Inventor: 10, 100, 1000 users working together, worldwide

Massimo Frison

CAD & PDM Admin

AUTODESK UNIVERSITY
Massimo Frison

CAD & PDM Admin

Degree in Materials Science and Engineering
Onboard since Inventor 5
After 15 years hard core designer I started moving towards CAD development and administration
Always very active in computer performance topics
Currently employed by HEKUMA GmbH / elexis AG
• create / modify deployments
• push out default settings
• lockdown settings
• handle multiple languages
create a deployment
create a deployment

- organize a persistently available network location: RW for you, RO for the others
- start an `cmd`
- mount the "corporate AutoCAD drive"
- run the exe
create a deployment

- chose “Create Deployment”
create a deployment

- chose “Create Deployment”
- enter a reasonable “deployment name”
- as also a consistent “deployment path”
- think before you click
create a deployment

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- enter a reasonable “deployment name”
- as also a consistent “deployment path”
- think before you click
- enter proper Licensing
- select products to install
create a deployment

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- select products to install
create a deployment -- inventor customization

- set default “application settings” and “customization settings”
create a deployment -- inventor customization

- set default “application settings” and “customization settings”
- eventually add additional packages
- once ready close and return to product list
create a deployment -- AutoCAD customization

- set “content center location”
create a deployment -- AutoCAD customization

- set “content center location”
- define “trusted locations”
create a deployment -- AutoCAD customization

- set “content center location”
- define “trusted locations”
- define templates locations and whatever you may need
- once ready close and return to product list
create a deployment -- do it

- click on “create” and get a coffee
- expect 20 to 40 min waiting time
create a deployment -- do it

- click on “create” and get a coffee
- expect 20 to 40 min waiting time
- next step we need to “Add Updates”
create a deployment -- do it

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create a deployment -- do it

- click on “create” and get a coffee
- expect 20 to 40 min waiting time
- next step we need to “Add Updates”
- might need few attempts
- As a rule of thumb:
  a) service packs only once
  b) only the latest hotfix
create a deployment -- scale it

- you can create a deployment almost of everything
- particularly convenient with language packs: no settings 😊
modify a deployment or make a copy of one
modify a deployment (or make a copy of one)

- start an `\cmd`
- shoot the corresponding command

live demo
how to push out default settings
push out default settings -- at install

- simply embed your settings in the Deployment
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
```
unload certain default addins

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


unload certain default addins

- need to refresh the .addin files in the %ProgramData%\...\Addins folder

ROBOCOPY "...\iAddIns_builtIN\XXXX" "%ProgramData%\Autodesk\Inventor XXXX\Addins" "*.addin" /XX /R:0 /W:0
how to lock down certain settings (or make them think they are locked 😊)
lock inventor settings

- not possible
- till 2017
- after 2018
lock inventor settings -- till 2017

- do some investigation and build your login file accordingly

