LYNN ALLEN: Hi guys. Hello, welcome. So we are actually recording, this session is being sent out live. Hello everybody who's out there. We have a little bit of a discrepancy up here. Have any of you been in classes where they recorded them live before? Any of you? Any of you? Nobody? Do you know what the twitter handle was to for questions? AU2013 and it will show up? Is that what they said? That's a lie. Alright, well good luck with that.

If you want to you can connect, you can check in to your class. You can make comments, only nice ones please. Don't say oh my god, I can't believe she's wearing that belt with that skirt. Don't do that. Technical questions please, try to keep it that way.

Any of you in this class the last year that I thought? The 90 tips in 90 minutes? Do you remember what happened last year right before class started? I fell. I was running and I tripped and I fell. And I skinned my knee and fell into a little ball in the corner. And do you remember what happened after that?

So there was a whole row of men, I'm in a crumpled ball, let's recreate, over here in the corner. And not a single man got up to help me. Three women got up and picked my body up and put me back together. Karen was one of them, so I kept her as my friend. So just in case something happens today, I expect a little better reaction, OK? Not that it will. Yeah, like bleeding on the stage. Tip 15.

Alright, so if we could switch over to the PowerPoint, whoever's in charge of that. Wonderful person somewhere. And until that happens, that's not me right? I don't have a switcher. It just gets funnier. Oh, you're in charge of that. I didn't know that. And she's also a wonderful person. So while she's walking around, this is Miss Heidi Hewitt. Heidi Hewitt is the AutoCAD technical marketing manager for AutoCAD. That was kind of self-explanatory.

She works for Autodesk. Everything I learned about the latest release of AutoCAD I learned from her. She's the one if you have questions about the latest release of AutoCAD at least, she knows what's coming up next. I don't because if they told me I would tell you. So I know nothing.

So my name is Lynn Allen and that this class is 60 AutoCAD tips in 60 minutes. And Heidi will be answering the questions if any of you figure out how to ask them. She will be answering the questions. We do have quite a few people that are watching live and they do have instructions

on how to ask questions. We will not take questions as we go through the presentation, because it's 60 AutoCAD tips in 60 minutes.

So I just can't stop, I have to go, go, go. It's not even a fun class, really, for me. I can't be funny. And so this is all the funny you're going to get. This is it. Funny is another class. But some of you know that we have ways of winning prizes. Who's attended one of my sessions before? Wow, you came back, that's awesome.

So of course I am a big Monty Python and the Holy Grail fan. John Cleese was here on Monday, know him, met him. And so this is of course the rabbit with the big pointy teeth, a great Christmas present. A shirt that says it's just an ordinary rabbit is in it. Let's see well will not risk another frontal assault. This, of course, has the, it looks sweet but when you squeeze it's got the big teeth. People online think I've lost my mind. And my favorite, the Black Knight, who awesome! You see the little flesh coming out, it's awesome. I'm not dead yet. No? OK, anyway. If you don't know what I'm talking about, Spamalot is very, very famous. It is very, very popular, a fabulous play. I highly recommend it. So on that note, that's all I get. If you haven't attended one of my classes before, you have no idea how to win a prize and I'm not going to tell you, so.

The goal behind this class is that we're going through a plethora of tips in a very short period of time. I just like the word plethora. And like I said, I'm going to go very, very quickly. So I may have one or two tips from last year. So if you were here last year, these are all new. And so hopefully it'll be fresh for all of you. It should be, since I haven't done this before. And some of these tips you're going to know, because I don't know what you know and what you don't know. But hopefully you'll come away with a handful of tips that you can use whenever you go back to the office. You probably told them it was a two week conference or something so, whenever you go back.

I do have my esteemed colleague and friend, the one who picked me up last year when I fell, Karen is going to try to keep me on time. I know I'm already behind time, so don't yell at me yet. Actually I didn't want to do that.

HEIDI HEWITT: Hey Lynn?

LYNN ALLEN: Yes.

HEIDI HEWITT: Hashtag AU2013.

LYNN ALLEN: Oh, it is #AU2013. That's it's? It's kind of a big hashtag.

HEIDI HEWITT: So hopefully it will show up here.

LYNN ALLEN: Alright, #AU2013. If you have a question you want Heidi to answer. Don't ask her like, what is life or anything like that. #AU2013.

So I'm going to start off with, if you see in the corner of these PowerPoints, if there is the image of AutoCAD 2014, that means it is focused on AutoCAD 2014. How many of you are on 2014? 2013? That's probably like most of you are on those two releases. 2012? 2011? Come on, be proud. 2010? See, look how proud they are. 2009? Do we need to have a bake sale or what? A car wash? OK, as long as you're on '09 and higher, I'm actually OK.

So I'm sure that many of us have adopted the ribbon, right? Do we have any ribbon rebels? Who are the ribbon rebels? A lot of ribbon rebels. All right, well so when the ribbon first came out in 2009 I didn't like it, but because of my job I had to lie to all of you and tell you that I did. Do you remember that? Me lying to all of you, smiling?

But now I really do love the ribbon. Because it's smart, it's contextual, as I select objects it automatically changes. Love the ribbon now, so if you hate it and you tried it, you need to give it another chance, I think. That's my honest opinion. So even if you're a ribbon rebel, we all use the command line from time to time. And in case you were worried about the command line disappearing, you don't have to worry about that. Because we just put a bunch of new features inside of AutoCAD 2014.

So I just want to run through them very, very quickly. And I'm going to run through them as I show them to you in the interest of time. So let's go over here. So as CAD operators we're not known for our amazing ability to spell, am I correct? So, actually let me put this down here.

So, for example, if I type why are you doing that? I was having issues with AutoCAD earlier. Do not mess with me. So if I type in line and I spell it wrong, you'll see that AutoCAD was able to figure out what I really meant. Very helpful for system variables. You're not going to spell out the word line, let's face it.

But if it were a system variable where you have to kind of spell out most of it, really comes in handy. It will figure out what you wanted, so that's good. You'll see that if I do something like type in set, that with AutoCAD 2014 it now displays any command or assisting variable that

has the word set in it anywhere. It used to be just if it started with the word set, but now it will do midstring searches and it would search at the end. So you'll see sheet set showed up as well as settings and things like that so far.

