Autodesk Moves Forward to Fulfill its Mainstream Product Lifecycle Management Strategy with New Asset Acquisitions

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Combined Technology Will Better Enable Management and Sharing of Design Information

CHICAGO, National Design and Engineering Show, March 4, 2003 —Autodesk, Inc. (Nasdaq: ADSK), the world's leading design software and digital content company, today announced the acquisition of the assets of two software companies—truEInnovations, Inc., and Linius Technologies, Inc. – and an agreement to purchase certain assets of a third software company– VIA Development Corporation. The move advances the company's goal of delivering a comprehensive product lifecycle management (PLM) solution that meets the needs of mainstream manufacturing customers. These acquisitions will help Autodesk customers create accurate 3D models of both electrical and mechanical components of their products, document all of the systems inherent to these products, and manage and share design data inside the engineering workgroup and throughout its internal and external enterprise.

"This is a strategically important step in the delivery of a complete product lifecycle management solution to the mainstream market—the thousands of small- to medium-sized companies who want technology that is quick and easy to deploy, value-priced, and offers a very fast return on investment," said Robert Kross, vice president of the Manufacturing Solutions Division at Autodesk. "These technologies were selected for their strong synergy with our existing solutions, and this translates into a huge benefit for our customers."

Each of the technology acquisitions solves a different product development issue faced by Autodesk's customers, offering them many unique benefits. truEInnovations develops file and data management software that is very tightly integrated into the Autodesk Inventor® software environment and specifically created for small- to mid-sized companies whose only alternative has been expensive product data management software. VIA Development creates software to automate the process of generating wiring and other logical diagrams of machinery systems built upon AutoCAD® based software, the tool of choice for many controls engineers. Linius is the leading independent supplier of cable and wire harness modeling automation solutions, enabling customers to improve performance and productivity by building virtual prototypes of cable and wire harness assemblies and automatically generating manufacturing documentation.

"Combining our technology with Autodesk's manufacturing solutions creates an extraordinary and unique environment for managing digital design data," said Dean Brisson, former chief technology officer, truEInnovations. "The ease of use and functionality considerably enhances the productivity of designers by eliminating the need to re-enter metadata while giving them access to significant vaulting technology such as 'versioning' and 'where used' information. Downstream users benefit as information is consumed in the Autodesk Streamline® environment and by other applications throughout the product lifecycle."

For more information on these companies, please see the following websites:

- truEInnovations: www.trueinnovations.com

- VIA Development: www.viadevelopment.com

- Linius Technologies: www.linius.com

About Autodesk

Autodesk is the world's leading design software and digital content company, offering customers progressive business solutions through powerful technology products and services. Autodesk helps customers in the building, manufacturing, infrastructure, digital media, and wireless data services fields increase the value of their digital design data and improve efficiencies across their entire project lifecycle management processes. For more information about the company, see www.autodesk.com.