

# Ashlar-Vellum Channel Partner Newsletter

## October 2015

### New Banners

Did you notice the two new banners announcing Graphite™ v10 and Cobalt™, Xenon™ and Argon™ v9 on our home page? The bugs looking like arachnids celebrate the season.



### Updated Kinetics™ Logo

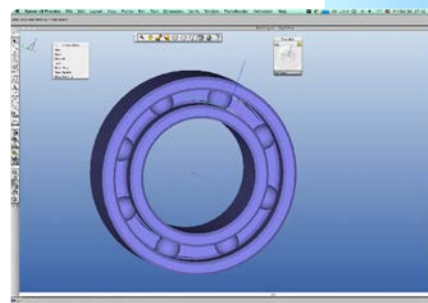
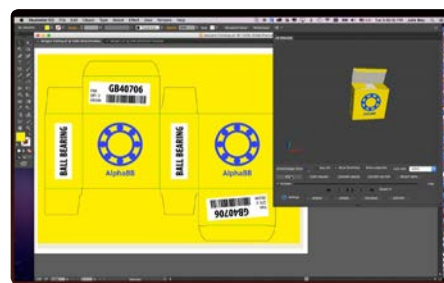
Our Kinetics logo has been updated to include the glass transparency appearance found in our other logos.



### Using Kinetics & Xenon with AlphaCorr's Folding Genius™

The 3D modeling tools in Xenon (or Cobalt or Argon) and the presentation tools in Kinetics can be used in conjunction with AlphaCorr's™ Folding Genius or Dieline Genius™ 3D Plug-ins for Adobe Illustrator. Select and modify a packaging design from the AlphaCorr library. Use Illustrator tools to add graphics to the structure. Review the folding process. When the design is complete, take a 3D PDF into Kinetics, inserting it into a scene or populating it with objects that are modeled in Xenon.

For example, this ball bearing box started life in Dieline Genius online, was brought into the Folding Genius plug-in within Adobe Illustrator where the yellow and blue graphics were added. It was then folded in Folding Genius and exported as a 3D PDF. That, in turn, was brought into an interior scene in Kinetics. The ball bearings were then modeled in Xenon v9 and exported as a Kinetics .sim file, brought into Kinetics and added to the box.



## Graphite v10

Graphite v10 is in development and is moving toward beta status, with full release anticipated around the end of the year. In addition to almost 100 small issues and bug fixes the following enhancements are in Graphite v10:

### **Draw Order Controlled by Layers or Arrange Menu:**

In v10 the draw order of objects can be handled either by the Arrange menu or the Layer dialog box. Individual entities can be moved using Arrange to bring them forward or backward one step or to bring them to the front or back. Entire layers can also be brought forward or backward as desired by simply reordering the layers in the dialog.

### **Improved DXF/DWG:**

The import and export of DXF/DWG in v10 now supports up to AutoCAD 2016.

### **Remembered Palette & Dialog Positions:**

Now tool palettes and dialog box positions are remembered independently for every screen size used including single and dual screen configurations.

### **Font Report:**

The new font report in v10 identifies missing fonts and allows temporary or permanent substitutions.

### **More Raster Image Formats:**

More than 20 new raster image formats can now be imported into Graphite v10 including PNG and TIFF.

### **Drafting Assistant™ Snap to Work Plane:**

Ashlar-Vellum's patented Drafting Assistant is enhanced to include snap to work plane. This makes drawing in 2D easier, even when working with a 3D import.



### **SVG Export:**

SVG or Scaleable Vector Graphics file format is added for export in Graphite v10.

### **Enhanced Construction Lines:**

Graphite v10 includes both classic and infinite construction lines. Classic construction lines are always relative to the zoom level at which they are created. Infinite construction lines pay no attention to zoom level and are infinite in any direction. The choice is set in Preferences by checking or unchecking the Infinite Construction Line box.

### **Ungroup vs. Explode Tool:**

In Graphite v10 use the Ungroup tool to ungroup deeply nested groups without ever worrying about breaking apart dimension entities. Use the Explode tool when dimensions need to be broken into entities.

