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ARCH WAY

The Newsletter for Friends of Archway Systems

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Holiday Greetings

Let us be the first to wish you a great Holiday Season: Happy Thanksgiving, Merry Christmas, Happy Hanakuh, Happy Kwanzae and the very best of New Years.

Upcoming Events:

Oct 30	11am	3D Print Open House	USC
Nov 7	7 pm	CAD Tech update	ELAC
Nov 8	6pm	LA Users Meeting	Rio Hondo CC
Nov 9	6pm	OC Users Meeting	Archway
Dec 8	noon	Water Modeling	Archway
April 29-May 3		BE Conference	LA Conv Ctr

Bentley Seminars and BE Conference

Since July, Archway has presented Bentley seminars to over 350 people at over 25 locations including many leading universities (Both Cal Poly, Stanford, Texas Tech, Rice, Universities of Calgary, Houston, Alberta and more). Seminars included a snapshot of the 2006 BE Conference. BE 2007 will be held at the Los Angeles Convention Center April 29-May 3. Not too soon to mark your calendar.

Water Modeling "Lunch and Learn"

Join us on December 8 at noon for lunch and an update on the latest Water Modeling software. See a demo of WaterGEMS V8 XM Edition, the software that won "People's Choice" Award at the August national meeting of AWWA. WaterGEMS has recently been adopted by a number of large Southern California water agencies because of its power and ease of use. It is the only product that will run on either AutoCAD, MicroStation or ArcGIS or standalone. The same software can be used for all four configurations. RSVP to Linda@archwaysystems.com

Bentley So Cal User Group Meetings

November 8 at Rio Hondo CC, Nov 9 at Archway. Inaugural San Diego Meeting was held October 11. Checkout www.la-ocmug.com for details.

If you use Bentley products, you won't want to miss the user meetings that are held each quarter. For example, the LA-OCMUG serves the LA basin. There is one meeting in

an LA location and one in Orange County. The LA meetings have been primarily held at Rio Hondo CC, and the Orange County meetings have been held at Washington Group in Irvine and more recently at Archway Systems. The meetings have a period of networking over light supper and then there is a presentation by a member of something of interest to the group. The Nov meetings will cover new V8XM features and managing a dwg/dgn shop. Email to tom@archwaysystems.com for more information.

MicroStation V8 XM Applications

MicroStation V8 XM has been shipping since May and applications are coming fast. Short list of XM software: MicroStation, PowerDraft, View, Redline, SELECTserver, StartPoint, Staad pro suite, RAM suite, Haestad, Descartes, IRAS, Triforma, Architecture, Structural, Geopak, PowerSurvey, You can always check the status at selectservices.bentley.com. More coming.

Archway offers StartPoint Quickstart

Bentley is now offering ProjectWise Startpoint with XM SELECT, a free version of ProjectWise for smaller offices. It runs on standard Windows SharePoint Services which comes with Microsoft Windows Server 2003 See REPORT. Archway has a new training class on how to get started with ProjectWise StartPoint as well as onsite consulting. Email Tom@archwaysystems.com for more information.

BE Careers Drawing Contest

Educators and students take note. Prizes are increased this year with new categories. If you are studying MicroStation or PowerDraft, check www.becareers.com for details. Users attend BE Conference free!

Inside...

Who's who at Archway Systems.....	2
Report: Microsoft SharePoint.....	2
VersaCAD Mac 2006 Ships.....	3
VersaCAD Mac shown at Apple.....	3
Training Class Schedule.....	3
64 Bit Solid Edge.....	3
Teamcenter Express.....	3
Archway Design Applications.....	3
PowerDraft Updated.....	4

Who's who at Archway Systems

Arlene Black Admin and sales
Leah Spittler Civil engr software support
Tom Lazear Admin, sales and training
George McMeans Sales & training in Nor. Cal.
Mike Lazear Programming & support
Erik Wordal MicroStation training in Cal coastal

Rick Plummer Mftr consultant and sales
Josh Lazear Webmaster & programming
Greg Hamano Support & training
Sandy Lazear Accounting
Linda Grubb Support & admin

REPORT

Microsoft SharePoint- For Collaboration

Windows SharePoint Services is a module of Windows Server 2003. It has two parts: Services and Portal. Microsoft Office SharePoint Server 2007, now in beta form, has changed the names of the Portal and added a great deal of functionality. SharePoint will be a large part of Vista scheduled for shipment next year. SharePoint is said to be one of the fastest growing Microsoft products ever. With release of Vista, demand should grow even stronger.

