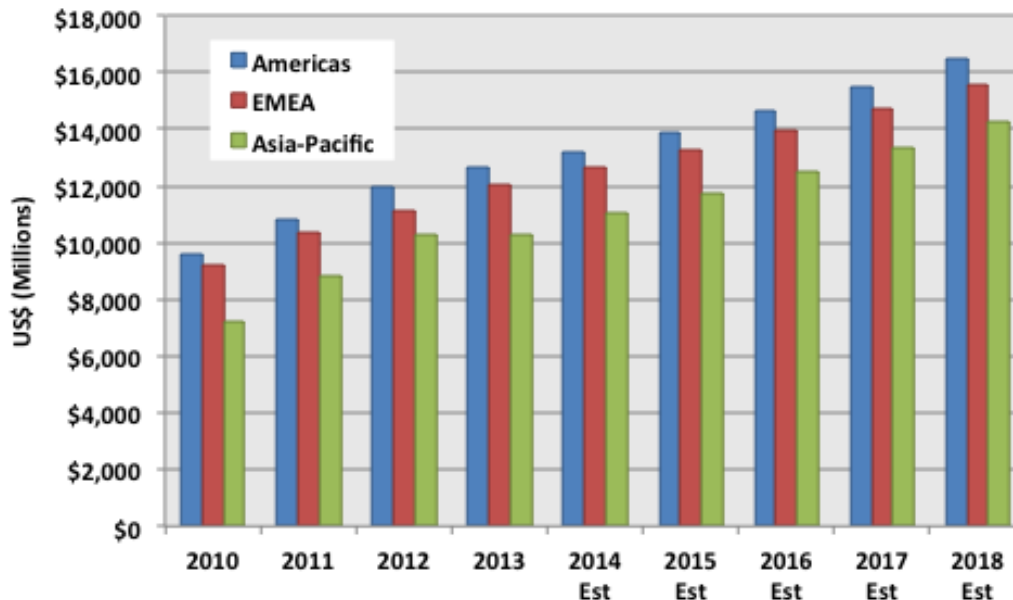
1. The *CIMdata 2014 Executive PLM Market Report* provides an overview of CIMdata’s complete global analysis. It includes key charts on PLM market investment statistics through 2013, forecasts of investments for 2014 through 2018, and a summary of PLM solution providers’

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

performance in 2013.

2. The *CIMdata 2014 PLM Industry Review and Trends Report* is mainly qualitative in nature, and focuses on key issues facing the global PLM ecosystem of solution providers and end user organizations. It highlights changes that occurred in 2013, what effects those changes may have in the short and medium term, and what is on the horizon in the years to come.
3. The *CIMdata 2014 PLM Market and Solution Provider Analysis Report* details measures of and forecasts for the overall PLM market and its key segments, including Tools, cPDM, and Digital Manufacturing. The Tools section has additional details on sub-segments, including MCAD, NC, S&A, EDA, and AEC. It also includes CIMdata's estimates of PLM solution provider revenues in these segments and sub-segments for 2014 through 2018.
4. The *CIMdata 2014 PLM Market Geographic Analysis Report* provides an additional view of the 2013 market results, by major geography. CIMdata's 2013 estimates and market forecasts for 2014 through 2018 for PLM and the major PLM market segments are provided for the Americas, EMEA, and Asia-Pacific. In addition, the report includes estimates and forecasts for the cPDM segment within specific European and Asia-Pacific countries and regions.
5. The *CIMdata 2014 PLM Market Industry Analysis Report* provides an industry segmentation view of the 2013 market results. CIMdata's 2013 estimates and market forecasts for 2014 through 2018 for PLM and cPDM are provided for eight different industry sectors: aerospace and defense; automotive and other transportation; electronics/telecommunications; fabrication and assembly; process-packaged goods; process—petrochemical; utilities; and construction, infrastructure and shipbuilding.

During 2013, all major geographies continued their recovery from the global recession. CIMdata forecasts a continued rebound to growth in all major regions during the five-year forecast period, with Asia-Pacific growing above the overall PLM average.



The Americas region is forecast to grow at a CAGR of 5.4% to reach \$16.4 billion in 2018. EMEA and AP will have CAGRs of 4.9% and 7.2% respectively. EMEA will grow to \$15.3 billion and AP will reach over \$14.5 billion in 2018.

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

“North America and Western Europe are both mature markets,” states Stan Przybylinski, CIMdata VP of Research. “Growth in these markets is being driven by the expansion of the PLM footprint in larger companies, adoption by small and mid-market companies, and penetration of new industries, (e.g., financial services, consumer packaged goods, and food and beverage). Asia-Pacific, particularly in China and India, is adopting PLM in all major sectors and this drives the higher-than-average growth. Eastern Europe (including Russia) offers the opportunity for above-average growth in EMEA. South America is in the early adoption phase and has a smaller industrial base than other regions.”

The CIMdata PLM Market Analysis Report Series is available as a five-module set or each module can be purchased separately. It is also available as part of the CIMdata PLM Community Gold Membership. Further details and pricing information about the report and Community Memberships are available at www.cimdata.com.

About CIMdata

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

CIMdata works with both industrial organizations and providers of technologies and services seeking competitive advantage in the global economy. In addition to consulting, CIMdata conducts research, provides PLM-focused subscription services, and produces several commercial publications. The company also provides industry education through PLM certificate programs, seminars, and conferences worldwide. CIMdata serves clients around the world from offices in North America, Europe, and Asia Pacific. To learn more about CIMdata’s services, visit our website at www.CIMdata.com, follow us on Twitter: <http://twitter.com/CIMdataPLMNews>, or contact CIMdata at: 3909 Research Park Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48108, USA, Tel: +1 734.668.9922. Fax: +1 734.668.1957; or at Oogststraat 20, 6004 CV Weert, The Netherlands, Tel: +31 (0) 495.533.666.

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

Siemens PLM Software: Building Out Their Platform: a CIMdata Commentary

22 September 2014

Key takeaways:

- *Siemens PLM Software has made significant strides in building out their comprehensive vision for how manufacturing companies will operate in a digitized world*
- *Siemens is expanding its emphasis on education, working with academia and industrial companies to help students solve epic challenges to increase their interest in the sciences, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM)*
- *Siemens’ SIMATIC IT organization will become part of Siemens PLM Software as of October 1, greatly expanding their Smart Innovation Platform portfolio of PLM enabling solutions to include Siemens’ discrete and process industry tools, and further enabling their top floor to shop floor integration strategy*

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

- *Active Workspace is being fully incorporated within all of Siemens PLM Software's solutions to provide users with an efficient, consistent, and graphically-rich experience*

CIMdata recently attended Siemens PLM Software's Analyst and Media Conference held in Boston, MA September 3rd and 4th. During the event, Siemens PLM Software (Siemens) introduced their concept of a Smart Innovation Platform to enable digitalization of manufacturing companies and announced the move of SIMATIC IT into the Siemens PLM Software organization. Siemens and the keynote speakers presented how Siemens is expanding their commitment to education, not just by providing software but by also supporting programs that engage students in design and problem solving. With each product suite and industry program update, they illustrated their progress in delivering solutions that are easier and faster to deploy and that provide a context driven user experience.

In the opening address, "Realizing Innovation," Chuck Grindstaff, Siemens' CEO and President, described how Systems-Driven Product Development (SDPD), smart product, and the digitalization of the manufacturing industry are transforming the way new products are designed, manufactured, and supported. To Mr. Grindstaff, digitalization includes smart models (a product model that sets the objectives needed to produce itself); the digital twin (a full digital product definition that simulates reality); and optimized, distributed production (autonomous production with embedded intelligence). He referenced Eric Berlow, a TED Senior Fellow and co-founder of Vibrant Data Labs, who has stated that we need to step back and focus on the simple things that will make a difference and that to succeed at innovation we must manage the intersection of people, processes, and products.

Mr. Grindstaff described the challenges that Siemens believes manufacturing industries must address. He discussed the need for SDPD, creating a model-based enterprise, and the importance of linking ideation and utilization. One of the issues Mr. Grindstaff stressed was the need to understand the difference between digitalization and having a digital business. A major factor in this differentiation is the importance of people participating in critical planning and decision-making. This reinforces the need, as CIMdata has stated many times in the past, to have clear, concise, and valid information readily available in context so that workers at all levels are able to make needed decisions in a timely manner. CIMdata has stated that automation will not solve everything and that people will continue to be an important part of the development process and necessary to support Siemens' definition of digitalization.

Mr. Grindstaff also described how Siemens is bringing together all the elements needed to define and create a complete digital factory—from ideation through manufacturing—in support of the German Industry 4.0 initiative. Siemens AG's SIMATIC IT organization, which will be formally integrated into the Siemens PLM Software this October, will help Siemens drive integration between the formulation, specification, and other SIMATIC IT applications and Teamcenter. CIMdata believes that this will enable companies with combined products (i.e., products that include formulated consumables or elements) to more easily manage the full product definition within a single environment. Additionally, SIMATIC IT's MES functionality will strengthen Siemens' ability to further close the loop between the top floor and shop floor. CIMdata believes that Siemens is doing a good job in bringing together and leveraging technology, products, and expertise from multiple Siemens AG divisions, enabling them to provide more complete top to bottom development and production solutions for their customers.

The morning's Keynote address was delivered by Mr. Michael Richey, Associate Technical Fellow of The Boeing Company and Dr. Charles Carmada, Senior Advisor for Innovation, Office of the Chief Engineer of Johnson Space Center. Mr. Richey described Boeing's AeroPACE initiative—Aerospace Partners for Collaborative Engineering. Dr. Carmada delivered a very interesting presentation on how a consortium of academia, industry, and Siemens are giving students epic challenges to interest them in STEM related fields of study and how these students have responded with innovative solutions in record

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

setting times. The challenge described was how drones could be quickly deployed and used by first responders to emergencies. Students from three universities worked in teams to create and fly drones as part of the challenge. Having this STEM education presentation during prime time on the event agenda clearly demonstrates that Siemens' commitment to the topic goes well beyond donating software to universities.

Over the last several years, Siemens has worked to develop their industry Catalysts, a packaging of tailored products, data models, processes, and implementation methodologies designed to help get existing and new customers rapidly up to speed in leveraging Siemens offerings. These Catalysts better enable customers to address the key use cases and processes specific to their industry while achieving faster time to value and ROI on their PLM investments. CIMdata believes that creating better industry-specific solutions can have a significant impact on the value that companies can obtain from their PLM investments, thereby closing the typical gap that exists between the potential benefits and those actually realized. Throughout the two days of the event, both customer and industry speakers presented how Siemens and their solutions are enabling companies to achieve improved product development processes and faster return on their PLM investments.

Steve Bashada, SVP Industries, presented the major challenges faced by each of the eight industry segments that Siemens is addressing and how their industry solutions, templates, and Catalysts are designed to help their customers meet those challenges. Each of the solutions is built on process pillars specific to that industry. For example, a major challenge in aerospace is to verify compliance for thousands of requirements before delivering the first production article. Mr. Bashada also introduced Siemens' concept for a Smart Innovation Platform—a theme echoed and supported by both the industry and solutions programs and technology. This platform is built on four concepts:

- Engaged Users—right information, right time, right context
- Intelligent Models—representing reality, understanding connectedness
- Realized Products—virtual product definition, real production environment
- Open Systems—easy deployment today, flexibility for tomorrow

Mr. Bashada and other Siemens presenters described how solutions such as Active Workspace are designed to support this innovation platform to delivery better value and faster results to their customers. Active Workspace, with its underlying mobile architecture and role and context interface, supports the trends CIMdata has described as driving the user experience of the future. Having that user experience be common across all Siemens solutions should improve both individual and group productivity and provide faster time to adoption of new capabilities by the user community. During the day, Siemens did a good job of interweaving customer presentations in each industry with updates by the Siemens industry leads.

During the second day Siemens presented updates on each of their major business segments (i.e., Product Engineering, Lifecycle Collaboration, Digital Manufacturing, Specialized Engineering, Mainstream Engineering, and Simulation & Test Software). These segment updates highlighted the evolution of their solution suites with new technologies and associated capabilities, and how they support and enhance their industry solutions. The business segment presenters also illustrated how their segment is supporting Siemens' Smart Innovation Platform approach. Siemens presented examples of how the Active Workspace user interface paradigm is being fully incorporated throughout all the Siemens' solutions. Based on HTML5, Active Workspace provides users with an easy consistent way of accessing and using information regardless of the application and device being used. CIMdata believes Active Workspace is significantly improving the user experience of all Siemens solutions and helping

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

them achieve a consistent, immersive decision-making environment that supports their HD-PLM strategy introduced a few years ago.

Jim Rusk, SVP Product Engineering Software, emphasized three strategic missions of the Product Engineering business segment: (1) to provide users with tools that offer them ways to deliver a more immediate response to changing market demands, (2) to better understand the impact of change, and (3) to minimize risk and maximize return on investment. He highlighted a number of on-going projects in support of those strategies, including embedding Active Workspace in NX, multi-touch screen support, and advanced blending and surface manipulation. Multi-touch support enables the complete NX solution to be used without a mouse or 3D controller. CIMdata sees this as an enabling technology to support next generation user interfaces and one that should make today's CAD users sit up and pay attention.

Eric Sterling, SVP Lifecycle Collaboration Software, described how Teamcenter has evolved to be an applications platform designed to support maximum deployability with an improved immersive user experience. He stressed how Teamcenter has been changed to provide customers with a simpler approach to PLM. Key to this change is the ability to mix and match different applications and versions of Teamcenter application modules and functionality without having to update the Teamcenter core system. New functional capabilities are available on multiple versions of Teamcenter simultaneously so that a customer only has to upgrade when it is right for them—and then only upgrade what they need at a given point in time. Mr. Sterling highlighted the fundamental concepts of Active Workspace: Personalized, Proactive, Intuitive, and Everywhere. He showed how Active Workspace can be accessed in other applications, e.g., Active Workspace running inside Siemens NX, LMS, and the Teamcenter Rich Client. Active Workspace is also used to support role-based solutions such as service work instructions, a supplier collaboration portal, and a CAPA solution. Additionally, Mr. Sterling described how the Teamcenter platform can be used as a common framework for integrating third-party applications and their support of multiple standard frameworks such as SOA, REST, JSON, XML, and OSLC. This broad standards support strengthens Teamcenter as an enterprise PLM platform that can provide improved support for a heterogeneous environment as well as distributed data repositories.

