

AUTODESK
Autodesk Acquires Dynamite VSP and Dynamite SIM Visualization Software Products
General FAQs

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

OVERVIEW

Q1. What is Autodesk announcing?

A1: On January 5, 2010, Autodesk, Inc. announced that it had completed the acquisition of Dynamite VSP and Dynamite SIM visualization software products and related assets from 3AM Solutions, a UK-based privately owned technology company.

Q2: What does Autodesk do?

A2: Autodesk (NASDAQ: ADSK) is a world leader in 2D and 3D design, engineering, and entertainment software for the manufacturing, building and construction, and media and entertainment markets. For additional information, visit www.autodesk.com.

Q3: What are Dynamite VSP and Dynamite SIM?

A3: Dynamite VSP and Dynamite SIM technology are complementary to certain architecture, civil and visual communication software applications developed by Autodesk.

- Dynamite VSP is a visualization solution developed specifically for civil engineering. It enables users to more rapidly turn raw 3D civil engineering design data into more compelling rendered 3D visualizations. With intuitive and dedicated style-based and engineering-specific functionality, and extensive parametric civil-oriented object and material libraries, Dynamite VSP helps users achieve higher-quality results – even for users without detailed knowledge of 3D visualization techniques.

- Dynamite SIM is an optional add-on module for Dynamite VSP allowing the import of traffic data from third-party applications such as VISSIM. Dynamite SIM allows real-time traffic simulation data from applications such as VISSIM to be imported into visualizations based on Autodesk® 3ds Max® or Autodesk® 3ds Max® Design software and combined with 3D terrain data from a range of civil design applications.

For additional information, visit www.autodesk.com/dynamite.

Q4: Why did Autodesk acquire Dynamite VSP and Dynamite SIM software products and related assets?

A4: There is an increasing need for photorealistic visualizations of civil engineering projects. Visualizations are used to communicate design intent, as well as for reviews, approvals and marketing of civil engineering projects. This technology is expected to improve and accelerate the workflow between Autodesk's AutoCAD® Civil 3D® and 3ds Max Design software products; helping give Autodesk's civil engineering customers more powerful visualization and simulation capabilities built specifically for civil engineers.

Q5: Who uses Dynamite VSP and Dynamite SIM?

A5: Dynamite VSP and Dynamite SIM are used by civil engineering teams and visualization specialists all over the world.

Q6: Where can I find more information?

A6: For more information please visit the Autodesk website at www.autodesk.com/dynamite.

PRODUCTS AND SUPPORT

Q7: What will happen to Dynamite VSP and Dynamite SIM technology now that it is owned by Autodesk?

A7: Autodesk currently intends to integrate core technology from the Dynamite VSP and Dynamite SIM products into 3ds Max Design and certain other existing Autodesk architecture, civil engineering and visual communication software applications.

Q8: When will Dynamite VSP and Dynamite SIM technology become available in Autodesk 3ds Max Design?

A8: Autodesk cannot make forward-looking statements about possible future releases or features of products.

Q9: Will this technology be made available for both 3ds Max and 3ds Max Design?

A9: Autodesk currently expects to make the Dynamite VSP and Dynamite SIM technology available only for 3ds Max Design customers. The functionality of Dynamite VSP and Dynamite SIM are well matched to the goals of 3ds Max Design, as it is focused on serving the needs of engineers, architects and designers working with CAD data and the visualization specialists who support them.

Q10: What is the difference between 3ds Max and 3ds Max Design?

A10: The key difference between 3ds Max and 3ds Max Design is that each product is tailored for customers in different industries. 3ds Max Design is ideal for architects, engineers, designers and visualization specialists, while 3ds Max is a tool of choice for professionals in the games, film, and television industries. While these applications are nearly identical technologically, they differ in the following ways:

- User interface and application defaults are optimized for either visualization or entertainment workflows/pipelines to help maximize productivity
- 3ds Max Design features Exposure technology for simulating and analyzing sun, sky, and artificial lighting. 3ds Max does not contain this technology
- 3ds Max includes a powerful SDK for developers. 3ds Max Design does not contain this SDK
- Tutorials and sample files will be customized to optimize the learning experiences of each customer group. Documentation also contains custom content for each product
- Icons and packaging for 3ds Max Design is more closely aligned with Autodesk AEC solutions for faster visual recognition. 3ds Max 2010 icons remain similar to 3ds Max 2009 icons.
- Online user experience is content tailored for visualization or entertainment customers

Q11: I currently use Dynamite VSP with Autodesk 3ds Max software. Do I have to switch from 3ds Max to 3ds Max Design now?

