NEWPORT BEACH, CA--(January 29th, 2018) – It is with heavy hearts today that MSC Software Corporation announces the passing of Dr. Richard H. MacNeal at the age of 94.

Dr. Richard H. MacNeal founded MSC Software Corporation along with Robert Schwendler in 1963 under the name of MacNeal-Schwendler Corporation (MSC). Under his leadership, MSC developed its first structural analysis software called SADSAM (Structural Analysis by Digital Simulation of Analog Methods) and was deeply involved in the early efforts of the aerospace industry to improve early finite element analysis technology. In response to a 1965 request for proposal from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) for a general purpose structural analysis program, Dr. MacNeal contributed greatly to the early efforts of the aerospace industry by successfully simulating on-the-ground physical testing through computing to deliver the right answers and right physics to take humans to the moon. In 1971, MSC Software released a commercial version of Nastran, named MSC Nastran.

Dr. MacNeal pioneered the development of engineering software. His numerous technical innovations in mathematics dramatically improved the quality of engineering analysis. His entrepreneurial drive to commercialize analysis technology has enabled thousands of companies in virtually every manufacturing segment throughout the world to significantly improve their products and shorten the development cycles. Dr. MacNeal leaves behind 54 years of technical contributions to the global CAE community and a loving family.
Dr. MacNeal (on the right) and Robert Schwendler (on the left) in the early 1960’s working on the space program

About MSC Software

MSC Software is one of the ten original software companies and a global leader in helping product manufacturers to advance their engineering methods with simulation software and services. As a trusted partner, [MSC Software](http://www.mscsoftware.com) helps companies improve quality, save time, and reduce costs associated with design and test of manufactured products. Academic institutions, researchers, and students employ MSC’s technology to expand individual knowledge as well as expand the horizon of simulation. MSC Software employs 1,300 professionals in 20 countries. For more information about MSC Software's products and services, please visit: [www.mscsoftware.com](http://www.mscsoftware.com)
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