# Dossier: Tanner Research, Inc.

## SBIR Award Details

**Award Title:** N/A

**Amount:** $196,987.23

**Award Date:** 2023-08-23

**Branch:** DMEA

## AI-Generated Intelligence Summary

**Company Overview:**

Tanner Research, Inc., a Mentor, a Siemens business (formerly Tanner EDA), provides electronic design automation (EDA) software solutions primarily targeted at the design and verification of analog, mixed-signal, and microelectromechanical systems (MEMS) integrated circuits (ICs). Their core mission is to enable designers to efficiently create and simulate innovative electronic devices by offering a unified platform that streamlines the design process, from schematic capture to layout and physical verification. Tanner's unique value proposition lies in offering cost-effective EDA tools tailored specifically for smaller teams and academic institutions, alongside a complete workflow specifically designed for MEMS development, a niche often underserved by larger EDA vendors. They aim to reduce the barriers to entry for IC design by providing accessible, powerful, and specialized tools.

**Technology Focus:**

* Tanner A/MS:\*\* A complete analog/mixed-signal design flow, including schematic capture, circuit simulation (including SPICE), layout editing, and physical verification. Specific simulator capabilities cover DC, AC, transient, noise, and Monte Carlo analyses.
* MEMS Design Flow:\*\* A specialized design flow incorporating tools and features optimized for MEMS design, including 3D visualization, advanced process simulation, and specialized design rule checking.

**Recent Developments & Traction:**

* Acquisition by Siemens (June 2017):\*\* Mentor Graphics, including Tanner EDA, was acquired by Siemens. While not \*recent\*, this significantly impacted the company and its market position by aligning it with a major player in the broader EDA and industrial software market. The benefits continue to manifest.
* Continued Development and Updates:\*\* Siemens EDA (including the former Tanner EDA offerings) continues to release updates and improvements to the Tanner EDA tool suite focusing on usability and performance improvements. While specific funding rounds are less transparent post-acquisition, continuous product improvement suggests ongoing investment.
* Focus on Academic Partnerships:\*\* Siemens EDA continues to maintain strong relationships with universities and educational institutions, providing them with access to Tanner EDA tools for research and educational purposes, fostering future talent and market penetration.

**Leadership & Team:**

* The leadership structure changed substantially following the Siemens acquisition. Siemens EDA leadership now oversees the former Tanner EDA product line. Specific names and biographies of individuals directly responsible for the Tanner EDA product suite are difficult to ascertain publicly, as Siemens has integrated the team.

**Competitive Landscape:**

* Cadence Design Systems:\*\* A dominant player in the EDA market, offering a comprehensive suite of tools for various IC design types. Tanner differentiates itself with its focus on smaller teams, academic institutions, and its specialized MEMS design flow at a lower cost point.
* Synopsys:\*\* Another major EDA vendor with a broad product portfolio. Similar to Cadence, Synopsys targets a wider range of customers and applications, while Tanner maintains a niche focus.

**Sources:**

1. [siemens.com/eda](https://eda.sw.siemens.com/) (Siemens EDA Website - Parent company information and product offerings)

2. [mentor.com/products/ic/tanner](https://www.mentor.com/products/ic/tanner) (Archive of Mentor Graphics Tanner EDA Product Page - Offers information before Siemens acquisition).

3. [semiengineering.com](https://semiengineering.com) (SemiEngineering Industry Website - Provides general EDA market analysis and updates, often referencing Siemens EDA developments)