## Web Support First Motivating Customers to use Web Support

#### **Andy Westlund**

**North America Support Director Mentor Graphics Corporation** 

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#### **Introductions**

#### Mentor Graphics Corporation

- A technology leader in <u>Electronic Design Automation solutions</u>
- Established in 1981; today 4100 employees worldwide
- 2006 revenue: \$791M; Support Revenue: \$275M

#### **■** 500+ support professionals in 14 countries worldwide

Service Capability & Performance (SCP) certified





## **Meet Andy Westlund**

## Tom Floodeen Customer Support Division Vice President / GM

Andy Westlund
North America Support
Director



#### Mentor Graphics History

- 1988 1992: SoftwareDevelopment (print/plot)
- 1992 1995: CustomerSupport (print/plot)
- 1995 present: CustomerSupport Management

#### Education

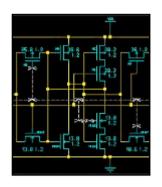
- BSCS: Oregon State University
- MBA: Portland State University

#### Personal

- Married, two college-age sons
- Home near Portland, OR, USA



## What is Electronic Design Automation?













## **Smaller Size, Increasing Complexity**

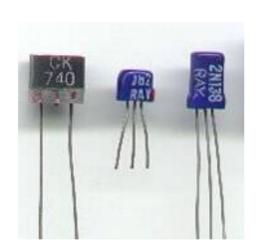
1930s

1950s

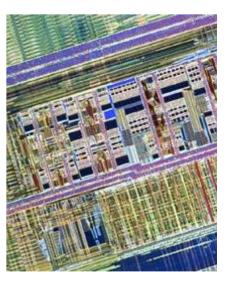
1970s

1990s









"The number of transistors on an integrated circuit doubles every 18 – 24 months"

- Moore's Law

## **Customer Support Division (CSD)**

#### Vision

 Remain the Services leader in solving our customers' design problems any time, anywhere

#### Mission

- Eliminate the barriers between our customers and our technology
- Strengthen Support as a competitive differentiator for Mentor Graphics

#### ■ The *only* 5 STAR support in EDA





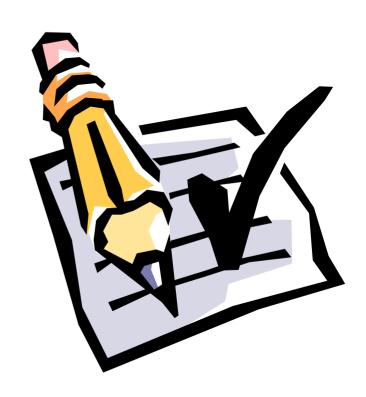






## **Presentation Topics**

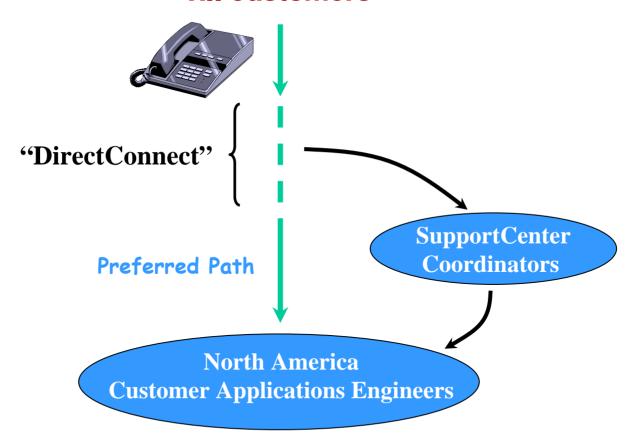
- Overview of Mentor Graphics' web support initiative
  - Moving from phone to web
- Key tactics, messages, metrics
  - Including regional variations
- Results
- Web support and mergers
  - Easing the customer transition



## 1993: Phone Support is #1

Look how easy we made the phone!

