

*Hello again everyone.* What a busy winter we have had so far. The short days and long cold evenings have brought lots of you out of the woodwork for night classes (may as well be in our cosy training room!), and the days have been full of solving all the interesting CAD problems you continue to bring us. Keep up the good work!

## BuildNZ Tradeshow

This year we have decided not to host a stand at the BuildNZ trade show. We have attended all of these shows in the past, and this year decided on a change. Instead we will be putting all our energies into the exciting Seminar Events below...

## Informative Seminar Series

### “Mastering Your CAD System”

#### “Breaking Through CAD Barriers”

This August we have something very different to offer you all, with a **one-off, not to be missed**, Seminar Series we are facilitating through New Zealand and Australia. The seminars will be presented by International speaker Ralph Grabowski, whom some of you may have heard of and learned from in the past (you may even have one of his books). Ralph has decided to venture down to our part of the world (from the northern hemisphere) and bring his extensive CAD knowledge to you.

The seminar is a one day event to be held in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch and will suit all of you no matter what CAD Software you are using.

We hope to see you all there; the seminar will suit all CAD users, CAD Managers, team leaders and even those who might not be using CAD but are involved in managing CAD projects. It promises to be a very insightful and thought provoking day.

Have a look at the brochure enclosed - and take note of the Early Bird Specials.

We look forward to seeing you there!

## Chief Architect Tip & Trick

### Convert Polyline tool - (our Chief Architect V9 favourite)

The Convert Polyline Tool (V9) allows you to convert 2D polylines into 3D Polyline Solids, which can then in turn be extruded or thickened into 3D objects. For example, you can add a 2D shape to an Elevation/Cross Section view, convert the shape to a 3D polyline, then extrude/thicken it so it will have a 3D thickness projected towards you, in the direction you are currently viewing. You could use this for tilted walls, unusual facade profiles, curved roofs, this list goes on.

Try this example below to create a curved roof:

1. Take an elevation view of a floor plan.
2. In elevation draw a 2D shape e.g. a barrel vault roof profile (make sure the 2D shape is closed).
3. Click on the 2D shape, then click the Convert Polyline tool (Edit Palette), click OK.
4. Select the General Tab from the Polyline Solid Specification dialogue box.
5. Specify a Thickness for the polyline solid i.e. the 3D extrusion, for example, 4000 (4m long roof), then click OK.
6. You can move the polyline normally in either plan view or elevation.



This can be done to any closed 2D polyline, in an Elevation/Cross-section view.

## More Dates for 2003

Please note that there have been a few date and time changes since the last advertised schedule. Check the dates and times if you are wishing to book on a course.

### A01 - AutoCAD Fundamentals

July 14,15,16,23\*,25 8.30am-12.30pm  
(\*12.30-4.30pm)

July 21,22,24,29,31 5.00-9.00pm Nights

July 29, Aug 1, 4, 5, 7 8.30am-12.30pm

### A02 - AutoCAD Intermediate

July 10\*, 18\*\*, 22, 24 \*12.30 -  
4.30pm,\*\*8.30am-12.30pm, 22 & 24 (1pm  
- 5pm)

July 28, 30, Aug 4, 6 5.00-9.00pm Nights

### A03 - AutoCAD 3D Modelling

July 17,21 8.30am-5.00pm(2days)

### A04 - AutoCAD Advanced

July 8,10,16,17 5.00-9.00pm nights  
Aug/Sep 27,28,1,3 1.00-5.00pm nights

### A2004 - AutoCAD Upgrade 2002 - 2004

Phone for dates & times to suit.

### V01 - VectorWorks Fundamentals

Jun/July 30,1,3,9,14 5.00-9.00pm nights

July 22,24,28,30,31 8.30am-12.30pm

Aug 26, 27 Sept 2,4,5 8.30am-12.30pm

### V02 - VectorWorks Intermediate

Jun/July 26\*,27\*,30, 2 8.30am-12.30pm  
(\*1.00-5.00pm)

### QVW5 - VectorWorks Site Modelling

Sept 2 1.00-5.00pm

### CH01 - Chief Arch. CAD Tools

July 7 8.30-5.00pm

### CH09 - Chief Arch. 8-9 Upgrade

July 11 8.30-5.00pm

*Don't forget to check out our  
website for  
JOB VACANCIES!!!  
WWW.EDUCAD.CO.NZ*

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## AutoCAD 2004 Tips, Tricks and New Features

### 2004 remembers 'Display Order' when Xreferencing

AutoCAD 2004 now addresses a previous Xreferencing problem. In the past when you set the Display Order of objects in a drawing (putting objects in front and behind each other), and subsequently Xreferenced that drawing into another, the Display Order of the Xref objects would not be retained in the new drawing. This has been a very frustrating problem for those who create presentation drawings, and also frequently use Xreferences. All your frustrations are over - as Display Order is now maintained!

### Status Bar Customisation

AutoCAD 2004 now allows you to customise the Status Bar. Even to a point of being able to remove all status bar options. Take care of this one, especially if you share your computer with others. This could be very disconcerting to someone who uses the buttons more than you do.

To Customise the Status Bar select the small black arrow at the right hand end of the status Bar. Select whichever item you which to remove or add back in.



### Amendments from the last newsletter

In our last newsletter we explained how you can draw lines by entering Surveyors angles, for Chief Architect, VectorWorks, and AutoCAD. We apologise that we didn't mention that in AutoCAD only the following restriction applies:

You cannot enter any value in greater than 90° - sorry for any inconvenience.

**Remember there are of course alternatives to the above Trick, which we train in our Fundamentals courses...**

In AutoCAD you can also change the **Direction** of 0° to match your real **North** angle direction and set to **clockwise**, which may not be up the page using the UNITS dialogue box and enter in Deg/Min/Dec for the angles without the N,S,W,E letters

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## VectorWorks Tip

### Archiving and cleaning up your drawing files

At the end of each project, or when you are about to export/import files to/from other CAD users, it is wise to 'clean-up' your file to get rid of excess or unused 'objects' from your drawings.

These objects include **UNUSED**; Classes, Gradients, Hatches, Images, Layers, Record Formats, Symbol, Renderworks Backgrounds or Textures.

The Purge command will only remove objects which are being used. For example you will not be able to remove a Layer if there is something drawn on that particular Layer.

However be careful as the Purge Command cannot be undone, so don't use this command on objects which you may wish to use at a later date. For example; if you start a new drawing from a Template which has several Layers and Classes predefined, and you Purge Layers and Classes, you will lose all of the Layers and Classes you may have been about to use. This would mean having to remake them again.

#### To run the Purge Command...

Go to the **Edit Menu > Purge Unused Objects...**

A dialogue Box will appear. You can then select the particular objects you wish to purge and OK.

(Remember that ALL unused objects of that type will be Purged).

