

AUTODESK UNIVERSITY

MFG500009 – Did you know? Hidden Command Options in Inventor

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Engineering Training Manager

Radu Stancescu

Inventor Administrator

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About the speaker

Jim O'Flaherty

- Began career in 1980 as a Draftsman (on the board)
- Worked in the industries of, but not limited to:
 - Avionics
 - Autodesk Reseller
 - Automotive
 - Consumer Goods
 - Nuclear Waste Removal
 - Power Generation
 - Parcel Conveyors
- Autodesk Inventor since Release 3
- 1st Commercial implementation of Autodesk Vault Workgroup
- Autodesk Inventor Certified Professional/Instructor/Expert Elite
- Autodesk University Speaker 2015 thru 2021; Speaker Mentor 2017-2019 & 2021
- Known as The Angry Elf & Angry Elf's Alter Ego on Discussion Groups



Angry Elf



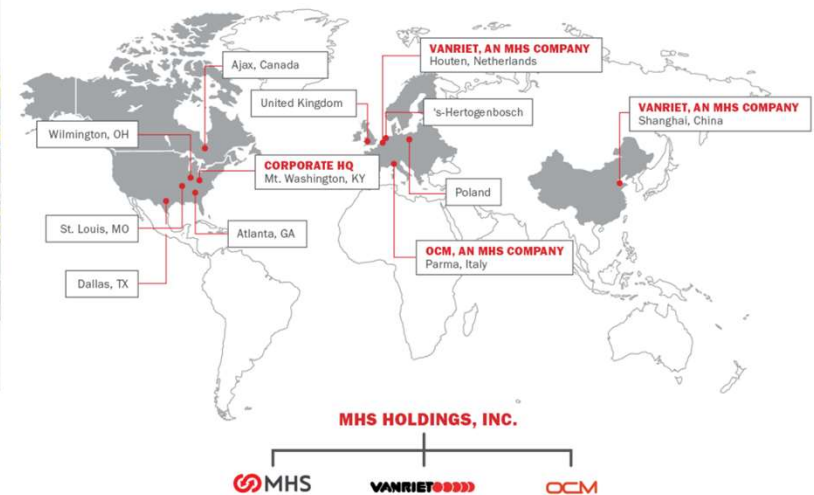
Angry Elf's Alter Ego



About the speaker

Professional Life – Engineering Training Manager

Material Handling Systems, Inc.





About the speaker

Radu Stancescu

Radu has over 20 years in the mechanical design using Autodesk software and several years in implementing ERP and Data Management products; currently he's working in the IT division at Benson Industries, a premier custom curtainwall and external cladding subcontractor in the USA and Asia. Radu is an Autodesk Inventor Certified Professional, Implementation Certified Expert and an Autodesk Certified Instructor since 2007. He's also been a speaker at Autodesk Accelerate 2019.

About the speaker

Radu Stancescu

Family

Ultramarathon Runner

High Altitude Mountaineering Climber (Hiker)

Professional Soccer Referee (past)

Chess

Food, Drinks

Pokemon Go



About the speaker

Radu Stancescu

Marina Bay

The New York Times

Sales Force Tower

One World Trade Center



Did You Know?

Hidden Command Options in Inventor

Most users learn the basic processes of commands and stick with them, but then fail to realize a lot of Inventor's commands have hidden or lesser-known options that can and will improve efficiency in modeling and detailing.

Class Objectives

1. What are the hidden options and where do I find them?
Options for basic commands that will make them, not so basic
2. Crop a view other than the default rectangle crop
3. Ordinate Dimension a Crop or Detail View
4. User Interface/My Home Options
5. Assembly Options
6. Analyze Interference Options

Please note: Due to the shortened class times, there is a lot of information we were not able to cover live, so please be sure to download the class handout as we go into much further detail as well as cover more items on this subject



Objective #1

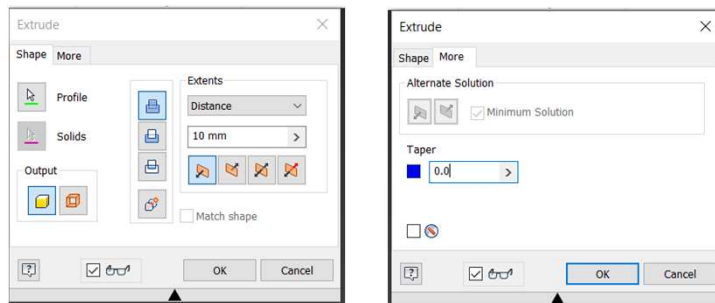
Objective #1

What are the hidden options and where do I find them?

Prior to the 2021 release

For those still on older releases of Inventor, these “hidden” options are typically found on secondary and tertiary tabs within the pop-up dialogue menus.

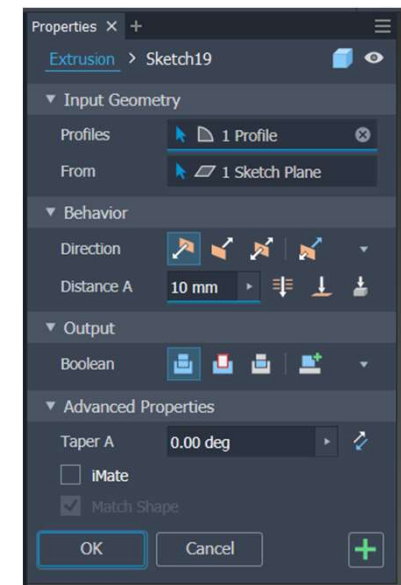
For example: The Extrude command menu looked like this:



The 2021 release and beyond

But with the 2021 release, the Extrude command menu now looks like this:

Notice how all of your options are now up front and visible



Objective #1

What are the hidden options and where do I find them?

Sure, some of you might say “so what?”

Good point and I’m glad you think that, but...