The motivation for SharePoint is the market demand for collaboration, control of data and security of data. Even on a single computer a large amount of time is spent by any computer user looking for files. Nearly everyone has experienced sending out the wrong revision of a file or document. Larger projects requiring more than one person exacerbates the problem. When multi offices are involved, the problems become extreme. NIST has estimated multibillion dollar costs to US businesses because of wrong revisions, and time wasted searching for information.

There are a number of vendors of custom software for management of the files and documents on a project. UGS publishes TeamCenter and the lower end version called Team Center Express. In fact, Solid Edge also offers a free document management called Insight that comes with Solid Edge. Insight is based on SharePoint. Bentley Systems publishes a product called ProjectWise for the same purpose. TeamCenter is customized for and used for manufacturing CAD (MCAD) data. ProjectWise is customized and used for infrastructure CAD (AEC) data. The two perform similar basic functions but utilize the nomenclature and peculiarity of the specific discipline as well as being adapted to the particular CAD software.

SharePoint was conceived by Microsoft to handle many of the common function of products like ProjectWise and TeamCenter. The idea would be that ProjectWise might do away with its core functions and then put the user-specific interface on top of SharePoint as TeamCenter might also do.

To date, several of the vendors have begun to move in the direction that Microsoft envisioned. In the CAD area, Bentley seems to be leading the idea since they announced and ship a product called ProjectWise Startpoint that uses the unmodified form of SharePoint as its core. On the other hand, UGS adopted SharePoint even earlier but, they modified (ie customized) the central part of SharePoint. Both wrote custom client-side modules to access the data. And, Microsoft itself has integrated its office and other products through SharePoint.

Bentley now offers ProjectWise Startpoint based on Microsoft's SharePoint. The central server is SharePoint itself, unmodified. The client side is one of three: standalone for a non-CAD user, an integrated module within MicroStation V8 XM Edition, and a custom menu that can be installed on AutoCAD. File types handled are dgn, dwg for both base files and reference files. The client side will automatically find, open and attach any reference files required by either AutoCAD or MicroStation.

Bentley suggests that Startpoint is a good way to achieve a managed environment for 6 to 20 users and for one file server.

So, a Bentley user with a 10 man architecture practice (the average size of an architectural firm) can move from an unmanaged environment to a managed environment at no, or minimal, cost assuming that the firm already uses Windows server 2003. The procedure: install the StartPoint template on SharePoint, then simply move all the dgn and dwg files to a central server under the SharePoint directory structure. Then activate the Startpoint menu of MicroStation V8 XM edition, and ready to go. Some firms may need a little help implementing, and all will benefit by taking a formal class. But, the results of switching from unmanaged to managed environment pay back big dividends for a small initial cost.

Benefits to the user of Startpoint: Fast file finding with a Google-like search engine in SharePoint, Finding files no matter who the author, check-in and check-out of files, versioning, and much more. These functions will save much time in the typical office and increase the likelihood of submitting the proper version of files to avoid the many problems that occur when wrong versions are sent out.

Since Microsoft Office documents are also controlled by SharePoint, nearly all, if not all, of the documents of the typical small office can be managed.

Training Class Schedule

Archway offers a variety of training classes using the latest of each software. Classes are 1 to 4 days in duration and cover subjects in depth using certified materials. All classes are 8:30 am to 5 pm. Locations: Huntington Beach training center (**HB**) and S.F. Bay area (**BA**). Classes can be delivered on-site and online. For latest Bentley courses, see also: <http://www.bentley.com/en-us/training/>

Upcoming open enrollment classes:

MicroStation V8 XM Edition User Update - Covers latest new features from V8 thru XM. Course includes a workbook. Cost is \$800. HB: Nov 14-15, Dec 18-19

MicroStation V8 XM Edition Admin Update - Covers V8 install, configure, customize etc. As requested.

