



## ASCENT ADDS FOUR AUTODESK® COURSES TO COMPREHENSIVE CURRICULUM SERIES

*AutoCAD 2007 Level 2, AutoCAD 2007 Update for AutoCAD 2002/2004 2D Users, Civil 3D 2007 Fundamentals, and VIZ 2007 Level 1 courses now available*

**Mississauga, ON, July 25, 2006** – RAND A Technology Corporation [TSX: RND], operating as RAND Worldwide, a global leader in providing technology solutions to organizations with engineering design and information technology requirements, announced today that its courseware division, ASCENT – Center for Technical Knowledge®, has added four new titles to its suite of Autodesk courseware offerings:

- AutoCAD 2007 Level 2
- AutoCAD 2007 Update for AutoCAD 2002/2004 2D Users
- Civil 3D 2007 Fundamentals
- VIZ 2007 Level 1

“Continuously enhancing application skills is essential for every engineer and designer,” said Joe Oswald, Executive Vice President, PLM Operations, North America and Europe, RAND Worldwide. “Software capability and complexity continues to grow at an exponential level, making it difficult for professionals to stay ahead of the curve and maximize the utility of their applications. Our four new titles provide quick and thorough instruction that will allow users to increase skill sets without losing significant time or revenue in the workplace.”

As an extension of ASCENT’s *AutoCAD 2007 Level 1* course launched in early June, *AutoCAD 2007 Level 2* is designed to teach AutoCAD’s® more advanced functions to users who are already comfortable with its basics. The course focuses on using efficiency tools, drawing with complex objects, and defining blocks and attributes. Other topics addressed by the course include sheet set creation, simple customization techniques to enhance productivity, and the use of external reference and image files, layouts and advanced plotting features.

The *AutoCAD 2007 Update for AutoCAD 2002/2004 2D Users* course covers the enhancements in Autodesk’s 2004, 2005, 2006, and 2007 AutoCAD software releases. With Autodesk’s retirement of the 2002 version and the future retirement of 2004 in March 2007, this course will help AutoCAD 2002 and 2004 users learn the new features in each consecutive software update. The course offers a conceptual learning approach so users of either software release can familiarize themselves with the 2007 version on the same learning path. Basic, specialized and advanced topics are covered in the course content including enhancements to the familiar AutoCAD tools and commands, interface changes, dynamic block creation, layer tools, annotation tools and sheet sets.

The *Civil 3D 2007 Fundamentals* course teaches civil engineers who are new to the Civil 3D® 2007 software environment, how to use the application and its tools to create standardized civil engineering, drafting, and GIS projects. The training course enables students to complete transportation, site, sewer, storm drain, and subdivision projects quickly, while using the tools to dynamically link and generate automatic design updates, which reduce costly errors. The course contains six comprehensive modules focusing on the application interface; surfaces, alignments and profiles; assemblies, corridors and sections; pipes and grading; and parcels. Two additional Civil 3D 2007 courses will be released by ASCENT later this year focusing on Surveys, Customizing Styles, and Road Design.

*VIZ 2007 Level 1* introduces design professionals to the creation of photo-realistic renderings and animations with VIZ 2007. At the end of this course, students will be able to explore and develop concepts and alternatives, and communicate project plans to clients, colleagues and consultants. An overview of the application interface, creating visualization projects, working with materials and lighting, and rendering and animation are all covered in the lessons.

ASCENT is planning to release its *AutoCAD 2007 3D Drawing & Modeling*, *AutoCAD LT 2007 Introduction*, *AutoCAD LT 2007 Level 1*, and *Inventor R11 Intermediate Modeling* courses later this summer. The company’s complete courseware lineup for Autodesk, Dassault Systèmes and PTC software solutions can be seen at [www.ASCENTed.com/courseware.htm](http://www.ASCENTed.com/courseware.htm).

### **About ASCENT:**

ASCENT- Center for Technical Knowledge is the leading developer of high-quality professional training, technical documentation and knowledge products for engineering applications. ASCENT’s products are used to train thousands of people in the engineering and manufacturing fields around the world each year and are developed by a multidisciplinary team of engineers, technical writers, courseware developers and instructional designers. ASCENT is a division of RAND Worldwide. More information about the company can be found at [www.ASCENTed.com](http://www.ASCENTed.com).



**About RAND Worldwide**

RAND Worldwide is one of the world's leading providers of professional services and technology to the engineering community, targeting organizations in the building, infrastructure and manufacturing industries. RAND enables its customers to improve their competitiveness, productivity and profitability by enhancing key aspects of their Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) capabilities, including planning, development and management. As one of the leading technology independent systems integrators in the world, RAND Worldwide employs 440 people in 70 global sales and client service centers. For more information please visit [www.rand.com](http://www.rand.com).

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