Alright, what else? I'd like you to see that the layer that I am on is the zero layer. If I type in door, you'll see we don't have a command called door. Unless you added one, we don't have a command called door. But you will see that the command line now searches for content as well. So it found two things that had the word door in it. It found a layer and it found a block.

So if I come over here and I select on layer and go to the layer called doors and you take a look at the current layer, you'll see that it very quickly switches it over to doors. Do you have a comment or are you just fascinated?

AUDIENCE: I do have a comment, it's actually AULiveStream.

LYNN ALLEN: OK it's been changed. I feel better, because I was like that cannot be right. AULiveStream, all one word. AULiveStream, think you Heidi. And for those of you out there, AULiveStream.

So same idea, if I type in door and I come up here to block, it'll execute the insert command and it will allow you to insert a block called door. Let's see what else am I missing in here. If I type in something like, I'll just type in c for circle. Very, very exciting. You'll see that one of the things about 2014 is that the list that you get gets smarter and smarter. So that the commands that you use the most will show up first. So what I have if I type in a C might be different than something that you might if you type in a C. So smarter and smarter, that's another advantage of 2014.

You'll also see if I come up here to any command, you'll see that there's a question mark. Which of course you used to get the help, right? And there is also an option to search on the internet. And if I click on that, did I even try getting onto the internet? Fine, good. You will see that it does have basically does it like a Google search of anything that has to do with the circle command. So a little added extra. It just makes it a little bit easier to find information out about the commands. And let me just head back over to there.

You also see that you can customize this so if you don't like it, if you want it back the way it was, just click on the wrench and you'll see that you have. You can either just turn some things off by changing the toggle very quickly, or you can select input search options and you'll actually see that you have the ability to do things. Like maybe I only wanted to search for

content like blocks and layers and nothing else.

These are all the different types of content you're able to search for. You could turn that off. Or maybe you don't like that midstring search, or whatever the situation is. Maybe you don't like autocorrect at all. Whatever makes you happy. You can come in here and you can customize it completely, which is a good thing.

And one of the other things that you can do is that you can, you'll see things like if I type in zip. I can't say type. There's no command in AutoCAD called zip, right? But it'll actually execute a similar command, e-transmit. Now most of us when we think about sending files to somebody, most of us outside of the land of AutoCAD, we think of zipping

A file and sending it. So what they've done is they've added a variety of synonyms inside of AutoCAD to execute the equivalent command. So now I type in zip, it executes e-transmit. If I were to type it in symbol, which is a really popular micro-station right. You would see that it would execute the insert command, which is our equivalent here. And you can totally customize it, and I'm going to show you how to customize it.

Very, very easy. You can set it all up the way you want. I'm going to come up here to manage, and you will see edit aliases. How many of you have edited aliases before? OK, so you're familiar with the PGP file, correct? This is the same format as the PGP file. What does PGP stand for? Don't you wish I would give you present if you knew that. You're close, what is it? Program parameter, very good. That's correct. And we used to call it the? Anybody know? We used to call it the pig pen file if you want to be cool.

You'll see that you can edit the autocorrect list. So if you are constantly spelling something wrong and it doesn't get it, like on my phone. I spelled tomorrow wrong so many times because the O is right by the I that it added tomorrow spelled wrong to my dictionary. Very irritating. And so you can actually come in here and you can edit this to work the way you want it to work.

But I'm going to go to Edit synonym list. They all work exactly the same. If you've done anything with a PGP file, you will feel right at home here. So you can actually see here it's actually the command that you want to type in inside of AutoCAD. For example, cZip. I want to type in zip and then a comma, a space, an asterisk, and then the command that you want it, that you wanted to execute. So for example, we type in zip, it executes the e-transmit command.

And you'll see a whole bunch of these in here. Send, e-transmit as well. Length, distance, and so on. But we're going to add our own. OK so what's a popular, somebody name a type of donut place.

AUDIENCE: Dunkin.

LYNN ALLEN: Dunkin. That is the usual, that's what most people say. Like that, right? It's not dunking, it's Dunkin. And then a comma, right? And then an asterisk. And then we'll have it execute the donut command. Get it?

I mean I have to say, This is also how all the aliases are set up. Like you know, C for circle, L for line, A for arc. Have fun with your coworkers. I think that L should be for circle. Just saying. There's a whole section at the end called ways to torture your coworkers, and if we get to that, that's by far the finest part.

Right so, if I come over here and I type in Dunkin, it will not work. Anybody know why? So what happens is the PGP file gets kicked in when you load AutoCAD. So I have to force it to kick in. And there's a cheater command called reinit, which I heard someone over here say. Reinit. You don't have to remember that, you can just remember to leave AutoCAD and kind of come back.

And there's an option here where you can kick in the PGP file, hit an OK, and now when I type in Duncan it asks me to execute the donut command. Fun, fun, fun, am I way behind already?

HEIDI HEWITT: Yes.

LYNN ALLEN: She's like, yes, you're way behind already. She doesn't say it like that. She's much nicer than that.

All right hopefully you guys all got a handout. And it's all this of course laid out and set up for you. Alright, so let's do a little bit more with user interface. And I'm going to rely on this, so I don't have to keep going back to my PowerPoint. Let's just jump right on over. Hopefully you just know some of these things. I'm going to come back over here.

Hopefully you know that the up arrow key can be used to pull back to go back to previous commands that you executed. I just think that's a really fast way to go back to two commands ago. I mean you can also come over here and click on this little button right here and it will go

back to previous commands, I'm just very lazy, so I'm always trying to find the fastest way to get to whatever command I'm after.

And then also, up here in the application menu which you always want to make sure that you hit just once but not twice, correct? Because what happens if you hit it twice? You hit it and you go it's not working, and then you hit it again and then bad things happen, right? AutoCAD closes, exactly.

Right, so just a few things in here. For those of you who are the ribbon rebels, you know who you are. One of the hardest things about making the move over to the ribbon is learning where everything is. That's the hardest thing, absolutely. So in case you can't find something and you want to find it, hopefully someone has told you that you can come into the application menu, that's the big A, and you can type in any command and it will actually show you where it is in the ribbon. I use that a lot when I can't find something.

