Ashlar-Vellum Channel Partner Newsletter November 2012

Wishing You a Blessed Holiday Season

The Ashlar-Vellum administrative office in the U.S. will be closed December 24th through January 2nd. During this time, orders will be processed by our European office and registration codes sent to you via email. Please be sure to send orders to order.processing@ashlar.com. Shipping of physical materials will resume the week of January 3rd.

Requests for demo codes will also be monitored and fulfilled. Technical support will be handled as usual through our website. To start a support ticket, go to our Support Center or send an email to support@ashlar.com.

We wish you joy and peace this holiday season.

Old News Stories

We've recently backfilled the News section of our website with small news events that seemed rather un-news-worthy at the time, but in retrospect needed to be recorded as minor milestones.

Click here to find old news releases for 2011 and 2012.

Bou in Kiev…Again

Ashlar-Vellum president, Robert Bou, was back in Kiev, Ukraine this month working with our staff to help ready the beta build for Cobalt, Xenon and Argon v8, SP3. This release will include proper flattening of the perspective view to create PDFs, and a complete overhaul of the underlying infrastructure for exporting bit-mapped graphics in support of the latest Mac operating systems, such as Lion and Mountain Lion.

Left: (from left to right) Fedor Lyamchik, Andrey Simakov and Robert Bou discuss enhancements to version 2 of the Zünd plug-in. **Right:** Robert Bou (right) works with Aleksander Shcherbakov to map out features for v9.

In addition, Robert was working with our developers on a number of ongoing projects including:

- Reviewing the beta build of Graphite v8 SP4 which contains several bug fixes and the implementation of the new "phone-home" security system.
- Developing the potential feature list for Graphite v9, somewhat focused on 3D for the AEC industry. (Think SketchUp, not SolidWorks.)
- Refining the future feature list for Cobalt, Xenon and Argon v9, including sheet metal commands and improved general CAD tools such as Bill of Materials.
- Completing the beta release of the Zünd Adobe Illustrator plug-in.
- Work on the custom 3D product for the photogrammetric and AEC industries.

Carton Ideen

Ashlar-Vellum management team Robert Bou and Julie Bou visited with Josef Weber of Carton Ideen earlier this month in Pfyn, Switzerland. Weber shared with them a number of his innovative ideas for product presentation, direct mail and other out-of-the-ordinary packaging ideas. Most of these are fabricated in small quantities (10 to 1000) in their offices using digital printers and Zünd cutting tables. Also discussed were ideas for the future version 9 of AlphaCorr Rules (and indirectly Graphite) software.

Carton Ideen's Josef Weber (right) shows Robert Bou some of the exciting packaging, point-of-purchase and direct mail samples his company has recently developed and produced in house.
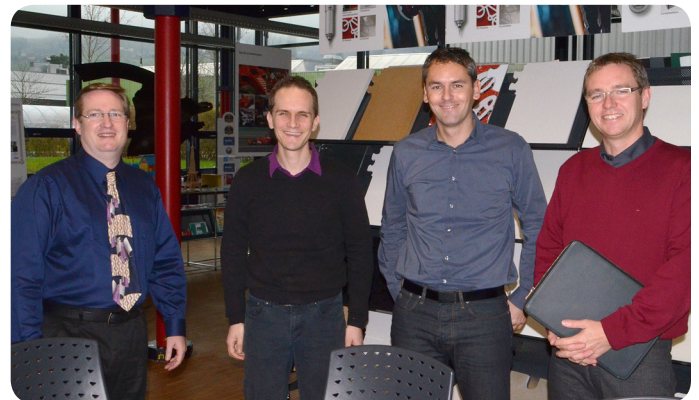
Release of Graphite v8 SP4

The anticipated release of Graphite v8 SP4 r0 is still pending and by now you should be testing the beta. Some of the features included in this service pack will be:

- Updated and enhanced PDF export functionality.
- Updated palettes for dimensioning tools and saving.
- A new installer.
- Streamlined user security.
- More flexible undo functions.
- Code Signatures for both Apple and Microsoft operating systems for easier installations.

Zünd Adobe Plug-in Release

Oliver Zünd, Lars Bendixen and Roman Hasler, of Zünd Systemtechnik AG, were visited by Ashlar-Vellum's Robert Bou and Julie Bou this month in the Zünd offices in Altstätten, Switzerland. The Zünd team reviewed the beta version of the custom Adobe Illustrator plug-in developed by Ashlar-Vellum. Now the Ashlar-Vellum development staff is completing the addition of the ECMA 2009 and 1992 catalogs for a future version.

New ideas for other parametric plug-ins for Adobe Illustrator are high on Ashlar-Vellum's list for future development.

Left to right: Robert Bou, Roman Hasler, Oliver Zünd and Lars Bendixen at the Zünd headquarters in Switzerland.

Roman Hasler (left) and Oliver Zünd (standing) review the beta version of the Adobe Illustrator plug-in with Robert Bou.