



AC3274 CUIX Zen - Customizing the CUI

Volker Cocco

Autodesk Product Support Specialist CSS

Volker.cocco@Autodesk.com



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Volker Cocco

- Autodesk Product Support Specialist
 - Supporting AutoCAD and Verticals
 - Autodesk 360
- Began working with AutoCAD R10 (1991)
 - CAD Technician
 - CAD Manager
 - Application Engineer with resellers
 - Support
 - Training
 - Implementation

Before we begin...

- Is this the right session for you?
- Don't forget the survey
- Download the PowerPoint
- Download the files
- Please silence your cell phones

Agenda

- Overview of the CUI editor
- Demo

Overview of the CUI editor



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- The CUI is the menu file defining the User Interface
- The CUIX was introduced with AutoCAD 2010 to compress the CUI
- It can also be used to bundle custom image icons

- Vertical applications include a resource file for images.
- Resource files must have the same name
 - ACA.cuix = ACA.dll

[illegible]

The CUIX also allows one to add files such as image files so

that they always reside with the CUI avoiding the issue of having icons appear as clouds with question marks because the custom icons could not be found.

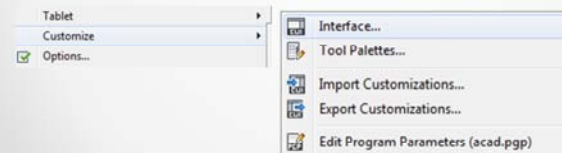
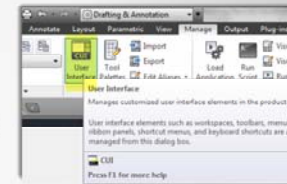
If you decide to move an CUIX for a vertical application such as AutoCAD Architecture (ACA.cuix) or Civil 3D (C3D.cuix) to a network location, be sure to also move the associated resource file as well. If you don't you will have generic icons appear. The resource dll will have and must have the same name as the CUIX. Example ACA.cuix has a resource file ACA.dll.
There are several undocumented commands available for viewing and modifying the CUIx:

Undocumented commands

- CUIXLIST
 - Displays the root contents of the selected CUIX on the command
- CUIXCREATE
 - Creates a CUIX file and allows you to add the CUI and additional resource files such as images
- CUIXAPPEND
 - Opens the selected CUIX and allows you to add additional files

The Customize User Interface (CUI) editor

- Command line
 - CUI
- Ribbon
 - Manage tab → Customization → User Interface
- Menubar
 - Tools → Customize → Interface



There are numerous methods available to access the CUI editor. These three are the most common.

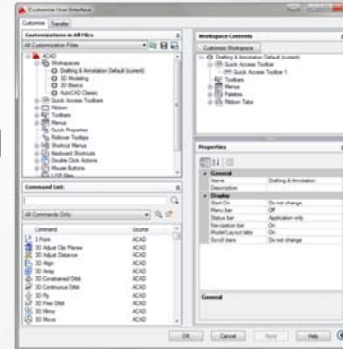
From the Command line type, **CUI**

On the Ribbon select the Manage tab and then User Interface

From the Tools pull down menu select Customize, then select Interface

The Customize User Interface (CUI) Editor

- Allows you to modify any of the UI elements
- Consists of two tabs
 - Customize
 - Transfer
- Text editors are not recommended



The Customize User Interface (CUI) Editor allows you to modify many of the user interface elements that are used to start a command in the program.

Customizing the user interface allows you to change the placement of the tools that you commonly use, and to add new tools that can improve your productivity. For example, if you want to add a ribbon panel containing the commands that you use most often, you can create a new Favorites ribbon panel in

the CUI Editor and add it to the Home tab. The CUI Editor is divided into two parts:

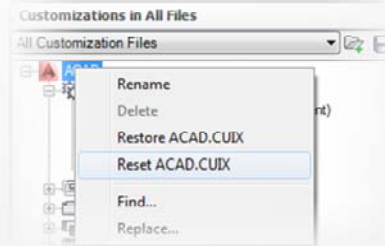
Customize. The Customize tab allows you to create and manage the commands and elements that make up many of the features in the user interface.