A11: No. Existing versions of Dynamite VSP and Dynamite SIM will continue to support 3ds Max 2009, 3ds Max 2010, 3ds Max Design 2009 and 3ds Max Design 2010 software.

Q12: I am not a AutoCAD Civil 3D user. Will I still be able to use Dynamite VSP and Dynamite SIM products?

A12: Dynamite VSP and Dynamite SIM products were developed to be used in conjunction with Autodesk 3ds Max Design software. While Autodesk currently intends to integrate core technology from Dynamite VSP and Dynamite SIM products into 3ds Max Design and certain other existing Autodesk architecture, civil engineering and visual communication software applications, Autodesk expects that all civil design applications that are currently supported by Dynamite VSP and Dynamite SIM products will continue to be supported after the technology been integrated with 3ds Max Design.

Q13: Will existing Dynamite VSP and Dynamite SIM customers continue to be supported by 3AM Solutions?

A13: 3AM Solutions will continue to honor all existing annual maintenance contracts for Dynamite VSP and Dynamite SIM software products. Product purchases include a 90-day warranty period, which will also be honored by 3AM Solutions.

Q14: Who do I contact for existing Dynamite VSP and Dynamite SIM product support?

A14: To receive support for the existing Dynamite VSP and Dyanmite SIM products, you can contact your local reseller, email support@3am-solutions.com, or visit the 3AM Solutions Civil Visualization Community site at <http://www.3am-soltions.co.uk/community>.

COMPANY AND SALES

Q15: How can I buy Dynamite VSP or Dynamite SIM right now? Are there any changes to how the product is sold?

A15: Dynamite VSP and Dynamite SIM will continue to be sold as standalone products through 3AM Solutions' existing authorized reseller channel for a limited time. During this transition period, there will be no changes to how the product is sold.

Q16: Is 3AM Solutions itself being acquired by Autodesk?

A16: No, Autodesk is not acquiring 3AM Solutions; it is acquiring only the Dynamite VSP and Dynamite SIM software products and related assets. 3AM Solutions will continue to exist and operate as a separate company.

Q17: Are Autodesk Authorized Channel Partners now able to sell Dynamite VSP and Dynamite SIM?

A17: At the current time Autodesk Authorized Channel Partners are not able to sell Dynamite VSP and Dynamite SIM standalone products. The products will continue to be sold as standalone products through 3AM Solutions' existing authorized reseller channel for a limited time.

Q18: I am an 3AM Solutions channel partner. Who can I contact for more information?

A18: For more information, existing 3AM Solutions channel partners can contact sales@3am-solutions.com.

Safe Harbor Statement

This document might contain forward-looking statements that involve risks and uncertainties, including statements regarding the impact of the acquisition on Autodesk's previously issued guidance, product offerings, product integration plans and the performance of its business. Factors that could cause actual results to differ materially include the following: difficulties encountered integrating 3AM Solutions' technology; whether certain market segments grow as anticipated; the competitive environment in the software industry and competitive responses to the acquisition; and whether Autodesk can successfully develop new products or modify existing products and the degree to which these gain market acceptance.

Further information on potential factors that could affect the financial results of Autodesk are included in the company's annual report on Form 10-K for the year ended January 31, 2009 and Form 10-Q for the quarter ended October 31, 2009, which are on file with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

Autodesk, AutoCAD, Civil3D, and 3ds Max are registered trademarks or trademarks of Autodesk, Inc., and/or its subsidiaries and/or affiliates in the USA and/or other countries. All other brand names, product names or trademarks belong to their respective holders. Autodesk reserves the right to alter product offerings and specifications at any time without notice, and is not responsible for typographical or graphical errors that may appear in this document.

© 2010 Autodesk, Inc. All rights reserved.