And then while I'm in the ribbon, I mean, excuse me, while I'm in the application menu, just a few things. Hopefully you've discovered that you can pin drawing files so they always stay on the list. They never fall off the list. That's kind of a big deal to me. And hopefully you've also realized that by default AutoCAD will only display nine previously viewed drawing files. That's horrible. So you need to go into the Options dialog box, you need to go to Open and Save. And the first thing I would do when I loaded a new release of AutoCAD is I would come over here and hit the highest number I can. That's the way I like to work. I put it to 50. That's the highest value.

Why is it set to nine? Because remember back when we had the menu system? Then the pull-down menus, back when we had the pull-down menus. Many of you remember that really well because you're still doing that, but we used to have nine previously viewed drawing files on the File menu, right? It was nine because it was nine. There's a lot of reasons why it was nine. And that's the setting up here, but we don't need that for the application menu. That should be nice and long, right? So make sure you change that to 50 if you haven't already done so.

And then the other thing I wanted to show you. If you find yourself in a situation where you have a whole bunch of AutoCAD drawings that you need to save back to a previous release. There's kind of a hidden tool in here. If you go under Save As, maybe you're adventurous, maybe you've found it. When you arrow down, there's this little lonely drawing convert. Which you may or may not have discovered.

The command is DWG convert. And if you click on that, it actually takes you into a dialogue box where you can populate it with a variety of files. You can pick any files that you want. I'll just grab a bunch of files. Oh, use your control key, Lynn. And then you'll see there's options. Convert to 2000, convert to 2004, there's a variety of you can save that list so you can use it later on down the road. I have another list I saved. I could open up that list, so on and so forth. But it's really, really easy for you to take a whole bunch of files and save it back to a previous release. DWG convert. No I don't want to save that.

I think I covered all of those. I did. And then while we're here, let's take a look at the file tabs. So file tabs was one of the best things that were added in 2014. I haven't met anyone who doesn't like the file tabs. To basically these are the file tabs, and this is only in 2014. And they display your open drawing files. As you can see, it also displays the layouts from those files.

If I move over any these layouts, let's go to another one, if I move over any of them it will give me a preview in the background without me having to click on it or anything. I like the fact that I can do a plot and a publish without having to actually go to the layout. That's pretty nice. If you have a really, really long list of that's nice. This is what happens when you split your display to a projector. I apologize. But you'll see that you can, if this list gets really, really long you'll get a little arrow list on the right hand side.

So that you don't have to worry if you have so many tabs open. If you're like a crazy I must open every drawing file in the world and have them open at the same time because I get paid by the hour, then you can still get to them. And you can move these guys around. They're very friendly. You can grab them, you can pull them around in any order that you want.

So what happens if I hit the plus? Yes, it will create a new drawing file. It executes the queue new command. Not the new command, the queue new command. We'll use the default template file if you have one set. I do not, but we will do that by the end of this presentation. So I'm going to go ahead and just to select one and now I have a new drawing file over here. And I also really love if you do to right click on any of these guys, these are basic new open blah, blah, blah. I like close all except this tab.

I like copy full file path. Why would you want to do that? You want to send an email to somebody, you want to give them a link to this drawing file, it's very easy to do that. And for those of us who are disorganized and you can't really remember what directory this file is from, you can select Open File Location and it will show you. Most of us do a Save As. Or you

may have set it up so it shows you the directory that the drawing is from. We'll do that later on as well.

Let's go back over to our PowerPoint. So I think I did all of those. The only one I didn't mention was if one of the file tabs has a lock on it, then it's read only. If you see a little lock by the name. And if there's an asterisk that tells you it hasn't been modified yet. So it's in the same condition it was when you first opened it. And I think I did all of this. How am I doing, Karen? Oh yay. OK, I can goof off now.

So multi-function groups came out a couple releases ago. I find a lot of people, they know about some of them. They don't really use them, we're not programmed to use them unless you just learned AutoCAD in the last few years. Bless you. So let's go ahead and take a look at multi-function groups.

Let's go over to this guy. And is that what I want to do? Let me come up here and go slightly different. So when the first multi-function groups that showed up in the early days, one of the first places that they landed was on poly-lines. And I don't know about you, but I do not like the pEdit command, and any way I can stay out of that old dungy, dusty pEdit command is beautiful thing.

So these groups made it a little bit easier to stay out of the pEdit command. You'll see, like they show up right. I'm sure you've all seen these, they show up in the midpoint. You can do easy things. You just hover, you don't click. You can do things like add a vertex. You can remove the vertex. You can converts to an arc. Things like that that you would normally have to go into pEdit to do. Just by hovering over the grip. And I think most of us know about the ones on regular poly-lines. And so I'm actually come over here. Let's take a look at something totally that you maybe wouldn't think of, just like a plain old boring line. I'm going to click on this line. I going to hover over that grip, and it says stretch and lengthen. Let's go to lengthen. And you'll see I can visually do that. That's not exciting. I can do that without having clicked on lengthen. I'm going to turn back my dynamic display. But if you do have the dynamic input on, I like the fact that I can just tell it you know what? I would like it to be lengthened by three more units by clicking and typing in the box. Let me just kind of do that again. Let's go to lengthen again. And I'd actually like to tell it the total length. You can see that there's two boxes there, right? How do you go back and forth between the two boxes?

AUDIENCE: Tab.

LYNN ALLEN: Very good, tab. So I can go to hit tab and keep going wherever. And I can say I actually want this line to have a total length of six. There's a million different ways to change the length of line inside of AutoCAD, but I do think that's a good option when you need to make a specific change involving a distance.

Same is true, of course, with and what's the difference between lengthen and stretch? Lengthen and stretch? Stretch also allows you to change the angle. Lengthen continues it along the same, in the same direction. Stretch will also allow you to change the angle. How's it going Heidi? Is it good?

HEIDI HEWITT: I'm not getting any questions.

LYNN ALLEN: You're not getting any questions.

HEIDI HEWITT: Either I'm looking at the wrong thing, or -

LYNN ALLEN: I don't know the answer to that. Well you're doing a fine job of not answering any questions.

