

Newsletter

June

2001

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AutoCAD 2000
Mechanical Desktop®
Autodesk Inventor™
Architectural Desktop
Land Development Desktop
AutoCAD® Map
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Note: Not all products are available from all offices.

Automated Design Systems AutoCAD® 2002 NEWSLETTER

Serving AutoCAD users for 13 Years 1988 - 2001

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Please fax this sheet to (905) 662-4842 to have these changes made to our newsletter distribution list.

Streamlining the process

Autodesk had an advertising campaign years ago with the slogan, "It all starts with a drawing...". Of course, they were correct. Virtually everything manmade has a drawing in its background, whether it be the paper or computer screen on which you are reading this newsletter, or the road you drive to work.

How many people are involved in the creation of that drawing? When you think about clients, managers, reviewers, design committees, engineers and draftspersons – quite a few. And what happens to that drawing once it is created? How many people refer to that drawing? How long do you need to hold onto that drawing for future reference?

Think about how much time is invested in the design cycle between the time drawings are plotted, reviewed, revised, reviewed again, approved and submitted. One customer recently told me that one of their biggest bottlenecks is the time it takes to get their drawings approved by the client, before they can proceed with manufacturing. What would happen to the design (not to mention sales) process if the customer could have these layout drawings generated automatically and sent to them on-line within seconds of completion?

The fact is that a lot of drawings can be generated with some level of automation, and all drawings can be transmitted, submitted, reviewed and even marked-up using today's internet-based technologies – all with the goal of streamlining the design process, reducing cycle time, and – ultimately – reducing costs. Is your company taking full advantage of these technologies?

Bruce Lamb, President

AutoCAD 2002 Seminars

Whether you are working on AutoCAD Release 14 or AutoCAD 2000, you'll want to see all of the features of AutoCAD 2002 at one of our upcoming seminars...

Burlington	June 18
Victoria	June 18
Cambridge	June 19
London	June 20
Vancouver	June 20
St. Catharines	June 21
Windsor	June 22
Mississauga	June 25
Markham	June 25
Belleville	June 26
Ottawa	June 27
Barrie	June 28
Sudbury	June 28

Call 1-888-994-ACAD x34 to reserve your seat today, or circle the desired seminar above and fax the information below to (905) 662-4842. Location information and times will be faxed to you as confirmation.

Name: _____

Company: _____

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Fax: _____

Email: _____

WARNING:

**R14 licenses will not be upgradeable after January 15, 2002.
Order your upgrade today!**

Quote of the month:

"No amount of sophistication is going to allay the fact that all your knowledge is about the past and all your decisions are about the future."

– Unknown

Free Cult 3D Model Offer

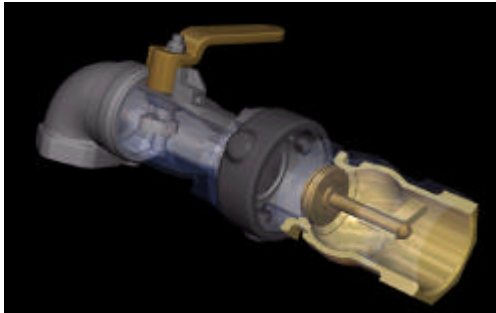
If a picture is worth a thousand words, then a 3D full-motion graphic on the web is... well, priceless! And for the first 10 customers who respond to this offer, it is also free!

Our customers who have implemented Cult3D on their sites have found two things. First, their sites are more popular than ever and, second, the pages that include the 3D graphics are the most popular pages on their sites. And, ultimately, this activity is translating into sales!

You can zoom in and out and spin these models around in full 3D over the web, and even see how they work! To see examples of what we mean, visit these two sites:

www.partsdome.com/thalermetal/dept3d.asp

www.partsdome.com/emcowheaton/dept.asp?dept_id=1000



So here is the free offer for the first 10 respondents: we will create your 3D AutoCAD, Mechanical Desktop or Inventor model in a Cult3D web format and post the model on PartsDome.com so you can link to it or frame it within your web site. We'll keep the model on our site for 3 months, after which, you can decide if the extra traffic you receive is worth the Cult3D hosting fee. There is no charge for the Cult3D model creation if we are given a finished 3D model.

For more information or to see if your 3D model qualifies for this offer, please contact jkincaid@autodes.com.

**Do it better... faster...
with training from
Automated Design Systems**

Why take training from Automated Design Systems?

- ✓ Automated Design Systems is an authorized Autodesk dealer. We have been providing our clients with the total CAD solution for thirteen years.
- ✓ We offer a large number of courses for all Autodesk products, using Autodesk Certified Courseware designed for intensive instructor-led training.
- ✓ Our class sizes are small so that intimate, interactive training takes place between the trainer and student.

