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NASA’s Johnson Space Center selects Altium Designer as electronics design standard

Altium Designer unifies electronic design for NASA’s leading spaceflight related research center

SYDNEY, Australia – October 30, 2007 – Altium Limited, the electronics design industry’s leading developer of unified electronic product development solutions, has announced that NASA’s Johnson Space Center (JSC) has chosen Altium Designer as its standard electronics design software.

The Center’s Engineering Directorate will use Altium Designer as its electronics design standard on both manned and unmanned mission support. These include the Space Shuttle and International Space Station programs, as well as the Constellation program to send astronauts back to the Moon.

More specifically, Altium Designer will be used on disciplines as varied as guidance and navigation, electrical power systems, avionics systems, instrumentation, thermal protection, spacesuits and other extravehicular activity (EVA) equipment, aerodynamics and related disciplines, advanced automation systems, and overall systems engineering and simulation.

Over thirty Altium Designer unified licenses will be used at JSC to develop NASA's signal integrity, simulation, layout and FPGA processes, unifying these several disparate disciplines within Altium's unified electronics design environment.

Influencing the Center's choice of Altium Designer was the need to unify the various design disciplines, and help improve design flow efficiencies and the performance of completed designs. The Center is also transferring its legacy designs to Altium Designer.

Being able to protect this intellectual property and past design investment, and reuse or modify designs, were important factors in the decision to move to Altium Designer. The Center is also using Altium Designer to improve configuration management and version control.

"The Johnson Space Center is embarking on some of the most ambitious space programs of our time, and we are delighted that NASA has chosen Altium Designer to help make these visions for space exploration a reality," comments Nick Martin, founder and CEO, Altium Limited. "Altium is helping engineers around the world tap the benefits of unified electronics design and take advantage of today's advanced electronics technology. It's gratifying that an organization of the caliber and reputation of the Johnson Space Center is seeing that a unified approach to electronics design can overcome design barriers characteristic of traditional point tools."

"After a lengthy evaluation of available electronic computer aided design tools, JSC Engineering selected the Altium tool suite," said Matt Lemke, chief of the electronic design and development branch in NASA's engineering department. "We are excited about this new relationship with Altium, and we are looking forward to using this state-of-the-art product to improve our configuration management and reduce our design time cycle."

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About NASA JSC

The NASA Johnson Space Center, based in Houston Texas, has been the world's premier mission control headquarters for human space flight programs for over 40 years. World changing events have occurred at JSC with the launch of Apollo 11, to the Space Shuttle program and now the construction of the International Space Station (ISS). NASA continues to lead the world in space exploration and research.

For more information please visit: <http://www.nasa.gov/centers/johnson/home/index.html>

About Altium

Altium Limited (ASX:ALU) is the leading developer of electronic product development solutions dedicated to unifying the different design disciplines involved in electronics product development. Altium products ensure all electronic engineers, designers, developers, and their organizations, take maximum advantage of emerging design technologies to bring smarter products to market faster and easier. Founded in 1985, Altium has headquarters in Sydney, Australia, sales offices in the United States, Europe, Japan, China, and resellers in all other major markets. For more information, please visit www.altium.com.

About Altium Designer

Altium Designer is the electronics design industry's only electronics product development system that removes the barriers imposed by disparate design flows and unifies the different design disciplines involved in electronics product development – the design of the hardware, the programmable hardware and the embedded software. Altium Designer's unified design environment means users can harness the potential of the latest electronics technologies, and move to a 'soft' design methodology without the need to acquire specialist programmable device expertise. This provides companies with increased design flexibility, reduced production costs and quickens time to market. Altium Designer also delivers the freedom to move between any device, from any vendor, at any time. It lowers total cost of ownership by eliminating the need to integrate extra devices at extra cost to increase functionality, or to create a complete solution. For more information, please visit <http://www.altium.com/Products/AltiumDesigner/>.

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