

AS124612-L AutoCAD Tool Palettes management Lab

PRE-FLIGHT CHECKLIST

1. Run 'AutoCAD Re-set Utility'
2. Profile switch /nologo
3. Windows file explorer
 - File name extensions & Hidden items
4. Data set is available?

AutoCAD Tool Palettes Management Lab (Planning and Preparation, Not Perspiration)

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Class summary

A step by step introduction to maintaining CAD standards through network deployed tool palettes.

Key learning objectives

At the end of this class, you will be able to:

- Learn how to create a completely fresh tool palette in a network location
- Learn how to create, edit, and save tools onto your networked palettes
- Learn how to boost productivity with scripts and macros hosted on your palettes
- Learn how to hack your tool palettes without opening AutoCAD



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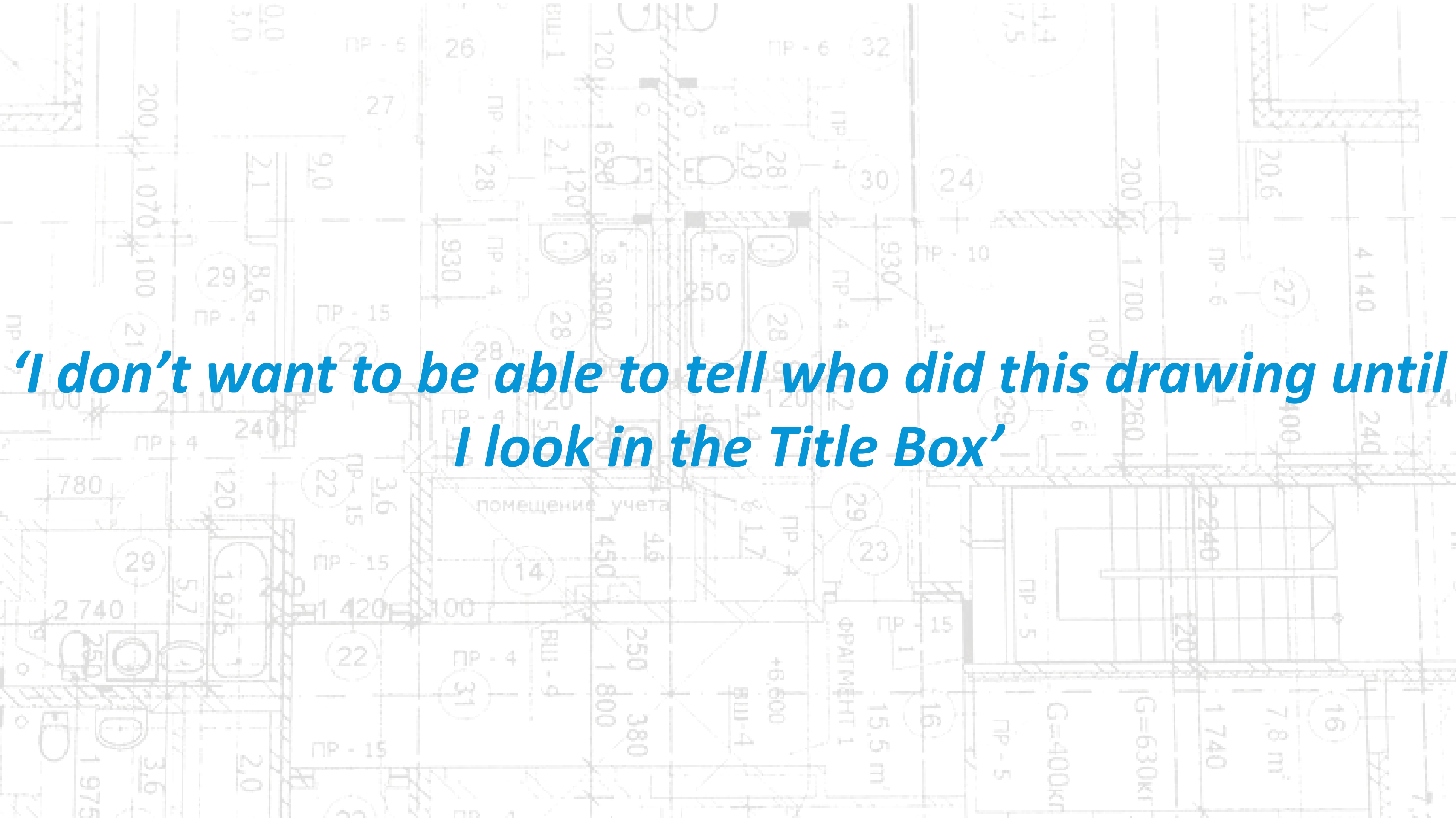
Chad Franklin