#### **All Customers**

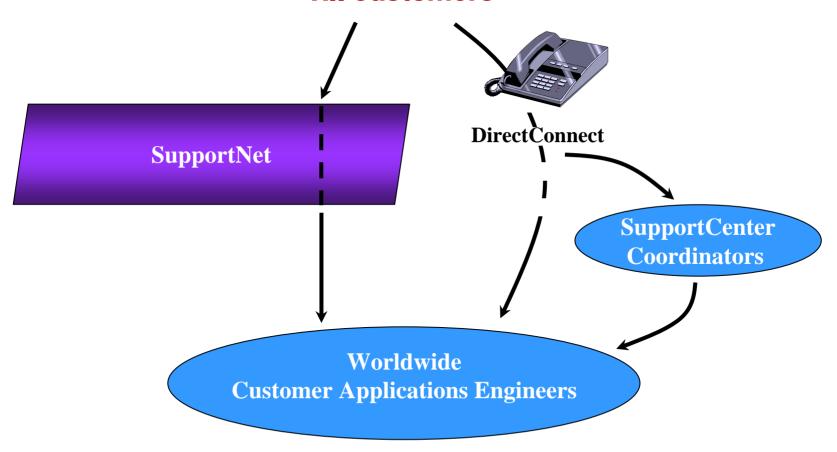




## 2002: Improved Web Capability

Customer's choice: Web or Phone

#### **All Customers**





## 2005 – 2006: Driving Web Support

#### Profile

- We needed more bandwidth for value-added support activities
- Our web site was "very good" and continuing to improve

#### Objective

- Get more customers to their answers in the fastest possible way
- Decrease incoming Service Requests by increasing web self-help

#### Strategy

 Change the way customers access our technical experts—from phone to web—while preserving high-touch support when needed

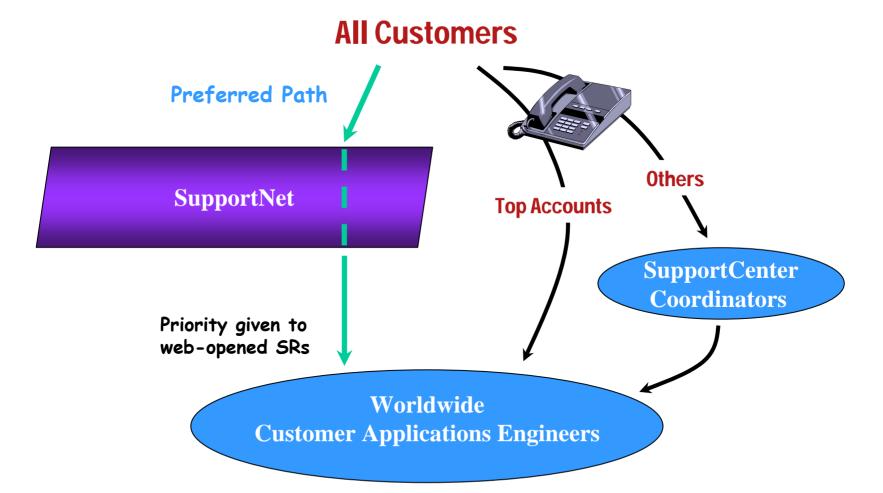
#### Tactics

- Eliminate direct-dial phone access; limit to top accounts
- Strive for faster response to Service Requests opened via the web
- Focus on getting the "right content" on the web for all products



## 2005 – 2006: Driving Web Support

**Phone reserved for Top Accounts and Callbacks** 





## **Key Tactics**



#### Eliminate direct dial phone access

- Make the phone "less easy"—no more direct connect to an expert
- Stop prominently advertising our 800 number

#### Strive for faster web response

Establish a faster response time target for web-opened SRs

#### Focus on getting the right content on the web

- Establish a separate organization within CSD dedicated to helping support teams determine and publish the most important content
- Designate a "Contributing Editor" within each support team to facilitate content creation
- Shift Knowledge Management metrics from quantity (publishing rates) to quality (web traffic and troubleshooting success)



## "Simplifying" the Phone System

■ As of Q3-2006, North America customers requesting technical assistance via telephone hear the following:

"If this is an existing issue and you have your SR#, please enter it now. For new issues, please visit us on the web at www.mentor.com/supportnet.

