

INTERIOR Fitout

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With bricks and mortar stores having to work harder than ever before, emerging trends in software and the ever-present mobile phone are rapidly changing customer expectations in retail. We look at the impact of technology and how businesses will need to adapt to stay relevant and competitive in the future.

Technological developments such as drone delivery, robotics and other artificial intelligence (AI) applications will be of great benefit to the retail industry today and in the near future.

The retail landscape will change significantly with voice assistants, machine learning and data-driven insights taking centre stage.

Chat bots and virtual voice assistants have the potential to transform retail, with voice assistant technology creating incredible shopping services for consumers.

While we won't see robots serving customers any time soon, chatbots on the other hand are making their way into the retail landscape. According to Ubisend's 2017 Chatbot Report which surveyed 2,000 consumers, the majority of consumers are aware of what a chatbot is (57 per cent) and over a third (35 per cent) want to see more companies using chatbots to answer their questions.

With consumers being more active on social media and other messaging platforms, chatbots will become a bigger part of their lives and retailers' business.

According to a recent report, AI software application will grow to US\$60 billion by 2025. AI forms the basis for a number of applications used in retail – it can make smart, data-driven decisions, supporting and improving many retail processes.

More and more retail businesses are integrating AI into different areas such as sales and CRM applications, manufacturing, logistics, delivery, payments etc, through an AI-enabled retail ERP software, and thus enhancing the customers' shopping experience.

Although these new next-generation technologies such as apps, AI and voice assistants are an important part of customer engagement, retailers need to ensure they have the basics right and that their websites are built and optimised for mobile first, as well as with complementary app-based solutions.

Digital technology has also transformed the workflow process from design to production including CAD software.

3D CAD software allows the creation of three-dimensional models of objects such as buildings, architectural and components.

The global market is expected to reach US\$7.3 billion by 2022.

```

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    mirror_mod.use_x = False
    mirror_mod.use_y = True
    mirror_mod.use_z = False
elif_operation == "MIRROR_Z":
    mirror_mod.use_x = False
    mirror_mod.use_y = False
    mirror_mod.use_z = True

#selection at the end -add b
mirror_ob.select= 1
modifier_ob.select=1
bpy.context.scene.objects.active =
print("Selected" + str(modifier_ob)
    mirror_ob.select = 1
done = bpy.context.scene.objects
    bpy.data.objects["mirror_mod"]

```

Technology & beyond

Adoption of 3D CAD is largely driven by the technology's many benefits. However, we have largely ignored the site measuring process by using traditional analogue methods such as tape measure and then recording our measurements with pen and paper, says Peter Zoumboulakis, director Flexijet.

"We have all experienced the unenviable task of having to site measure a project using traditional methods," he explains.

"Some of the questions we all ask ourselves during this process are... 'How much is the floor out of level? Is the wall plumb, is the wall leaning back or forward or does it have a twist? How can I reach those angles that are 5 metres off the floor?' And these questions just keep mounting up. And to cap it off, back at the office you have to then draw your measurements as a 3D model, only to discover that you have forgotten to measure the location of that waste pipe or those electrical cables."

Flexijet 3D is a revolutionary laser measurement system that instantly creates a 2D or 3D CAD drawing in real time as you measure.

"Flexijet 3D takes the angst out of site measuring and also draws the 3D or 2D CAD model as you measure. Simply check the drawn model during your measurements and verify that you have measured all the relevant items... no

The ongoing transition to cloud computing technologies ... will help grow the CAD market...

more forgotten measurements. When you are done, simply export the model and email it directly from site to the office so that work can begin immediately," explains Zoumboulakis.

The ongoing transition to cloud computing technologies and their adoption in product prototyping and design, coupled with advancements in cellular technologies will help grow the CAD market in the coming years.

The software suppliers industry has expanded over the past five years, driven by growth in mobile usage, and cloud computing usage among businesses, according to IBISWorld.

