PRESS RELEASE

For immediate release

China Academy of Space Technology chooses Optis software to optimize satellite design

Toulon, France – Wednesday, 17 November 2010 – OPTIS, the leading software developer for the scientific simulation of light, today announced that the China Academy of Space Technology in Beijing has chosen OPTIS's OptisWorks software for stray light analysis to optimize the optical performance of satellites and imaging equipment used in space.

The China Academy of Space Technology, the leading space agency in China, is responsible for the coordination of the national Chinese Space Programme. They participated in the development of the Stray Light Analysis feature of OptisWorks.

As optical systems become more and more complicated the phenomenon known as "stray light" poses increasingly complex problems for the designer. Stray light within any imaging system, such as a camera, telescope or night vision equipment, significantly affects the optical performance, reducing the accuracy, fidelity and eventually jeopardising the reliability of the image. These inefficiencies have serious implications for defense and safety applications; an observer's view through an optical system affected by stray light could be of such bad quality that objects supposedly in the scene may not be recognised and, conversely, those objects outside of the scene may appear as ghost images. Clearly the ability to distinguish and correct the true signal compared to the internal "noise" generated provides the only solution to a 100% reliable system and OPTIS R&D, backed by OPTIS local team in Shanghai, have worked closely with the engineers at China Academy of Space Technology to optimise the detection of these internal discrepancies.

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China Academy of Space Technology selected OPTIS' OptisWorks solution because of its unique integration into the SolidWorks CAD package, offering designers the chance to fully interact with their model and visualize the influence of each component on the stray light. CAD integration also enabled them to optimize optical and mechanical aspects concurrently and try out multiple iterations to find the right design solution.

"The OPTIS stray light analysis tool enables our engineers to design more reliable and accurate space imaging equipment. Thanks to OPTIS they have minimised noise from reflections and optimised the signal at the viewpoint," said Dr. Wen Ping Lei of CAST. "OptisWorks' real bonus was being directly integrated in our existing CAD software. That gives us incredible power to detect, and actually visualise on the screen, how each component contributes to stray light, so we know which parts to modify right from the start of the design process. We are delighted to be working with OPTIS and to have jointly developed the stray light analysis function."

Pete Moorhouse, VP Sales at OPTIS, commented, "Our relationship with CAST once again proves that innovation is key to success. Our ability to quickly transform customer's requirements into production ready solutions helps consolidate our leading position and provides engineers with unique applications to solve complex problems."

OPTIS' simulation software suite is the most sophisticated and comprehensive optical solution available for designing any product that manages or interacts with light. The software provides highly realistic simulation of light sources, materials, and environments, enabling designers to optimize the optical performances and appearance of any system without costly experimental prototyping.

OPTIS software is unique in its ability to simulate human perception and lit appearance, the ability to provide the exact color and appearance of any object taking into account measured material properties and its seamless integration within major CAD platforms.

About The China Academy of Space Technology

CAST was established in 1968, and is located in Haidian district of northeastern Beijing. CAST is one of the seven design academies under the China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation (CASC). It employs over 10,000 staff in 10 research institutes and two factories, which develop and produce scientific and application satellites.

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CAST is one of China's major research, design, and manufacturing centres for space technology. It oversees institutes and factories related to research, development and production of communications, space-based ISR systems, and weather satellites. It lays the groundwork for future navigation satellites, data relay satellites, space shuttles and space stations. CAST is currently capable of producing 4-6 satellites per year, and is also responsible for the research and development of sounding rockets. The Dongfanghong-4 (DFH-4), a high capacity telecommunications satellite, is currently under development.

More information can be found at http://www.cast.cn/CastEn/

About OPTIS

OPTIS is the world leading software editor for the scientific simulation of light and human vision within a Virtual Reality Environment. Its solutions allow designers, ergonomists and engineers to simulate and optimize lighting performance, product appearance as well as the visibility and legibility of information on Human Machine Interfaces, in a fully-immersive environment.

Since integrating its SPEOS solution in SolidWorks in 2001, CATIA V5 in 2002 and Pro/ENGINEER in 2008, OPTIS is still the only company to provide a light simulation solution fully based on a physical model inside a CAD/CAM software.

OPTIS has delivered more than 5500 licences to 1500 customers in 36 countries worldwide. Users include most of the major automotive, aerospace, electronics, white goods and lighting manufacturers, as well as architects, universities, research laboratories and defence agencies. They use the SPEOS technology to design, simulate and visualise in a Virtual Reality environment, products as diverse as automotive lighting, mobile phone screens and keypads, dashboard and cockpit displays, LCDs, LEDs, luminaires, military detection systems and optics for industrial vision, defense and medical applications.

More information can be found at http://www.optis-world.com

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