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What's in BricsCAD V17

BricsCAD® will make you feel right at home from the very beginning. It offers all the familiar .dwg 2D CAD features, yet it adds time saving tools and 3D Direct Modeling. BricsCAD V17 is now available, introducing 3D drawing compare, dimension style improvements, dockable panels and other user interface improvements. With BricsCAD you get more for less.

3D DRAWING COMPARE

3D compare opens two drawing files and then reports the differences in 3D solids and 3D surfaces using color coding. This lets you quickly see the changes made to otherwise identical-looking drawings. The differences are represented as separate entities displayed in two viewports – red entities for additions, green for subtractions.

Simultaneous 3D navigation in both viewports lets you get a closer look at what has changed. You have the option of leaving blocks and frozen layers out of the checking process. When you have the Communicator add-on, you can check differences in 3D models from other CAD systems, making BricsCAD a universal CAD model checker.

ANIMATIONS

Create movies by rendering views from a point or along a path using **AniPath**. These movies can be used to show collaborators and clients your designs. In creating the movie, you have options like specifying the frame rate and resolution, the overall duration, a visual style, and the movie file format.

COMPONENT MATERIALS

Materials in BricsCAD now support physical properties. This means that when you analyze 3D models with commands such as `bmMassProp` and `bmBom`, the correct mass is returned no matter how many different materials make up the models. You can use materials

provided with BricsCAD, or else define your own. Component materials correctly generate their hatch patterns when shown in section views.

The optional Communicator add-on imports materials with physical properties, should they be assigned to the parts in imported products. When you export sheet metal models, materials are included in DXF and OSM files.

DIMENSION STYLE FAMILIES

Dimension style families consist of a parent style with one or more child styles. This is a handy way to make subtle modifications to just part of a dimension style. For instance, you can make linear and angular dimensions look different from each other.

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DIMENSION STYLE COMPARISON

You can compare dimension styles you've selected in the in the Detail View list in the Dimension Styles explorer. The Editor panel shows a comparison table highlighting the differences.

DOCKABLE PANELS

When you have more than one panel docked to the side of the screen, they now share the same space, with each panel getting its own tab.

Layers and Content Browser

Whereas before the **Layer explorer** had to be dismissed, now layer names and their settings are always available to you while drawing and editing through the Layer panel. **The Content Browser** dockable panel displays DWG and DXF content in a tree-like view from folders that you specify.

PLACEVIEW

When working with sheet sets, **PlaceView** allows you to place named views in layouts.

TWIST

Create engineering objects like drills or augers by **twisting** 3D solids, surfaces, and regions around an axis by an angle that you specify.

THICKEN

Use the thicken tool not only on surfaces, but also on wire objects such as lines, circles and curves to create tube-like objects with just couple of clicks.

IMPROVED GETTING STARTED

When you start BricsCAD V17, the redesigned Getting Started dialog lets you easily select from user profiles and work spaces, open existing drawings, start drawings, and access educational resources, like video tutorials.

IMPROVED PARAMETRIC COMPONENTS

Parametric components now define 3D solid features to be created on insertion. This lets you place user-defined features, such as parametric holes, form features, and ribs. BricsCAD does this by applying Boolean operations to the target 3D solid. You can change the visibility each component through the new Exposed property for parameters. Parameters take units, which lets you insert metric components into imperial documents and vice versa.

IMPROVED QUAD

BricsCAD's unique Quad cursor gains a new tabbed layout designed to give our users faster access to groups within the Quad. Atop the Quad cursor is a new information field that reports data about entities over which the cursor is currently hovering.

MATCHPERSPECTIVE

Use Match Perspective to define how a background photograph and a digital model are related, and obtain a view in which your model is rotated and scaled to nicely fit in the background image.

MATERIALMAP

Control and adjust how rendering textures are wrapped around shapes by changing their mapping or alignment. Use the Box option to wrap around boxy shapes, the Spherical option for globe shapes, the Cylindrical option for cylinder shapes or the Planar options to align a texture to a plane without wrapping.

TRANSMISSION

Use E-Transmit to send your files over the internet. With e-transmit you can now include all dependencies of a mechanical Assembly or a BIM model and its related composition and material data.

CLIPPED DISPLAY

Get rid of obliterating geometry by activating one or more clip planes to get optimal access to the part of interest. Move clip planes in real-time. Intersections are hatched according to material patterns.

3D SNAP

Snap to points of interest on 3D solids, such as vertices, midpoints of edges or centers of faces. If desired you can snap to the nearest point on a face, or perpendicular to a face. It even is possible to snap to the location where tracking lines or edges, intersect with faces.

UNIT DISPLAY

Define your list of preferred units to display length, area and volume properties. Depending on the magnitude of a value, the most suitable unit type from the list will be used. So in a mm-based drawing, instead of showing a volume property as 50 000 000 000 mm³, a value of 50 m³ will be displayed.