

# 10 THINGS YOU SHOULD KNOW

## ABOUT SOLIDWORKS® R&D

The mechanical CAD market is highly competitive and continuous innovation is critical to success. **SOLIDWORKS®** makes innovation easier thanks to its easy-to-use interface, seamlessly integrated tools, simple compatibility with other software add-ins, and full integration with the **3DEXPERIENCE®** platform.

**NONE OF THIS WOULD HAVE BEEN POSSIBLE WITHOUT THE SOLIDWORKS R&D TEAM.**

### 01 LISTENING TO YOU

The R&D team at **SOLIDWORKS** have been actively listening to users since its startup days back in the 90s. Listening to customers has never gone out of fashion at **SOLIDWORKS**: 90% percent of software enhancements still come from users. Why? Because these teams are laser focused on user needs and value.

### 02 REAL-WORLD EXPERIENCE

Many members of the **SOLIDWORKS** R&D team come from industry: designers and engineers who used CAD in previous positions, and now build it for others. Helping people whose positions they once held, learning about customer pain points, and creating solutions to fix them is part of their DNA.



**// SOLIDWORKS loves user feedback, good or bad. They listen and update as they go. //**

-Brad Meador, Project Designer, Altec

**90%**   
of software enhancements  
come from users

**"The thing I love most about SOLIDWORKS isn't the program itself, but the people behind it."**

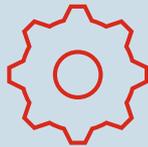
-Kara Tucker, Product Development  
CAD Designer, Gibson Brands

### 03 CHAMPIONING THE USERS

**SOLIDWORKS R&D** members are trained on all the ways they can be a better champion for users. Team members listen to customers in a variety of ways: reading forums and social media, pouring over user-submitted feedback and enhancements, and, of course, holding customer visits. Every year, members of the **SOLIDWORKS R&D** team are required to meet and connect with customers directly. They visit **SOLIDWORKS** users in factories, offices, and maker spaces, and at **3DEXPERIENCE World** meetups. All to see how customers use the software and how the software can be improved.

“There’s an art to figuring out what the user really needs. You’ve got to use a variety of **techniques**, and we coach everyone in product definition to do that.”

-Bruce Holway, **SOLIDWORKS**  
Product Definition Director



No one has more experience than **SOLIDWORKS** at making CAD accessible.

### 04 MAKING THE COMPLEX EASY

One of the hallmarks of **SOLIDWORKS R&D** is making CAD accessible. Before **SOLIDWORKS** entered the market in the ‘90s, software usability teams were almost unheard of. **SOLIDWORKS** knew how important these roles would be and formed its first usability team over 20 years ago. Today, **SOLIDWORKS** products continue to stand out for their ease of use and accessibility. As **SOLIDWORKS** products grow and evolve, the ease with which designers and engineers can navigate options and create detailed designs quickly is—and always will be—a top priority.



“We’re always looking to make CAD fun. You’re using it all day; it’s our job to make it enjoyable.”

-Rob Jost, **SOLIDWORKS** Product Definition Senior Manager

### 05 INTEGRATING NEW TECHNOLOGIES

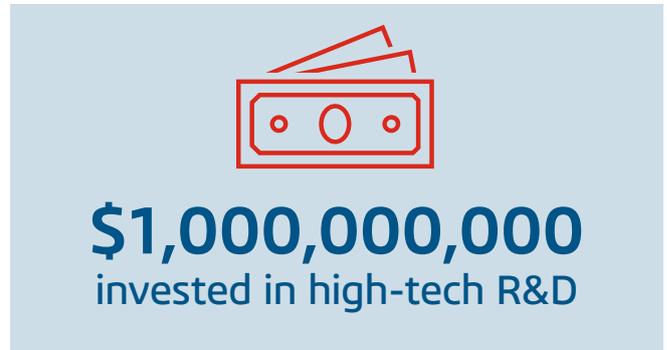
**SOLIDWORKS R&D** makes sure all enhancements are productive—not just responding to trends or fads. Applying machine learning (ML) and artificial intelligence (AI) to design and engineering is like programming a robot vacuum to automate a tedious task for you, while ensuring that you remain in control. **SOLIDWORKS R&D** works to incorporate new technologies into **SOLIDWORKS** design solutions to make every workday easier, so you have time to focus on the big picture.