The Siemens PLM Software Analyst Conference brought PLM industry analysts and media professionals together from around the world to hear what Siemens is doing today and their views and vision on where the PLM market is going. CIMdata has followed Siemens and its steady progress in developing and delivering a broad and deep set of PLM-enabling solutions for much of CIMdata's 30 years. CIMdata views Siemens capabilities and offerings like Active Workspace, Industry Catalysts, and the delivery of Teamcenter as their PLM platform enabler to be an excellent demonstration of Siemens' solution that should deliver quantifiable value to their customers. We expect that companies in multiple industries will benefit from deploying them. Since the acquisition by Siemens AG, the PLM group has been able to expand its capabilities by both incorporating technology from other Siemens AG groups as well as by leveraging and integrating the products and solutions of those groups to deliver a very comprehensive suite of manufacturing solutions to their customers. CIMdata believes that Siemens and its customers have gained significant value from this merging of capabilities and will continue to do so for the foreseeable future.

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 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

SOLIDWORKS 2015 Launch: Broadening the Portfolio, Enabling the Community: a CIMdata Commentary

23 September 2014

Key takeaways:

- *SOLIDWORKS 2015 delivers new Model-Based Definition and top-down design solutions*
- *My.SolidWorks.com expanding to include two priced options that will include file transfer between users and access to online training*
- *SOLIDWORKS Industrial Conceptual brings a cloud-based conceptual design solution to the SOLIDWORKS portfolio*

Bertrand Sicot, Dassault Systèmes SOLIDWORKS CEO, hosted a briefing with industry analysts September 5, 2014, to discuss the launch of SOLIDWORKS 2015. He noted that in 2013, SOLIDWORKS garnered revenues of US\$555.1 million, accounting for approximately 20% of parent company Dassault Systèmes' total revenue. Suchit Jain, Vice President of Strategy and User Advocacy joined him, taking justifiable pride in the user community that has built up around SOLIDWORKS with 2.49 million licenses worldwide across slightly more than 200 thousand customer companies. In addition, 1.9 million student licenses placed in 28 thousand schools foster a next generation of SOLIDWORKS users. CIMdata recognizes the SOLIDWORKS community as one of the strongest in the industry. All SOLIDWORKS users will continue to benefit in the future from the continued market penetration of SOLIDWORKS with the next generation of design engineers.

Mr. Jain reported on the progress of their portal My.SolidWorks.com—first introduced at their annual user conference SOLIDWORKS World 2013. The portal allows users to aggregate company and community knowledge by pulling relevant information from forum discussions, blog posts, YouTube, Twitter, help files, and more into a single view that can be customized so the user will only see the information most relevant to them. He announced that in October 2014, the free My.SolidWorks.com service will be augmented with two paid solutions, MySolidWorks Standard and MySolidWorks Professional. Each paid solution will allow the inclusion of valued-added reseller (VAR) technical content; design sharing via DropBox, GoogleDrive, and similar applications; and online training ranging from 10 to 100 hours depending on the solution purchased. Mr. Jain also indicated that in the future they hope to open a dialog with users through enhancements to My.SolidWorks.com. CIMdata has long emphasized the role social media and collaboration play in product development and encourages SOLIDWORKS to continue to aggressively pursue closer ties with their user base through My.SolidWorks.com. The SOLIDWORKS community as a whole benefits from being able to express their future requirements and to learn new skills from other users.

Aaron Kelly, Vice President of User Experience & Product Portfolio Management, then introduced the enhanced capabilities of SOLIDWORKS 2015 under the banner of “Inspiring Innovation.” He categorized the focus of the new release along four strategies:

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

- Improving productivity; getting everyday work done faster and more easily
- Optimizing the work process by sharing information across the global team
- Reducing costs by integrating design with downstream processes
- Solving more design challenges by addressing industry-specific tasks

Leading the list of key improvements is a new Model-Based Definition (MBD) solution quoted at US\$1,995 per license. MBD is the practice of using 3D models to document additional information about a design, such as 3D PMI (product manufacturing information) and associated metadata. The types of information included with the 3D model range from geometric dimensioning and tolerancing (GD&T) to material specification and surface finish. Through the use of MBD practices, users can save time by eliminating the need to create 2D drawings, and improve quality by communicating more accurately. Dimensions and annotations on the 3D model provide a clearer understanding of the product and reduce ambiguities often found in 2D drawings. These can lead to errors and force excessive scrap and rework. CIMdata remains a strong proponent of MBD and its benefits. All product development companies need to recognize the advantages of the MBD approach. The SOLIDWORKS MBD solution is well positioned to guide their users in that direction.

Next, Mr. Kelly focused on a new top-down design capability called SOLIDWORKS Treehouse. Users can use visual tools to create assembly structures at the beginning of design projects. As graphical hierarchies are created, the author can drop in specific, existing models that a designer must later position within that level of the assembly design. The author can also indicate if a 2D drawing is required at a given level within the hierarchy. In that way the product author can control and direct the overall product assembly design before actual detailed design begins. Mr. Kelly also explained that a user can go from a SOLIDWORKS detailed assembly back to the Treehouse graphical view in order to get an overview of the product design. Treehouse is included in all SOLIDWORKS packages. CIMdata welcomes the Treehouse enhancement as providing SOLIDWORKS users a tool that promotes top-down design methodology. Users will benefit by being able to preplan and structure complex assemblies before actual detailed design work begins.

Increased performance is gained by a reduced file size for SOLIDWORKS parts. SOLIDWORKS 2015 will now compress models by up to 50% for file storage. One restriction that is introduced, however, is that the previous release, SOLIDWORKS 2014, will not be able to open SOLIDWORKS 2015 files. For those interested in a more extensive list of enhancements available in Dassault Systèmes' SOLIDWORKS 2015, see the Internet site

http://www.solidworks.com/launch/documents/sw2015_launch_topten_eng.pdf. CIMdata was pleased to see the strong enhancements included in SOLIDWORKS 2015 after the past two years of less robust improvements due to the drain of development work on the SOLIDWORKS Mechanical Conceptual solution. SOLIDWORKS users will gain a strong boost in their productivity from the new capabilities.

The future product, SOLIDWORKS Industrial Conceptual, a first sneak peek shown at SOLIDWORKS World 2014, was demonstrated and discussed. Built on Dassault Systèmes' 3DEXPERIENCE platform, the new product targets upfront industrial design. While specific details are incomplete until its formal release, CIMdata recognizes the notable ease of use that the SOLIDWORKS team has implemented within the product. The product's standalone collaborative cloud-based solution could well draw future interest from non-SOLIDWORKS users. In addition, the positioning of SOLIDWORKS Industrial Conceptual, and its sibling SOLIDWORKS Mechanical Conceptual, puts to rest the largest concern raised in the SOLIDWORKS user community when SOLIDWORKS Mechanical Conceptual was first released. At first it was thought to be a future SOLIDWORKS replacement; now the two conceptual

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

solutions are clearly positioned upfront in the product development workflow before detailed design takes place within SOLIDWORKS proper. However, we remain concerned that data from the conceptual products is not fully compatible with SOLIDWORKS.

CIMdata views the improvements made to SOLIDWORKS 2015 and the expanded solution portfolio as important advances for the SOLIDWORKS user community. Users can leverage the Dassault Systèmes' 3DEXPERIENCE capabilities for collaboration and search—including graphical search. With SOLIDWORKS 2015 working together with conceptual design for front-end ideation, electrical design, simulation, inspection, and model-based definition for downstream manufacturing, users are assured of moving forward with a highly competitive suite of tools.

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.

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

SQS—Helping Execute Reliable PLM Upgrades: a CIMdata Commentary

24 September 2014

Key takeaways:

- *A resilient, stable PLM upgrade requires an effective quality plan and a solution to ensure that the plan is adhered to*
- *A key part of an effective quality plan includes automated testing technology to enable consistent and repeatable validation to be performed early, supporting timely corrective action and minimizing or eliminating surprises*
- *SQS's PLM testing framework is used by Siemens PLM Software's Teamcenter development and maintenance groups to test and validate Teamcenter*
- *Major manufacturing companies use SQS to ensure the quality of their PLM upgrades and implementations*

What Could Possibly Go Wrong?

An enterprise PLM environment is a complex system of systems comprised of technology and processes to support the people who define and manage the product definition. Launching a new or updated PLM environment, or any enterprise solution in a manufacturing company, has many benefits, but also can have significant cost and potential risks. In most enterprises, a launch is a major event, requiring a lot of effort from the staff associated with the planning, development, testing, training, and data migration in support of the deployment. Ensuring a stable deployment helps reduce risk and is a key function of the deployment team and imperative to the enterprise's success.

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

From a high level, the PLM implementation process is linear (plan, develop, test, launch), but development and testing typically require many iterations before production can begin. Testing helps to ensure that the design meets the requirements and that there are no technical surprises like programming errors or data corruption. Well planned and executed testing results in a stable launch with minimal issues; a launch with which everyone is happy. Unfortunately this process is rarely, if ever flawless.

Within manufacturing companies, proper management of the PLM solution definition is complex due to the variety and volume of data required to define products and the complexity of the processes used to control that data. Configuring and customizing the PLM environment to support the complexity often results in errors, leading to instability, a frequent occurrence in many software development projects. CIMdata regards customization as a last resort that should only be done when there is a strong business need. Testing is used to validate the configuration and any customizations to ensure the solution performs as planned.

Software testing is usually accomplished utilizing “use cases,” a predefined series of steps executed on a known set of data that produce a known output. Use cases for testing a manufacturing PLM upgrade or deployment are commonly modeled on well-defined business processes that are implemented within the PLM environment. Because PLM environments perform many different functions, ensuring that the use cases cover the entire scope is not a trivial effort.

While automated software testing is a common practice in technology companies, it is not as common within manufacturing, which relies more heavily on manual testing. This can induce significant variation in what is tested, how the tests are executed, and how the results are interpreted and reported. In addition, manual testing requires skilled people to do the testing, so ensuring the development staff and testing staff are available and aligned often results in negative schedule impacts, delaying the implementation or upgrade. Also, the number and execution time of manual testing iterations is difficult to forecast due to inconsistent execution and communication of results. All these issues create cost and schedule risks and can impact project momentum.

Domain Knowledge Required

Quality planning and testing are key parts of the software development lifecycle (SDLC) and cannot be treated as afterthoughts or grafted on at the end of a development process. They need to be incorporated from the beginning of the process to be effective. In a well-developed quality system, use cases cover all the requirements of a project, so when all the use cases have been executed successfully the product is ready for release. If a use case does not complete as expected then the software developer needs to identify and fix whatever issue caused the failure.

Developing use cases for PLM environments requires domain knowledge of PLM, the company’s processes, software quality and testing procedures, and testing tools and technology. The PLM domain knowledge and business process knowledge are the most difficult to obtain because the concepts are complicated and, in the case of the latter, particular to each company. An example of the complexity would be the integration of a CAD application. When a CAD assembly is changed, the files and assembly structure need to be captured and transformed into an EBOM. A key part of this process is to modify the data in the context of an engineering change process. Ensuring that the CAD data affected by the change and all possible paths in the change workflow have been tested is complex. The change could include the delegation of a vote in a majority-rules scenario and variants in the flow or approval roles based on the predicted cost of making the change. Configuring use case scripts to support this level of detail is difficult because the change process is complex. This level of complication is typically beyond the scope of those implementing PLM.

Automation is the Key to Stability

Ad hoc testing occurs when software quality is validated at the end of the development process, using human testers manually executing use cases (assuming the use cases even exist). This type of testing has several issues; including inconsistent execution and inconsistent evaluation of output, and it requires a lot of manual labor. The inconsistencies that ad hoc testing generates result in errors, mistakes, and even catastrophic failures, leading to last minute launch delays. Today's modern testing technology can be integrated within the software development environment and processes. In virtually all commercial software companies this is common practice. Out of necessity, leading manufacturing companies are also starting to get on board with automated testing.

Automated testing enables testing to be done more often, in many cases almost continuously, so developers can catch errors in context while they are intimately involved with the offending code. As code modules are integrated with the full solution, tests are run to catch issues that manifest across modules. Since the use case scripts are repeated over and over again failures in code that was previously working are dramatically reduced.

Automated testing provides reporting tools that enable better test management. The tools manage the testing process and generate metadata that can be used for schedule planning and to assess progress. For example, as new software is developed the number of bugs grows, peaks, and approaches zero at the time of release. By understanding the bug identification and fix rates, the release date can be predicted and mitigations put into place if the release date is likely to slip.

Quantifiable Business Benefits

Automated PLM testing has quantifiable business benefits. While significant effort may be required to set up the test system and use cases, the return on investment is impressive. In most cases, a complete suite of automated tests can be run in a few hours, as opposed to being done by a room full of people manually executing steps for days on end. The automated use cases will be run the same way every time, and regressions will be caught. The use case library and testing process become assets that support major and minor upgrades, reducing risk. Automated reporting provides project, program, and executive management with quantitative data to support decisions. It also enables them to structure a complete quality planning program not just quality assurance. And finally, developers get better definition of bugs since the use case scripts are well defined and repeatable. This also helps reduce bug fixing time. A good testing program also reduces disruptions for those who are users of the PLM solution because fewer problems are likely to migrate into the operational solution.

SQS Testing Service

SQS, founded thirty years ago, and headquartered in Germany, is a leading global independent software quality management and testing company. They have a Quality Center of Excellence in Pune, India, dedicated to PLM and manufacturing software, with sales offices in over 27 countries. SQS has been testing Siemens PLM Software's Teamcenter software for nine years, since Teamcenter Version 8.3. They are currently testing Teamcenter Version 11.1. CIMdata talked with Siemens executives and they spoke highly of SQS and contributions they have made to the Teamcenter product.

The testing framework used by SQS is flexible, providing many options that help ensure high quality. A key SQS differentiator is that they have thousands of use cases to test Teamcenter. These were developed in partnership with Siemens PLM Software. SQS is expanding their business to support Teamcenter based manufacturing companies. The use case libraries maintained by SQS are used as a baseline and extended to cover the configuration and customization done by industrial companies. SQS staff tailor the use case scripts to support their customers' environments including MCAD and ECAD

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

tools, other enterprise solutions, and proprietary tools. Customers that CIMdata has talked to stated that SQS is quickly able to adapt the testing solution to their environments.

Concluding Remarks

PLM environments are mission critical in many companies and downtime is not tolerated. Launching a minor or major update can be a high-risk project. While testing may be done, management can never be sure how well a solution was tested. Automated testing requires investment but provides repeatable, quantifiable results and helps to ensure that updates and deployments stay on schedule while keeping management informed. SQS has the confidence of Siemens PLM Software, as demonstrated by their Teamcenter testing partnership, as well as a growing number of happy industrial customers. CIMdata sees quality planning and assurance as a critical step within a PLM program and is impressed by the focus SQS has on PLM solution quality planning and testing. The results of the testing provided by SQS should help PLM project managers and those responsible for the PLM solution to sleep better at night.

