



November 1, 2001 minutes

The meeting of the Madison Area SolidWorks® Users' Group (MASWUG) was held on November 1, 2001 at Promega Corporation. 59 people attended from 29 companies and organizations.

Introductions

David Strait from Imago Scientific Instruments, President of MASWUG, welcomed the group. David talked about our new web site, www.maswug.org, thanking Travis Curtis for making the site. Thanks also went out to Graphics Systems Corp. and Computer Aided Technology, Inc. for funding the site.

How to Create Sheet Metal Parts in SolidWorks

Travis Curtis, from Sub-Zero, discussed how to model sheet metal parts. Travis first examined the old, pre-2001, sheet metal tools. He then demonstrated the new sheet metal tools introduced in SolidWorks 2001 and noted the differences between pre and post 2001 versions. Travis finished by modeling an example sheet metal part.

Importing Geometry into SolidWorks

Jeff Brickl, from Inform Product Development, examined the issue of importing geometry into SolidWorks. Jeff covered the different types of files that can be imported, preferring Parasolid followed by Step or Iges. He covered how to diagnose and repair parts that do not import as a solid using several methods. Jeff finished with a couple of examples of using FeatureWorks and sheet metal to reconstruct the features of an imported solid.

Future Topic Ideas

Before the break, David Strait solicited ideas for future meeting topics. These were recorded after the break and include: making transitions in sheet metal duct work, World Conference report, mirroring in assemblies, and help with assembly mates.



It was also pointed out that our web site has an area for Tips and Tricks and members are asked to submit their ideas.

What's New in SolidWorks 2001 Plus

Jeff Setzer of Graphics Systems Corporation gave an overview of what is new in SolidWorks 2001. Jeff pointed out that this is the tenth major release of SolidWorks since 1995. The highlights include: extended use of the PropertyManager, tools for making parts from drawings, more shape controls, sheet metal enhancements, shaded drawing views, and improved configurations.

David Strait of Imago Scientific Instruments then closed the meeting.

Submitted by MASWUG co-secretary: Mike Alex