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CIMdata News

“Realizing the Digital Twin”—Siemens PLM Software Analyst Conference 2017 (Commentary)

3 October 2017

Key takeaways:

- *As a strategic part of Siemens AG, Siemens PLM Software is delivering a comprehensive and cohesive end-to-end solution.*
- *With more than US\$10B in acquisitions, Siemens PLM Software (Siemens) has expanded significantly and continues to deliver solutions to support the digital transformation of industry, including expanding to operations and service.*
- *Both of Siemens’ design solutions, NX and Solid Edge, offer improved workflow for generative design techniques including topology optimization by leveraging Convergent Modeling that includes faceted and precise geometry, additive manufacturing, and reverse engineering.*
- *Siemens’ actionable, holistic digital twin composed of multiple functional twins, includes product, performance, and production, and is broader than other digital twin solutions in the market.*
- *The acquisition of Mentor is bearing fruit on many fronts, including wire harness design and electronics manufacturing. Siemens can now offer a multi-domain IT environment that supports the development and ongoing operation of today’s smart, sensor-rich, connected products, as well as supporting tomorrow’s products, like autonomous vehicles.*

CIMdata recently attended Siemens PLM Software’s 11th annual analyst conference in Boston, Massachusetts September 5th through 8th. This event continues to expand as Siemens’ solution portfolio grows, with almost 100 industry analysts and journalists in attendance.¹ The theme of this year’s event

¹ For brevity in this commentary, CIMdata refers to Siemens AG by its full name and uses Siemens re refer to Siemens PLM

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was “Realizing the Digital Twin.” Siemens described their approach to creating a holistic, actionable set of digital twins that encompass all aspects of the product lifecycle, spanning product, production, and performance. Their holistic digital twin strategy supports their approach to systems-driven product development shown in Figure 1. Since the 2-1/2-day event was so rich in content, this commentary will provide highlights spanning the main elements shown in the figure.

In the opening keynote, Dr. Jan Mrosik, CEO, Siemens AG Digital Factory Division, stressed the essential requirements for companies throughout the manufacturing industry—improving both speed to market and flexibility. According to Dr. Mrosik, all Siemens AG divisions are driving digitalization technologies and the Digital Factory group has a goal to help the global manufacturing industry go digital as companies move toward Industrie 4.0. Siemens AG has stated that going digital is not sufficient—companies need to embrace digitalization that uses digital strategies and associated enabling technologies to help change business models, a sentiment with which CIMdata strongly agrees. To power this vision, Siemens is building digital twins of the entire value chain process—providing digital twins for all aspects including mechanical, software, electronics, simulation, production, service, etc. CIMdata agrees that Siemens’ concept of the holistic digital twin has great potential to improve lifecycle processes and be a competitive differentiator when it is fully implemented.

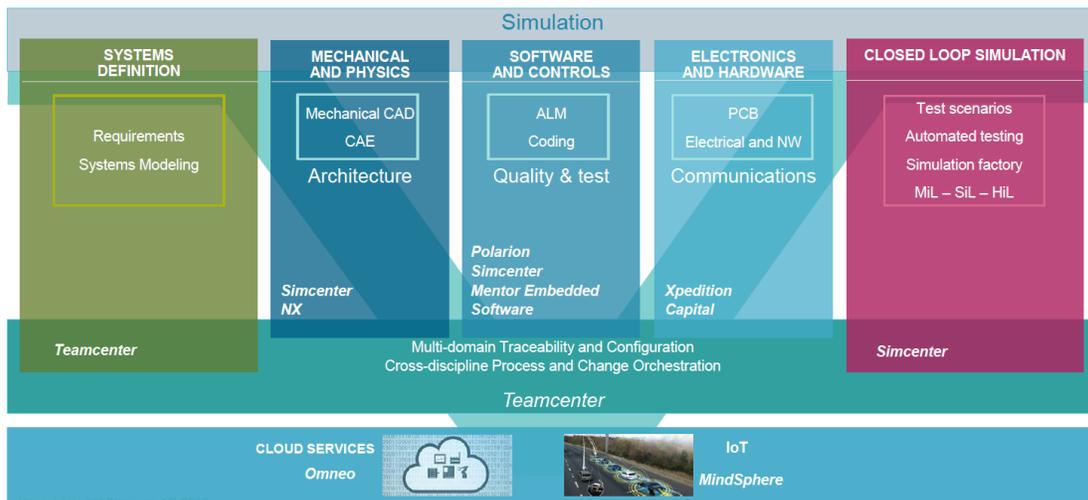


Figure 1—Systems-Driven Product Development
(Courtesy of Siemens PLM Software)

To reach their broad vision, Siemens AG has spent over US\$10 billion on strategic acquisitions to expand their PLM portfolio. The biggest single investment was Mentor Graphics, at about \$4.5 billion. Mentor Graphics (now called Mentor) has long been a leader in the electronic design automation (EDA) space, as reported by CIMdata’s global PLM market analysis. Mentor also brings strengths in computational fluid dynamics (CFD) and digital manufacturing that are very complementary with the existing Siemens portfolio. Siemens is working to rapidly integrate Mentor’s capabilities in their authoring tool workflows. In addition, Dr. Walden (Wally) C. Rhines, Mentor’s President and CEO, emphasized that unlike their EDA competitors, Mentor gets over 50% of their revenues from systems work, not just tools. This strength fits perfectly with the systems view of Siemens, and brings additional tools to extend that view to include electronics in their workflows and digital twins. CIMdata is impressed that the integration initiatives between Siemens and Mentor, which started over a year ago,

Software.

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have smoothly transitioned and accelerated since the acquisition, resulting in demonstrable examples of a cross-domain, mechanical-electrical production digital twin. (During the sessions, they made it clear that the collaboration intensity had increased between the then partners before the acquisition was finalized, making it easier to move quickly once it was executed.) Based on CIMdata's market research, the Siemens/Mentor combination should be the largest PLM solution provider for calendar year 2017.²

As shown in CIMdata's global PLM market research, Siemens is a leader in automotive, a strength they continue to reinforce. Autonomous vehicles are causing a shift from testing to simulation to perform validation. Mr. Tony Hemmelgarn, Siemens' CEO and President, noted in his keynote that massive validation and verification (V&V) cycles are needed to support all the possible situations an autonomous vehicle will face. Conducting physical validation for billions of hours is not feasible making simulation even more important. While CIMdata does not believe that simulation will eliminate physical testing, it does allow much broader test coverage and, when combined with hardware-in-the-loop (HIL) and software-in-the loop (SIL), it can support a much more comprehensive and rapid validation and verification process.

During the event, Siemens noted their recent acquisition of TASS International, a global leader in automated driving solutions. This acquisition adds strength to their capabilities in simulation and test services in the automotive space. TASS' customer list includes most of the automotive OEMs globally, as well as many Tier 1 and Tier 2 suppliers. While automotive is TASS' focus, they also have quite a number of leading aerospace customers, again a nice synergy with Siemens' global business in aerospace and defense. CIMdata believes the TASS acquisition is another great pick that will help expand their Simcenter vision and associated capabilities. CIMdata anticipates that it will also help Siemens improve their customers' V&V process, both for autonomous vehicles and other complex system products.

In today's smart, connected world, companies must adapt to ensure their survival. Some talk of data as the new oil, lubricating and powering business success. In his remarks entitled "Digitalization Changes Everything, Everywhere," Mr. Hemmelgarn emphasized that just gathering data to identify a problem is not enough. Unfortunately, this is where the value propositions of many solution providers end. You need to also identify how to fix the problem. Siemens plans to use their holistic digital twin approach and associated enabling technologies, which can accurately predict reality and operational outcomes, to let manufacturers drive the right fix. One way they will achieve this diagnostic goal is through their MindSphere platform which provides information that can drive real product and production design changes, not just service adjustments. Many solution providers understand this need, but most are still working out the details of just how and where this information will feedback into the product lifecycle processes.

According to Siemens, MindSphere provides the foundation for systems-driven product development as shown in the figure. Mr. Stephen Bashada, Executive Vice President and General Manager, Cloud and Data Services, presented MindSphere and its related products and services. MindSphere is positioned as a "cloud-based, open IoT operating system," delivered as an open platform as a service (PaaS) offering. MindApps are supporting applications that run on their MindSphere infrastructure. Products, machines, assets, and edge devices can be easily connected to the MindSphere platform using MindConnect embedded software or as dedicated, integrated devices. Mr. Bashada mentioned that Siemens has a growing suite of MindApps and an open partner ecosystem providing applications and services. They demonstrated how they close the production digital twin loop with MindSphere and analytics for

² Barring any unforeseen large acquisitions by the current leader Dassault Systèmes.

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continuous quality improvement across the entire product lifecycle. They are investing heavily in MindSphere and Mr. Bashada presented a few business cases showing MindSphere in operation demonstrating the value of this approach. Siemens AG is well positioned as a software provider and a manufacturer and user of IoT devices. CIMdata believes this combination will help Siemens fully deliver on its holistic digital twin strategy. Rittal, a Siemens customer, described how they are improving the uptime and designs of their machines by leveraging information from MindSphere.

The way products are designed will also have to change in a smart, connected world to meet new design and manufacturing requirements. Mr. Bob Haubrock, Senior Vice President, Product Engineering Solutions, highlighted “Next Generation Design with NX.” In keeping with the broad Siemens strategy positioning of “Ideation, Realization, and Utilization,” Mr. Haubrock spoke of their advances in ideation supported by generative design processes. By leveraging their Parasolid geometric kernel’s addition of faceted geometry, their “Convergent Modeling” approach has been extended to provide a smooth, integrated workflow from design to manufacturing, including additive manufacturing processes, by enabling faceted data from scanning or topology optimization processes to be mixed with classic B-rep data. A second strong theme Mr. Haubrock outlined for on-going NX improvements was integration with the newly acquired Mentor electrical design capabilities to support cross discipline printed circuit board (PCB) integration and wire harness design. One of the most interesting advances Siemens presented was the integration of Capital (a context-aware electrical design and layout solution that is part of the Mentor suite) with Teamcenter and NX. The Active Workspace user interface (UI) for Teamcenter is already integrated within Capital. This integration will help smooth the design of discrete products that include electronic subsystems. These design advances also extend to their Solid Edge portfolio.

Mr. Dan Staples, Vice President Product Development, presented enhancements to Solid Edge available in its newest release, Solid Edge ST10. Paralleling generative design in NX, Solid Edge ST10 also takes advantage of Convergent Modeling to offer users topology optimization based on specified parameters, such as a specific component material, a design space (or envelope), and permissible loads and constraints. Partnering with Bentley Systems to leverage their scanning technology, Solid Edge ST10 offers improved reverse engineering capabilities, again leveraging Convergent Modeling. CIMdata sees these enhancements as a step forward to provide users with an improved workflow in generative design and reverse engineering tasks.

One major application for generative design is to support another important trend, the production use of additive manufacturing (AM). Siemens has been diligently working in this area for some time, leveraging AM work being performed by Siemens Corporate Technology group. During his remarks, Mr. Hemmelgarn announced a relationship with HP, linking Siemens NX Additive Manufacturing capabilities with HP’s Multi-Jet Fusion printers. In a later session, Mr. Aaron Frankel, Senior Director of Marketing at Siemens, provided more details on their end-to-end AM strategy, including barriers to industrializing AM for production of end-use parts. He also introduced the “Part Manufacturing Platform” that enables an ecosystem of members to design, analyze, validate, source, and print parts globally. The platform provides a flexible infrastructure for on-demand design and manufacturing targeted for maintenance and low volume production situations. Mr. Frankel concluded his presentation by introducing the NX AM software module and highlighted how NX supports Design for Additive Manufacturing (DfAM) with end-to-end simulation, including automatic parts nesting in the build tray. Mr. Frankel then announced the “NX AM for HP Multi Jet Fusion” product, which specifically leverages HP’s Multi Jet Fusion technology. The certification agreement that Siemens PLM Software and HP signed will provide users more confidence in the NX/HP combination, and should help drive HP

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Multi Jet Fusion (MJF) Technology adoption in the market.

Ms. Michelle Bockman, Global Head of 3D Printing at HP Inc., gave an overview of HP's MJF Technology. Ms. Bockman recently joined HP from GE Digital, where her experience as Executive Vice President should help her lead and expand HP's AM Printing business. Ms. Bockman closed with an example of partnering with Siemens by showing design and production of a simple mechanical part with an Industrial Internet of things (IIoT) device imbedded in it during printing. The example highlighted how AM enables IIoT and provides real business intelligence information (i.e., number of cycles, wear, etc.) that will enable preemptive maintenance of production equipment. The presentation emphasized how the strategic relationship between Siemens and HP will industrialize AM for production of end-use parts.

Finally, Siemens is making rapid progress on integrating Mentor's strength supporting electronics manufacturing into the Tecnomatix portfolio. Mr. Zvi Feuer, SVP Manufacturing Engineering Software, Mr. Rene Wolf SVP Manufacturing Operations Management Software, and Mr. Dan Hoz GM of Mentor's Valor division presented how Siemens can now combine traditional mechanical manufacturing workflows and electronic workflows. For example, Valor adds PCB to existing strengths on the shop floor in Tecnomatix. Flomerics adds the ability to apply CFD to simulate both product manufacture and their operations. This is yet another example of how Siemens is expanding their vision and ability to execute across the holistic digital twin.

As at all the analyst events, Siemens had several customers talking about their own digital journey, the issues they are facing, and how they are using Siemens' solutions to address them. For example, Mr. Alan Wardle, Enterprise Architect—Civil Aerospace, at Rolls-Royce, described their closed loop manufacturing journey. He stated that they wanted a PLM-centric execution system, not an ERP-centric one for their 21 MES-enabled plants. According to Mr. Wardle, quality and safety were the drivers, first defined in engineering and then transitioned to the shop floor. Mr. Wardle commented that Rolls-Royce uses the digital twin for optimization and variation, something they long needed. Their overall solution includes Teamcenter (for PLM) and SIMATIC IT (for MOM). He stated that the key lesson learned was to put people first, then pick and implement the needed technology, long a tenet of CIMdata's industrial consulting.