Richard Binning

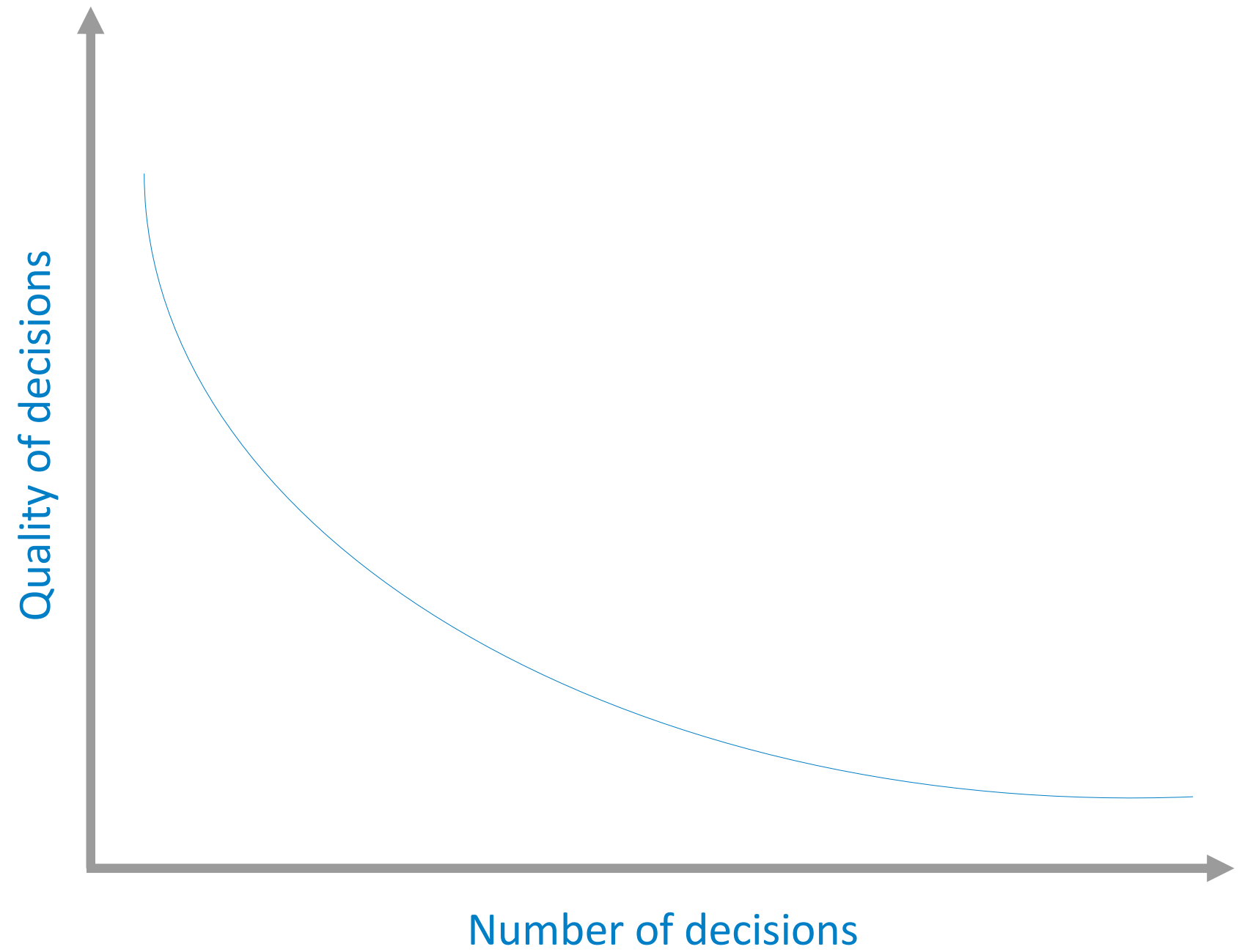
The background is a detailed architectural floor plan of a building. It shows various rooms, corridors, and structural elements. Numerous numerical values are scattered throughout, likely representing dimensions, elevations, or area calculations. Some values are enclosed in circles, and others are placed near specific features like stairs or doors. The plan is drawn with fine lines and includes a grid system with letters (A, B, C, D, E, F, G, H, I, J, K, L, M, N, O, P, Q, R, S, T, U, V, W, X, Y, Z) and numbers (1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8, 9, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, 17, 18, 19, 20, 21, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32, 33, 34, 35, 36, 37, 38, 39, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44, 45, 46, 47, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 54, 55, 56, 57, 58, 59, 60, 61, 62, 63, 64, 65, 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 71, 72, 73, 74, 75, 76, 77, 78, 79, 80, 81, 82, 83, 84, 85, 86, 87, 88, 89, 90, 91, 92, 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98, 99, 100) indicating the location of specific features or rooms. The text "This presentation is about CAD Standards" is overlaid in the center in a bold, blue font.


