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Inventor Workgroups:
10, 100, 1000 Users Working Together, Worldwide

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Learning Objectives

- Learn the basics of creating an Autodesk Deployment
- Learn how to push out and update default settings
- Learn how to lock down user settings
- Learn how to maintain CAD workstations in different languages

Description

Today’s workgroups are growing larger and larger. Whatever kind of seasoned expert or key user you might be, you need to maintain coherence across all workstations when organizing your design teams. This class will highlight and demonstrate available tools and technologies that you can use to manage consistency via presets, add-ins, overrides, defaults, locked settings, or multiple installation languages, always keeping in mind the optimal performance of your CAD system.

Speaker(s)

Massimo has been working as a mechanical designer in industrial machinery since 1998, using Autodesk Products for most of the time. After graduating in Material Science and Engineering in Italy and attending a Master in Science in Sweden, he has taken the manufacturing path in industrial machinery, and since then never left. He has started his career in a manufacturing company in North of Italy where he has experienced the transition between 2D and 3D design processes. Being also involved in computer performance topics, he has accumulated a relevant experience in IT area as well, improving the communication between design and IT departments. During his career he as given personnel trainings on several different subjects, including 2D and 3D CAD systems. Currently his primary activity is the CAD & PDM Administration at elexis AG, a German based company located near Köln with design facilities spread across Germany, China and USA.
**Autodesk Deployments**

In the first two sections the typical creation and maintaining of Autodesk deployments will be described and demonstrated. The audience will be guided in all steps that make a typical deployment creation different than a normal setup. In order to demonstrate the real behavior of Autodesk deployment tools, an Active Directory domain (TURBO.local) has been virtualized in the demonstrating hardware:

On this AD infrastructure the real masks will be shown and explained in detail. Tips, tricks and best practices in deployment business will be pointed out as well. Tools for modifying and maintaining deployments will be demonstrated.

For time reasons the “creation” of a deployment (1st section) will not be demonstrated. The modification of one (2nd section) will be demonstrated.

In order to catch up with a topic in the third part of the presentation, the live demo has been prepared on 2017 release. Nevertheless, the content and the techniques here shown do apply to any release up to the current.

Best practices for AutoCAD and its verticalizations will also be presented.
Push out and Update Corporate Settings

Existing techniques for achieving a corporate setup will be described and explained. Handling of default settings and pre-sets for adapting the out-of-the-box behavior of Inventor and AutoCAD will be also shown and demonstrated.

The ideal use of ApplicationOptions.deployed.<XXXX>.xml and CustomizationOptions.deployed.<XXXX>.xml will be shown:

push out default settings -- after install

- Need to refresh the xml files in the “Preferences” folder

```bash
if /I exist "...*LM.xml" %ComSpec% /c del "...*LM.xml" /f /q
ROBOCOPY "...\iAddIns_builtIN"
"%ProgramFiles%\Autodesk\Inventor XXXX\Preferences" "*.xml" /XX /R:0 /W:0
```
How to systematically control and modify default AddIn behavior and other related settings that normally need to follow corporate directives will be explained and demonstrated. Recommendations from Autodesk official documents are sometimes hard to apply on a corporate level, because the tools and techniques to achieve certain objectives are not widely known. These recommendations are particularly relevant when talking about Inventor Optimization, and here the presentation will give the audience all information needed to be able to control such behavior.

unload certain default addins

- recommended in several official documents…
- …but how?


Lock Down User Settings

Since the initial releases the strategy to keep certain specific user settings to the proper corporate value has been solid and consolidated. With these techniques also the amount of tickets opened by users for misconfigurated inventor has been kept elegantly under control.

lock inventor settings -- till 2017

- do some investigation and build your login file accordingly

The technology on this specific topic had a major change between 2017 and 2018 releases. During the presentation the audience will be compared to the technology change. The focus will be pointed on the current situation, and on the actions that can be taken on current releases to achieve the goal as much as possible.

lock inventor settings -- after 2018

- no real way to achieve it but if you vote it on IDEAS maybe one day...
Maintain CAD workstations in different languages

Multilingual CAD Systems are normally harder to maintain rather than single language ones. This is partly due to historical architectural choices, partly to the additional skills needed to handle multiple languages. Design Data folder is one key component in this context. Language specific elements will be indicated and demonstrated.

**multiple languages -- what to watch (1)**

- Design Data folders are somewhere
  "active locale specific"
  - Cable & Harness
  - Design Accelerator
  - GOST
  - Tube & Pipe
  - XLS

Autodesk Material Library is another component with a controversial history. When scaled to a multilanguage scenario a few limitations prevent the proper implementation. Here best practices will be given and demonstrated.

**multiple languages -- what to watch (2b)**

- Material Library
  - build 1 .adsklib file
  - translate via .xlf file
  - do not translate StandardParts materials