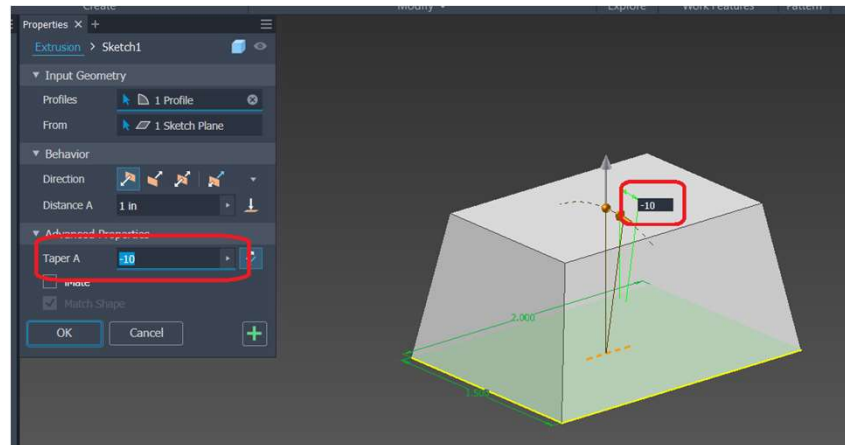
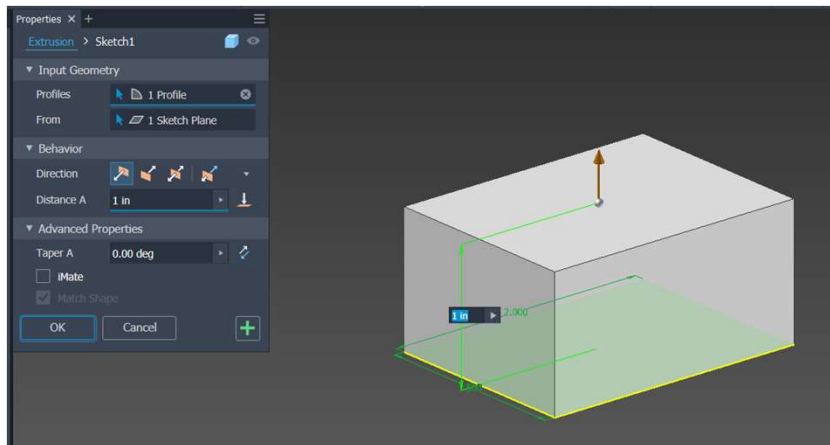
The fact is, a lot of users never bothered to look beyond the main tab.

Objective #1

Not so Basic Basics

Let's take a look at an example:

Using the basic Extrude command's Taper option you can add a Draft to the operation, Avoiding an added command and feature.



Not so Basic Basics

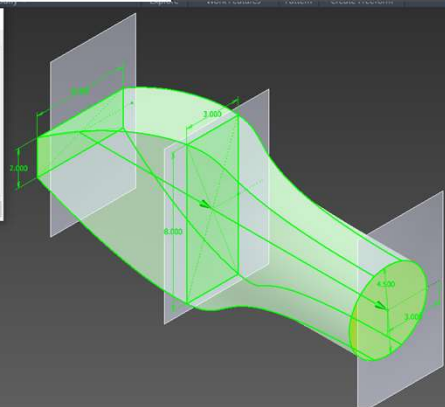
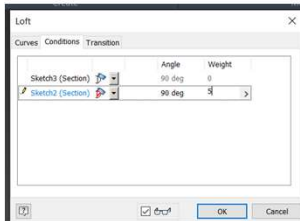
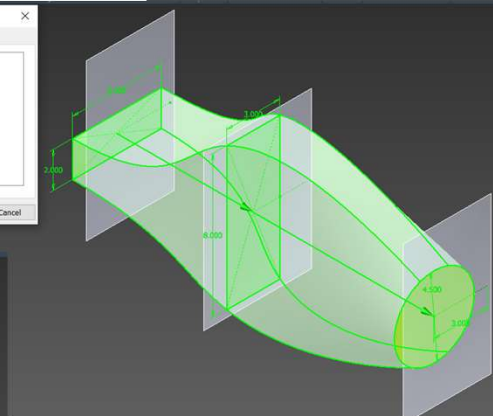
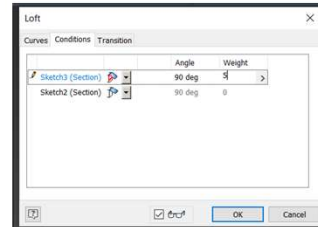
Some quick examples of options available:

Loft

Curves Conditions Transition

	Angle	Weight
Sketch3 (Section)	90 deg	0
Sketch2 (Section)	90 deg	0

OK Cancel

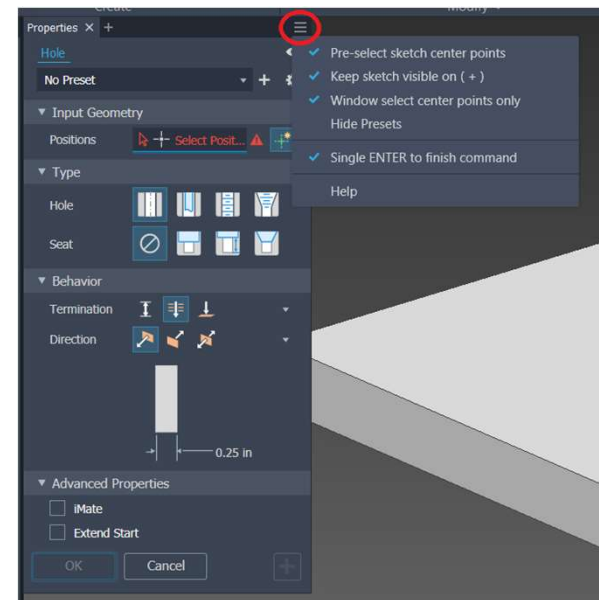
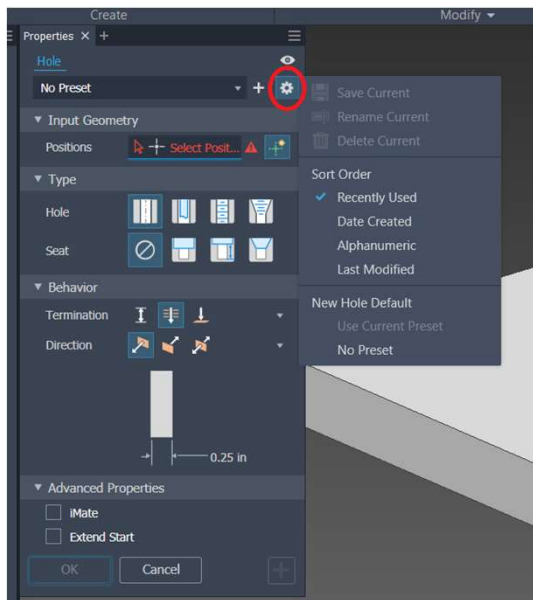


Objective #1

Not so Basic Basics

Some quick examples of options available:

