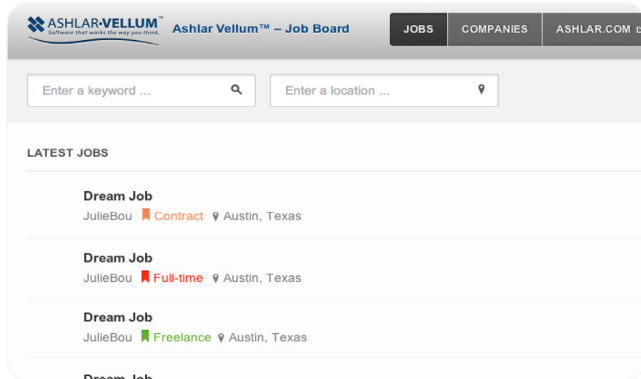


Ashlar-Vellum Channel Partner Newsletter

March 2013

Ashlar-Vellum Job Board



The new Ashlar-Vellum [Job Board site](#) is up and running on our testing website and is ready to be put through it's paces. We're starting a soft rollout this week. Take a look at the job site and encourage your customers and colleagues in the design industry to check it out too. Post any type of CAD- or 3D modeling-related full-time, part-time, contract or freelance position. We hope to take it live next week but it would be helpful if we had a couple of real jobs to list as we get started.

Q1 2013 Design Explorer

The first quarter edition the *Design Explorer* user newsletter went out this week featuring:

- Ashlar-Vellum Receives Frost & Sullivan Award
- Welcome Jane
- Welcome Les
- TeraViks Score in Robotics Regional
- Racing Rat Trap Design
- Robert Bou to SPAR International
- Lounging in Luxury



New DVD

A new DVD image has been mastered with its artwork and is available for manufacturing channel partners in the Resource Library. This DVD includes Graphite™v8 SP4 Build 8.9.15 and Cobalt™, Xenon™ and Argon™ v8 SP3 Build 8.88.

This DVD ISO includes an MD5 check sum in the filename for easy reference. Programs with MD5 checking look at every bite of the file and calculate a hexadecimal check sum. If you run the MD5 algorithm on two files and the numbers comes up the same, they're virtually guaranteed to be the same file.



To run an MD5 algorithm against your downloaded DVD ISO do one of the following. On Mac OS X open a terminal window and type MD5 and the filename on the command line. For Windows, it's best to download an MD5 program such as the MD5 Calculator from Bull Zip, found at <http://www.bullzip.com/products/md5/info.php>.

Robert Bou to SPAR International

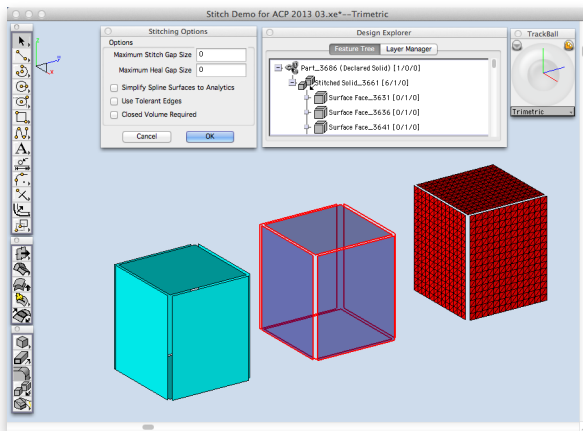


Ashlar-Vellum president, Robert Bou will be attending the [SPAR International](#) conference next month in Colorado Springs with other 3D professionals from around the world. This year's conference, "End-to-end 3D: Capture, Process, Deliver" will feature the newest technologies and workflows to drive efficiency, reduce timelines, save money, improve safety and mitigate risk across diverse business segments of the 3D market.

Stitch Options Keep You Covered

When you import a surface model and then need to perform a function best done on a solid, simply stitching the surfaces into a solid will frequently fail. In these cases it is often not necessary to have a true, water-tight solid, but simply enough to declare the collection of surfaces to be a solid. This is done using the advanced settings in the Stitching Options dialog box. Try these settings to declare a collection of surfaces as a solid:

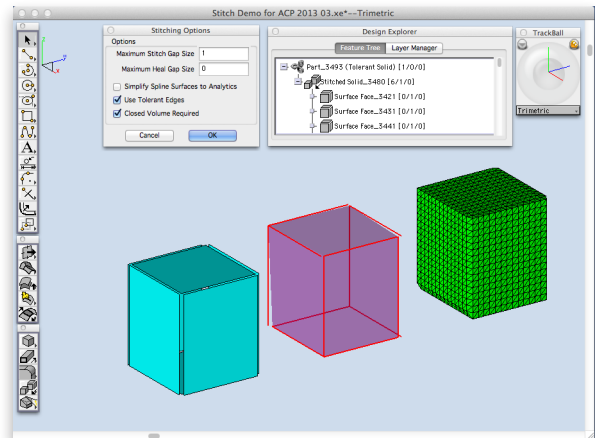
- Maximum Stitch Gap Size 0
- Maximum Heal Gap Size 0
- Simplify Spline Surfaces as Analytics Off
- Use Tolerant Edges Off
- Closed Volume Required Off



On the other hand, it is also possible to create a water-tight solid from a surface model by sort of “plastering over” its cracks between the surfaces. This is done by increasing the tolerance of the solid using the same dialog box. Try these settings to create the maximum tolerant solid:

- Maximum Stitch Gap Size 1
- Maximum Heal Gap Size 0
- Simplify Spline Surfaces as Analytics Off
- Use Tolerant Edges On
- Closed Volume Required On

To minimize the impact on a 3D print after doing this, generate the mesh with short edges.



The Rules Plot Connector from AlphaCorr

Ashlar-Vellum and AlphaCorr have developed a device connector and drivers for Rules and SteelRules software. The connector, made by Perle, has an



Ethernet RJ45 connector on one side and a DB9 serial connector on the other. Once connected, Rules or SteelRules can send output to any device, such as a plotter, cutter or router, that accepts HPGL. This brings new life to many older devices with serial ports, a feature no longer found on newer computers. Many available USB-to-serial-port boxes have bad drivers. We will be testing the first version next month in the field. Version 2 will include both cut-path optimization and a drip feeder for compatibility with other applications across the network. “Drip” software sees a file in a folder and drips it out the serial port as the device can accept it.