

Batch-Plot-and-Store for PTC CoCreate Modeling Annotation

We are all familiar with the problem -- whether at the beginning or the end of a project or halfway through it, to be called to a meeting, and to have to plot all the drawings or save them in some specified format.

If the drawings are not held in a database, this is an extremely time-consuming task, and no-one enjoys it.

External drawings using different line-colours are an additional problem when plotting.

Also, when plotting larger drawings, they are reduced to a more convenient format such as A4 or A3, and this can cause problems with line thicknesses.

An annotation drawing may consist of several sheets, not all of which are always printed or saved. Suppose, for example, that a steel section is allocated for flame-cutting or laser-cutting on sheet 100.

What sheet-formats does each plotter support, and how does this affect the task?

Batch-Plot-and-Store is the answer to all these problems.

Batch-Plot-and-Store for CoCreate Modeling Annotation

Function:

For either individual drawings or drawings in bundles, MI or DXF files are automatically saved page by page, in various formats (MI, DXF, PDF) and/or automatically printed out in a selected configuration.

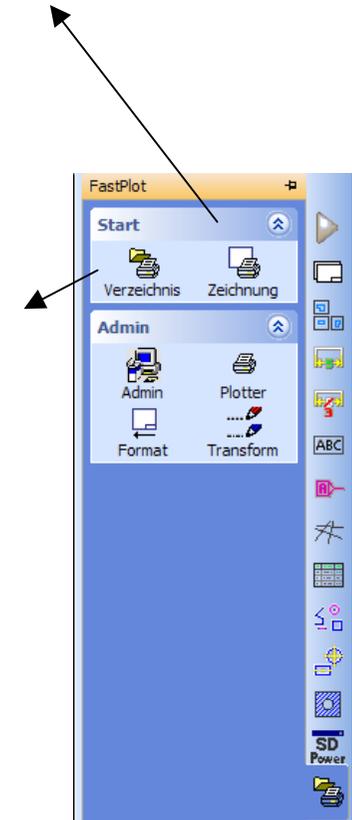
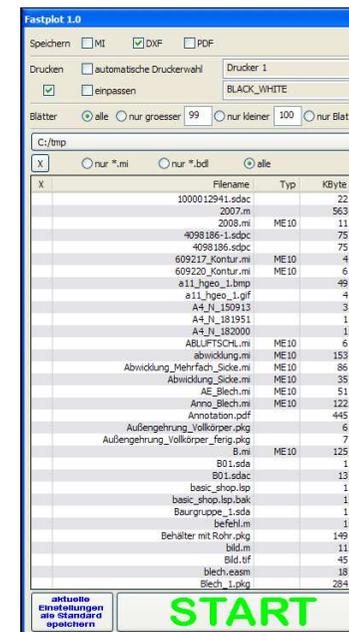
Function menu:

The Batch-Plot-and-Store menu provides two functions:

1. Catalogue: for selecting the files to be automatically processed.
2. Drawing: for processing the current drawing

Apart from the selection of the files, the two functions both operate in the same way.

The menu item Admin appears only for the relevant configuration (see Configuration) and is only intended for one-off customisation.



This is where the file-format can be selected in which the individual sheets are saved in the current catalogue

Automatic printer allocation: this is where the appropriate printer is selected for each paper format (see Configuration)

If automatic printer allocation is not selected, then a selection list of the available printers is displayed alongside it (see Configuration)

Printing can be switched on and off.

Resizing: If Resizing is selected, the available formats for resizing the drawing are displayed alongside (see Configuration). The respective line thicknesses will be reduced accordingly.

Selection or de-selection of all files

Click on a line to select or de-select the file.

The current settings of the dialogues are saved as standard defaults for each individual user. Admin mode is used to set the standard basic settings for all users (see Configuration)

Plot transformation: This is where the choice is made of which plot transformation will be printed (also valid for PDF files) (see Configuration)

Choose whether all sheets of a drawing should be processed, or only specified.

Catalogue: this displays the current catalogue, from which a selection may be made.

File display filter

A confirmation prompt is required before processing commences. A report is issued at the end of the procedure.

Fastplot 1.0

Store MI DXF PDF

Plot auto plotter selection HP DeskJet 1220C

fit A4 BLACK_WHITE

Pages all only greater 99 only smaller 100 only page 1

C:/tmp

X	Filename	Typ	KByte
X	1000012941.sdac		22
	2007.m		563
	2008.mi	ME10	11
	4098186-1.sdpc		75
	4098186.sdpc		75
	609217_Kontur.mi	ME10	4
	609220_Kontur.mi	ME10	6
	a11_hgeo_1.bmp		49
	a11_hgeo_1.gif		4
	A4_N_150913		3
	A4_N_181951		1
	A4_N_182000		1
	ABLUFTSCHL.mi	ME10	6
	abwicklung.mi	ME10	153
	Abwicklung_Mehrfach_Sicke.mi	ME10	86
	Abwicklung_Sicke.mi	ME10	35
	AE_Blech.mi	ME10	51
	Anno_Blech.mi	ME10	122
	Annotation.pdf		445
	Außengehrung_Vollkörper.pkg		6
	Außengehrung_Vollkörper_ferig.pkg		7
	B.mi	ME10	125
	B01.sda		1
	B01.sdac		13
	basic_shop.lsp		1
	basic_shop.lsp.bak		1
	Baurgruppe_1.sda		1
	befehl.m		1
	Behälter mit Rohr.pkg		149
	bild.m		11
	Bild.tif		45
	blech.easm		18
	Blech_1.pkg		284

store current Preferences as standard

START

Meldung

FERTIG

OK

Configuration

1. Copy files and directories into a directory provided for that purpose, e.g. c:/CAD/Fastplot
2. In the file FastPlot_load.lsp a file-path must be altered, e.g. *fastplot-path* "c:/CAD/Fastplot" Enter here the directory into which you have copied the files and directories Store this file in Annotation automatically, e.g in the file am_customize, using (load "c:/CAD/Fastplot/ FastPlot_load.lsp")
3. In Admin mode (*fastplot-admin* T in the file FastPlot_load.lsp) the following menu item also appears, for convenient adjustment of the configuration files in the directory TABLES. This mode is preconfigured on delivery.
4. If the Admin menu does not appear, you must enter *fastplot-admin* nil in the file FastPlot_load.lsp. This is recommended for normal operation, it is the only way in which individual set-up of the dialog can be saved.

Automatic produce the files
FastPlotPlotter.dat
FastPlotPlotSyles.dat

With the first start of the program these files are provided automatically.
(Write rights must be present).
Afterwards the files can be adapted as described.

The instruction Admin re-establishes the original condition after an adjustment.



FastPlotPlotter.dat

this is where the names of the plotters are entered that should be used in Fastplot, one line per plotter. For automatic selection of plotter, | can be used to separate the individual formats that are intended for that plotter, with the format written after the separator

z.B.:

HP DeskJet 1220C|A4|A3

HP Designjet 510|A2|ISO_A2|A1|ISO_A1

If the sheet designation in the plotter deviates from the format designation, the plotter designation beside it is separately written: e.g. A2/ISO_A2

FastPlotFormat.dat

this is where the page-format notations and the width and height measurements are listed, each separated by | . If there is also an |E afterwards, then this format will be submitted as "resize to fit" in the Fastplot dialog.

z.B.:

A4|297|210|E

A3|420|297|E

A2|594|420

A1|841|594

A0|1189|841

FastPlotPlotSyles.dat

this is where the plot-styles are listed that will be used in Fastplot, one line per plot-style (plot transformation)

z.B.:

BLACK_WHITE

FIRMA_1

FIRMA_2