### **Improved Layer Dialog:**

The Layer dialog box has better spacing for use with higher resolution screens.

### **Center Hot Points in Circles:**

Hot points are available in circles, arcs and ellipses making it easy to directly grab their center points.

### **Zoom All Border Area:**

The Zoom All function is improved in Graphite v10 to set the border area of the drawing area. This prevents geometry from hiding under palettes at the edges of the screen.

**Enhanced EPS Export:**

The EPS export in Graphite v10 is improved to include dimensions.

**DXF/DWF Scale Factor:**

In Graphite v10 the scale factor can be set prior to importing a DXF/DWG file.

**Layer Visibility by Viewport:**

Graphite v10 lets you control the visibility of layers for each viewport. This is particularly useful for AutoCAD compatibility.

**Enhanced PDF Import:**

A number of general improvements are included in Graphite v10's PDF import capabilities.

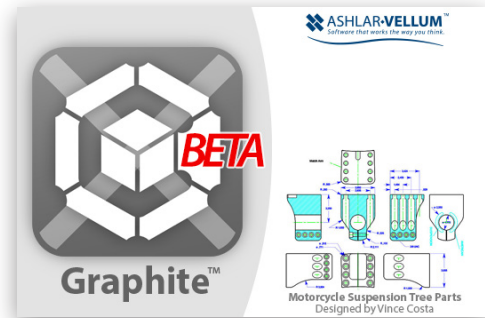
**Open DWG/DXF:**

Double click on DWG/DXF files to open them with Graphite v10. No longer do they have to be imported through the File menu inside the previously launched Graphite software.

**Grid Color:**

The grid color is user definable in Graphite v10. Now any color can be selected making it easier to see.

**Graphite v10 Beta**



We're in the process of evaluating if the latest internal build of Graphite v10 is worthy of being labeled Beta and stable enough to send to customers who have pre-bought and would like to try it. If your customers have pre-purchased the upgrade to Graphite v10 they will be sent a link to the beta version. They should not feel obligated to use it if beta software is not for them. If, however, they enjoy evaluating software in development and reporting back the anomalies, we would be happy to have their help.

**Graphite v10 Upgrades**

Customers can pre-buy your upgrade to Graphite v10 at a significant savings. Up arrow graphic indicates price increase.

| From   | To  | Thru Oct 31 | Until Release | Upon Release  | Part #   |
|--|---|-------------|---------------|---------------|----------|
| Graphite v7<br> | Graphite v10<br> | US \$495.00 | US \$695.00 ↑ | US \$795.00 ↑ | 11101006 |
| Graphite v8<br> | Graphite v10<br> | US \$245.00 | US \$295.00 ↑ | US \$495.00 ↑ | 11101007 |
| Graphite v9<br> | Graphite v10<br> | US \$145.00 | US \$145.00 • | US \$195.00 ↑ | 11101005 |



## Cobalt, Xenon and Argon v9

The latest version of Cobalt, Xenon and Argon are in development with full release anticipated around the end of the year. The following enhancements are included:

### Improved Hatching:

Hatching options include calculation and display of perimeters and areas of any designated object. Hatching patterns can only be applied to a 2D object but can be used in any 3D plane.

### Enhanced Import/Export:

DXF/DWG translation in v9 now supports up to AutoCAD 2016. We've added 2D PDF import and 3D PDF export, as well as an export for Kinetics (.sim).

### Surface from Two Contours:

A convenient way to loft a surface between two contours (an open set of 2D curves) where the starting and ending angles are assumed to be perpendicular to the plane curve.

### Background Image Aspect Ratio:

An image designated as the background for a file using the user preferences can optionally retain its aspect ratio as the window size is changed.

### Smart Walls:

Smart Walls are double lines that are automatically trimmed at the intersections when the walls are on the same layer. Thickness, height, angle and length are specified in the Status Line. Optional properties include hatch pattern, hatch color, trimming, single or double lines and wall orientation such as center line, inside or outside.

