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Acquisitions

Autoweb Acquires European-Based Secorex

4 September 2007

Autoweb has acquired Secorex, a consortium of four leading European software providers for the electronic exchange of technical and commercial business data.

Announced in January 2007, Secorex is comprised of four German companies: OCS GmbH, ProCAEss GmbH, PROFILE Software Engineering GmbH and Schmitt GmbH. The consortium consolidates the European data exchange market by providing electronic data interchange (EDI), data management and process control solutions.

Through the acquisition of Secorex, Autoweb significantly increases its presence in Europe and it becomes the only organization that can provide a single global data management and interoperability solution that connects all global industry communication protocols and standards including: Autoweb, OFTP, ENGDAT, ENX, AS2, X.400.

Based in Rochester Hills, Mich., Autoweb has a network of 20,000 users and 2,650 client companies around the world, including BAE Systems, Chrysler, Ford, General Motors and Nissan. The company also has offices in the UK. Secorex currently has more than 80 sales partners and 2,600 client companies, including Behr, BMW, Hella, Honda R&D Europe and Johnson Controls. As a result of this acquisition, Autoweb's business has nearly doubled in size.

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

"The acquisition positions Autoweb to become the global leader in software-based data management and system interoperability solutions using a multi-protocol approach," said Nino A. DiCosmo, president and CEO of Autoweb. "This strategic initiative not only increases our market presence in Europe, but also opens up significant opportunities for growth and expansion in Asia in both data management and measurement technology solutions."

"I am thrilled to partner with the existing European leadership team and employee base to build the global business," DiCosmo noted. He stressed that the existing teams will continue to be the driving force in moving the combined entity forward.

"Companies are continuously looking for simple, low-cost solutions to facilitate communications between multiple proprietary and complex product- life-cycle management (PLM) platforms currently used by OEMs," said Muhammad Khan, Autoweb vice president, Software and Delivery. "By leveraging the core competencies of Secorex, Autoweb is uniquely positioned to deliver data-management and interoperability solutions that include all of the industry communication protocols in use throughout the world."

"Combining these companies will not only increase our product base, but it will enable us to offer our customers and partners more added value in addressing their data management and interoperability needs," said Udo Schork, managing director, OCS GmbH. "In addition to technical data management, Secorex is strong in the field of commercial data management, providing our clients the ability to use one partner for their technical and commercial data management needs."

"We are excited by the growth potential that will result from the union of these companies," said Stephen Koons, [Autoweb](#) vice president, Corporate Development. "The Secorex acquisition will drive Autoweb's growth initiatives, not only in the critical German market, but also in the rest of Europe and globally."

Secorex is a European leader in the electronic interchange of technical and commercial business data. Announced in January 2007, Secorex includes four leading German providers of data management solutions: OCS GmbH (Wald- Michelbach); ProCAEss GmbH (Landau); PROFILE Software Engineering GmbH (Munchen); and Schmitt GmbH (Leonberg). With more than 2,600 customers including Behr, BMW, Hella, Honda R&D Europe and Johnson Controls, Secorex has more than 80 sales partners covering Eastern and Western Europe. For additional information regarding Secorex, visit <http://www.secorex.com/>.

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Bentley Acquires STAAD/CHINA and SSDD Software to Deliver Complete Structural Steel Solutions to China

4 September 2007

Bentley Systems, Incorporated announced at this gathering of prominent organizations in China's infrastructure community that it has acquired REI China's structural steel analysis, design, and drawing software solutions.

The solutions include STAAD/CHINA (based on STAAD.Pro) and Steel Structure Design and Drawings (SSDD), both of which have been certified by the Steel Structure Committee of China Construction Metal Structure Association and are widely deployed across China. Among the more than 2000 users of STAAD/CHINA are China Architecture Design & Research Group, China National

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

Petroleum Corporation, all provincial power design institutes, Shanghai Boiler Plant Co., and XuZhou FeiHong Space Frame Group Co., Ltd.

Commenting on the acquisition, Dr. Jean-Baptiste Monnier, senior vice president, Bentley Asia-Pacific Operating Unit, said, “Through this acquisition, Bentley will further extend its STAAD.Pro and RAM product lines of structural analysis and design software to incorporate local Chinese standards and workflows. This will enable us to better serve the individual requirements of the many design institutes, international engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) contractors, and owner-operators in China that rely upon our software to increase their productivity and improve project quality.

“The acquisition represents yet another step in Bentley’s strategic plan to fully integrate the functions of design and analysis and provide localized versions of these solutions around the globe.”

STAAD/CHINA for steel structural analysis and design is based on Bentley’s STAAD.Pro line of leading structural engineering analysis and design software. STAAD.Pro facilitates the design of steel, concrete, timber, and aluminum structures for buildings, plants, tunnels, bridges, and more. It offers a state-of-the-art user interface, visualization tools, and advanced finite element and dynamic analysis capabilities for multi-material design.

STAAD/CHINA incorporates the latest complex steel structure design codes and building regulations in China and is used by construction design institutes, petroleum companies, chemical companies, metallurgy design institutes, power design institutes, boiler plants, curtain wall companies, and steel structure companies. Projects designed with its help include:

- The 330-meter-high Dalian International Trade Center
- An 80-meter-high, 500 kilovolt/220 kilovolt high-voltage transmission steel tower
- Guangdong Olympic Stadium in Guangzhou
- Waiting Hall and Departure Facility at New Guangzhou Baiyun International Airport
- Hunan International Exhibition Center
- Beihai Airport
- Jinan International Airport
- Nanning International Exhibition Center

SSDD complies with all applicable Chinese building codes and regulations, is suitable for the analysis and design of light-weight steel structures, and can generate CAD construction drawings. The software is used in steel structure plants and by industrial and civil architecture design institutes.

For more information about Bentley’s STAAD.Pro structural analysis and design solution, go to <http://www.bentley.com/>.

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CIMdata News

A CIMdata Program Review of Dassault Systèmes’ PLM Solutions for the Mid-Market

5 September 2007

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

CIMdata consulting and research firm announces the publication of a program review of CATIA PLM Express (CPE) with the embedded SmarTeam Design Express (SDE) package, Dassault Systèmes' Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) solution targeted at mid-market companies. CPE provides mid-sized companies with access to CAD, NC, analysis, and PDM capabilities in an integrated and extensible package. SDE supports design collaboration on design related data such as drawings, DMU, manufacturing, analysis and other related product data. The paper is available for download from the [CIMdata website](#).

John MacKrell, CIMdata Senior Consultant explained, "Investment in PLM is growing as its worth has been validated in enabling companies to become more effective, more innovative, and more successful," adding that most of this investment came from the world's larger organizations where PLM has been mostly implemented. "Over the last several years, however," noted Mr. MacKrell, "PLM has clearly become more attractive to mid-sized companies both in capability and in total cost of ownership." Today, as PLM suppliers have introduced solutions targeted at their needs and financial capacity, "mid-sized enterprises can finally realize the benefits that PLM has offered larger firms." said Mr. MacKrell.

The CPE portfolio of offerings from Dassault Systèmes is intended to provide broad, extensible PLM support to mid-sized companies. Mr. MacKrell pointed out that "Although a focus on mid-sized companies has not been typical for most of Dassault Systèmes historically, ENOVIA SmarTeam has been successful in the mid-market for more than a decade. Dassault Systèmes has clearly demonstrated their commitment to the CPE program and to mid-sized companies." A key aspect of Dassault Systèmes' CPE is that its CATIA component is a subset of its high-end CAD offering. This allows CPE users to access the full breadth of CATIA's capabilities and to expand their PLM scope with ENOVIA SmarTeam.

CIMdata believes that mid-sized companies can benefit tremendously from the implementation of PLM strategies and solutions, and that the lessons learned by mid-sized companies in their adoption of PLM will benefit all enterprises, regardless of size. "We welcome Dassault Systèmes' CPE portfolio and their focus on providing broad-based PLM solutions to mid-sized companies." concluded Mr. MacKrell.

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CIMdata Senior Consultant John MacKrell Will Present at the COE 2007 Industry Workshop - Aerospace & Defense

September 2007

You are invited to attend CIMdata senior consultant John MacKrell's presentation at the [COE 2007 Industry Workshop-Aerospace & Defense](#) October 8-9, 2007 in Wichita, Kansas

Details:

Session Number: 903

Session Title: Capturing and Using Knowledge in Product Development

Date: Tuesday, October 9, 2007

Title: 3:15pm – 4:05pm

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Company News

Autodesk Reseller KETIV Technologies Acquired by Kanwar Anand and Anthony Rodriguez

6 September 2007

[KETIV Technologies](#) of California, Inc., announced that Kanwar Anand and Anthony Rodriguez have become full owners of the privately held corporation, acquiring all shares from Ken Paul and his family. Established in 1988, KETIV Technologies is a leading [Autodesk](#) solutions provider, specializing in CAD software and services for the civil and mechanical engineering markets in the Southwest United States.

Kanwar Anand has assumed the role of president and chief executive officer, and Anthony Rodriguez is now vice president, focusing on business development. Prior to the ownership transition, both were employees of the company.

According to Bill Griffin, Autodesk's vice president of North America channel sales, "KETIV Technologies has been a trusted Autodesk channel partner for two decades and has actively supported Autodesk's vision of 3D model-based design adoption among CAD software users in the civil and mechanical engineering communities. We look forward to working with KETIV's new leadership to provide our customers with the most complete 2D and 3D solutions for the AEC and manufacturing industries."

"Under Ken Paul's guidance, KETIV became a respected Autodesk reseller, built on the values of technical expertise and customer satisfaction," stated Anand. "As Anthony and I take KETIV to the next level, we will preserve KETIV's commitment to these values. Our priorities include strong customer relationships; proactive, comprehensive services; and expanded geographic coverage."

"We'll continue to provide our customers the leading engineering design technologies," said Rodriguez. "Finding the best solution for each customer's business needs remains our top priority. Our customer-centric style will grow in importance as 3D design processes, digital prototyping and other trends bring greater complexity to our industry."

"Kanwar and Anthony have been an integral part of KETIV's growth through the years," stated Paul. "It was a logical decision that they would take over direction of the company. I am convinced that their leadership will be a welcome next phase for both our staff and our clients." Ken Paul will manage KETIV's business systems development and remain an important part of the civil engineering team.

Biographical Summary

Ken Paul founded KETIV Technologies of California. Kanwar Anand, who has a master's degree in mechanical engineering from Stony Brook University, joined him in 1988. Together they pioneered Autodesk engineering solutions in Southern California. Anthony Rodriguez joined KETIV in 2000, after five years as a KETIV customer. He has extensive design experience and has been able to use his industry expertise to become an advocate for engineering customers.

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CIMdata Commends Dassault Systèmes for Extending PLM to Mid-Market Companies

6 September 2007

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

Dassault Systèmes ([DS](#)) announced that its PLM solutions for medium-sized businesses have been recognized by leading PLM analyst firm CIMdata in a recently published report, “Dassault Systèmes’ PLM Solutions for the Mid-Market”. The report outlines how DS’s approach, based on CATIA PLM Express - which embeds ENOVIA SmarTeam Design Express (SDE) - enables mid-sized companies to compete globally, promoting collaboration, innovation and higher quality while reducing time to market.

“We welcome Dassault Systèmes’ CATIA PLM Express portfolio, and its focus on providing broad-based PLM solutions to mid-sized companies, which responds to a clear market need, demonstrated by the positive reception among mid-sized customers,” said John MacKrell, senior consultant, CIMdata. “DS’s ‘broad PLM’ approach can help mid-sized companies adopt PLM to improve collaboration to support innovation and competitiveness.”

A key aspect of Dassault Systèmes’ CATIA PLM Express solution highlighted in the report is that users benefit from the full breadth of CATIA’s capabilities and expand their PLM scope with ENOVIA SmarTeam, which has a long history of success in the mid-market, easing Dassault Systèmes’ transition into the mid-market sector. CATIA PLM Express, which combines CATIA 3D design tools with ENOVIA SmarTeam collaborative product data management functionality, is described as a flexible and easy-to-use PLM solution accessible to companies with fifty or fewer employees.

“Our deep understanding of the specific challenges that the mid-market faces has enabled us to develop a robust scalable PLM solution that meets our customers’ current and future needs,” said Alex Zeltcer, general manager, ENOVIA SmarTeam. “We knew that we had to strike a balance between functionality and usability. It is gratifying to hear from an authoritative source like CIMdata that we’ve been successful.”

To download a copy of the full report, which highlights CATIA PLM Express’s core objective to provide comprehensive value and clear return on investment for various industry segments and ENOVIA SmarTeam’s cPDM offering for mid-sized businesses, please visit:

http://www.cimdata.com/publications/complimentary_product_program_reviews.php

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DAC Unveils New Web Site, Revamps e-Newsletter; Offers Year-Round Resources for Electronics Design Community

6 September 2007

The Design Automation Conference (DAC) re-launched its Web site and delivered the latest version of its newly revised and expanded electronically distributed newsletter called DACeZine.

The redesigned Web site and DACeZine will offer year-round resources from DAC for the entire community of designers, technologists, academics and exhibitors involved in electronics design. Part of ongoing efforts to evolve DAC to meet the needs of the changing designer community, these investments are the result of a year-long strategic marketing and re-branding program that includes renewed focus on areas such as system level design and others, a new logo, and redesigned promotional material.

The DAC Web site features new technical content and links to electronic design automation (EDA) company announcements. A DAC Resource Gateway has been added to give site visitors convenient access to an easy-to-navigate repository of useful and topical information that draws from DAC’s 45 years of papers, panels and keynotes highlighting electronic design research and development.

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DACeZine, the newly redesigned and expanded monthly e-newsletter from DAC, is led by editor-in-chief Gabe Moretti, a longtime EDA industry veteran and editor. It will feature articles from a rotating group of contributors, including other noted EDA editors and influencers such as Richard Goering, Geoffrey James, Peggy Aycinena, and Gary Smith, as well as guest columns from industry executives.

To read DACeZine or to register as a subscriber, visit the DAC Web site at: <http://www.dac.com/>.

“The industry is changing and DAC is changing with it,” said Limor Fix, associate director at Intel Research Pittsburgh and the 45th DAC general chair. “These developments in our communication tools reflect part of the goals of this year’s Executive Committee. While DAC is known as the premier annual conference to learn about successful design methodologies and to understand how to integrate new design technologies into current practices, it needs to evolve into a year-round resource. That is why you’ll see more regularly updated content and useful information on the Web site and our DACeZine.”

