



Chapter 12

Plotting Drawings

Learning Objectives

After completing this chapter you will be able to:

- Set plotter specifications and plot drawings.
- Configure plotters and then edit the plotter configuration files.
- Create, use, and modify plot styles and plot style tables.
- Plot the sheets in a sheet set.

PLOTTING DRAWINGS IN AutoCAD

After you have completed a drawing, you can store it on the computer storage device such as the hard drive or diskette. However, to get a hard copy of the drawing, you should plot the drawing on a sheet of paper using a plotter or printer. A hard copy is a handy reference for professionals working on site. With the help of pen plotters, you can obtain a high-resolution drawing. Basic plotting has already been discussed in Chapter 2, Getting Started with AutoCAD. You can plot drawings in the **Model** tab or any of the layout tabs. A drawing has a **Model** and two layout tabs (**Layout 1**, **Layout 2**) by default. Each of these tabs has its own settings and can be used to create different plots. You can also create new layout tabs using the **LAYOUT** command. This is discussed in Chapter 11.

PLOTTING DRAWINGS USING THE PLOT DIALOG BOX

Toolbar: Standard > Plot
Menu: File > Plot
Command: PLOT



The **PLOT** command is used to plot a drawing. When you invoke this command, the **Plot** dialog box is displayed. You can also right-click on the **Model** tab or any of the layout tabs to display the shortcut menu and choose **Plot** to invoke the **Plot** dialog box. Figure 12-1 shows the expanded form of the **Plot** dialog box.

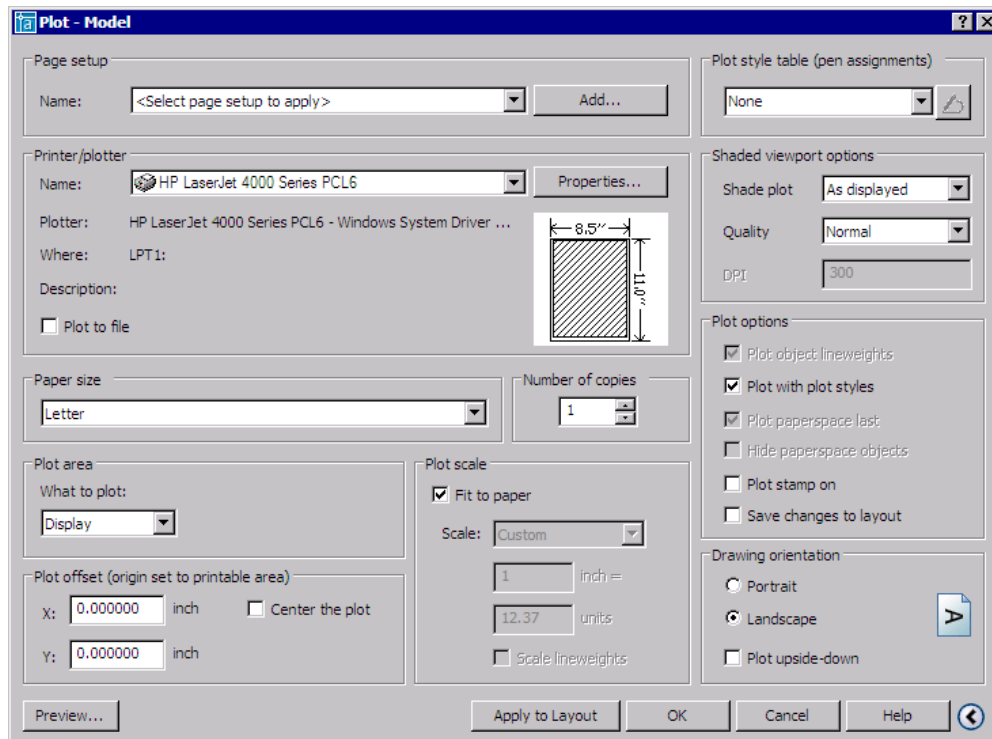


Figure 12-1 Expanded form of the **Plot** dialog box

Some values in this dialog box were set when AutoCAD was first configured. You can examine these values and if they conform to your requirements, you can start plotting directly. If you want to alter the plot specifications, you can do so through the options provided in the **Plot** dialog box. The available plot options are described next.

Page setup Area

The **Name** drop-down list provided in this area displays all the saved and named page setups. A page setup contains the settings required to plot a drawing on a sheet of paper to create a layout. It consists of all the settings related to the plotting of a drawing such as the scale, the pen settings, and so on, and also includes the plot devices being used. These settings can be saved as a named page setup, which can be later selected from this drop-down list and then be used for plotting a drawing. If you select **Previous plot** from the drop-down list, the settings used for the last drawing plotted are applied to the current drawing. You can choose the base for the current page setup on a named page setup, or you can add a new named page setup by choosing the **Add** button, which is located next to the drop-down list. When you choose this button, AutoCAD displays the **Add Page Setup** dialog box, as shown in Figure 12-2.

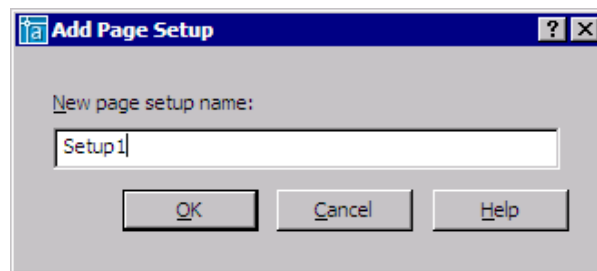


Figure 12-2 Add Page Setup dialog box

Enter the name of the new page setup in this dialog box and choose **OK**. All the settings that you configure in the current **Plot** dialog box will be saved under this page setup.



Tip

Select an existing page setup from the **Name** drop-down list and make modifications in it and then choose the **Add** button to create a new page setup based on an existing one.

Printer/plotter Area

This area displays all the information about the configured printers and plotters currently selected from the **Name** drop-down list. It displays the plotter driver and the printer port being used. It also displays the physical location and some description text about the selected plotter or printer. All the plotters that are currently configured are displayed in the **Name** drop-down list.

**Note**

To add plotters and printers to the **Name** drop-down list, choose **Plotter Manager** from the **File** menu to display the **Plotters** window. Double-click on the **Add-A-Plotter Wizard** icon in this window to display the **Add Plotter** wizard. You can use this wizard to add a plotter to the list of configured plotters and a plotter configuration file (PC3) for the plotter is created. This file consists of all the settings needed by the specific plotter to plot. The **Plotters** window will be discussed later in this chapter in the section **PLOTTERMANAGER** Command.

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Properties

If you want to check information about a configured printer or plotter, choose the **Properties** button. When you choose this button, the **Plotter Configuration Editor** is displayed. This dialog box lists all the details of the selected plotter under three tabs: **General**, **Ports**, and **Device and Document Settings**. The **Plotter Configuration Editor** will be discussed later in the “Editing Plotter Configuration” section of this chapter.

Plot to file

If you select this check box, AutoCAD plots the output to a file rather than to the plotter. Depending on the plotter selected, the file can be plotted in the *.dwf*, *.plt*, *.jpg*, or *.png* format. The file name and the location of the plot file can be specified using the **Browse for Plot File** dialog box, which is displayed when you choose **OK** from the **Plot** dialog box after selecting this check box.

Partial Preview Window

The window displayed below the **Properties** button is called the **Partial Preview** window. The preview in this window dynamically changes as you modify the parameters in the **Plot** dialog box. The outer rectangle in this window is the paper you selected. It also shows the size of the paper. The inner hatched rectangle is the section of the paper that is used by the image. If the image extends beyond the paper, a red border is displayed around the paper.

Paper size Area

The drop-down list provided in this area displays all the available standard paper sizes for the selected plotting device. You can select any size from the list to make it current. If **None** has been selected currently from the **Name** drop-down list in the **Printer/plotter** area, AutoCAD displays the list of all the standard paper sizes.

Number of copies Area

You can use the spinner available in this area to specify the number of copies that you want to plot. If multiple layouts and copies are selected and some of the layouts are set for plotting to a file or AutoSpool, they will produce a single plot. Autospool allows you to send a file for plotting while you are working on another program.

Plot area Area

Using the **What to plot** drop-down list provided in this area, you can specify the portion of

the drawing to be plotted. You can also control the way the plotting will be carried out. The options available in the **What to plot** drop-down list are described next.

Display

If you select this option, the portion of the drawing that is currently being displayed on the screen is plotted.

Extents

This option resembles the **Extents** option of the **ZOOM** command and prints the drawing to the extents of the objects. If you add more objects to the drawing, they are also included in the plot and the extents of the drawing are recalculated. If you reduce the drawing extents by erasing, moving, or scaling the objects, the extents of the drawing are again recalculated. You can use the **Extents** option of the **ZOOM** command to determine which objects shall be plotted. If you use the **Extents** option when the perspective view is on and the position of the camera is not outside the drawing extents, the following message is displayed: **Plot of perspective view has been scaled to fit available area.**

Limits

This option is available only if you are plotting from the **Model** tab. Selecting this option plots the complete area defined within the drawing limits.



Note

To be able to clearly view the differences between the three previously listed plotting options, it may be a good idea to make sure that the default scale options have been selected. If not, select the **Fit to paper** check box from the **Plot scale** area of the dialog box if you are in the **Model** tab, and select 1:1 if you are working in any one of the layout tabs.

Window

With this option, you can specify the section of the drawing to be plotted by defining a window. The section of the drawing contained within the window defined by selecting a lower left corner and an upper right corner is plotted. To define a window, select the **Window** option from the **What to plot** drop-down list. The **Plot** dialog box will be temporarily closed and you will be prompted to specify two points on the screen that define a window, the area within which shall be plotted. Once you have defined the window, the **Plot** dialog box is redisplayed on the screen. You will notice that the **Window** button is displayed on the right of the **What to plot** drop-down list now. If you want to reselect the area to plot, choose the **Window** button. You will notice that the previously selected area is displayed in white and the remaining area is displayed in gray. After selecting the area to plot, you can choose the **OK** button in the dialog box if you want to plot the drawing.



Note

Sometimes, when using the **Window** option, the area you have selected may appear clipped off. This may happen because the objects are too close to the window you have defined on the screen. You need to redefine the window in this situation. Such errors can be avoided by using the preview options discussed later.

View

Selecting the **View** option enables you to plot a view that was created with the **VIEW** command. The view must be defined in the current drawing. If no view has been created, the **View** option is not displayed. When you select this option, a drop-down list is displayed in this area. You can select a view for plotting from this drop-down list and then choose **OK** in the **Plot** dialog box. When using the **View** option, the specifications of the plot depend on the specifications of the named view.

Layout

This option is available only when you are plotting from the layout. This option prints the entire content of the drawing that lies inside the printable area of the paper selected from the drop-down list in the **Paper size** area.

Plot offset (origin set to printable area) Area

This area allows you to specify an offset of the plotting area from the lower left corner of the paper. The lower left corner of a specified plot area is positioned at the lower left margin of the paper by default. If you select the **Center the plot** check box, AutoCAD automatically centers the plot on the paper by calculating the **X** and **Y** offset values. You can specify an offset from the origin by entering positive or negative values in the **X** and **Y** edit boxes. For example, if you want the drawing to be plotted 4 units to the right and 4 units above the origin point, enter 4 in both the **X** and **Y** edit boxes. Depending on the units you have specified in the **Paper size and paper units** area of the dialog box, the offset values are either in inches or in millimeters.