The Hole Command – Preset Options and Advanced Menu Options

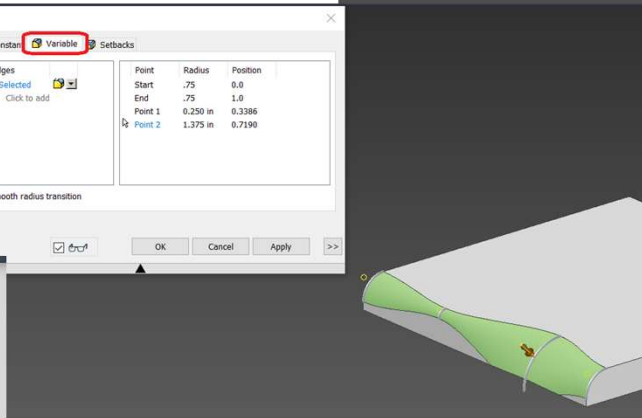
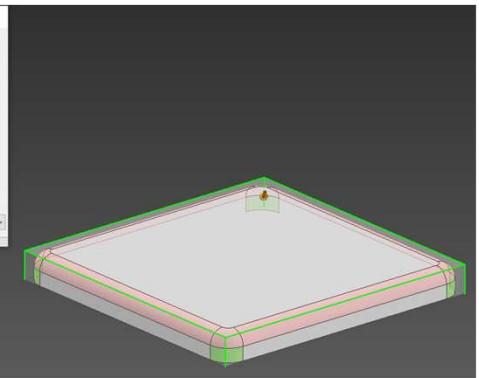
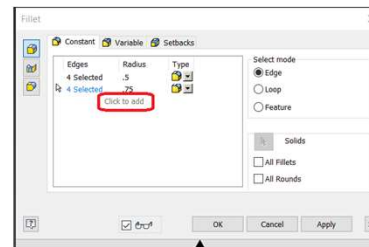
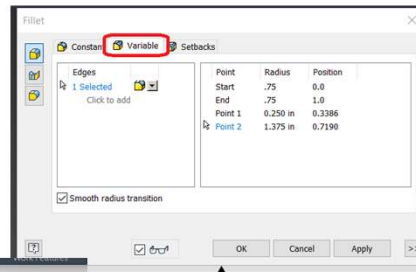
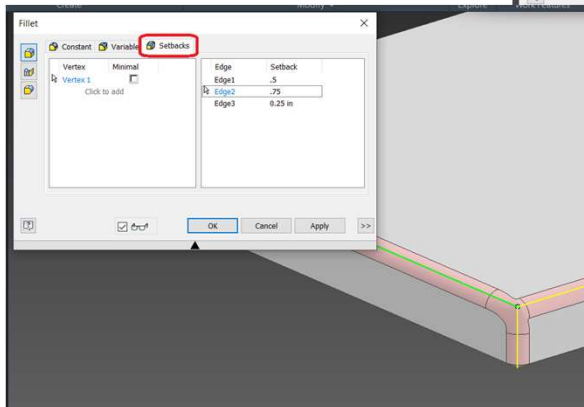


Objective #1

Not so Basic Basics

Some quick examples of options available:

The Fillet Command



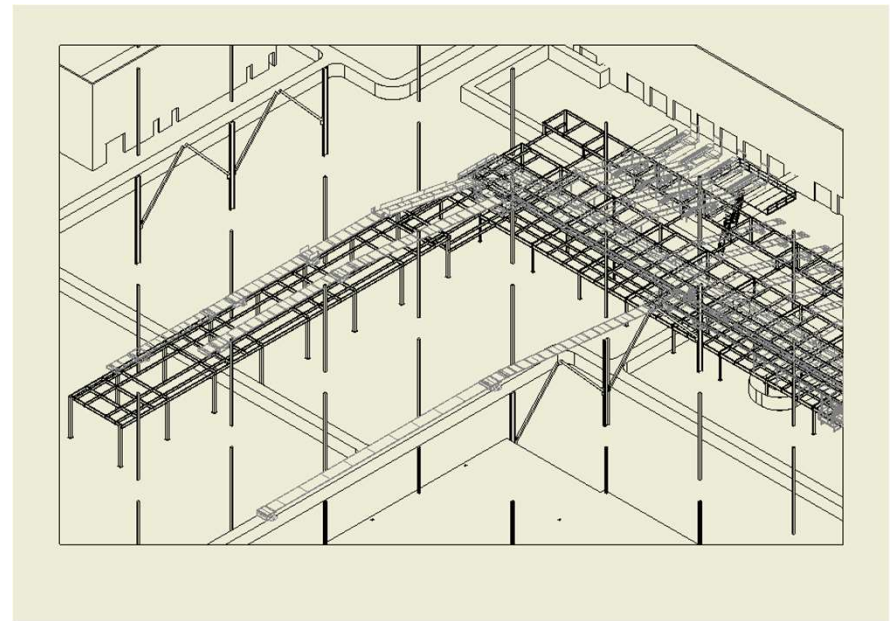
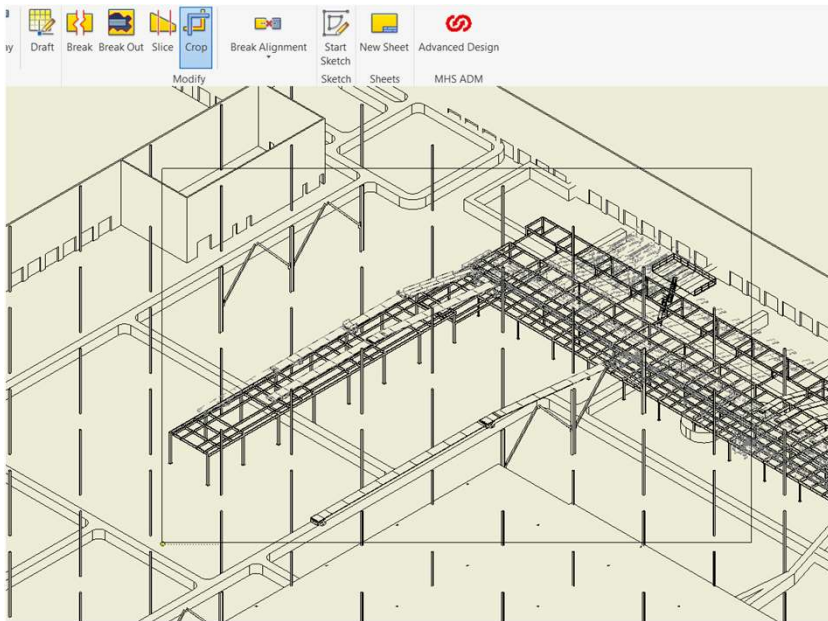


Objective #2

Objective #2

Advanced View Cropping

If there's one command where users seem to stick with the default setting or simply do not know it can be done more effectively, it must be View Cropping.