Summary

CIMdata is impressed with the broad and deep portfolio of solutions assembled by Siemens. They have developed and/or acquired technology and solutions that provide value across the entire lifecycle and can be used to connect the silos of mechanical, software, and electrical and electronics. Their offerings span from ideation to requirements management to systems engineering supporting PCB, semiconductor, wire harness, software, mechanical, and electrical systems across ideation, design, develop, simulation, test, validation, manufacture, and service as shown in the figure. They are using their definition of an actionable, holistic digital twin to create closed loop environments that enable enterprises to not just monitor a product but to take informed corrective actions to improve design, development, production, and service. CIMdata agrees that only such platform thinking allows a proper model-based design concept approach, where simulation plays a central role and enables system-driven product development. Their comprehensive and structured platform approach includes foundational elements such as cloud service layers (Omneo and MindSphere) and a collaboration backbone (Teamcenter) over domain-specific processes supporting domain- and physics-specific execution. No company, even one as large as Siemens, can do all this work alone. To support both innovation and technology adoption, Siemens AG established "Next 47," described by Mr. Mrosik as an incubator for

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startups to help expand their ecosystem of providers and partners. CIMdata thinks this is a very interesting idea that should result in new and expanded uses for Siemens' technologies and solutions.

While Siemens has made significant progress, there is a lot of work still to do. CIMdata looks forward to seeing how and when Siemens leverages the full scope of their suite.

About CIMdata

CIMdata, an independent worldwide firm, provides strategic management consulting to maximize an enterprise's ability to design and deliver innovative products and services through the application of Product Lifecycle Management (PLM). CIMdata provides world-class knowledge, expertise, and best-practice methods on PLM. CIMdata also offers research, subscription services, publications, and education through international conferences. To learn more about CIMdata's services, visit our website at <http://www.CIMdata.com> or contact CIMdata at: 3909 Research Park Drive, Ann Arbor, MI 48108, USA. Tel: +1 734.668.9922. Fax: +1 734.668.1957; or at Oogststraat 20, 6004 CV Weert, The Netherlands. Tel: +31 (0) 495.533.666.

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Acquisitions

Aptos Completes Acquisition of TXT Retail

3 October 2017

[Aptos, Inc.](#) today announced it has completed its acquisition of [TXT Retail](#), the leading global provider of end-to-end merchandise lifecycle management (MLM) solutions for the apparel, luxury, specialty and general retail sectors. Going forward, TXT Retail will be known as TXT Retail, an Aptos Company.

The acquisition unites Aptos' best-in-class customer engagement and inventory management solutions with TXT Retail's best-of-breed merchandise lifecycle management suite, all available in the cloud.

The extended technology portfolio represents the industry's most comprehensive set of omni-channel retail solutions, featuring proven, scalable and widely deployed applications for point of sale, customer relationship management, order management, sales audit, retail analytics, e-commerce, merchandising, forecasting, allocation and replenishment, merchandise and assortment planning, product lifecycle management, and supplier collaboration.

By bringing together Aptos' Singular Commerce platform and the TXT Retail MLM suite, retailers will be uniquely positioned to break down the silos that are inherent within merchandise, customer and order lifecycles.

"By removing the barriers that typically exist in managing customers, products and orders, Aptos will empower retailers to transform their businesses for omni-channel success, loyalty and profitability," said Noel Goggin, Aptos CEO and culture leader. "The enhanced solution footprint allows retailers to deliver localized assortments, personalized offers, fulfillment flexibility and seamless experiences no matter when, where or how shoppers choose to engage. Equally important, it allows retailers to achieve this profitably as shopper expectations continue to evolve."

At the acquisition's close, the combined organization serves more than 1,000 of the world's leading retail

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brands across 60 countries, including adidas, Billabong, Build-A-Bear Workshop, Cole Haan, Dior, Guess, Lacoste, Louis Vuitton, Sephora, Tesco, Tod's, TUMI, Urban Outfitters, WH Smith and Zalando.

With less than 2 percent of overlap between the Aptos and TXT Retail customer bases, hundreds of retailers stand to benefit from the acquisition, which will enable them to streamline their technology stack with an end-to-end retail technology provider that is committed to their success.

"Aptos customers now have access to best-of-breed solutions to fast-track the merchandise lifecycle, optimize assortments and ensure that consumer demand is met," said Simone Pozzi, previously TXT Retail CEO and now general manager, TXT Retail, an Aptos Company. "Additionally, TXT Retail customers can leverage Aptos' Singular Commerce platform to deliver a more personalized, differentiated experience and redefine how they understand and interact with shoppers."

"When Aptos spun off as an independent company a little over two years ago, we had a clear vision of delivering competitive advantage to retailers on a global scale with the industry's most comprehensive set of solutions that enable singular commerce and seamless experiences," said Goggin. "By bringing TXT Retail holistically into the Aptos business — its MLM suite, the 500 retail brands it serves and its 300 retail specialist colleagues — we have made tremendous progress on our journey of helping retailers to engage differently, all the way from product concept to the consumer. We are thrilled to welcome TXT Retail's customers and colleagues into the Aptos family."

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Atos to Acquire Siemens Convergence Creators

2 October 2017

Atos today announces its project to acquire Siemens Convergence Creators GmbH (CVC), a global multi-industry digital transformation solutions provider, headquartered in Vienna. With its highly skilled engineers and a total headcount of approximately 800 staff, CVC delivers software based solutions in the fields of communication networks, service and customer management, public safety and security, multimedia infotainment, as well as space technology.

CVC was initially an internal innovative R&D and solutions partner for multiple Siemens Business Units (BUs). In 2016, Siemens completed its carve out as an independent Siemens BU with its own IP resources and an external customer strategy.

Focused on innovative R&D and turnkey solutions, CVC would accelerate Atos' technology leap, bringing specific software and hardware IP assets notably to enlarge its cybersecurity and communication solutions. These combined offerings would strengthen Atos' credentials and ability to deliver the latest mission-critical systems and secured networks while increasing Atos' penetration in the Telco market and enable access to high-growth markets such as satellite and civil airplane manufacturers and operators.

CVC presence in Germany, the US, and Central and Eastern Europe (with delivery centres in Croatia and Romania providing digital expertise), together with its powerful network of partners, would offer Atos a strong basis for activities all over the world.

The transaction is expected to close end of December 2017 and is subject to information / consultation by employee representative's bodies' as well as the approvals of the regulatory and antitrust authorities.

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Hexagon Acquires Luciad, a Leading Provider of 5D Visualisation and Analysis Solutions

[4 October 2017](#)

Hexagon AB announces the acquisition of Luciad, a Belgian-based software company specialising in the visualisation and analysis of real-time geospatial information.

Luciad's visualisation technologies support live connections to dynamic sensor feeds in a 3D environment. The result is a 5D digital reality – real-time, rapid fusion of multi-source content and the ability to perform analytics on-the-fly. These intuitive command and control systems benefit all kinds of applications – from public safety to smart cities to defense and intelligence – enabling users to make critical decisions based on changing information in real-time.

"This acquisition strengthens Hexagon's ability to deliver smart digital realities, enhancing our Smart M.App platform with 3D, 4D (real-time sensor feed integration) and 5D (dynamic analytics) capabilities," said Hexagon President and CEO Ola Rollén. "The ability to rapidly integrate sensor data in a visually compelling environment provides the geospatial location intelligence and situational awareness necessary for mission critical operations."

Luciad has over 100 highly-skilled professionals in 8 countries, with over 100,000 users of its technology globally.

Luciad will be fully consolidated as of today, operating within Hexagon's Geospatial division. The company's turnover for 2016 amounted to 16 MEUR.

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Hexagon Manufacturing Intelligence Moves to Enhance HxGN SMART Quality Development with Kronion Acquisition

4 October 2017

Hexagon AB today announced the acquisition of assets from Kronion GmbH and their transfer to Hexagon Manufacturing Intelligence.

Founded in 2009, Kronion developed the eMMA software suite for dimensional data management, quality planning and analytics for the automotive, shipbuilding and other discrete manufacturing industries. The company currently employs 15 people in Landau, Germany; these employees will continue to work from the Landau site as part of the team at Q-DAS, the Hexagon-owned statistical process control specialist. The functionality of eMMA will enhance the recently launched HxGN SMART Quality online quality data and measurement resource management software platform.

eMMA software is an enterprise IT solution that enables OEMs and their suppliers to plan, collect and analyse dimensional information from various stages of the product lifecycle. Offering native 3D functionality and integration to product data management (PDM) and product lifecycle management (PLM) software as well as other customer systems, eMMA is used by global automotive manufacturers

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across prototype departments, body shops, interior, composite, stamping and metrology rooms. The software collects shop-floor data from dozens of metrology systems and aligns it with managed quality control routines for automated and on-the-fly analytics.

“The eMMA software and the expertise of the team behind it are highly complementary additions to Q-DAS and our HxGN SMART Quality development group. They will provide our customers with greater value out of their collected dimensional data and ease data management efforts”, said Norbert Hanke, President of Hexagon Manufacturing Intelligence. “We’re committed to supporting our customers’ entire metrology fleet including probing, scanning and automated systems with a hardware-independent software solution.”

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itelligence Acquires Premium SAP Services Provider vCentric Technologies in India

4 October 2017

As part of its ongoing strategy of growth in India, [itelligence India Software Solutions Private Limited](#), ("itelligence India") - announced today that it has acquired 100% of vCentric Technologies Private Limited ("vCentric"), a reseller of SAP software and premium SAP services provider based in Hyderabad.

Norbert Rotter, CEO of itelligence said: "The acquisition of vCentric is the first step for our strategic expansion into the growing local Indian IT market. With more than 1,300 employees, we are now one of the leading SAP Partners in the subcontinent."

This acquisition will help itelligence to expand its offerings throughout India to serve local and international customers even more effectively and efficiently for the upcoming tasks of digitalization.

Sanjeev Deshpande, MD itelligence India said: "The acquisition of vCentric allows us to offer services across different geographies in India and different segments. itelligence will continue its industry focus to deliver the quality and best fit solutions to its customers."

vCentric possesses deep SAP know-how and has a broad customer base. Not only was vCentric named SAP Partner of the Year in India for the last three years, in April 2017, SAP named vCentric a Digital Business Partner and in May an SAP Recognized Expert Partner (DM<).

At the SAPPHERE NOW event in May 2017, vCentric was among the worldwide finalists of the Pinnacle Awards in the category S/4HANA Partner of the Year. itelligence in fact collected that award itself this year. itelligence India was also recently named a "Best Place to Work" in Hyderabad's fast growing technology center.

"We are very excited to be part of the itelligence family and together we will grow and serve our customer base in India and the subcontinent with best in class solutions and services offerings," said Venugopal Uppalapati, past Chairman of vCentric, who is now a member of the executive management team of itelligence India.

The parties have agreed not to disclose the transaction amount.

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Materialise Acquires ACTech

4 October 2017

Materialise has today announced the acquisition of ACTech, a Germany-based leader in producing limited runs of highly complex cast metal parts. The transaction brings together the metal competencies of Materialise, a leading provider of additive manufacturing solutions and software, with those of ACTech into a comprehensive metal manufacturing offering.

ACTech has over 20 years of deep knowledge and experience in the production, treatment and quality control of complex metal parts. The acquisition of ACTech's expertise and in-house infrastructure will enable Materialise to accelerate the development of its existing metal competence center and take a strong position in the market for the production and delivery of unique, complex 3D-printed metal parts.

"ACTech knows metal and how to shape it to production standard, and we know Metal 3D Printing. Bringing those two competencies together is vital to the delivery of high added-value metal 3D-printed parts for specialized applications," said Wilfried Vancraen, founder and CEO of Materialise.

Furthermore, the acquisition of ACTech will enable Materialise to develop and improve its software suite for Metal 3D Printing through close collaboration with ACTech, taking advantage of learning from an active metal manufacturing environment.

"Through the acquisition, we are further enhancing the manufacturing and software backbone position that will support the entire industry. For over 27 years, we have always been there as a leading, comprehensive provider of solutions in industrial polymers printing. That position has enabled us to both develop and serve a growing demand for certified manufacturing with dedicated software and solutions. By joining forces with ACTech, we will accelerate that same strategy for metal manufacturing," continued Wilfried Vancraen.

ACTech customers will gain immediate access to metal 3D-printed parts for pre-production design iterations. Materialise will leverage its Metal 3D Printing expertise to further grow ACTech's strong position in those markets where complexity and speed are the driving factors.

Materialise acquired ACTech based on a total enterprise value of \$52.9 million for a total cash payment of \$42.7 million to the sellers. In 2016, ACTech realized German GAAP revenue of \$40.3 million with \$9.6 million in EBITDA and \$2.7 million in net profit. Materialise financed \$32.9 million of the acquisition price through long-term bank financing that carries average interest rates of approximately 1.1% and used available cash for the remainder. The transaction is expected to be accretive to EPS immediately upon closing.

Materialise will update the company's financial guidance for its fiscal year ending December 31, 2017 when it announces its financial results for the third quarter of 2017.

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Wipro Digital to acquire Cooper, a leader in UX and interaction design, and expand Designit's capabilities

5 October 2017

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Wipro Digital today announced that it has signed a definitive agreement to acquire [Cooper](#), an award-winning design and business strategy consultancy. Wipro Digital is the digital business unit of Wipro Limited. Cooper will become part of Designit, Wipro Digital's strategic design arm, further strengthening its design and innovation capabilities, expanding its reach in North America and adding capabilities in professional design education.

Increasingly, global enterprise clients recognize that design is a critical part of any digital or business transformation. By adding Cooper's skills and expertise, Wipro will be better positioned to support its clients' digital programs.

