DATACAD LLC

TECHNICAL BULLETIN

DataCAD Technical Support Frequently Asked Questions

Q. When starting DataCAD you get the error message *Hard Lock not found*.

A. Verify that the key is properly connected to your computer's LPT1 parallel port. If you are using multiple keys, install DataCAD's only. If the key is recognized, reconnect the others, keeping DataCAD's first. If a printer, scanner, zip drive, or other device is connected to the key, try removing the device(s) to determine if there is a conflict. Also, make sure the parallel port is configured as a standard, unidirectional port (SPP). This requires entering the CMOS setup; contact your computer's manufacturer for instructions. You can also install the key on LPT2 if available (or add an additional parallel port). With the key connected to LPT2, add the following line to your AUTOEXEC.BAT file in your Windows directory, and reboot the computer.

SET HL_SEARCH=278e,378e

Q. When starting DataCAD in Windows NT you get an error message *Cannot Open Hardlock Driver*.

A. An NT installation requires administrative privileges; uninstall DataCAD, log on with administrative privileges, and then re-install DataCAD.

Q. When starting DataCAD you get an error message *C:\DATACAD\CHR\Romans.chr does not exist*.

A. Your font path has changed. Go to Start/Find/Files or Folders, and in the Named input box type **dcadwin.ini**. Click Find Now. When Windows finds the file, double-click on it to open it in Notepad. In the [Paths] section, one of the lines begins with PATH_FONT=. Delete the path following "=" and type **CHR**. The line should now read: PATH_FONT=CHR\. Save the file and restart DataCAD.

Q. When I get into DataCAD 8, the menus are displaying hieroglyphics.

A. You are running DataCAD 8.00 or 8.05, please download a newer version from our website www.datacad.com or Choose Start/Find/Files or Folders, and in the Named input box type **dcadwin.ini**. Click Find Now. When Windows finds the file in your windows directory, double-click on it. The file will open in Notepad. In the first section under the heading [General], there is a line that reads CHAR_SET=0. Delete the 0 and type **1**. (Valid numbers are 0-15) Save the file and restart DataCAD 8. Note: Each Windows installation seems to install a different set of system fonts and character sets. We have configured DataCAD 8 to work with the most common setting, 0.

Q. Where did Renderize Live install to?
If you choose to do a Typical installation then the Visual Reality Suite was not installed in order to save disk space. Put the DataCAD 8 CD into your CD-ROM drive and run the installation. Choose to do a Custom installation and select the Visual Reality Suite. After installing Visual Reality you can go to Start\Programs\DataCAD 8 to select the program icon.

Q. How do I use my hatch patterns, linetypes or keyboard macros from DataCAD for DOS?

A. DataCAD 8 for Windows uses the same file format for these files, it is just looking for a different filename. The hatch pattern filename in DOS is DCAD.PAT, in Windows DCADWIN.PAT. The linetype filename in DOS is DCAD.LIN, in Windows DCADWIN.LIN. The keyboard macros filename in DOS is DCAD.MCR, in Windows DCADWIN.MCR. These files are found in your C:\DATACAD\SUP directory. For more information please see the Reference Manual or Readme.win file in your DataCAD directory.

Q. How do I plot to my plotter?

A. DataCAD 8 for Windows prints using the installed Windows printer drivers. Contact your plotter/printer manufacturor for drivers. See Start\Help\Index and look up Add Printer Driver.

Q. When attempting to exit the SetPens menu the error, *I/O Error 32 and/or '-' not a valid integer* appears.
A. You have an invalid integer, namely "-", for one of the 256 color maps under Pen Assignments in the Pen Table. In the left hand window of the Pen Table, scroll down the list of colors and make sure that all 256 colors have a pen number mapped to them.

Q. When working inside DataCAD, I cannot use the middle mouse button for object snapping.
A. You must configure your mouse driver's middle button to be "Middle Button". Choose Settings from you Windows Start menu and then choose Control Panel. Double-click on Mouse to open the Mouse Properties dialog box. Click on the Buttons tab and set the middle button to Middel Button.

Q. How do I change to different icon toolbars, other than the one that is currently displayed at the top of the screen.
A. While in DataCAD, from the Preferences menu choose Options and then go to the Misc tab. Set the desired name for the Default .KEY file. Choose OK to accept changes and exit.

Q. When attempting to insert doors and windows into a wall, I get a message that reads *No walls found to be cut*.
A. When using the DoorSwng or Windows menu options, the LayerSrch toggle must be turned on and the correct layer where the walls reside must be chosen. If Layersrch is already on, toggle it off and then on again and choose the correct layer where the walls reside.

Q. The Quick Shader menu option does not appear in the 3D Edit menu.
A. You have DataCAD 8.0 installed; download the latest free update from our web site and install it.

Q. DataCAD is set up to use English units of measure and I have to use metric units.
A. While in a DataCAD drawing file, go to the Utility/Settings/ScaleTyp menu and choose one of the metric unit selections.

Q. I have a very large drawing file and I cannot add or delete entities.
A. You have reached the maximum drawing file size limit of 20 MB. To reduce the file size, while in the drawing, choose LayrUtil from the Edit/Toolbox menu; choose Layer Save, choose Save All, and press [Enter] to use the drawing filename as the saved layer name or type a different name. When the layers have been saved, exit the drawing, create a new non-default drawing, and use the Layer Utility macro to load the saved layers into the new drawing. Your file size is now reduced.

Q. How do I save a DataCAD drawing file to a diskette?
A. While in the DataCAD drawing, go to the File menu and choose Save As. Change the Save In line to your disk drive and select Save. This should only be done for drawing files that are smaller than 1.4 MB in size being saved to a blank 3.5" disk. It is always safer to save the drawing file to the hard drive then to copy or move it to a diskette using Windows Explorer.