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News Flash

Fall 2000 Edition

ArchiCAD Tips from Jim

We've found many people are using ArchiCAD 6.5 just as they did 6.0. Big mistake! There is so much more. Explore the Tools >External Commands Menu Items. You'll find goodies such as XREF management for AutoCAD drawings, Search & Replace Text, Automatic Dimensioning, Secondary Metric Dimensions & Modify Wall. Additionally in the Goodies Folder are some additional Add-Ons like Profiler, Check Doubles etc. Dust off the Manuals and Checkout using these enhancements. Many can be found in the Libraries & Environments Manual.

RoofMaker has been improved in ArchiCAD 6.5 R2/V2. Check it out. Here are a couple tips: One of the rafter end settings will trim off material from the rafter bottom to make a particular height tail, but with a catch. To make this type of cut you must have a wall at the edge of the rafter set to the height you want the rafter bottom trimmed to. If your rafters overhang your main walls, then place a temporary wall at the rafter ends to help create the trim. Check in section & if correct delete these extra walls.

People ask about JoistMaker. Until there is one use Roofmaker & a Zero pitched roof.

NEAUG - ArchiCAD User Group

The New England ArchiCAD User Group was designed as a forum for users to gain valuable knowledge from other users, make it as beneficial as possible. Network with fellow ArchiCAD users to find out their tips and techniques. The last Wednesday of every month the NEAUG meets at the Apple Market Center in Boston at 28 State St. 9th Flr. at 7:00PM. Invites are going out primarily by email, so if you haven't yet signed up for the email invite on the user group web page do so today, www.neaug.com. If you do not have access to email call Doug Millen at Bayview Builders 978-526-8161 to be put on the mailing list.

ArchiCAD Software Rentals

With the Architectural market as it is staffing needs are forever fluctuating. If your hiring temporary help it is not always profitable for you to buy an additional site of ArchiCAD so ICS is now offering a few alternatives. To help with temporary staffing needs we are offering both a Pay-Per-Use key good for 50 hours for \$75 or full site rentals for \$200/month. If you choose to rent a full site 1/2 your rental fees can be applied to an additional site of ArchiCAD when the need arises.

Building Components for CAD a Click Away

Graphisoft has announced that it has invested in the US-based Objects Online Inc., acquiring a minority share participation. Objects Online is the premier e-commerce site offering intelligent 3D objects on demand for users of ArchiCAD and other CAD applications. Through continuously increasing the product families offered, the site has become the leading source of custom objects for the ArchiCAD user community.

"The first e-business to offer a catalog of downloadable GDL objects, Objects Online has proven that there is a market and a demand for immediate access to electronic building components," said Gábor Kazár, Graphisoft's vice president of sales and marketing. "We believe that the Internet is changing the way building and interior designers and component manufacturers interact. Using GDL technology, Objects Online is an e-business that can play an important role in this transition."

Objects Online has purchased the right to use Graphisoft's GDL Object Tools for publishing its product portfolio on its site. "Over the last two years, we have not only provided a much needed service to CAD users, but also opened a door of opportunity for

Building Components for CAD a Click Away

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independent object developers," said Objects Online President David Correia. "Our site is a one-stop shop offering real-world building components, and the means for developers to easily publish and distribute their products on a world-wide basis."

Released in early 2000, the GDL Object Tools are a robust set of plug-ins and applications that allow building component manufacturers and object developers to easily publish and distribute their entire product libraries on CD-ROM or the Internet. Building designers, in turn, can access and use those product representations in their designs. For more information, visit www.graphisoft.com/gdl.

The San Francisco, Calif., based Objects Online (www.objectsonline.com) now offers the largest online collection of parametric 3D objects for ArchiCAD and other CAD applications. Visitors can immediately download single objects, small related groups of objects, entire object libraries, or utilities for use with these CAD programs.

Adobe GoLive 5.0 is now shipping

Adobe GoLive started shipping August 14, 2000. This upgrade brings GoLive up to the standards you would expect from Adobe. If you're still using your Cyberstudio version of GoLive this new version will be a worthwhile investment. The bugs of 4.0 have been fixed and many new features have been added.

