



# USACE CADD NEWSLETTER



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## CADD Newsletter

This unofficial newsletter, is authorized under the provisions of AR 25-30, and is intended to keep all Corps personnel who are involved in the use and management of CADD informed of CADD related issues throughout the Corps as well as HQUSACE changes and initiatives which will affect the Engineering business process. The Newsletter will be issued electronically on a quarterly basis. (December 1998 issue was not produced due to editor's personal problems.) Articles on CADD issues with a broad area of interest are solicited from the field. Send all submissions to [jean.a.mcgin@usace.army.mil](mailto:jean.a.mcgin@usace.army.mil).

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## MicroStation Workspace Status

A Beta version of the Workspace was distributed to 16 Corps personnel 7 January. There were a number of database and installation problems discovered in the review. As a result, a 2nd Beta CD was sent out in a more limited release on 26 February. This CD also includes the Standards Checker software. The current schedule is for the Workspace to be completed the end of March. The Tri-Service CADD/GIS Technology Center (Tri-Service Center) Principle Investigator (PI) as well as the Systems Field Action CADD (FAC) members participated in the review and are tracking the progress of the Workspace development. For further information about the Workspace call Stephen Spangler at 601-634-3104 or send an e-mail to [SPANGLS@wes.army.mil](mailto:SPANGLS@wes.army.mil).

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## MicroStation Workspace Training for System Administrators

The Tri-Service Center is developing a MicroStation workspace-training workshop for system administrators in cooperation with Bentley Systems. Current plans are for two

sessions of 20 persons each to be taught. The first class is scheduled for 13-14 April. An announcement of scheduled classes should be available on the Tri-Service Center web page in early March. The URL for the web page is: <http://tsc.wes.army.mil>.

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### **MicroStation Workspace Training for Users**

A memorandum was sent out by Ed Middleton, the chair of the Senior Advisory CADD (SAC) Group, to all Chiefs of Engineering with a proposal to use Districts' select credits to develop Workspace Training for Corps MicroStation users. In the memorandum he explains, "This year the Bentley Select program costs each Corps district \$408 per seat of MicroStation. One hundred dollars of this fee will be rebated to each District for usage in either Bentley support for software customization or Bentley training. All Districts have approximately 2300 copies of MicroStation under Bentley Select support. The SAC and FAC are proposing to pool a portion of each District's select credit towards the development of user training guides which will enable users to apply the Tri-Service AEC standards through the Tri-Service workspace." The SAC is requesting that each district contribute a specific number of its credits toward the development of this training course. The following districts have already pledged credits to this effort: Jacksonville District, 50 credits, Rock Island, 40, and Los Angeles, 73. Bentley Systems has submitted a proposal to develop all the course material and to conduct three train-the-trainer sessions. The three classes will be held in Atlanta, Dallas and Los Angeles, and each district will be able to send one representative to one of these classes.

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### **AutoCAD Workspace**

Tri-Service Center representatives are scheduled to go to the Coast Guard office the week of March 15th to accept the CE-CADD software. The Coast Guard has modified the program to meet the National CADD Standard requirements. The Tri-Service Center will develop the product further prior to its release. Currently the primary users of CE-CADD are the Coast Guard's contractors. In the year 2000, the Tri-Service Center will be responsible for phone support. The Coast Guard indicates that they have less than 5 support calls a month. The Tri-Service Center has agreed to maintain the support line for no more than 5 years. By then both CE-CADD and the MicroStation Workspace should be obsolete. Release of CE-CADD as TS compliant is scheduled for Oct 99

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### **Corps CADD Web Site**

The server for the Corps CADD web site has been reconfigured and the web site is being updated. One of the new items which will be on the web site is a CADD survey which can be filled out online. All district CADD managers should fill out this survey so that all other districts can review the data and find out who has particular expertise in various CADD software. The information in this survey will be contained in an on-line database that can be queried completely.

This knowledge base should assist Corps employees in seeking relevant information about software and hardware used in common by the Corps Districts. You can check out the updated web site at: <http://ckb.wes.army.mil>.

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### **Corps Districts' Innovative Technology Use**

Two Corps Districts were cited for their innovative use of technology in a "Military Engineer" article written by Richard Malm for the February-March 1999 edition. New Orleans District develops and maintains MicroStation files containing soundings, contours, and shaded shoaling and scour areas for the waterways for which it has responsibility (including sections of the Mississippi River). The district is now serving this data up on its Web page for access by organizations such as the Crescent Pilots Association, Federal Bar Pilots, and Associated Branch Pilots, who use the data daily as aids to navigation. The Rock Island District is working with the Army's Rock Island Arsenal in a test case to evaluate combining an installation DPW with a Corps District. They are using current information technology to share engineering resources. They have developed a three tiered architecture for a web-based solution, which allows non-engineering clients to view over 1200 MicroStation files for base operations and management through a web browser. Further details can be found in the referenced article.

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### **Call for Articles**

All articles in this issue of the Newsletter were written by Jean McGinn, CEMP-EE. I would encourage anyone in the field who has CADD related information of general interest to Corps personnel to submit articles (to my e-mail address) for the next issue, which should be issued in June.