"Our combined capability across design, strategy and technology gives us a unique platform for working side-by-side with clients on the entirety of their digital initiatives. With Cooper, an acknowledged leader and pioneer in the design community with roots on the East and West coast, we will now be the preeminent firm for world-class UX (User Experience) and interaction design. This coupled with Designit's global strategic design services and our world-class engineering capability, will allow us to support the complete digital journey for our clients, helping them transform their businesses for the future", said **Rajan Kohli, Global Head and Senior Vice President, Wipro Digital**. Wipro Digital and Designit serve clients from 16 offices around the world.

Headquartered in San Francisco, Cooper has been a leading brand in interaction design, UX and professional design education for more than 25 years. Founded by Sue Cooper and Alan Cooper, the 'Father of Visual Basic,' the consultancy is credited with inventing many tools and approaches used in design, including the Goal-Directed Design method and personas as a practical interaction design tool. Cooper employs 35 people in offices in San Francisco and New York and provides consulting and training services to top brands including Fortune 500 companies, leading non-profits and government agencies.

"Designit and Cooper are a perfect match. Both companies are passionate about creating products, experiences, and systems that matter and are high-impact and strategic. As a combined force with Wipro, we'll take our clients to new places, and help them think like a startup again," said **Mikal Hallstrup, Designit's Founder and Global CEO**.

"Designit and Cooper share a strikingly similar culture and a shared passion for turning complex problems into solutions people love. Both companies are characterized by unparalleled craftsmanship, real-world practicality, and a humanizing approach to technology. As a combined force, we will continue to shape the future of business," said **Alan Cooper, Co-Founder of Cooper**.

The acquisition is subject to customary closing conditions and is expected to be closed in the third quarter of fiscal 2017-18.

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Company News

4 Reasons that CIMdata's Product Innovation Platform Definition Matters (Aras blog post)

3 October 2017

CIMdata introduced the term [Product Innovation Platform](#) a few years back, in partnership with Gartner

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and IDC, in recognition of the new rigors of complex product development and the short-comings of legacy PLM systems. The initial definition – an innovation-enabling business platform that would support all product related disciplines and users through the entire product lifecycle – was a good start. CIMdata recently expanded the definition into a framework of five (5) Strategic Imperatives and seven (7) Foundational Characteristics. The full paper, [Product Innovation Platforms: Definition, Their Role in the Enterprise, and Their Long-Term Viability](#), is a must read for manufacturers of smart, connected products (meaning almost everyone).

CIMdata wrote extensively about Product Innovation Platform previously, however, it took a few years to get to this framework. Given the industry’s rate of change, it was essentially an effort in classifying and characterizing a moving target. And to be fair, three years is how long the typical legacy PLM system takes to implement.

The good news is CIMdata nailed this one. They have now given the industry some meatiness to help answer one of the biggest questions in manufacturing – how can I transform my business for growth?

Lots of good stuff in the [CIMdata paper](#). Here are the few top line reasons why you should care about the Product Innovation Platform definition.

1. The term Product Innovation Platform refocuses thinking on Product

“A product innovation platform assures the company’s flow of new products because the tools, staff, and information are working in sync throughout the lifecycle.”

Developing and shipping competitive product is the lifeblood of manufacturers’ success, whether they’re producing party balloons, A330s, or Chevy Bolts. To be competitive and profitable today, manufacturers need close collaboration between design disciplines as well as connection to teams upstream and downstream in ways they have not had. While legacy PLM was conceived to unify disciplines and product phases, in practice it stopped at CAD. CIMdata’s definition is a response to this failure in order to focus an organization on a platform for product success.

2. The definition provides a starting point for internal discussion about digital transformation

CIMdata’s purpose for the Product Innovation Platform definition is “to help industrial companies plan for a new generation of technology to support the end-to-end product lifecycle.” They present five imperatives and seven characteristics as the attributes of a system that will support the needs of today and the future. The Product Innovation Platform definition provides a foundation for manufacturers to start a discussion about transforming process through technology to empower people.

Digital transformation is a nebulous, overused term. Everyone from social media companies to complex manufacturers are talking about digital transformation. That said, the concept is not without merit. Most times we hear organizations talk about it, they are referring to the digitization of information i.e., a new system. But we know from customers that there is a critical process component as well. The company works differently today so the system must fit their processes now as well as evolve for tomorrow.

3. Innovation is something that any department can align with

“Ultimately, the goal is to ensure that your company is able to compete—to meet and exceed customer expectations profitably.” The idea of a Product Innovation Platform is something that should resonate with all departments.

Previous terms, notably PDM (product data management), only connoted the mechanical aspects of a product. Therefore, outside of engineering – and CAD users even – the term PLM has been somewhat

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esoteric and carries little meaning for downstream teams or departments that do have a vested interest in related product processes such as ERP or MES. However, anyone in a company can relate to innovation and the constant requirement to innovate and improve product for customers.

There's no doubt that today's product complexity requires a systems engineering approach for software, electronic, electrical, and mechanical design. What's important in CIMdata's position paper is acknowledgement that "These capabilities are increasingly needed throughout the entire extended enterprise including customers, suppliers, and business partners, not just by new product development (NPD)..." Innovation is something that needs to go enterprise-wide, and the data and process that enable enterprise innovation should not be limited simply to those who develop the product.

4. The industry needs this definition to breakthrough to the next level of operational efficiency

As CIMdata notes, "Many [organizations] are too entrenched in their assembled-over-time architectures to be able to move quickly." A Product Innovation Platform is that innovation layer that manufacturers require to build for the future. Manufacturers can use this definition to take the first steps to get to that next level of productivity and operational efficiency.

They want to embrace new technology but first need to get some of the fundamental aspects of complex product design right. They can't feed IoT data back to a product configuration they don't know. They can't connect MRO to product development using a PLM system that was built to manage CAD data. They can't make the necessary connections with a spreadsheet, no matter how many macros. The question is where to get started.

Manufacturers are still wrestling with PLM 1.0.

We're in the midst of the next industrial revolution. We're tossing around terms like Internet of Things (IoT), Industrie 4.0, connected products, machine learning, autonomous vehicles, and Digital Twin. All cool stuff that could transform consumer experience, industrial efficiency, and business models. But...

The Path Ahead for Manufacturers

Taking a bit of license with CIMdata's words – it's been 30 years in the making to get us to next generation PLM. CIMdata has set forth an actionable definition that can be the start of a journey that manufacturers should embark on. The pacesetters are already doing it, albeit, they may not be calling it a product innovation platform. The risk for others is that they are left behind to drown in spreadsheets and "one-of-everything" IT architectures that leave innovation locked up only to fade away in vacant buildings.

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Bill Thomas becomes Global Chairman of KPMG International

1 October 2017

Today, William B Thomas, 49, has become Chairman of KPMG International. He will lead the KPMG global network of professional services firms for a 4-year term, succeeding John B Veihmeyer, who completed his term as Chairman and is retiring from KPMG.

Bill previously served as Chairman of KPMG's Americas region since 2014 and has been a member of the Global Board since 2009. He has been a leader in defining KPMG's global strategy and is a

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champion in promoting an inclusive and high-performing culture throughout the KPMG network.

Bill was CEO and Senior Partner of KPMG in Canada from 2009 to 2016, achieving strong growth in the market, and making strategic investments that contributed to expanding the firm's capabilities. In his 28 years with KPMG, Bill has also held a number of leadership roles in the Canadian firm and within KPMG International, and has served as an audit partner for prominent clients in a variety of industries.

Bill Thomas said:

"I'm excited and honored to succeed a leader I admire as much as John Veihmeyer to take on the role of Chairman of KPMG International. We have been driving innovation across all parts of our business and I intend to continue and accelerate that trend. I believe the transformation that will take place in business and our profession over the next 5 years will eclipse what we've experienced in the past 50 years and I'm convinced the opportunities for KPMG will be greater than ever.

"KPMG is well placed to be at the heart of this transformation. Just in the past year, KPMG has been recognized by industry analysts for our leading capabilities in data & analytics (D&A) and cyber security. We also launched KPMG Clara, our smart audit platform that enables bringing enhanced D&A and cognitive capabilities to the audit.

"Our commitment to quality will continue to underpin everything we do, and I intend to focus on the culture of our global organization to enhance the capabilities of KPMG's extraordinary professionals around the world to bring their best in meeting the rapidly expanding needs of clients."

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Cabinet Vision's Official Launch in Indonesia

28 September 2017

Cabinet Vision was officially launched in Indonesia at the Woodmac trade fair in Jakarta.

The software's new reseller, Cabinet Vision South East Asia, exhibited at the show, to introduce the design and CAD/CAM solution to the region's woodworking industry.

"A number of potential customers were extremely interested," says Cabinet Vision South East Asia's General Manager, Graham Rutter.

"We expect this to be a very strong area for Cabinet Vision's products and services, as it's the most widely used software in the world for the manufacture of furniture, joinery and kitchen cabinets. Users can go from 3D presentations right through to manufacture in moments. And its CAM module, Screen-To-Machine, generates NC code for almost every type of woodworking CNC machine on the market, so there is no need to go through third-party software applications."

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Dassault Systèmes SIMULIA Regional User Meeting (RUM) India 2017 Focused on Offering Customers Multiscale-Multiphysics Simulation and Flexible Cloud Based Licensing

6 October 2017

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[Dassault Systèmes](#) concluded the 13th annual Regional User Meeting (RUM) for SIMULIA community in Bengaluru. SIMULIA RUM 2017 focused on addressing customer requirements of Multiscale-Multiphysics simulation solutions for next level of product development and offering flexible cloud-based licensing for customers. 3DEXPERIENCE on the Cloud is a flexible, fast, convenient way to scale up simulation workflows and give them broader reach within the customer organization.

Dassault Systèmes SIMULIA RUM 2017 is a part of a global series of meetings that runs from the end of September through mid-November worldwide. The conference provided an invaluable platform for industry and research community to learn how the latest simulation technology and methods can harmonize product, nature and life. The meeting saw participation of over five hundred delegates and featured case studies from over twenty customers spanning a wide gamut of industry-relevant topics like multi-disciplinary optimization, test correlation, material modeling and light-weighting. This year's theme emphasized on the SIMULIA community that has been growing exponentially innovating their ways through complex and challenging problems.

Sharing his vision on the SIMULIA Regional User Meeting, Sumanth Kumar, Vice President, SIMULIA Growth, Dassault Systèmes said, "Three key pillars explains SIMULIA strategy worldwide. Firstly simulation technology powers sustainable innovation. Secondly, our technology vision is to deliver a fully-integrated Multiscale-Multiphysics capability across all scales (from molecules to metropolis) and all domains (structures, fluids, electromagnetics, and so forth). Thirdly, strengthen our community focus to democratize simulation technology and push beyond our historical audience and solve holistic end-to-end industry workflows."

He also added, "With the recent addition of Exa, 3DEXPERIENCE platform will provide customers with a proven, diverse portfolio of combined Lattice Boltzmann fluid simulation technologies, as well as Exa's fully industrialized solutions and nearly 350 highly experienced simulation professionals. This set of solutions solves challenging fluids problems faster and more accurately than traditional methods for aerodynamics, aeroacoustics, thermal management and a growing list of applications in other industries."

The 3DEXPERIENCE playground showcased at the SIMULIA RUM 2017 highlighted how the 3DEXPERIENCE platform provides a unified interface for a multidisciplinary end-to-end additive manufacturing workflow. Experts from the SIMULIA CoE (Center of Excellence) shared their insights on new technology acquisitions. They discussed a wide range of topics, such as durability, process automation, design optimization, multibody simulation, as well as SIMULIA solutions on the 3DEXPERIENCE platform. SIMULIA RUM 2017 ended with a lot of promise to push the limits of simulation in today's connected world driving fast-paced innovations that improve everyday life.

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Deloitte Earns Five Top Cloud Honors in 2017 Oracle Excellence Award Program

2 October 2017

Deloitte earned five top cloud-related honors in the 2017 Oracle PartnerNetwork (OPN) Excellence Awards — Global Cloud Transformation partner of the year, Global Specialized SaaS partner of the year, North America SaaS partner of the year, ANZ Regional partner of the year, and APAC Specialized Digital Transformation partner of the year. These global and regional achievements recognize

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innovation through cloud technology, acknowledging Deloitte's impact in the market and its ability to help Oracle customers around the world to transform into digital organizations.

"Cloud isn't just another technology platform, it's a catalyst for reimagining business," explained Jeffrey Davis, principal, Deloitte Consulting LLP. Over the last 24 months, we've brought that concept to life for our clients by investing in training and tools and by building a market presence around the world for Oracle cloud. These awards reflect the effectiveness of our efforts and our enhanced ability to help companies use the Oracle suite of cloud technologies to create scalable, agile organizations capable of realizing a whole new world of possibilities."

"To capitalize on the potential of cloud, organizations must transform, not only by implementing new technology but also by shifting their mindsets," said Camillo Speroni, vice president, Worldwide Alliances and Channels, Oracle. "Deloitte helps our customers to understand what's possible with the Oracle suite of cloud technologies and to manage the people and process changes needed to become a digital organization. These awards recognize Deloitte's commitment to helping our joint customers realize business value at every step in their cloud journeys."

The Oracle Excellence Awards for Specialized Partner of the Year encourage innovation by Oracle PartnerNetwork members, who use Oracle's products and technology to create value for customers and generate new business potential. The OPN Global Cloud Transformation award recognizes commitment to customer success and delivering innovative cloud solutions as well as excellence in solution development and execution.

Deloitte Consulting LLP is a Global Cloud Elite-level member of Oracle PartnerNetwork and has worked with Oracle for more than two decades. Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited member firms throughout the world provide access to over 20,000 professionals who collectively possess deep industry and functional knowledge across Oracle's full line of SaaS applications and IaaS/PaaS technologies. Reflecting its commitment to client satisfaction, Deloitte has been consistently recognized by analysts as the leader in Oracle related services.

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Dimension Data Appoints New Americas CEO

2 October 2017

[Dimension Data](#) today announced the appointment of Ross Wainwright as Chief Executive Officer of Dimension Data in the Americas. Wainwright will report to Dimension Data's Group CEO, Jason Goodall.

