

AutoTURN 5.1 supports AutoCAD 2007 and V8 XM



The high-end vehicle swept path software, AutoTURN 5.1, from Transoft Solutions, the creator of CAD-based software solutions for

the transportation design sector, has been updated to make it compatible with the latest AutoCAD 2007 and MicroStation V8 XM platforms. www.transoftsolutions.com

FormFonts 3D launches online Revit Channel



FormFonts 3D, the provider of 3D components on the web, has announced the beta release of its new Revit Channel. The

new channel site has 2,000+ 3D models in Revit format. Most models (even 3D Trees) are below 500kb, allowing design teams to stage their building models with multiple components without sacrificing overall model size and graphic performance, the company claims. <http://revit.formfonts.com>

Open API added to Tekla Structures v12



Tekla has unveiled the latest release of its modelling software for the construction industry. Tekla Structures 12 is designed for

the entire structural design process, from conceptual design to fabrication, erection and construction. According to Tekla, the most significant enhancement is the new open application programming interface (API), which makes it possible to tie the different design applications and disciplines into a common 3D model. www.tekla.com

Bentley to expand conceptual design reach



Bentley Systems has been working with Google's SketchUp development team to further expand the conceptual design

tools available to users of Bentley's BIM solutions. As a result, Bentley users can now readily import SketchUp's 3D designs into MicroStation and Bentley Architecture. In addition, Bentley has established a direct connection to the Google 3D Warehouse, enabling users to easily access from within MicroStation the variety of SketchUp models stored in the warehouse.

Currently, Bentley users can read SketchUp SKP files in MicroStation and save them as DGN files. In the near future, Bentley users will also be able to write SKP SketchUp files from MicroStation. www.bentley.com

Emirates stadium delivered on time



4Projects, a provider of on-demand collaboration software, is celebrating the opening of Arsenal Football Club's stunning new Emirates Stadium. The 60,000 seat arena, which opened this

summer with Dennis Bergkamp's testimonial, was completed over two weeks early – and on budget – with help from 4Projects, providers of the collaborative extranet on the project.

Built by main contractor Sir Robert McAlpine, the stadium has already been hailed as a major success. With the total project costing a total of £390m, and covering a site of 17 acres, the construction has taken little over two years to complete.

The 4Projects system manages all drawings and other technical documents on major projects, allowing all of those involved to securely access up to date information and to help manage the delivery of the project ahead of programme. During the project, which started in March 2004, almost 450 users from more than 110 different organisations have used the 4Projects solution. A total of 55,000 drawings have been stored on the extranet, with over 600,000 files downloaded in what has been a text-book project. www.4projects.co.uk

EatyourCAD unveils CAD managers forum

EatyourCAD is sponsoring the first UK CAD managers forum to be held on Thursday 14th September at the Royal Institute of British Architects in London. The forum, the first of its kind to be held in the UK, is claimed to offer a unique learning opportunity for CAD Managers, where they can debate and exchange ideas, independent from any software vendors or sales pitches.

Hot topics up for discussion include: Information Exchange - the challenges faced and best practice advice for issuing digital drawings, documentation and CAD data; CAD Standards - the real state of CAD standards and how to ensure compliance within your office; Continuing Professional Development - approaches to training, gaining the maximum return on cost and how to raise performance; and The CAD Manager as a Professional - what it means to be a CAD Manager in this constantly evolving world of technology and discuss professional recognition.

Based on the findings the Forum will deliver a series of best practice guides for managers. It will also produce open letters to software vendors and professional bodies to advise them on their priorities. www.eatyourcad.com

Cad-Capture delivers management solution

Cad-Capture and Hummingbird have implemented a project centric content management solution for Parsons Brinckerhoff, one of the world's leading planning, engineering, program and construction management and operations and maintenance firms.

Comprising core Hummingbird Enterprise - DM and Collaboration technology components, the solution enables Parsons Brinckerhoff to manage, share and collaborate on a variety of project related content - such as e-mails, drawings, and project plans - with third party project participants including clients, suppliers and contractors.

Involved in scoping and implementing the solution, Cad-Capture also delivered various drawing management components including direct integration for AutoCAD with support for xrefs and synchronisation of title block attributes for efficient profiling using its CaptureLink for AutoCAD client extension for Hummingbird Enterprise - DM, as well as the ability to view, print and mark-up a variety of project related content, including native 2D CAD formats. www.cadcap.co.uk

Arup looks to solve the problem of managing emails

Arup's software business Oasys has announced the launch of Version 4 of its low cost email management tool Mail Manager and has formed a relationship with resellers Irradiant to market the Outlook plug-in.

"Mail Manager makes it easy for Outlook users to save emails and search for them in file system folders", says Irradiant CEO Nick Klemz. "This encourages users to treat email as methodically as they treat paper documents."

Mail Manager is designed to simplify and speed up the process of filing emails and adds to Outlook the ability to search through folders on network drives for saved messages and their

attachments. Mail Manager also includes what its developers call common-sense workflow functions that are claimed to help cut printing costs, reduce storage overheads and improve teamwork. By allowing users to add their name or initials to emails that have been read and reviewed, Mail Manager cuts the number of messages which are printed and stored as hard copies and gives managers the means to approve emails before they are sent out.

Additionally, Mail Manager enables users to share email with colleagues by distributing hyperlinks to saved documents, thus avoiding sending multiple copies of messages and bulky attachments to intended recipients. www.oasys-software.com