About CIMdata

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 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

Acquisitions

Bentley Systems Acquires SITEOPS to Advance Site Engineering to Site Optioneering

25 September 2014

Bentley Systems, Incorporated, announced that it has acquired Charlotte, N.C.-based BLUERIDGE Analytics, Inc., provider of *SITEOPS* –site design optimization “software at your service.” *SITEOPS* uses cloud-based computing techniques to empower site development professionals to move beyond engineering to *optioneering*, which enables the exploration of engineering alternatives and their costs. This substantially improves the choices considered for any site development, including commercial, industrial, institutional, campus, and residential projects.

Specifically, *SITEOPS* enables civil engineering professionals, real estate developers, and land planners to:

- perform site configuration simulations that fully assess millions of layout, parking, grading, and drainage options for a site within hours instead of spending months evaluating a handful of options,
- produce preliminary cost estimates and conceptual designs faster,
- optimize site designs through advanced *optioneering*, and

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

- minimize overall costs while ensuring engineering quality.

Among the many users of *SITEOPS* are Stantec, Horrocks Engineers, Langan Engineering and Environmental Services, Timmons Group, and WSP.

Bentley Systems CEO Greg Bentley said, “On behalf of all our colleagues, I welcome the highly industrious and talented *SITEOPS* team to Bentley. During the past few years we’ve been tracking *SITEOPS* technology and its performance in order to authoritatively validate its breakthrough capabilities. Feedback we’ve received from engineering teams and owners has substantiated *SITEOPS*’ tremendous potential in enabling site development teams to deliver new value to owners. Through the power of *site optioneering*, owners can be confident that their engineers have considered the best choices and arrived at the most cost-effective solutions for the constraints of their respective sites. Hence, I’ve become convinced that site engineering should no longer be done any other way.”

Mike Detwiler, formerly president and CEO of BLUERIDGE Analytics and now Bentley vice president, *SITEOPS* product development, said, “To date, the development of *SITEOPS* technology has focused on continuous improvement to conceptual designs. Now, within Bentley’s comprehensive portfolio, *SITEOPS*’ BIM advancement can contribute throughout project delivery. Accordingly, an initial priority will be to complete the end-to-end workflows that Bentley is uniquely able to offer – from site development through detailed design and construction modeling.”

What *SITEOPS* users are saying

“Working early with *SITEOPS* was very innovative and beneficial for us in terms of time required to take a site from start to open for business. Each day we saved in this process equated to approximately \$100,000 in sales revenue. We were able to save conservatively 10 days per store while opening an average of 140 stores per year. You do the math. *SITEOPS* not only helped us generate additional revenue, but was also efficient in helping us reduce cost.” – David Shelton, Senior VP (retired), Real Estate, Lowes Home Improvement

“We looked at what *SITEOPS* could do on one of our residential subdivisions currently under design. We were amazed at how fast we could perform optimum yield analyses and get initial optimized grading and retaining wall plans and budgets from the software.” – Randy Bauer, Director of Community Development and Acquisitions for the Trilogy Division of Shea Homes

“*SITEOPS* makes civil engineering fun again. We’ve done *SITEOPS* demos with dozens of clients to date, and not one has ever left the room without saying ‘Wow!’” – Mark Eisses, P.E., Principal, Map Ltd.

“Using *SITEOPS* is like having 1,000 engineers and site work estimators on staff, without the overhead cost.” – Steve Thomas, P.E., MESH Consulting

“*SITEOPS* is an incredible tool and has saved a project more than once. Our clients are amazed by the speed at which we can create the initial design, make modifications and generate associated costs. A recent project almost fell through because of tight cost constraints but we were able to quickly show the client a few options that were within their budget. The project moved forward only because of *SITEOPS*.” – Steven Lewis, P.E., Pennoni Associates Inc.

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

Stratasys Completes Acquisition of GrabCAD

23 September 2014

Stratasys Ltd. today announced the completion of its acquisition of GrabCAD, which was announced on September 16, 2014.

GrabCAD will operate as a unit within the Stratasys Global Products and Technology Group and is expected to enable Stratasys to provide its customers with enhanced collaboration tools and improved accessibility relating to 3D CAD content. GrabCAD's cloud-based collaboration platform and community site is CAD software agnostic, and empowers designers and engineers to manage, share, and view CAD files.

Stratasys acquired GrabCAD in an all cash transaction. The acquisition is not expected to contribute to revenue in 2014. Costs associated with the acquisition are expected to impact Stratasys' fourth quarter 2014 earnings by \$0.03 to \$0.05 per share.

David Reis, chief executive officer of Stratasys, stated, "We are pleased to have completed this transaction and welcome GrabCAD's industry leading team of software professionals to the Stratasys family. Together with GrabCAD, we believe that we will accelerate innovation and provide increased value to a growing universe of customers seeking to utilize 3D printing solutions. The potential within our 3D ecosystem is very exciting and we look forward to continuing to drive value for our shareholders through the execution of our strategy."

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

Company News

AVEVA Appoints Murphy Surveys as Strategic Sales Partner in Ireland

24 September 2014

Today AVEVA announced the appointment of Murphy Surveys (Murphy) as its primary sales partner for Ireland. Murphy will be responsible for sales of AVEVA's full suite of products into the process, power and pharmaceutical industries.

'AVEVA's market-leading software solutions have a great reputation and we are proud to be selected to support their market penetration strategy,' commented Raymond Murphy, Managing Director, Murphy Surveys. 'We are confident that Murphy's established presence in Ireland will provide a strong sales channel to support AVEVA's comprehensive software solutions for design, engineering and information management. We look forward to establishing a long and mutually beneficial business relationship.'

'We are delighted to have formed this partnership,' said Helmut Schuller, Executive Vice President, Global Sales, AVEVA. 'There is a genuine synergy between the AVEVA and Murphy cultures that supports our mutual commitment to finding the best solutions for our EPC, Owner Operator and shipbuilder clients. I have no doubt that Murphy will help us achieve our ambitious growth plans in Ireland.'

AVEVA provides software for the design and management of some of the world's largest process plants, power plants, marine vessels and offshore facilities. This alliance demonstrates AVEVA's commitment to move into strategic territories, like Ireland, where it does not have a direct sales and support presence.

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

Murphy has an impressive track record with over 30 years' experience in providing world-class survey solutions, operating from six offices throughout the UK and Ireland. It employs over 200 staff, serving long-term public and private sector clients, including government bodies and blue-chip companies.

AVEVA will host a Breakfast Seminar in Dublin on Thursday 2nd October 2014 to announce the partnership formally. The event is intended for EPCs and Owner Operators from the process, power and pharmaceutical industries, who are interested in learning about AVEVA's leading engineering, design and information management software. [Click here to register](#).

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

COMSOL Opens a New Office in India

24 September 2014

COMSOL Multiphysics Pvt. Ltd. is excited to announce the opening of a new office in Pune, India. The office will help to establish added COMSOL operations in Western India by providing software sales, exceptional technical support, comprehensive training sessions, hands-on workshops, user conferences, and customer events.

The opening of this office in Pune, the third COMSOL office in India, comes in response to the growing demand for COMSOL Multiphysics® simulation software in the Indian market, demonstrating the rapidly growing high-tech community and engineering industries in this region. "We are very excited to open this office in Pune," says Pankaj Nerikar, Branch Manager of the Pune office. "This new location will go a long way in spreading the reach of COMSOL to the growing number of modelling and simulation users in Western India."

Pune is a research and development hub located near several of India's successful automotive research centers, and the city's engineering industries will benefit from the highly-trained application experts and technical sales representatives in the new COMSOL office. "Many of our advanced engineering activities require multiphysics," says Suresh Arikapudi, Divisional Manager of the Advanced Engineering Group at TATA Motors. "We have found that the technical support offered by COMSOL can be highly beneficial to our simulation work, and we look forward to the increased interaction and reduced turnaround time that the Pune office will provide."

"A Pune-based COMSOL support team will definitely benefit us," says Ulhas Mohite, a manager at Mahindra Two Wheelers Ltd. "We can now share our simulation questions with the skilled Pune-based team through on-site customer workshops and in-person discussions. This support will help to accelerate the pace of our research and development activities using COMSOL Multiphysics."

Upcoming events in India include the COMSOL Conference 2014 Bangalore, to be held on November 13 -14. The COMSOL Conference 2014 will be the multiphysics simulation highlight of the year, with major new product releases, training courses, and user presentations, where attendees will have the opportunity to connect with colleagues and COMSOL team members. Additionally, a series of free workshops, training sessions, and webinars will be held throughout the next few months in India, where you can learn about the company's powerful platform for the modelling and simulation of electrical, mechanical, fluid, and chemical applications. These events will give attendees the chance interact with COMSOL applications experts, try out the software under their guidance, and receive a free trial to explore its capabilities further. Over a dozen events are planned, and anyone with an interest in

multiphysics modelling and simulation are invited to attend. Register at: www.comsol.co.in/events.

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

Innovyze Expands Channel Partner Relationship with HR Wallingford

23 September 2014

Innovyze today announced HR Wallingford, an engineering and environmental hydraulics solutions provider, as its new Channel Partner for Thailand. The relationship will allow Innovyze to broaden its reach in the country as well as to serve customers and prospects efficiently and effectively. HR Wallingford, through its regional office in Kuala Lumpur, will offer and support the complete Innovyze suite of analytics-centric asset management and smart water modeling products to water and wastewater utilities, river authorities and engineering firms throughout the country.

“HR Wallingford successfully distributes Innovyze world-class software in China, Hong Kong, Malaysia, Brunei and Italy,” said Jane Smallman, Ph.D., Managing Director of HR Wallingford. “HR Wallingford has a long established presence and track record in Thailand. We look forward to expanding our relationship with Innovyze, growing its user base, and exploring new ways we can collaborate with organisations in the region in the future.”

“Our channel partners are essential to Innovyze’s success as well as that of our customers,” said Paul F. Boulos, Ph.D., BCEEM, NAE, Hon.D.WRE, Dist.D.NE, F.ASCE, Innovyze’s President, COO and Chief Technical Officer. “We continue to expand and enhance our network of channel partners to deliver Innovyze solutions to a growing base of users. HR Wallingford is a key partner, serving as a trusted adviser and helping to ensure our local and potential customers in Thailand get the very best software solutions and expert technical support to meet their wet infrastructure needs.”

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

New Italian Reseller for WorkPLAN and WorkXplore

22 September 2014

Vero Project S.r.l have been appointed Italian reseller for WorkPLAN Solutions and WorkXplore. They are attending the forthcoming 29.BI-MU Tradeshow in Milan where they will present the software for the first time.

WorkPLAN Business Manager Teofilovic Violette says the company was ideal to become the reseller for both brands, as they already represent another Vero Software product, VISI, in Italy.

In addition to demonstrating VISI 21 on booth H22 in Pavilion 11 at the show from September 30 to October 4, Vero Project S.r.l will also feature WorkPLAN V5 and WorkXplore 3D V4.

WorkPLAN is a fully-scalable family of manufacturing software solutions, from project management to ERP, which enables custom manufacturers, project-based and make-to-order companies to automate and manage processes such as job costing, quotations, sales order processing, planning, quality, time, purchasing and stock management.

And WorkXplore 3D contains many features usually only found in CAD systems, enabling users to

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

perform diagnostics, create assembly instructions and prepare the production of 3D models. The software contains numerous display and analysis tools, directly importing and analysing complex data from all major CAD systems, and generating a neutral format output.

Teofilovic Violette says one of Vero Project S.r.l's objectives at the exhibition will be to demonstrate how WorkXplore 3D has been integrated into WorkPLAN Solutions. Users find the integration, which allows direct linking between CAD files and the different WorkPLAN Solutions modules, saves them considerable time. "Version 5 of WorkPLAN establishes links with the Quotation module during a project's preliminary, preparative and costing phases. Technical elements of bills of material making up the tree structure of an ordered part or tooling can then be developed and validated.

"The link with the 3D model file is maintained throughout the full WorkPLAN process for purchasing standard elements and consulting raw material suppliers. This guarantees traceability and ensures full integrity of the imported technical data."

Part of the Vero Software Group, WorkPLAN is a fully-scalable family of manufacturing software solutions, from project management to ERP, which enables custom manufacturers, project-based and make-to-order companies to automate and manage processes such as job costing, quotations, sales order processing, planning, quality, time, purchasing and stock management. WorkXplore contains many features usually only found in CAD systems, enabling the user to perform diagnostics, create assembly instructions and prepare the production of 3D models.

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

PTC and University of Utah Lasonde Entrepreneur Institute to Help Students Develop Smart Connected Product Design Skills

23 September 2014

Continuing with its mission to provide best in class teaching and learning opportunities to students interested in product design, [PTC](#) today announced the University of Utah Lasonde Entrepreneur Institute is the latest group to deliver PTC software and training to help students develop smart, connected product design skills in the Internet of Things era.

The number of things connected to the Internet now exceeds the total number of humans on the planet, and we're accelerating to as many as [50 billion connected devices](#) by the end of the decade. For manufacturers, the implications of this emerging "Internet of Things" are huge.

PTC is providing software to empower students to create, model, connect and manage their smart, connected product design ideas. The gift includes PTC Creo® design software, PTC Windchill® software for product lifecycle management, and the PTC ThingWorx® application platform to build and run connected products. The company is also creating 20 PTC scholars. These are students that have access to all PTC software to become brand advocates on campus and to help others who want to learn the same technology.

"The University of Utah is a vibrant place for student entrepreneurs, and working with PTC will ignite more interest in smart, connected product design development," said Kathy Hajeb, a director at the Lasonde Entrepreneur Institute. "This program will give students a jumpstart in the job market by

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

helping them learn the skills that global organizations need.”

The University of Utah anticipates a growing number of students who will participate in this type of program. As a result, the university is planning to open the Lassonde Studios, a new \$45 million facility in fall 2016. This facility will combine 400 residences with a 20,000 square foot ”garage” area designed specifically for student entrepreneurs and innovators. The PTC software and learning resources are a few of the many tools that will be available to all students on campus that utilize this building.

“The smart, connected product design process being adopted by global manufacturers is a necessary skill for graduating students entering the Internet of Things era,” said John Stuart, senior vice president, global education, PTC. “We are pleased to work with the University of Utah and the Lassonde Entrepreneur Institute to give students the opportunity to learn new and understand the new technology that will help them design smarter, better products.”