InRoads Road Design Basics - This is a Bentley certified, 3-day class using Bentley's InRoads 8.5 training manual. Cost is \$1350 including course book and instruction. TBA

Moving to MicroStation - Covers the basics of MicroStation 2D for persons who know another CAD. This is a good first class in Bentley's certified course series. Cost is \$1050 HB: Nov 28-30, Dec 12-14.

Essential MicroStation. Even deeper than Moving to MicroStation, this four day class is basic for new users. Next classes: Cost is \$1400. Oct 31-Nov 3.

MicroStation Basics. A quick, 2 day course in MicroStation 2D that is tailored to a discipline, e.g. Civil, Architectural or Plant. Fee is \$700. TBA.

ProjectWise StartPoint Quickstart. A 2 day course in how to install, configure and use StartPoint in combination with Microsoft SharePoint. \$1000. Nov 16-17

VersaCAD/solidThinking Quickstart - Learn VersaCAD basics plus new translator and Library manager. Then, learn how to move files to solidThinking and create 3D models. Two-day class, \$495 HB. November.

Solid Edge Basics - The goal of this 4 day course making the student ready for productive work with an introduction to Part, Assembly, Draft and Sheet Metal modules of Solid Edge. At \$1200 this is a very cost-effective and quick way to get started in Solid Edge. Dec 13-15

VersaCAD 2006 Windows update- Covers all the changes in VersaCAD 2003 thru 2006. One-day class includes workbook, lunch and computer to use. Cost is \$245. Classes available on demand.

VersaCAD 2006 for Mac OSX Update Covers all changes since VersaCAD 2001 plus review of some features. One-day class includes workbook, lunch and use of computer. Cost is \$245. Classes available on demand.

VersaCAD Mac Universal Ships

VersaCAD Mac 2006 is now a universal binary, so it can run on either a PowerPC or Intel based Mac. VersaCAD Mac 2006 shipped in September to holders of Premium Service and to new customers. Still priced at \$795 for a new seat or \$395 for a single update, VersaCAD remains the easiest to learn and most productive CAD for the Mac platform. For more information, check: <http://www.versacad.com/versacad/vcadmac.htm>

Online Training Courses Available

Online classes are becoming more popular. Archway offers several online courses:

Nov 1	Introduction to VersaCAD Mac	\$100
Nov 3	Introduction to VersaCAD Win	\$100
Nov 7,8	Introduction to Rhino 3D	\$250
Dec 13, 14	Introduction to Solid Edge	\$250

All above 10 am to 2pm Pacific Coast Time

Bentley online classes include the following:

Nov 14,15	Getting Started with Mstn VBA	\$500
Dec 5, 6	Mstn VBA for Professionals	\$800

See lots more at www.bentley.com > Training, or

[www.bentley.com/en-](http://www.bentley.com/en-us/Training/Find+Courses/Bentley+LEARN+Server.htm)

[US/Training/Find+Courses/Bentley+LEARN+Server.htm](http://www.bentley.com/en-us/Training/Find+Courses/Bentley+LEARN+Server.htm)

See New VersaCAD Mac at Apple

At the request of Apple, Ed Vermurlen, AIA will be showing the new release of VersaCAD 2006 for Mac at Apple stores. Ed will demonstrate VersaCAD on the Intel based Mac along with architectural, landscape and other applications he has developed. First showing will be at the Woodland Mall in Grand Rapids MI on November 3 at 7pm. Attendees will receive a 50% discount on purchases of VersaCAD or applications made at the event.

Solid Edge v19 Includes 64 Bit

With Version 19, Solid Edge strengthens its position as the most complete solution for 2D and 3D machine design and collaboration. In response to customer requests, V19 adds hundreds of enhancements

Solid Edge V19 is optionally available in 64 bit mode for large assembly projects. With 4 GB of central memory, Solid Edge V19/64bit can handle all the parts in the largest of machines. In addition, speed of operation is enhanced for smaller assemblies as well. No extra charge for this version, a first in the industry. Requires 64bit Windows.

