



Agile Design, Inc. Formed To Support The Ptolemy Framework

Embedded Systems Technology Company Offers Training, Support

WALNUT CREEK, CA -- (INTERNET WIRE) -- 03/20/2001 -- Founded by a trio of experts in the field of embedded systems technology, Agile Design, Inc. (www.agiledesigntech.com) was formed to promote and facilitate the use of Ptolemy, a set of tools developed at the University of California at Berkeley to model and design concurrent, heterogeneous systems. The company's focus is on complex systems that mix widely different operations, such as signal processing, feedback control, sequential decision-making, and user interfaces. Another main focal point is embedded systems, particularly those that mix technologies, including analog and digital electronics, mixed electronic-photonic circuits, and electronics and mechanical devices (including microelectromechanical systems, or MEMS).

Agile Design, Inc. is the sole organization that will contractually commit to maintain and support the Ptolemy design framework. First introduced in 1985, Ptolemy now has over a hundred users, including companies like Boeing and Motorola and research institutions such as Vanderbilt University and the University of Maryland. By offering standard maintenance contracts to industry, Agile Design, Inc. will significantly increase the number of organizations that are able to use Ptolemy for commercial or critical internal applications. Agile Design, Inc. will also offer a number of enhancements to Ptolemy, including significant extensions to the visual interface, an enterprise version for distributed design environments, code generation and hardware synthesis, design verification, and interfaces to other design tools.

"Our goal at Agile Design is to support the process of generating high quality embedded system designs," said Jim McCarthy, president and co-founder, Agile Design, Inc. "We will also focus on implementations that fulfill current and future industry requirements of efficiency, reliability, time-to-market, and low cost."

With their support and maintenance of the Ptolemy framework, Agile Design, Inc. provides solutions that enable designers to avoid common design pitfalls. Ptolemy is the only design tool that fully supports hierarchical composition of heterogeneous models of computation. However, before the formation of Agile Design, Inc., the lack of commercially available support and training for this superb design framework has made adoption difficult for many industrial and commercial organizations.

About Agile Design, Inc. and Ptolemy

Agile Design, Inc. (www.agiledesigntech.com) is redefining the systems design community by offering a range of support and training products. Agile Design, Inc. will offer services including standard maintenance and support contracts, and enhancements to Ptolemy, bringing the benefits of Ptolemy's flexible approach to an even greater number of designers.

Ptolemy has been used in design applications ranging from commercial and consumer products to advanced electronic and electro-mechanical systems for the Department of Defense and NASA. Current users include Boeing, Motorola, Lockheed-Martin Aerospace, NEC, Corning, Agilent, Hitachi, Philips, Thales, Cadence Design Systems, Synopsis, and Telcordia. Research institutions using Ptolemy include Vanderbilt University, University of Maryland, Brigham Young University, University of Texas, University of Waterloo, Dresden University of Technology, Leiden University, University of Sao Paulo, and Seoul National University.

Agile Design, Inc. is a privately held company that was founded in 2000 by industry experts James G. McCarthy, Ph.D.; Professor Edward A. Lee; and Sonia R. Sachs, Ph.D.

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