If you need assistance, please press 0 now."

- This change is for <u>all</u> products and <u>all</u> customers calling the published 800 number
  - Top Accounts continue to have DirectConnect when using their dedicated 800 numbers
- Customers who press 0 are routed to a Support Coordinator (dispatcher) who walks them through the process of searching and opening an SR via the web



## The Right Content on the Web







10 re-uses



10 re-uses

- Every customer issue is captured in our call tracking system
  - But internal re-use drivespublishing to the web
- Contributing Editors lead teams in analysis of available data
  - Internal re-use, search trends, quality metrics, etc.
- Teams also anticipate key content needs (and types) based on their experience

### **China and India**

Q2-2006: First China, then India, decided to "delay" picking up the phone. Tactically this involved simply changing their outgoing phone message:

"You have reached <name>. I can't answer the phone right now.
By clicking on 'Support' from Mentor Graphics' web page, you can
enter our SupportNet to search for solutions or submit a service
request. We will get back to you as quickly as possible. Thank you."

#### In addition SupportNet has been promoted extensively:

- SupportNet training is provided with each onsite customer visit and customer training event
- Every new customer is automatically registered for SupportNet
- Unique SupportNet visitors are tracked and the most frequent users receive a SupportNet logo T-shirt



## Implementation Philosophies



- Our support web site does not replace our people (or personalized, high-touch support); it's a different way to access our people and their expertise
  - A key message for both customers and employees! Win-Win-Win
- No takeaways from a Service Agreement perspective:
  - "The phone is still available but we are tuning our organization to respond most rapidly to Service Requests opened via the web."
  - Our response time target for phone SRs remains the same
- Web support isn't free
  - This is not a cost saving initiative—it takes a large investment in resources to establish a quality web site—and that investment results in value customers should be willing to pay for



## **Web Support Benefits**

- Customers can find many answers immediately, 24/7
- Customers can easily enter Service Requests 24/7
  - We respond in our normal business hours as defined in our Service Agreements
- Consistent Service Request entry method worldwide
  - No more "Which office do I call?"
  - Facilitates regional workload sharing







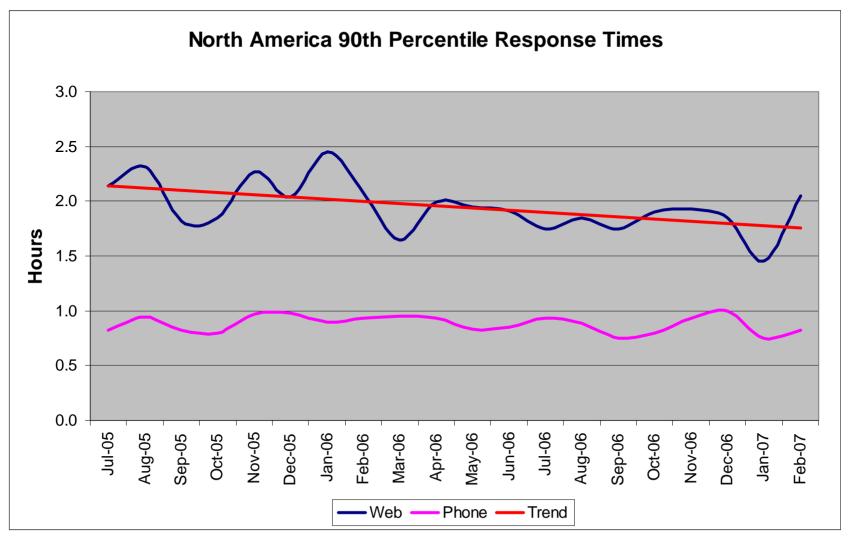
## **Metrics**



- Customer Support Division metrics updated in 2006 to reflect Web-Support emphasis:
  - Response time for web-opened Service Requests
  - Customer reported web-troubleshooting success
  - Unique visitors viewing web-based content
- Overall Customer Satisfaction (SR Incident Surveys)
   remains the 4<sup>th</sup> Customer Support Division Key Metric
- Team-specific Key Performance Indicators reflect a quality emphasis (the right content) rather than the quantity of publishing
  - Top 20 issue coverage
  - Number of web "hits" to Top 20 content

