



January 22, 2002 minutes

The meeting of the Madison Area SolidWorks® User Group (MASWUG) was held at the MG & E Innovation Center. 43 people attended from 35 companies and organizations.

Introductions

David Strait from Imago Scientific Instruments, President of MASWUG, welcomed the group and gave a brief rundown of the agenda. David introduced our new website, www.maswug.org and asked Travis Curtis to show the group around the site. Travis explained how the online registration and meeting sign up works as well as noting the tips and tricks link. (Everyone please send your Tips and Tricks). Travis' hard work and effort is greatly appreciated.

Creating Wiring Diagrams Using Visio & SmartDraw

Ron Pulvermacher from Matrix Product Development gave a brief overview of how to use Visio and Smartdraw to create wiring diagrams. An offer for a free version of Visio was sent with last years SolidWorks release, though only a few people at the meeting had used it. Some of the features of both programs were shown by Ron. He demonstrated different symbols available in both programs and how to insert and manipulate them. Ron personally preferred SmartDraw over Visio. He felt SmartDraw was more user friendly and offered more symbols.

Title Blocks, Custom Properties, Templates Saving Files

Christine Vrooman from Thermo Nicolet demonstrated how to set up templates for parts, drawings and assemblies and how to set up different custom properties. Christine suggested, as a time saver, setting up different templates with custom properties for different kinds of parts, i.e. Sheet metal, steel, plastics etc. Christine also explained the difference between saving sheet formats and "save as" when saving a template set up.

Break

Before the break David Strait asked for a show of hands of people going to SolidWorld. He asked that people come back with information about their personal experiences for the next meeting. He also asked for suggested topics



for future meetings – anyone with a suggestion for a topic they want presented please send an e-mail to any of the committee members or go to the contact feature on the MASWUG website.

Section Views, Auxiliary Views, Broken Section, Rotate Views and More

Rick Mills from Softswitch Technologies demonstrated how to insert views into drawings. Rick covered breaking views and showed that if views are inserted after a view is broken it will be inserted as broken. Also covered in the presentation were broken out sections, how to rotate views, how to create an auxiliary view and how to crop views.

New Features of E-Drawings II

Brian Harrison from SolidWorks gave a presentation of E-Dwgs II. Brian demonstrated the upgraded features of the free version and the added features of E-Dwgs II Professional. Both versions offer the ability to support parts and assemblies as well as animation. Brian noted that printing from E-Dwgs is greatly improved with the upgrade. The added features of the professional version were demonstrated. With Professional any feature can be measured within the software, this feature can be enabled or disabled by the creator. Also with the professional version, the mark-up feature can be used by anyone who receives the drawing whereas the free version can only view mark-ups. The professional version also gives the ability to create dynamic cross sections of parts and assemblies and to move assembly components. At the end of Brian's presentation he offered special pricing for E-Dwgs II Professional to those in attendance.

Submitted by: Lynn Brother