Adobe GoLive 5.0 includes numerous innovations and over 100 new features, including 360Code' that enables complete control over any Web source code. The tight integration of GoLive 5.0 with Photoshop, Illustrator, and LiveMotion dramatically streamlines the Web workflow with native support of .psd, .ai and .liv files, while the utilization of the Photoshop imaging engine within GoLive makes the files Web ready. Additionally, GoLive 5.0 offers Web professionals significant site planning and management tools for designing, producing and maintaining dynamic and compelling sites, enabling

workgroup collaboration with WebDAV support.

"With version 5.0 we're empowering professional Web designers with the richest visual design tool to date for improving their development process," said Michael Hopwood, director of Web product management at Adobe. "And tighter integration with the industry-standard Web design tool set, which includes Photoshop, Illustrator, and LiveMotion, will make GoLive the preferred choice for serious Web designers."

Adobe GoLive 5.0 for Mac and Win is now available and can be purchased online through the ICS On-line Store at www.intcad.com. GoLive is also available as part of the Adobe Web Collection along with Photoshop 5.5, LiveMotion and Illustrator 9.0

form•Z v3.6 is now shipping

form•Z, RenderZone and RadioZity 3.6 were released July 28, 2000. Most notably v.3.6 makes the illustrator type of splines more "illustrator like", in both the way they are imported/exported and in the way they are edited in form•Z; it updates the support of SAT/ACIS import/export to version 6, which has also improved its handling in IGES imports; it adds to OpenGL and QuickDraw 3D the ability to display open lines and to work with the extended cursor, axis marks, snap highlights and cross marks; it included a number of improvements to the Imager, ranging from general interface refinements to the ability to generate QuickTime VR files, to directly access drafting options, such as for the removal of duplicate lines, and to autosave images for Surface Render, Hidden Line, Shaded Render and RenderZone. In addition significant rendering upgrades to RenderZone and RadioZity are made possible by Lightworks v5.5 being incorporated into form•Z v 3.6. This makes possible multiprocessor support on win. for Preview and Full Raytrace models, rendering effects such as Depth Blur and Background, a new postprocessed effect, Lens Flares, improvements to Textured Brick, Wood Boards and Solid Wood, 2D/3D Cells for Bump shaders, Woven and Multilayer Paint for Reflection shaders and a new type of light, Line light has been introduced. For more information check out www.formz.com

New Add-Ons for ArchiCAD

ArchiTerra - ArchiTerra API has been conceived and created to solve a widespread problem among ArchiCAD users, which is the creation and management of tri-dimensional land models. Designers often have the need to give a context to their own projects within certain surroundings to create a more lifelike environment in order to control the project's environmental impact while still in the planning stage. The same need may arise for purely urbanistic or landscaping purposes, and indeed, there is often the need to create 3D models of rather extensive land. After proper installation, the ArchiCAD user has at his disposal a new series of commands and functions for the quick and simple creation of 3D models of the land that are totally compatible with ArchiCAD. ArchiTerra permits the user to Import lists of points in DXF or TXT file format directly into the ArchiCAD plan window, or to create new land using ArchiTerra commands, which allow entering all the pertinent information that describes the 3D land model by means of points and contour curves. ArchiTerra is an indispensable tool for all ArchiCAD users who need to manage the model of a site or to create complex land features. The ArchiTerra package consists of three components:

- *The Add-On named "ArchiTerra"* that adds the necessary commands to ArchiCAD for the modeling of the land.
- *The "ArchiTerra tools" library* containing a series of simple intelligent objects that can be used like tools to model land.
- *The "ArchiTerra exteriors" library* containing a series of 3D parametric elements (trees, garden furniture, external light sources, etc.) to create a realistic environment within the modeled land created in ArchiTerra. *Requires ArchiCAD 6.5.* The trees and furniture in the Library are great and worth the price alone.

