

**Rational Software's enhanced SEED program reaches more than 20,000 computer science and software engineering students at more than 650 colleges and universities worldwide**

*Australia's Swinburne University produces practically qualified students prepared for the software-based economy*

**Sydney, September 17, 2002** — Rational Software today announced that its enhanced Software Engineering for Educational Development (SEED) program currently reaches more than 20,000 computer science and software engineering students at more than 650 colleges and universities around the world.

The SEED program is a worldwide program through which Rational contributes its leading software and training materials to faculty and students at degree-granting institutions.

The program enables students to gain experience with Rational's software development tools, technologies and best practices while still in the classroom, helping decrease their learning curve when they start software development jobs after graduating. Companies benefit by hiring graduates who have the skills to instantly contribute to their software development projects.

By having access to Rational's latest software, courseware and technical content for hands-on use by students in the classroom, lecturers and tutors have been able to develop a stronger, more comprehensive curriculum that has given their students a competitive advantage in the job market.

"Rational's SEED program provides an excellent opportunity for our students to jump-start their careers, developing practical skills using leading commercial software tools while studying at university," said Dr Sebastian Ng, Lecturer, Centre for Software Engineering - School of Information Technology, Swinburne University of Technology. "Equally, employers recognise the value when our students graduate with high quality practical experience."

Through the SEED program, faculty and students have access to the Rational Developer Network, Rational's Web site that provides targeted software development content and skill-building resources. This empowers SEED participants to gain knowledge and widespread visibility by sharing research results and original papers with an extended online Rational customer audience, as well as with other educational institutions.

Rational has long played a leadership role in the software development community and has actively collaborated with other industry experts to advance the practice of software development. The Rational SEED program represents Rational's long-term commitment to extending its leadership focus to software educators worldwide, and

enables faculty and students to continually enhance their skills by working with the most current technologies.

“Organisations in Australia and around the world rely on software everyday in mission-critical situations. Giving students the opportunity to learn about and access the latest technologies in software development will empower the next generation of Australia’s IT practitioners and analysts to create great software and deliver on organisational objectives,” said Scott Frayne, Managing Director, Rational Software Australia & New Zealand.

### **Availability**

The Rational SEED program is open to all accredited degree-granting institutions worldwide. Additional information is available at <http://www.rational.com/seed>.

The program is currently in 25 Universities and 13 Tafe colleges in Australia.

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### **About Rational Software Corporation**

Rational Software provides a software development platform that improves the speed, quality, and predictability of software projects. This integrated, full lifecycle solution combines software engineering best practices, market-leading tools, and professional services. Ninety-eight of the Fortune 100 rely on Rational tools and services to build better software, faster. This open platform is extended by partners who provide more than 500 complementary products and services. Founded in 1981, Rational is one of the world’s largest software companies, with revenues of US\$689.8 million in its twelve months ended 31 March 2002, and over 3,500 employees worldwide.

Rational is a member of the S&P 500 Index and a component of the Nasdaq-100 Index®. Additional information is available at [www.rational.com](http://www.rational.com) and [www.therationaledge.com](http://www.therationaledge.com), the monthly e-zine for the Rational community.

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