



News Release

Solid Concepts Inc. and MecSoft Corporation Announce Strategic Partnership

Link between SolidView/Pro® and VisualMill™ will facilitate the generation, communication and simulation of CNC tool paths.

Valencia, CA - June 13, 2000—Solid Concepts Inc. and MecSoft Corp. (Irvine, CA) announced today the formation of a strategic partnership designed to better serve the needs of the manufacturing community. Through this strategic alliance, both companies will work together to provide their respective customers with seamlessly linked products that together offer significant added value in improved user productivity and shorter design-to-manufacture product cycles. For example, MecSoft’s newest product, VisualMill v2.5, directly reads Solid View/Pro’s native SFX (Solid File eXchange) files. Both VisualMill v2.5 and SolidView/Pro use the same IGES import translator developed by Solid Concepts.

VisualMill is MecSoft’s Windows-based 3D solid/surface/STL manufacturing product that affords users with a powerful, fast and easy to use system for importing 3D design models, programming and verifying tool paths, and outputting results to the shop floor. SolidView/Pro is the most advanced member of the SolidView family of products developed by Solid Concepts. The SolidView family of products is designed to provide non-CAD/CAM users with 3D data they can view, measure, mark up, and communicate. Through a variety of plug-in interfaces, SolidView/Pro users can have access to native CAD data from all popular CAD systems, such as Pro/Engineer, Catia, SolidWorks, Unigraphics, and SDRC I-Deas, as well as standard formats such as IGES and Parasolids.

"We are excited about the strong partnership with Solid Concepts. In addition to our customers having more, easy to use tools to get their job done, the technology Solid Concepts offers with their plug-in interface modules provides an excellent gateway into the CAD environment for VisualMill users", said Joe Anand, president and founder of MecSoft.

According to Ray Bradford, Solid Concepts’ vice president of software development, both companies, as well as their customers, will benefit from this new relationship. "VisualMill users now have access to a wide range of 3D data formats, and thousands of SolidView/Pro users can use their existing SFX data to program and simulate tool paths. Most importantly, the visualization and measurement capabilities of SolidView will enable VisualMill users to communicate and resolve design issues, which will shorten the design-to-manufacture process", said Bradford.

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The SolidView family of products from Solid Concepts includes SolidView/Lite, a free viewer of SFX, VRML, STL, and other 3D formats, SolidView, a very low cost view, measure, and markup tool for SFX, VRML, and other 3D formats, and SolidView/Pro, a fully integrated 2D and 3D view, measure, and communication tool.

About MecSoft

MecSoft Corporation is a company that provides state-of-the-art Windows® based CAM software solutions for manufacturing parts in the mold, die and tooling industries. VisualMill, the flagship product of MecSoft, is the first of it's kind to offer the world's best solid/surface model machining technology seamlessly integrated with machining visualization technology running on a Windows® box to create a system of unparalleled ease of use and performance.

Founded in 1991, Solid Concepts supplies rapid prototyping, direct digital manufacturing, tooling and injection molding services. Solid Concepts has grown steadily to a five-facility, multiple technology company known to be a solutions provider with project management and engineering expertise. Capabilities in PolyJet™ high precision 3D printing, Stereolithography (SLA) models and patterns, HDSL (High Definition Stereolithography), Selective Laser Sintering (SLS), Direct Digital Manufacturing, CNC models and patterns, and QuantumCast™ advanced urethane castings, allows for low-volume production of plastic, urethane, and metal components directly from design data, resulting in significant time and cost savings. Capabilities in tooling and injection molding make Solid Concepts a one-stop source to bring concepts from prototype to finished product ready for market. ISO 9001:2008 and AS9100 Rev. B certified.

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