The 45th DAC will be held at the Anaheim Convention Center in Anaheim, Calif., June 9-13, 2008.

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INCAT Names New Chief Information Officer

7 September 2007

INCAT announced the appointment of Mr. V Balaji (Balaji) as INCAT Chief Information Officer (CIO). Balaji will report directly to INCAT CEO Warren Harris and will be responsible for planning, development, and implementation of information technology for the company globally.

“One of the key challenges to delivering upon the goals of INCAT 500 is the globalization of INCAT operations and building a scaleable, process-driven infrastructure,” Harris noted in making the announcement. “As CIO, Balaji will play a pivotal role in driving and enabling this transformation.”

INCAT 500 is the initiative, launched by Harris in April of this year, setting the organization on a course to become a \$500 million company and growing its work force to more than 7,800 employees worldwide by 2010.

Prior to being appointed CIO, Balaji was the head of the INCAT ESG Practice in North America. Before joining INCAT, Balaji held the position of CIO – North America and Far East Operations of Harman/Becker Automotive Systems. While there, Balaji and his team streamlined IT operations to support a 250 percent business growth over a period of seven years.

“One of INCAT’s key growth needs is a strategic approach to its information technology planning and implementation,” Balaji noted. “I am excited to take on the role of CIO at INCAT. As a technology- and process-centric organization, the role of IT at INCAT expands beyond core internal process automation and transformation. IT, effectively utilized, will be a strategic enabler to drive new market opportunities with our key customers.

“I plan to leverage resources from our different practices and our global offices to shape a team that is unmatched in the world. This team will develop and foster that strategic approach, so that the INCAT IT operations are best aligned to support and advance the company’s overall value proposition.”

“I’m pleased to have Balaji join my [INCAT](#) Executive Team,” said Harris. “His experience and insights will be instrumental as we work toward our goal of achieving worldwide leadership in engineering services outsourcing (ESO) and product development IT services.”

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

Balaji brings more than 15 years of experience in IT and process re-engineering and transformation in the aerospace, consumer goods and automotive sectors. He earned his Bachelors in Mechanical Engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (IIT-M) and a Masters in Industrial Engineering from Ohio State University.

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LEDAS Launches Academic Licensing Program for its Variational Geometric Solvers LGS 2D/3D

3 September 2007

LEDAS Ltd. (<http://www.ledas.com/>), an independent software provider of computational components for PLM and ERP, announces launch of new licensing policy of its 2D and 3D geometric solvers for non-commercial Academic and Educational organizations. The new policy is based on issuing free LGS License in exchange to academic publications, which researchers publish. Free Academic Licensing approach gives opportunity for researches and students to access parameterization technology.

The first team to exploit benefits of new licensing policy is PRECISE (Purdue Research and Education Center for Information Sciences in Engineering), in the School Mechanical Engineering and also a part of the Discovery Park of Purdue University, Indiana, USA.

“As a part of my ongoing research, I need to develop a simple sketcher that uses a geometric constraint solver. I recently came across one of you products, the LGS 2D solver, we are unable to purchase the LGS 2D at the listed commercial rates, so an Academic License is good opportunity for us” says Srikanth Devanathan, PhD student in Mechanical Engineering at Purdue University.

About the LGS family solvers

LGS 2D/3D is a cross-platform software. It is set of libraries that runs under all Windows, Linux, *BSD, AIX and other OS. Being written itself in C++, LGS has a C-based API that allows one to integrate it into a broad range of software applications (even written not in C/C++).

A sample test application for LGS called Lege'n'd is also available as part of the Evaluation version of LGS 2D/3D. They were created with the Open CASCADE open-source framework. The Lege'n'd 2D and 3D applications can be used to test the entire functionality of the LGS 3D without the need to integrate the solver into other software packages. A set of representative examples for Lege'n'd 2D/3D is also supplied.

LEDAS Geometric Solvers 2D/3D support creation and modification of the geometric models by means of (explicit or implicit) constraints. Typical geometric objects are points, lines, circles, planes, cylinders, spheres, arbitrary curves, surfaces and swept surfaces. Objects can be fixed in an absolute coordinate system or relative to each other (the latter feature is provided by the so-called rigid sets of objects). Set of geometric constraints includes logical constraints between geometric entities (like coincidence, parallelism, tangency, etc.) and dimensional constraints (that specify the required values for given distances, angles or radii). LGS moves and rotates objects to the positions where all constraints are satisfied by performing minimal transformations of initial configuration. It also renders standard CAD functions - 'move under constraints' and diagnostics of over- and under-defined parts of a model.

LGS 2D/3D are based on the Ledas' state-of-the-art engine provide affordable solution for those who need a strong variational and constraint-based functionality in CAD, modeling, or engineering software. Through the scalable architecture of LGS, variational and parametric techniques become available in a wide range of the products including desktop CAD/CAM/CAE, and object modeling tools, assembly

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design and analysis and others.

About PRECISE

PRECISE Team research works lie at the intersection of design, shape analysis, and information sciences. The increase in 3D data in engineering, biology and medicine has given rise to many new problems for 3D content based shape search. We focus on developing new representations for (3d and 2d) shapes for engineering and proteomics. We also develop new interaction paradigms, interfaces for querying, interacting, orienteering, and navigating intelligently. Another area of focus is computer support for early design and configuration. PRECISE web site is <http://engineering.purdue.edu/precise>

Detailed information about LEDAS is available on the Internet at: <http://www.ledas.com/>

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LMS Strengthens Board With the Appointment of Luc Missorten as External Director

4 September 2007

LMS announced the appointment of Mr. Luc Missorten to the Board of Directors of LMS. Luc Missorten has built an extensive management experience with leading international corporations. Until recently, he held the position of Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer at UCB, a leading global biopharmaceutical company. Prior to joining UCB, Mr. Missorten was Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer at INBEV, the world's leading brewer which is headquartered in Leuven, Belgium, and at Labatt Brewing Company Ltd., based in Toronto. He started his career as associated council at leading law firm De Bandt, Van Heckke & Lagae, followed by multiple Vice President positions at Citibank in legal, taxes, product development and corporate finance, mergers and acquisitions. Luc Missorten holds a degree in law from the Catholic University of Leuven and a Masters of Law from Berkeley University of California.

"I am pleased to announce the appointment of Luc Missorten as new member of the Board of Directors at LMS," said Dr. Urbain Vandeurzen, chairman and CEO, LMS. "Throughout his career, Luc Missorten gained an extensive experience in strategic, operational and financial management at large international corporations. He has been leading a number of strategic acquisitions at UCB and INBEV, and has a strong track record in the successful operational integration of acquired companies. As new member of the Board, Luc will support us in further developing our international growth strategy and in shaping strategic projects to realize accelerated growth."

"I am truly impressed by the growth path and the innovation power of LMS, one of the most successful high-tech companies in Flanders, and I really look forward to joining the Board of Directors of the company," commented Luc Missorten. "LMS combines a strong vision with an articulate strategy for growth, market leadership and strong financial performance. I am convinced that my experience will reinforce the management team of LMS in defining and realizing future strategic projects."

The LMS Board of Directors currently comprises three LMS executive directors, Dr. Urbain Vandeurzen (chairman and CEO), Dr. Jan Leuridan (executive vice president and CTO), Tom Curry (executive vice president and CMO), and two independent directors, Hugo Levecke (former CEO of LeasePlan) and Tilman Schad (former chairman, president and CEO of CoCreate Software).

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CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

MFGTech Named Top EdgeCAM Sales Performer

August 2007

[Planit](#) announced that [MFGTech](#) has achieved top sales performance for the Americas network of EdgeCAM resellers for the 2006/2007 Fiscal Year.

“This is a great achievement by MFGtech. They have been an EdgeCAM Reseller for many years, and to be so successful for so long illustrates their commitment to EdgeCAM and the support they provide to their customers,” says Steve Sivitter, Global Sales Director for Planit Metals.

Jim Jackson, President of MFGTech states, “In this ever changing and highly competitive global manufacturing environment, it has become mandatory that manufacturers improve and automate their manufacturing processes. Our customers are demanding tighter integration to the leading CAD systems, increased automation potential and easier programming of more complex machines. With every release, EdgeCAM delivers on these requirements. As a manufacturing solutions provider, MFGTech’s vision is to provide Best-in-Class software as well as knowledgeable service and support by understanding customer needs and assisting them in streamlining their total in-house flow.”

“Having a technology partner like Planit, allows for the success and customer satisfaction we achieve at MFGTech. As a result,” concludes Jackson, “our customers expect and receive Manufacturing Centered and Technology Driven solutions from MFGTech and EdgeCAM.”

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Open Design Alliance Announces Chief Technical Officer

4 September 2007

The Open Design Alliance ([ODA](#)) announces Chief Technical Officer Neil Peterson joins the ODA leadership team. Formalizing Mr. Peterson as part of the leadership team is another step that the ODA is executing to increase value delivered to its membership.

As Chief Technical Officer, Mr. Peterson is responsible for product development within the ODA. In addition to being a natural leader within the organization, Mr. Peterson has valuable technical perspective gained from years of development work. He has been involved with DWGdirect since its inception. When asked about recent changes in the ODA, Mr. Peterson said, “I’m very pleased with the progress that we’ve made during the last nine months. Our DWGdirect team has added version 2.4 to its long streak of successful releases. We have doubled the size of our DGNdirect development team, and the next major DGNdirect release will leverage DWGdirect technology. In addition, recent infrastructure improvements have given us the strongest development base that I’ve seen during my eight years with the ODA.”

Mr. Peterson presented plans to the ODA Board of Directors earlier this year for continuing to strengthen the ODA’s products and infrastructure. Mr. Peterson and the ODA technical teams have already begun delivering on these plans with the July release of DWGdirect 2.4 and the announcement of DGNdirect 1.0 for fourth quarter 2007.

When asked about Mr. Peterson joining the ODA leadership team, Arnold van der Weide, President of the Open Design Alliance said, “Neil’s technical expertise coupled with his technical leadership and natural ability to work with teams to deliver high-quality software makes him a tremendous asset to our organization. He forms an integral part of carrying our upward momentum towards further strengthening

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our CAD technology that we deliver to members.”

The ODA has a long-standing commitment to deliver open solutions for DWG and DGN formats and is dedicated to delivering high-performing CAD technology to a growing membership of recognized companies within the CAD industry.

About the Open Design Alliance

The Open Design Alliance is a non-profit consortium of over 3,000 software developers and users committed to promoting open, industry-standard formats for the exchange of CAD data and CAD legacy data. The Alliance creates DWGdirect to read and write the DWG format and DGNdirect to read and write the DGN format. The Open Design Alliance also maintains OpenDWG® and publishes its file specification.

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Sescoi Launches Its New Web Site

9 August 2007

Sescoi announced the launch of its new English language website <http://www.sescoi.com/>, developed with the aim of providing both current and future customers with a comprehensive, user friendly information resource about the company and its range of manufacturing software solutions.

The site's innovative 'CAM/CAD Zone' features WorkNC machining videos enabling engineers to view the many 3 and 5-axis machining methods available and the powerful capability of the software. There are over 30 fast loading videos available for viewing, as well as a gallery of milled parts and machining images.

A series of industry solutions pages outline how WorkNC and SESCOI's WorkPLAN E.R.P. system are used in various sectors - from automotive to sport and leisure goods. The specific challenges associated with each industry are highlighted, while related case studies illustrate how SESCOI's customers have significantly improved their manufacturing efficiency with SESCOI's software solutions.

WorkNC, WorkNC-CAD and WorkPLAN product pages outline the benefits delivered by the software and all the latest functions and features available. For small to medium sized custom manufacturers seeking a fast implementation job management system, the site provides a quick link to SESCOI's MyWorkPLAN website – <http://www.myworkplan.com/>.

SESCOI customers with a valid maintenance contract can access the online technical support zone via the new SESCOI site, while distribution partners can log in to their dedicated information portal.

The site will be continually updated with regular technical tips, new customer case studies and all the latest company news. Visitors can set up an RSS feed which will notify them when new information is published.

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Events News

CIMdata and Manufacturing Business Technology Magazine on How Good Ideas Become Great Products

September 2007

The need to bring sophisticated, highly valued goods to market—to compete with more commodity-like products sourced from low-cost regions—puts the premium on product innovation.

But what does it take to optimize innovation efforts?

Managing new product development efforts today involves incessant change; close communication with suppliers, customers, and other business partners; and navigation of global complexity.

Learn how other organizations are reaching new levels of maturity through best practices for collaborative product development technologies, while watching the productivity and performance of their collaborative teams skyrocket.

This educational opportunity is provided by independent consulting firm, *CIMdata*, advisory to thousands of industrial organizations on how to maximize design and delivery of innovative products and services.

[Tune in](#) to *Manufacturing Business Technology* magazine's Executive Broadcast, **Innovation in Manufacturing**, to hear Ed Miller, President of CIMdata, discuss issues related to Collaborative Product Development, including the following:

- Business processes and business practice
- Project, portfolio, and content management
- Enriching collaboration environments
- Integrating product data

**Thursday,
September 18,
2007
1:00 pm EDT**



Microsoft Office Enterprise 2007 can be the cornerstone of collaborative product development efforts. New to Office Enterprise is Microsoft Office Groove 2007, a rich and secure collaboration environment for members, tools, and information.

Sponsored by Microsoft,

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EdgeCAM – the Home of Part Modeler – See it at EMO

6 September 2007

EdgeCAM Part Modeler, EdgeCAM's in-house developed 3D modeling tool specifically designed for quick and simple construction or editing of solid models, will be demonstrated at [EMO](#) in Hall 6, Stand 10.

EdgeCAM Part Modeler offers a cost effective and immediate solid modeling solution complete with fully associative drafting capability. 1400 users enjoy the Windows XP and Vista-compliant software with direct data import from SolidWorks®, Solid Edge®, Autodesk Inventor®, DWG, STEP and IGES formats. Users can easily extract required components from assemblies for modification, updating and manipulation with export to STL, STEP and IGES with advanced clean and heal functions.

Using intuitive CAD tools, EdgeCAM Part Modeler allows users to create and store libraries of profiles with parametrically-driven products and assemblies. The software will execute a series of logically grouped construction steps as a single keystroke; rules are applied simultaneously across multiple parts of an assembly with automatic part-to-part association.

Also being demonstrated at EMO is EdgeCAM Version 12 with a wide range of new machining capabilities.

