Autodesk Announces Support for Microsoft's Next-Generation Platforms and Frameworks

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         Combination Enables Application Developers to Realize Ideas, Maximize
                              Efficiency and Productivity
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SAN RAFAEL, Calif., Nov. 7 /PRNewswire-FirstCall/ -- Autodesk, Inc. (Nasdaq: ADSK) today announced support for Microsoft Visual Studio 2005, the .NET Framework 2.0 and Microsoft SQL Server 2005. Autodesk and Microsoft work together across many technology areas. Autodesk's data management products, built using SQL Server, enable teams to gain greater insight and maximize efficiency by always having instant access to design information. The Microsoft products combined with AutoCAD-based products from Autodesk provide an optimal platform for application developers to realize their ideas in designing and creating a wide range of software applications, from shipbuilding to facilities management, plant design to urban planning, architecture to emergency response.

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

The latest versions of Microsoft solutions are aimed at maximizing developer and team productivity. The combination of SQL Server 2005, Microsoft's flagship database, and Visual Studio 2005 delivers advancements in data rich connected systems, enabling faster results for Windows-based, Web and mobile applications. Autodesk software enables customers to create, manage and share digital assets across project lifecycles. Microsoft and Autodesk work together to ensure their customers have robust tools to rapidly build industry-leading applications.

Joint customers already see the performance and productivity gains from working with these two industry leaders. "AutoCAD is pervasive throughout the shipbuilding industry, that's why we've used it as the platform for our ShipConstructor 3D product modeling software suite for over 10 years," said Darren Larkins, Chief Software Architect for Albacore Research Limited. "With Autodesk's encouragement, we took an early look at the .NET Framework 2.0 and found it surprisingly easy to use, especially within the Visual Studio 2005 development environment. We're excited to be working with the next versions of both AutoCAD and VisualStudio to make the design and production of ships and offshore structures even more intuitive, easy and 'automagic'."

Autodesk is currently engaged with Microsoft to ensure that the next releases of its design products and software development platforms will operate with Visual Studio 2005, including:

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    * AutoCAD
    * AutoCAD Electrical
    * AutoCAD OEM
    * AutoCAD Mechanical
    * Autodesk Inventor
    * Autodesk Revit Structure
    * Autodesk Revit Building
    * Autodesk Building Systems
    * Autodesk Architectural Desktop
    * Autodesk Civil 3D
    * Autodesk Civil Design
    * Autodesk Land Desktop
    * Autodesk Map 3D
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Built on the SQL Server, Autodesk data management products, such as Autodesk Vault, Autodesk Productstream and Productstream Compass, are easy-to- use tools that help design teams track work in progress and automate the release-to-manufacturing process in multi-user environments. The combination of these products with Microsoft SQL Server helps customers in manufacturing industries maximize return on investment in design data by driving design re- use, and ensuring designs are comprehensively complete, accurate and approved.

"Microsoft and Autodesk have a long-standing partnership and share a passion for delivering technology that accelerates faster results across product and project life cycles, across every industry and vertical market," said Steve Guggenheimer, general manager of Application Platform and Development Marketing at Microsoft Corp. "Visual Studio 2005 and SQL Server 2005 will raise the bar further for the industry, enabling our large mutual customer-base to build best-in-class applications."

Through the Autodesk Developer Network, third-party commercial and individual software developers have access to the latest technologies for building industry-leading applications. "Microsoft has done an excellent job in addressing enterprise needs through platform advancements. With Autodesk software, SQL Server 2005 and Visual Studio 2005, we're looking forward to driving third-party software applications that designers can use to plan and build, anything from massive ships to multi-story skyscrapers," said Jim Quanci, global head of the Autodesk Developer Network. "With today's launch we have an even stronger enterprise software development platform for all of our industry-specific AutoCAD-based applications, which lead the world in design technology."

About the Autodesk Developer Network

The Autodesk Developer Network (ADN) is comprised of more than 2,500 technology partners around the world, that extend Autodesk solutions to meet the industry-specific needs of customers. New compatible applications from ADN partners are launched every day at: www.autodesk.com/partnerproducts.

About Autodesk

Autodesk, Inc. is wholly focused on ensuring that great ideas are turned into reality. With six million users, Autodesk is the world's leading software and services company for the building, manufacturing, infrastructure, digital media 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 by becoming more productive, streamlining project efficiency and maximizing profits.

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

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