This presentation is about CAD Standards

The background is a detailed architectural floor plan in Russian. It shows a complex layout of rooms and corridors. Key features include: circular room numbers (e.g., 16, 22, 23, 24, 25, 26, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31, 32); door and window labels (e.g., ДР - 1, ДР - 4, ДР - 5, ДР - 6, ДР - 10, ДР - 15); room names like 'помещение учета' (accounting room) and 'фрагмент 1' (fragment 1); dimensions in meters (e.g., 1.740, 2.740, 3.6, 4.140, 4.4, 4.6, 5.7, 7.8 m²); and structural notes like 'в.ш-1', 'в.ш-4', 'в.ш-9'. The drawing is rendered in a light, faded style.

***‘I don’t want to be able to tell who did this drawing until
I look in the Title Box’***

Decision Fatigue



The background is a detailed architectural floor plan of a building. It shows various rooms, corridors, and structural elements. Numerous numerical values are scattered throughout the plan, likely representing dimensions, elevations, or area measurements. Some numbers are circled, and others are grouped together. The plan is drawn in a technical, line-art style with fine lines and clear annotations.

*'I was so worried about the
site team missing this
important order of fit note
that I made it **BOLD** to
emphasis it'*

The background is a detailed architectural floor plan of a building. It shows various rooms, corridors, and structural elements. Numerous numerical values are scattered throughout the drawing, likely representing dimensions or elevations. The plan is drawn with thin black lines on a light gray background.

*I love the comic sans font - because
it is, like, so - groovy!*

*So I made all the text on my drawing
comic sans so that my drawing would
look way cooler than everyone else's'*

How to use standards in AutoCAD.

(The Hard way!)

1. Think about what you'd like to draw.
2. Refer to the CAD standard to see what Styles and Layers you should use.
3. Make sure that you use the template file with your layers & Styles in.
4. Set the Layer you need to work on.
5. Set the style you need to use.
6. Navigate to the tool you need to use.
7. *Draw the item.*

Objective: Compliance to the CAD Standard

Easy to
set up

Easy to
deploy

Easy to
use

Easy to
update

Easy to migrate



For the basics on tool palettes...

