

The Design Explorer

The Ashlar-Vellum User Newsletter

First Quarter, 2014

Ashlar-Vellum Job Board Updated

Connect with other professionals experienced in Ashlar-Vellum software using the latest version of Ashlar-Vellum's new job board. Whether you're an employer looking for full-time help or a designer looking for a little extra freelance work, the job board can help you connect with others in the industry.

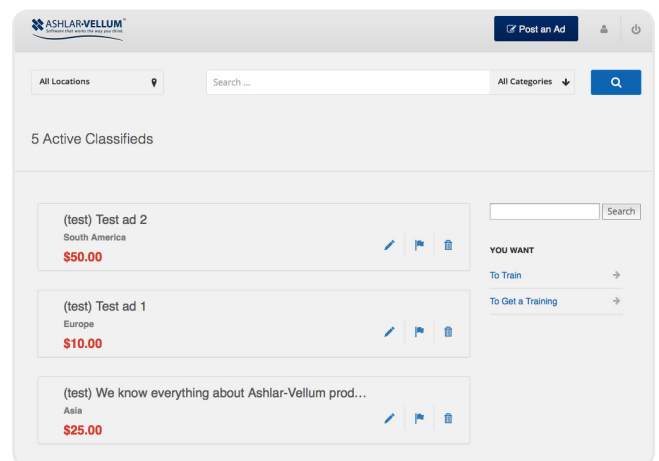
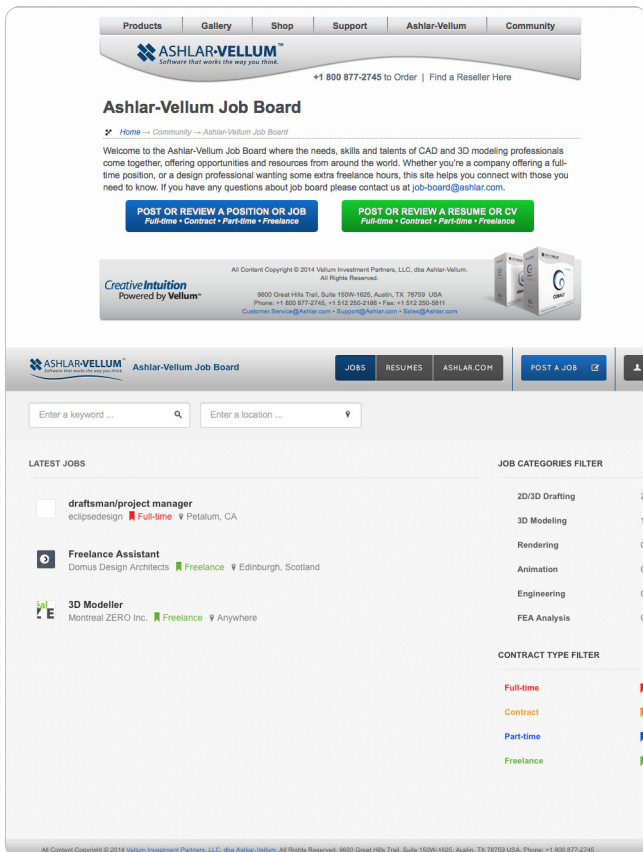
[Click here](#) to post a job description or a resume, or to just to see what it's all about.

Ashlar-Vellum Training Board in the Works

Ashlar-Vellum is preparing a training board listing users of our programs who are willing to help others learn them using screen-sharing software and the telephone. If you're someone who can assist others in learning Graphite™, Cobalt™, Xenon™ or Argon™, list your experience, hourly rate, hours of availability, time zone, contact information, and preferred method of payment (credit card, PayPal, send a check, etc.)

If you're looking for a little help learning our software connect with someone who has the skills you're seeking, hourly rate, availability and an accessible payment method. Contact them directly to negotiate the parameters and payment of the type of training you need.

The training board is in final development and will be ready for beta testing on April 1st. You'll find links to it under both the Community and Support menus on our website.



