

PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Cambridge, UK – February 17, 2015

GRANTA DESIGN ANNOUNCES NEW SOLUTION FOR ADDITIVE MANUFACTURING DATA

New software protects vital IP, accelerates development, assists qualification and certification

Granta Design today announced the release of [GRANTA MI:Additive Manufacturing™](#), a new software solution to overcome the substantial data challenges of developing additively-manufactured parts. Applying experience from Granta's involvement in a number of leading Additive Manufacturing projects, MI:Additive Manufacturing incorporates industry best practices in managing vital material and process information in this area. It helps engineering enterprises: protect their investment and intellectual property in Additive Manufacturing research; build an in-depth knowledge-base that is a prerequisite for better understanding Additive Manufacturing processes; significantly reduce time-to-market by avoiding wasted effort and gaining valuable insights; and support the qualification and certification of additively-manufactured parts.

Additive Manufacturing ('3D Printing') has huge promise as a technique to make geometrically-complex parts with optimal cost and performance in industries including aerospace, automotive, and medical. Significant investment is being made in research and development programs to realise this potential. But this work generates huge amounts of data about the structure, properties, and processing of the materials involved. Until now, there has been no easy-to-implement system to capture this data and ensure that it is used effectively across the many disciplines involved: materials suppliers, R&D, part design, simulation, and production. MI:Additive Manufacturing provides a single system, based on the industry-leading [GRANTA MI™](#) materials information management software, which captures all relevant data, links it, makes it available to any appropriately-authorized user, and ensures full traceability.

A typical MI:Additive Manufacturing workflow begins with the import of 'logfiles' directly from Additive Manufacturing machines. The system automatically stores process parameters, extracts logged data for specific builds, links this information to supplier data on the batches of material used to make a part, and captures testing and inspection results. This data can feed into statistical analyses that determine mechanical properties. Properties can be exported to simulation codes and the results can be captured for use in optimizing part design and production. MI:Additive Manufacturing *both* improves efficiency for many of the individual tasks in Additive Manufacturing research *and* supports collaboration, sharing knowledge and increasing effectiveness across a whole research program.

At the heart of MI:Additive Manufacturing is the data structure (or 'schema') that defines the types of data to be captured in the system, their inter-relationships, and how they might be processed. This technology, embodying industry best practices, is then combined with the GRANTA MI materials information management tools, which have been proven for the complex management of advanced materials data in dozens of implementations by leading research, design and engineering enterprises worldwide.

One Additive Manufacturing project in which Granta has participated is [AMAZE](#) – a multinational collaboration of 28 corporations and research institutions that is developing rapid production of large defect-free additively-manufactured metallic components. Granta technology captures and securely shares knowledge on materials, processes, and properties. This enables efficient comparison of data, improvement of production knowledge,

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refinement of processes, integration of simulation activities, and improved coordination of the R&D program. Experience such as this has supported development of the new software package.

“MI:Additive Manufacturing combines our core strength in materials information management with practical knowledge of Additive Manufacturing data gained from our collaborative projects, and work with some of our leading customers”, comments Dr Patrick Coulter, chief operating officer at Granta Design. “The great news is that this will allow us to help many other customers who have expressed an interest in Additive Manufacturing, and have been asking us for a solution to manage their data in this area.”

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Websites in this press release: www.grantadesign.com

Photo 1 Caption: Navigating Additive Manufacturing data in the GRANTA MI software. The database homepage shows a 'map' of underlying data structure, or 'schema', helping users to find the data they need.

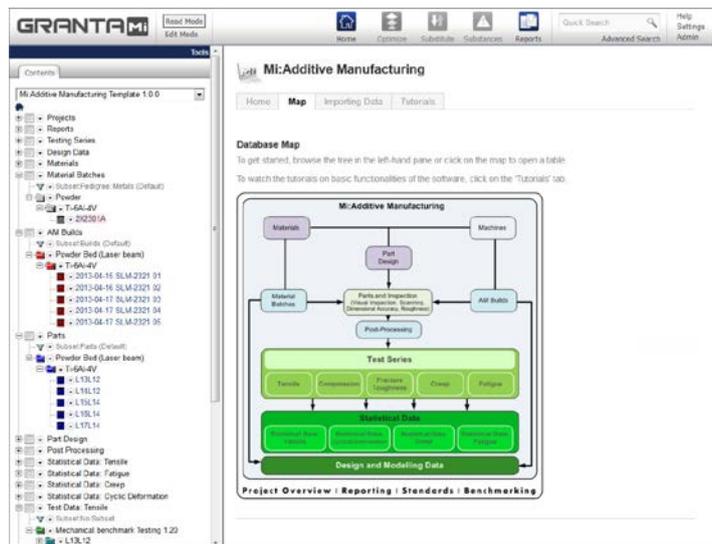


Photo 2 Caption: An Additive Manufacturing machine (Renishaw AM 250). Image courtesy of Renishaw plc.

Photo 3 Caption: Example of an additively-manufactured part, Image courtesy of Renishaw plc.

ABOUT GRANTA DESIGN LTD

Granta are the materials information technology experts. The company develops market leading software for managing materials and process information in engineering enterprises, and a series of tools for applying that data to key materials and product design decisions. 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. For further information go on line to www.grantadesign.com.

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MEDIA INFORMATION & RESOURCES

Media are welcome to contact Granta if they wish to organize a demonstration or review of Granta software.

- For media information, issued press releases, and to download supporting images: www.grantadesign.com/news/media.htm
- About GRANTA MI:Materials Gateway www.grantadesign.com/products/mi/gateway.htm

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