HEIDI HEWITT: I'm watching.

LYNN ALLEN: That's an easy day. You just get to hangout. Can't complain about that. Anyway if you want to maybe send her an email, it's heidi.hewitt@autodesk.com. Because she has nothing to do, so -

HEIDI HEWITT: I've got my phone ready.

LYNN ALLEN: Have a little conversation with her.

And just so you know, the same is true with arcs. You can maybe do things like change the radius really quickly. But if you hit the endpoints you get the same options as you did with the line.

So let's take a look at a couple of others. Let's go to, so this is why I like having Heidi here. Look at that. Oh, I hit the wrong one that's why. See, they're not showing up. Anybody noticing that? They're not supposed to work like that.

Let's go to dimensions. Love, love, love, multifunction groups for dimensions. And I bet you probably aren't using them. So I'm going to come over here and I'm going to go ahead and I'm going to select this dimension. And I'm going to just hover over the endpoint. And look what I

can do. I can very quickly maybe do a continue dimension. Very quickly come up here and add another dimension. And I will actually tell you in just a second how you can avoid having the continued dimension being completely different from the base.

But you saw how fast and easy that was. If I come up here to this one up here, you'll see that I could, maybe I just want to flip the arrow. Or if you hover, let me zoom in a little bit, if I hover over that text, look at all the things that you can do. All kinds of things. So this is so much better then trying to go find it in the menu, I think. It's giving you commands that are right on the object that are relevant to the object that you're working on. So you should try to use for all of the different objects that you run across inside of AutoCAD. Because these are just going to get more and more and smarter and smarter.

OK, then one more. I'll come over here to my top so you get invisible. I'll do one more. We'll just do end leaders. Just kind of show you how those work and make an appearance like this end leader, I'm going to hover over the script and you'll see that I can add another leader. I have my O snaps wrong, so it's snapping other places. But you can kind of see that. And then I can come to any one of these leaders and I can remove that leader. So there's a lot options in here to make things go fast, fast, fast, fast.

So let's go back over to the PowerPoint. I think I did all of those. I saw you first, of course I was kind of looking over there. It pays to sit in the front, and it actually really pays to wear a bright red shirt. You should write that down for next year. So, his is not red. What would you like? Would you like the awesome bunny wit really big teeth, and pointy. I mean just look at the chompers on that bunny. It will mangle a man in seconds. The awesome Knight with removable limbs. What do you want? A t-shirt.

AUDIENCE: Let's go for the bunny.

LYNN ALLEN: The bunny. The bunny is awesome. You know I carried it in my bag on the way here, it got a little messed up.

AUDIENCE: Thank you.

LYNN ALLEN: The rest of the audience out there is going what is going on there? Prizes here. Next year, come to AU, you get bunnies and all kinds of things. Like whatever. So as you can see it's a very complicated game. It's a very complicated game. A bunny shows up, you raise your hand. It's very complicated. I think it's perfect for the second day at AU, in the afternoon you guys

are tired. Probably stayed up too late last night.

Layers. Layer command is the third most frequently used command inside of AutoCAD. What is the first? It's like we're on AutoCAD jeopardy. What is the most frequently used command in AutoCAD?

AUDIENCE: Undo.

LYNN ALLEN: Undo, that's right. He must have sat in my class before. Isn't that sad? That's sad, but it is. Alright, so with AutoCAD 2014, I'm sure Karen's going to tell me I have to stop talking again. AutoCAD 2014, AutoCAD learned to count. Awesome. Since the very beginning of AutoCAD days, if you typed in the following numbers to have them be layers 1, 15, 34, 50, and 6, this is the order that they would show up. Because AutoCAD does not do it by their natural order, it actually takes a look at the very first character and works accordingly.

So first it would find one, and then it would find one five, and then it would find three zero, and then a four, and five zero, and six. Which is not the way we count, is that correct? Alright, not unless it's like a really bad kindergarten class or something. So with AutoCAD 2014 you'll actually see that now AutoCAD can count. And now that you've all accommodated the fact that AutoCAD can't count, you'll find out that we've modified it. So good luck with that.

There's no system variable to control it. I'm sure there will be, because there are people that have. Any of you in the boat where you just are used to the fact that AutoCAD doesn't know how to count and worked with it? Couple, sorry, sorry. Want a bunny? Sorry. Anyway so it's much better this way. Only took 30 years.

Layer Merge used to be express tool. We love the express tools, right? Yeah, express tools rock, hello. Layer Merge grew up and became a real life AutoCAD command a couple of releases ago. And now it's actually built into the layer dialogue box. And if you're not familiar with this command, it's a great command. Let me go over here, back over here. Let's go over to this one. We'll need it later. What was I going to do? If you go in the layer dialogue box, the goal behind Layer Merge is it allows you to take one or more layers and merge them together into a destination layer. And then it deletes the layers that you selected to merge. All the objects on those two layers will be put on the destination layer, and they will take the properties on of the destination layer. Make sense?

OK so let's come down here really quickly. You'll see there's three layers. Simbo, Simbo1 and

Simbo2. So I'm going to select Simbo1. Stop that. I'm going to select Simbo1 and I'm going to select Simbo2 and do a right click. And you'll see in the menu that there is an option for Merge selected layers. And then it's going to ask me what layer I want to merge it too. Super simple. You'll see the dialogue box lost focus so it disappeared in the back. Interesting programming, huh? And I'm going to say OK. Now it says the selected layers will be merged into layer Simbo. But it should say, if you ask me, the selected layers will disappear and never be seen again as long as you live. So keep in mind, merging sounds friendly and kind, but they are gone. They are history, they're gone. Do you want to continue? Yes. And then of course, you can undo it and get them back. But if I come over here to my layers, you will actually see that now we just have Simbo. That's Layer Merge. How we doing Karen?

AUDIENCE: 20-- oh yeah.

LYNN ALLEN: And I am on 26. That's not too bad. So these are all pretty low stress but awesome tips that were added in. It's just sad that I don't actually have that page. That's OK, I'll remember them. We'll see. So I'm going to come back over to, which one do I want over here? Tips, there we go.