ArchiForma - This Plug-in has been designed to provide the ArchiCAD users with a simple tool for creating complex shapes without utilizing GDL programming. The designer often needs to generate complex shapes in order to represent, with 3D

models, architectural details, furniture or other free shaped elements which are quite difficult to create using the standard construction elements provided within the ArchiCAD Tool Palette. With ArchiForma, ArchiCAD users are given a new series of basic graphic elements, commands and functions to work with, specifically devised for solving this problem, and therefore, can choose to process the project in an even more personalized and detailed way.

GDL Cookbook - 2 - By a combination of explanation, illustration and project-based practical the author takes you progressively through the maze of GDL in an easy and enjoyable way that is guaranteed to enhance your productivity and creativity with ArchiCAD. That is why the GDL Cookbook is acclaimed by Graphisoft and by its readers as the world book on GDL. Hundreds of users have discovered that the GDL Cookbook can provide them with new skills to command ArchiCAD. The book covers GDL for ArchiCAD, s 5.0, 6.0 and 6.5.

The book is worth getting just because of some of the items supplied on the CD!

See the back of this newsletter for prices and an order form. You may also order through the ICS On-line store at www.intcad.com.

New Line of PowerMac™ G4's Unveiled



In a move that makes the world's fastest personal computers even faster, Apple® unveiled an all new Power Mac™ G4 line featuring two models that are the first mainstream personal computers to come standard with dual processors. The 450 MHz and

500 MHz Power Mac G4s each contain dual PowerPC G4 processors with Velocity Engine™, delivering up to 7 billion calculations per second. When running applications like Adobe Photoshop, the dual processor 500 MHz Power Mac G4 is as fast *cont. on page 4*

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New Line of PowerMac™ G4's Unveiled

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as a 2GHz Pentium III which is expected to be upon its release a year or more from now.

Apple also announced that the new Power Mac line comes standard with Gigabit Ethernet, an industry first. All three G4 models feature 10/100/1000BASE-T Ethernet built-in on the motherboard, making the G4 the ultimate networked client for transferring large files, such as image and digital video files, around a network.

“Apple is the first to make dual processors a standard feature in high-performance personal computers—and we are doing it without raising prices,” said Steve Jobs, Apple’s CEO. “These machines are wicked fast, leaving Pentiums in the dust, and we think our customers are going to love them.”

The New iMac Line

Apple® now has an entirely new iMac™ line that starts at a breakthrough price of \$799 and features four new models in stunning new colors. All four iMac models include Apple’s new optical mouse and pro keyboard as standard. The new iMac colors are Indigo, Ruby, Sage and Snow, and join the prized Graphite color in the line.

The new iMac family offers fast PowerPC G3 processors now running at up to 500 MHz and larger storage up to 30GB. The iMac DV models also include iMove™ 2, the next version of the world’s most popular, easy-to-use consumer digital video editing software.

“iMac is now more stunning and accessible than ever,” said Steve Jobs, Apple’s CEO. “iMac is simply the world’s best computer for connecting to the Internet and making desktop movies in the home or classroom.” The new Power Mac G4 also comes pre-installed with Apple’s iMovie™ 2, the next version of the world’s most popular, easy-to-use consumer digital video editing software. iMovie 2 features a refined user interface that’s even easier to use, dramatically improved audio editing capabilities, enhanced controls for titles and transitions, and new effects such as speeding up or slowing down video clips, adding sepia tone and creating soft focus.



PowerMac™ G4 Cube



The Power Mac™ G4 Cube, an entirely new class of computer that delivers the performance of a Power Mac G4 in an eight inch cube suspended in a stunning crystal-clear enclosure was recently introduced at Macworld. The G4 Cube is less than one fourth the size of most PCs, yet houses a 450 MHz PowerPC G4 processor with Velocity Engine™ that reaches supercomputer speeds of over three billion calculations per second (Gigaflops).

“The G4 Cube is simply the coolest computer ever,” said Steve Jobs, Apple’s CEO. “An entirely new class of computer, it marries the Pentium-crushing performance of the Power Mac G4 with the miniaturization, silent operation and elegant desktop design of the iMac. It is an amazing engineering and design feat, and we’re thrilled to finally unveil it to our customers.”

