



## **AspenTech Simplifies Enterprise Rollout and Management of aspenONE Using Latest Microsoft Technologies**

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Integration with Windows Vista, Microsoft Excel, and Microsoft Application Virtualization

Supports IT Standards, Speeds Time to Deployment and Extends Reach of aspenONE Within Operations

BURLINGTON, Mass.--(BUSINESS WIRE)--April 16, 2008--Aspen Technology, Inc. (OTC: AZPN.PK), a leading provider of software and services to the process industries, today announced that aspenONE(R) version 2006.5 uses the latest Microsoft technologies to simplify IT rollout and management. The integration of aspenONE with Microsoft Windows Vista, Microsoft Office Excel, and SoftGrid(R) Application Virtualization supports IT standards, speeds time to deployment, and extends the reach of aspenONE within operations for improved manufacturing performance.

"aspenONE makes it possible to solve the difficult challenge of optimizing manufacturing performance in complex process industries such as energy, chemicals and pharmaceuticals. By incorporating the latest Microsoft technologies into the integrated suite of aspenONE applications, AspenTech enables process manufacturers to take full advantage of our combined technology solutions across the enterprise," said Chris Colyer, Microsoft Director of Worldwide Manufacturing Operations.

aspenONE version 2006.5, the market-leading software solution that integrates and optimizes engineering, manufacturing and supply chain operations, takes full advantage of Microsoft's SOA platform, reinforcing AspenTech's leadership among process manufacturing software suppliers. Building on AspenTech's support of Microsoft's .NET Framework, Microsoft Office SharePoint Server and SQL Server, aspenONE version 2006.5 incorporates the following Microsoft technologies:

- **Microsoft Application Virtualization.** aspenONE Process Engineering now supports Microsoft Application Virtualization, an engine that turns applications into centrally managed virtual services delivered on-demand. This enables IT departments to accelerate the deployment of engineering applications by more than 50 percent. The applications are installed only once, rather than once per desktop, and can be deployed to groups of users more quickly and maintained more easily. In addition, for project-based companies and departments, virtualization also allows different versions of the same applications to run concurrently on the same machine.
- **Windows Vista.** The entire suite of aspenONE engineering, manufacturing and supply chain desktop products is now Windows Vista-compliant, supporting customers migrating to the new Microsoft desktop platform and industry-standard platform initiatives in all AspenTech customer IT environments.
- **Microsoft Office Excel.** Integration has been expanded between Microsoft Office Excel and the aspenONE Engineering Suite, allowing process industry companies to compare original design specifications with real-time performance in the plant. This enables process manufacturers to troubleshoot and catch process deviations and degradations earlier, improving manufacturing performance and efficiency.

Operations teams in more than 200 AspenTech customers are using the aspenONE Engineering Suite integrated with Excel to optimize performance between engineering and operations. Using aspenONE, a \$20+ billion international, integrated refining and marketing company created a plant performance monitoring application that links the plant's real-time database with an aspenONE engineering model of the plant to support operating decisions. Critical plant values and model results are displayed in Excel via a table and a graphical representation of the plant. As a result of these types of integrated solutions, process manufacturers can shorten the time required to respond to performance issues, better ensure production schedules are met, and avoid customer delivery delays.

The process of monitoring plant performance has traditionally been a cumbersome, manual activity, and a struggle to do effectively. For process manufacturers to truly optimize manufacturing performance, they must be able to monitor the plant continuously and deliver frequent guidance to a larger operational staff that might not be familiar with modeling and simulation. The integration of aspenONE with Microsoft technologies helps to increase the effectiveness of both engineering and operations teams, while improving manufacturing performance.

AspenTech Senior Vice President of Marketing Blair Wheeler said, "Industry research shows that technology investments in manufacturing operations are exceeding spending in ERP applications. As the leader in process optimization software, we are continually looking for new ways to make it easier for customers to improve the return on their IT investments. Today's news reinforces our commitment to support IT standards and best of breed technologies that address evolving customer needs.

"AspenTech and Microsoft have teamed up to bring the best of both worlds to the IT organizations in process manufacturing companies," continued Wheeler. "Working closely with Microsoft, we deliver the most advanced optimization solutions on the most recognized IT platform. We look forward to continuing our strong relationship with Microsoft, united by the common goals of simplifying and streamlining manufacturing operations - helping our process manufacturing customers make better and faster decisions closer to the process, resulting in reduced costs and improving operational efficiency."

## About AspenTech

AspenTech is a leading provider of award-winning process optimization software and services. AspenTech's integrated aspenONE solutions enable manufacturers to reduce costs, increase capacity, and optimize operational performance end-to-end throughout the engineering, plant operations, and supply chain management processes. For more information, visit [www.aspentech.com](http://www.aspentech.com).

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