Join Our Webinar

10 Essential Factors for Choosing the Right CAD Plotter Printer

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Navigate the world of design technology

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Stagflation and Low ROI CAD Software

As software costs continue to increase, how do uyou make sure you're getting the most out of what you're paying for? Let's find out how you can gain control of your software ROI.

Over the years, I've written a lot about finding savings to provide a high return on investment (ROI) from your software licenses. In fact, it is a huge part of what CAD managers should be doing. Simply put, the smarter you are about squeezing all the savings you can while lowering the cost of your software, the more value you are generating for your company. And, I know your senior management would agree with me.

But what happens when the design software you use stagnates and no longer delivers new value? And, what happens when that same stagnant design software gets more expensive every year? This combination of stagnant performance and inflating prices leads to low ROI values and is often referred to as stagflation in economic circles. It is my conclusion that we are certainly experiencing this phenomenon in CAD software now. This edition of the CAD Manager's Newsletter begins a series on practical strategies you can use to at least lower the cost. Here goes.

Image source: Dzmitry/stock.adobe.com.

Validating Via Polling

I believe the CAD software market reached the point of stagflation few years ago, but I didn't want to write a series of newsletters without some validation of my view. So, I put out a polling question in my Facebook CAD Managers Unite group last month asking:

Is it just me or is the whole CAD/BIM/MCAD software industry in a sad, sorry, stale, stagnant state where the only thing increasing is the cost? See the breakdown of answers below.

24% Strongly agree — we feel like a hostage rather than a customer.
60% Little increased value but costs going up for sure.
7% Not my problem, I just use the software my company puts in front of me.
2% We don't think about it, we just pay the bill.
2% There's enough improvement to justify cost increases.
2% Software is improving all the time and costs are not a concern.
2% They develop faster than adoption providing solutions people don't need.

No matter how you choose to view the problem, the polling results paint a picture where 24% feel like a hostage, 60% only see the cost increasing, and only 4% feel there is adequate improvement to not be concerned about costs. Not exactly a big vote of confidence for the CAD vendors, is it?

Use Robert Green's ROI to figure out if your company is in the midst of software stagflation. How do you analyze your situation? Is there room for improvement? How can you adjust your processes to make sure you're getting the most out of your software? Read Robert Green's column here!

<<READ THE COLUMN NOW>>

FREE WEBINAR

Join Our Webinar

10 Essential Factors for Choosing the Right CAD Plotter Printer

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Join Cadalyst & EPSON for our webinar:
Choosing the Right CAD Plotter Printer
WHEN: TOMORROW: October 16, 1pm EST
Are you struggling to find the right CAD plotter printer that meets your business needs? Join us on **October 16** for an exclusive webinar, "**10 Essential Factors for Choosing the Right CAD Plotter Printer"** sponsored by Epson.

Discover the key insights and expert tips to help you make the best choice for your team and projects!

What You'll Learn:

- How to identify signs it's time to upgrade your current printer
- Tips for choosing the right printer speed to keep your workflow moving
- Ink and media options that enhance versatility and cost-effectiveness
- Security and connectivity features for seamless, secure printing
- And much more!

Who Should Attend? Architects, engineers, construction professionals, and anyone looking to enhance their print capabilities for improved project outcomes. Whether you work in a small office, a mid-sized workgroup, or a large production environment, this webinar will provide valuable insights tailored to your needs.

Don't miss this opportunity to gain expert knowledge on choosing the perfect CAD plotter printer. Jacob Hardin, writer of the Cadalyst EPSON Viewpoint column will lead the discussion!

Register Now!

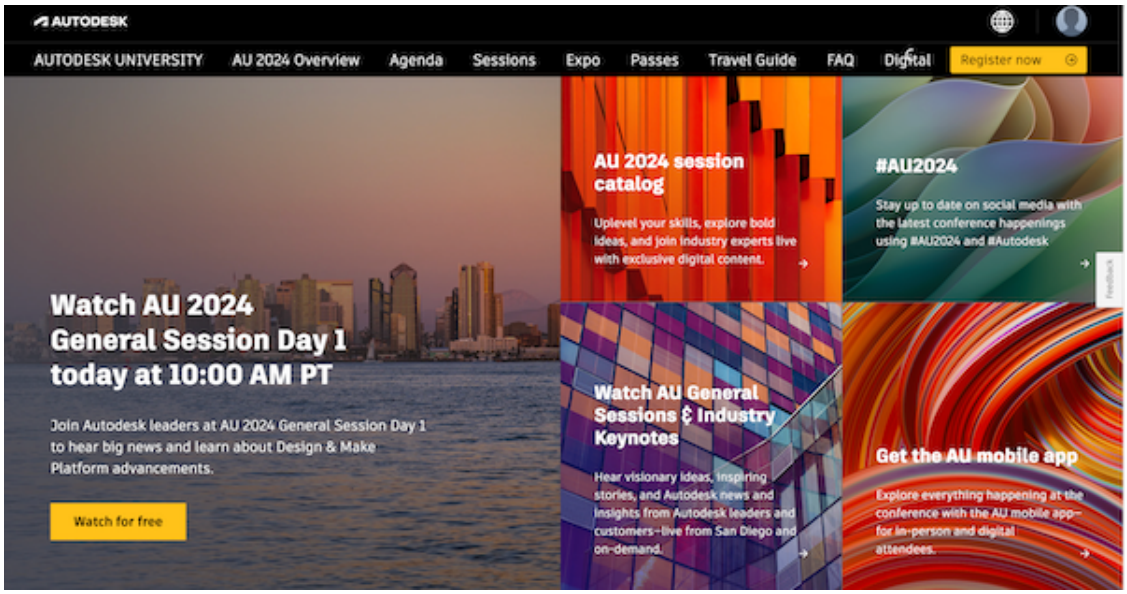
We look forward to seeing you there!

