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GRANTA MI 3.0 - NEW TOOLS FOR RESTRICTED SUBSTANCES, MATERIALS ENGINEERING, AND OPTIMIZING PRODUCT COST AND PERFORMANCE

Developments draw on experience of world-leading engineering organizations

Cambridge, UK - July 17, 2009 - Granta Design has announced a new release of GRANTA MI™, the leading system for materials information management in engineering enterprises. GRANTA MI 3.0 provides powerful new tools and analysis features to help users apply materials data - for example, in responding to restricted substance regulations, in materials engineering, or in optimizing product cost and performance. These advances are developed in collaboration with three consortia, each with a membership of world-leading engineering organizations. The resulting software is available to any interested enterprise.

The new GRANTA MI:Restricted Substances product helps companies to design in the context of restricted substance regulations such as the European Union's REACH, and to avoid risks, such as materials obsolescence, due to these regulations. The product is the first to be based on guidance from the new Environmental Materials Information Technology (EMIT) Consortium, which has members including EADS Astrium, Eurocopter, NASA, and Rolls-Royce. Users receive data, updated quarterly, on 4,400 restricted substances and 52 different pieces of legislation from around the world. Software tools allow organizations to combine this data with information on their own in-house substances, regulations, and bought-in components, and to report on the restricted substance status of their materials, processes, products, and designs.

GRANTA MI 3.0 also delivers a series of improvements and enhancements to existing tools guided by the Material Data Management Consortium (MDMC). The eighteen MDMC members now include Boeing, Honeywell, GE - Aviation, GE - Energy, Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman, and Raytheon. Their interest is the maintenance, analysis, and use of materials test and design data that is critical in aerospace, defense, and energy. New capabilities include enhanced features for storing and applying the complex mathematical models used to describe materials properties such as fatigue or creep.

A third major enhancement is the updated GRANTA MI:Enterprise Materials Optimizer (MI:EMO), a unique tool to aid materials and manufacturing choices. MI:EMO ensures consistency across the enterprise while helping designers and engineers to go beyond simple considerations of base material price or engineering function as they evaluate material and process alternatives. The latest version adds advanced cost models, an easy-to-use user interface to help designers to apply the method, and new visualization tools for studying trade-offs. MI:EMO is developed with the Materials Strategy Consortium, a collaboration with members including Emerson Electric and Fortune Brands.

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"With GRANTA MI 3.0 we have again delivered against a series of milestones defined by our industrial partners," comments Dr David Cebon, Managing Director at Granta. "In so doing we can be sure that all Granta customers are benefiting from new and updated tools of industrial relevance. A particular landmark is the delivery of our first solution for the business-critical problems posed by environmental regulations."

About GRANTA MI

GRANTA MI provides a unique database system designed specifically to store materials property data and a series of powerful software tools to capture, control, analyze, and apply that data. GRANTA MI enables the creation of a single corporate materials information resource, importing data from in-house testing and design, other proprietary sources, and trusted references. Materials experts use GRANTA MI tools to process and manage this data, publishing it in a secure and controlled manner. Engineers, designers, managers, and others then use GRANTA MI tools to access and apply corporate materials information within their routine workflows, assured that it is relevant, traceable, and the best available.

About Granta

Granta Design Limited is the materials information technology expert. Granta develops the leading software for materials information management in engineering enterprises, and the leading teaching resource for materials engineering education. Granta serves sectors as diverse as aerospace, defense, energy, medical devices, automotive, motorsports, manufacture of consumer and industrial equipment, materials production, and publishing. Customers realize multi-million dollar benefits in reduced cost, enhanced performance, improved quality, and speedier design. Granta was founded in 1994 as a spinout from the University of Cambridge and the work of Professors Mike Ashby and David Cebon.

GRANTA MI is a trademark of Granta Design Limited.

LINKS TO FURTHER INFORMATION:

Granta: www.grantadesign.com

GRANTA MI: www.grantadesign.com/products/mi/

Material Data Management Consortium: www.mdmc.net

EMIT Consortium: www.emitconsortium.com

Materials Strategy Consortium: www.grantadesign.com/strategy

Supporting images: www.grantadesign.com/news/media.htm