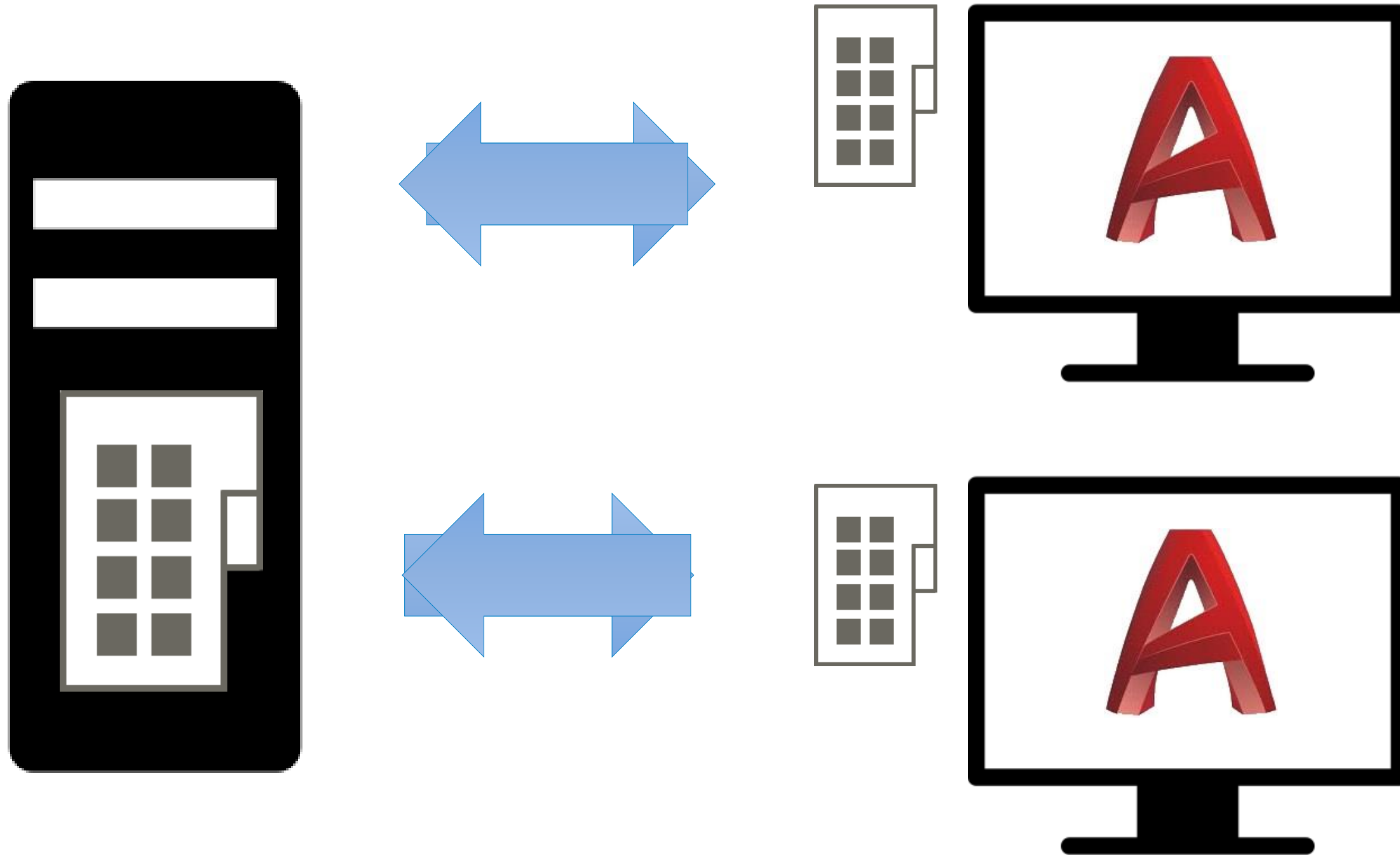


Check out Matt Murphy's class:

<http://au.autodesk.com/au-online/overview>

'The Productivity Power of AutoCAD Tool Palettes—Revealed!'

Tool palettes save on close



Last out wins

The background of the slide features a complex, organic wireframe mesh pattern in a light gray color, set against a white background. A solid blue horizontal bar spans the bottom portion of the image. The word "Preparation" is written in white, sans-serif font on the left side of this blue bar.

