

# Benefits of Moving from AutoCAD LT to AutoCAD 2008

This paper outlines the key benefits of moving from AutoCAD LT® to AutoCAD® 2008 software. Examine the list of questions below and if you answer yes to any of them, it will be worth it to take a closer look at the benefits and productivity gains of moving to AutoCAD 2008.

- Would you like to customize your software?
- Do you have requirements for 3D? For modeling, prototyping or rendering?
- Would you like to access your software licenses across a network?
- Do you want to buy add-on applications to extend your software's capabilities?
- Do you need to use CAD standard tools to help control consistency in your drawings?
- Would you like to use color graphics in your presentations?
- Do you need to work in a multiple sheet environment?

## Benefits of Moving from AutoCAD LT® to AutoCAD® 2008

### Would you like to customize your software?

The AutoCAD 2008 platform offers fully extensible drawing and application customization through APIs (application programming interfaces) such as Autodesk's AutoLISP® and Visual LISP®, Microsoft .NET, and Microsoft's Visual Basic® for Applications (VBA) and ActiveX® programming languages.

AutoCAD LT is not an extensible product.

### Do you have requirements for 3D? For modeling, prototyping or rendering?

Design, visualize, and document your ideas clearly and efficiently with AutoCAD® software. From conceptual design through drafting and detailing, AutoCAD 2008 enables you to explore ideas like never before. Create, edit, and develop design alternatives using realistic solids and surfaces in an updated design environment. Communicate your ideas with powerful sketch, shadow, and rendering tools, including intuitive walk-through animations. Then turn your concepts into a set of documents with the new section and flatten functionality.

AutoCAD LT is a 2D drafting software only and contains no solid and surface modeling tools or sketch, shadow or rendering tools.

### Would you like to access your software licenses across a network?

AutoCAD license management technology enables IT managers to maximize their company's return on investments. Network licensing provides your users with access to the right software at the right time and enables you to control the use of your software easily and efficiently. Effective use of network licensing software requires investment in planning, implementation, and maintenance. Used properly, it can generate significant benefits for you and your organization.

AutoCAD LT does not offer network licensing.

### Do you want to buy add-on applications to extend your software's capabilities?

Autodesk works together with thousands of software partners from around the world to create additional applications for the AutoCAD platform. These partners further enhance our broad range of fully integrated and interoperable solutions, for every design profession you can imagine.

AutoCAD software also provides a flexible development platform for specialized design and drafting applications. Its open architecture enables developers to customize AutoCAD for unique purposes. Examples include Autodesk's industry-specific design software, add-

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on applications from partner developers, and use of AutoCAD software as an interface to other applications.

AutoCAD LT is not structured to allow third party or in-house applications to run with it.

### Do you need to use CAD standard tools to help control consistency in your drawings?

AutoCAD 2008 software can help provide measurable benefits to your firm's bottom line by enabling CAD managers to create, deploy, enforce, and audit standards in your design office.

With the CAD Standards functionality, you can select the type of standard you want checked—dimension and text styles, layers, or linetypes—so the software checks only for violations that are important to your office. The standards manager automatically runs in the background while you work, instantly notifies you of any violation, and suggests a fix.

AutoCAD LT does not support any CAD standards functionality.

### Would you like to use color graphics in your presentations?

AutoCAD 2008 allows you to apply gradient coloring to solid hatch patterns. AutoCAD allows you to create presentation drawings with high-quality graphics without the need for additional software. In AutoCAD, you can also plot shaded and rendered 3D isometric views for presentation output. Functionality includes the ability to plot shaded/rendered models from modelspace as well as paperspace layouts.

The flexibility of the gradient patterns, combined with the new true color, PANTONE®, DIC Color Guide®, RAL CLASSIC, and RAL DESIGN color options, enable you to create presentation quality drawings directly from the AutoCAD application.

AutoCAD LT does not allow for gradient coloring, shading or rendering.

### Do you need to work in a multiple sheet environment?

AutoCAD 2008 extends beyond single drawing production. In a single interface, you can access sheets, group them into logical categories, create a sheet index, manage sheet views, archive sheet sets, and share them with your project team using plots, eTransmit, or DWF™ files.

AutoCAD LT does not offer this functionality.

## Conclusion

Whether you use AutoCAD for 2D drafting, detailing, design documentation, or conceptual design, you can personalize or program the software to meet your specific design needs, or add an industry-specific application built to work with AutoCAD. AutoCAD software is a worldwide standard in computer-aided design (CAD). More people use AutoCAD software than any other CAD software.

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