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Greater China BE Meeting and Bentley Partner Conference 2007 Focuses on Learning, Collaboration, and Innovation

4 September 2007

Bentley executives, owner-operators, engineering, procurement, and construction contractors, design institute executives, commercial and technical developers, Bentley business partners, and other leaders in China's infrastructure community gathered here today for the first day of Greater China BE (Bentley Empowered) Meeting and Bentley Partner Conference 2007. This three-day event, taking place at the Guiyan Guizhou Park Hotel, is sponsored by Bentley Systems.

At the BE Meeting portion of the event, architecture, engineering, and construction (AEC) and geospatial professionals from across China will learn about Bentley's comprehensive portfolio of software. Included will be 3D design and modeling, collaboration, and lifecycle management products and solutions for the building, plant, civil, and geospatial verticals of the AEC and operations market.

Commenting on the meeting's agenda, Dr. Jean-Baptiste Monnier, senior vice president, Bentley Asia-Pacific Operating Unit, said, "We look forward to providing the many business and technical leaders in attendance with the knowledge and solutions they need to streamline workflows, increase the economic productivity of their organizations, and improve project quality.

"To help them respond to today's growing infrastructure challenges, we will explore the three crucial steps that Bentley Systems CEO Greg Bentley outlined in his BE Conference keynote earlier this year. These include learning, collaboration, and organic innovation."

At BE Conference 2007 in Los Angeles, California, and BE Conference Europe in London, England, Mr. Bentley explained that committing time for learning to take advantage of software advances yields a high return on that investment from productivity gains, and connecting people and information throughout a regionally or globally distributed project with the help of a collaboration system such as

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

ProjectWise provides project-level productivity improvements. In addition, he said that organically innovating with the help of software solutions enables organizations to evolve and adapt more efficient workflows and business processes.

Monnier continued, “Bentley Systems can assist infrastructure professionals with each of these steps. We will detail how over the course of the next few days.”

Day One and Day Two

During the first two days of the event, Bentley executives will update attendees on key developments at Bentley, present Bentley’s vision for China, and detail current and future Bentley innovations that will help China meet its growing infrastructure needs. In addition, Bentley technology experts will discuss and provide training on key products and solutions in Bentley’s comprehensive portfolio, including: MicroStation V8 XM Edition and ProjectWise V8 XM Edition; DigitalPlant solutions for FEED, plant design, analysis, and lifecycle data management; road, rail, and site engineering design solutions; geospatial solutions that advance GIS for infrastructure; Haestad Methods solutions to plan, analyze, design, and operate water distribution systems, sanitary and combined sewers, and stormwater drainage; Building Information Modeling; and structural solutions such as Bentley Structural, STAAD, RAM, ProSteel, AutoPIPE, and RM 2006.

The technology update sessions will be complemented by case studies and best practices sessions presented by Bentley users. They will include suggestions on ways to leverage technology to increase productivity.

The first user presentation will be made by Shao Huamei, senior engineering and IT deputy manager of North China Power Engineering (NCPE), a leading provider of survey and design, engineering consultation, and general contracting services. Shao will talk about the company’s creation of an integrated content management system based on ProjectWise – for which it won a 2007 BE Award of Excellence. To date, NCPE has been able to save 80 million RMB and to cut project times by up to 30 percent as a result of the improved collaboration its new system is providing.

Said NCPE General Engineer Li Zhi in a recent press release, “Our use of ProjectWise has been widely accepted and viewed as a core capability by potential clients and partners of NCPE. For example, NCPE and government-owned power companies recently reached an agreement to use the ProjectWise collaboration system for managing design content on future projects.”

The next speaker will be Lu Chien-Hsing, IT manager of CTCI Corporation, a leading engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) contracting firm actively engaged in areas ranging from petroleum refining and chemical manufacturing to transportation, power generation, environmental and safety, and many others. Lu will discuss CTCI’s current and future use of ProjectWise on very large EPC projects.

Said Lu, “Behind CTCI’s success is a culture of teamwork that relies heavily on unprecedented cooperation, clear communications, and effective information sharing with team members both within and outside CTCI. Our deployment of ProjectWise will support this culture by enabling everyone involved in our projects to readily manage, find, and share our design, engineering, and project documents and data, as well as our enterprise documents.

“Our goal is to effectively serve our clients’ needs by providing deliverables of the highest quality while simultaneously achieving peak levels of productivity and operating efficiency through maximum synergy.”

Also presenting at the meeting will be Wu Di, project manager, China HuanQiu Contracting &

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Engineering Corp. (HQCEC), a leading international engineering corporation providing integrated services that include engineering, procurement, construction management, and commissioning supervision. Wu will discuss HQCEC's deployment of the ProjectWise scalable collaboration system on large projects such as the purified terephthalic acid (PTA) plant at the BP Zhuhai Chemical Company site in Guangdong Province, China. This new facility will have a capacity of 900,000 tonnes of PTA per year and, when completed, will be the largest single train PTA plant ever built.

Said Wu about HQCEC's use of ProjectWise on this and other large and complex projects, "With the help of ProjectWise, our multidiscipline teams are able to confidently and effectively collaborate among themselves and others involved in our often widely distributed and highly complex projects. I use the word 'confidently' because the system is extremely stable, reliable, and easy to configure and use."

Day Three

The third and final day of the event will be dedicated to the Bentley Developer Network (BDN) and Bentley Partner Program. Presentations will focus on BDN and Bentley Partner Program strategies, new platform directions, geo-coordination in MicroStation, geometry API, MicroStation VBA programming, ProjectWise developments, MicroStation XM Edition licensing, and a variety of other topics.

The BDN delivers essential programming information and the latest Bentley software, along with the development tools needed to extend that software. Through this network, developers benefit from Bentley's success in the region.

Bentley is already supporting a number of BDN members in Asia in their development efforts. Applications include ECT's promise e intelligent software for control system design and the TSSD Structure Detailing system for MicroStation PowerDraft from TSZ.

In the afternoon on day three, Li ZhiYuan, Bentley technical support manager, will provide details on the newest version of promise e, which is based on MicroStation. The software enables users to quickly generate control system schematics, panel layouts, bills of material, wire lists, terminals plans, and more.

The Bentley Partner Program brings together Bentley solutions and the very best in products and services from partners around the world, enabling mutual users to achieve their objectives fast and more cost-effectively. Categories of program partners include:

Bentley Technology Partners – These partners offer hardware or software technologies that complement Bentley solutions.

Bentley Channel Partners – These partners are chosen for their competence in the building, plant, civil, and geospatial verticals. They work together with Bentley DIRECT to extend premier sales and support services to growth accounts in smaller organizations.

Bentley Consulting Partners – The systems integrators, consultants, and localization specialists that comprise Bentley Consulting Partners are experts in their domains, knowledgeable in local languages and business practices, and capable of providing world-class services to users on a multinational, regional, or local scale.

Sponsors

Greater China BE Meeting and Bentley Partner Conference 2007 sponsors include:

Microsoft – Platinum

HP – Gold

Leica

About the BE Awards of Excellence and BE Conference

The BE Awards of Excellence, which are judged by an independent panel of industry experts and presented at an evening ceremony during the annual BE Conference (<http://www.be.org/>), honor the extraordinary work of Bentley users improving the world's infrastructure. These projects set benchmarks and showcase the imagination and technical mastery of the organizations that created them.

The BE Conference, which consistently scores a 99 percent attendee satisfaction rating, is a once-a-year learning opportunity for Bentley user organizations offering professional training, technology updates, keynotes, and best practice sharing. At these sessions, attendees better themselves, better their organizations, and better the ways they can improve the world's infrastructure.

About Bentley's Asia-Pacific Operating Unit

Bentley formed its Asia-Pacific Operating Unit in 2005 to provide sales, support, and service to this most populous and fastest-growing part of the world. At the time, the Bentley Asia-Pacific Operating Unit had 250 colleagues. Currently, that number is close to 500. Behind this success is the growing need among Asia's infrastructure professionals for software design and management solutions that can increase efficiencies – to improve their own bottom lines and keep pace with burgeoning demand. For more information about the Bentley Asia-Pacific Operating Unit, go to <http://www.bentley.com.cn/>.



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Invention Machine Customer Discusses The Power Of Harnessing Aging Workforce Expertise and Global Concepts for New Product Development

5 September 2007

With millions of baby boomers expected to retire by 2014, businesses are looking at ways to harness and reuse the expertise and experience of their aging workforce.

Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne (PWR), the global leader in space propulsion engines, started planning for this eventuality in early 2000. About the same time, its engineers were tasked with developing a more powerful engine for NASA at a relatively lower cost.

Collaborating with Invention Machine, PWR designed a highly effective, cost efficient program to address the company's engineering and knowledge retention challenges. With expertise in driving sustainable innovation in global organizations, Invention Machine empowered PWR engineers to leverage and build on the experience of its historic Apollo-Saturn program, reducing cost as well as risks associated with the development of the new engine.

Come hear how PWR and Invention Machine created the successful Innovation and Knowledge Management program, a program that continues to deliver cost effective, cutting-edge technology in today's competitive environment.

WHAT: Innovation and Knowledge Management Best Practice

WHO: Kiho Sohn, Chief Knowledge Officer, Pratt & Whitney Rocketdyne

Jeff Boehm, Vice President Marketing & Strategy, Invention Machine

WHEN: Wednesday, Sept. 12, 11:10 a.m. PT

WHERE: Front End Innovation, Sept. 10-12

The Westin San Diego, 400 West Broadway, San Diego, CA 92101

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SigmaQuest CEO to Present at 3rd Annual Warranty Management & Reverse Logistics Summit

4 September 2007

[SigmaQuest](#)TM Inc. announced that its CEO, Nader Fathi, will be presenting at the 3rd Annual Warranty Management & Reverse Logistics Summit to be held on September 24-27, 2007 at the Summit Executive Centre in Chicago.

The topic of Fathi's workshop is "Best Practices in Mining Warranty Data to Improve Product Quality and Design." The presentation will be given on Monday, September 24 from 5:45 a.m. – 8:45 p.m.

Fathi's workshop will cover how manufacturers surviving in today's fast-paced world require more than a solid business strategy, innovative technology, a skilled workforce and a bit of luck. From here, he will explain how they need to pay close attention to quality throughout the entire product lifecycle and approaches for doing this. For instance, warranty data can provide the manufacturer with a vital source of information regarding a product's operation and failures. It can also act as an indicator of customer satisfaction. Through new on-demand solutions, top manufacturers can collect and analyze quality and warranty data from both upstream and downstream entities in the supply network to increase overall product quality and in turn end customer satisfaction.

About The 3rd Annual Warranty Management & Reverse Logistics Summit

The 3rd Annual Warranty Management & Reverse Logistics Summit brings together industry thought leaders to share how they've managed to keep their warranty costs down and product returns to a minimum. They will share with you case studies on how they've transformed aftermarket processes to improve product quality, reduce service costs, and enhance customer loyalty. For more information, visit <http://www.iqpc.com/us/warranty>.

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Streamline Your Process From Complex 3D CAD to Successful CAE

5 September 2007

Do you spend hours or days preparing large, complex 3D CAD for FEA/CFD/CAE simulation? Do you have problems with double or intersecting surfaces, closing holes, defeaturing or obtaining the 'wetted' surface? CD-adapco invites you to a seminar on how, by using fast and automatic surface wrapping technology, you can significantly reduce the work involved in preparing CAD for simulation.

CD-adapco's surface wrapper works by 'shrink-wrapping' a high-quality tessellated surface mesh onto the geometry: closing holes, removing double surfaces, defeaturing or retaining detail as required. Starting from a complex CAD assembly, it provides a high-quality surface mesh in minutes. When introduced into existing CAE processes, the surface wrapper cuts weeks of CAD clean-up work. It is this time and cost saving that has motivated world-leading aerospace and automotive OEMs to use it as a precursor to all their FEA and CFD work.

The seminar provides an opportunity for you to see the surface wrapper in action. In the afternoon there'll be a hands-on session for you to check out the wrapper for yourself; if you are able to bring along an example CAD part or assembly to test the wrapper with, please do. It also provides a forum for experts from CD-adapco to

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

share their expertise and experience at optimising simulation processes with you, and for you to network with other CAE professionals.

Where and when?

The seminars will take place across Europe – see below, during September and October initially. If you would like to find out more, but can't make these dates, please let us know as there may be another seminar that is convenient.

Germany

Date: September 18, 26 and October 09, 2007

Location: Nürnberg and Düsseldorf

[More information](#) • [Agenda](#) • [Registration](#)

United Kingdom

Date: September 20, 2007

Location: CD-adapco, London Office

[More information](#) • [Agenda](#) • [Registration](#)

France

Date: September 20, 27 and October 02, 2007

Location: Paris, Toulouse, Grenoble

[More information](#) • [Agenda](#) • [Registration](#)

Italy

Date: September 21, 2007

Location: Turin

[More information](#) • [Agenda](#) • [Registration](#)

Sweden

Date: October 01 and 02, 2007

Location: Stockholm and Gothenburg

[More information](#)

Finland

Date: October 3, 2007

Location: Helsinki

[More information](#)

Denmark

Date: October 16, 2007

Location: Copenhagen

[More information](#)

Norway

Date: October 17 and 18, 2007

Location: Oslo and Stavanger

[More information](#)

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Financial News

Sopheon Results For The 6 Months To 30 June 2007, Business Review And Outlook

6 September 2007

Sopheon plc (“Sopheon”) announced its unaudited interim results for the six months ended 30 June 2007 together with a business review and outlook.

HIGHLIGHTS:

- Revenue: £3.1m (2006: £3.0m)
- Loss for the period: £0.1m (2006: loss £0.2m)
- EBITDA: £0.1m (2006: loss £0.0m)

Completed twenty-one Accolade license transactions including extension activity, compared to twelve during the same period a year earlier. A weaker dollar and a very large order booked in first half of 2006 affect comparison year to year.

Extended solution footprint by acquiring Alignment, the industry’s leading provider of strategic product planning and roadmapping software, and gained additional opportunities for market penetration when named the preferred transition partner to IDE, a competitor that terminated its business activities.

Introduced enhancements to Accolade system, which include enabling companies with product portfolios comprised of thousands of projects to generate analytical reports five to ten times faster than was previously possible.

Sopheon’s Chairman, Barry Mence said:

“Sopheon is fortunate to be in a position of strength as we face new and unique market opportunities. That said, we are very aware of the need to maintain focus on organic growth and achieving high customer satisfaction, while engaged in core integration activities resulting from our recent M&A activity.”