Goodall said Ross brings to the group many years of leadership and operational experience. "The Americas is an important region for Dimension Data and the wider NTT Group: almost one third of our clients are hosted in America. In addition, technology is changing the world in ways we have never seen before, and we already have the offerings and structure in place to drive all levels of business with Ross."

Prior to joining Dimension Data, Ross was SAP's Chief Customer Officer for its S/4HANA Cloud business unit. Before this, he was Global Head of Financial Services with an end-to-end responsibility for the SAP Financial Services industry; and Global Head of Financial Services managing the company's Professional Services business. Ross also served as Chief Operating Officer for SAP North

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America, and Executive Vice President of Services for North America, where he was responsible for the direct leadership of over 3,400 professionals in the Services line of business, including sales, consulting delivery and education. He also held senior leadership positions within SAP's License team and in Services Sales.

Before joining SAP in 2002, Ross served in a number of senior sales management positions at Parametric Technology Corporation where he represented the company's mechanical engineering and product life-cycle management solutions for the high tech vertical.

"I'm honoured to become part of Dimension Data, and participate in the exciting transformation journey ahead. The Americas region represents one of the largest and most innovative technology markets in the world, and it will be a privilege to be part of the team to contribute to the overall success of Dimension Data," said Wainwright.

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e-Xstream engineering partners with Brightlands Materials Center to improve the understanding of failure behavior in composite and 3D printed plastic parts

4 October 2017

[e-Xstream engineering](#), an [MSC Software company](#), announced a collaboration with Brightlands Materials Center, a leading R&D center in the field of polymeric materials.

With this collaboration, e-Xstream engineering will further develop its Digimat® platform to improve the predictive modeling of the performance of 3D printed and composite parts. Brightlands Materials Center will develop material models that describe material behavior during long term ageing under dynamic loading.

"We are very honored about this partnership with Brightlands Material Center. We both share the same long-term vision in the fields of Lightweight Automotive and Additive Manufacturing. Thanks to their strategic role and high visibility in the industry, which is requiring more innovative material solutions, Brightlands Material Center will provide e-Xstream engineering with extra bandwidth on the R&D-level and a deeper insight into the material modeling needs of our customers, especially for the Benelux market," says Serge Van Den Heuvel, Business Development Manager at e-Xstream engineering.

"We are excited to start this partnership with e-Xstream engineering. This collaboration provides us with valuable insights into the needs and challenges of application design in the industry, including Tiers, OEMs, and equipment suppliers. e-Xstream's platform approach fits well with our shared research programs to accelerate product and application development," said Marnix van Gorp, Managing Director of Brightlands Materials Center.

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FPT Software and Siemens Join Forces to Push Forward the Expansion of MindSphere IoT Operating System

2 October 2017

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Since early July 2017, FPT Corporation and Siemens have been collaborating in utilizing and implementing MindSphere, the cloud-based open IoT operating system from Siemens, for global customers of different sizes.

The partnership sees the two companies collaborating in both the North and South bound of the IoT platform, making FPT MindSphere's eligible partner in numerous categories, including Consulting, Application Development, System Integration, Technology Development and Connectivity development.

The two companies have taken one step further in the partnership and laid down plan to drive the expansion of the Industrial IoT platform in two frontiers: technology and workforce development. On one hand, FPT and Siemens will work together to provide worldwide solutions on MindSphere to help businesses adopt digital transformation for their organizations, particular in leveraging big data for IT/OT convergence. On the other hand, the question of workforce readiness will be addressed by FPT as the company has committed to develop up to 1,000 FTEs worldwide to help Siemens in MindSphere's global go-to-market, both in customer acquisition and technical roll-outs. Customers in industries where the two companies have strong footprints and expertise, namely Automotive, Aviation and Utilities among others, are expected to benefit greatly from the strategic alliance. FPT and Siemens have achieved initial success in UK, Germany and Vietnam. In the nearest future, the two companies will expand to other markets like Europe, Japan, APAC and US to support the fast growing community of MindSphere users.

"I strongly believe the determination of FPT and Siemens in embracing digital manufacturing will witness tremendous success, especially for our customers". Mr. Hoang Viet-Anh, CEO of FPT Software remarked. "The joint efforts between the companies will provide customers with a powerful IoT platform and a highly scalable and skillful workforce, which can be mobilized in a speedy manner, and to any corner of the world."

In the recent years, FPT has emerged as an adept IoT service provider, with a growing customer base in various industries, from start-ups to Fortunes 500s. FPT's IoT team includes hundreds of experts with deep knowledge in different platforms, and in both software and hardware.

"We believe FPT is a valuable partner, with whom we can assist customers of all sizes and industries in driving the global Digital Transformation by co-developing skillful workforce and providing joint offering. This partnership and the FPT portfolio brings an important benefit for the Mindsphere Ecosystem," said Paul Kaeley, senior vice president, Global Partner Eco-system, Siemens PLM Software.

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Fujitsu Highlights Advances in AI, Robotics, Cloud and Human-centric Digital Innovation at Oracle OpenWorld 2017

2 October 2017

Fujitsu America, Inc., a Cloud Premier member of Oracle PartnerNetwork (OPN), [Oracle Cloud Managed Service Provider \(MSP\)](#) and Oracle OpenWorld Grande Sponsor, is showcasing a number of enterprise innovations at Oracle OpenWorld 2017. Highlights include an executive solution session with Goro Watanabe, Executive Vice President, Fujitsu Technology and Business of America, Inc., on

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the latest advances in artificial intelligence (AI) for business, while booth visitors can meet the company's first commercial robot, which speaks and interacts with people using AI to help it understand human emotions.

The new, interactive talking robot uses Human Centric AI Zinrai, which is the Fujitsu approach to artificial intelligence, to learn and analyze human emotions based on such factors as tone of voice, while using a camera to recognize emotions and faces. The resulting analysis allows it to generate suggestions based on specific interests. The robot will be used for consumer and industrial purposes such as at reception desks, care facilities and other service jobs. It has achieved a natural level of conversation thanks to cloud technology that stores data from conversations. In addition to its use in the robot, the Fujitsu Zinrai AI platform will also be demoed in a more general display at the booth to highlight its business innovation capabilities.

Along with the other AI solutions, booth visitors can learn about a quantum-inspired AI cloud service, which combines Fujitsu digital annealer and IQBit software to enable advances in machine learning and large-scale optimization problems. The booth will also include demos of the Fujitsu Sai Anomaly Detection Engine, which detects anomalies in factory operations for real-time failure prediction.

With its overarching theme of Human Centric Innovation: Digital Co-Creation, the Fujitsu booth (#3107) emphasizes business innovation, digital platforms, enterprise productivity and enterprise applications. Other booth exhibits will showcase the recently announced Fujitsu SPARC M12 server running premiere Oracle database software – a combination that offers the world's number one core performance.² There will also be a cut-model of the new Fujitsu SPARC M12 server to show off its innovative Vapor and Liquid Loop Cooling feature and the high performance SPARC64® XII processor.

Also featured in the Fujitsu booth:

- A new cybersecurity solution for the digital factory that combines the Fujitsu SPARC M12 server's virtually unlimited data processing power and capacity with the Strim™ platform for real-time analysis, forecasting, and decision making to increase the productivity of security analysts.
- Solutions for optimizing systems and infrastructure in order to thrive in highly competitive business environments, providing exhibits on Oracle Cloud MSP (Oracle Cloud Infrastructure) – Oracle Cloud at Customer, Fujitsu K5®, Oracle Database as a Service (DBaaS), AMS automation, Oracle Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) Cloud & Oracle Enterprise Performance Management (EPM) Cloud.
- Applications for Oracle Cloud that help deliver better customer and employee experiences as well as improve business efficiency, enhance the decision-making process, and gain competitive advantage. Topics such as ERP transformation, Software as a Service (SaaS), and Oracle Cloud will be featured.

An executive solution session titled "Where Are We Heading...With AI?" by Fujitsu Executive Vice President Goro Watanabe will explore the diverse AI solutions available for a variety of industries from state-of-the art platforms to the cloud, and more. Bill Nesheim, Vice President, Solaris Platform Engineering at Oracle, will also join this session to talk about new features coming to Oracle Solaris. The talk will take place on Monday, Oct. 2 from 11:00 – 11:45am at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts in Moscone Center.

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Oracle OpenWorld (#OOOW2017) runs Sunday, October 1, through Thursday, October 5, and is held at Moscone Convention Center in San Francisco.

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Infosys Wins Three Prestigious Oracle Excellence Awards for Specialized Partner Cloud Services

3 October 2017

[Infosys](#) today announced it has been awarded three Oracle Excellence Awards for expertly delivering solutions based on Oracle technology.

Infosys has been awarded the 2017 Oracle Excellence Award for Specialized Partner of the Year under CX Cloud category both globally and in North America. Infosys earned these two recognitions for its ability to deliver innovative customer experiences with a mobile-first approach. The company's offerings cover the entire spectrum of Oracle CX Cloud, including pre-built industry solutions and integrations through PaaS solutions.

Infosys has also won the 2017 Oracle Excellence Award for Specialized Partner of the Year in North America for the on-premise-to-cloud Business Model Transformation category. This award recognizes Infosys for providing a comprehensive, end-to-end Oracle Cloud solution spanning Software-as-a-Service, Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS) and Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS), and lift-and-shift on-premise legacy applications to the cloud.

"Our goal was to provide our sales representatives, sales managers and sales leaders with meaningful intelligence that they can actually use to manage and measure their business," said Anil Roy, VP, Enterprise Applications, Ricoh USA Inc. "Infosys partnered with us for this CRM Transformation initiative to create the roadmap for future technology architecture for the organization. Together, we have started migration to Oracle Cloud PaaS to provide meaningful analytics to our sales teams. We not only expect significant cost savings but also anticipate a reduction in the time taken for a new business requirement to production deployment."

Infosys is also an Oracle Cloud Managed Service Provider (MSP), helping enterprises accelerate their cloud journey and achieve compelling business value by combining Oracle's IaaS and PaaS with expertise from Infosys Cloud Consulting, implementation and managed services. Infosys' differentiated tools and solutions, such as Infosys Workload Migration Suite and Infrastructure Management Suite, together with Oracle Infrastructure-as-a-Service can empower enterprises to leverage their existing IT investments while accelerating their journey to the cloud.

In addition to Infosys, two of its clients - Cummins and Ricoh - have also been recognized by Oracle with the 2017 Oracle Proactive Support Champion Individual Award and 2017 Oracle Innovation Award - Application Development, respectively, based on solutions Infosys helped these two companies implement.

Ravi Kumar S., President and Deputy COO, Infosys, said, "Winning Oracle Excellence Awards under CX Cloud and On-Premise-to-Cloud Transformation categories this year is an endorsement of our innovation, investments and expertise in Oracle Cloud Applications, platform and infrastructure. We are also proud to be collaborating with Oracle as a Cloud Elite Partner in empowering and accelerating our customers' journey to the cloud. Together, Infosys and Oracle reinvent enterprises, making them agile, connected and ready to succeed in the digital economy."

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Camillo Speroni, Vice President Worldwide Strategic Alliances, Oracle, said, "We congratulate Infosys in achieving the 2017 Oracle Excellence Award for Specialized Partner of the Year for CX Cloud (North America and Global) and On-Premise-to-Cloud Transformation (North America) categories. This achievement is a testament to the company's commitment to providing differentiated customers solutions and services that drive real business value and results."

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Multiphysics Simulation Software Added to the Altair Partner Alliance

4 October 2017

The [Altair Partner Alliance](#) (APA) is pleased to announce the addition of Chiastek's CosiMate to its software offering. CosiMate supports model-based system engineering, enables simulation based design and allows virtual product development. It is a platform for multiphysics co-simulation with an open architecture approach for inter-connectivity to any simulator. With its flexibility, ease of use, and low cost of ownership, CosiMate is the preferred solution for any size and any scale system-simulation requirement.

"We are happy to welcome Chiastek into the Altair Partner Alliance," said Sridhar Ravikoti, HyperWorks Marketing Director at Altair. "Our customers are increasingly applying Model Based Systems Engineering approaches to designing complex systems and are already utilizing an impressive portfolio of multi-physics solvers and systems modeling tools under the HyperWorks suite. CosiMate as a co-simulation platform provides an additional gateway to connect these tools with its native couplings to any existing heterogeneous simulators and programs."

CosiMate is a platform for engineers performing the modeling and simulation of an overall system made of hydraulics, mechanicals, electronics, or other components. CosiMate is mainly used in the automotive and aerospace industries. These industries are coping with increasing system complexities, which can cause failures during design phases and diversification of system component supplies. System simulation is a suitable method to address new development challenges and lead to a shorter time to market. Without changing the simulation familiarity and learning a new tool, CosiMate's bus-architecture enriches simulation environments through native coupling to any other tool in use by colleagues, partners and suppliers. Engineers of different disciplines are enabled to collaborate and multi-physics co-simulation enriches engineering work.

"We at Chiastek are very pleased to now be a part of the Altair Partner Alliance," said John Carapella, VP Sales North America at Chiastek. "This complimentary relationship provides a positive cooperative mechanism for colleagues to access and experience our platform, CosiMate."

CosiMate supports product development by solving coupling and other co-simulation issues during the design-, test- and analysis-process. Enhanced teamwork between mechanical, electrical and multiphysics engineering and early identification of system errors or risky designs are main topics of support.

An [introductory webinar](#) for Chiastek will be held on October 13 at 10 a.m. ET. For more information about the software, please visit the product page for [CosiMate](#).

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OpenBOM™ and LEDAS Announce Partnership to Help Accelerate Product Development

2 October 2017

[OpenBOM](#) announces partnership with [LEDAS](#), whose mission is the software automation of industrial processes of its customers using their long-term expertise in the CAD/PLM field, and a number of in-house technologies and know-how.

“Our partnership with LEDAS will offer OpenBOM the ability to expand OpenBOM functions with cloud 3D modeling and collaboration technologies developed by LEDAS” said Oleg Shilovitsky, CEO and Co-founder of OpenBOM, “that will help to establish end-to-end 3D modeling, collaboration, and production planning environments.” In addition, Alexey Ershov, CEO of LEDAS remarked, “We help our customers develop state-of-the-art CAD and PLM applications and cloud solutions. Our partnership with OpenBOM opens up new opportunities to expand both the services and value we offer our customers.”