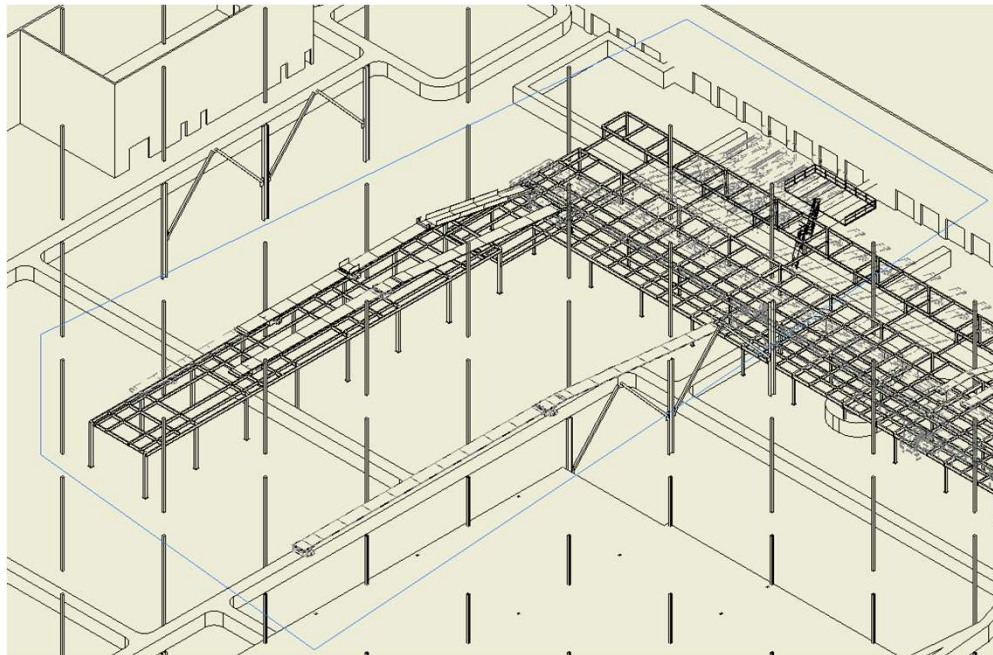


Objective #2

Advanced View Cropping – The Process

Step #1 – Select the Iso (or the desired view) to make it active, then press the S key.

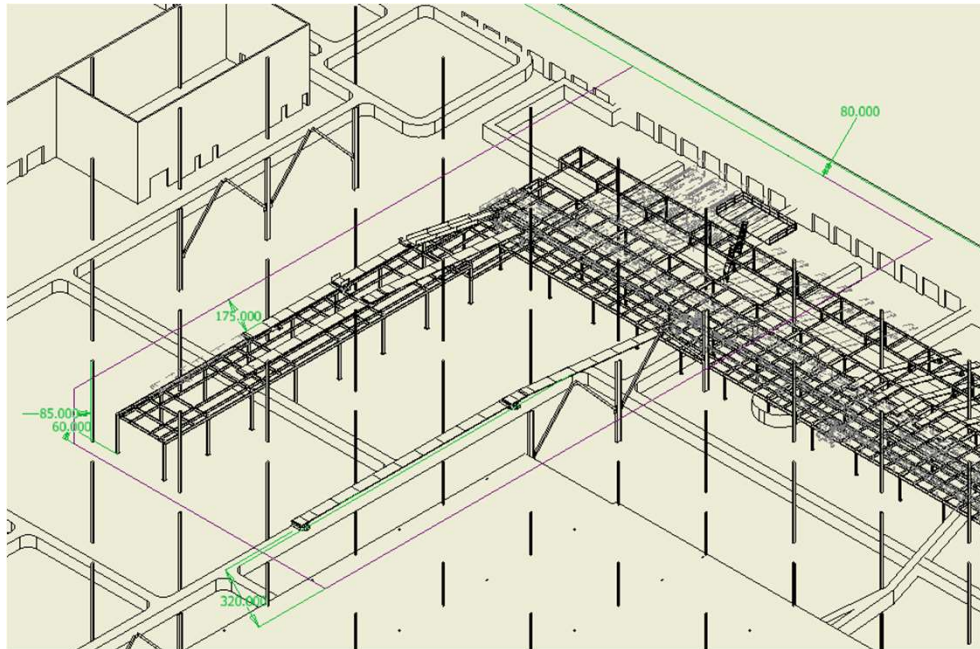
This activates a View Based Sketch.



Objective #2

Advanced View Cropping – The Process

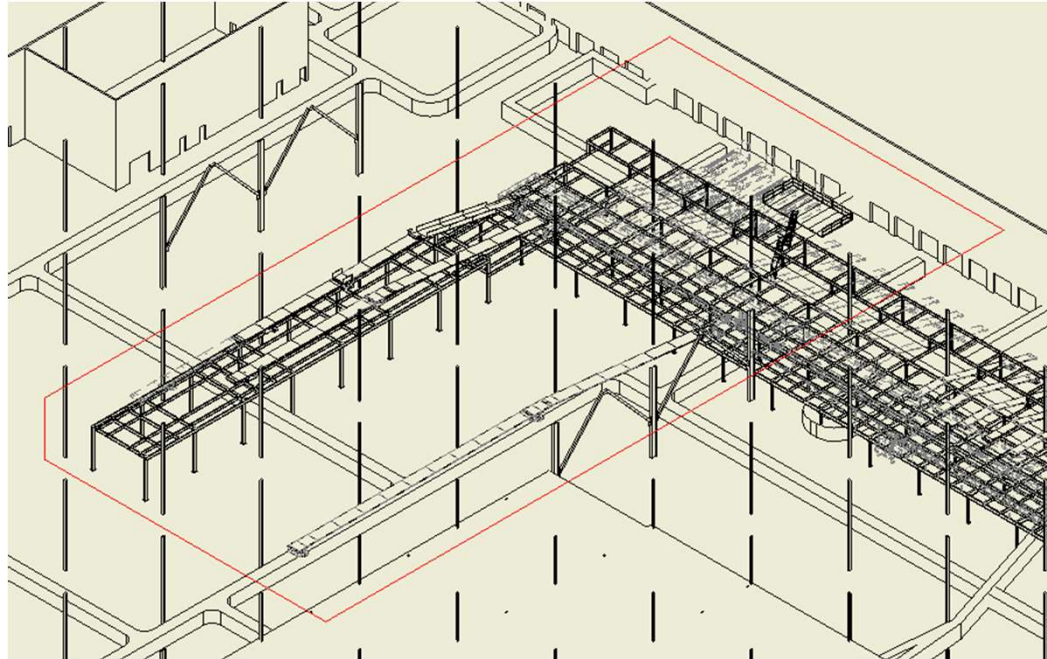
Step #2 – Sketch the desired boundary of the crop (needs to be a closed loop sketch) and constrain to prevent shifting during edits. Complete the sketch.