Transfer. The Transfer tab allows you to create and save a CUIx file, and copy user interface elements between CUIx files.

The CUI being an XML file can be modified using a text editor; however it's important to know that the contents of a CUI file within the CUIX are designed to track changes for future migration. Modifying the CUI with a text editor will most often cause problems with migration.

CUI Restore/Reset

- Restore – Restores the CUI to the last saved state
- Reset – Resets the CUI to its defaults.
- Either function does not take effect until you select “Apply”



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If for some reason the CUI becomes corrupt when customizing (or for other reasons); or if you don't like the changes, you can restore or reset the AutoCAD menu

Type CUI at the command line

You may have to expand the CUI dialog by clicking on the > symbol in the lower right hand corner

Under the customize tab, Click on the drop-down list titled, "Customizations in all files"

Right-Mouse Click over the verbiage ACAD (next to the

AutoCAD icon at the top of the list)

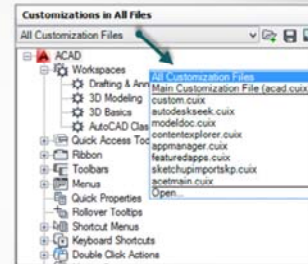
If you select "Restore Acad.cuix" it will restore the cui to its last save state.

If you select "Reset Acad.cuix" it will reset the cui to it's installed state.

Either one of these resets will not take place until after you have clicked Apply and OK.

Customizations in All Files

- Is used to navigate the different User Interface elements
- Add or remove element



- Drag and Drop the order of elements
- Select elements to be added to the workspace

Customizations in All Files Pane

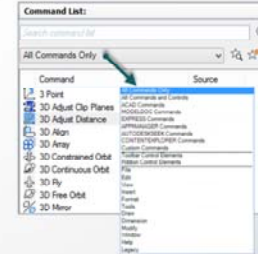
The Customizations In pane is used to navigate to the different user interface elements that are in the loaded customization files.

In this pane, you create and modify user interface elements such as ribbon tabs and panels, and the Quick Access toolbar. Along the top of the pane you will find tools that can be used to load partial customization files into the main customization file, save changes to the loaded customization files, and control

how you view the loaded customization files.

The tree view is used to create and manage user interface elements. Once a user interface element is created, you add commands to it by dragging them from the Command List pane. You also can change the order in which commands appear on a user interface element such as a ribbon panel or toolbar, by dragging them up and down in the tree view.

- Lists “most” commands available in the loaded CUIs
- Listed in alphabetical order by description
- Can be filtered by individual CUIs, controls and elements.
- Command names shown using legacy filter



Custom Commands. Displays the user defined commands that have been added to one of the loaded customization files.

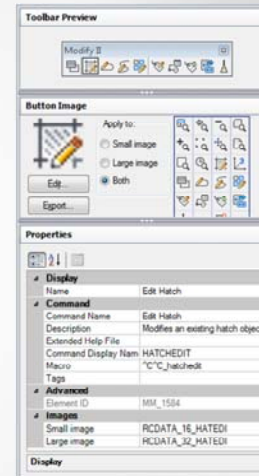
Toolbar Controls Elements. Displays the special controls that can be added to a toolbar, such as drop-down lists and text boxes.

Ribbon Controls Elements. Displays the special controls that can be added to a ribbon panel or Quick Access toolbar, such

as drop-down lists, sliders, and other controls.

Dynamic Pane

- Displays properties of elements and commands
 - Button Image
 - Information
 - Panel Preview
 - Properties
 - Quick Properties
 - Shortcuts
 - Toolbar Preview
 - Workspace Contents



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Dynamic Display Pane

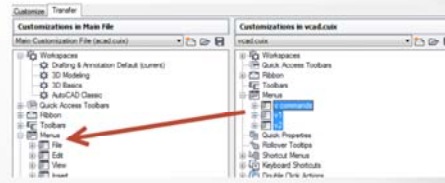
The Dynamic Display pane displays a preview of the user interface element selected in the Customizations In pane. It allows you to edit the image of a command selected in the Command List pane, and the properties specific to the item selected in the Customizations In or Command List pane. Based on the item selected, one or more of the following panes will be displayed:

- Button Image

- Information
- Panel Preview
- Properties
- Quick Properties
- Shortcuts
- Toolbar Preview
- Workspace Contents

Transfer Tab

- Create a new CUI
- Transfer elements from and existing CUI
- Transfers are bi-directional



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In the Customize User Interface (CUI) Editor, Transfer tab, in the left pane, click the Open Customization File button.

