

Ashlar-Vellum Channel Partner Newsletter

July 2012

New Success Stories in Progress

Four new success stories are in the making and will be released at different times, probably throughout the month of August. The web pages will feature expandable graphics and sound bites from the interviews, in addition to printable PDFs.



CAD & 3D Modeling Success Stories on Mac & Windows

Furniture maker, Jueri Svjagintsev of Deep Eddy West talked to us about using Xenon™ in his business designing and building custom furniture and woodwork. He likes Xenon's precision, using it to create templates for attaching directly to the wood as a guide for cutting. He also finds Xenon an excellent tool to enhance communication with his customers. Now they can see exactly what they're going to get. Let's hope we can get Svjagintsev spelled correctly every time.



We have two stories coming from Blair Hopper at Freestyle Systems. As an inventor and former contractor, Hopper uses Xenon to build products for the hair salon industry.



The first story is about his weightless blow drying system, while the second story focuses on his development of light fixtures that use 17 watt LED lights to replace 100 watt incandescent bulbs, producing high lumen, natural light. Hopper likes Xenon for its Mac compatibility and particularly for its intuitive ease of use.

Our final story from Pronghorn Overland Gear will remain under wraps until their first product is released, hopefully in August. Trey Hermann shared with me preliminary Cobalt drawings about an exciting new product for the expedition market.



New Security for v9

Version 9 of all Ashlar-Vellum CAD and 3D modeling products will feature a new form of piracy protection. Upon purchase, a customer can select either validation by web server or USB hardware key. At the highest level the security will function as follows.



Web Validation

When the customer selects web validation a particular kind of serial number is issued. After installation, the software checks in with the Ashlar-Vellum server approximately every 30 days to upload hardware and usage log information. If we determine that the license agreement has been violated we will void the serial number and registration codes and the software will cease to operate.

Hardware Key Validation

For those who do not have their system connected to the internet, (or who continue to be in violation of the web validation) we offer a physical hardware key. This key can be purchased from Ashlar-Vellum or from one of the other device makers such as WIBU, or SafeNet, and must be programmed using codes provided from Ashlar-Vellum. Upon use, the software will attempt to communicate with the device every few minutes. If the device becomes unplugged from the system, the software will cease to operate.

The system is designed to be liberal, while catching those who continue to flagrantly take unfair advantage of the license. "We have engineered a system," says Robert Bou, "that should inconvenience less than one customer in a thousand who is not in violation of the system. A customer may game the system for a short time, but it's the long term offenders that we want to catch."

Mountain Lion Support for v8

Apple released OS X 10.8 Mountain Lion earlier this month. In the few days we've had to test the released version, the only issue we've encountered is with Gatekeeper, Apple's new security system for installing applications.



Since even the most recent builds of Ashlar-Vellum software were all released prior to the release of Mountain Lion, they do not contain the Apple Developer ID. This means that customers reinstalling Ashlar-Vellum software after upgrading to Mountain Lion will need to:

1. Delete the Ashlar-Vellum software from their hard disk and reinstall either from the website or the DVD.
2. Upon receiving the Gatekeeper alert, control-click the installer or the application icon to bring up a contextual menu, choose Open and use the dialog to allow the Ashlar-Vellum software to install.

The Apple ID technology will be built into v9 applications. [Click here](#) for more information on Gatekeeper.