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## General News

### *Our second newsletter for the year; and what a busy year.*

2002 has been a very positive and busy year. Congratulations to all of our clients who have now moved into new jobs and interesting careers using CAD. We have been rushed off our feet arranging extra courses for people. Don't forget to call us if you find the dates of a course don't meet your needs, we often schedule extra courses throughout the year on demand.

### *July-Dec Course Schedule*

This newsletter includes our June-July Course schedule for all of those who are receiving this by mail. For those of you on the Internet, please go to [www.educad.co.nz](http://www.educad.co.nz) for the second half-year course dates. Some of you may have looked at the course schedule recently and may not see any changes.

**Tip:** Hit your F5 button on the keyboard to refresh the web page.

For those who can only receive email and cannot get onto the Internet, or those that would prefer a printed schedule, please reply to us and we will post you a printed schedule.

## AutoCAD - Tips & Tricks

### [One command Trimming and Extending 2000i, 2002, LT 2000i, & LT 2002](#)

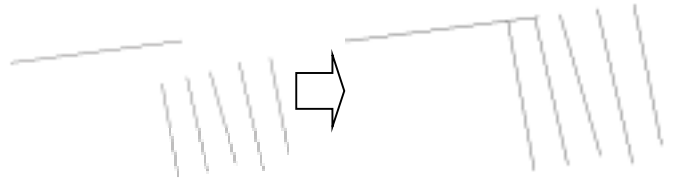
Sometimes you need to extend and trim more or less at the same time. For example, some lines may extend past a boundary line and others may not reach it, but you want them all to meet the boundary line exactly. You can use the EXTEND and TRIM commands to accomplish each other's functions; simply press Shift during object selection to switch to the opposite function.



## [Advanced Trick – Trim or Extend to apparent edge](#)

Have you ever wanted to Trim or Extend lines to the “Extension” of another line, without having to stretch the boundary edge first?

There is a system Variable that controls this called EDGEMODE. If you type this at the command line and set it to 1 for on or 0 for off, then all subsequent Trimming and Extending will use the Extensions of your Cutting and Boundary edges instead of just the line you choose.



Alternatively, while you are in the Trim or Extend commands you can turn this variable on or off.

For example: Command: **Extend**

Select Boundary edges: **Select as per normal**

Select object to extend or shift-select to trim or [Project/Edge/Undo]: **Type “E”**

Enter an implied edge extension mode [Extend/No extend] <Extend>: **Type “E”**

**Now select your objects to be extended as per normal including those who do not intersect the boundary edge.**

## [Editing Objects By Double Clicking](#)

With AutoCAD® & AutoCAD LT 2000i & 2002, you can now begin to edit objects by just double-clicking them. In most cases, double-clicking opens the Properties window, not the editing command; double-clicking a polyline does not start the PEDIT command. However, double-clicking attributes, blocks, hatches, multilines, Mtext, leader text, text (DTEXT or TEXT), or Xrefs opens the dialog box appropriate for editing that object.

## **AutoCAD - Other News**

### [Upgrading from LT to Full AutoCAD - Discount back again.](#)

Autodesk has recently announced that they will now be allowing upgrades from LT to the Full version of AutoCAD. Sometime last year they stopped upgrading and forced users to pay the full amount when changing from AutoCAD LT to AutoCAD Full. You can now upgrade with a discount on the Full price, however this may change again in the event of price upgrades or a new release.

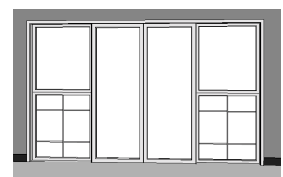
### [Buy LT and get a Black & Decker Tool.](#)

Also there is a great deal for those of you wanting to purchase AutoCAD LT, where if you purchase anytime during this semester you receive a voucher worth around \$130 to spend on a black and decker tool from their brochure.

## **Chief Architect - Tips & Tricks**

Chief 8 has now incorporated a facility to import 2D & 3D .dwg & .dxf files, which allows you to import libraries of fittings, furniture, CAD details etc and save them into your own libraries. We cover this extensively in our Upgrade to Chief 8 course (Chief 7 upgrade course covers CAD details and Moldings only).

The following tip helps you add objects to a library, and save your standard window “sets/configurations” into the Windows library provided with Chief Architect. We recommend you make your own library categories for the symbols/libraries you create. Please contact us to find out more...