Cloud computing has enabled industry operators to move from supplying



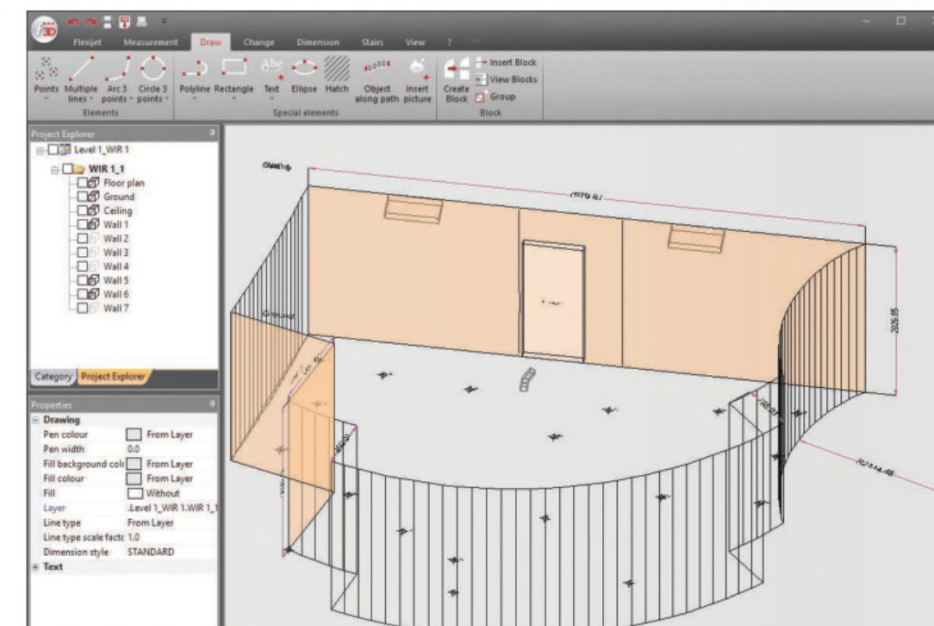
software products outright to engaging in a Software as a Service (SaaS) business model, where clients pay an annual or monthly subscription fee for software. This model has supported sales and reduced concerns related to software piracy.

Cloud computing also allows for seamless updates and increasingly powerful software packages. Industry revenue is expected to increase at an annualised 3.6 per cent over the next five years, supported by greater demand for

software and the move to subscription-based services. It also makes POS systems a lot more cost-effective.

A POS system is an indispensable tool for any modern day bricks and mortar business. A recent point of sale industry study reveals that the POS terminals market value is expected to reach US\$98.27 billion by 2022.

Seventy-three per cent of respondents of a Mastercard survey say they use less cash today than they did 10 years ago.



More and more consumers are using their smart phone to pay for purchases, both online and instore, so more and more retailers are looking for tablet-based POS systems that can accept mobile payments, traditional credit card transactions, but also cash.

It's important for retailers to create a smart environment to offer a great and seamless customer experience. POS technology is an integral part of this, especially as it is becoming more affordable, intelligent and keeps evolving.

For retailers, their store transactions or sales data need to be easily accessible from their smartphone, tablet or desktop wherever they are, which is where the cloud comes in.

Most tablet POS systems are cloud-based, so data is maintained, managed, backed up remotely and made available to users over a network. The main advantage of using a cloud-based POS solution is that a retailer can easily access their data and upgrade their software across all the stores at the same time.

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flexijet^{3D}

From site measure to a 3D CAD drawing in a single step!



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- Manufactured in Germany and used in the joinery and shopfitting industries around the world.
- Measure in 3D or 2D without restrictions.
- WiFi integration with FlexiCAD software.
- 7" touch display.
- Integrated camera.
- Instant graphic control on site.
- Auto levelling feature.
- No missing dimensions or transmission errors.
- Instant surface and space calculations.
- Projection of CAD points on-site to aid in installation.
- Easily create digital templates, scribe uneven surfaces and measure rooms or entire buildings.
- Interfaces to all common CAD software and CNC equipment.

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next generation
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Site measuring made easy with Flexijet 3D

We have all experienced the unenviable task of having to site measure a project using traditional manual methods and then recording the measurements on a note pad.