Preparation

Planning and preparation: What we need, before we start

Graphical standard

- Line weights
- Line types
- Text Styles
- Dimension styles
- Scales
- Paper sizes
- Title block and border

Planning and preparation: What we need, before we start

Data standard

- Template files
- Where to save
- X-refs
- Revisions (Data)
- Outputs
- Revisions(Outputs)

Windows Xml Notepad

If you don't have an XML editor on your computer, please download and install Windows XML notepad

```
<Palette FileRevision="20.1.0" Revision="20.1.1" option="0"><ItemID  
idValue="{56AE94D5-6CF0-43AF-84C9-EE00F40C73D8}"/><Properties>  
<ItemName>Annotate</ItemName><Images option="0"/><Time  
createdUniversalDateTime="2015-11-13T13:00:03"  
modifiedUniversalDateTime="2015-11-13T13:00:03"/></Properties><Tools/>  
</Palette>
```



Planning and preparation: For this lab

- Restore AutoCAD to a default install
- Disable digital signatures
- /nologo startup switch
- Data set located

Please see 'Exercises' handout for details

The background of the slide features a complex, organic wireframe mesh pattern in a light gray color. This pattern is composed of numerous interconnected lines forming irregular, cell-like shapes. A solid blue horizontal bar spans the width of the slide, positioned in the lower half. The word "Exercises" is written in white, sans-serif font on the left side of this blue bar.

Exercises

Dataset, Exercises & Handout

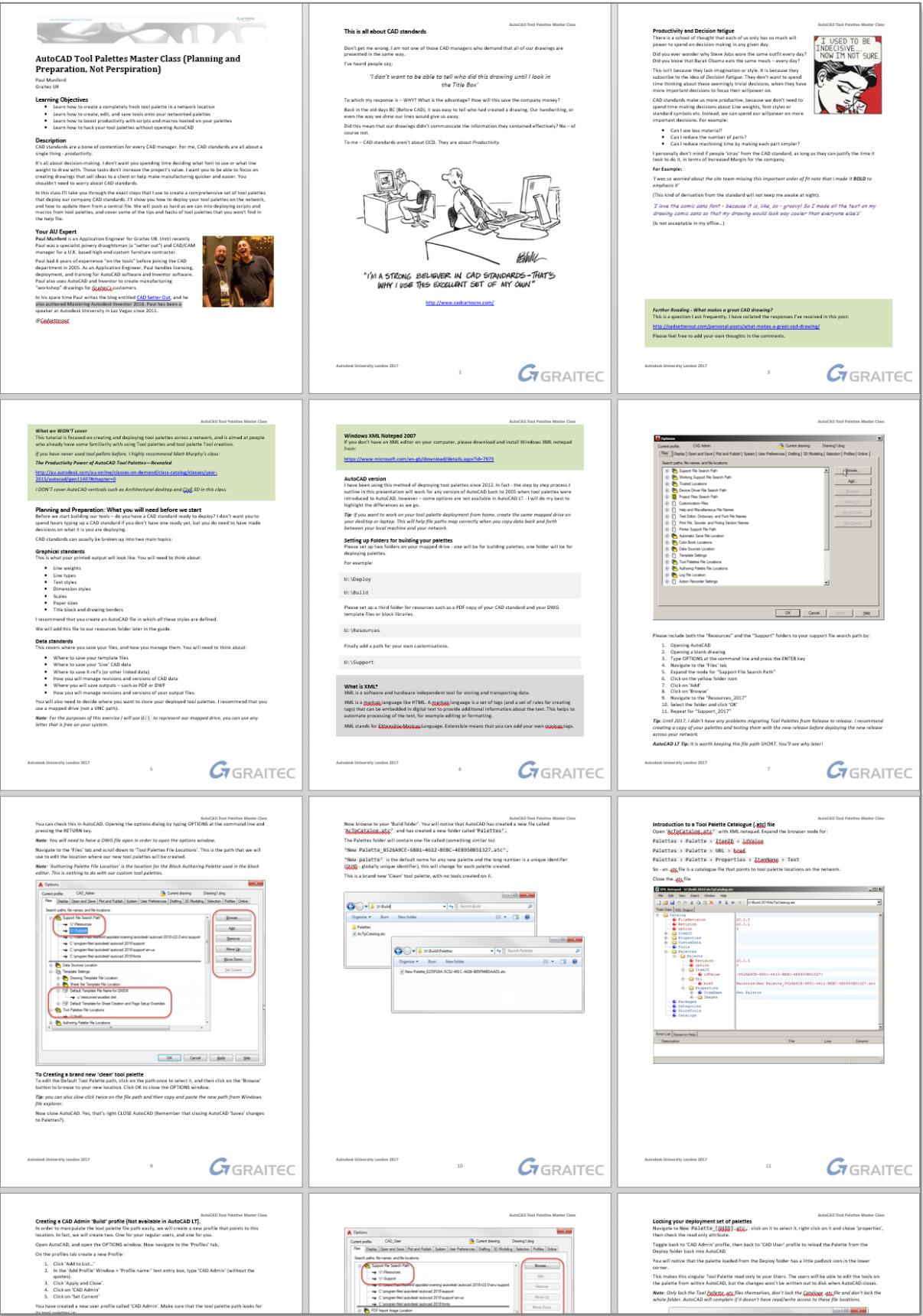
- The dataset for this class:
`C:/DATASETS/Paul Munford/AS124612-L`
- The exercises we will follow:
`AS124612-L-Exercises-Munford-AU2017.pdf`

