



Autodesk Enters Plant Design Market

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AutoCAD P&ID 2007 Addresses Need for Fast and Accurate Plant Design

HOUSTON, Jan. 29 /PRNewswire/ -- At the daratechPLANT 2007 conference for the process manufacturing and power generation industries, Autodesk, Inc. (Nasdaq: ADSK) today introduced AutoCAD P&ID 2007 software, a key application in a forthcoming suite of products that marks Autodesk's official entry into the plant design market. Addressing industry challenges including a shortage of staff with specialized skills, time pressures to complete projects quickly and the need to share design information across multiple engineering disciplines, AutoCAD P&ID 2007 accelerates piping and instrumentation diagram (P&ID) design and helps ensure accuracy on projects where updates and revisions are constant.

(Logo: <http://www.newscom.com/cgi-bin/prnh/20050415/SFF034LOGO>)

"We see tremendous opportunity to serve this segment by minimizing the obstacles that can make plant design overly complex and inefficient," said Mark Strassman, vice president, Autodesk Platform Technology. "Our plant customers' work is complex, and their tools shouldn't be. Autodesk plant applications will give customers the best of our multi-disciplinary engineering expertise, in plant design applications that are easy to learn, use and deploy."

From oil and gas to pharmaceuticals, many industry sectors are experiencing a boom in plant facility construction and modification to meet environmental compliance or performance requirements. Both owner/operators (OOs) and engineering, procurement and construction firms (EPCs) face intense economic pressures to complete projects on time while conforming to rigorous safety and environmental standards. AutoCAD P&ID 2007 is built on the world's most popular CAD software platform, to help plant owner/operators and EPC firms make the most of their investments in personnel and Autodesk software, and enable interoperability with future 3D plant modeling technology from Autodesk.

"Our industry is running at full capacity across the globe," said Karl Christman, CAD production manager at Jordan, Jones & Goulding, a regional engineering, management and planning consultancy. "Since our firm's engineers are already proficient in AutoCAD software, they need almost no training to start using AutoCAD P&ID 2007. Its built-in tools and easy-to-use functionality will help us speed project completion to keep pace with our clients' demands."

Foundation for Information-Based Plant Design

AutoCAD P&ID 2007 is designed to make it easy for engineers working on a project -- including plant design, structural, civil, building, mechanical and electrical -- to extract the accurate P&ID logic and information necessary for vital operational and design decisions.

"According to a study by the National Institutes of Standards and Technology, inefficient information exchange and interoperation between applications costs owner/operators and EPCs as much as \$10 billion per year," said Monica Schnitger, senior vice president of market analysis at market research firm Daratech, Inc. "Given that AutoCAD is used in so many plants' design process, solution providers' efforts to make it easier to share and use data will go far to help customers cut unnecessary expense."

Autodesk strategic partner AVEVA Group plc provides 3D modeling and design solutions used to create some of the world's largest plants. "At this time we have engaged in a joint effort with Autodesk to develop a customized release of AutoCAD P&ID, forming part of AVEVA's suite of applications that will offer full interoperability with the AVEVA Plant Design Management System (PDMS)," said Richard Longdon, CEO, AVEVA. "We're pleased to work with Autodesk so that our applications interoperate, giving mutual customers complete confidence that design changes are synchronized, that 3D models are consistent with 2D design specifications and that engineering data is accessible."

Availability

AutoCAD P&ID 2007 software initially is available in English. For information about AutoCAD P&ID 2007 and Autodesk plant applications, visit <http://www.autodesk.com/autocadpid> .

About Autodesk

Autodesk, Inc. is a Fortune 1000 company, wholly focused on ensuring that great ideas are turned into reality. With seven million users, Autodesk is the world's leading software and services company for the manufacturing, infrastructure, building, media and entertainment, and wireless data services fields. Autodesk's solutions help customers create, manage and share their data and digital assets more effectively. As a result, customers turn ideas into competitive advantage, become more productive, streamline project efficiency and maximize profits.

Founded in 1982, Autodesk is headquartered in San Rafael, California. For additional information about Autodesk, please visit <http://www.autodesk.com/> .

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