## DATACAD LLC

## Software for Architecture

## TECHNICAL BULLETIN

## **DataCAD Templates & Symbols**

DataCAD stores symbols in visual windows called Templates. A Template file is a text file which contains the paths to each symbol file. If you are copying Template & Symbols from one station to another then you must copy both the SYM and the TPL directories.

Here is an example:

You can open Template files in Notepad through windows. Let us say that we are going to create a new Template file called Furn1.tpl and into this Template we are going to save three Symbols, Desk.sm3, Chair.sm3 and Bookcase.sm3. If we now open Furn1.tpl in Notepad this is what will be seen:

DataCAD template file. version 01.10.

3 10 \* SYM\FURN1\DESK SYM\FURN1\CHAIR SYM\FURN1\BOOKCASE

The first line identifies the file as a DataCAD template. The numbers 3 & 10 are the columns and rows. The \* is used internally to DataCAD and finally you see the paths and symbol names. By default when you go to save a Symbol to a new Template you will be asked to create a folder in the SYM folder with the same name as the Template file. This is to keep everything organized. DataCAD knows to look in the DataCAD SYM folder for a sub-folder called FURN1 for all of this Template's Symbols.

If you have a Template which is not showing all of its Symbols in DataCAD then you should open that Template in Notepad and check the paths.

Networking Template & Symbols

- 1. On the station which will be the Symbol/Template server, copy your DataCAD\Tpl and your DataCAD\Sym folders to the root, C:
- 2. On all work stations map a network drive to the server's C drive and call it S:\. (For information go to Start\Help and look up Mapping a network drive.)
- 3. On all work stations in DataCAD set the Preferences\Options\Path names Template and Symbol files to S:\.

Notes: If the server is being worked on as a station of DataCAD then it too should have a mapped drive to the C:\ as S:\ and setup as above. Also, make sure that you are using Relative paths as discussed above.