Thousands Experience the Future of Making Things at Autodesk University 2016

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Company delivers the power to make anything with major updates to its cloud platforms

LAS VEGAS--(BUSINESS WIRE) --Nov. 15, 2016-- Autodesk University — Autodesk, Inc. (Nasdaq:ADSK) kicked off its annual flagship user event today, welcoming almost 10,000 attendees to learn, network and explore the future of making things. Autodesk University (AU) showcases the new ways that buildings, products and more are being designed, made and used.

At the event, the company will unveil new and updated technologies that give Autodesk customers the power to make anything. Autodesk will also outline plans for a streamlined portfolio of cloud platforms that simplify the work of designers, engineers, digital artists and others.

“We’re all in on the cloud. Access to infinite computing power and the ability to work together effortlessly is completely changing how design and engineering are done,” said Carl Bass, CEO of Autodesk.

Today in their keynote speeches, Bass and CTO Jeff Kowański will share a vision for the future of work, where designers and engineers will collaborate with computers to achieve more than was previously possible. The keynote will feature appearances by people whose endeavors embody this emerging future: Anna Nixon, a high school student from Oregon competing in the First Robotics Competition and Christian Benimana, Rwanda’s first trained architect and programs director for MASS Design Group.

Throughout the event, Autodesk University attendees will see how their peers are taking advantage of the transformative power of technologies like generative design, augmented and virtual reality, robotics, additive manufacturing and more.

Tomorrow Senior Vice President of Products Amar Hanspal will delve deeper into Autodesk’s product portfolio and cloud software platforms, breaking news on new capabilities coming to Fusion 360 and BIM 360. (Posts tomorrow on Autodesk’s In The Fold blog will detail the news.)

Hanspal will also spotlight Forge, Autodesk’s connected developer platform used to build and deploy apps and services for making the world around us. In the year since Forge was launched, the platform has surpassed 4,000 applications, which span a variety of uses ranging from part inspection to sub-sea surveying. Autodesk has invested in several companies through its Forge Fund and has aggressively broadened the Forge platform, focusing on enhancements to AR/VR and rendering to drive immersive real-time industry focused experiences. (See Autodesk’s newsroom for a related announcement on Forge today.)

“When our ongoing shift to cloud services, we are 100% focused on delivering maximum value to our subscribers and software developers. We are building a set of complete, connected and on-demand experiences for each of our major industries. Our aim is to empower engineers, designers and other users to have their project data in one place, collaborate across geographies, and more easily tap into the immense capabilities in Autodesk’s portfolio,” said Hanspal.

Customer projects from Briggs Automotive Company, Swinerton Builders and JE Dunn Construction’s will showcase how they are using cloud services to pioneer new ways of working, try new business models and embrace the future.

In addition to the keynotes, hundreds of hands-on classes and networking with peers, the conference offers dozens of interactive exhibits that bring the future of making things to life. Examples include live industrial robotic 3D printing, a brick-laying construction robot, the first-ever generatively designed office building, an open-sourced 3D printed drone, a virtual reality experience to configure a full-scale Ford Mustang, and augmented reality construction hard hats. While these technologies are expected to reach the mainstream in the next one to four years, they're available today for those cutting-edge innovators who are propelling us into the future.

AU concludes on Thursday with an appearance by comedian, actor and former fake-news correspondent Rob Corddry, followed by a keynote from Autodesk SVP for Business Strategy and Marketing Andrew Anagnost recapping the highlights and lessons of the event.

This year’s flagship Autodesk University event in Las Vegas is supported by Diamond sponsors HP, Dell and Lenovo.

Autodesk University Reaches Customers Worldwide

Autodesk University (AU) is a series of conferences and an online learning destination focused on inspiring, challenging and energizing Autodesk software users, partners, and industry leaders about the future of design and engineering. Now in its 24th year, the AU conferences bring together more than 25,000 participants at live events in 15 countries through classes, forums and keynotes with product experts and thought leaders. Over 2 million more engage through AU online, which offers free year-round access to learning content and inspirational industry talks from the AU conference events. More information is available at the Autodesk University website, or by following @AutodeskU, #AU2016.

About Autodesk

Autodesk makes software for people who make things. If you’ve ever driven a high-performance car, admired a towering skyscraper, used a smartphone, or watched a great film, chances are you’ve experienced what millions of Autodesk customers are doing with our software. Autodesk gives you the power to make anything. For more information visit autodesk.com or follow @autodesk.

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