The Power Mac G4 Cube uses a revolutionary cooling design that does not require a fan, so it runs in virtual silence. Cooling is provided by the air flowing through the Cube’s center vertical cooling channel. In addition, the Cube’s entire electronics assembly can be easily lifted out of its enclosure within seconds, providing access to every major component and allowing the easy addition of memory or an AirPort™ card.

The G4 Cube includes a 450 MHz PowerPC G4 processor with Velocity Engine (configurable to 500 MHz through the Apple Store); 64MB of memory expandable to 1.5GB; 20GB of storage (configurable up to 40GB through the Apple Store); a slot-loading DVD drive on the top of the G4 Cube for easy access; two FireWire® and two USB ports; 10/100BASE-T Ethernet and a 56K V.90 modem.

The Power Mac G4 Cube comes complete with Apple’s new optical mouse and pro keyboard, as well as a pair of Apple designed Harman Kardon speakers.

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New Displays for your PowerMac™ G4



To complement its new professional desktops, Apple® unveiled a complete new family of matching displays in stunning crystal-clear enclosures: the 17 inch (16 inch viewable) Apple Studio Display CRT, the 15 inch Apple Studio Display flat panel and the 22 inch Apple Cinema Display™.



Apple's new line of displays are specially designed to complement Apple's new Power Mac™ G4 Cube and Power Mac G4 professional desktops and incorporate three new advances: each is powered from the computer, eliminating the need for a separate power cord; each has a two port powered USB hub for convenient connection to desktop USB devices, such as keyboards, USB speakers and digital cameras; and each utilizes the Apple Display Connector, a revolutionary new cable that carries analog and digital video signals, USB data and power over a single cable and features a quick latch connector.

The 17 inch Apple Studio Display features a Natural Flat Diamondtron CRT, extraordinarily sharp text and ColorSync® internal calibration to keep colors accurate over time. The 17 inch Studio Display, with an ultrafine 0.25mm aperture grille pitch, features both futuristic styling and a unique electrical design that supports multiple resolutions at over 100 Hz vertical refresh rate. An innovative Theater Mode provides increased screen brightness for enhanced viewing of full screen iMovie™, DVD or QuickTime™ content.

The 15 inch Apple Studio Display active matrix TFT flat panel offers a pure digital interface delivering 1024-by-768 distortion free pixels. It offers 16.7 million saturated colors at twice the brightness, twice the sharpness, and twice the contrast ratio of typical CRT monitors. The 15 inch Apple Studio Display uses the same elegant design as the award-winning Apple Cinema Display.

The 22 inch Apple Cinema Display flat panel is the largest all-digital LCD flat panel display ever brought to market and offers a pure digital interface, an extra wide viewing angle and support for true 16.7 million saturated colors, making it perfect for even the most demanding graphics-intensive applications. Delivering 1600-by-1024 distortion free pixels, it is the largest LCD based flat panel display ever brought to market and ideal for viewing two full pages of text and graphics.

Optical Mouse and Pro Key Now Standard



Apple® unveiled an innovative optical mouse and a sleek new full-size pro keyboard at Macworld this year, both of which are housed in stunning, crystal-clear enclosures and come standard with all of Apple's new desktop computers. Apple's optical mouse provides precise positioning without a mousepad on almost any surface and features an ergonomic, full surface button and comfortable elliptical shape. The sleek new pro keyboard offers full-size function and navigation keys, volume control and disc eject keys, as well as two USB ports.

The Apple Pro Mouse's high-performance optical sensor ensures extreme precision and eliminates skipping and sticking. The optical mouse has no moving parts, such as a mouseball which could get dirty and degrade performance. Its innovative design also enables users to easily adjust the clicking tension to obtain the feel that is just right for them.

The sleek new Apple Pro Keyboard offers a two port bus-powered USB hub for convenient connection to desktop USB devices. The Apple Pro Keyboard includes 15 full-size programmable function keys, full-size inverted-T cursor controls, and a 6-key document navigation pad. The keyboard provides quick access to dedicated audio volume and mute controls, as well as a media eject key for removing discs from the computer's optical drive.



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