Plot scale Area

This area controls the drawing scale of the plot area. The **Scale** drop-down list has thirty-one architectural and decimal scales apart from **Custom** option. The default scale setting is **1:1** when you are plotting a layout. However if you are plotting in a **Model** tab, the **Fit to paper** check box is selected. The **Fit to paper** option allows you to automatically fit the entire drawing on the paper. It is useful when you have to print a large drawing using a printer that uses a smaller size paper or when you want to plot the drawing on a small sheet.

Whenever you select a standard scale from the drop-down list, the scale is displayed in the edit boxes as a ratio of the plotted units to the drawing units. You can also change the scale factor manually in these edit boxes. When you do so, the **Scale** edit box displays **Custom**. For example, for an architectural drawing, which is to be plotted at the scale 1/4"=1'-0", you can enter either 1/4"=1'-0" or 1=48 in the edit boxes.



Note

The **PSLTSCALE** system variable controls the paper space linetype scaling and has a default value of 1. This implies that irrespective of the zoom scale of the viewports, the linetype scale of the objects in the viewports remains the same. If you want the linetype scale of the objects in different viewports with different magnification factors to appear different, you should set the value of the **PSLTSCALE** variable to 0. This has been discussed in detail in Chapter 11 (Model Space Viewports, Paper Space Viewports, and Layouts).

The **Scale lineweights** check box is available only if you are plotting in a layout tab. This option is not available in the **Model** tab. If you select the **Scale lineweights** check box, you can scale lineweights in proportion to the plot scale. Lineweights generally specify the linewidth of the printable objects and are plotted with the original lineweight size, regardless of the plot scale.

Plot style table (pen assignments) Area

This area in the **Plot** dialog box allows you to view and select a plot style table, edit the current plot style table, or create a new plot style table. A plot style table is a collection of plot styles. A plot style is a group of pen settings that are assigned to an object or layer and that determine the color, thickness, line ending, and the fill style of drawing objects when they are plotted. It is a named file that allows you to control the pen settings for a plotted drawing.

You can select the required plot style from the drop-down list available in this area. Whenever you select a plot style, AutoCAD displays the **Question** box asking you to specify whether or not the selected plot style should be assigned to all the layouts. If you choose **Yes**, the selected plot style will be used to plot from all the layouts. You can also select **None** from the drop-down list if you want to plot a drawing without using any plot styles. You can assign different plot style tables to a drawing and plot the same drawing differently each time. The use of plot styles will be discussed later in this chapter.

You can also select **New** from the drop-down list to create a new plot style. When you select this option, a wizard will be started that will guide you through the process of creating a new plot style.



Note

You will learn more about creating plot styles later in this chapter.

Edit

You can edit a plot style table you have selected from the **Name** drop-down list by choosing the **Edit** button. This button is not available when you have selected **None** from the drop-down list. When you choose the **Edit** button, AutoCAD displays the **Plot Style Table Editor**, where you can edit the selected plot style table. This dialog box has three tabs: **General**, **Table View**, and **Form View**. The **Plot Style Table Editor** will be discussed later in the “Using Plot Styles” section of this chapter.

Shaded viewport options Area

The options in this area are used to print a shaded or a rendered image. These options are discussed next.

Shade plot

This drop-down list is used to select a technique that will be used to plot the drawings. If you select **As displayed** from this drop-down list, the drawing will be plotted as it is displayed on the screen. If the drawing is hidden, shaded, or rendered, it will be printed as it is. Hidden geometry consists of objects that lie behind the facing geometry and displays the

object as it would be seen in reality. If you select the **Wireframe** option, the model will be printed in wireframe displaying all the hidden geometries even if it is shaded in the drawing. Selecting the **Hidden** option plots the drawing with hidden lines suppressed. Similarly, selecting the **Rendered** option plots the rendered image of the drawing.

Quality

This drop-down list is used to select printing quality in terms of dots per inch (dpi) for the printed drawing. The **Draft** option prints the drawing with 0 dpi, which results in the wireframe printout. The **Preview** option prints the drawing at 150 dpi, the **Normal** option prints the drawing at 300 dpi, the **Presentation** option prints the drawing at 600 dpi, the **Maximum** option prints the drawing at the selected plotting device's maximum dpi. You can also specify a custom dpi by selecting the **Custom** option from this drop-down list. The custom value of dpi can be specified in the **DPI** drop-down list, which is enabled below the **Quality** drop-down list when you select the **Custom** option.



Note

Selecting the **Draft** option from the **Quality** drop-down list prints the drawing in wireframe even if you select **Rendered** from the **Shade plot** drop-down list. Also, to plot the drawings in layouts with hidden lines suppressed, you need to use the **Shade Plot** option discussed in Chapter 11, Model Space Viewports, Paper Space Viewports, and Layouts.

You will learn more about wireframe, hidden, shaded, and rendered models in later chapters.

Plot options Area

This area displays six options that can be selected as per the plot requirements. They are described next.

Plot object lineweights

This check box is not available if the **Plot with plot styles** check box is selected. To activate this option, clear the **Plot with plot styles** check box. This check box is selected by default and AutoCAD plots the drawing with the specified lineweights. To plot the drawing without the specified lineweights clear this check box.

Plot with plot styles

When you select the **Plot with plot styles** check box, AutoCAD plots using the plot styles applied to the objects in the drawing and defined in the plot style table. The different property characteristics associated with the different style definitions are stored in the plot style tables and can be easily attached to the geometry. This setting replaces pen mapping used in earlier versions of AutoCAD.

Plot paperspace last

This check box is not available when you are in the **Model** tab because no paper space objects are present in the **Model** tab. This option is available when you are working in a layout tab. By selecting the **Plot paperspace last** check box, you get an option of plotting model space

geometry before paper space objects. Usually paper space geometry is plotted before model space geometry. This option is also useful when there are multiple tabs selected for plotting and you want to plot the model space geometry before the layout tabs.

Hide paperspace objects

This check box is used to specify whether or not the objects drawn in the layouts will be hidden while plotting. If this check box is selected, the objects created in the layouts will be hidden.

Plot stamp on

This check box is selected to turn the plot stamp on. Plot stamp is a user-defined information that will be displayed on the sheet after plotting. You can set the plot stamping when you select this check box. When you select this check box, the **Plot Stamp Settings** button is displayed on the right of this check box. You can choose this button to display the **Plot Stamp** dialog box to set the parameters for the plot stamp.

Save changes to layout

This check box is selected to save the changes made using the **Plot** dialog box and apply them to the layout selected to plot.

Drawing orientation Area

This area provides options that help you specify the orientation of the drawing on the paper for the plotters that support landscape or portrait orientation. You can change the drawing orientation by selecting the **Portrait** or **Landscape** radio button, with or without selecting the **Plot Upside-Down** check box. The paper icon displayed on the right side of this area indicates the media orientation of the selected paper and the letter icon (A) on it indicates the orientation of the drawing on the page. The **Landscape** radio button is selected by default for AutoCAD drawings and orients the length of the paper along the X axis, that is horizontally. If we assume this orientation to be at a rotation angle of 0-degree, when selecting the **Portrait** radio button, the plot is oriented with the width along the X axis, which is equivalent to the plot being rotated through a rotation angle of 90-degree. Similarly, if you select both the **Landscape** radio button and the **Plot upside-down** check box at the same time, the plot gets rotated through a rotation angle of 180-degree and if you select both the **Portrait** radio button and the **Plot upside-down** check box at the same time, the plot gets rotated through a rotation angle of 270-degree. The AutoCAD screen conforms to the landscape orientation by default.

Preview

When you choose the **Preview** button, AutoCAD displays the drawing on the screen just as it would be plotted on the paper. Once the regeneration is performed, the dialog boxes on the screen are removed temporarily, and an outline of the paper size is shown. In the plot preview (Figure 12-3), the cursor is replaced with the **Zoom Realtime** icon. This icon can be used to zoom in and out interactively by holding the pick button down and then moving the pointing device. You can right-click to display a shortcut menu and then choose **Exit** to exit the preview

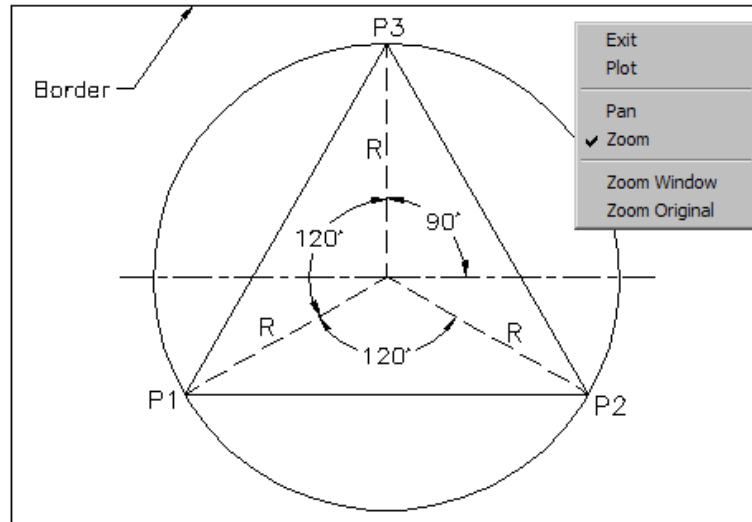


Figure 12-3 Full plot preview with the shortcut menu

or press the ENTER or ESC key to return to the dialog box. You can also choose **Plot** to plot the drawing right away or choose the other zooming options available.



Tip

You can also choose **File > Plot Preview** from the menu bar to preview the plot, and at the same time, bypass the **Plot** dialog box.

After you have finished with all the settings and other parameters, if you choose the **OK** button in the **Plot** dialog box, AutoCAD starts plotting the drawing in the file or plotters as specified. AutoCAD displays the **Plot Progress** dialog box (Figure 12-4), where you can view the actual progress in plotting.

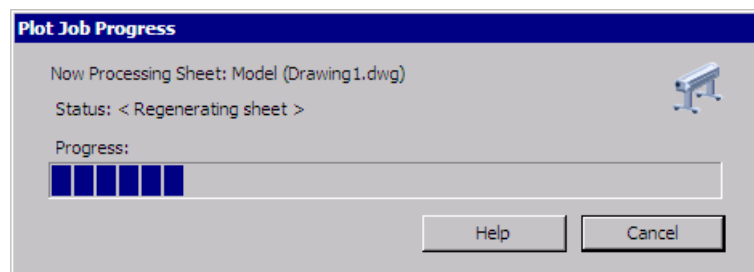


Figure 12-4 Plot Progress dialog box

ADDING PLOTTERS

In AutoCAD, the plotters can be added using the **PLOTTERMANAGER** command. This command is discussed next.

PLOTTERMANAGER Command

Menu: File > Plotter Manager
Command: PLOTTERMANAGER

When you invoke the **PLOTTERMANAGER** command, AutoCAD will display the **Plotters** window, see Figure 12-5.

