



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**GRANTA DESIGN EXPANDS IN USA AND GERMANY**

*Materials information technology leader invests in global customer base*

**Cambridge, UK - Feb 18, 2011** - Materials information software company Granta Design has announced the opening of new regional offices in the USA and Germany and expanded its relationship with a key German partner. The company, which helps some of the world's top engineering enterprises to manage and make effective use of vital information about materials, has opened new locations in Mason, OH, USA and Munich, Germany. The expansion is based on continued steady growth in Granta's business.

The new US office, near Cincinnati, will be led by Darryl Piening. Darryl has engineering and architectural degrees from The University of Dayton and ITT, an 18-year professional software record in technical, sales, and sales management positions, and industry experience with GE - Aviation and Mitchell & Jensen. This diverse background will help him to augment Granta's services. Darryl will also help Granta to continue its strategic partnership with Cleveland-based ASM International, the professional society for materials engineers. ASM is a Granta shareholder and the two organizations collaborate to advance information technology for materials.

The Munich office is being opened by Thomas Weninger. Thomas has an engineering degree from FH Rosenheim and a twenty-year professional record in technical, sales, and sales management positions - most recently at leading computer-aided engineering (CAE) companies. CAE is one of a number of engineering software technologies that can be supported and enhanced through Granta solutions.

Granta has also extended its partnership agreement with materials engineering experts Metatech GmbH, based in Kamen, Germany. Metatech is now an official services provider for the GRANTA MI materials information system, supporting customer implementations and projects in the Central Europe region. The team providing this support is led by Dr Uwe Diekmann, who brings over twenty years of industrial materials database experience. Metatech will also distribute Granta software in selected markets.

"We're delighted to be strengthening the global Granta team with new locations, great new people, and an enhanced agreement with a proven partner," comments Dr Patrick Coulter, Chief Operating Officer. "We are able to make these new investments thanks to our continuing, sustainable growth. I am confident that they will help us to continue this growth and to maintain our high standards of customer service."

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## About Granta

Granta Design Limited are the materials information technology experts. 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 product performance, improved quality, and faster design turnaround. Granta was founded in 1994 as a spinout from the University of Cambridge and the work of Professors Mike Ashby and David Cebon.

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