Scratching the surface.

EDAG transports designs to new levels with Autodesk® Alias® Surface.

Project Summary
EDAG, an independent development partner and tier one supplier for the automotive industry in Germany, provides customized concepts and solutions to meet the global transportation needs of the future. Its services include developing motor vehicles, derivatives, and production systems, as well as the construction of prototypes and small-series production runs. Plus the company offers complete single-source production systems for body construction and vehicle assembly.

Under pressure to continually come up with new and innovative automotive designs, EDAG wanted the security of knowing that its technology partner would be able to meet its needs not just for today, but also for the future. By investing in Autodesk® Alias® Surface, part of the Autodesk® solution for Digital Prototyping, the company was able to:

- Model high-quality precision surfaces with speed and control
- Create products that address both form and function
- Handle massive amounts of scan data
- Optimize the design process for cost-savings to customers
- Easily communicate design intent to strategic partners and engineering

The Challenge
According to Mark Barrett, surface operations manager, tools were needed to enable designers to work closely with engineering to help ensure that both the aesthetic and functional requirements were efficiently and quickly addressed throughout the creative design workflow.

The Solution
As EDAG continually strives to enhance the quality and economy of its products, Andreas Farnung, group leader of the Class A surface development team, decided to test Autodesk Alias Surface for meeting the standards of Class A surface modeling.

"Autodesk continues to invest in technology for this specific area," says Farnung. "The quality of surface development in Alias Surface makes it a major player in the surface modeling game." As a result of his evaluation, EDAG provided training classes with Autodesk Consulting for a team of its experienced Class A modelers. After the initial training was completed, the team's first projects were executed using Alias Surface software.

By the end of the transition period, the team had modeled an entire vehicle plus the interior of the derivatives in Class A quality.

"The large amount of work and the complexity of the project made it necessary to work with our strategic partners using Alias Surface data," says Farnung. "The use of Alias Surface for the entire surface development process has been well accepted by our clients, and new projects have been acquired because of our use of Alias Surface software."

The Result
As one of the premier tier one suppliers for the automotive industry in Germany, EDAG is now consistently delivering Class A projects using Alias Surface.

The flexibility to create precise Class A surfaces, as well as fast concept models, enables EDAG to effectively meet its customers' project demands. Because digital design data is easily exchanged between design and engineering teams using fast, high-quality CAD translators, the design and engineering teams can easily collaborate.

By incorporating Autodesk Alias Surface into its workflow, EDAG is better able to meet the growing needs of its customers, providing them with a distinct edge over the competition.

To find out how the Autodesk solution for Digital Prototyping and Autodesk Alias Surface can help you with automotive industry projects, visit www.autodesk.com/automotive-transportation.