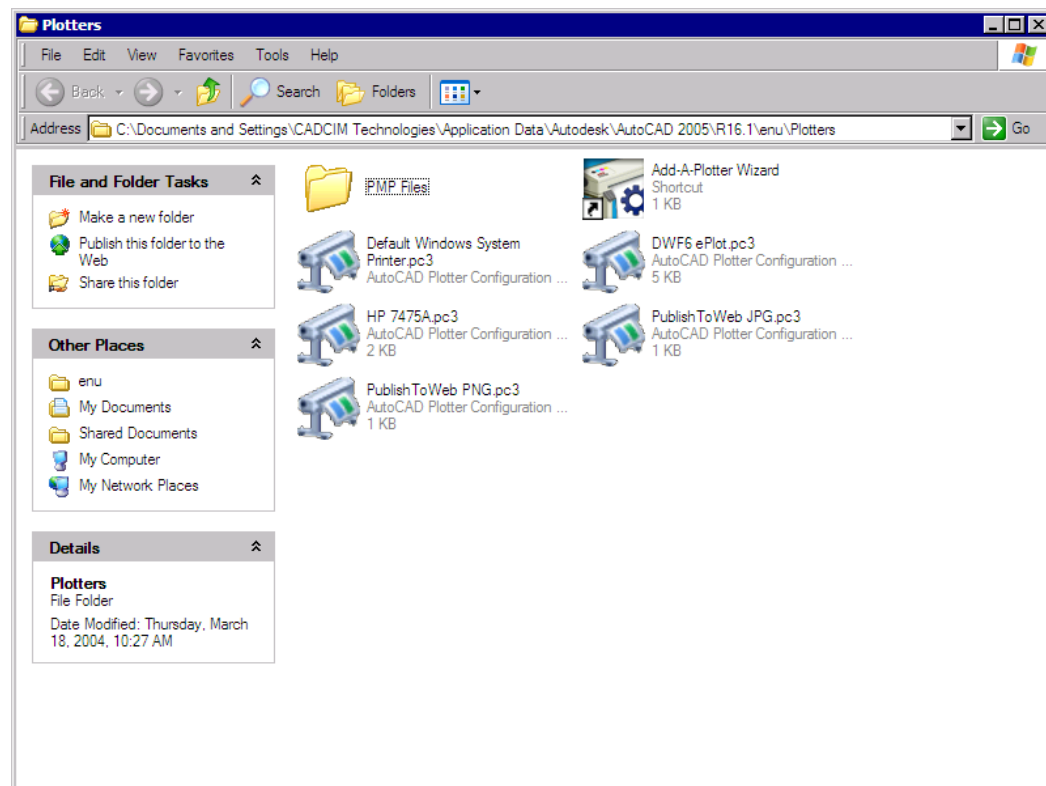


Figure 12-5 *Plotters* window

The **Plotters** window is basically a Windows Explorer window. It displays all the configured plotters and the **Add-A-Plotter Wizard** icon. You can right-click on any one of the icons belonging to plotters that have already been configured to display a shortcut menu. You can choose **Delete** from the shortcut menu to remove a plotter from the list of available plotters in the **Name** drop-down list in the **Plot/Page Setup** dialog box. You can also choose **Rename**

from the shortcut menu to rename the plotter configuration file or choose **Properties** to view the properties of the configured device.

Add-A-Plotter Wizard

If you double-click on the **Add-A-Plotter Wizard** icon in the **Plotters** window, AutoCAD guides you to configure a nonsystem plotter for plotting your drawing files. AutoCAD stores all the information of a configured plotter in configured plot (PC3) files. The PC3 files are stored in the *Documents and Settings\<owner>\Application Data\Autodesk\AutoCAD 2005\R16.1\enu\Plotters* folder by default. The steps for configuring a new plotter using the **Add-A-Plotter Wizard** are as follows.

1. Open the **Plotters** window by choosing **File > Plotter Manager** from the menu bar and double-click on the **Add-A-Plotter Wizard** icon.
2. In the **Add Plotter** wizard, carefully read the **Introduction** page, and then choose the **Next** button to advance to the **Add Plotter - Begin** page.
3. On the **Add Plotter - Begin** page, the **My Computer** radio button is selected by default. Choose the **Next** button. The **Add Plotter - Plotter Model** page is displayed.
4. On this page, select a manufacturer and model of your nonsystem plotter from the **Manufacturers** and **Models** list boxes, respectively. Now, choose the **Next** button. The **Add Plotter - Import Pcp or Pc2** page is displayed.

If your plotter is not present in the list of available plotters, and you have a driver disk for your plotter, choose the **Have Disk** button to locate the **HIF** file from the driver disk, and install the driver supplied with your plotter.

5. In the **Add Plotter - Import Pcp or Pc2** page, if you want to import configuring information from a PCP or a PC2 file created with a previous version of AutoCAD, you can choose the **Import File** button and select the file. Otherwise, simply choose the **Next** button to advance to the next page.
6. On the **Add Plotter - Ports** page, select the port from the list to use when plotting and choose **Next**.
7. On the **Add Plotter - Plotter Name** page, you can specify the name of the currently configured plotter or the default name will be entered automatically. Choose **Next**.
8. When you reach the **Add Plotter - Finish** page, you can choose the **Finish** button to exit the **Add-A-Plotter Wizard**.

You can also choose the **Edit Plotter Configuration** button to display the **Plotter Configuration Editor** dialog box where you can edit the current plotter's configuration. Also, in this page you can choose the **Calibrate Plotter** button to display the **Calibrate Plotter** wizard. This wizard allows you to calibrate your plotter by setting up a test

measurement. After the test plotting it compares the plot measurements with the actual measurements and computes a correction factor.

Once you have chosen **Finish** to exit the wizard, a PC3 file for the newly configured plotter will be displayed in the **Plotters** window. This PC3 file contains all the settings needed by the plotter to plot. Also the newly configured plotter name is added to the **Name** drop-down list in the **Plotter configuration** area of the **Plot Device** tab in the **Plot** dialog box. You can now use the plotter for plotting.

EDITING PLOTTER CONFIGURATION

You can modify the properties of a selected plot device by using the **Plotter Configuration Editor** dialog box. This dialog box can be invoked in several ways. As discussed earlier, when using the **Plot** or **Page Setup** dialog box, you can choose the **Properties** button in the **Printer/plotter** area to display the **Plotter Configuration Editor** dialog box, see Figure 12-6.

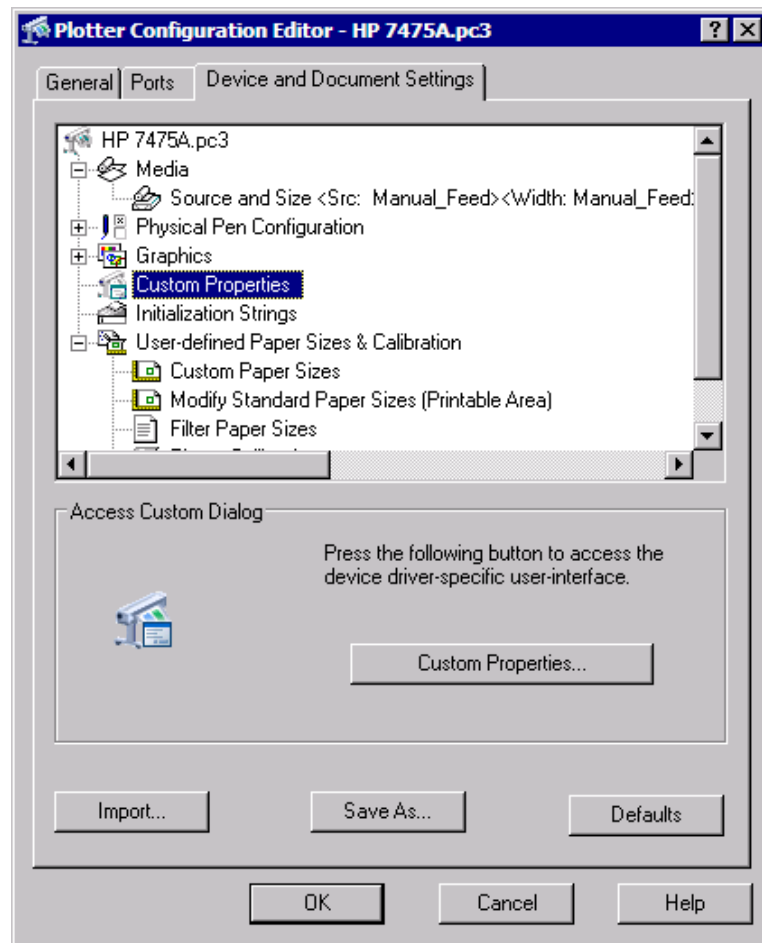


Figure 12-11 Plotter Configuration Editor dialog box

You can modify the default settings for a plotter while configuring it, by choosing the **Edit Plotter Configuration** button on the **Add Plotter - Finish** page of the **Add Plotters** wizard. You can also select the PC3 file for editing in the **Plotters** window using Windows Explorer (by default, PC3 files are stored in the `\Documents and Settings\<owner>\Application Data\Autodesk\AutoCAD 2005\R16.1\enu\Plotters` folder) and double-click on the file or right-click on the file and choose **Open** from the shortcut menu. The three tabs available in the **Plotter Configuration Editor** are discussed next.

General tab

This tab contains basic information about the configured plotter or the PC3 file. You can make changes only in the **Description** area. The rest of the information in the tab is read only. This tab contains information on the configured plotter file name, plotter driver type, HDI driver file version number, name of the system printer (if any), and the location and name of the PMP file (if any calibration file is attached to the PC3 file).

Ports Tab

This tab contains information about the communication between the plotting device and your computer. You can choose between a serial (local), parallel (local), or network port. The default settings for parallel and serial ports are **LPT1** and **COM1**, respectively. You can also change the port name if your device is connected to a different port. You can also select the **Plot to File** radio button, if you want to save the plot as a file. You can select **Autospool**, if you want plotting to occur automatically while you continue to work on another application.

Device and Document Settings Tab

This tab contains plotting options specific to the selected plotter, displayed as a tree view in the window. For example, if you configure a nonsystem plotter, you have the option to modify the pen characteristics. You can select any plotter properties from the tree view displayed in the window to change the values as required. Whenever you select an icon from the tree view in the window, the corresponding information is displayed in an area below. For example, if you select **PMP File Name <None>** in the tree view in the window, a **PMP file** area is displayed below. This area contains the current settings and options to modify it. Information that is displayed within brackets (<>) can be modified. By default, **Custom properties** is displayed as highlighted in the window because it contains properties that are modified commonly. The **Access Custom Dialog** area is displayed below the window. Choosing the **Custom Properties** button in this area displays a dialog box specific to the selected plotter. This dialog box has several properties of the selected plotter grouped and displayed under various areas and can be modified here.

Once you have made the desired changes, choose **OK** to exit the dialog box and then choose **Save As** in the **Plotter Configuration Editor** dialog box if you want to save the changes you just made to the PC3 file. You can also import old plot configuration files (PCP or PC2) from previous releases of AutoCAD using the **Import** button and save some of the information from these settings as a new PC3 file. When you choose the **Import** button, the **Plotting Components** dialog box is displayed. This dialog box displays what to use to import AutoCAD 14 information into an AutoCAD 2005 drawing. For example, it tells you that to

import PCP or PC2 file setting into a drawing in AutoCAD 2005, you should use the **Import PCP or PC2 Plot Settings Wizard**. Choose **OK** to exit this dialog box; the **Import** dialog box is displayed. Here you can select the file to import and then choose the **Import** button.