FREE: Robert Green's Newsletter in your Inbox!

Each month, CAD management expert Robert Green breaks down important topics to help you perform your job better. Whether you have a 2- or 500+ seat CAD office, find out how to motivate users, teach standards, be more productive with less rework, and more. Robert Green brings his expertise to you! CLICK ON CAD MANAGER'S NEWSLETTER TODAY!

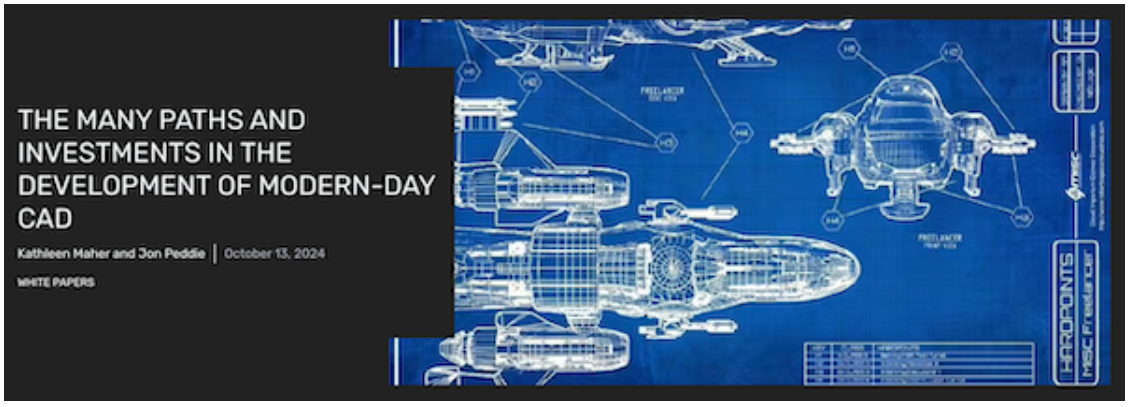
SIGN UP TODAY to receive his newsletter in your inbox!

Tools & Resources



AU Starts Today!

It's not too late! Sign up now and watch AU2024 from your desktop. Don't miss out! Between general sessions, industry keynotes, and specific classes, there will be something for everyone at this year's Autodesk University. As Autodesk says: "Driven by creative problem solvers, the Design & Make community unites us in our journey to design and make a better world for all. AU brings together creatives from architecture, engineering, construction, product design, manufacturing, media, and entertainment. Be part of the conference where connections are forged, innovations are celebrated, and the future comes to life." **Register now >>**



CAD History

Jon Peddie Research has just released an e-book that traces the origins of the CAD industry to the present. Of the nine original CAD companies, only Dassault is still in

the market. All the others have been sold, merged, or shut down. New companies kept entering the field, and some still exist, while the others were acquired or just gave up. Today, there are seven major CAD companies and a dozen minor ones, including those with free CAD offerings. The new e-book tells us how and who got us here. **Read more >>**

AutoCAD Add-on for Curtain Walls
CAD-PLAN released ATHENA 2024, tailored for the glazing industry these software solutions are fully compatible with Autodesk products. CAD-PLAN customers also receive user-friendly training sessions and have access to customized technical support and personalized consultations. “With our software, you can complete a complex curtain wall project in about half the time,” said Rulon Allred, CAD-PLAN North America’s sales manager. “For AutoCAD users, our software lets you work 30 to 50% faster when drafting and designing curtain wall, façade and glazing systems in AutoCAD. For those who have the capability, our software takes you all the way to the CNC machine, helping save additional coding time and ensuring accuracy.” **Read more >>**

What's New at Cadalyst

AEC Solutions: High-Speed Rail Projects Gain Momentum
How the AEC industry is supporting the design and construction of new HSR systems across the United States. *By Andrew G. Roe.* **Read more >>**

Show Report: Technology on Display — Past, Present, and Future
Celebrating 40 years of leading infrastructure design, this year's Bentley YII and Going Digital Awards include key announcements and excitement for future projects. *By Andrew G. Roe.* **Read more >>**

SPONSORED ARTICLE: How Will AI Support Infrastructure Professionals?
As artificial intelligence (AI) garners growing worldwide attention, infrastructure professionals are experiencing firsthand how AI can provide tangible benefits. Find out how AI will augment, complement, and enhance work so that they can accomplish more. *By Cadalyst Staff* **Read more >>**

CAD Cartoon

By Roger Penwill Keep 'em Laughing!

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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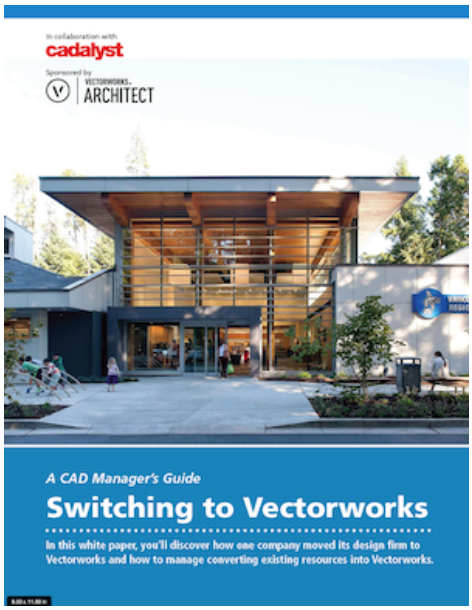

A CAD Manager's Guide to Switching to Vectorworks

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

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More Digital Design Solutions

Product Design

Building Design

Civil Engineering

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