Contact your local Automated Design Systems office to reserve your seat in an upcoming course.

autocad 2002 tips!

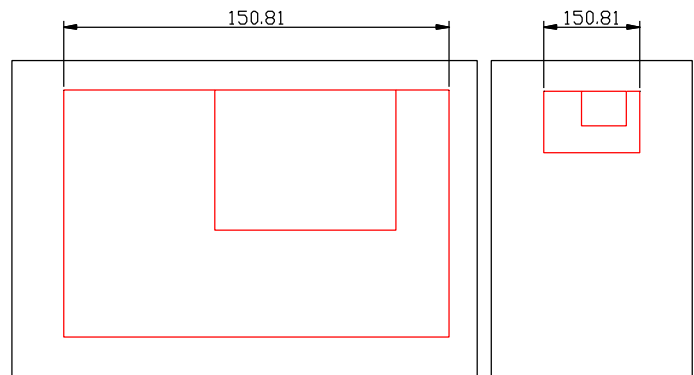
The new associative dimensions.

Dimensioning within design layouts

The new associative dimensions in AutoCAD 2002 actually attach themselves to entity features. The idea with this feature is that if you use a *grip* or other method to move or stretch an entity, the dimension will move and update with that changed entity. This reaction is unlike the case with R14 or AutoCAD 2000 dimensions which always require stretch operations to move the dimension's *defpoints* in order to update the dimension. This new feature makes it even easier to maintain the integrity of your drawings and can be toggled to the AutoCAD 2000 style of dimensions or an 'exploded' dimension if you wish.

Another really nice feature is the ability to dimension model space entities within a drawing layout (paper space view, for those on R14). As your zoom level changes, the dimensions adjust their position, but the values don't change unless the associated entities change.

As an example, below is a drawing layout with two views of the same simple drawing. The only difference is that one view is a quarter of the scale of the other.



Both views have a dimension that has been created within the paper space layout (*not* within model space), and since the same entities are being dimensioned, the dimension value is the same.

The advantage to dimensioning within the layout is that the dimension text scale is always the correct size for plotting, no matter the scale of your view. And with the new associative dimensions, as you pan and zoom within your view, the dimension never detaches from the points and entities it has dimensioned.

One of the more exciting prospects with the new associative dimensions is the potential to create intelligent 2D parametric drawings using advanced programming – where you change a dimension value and the drawing automatically updates. This feature *isn't* there yet – but could probably be programmed. Stay tuned...!

Mechanical Desktop Release 6 to be released in July

With all the hype over Inventor R4, we have been getting questions like, “Is Mechanical Desktop dead?”. The answer is an emphatic “NO”, and to prove the point, Autodesk is releasing Mechanical Desktop Release 6 at the same time that AutoCAD 2002 is released (June 15), and we know that Release 7 is already under development.

Mechanical Desktop Release 6 is way more than a ‘compatibility release’, providing additional functionality in a number of areas. Here are just a few:

Base Feature Editing allows you to select any ‘dumb’ 3D solid part’s base feature in the browser and then select “edit”. The part is rolled back exposing the base feature for editing.

The Autodesk® Feature Exchange Add-on Utility Module transforms solid bodies into fully parametric parts with features that are completely native to Mechanical Desktop.

Thread Feature lets you create parametric thread features on internal or external cylindrical faces. Design intent for threads is now captured in the part model, so you don’t have to add a 2D representation in the drawing layout to document a thread.

The Improved Hole Feature allows you to define a tapped (threaded) hole completely by selecting the standard, nominal size of the hole, with the desired pitch. With the two standard tables ready to use, you can quickly customize thread data to suit your company’s needs.

Scene Enhancements include the ability to create exploded scenes for local *and* external subassemblies, to reset component visibility based on the current model state, and to tweak your design with a new fully integrated manipulator.

Externalize with a Template allows template files to be specified when you externalize parts, so standards and consistency are automatically applied. Design time is decreased because you no longer need to reset variables, layers, and user preferences.

Independent Detail Views is a new option for drawing views that provides independent property control over detail views from the parent view while maintaining complete associativity.

Display Interference Edges is a drawing view enhancement that lets you display edges lost by interference conditions. Now drawing views are more accurately displayed.

The 3D Manipulator – the unique, multipurpose tool designed to move, rotate, and copy drawing data in 3D – has been enhanced.

The STEP Translator is now built into Mechanical Desktop, along with the IGES translator. STEP is the preferred method for translating solid models. With Mechanical Desktop, there is no need, now, to separately purchase or install the translator.