**Tip**

It is better to create a new PC3 file for a plotter and keep the original file as it is so that you encounter no error while using the specific printer later. The PC3 files determine the proper function of a plotter and any modifications may lead to errors.

IMPORTING PCP/PC2 CONFIGURATION FILES

If you want to import a PCP or PC2 configuration file or plot settings created by previous releases of AutoCAD into the **Model** tab or current layout for the drawing, you can also use the **PCINWIZARD** command to display the **Import PCP or PC2 Plot Settings Wizard**. All the information from a PCP or PC2 file regarding plot area, rotation, plot offset, plot optimization, plot to file, paper size, plot scale, and pen mapping can be imported. Read the **Introduction** page of the wizard that is displayed carefully and then choose the **Next** button. The **Browse File Name** page is displayed. Here you can either enter the name of the PCP or PC2 file directly in the **PC2 or PCP file name** edit box or then choose the **Browse** button to display the **Import** dialog box, where you can select the file to import. After you specify the file for importing, choose **Import** to return to the wizard. Choose the **Next** button to display the **Finish** page. After importing the files you can modify the rest of the plot settings for the current layout.

SETTING THE PLOT PARAMETERS

Before starting with the drawing, you can set various plotting parameters in the **Model** tab or in the **Layouts**. The plot parameters that can be set include the plotter to be used, for example, plot style table, the paper size, units, and so on. All these parameters can be set using the **PAGESETUP** command discussed next.

Working with Page Setups

Toolbar:	Layouts > Page Setup
Menu:	File > Page Setup
Command:	PAGESETUP



As discussed earlier, a page setup contains the settings required to plot a drawing. Each layout as well as the **Model** tab can have a unique page setup attached to it. You can use the **PAGESETUP** command to create named page setups that can be used later. A page setup consists of specifications for the layout page, plotting device, paper size, and settings for the layouts to be plotted. The **PAGESETUP** command can also be invoked from the shortcut menu by right-clicking on the current **Model** or **Layout** tab and choosing **Page Setup Manager**. Remember that the **Page Setup Manager** option will be available in the shortcut menu only for the current **Model** or **Layout** tab.

When you invoke the **PAGESETUP** command, AutoCAD displays the **Page Setup Manager**

dialog box. The tabs displayed in the **Current page setup** list box of the **Page setups** area depend on the tab in which you invoke this dialog box. For example, if you invoke this dialog box from the **Model** tab, it displays only **Model** in this list box. However, if you invoke this dialog box from the **Layout** tab, it displays the list of all the layouts that are invoked at least once. Figure 12-7 shows the **Page Setup Manager** invoked from the **Layout** tab. In this case, both Layout1 and Layout2 were activated at least once.

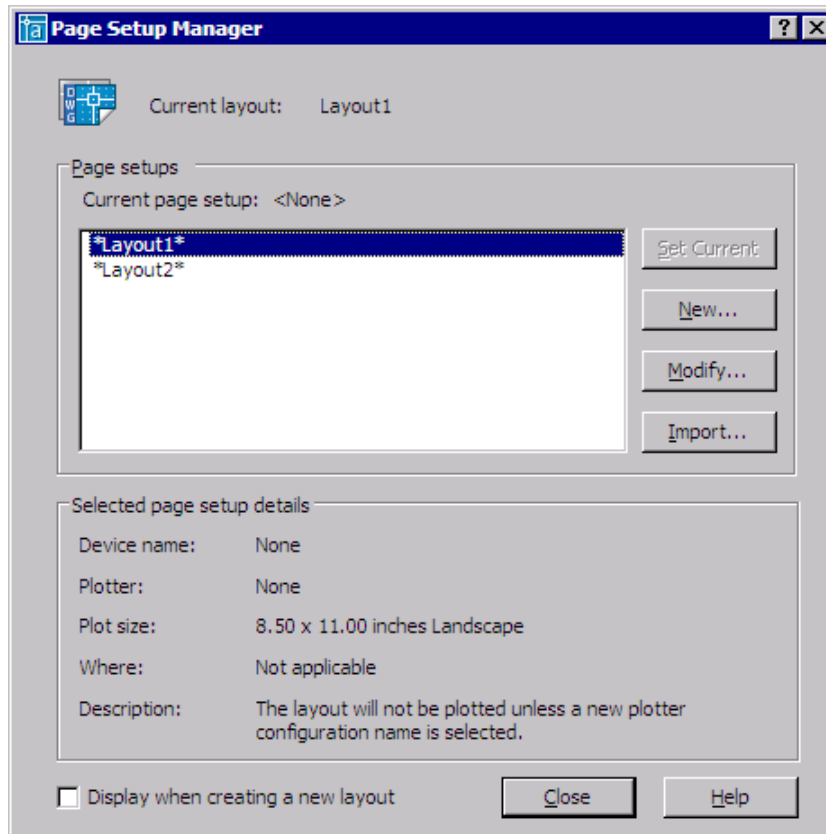


Figure 12-7 Page Setup Manager dialog box when displayed in the Layout tab

You can use this dialog box to create a new page setup, modify the existing page setup, or import a page setup from an existing file.

Creating a New Page Setup

To create a new page setup, choose the **New** button from the **Page Setup Manager** dialog box. The **New Page Setup** dialog box will be displayed, as shown in Figure 12-8. Enter the name of the new page setup in the **New page setup name** text box. The existing page setups with which you can start are shown in the **Start with** area. You can select any of the page setups listed in this area and choose **OK** to proceed.

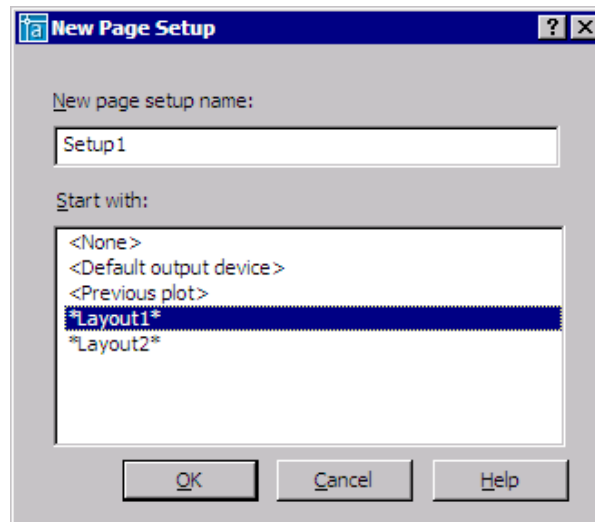


Figure 12-8 New Page Setup dialog box

When you choose **OK**, the **Page Setup** dialog box will be displayed. This dialog box is similar to the **Plot** dialog box, see Figure 12-9.

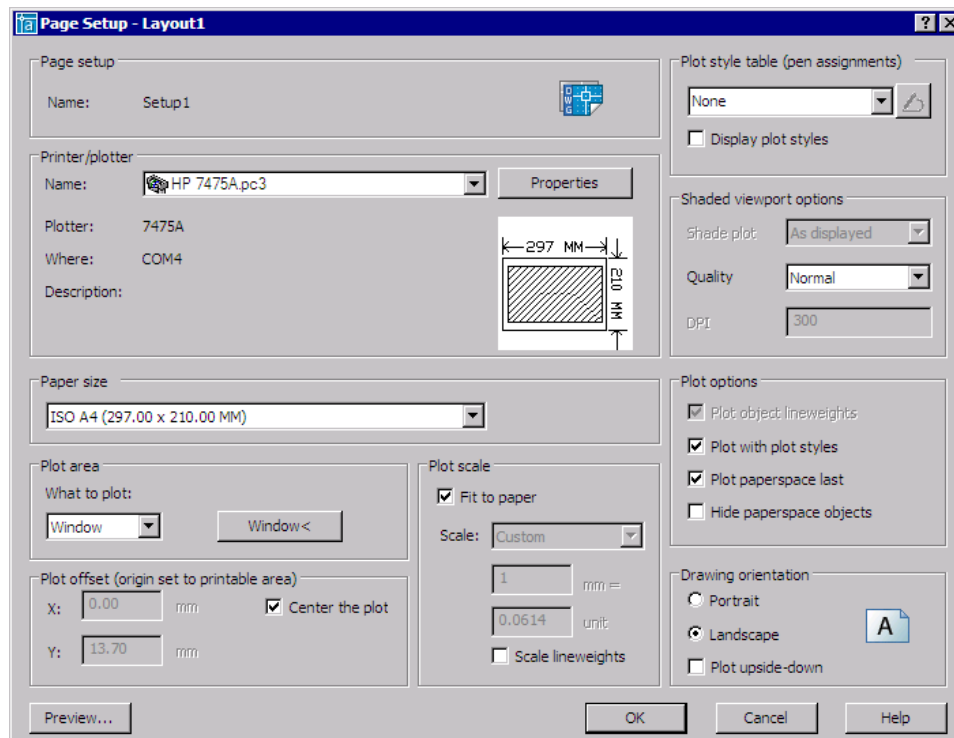


Figure 12-9 Page Setup dialog box

Modifying a Page Setup

To modify a page setup, select the page setup from the **Current page setup** list box and choose the **Modify** button. The **Page Setup** dialog box will be displayed. Modify the parameters in this dialog box and exit it.



Note

*If you select the **Display when creating a new layout** check box, the **Page Setup Manager** will be displayed whenever you invoke a layout for the first time.*

Importing a Page Setup

Command: PSETUPIN

AutoCAD allows you to import a user-defined page setup from an existing drawing and use it in the current drawing or base the current page setup for the drawing on it. This option is available by choosing the **Import** button from the **Page Setup Manager** dialog box. It is also possible to bypass this dialog box and directly import a page setup from an existing drawing into a new drawing layout by using the **PSETUPIN** command. This command facilitates importing a saved and named page setup from a drawing into a new drawing. The settings of the named page setup can be applied to layouts in the new drawing. When you choose the **Import** button from the **Page Setup Manager** dialog box or invoke the **PSETUPIN** command, the **Select Page Setup From File** dialog box is displayed, as shown in Figure 12-10. You can

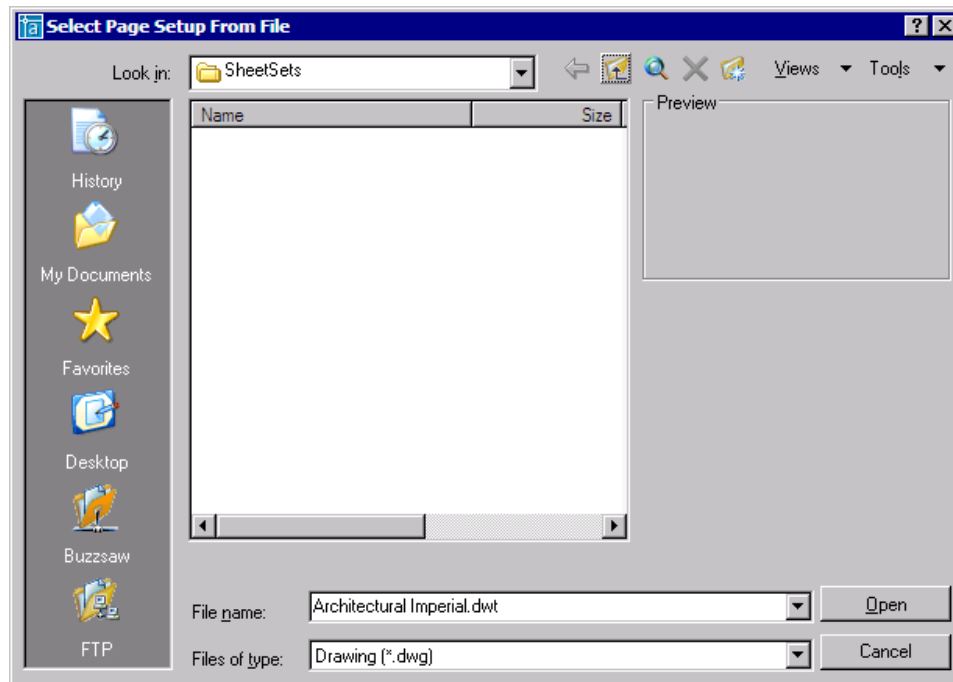


Figure 12-10 Select Page Setup From File dialog box

use this dialog box to locate a *.dwg*, *.dwt*, or *.dxf* file whose page setups have to be imported. After you select the file, AutoCAD displays the **Import Page Setups** dialog box, as shown in Figure 12-11. You can also enter **-PSETUPIN** at the Command prompt to display prompts at the command line.

