



April 18, 2000

The seventh meeting of the Madison Area SolidWorks® Users' Group (MASWUG) was held on April 18th, 2000 at Lunar Corp's new building. 66 people attended from 34 companies and organizations.

Introductions – Elections

George Skupniewicz, President of MASWUG, welcomed the group. George stated that elections for MASWUG officers will be at the next meeting and we are still looking for persons to chair/co-chair the President and Secretary positions in the organization. Contact George at 608/273-5039 or Jeff Wong at 608/831-8860 to lend your time. Remember: MASWUG is a group of volunteers. It doesn't work unless you participate.

Main Presentation

Ian Baxter from SolidWorks Corporation gave a presentation on "Large Assemblies". Ian presented 8 areas within the SolidWorks program to improve the speed and efficiency of large assemblies, file size, lightweight, configurations, selection tools, mates, assembly structure editing, hardware configuration and SolidWorks 2000. He passed out a booklet on FAQ's of large assemblies. We have some extras so come to the next meeting and pick them up.

Patricia Ferrick from SolidWorks Corporation gave the second presentation on the free add-in program from SolidWorks called "eDrawings". eDrawings is wonderful way to show 3D information with what initially appears to be 2D data. The information can be self-contained in a .exe file so the receiver needs only Windows 95/98, NT or 2000 to view the file. The drawing is animated between views and also allows the user to rotate, zoom, pan, the model of any of the views in 3D. Pat showed how to create an eDrawing file (2 mouse clicks), how the 3D pointer works and how to navigate the menus. Download the file for free from the SW web site.



Breakout Sessions

2 breakout sessions were available:

1. "SolidWorks Animator" Gold Partner animator software from SolidWorks - Facilitator: Patricia Ferrick from SolidWorks
2. "Simple PDM" 3rd Party Product Data Management software - Facilitator: Bob Hanson from Custom Programming Unlimited

Call for Volunteers

We are looking for volunteers to give a 10-15 minute presentation on a difficult problem that was solved using SolidWorks or any of the 3rd Party software. This could be a part modeling problem, a design problem or a data exchange problem for example. There is no specific subject matter. We don't want the general stuff, put techniques, ideas and solutions that could help other users. We have several people already, but need a handful more to make it a real success. Please contact skup@nicolet.com or wong@nicolet.com to sign up.

We are also looking for a volunteer organization to host the next meeting, tentatively scheduled for late July. The Host Company simply needs to provide a modest space for the meeting. SolidWorks pays for the treats; Skup and Wong will organize the event.

Special Thanks

Patricia Ferrick and Ian Baxter from SolidWorks Corp, Dave Strait from Lunar Corp for the nice facilities, George Skupniewicz and Christine Shorey from Nicolet Instrument Corp., Jeff Wong of Paradigm Design Inc., and Carol Faiola of SolidWorks Corp.

Please forward these minutes to others who work at your company or are interested in joining MASWUG. Please send any secretarial business (i.e. potential new member e-mail addresses for the database, comments about the meeting, the meeting minutes, etc) to: wong@nicolet.com.

Submitted by MASWUG secretary: Jeff Wong