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For immediate release

## **Astroid spatial controller delivers full support for Rhino 3D CAD software**

Spatial Freedom announces the release of the Astroid<sup>®</sup> interface for Robert McNeel & Associates' 3D CAD program, Rhinoceros<sup>®</sup>. This release provides full support for Spatial Freedom's Astroid SUI<sup>™</sup> (Spatial User Interface) and is available for immediate download. See [www.spatialfreedom.com](http://www.spatialfreedom.com).

The Astroid adds a set of capabilities to 3D CAD systems that improve user productivity through more effective user spatial interaction. The Astroid allows users to much more easily control how they view and navigate in and around and interact with 3D models, or as we say at Spatial Freedom, "*pan, zoom and spin with ease*". This results in user spending less time (and frustration) manipulating 3D models into complex orientations in order to achieve the desired outcome.

The Astroid Spatial User Interface (Astroid SUI - patent pending) adds a set of functions to CAD systems that improve user productivity through more effective user spatial interaction. For example, a 3D control point called the "motion handle" is used to deliver consistent pan, zoom and spin responses independent of model size or view type. This eliminates the need for sensitivity adjustment commonly required in today's CAD programs. Used in the less dominant hand the Astroid complements the mouse by more effectively taking over pan, zoom and spin control. The use of both hands speeds up modeling time and reduces fatigue on the mouse hand. Independent research shows that an Astroid can increase a 3D CAD user's productivity by up to 60%.

"If you're not using an Astroid you're not getting the most out of Rhino," says John Hilton, President of Spatial Freedom. "The Astroid helps a designer realize the full potential of Rhino through natural spatial control. At just US\$149 the Astroid pays for itself, through increased productivity, in less than one week. My dream is to see the Astroid lead spatial controllers well beyond the CAD desktop and into any area where people interact in 3D."

"Spatial Freedom is a Rhino development partner and we have been very impressed with the underlying architecture of Rhino which has made this implementation of the Astroid and SUI the fastest implementation to date," said John Hilton. "It's great to see this type of complementary technology development around Rhino which delivers tangible benefits to our existing customers. We are very excited about the new capabilities and competitiveness the Astroid and SUI provides Rhino users," commented Bob McNeel, President, Robert McNeel & Associates.

## **About Spatial Freedom, Inc.**

Spatial Freedom was founded by John Hilton to commercialize Orion™ hardware and SUI software technologies. His vision for a new generation low cost spatial controllers for the 3D graphics industry led to the development of the Orion and Astroid SUI technologies now delivered as the Astroid 6000, the first truly affordable and highly functional, spatial controller for the CAD industry. The Astroid and SUI currently support several leading 3D CAD packages, such as Inventor, Solid Edge, SolidWorks, Rhino and NX. For more information see [www.spatialfreedom.com](http://www.spatialfreedom.com).

Astroid is a registered trademark of Spatial Freedom Holdings Pty Ltd. Orion and Astroid SUI are trademarks of Spatial Freedom, Inc. All other marks are the property of their respective owners.

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