So if you've ever tried to draw an arc and you wanted it to go clockwise, you know that arcs always like to go counterclockwise, correct? If I do C for center, and I pick this, arcs like to go that way, but they do not like to go the other way, right? So now if you hold down the Control key in AutoCAD it will let you go in the opposite direction. I know, isn't that awesome?

Especially if you have a digital watch and you don't even know which way counter clockwise is. Someday that will be reality and not be funny. But if you've ever tried to pEdit an open polyline to itself it called you names. It told you to go away. You can now select an open polyline and you can pEdit, I meant fill it. You can now fill it to itself without it yelling at you. That's kind of nice.

Let me go back over here to continue mode. Let me do just try to find my little guy. I might just open it again. There it is. This ever happens to you, does it? Hello? I see it. What do you think the odds are? It's really slow right now. It does not now I'm teaching a class where I need to, alright, you are totally out.

OK, this guy walks into a bar. Let's close that. Close. It was about to kick in, wasn't it? Be nice. Please hold, sorry. So you saw when I did that continue dimension, that it had the wrong dimension style. And we've learned that we always have to change the current dimension style

before we do a baseline or a continue dimension. Correct? Alright.

So with AutoCAD 2014 there's a new system variable. Because you saw me do it before where it didn't match. Did you see that? It didn't match? We don't have to do it again. Dim continue mode, a new system variable because we don't have enough system variables. And when you set dim continue mode to one, it will always take a look at the base dimension and always use that as the dimension style. It does not change the current dimension style. It only does it for that one or two or three dimensions that you're doing. It is awesome.

OK so I'm going to come up here now. And now I'm going to do a continue dimension and you'll see that it reflects the base dimension. Even though the current dimension style is completely different. Dim continue mode. And then I think the last one is just something I'm going to show you. Got those, and also I just thought I'd let you know, because you'll never know this. It isn't obvious at all.

If you're in the Xref manager inside of 2014, and you can switch between attach and overlay? You can just double click now to switch it. It doesn't look like a double click thing at all. In fact I didn't believe it when I saw it. No, it's not. But it works, it just doesn't look like it. So you can double click to go back and forth between attach and overlay.

Alright, let's talk about some things that are not focused on 2014. How many of you have used groups. Oh, there's a bunny. Oh I didn't see. OK, everybody put your hands down again. Alright, quick go! It's a very sophisticated group. I'm going to give it to this young lade over here just because she made me smile. So what would you like? Would you like a Knight who's limbs disappear, or would you like a t-shirt? T-shirt, really? This is so awesome. Totally would have been my first choice, but OK. OK, the legal department doesn't like me when I throw. Here you go, thank you. Good job. Fast, efficient.

So I couldn't tell whether you guys wanted the bunny or you use groups. We all use groups! Yay groups! I'm like, that's a lot of enthusiasm for groups. Because I didn't realize the bunny was coming on the screen. You all right?

HEIDI HEWITT: I"m great.

LYNN ALLEN: Heidi and I are actually very good friends as well. I just work here. It was 13, it was 12. Please hold, sorry I didn't open this giant file, even though I was supposed to. The group thing came at 12, right Heidi? You know everything. It did. Here it is. This is just an easy drawing to show it

to you in. So let's say I want to make copies of these tables and chairs. I can make a block out of them, but blocks are kind of serious and take a while to put together. Or I could be totally lazy and just temporarily on the fly create what's known as a group. Use it when you want to kind of put a group of objects together but you don't need to make a block out of them. You're just maybe doing a for editing purposes. And it's simple.

So a couple weeks ago in 2012, group got a new PR department. They were not even in the ribbon and now they're on at the home page of the ribbon. Yay groups. And then a whole bunch of people thought, oh my god, that's great there's a new command called group. But it's been around from the very beginning of time for AutoCAD.

So this is how it works, very, very simple. You just go into to group command and then you select the objects that you want to have as your group, like maybe these guys right here. And then I'm going to give it a name. We'll just call it desk group or something, whatever. And now it's a group. And now you'll see if I select it, you'll see that if I decide I want to move it, let's move it. Let's try that again. That whole thing shows up as a group. And you can do whatever. You could make a bunch of copies of it or whatever the situation is.

And the nice thing about groups is that if you decide you don't want them to be a group anymore, you can come up here and you can say turn the group off. Just click on there and now it's not a group anymore. You'll see now it's individual chairs. Or you can turn it back on. Or there's a control key combination. Anybody know what it is? Shift+control+A will also turn groups on and off. You could see that at the command line. You see that? Shift+control+A In case you guys are on AutoCAD jeopardy and they ask you that question.

So groups, you should also see some other things. There's a manager. There's a nice bounty box, so you can actually see that the group - Did I get it? I have groups turned off. Smarty. Still doesn't show up. Turn on. Isn't it? I wasn't going to show that. That's what happens when you're not going to show something and then you show it anyway. It's not rocket science, where's the box? Alright, no box for you. That's next year. There was a box this morning.

And then there's a couple other selections that tips. There's different ways to - there's no bunny. Oh, that's the old bunny. You got really too excited about that, Bob. That's the old bunny. Says select similar, quick select, and filter, these are just all ways of selecting objects. So let's go back and take a look at some of these other ones. Let me come in here to object properties and we'll just come zoom out. If you see down here, you'll see that my drafting

teacher would be very unhappy with me, right? Because my text is going the wrong way. And actually, all of my rotated dimensions the text are going the wrong way.

So I want to fix them all at one time. So I select it, do a right click. And you'll see that there's an option for select similar. Easy enough. I grabbed all of my rotated dimensions that are on the same layer. And I'll show you how I know that in a second. And then I can very simply I can go into properties. I can pull this down and I can say text rotation and let's just make that 0. And then my drafting teacher decided I was OK again.

So if I go in to the command select similar, you will see that there's a settings option and this allows you to control how that works. If you just wanted to grab similar objects, then you would turn off the layer option and just leave name. It should actually, I think, say type and not name. If you wanted it to grab all objects that have the same layer and color, or the layer and object style or plot style, whatever the situation is, you have control over how select similar works.