“We look at repetitive, mind-numbing tasks that CAD users do all the time and say, ‘Can we develop a **technology** that will recognize this?’ But it’s up to the user to choose which ones are right for them.”

-Rob Jost, **SOLIDWORKS**  
Product Definition Senior Manager

## 06 R&D INVESTMENT

On top of new technologies, **SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD** introduces hundreds of new features each year with no signs of slowing. How can you trust **SOLIDWORKS** is invested in the future? **SOLIDWORKS R&D** takes advantage of a more than \$1 billion research and development investment from Dassault Systèmes. You can rest assured that your investment in **SOLIDWORKS** is returned in the form of both short-term improvements and forward-looking technological breakthroughs.



“ There is a science to doing this testing and product refinement. And we train the **SOLIDWORKS R&D** team to be most effective in this process. ”

-Bruce Holway, SOLIDWORKS Product Definition Director

## 07 MAKING IT YOUR OWN

Customization is important to **SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD** customers and to the R&D department. The software offers a powerful **API** and a wide variety of plug-ins and extensions, along with a user interface that can be customized to suit personal preferences or specific project requirements. Whether you are a student learning **CAD** for the first time, a startup building something new, or a power user digging into complex designs, **SOLIDWORKS R&D** has designed the software to have a simple but powerful **UI** that can meet any of your needs.

“**SOLIDWORKS** always strived to provide an interface for all users. One that is powerful enough right out of the box, but also flexible enough for those who want to tailor their experience.”

-John Sweeney, SOLIDWORKS Product Development Senior Director

## 08 INTEROPERABILITY

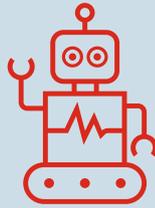
Many engineers and designers use different software packages for different aspects of their jobs. **SOLIDWORKS R&D** focuses on seamless integration with both Dassault Systèmes products and third-party software, all to optimize adaptability. This is crucial for today’s geographically dispersed teams, especially when not all team members utilize **SOLIDWORKS** software. Because **SOLIDWORKS R&D** teams work closely with other Dassault Systèmes R&D teams, and are experts on the **3DEXPERIENCE** platform, they know what it means to provide tight interoperability with the cloud-based product development tools. This gives users a smooth, interconnected environment for all aspects of their business.

“One of the things that distinguishes **SOLIDWORKS** is they hear their users, they know what the users want, and they make the effort to actually make those changes happen.”

-Sanket Patil, Team Lead, Bowhead Corporation

## 09 PART OF A LARGER TEAM

The **SOLIDWORKS R&D** team is part of the larger Dassault Systèmes family. They're focused on the design tools you know and love, they work in tandem with **over 7,000** engineers, designers, analysts, developers, programmers, and more around the world to enhance their product development solutions. With the backing, support, and expertise of a global R&D group, **SOLIDWORKS** has all the expertise and support they need to create valuable technologies for years to come.



**R&D is laser focused on making AI and ML practical for all users.**

"For all of history... thousands of years... all engineering was done on pen and paper. And then in our lifetime, **CAD** just exploded. Its such an **exciting time to be in this field**"

-Bruce Holway, **SOLIDWORKS**  
Product Definition Director

## 10 LEVERAGING THE CLOUD

From day one **SOLIDWORKS's R&D** department has been watching industry and market trends. They've seen a lot of rapid advancement in the past 30+ years, none more impressive than the cloud. Leveraging the power of the larger Dassault Systèmes cloud investment, they've helped create browser-based design tools that enhance **SOLIDWORKS 3D CAD** with **CAD-aware cloud storage**, remove silos from the collaboration process between different departments and companies, and beyond. **SOLIDWORKS R&D** anticipates future needs and ways to bring advanced technologies like artificial intelligence and machine learning to the masses—all to help users like you succeed.

**SOLIDWORKS R&D** efforts have grown and evolved with the needs of its users. Helping them stay one step ahead of modern product development needs, while still offering the same industry-leading **CAD** they've come to love and trust. **SOLIDWORKS R&D** will continue to deliver the same revolutionary modeling experience while providing you with the modern collaboration tools required to innovate today and in the future.

**To delve deeper or experience a hands-on demonstration,  
contact your local authorized reseller partner.**