



## ASCENT INTRODUCES SIX NEW AUTODESK 2008 COURSES

**Mississauga, ON, May 1, 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, announced today that its courseware division, ASCENT – Center for Technical Knowledge®, has introduced six 2008 Autodesk courses:

- *AutoCAD 2008 Fundamentals*
- *AutoCAD Architecture 2008 Fundamentals*
- *AutoCAD 2008 Update for AutoCAD 2006/2007 2D Users*
- *Inventor 2008 Introduction to Solid Modeling*
- *Inventor 2008 Update for Inventor R11 Users*
- *Autodesk VIZ 2008 Fundamentals*

“ASCENT continues to deliver timely, industry leading Autodesk curriculum that enables our clients to quickly benefit from software upgrades,” said Joe Oswald, Executive Vice President PLM Operations, North America and Europe.

*AutoCAD 2008 Fundamentals* (formerly Level 1) consists of two parts that can be delivered separately. The course provides AutoCAD 2008 users with the skills required to successfully create 2D drawings. Part one covers the most essential tools and concepts for working with AutoCAD. It helps users understand the workspace and user interface, teaches them how to use basic drawing, editing, and viewing tools, and how to add text, hatching, and dimensions to a file. The second part of the course focuses on more advanced techniques to further refine the users’ skill sets. Users learn advanced editing and construction techniques, how to create local and global blocks, and set up layers, styles, and templates.

ASCENT’s *AutoCAD Architecture 2008 Fundamentals* (formerly *Architectural Desktop Level 1*) concentrates on the design development and construction documentation features in AutoCAD Architecture 2008. Students taking the course are exposed to the tools required to create a basic floor plan and specialty objects such as column and ceiling grids, stairs, and roofs. The course also introduces drawing management through the Project Navigator.

The *AutoCAD 2008 Update for AutoCAD 2006/2007 Users* course introduces the new 2D Drafting and Annotation Workspace, interface changes, and enhancements to the application’s most commonly used tools: customization, references, tables, plotting and recovery features. The course provides an in-depth focus on the latest annotation developments including the annotation scale, multileaders, and updates to multiline text, dimensioning, and tables.

The *Inventor 2008 Introduction to Solid Modeling* course teaches Inventor 2008 users the best approaches to parametric design philosophy through a hands-on, practice-intensive curriculum. Users acquire the knowledge to complete the process of designing models, from conceptual sketching through to solid modeling, assembly design, and drawing production.

*Inventor 2008 Update for Inventor R11 Users*, teaches existing R11 users how to effectively work in the most commonly used environments in 2008: interface, sketches, parts, assemblies, and drawings. The course also covers Autodesk’s DWG TrueConnect to enable users to open and edit AutoCAD DWG files in Inventor 2008 without importing them.

*Autodesk VIZ 2008 Fundamentals* introduces design professionals to the creation of photo-realistic renderings and animations. At the end of this course, students will be able to explore and develop concepts and communicate project plans to clients, colleagues, and consultants more efficiently. The course provides an overview of the VIZ 2008 interface and teaches user how to create visualization projects, work with materials and lighting, and use rendering and animation tools.

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. To see the company’s complete courseware lineup for Autodesk, Dassault Systèmes and PTC software solutions, please visit [www.ASCENTed.com/courseware.htm](http://www.ASCENTed.com/courseware.htm).

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**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 447 people in 60 global sales and client service centers. For more information please visit [www.rand.com](http://www.rand.com).

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