Las Vegas, Nevada, December 3–6, 2002

Speaker Name: Robert Green

Course Title: Getting up to Speed on AutoCAD® 2002

Course ID: GD11-1

Course Outline: If you’re tackling an AutoCAD® 2002 implementation, you’ll find this fast-paced overview of new features the fastest way to get up to speed. In addition to looking at the broad palette of new capabilities AutoCAD 2002 offers, this session will give strategies for presenting new features to users with minimal training. We’ll cover productivity-enhancing features that allow users to complete production drawings with fewer keystrokes and less hassle. If you want to reduce your learning curve and realize immediate benefits with your AutoCAD 2002 implementation, this session is for you.
What We’ll Examine

We’ll be looking at a wide range of features that have been introduced in the past few AutoCAD releases (some common to AutoCAD 2000 and 2000i) by way of demonstration and note taking. Along the way I’ll try to point out strategies you can use to relay this information to your users and provide examples of projects where I’ve used the features.

I’ll give a quick overview of new commands and menus as it relates to the topics we’re looking at so you’ll know where to find anything and I’ll also give useful HELP references so you can look things up on your own later.
Drawing Changes

Topics: Polar Snaps, Object Snaps, Object Tracking, Copy/Paste
Status Bar: POLAR, OSNAP, OTRACK
Tool Bars: Standard
Pull Downs: Edit

Highlights

The ability to draw without use of construction lines combined with the ability to copy and paste rather than WBLOCKing and INSERTing combine to get the job done with fewer keystrokes.

Notes:
Editing Changes

Topics: Double click editing, Properties editing, In place editing, Attribute management, Spell Checking, Text Scaling

Commands: PROPERTIES, REFEDIT, BATTMAN, EATTEDIT, SPELL, SCALETEXT

Tool Bars: Modify II, Refedit

Pull Downs: Modify, Tools

Highlights

New editing capabilities for all objects via property editing combined with specific tools for attributes, blocks and text entities reduce keystrokes and optimize efficiency.

Notes:
**Dimensioning**

Topics: Trans-Spatial Dimensions, Quick Dimensions, Quick Leaders, Dimension Style changes

Commands: QDIM, QLEADER, DIMSTYLE, DIMASSOC

Tool Bars: Dimension

Pull Downs: Dimension

**Highlights**

Additions of new quick dimensioning features reduce keystrokes while trans-spatial dimensions make the promise of paper space dimensioning a reality. Dimension style changes make the interface usable and the concept of dimension style families easy to comprehend.

**Notes:**
**Layer and Property Changes**

Concepts: Line weights, Plotability, Layer Previous, Layer States  
Commands: LAYER, -LAYER, LAYERP  
Tool Bars: Object Properties  
Pull Downs: Format

**Highlights**

Layers are still the same conceptually but now you have more control and can even add line weights visually rather than using Polylines or plotting trickery.

The ability to store and restore layering states plus recalling past layer display statuses just makes life a little easier.

**Notes:**
Plotting

Concepts: Plot Styles, Eplotting,
Commands: PLOT, -PLOT
Tool Bars: Standard
Pull Downs: File

Highlights

So many changes to accomplish the same output. Taking advantage of the features isn’t nearly as hard as you’d think though if you go through it logically.

The key is to understand that plotting styles are now attached to the drawing kind of like an XREF. A plot style is simply a color (or layer) to pen relationship that controls plotted appearance.

Keeping the mental concept simple is what counts!

Notes:


**CAD Standards**

Commands: SAVEAS, STANDARDS, CHECKSTANDARDS, LAYTRANS
Tool Bars: CAD Standards
Pull Downs: Tools

**Highlights**

Flexible set of utilities to allow attachment of a standard document to a current drawing session and then audit the session to the standard. Greatly expands the CAD manager's ability to check drawings for compliance.

The Batch Standard Checker extends the logic to a batch mode tool started from the operating system.

**Notes:**
**File Operations**

Topics: Partial Loading, Multiple Drawings, SDI
Commands: OPEN, CLOSE
Tool Bars: Standard
Pull Downs: File

**Highlights**

Partial opens allow faster file processing via FTP and low bandwidth network connections while multiple file capabilities permit copying, pasting, etc throughout the CAD session as well as minimizing memory overhead.

**Notes:**
Help

Commands: ASSIST, HELP
Tool Tips: Active Assistance, Enhanced Help
Tool Bars: On Standard Toolbar
Pull Downs: Help

Highlights

Pretty much what it says. Many users say Active Assistance is annoying but it has its moments of useful application. Note that it can be turned off in the system tray of the operating system.

Help has been GREATLY improved and merits a look.

Notes:
Options Changes

Commands: OPTIONS, PREFERENCES
Right Click: Almost any right click menu
Pull Downs: Tools

Highlights
The command formerly known as preferences.

Check out Lynn Allen’s series on the OPTIONS commands in CADENCE Magazine archives. I’ve included the link to the first of the series here for your reference:


Notes:
Internet Features

Topics: eTransmitting, Web Publishing, Meet Now, Hyperlinking
Commands: ETRANSMIT, PUBLISHTOWEB, MEETNOW, HYPERLINK
Tool Bars: Standard
Pull Downs: Tools

Highlights

Extended Pack and Go plus web centric functions facilitate intranet authoring and collaboration via the AutoCAD interface. Hyperlinking allows almost any sort of content to be connected to AutoCAD entities.

Notes:
Want the PowerPoint?
I’ll be happy to send you a copy of the session PowerPoint presentation. Just send an email to me at rgreen@greenconsulting.com and be sure to put GD11 - PowerPoint in the subject line so I’ll know which class you attended.
I’ll begin sending out PowerPoint files on December 7th upon my return to Atlanta.

Reference Materials
I’ve included links for some of my CADENCE Manager’s VPOINT articles that pertain to the AutoCAD 2xxx series of releases. I think you’ll find these materials to be very relevant. You can also find a range of information regarding document management at my WWW.CAD-MANAGER.COM web site. Happy reading!

**AutoCAD 2002 Revisited**
CADENCE Magazine - September 2001

**CAD Standards Holy Grail?**
CADENCE Magazine - July 2001

**CAD and the Internet Entwined (Ready or Not)**
CADENCE Magazine - May 2001

**AutoCAD 2000 Plotting Solutions**
CADENCE Magazine - March 2000

**Hyperlinking Revisited**
CADENCE Magazine - September 2002