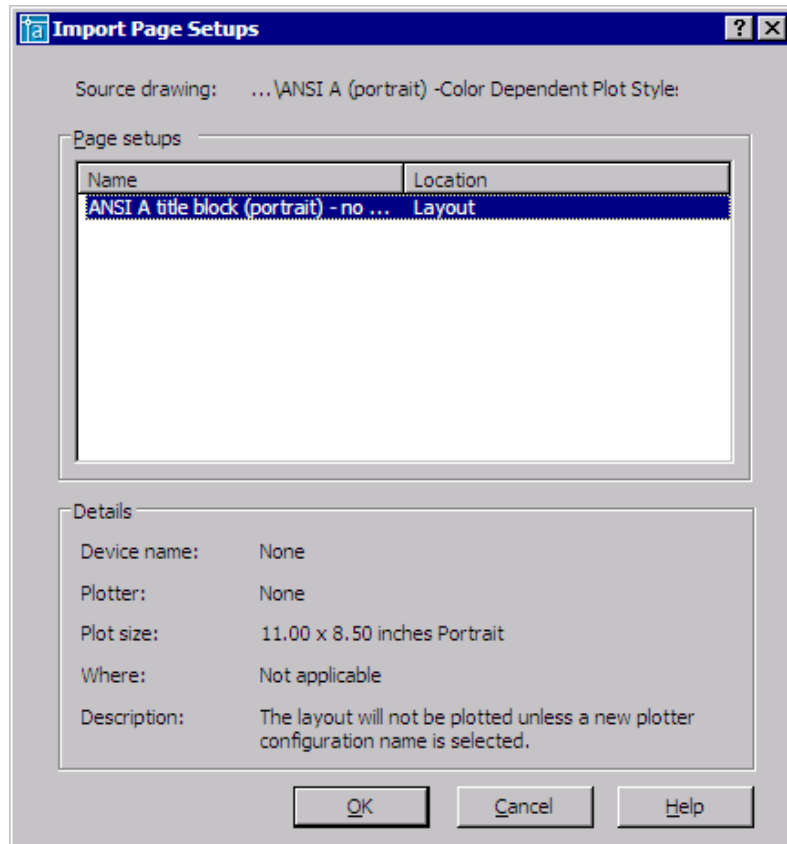


Figure 12-11 *Import Page Setup* dialog box



Note

If a page setup with the same name already exists in the current file, the **AutoCAD Alert** box is displayed and you will be informed that “A page setup with the same name already exists in the current file, do you want to redefine it?” If you choose **Yes** in this dialog box, the current page setup will be redefined.

USING PLOT STYLES

The plot styles can change the complete look of a plotted drawing. You can use this feature to override a drawing object’s color, linetype, and linewidth. For example, if an object is drawn on a layer that is assigned the color red and no plot style is assigned to it, it will be plotted as red. However, if you have assigned a plot style to the object with the color blue, the object will

be plotted as blue irrespective of the layer color it was drawn on. Similarly, you can change the end, join, and fill styles of the drawing, and also change the output effects such as dithering, gray scales, pen assignments, and screening. Basically, you can use **Plot Styles** effectively to plot the same drawing in various ways.

Every object and layer in the drawing has a plot style property. The plot style characteristics are defined in the plot style tables attached to the **Model** tab, layouts, and viewports within the layouts. You can attach and detach different plot style tables to get different looks for your plots. Generally, there are two plot style modes. They are **Color-Dependent** and **Named**. The **Color-dependent** plot styles are based on object color and there are **255** color-dependent plot styles. It is possible to assign each color in the plot style a value for the different plotting properties and these settings are then saved in a color-dependent plot style table file that has a *.ctb* extension. Similarly, **Named** plot styles are independent of object color and you can assign any plot style to any object regardless of that object's color. These settings are saved in a named plot style table file that has *.stb* extension. Every drawing in AutoCAD 2005 is in either of the plot style modes.

Adding a Plot Style

Menu:	File > Plot Style Manager
Command:	STYLESMANAGER

All plot styles are saved in the *|Application Data\Autodesk\AutoCAD 2005\R16.1\enu\Plot Styles* folder. If you enter **STYLESMANAGER** at the Command prompt, AutoCAD displays the **Plot Styles Manager** window, see Figure 12-12. This window displays icons for all the available plot styles in addition to the **Add-A-Plot Style Table Wizard** icon. You can double-click on any of the plot style icons to display the **Plot Style Table Editor** dialog box and edit the selected plot style. When you double-click on the **Add-A-Plot Style Table Wizard** icon, the **Add Plot Style Table** wizard is displayed and you can use it to create a new plot style.

Add-A-Plot Style Table Wizard

If you want to add a new plot style table to your drawing, double-click on the **Add-A-Plot Style Table Wizard** in the **Plot Styles Manager** window to display the **Add Plot Style Table** wizard. You can also invoke the wizard by choosing **Tools > Wizards > Add Plot Style Table** from the menu bar. The following are the steps for creating a new plot style table using the wizard.

1. Read the introduction page carefully and choose the **Next** button.
2. In the **Begin** page, select the **Start from scratch** radio button and choose **Next**. Selecting this option creates a new plot style table. Therefore, the **Browse File** page is not available.

In addition to the **Start from scratch** option, this page has three more options. They are **Use an existing plot style table**, **Use My R14 Plotter Configuration (CFG)**, and **Use a PCP or PC2 file**. When you use the **Use an existing plot style table** option, an existing

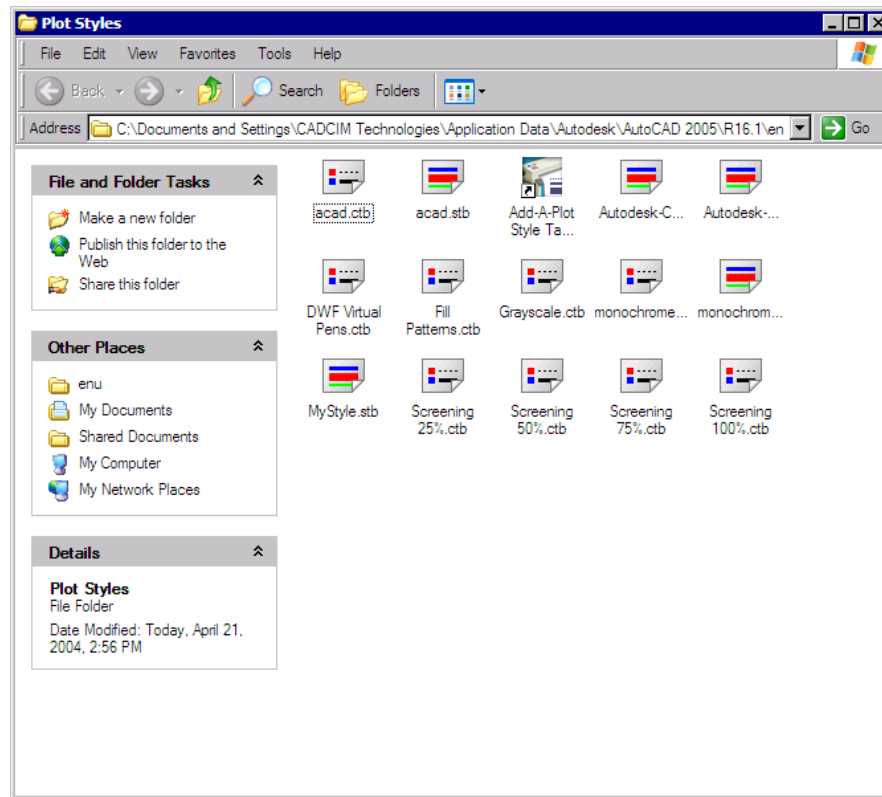


Figure 12-12 Plot Styles window

plot style table is used as a base for the new plot style table you are creating. In such a situation, the **Table Type** page of the wizard is not available and is not displayed because the table type will be based on the existing plot style table you are using to create a new one. With the **Use My R14 Plotter Configuration (CFG)** option, the pen assignments from the *acad2005.cfg* file are used as a base for the new table you are creating. If you are using the **Use a PCP or PC2** option, pen assignments saved earlier in a Release 14 PCP or PC2 file are used to create the new plot style.

3. In the **Pick Plot Style Table** page, select the **Named Plot Style Table** or the **Color-Dependent Plot Style Table** according to your requirement. Select the **Color-Dependent Plot Style Table** radio button and then choose the **Next** button.
4. Since you have selected the **Start from scratch** radio button in the **Begin** page, the **Browse File** page is not available and the **File name** page is displayed. However, if you had selected any of the other three options available on the **Begin** page, the **Browse File** page would have been displayed. You can select an existing file from the drop-down list available in this page or choose the **Browse** button to display the **Select File** dialog box. You can then browse and select a file from a specific folder and choose **Select** to return to

the wizard. You can also enter the name of the existing plot style table on which you want to base the new plot style table, directly in the edit box. After you have specified the file name, choose **Next** to display the **File name** page of the wizard. In the **File name** page, enter a file name for the new plot style table and choose **Next**. The **Finish** page is displayed.



Note

*If you are using the pen assignments from the Release 14 acad.cfg file to define the new plot style table, you also have to specify the printer or plotter to use from the drop-down list available in the **Browse File** page of the wizard.*

5. The **Finish** page gives you the option of choosing the **Plot Style Table Editor** button to display the **Plot Style Table Editor** and then edit the plot style table you have created. If you select the **Use this plot style table for new and pre-AutoCAD 2004 drawings** check box in this page of the wizard, the plot style table that you have created will become the default plot style table for all the drawings you create. This check box is available only if the plot style mode you have selected in the wizard is the same as that you have specified as the default plot style mode in the **Default plot style behavior for new drawings** area in the **Plotting** tab of the **Options** dialog box. Choose **Finish** in the **Finish** page of the wizard to exit the wizard. A new plot style table gets added to the **Plot Styles** window and can be used for plotting.