More Affordable STU Pricing

Ashlar-Vellum has changed our Student-Teacher Unit licensing policy to yearly rentals only, making it more affordable for students and institutions to use



the software. All STU licenses are activated with a registration code that expires one year from the date of rental purchase. Active STU users must verify their eligibility for an STU license each time they purchase or renew their rental. Existing STU permanent licenses will continued to be renewed free for up to two years as usual. New STU rental pricing is as follows for a 1-year e-only license:

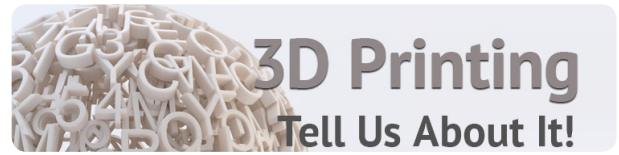
Cobalt v8 + Graphite v9	US \$115.00
Xenon v8 + Graphite v9	US \$ 95.00
Argon v8	US \$ 50.00
Graphite v9	US \$ 75.00

Multi-unit discounts apply on packs of 5, 10 or 25 units to the same institution.

All STU orders must be accompanied by a signed [STU pre-ship agreement](#) and proof of faculty status or student enrolment (usually a copy of a CURRENT faculty or student ID). These may be faxed to your VAR or directly to Ashlar-Vellum at **1 512 250 5811**.

Please note that this license is NOT intended for faculty members outside the design disciplines wanting CAD software for research or other projects. Nor is it for the business of a university such as facilities management. Both of the latter are covered under Research/Charitable/Retired (RCR) licensing.

Call for 3D Printing Stories



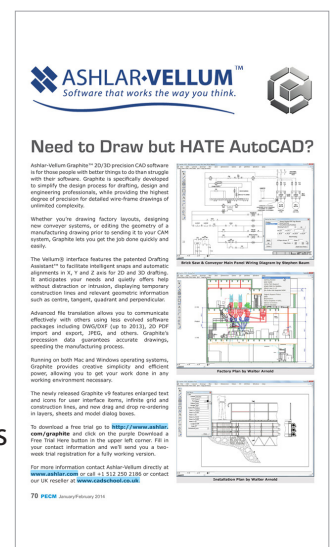
With the recent explosion in 3D printing we're looking for customer stories to share with others. While some of you are new to 3D printing, we know that many of you have been doing it for years. We'd love your stories, new and old, long and short to feature as part of articles for our website and in our newsletter.

You don't need to write the story, just spend a few minutes talking with Julie Bou, and share any photos and/or modelling files you might have available. It's a great way to promote your capabilities and experience. No matter which Ashlar-Vellum 3D modelling product is used, we want to hear about it.

Please email Julie.bou@ashlar.com or call **1 800 877 2745 ext. 1130** to set up a telephone interview.

Graphite in Process Engineering Control & Maintenance

Graphite was featured in the January issue of *Process Engineering Control & Maintenance*. This UK magazine offers practical advice and solutions on the technical and management challenges faced by engineers and managers in the process and maintenance industries. [Click here](#) to read the article.





A New Way to Skin a Ski



Montana International AG knows winter sports equipment. They are one of the leaders in ski and snowboard service machines and storage equipment. They've also been making high quality climbing skins since 1936. Walter Arnold, freelance designer, Ashlar-Vellum user and Swiss native, was recently engaged by

Montana International to design a new fastener for these skins that was easy to use and flexible enough to work with any ski tip or split board design.

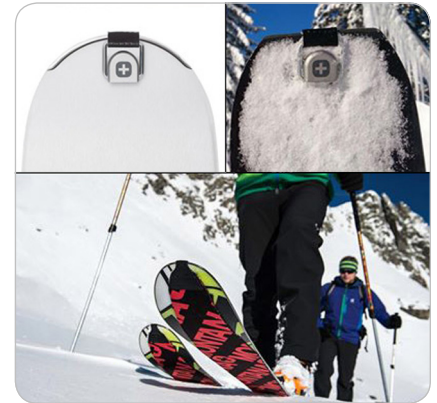
For those who are not backcountry ski aficionados, ski skins or climbing skins are used for flat skiing and climbing to those places inaccessible by any chair lift, allowing skiers or boarders to whoosh through the pristine powder of ungroomed slopes.

Originally made of seal skins, ski skins are today made of mohair, nylon or a combination of the two. The skin has a nap, which is smooth when rubbed one way but has friction when rubbed the other. This gives traction for easier climbing up the hills without sliding backwards, and comfortable gliding forward on flat terrain. Ski skins are usually taken off at the summit and stored carefully for the run down the mountain.

