

# IT18037-R The CAD Manager Wishlist Roundtable

Frank Mayfield

CAD Administrator, Benham - a Haskell Company

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# Class summary

The tools and ancillary programs that CAD managers use seem to miss out when it comes to updates and new features. In fact, some of these tools haven't been updated in years. This roundtable discussion will focus on what feature changes or improvements would make the CAD manager's job more efficient.

# Key learning objectives

## Objectives:

- Discuss your needs and wishes with Autodesk employees and your peers.
- Connect with seasoned CAD managers who may share your experiences.
- Share best practices and innovative solutions to common CAD management issues.
- Feel like part of a community with common needs to direct future changes to the CAD manager's toolset.

# Who am I?

- CAD Administrator with Benham in Tulsa, Oklahoma
- AutoCAD user since v2.61 (1986)
- 15 years of CAD Management experience
- 5 years as a software developer utilizing Object Oriented Common Lisp (CLOS)
- AutoCAD All-Star Mentor
- 14<sup>th</sup> Autodesk University

 @theMadCadr

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 **Special Guest Star**

Dania El Hassan - Autodesk, AutoCAD Product Manager

# Who are you?

## Target Audience:

CAD Managers and advanced users with CAD Management duties.



- Participant demographics
  - Vanilla AutoCAD? Vertical product? Third Party?
  - What release are you currently on?
  - Are you on Subscription or Perpetual, or a mix of both?
  - Who goes back the furthest? What was your first release of AutoCAD?

# Agenda

- Introduction
- Rules O' The Roundtable
- Brief overview of why I proposed this session.
- A guided, yet open discussion on each feature.
  - Gather all suggestions and possible solutions
  - Informally rank them
    - Survey post AU

1. Reference Manager
2. Sheet Set Manager
3. eTransmit
4. Fields
5. Page Setups

The screenshot displays the Autodesk University 2016 agenda for Wednesday, November 16, 2016. The main agenda list includes sessions such as 'First Coffee & Morning Bites', 'Professional Certification Exam Session 3', and 'The CAD Manager Wish-List Roundtable'. A pop-up window titled 'Class summary' is open for the 'IT18037-R - The CAD Manager Wish-List Roundtable' session, providing details about the roundtable's focus on CAD tools and features, the speaker Frank Mayfield, and the class format and length.

Time	Session Title	Duration	Status
6:00 am	6:00 am		
7 am	6:30 am 22764 - First Coffee & Morning Bites - Wednesday	90 Mins	Scheduled
8 am	7:00 am		
11 am	7:30 am 23119 - Professional Certification Exam Session 3	150 Mins	Session Full
12 pm	8:00 am		
3 pm	8:00 am IT18037-R - The CAD Manager Wish-List Roundtable	60 Mins	
7 pm	8:00 am CS20802 - Consolidate and Improve Your BIM Maturity on Each Project—the BIM Journey of VINCI Construction France	60 Mins	
10 pm	8:00 am DV23317 - Virtual Reality plus Mixed Reality: The Evolution of Storytelling to Story Living	60 Mins	

# Rules

- Everyone get involved.
  - You wouldn't be here if you didn't have something to add.
- Be concise. Our time is limited.
- Offer constructive criticism, not bashing.
- Be polite to your fellow panelists.
- Please mute your phones and tablets.



# Overview

- I reached my limit of “wouldn’t it be great, if...” moments.
- AU & social media networking... others are frustrated too.
- My focus is on external tools, or features that CAD Mgrs handle.
- Twelve years in the making.

## A CAD Manager’s tool timeline – by release





# Discussion:

- Reference Manager
  - Ability to change file names, not just paths.
    - (example: some firms like to prepend a project number to the file name)
  - Launch app directly from AutoCAD

# Discussion:

- Sheet Set Manager
  - Performance issues in large sets
    - (works great with hundreds, not thousands)
  - Ability to merge separate sheet sets
  - Ability to renumber a set from 1 to N.
  - Ability to view the UNC path
  - Ability to have a sheet in more than one SS.
  - Total number of sheets as a field object.
  - Sheet Revision exposed to the Index.
    - (must use a custom field now to get the rev into an Index table)
  - Previews independent of Tool Tips control
  - Onboard tools like JTBWorld's SSMPPropEditor

# Discussion:

- eTransmit
  - Binding improvements
    - Bypass or warn about issues that prevent binding
      - Unloaded Xrefs
      - Proxy Objects
      - Anything else that prevents it.
    - Don't just cruise thru the transmit as if everything worked right
  - Speed of gathering info.
    - At least give us a progress bar
  - Overall performance improvements

# Discussion:

- Fields
  - Allow fields to be “locked” so users can’t just type and override them.
  - Allow lisp expressions or function calls, not just lisp variables
  - Duplicate all features of RText, and/or eliminate one or the other.
  - Allow control over the shading color.

# Discussion:

- Page Setups
  - Stored in a single, external project location, not in each .dwg file.

# Discussion:

- Other?
  - CAD Standards Manager
  - Design Center
  - DWG Properties
  - Page Setups
  - License Transfer Utility
  - Migrate Custom Settings
  - Desktop App

# How did I do?

- Your class feedback is critical. Fill out a **class survey** now.
- Use the AU mobile app or fill out a class survey online.
- Give feedback after each session.
- AU speakers will get feedback in real-time.
- **Your feedback results in better classes and a better AU experience.**



# More Questions? Visit the AU Answer Bar

- Seek answers to all of your technical product questions by visiting the [Answer Bar](#).
- Open daily from **8am-6pm Tuesday** and **Wednesday**; **8am-4:30pm Thursday**.
- Located outside **Hall C, Level 2**.



Watch your email for our ranking survey!