Note

*You can also choose **Add Named Plot Style Table/ Add Color-Dependent Plot Style Table** from the **Tools > Wizards** menu to display wizards that are similar to the **Add Plot Style Table** wizard except that in the **Begin** page, the **Use an existing plot style table** option is not available. Also the **Table Type** page is not there and the **Finish** page has an additional option to use the new plot style table for the current drawing.*

Plot Style Table Editor

When you double-click on any of the plot style table icons available in the **Plot Styles** window, the **Plot Style Table Editor** is displayed, where you can edit the particular plot style table. You can also choose the **Plot Style Table Editor** button in the **Finish** page to display the **Plot Style Table Editor** and choose the **Edit** button adjacent to the **Name** drop-down list in the **Plot style table (pen assignments)** area in the **Plot Device** tab of the **Plot** or **Page Setup** dialog box to display the **Plot Style Table Editor**.

The **Plot Style Table Editor** has three tabs: **General**, **Table View**, and **Form View**. You can edit all the properties of an existing plot style table using the different tabs. The description of the tabs are as follows.

General Tab

This tab provides information about the file name, location of the file, version, and scale factor. All the information except the description are read only. You can enter a description about the plot style table in the **Description** text box here. If you select the **Apply global scale factor to non-ISO linetypes** check box, all the non-ISO linetypes in a drawing are

scaled by the scale factor specified in the **Scale factor** edit box below the check box. If this check box is cleared (by default), the **Scale factor** edit box is not available.

Table View Tab

This tab displays all the plot styles, available with their properties in tabular form, that can be edited individually here, see Figure 12-13.

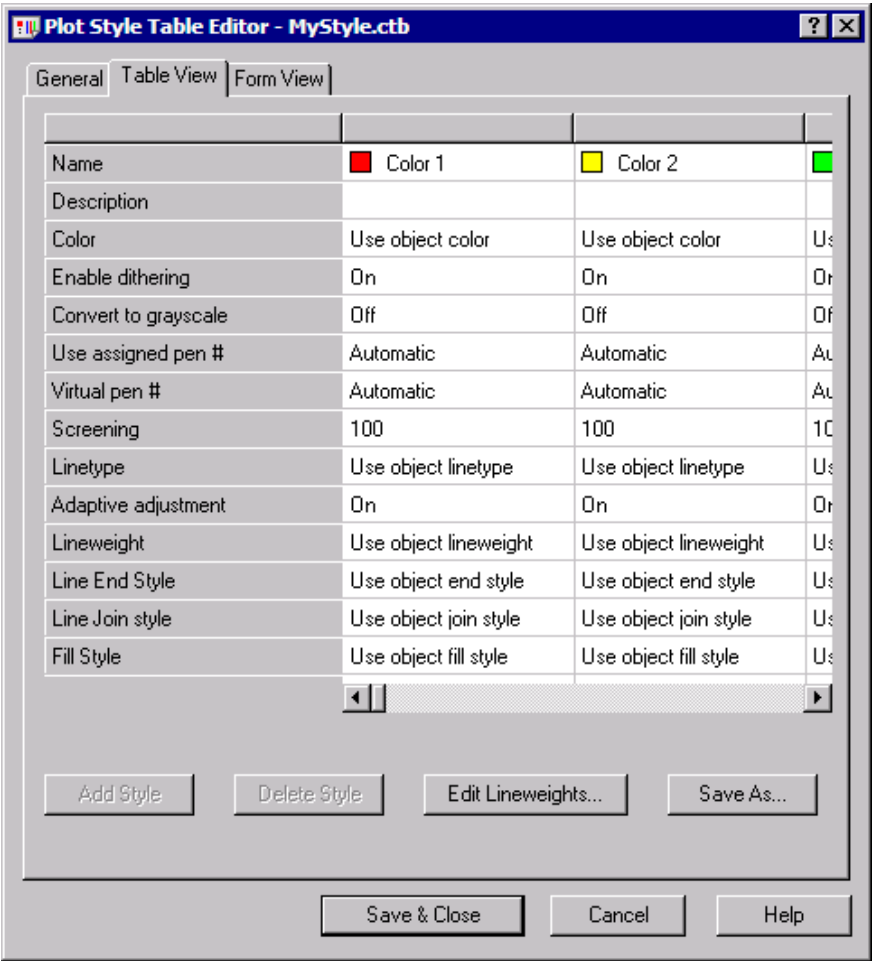


Figure 12-13 Plot Style Table Editor (Table View tab)

In the case of a named plot style table, you can edit the existing styles or add new styles by choosing the **Add Styles** button. A new column with default style name **Style1** will be added in the table. You can change the style name if you want. You can edit the various properties in the table by selecting a particular value you want to modify and a corresponding drop-down list is displayed. You can select a value from this drop-down list. This manner of editing is similar to the one we use when editing properties of objects using the **PROPERTIES** palette.

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The **Normal** plot style table is not available and therefore cannot be edited. This plot style is assigned to layers by default.

You can select a particular plot style by clicking on the gray bar above the column and the entire column gets highlighted. You can select several plot styles by pressing the SHIFT key and selecting more plot styles. All the plot styles that are selected are highlighted. If you choose the **Delete Style** button now, the selected plot styles are removed from the table.

Choosing the **Edit Lineweights** button displays the **Edit Lineweights** dialog box. You can select the units for specifying the lineweights in the Units for listing area of the dialog box, and can use either **Millimeters** or **Inches**. You can also edit the value of a lineweight by selecting it in the **Lineweights** list box and choosing the **Edit Lineweight** button. After you have edited lineweights, choose the **Sort Lineweights** button to rearrange the lineweight values in the list box. Choose **OK** to exit the dialog box and return to **Plot Style Table Editor**.

With a color-dependent plot style table, the **Table View** tab displays all 255 plot styles, one for each color, and the properties can be edited in the table in the same way as discussed for named plot styles. The only difference is that you cannot add a new plot style or delete an existing one, and therefore, the **Delete Style** and **Add Style** buttons are not available. The properties that can be defined in a plot style are discussed next.

Name. This field displays the name of the color in the case of the color-dependent plot styles and the name of the style in the case of the named plot styles.

Description. Here you can enter the description about the plot style.

Color. The color you assign to plot style overrides the color of the object in the drawing. The default value is **Use object color**.

Enable dithering. Dithering is described as a mixing of various colored dots to produce a new color. You can enable or disable this property by selecting from the drop-down list that is available in this field. Dithering is enabled by default and is independent of the color selected.

Convert to grayscale. If you are using plotter that supports grayscaling, selecting **On** from the drop-down list in this field applies grayscale to the objects color. By default, **Off** is selected and the object's color is used.

Use assigned pen #. This property is applied only to pen plotters. The pens range from 1 to 32. The default value is **Automatic**, which implies that the pen used will be based on the plotter configuration.

Virtual pen #. Nonpen plotters can behave like pen plotters using virtual pens. The value of this property lies between 1 and 255. The default value is **Automatic**. This implies that AutoCAD will assign a virtual pen automatically from the AutoCAD Color Index (ACI).

Screening. This property of a plot style indicates the amount of ink used while plotting. The

value ranges between 0 and 100. The default value is 100, which creates the plot in its full intensity. Similarly, a value of 0 produces white color. This may be useful when plotting on a colored background.

Linetype. Like the property of color, the linetype assigned to a plotstyle overrides the object linetype on plotting. The default value is **Use object linetype**.

Adaptive adjustment. This property is applied by default and implies that the linetype scale of a linetype is applied such that on plotting, the linetype pattern will be completed.

Lineweight. The lineweight value assigned here overrides the value of the object lineweight on plotting. The default value is **Use object lineweight**.

Line End Style. This determines the manner in which a plotted line ends. The effect of this property is more noticeable when the thickness of the line is substantial. The line can end in a **Butt**, **Square**, **Round**, or **Diamond** shape. The default value is **Use object end style**.

Line Join Style. You can select the manner in which two lines join in a plotted drawing. The available options are **Miter**, **Bevel**, **Round**, and **Diamond**. The default value is **Use object join style**.

Fill Style. The fill style assigned to a plot style overrides the objects fill style, when plotted. The available options are **Solid**, **Checkerboard**, **Crosshatch**, **Diamonds**, **Horizontal Bars**, **Slant Left**, **Slant Right**, **Square Dots**, and **Vertical Bars**.

Form View Tab

This tab displays all the properties in one form, see Figure 12-14. All the available plot styles are displayed in the **Plot Styles** list box. You can select any style in the list box and then edit its properties in the **Properties** area.

While creating a named plot styles table (.stb), if you want to add a new plot style, choose the **Add Style** button and AutoCAD will display the **Add Plot Style** dialog box with default plot style name Style 1. You can change the name of the plot style in the **Plot Style** edit box, see Figure 12-15. Now, when you choose the **OK** button, the new style will be added in the **Plot Styles** list box and you can select it for editing. If you want to delete a style, select it and then choose the **Delete Style** button. With a color-dependent plot styles the **Form View** tab also does not provide options that allow you to add or delete plot styles.

After editing, choose the **Save & Close** button to save and return to the **Plot Styles** window. You can also choose the **Save As** button to display the **Save As** dialog box and save a plot style table with another name. If you want to remove the changes you made to a plot style table, choose the **Cancel** button.

Applying Plot Styles

The **Model**, or any of the layout tabs, can be assigned a plot style table. The plot style table

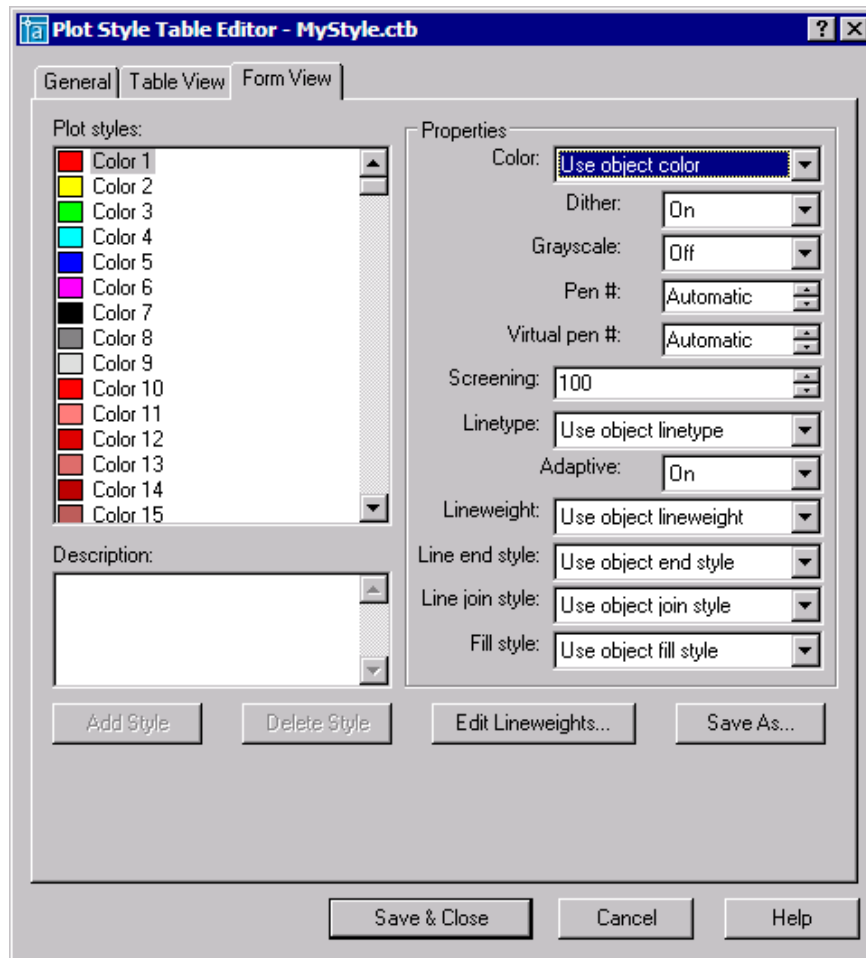


Figure 12-14 Plot Style Table Editor (Form View tab)

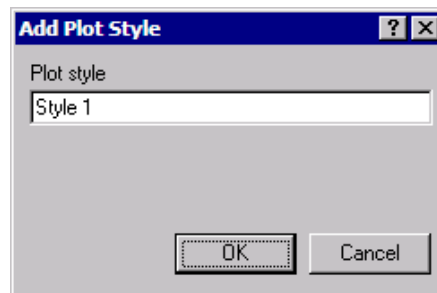


Figure 12-15 Add Plot Style dialog box

can be either named or color-dependent as discussed earlier. These plot style modes for a new drawing can be determined in the **Default plot style behavior for new drawings** area of

the **Plotting** tab of the **Options** dialog box (see Figure 12-13). The **Use color dependent plot styles** option is selected by default and the drawings are assigned a color-dependent plot style. If you select the **Use named plot styles** radio button, the new drawings (not the current drawing) will be assigned a named plot style. The **PSTYLEPOLICY** system variable also controls the default plot style modes of the new drawings. A value of 0 implies a named plot style mode and a value of 1 implies a color-dependent plot style mode.

