VersaCAD

Versatile Computer Aided Design

Archway Systems

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Inside this issue:

VersaCAD is Great for All Kinds of Projects

John Brombaugh is a retired pipe organ maker from Oregon who used VersaCAD for his designs on a regular basis. In 2007, after his retirement, he was asked to document an organ with a special history that was built in 1551 in a little town in Germany, called Lüneburg. This organ was in St. Michael's church and is possibly the largest organ surviving from that period.

In 1700, a 15 year old teenager moved to the town and lived there three years on a choral scholarship. He sang and studied there as well as learning to play the organ. He took lessons and practiced on this organ that Brombaugh got to document. His name was Johann Sebastian Bach. When Bach played on it, it was already 150 years old!

Though Brombaugh is now retired, he still upgraded to the newest version of VersaCAD 2011 in order to help him out on fun projects like this in the future, especially with the new image capability.

VersaCAD 2011: Unique in Handling of Raster Images

Most software that can handle both raster (photos, scans, etc.) and vector (lines, circles, etc.) graphics, treat the raster graphics as a file. The file is attached as a reference for the vector graphics.

VersaCAD 2011 treats raster files as "objects" rather than files. That means the user can "add" the raster image to the drawing just like adding any other graphic. And then the raster image can be copied, moved, rotated, scaled, and more just as any vector object would be.

Even better is that VersaCAD 2011 allows use of raster images in symbol libraries. Many expensive CAD cannot do this. The user of VersaCAD 2011 can create a symbol library of popular raster images and then those images can be selected by point and click and then dragged onto a drawing, arranged in arrays, or placed individually.
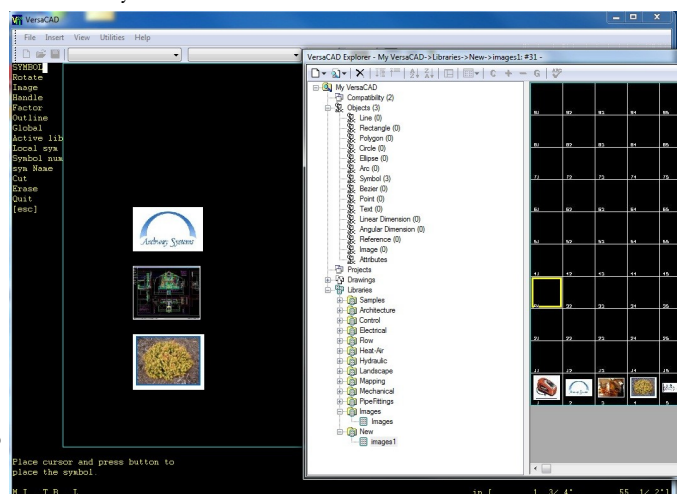
It is the perfect function for making user manuals, maintenance manuals, photo albums, and more, just like a "light table." The images can also be modified just like a vector graphic, for example, an image can be modified such as scaling it uniformly or non-uniformly. That means that two types of rubber sheeting or warping can be done:

- Align (Move, Scale) or

- Similitude (Move, Scale, Rotate).

The third type of warping can be accomplished with extra effort, i.e. Affine (Move, Scale, Rotate, and Skew).

The addition of very easy to use raster processing keeps VersaCAD as the value leader in 2D CAD.

Who's Who at Archway Systems

Tom Lazear	Administration, Sales & Training	**Josh Lazear**	Webmaster , Z Support and Programming
George McMeans	Sales & Training in Nor. Cal.	**Daniel Lazear**	Programming
Mike Lazear	Programming & Support	**Stephen Peters**	Application Engineer
Phill Frye	Training & Consulting	**Chris Grubb**	Civil Engineering Software
Greg Hamano	Training & Support	**Lauren Jansen**	Marketing & Sales
Sandy Lazear	Accounting	**Shannon Schoenberger**	Marketing
Linda Grubb	Support and administration		

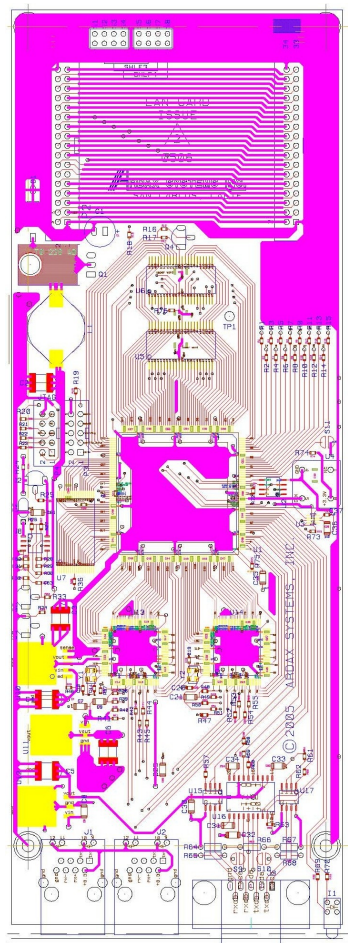# REPORT   Electronic Work Can Be a Work of Art