### Smart Doors:

Doors are inserted into wall segments. When viewed from the top, the arc and width of the door appear. From all other views, the door appears as a 3D object. Options include single and double doors.



### Smart Windows:

The Window tool is for adding windows to a wall segment. Like the doors, the windows appear appropriately in top vs. other three-dimensional views. Windows can have overlapping, tight or standard sills.

### Flattened Perspective View:

Facilitates 2D line art with perspective brought into a view for illustration purposes.

### Conic Surface from Sections and Guides:

A convenient way to designate conic surfaces which are common in aerospace and industrial design.

### Transparency:

An image can be transparent independent of its alpha channel.

### Independent Corner Adjustment:

Images do not have to remain rectilinear but can be changed to any simple quadrilateral (four-sided, non-intersecting) shape.

### Image Used as Infinite Plane:

Any 2D image can be designated and used as a plane.

### Fit to Profile:

Draw a simple quadrilateral profile then fit an image to it.

### Link to Profile:

Create a profile including a parametric- or equation-driven sketch and fit an image to it. If the profile changes, the image updates.

### Latest OS Support:

Mac 10.6, 10.7, 10.8, 10.9, 10.10 & 10.11.  
Windows 7, 8.1 & 10.

## Cobalt, Xenon and Argon v9 Preview Edition

In a hurry to run our 3D modeling software on the latest operating systems? The Preview Edition of Cobalt, Xenon and Argon v9 updates v8 features to run on Windows 8.1 and 10 as well as Mac 10.10 and 10.11, plus adds 3D PDF export capabilities.



## Cobalt, Xenon & Argon v9 Upgrade

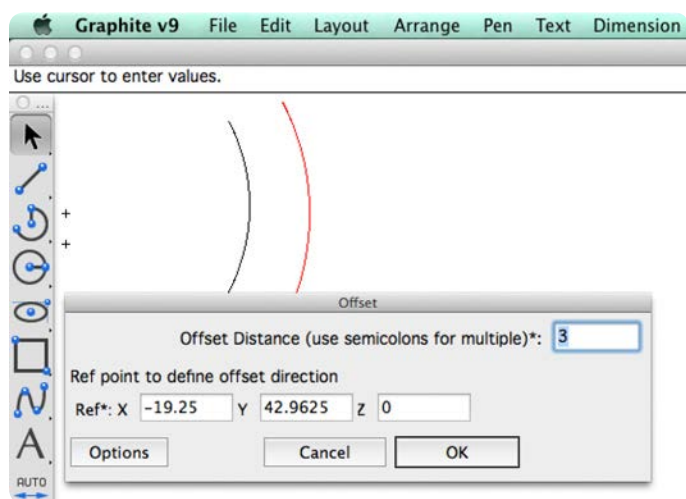
Up arrow graphic indicates price increase.