Some of the questions we all ask ourselves during this process are... "how much is the floor out of level?, is the wall plumb, is the wall leaning back or forward or does it have a twist?, how can I reach those angles that are 5 metres off the floor?, I need to scribe that odd curved wall and produce MDF templates which will take forever...". These questions just keep mounting up and to cap it off, back at the office you have to then draw your measurements as a 3D or 2D model, only to discover that you have forgotten to measure the location of that waste pipe or those electrical cables!

Well, Flexijet 3D takes the angst out of site measuring and also draws the 3D or 2D CAD model as you measure. Simply check the drawn model during your measurements and verify that you have measured all the relevant items... no more forgotten measurements. When you are done, simply export the model and email it directly from site to the office so that work can begin immediately. Flexijet 3D will work seamlessly with software such as PYTHA 3D CAD®, AutoCAD®, and many others, in fact any CAD software that can import a DXF or DWG file.

Sounds too easy? Ask for a demo and let Flexijet Australia show you how. The German manufactured Flexijet 3D, is a measuring system that has revolutionised site measuring in the joinery and shopfitting industry around the world. With



Flexijet 3D, you can not only measure and instantly draw your measurements, but its additional in-built functions will make other site tasks more precise, efficient and ultimately save you time and money.

Flexijet Australia
 Phone 1300 077 977
www.flexijetaustralia.com

Conquer curves quickly with PYTHA 3D CAD V24 Ribs function

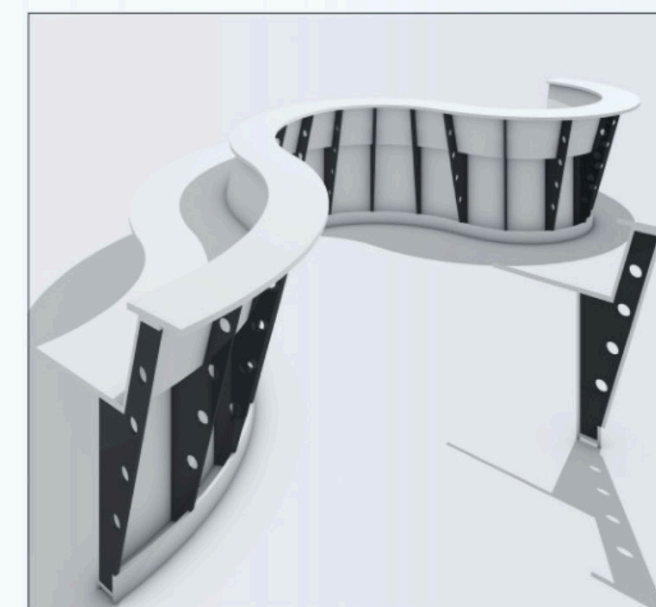
Organically shaped cabinets, curved walls and circular seating are increasingly popular in shop and office fitouts. However, constructing these curves can be problematic for cabinetmakers. PYTHA V24 now offers functionality for curved frame construction, allowing curved joinery to be designed, modified and constructed quickly and conveniently.

Simply positioning ribs along a curve is helpful, but the real power lies in the ability to select an individually constructed cross-section, which can consist of 2D faces and 3D parts. 3D parts are automatically used as ribs and positioned evenly along the curve, while 2D faces are used as sweeps to form parts following the curve.

In PYTHA V24, the curve and frame construction remain connected to each other. When a change is made to the curve, it's immediately visible on the 3D parts, allowing you to create design studies and variant drawings quickly. Even dimensional changes can be made with minimal effort. The original cross-section remains editable too: you can make changes to the ribs or add further parts and transfer them to the frame construction at any time.

The release of PYTHA V24 focusses not only on the flexibility of curved items. The new Parametric functions have greater flexibility in changing sizing of parts. PYTHA V24 can import OBJ files as well as many other external file formats.

PYTHA offers a complete design and manufacturing package all in one. It can be scaled to suit any design or



manufacturing requirements, whether you are looking to create photo realistic designs or want flexibility in creating architectural joinery ready to send to your CNC.

For a demonstration or to learn more, please contact us:
 Pytha Partners Australia
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