



ASCENT RELEASES TWO NEW AUTODESK COURSES & UPDATES THREE EXISTING TRAINING COURSES

AutoCAD® Electrical 2008 and Autodesk® 3ds Max® 9 are added to broad Autodesk curriculum line-up

Mississauga, ON, August 23, 2007 – 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, today announced that its courseware division, ASCENT – Center for Technical Knowledge®, released two new training guides for Autodesk 2008 software and updated three courses:

New Course Offerings:

- *AutoCAD 2008 Electrical Fundamentals*
- *Autodesk 3ds Max 9 Fundamentals*

Course updates:

- *Inventor 2008 Advanced Assembly Modeling*
- *AutoCAD LT 2008 Fundamentals (formerly Level 1)*
- *Revit Architecture 2008 Intermediate (formerly Level 2)*

“The addition of AutoCAD 2008 Electrical Fundamentals and Autodesk 3ds Max 9 to our suite of training courses, as well as the updates to our current course offerings, emphasizes our commitment to providing broad educational programs for Autodesk users of all disciplines, and reinforces why organizations and educational institutions around the world apply our training to help their users and students achieve their highest skill levels,” said Joe Oswald, Executive Vice President PLM operations, North America and Europe, RAND Worldwide. “Our clients continue to achieve improved productivity and better design creation by using our training guides for each new application upgrade. As such, we continually work to expand and enhance our title library for all software application verticals from Autodesk.

A new topic area for ASCENT, *AutoCAD 2008 Electrical Fundamentals* is a three-day course that covers the electrical drawing creation tools of AutoCAD® Electrical 2008. The training guide teaches AutoCAD Electrical 2008 users how to create schematic and panel drawings and PLC/IO circuits using automated commands for symbol insertion, component tagging, wire numbering, and drawing modification. The course also covers symbol, circuit, and database customization methods. ASCENT offers a similar training guide for AutoCAD® Electrical 2007.

The new *Autodesk 3ds Max 9 Fundamentals* training guide is ideal for new Autodesk® 3ds Max® 9 users in the architectural, civil and mechanical engineering, and product and interior design industries. The course is written by Mark Gerhard, the first application engineer at Autodesk dedicated to multimedia products, and is derived from his 17 years of experience with 3D Studio and 3ds Max products. The course focuses on the fundamental concepts and techniques required to create sophisticated photo-realistic renderings and desktop animations. The course provides an interface, workflow and project configuration overview, 3D modeling from 2D objects instruction, and an introduction to lighting, rendering and animation for visualization.

AutoCAD LT 2008 Fundamentals (formerly Level 1), is designed for new AutoCAD LT® 2008 users. The training guide covers the fundamental and more advanced concepts and techniques of 2D drawings. The course teaches users how to better understand their workspace, how to create simple and precise drawings, and how to work with Dynamic Blocks. The course also covers advanced editing and construction techniques, how to create local and global blocks, and how to set up layers, styles and templates.

Inventor 2008 Advanced Assembly Modeling is the third course in ASCENT’s recently released *Inventor 2008 Introduction to Solid Modeling* and *Inventor 2008 Advanced Part Modeling* training guide series. This course concentrates on the Top-Down Design approach for assembly creation. The training guide covers the Inventor tools available for Top-Down Design, and other advanced assembly features aimed at increasing design efficiency, including positional and level of detail representations, iMates and iAssemblies, frame generator, design accelerator and file management techniques. The course also offers an Inventor™ Studio overview and teaches users how to render and animate realistic images.

Revit Architecture 2008 Intermediate (formerly Level 2), builds on ASCENT’s recently released *Revit Architecture 2008 Fundamentals (formerly Level 1)* training guide. The Intermediate guide explores advanced features within the software program, including creating families and family types, using massing elements for conceptual design, space planning and area analysis, rendering and other visualization tools, structural tools and site planning.



ASCENT is an Authorized Author, Publisher and Developer of Autodesk® curriculum. All of the company's Autodesk® courses are available to educational institutions, individuals, and corporations.

ASCENT is planning to release its *AutoCAD 2008 Plotting & Sheet Sets*, *AutoCAD 2008 3D Drawing & Modeling*, *AutoCAD Architecture 2008 Advanced* and *Civil 3D 2008 Fundamentals* courses 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.

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.



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 448 people in 50 global sales and client service centers. For more information please visit www.rand.com.

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For further information, please contact:

Brandi Smith
RAND Worldwide
905.625.2000
blsmith@rand.com