I'm sure that many of you have worked with, you've gone into properties, hopefully, and you have worked with quick select. This is another way to select objects where you're actually giving it information on the type of objects that you're after. So for example, I could come up here and I could say I want to work out of the whole drawing. Because you see, it says an entire drawing at the top. Or you could select a group of objects on the screen. I'm going to say circle. And then I'm going to say where the circle has a radius that is less than did I do that? Oh, center radius. Sorry. You're right, sorry. I'm glad you guys are here. The value, we'll just say 50 or something like that.

And you'll see it found 145 items and then you could do something to them. Because they're the current selection set. There's all kinds of options in there. That's when you don't want to select objects physically, you want to tell it what types of objects you're after. Text of a certain height, text of a certain dimensions style, or textile I should say, and things like that.

And then if you want to go one step further for those of you who are not afraid of things, you can go into the filter command which is a different command on the filters command. Filter commands is not on any of the menus. It's top secret. It's a very advanced command. But that's when you are really after something totally specific. Because you'll see that there's all kinds of filters in this list. Much more the what you get with quick select. Quick select is like the LT version of this command.

And you'll see that I can do things like I could say I want all the circles, add to the list. And I

can say that I want them to be on a specific layer. You can select that layer. Add that to the list. and you can say where's circle radius. Circle. I want maybe circle radius, and you can say there there's a lot to it, let's just say. That are less than or equal to this and that and so on and so forth. You can make a very complex list. You can name the list, you can save the list for future reference. It's very, very sophisticated. Filter.

Do you know what the filters command is? Added bonus? This is if you have, anybody have little filter, layer filters party at your office and they added all these layer filters? No, it sometimes happens when you bring Xrefs in. Just a really fast dialog box that allows you to very quickly get rid of layer filters. Very efficient. So let's go back over here. So that was groups, select similar, quick select, and filter. And all those are in the last few releases of AutoCAD for sure.

Alright, options. So let's go into, I should be back here, I should have these pages. Let's go back into options and just take a look at some of the options. It doesn't matter where we go options. So there are a lot of things that you can set inside of options, and it's very confusing. And I'm sure you spend days going through the different pages and tabs inside of options. But one of things I do think you should have set is the default template file. How many of you have a default template file set? That's good. Not quite half of you.

So the way you set a default template file is you come down here, the very first page under files, it says template settings. You come down here, you say default template file for Queue New. So that whenever you execute the Queue New command, it will just grab that default template file and it will go on with life. And so I'm going to go and select here. I'm going to say browse. And let's just pick the standard ACAD DWT file. So now if I come up here, it actually tells you new, but it actually executes the Queue New command. And I click on there, it will start a brand new drawing without asking me for any template file, which I love. I don't like extra steps. Just like if I come over here and I pick this plus. It's also going to add a new file without asking me any questions. I don't have to pick a template file. So what happens if I need to pick a template file? What if I don't like the default one? What do I do? Do what? Use the new command. Type in New, not Queue New. So that will force the dialog box to show up that lets you pick your own template file.

A couple others, let's see. Let me go to display. This is really old one called Queue Text. Show text boundary frame only. For those of you who like have zillions of lines of text in your drawing files and you don't need them and your drawing is going slow, you can very quickly

convert all your text to rectangles. And that will speed it up dramatically. And then when you need the text again, you just come back in here, you just turn that off. Make sense? Very simple.

Let's see, full-file path information. And so at the top of my screen it says drawing four. I have no idea what directory that's in. If you wanted to display the full path title, which is on, that's weird. Well we'll go look at one of the other ones. I thought I turned it off so that I could turn it on and say, look see the difference? But apparently it's already on. Anyway that's how you would display the full path title.

And then this is also where I showed you before, you could control how many previously viewed drawings were in the application menu. What else? Under user preferences, hopefully you've discovered that you can control the default scale lists that have to do with view ports specifically.

This list is very long and I think you should trim it down to get rid of anything that you don't use. Make it nice and tight. If you don't use any metrics, get rid of metrics. And so and so forth. Just get rid of any of the scale factors you're not using. This goes across all drawings. If for some reason you want to get everything back to the way it was, you can just hit reset. So you can't trim it too much, you can always fix it.

And then I also thought, how many of you use this right click customization? See you guys are totally the gurus. These guys are the gurus. So it used to be in AutoCAD 2000, and well before AutoCAD 2000, if you did to right click on a mouse what would it do? Before AutoCAD 2000, some of you have been using it a long time. Anybody remember?

Right click did an enter. And then AutoCAD 2000 came out, and we did a right click and what did it do? Shortcut menu. OK here we'd spent I don't know how many releases, 14 releases or so of AutoCAD and we used to use our mouse to do enters all the time. So we were programmed and then it started doing all these shortcut menus. It was awful.

So now, to humor us, they actually came in and they added the ability to do both. You can set it up so if you do a really fast click it does an enter right here. Quick click for enter if you turn this on. Time sensitive right click. A fast click will do an enter. If you hold it down, it will give me the shortcut menu. And you can see, you can even control how long you hold it down before that happens. Make sense? It takes you a while to get used to it, but it's awesome. You can go

very, very fast. And you'll see the people that raised their hands I'm sure they're speed happy, I'm sure. Because it definitely helps you go faster.

So let's go back over to the PowerPoint. How many of you have been to the Autodesk app store? That's pretty good. The land of free stuff. We should all go to the Autodesk app store. In the last few releases of AutoCAD, they have in the upper right hand corner of the screen there is this X. If you click on the X, it will take you to the Autodesk exchange and it will show you the app specific to AutoCAD. And most of these apps are free. If you take a look on the right hand side of the screen, you can see the most downloaded of all the apps, no surprise, they're almost all free. So we all like free. This sketchup one is actually included inside of AutoCAD 2014. It's loaded automatically for those of you who take SKP files and bring them into AutoCAD, you can get rid of it if you don't do that. I would highly recommend it.

So there's just some other things in here. I know that you'll actually see some of these are, like you can see $0.99 and $10 and so on and so forth. If you want the ones that are specific to an AutoCAD release, you can actually type in a value. Usually it shows up on the side of the screen, I hope they haven't been messing around with it. Like AutoCAD 2012, and then it will show you the apps that are relevant to AutoCAD 2012. And you can also do search for all kinds of things. And it actually tells you it supports 12/13/14, but you can type in AutoCAD 2011 and it will find other options for you. So they're in there.