CHAIRMAN’S STATEMENT

FINANCIAL

Consolidated revenues for the period amounted to £3.1 million (2006: £3.0 million). Of the total revenues reported in the period, the ratio between license, maintenance and services was 9:7:9, which is broadly consistent with the business mix for the year 2006. Sales activity levels during the first half of 2007 were considerably higher than in previous years; twenty-one license transactions were completed, compared to twelve during the same period a year earlier. There were two primary reasons that revenue growth did not reflect the increase in sales transactions. First, results were affected by a substantial decline in the value of the US dollar. Second, as we have noted previously, revenue performance in a particular period can vary depending on the timing of individual transactions; in the first half of 2006, our European business closed the largest sale in the history of the Group. No singularly large sales were closed during the first half of 2007.

Gross margin, which is arrived at after charging direct costs such as payroll for client services staff, was 72% for the period, again consistent with the performance in the year 2006 but down from the 76% recorded in the first half of 2006 which was enhanced by the large license sale referred to above. Also,

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our ongoing margins continue to be impacted by the involvement partners have in delivering certain services assignments and we expect this to continue for the foreseeable future. We actively encourage partner involvement as part of our business strategy to grow awareness of and deployment capability for Sopheon solutions around the world.

Tight cost controls, the weaker dollar and higher levels of R&D capitalization as set out in note 5 have resulted in overheads falling to approximately £2.3 million (2006: £2.5 million). As a consequence the loss for the period improved to £0.1 million (2006: £0.2 million). The loss includes interest, depreciation and amortisation costs amounting to approximately £0.2 million (2006: £0.2 million). The EBITDA result, which does not include these elements, was £82,000 (2006: £27,000 loss).

TRADING

During the first half of 2007 we gained eight new license customers and closed thirteen license extension orders, in addition to a number of consultancy and services contracts. Repeat orders from the customer base continue to increase in number, as well as in value to our business; ninety-six companies throughout the world now license our software and many continue to buy additional products and services from us. We expect to break through the milestone threshold of one hundred licensees for Sopheon software in the current quarter. This total does not include new customers added through the acquisition of Aligent, which has of course taken us above 100.

The level of activity in our US business suggests that the Group is entering a new, intense stage of growth. In order to help accelerate this transition and ensure effective management of the associated expansion, we have taken steps to fortify our senior-management team. During the second quarter we added executive leaders for our North American sales and client services organizations. Each brings considerable experience from Lawson Software and Oracle respectively.

As further described below, the acquisition of Aligent closed on 21 June 2007. Including Aligent, full-year revenue visibility incorporating booked revenue, contracted services business and the run rate of maintenance contracts, stood at approximately £4.9m at the mid year point. We will update this information in our next trading update to shareholders scheduled for 25 October 2007.

CORPORATE

On 11 June 2007 Sopheon announced the acquisition of Aligent Software Inc (“Aligent”). Further details of the acquisition are set out in the notes to this statement. Based in California, USA, Aligent is one of only a few suppliers worldwide that specializes in the provision of strategic product and technology roadmapping software for complex global companies. Aligent’s flagship offering, Vision Strategist, is generally recognized as the leading application of its kind in the marketplace. The software has a proven track record of helping large organizations improve strategic product planning. The acquisition of Aligent will help to drive expansion of Sopheon’s business in two areas. First, for the company’s nearly 100 existing clients in chemical and consumer packaged goods markets, it will extend Sopheon’s solution to include strategic product planning. Secondly, Aligent’s roster of industry-leading customers will give Sopheon instant credibility in a range of new markets such as aerospace, defense and high-tech manufacturing, helping to accelerate Sopheon’s entry into these industry areas. Sopheon expects the Aligent business to make a positive EBITDA contribution from the first year following the acquisition.

On 13 August Sopheon announced that it had entered into an agreement with Integrated Development Enterprise, Inc. (“IDe”) under which Sopheon was to offer transition services and support to IDe customers previously covered by IDe maintenance and support contracts. The agreement followed a

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decision by IDE, a former competitor of Sopheon, to discontinue its business. Terms of the agreement afford Sopheon exclusive access to such IDE assets as its customer list, software code and documentation, but Sopheon is not committed to assume any of IDE's obligations. The terms and conditions of any customer transition will be as agreed between Sopheon and the particular customer and could include transitioning to Sopheon's Accolade software and services. IDE's client base of 18 companies is approximately one-fifth the size of Sopheon's and similarly includes many Fortune 1000 businesses. Sopheon is engaged in discussions with several of these companies and indications are positive that a number will make the decision to switch to Accolade.

MARKET & PRODUCT

The market outlook for product life cycle management (PLM) applications remains strong. Analysts are forecasting compound annual growth rates ranging from 9% to 14% from 2007 through 2011. Expectations for the product portfolio management (PPM) submarket in which Sopheon's Accolade software system is classified are particularly high. An August 2007 report from an IT advisory firm noted that product portfolio management is the fastest-growing segment of PLM, and projected that it will continue to grow at a compounded annual rate of 15% through 2011. This expansion is attributed to increasing recognition among manufacturers that the decision support provided by solutions such as Sopheon's Accolade is needed for new product success.

We continue to make important progress in the evolution of Accolade's capabilities. In May we introduced enhancements that included a substantial increase in the power of the system's portfolio engine. The latter improvement was specifically designed to help Fortune 1000 companies that are managing complex portfolios encompassing thousands of projects. It enables such users to generate analytical reports five to ten times faster than was previously possible. Other changes to the software were aimed at strengthening project-related communication among product development decision-makers and team members, and at furthering Accolade's ease-of-use, an attribute area in which the Sopheon system is already recognized as leading the industry. These enhancements were principally driven by feedback from current Accolade users, including our recently formed Product Advisory Council. Existing clients were particularly enthusiastic in their reaction to the improved capabilities.

Evidence is growing of the significant business opportunities surrounding our acquisition of Aligent and its strategic product planning and roadmapping solution, Vision Strategist. Since completing the merger transaction in late June, we have signed two new Vision Strategist clients. We have also had communication with principal decision-makers and process owners at a cross-section of Aligent's existing accounts, including Boeing, BAE Systems, Corning, Lockheed Martin and Motorola. A number of key renewals have been signed, demonstrating that Vision Strategist users continue to see value in the solution. On August 30th we convened a virtual meeting of the Aligent client base during which we shared our plans for further development of Vision Strategist, including its integration with Accolade.

We have also begun aggressively pursuing new business in the aerospace and defense markets, an effort that has included adding a person experienced in this sector to our direct sales team. He will focus on the sale of both Vision Strategist and Accolade to these new markets.

Sopheon is receiving consistent, positive affirmation from business analysts and other independent thought leaders concerning its decision to expand into the strategic product planning and roadmapping market. This reinforcement has been complemented by endorsements of the newly acquired Vision Strategist product offering. An article in the May issue of Research Technology Management magazine by a foremost authority on enterprise strategic and technology planning characterized Vision Strategist as the only commercially available tool that comes close "to meeting all the unique requirements" of

real-time technology roadmapping,

We have previously acknowledged the importance of partnerships to achieving our goals for market expansion. While our reseller network continues to struggle for traction, a number of consulting partners are now showing interest in supporting Sopheon in its strategic efforts to migrate clients previously served by Aligent and IDE.

OUTLOOK

We would clearly prefer to be reporting a larger period-to-period increase in revenues. However, the fact that we were able to achieve similar revenue performance as 2006, in spite of the weaker dollar and the lack of a singularly large sale closing during the first half of 2007, is in our view a key sign of growing maturity of the business. Our bottom line performance continues to improve, and our balance sheet is in good shape. Looking forward, the sales funnel is robust, with a number of potentially large deals in the prospect population.

Strategically Sopheon has taken an important step forward through the acquisition of Aligent. We look forward to leveraging the substantial opportunities for its strategic product planning solution among existing Aligent customers, Sopheon customers, and newly identified prospects in aerospace and defense markets. In addition, we believe that the agreement with IDE will build on Sopheon's history of continued growth in the expanding product portfolio and innovation process management market. In parallel with commercial activities, we continue to invest heavily in product development. Based on these efforts, we will introduce new versions of both Sopheon's Accolade system and Aligent's Vision Strategist by the end of the year.

We remain confident that 2007 full-year performance will show substantial improvement over 2006.

Barry Mence 6 September 2007

CHAIRMAN

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Implementation Investments

AEON Implements PTC® Solutions To Improve Product Planning And Development Process

5 September 2007

PTC announced that [AEON Co., Ltd.](#), headquartered in Chiba, Japan, has implemented FlexPLM™, PTC's solution for retail, footwear and apparel, to improve its product planning and development process. With FlexPLM, AEON will strengthen its capability to share information and improve collaborations in the development process of their private brand products, in addition to improving its product quality and increasing its share in the market.

AEON was established in 1926 and is a group company with retail as its core business. Their revenue in FY2006 was 4.8 trillion yen (approximately 39 billion US dollars). AEON's vision is to become a global leader in the retailing industry and they are strengthening their private brand products as a part of their strategy. The number of their seasonal private brand items has increased significantly in recent years, and with the products constantly changing every season, they were faced with a challenge to improve their product development capability. They also needed to standardize their workflow and improve productivity by sharing information among different departments. To overcome these challenges, AEON

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

adopted PLM as a part of their solution and chose FlexPLM.

By using FlexPLM to improve their product planning and development process, AEON will be able to share information and manage project schedules among different departments, textile partners and their suppliers in every stage of the process. In addition, central management of the product data will increase the credibility and reliability of the shared information. The standardized workflow will also free the employees from unnecessary tasks and enable them to concentrate on their main tasks, resulting in the reduction of lost business opportunities. FlexPLM will enable AEON to achieve “Planning and Development Environment without Waste”.

“We need to increase the share of private brand products within our Apparel Division to improve the overall business of AEON. To meet this objective, a PLM system was necessary to establish efficient operation processes as well as an environment to improve our product development capabilities,” said Mr. Atsunobu Agata, chief information officer, AEON. “The purpose of this project is to leverage IT to improve the product development processes where many departments are involved. We worked with both internal and external teams for this project and put a lot of effort into understanding the business processes and defining project requirements. Accordingly, we chose FlexPLM as the best software to support our new process.”

“PTC’s success in Japan’s retail, footwear and apparel industry reflects our commitment to working with customers like AEON to understand and meet their unique business requirements,” said Kathleen Mitford, vice president, retail, footwear and apparel vertical market strategy, PTC. “The addition of AEON to our customer base highlights the momentum of PLM in Asia as a critical area of investment in business innovation as market leaders strive to increase operational efficiency and maximize productivity in product development.”

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China HuanQiu Contracting & Engineering Corp. Joins Bentley’s Enterprise License Subscription Program

4 September 2007

Bentley Systems, Incorporated announced at this gathering of prominent organizations in China’s infrastructure community that China HuanQiu Contracting & Engineering Corp. (HQCEC), a leading international engineering corporation providing integrated services that include engineering, procurement, construction management, and commissioning supervision, has joined Bentley’s Enterprise License Subscription (ELS) program.

Wang Ning, CIO, HQCEC, said, “Our company has successfully completed more than 1000 projects in China and around the world since its founding in 1953. Behind all of these achievements is our dedication to creating more value for our clients’ projects through our quality services and unremitting efforts.

“Our new ELS with Bentley will help support these efforts by enhancing our ability to consistently innovate and apply new technologies to benefit our clients, investors, colleagues, and society. Through this program, our multidiscipline teams will have access to the advanced software they need to produce engineering designs of the highest quality, and to effectively collaborate among themselves and the many other parties involved in today’s complex projects.”

The Bentley ELS program grants organizations unlimited access to the entire ELS software portfolio for

CIMdata PLM Industry Summary

a fixed annual fee. The portfolio covers all the architectural, engineering, and construction (AEC) and geospatial software needs of subscribers, providing building, plant, civil, and geospatial solutions and supporting a managed environment for their AEC and geospatial IT.

The total coverage at a fixed, discounted price means that organizations can increase their software productivity and reduce their total AEC and geospatial software costs simultaneously. The unlimited access streamlines AEC and geospatial software administration while the annual term simplifies budgeting and accounting.

Immediately, the Bentley ELS will give HQCEC a quick, cost-effective way to offer its clients creative technical alternatives and solutions for all projects.

As a strategic benefit, the Bentley ELS helps organizations such as HQCEC become more agile. Project starts can happen faster and teams can reconfigure more quickly for new opportunities. No-charge pilots allow new technology to be infused into projects more readily. ELS agreements can include partners, extending the agility and multiplying the benefits in global projects.

About Greater China BE Meeting and Bentley Partner Conference 2007

Greater China BE (Bentley Empowered) Meeting and Bentley Partner Conference 2007 is a gathering of [Bentley](#) executives, owner-operators, engineering, procurement, and construction contractors, design institute executives, commercial and technical developers, Bentley business partners, and other leaders in China's infrastructure community. The meeting, which is taking place 4-6 September at the Guiyan Guizhou Park Hotel in Guiyang, China, is sponsored by Bentley Systems, Incorporated.

At the meeting, architecture, engineering, and construction (AEC), and geospatial professionals from across China will learn about Bentley's comprehensive portfolio of innovative software. Included will be 3D design and modeling, collaboration, and lifecycle management products and solutions for the building, plant, civil, and geospatial verticals of the AEC and operations market.

About HQCEC

Directly administered by China National Petroleum Corporation, HQCEC is an international engineering corporation providing integrated services that include engineering, procurement, construction management, and commissioning supervision. HQCEC is also a leading intelligence-intensive enterprise utilizing sophisticated technology.

HQCEC has more than fifty years of experience providing services in the following market segments: chemical, petrochemicals, fine chemical, oil field facilities, natural gas processing, oil refining, light industry, textile, pharmaceuticals, chemical mining and dressing, engineering geological reconnoiter, engineering survey, geotechnical engineering, transportation, telecommunication, town gas, food, civil architecture, civil building, thermoelectric industry, water supply and drainage, environmental protection facilities, and storage and transportation facilities. For more information, go to <http://www.hqcec.com/cn>.