Objective #2

Advanced View Cropping – The Process

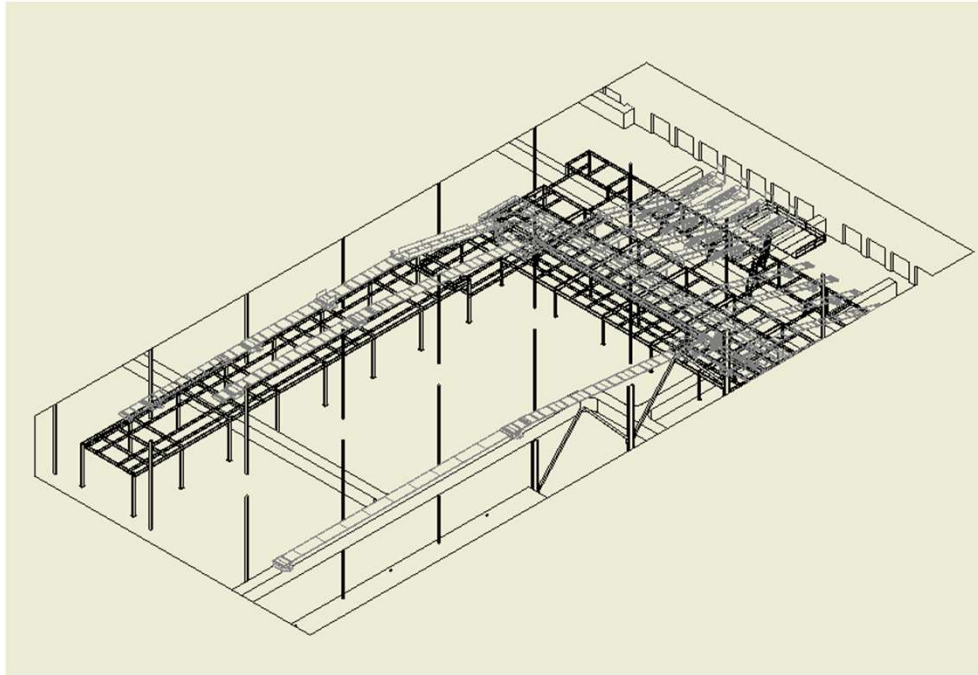
Step #3 – Select the Crop View command and select the sketch



Objective #2

Advanced View Cropping – The Process

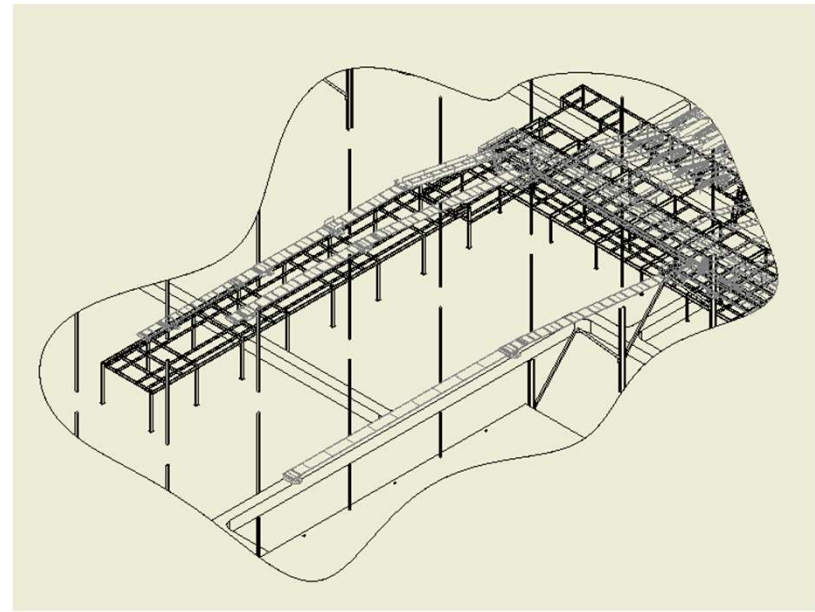
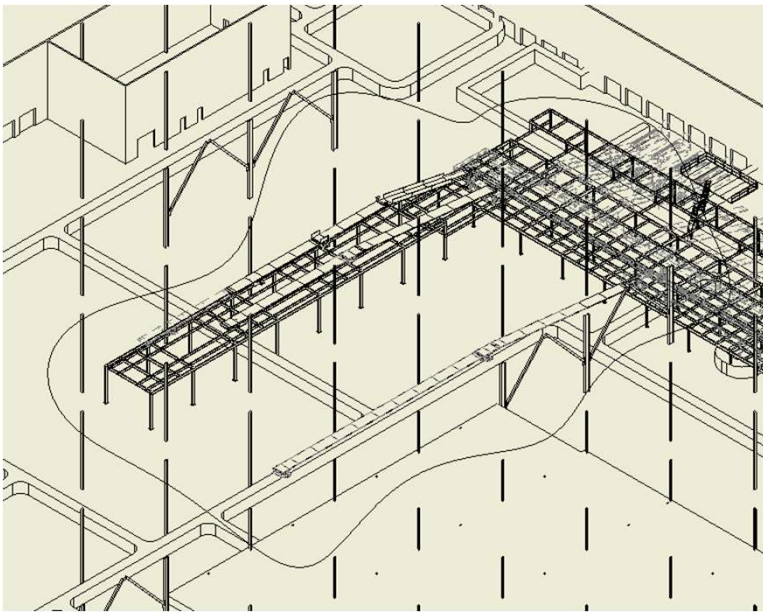
Step #4 – Finish the Crop command. Adjust line appearance per your company standards.