- Additional material:
`AS124612-L-Handout-Munford-AU2017.pdf`

- Screencast recordings:

<https://knowledge.autodesk.com/community/collection/118591?preview>

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Folders

Create folders for our Tool Palettes and supporting data.

Copy the contents of the class data set to our new folders.

- Create a new folder
C:\Palettes
- Create these sub folders
C:\Palettes\Build
C:\Palettes\Deploy
C:\Palettes\Resources
C:\Palettes\Support
- Copy the contents of the class dataset Resources & Support.

Admin Profile & Support paths

Tell AutoCAD where it can find our data.

Save these settings using an AutoCAD Profile.

- Create Admin Profile
- Set Support Paths
- Add default Template
- Set Trusted Locations
- Set Tool Palette 'Build' location
- Create a tool palette
- Create tools
- Close AutoCAD to write out changes

Watch the Screencast: <http://autode.sk/2AdxAJr>

Palette & Tool Creation

Create additional palettes and tools.

- Create Palettes
- Re-Order Palettes
- Create a tool to run a Macro
- Edit Tool Properties

Watch the Screencast: <http://autode.sk/2lWx28B>

Action Recorder tool

Create a tool to run an Action Recorder macro.

- Set File location
- Record an Action
- Create a tool to play the action

Watch the Screencast: <http://autode.sk/2lWrnzh>

Deploying Tool Palettes

Prepare our Tool Palettes for Deployment across the network.

Load our deployment set using a 'User' profile.

- Create a 'Deploy' set of palettes.
- Lock Tool Palettes
- Create a 'User' profile

Watch the Screencast: <http://autode.sk/2yAz3x4>

Automating Deployment

Automatically load our User profile from the server.

- Create an Acad.lsp
- Create an Init.lsp
- Test

Watch the Screencast: <http://autode.sk/2ya1UE5>

Update & Re-Deploy

Edit our Build set of palettes and re-deploy.

- Update Tool Palettes
- Close AutoCAD
- Copy to Deploy
- Lock Palettes
- Open AutoCAD

Watch the Screencast: <http://autode.sk/2yAH05t>

The background of the slide features a complex, organic wireframe mesh pattern in a light gray color. This pattern is composed of numerous interconnected lines forming a series of irregular, flowing shapes that resemble a network or a topological structure. A solid blue horizontal bar spans the width of the slide, positioned in the lower half. The word "Conclusion" is written in white, sans-serif font on the left side of this bar.

Conclusion

Objective: Compliance to the CAD Standard

Easy to
set up

Easy to
deploy

How do you think we did?

Easy to
use

Easy to update

Easy to migrate



Q&A (My Turn!)

Q: Why can't we just place our tool palettes on the server?

A: AutoCAD saves changes to Tool Palettes on Close (Last out wins).

Q: Which variable allows us to save Palettes in a custom location?

*A: *toolpalettepath*

Q: Which Lisp file loads when we open AutoCAD?

A: Acad.lsp

Q: How do we lock Tool Palette .atc files?

A: Make them read only.

Q&A

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My Challenge to you

Do you have something to share?

Can you help your fellow CAD users?

Your turn next year!