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## To save a window configuration for future use

1. In plan view **Multiple select** the Window/Door configuration/group (use SHIFT key)
2. Click on **Make Block** icon.  This groups the windows/doors together as one unit. This step is not necessary, however  makes it easier to copy/move them in the open plan.
3. Select the window/door group again and click on **Add to Library** icon 
4. Choose the **library** to add this into (use the one supplied eg. My Doorways, or make your own library file first), then type in the name for this symbol you are creating e.g. Dble door –glazed sides, and click **OK** 
5. Try inserting this into a new plan using the **Library Browser** 

## Vectorworks - Tips & Tricks

### Keyboard Shortcuts

Once you being using VectorWorks on a regular basis, you should be looking for faster ways of doing things. Using Keyboard shortcuts can be one are where you can increase your productivity remarkably. The Advanced tip also shows you how to select/filter information from your drawing quickly.

Try the following keyboard shortcuts for these commonly used tasks.

<u>Task</u>	<u>Key</u>	<u>Task</u>	<u>Key</u>
Rectangles/Rounded Rectangles/ Rotated Rectangles	4	Zoom-In	C
Polyline/Freehand/Spiral	5	Zoom-Out	V
Circle/Oval	6	Selection Arrow	X
Fillet/Chamfer	7	Pan	Z
Polygon	8	Text	1
Wall	9	Lines—Constrained/Unconstrained	2
Insert Symbol	0	Arcs/Quarter Arcs	3

Go to **Help menu – Contents – VectorWorks User Guide – Keyboard Shortcuts**, to view a list of all the shortcuts available.

The **CUSTOMISATION QUICK COURSE** we run also allows users to customise the interface, menus, and palettes and learn how to use Vectorscript to streamline and increase productivity to suit your needs.

## Vectorworks - Tips & Tricks continued....

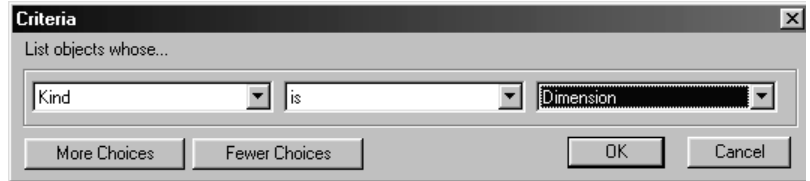
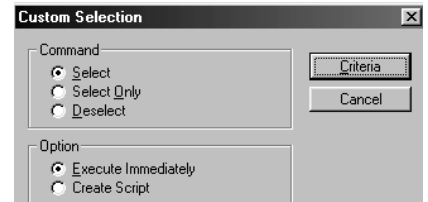
### Advanced tip - Custom Selection tool

VectorWorks provides a tool that can be used for searching your drawing for object types or certain attributes of objects. It makes use of the Vectorscript built-in functions and procedures that come with VectorWorks. We cover this topic within the VectorWorks Intermediate course, however here is a little introduction so you can start to use the facility, and if you need to learn more let us know...

**In this example, we will show you how to search for all dimensions in your drawing so you can change them all at once:**

1. Go to **Organise menu – Custom Selection**

- Choose “select” under the **Command** option, and “execute immediately” under the **Option**. (This means you wish to select the objects that pass the filter/criteria we will specify in step 3, and do this immediately upon exiting this box).
- Click on the **Criteria** button. Now choose what type of object or attributes you are searching for e.g. choose “**Kind**” in the first list – then “**is**” in the second list, then “**Dimension**” in the third list. (As you are doing this, you can see all the different objects & attributes that can be selected/filtered out e.g. text, meshes etc).
- Click **OK** and this will immediately highlight all Dimensions within your drawing. (Note: you will need to set the Layer and Class options to “show/snap/modify others” and run the custom selection within each layer).



**Note:** You can also save the selection method as a Vectorscript tool/command and add other objects or attributes you wish to find to the selection “Criteria”. We cover this more comprehensively in both the **Intermediate VectorWorks** course and the **Customisation QUICK** course.

**Quick Courses:** We run several short courses to cover specific VectorWorks topics, such as Site Modelling, Roofs, Rendering, Customisation, DXF etc. Have a look at our website, or refer to the course schedule for dates and contents of the QUICK COURSES we offer.

## SOLIDWORKS



We have been doing quite a bit of Solidworks One-on-one tuition over the past few months. It seems there is a need for people to get started with Solidworks on a One-on-one basis. This way you can arrange times that suit you and learn at your own pace. Alternatively check out our course schedule for course times and dates.

## JOB VACANCIES

Don't forget to check out our Jobs page on our website at <http://www.educad.co.nz/jobs.htm> this list is usually updated on the day that jobs come available to us. If you have a job vacancy you wish to advertise, you can email [robyn@educad.co.nz](mailto:robyn@educad.co.nz) and we will put your details on the site.