For example, hangman. It's a very important one that you should all download. Even though I know you would only play it before work, after work, and during lunch. But you can see if I select on here, or not, there we go. You will see that it gives you information on what releases of AutoCAD it's compatible with. So it's very friendly, lets you know all kinds of information about it. You can see people rate it. You can see how popular this very sophisticated app is.

There's actually one called Autodesk Remote that you might want to take a look at that actually allows you to drive your software remotely from anything that has an internet connection. You could technically run full-fledged Revit, technically, from a tablet as long as you had a strong connection. It actually accesses any software that's on the computer that you install Autodesk Remote onto. If you're on subscription you'll have access to that. And I will tell you, you will like it if you have a good internet connection. You will hate it if you do not.

Let's go back over here. Actually, let's go back over to AutoCAD. Your apps will actually show up in AutoCAD 2014, they show up under Plugins. You can see as I also have some other

sophisticated ones, like zombie finder and zombie killer. I'm sure many of you know what zombies are, right? Not real zombies, they are proxy objects.

And we don't have time to play hangman, but I highly recommend it. It's good fun. The nice thing about hangman is it's on a black background, so you need to make sure you're in model space in a dark background so nobody can tell you're playing it. And if you hit anywhere outside of the hangman area, it disappears in a second. It's awesome. So if your boss walks by - just saying. Not saying you should do that, I'm just saying.

So there's also the exchange App Manager that allows you to load, unload, make sure they're up to date and so on and so forth. There's an update available for zombie killer. Don't want to miss out on that. And you'll also see that there's a tab this says featured apps in 2014. And that just kind of gives you all the trending apps. So if you get a break, you could maybe take a look. And maybe that one command that you've been hoping that Autodesk would put in to AutoCAD but they haven't, maybe you'll find it has an app. Like I said, a lot of them are free. Make sure we don't want to run out of time.

OK, some of these I can talk about actually. I'll show a couple of them. Have you ever had a viewport inside of another viewport and can't get to it? You can do control+R, it will cycle through all of your viewports until you get to the one that you need. Used to be control+V for viewport, and then control+V became paste. And then for like two releases we couldn't even do it. And then they put control+R in, because I guess there's an R in viewport.

And I think I'm going to show you that one, and that one, and I'll show you that one. Let me make sure I have this in front of me so, OK. Let's go back over really quickly. I know I'm behind. That's not helping. By five. That's OK, we'll do these fast. Alright, let's do something simple. I want to move this object over using something called Nudge. You guys know about Nudge? Select any object, hold the Control key down, use your arrow keys and you can move your objects by three pixels at a time. Three what? Three pixels, not three units of any type of measure that we can relate to, but three pixels. So basically it's based on the resolution on your screen, which is awesome.

How to have more than one hot group at a time. How? Shift key, right. So I want to actually pull out all of these guys, stretch all of them. You can see that you can do them all at one time. Handy for boxes, really handy for boxes. These are little known grip facts. Do you guys use grips? Grips are awesome.

I want to make a copy. Let's go down to move, and then we're going to do copy. Kind of want to do like a little array on the fly. So I'm going to pick the first location, put that right there. And now if I hold my Control key down, AutoCAD will actually remember that location. And I can do this, I could continue to make copies using the same distance. So if you're using grips, anytime you hold down the Control key in grips, it remembers the last distance, or the last angle, or whatever the last increment of measurement you were using. That's the Control key.

I did this one. I always do this one. It's not a tip, so I'm wasting my time. I want to extend these one, two, three, four lines. I want to extend them out to here. What would you do? Draw a line and extend it, right. Or you can use the awesome change command. Which has been around since the beginning of time. Let me make sure ortho was on. Very simple, select the objects that you want to lengthen or make shorter or whatever the situation is. In the change command, you have to type it in because it's not a real command anymore. Type in change, pick anywhere you want those lines to be lengthened to and it will do so.

Same thing works with trimming. You would just select a point on the objects where you want to trim it too. That's faster than drawing a line and extending it. So there. What else? What else do I have on there? So I showed you that, showed you that, showed you that. And just so you know, these are just little random things. If I'm drawing a line you can see my ortho is on? If you want to temporarily turn your ortho off, did you know you can just hit the Shift key and it will turn it off temporarily? Doesn't flip it, doesn't toggle it, just turns it off temporarily just by holding the Shift key down. And I showed you the rest of those. See, I went through those fast, Karen. Those were fast. Did I get them all? I did.

Tables and then we have the fun part. So you don't want to leave until the fun part. So let's take a quick look at the land of tables. Which I believe I have loaded somewhere. Let's see. So we work with tables. Just a couple tips about tables. I want to actually duplicate 1.8 in all those squares. You guys know how to do that? You do, you all know that? Click on the box, click on the cell that you're interested in. There's this little blue grip right here and it says click and drag to auto fill. But we don't read. Click on that, pull it down, and it will fill it all in with 1.8. Did you all know that? Who didn't know that? Make me feel good. Alright, I feel better.

But you probably, more importantly than that, you would like to increment right? So if you click two cells so that it knows how it should increment it, in that case it's going to increment it. It's going to start with two and add one. You can do the same thing, pull it down and it'll increment it.

That's better, see thank you. Well I'll do it again just for you. So you just click in the two cells so it knows how to sequence it. So it's going to add one to that. You highlight both the cells instead of just one, and then you grab that little blue diamond in the lower right hand corner, click and drag. Click it and pull it down. You Excel people know how to do that, but if you don't know Excel you don't know how to do that. OK? Call me, just call me.

If you want to have two lines, how do I go down to another line inside of a cell? Alt + Enter allows me to have another line inside of a cell. It's going to change the spacing more than likely. But that's how you get a hard enter. And hopefully you also know, it looks like I was playing around with this earlier. Hopefully you also know you can select a table and at the bottom there is a grip that allows you to take your tables and convert them into a variety of columns of tables.

