

Future engineers get top software

BY CHRISTINA POE
The Jambar

Thanks to a grant from UGS PLM Solutions, Youngstown State University engineering students are working with \$1 million software.

The Solid Edge mechanical design software, which was provided through UGS PLM Solutions' Global Strategic Partnerships program, is already being utilized at such institutions as Stanford University, the University of Michigan and Texas A & M.

Professor Dan Suchora said the UGS PLM Solutions Solid Edge Software grant gives Youngstown State engineering students an advantage over competition after they graduate. _____

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"The software is such a useful tool and will prepare these students for the work force," Suchora said. "It's a win-win situation."

Spokesperson for UGS PLM Solutions Jan Brown said the software is used by industrial manufacturing companies to develop products more economically by reducing production time and cost and increasing quality.

Brown said Solid Edge

allows designers to create a 3-D image of a product and create molds to send directly to manufacturing and marketing factions of companies instead of sending 2-D plots to a middle man and waiting for a mold to be sent back.

Brown said the fact that Solid Edge software is currently being used by national corporations, such as Delphi, connects students to their future employers.

"Because the technology we provide is the standard software used by companies, it enables students to be prepared and makes them more employable," Brown said.

During the application process, Brown said criteria such as how well the software will be utilized are evaluated. YSU did meet all of the requirements, but recent efforts to better the city made the university stand out.

"The grants are aimed at community development and community organizations looking to build up their area and economic stature," Brown said.

Suchora said Solid Edge, which was installed in the Rayen College of Engineering and Technology over winter break, is already familiarizing students in five classes with "cutting-edge" technology they'll eventually use at their

jobs. Suchora said although 3-D software was already being used in the engineering college, their decision to switch has proved to be a cost effective one.

Suchora said the university will have one full academic year to use the software for free and then will begin payment to UGS for \$1500 per year.

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