

Before You Begin

DataCAD 11 includes some of the most significant enhancements to the program in years. These consist of changes to file format, directory structure, file and folder names, and program default settings, as well as many feature enhancements. The Whats_New.HTM file on your DataCAD 11 CD-ROM has more details about the new features and enhancements. Due to the fundamental nature of these changes, DataCAD 11 must be installed into a new program folder. The installation program will not allow DataCAD 11 to be installed in the same folder as a previous version.

If you are installing DataCAD 11 on a computer with a previous DataCAD version, you may have existing data files and/or customized support files like hatch patterns and linetypes. If you choose to search for an existing version, some of your support files and settings can be copied into your DataCAD 11 program folder automatically during installation. You will need to copy other support files manually. Data files (such as drawings, XREF drawings, default drawings, symbols, and templates) are not automatically copied into your DataCAD 11 folder during installation. You need to decide which data files, if any, you will copy into your DataCAD 11 folder.

These instructions will help you update your DataCAD software to version 11. We recommend that you make a complete backup of your data and support files before you install this upgrade and before you modify, copy, or convert any data or support files. If you don't make a backup, you may not be able to recover from an error or program failure.

New Directory Structure

Previous versions of DataCAD were installed in a folder named DataCAD on your C drive (C:\DataCAD). The folders shown in the Older Versions column have been replaced by the folders in Version 11.

Version 11	Older Version
Bitmaps	BMP
Default Drawings	Default
Drawings	DWG
Fonts	CHR
Help	Help
Layer Files	LYR
Macros	DCX
Materials	Materials (for o2c files)
o2c Objects	o2c
Plot Files	PLT
Report Forms	FRM
Support Files	SUP
Symbols	SYM
Templates	TPL

Temporary Files	TEMP
Textures	Textures (for o2c files)
Transfer	XFER

Drawing Files

DataCAD drawing files have a new file format. This is primarily due to the enhancement to a double-precision database. All existing DataCAD drawing files (*.DC5) are automatically converted to the new format when you open them with DataCAD 11. When you close the drawing files, they are saved in the new format with the .AEC extension. Once you have converted your drawings, all future edits should be performed in the .AEC file. This applies to all DataCAD drawing files, even if they are used as a default drawing or an XREF.

You can convert several drawing files at once by selecting multiple .DC5 files in the File\Open dialog. Once they are open, select File\Close All. The resultant .AEC files will automatically be saved at the same location as the .DC5 files. DataCAD 11 will convert .DC5 files to .AEC files, but it will not convert .AEC files to .DC5 files.

Default Drawings

DataCAD 11 cannot use your existing .DC5 default drawings until they are converted to .AEC files. Therefore, we recommend that you convert your existing default drawings, if any, before you create any new drawings in DataCAD 11. Default drawings may be converted from .DC5 to .AEC using the method described in Drawing Files.

XREF Drawings

We recommend that you convert your XREF drawings from .DC5 to .AEC before you attempt to open the master drawing file in which they are inserted. If you don't convert them, the XREFs could be flagged as orphans since they are not valid .AEC files yet. If they are flagged as orphaned XREFs, you will need to convert the XREF drawings and resolve their orphaned status in the Reference File Manager.

If the XREFs remain in their original folders when you open the Master file, DataCAD will attempt to automatically convert them from .DC5 to .AEC format. If they are not found in their original location, DataCAD will search the current drawing folder and attempt to convert them. If they are not found there either, they will be flagged as Orphans.

Symbols and Templates

DataCAD 11 has a powerful new feature called the Symbol Browser. This toolbar lets you view and use all of your symbol folders without cumbersome template files. By taking advantage of the Symbol Browser toolbar, you will probably find that you no longer need your existing template files. In addition, the symbol libraries that are

included with DataCAD have been reorganized into a logical directory structure, making symbols easier to find.

DataCAD 11 symbol files have a new file format and use the file extension .DSF. DataCAD 11 can read existing symbol files (with the .SM3 extension) as well as the new .DSF file format. You can access your existing symbol libraries with the Symbol Browser, simply set the path to your existing symbol folder. DataCAD 11 automatically creates .DSF files when you save symbols.

Support Files

DataCAD has a variety of support files used for different purposes; you can customize many of these files. You may have modified some of your DataCAD support files in a previous version or installed add-on products for DataCAD which updated them.

The DataCAD 11 installation program allows you to search for a previous version of DataCAD. Many potentially customized files will then automatically be copied into DataCAD 11. If you chose to search for an existing version, the following support files are copied into your C:\Program Files\DataCAD\Support Files\ folder during installation

Support File Type	Original Location	Filename
Hatch Pattern Definition File	DATA CAD\SUP\	DCADWIN.PAT
Hatch Pattern Preview Settings File	DATA CAD\SUP\	DCADWIN.PAT.INI
Linetype Definition File	DATA CAD\SUP\	DCADWIN.LIN
Keyboard Macro File	DATA CAD\SUP\	DCADWIN.MCR
Text Style File	DATA CAD\SUP\	TEXT.STL
Wall Style File	DATA CAD\SUP\	WALL.STL
Command Line Alias File	DATA CAD\SUP\	DCADWIN.DCA
Spell Checker User Dictionary File	DATA CAD\SUP\	USERDIC.TLX
Dimension Style Files	DATA CAD\SUP\	*.DIMSTYLE
o2c Rendering Settings Files	DATA CAD\SUP\	*.DMF
Plotter Pen Settings Files	DATA CAD\SUP\	*.PEN
Palette Files	DATA CAD\SUP\	*.RGB
DWG Translator Color Mapping Files	DATA CAD\SUP\	*.TBL
DWG Translator Settings Files	DATA CAD\SUP\	*.INI
Shader Light Settings Files	DATA CAD\SUP\	*.LIT
Toolbar Files	DATA CAD\SUP\	MENUPOF*.*

Text Fonts

DataCAD supports both DataCAD .CHR fonts and Windows TrueType fonts. Earlier versions of DataCAD only supported .CHR fonts. If you had installed additional .CHR fonts for DataCAD, you can copy those files into your C:\Program Files\DataCAD\Fonts\

folder for use with DataCAD 11. If you are using TrueType fonts in DataCAD, you don't need to copy those font files since Windows manages your TrueType fonts from a central location on your computer.

DCAL Macros

If you have additional DCAL Macros installed with your previous DataCAD version, you can copy those files into your C:\Program Files\DataCAD\Macros\ folder. DCAL Macros have the file extension .DCX. Some macros may have additional support files or settings files that need to be copied along with them. In previous versions, macros resided in the \DataCAD\DCX\ folder.

The following macros are no longer included with DataCAD:

- LyrUtil (Layer Utility)
- SymExp (Symbol Explode)
- EstLink (Estimator Link)
- ViewMast (View Master)

Functionality from LyrUtil and SymExp is built into Layers, LayerSets and 3D Explode menus respectively. Do not copy LyrUtil, SymExp, EstLink, or ViewMast macros into the new DataCAD\Macros folder.

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