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TCS Wins Oracle Global Partner of the Year Award for PaaS/IaaS Cloud Specialty

4 October 2017

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has been honored with one global and two regional Oracle Excellence Awards for 2017: Specialized Partner of the Year for PaaS/ IaaS Cloud; Customer Advocacy Partner of the Year for Europe; and Regional Partner of the Year for India.

"We extend our congratulations to TCS. As a strategic partner, TCS has worked closely with us to develop innovative solutions that help our customers advance their business objectives," said Camillo Speroni, Vice President, Worldwide Strategic Alliances, Oracle. "These awards are well-deserved and we look forward to continuing our partnership with TCS, leveraging our combined expertise to deliver tremendous value to our customers."

These prestigious 2017 awards reflect TCS' commitment to enabling its customers' growth and digital transformation journeys. Moreover, TCS has been recognized as an Oracle Cloud Elite Partner and is ranked highly by many leading research firms.

"We are honored to receive these accolades because they reflect our achievements in helping customers drive greater efficiency, agility and competitiveness with Oracle Cloud-based solutions. These awards acknowledge the scale and maturity of TCS' partnership with Oracle and our shared goal of leading our customers on successful, enterprise-wide, business transformations," said Sunder Singh, Global Head, TCS Oracle Practice.

TCS, an Oracle Cloud Elite Partner, established its relationship with Oracle 30 years ago and has since invested in a vast portfolio of Oracle Cloud solutions and services. TCS has more than 19,000 Oracle-

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certified specialists who are supported by TCS' numerous Centers of Excellence, several of which are dedicated to shared Oracle and TCS clients.

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UBiqube and Tech Mahindra Announce a Strategic Collaboration to Help Service Providers Achieve Accelerated Automation

3 October 2017

Tech Mahindra and UBiqube, a leading network and security orchestration software vendor, have joined hands to deliver next generation integrated SDN (software defined network) and NFV (network functions virtualization) solutions.

Through this collaboration, Tech Mahindra shall have access to UBiqube's orchestration technology for its Virtual Network Function (VNF)-Xchange program. Orchestration is the process of automatically programming the behavior of the network ensuring smooth coordination between the network's hardware and software to support applications and services.

Industries all over the world are moving towards greater automation, digitization and virtualization. However, the absence of widely accepted industry standards and the lack of integration between multi-vendor components and systems is slowing digitalization efforts of service providers. The collaboration between Tech Mahindra and UBiqube looks at addressing this technological challenge by enabling the service providers to accelerate their digitization/automation transition from legacy infrastructure to a highly versatile program by making network virtualization more efficient and seamless.

"We are extremely excited to be part of the VNF-Xchange ecosystem driven initiative. UBiqube aims to accelerate the migration from legacy infrastructure to NFV, and to provide the service provider industry with an agile solution for network and security services process automation, which is a critical step towards digitalization," says Nabil Souli, CEO of UBiqube.

"Innovative technologies in network virtualization are dramatically creating opportunities for communication service providers to deploy more efficient and agile networks. The VNF-Xchange program is the industry's premier standards driven ecosystem, and we are very excited to collaborate with UBiqube to lead this transformation to help our customers realize the value," said Peeyush Goyal, SVP of Network Services, Tech Mahindra.

As a leading solutions provider for the telcos globally, Tech Mahindra is at the forefront of driving the technological changes, which are forcing the service providers to digitalize their networks, in line with the company's D.A.V.I.D (Digitalization, Automation, Verticalization, Innovation and Disruption) strategy. 'Digitalization' is one of key tenets of the strategy with aims at helping the client organizations to RUN Better, CHANGE Faster and GROW Greater.

Tech Mahindra's VNF-Xchange platform is a key part of this strategy which facilitates adoption of SDN and NFV solutions through pre-integration, pre-certification and validation of E2E (End-to-End) solutions in a reference environment realized through its partner ecosystem.

UBiqube's service management and orchestration technology contributes to the VNF-Xchange by enabling operators' SDN/NFV transformation and modernization through seamless integration of multi-vendor technologies. The MSActivator™, a DevOps enabled framework by UBiqube, realizes end-to-

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end services in an agile and flexible environment while the company's self-service management capabilities allow service providers or enterprise customers to orchestrate their networks through a single-pane-of-glass customer portal.

The VNF-Xchange, in collaboration with UBique, aims to significantly accelerate and ease the adoption of new SDN/NFV technologies. This aims at reducing the Network Solution rollout time with fully automated service orchestration lifecycle by around 30-40%.

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UCS named Fujitsu SAP innovation partner of the year

1 September 2017

UCS Solutions has clinched the Fujitsu SAP Innovation Partner of the Year Award at an event in Johannesburg, South Africa. The accolade has been bestowed at the Fujitsu World Tour Conference 2017.

UCS Solutions received the Fujitsu SAP Innovation Partner of the Year Award for a design that helps leverage SAP HANA hardware, while providing the key principles required by retailers to run their mission critical systems successfully and provide a more efficient service to their customers.

SAP HANA is an in-memory data platform that accelerates business processes, delivers more business intelligence and simplifies the IT environment.

“We are honoured to have received the Fujitsu Innovation Award as it establishes UCS Solutions as an industry leader, one that continues to craft new and innovative solutions to help maximise our retail customers’ capabilities,” concluded UCS Chief Operating Officer, Nigel Henderson.

The event in Johannesburg showcased the best of Fujitsu’s innovative technology, services and solutions, recognises strategic partners for their innovative delivery and exceptional contribution to Fujitsu products and sales.

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VIA University College, Denmark Fuses Fashion and Function with Infor PLM

3 October 2017

[Infor](#) today announced an agreement with the [VIA University College of TEKO Design & Business Birk, Denmark](#). As part of the agreement, Denmark's largest University College plans to use [Infor Fashion PLM](#) within a course that is part of its Professional Bachelor's Degree in Design and Business Purchasing Management, giving students access to real world applications which are designed to support purchasing management in particular.

Supported by [Infor's Educational Alliance Program \(EAP\)](#), 50 professors and students will have access to Infor Fashion PLM, as used by customers such as Dansk Supermarket, in order to help them develop the technical expertise and experience the industry demands. Those students enrolled in the course will be eligible to apply for certain internships and graduate placements at Infor from May 2018 through the Infor EAP Scholars program.

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"Expedited by a surging demand for technology skills, Infor's EAP continues to work with leading educational establishments around the world. We are delighted to be working with VIA University College, Denmark," comments Mark Stewart, Director, Infor Education Alliance Program, EMEA. "Understanding current product lifecycle management applications is intrinsic to any design role, and our relationship with Denmark's largest University College has been established in recognition of this. We look forward to working alongside staff and students alike to help ensure they get the most out of the solution, learning through practical classes, company projects and industrial work placements, with the goal of developing the very skills which future employers value."

"With 19,000 students studying across eight campuses, it is paramount that we deploy the very latest thinking and toolsets to support our focus on professional practice," comments Inger Catherine Gerdsen, Professor for VIA Design, Purchasing Management, VIA University College, Denmark. "Technology is at the heart of business and design, and as such, we are delighted to partner with one of the leading technology platforms in this field to help ensure our students enter industry ready to hit the ground running in their chosen roles."

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Events News

CACI to Showcase Solutions at AUSA Annual Meeting That Enhance U.S. Army Readiness in Today's Multi-Domain Battle

5 October 2017

CACI International Inc will showcase solutions to support America's forces at the [Association of the U.S. Army \(AUSA\) Annual Meeting and Exposition](#) on October 9-11, 2017 at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center, Washington, DC. The annual conference brings together Army leadership, industry experts, academia, and land power specialists from around the world to discuss the issues and challenges facing the U.S. and the defense community today.

In keeping with this year's conference theme, "Building Readiness: America's Army from the Great War to the Multi-Domain Battle," CACI will showcase innovative solutions that support the soldier today and Army's enduring priority to advance technologies that improve readiness in today's multi-domain battle.

These solutions include a full suite of industry-leading electronic warfare (EW) capabilities that enhance soldier effectiveness and survivability in the battle across land, sea, air, space, and cyberspace. Products within CACI's EW suite include SkyTracker™, a counter-UAS system that detects, identifies, and tracks commercial drone threats around bases or large areas of interest; BEAM, a soldier-wearable sensor that equips dismounted Army and Marine infantry squads with surveillance, reconnaissance, and EW capabilities; the Air Vigilance pod for intelligence, surveillance, and reconnaissance; and other defensive cyber capabilities for enhanced situational awareness and mission management.

CACI's software-defined solutions are modular and scalable, using open architectures to quickly develop new capabilities against evolving threats. Cognitive, autonomous, and integrated solutions enable maximum unit effectiveness, resulting in a more sophisticated and decisive capability for

commanders.

In addition to its suite of EW capabilities, CACI will also showcase next-generation IT and secure communications for the battlefield; unique multi-intelligence analytic and visualization tools; full-motion video analysis capabilities for improved mission planning; Agile development and DevSecOps methodologies to modernize mission applications and business systems; a product lifecycle management solution that turns complex data and analysis into actionable information for enhanced readiness; an integrated Army pay and personnel system; software integration on a mobile tactical platform with limited or disadvantaged communications; and high-quality chief information officer consulting services for more effective and efficient government IT, business, and mission operations.

Visit CACI at Booth 6021 to view these demonstrations and more. For more information on CACI's AUSA participation, visit www.caci.com/ausa17/.

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Contest Winner Converts Carbon Emissions into a Clean Energy Resource

4 October 2017

Aiming to reduce global CO₂ emissions, a research team from Cornell University and Dimensional Energy (Ithaca, NY) have invented a way to cost-efficiently convert waste carbon dioxide into valuable, clean liquid fuel. Their "HI-LIGHT" Solar Thermal Chemical Reactor, which uses proprietary nanotechnology in a process that mimics plant photosynthesis, has been awarded a grand prize of \$20,000 in the 2017 "Create the Future" Design Contest.

HI-LIGHT was among 1,150 new product ideas submitted in the 15th annual design contest, which was established in 2002 to recognize and reward engineering innovations that benefit humanity, the environment, and the economy. This year's contest was co-sponsored by COMSOL (www.comsol.com) and Mouser Electronics (www.mouser.com). Analog Devices and Intel were supporting sponsors.

"I would like to express our greatest gratitude to the judges for choosing our team as the Grand Prize Winner," said team leader Elvis Cao, a Ph.D. Student at Cornell University. "This recognition is not for our team alone, but for the general science community to fight against climate change and push forward renewable energy research."

"Whether it's a start-up or Fortune 500 company, only bold design innovation can provide an atmosphere where individuals and businesses thrive," said Bernt Nilsson, Senior VP of Marketing with COMSOL, Inc. "The Create the Future Design Contest is doing a tremendous job in promoting innovators and their ideas from around the world. COMSOL is delighted to sponsor the contest and continues to be inspired by the promising solutions to formidable challenges such as global environmental and health issues."

"We would like to congratulate this year's winners and thank all of the entrants for their participation," said Kevin Hess, Mouser Electronics Senior Vice President of Marketing. "Part of our mission here at Mouser is fostering technical innovation so it's a natural fit for us to support this global design contest that celebrates ingenuity. We are seeing exciting advancements in electronic design thanks to the creative engineers and innovators across the globe, including those who entered the Create the Future Design Contest. "

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In addition to the grand prize of \$20,000, first-place winners were named in seven categories and received Hewlett-Packard workstation computers.

Finalists were selected by senior editors at Tech Briefs Media Group, producer of the contest, and judged by an independent panel of design engineers. For more information, visit www.createthefuturecontest.com.

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ESD Alliance, San Jose State University to Host Second Evening in Series on Cognitive Era October 18

4 October 2017

WHO: The [Electronic System Design Alliance](#) (ESD Alliance), an international association of companies providing goods and services throughout the semiconductor design ecosystem, and San Jose State University (SJSU)

WHAT: Will host the second evening in a series on The Cognitive Era titled, "Preparing for the Cognitive Era: Education, Occupation and You," offered by Vishal Kapoor, a founding principal at three legged stool. The evening is presented by noted Silicon Valley Investor Jim Hogan.

WHEN: Wednesday, October 18, beginning at 6 p.m. with refreshments and networking. Kapoor's talk will start at 7 p.m. and run until 8:30 p.m.

WHERE:

San Jose State University
Diaz Compean Student Union Theater
211 South 9th Street
San Jose, Calif. 95112

Complimentary parking is available

Kapoor will share his perspective on the dynamics of the Cognitive Era and assess the major shifts in education, occupation and understanding of the practical dynamics. He will challenge audience member to think about how the Cognitive Era is affecting them and whether they are prepared for it.

The event is open free of charge. Complimentary parking is available on the SJSU campus. To register, go to: <http://bit.ly/2xar60S>

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Implementation Investments

Centric Software Selected By Isabel Marant

3 October 2017

Isabel Marant has selected Centric Software's Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) solution to optimize its famous "casual chic" collection development and management.

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Founded in the 1990s, Isabel Marant designs and sells high-end ready-to-wear womenswear. Known for fusing urban fashion with bohemian flourishes, the company is growing steadily via a network of owned stores, multi-brand boutiques and department store concessions in France and around the world. To support their continuous growth, the company undertook a thorough search for the right PLM partner.

“In order to obtain greater visibility into development, we need to streamline our processes in line with industry best practices and establish a collaborative platform for our growing teams. We also want to maintain our family-like company culture,” says Virginie Gomes, Isabel Marant’s Collections Manager. “We know the time has come for us to better harness our creativity and equip ourselves with tools that are better-suited to fashion, are more flexible and that will improve productivity.”

The company chose Centric PLM for its reliability, ease of use and proven innovation. “We want a solution that is unique, intuitive and totally cutting-edge,” adds Virginie Gomes. “Centric Software lives and breathes innovation and Centric PLM will allow us to centralize all our product data in one location, making it accessible to everyone working on either of our product lines: Etoile or Isabel Marant.”