You have to have tables on, and I'll show you what I'm talking about. It knows it's a table down there, because I would like the header across all three right. If I come down here I'm in Properties, you have to have table breaks enabled to get that to work at all. Otherwise the grip won't even show up. But once it's enabled, you can pull them around anywhere you want. You can control the distances, I just ad-libbed it. But in this case I want to repeat the top labels. And you'll see now it have across the top. And you can see that now one is too long and it kind of went over the side. Tables. Now the part that you're all after. It's not your fault your co-workers did not come to this class.

I'll take you because you jumped up. I'm partial to the women today, apparently. That's because women picked me up from my depth grave last time. Alright, you can come up afterwards and I'll give it to you. You get the most awesomeness of them all.

So tips to abuse your co-workers, the most popular part of the class. Let me make sure I don't have to flip back and forth too often. Ways to abuse your coworkers. Who doesn't like that, right?

So the first one is Control + 9 gets rid of the command line. It does give you a little window offering whether or not you're sure you want to do that. Of course, because who wants to get rid of the command line? You can say always close the command line without asking me that question. But I'm going to leave it there, but who needs that anyway? How do you get it back? Control + 9 gets it back, but do not tell your co-workers that.

OK, what's another one. Zoom factor, zoom factor controls the speed of the wheel on your mouse. It's any value between 3-100. Usually you leave it like around 60 or so. But if you set it to three, that's fun. Now watch.

[LAUGHTER]

Set it to 100, 100 is pretty fast. Let's get it back to normal. What happens is I mess myself up. There's also a command called zoom wheel. I'm going to turn that off. I guess you can see it after I type it in. So zoom wheel controls the direction your zoom goes. Any Inventor users? Inventor? OK so in Inventor, right, when you push the wheel forward it actually pushes the display away. Like as if the cameras being, the objects are being pushed away. It's the opposite of AutoCAD. So they added this variable in case you were working in Inventor so you could decide which way you wanted it to work so you didn't go crazy when you went between the two programs. I say it's just fun to change. Change it to one and now when I push forward it zooms in, and when I push and pull it back - When I push forward it goes further away when I zoom towards me it brings the objects towards me. So it's just the opposite, that's all you need to know. And let's fix that right away.

Set your pick box. You know what pick box is, right? You can do two things. You can set it to zero. And now when I go into the erase command I don't even really have a pick box. At all. Let's turn of the dynamic so you can see. I don't really have any, can you see that little dot? I have like one little dot of a pixel. Or you can set pick box to have more fun, set it to the highest value of 50. If I was a CAD manager and I had somebody who was just having a hard time selecting objects, I would totally do that. Here let me help you out. Who knows what you'll get when it's that big, right?

Let's just keep going back a little bit here until it's back to normal. There we go. File die, you know file die right? Set file dye at 2.0 and now if you go into any commands like open or whatever, it will not give you a dialogue box, you're expected to actually key in the directory that you want to grab a file from. Like we don't even know how to do that anymore, do we? File die. Any time it asks you for any type of file dialogue box, to find a file anywhere, it will give it to you at the command line. You will get no dialogue box. So cruel.

And then MTjigstring, you've guys know what that does? If you've ever taken my class, I always do MTjigstring. MTjigstring controls the text that shows up when you're go into Mtex. By default it's ABC, correct. You can see I'm a Broncos fan. That'll make Heidi happy. From

Denver, I'm a Payton Manning fan. So I have Go Broncos, but you could do you mean things like Bad Text or something just to confuse them. So what happens now if I go into the text command you'll see that it says Go Broncos. How many times do I have to turn that off? Give me a raise or whatever. You only have ten characters though. So whatever goes in there.

Mode macro. So mode macro controls what shows up in the lower left hand corner of the status bar down here. By default it's coordinates, but who needs those. So if I typed in Heidi isn't getting any questions. So you see at the bottom of the screen it says Heidi isn't getting any questions. But you could be much more imaginative. You should give me a raise now. And you can fill the whole line. You could say or you'll never get your status bar back or I don't know.

And my favorite ones. So there's a very popular command, well it's not popular at all. If you're evil it's popular. It's an old command called undefine. How many of you use the undefine command? Perfect, you guys are perfect for me. Undefine allows you to undefine any AutoCAD command. I type in line, now I try to type in L for line it doesn't even show up, mind you. Not there. So I'll type it in, and what does it say? Because it tried to execute the hatch. It went to content, can you see that? So basically it's an undefined command, you can't use it anymore.

If I come up here, let's do that we'll come up here. And I try to draw a line, unknown command. How about undefine save. Absolutely. I Save, there's Save As. You'd have to undefine Save As and Save All, and Queue Save, but it could totally be done.

OK so just so you know, if that happens to you, there is a redefine command. Do not undefine the redefine command. Now if I type in L, see it finds the line again now. Redefine line. And then last but not least, there is a lisp command called alert, which is just good fun. So I say alert I have the syntax, so you don't have to worry about with this crazy syntax is, but you put in quotes whatever you want to have show up in this dialogue box. Like now deleting all of your drawings. Please hold. And it puts this little dialog box on the screen. So in the old days, we didn't have, so you'll notice there's no cancel button, it's only OK. It's great for new guys.

So in the old days we didn't have x's in the upper right hand corner, which made it way more fun. They could hit the x and it would go away, but in the old days you could do that. So anyway, so what you would do is you put that in a menu item. Maybe in your menu in the ribbon where it says save or something like that. Because that would be funny. Or maybe for

erase, and he didn't expect quite so much though.

So on that note, I think I'm over my time and I'm finished. But let's go to my PowerPoint and finish it back up. I think I handled all those. And the last Tip, of course. These classes are recorded every year, almost all the classes. And if you go to autodeskuniversity.com, there's thousands of classes up there. All my old tip classes are up there. Different tips every year. So there's a bunch of 75 AutoCAD tips in 70 minutes, and 90 AutoCAD tips in 90 minutes. So definitely take a look at that.

Oh, and the booklets. If you did not get a booklet, I brought my AutoCAD 2014 which also covers 2013 tips and tricks booklets. And I don't think all of you got one. So I'm just going to put them up here. If you didn't get one, just come up and get it. I want to thank you so much for your time and have a great rest of the conference.