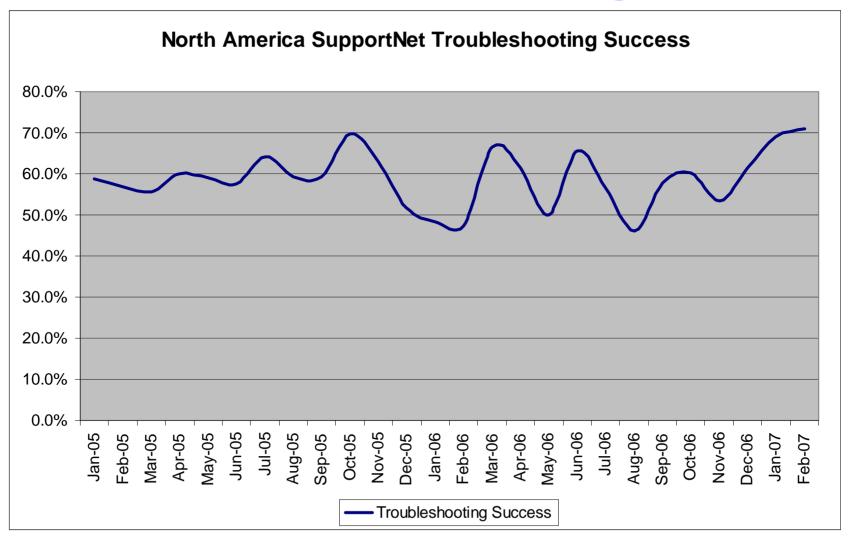


## **Improved Web Response Time**



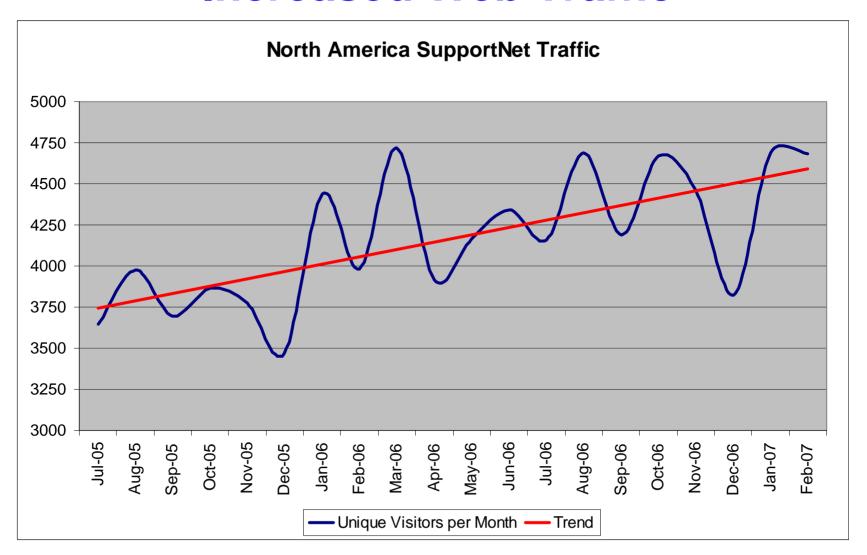


## **Consistent Troubleshooting Success**



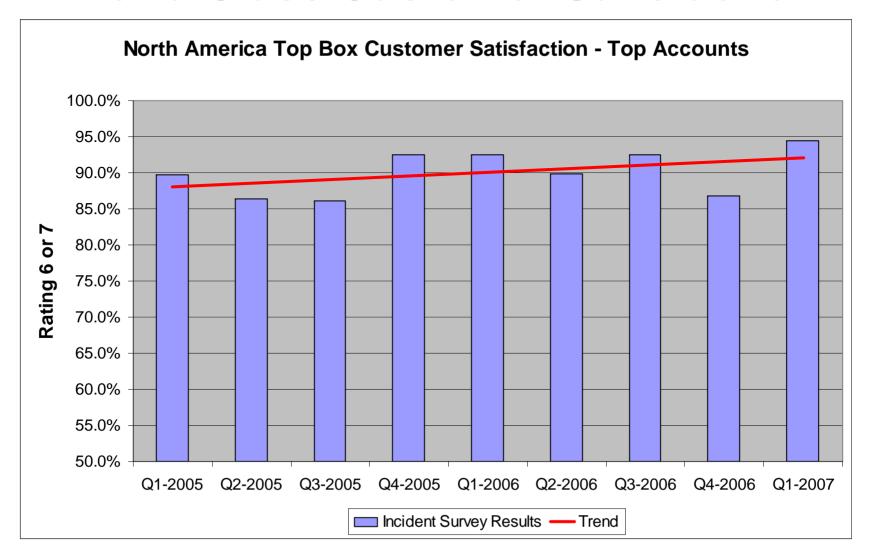


#### **Increased Web Traffic**



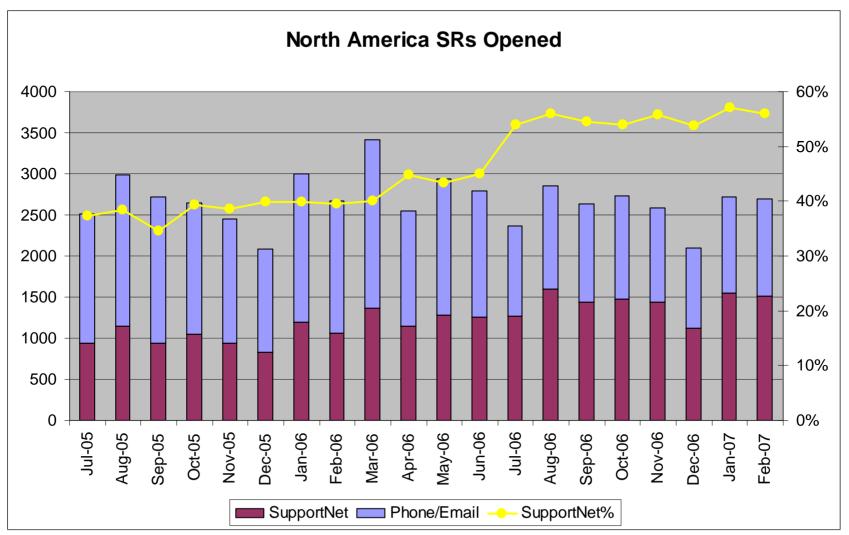