“Centric’s out of the box solution means that our teams can immediately stop spending time on administration tasks and data entry, and instead will have more time for creativity and be able to focus more on our customers,” continues Gomes.

Centric Software’s industry expertise and enviable list of luxury and high-end customers were also criteria in Isabel Marant’s decision. “Centric has an outstanding reputation in our industry,” Gomes adds. “Their team understood our requirements immediately and we want to benefit from the best practices and experiences of the other large fashion houses to help us reach the next stage of our journey.”

“We are thrilled to partner with Isabel Marant, a benchmark for creativity and elegance in high-end ready-to-wear,” says Chris Groves, CEO of Centric Software. “Even as a young company, Isabel Marant has already established a strong identity and rich heritage and we look forward to supporting its growth through industry best practices and innovative solutions, now and in the future.”

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Product News

Accenture Launches Cloud Suite for Oracle to Accelerate Clients’ Move to the Cloud

2 October 2017

To answer enterprise clients’ needs for a solution that supports personalized client journeys to cloud, Accenture has launched the Accenture Cloud Suite for Oracle. As the latest innovation from the [Accenture Oracle Business Group](#), the Cloud Suite consists of an extensive portfolio of cloud-based accelerators, assets and tools that help enable the tailored creation and delivery of the Oracle Cloud portfolio.

“The Accenture Cloud Suite for Oracle taps into Accenture’s decade-long investments in cloud technology and our experience helping countless clients reinvent themselves by taking advantage of the flexibility and new innovations possible with cloud,” said Paul Daugherty, Accenture’s chief technology & innovation officer. “This expansive collection of specialized industry solutions, accelerators and

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automation offers clients material end-to-end savings throughout their journey to Oracle Cloud using the Cloud Suite.”

Designed to integrate with organizations’ architectures at multiple levels, Accenture Cloud Suite for Oracle incorporates more than 200 journey to cloud accelerators, assets and tools across Oracle’s existing Software-as-a-Service (SaaS), Platform-as-a-Service (PaaS), Infrastructure-as-a-Service (IaaS), and Data-as-a-Service offerings (DaaS). Purpose-built to provide a flexible bridge to help enable cloud-to-cloud, cloud-to-on-premises, and cloud-to-custom architectures and solutions, the Cloud Suite encompasses four key areas that support rapid adoption of Oracle’s cloud technology:

- Architect – Provides reference architectures, models, decision trees, point of views, blueprints, and more to help build robust, scalable, secure, and mature architectures.
- Accelerate – Speeds up planning and execution with starter kits, common services, pre-built integrations, and solution guidelines, along with industry-specific and cross-industry process flows, configurations, testing and training assets. It also has a rapid prototyping proof of concept kit that hosts a library of tools to speed development, with the ability to stand up client ready environments in a matter of days.
- Automate – Removes manual work from implementations and migrations to the cloud with automated tools for DevOps, migration (Accenture Cloud Connect), testing and environment provisioning. Automate also features new and exciting Artificial Intelligence & Robotic Process Automation tools and solutions.
- Delivery – Combines Accenture’s experience in industrialized delivery methods with agile and liquid delivery for cloud solutions. This work is backed by Accenture’s in-house design agencies, such as [Fjord](#), and delivered by a network of Oracle-focused Global Delivery Centers, Innovation Centers, and Liquid Studios.

The structure of the Accenture Cloud Suite for Oracle helps enable Accenture to harvest new knowledge, ranging from code, documentation, and leading practices to integrations and automation for future reuse on client projects. These assets include modules such as Accenture Rapid Prototype Builder, which helps enable clients to build prototypes in hours or days vs. weeks or months, and broader tools like Accenture IaaS Cloud Accelerator for Oracle, which is used to automate the migration of any Oracle and most non-Oracle workloads from on-premises or another public cloud to Oracle Cloud Infrastructure, effectively making applications more responsive and helping reduce downtime and disruption to the business.

“The tools provided by the Accenture Cloud Suite for Oracle, such as Cloud Connect, have driven significant business results and operational efficiencies for Oracle customers,” said Thomas Kurian, President of Product Development, Oracle. “With the launch of Accenture Cloud Suite for Oracle, countless more businesses will be able to accelerate their journey to the cloud by leveraging Oracle’s industry-leading cloud solutions and Accenture’s unrivaled integration capabilities.”

Accenture has been one of Oracle’s leading systems integration partner globally 12 years in a row, with more than 54,000 Oracle-skilled consultants around the world who help accelerate digital transformation by implementing Oracle-based business solutions and new business processes that develop and evolve

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as their digital business grows. Accenture has teamed with Oracle for more than two decades and is a Global Cloud Elite-level member in Oracle PartnerNetwork. For more information on the Accenture and Oracle relationship, please visit www.accenture.com/oracle.

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C3D Modeler for Teigha: a Major Update, Early Adopters, and a Free Version for Educational Institutions

22 September 2017

During the annual Open Design Alliance (ODA) conference, C3D Labs held a well-attended session to describe the current progress and future plans for C3D Modeler for Teigha. This is a lightweight solid modeling kernel for the Teigha platform that can be licensed by members of the ODA. With every seat filled in the conference room, software developers showed their interest in the 3D modeling tools that run on top of the Teigha platform.

Speakers from C3D Labs spent time describing the major update to the kernel, which arrived in late August. Much work has been carried out to increase its performance. Other improvements were implemented in close cooperation with the experts at ODA. The update also took into account feedback from early adopters, and it is now available to all developers using the just-released Teigha 4.3.1 API.

"We set four goals for the future development of our software," said Alexander Spivakov, head of C3D Converter Development and lead developer of C3D Modeler for Teigha. "Our goals are to expand the functionality of the Teigha Modeler API; to increase its performance; to improve the overall quality of the integration between C3D Modeler and Teigha; and to ensure fast response to user requests."

On this last point, C3D Labs is prepared to expand the functionality as much as necessary to meet customer needs. As a result, it even is possible that it will have to redefine the limits of the platform, and the geometric kernel itself.

MKA Software and Engineering Solutions (İzmir, Turkey) is one of the early users of C3D Modeler for Teigha. A representative from the company described the tasks undertaken by developers, and the process by which it selected the 3D kernel for integration into its MkaSteel software.

"We are developing an application that lets users to design of single-storey steel structure," said Ali Erol, Senior Software Developer at MKA Software and Engineering Solutions. "To ensure that the metal parts can be successfully manufactured, a very precise, detailed parametric 3D model must be made as the basis for our production drawings. To create the 3D models, we needed a fast, reliable 3D kernel that can generate 2D drawings and export data to DWG."

The company examined OpenCASCADE and the full C3D Toolkit, but in the end chose the combination of the Teigha platform (for engineering drawings) and C3D Modeler for solid geometry. They found that this solution satisfied their need.

To further promote C3D Modeler for Teigha, the license fee has been eliminated for educational institutions who are also members of the Open Design Alliance. This means that any university can now implement the API free of charge.

In addition, the cost of a non-commercial license is reduced to \$1,000 per year. As before, C3D Modeler for Teigha is available for evaluation and a quick, one-click purchase through the ODA Marketplace

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portal. This makes the C3D Labs kernel unique as a truly attractive value-proposition for ODA members.

ODA members can request a demo license for the C3D Modeler for Teigha through the ODA Marketplace's internal portal at <https://www.opendesign.com/members/marketplace/c3d-modeler-teigha>

Please feel free to ask about any aspect regarding this new product from C3D Labs through email: teigha@c3dlabs.com

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Centric Software Passes the Ultimate Ski Test: New Field Testing Mobile App

[29 September 2017](#)

Centric Software is pleased to announce that the SKI Magazine Gear Test for fall 2018 is out! This year's test data was collected and analyzed using Centric Software's Field Testing App.

This new app works seamlessly with Centric's PLM platform or, alternatively, can be used as a stand-alone solution, like in the case of SKI Magazine. Centric's innovative Field Testing App is unique on the market and is designed to help apparel, hard goods, footwear and specialty sport companies track the usage and performance of prototypes and samples of clothing, footwear and hard goods.

Each spring, SKI Magazine runs rigorous product testing procedures to assess new and updated gear for the following fall season. Previously all testing results were recorded by hand on paper cards that had to be kept safe and dry in wet, outdoor conditions with responses then manually collated for 5-10 skis for 16 brands by 35 different testers (up to 5,600 cards!). This season SKI Magazine turned to Centric Software to make the process simpler and more efficient.

"The Centric app streamlined our ski test, reduced our margin of error and gave us instant feedback on the models we tested. Testers loved not having to ski with a stack of cards and pencils stuffed in their pockets, too." Kim Beekman, Senior Editor SKI Magazine.

Humberto Roa, VP of Innovation at Centric Software explains, "Tracking the location and availability of prototypes and wear tester performance feedback are critically important yet typically accomplished with a mishmash of methods. Centric's new Field Testing App provides an innovative solution for product performance feedback."

"Centric's new Field Testing App is a unique example of how capturing data live, in the moment, is not only incredibly valuable but also a natural way of working. This app will help reduce costs while also improving product innovation and performance; which are ultimately keystones of great brands," says Matt Nakari, Sales Executive at Centric.

"Our goal is to create powerful new ways of working to enable brands, retailers and manufacturers to become closer to their customers, create better products and grow," ends Nakari.

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EDEM 2018 Released: Speed up Workflow, Simulation

2 October 2017

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EDEM today released the latest version of its flagship software. EDEM 2018 focuses on productivity and performance and includes a range of new features and enhancements enabling users to speed-up their workflow all the way from setup to processing and analysis of simulations. Integration with other CAE tools is also a key theme of this release with the introduction of new coupling solutions with Finite Element Analysis software Abaqus from Dassault Systemes – SIMULIA and Multi-body Dynamics tool RecurDyn from FunctionBay. Here are some of the highlights of EDEM 2018.

Setting-up Simulations – New Tools

The EDEM Creator includes new tools that will primarily benefit users designing heavy equipment in the construction, mining, off-road and agriculture industries who are simulating machinery interacting with large beds of material.

Engineers typically need to analyze behavior once ground engagement has reached a steady state. This can be the turnover of the soil in the furrow from ploughing, or folding of material from the top of a dozer. In these examples, it is critical to create a bed of material long enough to enable the equipment to achieve the steady state condition but creating long bed of materials can result in longer simulation time.

To help users generating large beds quicker and easier, EDEM 2018 introduces a Bed Generation Tool that enables users to make a large bed quickly by copying small blocks of material. The blocks can be re-used, stored and easily transferred between multiple users and simulations which saves both setup time and simulation time.

A second key capability that has been added to EDEM 2018 is the Dynamic Domain which makes it possible to create an active domain to only solve contacts in necessary areas. The remaining material bed is frozen until needed so a much larger bed can be used in a far more efficient way. By only solving for the active region, the material bed can be made much bigger without any worries about the computing cost of the simulation.

In addition, since determining the right properties to represent the real material can be difficult especially for complex materials such as soils, a new resource called ‘Soils Starter Pack’ has been developed. It consists of 8 models for different types of soils exhibiting different types of compressibility and stickiness and ready to be used in a simulation. More information about the Soils Starter Pack is available in this [blog post](#).

In parallel, a new contact model for modeling complex cohesive materials such as fine dry powders, organic materials, soil and ore fines is now available as a standard built-in contact model in EDEM. This model, called Edinburgh Elasto-Plastic Adhesion (EEPA), offers a solution for cohesive granular solids whose behavior changes depending on the stresses experienced by the material beforehand. It can help realistically simulate applications such as material adhesion to earthmoving equipment, soil-tyre interaction or for instance a cohesive powder compaction process such as tableting.

Increased Performance & Accuracy

On the processing side, EDEM has continued to advance its GPU solver engine and incorporated many of the requests made by users since its first introduction, including increased performance and accuracy and access to the features found in other areas of EDEM. In EDEM 2018 the GPU solver is now fully double precision, which provides maximum stability and accuracy to simulations even for very small particles. In addition, users making use of EDEM’s highly versatile Application Programming Interface (API) will be able to use the GPU solver with their custom models, hence benefiting from a performance increase even for advanced and complex applications.

Enhanced Post-processing

A range of enhancements have been applied to the EDEM Analyst for faster and advanced visualization and analysis.

A new feature enables pre-defined queries to be exported while the simulation is being calculated – enabling users to review results without having to wait until the end of the simulation or stop the simulation. The speed of data export has also been significantly improved as well as the speed of graphing. New analysis methods have been added including sensors for velocity profile, total mass, segregation and bulk density, providing quicker access to commonly used analysis methods.

On the visualization side, a range of enhancements have been included enabling users to make more realistic and dynamic videos. This includes notably the possibility to track a geometry with the camera as it moves, switching views automatically at a specified time, adding realistic textures to particles and geometries, changing opacity of particles as well as the capability to have different views and graphs side by side using the multi-view window.

CAE Integration – new coupling solutions

EDEM partners with leading CAE companies including ANSYS, MSC Software and Siemens PLM Software to offer a range of co-simulation solutions with Finite Element Analysis (FEA), Multi-body Dynamics (MBD) and Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) tools.

New partnerships with Simulia and FunctionBay now enable the coupling of EDEM with Abaqus and RecurDyn. This means users can transfer realistic bulk material loads from EDEM to their FEA and MBD tool of choice, resulting in greater insight into equipment performance.

Mark Cook, EDEM Product Manager, commented:

“With EDEM 2018 we are introducing innovative tools for simulating large beds of materials, which is critical when designing agriculture, construction and off-highway equipment. We have continued our work on the GPU solver to enable our customers to simulate large and complex particle systems faster. We have also worked extensively on the post-processing side to enable our users to perform advanced analysis and to analyze their simulations faster as well as creating high quality and very realistic videos. Finally we are pleased to introduce new coupling solutions with leading FEA and MBD tools thanks to strong partnerships with Dassault Systemes and FunctionBay”.

EDEM users can find the full list of enhancements in the Release Notes available on the EDEM website.