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eRide Converts to Synopsys Design Compiler Ultra for Next-Generation GPS Chips

4 September 2007

[Synopsys, Inc.](#) announced that [eRide](#), a leading provider of location-based technology solutions, has adopted Synopsys' Design Compiler® Ultra synthesis solution to design its next-generation "Opus"

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global positioning system (GPS) integrated circuits (ICs). Opus ICs are low-power, high-functionality ICs that include ultra-sensitive positioning technology to help wireless carriers reduce the costs. eRide switched to Design Compiler Ultra after an extensive evaluation that demonstrated its ability to deliver superior results over eRide's previous synthesis tool.

"Our previous synthesis solution could not meet the stringent power and area requirements of our next-generation Opus ICs. In evaluating alternate synthesis technologies, we found Design Compiler Ultra with the DesignWare library to be a superior, reliable synthesis solution easily able to address our complex design challenges," said Allen P. Chen, vice president of VLSI Engineering at eRide.

"Advanced synthesis technology coupled with excellent support from the Synopsys team drove our decision to adopt Design Compiler Ultra for our next-generation Opus ICs."

The Design Compiler Ultra solution encompasses advanced technologies to concurrently optimize for timing, area and power while delivering the highest test coverage. It also includes innovative topographical technology to accurately predict post-layout timing, area, and power during synthesis. Topographical technology eliminates costly, time-consuming iterations between synthesis and layout to significantly reduce design cycle time. Design Compiler accelerates turnaround time while addressing the complex challenges inherent in complex IC designs.

"Designers rely on Design Compiler's superior technology and quality of results to complete their designs within tight schedules," said Antun Domic, senior vice president and general manager of Synopsys' Implementation Group. "Utilizing Synopsys' unique topographical technology can cut weeks of design cycle time. As the leader in synthesis technology, we continue to bring innovative solutions to market to enable our customers' success."

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IFS in the UAE Provides Operational Support to New Petrochemical Plant

3 September 2007

IFS' Middle East office has signed an operational support agreement with a greenfield petrochemical plant which produces ethylene gas and polyethylene plastics. The contract includes consulting services related to IFS Applications components for maintenance, manufacturing, supply chain management, financials, and human resource management and follows the successful implementation of these components. The value of the contract is US \$2.4 million.

The plant is now in the production phase. As with most large-volume, capital-intensive operations, output and reliability are the dominant determinants of profitability, and the selected ERP system is seen as critical in supporting the operations.

The process industry is one of IFS' seven targeted markets. IFS provides industry-specific functionality for enterprises in chemicals, food & beverage, pulp and paper, and metals segments. IFS Applications for the chemical industry provides support for all critical business processes, including material compliance, batch balancing, recipe management, quality management and demand planning. The application suite includes a complete asset as well as product lifecycle management solution.

IFS customers in the chemicals industry include DuPont, Jotun, Flint Group, Willamette Valley Company, Akzo Nobel and Becker Industrial Coatings. Other [IFS](#) process industry customers include Pepsi, Iams, V&S Absolut Spirits, Imerys, SSAB, Hutmen, Nucor Corp, Holmen Paper and SCA Graphics.

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Landscape Development, Inc. Donates 25 Licenses of Autodesk Inventor Software to Bakersfield College

5 September 2007

[Autodesk, Inc.](#) announced that Landscape Development, Inc., (LDI) a leading provider of design-build landscape services for homebuilders in California, has donated 25 seats of Autodesk Inventor software to Bakersfield College. The gift was made possible through the Autodesk Invest in Education program, which gives commercial companies purchasing Autodesk software the opportunity to donate seat licenses to an educational institution of their choice. The software grant gives Bakersfield College the ability to train its students on the latest version of Autodesk Inventor -- the foundation for Digital Prototyping -- which allows users to experience their ideas before they are built.

"One of our goals at Bakersfield College is to provide the quality instruction and services our diverse community needs in order to achieve personal, academic and occupational success," said Lindsay Ono, professor at Bakersfield College. "Having the latest version of Autodesk Inventor software ensures that our students are learning the necessary skills that put them on the cutting edge of industry trends such as Digital Prototyping."

LDI qualified for the grant of Inventor licenses to Bakersfield College after LDI had purchased 17 seat licenses of Autodesk software, which the company uses to prepare conceptual as well as construction documents for its landscape and construction projects. Bakersfield College was selected as the grant recipient due to its proximity to LDI's regional Bakersfield office, the largest landscaping operation within Kern County.

"We believe in being good neighbors and giving back to the communities in which we do business," said Rich De Palma, president of Landscape Architecture at LDI. "It was a pleasure to be able to donate Inventor software to Bakersfield College, especially since LDI staff members attend classes there and we've also recruited graduates to come work for us."

KETIV Technologies (KETIV), a leading Autodesk reseller for civil and mechanical engineering, helped connect their customer LDI and Bakersfield College.

"Our top priorities include developing strong relationships and offering a proactive business partnership with our customers to help lead design and engineering communities," said Anthony Rodriguez, vice president of [KETIV](#). "It's very rewarding to use the Autodesk Invest in Education program to successfully connect local enterprises with local educational institutions. It serves to strengthen and develop the Southwest region engineering community, which KETIV has been committed to for 20 years."

"Autodesk is committed to excellence in education and we are excited that students at Bakersfield College will have the opportunity to enhance their skills with the professional design tools used in the industry," says Paul Mailhot, senior director of worldwide education programs at Autodesk. "We're proud of the impact Autodesk's participation, and the participation of our resellers, can make on the next generation of innovators."

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Lowrance Improves Design Time of Marine Electronic Products by 50 Percent with PTC® Product

Development System

4 September 2007

PTC announced that Lowrance, a leading designer, manufacturer and marketer of high-quality sportfishing SONAR and Global Positioning System (GPS) mapping instruments, has improved the design time of its marine electronics products by 50 percent with the PTC Product Development System (PDS). One of PTC's earliest customers, Lowrance recently used Pro/ENGINEER design and simulation solutions to develop a family of marine electronics products in only six months, cutting in half the time required using the company's previous design methods.

In 1957, Tulsa, Oklahoma-based Lowrance introduced the world's first sportfishing SONAR instruments that were capable of locating individual fish. Today, with 50 years of continuous manufacturing experience, the emphasis at Lowrance still remains on quality and technological innovation to provide the ultimate in high-performance fishfinders, navigational, and safety devices to fisherman and recreational boaters. In comparison to the old, two-tone electronic displays of the past, consumers now expect superior color monitors loaded with even more features that can be easily viewed in outdoor, direct-sun environments and handle the harsh marine environment. In response to this shift, Lowrance challenged its engineers to include features such as 600 by 800 pixel color graphics and internal hard drives up to 30GB in a new family of marine electronic devices that combine sonar capabilities with GPS and mapping features. In parallel with the design initiative, Lowrance began to investigate how to streamline its design process to facilitate simultaneous work on multiple projects to accelerate time-to-market of new products.

Lowrance turned to PTC to help them leverage the breadth and scalability of the PDS to help execute these initiatives. The integral design and simulation capabilities of Pro/ENGINEER enabled Lowrance engineers to concurrently design the marine electronics as linked assembly models that reference many of the same parametric component models. This approach increased the ability to maximize modularity and component reuse among the three new products. Since the designs were coupled, common components only had to be changed once to update their references in all of the products. An additional benefit to designing these products using a single system is that the electronics could be analyzed throughout their development to ensure that they satisfied strict performance requirements – reducing the reliance on costly and time-consuming physical prototype testing late in the process.

“Planning for component reuse gives us the ability to simultaneously design and test across all three new products,” said Steve Swisher, senior design engineer, Lowrance. “Using the old system it would have taken one year to design, test and deliver to the market these products versus the six months that it took with the PTC Product Development System. We were also able to reduce our costs typically associated with multiple physical prototype development and multiple quality control cycles. We look forward to continuing our work with PTC as we develop more innovative products for our market.”

The [PTC](#) PDS also helped [Lowrance](#) drive collaboration among its industrial designers and mechanical engineers. With the old system, design information was handed off from industrial design to mechanical engineering at one defined point in the process. This resulted in a slow, manual process to check, provide feedback and correct any design changes that sometimes occurred after a physical prototype was created. Using the PDS, both groups can work on the same model and it allows the mechanical engineers to provide timely feedback to the industrial designers who have the goal of creating a physical prototype right the first time.

“Once organizations develop a process to take advantage of the benefits that component reuse and

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collaboration deliver, they are in a better position to beat competitors to market with new, innovative products,” said Chad Hawkinson, vice president, product strategy, electronics, PTC. “The PTC PDS was created to give organizations like Lowrance the ability to optimize its product development cycle in order to remain flexible and competitive in their markets.”

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Meyer Burger AG Saws 40% Off Development Time with CoCreate OneSpace Modeling

5 September 2007

[CoCreate Software, Inc.](#) announced that Meyer Burger AG, a leader in special installations and systems for processing hard and brittle material, has once again finished a project in record time with CoCreate OneSpace Modeling.

Meyer Burger's latest development for the solar energy industry, the DS 264/4 wire saw, went into operation after only nine months.

You can find more than 3,500 of Meyer Burger's machines and installations in the solar, semi-conductor and sapphire technology sector worldwide. At the core of the high-tech installations lie extremely precise saws for cutting silicon, glass, quartz, ceramic and sapphire into wafer-thin slices.

Meyer Burger, based in Steffisburg in the Canton of Bern, recognized the growth potential of the solar technology market early. With its innovative products, it has become an international market leader and expanded continuously for a number of years with an export rate of over 95%. In 2005 alone, the company raised revenues by 67%.

The company developed the DS 264/4 wire saw specifically for top wafer quality up to 100 um. By employing extremely thin wires, the device reduces the cost of cutting to a minimum while at the same time maximizing yield. The saw is highly compact, works at ergonomic heights, offers simple and quick access to all cutting areas, and requires little maintenance.

"The advantages of a Dynamic Modeling based approach to 3D CAD came into play during this project and clearly set it apart from a history-based approach," says Peter Stalder, Development Engineer and CAD System Administrator at Meyer Burger AG. "We can smoothly implement last-minute changes, which are the rule of thumb, with OneSpace Modeling while staying on schedule. On top of that, the work with the external suppliers and engineering offices was extremely efficient as we could exchange our 3D data without difficulty."

Stalder said the project only took nine months, about 40% less time when compared to similar projects in the past.

Most machines developed by Meyer Burger have a modular design and can be flexibly adapted to the customer's needs. Whenever customer-specific changes are required, Stalder has full confidence in OneSpace Modeling taking care of the necessary adjustments.

"Each employee can make a change without having to struggle with the creation history of the machine - an advantage of the Dynamic Modeling based approach of OneSpace Modeling," Stalder said.

For more information about Meyer Burger AG, see <http://www.meyerburger.ch/>

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Port of Long Beach, California, Joins Bentley's Enterprise License Subscription and Enterprise Training Subscription Programs

6 September 2007

Bentley Systems, Incorporated announced that the [Port of Long Beach](#), California, has joined Bentley's Enterprise License Subscription (ELS) and Enterprise Training Subscription (ETS) programs.

"These innovative programs will provide the Port with the breadth of software and the depth of training required to complete its redevelopment," said Michael Kolster, CAD manager for the Port of Long Beach. "In particular, the ETS will provide users with unlimited OnDemand eLearning and open enrollment training to help them take full advantage of the leading-edge software from Bentley."

Kolster continued, "The ambitious mission that the Port is embarking on means that we need fast access to both software and training. Bentley offers the best match to our needs across the geospatial and infrastructure engineering spectrum and in the training services available to us. Moreover, we believe that Bentley's commitment to interoperability and support for diverse data formats will help us become more efficient and more secure as we strive to meet the growing requirement for well-documented projects and operations to improve productivity and support our enhanced security needs."

The Bentley ELS Program

The Bentley ELS program grants organizations unlimited access to the entire ELS software portfolio for a fixed annual fee. The portfolio covers all the architectural, engineering, and construction (AEC) and geospatial software needs of subscribers, providing building, plant, civil, and geospatial solutions and supporting a managed environment for their AEC and geospatial IT. The total coverage at a fixed, discounted price means that organizations can increase their software productivity and reduce their total AEC and geospatial software costs simultaneously.

Said Kolster, "By moving from multiple infrastructure engineering platforms to Bentley, the Port also is anticipating financial savings on support and training. In addition, we will be able to avoid the hidden costs of creating and managing design documents in competing file formats."

As a strategic benefit, the Bentley ELS helps organizations such as the Port of Long Beach become more agile. Project starts can happen faster and teams can reconfigure more quickly for new opportunities. No-charge pilots allow new technology to be infused into projects more readily. ELS agreements can include partners, extending the agility and multiplying the benefits in global projects.

The Bentley ETS Program

The [Bentley](#) ETS program from the Bentley Institute offers user organizations convenient, unlimited training on Bentley software products for a fixed annual fee. Courses cover products offered for all AEC disciplines in building, civil, plant, and geospatial.

Streamlined Administration and Simplified Budgeting

By providing unlimited access to AEC and geospatial software (in the case of the Bentley ELS) and training (in the case of the Bentley ETS), the two programs streamline administration. In addition, their annual terms simplify budgeting and accounting.

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Industry-Wide News

Strong Global Support for Open XML as It Enters Final Phase of ISO Standards Process

4 September 2007

Today the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) released the results of the preliminary ballot to participating National Body members for the ISO/IEC DIS 29500 (Ecma 376 Office Open XML file formats) ratification process. The results show that 51 ISO members, representing 74 percent of all qualified votes, stated their support for ratification of Open XML. Along with their votes, the National Bodies also provided invaluable technical comments designed to improve the specification. Many of the remaining ISO members stated that they will support Open XML after their comments are addressed during the final phase of the process, which is expected to close in March 2008.

With at least 87 countries taking part in some way, the Open XML review represents an unprecedented level of participation in the standardization of a document format. Fifty-one ISO members voicing support at this preliminary stage of the process compares favorably with the 32 ISO members supporting Open Document Format (ODF) 1.0 at the end of its process and the 15 ISO members supporting PDF/A-1 at the end of its process. This widespread participation and support is consistent with the rapid adoption of the Ecma Office Open XML file formats across multiple platforms and products from a wide range of IT vendors (including Apple, Novell, Corel, Sun, Microsoft, Java developers and Linux distributors), creating real value for IT users around the globe.

"We are extremely delighted to see that 51 ISO members, representing 74 percent of the qualified votes, have already voiced their support for ISO ratification of Open XML, and that many others have indicated they will support ratification once their comments are resolved in the next phase of the ISO process," said Tom Robertson, general manager for Interoperability and Standards at Microsoft Corp. "This preliminary vote is a milestone for the widespread adoption of the Open XML formats around the world for the benefit of millions of customers. Given how encouraging today's results were, we believe that the final tally in early 2008 will result in the ratification of Open XML as an ISO standard."