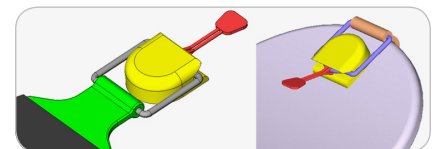
Climbing skins come as long, thin strips of material with an adhesive on one side. The skins are carefully adhered to the bottom of the skis or split boards (a snowboard split vertically to allow climbing) and fastened at the ends with binders. But traditional binders are clumsy to use. So Arnold developed a new kind of fastener using Cobalt™, Graphite™ and 3D printing. Instead of a clip, a hole is drilled in the tip of each ski and a piercing is screwed in, making the skins fast and convenient to attach.

Arnold liked the work flow of modelling in Cobalt, selecting the best designs to print in 3D, making design modifications, then using Graphite to create the technical production drawings from the Cobalt geometry. Arnold tells us:

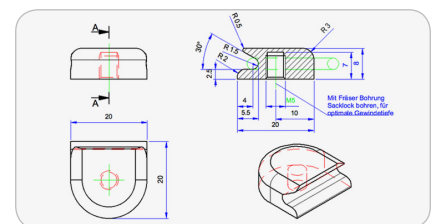
“For modelling and 3D printing I use only Cobalt, of course, because I need to make the STL files and I can only do it in Cobalt. And then when it comes to detailing I use Graphite. I still like the 2D part of Graphite. I’m an old Vellum® user. The flexibility for me is the best part.”



Montana International's new ski piercing fasteners easily secure climbing skins to any shape of ski or splitboard tip.



Arnold modelled the ski piercing in Cobalt and printed it in 3D (above). Deciding upon the design, he brought the geometry into Graphite for production drawings (below).



Background/Contact

For more details on this project contact:

Walter Arnold
Arnold CAD GmbH

Switzerland

+1 (775) 544 1501, +41 (32) 512 7067

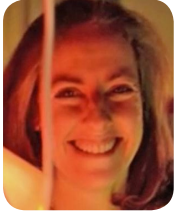
info@arnold-cad.ch

www.arnold-cad.ch

www.skipiercing.com



Slipper Satin & Ribbons



Michèle Fremont has been a product designer working with Ashlar-Vellum software for almost 20 years. She began her career on a drafting board and later started using Vellum® while she was consulting in the toy industry for Hasbro, Tyco Preschool and Fisher-Price. She tells us that at least 85 toys that made it to market, and about another 100 that did not, were all designed in Vellum and later Graphite™.

Michèle describes Graphite as being “facile, very easy to use, and intuitive.” She’s also found that Graphite gives her the ability to show clients in three-dimensions what their own ideas would look like. Based on their napkin sketch, she uses Graphite for client visualization so that “they’re able to understand the difference between what their vision is and what it really takes to make it.”

Working in the toy industry Michèle learned that products did not make it into manufacturing unless she’d solved the problems of cost, retail packaging and safety, so she learned to pre-engineer all of her designs for manufacture, thinking about cost as well as design and style. By working in Graphite she created a master library of bosses, screws, curves, spirals and other design elements that she knew were preferred by her clients and her manufacturing team. Using Graphite she could output files in DXF for her engineer or machinist, or as an Illustrator file for the client’s own marketing team. She tells us:

“Ashlar is versatile enough to translate into visual files as well as CAD files and dimensional files.”

But Michèle has always longed to design a line of housewares dedicated to the memory of her late mother and muse, Jacqueline Dyer. Michèle talks about her mother growing up in France and later being a classmate of Jacqueline Bouvier and a contemporary of Audrey Hepburn. “When I think of my mother I think of the era of ‘slipper satin and ribbons.’”

She started a line of lights that she calls by that name, wanting to make them accessible, beautiful and well priced. Die cut from paper, the lights fold flat for shipping and expand over a light bulb. Several are designed especially for custom artwork, and can be printed for weddings and as promotional items.

Michèle tells us:

“I didn’t start using the 3D capabilities [in Graphite] until I started doing patent drawings for the lights...I needed a way to revolve the products I was working on and open and close them. I’ve been using Vellum and Graphite now since 1995.”



Jacqueline Dyer, Michèle’s mother and muse, came from the era of “slipper satin and ribbons.”



Pastel in the daylight, the colours intensify with darkness.



The Jacquie, left, and the Audrey, like all of Michèle’s designs fold flat and are placed over any light bulb.

Background/Contact

For more details on this project contact:

**Michèle Fremont
Jacqueline Dyer Inc.**

24 Corliss Street #6748
Providence, RI 02940
(888) 727-1080

michelefremont@mac.com

www.facebook.com/JacquelineDyer