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with Powerful eLearning**

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Navigate the world of design technology

A circular portrait of a man with grey hair, Robert Green, is on the left. The background is a blurred office scene. The text 'CAD Manager's Newsletter' is in large black font, with 'STRATEGIES AND SOLUTIONS FOR THE REAL WORLD' and 'By Robert Green' in smaller text below it. A red bar is at the bottom of the cover.

CAD Manager's Newsletter
STRATEGIES AND SOLUTIONS FOR THE REAL WORLD
By Robert Green

August 14, 2024
Issue #526

Pushing for What Your CAD Team Needs

These five issues can make or break your CAD team's efficiency — resolve them now by getting management on your side.

It seems like CAD managers live in a state of perpetual struggle to get ever-increasing project work done with insufficient budget or control to do so. And, if that weren't enough, we're constantly being bombarded with new software products, evolving cloud technology, and the IT problems that come with it all as we try to complete billable work. And, if your workday is anything like mine, nobody is ever shy about asking me to do more.

So, in this edition of *The CAD Manager's Newsletter*, we'll cover what you should be asking for (insisting on) to get your job done. I'll break the items down and give you some talking points to use with management to push back and start to get what you need. Here goes.



Image source: [Sashkin/stock.adobe.com](#).

Workstations

I always start any discussion about making CAD processes better with the argument that there's no bigger "no brainer" decision in the CAD environment than upgrading workstations. Today's workstations are far more powerful than those produced a few years ago with huge gains in processing (more cores with bigger caches), faster CPU/RAM clock rates, better graphics, and cheap/fast solid-state disks that all combine to speed CAD performance in a big way. Even a \$2,500 workstation (minus monitor) provides a great CAD platform for 3D users now.

With the new hardware we have available to us, it simply doesn't make sense to keep using the old, slow hardware that bogs down or crashes when attempting to work with large data files. Put another way, why would you want to force an expensive employee working on a high-profile project to suffer with a slow, boat anchor workstation when they could get more done using a fast, efficient new one?

[Read Robert's advice](#) on how to make the case with management to upgrade workstations, get enough bandwidth, optimize your hardware and software, set up training, and implement mobile device policies.

[<<READ THE COLUMN >>](#)

Tools & Resources



2024 Paris Olympic Village Design Success

The Athletes' Village project was particularly complex as it has a double lifecycle, first hosting athletes during the summer of 2024 before being repurposed into a new housing and commercial area. With multiple architects working on the project and using different software including Archicad, the ability to easily exchange information using IFC saved considerable time. [Read more >>](#)

Webinar Series: The Elevation and Expansion of MBSE 20 August, 11am EDT; 12 September, 11am EDT.

As investment in Model-Based Systems Engineering (MBSE) continues to grow rapidly, understanding the enablers, barriers, and drivers that shape MBSE strategies is essential. The first webinar will outline the key elements of an enterprise MBSE solution strategy. They will delve into common struggles and questions, and share perspectives and hypotheses. The second webinar will introduce CIMdata's research into these questions and hypotheses. Attendees the first webinar will be invited to take part in the research. These webinars will interest anyone responsible for system design optimization and validation, whether the system is a product or the system by which the product is produced or supported, including product program managers and planners, all engineers, and anyone involved in digitalization. [Read more >>](#)

Mark Your Calendar! GTC 2025 17-20 March 2025

Nvidia announced next year's GTC Conference which brings together thousands of innovators, researchers, developers, creators, thought leaders, and decision-makers to share ideas, discuss novel technical innovations, and explore how accelerated computing and AI are transforming how we work and live.

Do you want to present? Submit your proposal for a talk or training lab by 5 p.m. PDT on September 12, 2024, or a poster by 5:00 p.m. PDT on October 3, 2024.

[Present at GTC](#) or [More Information >>](#)



GIS Watch: Using Bentley's Seequent GeoStudio to Stabilize the Ripley Landslide Site

Learn how 3D slope stability analysis in GeoStudio is helping Canada's Thompson River valley, where a high concentration of landslides affects important transportation routes. [Read More >>](#)

Webinar Watch: Maximizing Construction Efficiency: Harnessing GIS Innovations in AEC Workflows **28 August 2024, 10am PT**

ESRI's AEC Community webinar on GIS (geographic information system) for construction is tailored for the AEC community. It will explore cutting-edge applications and strategies using GIS technology to integrate project planning, optimize resource allocation, and enhance decision-making. Hear success stories and innovative approaches in integrating GIS technology into construction workflows. [Read More >>](#)