Technical Input Will Enhance the Standard

Today's results represent the beginning of the third phase of the ISO/IEC process, called "ballot resolution," during which time Ecma International will respond to all comments that have been submitted by ISO National Bodies and provide them with a final opportunity to voice their support.

"Technical experts around the world have provided invaluable feedback and technical recommendations for evolving the format," Robertson said. "The high quality of the Open XML format will be improved as a result of this process, and we take seriously our role in working within the Ecma technical committee to address the comments received. We believe that the ISO National Bodies will be pleased with the results."

The ISO/IEC process is also designed to create maximum opportunities for ISO members to move from "no" to "yes" in this final phase, and we fully expect the total number of supporting votes to grow. "The objective of the standardization process, whether with Ecma International, ISO/IEC or another standards body, is ultimately to refine a specification and achieve a positive consensus around its formal adoption for the benefit of the entire industry," said Hugo Lueders, group director of EU Public Policy for the Computer Industry Technology Association. "Given the remarkable level of participation from the global standards community, the results from this preliminary ballot are very encouraging."

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Although no date has been formally set, the final tally is likely to take place in March 2008. ISO/IEC requires that at least 75 percent of all "yes" or "no" votes (qualified votes) and at least two-thirds of "P" members that vote "yes" or "no" support ratification of a format in the Fast Track process. More information about the ISO/IEC JTC-1 process and its participants is available at http://www.iso.org/iso/standards_development/processes_and_procedures/iso_iec_directives_and_iso_supplement.htm.

Widespread Support for Open XML

The Ecma Office Open XML file formats are being rapidly adopted across multiple platforms and products from a wide range of IT vendors, creating real value for IT users around the globe. Thousands of companies from 67 countries on six continents have raised their voices in support of Open XML and its ratification by ISO/IEC at <http://www.openxmlcommunity.org/> As well, the open standard has also been gaining broad adoption across the software industry for use on a variety of platforms - including Linux, Windows®, Mac OS and the Palm OS. Independent software vendors (ISVs) and platform providers around the world - such as Apple, Corel, Sun, Microsoft and Novell - are developing solutions using Open XML. Many developers working with the formats are active contributors to <http://www.openxmldeveloper.org/>

Those working with Open XML can attest to the benefits of this open file format in the areas of file and data management, data recovery, interoperability with line-of-business systems, and the long-term preservation of documents. Open XML is optimized for the level of precision and detail that facilitates carrying forward billions of existing files. As well, Open XML file formats are uniquely capable of integrating other types of systems and data with Open XML documents, while maintaining a clean, simple separation of presentation (Open XML markup) and data (custom schemas and instances thereof). This means that organizations can use Open XML formats to report information from other applications and systems without having to translate it first, which is a key innovation for developers seeking to incorporate real-time business information into their documents, or those who seek to "tag" documents with their own categorization system to improve their understanding of its contents.

More information about Open XML, as well as available solutions using the open standard specification, is available at <http://www.openxmlcommunity.org/momentum.aspx#technology>.

Commitment to Interoperability

The Open XML Translator (<http://www.sourceforge.net/projects/odf-converter>) is one among many interoperability projects Microsoft has undertaken. We continue to work with customers and others in the industry to address the critical interoperability issues of our customers through the delivery of products that are interoperable by design, collaboration on interoperability projects, providing access to interoperability technologies, and standardization. Other evidence of collaboration includes our technical collaborations with AOL LLC and Yahoo! Inc. for instant messaging interoperability, the broad collaboration with Novell on virtualization, document formats and intellectual property, and the creation of the Interoperability Vendor Alliance. More information is available at <http://www.microsoft.com/interop>.

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Product News

Arena Solutions Extends the Advantage of On-Demand PLM with New Fall '07 Release

6 September 2007

[Arena Solutions](#) announced it will go live with its new Arena PLM Fall '07 release on Sunday, September 9, 2007. Customers will immediately be able to take advantage of the new enhancements and usability improvements that extend across the entire application, affecting all core functional areas including change management, compliance, outsourcing and supplier management, project collaboration and others. More than 70 improvements in the product were inspired by customer feedback that came directly from Arena PLM's FastFeedback functionality, an attribute only found in Arena PLM that lets users provide comments and make requests in real time, from inside the product.

Arena Solutions' on-demand delivery model (also called software-as-a-service, or SaaS) permits users to fully benefit from the innovation Arena builds into the product the same day it's rolled out, while simultaneously allowing them to continue spending 100 percent of their efforts on product innovation, rather than on installing upgrades, expensive and risky migration projects, customizations, or IT infrastructure. And, while most users find Arena's instant deployment and industry-leading ease of use gets them up and running in a matter of minutes, Arena also has provided expanded access for professional edition users to its sophisticated web-based support, on-demand tutorials, and extensive online documentation, so even more Arena users can get the support and training they need, when and how they need it at no additional cost.

“We appreciate Arena PLM's ease of use and scalability. It's very simple for us, because Arena is on-demand, to just add people and get them up and running quickly using the tools available to us within the product,” said Joe Lamoreux, chief executive officer at Coldwatt, Inc., a manufacturer of innovative power conversion solutions with energy efficiency and power density for the computing, networking, storage and telecommunications markets. “Arena has enabled us to scale what we were doing dramatically without adding any significant level of headcount or operating cost.”

Tracy White, manager of program management at Coldwatt, Inc., added, “Arena has all the capabilities of other PLM tools, but a major benefit of the product is having the enhancements, changes and deep support that are built right into the software as a service and which show up without any action on our part. We do not need our own IT support, which is a benefit for both small and large companies. I would recommend Arena any day.”

Other Arena PLM Fall '07 enhancements include:

- Improvements in the overall usability of Arena PLM, firmly securing the company's leadership as the easiest to use and deploy PLM solution on the market today.
- New change and request management productivity features, as well as new outsourcing and supplier management improvements that facilitate collaboration and communication, while maintaining the unprecedented level of control users have come to expect with Arena PLM.
- Enhancements to compliance management functionality, to better support companies with rapidly changing products, making it easier to satisfy regulations, demonstrate due diligence, and instantly generate compliance reports.

“It is very important to us to remain responsive to our customers, and with this release we have listened

closely to their ideas and turned them into enhanced features that move Arena PLM forward in a considerable way,” said Michael Topolovac, chief executive officer of Arena Solutions. “While we have a significant amount of personal contact with our customers, we know they are often very busy, so we've made it easy for them to communicate with us with no extra effort, by building an instant feedback mechanism directly into the product. It's yet another small example of the 'service' that is only possible through our software-as-a-service model of PLM.”

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Bentley Releases Significant Update to Bentley AutoPIPE XM

4 September 2007

A significant update to Bentley AutoPIPE XM Edition provides improved productivity and increased interoperability with other computer-aided design (CAD) and analysis products. Bentley AutoPIPE XM analyzes systems of any complexity, with special features for buried pipeline analysis, wave loading, water or steam hammer, FRP/GRP pipe, and built-in pipe/structure interaction.

Enhanced features of Bentley AutoPIPE XM include:

- Tight integration between piping and structural analysis, an industry first enabling Bentley AutoPIPE XM to automatically transfer pipe support loads as well as import complete structures to and from STAAD.Pro structural engineering analysis software, saving weeks of design time and providing safer, more realistic engineered designs
- Complete structural libraries for 17 major countries to facilitate the exchange of data with STAAD.Pro
- Full interoperability (read/write) with the Caesar II program, enabling users to perform pipe-stress work in Bentley AutoPIPE XM and hand over Caesar II files to clients or contractors
- Backward compatibility with older versions, allowing users to not only open older models but also save back to older program versions to provide improved collaboration with engineering contractors and consultants
- Significant code update to power piping code ASME B31.1, including new material library
- Expanded libraries to support special alloy materials in the refrigerant, nuclear, and process industries

Now that Bentley AutoPIPE is fully compatible with MicroStation V8 XM, its ability to interoperate with other CAD products has been significantly extended. The integration of analysis and CAD tools enables organizations to establish common data exchange metrics and improve performance.

Standardizing with Bentley AutoPIPE XM creates efficiencies by making processes more uniform and repeatable with other Bentley design and engineering solutions. This leads to higher productivity, faster delivery, and fewer errors.

Bentley AutoPIPE XM is a complete, high-quality pipe stress solution capable of addressing power, oil, gas, petrochemical, offshore, and nuclear applications. Full compliance with 29 international piping codes and 22 spring manufacturers and a full set of static, dynamic, and advanced analysis features make Bentley AutoPIPE XM a leader in low-end to high-end pipe stress analysis projects, including pipe support and equipment design.

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The rigorous quality assurance program of Bentley AutoPIPE XM has passed numerous independent NRC and NUPIC on-site audits to ASME NQA-1, ISO 9001, ASME N45.2, and 10CFR50 app B standards. This means Bentley AutoPIPE XM is one of the few analysis software programs to meet the highest level of software quality approved for use on nuclear plant utilities in the United States.

For more information regarding Bentley AutoPIPE XM, please visit <http://www.bentley.com/AutoPIPE> or contact structural@bentley.com or by phone at +1 800 BENTLEY or +1 610 458 5000.

About Bentley's CAE Product Family

Bentley's computer-aided engineering (CAE) product family, including Bentley AutoPIPE, Bentley PlantFLOW, Bentley PULS, and Bentley WinNOZL, now forms part of Bentley's structural and piping solutions. These solutions include software from RAM International and the STAAD.Pro product lines for engineering analysis and design for plant, building, and civil applications. For more information on Bentley's RAM and STAAD product lines, please visit <http://www.bentleyswinningteam.com/>.

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Browzwear Launches the Most Advanced 3D Fashion Design Software

4 September 2007

Browzwear International announced the release of VStitcher™ 4.01, the next generation of its 3D fashion design application.

Browzwear's software, implemented by more than 150 industry leaders, is unique in its ability to simulate real-life fabric draping in real time. Now, with its improved 3D presentation and development capabilities, true-to-life adult, child and infant avatars, new clusters, garments, 3D environments and accessories, the VStitcher™ software is redefining the fashion industry and attracting the attention of major brands.

VStitcher™ integrates conventional design techniques empowering them with real-time, true-to-life 3D technology. The software infrastructure utilizes the CAD-CAM industry standard, enabling users to create a virtual 3D garment. The prototype garment is then modeled by an exceptionally detailed, 3D human figure (avatar), customized to a huge array of parameters such as age and gender, body measurements, posture, skin tone, hair style, and even the stages of pregnancy. Inherent CAD capabilities such as moving and dragging points and curves enable modification of 2D patterns with fast 3D results.

Recently Aviela Sherbu-Cohen was named new CEO of Browzwear. Sherbu-Cohen comes to Browzwear with twenty years of managerial and marketing experience in the textile industry as VP Marketing Development and Design for Tefron Ltd. and Gibor Sabrina Ltd., and over 7 years as a board member in Macpel Industries. Sherbu-Cohen holds an MBA with a major in Marketing and minor in Operations Management, and a BA in Linguistics, with a minor in Mathematics and Computer Sciences from Tel Aviv University. Having lived abroad, she mastered languages including English, Hebrew, Romanian, Portuguese, German, French, and more.

"Browzwear's software is specially developed to ease the transition for garment and textile companies looking to advance into the new 3D Generation software," says Aviela Sherbu-Cohen, Browzwear's CEO. "The new VStitcher™ is proof of Browzwear's firm commitment to push the limits, and explore the promise of 3D fashion design. We hope to give our clients a competitive edge based on better brand-manufacturer collaboration while allowing designers to maintain and enhance their freedom and

creativity".

The VStitcher™ is not simply a design tool but rather a communication solution, optimizing the entire product lifecycle from concept to shelf for cost-effectiveness, time efficiency and flexibility. As a born-for-the-Web application, VStitcher™ ensures real-time 3D representation of the garment design at any remote location, enabling immediate feedback from clients, designers and decision makers.

[Browzwear International](#) develops and manufactures advanced 3D fashion design and communication software for the garment and textile industries. The company founded in 1999 is headquartered in Tel Aviv.

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CEI's EnSight Visualization Suite to Be Distributed in South East Asia and China by CAD-IT Consultants

6 September 2007

Computational Engineering International ([CEI](#)) announced a partnership with Singapore-based firm CAD-IT Consultants (Asia), Pte Ltd. to distribute the American developer's software throughout South East Asia and broaden distribution throughout China. Best-known for its EnSight software, CEI produces a full range of software applications for the scientific and engineering community covering all aspects of simulation, including meshing, plotting, process workflow, animation, and visualization.

"This partnership represents our formal entry into the South East Asian market, and we're very pleased to be represented by CAD-IT," said Darin McKinnis, CEI's vice president of marketing and sales. "We enter this venture with great confidence in CAD-IT and high expectations for a growing market share in South East Asia and China."

Formed in 1991, CAD-IT is a leading Asia-Pacific distributor of CAE technology and top manufacturer and provider of product lifecycle management applications, with offices throughout the region and manufacturing facilities in South East Asia and China.

"CAD-IT is proud to distribute CEI's products in South East Asia and China because they complement our current offerings, with the addition of best-in-class visualization tools for communicating CAE results and scientific data," said Florence Tan, chief operating officer, CAD-IT. "This collaboration allows us to offer users of practically every major CAE code extraordinary support for parallel post-processing and graphics rendering."

For more information about CEI or any of its software, visit <http://www.ensight.com/>. To visit CAD-IT online, go to <http://www.cadit.com.sg/>.

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Dassault Systèmes and Seemage, Inc. Announce Strategic Partnership

6 September 2007

Dassault Systèmes ([DS](#)) and [Seemage, Inc.](#) announced their intention to become strategic partners. The partnership will leverage the companies' respective strengths to dramatically grow their presence in the 3D product documentation market.

The partnership will provide a seamless link between product documentation and PLM product-related

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data. For companies, this eliminates all disparities between product-related IP and any required product documentation, such as animations, graphics and illustrations for training, maintenance manuals and service procedures. Working together, the companies will permit the exploitation of 3D as a universal media.

“Seemage joining the CAA program is noteworthy for CATIA users,” said Patrice Bélanger, PLM business process manager, Bombardier Aerospace. “To be competitive today, we have to eliminate rework and delays in the production of service procedures and product documentation. But to automate these critical processes we need increased integration between Seemage and Dassault Systèmes’ solutions. We look forward to implementing the results of this partnership to help us address these business challenges.”