Ardax Systems, Inc. has been a long time VersaCAD user. Aram Gharakhanian, President of Ardax Systems, Inc., told us about their journey working with VersaCAD over the years:

"Now that I think about VersaCAD, I think back to the start of this company in April 1979, with a Xerox Word processor and a very large Drafting Table. Our first DOS PC (IBM XT with about 640K memory and 500kBytes HD) was bundled with one of the first versions of VersaCAD we purchased from one of your Value Added Resellers to replace the Drafting Table. It was so fast, screaming with a 4.7MHz 186 Processor and Bill Gates' DOS, that we could go out, drink a cup of coffee and come back, and the screen was still calculating and repainting the screen. We dared not to zoom in or out.

We purchased every version of the PC, every version of DOS and Windows OS, and graphics cards to speed up the response time. Eventually, the computers got to be pretty good and VersaCAD software was catching up.

Over the 31 years, besides the mechanical packaging and sheet metal drawings, we adapted and used VersaCAD to brute-force a printed-circuit layout with extremely complex boards, even though VersaCAD was not originally designed to do this. No other product in the market, other

PC Layout created by Ardax Systems, Inc.

than an over $100k very high end system, could figure out component placement and best way routing to keep the mixed analog/digital circuits from interfering with each other. We were compelled to have the engineer who designed the circuit actually layout his own work and learn from prototypes what works and what doesn't. So every engineer learned how to use a dedicated computer/ VersaCAD station, draw schematics and layout the boards. Not only are they electronic work, but also can be looked at as a pretty work of art."

Ardax is just updating the latest version of VersaCAD 2011. With this version, Ardax will be able to add images of finished circuit boards to their drawings. Also with the new versions users are able to work with images in many ways including overlaying drawings on top of images and change the transparency and priority of images and filled objects. Also, VersaCAD is faster than ever and repaint times are almost none. This is great for any project you are working on.

If you want to upgrade your version of VersaCAD or renew your Premium Service, contact Archway for a quote.

Looking for Lost VersaCAD Users

When ownership of VersaCAD was returned from Computervision to Archway Systems, the only problem was that the database of users had been lost. Over the past ten years, the database has been restored to 3,000 users. The problem is that there were over 10,000 users at the time. That's 7,000 users who may be looking to upgrade to the newest version of VersaCAD, but don't know how.

So we're offering you an incentive to help us find those missing users. If you know the name and contact information for a past user, please email it to tom@archwaysystems.com. If they upgrade to the new version, we will add a month to your Premium Service term.

VersaCAD Videos

Each release of VersaCAD Windows includes "how-to" videos. Just go to Help on the VersaCAD menu and click VersaCAD Videos. You will need to have Macromedia Flash installed. How to get that free software is included in Help as well.

To take advantage of these videos, just click on the title and watch how to use a newer VersaCAD feature. Videos include: a Quickstart for new users, how to use Function keys, Level Manager, VersaCAD Translator and more. Take just a few minutes to learn any particular feature including the new features for adding/modifying/grouping images.

Archway's Product Line

Archway is a full service provider of technical software serving the Academic, Architectural, Civil and Mechanical Engineering markets.

DESIGN & ENGINEERING SOFTWARE:

- MicroStation, ProjectWise and applications
- VersaCAD Win & Mac
- Bentley Architecture & Generative Components
- InRoads, PowerCivil & Geopak Civil Software
- Haestad Hydraulic Analysis Software
- Hevacomp & Tas Software
- Solid Edge and applications
- Promis*e

3D GRAPHICS & ANIMATION SOFTWARE:

- Rhino 3D, Flamingo, Penguin & Bongo
- Bentley ProjectWise Navigator
- ArchVision libraries

COMPUTER PERIPHERALS:

- Z Corp 3D Printers

SERVICES:

- Training
- Phone support
- On-site support
- 3D Printing
- Customizing
- Consulting
- Contract software development
- CAD file translation

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PRODUCTS

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