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| | <p>IDEAS FOR SPEEDING UP AUTOCAD Last updated 11/05/09</p> |
| | <p>First things first, if you start having trouble, close AutoCAD, reboot your computer, restart AutoCAD and then see if that made a difference.</p> |
| | <p>DRAWINGS:</p> |
| | <p>Is the slow down in all files or just one? Start a new drawing by typing .new and see if the resulting file is ok or not. If ok then the existing file is the problem. Run Recover on that file to see if that helps, see other tips further down.</p> |
| | <p>Once a slow drawing is up check to see what fonts are being used or called. If you don't have one on your system substitute in STYLE for an AutoCAD shx font. Do this for other font names you don't recognize to see if the helps speed up the drawing. Change all TTF fonts to SHX to see what difference it might make.</p> |
| | <p>Does the drawing contain XREF files? Close the current drawing, open each XREF file and audit and purge each one. Then go back to your drawing. In 2010 you can use the RECOVERALL command to also include XREFs.</p> |
| | <p>Check in layer manager to make sure you don't have 100's of layer filters, if so delete them.</p> |
| | <p>Check the scale list to make sure you don't have 100's of scale lists. 2009 does this for you automatically, 2008 use scalelistedit, reset.</p> |
| | <p>Groups can cause problems, see link at bottom of page.</p> |
| | <p>Don't use true type fonts (TTF) and see if that helps, lots of those will slow things down. If using TTF, turn hardware acceleration off.</p> |
| | <p>Set Shademode to 2D, do this in each layout, each viewport, and in Model Space.</p> |
| | <p>Use -purge, Regapps, purge all. In 2010 also use -purge, z, and -purge, e.</p> |
| | <p>Large file size http://usa.autodesk.com/adsk/servlet/ps/item?siteID=123112&id=2886521&linkID=9240617 Ideas for removing blank text, points in a drawing, anonymous groups</p> |
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| | <p>HARDDRIVE CLUTTER:</p> |
| | <p>Clean out the temp folder (%temp%) on your computer, this can have a big impact if it is filled with hundreds or thousands of files. Remove all the temp internet files and cookies on your computer. I recently helped clean up a computer and it had 5,000 cookies on it.</p> |
| | <p>Finally run the diskfrag program, even the one that comes with Windows works well enough.</p> |
| | <p>CPU or RAM OVERLOAD:</p> |
| | <p>What other programs are running? I have Inventor and Mech 2009. If I run Inventor and then AutoCAD, AutoCAD will be very slow and "jerky". Rebooting and only running one or the other makes a big difference. So after a reboot only open AutoCAD and see if it runs better. Add other programs one at a time and watch for a difference.</p> |
| | <p>AUTOCAD SOFTWARE - VARIOUS SETTINGS:</p> |
| | <p>Do you have another version of AutoCAD installed? If so you must go through the File path statement in that version as well. And are you using the same profile? Start AutoCAD without a profile (copy the shortcut on the desktop, in properties remove the "/p (profile name)" switch and then use that shortcut to start AutoCAD.</p> |
| | <p>If you don't need draworder then set draworderctl to 0.</p> |
| | <p>Turn DYNamic input off as a test, see DYN toggle at bottom center of screen.</p> |

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| | Set SAVEFIDELITY to 0 unless you are saving down to lower version numbers. |
| | 3D – use BREP command to remove the history from selected solids. Read help to understand the impact to doing this. |
| | Properties causes slower operating speed and some have recommended setting qpmode to 0 (off). Run with Properties turned off as well as QProperties off as a test. |
| | Go to File>Open>History, are there hundreds or thousands of files listed? Delete most of those short cuts keeping only the last 20 or so. |
| | Make sure all the printers listed in the plot dialog actually exist. This goes for printers as well as printer.pc3 files. |
| | Create a file of 0 bytes in size, called acad.dll and place it in the same location as acad.exe if one doesn't already exist. |
| | Options> Open and Save > Turn off display digital signature information. |
| | Go through the file paths in Options>Files and make sure every single path listed actually exists, be meticulous. Unplug the network cable and see if the problem goes away. If so, you may need to get a copy of FILEMON from the net and use that to find out what AutoCAD is trying to do. See below for a link with a great explanation on how to use FILEMON.EXE. |
| | Change the cursorsize from 100 to 10 or 7. |
| | <p>http://usa.autodesk.com/adsk/servlet/ps/item?siteID=123112&id=2884947&linkID=9240617</p> <p>The support file search path is stored in the Windows registry as a text string, with each path separated by a semicolon (;). This registry entry for support paths is also shared by the Windows operating system. The problem occurs if the combined support path is very long (over 800 characters).</p> <p>To avoid this problem, restrict the support file search path to paths that are required by the software. To check the length of the support file search path for the Autodesk software, enter the following AutoLISP® expression on the command line:</p> <p>(strlen (getenv "ACAD"))</p> <p>To resolve the problem, shorten either path, and then close and reopen the program.</p> <p>The above will also be related to commands not being recognized.</p> |
| | Dock the command line in the lower or upper portion of the autocad screen, do not have it floating. If the command line is not showing it can still have an impact if it was floating prior to being made invisible. Hit Ctrl+9 to bring it back, if it is floating then dock it at the bottom of the AutoCAD screen, then hit Ctrl+9 again. |
| | "In AutoCAD 2009, 2010, enable the AutoCAD Classic workspace. Dock any desktop element and make sure that none of the palettes are floating. Turn off any unused palettes. Update the graphics driver." |
| | Turn transparency off on tool palettes. Hover over a palette and right click, pick transparency,... |
| | Use Cleanscreen (CTRL+0 toggles it off and on) to remove all palettes, etc. and see if it makes a difference. |
| | Close the new layer manager in 2009 and higher. Use LAYERDLGMODE set to 0. |
| | TREEDEPTH at -2520 and SORTENTS at 20, or turn SORTENTS to 0 if a large file and using draworder. |
| | Manual Tune video driver - Options, System, Performance Settings, Manual Tune, Driver Name pulldown. Which one is showing? For vista Direct3D might be better. For XP pick the driver for your card, mine is from nVidia so I have nvd3d9.hdi picked. Pick the Enable hardware acceleration |