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

Siemens Provides \$32 Million In-Kind Software Grant to Central Piedmont Community College to Educate and Train Workers for Manufacturing Industry

24 September 2014

Today, from its Charlotte Energy Hub, Siemens announced it will be making a \$32 million in-kind software grant to Central Piedmont Community College (CPCC) for its science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) Division, which serves thousands of students and commercial companies annually. CPCC will use the software to enhance existing courses and develop new courses related to advanced manufacturing, mechanical engineering, electrical engineering, civil engineering, electronics engineering, mechatronics, robotics, and information technology. It will also be used in an apprenticeship program with Siemens, building on the current partnership between the two organizations. By enabling students to learn and train on the same product lifecycle management (PLM) software used throughout the global manufacturing industry, Siemens and CPCC are helping North Carolina prepare the highly-skilled workforce necessary to meet the demands of America’s resurgent manufacturing industry.

“The resurgence in the American manufacturing industry, driven by an ongoing software revolution, has created a critical demand for qualified technology-trained professionals in manufacturing,” said Chuck Grindstaff, president and CEO, Siemens PLM Software. “By partnering with Siemens PLM Software to integrate world-class PLM technology into its curriculum, Central Piedmont Community College will help ensure its students have the training in advanced manufacturing technologies and practices they need to be successful in a highly competitive job market.”

With Siemens’ PLM software technology in the classroom, students can develop the advanced manufacturing and design skills sought after by the more than 77,000 companies worldwide. These companies utilize Siemens’ software solutions to design, develop and manufacture some of the world’s most sophisticated products in a variety of industries, including automotive, aerospace, medical devices, machinery, shipbuilding, and high-tech electronics.

“In North Carolina we understand the importance of cooperation between industry, education and government to maximize workforce development,” said North Carolina Governor Pat McCrory. “The partnership announced by Siemens today with Central Piedmont College demonstrates how we are

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

working together to build a highly-skilled workforce that will meet the needs of our employers and strengthen North Carolina's economy."

Local advanced manufacturing companies have partnered with CPCC to help train this next generation work force. The aim is to fill talent pipelines with people who are well-equipped to utilize the latest automation, production, and design software.

"Through this expanded partnership between Siemens and Central Piedmont Community College, Charlotte continues to enhance its reputation as a center for energy-related commerce and educational opportunities," said Charlotte Mayor, Dan Clodfelter. "Working together, these partners are strengthening a relationship that reinforces our local economy and will help to provide good-paying career opportunities for Charlotte-area residents."

More than 120 businesses throughout the state of North Carolina and in the Charlotte region rely on Siemens' PLM software, including employers such as Hendrick Motorsports, Norfolk Southern Corporation, Joe Gibbs Racing, Textron Inc. and Deere-Hitachi Construction Machinery Corporation.

"CPCC is grateful for the generous support of Siemens in donating PLM software to the college," said Dr. Tony Zeiss, CPCC president. "With this gift, CPCC will be able to deliver PLM training to degree-seeking students and incumbent workers, giving them the advanced technical skills desired by employers, particularly in the area of advanced manufacturing. CPCC and our students are fortunate to have such a great partnership with Siemens."

"Manufacturing is one of the most sophisticated, highly skilled and innovative areas of business in the world today because software has radically transformed the industry. We need to let students, parents and administrators know what these jobs look like and what students need to learn in order to get them," said Eric Spiegel, president and CEO, Siemens USA. "Our enhanced partnership with CPCC offers students valuable academic and workforce opportunities to start careers in this high-tech industry."

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

Simpleware Partner with A-Ztech for Turkish Market

23 September 2014

Simpleware has completed a distribution deal with A-Ztech for the Turkish market.

Simpleware offers robust solutions for converting 3D image data (taken from MRI, CT, micro-CT...) into high-quality computational models suitable for Finite Element Analysis (FEA), Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD), CAD and 3D printing. The software includes comprehensive image processing and mesh generation capabilities, enabling a straightforward route from scan data to simulation-ready 3D models.

A-Ztech is a provider of engineering solutions for Computer Aided Engineering (CAE), Design, Testing and Production. They currently represent a wide range of Finite Element (FE), Fluid Dynamics, Electronic and Hardware companies targeting the Turkish engineering market. The company has extensive knowledge of the specialist needs of Turkish buyers, and is committed to delivering powerful and fast engineering solutions to customers.

Zeki Erman, Sales Director of A-Ztech stated: "We are pleased to be a Simpleware reseller in Turkey. This cooperation will lead to an effective distribution strategy for all Simpleware products in Turkey and also demonstrates Simpleware's confidence in A-Ztech sales and support organisation".

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

The deal with A-Ztech represents an important step in Simpleware's ongoing efforts to bring its products to new audiences around the world, and strengthens awareness of the brand in Europe. Simpleware Managing Director and CEO Dr. Philippe Young commented: "this is a great opportunity to expand into new markets where the uptake in this technology has been surprisingly high."

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

Tata Consultancy Services Ranked Number One of Top 100 Companies in Asia in Sustainability Ranking

24 September 2014

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has been ranked number one amongst the top 100 companies in Asia in the inaugural *Channel NewsAsia Sustainability Ranking*. TCS also ranked number one of the top-three most sustainable companies in India. TCS achieved the top rankings against a broad-range of stringent criteria with particular recognition for its initiatives on water conservation and power consumption. Ranking first in the Sustainability Rankings is a strong testament to TCS' adherence to honorable behavior in business as mandated in the *Tata Code of Conduct*, the guiding principles of the Tata group.

The Sustainability Ranking is a joint initiative between Channel NewsAsia, CSR Asia and Sustainalytics, the research partner. It is a first of its kind ranking to identify regional corporate sustainability leaders in Asia and lists the Top 100 sustainable companies who were selected on the basis of their sustainability performance across a broad range of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) indicators. The Ranking was officially introduced at the *CSR Asia Summit* held in Hong Kong, September 16-17.

TCS emerged at the top for criteria including its focus on water conservation, including how rainwater harvesting systems are installed across the buildings it owns, allowing for rapid replenishment of the surrounding groundwater and for its goal to be 100 percent groundwater neutral by 2020. Additionally, TCS was noted for having all new offices worldwide designed in accordance with the LEED Rating System, amongst other criteria.

Loic Dujardin, Director of Research, Sustainalytics, said, "TCS exhibits strong Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) policies and management systems. By setting quantitative targets with clear deadlines for reducing GHG emissions, understanding that commitment to human capital development will not only be beneficial for its long-term position but also offer brand differentiation and by adopting the Tata Code of Conduct, which aligns its strategies with the ten principles of the UN Global Compact, the company has become a sustainability leader in Asia."

Vish Iyer, President, TCS Asia Pacific, said, "It is a great honor and fantastic accomplishment for TCS to be ranked number one overall in the Top100 of the Sustainability Ranking for Asian companies. Being part of Tata group, sustainability is in our DNA. While business performance is closely watched by analysts, getting recognized for sustainable practices reinforces our commitment to this important area. With operations across 46 countries and an employee base of over 300,000 globally, TCS has an impactful sustainability program while delivering industry leading business performance."

The Sustainability Ranking's Top 100 companies were selected on the basis of performance across a broad range of environmental, social and governance (ESG) indicators. These companies rank at the top

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

of their respective industries and among other companies in their region in areas such as environmental initiatives, impact on local communities, treatment of employees and supply-chain management. Top 100 companies are those that demonstrated strong public disclosure on company-wide ESG management and performance. The research process includes a thorough examination of sources including: annual reports, financial reports, CSR reports, CSR websites, news releases, online databases, government sources, NGO research and direct communication with key stakeholders.

Erin Lyon, Executive Director, CSR Asia, said, “Many congratulations to Tata Consultancy Services, ranked top of the Channel NewsAsia Sustainability Ranking this year. By disclosing environmental, social and governance information TCS is enabling investors and other stakeholders to understand the impact of the company on the sustainable development of the region. The ranking identifies leading companies in the region and we look forward to seeing more firms competing for the top spot in years to come.”

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

TXT Appoints New Senior Vice President, Builds up Momentum in North American Retail

19 September 2014

TXT e-solutions announces that Jean-Philippe Vorsanger has been appointed to the role of Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer North America. The position is strategic to achieving the company’s aggressive growth plans in Retail in North America and globally.

As an acknowledged expert in the industry with over twenty years’ experience in Retail, Technology and Supply Chain, Vorsanger will be responsible for further developing the TXT North American business, driving commercial efforts to grow market presence and to generate opportunities within the existing customer base, and continuing to secure successful relationships with clients. Vorsanger will also take responsibility for managing operations, including management of the consulting, professional services and customer support teams.

Vorsanger joins TXT from Capgemini, where he served as Principal, responsible for managing and growing the Supply Chain Technology Canadian practice, selling and overseeing the delivery of projects and managing key Retail accounts. Previously, he held the position of Senior Manager at Deloitte and served as an Executive with several retail technology vendors, leading a variety of IT, Supply Chain Strategy and Operations improvement projects that resulted in significant business benefits. At NCR, Teradata Division, he held the role of VP Demand Chain Management Solutions. His functional expertise includes Merchandise Planning, Demand Forecasting, Replenishment, Allocation, as well as Supply Chain Operations.

Vorsanger will report to Andrea Cencini, EVP Managing Director at TXT that stated: “We have been investing strongly in North America attracting top-talent professionals across all functions and securing significant revenue results. Jean-Philippe brings a wealth of Retail consulting and operations management experience that represent a fantastic addition to the current team and a perfect fit to this crucial role for the organization. We are well prepared for a second phase of growth.”

Vorsanger added: “I am thrilled to join TXT in this exciting time for the business. The Retail market has never been so dynamic and there is a strong call for end-to-end solutions that excel at supporting Retailers ability to optimize inventory, plan and manage assortments for every channel where a

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

customer shops. With its vision, people and unique offering TXT is strongly positioned to fully address the North American market opportunity and become the global leader in this space”.

Vorsanger holds a Bachelor in Electrical Engineering and a Master of Business Administration from the University of Toronto and is certified in Production and Inventory Management awarded by APICS.

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

Events News

Autodesk Extends Invitation to Join Webcast of Investor Day Event

24 September 2014

[Autodesk](#), Inc. today announced that it will broadcast a webcast in conjunction with its upcoming Investor Day event on Wednesday, October 1, 2014 at 8:30 a.m. Pacific Time. Carl Bass, Autodesk president and CEO, will be joined by other Autodesk senior executives to discuss with the investment community the demands and opportunities of the current market, business model transition, financial metrics, and the company’s corporate strategy.

The live webcast will be available at www.autodesk.com/investors and following the event will be archived for on-demand viewing.

For more information, please call Autodesk Investor Relations at 415-507-6705.

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

Bluebeam Software to Discuss MAP-21 Incentives and Benefits of Digital Workflows at IHEEP Conference

25 September 2014

Next week, attendees of the International Highway Engineering Exchange ([IHEEP](#)) Conference will have the opportunity to learn how the [Kentucky Transportation Cabinet](#) and Kansas Department of Transportation ([KS-DOT](#)) are capitalizing on digital communication to shorten timelines and manage projects throughout the entire project lifecycle.

New government incentives like MAP-21’s Technology and Innovation Deployment Program are encouraging DOTs to strongly consider implementing digital workflows. With this in mind, [Bluebeam® Software](#), leading developer of markup and collaboration solutions, will present a timely session illustrating how transportation project teams are going paperless to complete projects faster and under budget.

Bluebeam’s VP of Strategic Alliances, Sasha Reed, and Manchester General Manager, James Chambers, will also highlight how [Burns & McDonnell](#) leveraged Bluebeam’s flagship solution, [Bluebeam Revu®](#), and integrated cloud collaboration solution, [Bluebeam Studio™](#), to coordinate plan utility work on the Kansas City Downtown Streetcar project.

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

Reed has over 10 years of experience working directly in the AEC market and has insider knowledge of the industry's challenges and needs. In her role at Bluebeam, Reed interacts directly with AEC leaders to better understand the long-range goals of the industry and help align Bluebeam's technologies.

Chambers has a unique 17-year background in software, IT, and architecture, engineering and construction vertical markets. Previously, Chambers was the Production Technologies Engineer at the civil engineering firm Vanasse Hangen Brustlin, where he assisted with deploying, supporting and training users on Bluebeam Revu as part of a global electronic workflow migration project.

Bluebeam's session, "Innovations in Digital Design: How Bluebeam is Changing the Project Lifecycle," will be presented on September 28, 2014 at 3:45pm ET at Harrah's Hotel in New Orleans, LA.

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

Delcam to Show PowerMILL CAM for High-Speed and 5-axis Machining at JIMTOF

26 September 2014

Delcam will show the 2015 version of its PowerMILL CAM system for high-speed and five-axis machining at the JIMTOF exhibition to be held in Tokyo from 30th October to 4th November. The new release includes improvements to the Vortex high-efficiency area-clearance strategy, improved collision checking to also cover near misses, and more efficient raster finishing.

For further details on PowerMILL 2015, including video demonstrations of the new functionality, please go to www.delcam.tv/pm2015/lz

The Vortex area-clearance strategy produces safe toolpaths with a much deeper cut by using a controlled engagement angle that maintains the optimum cutting conditions for the whole toolpath. As a result, higher feed rates and material-removal rates are possible, making the cutting time shorter by as much as 70%. In addition, cutting is undertaken at a more consistent volume-removal rate and at a near constant feed rate, so extending tool life and protecting the machine.

Two enhancements in PowerMILL 2015 will give even greater reductions in machining time with Vortex compared to conventional roughing. The first change allows toolpaths to approach the part from outside the stock at the cutting height, both for open pockets and in areas where earlier cuts have made this possible. Previously, all entry moves had to be made by plunging onto the surface or by ramping into the material.

The second change allows an increased feed rate to be set for non-cutting moves. The default value is set at double the rate for the cutting moves but this can be altered as required for each machine tool. The extra time that can be saved depends on the shape of the part but an additional saving of around 20% should be expected above the earlier releases of Vortex.

Another problem in previous versions of PowerMILL was that unnecessary lifts could be added to area-clearance toolpaths when the cutter moved outside the stock or close to its edge. Changes to the roughing algorithm in PowerMILL 2015 have reduced the number of lifts per toolpath slice to the minimum needed and so made area clearance much more efficient.

Companies using PowerMILL for either positional or continuous five-axis machining can benefit from improvements to the collision checking within the software. Firstly, collision checking has been changed so that warnings can also be flagged for near misses. The user can now specify a clearance value and, when the machine tool comes within this value, it will turn yellow in colour to highlight a

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

near miss. Collisions are still be shown by a change of colour to red.

