

Ashlar-Vellum Channel Partner Newsletter

March 2010

Next Hot Patch

The latest hot patch for Cobalt, Xenon and Argon v8 was posted to the forum for beta testing on March 24th.

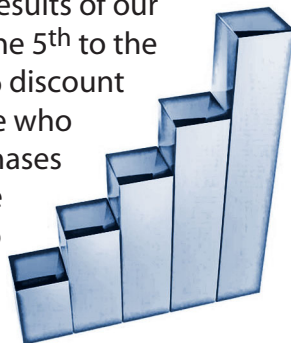


Included in this hot patch are:

- Copy/paste options added from/to Graphite
- Geometry tab added to Edit Objects for some tools
- SpaceMouse operation maintained when multiple Cobalt file windows are closed
- Corrected infinite Construction lines problem
- Original window size now maintained when collapsed then expanded
- Fixed construction lines when used with parallel line tools
- Fixed miscellaneous bugs

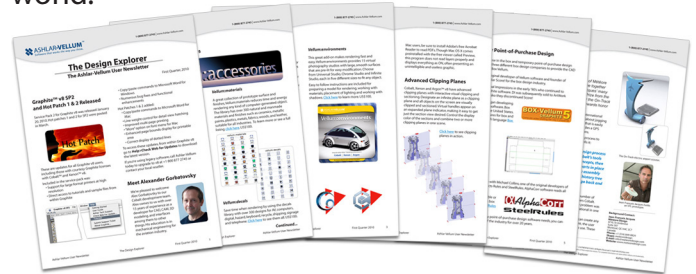
March Madness Sale

We were pleased with the results of our March Madness sale from the 5th to the 12th of this month. The 20% discount seemed to encourage those who were putting off their purchases indefinitely, not merely give away revenue to those who were going to buy now anyway. We hope you took advantage of the special pricing to bring in revenue.



Design Explorer Q1 2010

Our quarterly user newsletter went out this week to our customer base and prospects around the world.



This quarter featured:

- The Vellum:accessories
- Graphite support for box and temporary point-of-purchase displays
- Using PDFs from within Graphite
- Clipping plains in Cobalt, Xenon and Argon
- The Wizard of Whiz On-Track airport scooter success story

Cobalt on Wikipedia

The *Cobalt (CAD Program)* article on Wikipedia has recently been updated. Take a look at [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cobalt_\(CAD_program\)](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Cobalt_(CAD_program)) to see the nice result.



Graphite v8 SP2 JIS Now in Beta

The Japanese version of Graphite v8 SP2 went to beta this month. This is the first v8 for the Japanese market. This version is universal binary to run natively on both Intel and power PC Macs. It is also compliant with Vista and Windows 7 standards.



Vellum Trademark Upheld in Japan

The Japanese patent and trademark office rejected Concepts Technologies' request to cancel Ashlar-Vellum's Japanese registered trademark 3174407 of the word *Vellum* for use in Japan. Ashlar-Vellum continues to own and maintain the trademark in that country.



Server Virtualization Initiative

Ashlar-Vellum's server virtualization initiative is underway. The goal is to move individual business applications that run on specific server hardware, such as accounting, customer databases and websites, to a redundant server farm. This will simplify maintenance and backups while reducing potential downtime.

Another important benefit of the initiative is to make room for some additional hardware allowing us to test the feasibility of cloud computing for our customers.

Phase one, which is the installation of new hardware, has been completed. Phase two, software migration, is scheduled for April. While this will occur during non-business hours in the US, it may potentially impact order processing by up to 12 hours occasionally during the month for our European partners.

The servers are housed in our Dallas, Texas data center, pictured. The servers are named from top to bottom: Prime, Alpha, Apollo, Athena, Mercury, Hermes, Artemis, Zeus, Level 5

Of these, Prime and Zeus are being decommissioned in this process and Alpha will become part of the cloud computing configuration. Apollo and Athena are the virtualization servers. Mercury and Hermes each sport 12 terabytes of storage space. Artemis runs Apple X Serve. Level 5 is the server for TRUE-FIT project underway for Snap-on Tools.

