



**MASWUG MEETING 4-9-03**  
**Using BLOCKS in SolidWorks**  
**By Ron Pulvermacher**

**1. WHAT IS A BLOCK**

It is a group one or more notes and/or sketch lines in a drawing.  
*(Does not apply to part models)*

**2. CREATING A BLOCK**

Within a drawing, either go to TOOLS/BLOCK/NEW and then create sketch lines and/or notes. If you expand BLOCK in the tree you can rename the block.

One can also create a note or group of notes and sketches. Select them and go to TOOLS/BLOCK/MAKE. Then expand the BLOCK folder in the tree and give it a name.

**3. SAVING A BLOCK TO A FILE**

If you right click on the block, you can save it to a file that can then be selected for inserting into this other drawings.

**4. INSERTING A PREVIOUSLY CREATED BLOCK**

INSERT/BLOCK/BROWSE place and then **CLICK THE OK CHECK**.

**5. EDITING A BLOCK INSTANCE**

If you click on a block, the BLOCK INSTANCE manager window appears where you can add a leader if desired. The end of the lead can be dragged to any point in the block. You can change the scale or the angle of the block note.

**6. EDITING A BLOCK**

If you right click on a block, select **edit definition** and the block name and location of the text or sketch lines in relation to the origin point of the block can be changed.

If you click on an element of the block such as a note, the NOTE MANAGER WINDOW will appear. You can change the note at your choosing. All instances of this block in this drawing will change accordingly.

*If the block was inserted from a file, it will not change the original file.*

*If the block file is changed at a later date, it will not update the drawing.*

## **7. EDITING ATTRIBUTES WITHIN A BLOCK**

If you have several individual notes within a block, this can be edited uniquely with out other copies of this block being affected. To accomplish this, edit the definition of a block (RIGHT CLICK/EDIT DEFINITION), then select the note which is an attribute within the block. This brings up the note dialog window. Assign a name in the TAG NAME box. Repeat for the other attribute in the block. Close the NOTE dialog box. Close the BLOCK DEFINITION dialog box. Click on the block and in the BLOCK INSTANCE dialog box, select ATTRIBUTES. A table appears where the values for all the ATTRIBUTES can be edited make this note block unique.

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