Secondly, the display showing the list of collisions, and now near misses as well, has been updated to be easier to read, making it simpler to extrapolate the coordinates at these points. For near misses, the clearance distance is shown in the display, with the distance shown as zero for collisions.

Another improvement will help companies using four- or five-axis machines with trunnions or similar tilting tables. Previous PowerMILL toolpaths could exhibit unwanted changes of azimuth as the cutting tool approached a position vertical to the part. This would slow down the machine, often to the extent that a witness mark would be left on the surface. New options are now available to specify the information used by PowerMILL to distribute the toolpath points so that the machine's gimbal-lock position is avoided and a smoother motion results.

Raster finishing has also been improved in PowerMILL 2015, with the software now able to set automatically the most appropriate angle for each region of the part. In previous versions, the user had to select each area and specify the angle manually. The new option, which provides the same functionality that already existed for steep-and-shallow finishing and face milling, is most beneficial when finishing a series of pockets aligned in different directions.

A number of improvements have been made to the PowerMILL interface. Most important is a clearer form for the strategy selector that makes navigation easier when choosing which strategy to use. It has also been made easier to create folders of strategies, for example, those most suitable for a particular machine tool, material or type of part, and to add and remove strategies from those folders.

Finally, three new curve-creation options have been added to the curve editor – ellipse, spiral and helix. These options can be used to create patterns or boundaries when generating toolpaths.

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

Fisher Unitech Adds SolidWorks Executives to Second Annual Design Excellence Forum

26 September 2014

FISHER/UNITECH just announced SolidWorks executives will kick off the second annual Design Excellence Forum – a provocative event scheduled in 11 cities throughout the Midwest and Northeast. Ken Clayton, VP Worldwide Sales; Paul Adams, VP of Technical Sales; Paul Giaconia, VP of Corporate Accounts; Gary Krauter, Territory Sales Senior Manager; Kurtis Anliker, Director of Technical Sales; and Mark Martel, Area Technical Director will be the keynote speakers featured at some of these events.

This year's Design Excellence Forum will offer several seminars showing how to leverage today's most innovative technologies to achieve excellence in design and manufacturing. The Forum promises to cover many stellar topics: 3D mechanical CAD enhancements; conceptual design with cloud-based collaboration; unified electronic design; improved simulation techniques; advanced 3D printing for product development; data management; and the latest for technical communication. This event also features a reveal of the new SolidWorks 2015 software. This roadshow will begin on October 1st in Kansas and travel throughout the Midwest and East Coast during the month of October.

“We truly appreciate the great partnership that we have with SolidWorks as demonstrated by these keynote speakers. Our Design Excellence Forum will give end-users and executives alike a viewpoint of how today's most innovative technologies are being used by manufacturers to compete in the global

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

economy,” said Charlie Hess, CEO at FISHER/UNITECH.

This forum offers management the opportunity to stay involved and up to speed on the latest and greatest manufacturing and product design technologies in the industry. Executives are invited to discover methods of optimizing design for additive manufacturing, improving product development efficiency through data management, leveraging electronic design automation, and learning how design validation improves product quality. These solutions are sure to expedite manufacturing processes and make companies highly competitive. SolidWorks users can expect to be exposed to rich content that will enhance productivity and grow their skillset. Lastly, SolidWorks executives will be available onsite to discuss the future of Dassault Systemes.

The Design Excellence Forum is completely complimentary and all are welcomed to attend. Registration is required. For more information on the agenda, locations and dates please visit <http://www.funtech.com/Events/Design-Excellence-Forum>. This event is sponsored by HP, Dassault Systemes SolidWorks, and Stratasy.

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

GETRAG, Imperial Tobacco Group, Consilium, Titan X and more to Present PLM Strategy at Aras Conference October 21-22

25 September 2014

Aras® today announced that GETRAG, Imperial Tobacco Group, Consilium, Titan X, Kinnerton Confectionery, Hydrocontrol and several other Aras customers will present at the 2014 European Aras Community Event (ACE) in Frankfurt, Germany. Speakers representing a wide range of industries, including automotive, mechanical engineering, food, consumer goods and medical technology, will share their PLM strategy and demonstrate the success of their global Aras PLM initiatives.

Agenda, Details and Registration at <http://www.aras.com/ACE2014Europe>

ACE Presentations Include:

Imperial Tobacco Group, the world's fourth largest tobacco company, will share its PLM selection process and strategy for a successful product life cycle introduction with agile methods.

GETRAG International, one of the world's biggest gearbox manufacturers, has been using Aras Innovator since 2010 and will show how the company is successfully optimizing processes in product development across the enterprise.

Kinnerton Confectionery, one of Britain's biggest confectionery producers, will present “Sweet PLM” and illustrate how the company accelerates the development of new products with Aras.

Professor Martin Eigner from the University Kaiserslautern, Germany will report on the repercussions of Industry 4.0 (smart factory) on the PLM strategy of manufacturing companies.

Aras CEO & Founder Peter Schroer will highlight the importance of open technologies and resilient product lifecycle management.

Additional customer presentations include: **Baltur** (heating technology), **Consilium** (maritime safety technologies), **Hydrocontrol** (hydraulic components), **Malvern Instruments** (measurement technology) and **Titan X Engine Cooling** (automotive industry).

ACE 2014 Gold Sponsor T-Systems International will show how companies can launch PLM from the

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

Cloud quickly and easily. Rob McAveney, Chief Architect at Aras, will introduce the latest development projects of the Aras Innovator® platform and present the Aras roadmap for future technological enhancements.

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

JETCAM to Debut CrossTrack 3 at Autumn Trade Shows

22 September 2014

JETCAM International s.a.r.l. announced that it will be showcasing version 3 of its award-winning CrossTrack composite manufacturing software at the Composites Europe show in Dusseldorf in October and the Composites Engineering show in Birmingham in November.

The new version now also supports sheet metal manufacturing as well as composites, benefits from a new interface and includes an array of new features across all areas of the software.

Serving both composite and sheet metal users

CrossTrack provides traceability and control of materials, material life (for composites), components/plies, assemblies/kits, orders and nests - all in real time. JETCAM serves both the sheet metal and composite markets equally, also supporting cutting technologies such as punching, laser, waterjet and routing, which require different management processes to composites. CrossTrack 3 for sheet metal allows users to build quantity-based assembly structures, rather than the duplication structuring traditionally used in the composite industry. Many sheet metal companies will store multiple parts in one CAM component file - CrossTrack 3 now includes extensive support for this.

Stock is ever-changing, and staff need to know whether material is allocated elsewhere or actually available to use. CrossTrack 3 includes a nest allocation display, now also covering sheet metal, detailing the relationship between jobs to be cut and material to be used. Staff can see the physical material in stock and can also identify how much is already allocated to other jobs.

Enhanced interface for quicker data retrieval

The interface refresh is far deeper than simply cosmetic. New controls have been added to allow users to retrieve information faster, such as tooltips that also include thumbnail images. Additional filtering and searching tools have been added to many screens to allow users to quickly mine reams of data to get to the information they need.

Hundreds of additional updates across the entire CrossTrack suite have been included, such as:

- A new static nest allocation scheduler, which can automatically create a worksheet to fulfil new demand with any static nests that include all required components
- Significant performance enhancements, as background processes now run as dedicated Windows services
- CrossTrack 3's CAD import now takes full advantage of JETCAM Expert's CAD converters, supporting 3rd party CAD systems such as SolidWorks, SolidEdge, Inventor and AutoPOL
- Improved handling of filler parts and 'extras allowed'
- Traceability logging for sheet metal stock
- Support for JETCAM Expert's v6 High Performance Nesting, delivering even greater material efficiency on dynamic nests with significantly reduced runtimes

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

Said Martin Bailey, General Manager of JETCAM International s.a.r.l.; “This new release heralds a significant breakthrough for JETCAM. We have many customers manufacturing in sheet metal, composite or both. CrossTrack 3 provides a single solution which not only completely automates the CAM and nesting process but also provides end to end traceability to the exacting standards required by the aerospace and automotive industries.”

CrossTrack is in use by companies such as Bombardier Aerospace and is suitable for all sizes of company, with SME and Enterprise editions available. It won the Composites UK ‘Innovation in Manufacture’ award in 2013 and was a finalist in the MWP Advanced Manufacturing awards for best production management system in 2014.

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

Singletree Technologies to Sponsor Yunique Solutions’ Annual Software Conference, Ideation 2014 25 September 2014

Singletree Technologies has announced it will sponsor Gerber Technology’s software conference called Ideation2014. Singletree will unveil its latest software application named Intellimas® Reporting, a business intelligence tool that takes the mystery out of report development. They will also showcase the latest release of Intellimas®, a grid based application that helps enterprises eliminate inefficient functions in legacy systems and reduce their dependence on spreadsheets for core business functions.

Singletree will show how Intellimas® Reporting can help companies better achieve user acceptance with their PLM implementations, by leveraging the wealth of available data and turning it into actionable intelligence. In addition, Singletree will demonstrate how Intellimas® can improve the user experience of nearly any software implementation. Customers have used Intellimas® to manage business functions such as Comprehensive [Product Costing](#), [Sample Tracking](#), PO generation, Work in Process Tracking, [Quality Management](#), and Vendor Compliance.

Vincent Candela, President of Singletree Technologies said, “We now have two strategic tools that can very quickly improve a software implementation and greatly increase the end user experience. We are very excited about Intellimas® Reporting as it can help fashion companies generate beautiful tech packs which are a reflection of the garments they design.”

“Once again, we are pleased to partner with Gerber to sponsor Ideation”, said Shane Walters, CTO of Singletree Technologies. “Sponsoring this conference consistently allows us to get in front of new prospects and existing customers to showcase our software.”

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

The Engineering Design Software Behind Renewable Energy Installations 24 September 2014

From 8 -9 October 2014, engineering solutions provider CAD Schroer will be demonstrating P&ID,

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

pipng and 3D plant design software at the Nextgen 2014 exhibition and conference at Stoneleigh Park, UK, stand D50.

Nextgen 2014, which incorporates EBEC, the European Bioenergy Expo and Conference, is the premier renewable energy generation event for both urban and rural communities. Alongside the extensive exhibition, the accredited free conference programme, delivered by industry experts, will address the opportunities and challenges around financing, designing, installing and maintaining renewable energy systems.

Intelligent Design Software for Renewable Energy Plants

“CAD Schroer’s software is designed to aid in successful project delivery,” explains Bill Wilkins, Sales Manager at CAD Schroer in Cambridge, “At stand D50, we’ll be demonstrating our latest intelligent 2D piping and instrumentation design software, M4 P&ID FX, as well as our proven 3D piping and plant design system, MPDS4, which is ideal for larger-scale projects where 3D visualisation with interference checking becomes an important quality and selling point.”

Time Limited Software Offers at Nextgen

CAD Schroer currently offers a 70% software discount on MPDS4 Plant Design for companies using the system on renewable energy projects.

Those working on smaller projects who need an intelligent schematics package for creating standard-compliant P&IDs will receive free software support and maintenance for one whole year for every M4 P&ID FX license purchased.

“We hope to do our bit to make the delivery of renewable energy projects more efficient and affordable,” says Bill. “We really look forward to welcoming engineering consultancies, EPCs, equipment providers and Owner Operators in the renewables sector to our Nextgen stand.”

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

ZW3D Global Tour: Explore Possibilities of CAD/CAM Technologies

23 September 2014

[ZW3D](#) has been hosting seminars and expos globally this year, to explore possibilities of CAD/CAM technologies and help users from different industries to develop more innovative designs, boost machining efficiency and accelerate time to market.

Together with resellers worldwide, ZW3D has organized and presented a series of CAD/CAM seminars and exhibitions on [Global Tour](#), across Europe, Asia and America. Through around 5 events per month, upgraded CAD/CAM technologies of ZW3D have won trusts of users from various industries, like consumer products, machinery, mold, electric & electronics, automotive, medical, among others.

“We’ve been using ZW3D CAD/CAM package for nine years, with regular updates. ZW3D with its hybrid possibilities was an eye-opener for us,” commented Rob Vandewal, CTO director of [Kupron Prototypes](#) in Netherlands, a company specializing in developing new models for premium German car manufacturers, like BMW, Mercedes, Volkswagen, Audi and Porsche. “Its hybrid kernel, Overdrive™, offers complete freedom in modeling: the difference between solids and surfaces has completely disappeared. This makes the system flexible, fast and easy to use.”

Recently, with the launch of ZW3D 2014 SP, ZWSOFT brings its CAD/CAM capabilities to a next stage. Visitors around the world can witness vivid demonstrations of the enhancements of this version in

the coming months of 2014.

Quick glance at coming events:

- From September 29 to October 3, ZW3D and its Czechic reseller to attend [MSV 2014](#) as exhibitor.
- From October 21 - 23, ZW3D and its French reseller will be present at [SIANE 2014](#).
- From November 25 - 28, ZW3D and its Germany reseller to attend [Euromold 2014](#) as exhibitor.
- From November 19 - 22, ZW3D and its Thailand reseller attended [Metalex 2014](#) as exhibitor.
- Other dozens of local seminars & exhibitions await.

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

Implementation Investments

Autoliv Europe Will Use Dassault Systèmes for Lean Logistics

24 September 2014

Autoliv Europe will use DELMIA Apriso to manage and continuously improve manufacturing logistics operations across their enterprise. Now a part of Dassault Systèmes' DELMIA brand, Apriso solutions can help Autoliv Europe to cut waste by reducing idle inventory and enhancing operational agility, as an extension to their SAP ERP.

“Autoliv Europe will implement a DELMIA Apriso solution as a standardized template to improve operations and logistics performance. One of our anticipated benefits is to ease the standardization and sharing of best-in-class processes across more than 30 locations,” explained Gilles Bridon, senior AEU IT director at Autoliv Europe. “As an enterprise solution, DELMIA Apriso can help Autoliv Europe respond faster to change through a broader integration with a next generation of mobile devices across operations.”

Implementing Apriso with ERP gives Autoliv Europe a unique combination of shop floor performance and centralized planning for a best-in-class deployment. The benefit of implementing an Apriso Logistics Execution System with ERP is that it extends the value of ERP while improving operational agility, helping Autoliv respond quickly to change.

DELMIA Apriso will help Autoliv to improve the company's logistics capabilities by managing work flows across the entire production process, including inbound and outbound logistics and inventory management, dispatching of production, production/scrap declaration and monitoring, and reporting of production hours.