“We fully endorse DS’s 3DVIA strategy and are delighted to be part of its ecosystem,” says Chris Williams, CEO, Seemage Inc. “The partnership with DS will bring tremendous value to our users, extending the reach of 3D digital assets beyond design communities for their product maintenance, training, operation and sales and marketing processes.” Seemage users can exploit 3D data from any 3D CAD or enterprise system and create content from this for any desired output in formats including Microsoft Office documents, PDF and HTML. Seemage’s XML-based architecture integrates seamlessly with enterprise systems.

“The partnership will define a new, collaborative way to integrate product documentation into product innovation and PLM in 3D,” said Pascal Daloz, executive vice president, strategy and marketing, Dassault Systèmes. “Working with Seemage, Dassault Systèmes intends to lead the convergence between 3D product definition and 3D product documentation, increasing the value of digital product data in the enterprise and beyond. Our customers can rely on Seemage to produce rich deliverables with high accuracy and security.”

Download trial versions of the Seemage system at <http://www.seemage.com/>. Read Seemage’s blog and download Seemage’s video podcast at <http://www.3dmojo.com/>.

About the CAA Software Community Program

CAA (Component Application Architecture) is Dassault Systèmes’ open middleware and development environment for PLM. The CAA Software Community Program is dedicated to ISVs (Independent Software Vendors) willing to develop, sell and support CAA-based applications, fully integrated with CATIA, SIMULIA, ENOVIA, DELMIA and 3DVia. This collaboration results in the expansion of Dassault Systèmes’ 3D PLM solutions to cover the entire product lifecycle range, thus enabling mutual customers to take advantage of a larger set of products in response to their specific industrial needs. More Information available at <http://www.3ds.com/alliances/software-partnership>.

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Engineous Announces Abaqus Component for iSIGHT-FD

6 September 2007

[Engineous Software](#) announced that an Abaqus component is now available at their newly launched "[Component Central](#)" website.

As a member of SIMULIA’s Abaqus Integration Program, Engineous developed the new component to provide a direct link from within their iSIGHT-FD product to the Abaqus FEA software from the [SIMULIA](#) brand of Dassault Systèmes. This link allows Engineous customers to modify a reference

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Abaqus input file, execute the Abaqus solver and extract results directly within iSIGHT-FD.

"Our customers communicated to us that providing an Abaqus component was critical to their successful use of our open process integration software," stated Dr. Alex Van der Velden, VP of Engineering for Engineous Software. "This new component allows them to easily modify Abaqus analysis models and review the simulation results directly from within iSIGHT-FD."

"We are pleased that Engineous has developed the Abaqus component to meet their customer demands," stated Ken Short, VP of SIMULIA Strategy and Marketing. "It is clear that robust, real-world simulation results are an integral part of our shared customers' product lifecycle processes. We are committed to ensuring tight integration of Abaqus with Engineous' iSIGHT-FD and FIPER and have plans to work with Engineous on future developments that meet the market demands."

"We appreciate the strong support SIMULIA provided that enabled us to quickly develop the Abaqus component," said Janet C. Wylie, President and CEO of Engineous. "We are looking forward to continuing our joint efforts to create innovative and synergistic solutions to benefit our common customers."

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Infor Delivers Built-in PLM and ERP Integration for Global Process Manufacturers; Combined Solution Ideal for Multinational Currency and Language Environments

6 September 2007

[Infor](#) announced built-in integration between its PLM solution, Infor PLM Optiva, and Infor ERP LX, a comprehensive ERP solution for multi-mode manufacturers. LX is ideally suited for medium- to large-sized, global manufacturing environments where multinational currency and language support is required.

Coupling LX with Optiva eliminates the need for custom coding associated with point-to-point integrations, allowing process manufacturers to reduce dedicated IT resources and costs. Manufacturers will benefit from streamlined design processes incorporated with their ERP, which will help them drive product innovation while ensuring regulatory compliance across multiple facilities and regions.

Integrating the solutions improves processes associated with change management and scale-up production of new formulas, materials and packaging. These improvements help manufacturers significantly increase on-time product launches, which is the single largest issue facing processors today.

"Integrating LX with Optiva demonstrates our unwavering commitment to extending our customers' IT investment through integrations to complementary solutions, which enables them to quickly respond to market fluctuations and consumer demand," said Rory Granros, Infor's director of industry and product marketing for Process Industries. "Infor delivers a combination that allows manufacturers to streamline the processes involved in bringing new products online, while reducing overall costs and time to market."

Companies will now have an integrated process that ensures quality and compliance, starting with kitchen recipes, through R&D, into pilot plants and then to one or more production facilities or co-packers. For example, when a cost reduction project requires a new raw material, companies can use the integrated system to source for a low cost option and ensure the reformulation meets regulatory requirements before putting the product into production. Because this work takes place in R&D,

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companies can develop new products without interfering with standard operations, which improves first batch success rates, reduces downtime, and lowers the costs often associated with manual interfaces.

With the integrated system manufacturers have a single source of record for all materials, formulas, packaging, test methods and manufacturing processes in use, providing consolidated control and visibility to better source and rationalize raw materials, and reduce redundancies. The information is then incorporated into the planning and scheduling process, giving companies more command over the use of inventory and improved insight into the lifecycle of the product. This is ideal for multinational companies who can now bring consumer goods and pharmaceutical products to initial markets faster, and minimize the launch time across multiple markets.

Infor ERP LX includes business-specific capabilities for food and beverage, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, biotechnology, and consumer packaged goods. LX helps customers plan, source, schedule, and ship in a multi-location environment by allowing each operation to determine the best way to manage an item within that facility.

Infor ERP Optiva helps companies successfully support design for manufacturing and the supply chain through enhanced collaboration, coordination, constraint-based validation and integrated stage gate capabilities. The solution enables food and beverage, home and personal care, and specialty chemical companies to dramatically reduce the risks associated with new product innovation, such as vendor quality and compliance, late launches and cost overruns. Optiva enables companies to significantly increase agility and flexibility by dynamically managing changes more efficiently and effectively, and move products into new markets with limited investment.

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Informative Graphics Releases Brava! Enterprise 6.0 for Viewing, Annotation, Redaction and PDF/TIFF Publishing

6 September 2007

Informative Graphics Corporation ([IGC](#)) announced the latest release of its Brava!® product line, Brava Enterprise 6.0.

Brava Enterprise offers web-based, enterprise-class viewing and collaboration for virtually any format, including Microsoft Word, TIFF, PDF and CAD formats like AutoCAD. It has a simple, customizable interface and out-of-the-box integrations to EMC Documentum, Open Text Livelink ECM, Interwoven WorkSite MP and Microsoft SharePoint. Its SDK makes it easy to integrate into other data and project management solutions.

This release offers a number of new and enhanced features, including:

- Publish to TIFF – Users can now convert any file to TIFF as well as PDF or CSF
- Publish page ranges – Specify a range(s) of pages to publish
- Dynamic stamps – Create custom stamps that include metadata from a content management system
- Redaction enhancements – Use wildcard values to better search for sensitive content (like Social Security numbers)
- Measurement enhancements – Perform area and perimeter measurements

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- Enhanced thumbnails – Navigate using thumbnails without downloading the whole document

“We are very excited about this release,” said Gary Heath, President and CEO of IGC. “We work closely with our customers to make sure Brava meets the needs of today’s companies, and this release is packed with usable features that can help increase efficiency and streamline business processes.”

For more information about Brava, visit <http://www.bravaviewer.com/>.

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Lectra and ICCG Partner to Provide Quality Software and Services to the Fashion and Apparel Markets

4 September 2007

Lectra announced its strategic partnership with ICCG (Independent Computer Consulting Group Inc.), to bring leading solutions and services to meet the PLM, PDM and Design needs of organizations in the Americas.

The partnership will provide customers with the world-class PLM, PDM, Design and enterprise application solutions of [Lectra](#) and ICCG's extensive vertical industry experience, which will deliver enhanced consulting and implementation services. The partnership also supports both Lectra's and ICCG's strategic growth plans within the expanding Fashion and Apparel sectors.

ICCG has long-established expertise in the Fashion and Apparel industries and a strong presence in the Americas. They also have top-notch talent and a heritage of implementing Application Suite projects for clients," says Shiv Kaushik, President of ICCG.

"Partnering with [ICCG](#) gives Lectra access to some of the best consultancy resources for PLM in this market, and means we can not only grow our business, but also provide tremendous value to clients as they strive to increase their global competitiveness," according to David Rode, President of Lectra Americas.

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Mentor Graphics Offers PCI Express Controller and AMBA Bridge Intellectual Property Solutions

5 September 2007

Mentor Graphics Corporation announced availability of PCI Express® (PCIe®) Controller and AMBA® Bridge intellectual property (IP) solutions for the rapid and cost-effective integration into ASIC and System-On-Chip (SoC) platforms. Featuring a complete suite of PCIe Controllers including X1 (1-lane), X2 (2-lane), X4 (4-lane), X8 (8-lane) and X16 (16-lane) options, the solutions also include AMBA 3 AXI™ and AMBA 2 AHB™ Bridges to standard on-chip buses.

Mentor Graphics PCIe 1.1 Controller and Bridge IPs, based on ASIC Architect’s leading PCIe IP core, are fully compliant with the PCIe 1.1 industry specification. Designed for scalability, each controller is optimized for minimal gate count, low power and high performance, in configurations including Root Port, Switch Port, Endpoint or Dual Mode (Endpoint/Root). Mentor Graphics Bridge IP cores enable high-performance interconnects of chips through PCIe bus. These new IP solutions offer designers turnaround time, flexibility, reliability and standard conformance.

“As a leading provider of high speed controller IP solutions, ASIC Architect partnered with Mentor

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Graphics to deliver our silicon proven PCIe solutions to the market. ASIC Architect has been at the forefront of solving complex IP and integration problems of today's SoC designs," said Kishore Mishra, president and CEO of ASIC Architect, Inc. "By working closely with Mentor Graphics' world-class support and sales teams, we will be able to reach a much broader base of designers and integrators."

Mentor Graphics offers a broad selection of IP, including USB, Ethernet, storage, and microcontroller digital, mixed signal and embedded middleware IP. The addition of PCIe Controller and Bridge IP solutions demonstrate Mentor Graphics' commitment to delivering industry-leading, standards-based connectivity IP solutions.

"Responding to our customers who are targeting the high growth PCIe market, we partnered with ASIC Architect to deliver world-class IP solutions," said Bill Martin, Mentor Graphics general manager for intellectual property products, Embedded Systems Division. "These leading PCIe Controller and Bridge IP solutions from ASIC Architect expand our specification-compliant and high-performance IP portfolio and accelerate our IP subsystem strategy."

For more information on Mentor's IP products visit <http://www.mentor.com/IP> or contact Mentor Graphics local sales representative at 1-800-547-3000.

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MSC.Software Accepted into the IBM SOA Specialty

4 September 2007

MSC.Software announced its acceptance to the IBM SOA Specialty after successfully completing IBM's rigorous SOA technical and business requirements. With this achievement, MSC.Software's SimManager has also achieved SOA Connect status, ensuring that it fully integrates with the IBM software and strategy for SOA.

"SOA is an increasingly important business requirement for organizations because of the business flexibility it enables," said Sandy Carter, Vice President of IBM SOA and WebSphere. "MSC.Software's commitment to SOA provides their customers with a powerful way to reduce integration costs."

MSC.Software's SimManager is designed to bring critical simulation information to thousands of users at the lowest possible total cost of ownership (TCO). Compliance with SOA standards enables SimManager to seamlessly link to all SOA-compliant data sources and applications and allows simulation data to be easily integrated into engineering business processes. SimManager uses SOA-based web services to capture transactions from key operational systems and utilizes XML standards to process data and metadata.

"Working with IBM for SOA helps us provide open, flexible enterprise business infrastructure that will enable us to deliver our solutions to customers with reliability and efficiency," said Bill Weyand, chief executive officer of MSC.Software.

More information regarding MSC.Software or SimManager please visit: <http://www.mscsoftware.com/>

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Next Generation of Productivity in Plant Design Available With the Launch of AVEVA PDMS 12

4 September 2007

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AVEVA announced the launch of AVEVA PDMS 12.

AVEVA PDMS 12, part of the AVEVA Plant portfolio, is the latest generation of the leading plant design tool. This release fully supports the Microsoft .NET user interface with highly interactive 3D graphical editing functions for fast initial design and swift intelligent modifications. This makes it easier to learn, faster to use - and a lot more productive.

"AVEVA PDMS has for a long time been acknowledged as the most powerful plant design system in the market. With AVEVA's unique, proven, object-based and global engineering technologies our clients have had unrivalled flexibility in the execution of complex global process plant projects," said Richard Longdon, CEO of AVEVA.

"With the release of AVEVA PDMS 12, we really do take this technology platform to new heights of productivity, not just for the end users and designers but across the whole project, offering further fabrication and construction savings by extending the scope and ability to control, manage and share project information globally."

Some of the exciting new key features in AVEVA PDMS 12 include:

Extensive enhancements to the advanced engineering applications for designing equipment, piping, ducting, structural steel, and supports.

- The new access platforms, stairs and ladders application that allows the parametric design and easy modification of complex access configurations, and provides accurate material and weight reports.
- The new catalogue and specification management application that is easy to use and reduces the effort required to create and modify catalogue and specification items, reducing the need for specialist skills in this area.
- A new Cable Design product that allows cables and cableways to be routed inside the PDMS model.
- An area which has been particularly enhanced is the use of design rule technology. Piping engineers will have a rule-based automatic pipe routing & quality checking feature as standard, and all disciplines will benefit from the new object associations which have been introduced into the plant model. These allow key relationships to be defined and continuously monitored as the design progresses and changes. The technology is used to good effect in a new hole management application to assist the vital inter-discipline control & coordination.
- AVEVA PDMS has extensive customisation and configuration capabilities, utilising Microsoft .NET, and these too have been greatly enhanced to enable customers to further optimise and tailor functionality in line with their work processes and standards.
- A new and innovative approach to P&ID integration is also pioneered with the introduction of AVEVA PDMS 12. P&IDs from multiple authoring tools can be consolidated into a single schematic model of the plant which can then be used to build and compare with the 3D plant model. The schematic model is a new open environment that brings P&ID and 3D data together for the first time on a globally-deployable shared technology platform. The schematic model data is fully managed within the AVEVA PDMS 12 environment and new AVEVA P&ID Manager and AVEVA P&ID Integrator products are being introduced to work with this as part of AVEVA's open P&ID strategy.

