

AutoCAD Electrical: What's Working and What's Not Roundtable Discussion

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Introduction

Todd Schmoock

Autodesk Reseller – Synergis Technologies – Quakertown, PA
Sales, Training, Consulting

Manufacturing industries:

Technical Ceramics, Honeywell, OTIS Elevator, Specialty Gas, and Utilities Industries

Autodesk software:

AutoCAD®, AutoCAD® Electrical, Inventor®, Factory Design Suite



Class Description

AutoCAD Electrical: What's Working and What's Not Roundtable Discussion

Have you been trying to implement AutoCAD Electrical software at your company, but some things just are not working? Most likely, some things are working, but you're getting frustrated with the subjects that aren't working. This group discussion will dive into the most-common subjects that derail AutoCAD Electrical implementation. Having the opportunity to discuss AutoCAD Electrical with other companies will let you share what's worked for you, and you'll see what's worked for them. Additionally, there will be an AutoCAD Electrical expert there to help solve the items that no one in the group has been able to resolve.

Learning Objectives

Define how to create and manage Projects

If you cannot manage your projects and drawing files you will be in a constant struggle

Solve how to convert standard AutoCAD data to AutoCAD Electrical

You can save time by reusing your company's standard data

Identify how to create symbols and database content quickly

Using AutoCAD to create symbols can save time if you already know AutoCAD. Extracting existing company information can be copied into AutoCAD Electrical's databases.

Explain how to share content with group members

Sharing data is very important. Members will struggle, or create duplicate data.

Managing Projects

Talking Points from Worksheet:

- Project and Drawing Properties – Do you have them defined?
- Project organization – How are you organizing your projects?
- Template drawing(s), Copy Project, Copy To... - Are you using these?

Project Files

If you cannot manage your projects and drawing files you will be in a constant struggle

- **Create company template project(s) with defined properties**
 - Used for all projects
 - Create as many as you need
 - This works great if you are a panel builder company
- **Project organization**
 - Folders
 - Section/Sub-Section Codes
 - LOC/INST – If you are not using them you should be!
- **Copy Project tool**
 - As this gets used more the individual template files will be used less
 - Combine with the Copy To... tool ~

Converting AutoCAD Data

Talking Points from Worksheet:

- What methods do you use to create your symbols and footprints?
- Do you know what attributes are required vs. attributes you want?
- Did you identify the location of attributes in the block?
- Do you know there is a symbol naming convention?

Creating/Converting AutoCAD Data

You can save time by reusing your company's standard data

- **Using AutoCAD workflows vs. Symbol Builder**
 - If you feel more convertible using AutoCAD do it!
- **Required attributes vs. attributes you want**
 - If you do not know, put them all in. Turn invisible and delete later
- **Location of attributes in the block**
 - Place them where you think you want them, and move them later
 - You should be testing anyway!
- **Symbol Naming Convention**
 - Symbols have a naming convention
 - Footprints do not. However, be consistent. Makes it easier to manage ~

Creating Content Quickly

Talking Points from Worksheet:

- What tricks do you have to create symbols and footprints quickly?
- How do you add records to the database? One at a time?
- Does your company have an ERP? Can you extract information?

Creating Content Quickly

Using AutoCAD to create symbols can save time if you already know AutoCAD. Extracting existing company information can be copied into AutoCAD Electrical's databases.

- **Use symbol and footprint Templates**
 - Copy and modify
 - Copy attributes from symbol template if using AutoCAD workflow
 - Insert similar from library and modify
- **Excel to Access – Copy and paste**
 - Format columns to match AutoCAD Electrical database
- **Extract list from company ERP**
 - Format columns to match AutoCAD Electrical database
 - Extract most recently used, most commonly used, etc. ~

Sharing Content with Group Members

Talking Points from Worksheet:

- What is your setup? Out-of-box, server, or Autodesk Vault?
- What folder structure are you using? Do you have one?
- Did you modify the path locations? Do you know where to do this?

Sharing Content with Group Members

Sharing data is very important. Members will struggle, or create duplicate data.

- **Server vs. Autodesk Vault**

- Use Vault if you can
- If not using Vault, pick a server location all have access to

- **Folder structure**

- Same for Vault or server

- **Pathing**

- Environment file
- Application Options
- Project Properties – First tab ~~

AU AutoCAD Electrical Classes After This Class

Thursday - 8:00 – 9:00 *MFG321764*

AutoCAD Electrical User Community Meetup

Thursday - 10:30 – 11:30 *MFG321757*

The Power of the Electromechanical Workflow Between AutoCAD Electrical and Inventor

Thank you!

**Don't forget to fill
out your eval for
a chance to win
an AU 2020 free
pass!**

**MFG321678-R
Todd Schmoock**





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