UGS Teamcenter Express

Archway recently qualified as a certified rep and consultant for UGS Teamcenter Express. Multi-site, Multi-CAD product data management software including full vaulting, check-in, check-out, bill of material management and compare as well as automating work flow. Preconfigured, easy to implement and customizable. Interfaces directly with TeamCenter, the number one PLM software in the world, from UGS. Archway's Rick Plummer, Teamcenter project manager, has 20 years experience implementing inventory and manufacturing systems. For more information, email Rick@archwaysystems.com

Archway Design Applications Available

Archway now offers a number of interesting custom applications for both VersaCAD and MicroStation:

Automated Parking Lot Design- VersaCAD Win

Automated Parking Structure Design- VersaCAD Win

Steel Stud detailing and CAM- PowerDraft

The Parking applications are available separately or as a package together and/or with VersaCAD. The Steel Frame detailing was just completed. A user takes an architects drawing and details each wall, automatically placing and designing the end connections and holes. Output is a drawing and a list to drive a machine that makes the studs.

ARCHWAY'S PRODUCT LINE

Archway is a full service provider of technical software and hardware serving the Academic, Architectural, Civil and Mechanical Engineering markets.

DESIGN & ENGR SOFTWARE:

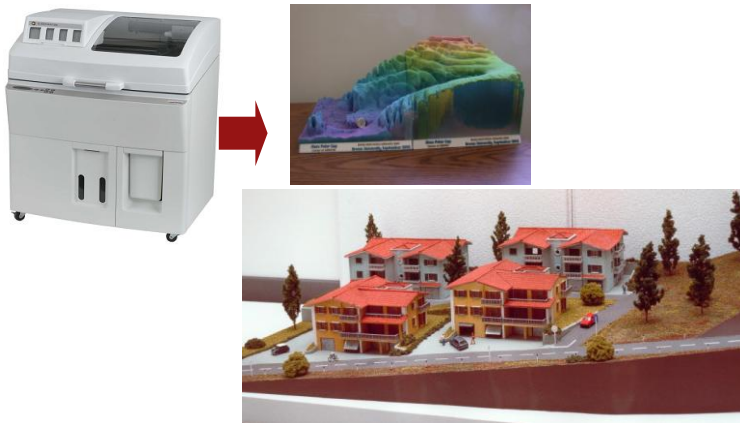
- MicroStation and applications
- VersaCAD Win & Mac
- InRoads & Geopak Civil Software
- Haestad Hydraulic Analysis Software
- Solid Edge
- Plassotech finite element modeling
- TransMagic-translation software
- Magics X STL editing software

3D GRAPHICS & ANIMATION SOFTWARE:

- Rhino 3D, Flamingo, Penguin & Bongo
- Softimage
- solidThinking
- Bentley Navigator
- ArchVision libraries

COMPUTER PERIPHERALS

- Z Corp 3D Printers



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SERVICES

- Training
- Phone support
- On-site support
- 3D Printing
- Customizing
- Consulting
- Contract software development
- CAD file translation

MicroStation PowerDraft Update

MicroStation PowerDraft V8 XM Edition is now shipping. This new release of PowerDraft, at just \$1205 plus SELECT at \$295/yr, includes many of the new MicroStation XM features including fast graphics, transparency, priorities, new curves toolbar and more which makes it a very comprehensive package for production design drafting. Files are identical to full MicroStation and DWG/DGN compatibility and translator are identical as well. Makes a great additional production seat in a MicroStation XM shop.

See Physical Models Made at USC

You are cordially invited to attend an open house at the USC School of Architecture on Monday, October 30 from 11am until 3pm. See the Z510 3D Printer make a dozen architectural models in half a day. Enjoy snacks and drinks. See the new USC Architecture School Facilities. Please RSVP to Linda@archwaysystems.com if you plan to attend. Look forward to seeing you there.

solidThinking Chat Page

Join the solidThinking chat page by going to:
www.solidthoughts.com

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