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All these features lead to even more accurate, complete and clash free designs with AVEVA PDMS 12, thereby ensuring reduced project costs. According to Dave Wheeldon, Group Product Development Director, "AVEVA PDMS 12 delivers major innovations to our customers, ranging from improved productivity for individual designers through to increased overall project savings that result from significant improvements in data management and control.

"These innovations have been introduced to AVEVA PDMS to be fully upwards compatible with earlier versions so customers can take immediate advantage of the new capabilities. The principle of 'continual progression' is at the heart of AVEVA's product development strategy".

For more information see the AVEVA PDMS 12 launch site at <http://www.aveva.com/pdms>.

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PACE Releases Design Software Pacelab Suite 2.2

6 September 2007

Berlin software provider [PACE](#) announced the release of Pacelab Suite 2.2. The latest version of its knowledge-based engineering software for multidisciplinary preliminary design introduces a role-based access control plug-in which improves data security and consistency in distributed collaborative work environments.

The preliminary design of complex technical systems such as cars and aircraft typically involves decentralized teams organized according to discipline or subcomponent. Moreover, today's suppliers and partners are deeply integrated into manufacturers' business processes and IT infrastructure. The constant exchange of critical data in these collaborative and concurrent engineering processes poses substantial risks to data consistency and intellectual property rights.

Pacelab Suite 2.2 addresses these issues with a new plug-in that grants access to sensitive information and privileged actions through work roles, which may be freely combined to cover the tasks and responsibilities of a user within the team. For maximum flexibility, Pacelab's access control is fully configurable and enables a fine-grained, customer-specific allocation of rights; its open structure also allows the integration of additional features and authentication methods.

With the new plug-in, Pacelab Suite expands on its core strength of supporting multidisciplinary design processes, adding benefit to a unique knowledge modeling approach that accommodates parameters, methods and design strategies from diverse disciplines in a unified data model. Stored and administered in Pacelab's central repository, this engineering knowledge can be distributed across departments and organizations in a consistent and standardized manner. The new version is also fully compatible with Microsoft Windows Vista.

The next major release of the Pacelab Suite platform is scheduled for late 2007. Pacelab Suite 3.0 will be delivered with easy-to-use application programming interfaces (APIs) for the most common .NET programming languages. These will enable in-house or third-party developers to freely extend all Pacelab applications with domain or use case-specific functionality and greatly broaden the field of applications for Pacelab Suite.

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Rambus and Cadence Collaborate and Deliver Fully Integrated and Independently Verified PCI

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Express Solutions

4 September 2007

Rambus Inc. and [Cadence® Design Systems, Inc.](#) announced fully integrated and independently verified PCI Express® solutions. The two companies have collaborated and now offer highly adaptable PCI Express digital cores and PHY IP from Rambus, tightly integrated and verified with Cadence verification IP.

The result of the joint work provides SOC designers with an independently verified solution that seamlessly integrates Rambus' design IP with the automated verification IP from Cadence. This solution helps shorten time to market with an efficient, predictable, and low-risk SOC design and verification to enhance the quality of the end product. In addition, the solution includes the Cadence Compliance Management System (CMS) featuring a PCI Express compliance verification plan (vPlan) and compliance tests, both of which have been specifically customized to the Rambus design IP. The CMS provides an automated plan and metric-driven solution to reach high levels of coverage without the need to develop tests. Based on the Cadence Incisive® Plan-to-Closure methodology, the offering allows customers to maximize design quality while minimizing protocol expertise and verification time.

“As a company developing cutting-edge technology, it is critical that we build our solutions on proven, tightly integrated technology,” said John F. Brown, vice president, Engineering at Tlera Corporation. “Using the combination of the Rambus configurable PCI Express Digital Controller with the independently developed verification IP from Cadence enables the rapid and successful IP integration we are looking for.”

“Through this collaboration, we are able to provide an ideal combination of Cadence verification IP and methodology expertise with Rambus design IP. This solution leverages the strengths of both companies, speeding up the IP integration process and increasing productivity and quality for customers,” said Steve Glaser, vice president of Marketing at Cadence's Verification Division. “Designers will gain a higher degree of predictability with the functional coverage provided by the Rambus design-IP-specific CMS. The result gives our mutual customers confidence that they will get to market on schedule with a quality product.”

The PCI-SIG-compliant and interoperability-tested Rambus PCI Express solution has been implemented and shipped in numerous high-volume applications. Rambus digital core IP has adaptable application interfaces that minimize the amount of glue logic required for integration. Rambus PHY cells are delivered as complete serial communication cells, optimized for maximum production yield.

“Increasingly powerful computing and consumer electronics applications require IP solutions that are flexible and seamlessly integrate into our customers' designs,” said Tim Messegee, vice president of Marketing at [Rambus Inc.](#) “With this collaboration, Cadence and Rambus continue our commitment to provide the market with superior integrated IP and EDA solutions that accelerate time to market and reduce design risk.”

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Right Hemisphere's Deep Server Software Achieves SAP® Certified Integration Status

5 September 2007

[Right Hemisphere](#) announced its Deep Server™ 4.1 enterprise software has successfully achieved SAP Certified Integration status for its integration with the SAP® Product Lifecycle Management (SAP

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PLM) Release 4.7 application. This integration allows Deep Server to extract and receive computer-aided design (CAD) bill of materials (BOM) structures and CAD geometry files stored in SAP PLM application-based systems. After extracting product data from SAP PLM, Deep Server can generate lightweight 3D product models, combine those models with associated SAP ERP application-based product data, generate graphic derivatives and collaborative 3D documents, and import all of those files and documents back into SAP PLM. The imported data will also be associated with the parent CAD data records—known as document information records.

“Deep Server integrated with SAP PLM will allow companies to automate the merging of CAD and business data so that a holistic view of their product lines can be priced, ordered, supported and serviced anywhere, anytime,” said Right Hemisphere’s Director of Worldwide Services George W. Earle. “In addition to unifying and centralizing key engineering and business data, we’re enabling manufacturers to combine text and visual data in Adobe PDF documents for training, user, and support manuals; parts catalogs; and any other kind of documentation needed to support a manufactured product. With our integrated system to automate and accelerate the production of these manuals, we can help manufacturers greatly reduce the costs associated with both creating and maintaining thousands of documents and online information.”

SAP PLM is part of the SAP Business Suite family of business applications, allowing the seamless integration of all relevant business information into the product development process. The solution provides a single source of all product-related information needed for collaborating with business partners and supports strategic product planning, product development and compliance with regulations.

Right Hemisphere’s Deep Server software integrates with and extends PLM and product data management (PDM) solutions, such as SAP PLM, to enable the re-use of product information across the extended enterprise. Right Hemisphere’s solutions provide some of the industry’s most respected manufacturers, such as DaimlerChrysler, Bell Helicopter, Sikorsky and others, with an open environment for enterprise-wide product communication and collaboration that connects with other enterprise systems, eliminates various inefficiencies, and helps manufacturers get their products and support materials to market faster. Deep Server supports over 130 2D and 3D formats, including corporate document standards such as HTML, Adobe® PDF® and Microsoft® Office.

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SolidWorks Education Edition 2007-2008 Gives Students Integrated, Real-World Design and Analysis Capabilities

4 September 2007

SolidWorks Corporation gave students and teachers the key resources they need to enhance engineering education with the release of SolidWorks® Education Edition 2007-2008. The latest version of SolidWorks 3D CAD software for students includes links to a new 3D CAD curriculum portal (<http://www.solidworks.com/curriculum>) plus all the major features in SolidWorks 2007 Office Premium.

SolidWorks Education Edition 2007-2008 now includes COSMOSWorks® Advanced Professional and COSMOSFloWorks™ Professional Edition analysis software – enabling students from middle through graduate school for the first time to perform all of the analysis tasks undertaken by a typical engineer designing products.

“Design and analysis are increasingly integrated functions in professional engineering jobs, and this

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coupling is important for those intent on designing better products,” said Ashland O. Brown, professor of mechanical engineering at the University of the Pacific in Stockton, Calif. “SolidWorks Corporation has addressed this both in its commercial software and in its education edition, clearly taking it to the next level in this advanced package. I can confidently say this is one of the best 3D CAD and FEA analysis software products available for education.”

Advanced analysis

COSMOSWorks Advanced Professional is a high-end finite element analysis (FEA) solution offering capabilities for nonlinear, dynamic, and composite material analysis. COSMOSFloWorks Professional Edition includes advanced analysis capabilities for compressible flow (liquid), solar radiation, rotating frame of reference, and moving walls. Both new tools will be useful for intermediate, advanced, and graduate-level students. For example, students competing in Formula Student race car design and racing competitions can use these products to check the car frame’s structural rigidity under different loading and material conditions.

Exclusive curriculum portal

The new curriculum portal (<http://www.solidworks.com/curriculum>) includes a wealth of new resources for educators, including lessons, projects, exercises, answer keys, movies, white papers, PowerPoint presentations, and case studies as well as expanded course-specific curricula for design analysis. Coursework is available in English, German, French, Italian, Spanish, Japanese, Chinese (simplified and traditional), Swedish, Brazilian, Portuguese, and Dutch.

The portal complements the STEM (science, technology, engineering, and mathematics) weblog (<http://blogs.solidworks.com/teacher>) that SolidWorks launched last year, now offering more than 100 free lessons and receiving more than 10,000 visits per month.

Formerly on DVD, student guides are now available from the Design Library embedded in SolidWorks Education Edition 2007-2008. This convenience means students no longer have to find the disk and load guides onto their PCs.

SolidWorks Education Edition 2007-2008 includes an enhanced DWGeditor® tool for editing existing 2D DWG/DXF drawings and learning 2D design techniques. SolidWorks Corporation will supply three DWGeditor licenses for every licensed version of SolidWorks Education Edition.

Built on SolidWorks 2007

SolidWorks Education Edition 2007-2008 is based on the commercial version of SolidWorks 2007 Office Premium, which features these enhancements:

- innovative SolidWorks Intelligent Feature Technology (SWIFT) to streamline creation of 3D models and help prevent design problems, particularly in filleting, applying draft, mating parts into assemblies, and dimensioning drawings;
- advanced assembly modeling capabilities, including design of belt and chain drives that enable linked assembly motion; and,
- surfacing functionality that speeds the design of complex shapes.

“Enticing students toward engineering careers means showing them what they can do with 3D CAD software,” said Marie Planchard, director of worldwide education markets at SolidWorks Corporation. “Giving them integrated design and analysis lets them see how projects they’ve worked on will behave

in the real world. More importantly, it gives them a taste of how professionals work every day. That's a critical step in growing the global population of skilled engineers."

[SolidWorks](#) Education Edition 2007-2008 is available on Windows XP and Vista operating systems.

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Theorem's Breaks New Ground with CADverter for IsoDraw

3 September 2007

A new family of CADverters from data translation specialist, Theorem Solutions promises improved interfacing of IsoDraw with CATIA and UG NX, as well as major benefits for technical publications professionals.

Based on proven Theorem direct translation technology for CATIA and UG NX, the new CADverters for IsoDraw deliver translation capabilities to the heart of the IsoDraw environment. Previously, CATIA or UG NX models could only be imported using IGES (the Initial Graphics Exchange System) – a process requiring dedicated time and effort from illustrators and product designers alike.

Combining several key translation components, the latest Theorem products offer a simple and affordable solution that not only overcomes traditional data translation shortcomings, but also provides a breakthrough in communication between design and technical publications functions.

Offered as stand alone products from the source CAD applications, CADverters for IsoDraw provide a highly cost-effective and easy to use method of dealing with CATIA and UG NX data. The new translators' capabilities are also enhanced by the inclusion of Theorem's novel Data eXchange Navigator (DXN) module, which enables users to further streamline their technical publications operations.

Not only does the powerful DXN interface allow users with 'read only' source file access to browse directory structures and identify the CAD files or assemblies they need, but also to view and manipulate the data on their own PC. As a result, CADverters for IsoDraw permit technical publications professionals to select and output components or assemblies in the required IsoDraw format without the need for design staff assistance, specialist CAD skills or access to a CAD licence.

By enabling large numbers of native CAD source files to be managed simply and effectively, the new CADverters also offer users the option of batching files together for translation – allowing them to continue with other work while their 'IsoDraw ready' data is created in the background.

"These new products extend the reach of our world-class data translation technology into a new vertical market," comments Theorem's general manager, Keith Jeacock. "We have based their development on feedback from a wide range of technical publications professionals in order to fully meet the needs of that community. Our market research indicates that many organisations can make a strong business case for these products and we have already seen high levels of interest from potential users. I am therefore confident that CADverters for IsoDraw will quickly establish themselves as de facto standards for data translation in this important business sector."

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XLS-DataLoader for SAP

September 2007

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[XLS-DataLoader for SAP](#) is a powerful, easy to use and flexible tool for uploading data to SAP systems. The XLS-DataLoader rapidly loads data from Microsoft Excel spreadsheets into any SAP system. Designed with end-users in mind, the XLS-DataLoader is easy to use. A simple three step process allows XLS-DataLoader users to load data from MS-Excel spreadsheets into SAP systems:

1. Record the program by stepping through your SAP transaction.
2. Add your data to the attached MS-Excel spreadsheet
3. Run the DataLoader program to immediately upload your data safely and securely to the SAP system

XLS-DataLoader for SAP uses the Standard SAPGUI-Interface and never updates data directly to SAP tables. Concept to execution time is less than 30 minutes for most cases. No ABAP coding is done in SAP. Since no ABAP coding is done, no transport is required. You can run tests in your prototype or quality environment and next minute you can run the same program in production environment.

Features

- Excellent tool for master or transaction data correction, mass updates, data loads, stress test, large configuration, etc.
- Run any SAP transaction using data from MS Excel
- No programming is involved either in SAP or in Excel.
- Security by using your existing SAP login to ensure that you have the correct security access level
- Flexibility: Generating an DataLoader upload program takes only minutes compared to the days it would take to do with traditional methods like ABAP coding.

Benefits

- Easily perform mass-updates of data
- Free up costly ABAP programming resources
- Accurately handle recurring transactions
- Data errors are reduced as end users have more control
- Flexibility to adapt to changing needs quickly.
- Easy to use, eliminating extensive training needs
- Direct Return-On-Investment

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