You can select a plot style table that you want to use as a default for the drawings from the **Default plot style table** drop-down list in the **Default plot style behavior for new drawings** area of the **Plotting** tab of the **Options** dialog box. If you select **None**, the drawing is plotted with the object properties as displayed on the screen. In this area of the **Options** dialog box, only when you select the **Use named plot styles** radio button, are the **Default plot style for layer 0** and the **Default plot style for objects** drop-down lists available. You can select the default plot styles that you want to assign to Layer 0 and to the objects in a drawing from these drop-down lists, respectively. If you choose the **Add or Edit Plot Style Table** button in this area of the **Plotting** tab of the **Options** dialog box, the **Plot Styles** window is displayed. Here, you can double-click on any plot style table icon available and edit it using the **Plot Style Table Editor** that is displayed.

To change the plot style table for a current layout, you have to invoke the **Page Setup** or **Plot** dialog box and then select a plot style table from the **Name** drop-down list in the **Plot style table (pen assignments)** area of the **Plot Device** tab of the dialog box. A color-dependent plot style table can be selected and applied to a tab only if the default plot style mode already has been set to color dependent. Similarly, if you want to apply a named plot style table to a tab, the **Use named plot styles** radio button should have been selected in the **Plotting** tab of the **Options** dialog box.

A color-dependent plot style cannot be applied to objects or layers and therefore the **Plot Style Control** drop-down list in the **Properties** toolbar is not available when a drawing has a color-dependent plot style mode. The plot styles also appear grayed out in the **Layer Properties Manager** dialog box and cannot be selected and changed. However, named plot styles can be applied to objects and layers. A plot style applied to an object overrides the plot style applied to the layer on which the object is drawn. To apply a plot style to a layer, invoke the **Layer Properties Manager** dialog box where all the layers in the selected tab are displayed. Select a layer to which you want to apply a plot style and select the default plot style (Normal) currently applied to the layer. The **Select Plot Style** dialog box is displayed, see Figure 12-16. The **Plot styles** list box in this dialog box displays all the plot styles present in the plot style table attached to the current tab. You can select another plot style table to attach to the current tab from the **Active plot style table** drop-down list. You will notice that all the plot styles in the selected plot style table are displayed in the list box now. You can also choose the **Editor** button to display the **Plot Style Table Editor** to edit plot style tables, as discussed earlier. The **Select Plot Style** dialog box also displays the name of the original plot style assigned to the object adjacent to **Original**. Also, the new plot style to be assigned to the selected object is displayed next to **New**.

You can apply a named plot style to an object using the **Plot Style Control** drop-down list in

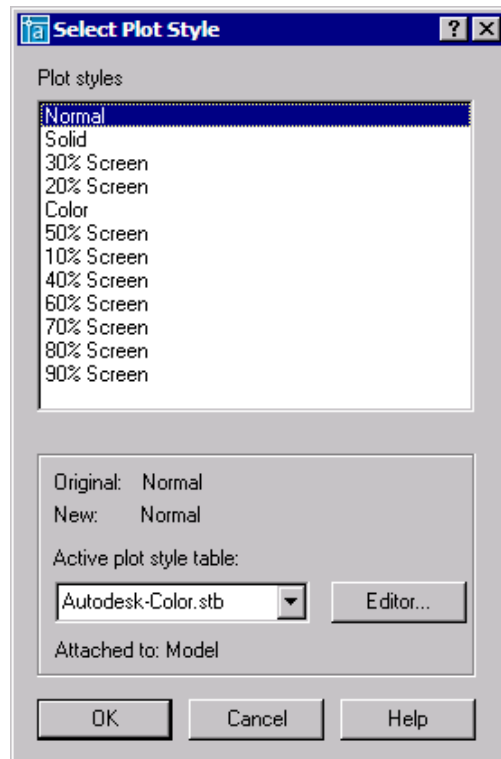


Figure 12-16 Select Plot Style dialog box

the **Properties** toolbar or the **Properties** palette. The process is the same as that applied for layers, colors, linetypes, and lineweights. This named plot style is applied to an object irrespective of the tab on which it is drawn. If the plot style assigned to an object is present in the plot style table of the tab in which it is present, the object is plotted with the specified plot style. However, if the plot style assigned to the object is not present in the plot style table assigned to the tab on which it is drawn, the object will be plotted with the properties that are displayed on the screen. The default plot style assigned to an object is **Normal** and the default plot style assigned to a layer is **ByLayer**.

Setting the Current Plot Style

You can use the **PLOTSTYLE** command to set the current plot style for new objects or of selected objects. When you enter **PLOTSTYLE** at the Command prompt, and if no object has been selected in the drawing, AutoCAD displays the **Current Plot Style** dialog box, see Figure 12-17. However, if any object selection is there in the drawing, then AutoCAD displays the **Select Plot Style** dialog box (Figure 12-16), which has been discussed earlier. You can select a plot style from the list box and choose **OK** to assign it to the selected objects in the drawing. All the plot styles present in the current plot style table that are assigned to the current tab are displayed in the list box in the **Current Plot Style** dialog box. You can select any one of these plot styles and choose **OK**. Now, when you create new objects, they will have

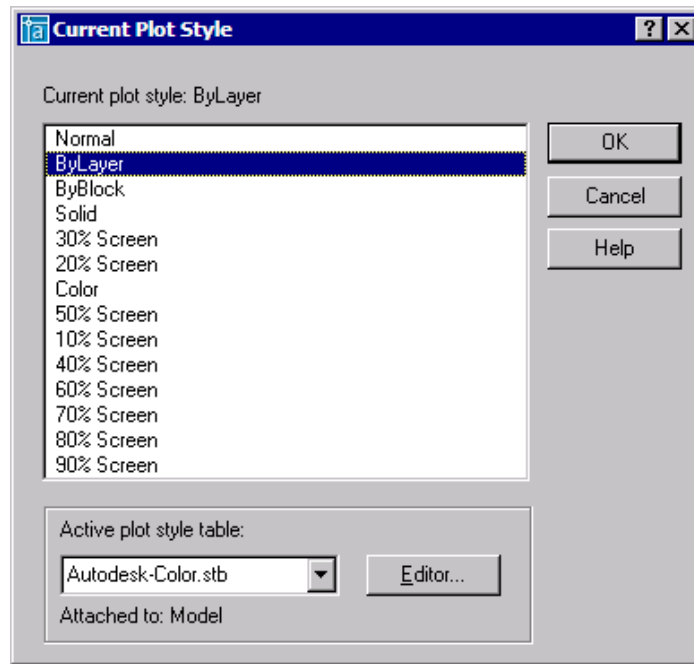


Figure 12-17 *Current Plot Style* dialog box

the plot style that you had set current in the **Current Plot Style** dialog box. The parameters of this dialog box are described next.

Current plot style

The name of the current plot style is displayed adjacent to this label.

Plot style list box

This list box lists all the available plot styles that can be assigned to an object, including the default plot style, **Normal**.

Active plot style table

This drop-down list displays the names of all the available plot style tables. The current plot style table attached to the current layout or viewport is displayed in the edit box.

Editor

If you choose the **Editor** button, adjacent to the drop-down list, AutoCAD displays the **Plot Style Table Editor** to edit the selected plot style table.

Attached to

The tab to which the selected plot style table is attached, **Model** or any one of the layout tabs, is displayed next to this label.

Exercise 1*Mechanical*

Create the drawing shown in Figure 12-18. Create a named plot style table *My Named Table.stb* with three plot styles: Style 1, Style 2, and Style 3, in addition to the Normal plot style. The Normal plot style is used for plotting the object lines. These three styles have the following specifications.

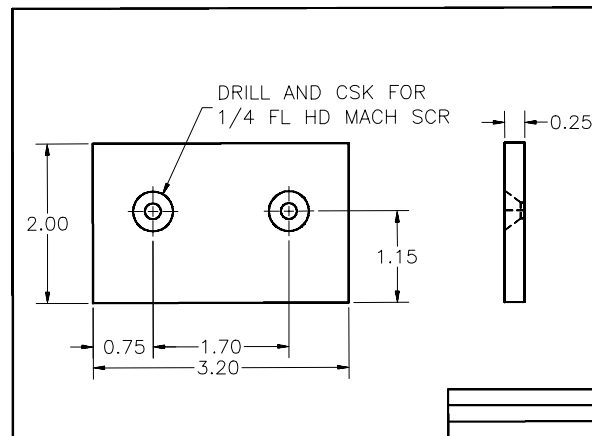


Figure 12-18 Drawing for Exercise 1

Style 1. This style has a value of Screening = 50. The dimensions, dimension lines, and the text in the drawing must be plotted with this style.

Style 2. This style has a value of Lineweight = 0.800. The border and title block must be plotted with this style.

Style 3. This style has a linetype of Medium Dash. The centerlines must be plotted with this plot style.

PLOTTING SHEETS IN A SHEET SET*

Using the **SHEET SET MANAGER**, you can easily plot all the sheets available in a sheet set. However, before plotting the sheets in a sheet set, you need to make sure that you have selected the required printer in the page setup of all the sheets in the sheet set. This is because the printer set in the page setup of the sheet will be automatically selected to plot the sheet.

To print the sheets after setting the page setup, right-click on the name of the sheet set in the **SHEET SET MANAGER** and choose **Publish > Publish to Plotter** from the shortcut menu, as shown in Figure 12-19. If the value of the **BACKGROUND PLOT** system variable is set to **2**, which is the default value, all the sheets will be automatically plotted in the background and you can continue working on the drawings.