Objective #2

Advanced View Cropping – The Process

Any shaped sketch will work, as long as it's a closed loop





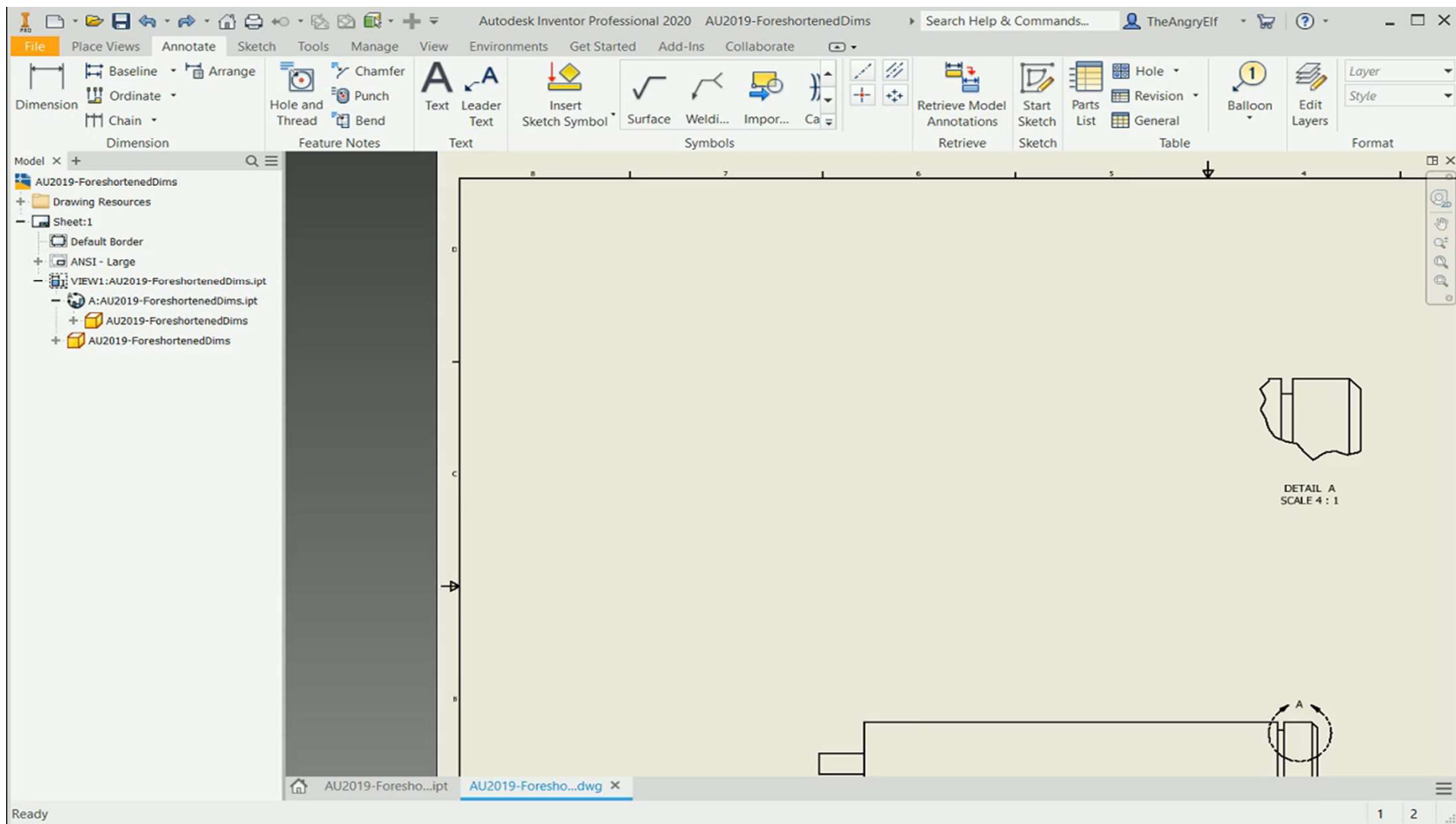
Objective #3

Objective #3

Ordinate Dimensioning of a Crop/Detail View

Creating an Ordinate dimension or a set of, in a Detail View, has always been a bit of a head scratcher. This trick has been a hit in my other training classes

Let's demonstrate....





Objective #4

Objective #4

User Interface/My Home Options

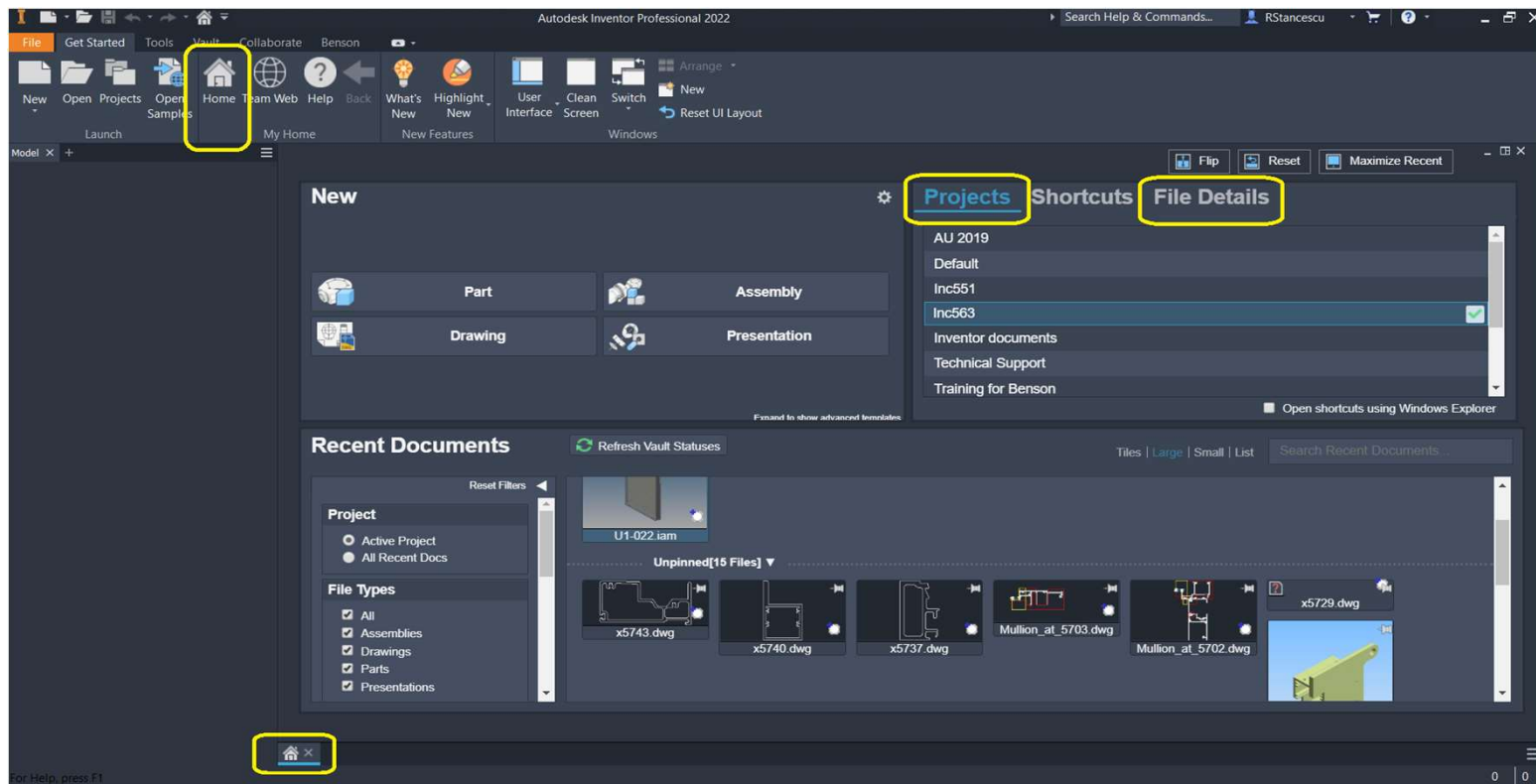
The most visible “hidden” option is

My Home

Use My Home to create files, open recent files, change projects, create shortcuts, exploring file details and filter recent documents.

