

Maplesoft to deliver Maple T.A. 1.2

New product offers potential for replacing traditional paper-based testing and assessment in math education

April 3, 2003, Waterloo, Canada – Maplesoft™, the leading supplier of comprehensive solutions for mathematics education, announced today the release of Maple T.A.™ 1.2, the latest version of the infrastructure solution that provides intelligent grading and assessment of online math tests. Maplesoft will begin shipping Maple T.A. 1.2 on April 30, 2003.

Maple T.A. responds to the growing demand for “Just In Time” (JIT) methods in all education segments. It features a complete Web-based environment for efficiently creating, administering, and grading placement or gateway tests, formal examinations, quizzes, and homework assignments. Maple T.A. also enables students to sharpen their math skills through self-assessment and home-based learning, and provides a practice mode in which students can reinforce concepts, while getting instantaneous feedback on their progress.

Maple T.A. features the renowned Maple™ math software engine that powers Maple 8, the leading desktop software that has been widely adopted for interactive math exploration. The Maple math engine allows instructors to create math questions that extend far beyond traditional multiple choice or true-false format. It supports free-form entry and evaluation of answers, testing of mathematical equivalence, partial evaluations, graphical answers, and more. This ultimately enriches the learning experience in a highly efficient, cost-effective manner. The powerful math engine supports a sweeping range of math knowledge and algorithms, making Maple T.A. ideal for application in K-12 through to post-graduate university, and professional education.

The addition of intelligent testing and assessment, via Maple T.A., also enables greater flexibility and effectiveness of existing academic software applications including Course Management Systems (CMS) such as Blackboard™ and WebCT™, and general mathematics software such as Maple 8 and MapleNet™.

Darren McIntyre, Vice President of Business Development at Maplesoft, states, “Maple T.A. is absolutely unique in the academic market. It delivers truly intelligent, flexible management of mathematics assessment that will save institutions time and money, in a way that actually enriches the learning experience for individual students.”

Maple T.A. has been in pilot applications for several months in key academic institutions. Feedback from these pilot sites has been overwhelmingly positive.

Educational institutions may contact bizdev@maplesoft.com for technical details and licensing information.

About Maple T.A.

Maple T.A. provides schools with a complete infrastructure for creating, administering and grading free-form, online mathematics exams and assignments. Maple T.A. grades assignments with the Maple engine, the most trusted software for exploring mathematics and developing

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mathematical applications. Maple T.A. frees schools from the cost, effort and limitations of traditional paper-and-pencil assessment. It allows easy randomization of questions in order to hinder cheating and encourage repetition of exercises. It also lets instructors include free-form mathematics questions on assignments, even when there are thousands of students in the class.

About Maple 8

Maple 8 delivers a comprehensive environment for visualizing and exploring mathematical concepts and developing mathematical applications. Combined with free add-on packages at MaplePrimes™ (www.mapleprimes.com) and hundreds of applications at the Maple Application Center™ (www.mapleapps.com), Maple 8 is the most flexible analytical tool for professors, researchers, scientists, engineers and students. Maple 8's technical features include the most advanced suite of mathematical solvers, intelligent symbolic algorithms for all areas of mathematics, Maplets for GUI customization, scientific visualization, a powerful programming language, and connectivity to the Web, Microsoft® Excel, MATLAB®, and external C, Fortran and Java™ programs.

About MapleNet™

MapleNet™ provides educational institutions with a complete set of infrastructure and client tools for online education in mathematics and mathematics-dependent courses. MapleNet allows authors/professors to create exercises and learning objects that are interactive and easy to use. The student requires only a Java™-enabled Web browser to interface with the material. MapleNet is derived from the legendary Maple software system, widely recognized as the most trusted desktop application for exploring mathematics and developing mathematical applications. Consequently, the scope of learning objects that can be created with MapleNet is virtually unlimited, as the Maple engine supports computation ranging from high school level algebra to research-level theory.

About Maplesoft

Founded in 1988, Maplesoft is a world leader in mathematical and analytical software. Its suite of products include Maple 8, the standard among interactive mathematical software, MapleNet a comprehensive mathematical infrastructure for the Web, and MapleTA™ a system for automated grading of mathematics tests. Maple products embody advanced technology such as symbolic computation, infinite precision numerics, innovative Web components, extensible user-interface technology, and an unrivalled suite of mathematical algorithms for intelligent management of complex mathematics. Over 5 million users benefit from advanced Maple technology. Virtually every major university and research institute in the world, including MIT, Stanford, Oxford and Waterloo, has adopted Maple products to enhance their education and research activities. Maplesoft's industrial customer base includes Boeing, Bosch, Canon, and NASA. For more information visit www.maplesoft.com.

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