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Ecma International releases the 4th Edition of the Universal 3D (U3D) File Format Standard

New features added to the ECMA-363 standard

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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On June 28, 2007, at its General Assembly meeting in Prien am Chiemsee, in Germany the new 4th Edition of the Universal 3D (U3D) File Format (ECMA-363) has been approved.

In the now released 4th Edition the overall consistency of the format has been improved, and the free-form curve and surface specification, including the specification of NURBS, has been added. In addition, the non-normative reference source code, available at SourceForge.net has been updated accordingly.

*"The Universal 3D (U3D) File Format Standard (ECMA-363) is a unique 3D visualization format being an open standard and having an unsurpassed installed 3D reader base due to the massive deployment of Adobe Reader," said **Lutz Kettner**, Director Geometry Product Development, mental images GmbH, and Co-Editor of Ecma TC43. "3D visualization is finally becoming available to everyone. The U3D File Format specification and standardization is an ongoing process in which features such as mesh compression, hierarchical surface descriptions, and generalized shading will be addressed in the near future to satisfy even the most demanding visualization needs."*

About Ecma International

Since its inception in 1961, Ecma International (Ecma) has developed standards for Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Consumer Electronics (CE). Ecma is a non-profit industry association of technology developers, vendors and users. Experts from industry and other organizations work together at Ecma to develop standards. Ecma submits its work for approval as ISO, IEC, ISO/IEC JTC 1 and ETSI standards and is a frequent practitioner of "fast tracking" of specifications through the standardization process in international standards organizations. Ecma publications can be downloaded free of charge from the Ecma International website www.ecma-international.org. The new 4th Edition of the standard can be found [there](#).

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