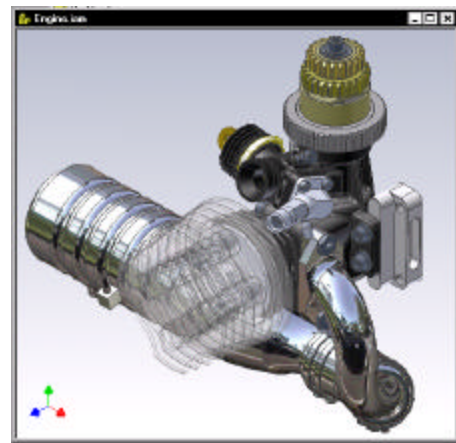
If your Mechanical Desktop license is on Autodesk’s VIP maintenance program, you should receive your Mechanical Desktop 6.0 by mid-July at the latest. If you are not on the VIP program, please contact your nearest Automated Design Systems office for upgrade pricing.

Inventor 4.0 Tips

Applying Colours and Materials

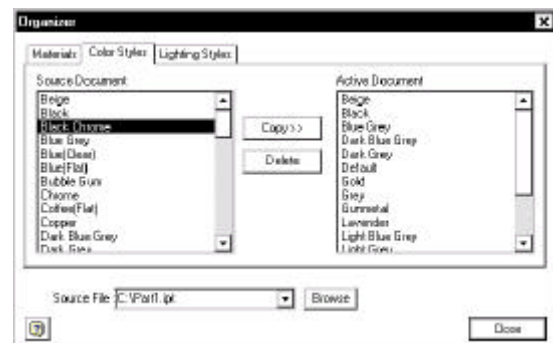
One of the slickest, yet easiest-to-use features within Autodesk Inventor is the ability to apply a range of colours and materials to your model. The use of colour can make a complex assembly easier to understand. By default, assembly components display within the assembly using the “As Material” colour style. A part that was defined as “aluminum” will use the “aluminum” colour style.

It can be useful to display an assembly component in a colour *other than* the material colour. For example, all components purchased from a single vendor or designed by a particular designer might be displayed in one colour. Displaying an entire subassembly in one colour (instead of the unique material colours) can simplify display. Using a transparent colour (such as the predefined “glass”) can be useful if a component obscures others behind it.



Changing the colour of a part within your assembly is as simple as selecting the part, and selecting the colour from the Color drop down list. Some favourites are: Gold, Chrome, Black Chrome, Lexan-Clear, Lexan-Smoke and, of course, BubbleGum. And you can even make your own!

Note that only the colours listed in your current ‘color styles’ will be shown within the drop-down list. If your assembly or part doesn’t currently show one of your favourite colour styles, you can copy it from another existing model by selecting Format>Organizer from the pull-down menus and selecting a “Source File”.



Do it Better... Faster...

with AutoCAD training from Automated Design Systems

Automated Design Systems runs AutoCAD training regularly from all of our offices. Here is a summary of courses that are scheduled in our offices in the coming weeks. Dates are subject to change without notice, so please contact your rep to reserve your seat as soon as possible.

Barrie Call Jim Clubine at (705) 739-1818

Course	Dates	Price
AutoCAD Fundamentals	June 4 - 8	\$1,095
AutoCAD 2000i Update from R14	June 11 - 12	\$695
3D StudioViz	June 13 - 15	\$1,095
AutoCAD 2000 3D Modeling	June 18 - 20	\$1,095
AutoCAD 2000i Update (Condensed)	June 21	\$395
Architectural Desktop Fundamentals	June 25 - 27	\$1,095
AutoCAD Customization	June 28 - 29	\$795

Belleville Call Nick Nowitski at (613) 967-3694

Course	Dates	Price
AutoCAD 2000 Advanced	June 4 - 5	\$795
AutoCAD LT Fundamentals	June 6 - 8	\$795
AutoCAD Fundamentals	June 11 - 15	\$1,095
AutoCAD 2000i Update (Condensed)	June 18	\$395
3D StudioViz	June 19 - 21	\$1,095
Mechanical Desktop Fundamentals	June 25 - 29	\$1,395
AutoCAD 2000i Update from R14	July 3 - 4	\$695

Cambridge Call Mirek Niedzialkowski at (519) 651-1600

Course	Dates	Price
Visual Basic for AutoCAD	June 5 - 7	\$1,195
AutoCAD 2000i Update from R14	June 11 - 12	\$695
AutoCAD 2000 Advanced	June 13 - 14	\$795
AutoCAD Fundamentals	June 18 - 22	\$1,095
Mechanical Desktop Fundamentals	June 25 - 29	\$1,395
AutoCAD 2000 3D Modeling	July 3 - 5	\$1,095
Architectural Desktop Fundamentals	July 9 - 11	\$1,095