## **World Class Customer Satisfaction**



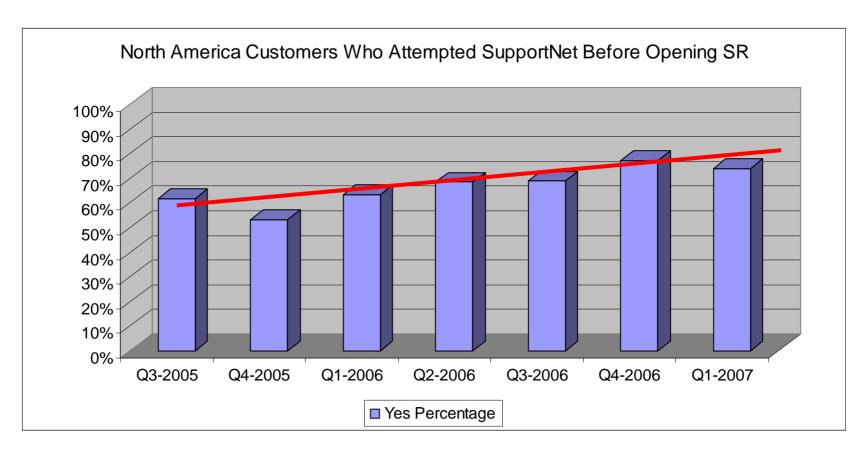


## Shift in Service Request Open Method





## **Increased Web-Support Attempts**



Survey Question: "Prior to contacting Customer Support, did you attempt to resolve your issue by using the SupportNet KnowledgeBase?"

