A Guidance Portal - Plan your career:

The most common question, since we were kids, has been "What do you want to be when you grow up?" Though an answer always came readily then, now when it is time to pursue your desired career – it's time for confusion. To ease your confusion, we present to you our newest feature –"PLAN YOUR CAREER" – A guidance portal just for you. CADD Centre Guidance Portal is special because it is uniquely designed just for budding engineers.

Plan your Career is a page where you can use the tool provided to chart out your own career map. The module will inform you of the qualifications and skills you need to pursue a career of your choice. The user-friendly module will also provide you the narrowed down options of courses pertaining to your degree. This is a trusted guidance portal because it is backed by CADD Centre's years of experience.

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SolidWorks 2015 for Faster Time to Market

Dassault Systems, France, has launched the new version of SolidWorks, a 3D design software used for 3D design, simulation, and electrical design.

SolidWorks 2015, covers all comprehensive aspects of the product development process. It is a portfolio of 3D design software application that allows users to benefit from cloud computing. It lets users connect their existing SolidWorks desktop applications to the cloud and begin developing new business processes.

The latest release has what is called the 3D Experience platform. The platform has an intuitive, integrated 3D development environment. It makes collaboration effective and delivers innovative products to market faster, by shortening the design cycle.

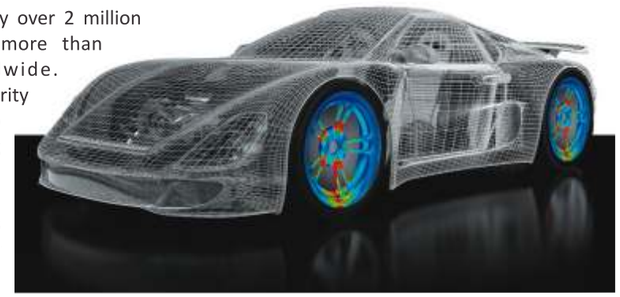
SolidWorks 2015 delivers solutions for a wide array of industries and markets. Users can easily enhance the aesthetics of consumer products and apparel, and simulate construction machinery, building infrastructure and machine tools better than ever before.

Currently, SolidWorks is used by over 2 million engineers and designers at more than 165,000 companies worldwide. The primary reason for its popularity is the ability it gives users to design a product using parameters.

Parameters could be numbers that denote the length of a line or a diameter of a circle or it could be a geometrical element such as a tangent and parallel. Building a model in SolidWorks usually starts with a 2D sketch. The sketch consists of geometry such as points, lines, arcs, conics, and splines.

Dimensions are added to the sketch to define the size and location of the geometry. Relations are used to define attributes such as tangency, parallelism, perpendicularity, and concentricity. The parametric nature of SolidWorks means that the dimensions and relations drive the geometry, not the other way around. The dimensions in the sketch can be controlled independently, or by relationships to other parameters. This parametric modeling helps designers to maintain the design intent.

SolidWorks is perhaps the first CAD software to function on Windows Operating System. The features of SolidWorks 2015 vastly improves productivity, work processes, and reduce operating costs. To know more about SolidWorks and the courses available, contact your nearest CADD Centre.



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CADD Centre's IID to Create Talent Pool for Industrial Design

A product's success is attributed not just to its functionality but also to its design. Hence, the demand for design skills in industry is rising. Known as Industrial Design, it is a specialized discipline. Though closely related to engineering, industrial design focuses on aspects like aesthetics, usability, design, and ergonomics of products, while the focus of engineering has traditionally been on the functionality of products. It is industrial designers who merge form and function into a marketable proposition.

Considering the growing demand from industry and engineering students, CADD Centre has recently floated an exclusive division, Institute of Industrial Design (IID). IID delivers industry oriented, domain specific training on key engineering design skills.

Many of the industrial design capabilities fall in the realm of visual, creative, technical and analytical skills. They include conceptual Ideation and sketching, form factor and proportion studies, 3D Modeling, contextual renderings, 3D animation, developing Colors Materials Finishes (CMF) specifications, creating workflow diagrams, understanding anthroprometric measurements, developing mockups and prototypes.

Since industrial design is a multi-faceted field, training on industrial design needs exclusive infrastructure, culture, and equipments. At IID, we offer application-oriented software training for students to excel as industrial product designers in a wide range of industries including automotive, aerospace, and robotics.

The Institute offers courses on products like Autodesk Alias, one of the leading applications for automotive design, styling and technical surfacing - IID is an Authorized Training Center for Autodesk Alias and is authorised to certify on behalf of Autodesk. ANSYS Fluent, used in design and optimization phases of product development; and CREO Simulate, a structural, thermal and vibration analysis solution from PTC; SolidWorks Motion, a virtual prototyping tool.