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ESI Releases Virtual Seat Solution 2017 to Address the Challenges of Automotive and Aircraft Seat Manufacturing

3 October 2017

[ESI Group](#) announces the release of [ESI Virtual Seat Solution 2017](#), the only software on the market specifically designed for the virtual prototyping of seats in the aeronautics and ground transportation industries. The software solution empowers OEMs (Original Equipment Manufacturers) and seat suppliers to design, test, improve and pre-certify their seat prototypes, fully and virtually, without the need for costly physical prototypes. Not only do these industrial clients save cost and time, they are also

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able to deliver highly innovative lightweight seats, while ensuring all aspects of their performance.

Seat quality requirements are higher than ever before, and engineers must meet those demands by offering seats that are safe, lightweight, and comfortable. In the latest release of [Virtual Seat Solution 2017](#), ESI has extended the software's capabilities to support important safety standards and help engineers take into consideration a rich diversity of seat occupants.

Certification and comfort of aircraft seat

“When you design and engineer a disruptive seating solution in the aeronautic industry, ensuring the 16G EASA and FAA certification is one of the main challenges. Using ESI Virtual Seat Solution is a powerful way for us to evaluate the performance of our seat and anticipate the issues at a lower cost and much faster than any usual time-consuming test with expensive prototypes. We can virtually test different designs and material alternatives, and iterate as many times as necessary to succeed in the virtual pre-certification of the seat. By avoiding the time loss and the associated cost to correct an unsuccessful real test, we have managed to drastically reduce the time to market of our TiSeat,” commented Benjamin Saada, CEO of Expliseat.

The dedicated aeronautic version of [Virtual Seat Solution 2017](#) offers a fully guided Head Impact Criteria (HIC) process, addressing one of the most challenging pre-certification tests. This 2017 version not only simplifies the dynamic testing set-up and analysis, but it also gives more precise results, thanks to accurate positioning of the Hybrid II dummy and new functionalities such as harness definition. All this enables seat and interior engineers to perform in a few clicks the virtual design iterations they need to succeed in their seat certification.

Aside from seat certification, Virtual Seat Solution 2017 offers dedicated functionalities and human models for the assessment of comfort and living space. In this version, ESI has extended its human model library to include elderly, overweight, and disabled people and thereby enables evaluation of the comfort of the seat for a wide range of passengers. ESI presented these [new models and their application on a virtual prototype of Zodiac Seat Z301](#) at the Digital Human Modeling Symposium last June in Bonn, Germany.

Thermal Comfort and H-Point Optimization for automotive seats

While heated and cooled seats used to be integrated only in luxury cars, a wider range of carmakers now provide such seats for their midrange market as well. For electric and hybrid vehicles, manufacturers increasingly use these types of seats to help manage total energy consumption. The design of heated seats, as well as their optimization to effectively increase the thermal comfort of the occupant, can be very complex. Each of the interactions between the occupant, the seat cover, the cushion foam, and the heating system has to be taken into account. Furthermore, it is necessary to address the perceived and highly subjective thermal comfort of the occupant. Human models embedded in Virtual Seat Solution 2017 include human thermal modeling and thermal comfort criteria, which are needed to evaluate the effect of a heated seat on the comfort of its occupant. This version also incorporates dedicated functionalities for the heating pad and thermostat design of the seat.

Though it is now standard, H-Point prediction and its optimization are still challenging, especially for innovative seat designs. This latest release of Virtual Seat Solution makes it easier, thanks to dedicated foam material optimization tools.

Seat engineers are now able to design more innovative products by quickly and efficiently exploring creative concepts. The core of this new version is to maintain cost and time effectiveness while offering

the best possible seat for every passenger.

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First Look at the Latest COMSOL Multiphysics® Software Unveiled at the COMSOL Conference 2017

6 October 2017

COMSOL provided attendees with a sneak preview of the latest updates of the COMSOL Multiphysics® and COMSOL Server™ products at the annual COMSOL Conference in Boston. Attendees learned about current and future developments of the software from Svante Littmarck, President and CEO, COMSOL, Inc. during his keynote address. “Our customers are at the forefront of innovation behind the products that will shape our future,” says Littmarck. “We work tirelessly to support their efforts by increasing the modeling power of the COMSOL® software and by making collaboration among simulation experts and their colleagues the core of everything we do. This annual event is our opportunity to connect and exchange knowledge within the COMSOL community on multiphysics modeling.”

Looking Ahead at the Upcoming Release

The most noteworthy updates in COMSOL Multiphysics 5.3a scheduled to be released in the fourth quarter of 2017, are:

- Acoustics and acoustic-structure interactions based on a hybrid boundary element-finite element (BEM-FEM) method
- Impulse response for ray acoustics
- Magnetostatics based a hybrid boundary element-finite element (BEM-FEM) method
- Shape memory alloy (SMA) materials for structural analysis
- Revolutionary new method for capacitively-coupled plasma (CCP) simulations
- Support for 3DConnexion® SpaceMouse® devices
- Turbulent-flow enabled inlets for CFD simulations
- 150 new materials and 1300 new material properties in the Material Library product
- More than 60 substrate material properties for RF and microwave analysis

“We are excited to now offer acoustics analysis based also on the boundary element method. It’s a great addition that many of our users have been waiting for”, says Mads Jensen, Technical Product Manager, Acoustics, at COMSOL. “By combining boundary element, finite element, and ray acoustics analysis in a multiphysics environment, our users get unprecedented modeling power. Users can now efficiently analyze the full range of acoustic frequencies from the lowest bass notes to ultrasound. Not to mention all the possible multiphysics couplings.”

Those in attendance had the opportunity to test the beta version of the software to try out this new feature, along with many updates to be announced later this year.

COMSOL Conference 2017 at a Glance

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The COMSOL Conference features a robust technical program with seven events held around the world. The first stop in Boston attracted about 300 attendees. Over one hundred user presentations were given. Panel discussions on medical and acoustics simulation were highly anticipated new additions to the program. The exhibit featured technical computing software and services, hardware providers, and HPC specialists among others. A wide span of breakout sessions included minicourses and technical workshops on topics ranging from heat transfer, and structural mechanics, to meshing, solvers, optimization, postprocessing, cluster computing, and more.

For more information, visit www.comsol.com/conference/boston.

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IBM Unveils a New High-Powered Analytics System for Fast Access to Data Science

26 September 2017

IBM today announced the Integrated Analytics System, a new unified data system designed to give users fast, easy access to advanced data science capabilities and the ability to work with their data across private, public or hybrid cloud environments.

The system, which comes with a variety of data science tools built-in, allows data scientists to get up and running quickly to develop and deploy their advanced analytics models in-place, directly where the data resides for greater performance. And because it is based on the IBM common SQL engine, clients can use the system to easily move workloads to the public cloud to begin automating their businesses with machine learning. In fact, because the popular database engine is used across both hosted and cloud-based databases, users can move and query data across multiple data stores, such as the Db2 Warehouse on Cloud, or Hortonworks Data Platform.

At the heart of the Integrated Analytics System are the [IBM Data Science Experience](#), Apache Spark and the Db2 Warehouse, all of which have been optimized to work together with straight forward management. The Data Science Experience provides a set of critical data science tools and a collaborative work space through which data scientists can create new analytic models that developers can use to build intelligent applications quickly and easily. The inclusion of Apache Spark, the popular open source framework, enables in-memory data processing, which speeds analytic applications by allowing analytics to be processed directly where the data resides.

New to this class of offering are the machine learning capabilities that come with both the Data Science Experience and Spark embedded on the system. Having machine learning processing embedded means that data does not need to be moved to the analytics processing, reducing the associated processes and wait times for analytics to run and respond. This simplifies the process of training and evaluating predictive models, as well as the testing, deployment and training as it is all done in-place.

“The combination of high performance and advanced analytics – from the Data Science Experience to the open Spark platform – gives our business analysts the ability to conduct intense data investigations with ease and speed,” said Vitaly Tsivin, Executive Vice President, at AMC Networks, who has been testing the system for several months. “The Integrated Analytics System is positioned as an integral component of an enterprise data architecture solution, connecting IBM Netezza Data Warehouse and IBM PureData System for Analytics, cloud-based Db2 Warehouse on Cloud clusters, and other data sources.”

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“Today’s announcement is a continuation of our aggressive strategy to make data science and machine learning more accessible than ever before and to help organizations like AMC, begin harvesting their massive data volumes – across infrastructures – for insight and intelligence,” said Rob Thomas, General Manager, IBM Analytics.

Seamless Expansion to the Cloud

The integrated architecture of the new system combines software enhancements such as asymmetric massively parallel processing (AMPP) with IBM Power® technology and flash memory storage hardware and builds on the [IBM PureData System for Analytics](#), and the previous IBM Netezza data warehouse offerings. It also supports a wide range of data types and data services, including everything from the Watson Data Platform and IBM Db2 Warehouse On Cloud, to Hadoop and IBM BigSQL. Like these solutions, the Integrated Analytics System is built with the IBM common SQL engine, enabling users to seamlessly integrate the unit with cloud-based warehouse solutions.

In addition, industry standard tools and the common SQL engine provide users with an option to also move these workloads seamlessly to public or private cloud environments with Spark clusters, based on the user’s requirements.

Like IBM’s existing data warehouse products, the Integrated Analytics System is designed to provide built-in data virtualization and compatibility with Netezza®, Db2®, and IBM PureData System for Analytics.

Among these capabilities, the new system also incorporates hybrid transactional analytical processing (HTAP). In contrast to typical business environments where transaction processing and analytics are run on distinct architectures, HTAP runs predictive analytics, transactional and historical data on the same database at accelerated response times. Later this year, the company plans to add support for HTAP with IBM Db2 Analytics Accelerator for z/OS, which will enable the system to transparently integrate with IBM z Systems infrastructures.

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Ideate Launches Online AutoCAD Beyond the Basics Course

3 October 2017

[Ideate, Inc.](#) announced today that it has expanded its live, instructor-led, virtual training courses to include [AutoCAD Beyond the Basics](#). This class is modeled after Ideate’s popular classroom course; it builds on core concepts taught in [AutoCAD Fundamentals](#) by introducing more sophisticated tools and techniques.

“Many designers, drafters, modelers, and engineers need to know more than the basic drawing and editing functions of AutoCAD, so they can work efficiently and distinguish themselves from others,” said Jennifer Anderson, training manager, Ideate, Inc. “By offering this class online, we give our customers the flexibility to choose the method of training that best meets their needs.”

Just like Ideate’s classroom course, this online class uses quality material and provides an interactive experience. “Our Autodesk Certified Instructors bring extensive industry and teaching experience, enabling them to share examples and answer students’ questions throughout the class,” said Ms. Anderson.

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Topics covered in Ideate's AutoCAD Beyond the Basics course include:

1. Working Effectively with AutoCAD
2. Accurate Positioning
3. Advanced Layout Tools
4. Parametric Drawings
5. Working with Blocks
6. Annotation Styles
7. Creating Templates
8. External References

The first session of this course will run from November 1-3, 2017. It will be held from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Pacific Time each day. For additional information, contact education@ideateinc.com.

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OnPage Announces PTC ThingWorx Integration

4 October 2017

Today, [OnPage](#) has announced that it has joined the PTC Partner Network as a technology partner in the ThingWorx Ready™ program. The program allows OnPage to validate its interoperability with the ThingWorx® platform and become available on the ThingWorx Marketplace™.

OnPage Incident Alert Management provides thousands of customers in healthcare and IT with the ability to capture information from their systems and alert the right person at the right time when issues arise. The ThingWorx platform from PTC provides broad and robust sets of integrated IoT-specific development tools for developing innovative IoT solutions for a variety of industry applications. OnPage's critical Incident Alert management engine has been certified through the ThingWorx Ready program and is available now on the ThingWorx Marketplace™.

Currently, companies spend millions of dollars on consultants, technology, sensors and software in an attempt to digitize their processes in order to gain visibility to data, monitor processes, and forecast outages or breakage before they emerge. Significant efforts have been spent on:

- Collecting data from these systems
- Purifying the data from noise
- Tabulating and learning from the data
- Predicting anomalies

However, until now, the basic form of alerting when errors were detected or failure was predicted has been through SMS or email.

With the introduction of the OnPage and ThingWorx collaboration, OnPage's robust incident alert management system enhances the notification process by enabling companies using the ThingWorx platform to:

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- Elevate critical alerting to mobile devices with persistent Alert-Until-Read
- Ensure alerts are escalated based on pre-defined criteria if unattended
- Provide redundancy via numerous communication channels
- Create an audit-trail and provide visibility to reporting to measure workflow success and team responsiveness

Progressive notification is of significant importance for IoT solution builders. The primary purpose of digitizing processes is to gain visibility to information to increase productivity and eliminate down-time. With the introduction of the OnPage Critical Alerting Extension on the ThingWorx Marketplace, notifications from ThingWorx can get an amplified voice, enabling companies to ensure that a critical alert is attended to immediately, thereby maximizing business uptime.

“Digitization is transforming entire industries and sectors. There are very few businesses that are not affected by the digital era. Some of the information collected is just “FYI” and some is crucial, to be dealt with immediately,” said Judit Sharon CEO of OnPage Corporation. “We see time and time again organizations failing in the “last mile” as they don’t see the alert in a timely, reliable fashion. Now, ThingWorx solution builders who are using OnPage will be able to reap the full benefits of their digital processes.”

“We welcome OnPage into the ThingWorx Ready program and are pleased to make OnPage Incent Alert engine available on the ThingWorx Marketplace. We applaud the company’s vision, and welcome the opportunity to continue working together,” said Kevin O’Brien, SVP, ThingWorx Platform Partner Sales, PTC.

OnPage has already integrated its Alert Engine with RMM and PSA tools. Now, with the addition of IOT devices and the bridging capabilities provided by ThingWorx, OnPage becomes a part of the Incident Management Ecosystem.