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

Dongbu Daewoo Electronics Selects Siemens to Deploy New PLM Software System

23 September 2014

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

Dongbu Daewoo Electronics, a consumer electronics manufacturer in Korea, has selected Siemens' product lifecycle management (PLM) business to deploy a new PLM system based on its [Teamcenter® software](#). Siemens was selected for its understanding of Dongbu Daewoo Electronics' PLM objectives and business vision. The new system is expected to improve the manufacturer's R&D process, increase product quality, reduce costs and enhance overall productivity throughout product development.

"We selected Siemens PLM Software following a thorough review and evaluation," said Jang-hee Lee, Executive Vice President of the R&D Center, Dongbu Daewoo Electronics. "With this implementation, we are expecting to see an improvement in employees' productivity and design quality. The deployment of the structured and logical R&D system will give Dongbu Daewoo Electronics new opportunities to enhance our competitiveness in the industry."

Dongbu Daewoo Electronics will use Teamcenter as the foundation of its new PLM platform. The company expects to improve its project-based R&D process management and design quality with a more structured system that makes it easy to access information instantly for informed decision making. Teamcenter will also help the company increase productivity and reduce product development costs by managing all active files, such as 3D and 2D product data and other general documents, more effectively.

"We are extremely excited to be a partner of Dongbu Daewoo Electronics," said Jung Chul, Vice President of Siemens PLM Software, Korea. "As a leading supplier of PLM software to the manufacturing industry, we are confident the completed PLM implementation will help our customer achieve success in their design innovation and business goals."

Teamcenter received high scores in the evaluation conducted by Dongbu Daewoo Electronics for its rapid deployment and excellent performance. It was also evaluated on its superior capabilities for project management, product information integration and technological document management. Teamcenter is the world's most widely used digital lifecycle management software.

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

FS Dynamics Commits to CD-adapco Simulation Software Tools for Three More Years

24 September 2014

CD-adapco™ recently finalized a three-year contract, worth over €1M, with FS Dynamics (<http://www.fsdynamics.se>).

Since it was founded 10 years ago, FS Dynamics has rapidly grown to become the leading supplier of CAE services in the Scandinavian region, focusing on the application of CFD and FEM technology to solve a wide range of technically-challenging industrial engineering problems. FS Dynamics used CD-adapco's CFD software since the beginning, and have assembled one of Europe's largest and most competent teams of CFD engineers.

"CAE excellence, in-house delivery and long-term relationships are all cornerstones in the FS Dynamics DNA. The current long-term agreement manifests our everyday commitment to each of these values. Over the last decade our business has expanded to cover a wide range of software, however as an old star user myself, reaching an agreement with CD-adapco on this scale is a special moment. We are now into our second decade as CD-adapco customers and we are excited about working together for our

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

common quest for CAE excellence for years to come." said Roger Blom, Managing Director of FS Dynamics.

"CD-adapco's success as a company is built upon our relationship with those customers who use our software to push the boundaries of what is possible using engineering simulation. I'm proud to name FS Dynamics as one of those customers; having worked closely with them in the first 10 years of their existence, I hope that this long-term agreement signals a relationship that will last for another decade, and beyond," said CD-adapco President, Steve MacDonald.

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

Happychic Group Selects Centric Software PLM for Jules, Brice, Bizzbee Brands

23 September 2014

Happychic Group, a French multichannel fashion firm and owner of the Jules, Brice and Bizzbee brands, has selected Centric Software, Inc., to provide its [product lifecycle management \(PLM\) software](#).

Happychic, a men's ready-to-wear company, will use the Centric 8 [PLM software for retail, apparel, footwear, luxury and consumer goods](#) to improve visibility and increase efficiency as it continues its fast-paced growth. The company opens an average of 40 retail stores and adds 400 employees each year, and plans to grow internationally, according to Gauthier Watrelot, CEO.

"The Centric PLM solution will allow Happychic to bring more fashion, faster, to the market," says Watrelot. With Centric 8, Happychic will replace myriad spreadsheets and a full day of meetings each week, he says, and will be able to rely on a "single version of the truth" about each product. "For a company that sells two products every second, worldwide, this means extraordinary increases in productivity."

Watrelot also expects to realize benefits in reduction of low-value, administrative tasks and data entry, and a decrease in the number iterations required for samples and prototypes.

Happychic selected Centric because it is easy to use, visually attractive and flexible, according to Watrelot. "The Centric 8 PLM solution will be able to support the continuous changes Happychic makes between collections each season." The company also cited Centric's industry references and expertise of the staff.

"Centric 8 will help Happychic to continue to realize its mission – 'to turn fashion into an inspiring, festive experience' – in the most productive, effective manner possible," says Chris Groves, president and CEO of Centric. "With Centric's [Agile Deployment\(SM\)](#), Happychic can start generating benefits almost as quickly as it sells new products. We hope the company's users find our solution inspiring and festive, too."

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

Imperial Tobacco Group Selects Aras as Enterprise PLM Backbone

23 September 2014

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

Aras® today announced that Imperial Tobacco Group, an international tobacco company, has selected the Aras PLM suite for end-to-end global product lifecycle management. Following a comprehensive review of leading PLM providers including Siemens PLM Software and Dassault Systèmes, Imperial chose Aras for the flexibility and configurability of its PLM platform which are must-haves in the fast-paced consumer goods industry. Under the agreement Imperial will implement Aras as an enterprise PLM backbone to streamline Product Lifecycle, eliminate redundant systems, and drive collaboration, process improvement and compliance worldwide.

“In the highly regulated and extremely dynamic tobacco industry we require a single, complete solution that can keep up with the ever-evolving needs of our global business,” said Bertrand Villoteau, Head of Processes & Systems Manufacturing and R&D at Imperial Tobacco Group. “We looked at the leading PLM systems and chose Aras for its advanced technology, overall agility, and cost-effective phased implementation approach. We also like that Aras has no distractions; the company is 100% dedicated to enterprise product lifecycle management,” said Gerold Bublitz, Head of Supply Chain Processes at Imperial Tobacco Group.

Imperial’s PLM requirements include a unique blend of discrete manufacturing, formula and recipe, and quality and compliance management. With Aras, the company will replace outdated legacy systems with a single enterprise backbone across geographically dispersed manufacturing, marketing and product development centers, as well as external partners and suppliers. Imperial will leverage Aras Innovator for BOM and formula management, project and program management, packaging and materials management, brand hierarchy management and more.

Imperial brands include Davidoff, West, Gauloises Blondes, Montecristo, Golden Virginia (the world's largest-selling hand rolling tobacco), Drum (the world's second-largest-selling fine-cut tobacco) and Rizla (the world’s best-selling rolling paper).

“Imperial Tobacco is a fast-paced company that values intellectual property and product development strategy as competitive advantages. Forward-thinking companies like Imperial reject slow-moving, off-the-shelf legacy systems, choosing instead to advance their business with like-minded technologies such as Aras that are as agile and responsive as they are,” said Peter Schroer, President of Aras. We are very pleased to be working the Imperial Tobacco Group and we look forward to helping them drive innovation throughout their global business.”

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

Luxury Mobile Phone Manufacturer, Vertu, Selects Altair's HyperWorks Unlimited™ Plug-and-Play Private Cloud Solution for Computer-Aided Engineering

23 September 2014

[Altair](#) announced today that world-renowned English luxury mobile phone manufacturer [Vertu](#) has invested in and deployed Altair's complete range of technology and services through the company's new [HyperWorks Unlimited™](#) (HWUL) appliance. HWUL is a fully managed, state-of-the-art private cloud solution for computer-aided engineering (CAE), with fully configured high-performance computing (HPC) hardware and software, offering unlimited use of all Altair [HyperWorks®](#) engineering applications.

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

Vertu is applying CAE methods in its development process to replace some time-consuming physical testing of valuable phone prototypes in order to achieve more efficient development cycles. To maximize the benefits of using CAE, Vertu supported by [Altair ProductDesign](#) has developed and deployed an automated drop test simulation process, which is fully integrated into the HWUL solution. From a computer-aided design (CAD) model, a very high fidelity drop impact finite element analysis (FEA) model of the phone is set up to test different drop orientations, velocities, and many other scenarios which can be selected by the user. This is then simulated using Altair's RADIOSS® solver in parallel on the HWUL appliance.

The multiple simulation results are then extracted and analyzed in a batch process. A spreadsheet-based summary report is generated to review component and system-level performance with provision for detailed post-processing in the HyperWorks desktop environment. This automated process has enabled Vertu to quickly and efficiently identify potential impact damage and make design decisions.

"Simulation is key to our product development process, and Altair's HWUL appliance and RADIOSS solver have offered a far more efficient means of deployment," said Stewart Dewey, FEA Specialist, Vertu. "The level of accuracy on results has been improved along with significant time savings. So far we have seen up to 50 percent improvement in efficiency of processing times, and we expect this to improve further with continued use of the software. HWUL offers one of the most competitively priced packages on the market and is a solution which we can develop and scale in the future. With the unlimited usage ability, we are able to explore the full HyperWorks offering."

"We are delighted to see a luxury brand such as Vertu invest in Altair's complete range of services," said Hakan Ekman, Managing Director for Northern Europe, Altair. "HyperWorks Unlimited offers many benefits allowing companies to have unlimited access to HyperWorks Units for extensive virtual exploration. In addition, Altair fully supports the appliance from deployment to ongoing maintenance and support throughout the contract period, giving companies significantly more time to focus on making their development processes more efficient than ever before. We are pleased to hear that Vertu plans to utilize the full range of Altair tools available, and we look forward to seeing the company integrate simulation-driven design into the further evolution of its brand."

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

Puma Energy Selects Intergraph® CADWorx® Plant Professional

22 September 2014

Puma Energy, the fuels retailing arm of Swiss-based commodities trader Trafigura, has selected Intergraph® CADWorx® Plant Professional to help deliver a landmark fuel import terminal in Queensland, Australia.

Puma Energy entered the Australian market in 2011 with a view to supply fuel to the country's mining industry. The company identified the need to build its own fuel import terminal in Mackay, Queensland, to support its planned activities. A secondary goal of this investment was to strengthen competition and supply in Australia's fuel market.

Puma Energy selected AutoCAD®-based CADWorx Plant Professional for its ability to complete a full model of the terminal – including all piping, structures, cable ladder, pipe supports and equipment –

using a single Intergraph solution.

“I was incredibly impressed by CADWorx Plant Professional’s ease-of-use and ability to produce deliverables quickly and accurately,” said Michelle Guiney, Puma Energy’s design manager. “The solution was incredibly powerful and flexible.”

Given the positive experience noted on the Mackay fuel import terminal, Puma Energy intends to use CADWorx to drive efficiency and accuracy on a number of upcoming projects within Australia. It also plans to standardize all future greenfield and brownfield projects globally on CADWorx solutions.

Gerhard Sallinger, Intergraph Process, Power & Marine president, said, “The Mackay fuel import terminal project was a significant one for the Australian oil and gas industry, given that one of its primary goals was to strengthen competition and supply in the market,” said Intergraph Process, Power & Marine President, Gerhard Sallinger. “We are proud that CADWorx Plant Professional played a pivotal role in helping to deliver the project.”

Intergraph CADWorx & Analysis Solutions products allow design and engineering to share relevant information seamlessly, thereby maintaining accuracy and improving efficiency. These include CADWorx Plant Design Suite, for AutoCAD®-based intelligent plant design modeling, process schematics and automatic production of plant design deliverables; CADWorx DraftPro®, for intelligent 2D design and layout; CAESAR II®, the world's most widely used pipe stress analysis software; PV Elite®, for vessel and exchanger design and analysis; TANK™, for the design and analysis of oil storage tanks; and GT STRUDL®, one of the most trusted, adaptable and fully-integrated structural analysis solutions in the world.

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

Rocky Brands Extends the Boundaries of Fashion PLM with Latest Implementation of NGC Software

23 September 2014

Leading footwear manufacturer Rocky Brands believes that technology can drive growth and innovation – and with the latest implementations of NGC’s [fashion PLM](#) and Supply Chain Management software, the popular outdoor footwear manufacturer has pushed PLM capabilities into new and exciting directions.

Rocky Brands designs, develops, manufactures and markets outdoor, work, western, lifestyle and military footwear as well as outdoor and work apparel and accessories under the Rocky®, Georgia Boot®, Durango® and Creative Recreation® brands. Rocky Brands is headquartered in Nelsonville, OH, with two company-owned manufacturing facilities in the Dominican Republic and Puerto Rico, and an office in China.

As a long-time NGC customer, Rocky Brands relies on NGC’s PLM and SCM systems to continually improve productivity and efficiency. The company recently tapped the power of NGC’s software to bring major new improvements in three key areas.

“Step It Up” Project Extends PLM to Marketing, e-Commerce and Line Planning. Rocky Brands has recently extended NGC’s PLM to its Marketing and e-Commerce departments, providing “one-stop shopping” for all data related to a product. All product data—including detailed product descriptions,

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

SEO data elements, e-commerce web copy and marketing bullet points— is now maintained once in NGC’s PLM and made available to the company’s B2C websites.

As a result, product data is no longer maintained in multiple locations, which has eliminated repetitive work and improved the accuracy of product descriptions and data. “Project Step-It-Up has been a tremendous boost for the productivity of our e-commerce and marketing departments, while also increasing the efficiency of our line planning, by making product information readily available for our line plans,” said Mary Lorenz, Vice President of Strategy Execution and Process Improvement, Rocky Brands.

ERP Item Master Integration Eliminates Data Errors and Improves Speed to Market. Rocky Brands has also tapped the power and integration capabilities of NGC’s PLM to create an automated, real-time and fully integrated process for item setup and updates, which ensures immediate data availability and integrity across all systems. This replaces previously manual and inefficient processes in the company’s third-party ERP system, which had resulted in data errors and inconsistencies as well as delays in P.O. placement – and ultimately, late product deliveries.

“As a result of the integration between NGC’s PLM and our ERP, our reporting is always in synch,” said Tawre Dellavalle, Commercialization Manager, Rocky Brands. “We’re now able to get P.O.’s to our vendors much faster and speed up the entire production process. You can’t put any limits on NGC’s software; this has literally taken several days out of the process.”

Streamlining Shipping Processes with NGC’s EZ-Ship. Rocky Brands has also implemented NGC’s new EZ-Ship software, a factory scan/pack system that integrates with NGC’s web-based Supply Chain Management (SCM) system, ensuring carton compliance and inventory accuracy. With EZ-Ship, Rocky Brands has improved the flow of products through the scanning, packing and shipping process, while ensuring the use of standard carton labeling and ASN formats. The system has also enabled the company to improve its finished goods inventory management.