Tradeshaw Watch: PLM Road Map & PDT Europe 2024 **23-24 October, 2024, Gothenburg, Sweden.**

While every facet of a digital transformation is important, there is a growing realization that elevating the data perspective is critical to success. There has been a paradigm shift in motion for decades to transition from document-based to model-based representations of product information. The next leap is enabling ready access and interpretation of the information within these digital representations and other digital resources through data architectures, standards, governance, and tools such as AI. PLM Road Map & PDT 2024 will highlight the shift towards data enablement. It will provide insights into where industrial end-user companies are today and how they can benefit in the future. It will help us to understand what is available from the software provider and systems integrator communities. And it will provide an environment for you to learn, discuss, and collaboratively help move Product Lifecycle digitalization forward. [Read More >>](#)

What's New at Cadalyst



**AEC Solutions: Extraterrestrial Construction, Pt 2:
Building on the Moon, Mars, and Beyond**

AEC professionals shape plans to build on other worlds, and upgrade Earth's launch facilities for new generations of rockets. *By Andrew G. Roe.* [Read more >>](#)



Viewpoint: Making Large-Format Printing More Cost-Efficient

Large-format printing is essential for businesses, especially for engineering and architectural firms that rely on powerful CAD printers. The cost of large-format printing can be a concern and is often a significant factor in the decision-making process. While expenses for ink, paper, and maintenance can quickly add up, learn a variety of cost-saving strategies that you can implement to make large-format printing more cost-efficient without sacrificing quality. *By Jacob Hardin*
[Read more >>](#)

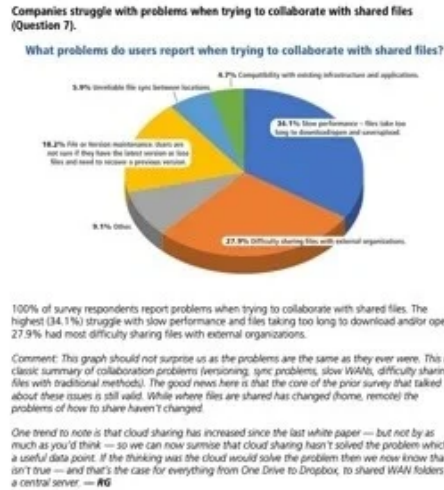
CAD Cartoon



By [Roger Penwill](#)

[Keep 'em Laughing!](#)

Free Resources



2024 CAD Collaboration Survey: What We Learned

Get the exclusive inside scoop on the state of CAD file collaboration today. We uncovered surprising truths about the obstacles design and engineering professionals face when trying to collaborate. Find out:

- The #1 issue causing slow performance and headaches.
- Why popular solutions like Dropbox and email STILL don't solve the top collaboration problems.
- What companies struggle with when working with external partners.
- How the future of CAD collaboration is still hindered by old technology.
- Get data-backed recommendations.

By Cadalyst Staff

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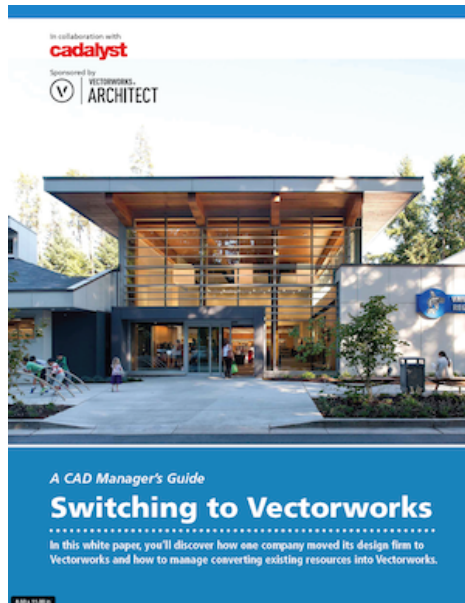
Digital Transformation in Manufacturing

Innovation within manufacturing helps create a culture of continuous improvement to improve product quality and reduce waste, ultimately making companies more successful.

Implementing a digital MES can help you drive innovation on your production floor.

Find out how a digital manufacturing execution system (MES) can transform your factory.

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A CAD Manager's Guide to Switching to Vectorworks

Discover how one company moved its design firm to Vectorworks and how to manage converting existing resources into Vectorworks.

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Drafting & 2D



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