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PTC Announces a Major New Release to Vuforia Augmented Reality Platform

2 October 2017

PTC today announced the upcoming release of the newest version of its award-winning Vuforia® platform for AR development, Vuforia 7. Vuforia 7 will introduce major advancements in the ability to attach digital content to more types of objects and environments, and a new capability for delivering enhanced AR experiences on a wide range of handheld devices.

With support for leading phones, tablets and eyewear, Vuforia has powered more than 475 million installs of AR apps from the App Store and Google Play. Vuforia Engine, the core of the platform, uses a device’s camera(s) and sensors to function as a digital “eye” inside an app. It “sees” objects and surfaces where content can be placed, and enables developers to create AR experiences using existing development tools.

Vuforia 7 will introduce Model Targets, a new feature for attaching content to objects that have not been recognizable using existing computer vision technology. Model Targets recognize objects by shape, in contrast to existing methods that rely on detailed visual designs typically found on print media, product

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packaging and many consumer goods. With Model Targets, content can be attached to objects such as automobiles, appliances, and industrial equipment and machinery. Model Targets will enable a new class of AR content that can replace traditional user manuals and technical service instructions.

In response to tremendous developer demand, Vuforia 7 will also introduce a new capability for placing content on horizontal surfaces. Vuforia Ground Plane enables content to be placed on the ground, floor or tabletop, whether indoors or outdoors. Vuforia Ground Plane extends the functionality of the Vuforia Smart Terrain feature, first announced in 2013 to take advantage of depth sensing cameras. Vuforia Ground Plane will support a wide range of today's devices and provides an ideal solution for developers to build visualization apps, ranging from in-home furniture shopping to design review.

Vuforia 7 will also introduce Vuforia Fusion, a new capability designed to provide the best possible AR experience on a wide range of devices. Vuforia Fusion solves the problem of fragmentation in AR-enabling technologies, including cameras, sensors, chipsets, and software frameworks such as ARKit and ARCore. It senses the capabilities of the underlying device and fuses them with Vuforia features, allowing developers to rely on a single Vuforia API for an optimal AR experience. Vuforia Fusion will bring advanced Vuforia features to ARCore and ARKit-enabled devices, in addition to over 100 Android and iOS device models.

“We have worked with Vuforia since the original launch of Tango and we are excited to continue our partnership with the launch of ARCore,” said Nathan Martz, product manager, Google. “Vuforia will make it easy for developers to take advantage of ARCore in Vuforia features that developers are familiar with.”

“If you're a developer, there has not been a better time to get started with AR. It has never been easier with Vuforia now integrated in Unity. And there has never been the power to put your content in so much of the world,” said Jay Wright, President, Vuforia at PTC.

“Augmented reality is about making magic in the real world — bringing stories to life on a tabletop, a child's playroom or in a forest,” said Tony Parisi, Global Head of VR/AR at Unity Technologies. “We're pleased Unity developers have been able to create ground-breaking AR with Vuforia for a while now, and look forward to offering Vuforia 7 in an upcoming version of Unity. We believe this will allow creators to push the AR boundaries even further.”

Vuforia 7 will be available with support for ARKit in an upcoming Unity release. Vuforia Ground Plane will be included in Unity as part of a new free deployment option. Vuforia Engine SDKs are expected for Xcode, Android Studio, and Microsoft Visual Studio later this year. Support for ARCore is expected early next year. Developers can get started with Vuforia 6.5 today by downloading Unity 2017.2 or by visiting developer.vuforia.com

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Sigmetrix Expands into Autodesk User Community with EZtol for Autodesk Inventor

3 October 2017

Sigmetrix announced their newest software release for Autodesk Inventor users – EZtol for Autodesk Inventor. This 1D analysis tool is designed to enable designers and engineers to quickly understand the impact of part and assembly variation on the fit and performance of their products.

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EZtol for Autodesk Inventor builds on the capabilities of Sigmatrix' standalone EZtol solution by utilizing tolerance information (i.e. PMI) from the dimensions in the part files. This new version also includes auto-part-loop generation; EZtol will create the loops based on assembly constraints or joints, the user will simply select the loop and the analysis will be calculated! With the utilization of PMI and assembly constraint and joint information it has some of the most powerful automation capabilities of any product in the Sigmatrix portfolio.

“We are thrilled to be able to expand into the Autodesk user community with EZtol for Autodesk Inventor,” stated Chris Wilkes, President and CEO of Sigmatrix. “We are recognized as experts globally for providing tolerance analysis and GD&T software solutions, as well as industry-leading training and consulting services, and now we are proud to offer tolerance analysis solutions in all major CAD markets.”

Sigmatrix is pleased to be exhibiting and demonstrating this solution that can leverage the new MBD capabilities of Autodesk Inventor at Autodesk University to be held November 13 – 16, 2017 in Las Vegas, NV. Peter De Strijker will be presenting “[Inventor 2018 Model-Based Definition: Why and How to Apply](#)” which will include a focus on downstream consumption of MBD and a short demonstration of the functionality of EZtol for Autodesk Inventor by Stephen Werst, Senior Product Strategist at Sigmatrix. Learn more about the conference at: <http://au.autodesk.com/las-vegas/overview>.

“We were excited to partner with Autodesk to embed our GD&T Advisor technology into Autodesk Inventor 2018 to augment its MBD capabilities,” commented Stephen Werst, Senior Product Strategist at Sigmatrix. “But getting the correct tolerances, whether expressed as G&DT or +/- tolerances, requires a tolerance stackup analysis to see how those tolerances impact the assembly requirements. EZtol for Autodesk Inventor bridges the gap between manual tolerance stackups and an advanced tool like CETOL 6σ perfectly.”

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Spatial Corp and ModuleWorks Collaborate on CAD/CAM Solutions for Additive and Hybrid Machining

6 October 2017

Spatial Corp and ModuleWorks have developed SDKs (aka software components) that offer CAD/CAM vendors complete workflow solutions for additive and hybrid machining.

For the past several years, both Spatial and [ModuleWorks](#) have enjoyed a successful cooperation and share a large customer base that benefits from the synergy between their SDKs. This cooperation between Spatial and ModuleWorks ensures fast and flexible integration of libraries from both companies into CAD/CAM applications, accelerating the development of advanced, cost-effective workflow solutions for their customers.

The powerful [CGM Polyhedra](#) SDK from Spatial Corp, and the launch of the new high-performance additive components from ModuleWorks, extends this cooperation into the field of additive and hybrid machining.

“We are looking forward to the launch of our new components for additive and hybrid machining,” said Mathias Rohler, Product Manager for Additive and Hybrid Machining at ModuleWorks. “Spatial’s CGM Polyhedra models provide excellent input data for our components. When used in combination,

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these libraries empower vendors with the tools they need to provide new, powerful, 3D printing solutions for end users.”

“Our continued cooperation with ModuleWorks will further enable us to deliver an integrated software platform to empower 3D printing OEMs and ISVs to create a single, comprehensive application, covering all the additive manufacturing software tasks,” said Ray Bagley, Product Manager for Modeling Products and [Additive Manufacturing](#) at Spatial. “This integrated solution combines the power of [3D InterOp](#), [CGM Polyhedra](#), and ModuleWorks machining engines. Customers will be able to leverage this solution to deliver much more robust applications to their end users, improving their user experience and production efficiency, all while reducing their own risk and getting to revenue faster.”

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Tech Mahindra and Robin Systems Join Forces to Introduce DBMaaS

[4 October 2017](#)

Robin Systems and Tech Mahindra today announced a new joint solution, [DBMaaS](#) (Database Management as-a-Service), for end-to-end, data infrastructure management.

Using DBMaaS allows IT operations and Dev/Ops teams to ensure consistency and predictable performance and, at the same time, gain the flexibility to quickly adapt to the on-demand realities of today’s modern Database as a Service (DBaaS) infrastructures.

[DBMaaS](#), a unique joint offering from Robin Systems and Tech Mahindra, enables Dev/Ops and IT operations to take advantage of an enterprise data center that can run better, change more rapidly, and scale in a much more cost-effective and efficient way. This new data infrastructure management solution brings to enterprises and service providers the benefits of container-based application virtualization along with a managed service wrap.

“DBMaaS drives IT efficiency, simplifying database lifecycle management and making infrastructure management, as a whole, completely invisible to IT Ops,” said Premal Buch, CEO of Robin Systems. “Working with Tech Mahindra enables us to bring even greater productivity to today’s large enterprises. We are very excited to enter into this relationship with Tech Mahindra to serve our joint customers.”

Said Raman Abrol, Strategic Business Head Americas CME, “DBMaaS brings an innovative, POC-driven and phased approach to data infrastructure management. This offering aligns with our Run-better, Change-faster & Grow-greater strategy to bring continued value to our customers. We are delighted to join Robin Systems in helping production environments and enterprise data centers increase productivity, performance and scalability via DBMaaS. Using Robin’s container-based virtualization technology to deliver this solution via a Database as a Service model, DBMaaS will allow operators to quickly create and deliver a wide-range of services to the enterprise.”

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ThingWorx® Studio Brings Highly Immersive Augmented Reality Interactions to the Industrial Enterprise

2 October 2017

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

PTC today announced its ThingWorx® Studio Augmented Reality (AR) technology will be updated with Vuforia® 7 software, bringing with it major advancements in the ability to attach digital content to everyday objects and surfaces, as well as support for Apple's ARKit and Google's ARCore.

ThingWorx Studio is a rapid AR authoring environment that enables industrial stakeholders to quickly create and share scalable augmented reality experiences without writing any code. The easy reuse of existing 3D geometries and animated sequences with ThingWorx Studio enables users to reduce the cost and complexity of content creation for compelling AR experiences. Model Targets, available in the upcoming Vuforia 7 release and supported by ThingWorx Studio, will enable the recognition and tracking of objects based on shape from pre-existing 3D models, and will not require a marker. This high-fidelity object recognition provides more accurate positioning so 3D content can be aligned with greater precision for use cases where step-by-step instructions and product data are overlaid onto the physical product.

With support for Vuforia 7, ThingWorx Studio will make use of Vuforia Ground Plane, a new capability for placing content on the ground, floor or tabletop. Because Ground Plane leverages ARKit and ARCore through a technology known as Vuforia Fusion, ThingWorx Studio will enable users to create robust and reliable AR experiences across a broader range of industrial environments. Ground Plane will be an exceptional solution for industrial use cases that do not require a physical product such as a virtual design review or a visualization tool for sales and marketing. ThingWorx Studio enables industrial enterprise users to quickly create scalable AR experiences that improve time to revenue, reduce costs and complexity and provide enterprise scalability.

PTC is offering industrial enterprises a preview of Model Targets and ARKit support within ThingWorx Studio and ThingWorx View as a first step toward broader device and OS coverage. Experiences authored in ThingWorx Studio are accessed via ThingWorx View, a single, enterprise-wide viewer application that delivers rich, 3D user experiences for smart phones, tablets and wearable devices. Available now, content creators can leverage the camera processors and motion sensors in devices running iOS11 to create highly- immersive, spatial AR interactions more quickly and easily. ThingWorx View is free to download and available for Windows, iOS and Android devices.

“PTC is committed to fueling the proliferation of augmented reality applications into the mainstream, and our support for frameworks such as ARKit and ARCore demonstrates this commitment,” said Jim Heppelmann, president and CEO, PTC. “With an ecosystem of hundreds of thousands of AR developers, we believe PTC is well-positioned to be a catalyst for the development of content needed to leverage ARKit and ARCore, especially for the industrial market.”

In addition to the new Model Targets and Ground Plane functionality to be incorporated, ThingWorx Studio and ThingWorx View will soon incorporate remote presence capabilities that provide greater efficiency for a variety of mission-critical industrial use cases. The result is an innovative communication experience enabled by the Vuforia Chalk™ application. It allows people in different locations to share a live view of the same environment, and draw simple annotations, which appear anchored to objects and surfaces in the environment, as if drawn on the objects and surfaces themselves. These capabilities will be available with ThingWorx View later this year.

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Unity Technologies Collaborates with Autodesk to Strengthen Link with Autodesk 3ds Max and Maya

4 October 2017

Unity Technologies today announced a collaboration with [Autodesk](#) that will create a greater link with several Autodesk media & entertainment tools. This collaboration will allow Unity to be the first creation engine that has source code access to the Autodesk FBX SDK, delivering a streamlined process for asset sharing and in-game iteration that greatly improves the capabilities of artists working in Unity, Autodesk 3ds Max and Autodesk Maya. The first look at this improved interaction will occur at the [Unite Austin 2017 Conference](#), taking place in Austin, TX from October 3 - 5, 2017.

“Autodesk is very interested in making media and entertainment artists’ work as seamless as possible, and the workflow between 3D art tools and engines is a big part of that effort. 3ds Max and Maya users often utilize Unity technology, so we want to provide the best possible connection between these tools,” said Marc Stevens, vice president of Entertainment, Autodesk.

UNITY 2017.2 - LAUNCHING IN OCTOBER

Unity 2017 is the start of a new cycle that evolves the world’s most popular game engine into an ever-expanding creation engine for gaming and real-time entertainment. The release of Unity 2017.2, which launches in October and further empowers Artists & Designers with an improved workflow and faster roundtripping, will be the first-time creators can take advantage of the official Unity and Autodesk collaboration. The release includes new and improved FBX import/export capabilities, including support for the Autodesk interactive physically based shader, and custom properties. Unity 2017.2 also includes updates to the powerful art and design tools Timeline and Cinemachine, which allow artists to create cinematic content and gameplay sequences without the need for coding, and optimized support for ARCore, ARKit, Vuforia and Microsoft Mixed Reality.

“Unity developers turn to Autodesk for the deepest 3D modeling and animation toolsets available,” said André Gauthier, Studio Lead at Unity. “Together we are improving FBX interoperability to increase productivity and give creators a better workflow in their asset pipelines so they can unleash their creativity.”

Unity exists to democratize development, solve hard problems and enable success -- three core values that are the driving forces of Unity’s adoption by millions of creators. Unity powers more than 50% of all new mobile games and 2/3rds of all VR/AR experiences. Interactive content made with Unity reaches nearly 3 billion devices worldwide.

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