

AutoUpd documentation

Description

AutoUpd updates existing drawings based on using a specified control file.

In the process text and attribute values can be changed individually on each drawing.

Find and replace of text or attribute values throughout the whole drawing is supported.

Creation of control file

The Control file should be in TXT tab delimited format.

Start with AutoUpdTemplate.xls and when ready save as Text (Tab delimited) (*.txt) or use the button Export.

For an example of the usage take a look at AutoUpdSample.xls.

The rows 10 and higher are used to define the drawings to be updated. To add files the Add files button can be used.

Column A (row 10 and higher) holds the path to the drawing.

Column B (row 10 and higher) holds the name of the drawing.

Column C (row 10 and higher) holds the full path to an AutoLISP application that should be loaded. *.lsp;*.vlx;*.fas are supported. This is optional.

Column E and higher are used to define what should be changed in the drawing. Do not leave empty columns in between. For cell E10 and higher add the new value to be used or add the value *****IGNORE***** without the double quotes and it will not be considered.

When only row 1 and 2 has values it is a Block attribute and all instances of that block with that attribute should get the value as specified in row 10 and higher.

When only row 2 has a value it is an Attribute definition. This is not a good solution but sometimes users explode blocks and edit the attribute definition thinking it is plain text. What is to be done here is that the Attribute definition should be converted into a Text object with the same properties and the new value.

When row 1,2 and 3 has values it all matches should get the value listed. The value will be searched for and replaced. For example: 1111 will search for all occurrences of the text 111 and replace it with the value listed.

When row 4-7 contains values defining coordinates for a rectangle any Text, Mtext, Multileader or Table objects crossing or within will be searched and replaced. If the value in row 3 is empty existing value will be completely replaced.

When only row 3 has values it is either Text, Mtext, Multileader or Table objects that should be searched and replaced.

Row 8 is used to specify what layout will be updated.

For search and replace of attribute values in the whole drawing:

To have it working add * in Block name (row 1) and/or Attribute Tag (row 2). This way you can find and replace among all attributes for one specific block or all blocks.

You can also find and replace on a specific attribute tag or any attribute tag. Examples of combinations that work:

Block name: *

Attribute Tag: *

Block name: *

Attribute Tag: NAME

Block name: FRAME

Attribute Tag: *

Block name: FRAME

Attribute Tag: NAME

Usage

Recommendation is to close all drawings and start a new empty drawing.

Start with the command AutoUpd.

The first time you might be asked for the location of the program file "AutoCAD Automation Tools.VLX".

When asked for control file (.TXT) browse for and select the control file to be used.

System requirements

AutoCAD 2000 or later or verticals based on AutoCAD, Bricscad 10.

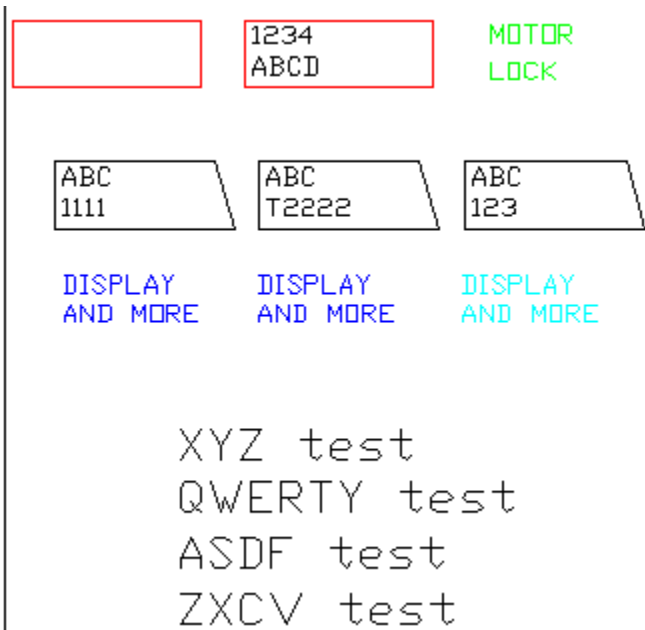
Tested on AutoCAD 2004, AutoCAD 2008, AutoCAD 2009, AutoCAD 2010, AutoCAD 2011, AutoCAD 2012, AutoCAD 2013 and Bricscad 10.

Test drive

Extract the files to c: so the folder "AutoCAD Automation Tools" is created. If you want to place the files in another folder you need to edit the AutoUpdSample.txt file so the path is correct for the template drawings.

Follow the instructions described under the subheading Usage. Run the AutoUpd command and browse for the file AutoUpdSample.txt and the resulting new drawings will be created in the NEW folder.

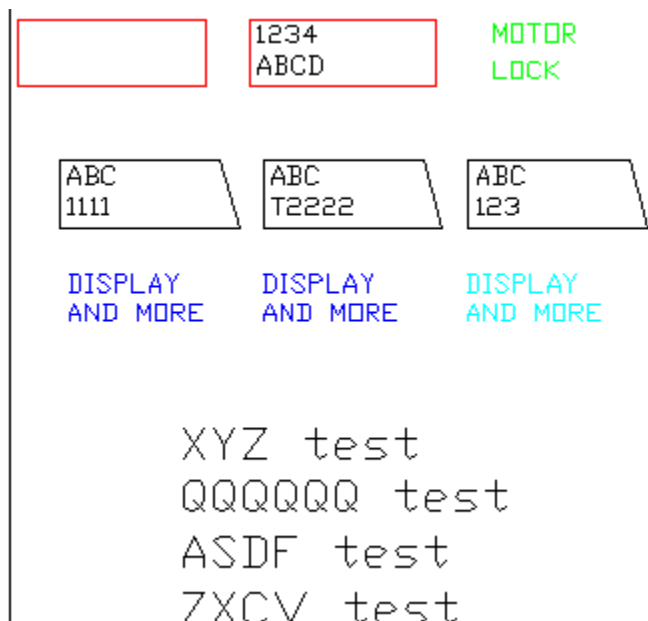
This shows AutoUpd sample 1.dwg before updated.



1234
ABCD

XYZ test
QWERTY test
ASDF test
ZXCV

This shows AutoUpd sample 1.dwg after updated.



7-53-110-1
ABCD

XXYYZZ test
QWERTY test
ASDF test
ZZZZZ

Support

Contact details are found here:

<http://www.jtbworld.com/contact.htm>

http://www.jtbworld.com/autocad_automation_tools.htm