London Call Laura Minogue at (519) 652-3825

Course	Dates	Price
Mechanical Desktop Fundamentals	June 4 - 8	\$1,395
AutoCAD 2000i Update from R14	June 11 - 12	\$695
AutoCAD 2000 Advanced	June 13 - 14	\$795
AutoCAD Customization	June 18 - 19	\$795
3D StudioViz	June 20 - 22	\$1,095
Architectural Desktop Fundamentals	June 25 - 27	\$1,095
AutoCAD 2000i Update (Condensed)	June 28	\$395

Mississauga Call Matt Willcocks at (905) 565-8000

Course	Dates	Price
Autodesk Inventor	June 4 - 6	\$1,095
AutoCAD 2000i Update from R14	June 7 - 8	\$695
AutoCAD 2000 3D Modeling	June 11 - 13	\$1,095
AutoCAD 2000 Advanced	June 14 - 15	\$795
Mechanical Desktop Fundamentals	June 18 - 22	\$1,395
Architectural Desktop Fundamentals	June 25 - 27	\$1,095
AutoCAD 2000i Update (Condensed)	June 28	\$395

Ottawa Call Steve McCarthy at (613) 225-1717

Course	Dates	Price
AutoCAD 2000i Update from R14	June 6 - 7	\$695
AutoCAD LT Fundamentals	June 11 - 13	\$795
AutoCAD 2000i Update (Condensed)	June 14	\$395
Mechanical Desktop Fundamentals	June 18 - 22	\$1,395
AutoCAD 2000 Advanced	June 25 - 26	\$795
AutoCAD 2000 3D Modeling	June 27 - 29	\$1,095
Autodesk Inventor	July 3 - 5	\$1,195

Richmond Hill Call Jesse Higgs at (905) 889-6662

Course	Dates	Price
AutoCAD 2000 Advanced	June 17 - 18	\$795
Autodesk Inventor	June 22 - 24	\$1,095
AutoCAD 2000i Update (Condensed)	June 25	\$395
AutoCAD 2000 3D Modeling	June 28 - 30	\$1,095
AutoCAD 2000i Update from R14	July 4 - 5	\$695
3D StudioViz	July 6 - 8	\$1,095
Visual Basic for AutoCAD	July 12 - 14	\$1,195

Stoney Creek Call Phillip Morais at (905) 662-5413

Course	Dates	Price
AutoCAD Fundamentals	June 4 - 8	\$1,095
Mechanical Desktop Fundamentals	June 11 - 15	\$1,395
AutoCAD 2000 Advanced	June 18 - 19	\$795
AutoCAD 2000i Update from R14	June 20 - 21	\$695
AutoCAD 2000i Update (Condensed)	June 22	\$395
Autodesk Inventor	June 25 - 27	\$1,095
AutoCAD Customization	June 28 - 29	\$795
Architectural Desktop Fundamentals	July 4 - 6	\$1,095

Sudbury Call Costa Aza at (705) 677-4428

Course	Dates	Price
AutoCAD Fundamentals	June 4 - 8	\$1,095
AutoCAD 2000 3D Modeling	June 11 - 13	\$1,095
AutoCAD 2000 Advanced	June 14 - 15	\$795
Mechanical Desktop Fundamentals	June 18 - 22	\$1,395
AutoCAD 2000i Update from R14	June 25 - 26	\$695
Autodesk Inventor	June 27 - 29	\$1,095

Vancouver Call Sharlene Kamachi at (604) 647-2220

Course	Dates	Price
AutoCAD Fundamentals	June 4 - 8	\$1,095
AutoCAD 2000i Update from R14	June 11 - 12	\$695
AutoCAD 2000 Advanced	June 13 - 14	\$795
AutoCAD 2000i Update (Condensed)	June 15	\$395
Architectural Desktop Fundamentals	June 18 - 20	\$1,095

Windsor Call Reynaldo Faraon at (519) 972-8788

Course	Dates	Price
AutoCAD 2000i Update from R14	June 7 - 8	\$695
AutoCAD 2000 Advanced	June 11 - 12	\$795
AutoCAD 2000 3D Modeling	June 13 - 15	\$1,095
Mechanical Desktop Fundamentals	June 18 - 22	\$1,395
AutoCAD Fundamentals	June 25 - 29	\$1,095
Autodesk Inventor	July 4 - 6	\$1,095
Architectural Desktop Fundamentals	July 9 - 11	\$1,095