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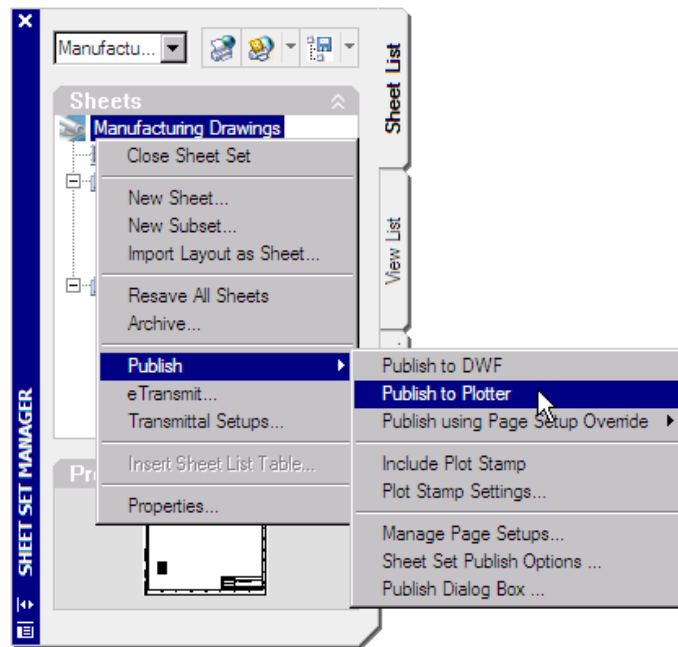


Figure 12-19 Plotting a sheet set using the **SHEET SET MANAGER**



Note

You will learn more about publishing in Chapter 28.

Self-Evaluation Test

Answer the following questions, and then compare your answers to the correct answers given at the end of this chapter.

1. All the settings about a plotter are saved in the .PC3 file. (T/F)
2. Different objects in the same drawing can be plotted in different colors, with different linetypes and line widths. (T/F)
3. You can partially or fully preview a drawing before plotting. (T/F)
4. The **PSLTSCALE** system variable controls the paper space linetype scaling and has a default value of 1. (T/F)

5. The size of a plot can be specified by selecting any paper size from the _____ drop-down list in the **Plot** dialog box.
6. If you want to store the plot in a file and not have it printed directly on a plotter, select the _____ check box in the **Printer/plotter** area.
7. The scale for the plot can also be specified in the _____ edit boxes in the **Plot** dialog box.
8. If you select the _____ option from the **What to plot** drop-down list, the portion of the drawing that is in the current display is plotted.
9. Before you plot the sheets in the sheet set, it is important that you set the _____ for the individual sheets in their page setups.
10. You can set the quality of the plot using the _____ drop-down list in the **Shaded viewport options** area.

Review Questions

Answer the following questions.

1. The **Page Setup Manager** dialog box is displayed when you invoke the **PAGESETUP** command. (T/F)
2. By selecting the **View** option in the **Plot** area from the **What to plot** drop-down list, you can plot a view that was created with the **VIEW** command in the current drawing. (T/F)
3. If you do not want the hidden lines of a 3D object created in the **Model** tab, you can select the **Hidden** option from the **Shade plot** drop-down list in the **Shaded viewport options** area. (T/F)
4. The orientation of the drawing can be changed using the **Plot** dialog box. (T/F)
5. Which check box in the **Plot options** area of the **Plot** dialog box is available only if you are plotting in a layout tab?
 - (a) **Plot paperspace last**
 - (b) **Hide objects**
 - (c) **Plot with plot styles**
 - (d) **None**
6. Which command when invoked displays the **Plotters** window?
 - (a) **PLOTTER**
 - (b) **PLOTTERMANAGER**
 - (c) **PLOTSTYLE**
 - (d) **None**

7. With which command is it possible to bypass the **Plot/Page Setup** dialog box and directly import a page setup from an existing drawing into a new drawing layout?
- (a) **PSETUPIN** (b) **PLOTTERMANAGER**
(c) **PLOTSTYLE** (d) **None**
8. Which command is used to create a new plot style?
- (a) **STYLE** (b) **STYLESMANAGER**
(c) **PLOTSTYLE** (d) **None**
9. Which command can be used to import a PCP file or PC2 files?
- (a) **PCINWIZARD** (b) **PCIN**
(c) **PLOTSTYLE** (d) **None**
10. You can view the plot on the specified paper size before actually plotting it by selecting the _____ button in the **Plot** dialog box.
11. In the preview window available in the **Printer/plotter** area, the _____ rectangle is the section of the paper that is used by the image.
12. You can modify the properties of a selected plotting device by using the _____.
13. The plot style modes available are _____ and _____.
14. The **Plot Style Table Editor** has three tabs: _____, _____, and _____.

Exercises

Exercise 2

Mechanical

Create the drawing shown in Figure 12-20 and plot it according to the following specifications. Create and use a plot style table with the specified plot styles.

1. The drawing is to be plotted on 10 X 8 inch paper.
2. The object lines must be plotted with a plot style Style 1. Style 1 must have a value of linewidth = 0.800 mm.

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Chapter 12

AutoCAD 2005

3. The dimension lines must be plotted with plot style Style 2. Style 2 must have a value of screening = 50.
4. The centerlines must be plotted with plot style Style 3. Style 3 must have a linetype of Medium Dash and screening = 50.
5. The border and title block must be plotted with plot style Style 4. The value of lineweight = 0.25 mm.

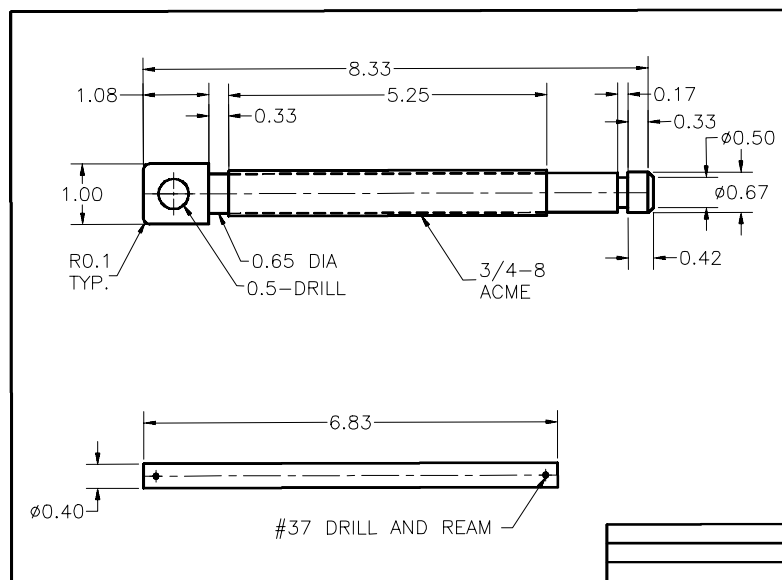


Figure 12-20 Drawing for Exercise 2

Exercise 3

Mechanical

Create the drawing shown in Figure 12-21 and plot the drawing according to your specifications.

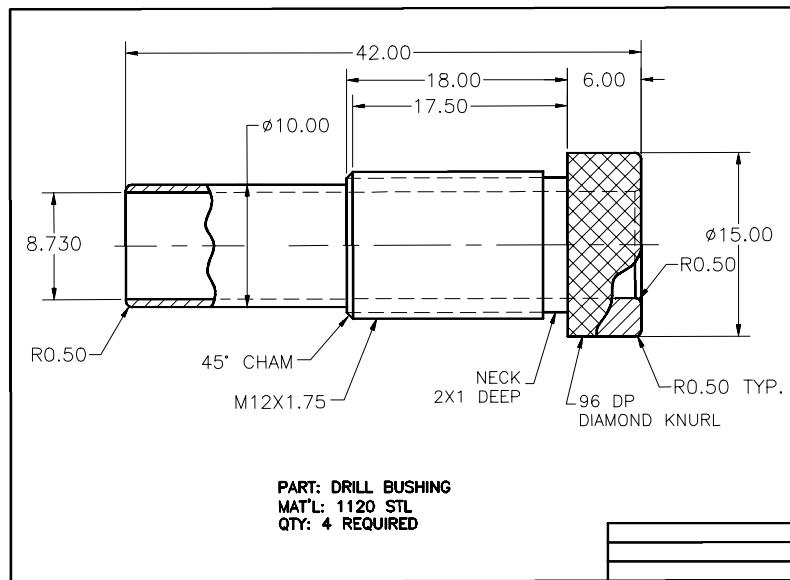


Figure 12-21 Drawing for Exercise 3

Problem Solving Exercise 1

Mechanical

Make the drawing shown in Figure 12-22 and plot it according to your specifications.

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Chapter 12

AutoCAD 2005

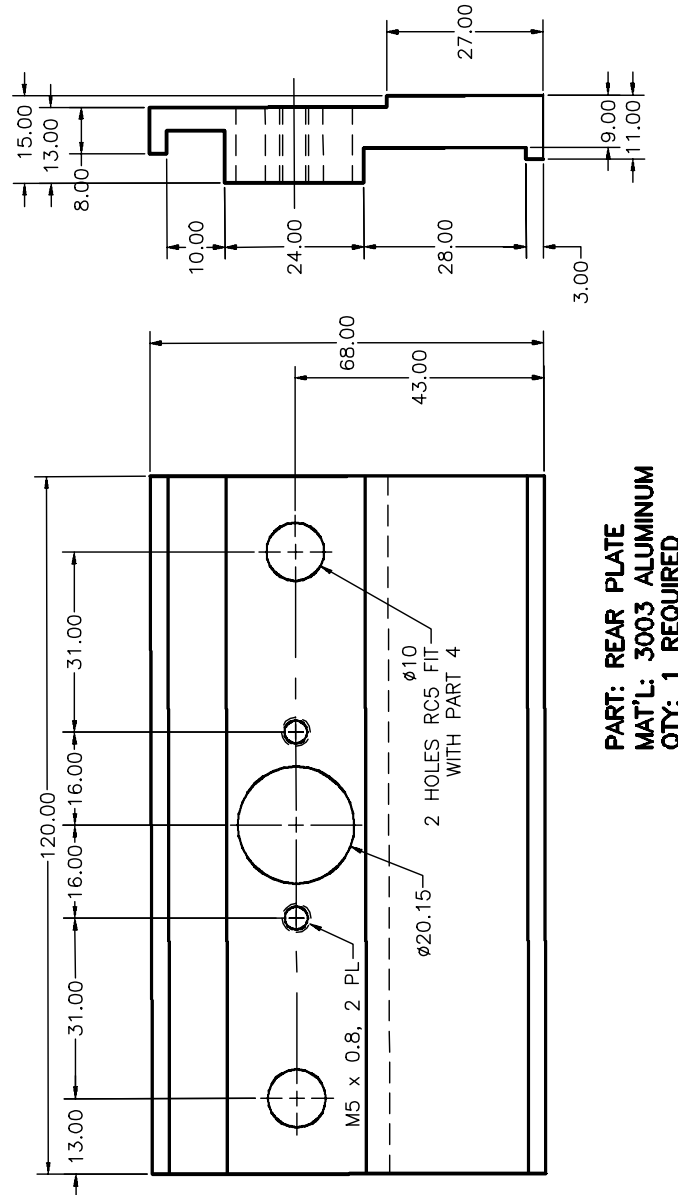


Figure 12-22 Drawing for Problem Solving Exercise 1

Answers to Self-Evaluation Test

1 - T, 2 - T, 3 - F, 4 - T, 5 - Paper size, 6 - Plot to file, 7 - Custom, 8 - Display, 9 - paper size, image, 10 - Quality