“NGC has enjoyed a very close, collaborative working relationship with Rocky Brands, and they continue to exploit new features and functionality in our software to drive dramatic improvements in productivity and profitability,” said Mark Burstein, President of Sales, Marketing and R&D, NGC. “Rocky Brands relies on NGC’s solutions as strategic enablers for business growth, and we’re proud to work with such a forward-thinking, innovative company.”

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

Semir, One of China's Top Ten Fashion Retailers, Adopts Gerber Technology's YuniquePLM

25 September 2014

Yunique Solutions® has announced that Zhejiang Semir Garment Co., Ltd.® (Semir) has selected YuniquePLM™ to enhance its process optimization flow, improve supply chain collaboration, and increase speed to market.

Founded in 1996, Semir is a leading brand of casual adult and children’s clothing and has since grown to become one of China’s largest apparel brands. In 2014, Semir expanded beyond its well-known Semir casual clothing and Balabala® children’s clothing brands, adding Mongdodo® and Minibalabala® to their brand portfolio.

The Chinese apparel sector is currently undergoing a structural shift moving from a primarily export-

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

based model to a more domestic consumer facing industry. To meet this growth in domestic demand, Semir is making moves to strengthen its supply chain management by consolidating its previously diverse and disconnected systems into a single view. Previously, its scattered systems posed challenges to quality and delivery controls, hindering the company's growth ambitions. To overcome this, Semir has worked to adjust purchase patterns by working hand-in-hand with suppliers to jointly research and improve technology, fabric, and costs. By amalgamating its manufacturing to a few high quality suppliers, Semir has been able to better ensure the quality and timely delivery of its products and enhance its comparative advantages.

Semir's company focus has been centered on strong product branding, supply chain efficiency, and economies of scale. To accommodate and address its burgeoning and future business ambitions, Semir's management team has looked towards implementing a powerful product lifecycle management (PLM) system.

Pingfan Zhou, president and general manager of Semir said, "After a year of careful examination and assessment, we have selected Gerber Technology's YuniquePLM to strengthen our communication and collaboration between departments and suppliers and to ultimately increase our core competitiveness. We look forward to being able to fully control and comprehend the entire supply chain from planning, design, product development, and procurement to sales. All of these efforts are designed to offer the best customer-value products and experiences for Semir's end consumers."

Bill Brewster, vice president and general manager of Yunique Solutions said, "From creative inspiration to store shelves, providing retail data to the merchandising vendors and being able to guide design, Semir can truly align their product concepts with their business goals. Yunique Solutions' collaboration with Semir, one of the largest a fashion retailers in China, brings fresh vitality to this rapidly growing Chinese brand. The value of brand recognition has become increasingly critical in the progressively demanding domestic consumer market. Our team of industry experts and our longstanding track record with the world's leading brands is a testament to our dedication to user satisfaction and product quality."

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

Service Electric Cable TV Chooses Bentley's Hybrid Fiber-Coaxial Solution to Increase Network Design and Management Efficiency

22 September 2014

Bentley Systems, Incorporated, today announced that Service Electric Cable TV, Inc. (SECTV) – founder of cable television and a pioneer in the communications industry – has selected Bentley's hybrid fiber-coaxial (HFC) network engineering solution for the effective and efficient design and management of its cable broadband network. Bentley's HFC solution, which includes [Bentley Coax](#), [Bentley Fiber](#), [Bentley Inside Plant](#), and [Bentley Communications PowerView](#), replaces disparate CAD, GIS, and spreadsheet systems at SECTV. With this new software, SECTV can accelerate new subscriber activations, network upgrades, extensions, and repairs while increasing productivity across engineering, field operations, marketing, sales, and customer support.

Mike Semmel, mapping supervisor, Service Electric Cable TV, Inc., said, "The seamless database structure of Bentley's HFC network engineering solution gives us an end-to-end perspective of our system that is simply not available from individual drawings, maps, and spreadsheets. The solution also provides a means to make the intelligent network model available to anyone in the organization through

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

secure web interfaces and field applications. These capabilities, combined with a high-productivity user interface, a proven track record of user-driven product enhancements, and excellent support, made Bentley the best choice for our business.”

Robert Mankowski, Bentley vice president, simulation product management, said, “We are pleased to provide SECTV with technology that will help this service innovator to continue its leadership in the cable industry – leadership it established more than 65 years ago. Bentley’s HFC solution will give SECTV’s teams a comprehensive HFC network design capability that is up to three times faster than other solutions. This purpose-built technology leverages the deepest industry experience in the market to provide unparalleled engineering workflow efficiency. It uniquely includes the precision of CAD and all the benefits of an open enterprise GIS, while providing efficiency across the physical network inventory lifecycle with comprehensive capabilities for design, construction, and operations.”

SECTV selected Bentley after reviewing alternatives against the following criteria:

- the ability to document and maintain an end-to-end intelligent network model;
- the ability to easily share the intelligent network model with any department to improve business decisions and workflows;
- ease of use to minimize training and improve design and management productivity;
- demonstrated product development and alignment with evolving user requirements;
- comprehensive technical support.

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

Product News

AMC Bridge Releases New Version of Drawing Diagnostics™ plug-in for Autodesk® AutoCAD® 2015

22 September 2014

AMC Bridge has released the [Drawing Diagnostics 2.0](#) plug-in for Autodesk AutoCAD 2015. Drawing Diagnostics is an add-in application for AutoCAD that helps find and fix violated geometric constraints.

The new release includes functional enhancements and bug fixes including:

New supported constraints

- Mid-point
- Tangent
- Overlapping entities

Bug fixes

- Issue with multiple users
- Concentricity for arcs
- End-points upper tolerance

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

ANSYS Enables Virtual Systems Prototyping

23 September 2014

ANSYS and Modelon have entered an agreement to revolutionize product development – reducing late-stage integration failures, decreasing product development costs and speeding time to market. Combining Modelon's systems behavioral modeling tools and solutions, based upon the open standard Modelica® modeling language with ANSYS' system simulation platform and breadth in 3-D multiphysics and embedded software enables users to explore product designs from the complete system all the way down through detailed designs. This multidisciplinary, integrated approach will help companies arrive at better designs earlier, reduce their reliance on costly physical prototyping and virtually eliminate system integration failures.

Model-based design has traditionally focused on a single systems modeling language. But now ANSYS has expanded that definition to include electronics, mechanical and embedded software engineering. ANSYS will incorporate Modelica, a broadly accepted and open standard for the behavioral modeling of mechanical, thermal and thermofluid systems, with ANSYS' existing IEEE-backed VHDL-AMS modeling technology for electrical systems and its SCADE™ technology for embedded software.

"This agreement with Modelon breaks down the remaining barriers to full virtual system prototyping," said Walid Abu-Hadba, chief product officer at ANSYS. "ANSYS users will be able to fully explore how their product will behave – not at the component level, but as a complete system. This quantum leap forward will pay amazing dividends for customers in the future by enabling them to create more innovative products faster than ever."

Enabling this engineering breakthrough is an agreement with Modelon, giving ANSYS customers access to Modelon's Modelica compiler and its best-in-class Modelica solutions within the ANSYS® Simplorer™ product line. The Modelica language and Modelica-based libraries are used across a range of industries for designing and optimizing the performance of multi-domain systems for such applications as active safety, engine control, thermal management, power transfer and environment control. Additionally, ANSYS customers will gain access to Modelon's leading Functional Mock-up Interface (FMI) technology. FMI is used by a range of industrial companies to exchange simulation models among their suppliers and assemble them into virtual system prototypes that can be tested before physical prototypes are available.

In addition to offering a multi-language system simulation environment, ANSYS Simplorer can also replace behavioral models often used during concept design with detailed 3-D multiphysics results to provide a macro view of system performance. Engineering teams can virtually verify and optimize their product designs at all stages of systems engineering – from conceptual and system design to detailed engineering and complete system verification.

"The engineering world is standardizing on Modelica for system modeling and analysis in automotive, aerospace and energy applications," said Hubertus Tummescheit, CEO of Modelon, Inc. "This partnership gives Simplorer users access to application-specific model libraries, toolkits that enable FMI in several third-party products and expertise in a variety of industrial applications."

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

Bentley's New ProjectWise Essentials Delivers Proven ProjectWise Collaboration and Work Sharing Advantages Through 'Software at Your Service'

25 September 2014

Bentley Systems, Incorporated, announced the availability of [ProjectWise Essentials](#), a cloud-based, instant-on design integration environment for all projects. This “software at your service” provides immediate access to key advantages of [ProjectWise](#), the world’s leading design collaboration and work sharing solution, while enabling user organizations to further benefit from a budget-friendly, predictable cost model.

ProjectWise helps AEC project organizations avoid risk and stay competitive by enabling high performance project delivery. It provides information mobility with integrity, cross-functional work process management, and change management to increase information quality and visibility throughout the project lifecycle.

Deployed in 101 countries, *ProjectWise* is the design integration and collaboration system of choice for all of the *ENR* Top 25 Design Firms, the majority of U.S. state departments of transportation, and 81 of the *ENR* Top 100 Design Firms, with over \$120 billion in annual design billings. With *ProjectWise*, these firms report 14 percent higher professional utilization (than comparable firms without *ProjectWise*) and are assured that every hour of professional work is fully leveraged for project advantage, without waste or risk.

Susan Brandt, Bentley vice president, *ProjectWise* collaboration products, said, “While projects may vary in size and complexity, all projects benefit from a robust collaboration platform, and all firms and all engineers benefit from work sharing. That’s why I’m excited that we’ve extended the ‘industrial-strength’ *ProjectWise* to *all* design and engineering firms, enabling each to realize the benefits being achieved by the top AEC organizations around the world. Our cloud-based *ProjectWise Essentials* ‘software at your service’ eliminates the necessity of system or server administration – which might have posed particular challenges for smaller firms and projects – and gains are immediate. For example, *ProjectWise Essentials* is engineered to painlessly overcome the ‘big file problem’ when work sharing across offices in different locations.”

Within the *ProjectWise Essentials* environment, geographically dispersed teams managing projects small to “mega” in size and scope can leverage industry standards and best practices required to speed secure information sharing and the exchange and delivery of project drawings, models, documentation, and complex reference files – in support of applications commonly used in AEC projects, including Revit and AutoCAD Civil 3D. This increases team productivity, mitigates project risk, lowers costs, and improves project performance. *ProjectWise Essentials* also improves the fidelity and reliability of this information – through, for example, the provisioning of provenance and audit trails – reducing redesigns and the risk of errors.

In addition, *ProjectWise Essentials* enhances the agility that design and engineering firms need to quickly respond to varying project requirements, improving operational readiness as well as return on investment. In this instant-on collaboration environment, project teams, including site personnel, are connected virtually. To achieve *information mobility with integrity*, they are granted immediate and secure online, offline, and web access to design and construction information. The included [Bentley CONNECTIONS Passports](#) entitle *ProjectWise Essentials* participants to use all of Bentley’s [mobile apps](#), including *Bentley Map Mobile*, *Field Supervisor*, *InspectTech Collector Mobile*, *Navigator Mobile*, *ProjectWise Explorer Mobile*, and the *Bentley LEARN App*.

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

User organizations further benefit from the ability to:

- take advantage of the industry standards and best practices required to support today's BIM workflows across distributed teams;
- control access to BIM models, support version control, and manage change in associated models – contributing to better cost control and construction quality;
- automate the management of complex relationships among documents and components;
- share large work-in-progress datasets across offices in real time and instantly communicate design changes made by others without the need to resend large files;
- control access to documents; and
- search easily at both the file and component levels.

Moreover, *ProjectWise Essentials* lets project teams interact with project information in views that directly relate to their specific task requirements – without needing the authoring applications. These views include a spatial view for map-based navigation, a web view for online browser access, a permissions view for access control management, a dependency view for understanding and managing complex file relationships, and a component view to search across 2D and 3D content.

Commenting on his organization's experiences with *ProjectWise Essentials* as an early access subscriber, James Downing, operations manager, Territory & Municipal Services, Australian Capital Territory (ACT) Government, said, "Territory and Municipal Services (TAMS) set out to transform the flow of information in infrastructure project delivery both internally as well as between local industry and government. With *ProjectWise Essentials*, our hosted cloud solution was an absolute game changer. TAMS relied heavily on Bentley's track record in facilitating the establishment of a highly secure environment."

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

BOPC™ BIMobject Open Property Cloud Revealed

25 September 2014

BIMobject® announced the BOPC™ technology at the BIMobject® LIVE conference in Malmö. The new cloud solution is aimed to address the growing demand of extended properties in objects also known as parameters, meta data or attributes.

Many initiatives around the world are working with setting future standards for properties but they don't address the critical fact of how to get this to the market, to the users and how to integrate it into the BIM objects and BIM models in an easy way. BOPC™ is the first cloud solution that solves this problem. It is easy to use and practical way to add property sets from standardization organisations around the world.

BOPC™ can also be used to solve the fact that manufacturers might want some additional properties in their objects, as well as advanced users like construction companies and developers can add hidden properties to objects to drive logistics and purchasing at a later stage in the process. BOPC™ can handle all different variations of Property clouds, open as well as hidden, project based as well as brand related only. An owner of a BOPC™ can even create unique user groups to limit access to the information to a

design team for instance.

Another unique feature with BOPC™ is that you can create several property sets within one cloud, it means that part of the product information can be added to the object at development stage and used in design, later more information can be dynamically loaded into the objects through the popular BIMobject® Apps like operation and Maintenance properties also known as COBIE. This means that BIMobject®, partners and customers now have a flexible system that can add more information into the object as you go downstream in the process.

BIMobject® will work with organizations all over the world to build the standard BOPC™ to assist the market in following the guidelines and structure to enable information rich objects in BIM.

"BOPC™ and cloud based systems is the only way forward in solving the upcoming issue with consistent property names in BIM. It has to be clear in the information process who owns the information and we now have the system to deploy this to the world in a very smart way which is also easy to use" says Stefan Larsson, CEO of BIMobject AB.

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

Customer Feedback Drives Enhancements in Latest Viewpoint Release

22 September 2014

Live from Collaborate 2014, [Viewpoint Construction Software](#)® debuts the latest release of Vista™ by Viewpoint and Viewpoint's point solutions at their annual User Conference this week. The new release focuses on increased product integration as well as enhancements to the Construction Operations and Service Management areas of Vista, as well as operationally focused dashboard reports with the Business Intelligence module that can improve performance and profitability across construction operations.

