New monthly offered to CAE professionals

Management Roundtable is offering charter subscriptions to its CAD/CIM Alert. The 12-page monthly offers advice on such subjects as selecting and implementing the most reliable, cost-effective systems on time and within budget; the deluge of new hardware and software; PC CAD, solid modeling, data transfer, integration, standards, simulation, kinematics, and more; getting the most functionality from your system; the critical applications you need to follow and how to introduce them to your organization; staying on top of the latest trends and newest technologies; bringing your staff up to speed quickly and keeping them high on the learning curve.

A bonus offered to charter subscribers is The Complete CAD/CAM and Workstation Marketplace, a directory the publisher lists as a $75 value, available free with a 12-month, $148 subscription to CAD/CIM Alert. For further information contact Management Roundtable, 824 Boylston St., Chestnut Hill, MA 02167; (617) 232-8080.

New CAD/CAM handbook published

A desktop reference that examines all aspects of the technology in detail, the CAD/CAM Handbook from McGraw-Hill provides information on both the productivity and the economic benefits to be gained from CAD/CAM. Under the direction of Editor-in-Chief Eric Teicholz, 20 specialists in the field have contributed authoritative sections on their areas of expertise to this 432-page volume. The handbook explores the most effective ways to evaluate and acquire CAD/CAM systems, demonstrates how they are currently used in many industries, and shows how they can be used successfully by architects, engineers, and other construction and building professionals.

Written in clear, nontechnical language for both present and prospective users, this resource explains the current capabilities of CAD/CAM and describes the technical and managerial impact of the technology. It offers full discussions of the hardware and software involved and gives complete details on CAD/CAM applications—from mechanical drafting to robotics and from mapping to the three-dimensional representation of objects.

In-depth coverage is devoted to the requirements, components, ergonomics, acquisition process, and management techniques. A wide range of topics is investigated, including a state-of-the-art review, cost-justification models, the human factors associated with equipment selection and maintenance, market projections, understanding and measuring productivity, CAD/CAM case studies, and future trends and projections.

Eric Teicholz is the president of Graphic Systems, Inc., a CAD/CAM consulting firm in Cambridge, Massachusetts

For more information contact the publisher at 1221 Avenue of the Americas, New York, NY 10020; (212) 512-3493.

New report reviews low-cost CAD/CAM systems

A new report by CAE Consultants, Inc., reviews more than 40 low-cost CAD/CAM systems, all micro based and selling for less than $60,000. Aimed at the small-size to medium-size engineering or manufacturing firm now contemplating the introduction of CAD/CAM, this report presents tutorial chapters on CAD/CAM fundamentals, a selection primer, and a complete glossary of commands and terms. The illustrated tutorial section prepares the potential buyer for choosing the best CAD/CAM system for the requirements and acquaints the reader with the CAD/CAM jargon.

The vendor comparisons section presents a tabular comparisons table for review of over 40 turnkey systems and software packages available. Systems are compared on the basis of available commands for model creation, viewing, manipulation, drafting aids, and advanced features. The systems reviewed include drafting systems, 3-D modelers, 3-D surface modelers and solid modelers, and they range in price from a few hundred dollars for a software package to about $60,000 for a turnkey system.

In addition, each vendor is reviewed in depth. The CAD/CAM industry reviews section presents selected reviews of software offered by the "higher priced" companies and a complete directory of companies with phone numbers.

The 160-page illustrated report is available for $95 postpaid in the US. Overseas companies can submit prepayment and $10 for airmail service. To place orders or get more information, contact CAE Consultants, 41 Travers Ave., Yonkers, NY 10705; (800) 235-6646, ext. 532, or in California (800) 235-6647, ext. 532.

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