

Ashlar-Vellum Channel Partner Newsletter

October 2012

Stealth Award Given

Great news! Earlier this month we received word from a leading market research and analysis firm that Ashlar-Vellum is being given their 2012 Global CAD and Modeling Software Product Differentiation Excellence Award. Considering the 10,000 pound gorillas that are our competitors, that's pretty exciting.

Now the bad news. Unless we pay them \$40,000 we are not allowed to even mention the name of the firm giving us the award, let alone receive any benefit from it, such as announcing it in a press release, using quotes from the report, using their logo on our website or in our newsletters, or even linking to their website. Never mind the thought of having copies of the report for anyone to read.



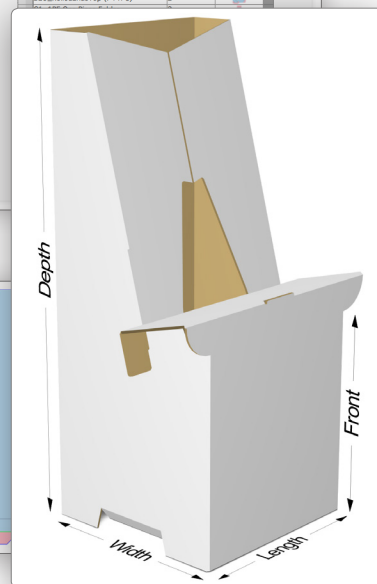
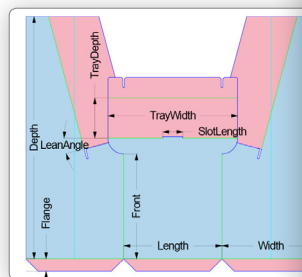
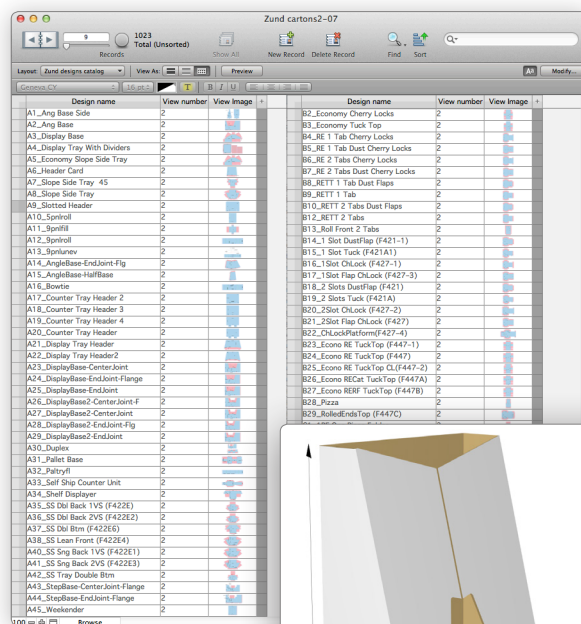
This is somewhat annoying since Robert and Julie Bou both spent a great deal of time and effort working with their analyst to give them the necessary information in a clear and concise way. In the end, they've basically parroted back our own words.

If we were Ford motor company the \$40,000 would be a no brainer. Since we're not, that amount for their marketing hype is a little steep. Other colleagues have told us they've also received these types of awards from prestigious name research firms. So you can see how the game is played.

In the meantime, "mum's" the word.

Zünd Plug-in in Beta

The Adobe Illustrator plug-in we're building for Zünd Systemtechnik, AG in Altstätten, Switzerland is now in beta. The plug-in contains a library of boxes, cartons and point-of-purchase displays initially obtained from Michael Collins and augmented by Zünd proprietary designs.



Cobalt v8 SP3

Cobalt, Xenon and Argon v8 SP3 r0 is in beta and is anticipated in late November or early December. This new service pack is expected to include:

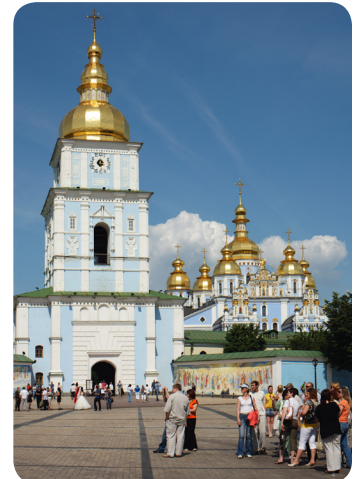


- The addition of a message warning of possible compatibility problems with Windows 8.
- A bug fix eliminating the shift of certain types of objects after reopening the file.
- An enhancement linking to the v8 documentation addendum in the Help menu.
- A bug fix that re-enables adding of associative geometry to empty drawing views.
- Updated palettes for arrowheads and fill patterns within Mac OS X 10.7.3 (Lion).
- A bug fix so that files are saved properly after a sheet view layer has been deleted.
- A bug fix that allows original materials to remain when new materials are applied and undone.
- A bug fix to enable positive lower tolerances to be displayed on dimensions.
- A bug fix eliminating a problem in Hidden and Hidden with Dimmed display mode selection sets when copying objects.
- A bug fix to properly handle Cobalt's constrained sketches when selected for extrusions and other actions.
- An enhancement to automatically resize the status line, message line and other interface objects according to the dock size and position.
- A bug fix re-enabling the default settings for the select chain short cut.
- Improved flexibility with fractions and decimals for X,Y, Z coordinates in both Mac and Windows.
- Enhancements to the Drafting Assistant for better operation near the origin point, along construction lines and at the creation points of construction lines.
- Enhanced Preferences dialog box to accommodate extra long text lines.

- An updated PDF export feature which includes bitmaps.
- An enhancement improving printing of perspective views.
- The elimination of extraneous document redraws when switching documents.
- A bug fix eliminating crashes within the pen arrow sizes dialog box.
- An enhancement for improved compatibility with Windows 7.
- Code Signatures for both Apple and Microsoft operating systems for streamlined installation.
- A bug fix to expand the range of focal lengths supported in perspective views.

Bou and Karpenko in Kiev

Robert Bou and Vladimir Karpenko both visited our development office in Kiev, Ukraine this month working on various projects. Karpenko had a number of administrative issues requiring his attention, while Bou was working with our Cobalt team on SP3.



Welcome Vladimir Grabovsky

We'd like to welcome Vladimir Grabovsky, also known as "Vova," to our operations team. He'll be doing testing, internal IT and number of special projects. Vova has experience in system administration and information technology. He likes to learn new things and impressed us with his ability to pick up new tasks very quickly. We're glad to have him on board.