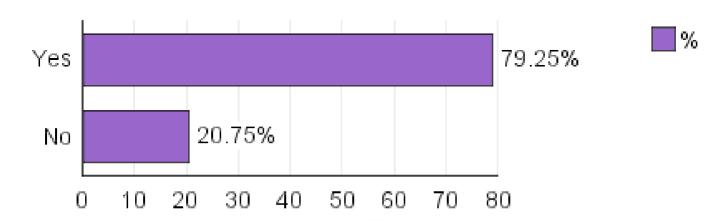


#### **PacRim Results**

- SRs logged via the web increased from 30% to 65%
- Overall Service Request volume decreased
- Only one customer complaint
- And, most importantly, customer success:

Were you able to accomplish the goals that prompted your visit?

Custom Sample/PACRIM 2006 N=694 2007-01-09 15:28





### **Success! In Our Customers' Words**

"Support is my favorite feature of the Mentor tools, especially SupportNet. Nine times out of ten I'll find my solution and learn other new things along the way."

"I indeed found the answer from the web. Thanks again."

"Your customer support person helped me navigate your website and walked me through opening a new Service Request. As a long term business owner, I want to say a strong and resounding THANK YOU!!"

"I submitted my help request via the web. I got a call back before I closed the window!"

"I have been most impressed with the response time of service calls; I no sooner put a SR in online and I am getting a phone call about my problem."



## **Web Support and Mergers**

- EDA is a vertical market well known for M & A's
  - Mentor Graphics has done several in the past decade
- Our web site has eased the transitions by providing an immediate front-end to get customers to the right place
- A feature-rich and easy to use site provides a good first impression for transitioning customers









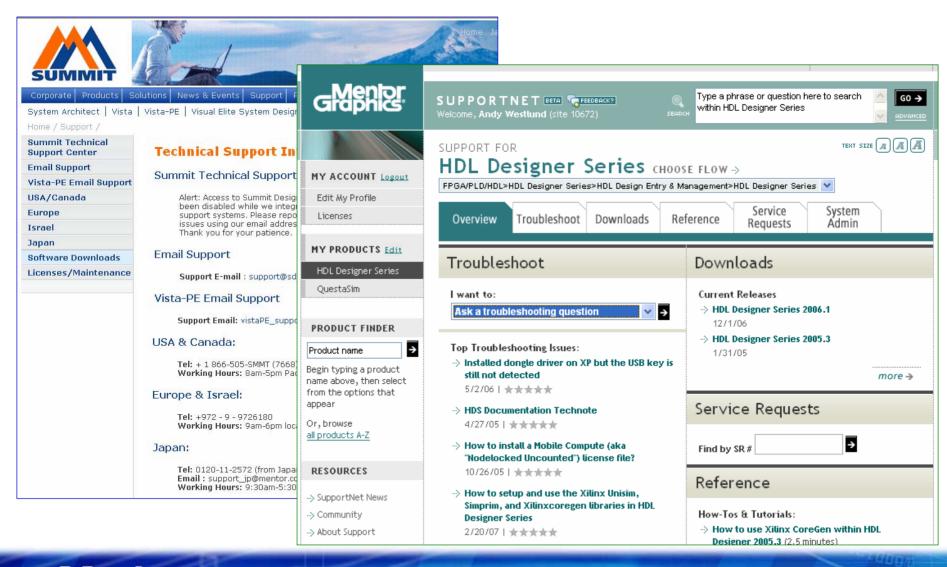








## **First Impressions for New Customers**





## **Summary**



- Establishing web support as the gateway for support is a win-win-win
- You can motivate customers to change:
  - Make the phone less easy
  - Respond fast
  - Focus on quality web content
- Measure, listen, adjust
  - Let the organization know what is important
  - Learn from customer feedback



