

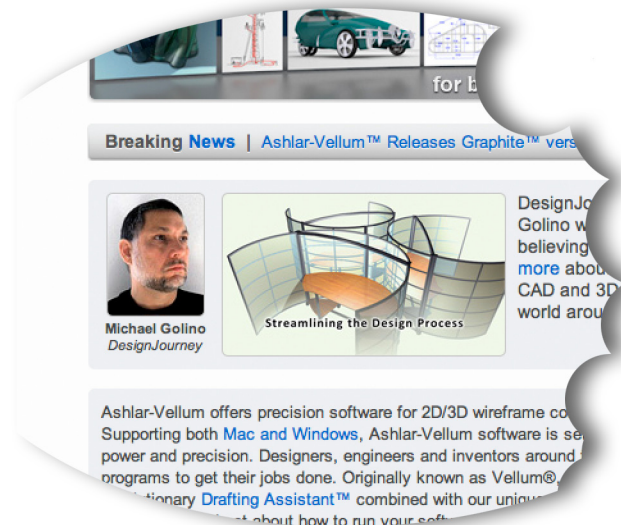
Ashlar-Vellum Channel Partner Newsletter

May 2012

Featured Designer

Our web master, Andrey Simakov, is developing a feature on our home page focusing on designers that use Ashlar-Vellum software. The Featured Designer section will change regularly and will link to a page about one of our designers, engineers or inventors that use Cobalt™, Xenon™, Argon™ or Graphite™. The page will link to their success stories, sound bites from interviews, graphics from our Gallery and Digital Asset Management system and other places where they are featured such as our Organic Workflow™ movie. Check in soon to see our first Featured Designer, Michael Golino of DesignJourney Industrial.

If you or one of your customers would like to be a Featured Designer, contact Julie Bou at julie.bou@ashlar.com.



From our Email

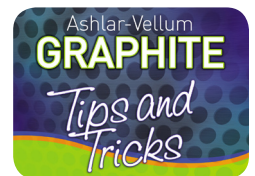
"The fact that someone would not only pick up the tech support line 10 minutes after hours was a pleasant surprise, but to have them pass the call over to the president of the company is part of the reason we use Cobalt™ over Solidworks. Robert spent several minutes walking us through potential solutions to our issue and...solved the problem."

—Trey Hermann,
Pronghorn Gear,
Boerne, Texas, USA



Graphite Power Users

Want to use Graphite like an absolute pro? The *Graphite Tips & Tricks* book lets you work more efficiently. Even experienced Graphite users are amazed at all the simple techniques they didn't know before. Here's just a few of the tips included:



- Easily access a floating tool palette
- Instantly create tangent and perpendicular lines
- Create non-associative detail views
- Effectively use macros
- Create smart walls along their center lines

Visit www.ashlar.com for more information. At just \$49.95, this book is a great investment.

Graphite Drawing & Modeling Tip: *Keyboard Mask*

In a complex Graphite drawing, when there are lots of overlapping geometry points in a small area, trying to snap to a particular point is difficult, especially when the [Drafting Assistant](#)TM is attracted to *all* the points in the area.

For example, it might be difficult to find the *center* point because the Drafting Assistant keeps jumping to the *midpoint* or an *intersect* point right next to it. Yes, you could zoom in for a closer look, but there's another way to get exactly the right point.

Using the Drafting Assistant it is possible to mask out all but the desired point in a crowded area. While holding the mouse button in the hit radius and pressing the appropriate key from the chart below, the desired point will become available and all other points masked out.



Keyboard key	Snaps to	Keyboard key	Snaps to
c	center	o	on
e	endpoint	p	perpendicular
g	grid	q	quadrant
i	intersect	t	tangent
m	midpoint	v	vertex
n	NO SNAP	%	percentage point

To Begin a Line in a Crowded Area:

1. Place the cursor near the necessary point.
2. Press and hold the mouse button.
3. Press the appropriate mask key from the chart above.
4. Move the mouse slightly within the hit radius to activate the snap. The line will begin from that specified point.
5. Release the key or drag the rubber-banding line away toward the end point.

To End a Line in Another Crowded Area:

1. Press and hold the mouse, dragging a rubber-banding line to the endpoint position.
2. Near the necessary point, while holding the mouse button, press and hold the appropriate masking key on the keyboard.
3. Move the mouse slightly within the hit radius to activate the snap.
4. When the appropriate point appears, release the mouse to end the line.

Two Things to Remember:

1. There must be an actual conflict of points for this to activate.
2. The mouse button must be held down in order for the masking key to take effect.