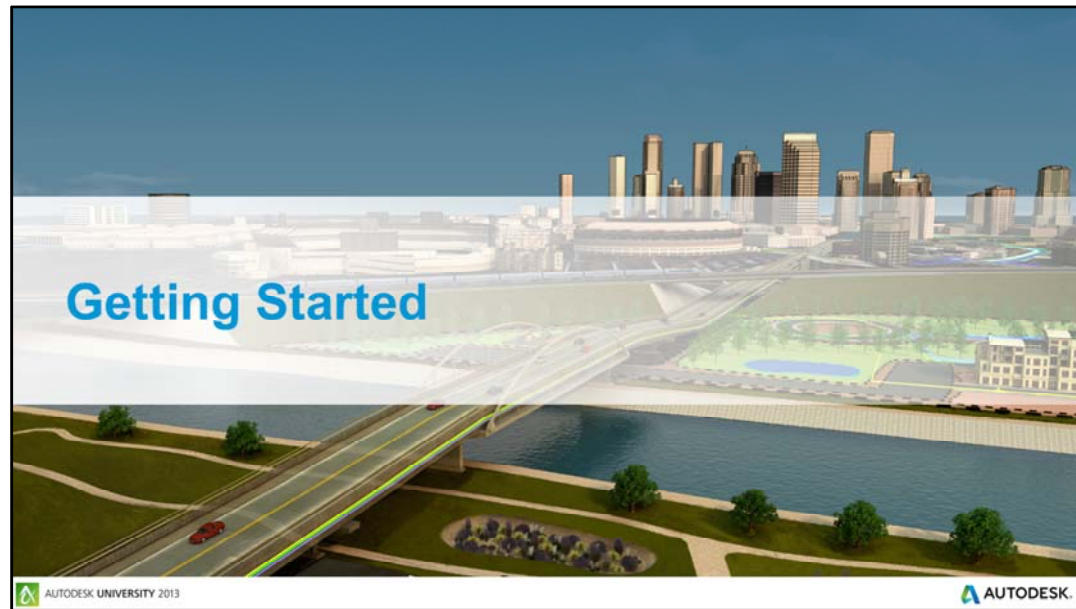
1. In the Open dialog box, locate the customization file (MNU, MNS, CUI, or CUIx) from which you want to import customizations, and select it. Click Open.
2. In the right pane, click the Open Customization File button.
3. In the Open dialog box, locate the customization file (MNU, MNS, CUI, or CUIx) to which you want to export

customizations, and select it. Click Open.

4. In the left pane, click the plus sign (+) next to an interface element node to expand it. Expand the corresponding node in the right pane.
5. Drag interface elements from the right pane to the appropriate location in the left pane.

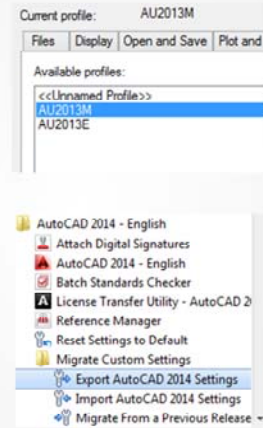
1. Note: Interface elements can be dragged in either direction, from left to right, or from right to left.

6. Click Apply.



Time savers

- Profiles
 - Create
 - Export
 - Startup switches
- Settings
 - Export
 - Import



It's a good idea to create back ups of your settings prior to and even after you have customized.

Support Paths

- Main customization file
- Enterprise customization file
- Custom icon images



The Demo

- Create and Load a partial menu
- Add custom commands
- Add Ribbon tabs and panels
- Modify a workspace, adding the menu
- Add an Enterprise CUI



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