| From                          | To                       | Thru Oct 31   | Until Release   | Upon Release    | Part #   |
|-------------------------------|--------------------------|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|----------|
| Cobalt v6 (w/ Graphite v7)    | Cobalt v9 & Graphite v10 | US \$1,190.00 | US \$1,490.00 ↑ | US \$1,690.00 ↑ | 15091002 |
|                               | Cobalt v9 only           | US \$ 695.00  | US \$ 795.00 ↑  | US \$ 895.00 ↑  | 15091003 |
|                               | Graphite v10 only        | US \$ 495.00  | US \$ 695.00 ↑  | US \$ 795.00 ↑  | 11101006 |
| Cobalt v7 (w/ Graphite v7)    | Cobalt v9 & Graphite v10 | US \$ 990.00  | US \$1,290.00 ↑ | US \$1,490.00 ↑ | 15091004 |
|                               | Cobalt v9 only           | US \$ 495.00  | US \$ 595.00 ↑  | US \$ 695.00 ↑  | 15091005 |
|                               | Graphite v10 only        | US \$ 495.00  | US \$ 695.00 ↑  | US \$ 795.00 ↑  | 11101006 |
| Cobalt v8 (w/ Graphite v8)    | Cobalt v9 & Graphite v10 | US \$ 340.00  | US \$ 440.00 ↑  | US \$ 690.00 ↑  | 15091006 |
|                               | Cobalt v9 only           | US \$ 95.00   | US \$ 145.00 ↑  | US \$ 195.00 ↑  | 15091007 |
|                               | Graphite v10 only        | US \$ 245.00  | US \$ 295.00 ↑  | US \$ 195.00 ↑  | 11101007 |
| Cobalt v8 (Plus Graphite v9)  | Cobalt v9 & Graphite v10 | US \$ 240.00  | US \$ 290.00 ↑  | US \$ 390.00 ↑  | 15091008 |
|                               | Cobalt v9 only           | US \$ 95.00   | US \$ 145.00 ↑  | US \$ 195.00 ↑  | 15091009 |
|                               | Graphite v10 only        | US \$ 145.00  | US \$ 145.00 •  | US \$ 195.00 ↑  | 11101005 |
| Cobalt v8 (Plus Graphite v10) | Cobalt v9 only           | US \$ 95.00   | US \$ 145.00 ↑  | US \$ 195.00 ↑  | 15091010 |
| Cobalt v8 Solo                | Cobalt v9 only           | US \$ 95.00   | US \$ 145.00 ↑  | US \$ 195.00 ↑  | 15091011 |
| Xenon v6 (w/ Graphite v7)     | Xenon v9 & Graphite v10  | US \$ 990.00  | US \$1,290.00 ↑ | US \$1,490.00 ↑ | 14091002 |
|                               | Xenon v9 only            | US \$ 495.00  | US \$ 595.00 ↑  | US \$ 695.00 ↑  | 14091003 |
|                               | Graphite v10 only        | US \$ 495.00  | US \$ 695.00 ↑  | US \$ 795.00 ↑  | 11101006 |
| Xenon v7 (w/ Graphite v7)     | Xenon v9 & Graphite v10  | US \$ 790.00  | US \$1,090.00 ↑ | US \$1,290.00 ↑ | 14091004 |
|                               | Xenon v9 only            | US \$ 295.00  | US \$ 395.00 ↑  | US \$ 495.00 ↑  | 14091005 |
|                               | Graphite v10 only        | US \$ 495.00  | US \$ 695.00 ↑  | US \$ 795.00 ↑  | 11101006 |
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| Argon v6                      | Argon v9                 | US \$ 195.00  | US \$ 295.00 ↑  | US \$ 395.00 ↑  | 13091002 |
| Argon v7                      | Argon v9                 | US \$ 145.00  | US \$ 195.00 ↑  | US \$ 295.00 ↑  | 13091003 |
| Argon v8                      | Argon v9                 | US \$ 95.00   | US \$ 145.00 ↑  | US \$ 195.00 ↑  | 13091004 |

## New Kinetics Sales Video in Production

A new movie with a quick overview of Kinetics v2 motion simulation functionality is in production and should be available next month. This high level video presents what Kinetics does, but not the details of specifically how to do it as some of the other tutorial videos do.

## The Asterisk



Did you recall that when you see an Asterisk next to a field name in a data entry box in Graphite, Cobalt, Xenon or Argon, that means that you can use the mouse to fill in data in that field?

Using the Offset dialog of Linear Duplicate dialog as an example, you'll see where the asterisk appears next to several fields. At the top of the screen, the Message Line reads: *Use cursor to enter values.*

1. Activate the necessary field by clicking on it.
2. Move the cursor out into the drawing area.
3. Click at a point to indicate coordinates or drag from point to point to indicate direction and/or distance.
4. The result of the mouse action will automatically fill in the values in the active field(s) of the dialog.

## Congratulations Andrey & Olena

You may have noticed that last month's Channel Partner newsletter not only came out two weeks early but was rather short. This is because our layout artist and web guru went on his honeymoon the end of the month. We had all the news that was fit to print by the middle of the month, and sent it out. All was planned ahead and everything was cool. Then, as soon as Andrey got out of town, we had the bright idea to announce Graphite v10...and soon after Cobalt/Xenon/Argon v9.

