



Autodesk to Acquire The Wild, Extended Reality (XR) Solutions Provider for Immersive and Collaborative workspaces for Design and Construction

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SAN FRANCISCO, March 24, 2022 /PRNewswire/ -- [Autodesk](#), Inc. (NASDAQ: ADSK) has announced it has signed a definitive agreement to acquire [The Wild](#), a cloud-connected, extended reality (XR) platform, which includes its namesake solutions, The Wild, and [IrisVR](#). The Wild enables architecture, engineering, and construction (AEC) professionals to present, collaborate and review projects together in immersive and interactive experiences, from anywhere and at any time. This acquisition enables Autodesk to meet increasing needs for augmented reality (AR) and virtual reality (VR) technology advancements within the AEC industry and further support AEC customers throughout the project delivery lifecycle.

Serving more than [700 customers worldwide](#) across its two platforms, The Wild's XR technologies offer affordable, on-demand and in-context opportunities for deeper team collaboration. Its virtual format empowers remote workforces amid a rapidly evolving work landscape and offers an immersive environment for real-time ideation and decision making.

"Our acquisition of The Wild reflects the rapid transformation taking place in the building industry, from the complexity of projects to the geographic diversity of teams who design, construct, and operate them," said Andrew Anagnost, CEO and president, Autodesk. "XR is a must-have business imperative for today and an important part of Autodesk's [Forge platform](#) vision."

The Wild's virtual platform allows teams to work together inside digital project models to explore, interact, and make changes to the model directly in the cloud. This leads to better decisions and project outcomes at a fraction of the time and cost for in-person collaboration methods.

"The Wild and Autodesk share a common mission of encouraging a more productive and collaborative AEC industry, and in this case, one where teams can resolve issues in minutes from their desks rather than the traditional miles of costly travel," said Gabe Paez, founder and CEO of The Wild. "The Wild's customers understand the value from the get-go, building consensus as a team in the virtual world with the ability to make changes to their designs at the speed of thought."

Black & Veatch is a global leader in engineering, construction and procurement with more than \$3 billion in annual revenue. Black and Veatch's Technology Innovation Lead, Brian Melton, indicates The Wild's IrisVR and a wide range of Autodesk solutions, including Autodesk design software and Autodesk Construction Cloud, enables many of their teams to successfully deliver projects around the world. The Black & Veatch team uses Autodesk solutions and The Wild's IrisVR to connect its project professionals, clients, and partners with digital workflows and enhanced collaboration capabilities. IrisVR enables distributed work groups to increase engagement and improve collaboration between stakeholders by leveraging immersive virtual meetings. This leads to an enhanced awareness regarding safety, access and maintenance, and an overall better understanding of the project, leading to better decisions and better outcomes.

"As remote collaboration continues to become the new normal for many professionals across industries and market sectors, the capabilities of systems like Autodesk Construction Cloud and The Wild's IrisVR platform help Black & Veatch deliver world-class projects regardless of our professionals' physical location," said Brian Melton, Technology Innovation Lead, Black & Veatch. "This type of spatial real-scale immersive experience is a game-changer for our professionals by allowing us to meet virtually within the project design environment, to talk about the design, conduct reviews and coordinate activities, document potential issues and collect comments aimed at accelerating execution and improving safety. Autodesk's acquisition of The Wild could create an even more seamless integration of VR into the platforms we use, leading to wider adoption, more capabilities and a shift from what was once sci-fi to a daily activity."

Why XR now?

"A convergence of events makes this the right time for Autodesk's acquisition of The Wild's talent and technology as the foundation of Autodesk's XR journey," said Nic Fonta, General Manager of XR at Autodesk. "Accessibility, affordability, as well as the future of [digital twins](#) and metaverse, create the right environment and business rationale for advancing XR technology within the AEC industry."

- **Resiliency.** The need for greater workforce resiliency and remote collaboration has increased significantly amid the global pandemic. With physical distancing and ever-evolving travel restrictions, XR solutions offer a way to virtually keep teams together and projects moving with minimal interruption.
- **Accessibility and Affordability.** Until recently, the cost of professional grade Virtual Reality (VR) and Augmented Reality (AR) equipment was unattainable for many. Now, headsets cost a few hundred dollars instead of thousands, and most smart phones support AR – putting the power of XR into the hands of anyone, anywhere, at any time.
- **Sustainability.** In-person collaboration often requires costly travel and unnecessarily contributes to harmful carbon emissions – and, when teams cannot meet to work through design issues together, expensive rework and significant material waste are often a consequence. Offering streamlined, instantaneous, and immersive cloud collaboration allows teams to save time, money, and materials.

The Wild and IrisVR draw data from various AEC technologies into their respective XR collaborative experiences to perform design review and model coordination. Cumulatively, existing integrations include Autodesk Construction Cloud (Autodesk BIM 360, Autodesk Build), Autodesk Revit, Autodesk

Navisworks, as well as other non-Autodesk technologies, Rhinoceros and Trimble SketchUp. For more information about integrations, please visit [The Wild](#) and [IrisVR](#).

About Autodesk

Autodesk is changing how the world is designed and made. Our technology spans architecture, engineering, construction, product design, manufacturing, media and entertainment, empowering innovators everywhere to solve challenges big and small. From greener buildings to smarter products to more mesmerizing blockbusters, Autodesk software helps our customers to design and make a better world for all. For more information, visit [autodesk.com](#) or follow @autodesk.

Safe Harbor Statement

This press release contains forward-looking statements within the meaning of applicable securities law with respect to the proposed acquisition of The Wild by Autodesk, including statements regarding: the planned The Wild acquisition and the timing thereof, the impact of the acquisition on Autodesk's business performance; the impact of the transaction on Autodesk's and The Wild's products and services capabilities, customers, and partners; and Autodesk's strategic priorities. Forward-looking statements are predictions, projections and other statements about future events that are based on current expectations and assumptions and, as a result, are subject to risks and uncertainties.

There are a significant number of factors that could cause actual results to differ materially from statements made in this press release, including but not limited to: (i) Autodesk's ability to successfully integrate The Wild's business and technology; (ii) costs related to the acquisition; (iii) whether the architecture and urban planning industries evolve as anticipated; (iv) the competitive environment in the architecture and urban planning industries and competitive responses to the acquisition; (v) Autodesk and Wild's success developing new products or modifying existing products and the degree to which these gain market acceptance; (vi) Autodesk's ability to implement its plans, forecasts, and other expectations with respect to The Wild's business after the completion of the proposed acquisition and realize additional opportunities for growth and innovation; (vii) general market and business conditions; (viii) unanticipated impact of accounting for acquisitions; and (ix) the risk that the conditions to the completion of the acquisition may not be satisfied on the anticipated schedule, or at all.

Further information on potential factors that could affect the future financial results of Autodesk are included in Autodesk's most recent Form 10-K, 10-Q and 8-K filings, available at [www.sec.gov](#). These filings identify and address other important risks and uncertainties that could cause events and results to differ materially from those contained in the forward-looking statements set forth in this press release. The forward-looking statements made in this press release are made as of March 23, 2022. If this press release is reviewed after March 23, 2022, even if made available by us, on our website or otherwise, it may not contain current or accurate information. Autodesk disclaims any obligation to update the forward-looking statements provided to reflect events that occur or circumstances that exist after the date on which they were made.

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