Running PTC Creo on Apple computers

PTC Creo is written for computers running Microsoft's Windows operating system.

Recent Apple computers are built around the same Intel chipsets as PCs providing two methods of installing and running PTC Creo.

Dual boot

A license for MS Windows is purchased and the Apple computer is set up with two boot options; MacOS or Windows. When booted into windows, PTC Creo can be installed and run.

Windows emulation

There are a number of Windows emulators for Apple computers. Ripley St Thomas School has provided the following information on their experience.

Here at Ripley St Thomas Schools we have chosen VMFusion 3, although I do know that Parallels Desktop 5 for Mac works equally as well. VMFusion 3 enables our Apple computer to work with our school PC network and we are able to use and log into all of our normal PC based software including PARS and Sims to register classes etc.

Simply install VMFusion and follow the very good wizard. It creates a partitioned drive for you to run windows through and then you install software (Creo, Mathcad etc.) as normal. It runs just like it would on a PC (if not better in some cases!!). I use Windows XP at work (because the school prefer the stability across the network at the moment / cost) but use Windows 7 at home. Both run well although I do need to alter the graphics settings on Windows 7 as every time you go over the Datum planes with the mouse it slows down a little.

We use off the peg 21" iMacs, although my own teacher computer has been upgraded with extra RAM and processor (because I could!). It runs fine on any Macbook or Macbook Pro. If you are lucky enough to have a G5 then you will no doubt be sending NASA probes into orbit as it will run fantastically well.

Simply put, the emulation software does it all, however if you start to run high end rendering software like KeyShot then you may run into some difficulties as it is not designed to do this and I would recommend getting the Mac version of the software - no problem now as KeyShot accepts native PTC Creo files!

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Graphics performance

All 3D modeling software makes heavy demands on computer graphics cards. On some computers settings in the graphics card may need to be changed to get PTC Creo to work efficiently. In some situations PTC Creo may need to be reconfigured .

Technical support

Teachers and students can access dedicated support here:
http://www.ptc.com/company/community/education/support/