```vbs
for /f %%a in ('cscript /nologo "%_nlgPath%\vbs\User_Initials.vbs"') do set "UName=%%a"
if /i exist "%ProgramFiles%\Autodesk\Inventor 2015\Bin\Inventor.exe" ( set "_invFQN%\ProgramFiles%\Autodesk\Inventor 2015\Bin\Inventor.exe" set "_invRel%19.0" set "_invNum=2015"
) if /i exist "%ProgramFiles%\Autodesk\Inventor 2016\Bin\Inventor.exe" ( set "_invFQN%\ProgramFiles%\Autodesk\Inventor 2016\Bin\Inventor.exe" set "_invRel%20.0" set "_invNum=2018"
) if /i exist "%ProgramFiles%\Autodesk\Inventor 2017\Bin\Inventor.exe" ( set "_invFQN%\ProgramFiles%\Autodesk\Inventor 2017\Bin\Inventor.exe" set "_invRel%21.0" set "_invNum=2017"
) if /i exist "%LOCALAPPDATA%\Autodesk\Inventor_\%_invNum\%\Preferences.vbs" if /i exist "%_invFQN%" ( reg ADD "HKCU\Software\Autodesk\Inventor\RegistryVersion\%_invRel%\System\Preferences\File" /f /v "%_invFQN%:DesignDataDir" /t REG_SZ /d "D:\Cad3D\DesignData"
reg ADD "HKCU\Software\Autodesk\Inventor\RegistryVersion\%_invRel%\System\Preferences\File" /f /v "%_invFQN%:TemplateDir" /t REG_SZ /d "D:\Cad3D\Templates"
reg ADD "HKCU\Software\Autodesk\Inventor\RegistryVersion\%_invRel%\System\Preferences\File" /f /v "%_invFQN%:TextureDir" /t REG_SZ /d "D:\Cad3D\Textures"
reg ADD "HKCU\Software\Autodesk\Inventor\RegistryVersion\%_invRel%\System\Preferences\File" /f /v "%_invFQN%:ContentCenterDir" /t REG_SZ /d "D:\\Wlc\files"
reg ADD "HKCU\Software\Autodesk\Inventor\RegistryVersion\%_invRel%\System\Preferences\File" /f /v "ShowHelpOnStartup" /t REG_DWORD /d 0
reg ADD "HKCU\Software\Autodesk\Inventor\RegistryVersion\%_invRel%\System\Preferences\File" /f /v "ShowWelcomeScreen" /t REG_DWORD /d 0
reg ADD "HKCU\Software\Autodesk\Inventor\RegistryVersion\%_invRel%\System\Preferences\File" /f /v "StartUpAction" /t REG_DWORD /d 0
reg ADD "HKCU\Software\Autodesk\Inventor\RegistryVersion\%_invRel%\System\Preferences\File" /f /v "%_invFQN%:SymbolLibDir" /t REG_SZ /d "D:\Cad3D\Symbols"
reg ADD "HKCU\Software\Autodesk\Inventor\RegistryVersion\%_invRel%\System\Preferences\File" /f /v "UserLogin" /t REG_SZ /d "%UName%"
if /i exist "D:\Lw documentation\2016\ip" reg ADD "HKCU\Software\Autodesk\Inventor\RegistryVersion\%_invRel%\System\Preferences\File" /f /v "LastFolderOpenDialog" /t REG_SZ /d "D:\LW"
reg ADD "HKCU\Software\Autodesk\Inventor\RegistryVersion\%_invRel%\System\Preferences\File" /f /v "PathFile" /t REG_SZ /d "D:\LW\CadB4inv2016.ip"
)```

```vbs
reg ADD "HKCU\Software\Autodesk\Inventor\RegistryVersion\%_invRel%\System\Preferences\Content Center" /f /v "DesktopContentDir" /t REG_SZ /d "D:\Cad3D\ccLib"
reg ADD "HKCU\Software\Autodesk\Inventor\RegistryVersion\%_invRel%\System\Preferences\Content Center" /f /v "CustomFamilyAsStandard" /t REG_DWORD /d 0
reg ADD "HKCU\Software\Autodesk\Inventor\RegistryVersion\%_invRel%\System\Preferences\VBA" /f /v "%_invFQN%:DefaultProject" /t REG_SZ /d "D:\Cad3D\VBA_default.1vb"
reg ADD "HKCU\Software\Autodesk\Inventor\RegistryVersion\%_invRel%\System\Preferences\Sketch/Grid" /f /v "CoordSysIndDisplay" /t REG_DWORD /d 0
)```
Lock inventor settings -- after 2018

- no real way to achieve it but if you vote it on IDEAS maybe one day…

Lock Global Settings - for example Corporate Settings

OPTIONS

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19-06-2018 01:55 AM | GATHERING SUPPORT

8 freesbee

Lock Global Settings - for example Corporate Settings

The idea is to offer the possibility to lock specific inventor settings for CAD Managers and CAD Administrators.

[PROPOSAL]
Several registry-free cross-platform programs offer this possibility. Among them Firefox is probably implementing this concept in one of the best possible ways. The combination of the file firefox.cfg saved to the program path and defaults\pref\autoconfig.js, controls locked settings, with the effect that a user has noway to change a setting that is locked. The setting in the GUI appears to be grayed out. Being saved next to the Firefox.exe inside the ProgramFiles a user without administrative rights cannot tamper the files anyhow.

One possible solution could be one new file like

"C:\ProgramFiles\Autodesk\Inventor XXX\Preferences\InventorLockedSettings.xml"

(or whatever would make more sense) which would lock the value of the settings specified in there and grayout the corresponding controls in the GUI.

According to @DannyHubbard "...there has been some thoughts of making an administrative XML for Application options that would prevent settings from being changed without having to modify the Desktop Icon or anything. A timeframe for the work required is currently unknown". This idea would give additional driving force for this feature to be implemented, so please, also non-admin users, vote this idea: it is essential for CAD Admins to deliver a reliable and stable inventor deployment
how to handle multiple languages
multiple languages -- some history

on Win7

EN OS $\rightarrow$ any inventor

non EN OS $\rightarrow$ EN inventor

or the same language of OS

on Win10

Everything working fine

no need to worry any more
Design Data folders are somewhere "active locale specific"

- Cable & Harness
- Design Accelerator
- GOST
- Tube & Pipe
- XLS

...so maybe you can use some tricks..
multiple languages -- what to watch (2)

- Material Library
  - build 1 .adsklib file
  - translate via .xlf file
multiple languages -- what to watch (2b)

- **Material Library**
  - build 1 .adsklib file
  - translate via .xlf file
  - do not translate StandardParts materials
• create / modify deployments
• push out default settings
• lockdown settings
• handle multiple languages
Inventor - 10, 100, 1000 users: let's begin with the real tuning!

Massimo Frison
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thank you for attention
hope to see you again
enjoy your AU