



## Press Release

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### **Virtual Reality Tool Developed at Iowa State University Works on Apple Computers**

#### **Apple computer users can use VR Juggler software to develop virtual reality projects.**

**AMES, Iowa** (May 10, 2005) Recent tests on Apple computers confirmed the virtual reality software tools developed at Iowa State University are compatible with Apple's Mac OS X operating system. The tools also work with Windows, Linux, and UNIX platforms.

VR Juggler is a flexible software system that works with different platforms, devices, and virtual reality systems. "It's designed to make it easier for users to build virtual reality applications," said Carolina Cruz-Neira, a professor of Industrial and Manufacturing Systems Engineering, the Stanley Chair in Interdisciplinary Engineering, and associate director of Iowa State's Virtual Reality Applications Center. Cruz-Neira and her team of students have been working on VR Juggler as an active research project since 1997.

"VR Juggler is the foundation of the work being done at the Virtual Reality Applications Center," Cruz-Neira said. Researchers, for example, are using VR Juggler to help create a virtual Beijing to evaluate urban planning decisions, to develop virtual engineering tools to design, and to evaluate housing for swine and create a virtual fire to teach children about fire safety. "It's a very crucial piece of software," Cruz-Neira said. "It's the heart of everything we do, as well as for more than 100 virtual reality sites around the world."

Infiscape Corp. of Ames, Iowa, collaborated with Cruz-Neira's team to test VR Juggler on the Apple operating system. Allen Bierbaum, the company's president, said engineers made a few small modifications that allow VR Juggler software to recognize the OS X system. He said the modifications are now integrated into the standard VR Juggler open source software available over the Internet.

VR Juggler is used in more than 50 countries around the world. Information and software are available at [www.vrjuggler.org](http://www.vrjuggler.org).

#### **About Infiscape**

Infiscape's consulting, software development, training, and support services help companies and research groups to better utilize the capabilities of immersive visualization and high-end 3D graphics. Immersive visualization is used in a growing number of applications in many industries, such as manufacturing, scientific visualization, entertainment, and visual simulation. The Infiscape team has extensive experience in immersive, interactive visualization, networked virtual environments, advanced rendering techniques, physical simulation, content creation, and art. Through its variety of services, Infiscape gives its customers the practical engineering experience and the creative problem solving that they need to meet their goals. More information can be found at [www.infiscape.com](http://www.infiscape.com) or by contacting Carolina Cruz-Neira at [carolina@infiscape.com](mailto:carolina@infiscape.com).