



June 2001

Topic: CAD/CAM User Market Statistics

CAD Market Statistics

The proportion of sites planning a major change in their choice of hardware, operating systems and CAD/CAM software

iCAD is produced by Business Advantage, a B2B research, business development and marketing consulting practice operating in the global IT, Digital and Telecommunication sectors.

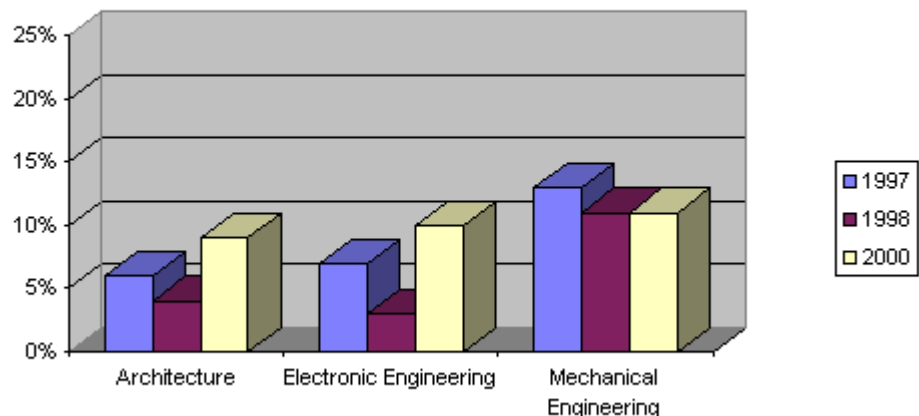
Business Advantage has analysed data from its CAD/CAM user site database to reveal the proportions of CAD/CAM using sites planning to implement a 'major change' in their choice of hardware, operating systems and CAD/CAM software over a three-year period. The years analysed are 1997, 1998 and 2000, and the findings are based on a minimum of 2,115 interviews conducted in November of each year.

In the interviews with our sample we defined a 'major change' as one which:

- involved an actual switch from one brand or type of hardware, software or operating system to another
- represented a significant investment for the site concerned
- was scheduled to be implemented within two years.

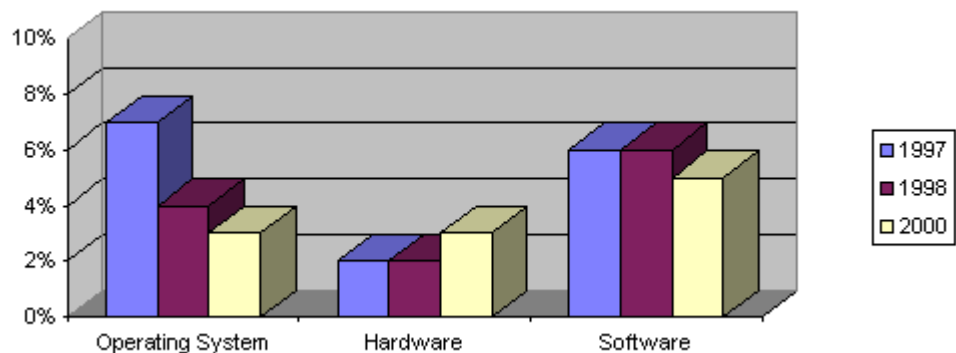
The Overall Picture

Over the three years analysed, the proportion of sites making such a change remained broadly consistent - 14% in 1997, 9% in 1998 and 10% in 2000. There were however, variations between different business activities. Although all sectors were analysed, the chart below shows the proportion of sites that were planning to make a major change specifically within the Architecture, Electronic Engineering and Mechanical Engineering sectors.



Breakdown of Plans

Looking at the breakdown of the intentions for these planned changes across all sectors, there are only minor fluctuations between the years. The proportion of sites planning a major CAD/CAM software switch remained constant at around 5%, confirmation of the difficulty in attracting new business away from competitors. The chart below shows the breakdown of changes planned in operating systems, hardware and/or CAD/CAM software across all sectors in the three years analysed.



Cross-Sector View

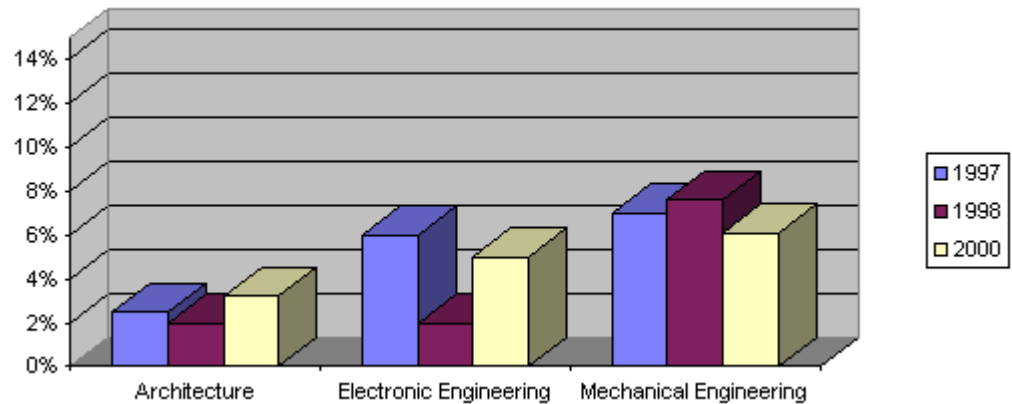
Looking in more depth at individual industry sectors, there are minor variations in the plans to implement major hardware and operating systems in the three industry sectors selected for more in-depth analysis - Architecture, Electronic Engineering and Mechanical Engineering:

- the proportion of sites planning to invest significantly in new hardware remained steady at between 2-4% for these three sectors over the three years analysed
- plans for changing operating system were slightly higher in 1997 than in the following years for all three sectors; in this year, 7% of MCAD sites said they were planning a change, the highest level of the three sectors.

The chart below shows the proportion of the sites planning a major change in CAD/CAM software for the three selected business activities. The proportion considering such a change is over twice as high in MCAD sites as it is in Architecture sites.



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The above data comes from research on the UK CAD/CAM user community. If you would like to find out more about this database and the accompanying services, please go to the following links:

[Database of 20,000 UK CAD/CAM User sites](#)

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