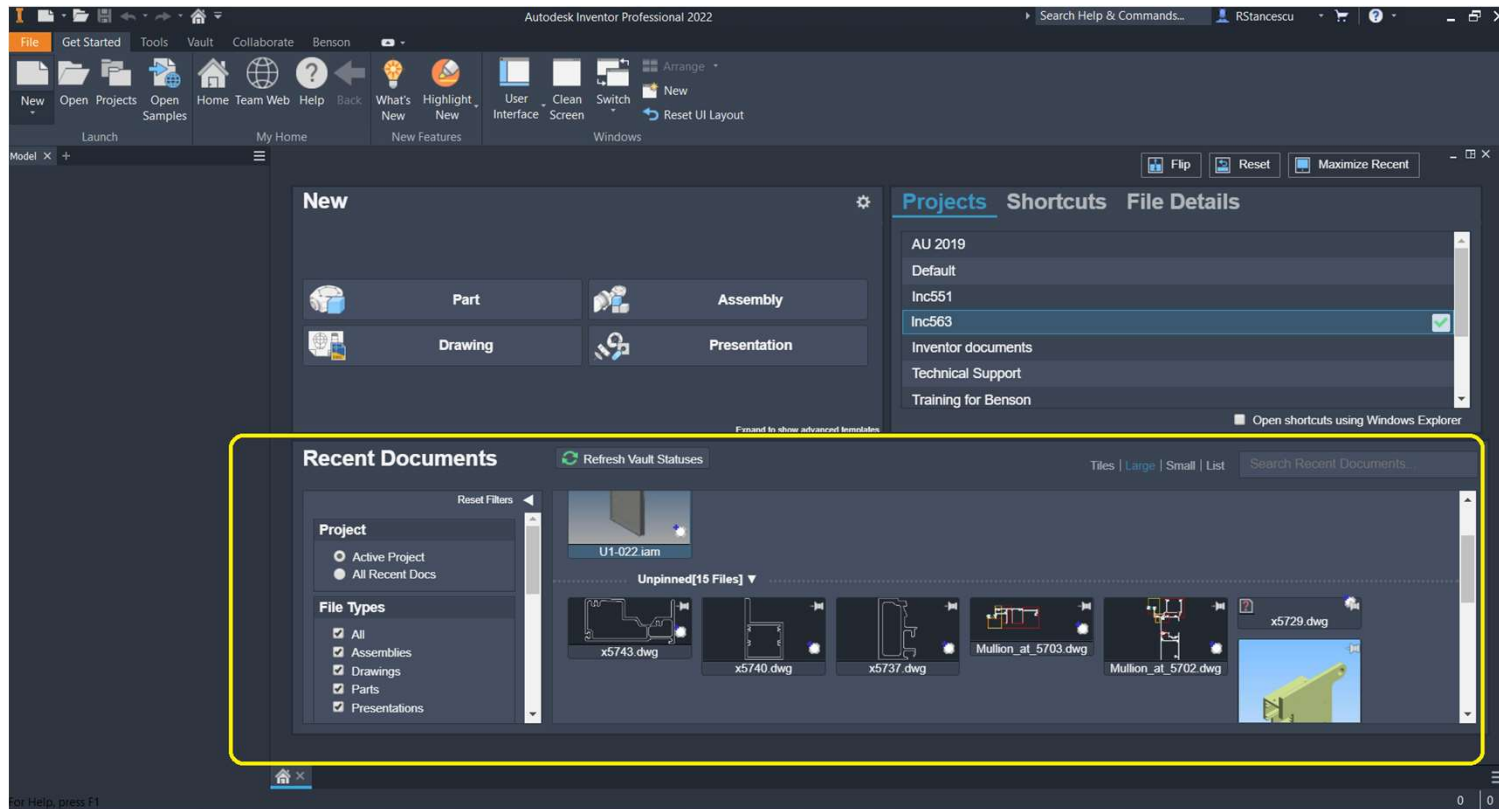
Objective #4

Locating Home button, Projects and File Details



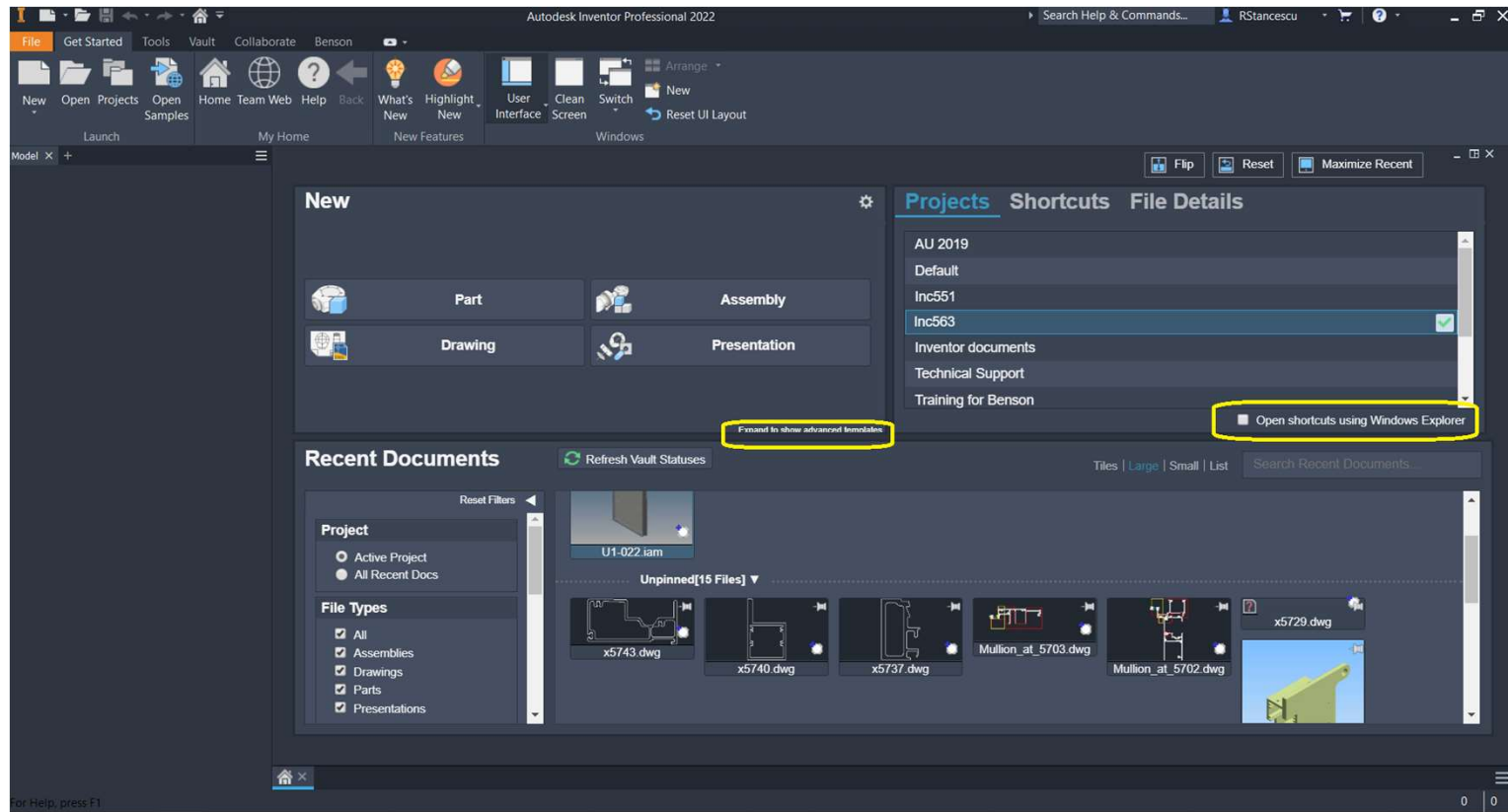
Objective #4

Recent Documents, Pinning Files and Filters



Objective #4

Open shortcuts with Windows Explorer or within Inventor



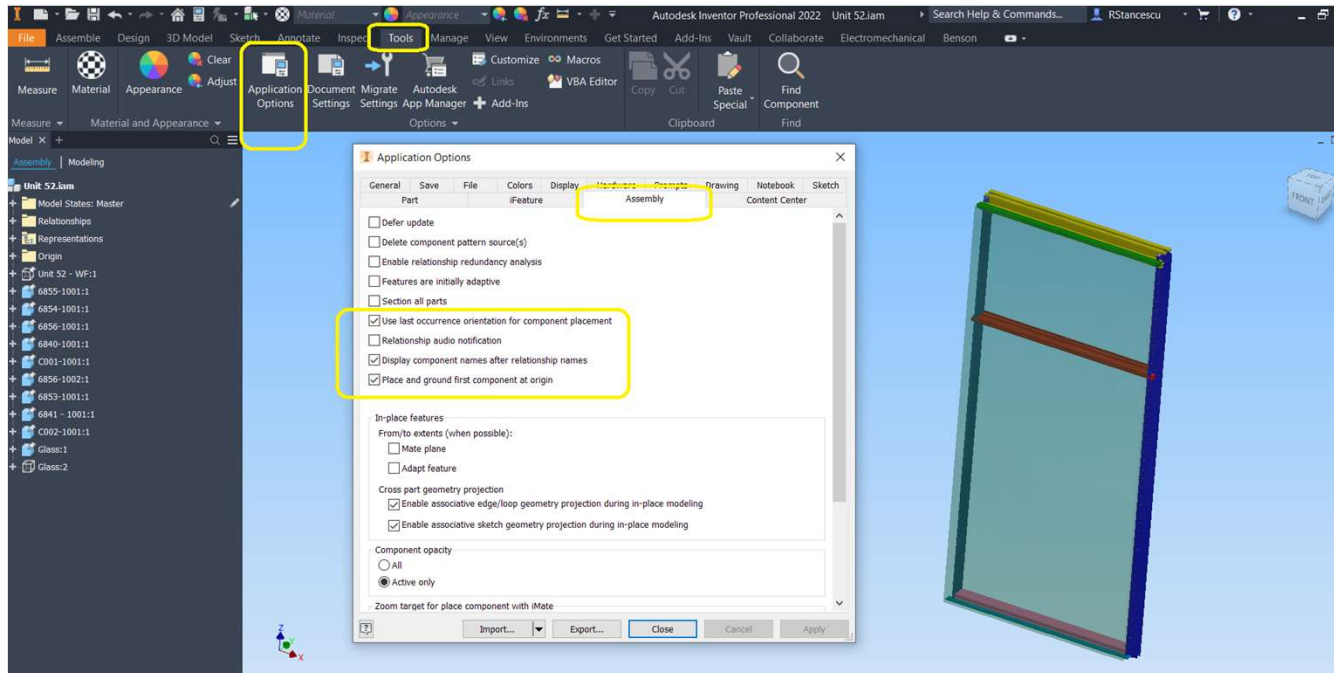


Objective #5

Objective #5

Assembly Options

Assembly hidden options



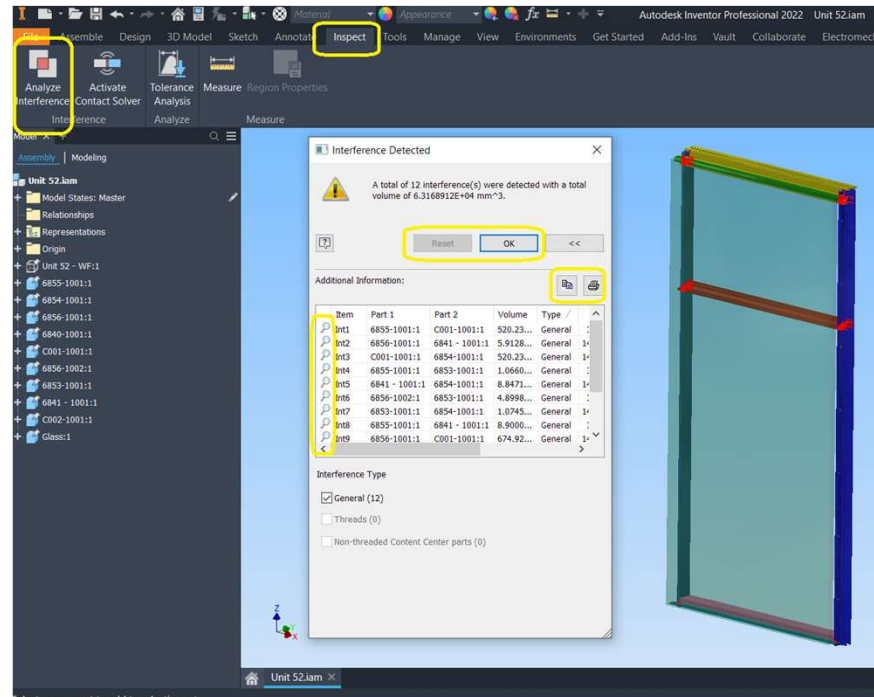
The background is a dark, abstract composition. It features several dark, angular shapes that resemble folded paper or architectural elements. Two prominent, glowing lines, one on the left and one on the right, run diagonally across the frame. These lines have a bright, golden-yellow core that fades into a soft, hazy glow, creating a sense of depth and movement. The overall color palette is dominated by deep blacks and dark greys, with the glowing lines providing a sharp contrast.

Objective #6

Objective #6

Analyze Interference Options

Analyze Interference



The background of the slide features four abstract, dark, metallic-looking geometric shapes in the corners, resembling stylized computer monitors or architectural elements. They are arranged symmetrically, with two in the top corners and two in the bottom corners, framing the central text.

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