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| | to see if that helps. Further down move the sliders over to the left. |
| | Video Driver updates - check for newer drivers for your card. |
| | Viewres still affects the speed of the computer, contrary to what you may have been told. Autodesk has confirmed this to me personally, especially so with MEP. Set it to 500 instead of the maximum setting. Set cursor size to 10 or less. |
| | Set Itscale to the proper value, a large drawing with linetypes will slow down when in MS with Itscale set to 1 or a small value. |
| | Too many fonts - remove fonts that you don't actually use, this will speed up AutoCAD and the OS. |
| | OS SETTINGS: |
| | Does your computer have Blue tooth? A user reported a blue tooth phone placed near the computer slowed the computer to a crawl, they moved the phone away and it sped back up. |
| | Set the virtual memory paging file to a larger size with a min and max rather than letting windose handle it for you. XP - Control Panel, System Properties, Advanced, Performance Settings, Advanced, Virtual Memory Change, Custom Size, Initial size = 3X ram (3GB ram = 9GB paging file size), maximum size = 4X ram. Go larger if you have the hard drive space. |
| | In the same area as immediately listed above, instead of Advanced tab pick Visual Effects tab, pick adjust for best performance, then if you must go to custom and pick the few settings you can't do without. |
| | Lower hardware acceleration setting, in Control panel, Display, settings, advanced, troubleshoot, move the hardware acceleration slider to the left one click and try it out, keep moving it right and watching for a change in performance and also fewer crashes. Find a setting you can live with. |
| | ANTIVIRUS SOFTWARE: |
| | Antivirus software - disable and see if there is a difference in performance. |
| | If the antivirus software allows you to, set AutoCAD to be ignored. |
| | NETWORK: |
| | What network software is being used?, there have been problems reported with some Novell server systems, as well as others. If posting in the new groups be sure to mention the server software. |
| | Check the network card speed, is it 10/100 or a 1000? If your network is 1GB then a 1GB card will speed things up. |
| | OTHER IDEAS: |
| | Go to autodesk.com web site, pick Services and Support, use the Knowledge Base and search on "slow", "delay", etc. |
| | filemon.exe how to use it to find where autocad is freezing http://cadpanacea.com/node/71 |
| | Disable digital signatures 1-On your desktop, right-click on any Autodesk Icon (i.e.: AutoCAD) and pick "Enable/Disable Digital Signature Icon". 2-In the "Signature Validation Options" dialogue box, uncheck "Display digital signatures and display special icons". 3-Restart your computer. Full details at this link. http://themadcadder.blogs.com/my_weblog/2005/01/diable_the_digi.html |
| | Get rid of blank text http://lynn.blogs.com/lynn_allens_blog/2007/09/an-almost-autum.html In 2010 use -purge, e |
| | Clean empty groups and unnamed groups out of drawing. |

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| | http://forums.augi.com/showthread.php?t=50895 |
| | <p>Various tips from an AutoCAD expert.</p> http://blog.jtbworld.com/2008/09/autocad-2009-slow-performance-tips.html |
| | <p>Disable the communication center. From Tony Tanzillo In AutoCAD 2010, you can disable the InfoCenter toolbar by opening the registry, and going to the following key: HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Autodesk\AutoCAD\R18.0\ACAD-8001:409\InfoCenter In that key there's a value with the name "InfoCenterOn". Changing that value from 1 to 0 will disable the InfoCenter toolbar.</p> |
| | <p>Use regedit to open this key: HKEY_CURRENT_USER\Software\Autodesk\AutoCAD\R18.0\ACAD-8001:409\Recent FileList Make note of how many files in the list are at remote locations that are offline. If you find a lot of them, that's probably the issue. from Tony Tanzillo, Autodesk.com NG's</p> |
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