With this release, Vista has a tighter integration with Viewpoint For Project Collaboration, an online collaborative solution for sharing drawings, documents, emails, and contracts among internal and external project stakeholders. This integration allows users to easily collaborate with project teams by leveraging information that is being entered in Vista by publishing documents directly into Viewpoint For Project Collaboration.

Additionally, new mobile capabilities and extensions are included in Viewpoint For Content Management providing customers additional functionality to both retrieve and share critical data. A new HTML5 application now provides the capability to search, retrieve and view documents via an Android or iOS tablet, allowing access to the right data when and where needed.

"We speak with customers throughout the year, whether it's at regularly scheduled focus groups, trade shows or User Conferences here in the U.S., in Australia and the U.K. It's through these interactions that we come to understand the problems and issues that our products need to address in order to provide true value to our customers and their organizations," offered Rob Humphreys, Vice President of Product Management at Viewpoint. "Customer input, along with our own industry know-how and market intelligence, has clearly dictated that increased product integration is crucial for productivity, along with an easy to use experience when searching for and sharing information. We've worked hard to deliver these types of improvements in this release — all which help customers' complete projects faster and more efficiently."

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

Design Data Announces Release of SDS/2 Connect 2015

25 September 2014

Design Data announced the availability of SDS/2 Connect 2015, an add-in for Autodesk® Revit® Structure 2015 software that automatically designs connections within the Revit environment. The combination of Revit Structure with SDS/2 Connect helps make it possible for structural engineers and fabricators to design, conduct code check analysis, and extend steelwork designs to fabrication within a BIM workflow.

"Connecting with Revit through SDS/2 Connect 2015 gives engineers more control over sending their BIM model downstream," said Doug Evans, Design Data's vice president of sales. "In this highly competitive market, it is imperative to collaborate with the Revit model. SDS/2 Connect is one of the most efficient ways to convey design model information from engineer to detailer."

By bridging the gap between design and fabrication, SDS/2 Connect helps deliver constructible "as built" connections within Revit Structure, while shortening design time and reducing project timelines and costs. Revit Structure users who have installed SDS/2 Connect can automatically design steelwork connections and print out all corresponding design calculations at the push of a button. These connections are designed based off an extensive setup that has been developed in the SDS/2 Detailing product over the past 30 years.

"As BIM continues to alter workflows in the construction process, we will continue to produce products like SDS/2 Connect 2015 to support these new partnerships," said Evans.

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

ecVision Takes the Work out of Conflict Minerals Traceability

24 September 2014

Today, a significant amount of work goes into managing supply chain traceability for compliance and often results in increased costs in time and effort. With rising pressures from the government agencies and human rights groups, companies must collaborate with suppliers to get the required data that indicates whether their products contain specific ingredients that are restricted in certain countries and regions.

For instance, the Dodd-Frank Act in the United States that now requires retailers to report traces of tin, tungsten, tantalum and/or gold sourced from the Democratic Republic of Congo and surrounding nations (known as conflict minerals) in their products. Brands and retailers are finding it difficult to get their suppliers 100% on-board with this conflict-free compliance program due to the overwhelming costs and commitment that is required.

Sending requests to hundreds of suppliers while keeping track of responses, accuracy of their feedback, commitment deadlines, and regular updates can quickly become a logistical nightmare. Most often a majority of the industry's brands and retailers will execute this activity between their suppliers, typically

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

through email and spreadsheets, which in turn is both inefficient and a drain on productivity.

ecVision offers a next-generation, low-cost solution for brands and retailers that improves compliance accuracy while delivering real value and efficiency to their suppliers. The Conflict Minerals Compliance™ platform allows brands and retailers to have seamless access to their supplier network and can initiate a request for information within the portal that in turn simplifies the due diligence reporting process while increasing supply chain traceability.

This solution allows the industry to address the many challenges of traceability through next-generation features for both retailers and suppliers including:

Brands and Retailers:

- A low-cost, annual subscription regardless of user count
- To visualize their supplier base on a map
- Invite suppliers to register on ecVision Community™
- Share the industry standard Due Diligence Survey Report with suppliers of all levels
- Monitor and track supplier acknowledgement of receipt
- Review and approve suppliers' surveys
- Generate a range of reports, including pending and / or completed form submissions, and reportable products for the SEC

Suppliers:

- Free access to the platform by invitation from current customers (agents, brands and retailers)
- Create a supplier profile with complete product and other information on the portal
- Download and complete the due diligence survey offline
- Upload and share completed surveys with any related brands or retailers using the system
- Create and view reports on submission and approval status

All brands and retailers face the common challenge of communicating with their supply chain. This platform gives brands holistic visibility all the way down to their suppliers' suppliers to establish full compliance.

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

Faster, Smarter Programming from FlowXpert 2015

24 September 2014

Flow International Corporation announced today an upgrade to the FlowXpert™ Software Suite, [FlowXpert 2015](#). This release introduces significant new capabilities for 3D pathing and cutting which allow waterjet users to work more effectively in 3D, with less complexity.

FlowXpert 2015 is a robust 3D CAD/CAM software platform that expands on the 2D FlowMaster® intelligent Software Suite. The platform includes Design powered by Spaceclaim, an integrated 3D CAD/CAM programming tool with Flow Sequencer. With this release, the integrated CAD/CAM capabilities give users a seamless pathing experience. The integration with Flow Sequencer adds flexibility to users and is designed specifically for waterjet cutting, resulting in faster waterjet

programming.

"FlowXpert was already a leading programming tool in the waterjet industry," says Alex Chillman, software and cutting platform manager at Flow International Corporation. "By integrating these platforms we are providing users even greater flexibility in designing and pathing; which will have great benefits for both basic and complex waterjet parts."

The software integration was engineered in partnership with Spaceclaim and takes full advantage of Flow's 40 years of waterjet application expertise. Users get faster, smarter programming that is interactive. Incorporating Flow best practices such as waterjet application tips, material cut speed knowledge, improved pathing algorithms, and expanded lead in/out customization the program estimates what steps are needed to get the best part.

"We listened to our customers to design FlowXpert 2015," continues Chillman. "The end result is a smarter system that lets users to do their work in fewer steps, with more intuitive design practices. This is powerful, straightforward 3D, and anyone can use it."

The new FlowXpert 2015 includes functions familiar for current FlowXpert users, with a redesigned interface for intuitive 3D and 2D part programming. Users can now design a part and path it in the same program. Modifying the geometry of a part is now possible without losing the path, and in most cases the Sequencer integration will automatically update the path to accommodate the changes; a feature strongly requested by customers. In addition, the software will now detect model and path errors and suggest fixes.

New capabilities in FlowXpert include:

- Integration of CAD Design powered by Spaceclaim with CAM Flow Sequencer modules.
- Waterjet specific geometry analysis means the part is ready faster.
- 3D CAM offset capabilities.
- Custom lead in/out available; or choose from an expanded lead in/out catalogue.
- Fast, versatile sheet metal processing from Spaceclaim.
- Advanced clean up tools that can be customized to your waterjet.
- Greater automation from smart pathing powered by Flow application expertise.
- Save your 3D model as a 2D programmed part.

FlowXpert 2015 will be available in early 2015 globally.

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

Infinite Skills' "Autodesk AutoCAD 2015 - Beyond The Basics Collection" Provides Comprehensive Resource For Designers, Engineers, and Students

24 September 2014

Software training firm Infinite Skills Inc. last week released its "Autodesk AutoCAD 2015 - Beyond the Basics," a collection of courses designed for architects, engineers, designers, and students, covering the essentials of AutoCAD functionality, along with a selection of advanced courses going in-depth with particular features.

Released in March, AutoCAD 2015 features a refreshed user interface designed to improve the design

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

process, along with other time-saving productivity tools, including the new tab page, ribbon galleries, and command preview.

Infinite Skills' "AutoCAD 2015 - Beyond The Basics" provides expert-guided instruction on AutoCAD essentials, covering new features, along with in-depth explanations in areas such as blocks and dynamic blocks, plotting and publishing, workflow efficiency, drawings, references, and space planning.

This collection of courses is taught by Infinite Skills' two leading AutoCAD trainers, Brian Benton and Shawn Bryant.

Benton is an engineering technician, CAD Service Provider, technical writer, and AutoCAD instructor with more than 20 years of experience using AutoCAD in multiple design fields. He has served in leadership roles for Autodesk, contributing to software development, and editing the company's newsletter, HotNews.

Bryant is a training consultant with 20 years of hands-on experience as an AutoCAD user in civil and structural engineering practice. He has worked for Autodesk in sales support and training, and is currently an Autodesk Approved Instructor, holding AutoCAD 2013 Certified Professional status.

Benton begins with a chapter covering the new features in the latest version of AutoCAD, looking at the changes in the user interface and other enhancements. He then explains in detail how to work in the AutoCAD interface and workspaces, and how to perform basic operations such as object selection, configure units, navigate the coordinate system, and use the pan and zoom tools.

The essentials course also demonstrates basic drawing and editing techniques, explaining key drawing tools such as polylines and how to draw using various geometric shapes, along with editing tools such as rotate and scale, mirror, fillet and chamfer, and many more. Chapters assimilate the tools and skills covered into final chapter projects.

Bryant covers detailed areas of AutoCAD functionality, explaining the AutoCAD block command, that allows designers to create and save object groups and styles, and extending its functionality to create dynamic blocks.

Other included courses look at construction drawings, providing students with an in-depth understanding of the best practices and associated features for efficiency; working with references, which allow users to overlay multiple files in order to fulfill detail requirements and facilitate collaboration; techniques for efficiency, helping users use key commands and other features to work smarter and faster; along with several other advanced topics.

"In these courses you will learn how to draw and how to draw accurately," Benton says.

"Each course will provide a foundation of skills that you will be able to take with you into any design field."

Free demo videos and a full list of course contents can be found on the "Learning Autodesk AutoCAD 2015 - Beyond The Basics" training page of the Infinite Skills website:

<http://www.infiniteskills.com/training/autodesk-autocad-2015-beyond-the-basics.html>

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

TraceParts Offers Component Suppliers A Dedicated Mobile Application To Promote Their Products In 3D

25 September 2014

TraceParts launches a brand new solution allowing component suppliers to showcase their products and technical data, including 3D CAD files from any mobile devices.

TraceParts now offers standalone mobile applications for companies requiring to easily and professionally showcase their full range of products with live 3D models from a smartphone or a tablet.

The applications are based on the long established TraceParts CAD file delivery and 3D viewing technology, ensuring each mobile device is always showing the latest technical information.

Available both on Android and iOS, the applications are supported and updated by TraceParts, keeping them compatible with the latest devices and software updates.

“Our customers wanted an easy solution to present their technical products to maximize their conversion rate in sales calls, exhibitions and conferences. As a result, we came up with a solution to create dedicated mobile applications with 3D models that can be viewed live and moved around at a touch to keep our clients ahead of the 3D race” added Thierry Bourgeay, Global Marketing Manager at TraceParts.

TraceParts announced earlier this year a record-breaking level of activity on its Engineering portal TracePartsOnline.net, confirming that CAD model access is becoming an integral part of most design processes. From smartphones and tablets, engineers and design professionals can now access them anywhere and anytime, and therefore maximize their design productivity.

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

Official Release of ZWCAD+ 2015: Extended Usability in 3D and GIS

22 September 2014

[ZWCAD Design](#) today announced the official release of [ZWCAD+ 2015](#), with new features including a brand new UI, Unicode, Reference Manager, Super Hatch and many more.

Extended capability to do more

ZWCAD+ 2015 strengthens its kernel in order to allow more users of different languages to use ZWCAD+. As its basic 3D features have also been enhanced, designers can experience a more complete 2D-to-3D workflow. For users from the GIS field, they can access Google Earth in their current drawing for realistic design. This new version has extended ZWCAD+'s capability for users to do more.

- 1. Unicode**--More powerful ZWCAD+ kernel to fully support Unicode, enabling all design information to be easily and accurately exchanged between different languages.
- 2. Sweep**--More sophisticated objects can be created by sweeping an open/closed planar curve along an open/closed path.
- 3. Loft**--More complicated models can be made by specifying a series of cross sections.
- 4. Google Earth**--ZWCAD+ 2015 can import graphic snapshots from Google Earth to review the final result in real map, hence experience and improve the project even before it's built.

Speed up your design with time-saving tools and new efficient UI

ZWCAD+ 2015 provides time-saving tools -- Super Hatch, Reference Manager and brand new efficient UI to speed up your design.

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

1. **Reference Manager**-- Reference Manager enables you to conveniently manage all external resources in the current drawing, and have a quicker view of all the resources as well as spot any missing resources easily.
2. **Super Hatch**--Designers are no longer limited to hatching with predefined patterns. Instead, they can freely and conveniently hatch with block, reference and image etc.
3. **New UI**--A neater, flatter and more intuitive user interface, letting you stay away from visual fatigue caused by long-time design as well as visual interruption. In this way you can create more on your design.

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)

Version 9 of LGS released: Constraint-Driven Parametric Design and Optimization

24 September 2014

Bricsys released V9 of LGS component technology, a set of computational software libraries used by developers of CAD, CAM, CAE applications for implementation of geometric and dimensional constraint support.

This is the third release of this mature software since the acquisition of the corresponding intellectual property rights from LEDAS in 2011. Both LGS 2D and LGS 3D libraries were integrated in BricsCAD V12 to support parametric drawing and variational direct modeling. Later the areas of application of LGS were extended to assembly design in BricsCAD V13, and sheet metal design in BricsCAD V14. Now it is a powerful constraint solving technology, which proved its ability to solve complex industrial parametric models created by thousands of BricsCAD customers.

Version 9.0 makes a significant breakthrough in constraint solving techniques, which aim at finding the most natural (most expected by the end user) solution for a constraint problem. It also contains several improvements and fixes related to different problems reported by the customers.

In particular LGS 2D 9.0 provides better diagnostics for geometric objects and constraints. It also contains a new reliable method of solving coincidence constraint between two lines.

LGS 3D 9.0 allows users to edit 3D sheet metal models very smoothly and efficiently. It also implements special methods to minimize the number of transformed geometries, when it is possible. With LGS 3D 9.0 it is possible to control the distance between the closest points of two circles lying on parallel planes.

“LGS technology is available for licensing to all software developers with no relation to BricsCAD,” explained Erik De Keyser, CEO Bricsys. “Sometimes our licensees use LGS technology more extensively than we do in BricsCAD. A good example gives CEAD software developed by CADVision Engineers for constraint-driven engineering design synthesis. The success of our customers is also our success: we are constantly working to satisfy their requirements and improve our technology.”

 [Click here to return to Contents](#)