IID training provides students with a foundation in the design process and a comprehensive understanding of design research methodologies, materials technologies, manufacturing processes, and reverse engineering. Our courses gives equal importance to theory and hands-on training sessions involving digital presentations and physical models. The courses are domain-based and problem-specific. This approach trains students to use design as a problem solving tool.

Third and final year students of engineering, working professionals and anybody who is interested in industrial design and who want to know how to take product ideas from concept to marketplace can enroll in our courses. IID currently has centres in Chennai, Bangalore, and Thrissur.

Soft skills can help you land an IT job

After a couple of years of lull, India's Information Technology companies are back to hiring. For instance, TCS is planning to hire 25,000 people from the campuses in 2014-15, and hire 35,000 people by 2015-16. Infosys said that it would hire between 15,000-16,000 freshers for the current financial year. Apart from established IT companies, there are more startup companies that are making a beeline for the placement season.

However, the employers are looking also for soft skills in freshers. Mr Ajay Mukherjee, Vice President and Global Head - Human Resources, TCS is quoted saying that from an improvement point of view, "we have been telling institutes that communications and soft skills are something that can be looked at...which will make people a bit more ready."

Only few engineering colleges have taken proactive steps to impart soft skills training for students right from the first year. The concept of soft skills is not new and in the past these skills have been known by many other names, often prefixed by life, success, survival, people, communication and interpersonal, team and negotiation skills and the like.

According to Francis Petes, author of Soft Skills and Professional Communication, the key components of soft skills are:

Self Image: You need to have an accurate picture of yourself that is you should understand what your strengths and weaknesses are.

Interpersonal skills: Self control, empathy and motivating those who operate from a different competitive framework

Branding skills: You should promote yourself but also know the subtle difference between branding and bragging.

Networking skills: The essence of networking involves meeting people and socializing with charm and wit, building and nurturing relationships.

Assertiveness: The art of dealing with difficult people without upsetting them.

Conflict management: Resolving disputes amicably by going to the root of the problem and working out a solution.

Communication skills: It is the most important part of soft skills. In business it is very important to be able to communicate effectively, both verbally and in writing.

Stress management: Stress happens to be a part and parcel of our professional life. However, proper training in stress management can help you create a balanced and effective lifestyle. It includes among others self awareness.

Since placement record is a key performance metric for engineering colleges, it is worth investing their time and effort in providing soft skills training to their students. But students can take the responsibility on their own and hone their soft skills with the help of professional trainers and training institutions, if they are serious about getting hired.

Skilled Workforce Can Make India a Global Factory

India wants to become a prominent player in manufacturing, as China's losing its competitive advantage in this sector.

But at present, India's manufacturing industry is not in a good shape. Its share of gross domestic product (GDP) is just about 15% (in comparison, it is 30% in the case of China). India has about 500 million workers but the manufacturing sector employs only about 50 million, which is 10% of the total workforce. The growth rate of the sector in 2013-14 has been an abysmal 0.35%.

Realising the need for its intervention, the Centre has launched Make in India mission to increase the competitiveness of India's manufacturing industry globally. While there are many different plans to revive India's manufacturing sector, a crucial agenda is skill development.

Industry needs a steady supply of skilled manpower. Only 10% of India's workforce is skilled. Of the 10% only 2% of the workforce is formally certified - the rest 8% have acquired skills only through informal training and employment. In South Korea, Japan and Germany, the percentage of workforce with skills training is 96, 80 and 75 respectively.

In order to increase the share of skilled employees in the total workforce, the government has been promoting various skill development programmes. It has set a target of skilling 500 million people by 2022.

One of the important action plans is to breathe a new life into the vocational and industrial training, and promote apprenticeship schemes. There are about 11,500 Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs) in the country. They have the capacity to train about 16 lakh students every year. But ITIs are not attracting talent, thanks largely to its outdated curricula. As someone put, our ITIs are teaching how carburetors work though carburetors are no longer used in cars and other automobiles.

Other than ITIs there are many players in vocational education or skill based training. Private training institutes in different streams are preparing people for specific trades, crafts and careers in engineering, accountancy, nursing, medicine, architecture, pharmacy, and law. The contribution of private institutions towards skill development is vital.

India may have the world's most youngest population but it needs to harness the demographic dividend through appropriate skill development efforts and make the local manufacturing sector truly global.