

## Press Release

### MAN Commercial Vehicles Implements AutoForm Software

**Zurich, November 21, 2005: AutoForm Engineering, the leading supplier of software solutions for sheet metal forming, is pleased to announce that MAN Commercial Vehicles Group, the leading German manufacturer of heavy commercial vehicles, has decided to use AutoForm software for sheet metal forming optimization in its Gustavsburgs plant.**

Mr. Bernd Güntzel, Head of Production at MAN Commercial Vehicles in Gustavsburg explains: "We use the forming simulation software for the entire product range that we produce: stamped parts with sheet gauge thickness from 0.8 mm to 12.0 mm. AutoForm software is used especially during the planning phase when the process layout is defined and to support the design of die faces. The software solution convinced us because it fulfils all our requirements for process layout and design of die faces."

AutoForm was implemented at MAN Commercial Vehicles after the software was benchmarked against two competitive products. The AutoForm software solution was particularly impressive for a challenging, 5 mm thick chassis part made from high-strength steel, which has been in production for a long time at the Gustavsburgs plant. An important new feature in AutoForm software, the new shell element formulation, was a decisive factor. In addition, the software's ease-of-use was convincing. AutoForm Engineering was able to provide the most complete software package for MAN Commercial Vehicles applications, and also the best-suited support to MAN for implementing appropriate simulation technology in their field. The application of simulation technology by automobile manufacturers is currently the state of the art. The same technology is expected to be applied by the commercial vehicle industry. MAN Commercial Vehicles purchased the following AutoForm software modules: OneStep, DieDesigner, Incremental, Trim, Nest, ReportManager and ProjectManager.

"An important criterion for our decision was to purchase a single simulation system which can be used both for frames and stamped body parts, i.e., both for thin and thick sheets. This requires a high level of precision in the simulation. AutoForm software ensures the manufacturability of formed parts already during process layout, and reduces tooling tryout costs." summarizes Mr. Bernd Güntzel.

#### **About MAN Commercial Vehicle Group**

*MAN Commercial Vehicles Group is one of the leading international manufacturers of commercial vehicles. In 2004, the company had 34.000 employees, and sold more than 63.300 commercial vehicles as well as 6.100 buses and bus chassis, generating a turnover of 7.4 billion Euros. Operating profit (EBIT) was 342 million Euros.*

*At the Gustavsburg plant, 714 employees produce a broad range of high-quality parts and components for MAN Commercial Vehicles, as well as for other vehicle manufacturers. The production programme covers driver cab and panel parts made of thin sheets, chassis parts and frame profiles made of thicker, high-strength sheet metals, as well as forming and pressing tools. For detailed information visit: [www.man-mn.com](http://www.man-mn.com)*

#### **About AutoForm Engineering**

*AutoForm Engineering develops and markets specialized die face design and simulation software for the automotive and sheet metal forming industries. With all of the Top 20 automobile producers as customers, AutoForm is recognized as the number one provider of software for product formability, die face design and virtual tryouts to the global automotive industry. AutoForm offices are located in Switzerland, Germany, Spain, Italy, France, The Netherlands, USA, China and Korea. The company also serves the needs of its customers through agents and distributors in more than 15 other countries (Japan, Turkey, Brazil, etc.). For detailed information visit: [www.autoform.com](http://www.autoform.com)*

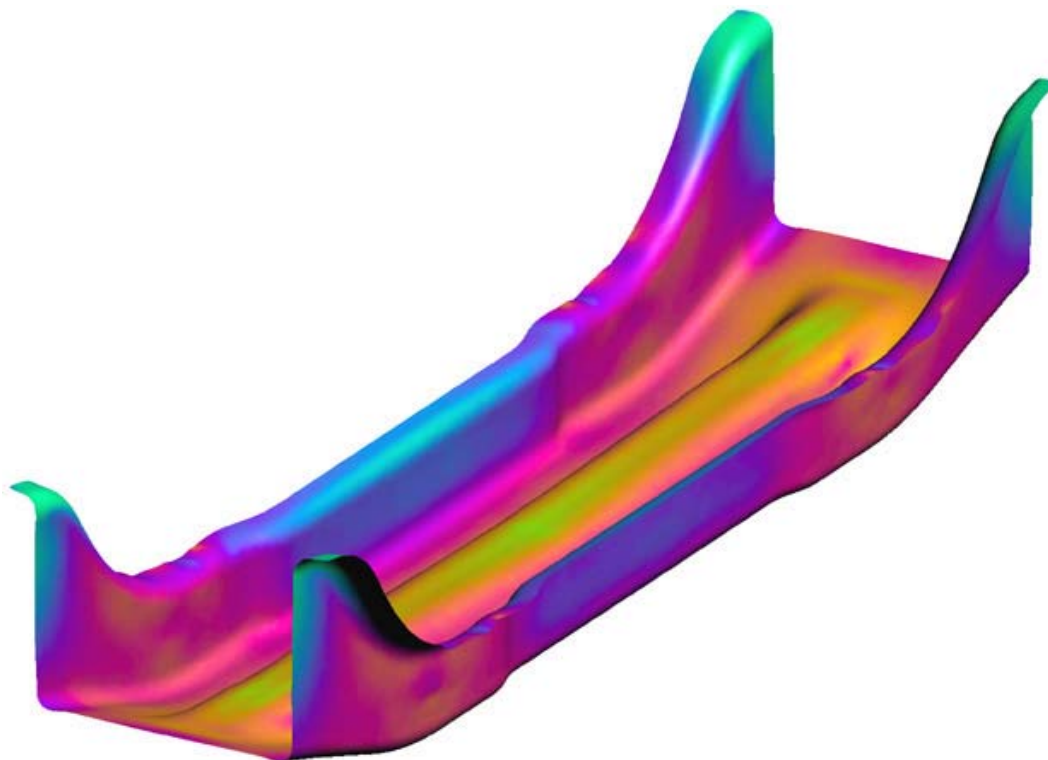
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Cross member of semitrailer tractor frame (TGA)



Simulation of springback

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