ASHLAR·VELLUM ™
Software that works the way you think.

Ashlar-Vellum Channel Partner Newsletter
April 2015

Proclaiming Success

Two new success stories are in the works with anticipated posting on the website next month and inclusion in the 2nd Quarter *Design Explorer*.

Double Lens Cap

Scott Krebs has used Xenon™ to design and 3D print a doubled ended lens cap for his Fujifilm X CSC mirrorless camera, allowing him to switch lenses with one hand. Krebs was a MicroStation, SolidWorks and AutoCAD user. Looking for 3D modeling software to run on his Mac, he found Ashlar-Vellum. While skeptical that he wouldn't need to switch to a "big name" program later on, he started renting Xenon by the month. But as he's used the product and dealt with our company, Krebs has found there's nothing that he's needed that Xenon doesn't have. Recently he converted from a rental to a permanent license.
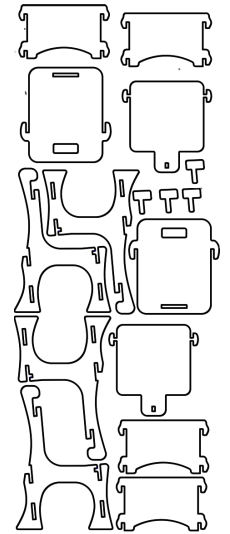
A double lens cap allows Krebs to change lenses with one hand without dropping his valuable equipment.

Student Design Shop

Clay and Julie Mohr are the shop and art teachers respectively at Arnold High School, in Arnold, Nebraska (population 600). This tiny high school in this tiny community has set up a self-sustaining business managed and operated by their students. Creating signs, furniture, trophies and other products, the students use a 25-pack of Graphite™ and an array of printers, lasers and CNC machines, all purchased from the profits generated from supporting the needs of local government, business and non-profit organizations in their area.

The students of Arnold High School produced this child's chair puzzle from the drawing they did in Graphite.

Graphite v9 SP2

Service Pack 2 of Graphite v9 was posted to our website ready for download. This is a wrap up of various point releases from SP1 plus a couple of other items into one release so the customers can easily tell that they're on the latest version.

Graphite v7 Soon to be Obsolete

The last sales of Graphite v7 without an automatic upgrade to v8 ended in December 2006. Therefore, the 10 year mark for v7 is fast approaching in December of 2016. We're starting to introduce the idea to Graphite v7 customers that it's time to upgrade before their software becomes obsolete and they are no longer eligible for the $697 upgrade price. While the cut off date is not for another 18 or so months, it's important that customers start moving in that direction

Rules™ 9
SteelRules™ 9

AlphaCorr is preparing to release version 9 of Rules and SteelRules with the Graphite v9 CAD engine under the hood. In addition to support for the latest operating systems on Mac and Windows, Rules and SteelRules v9 will include productivity enhancements, new tools, support for the latest DXF/DWG and 2D PDF import and export. The release is anticipated sometime next week.

Websites

We've finished updating the AlphaCorr website, making it responsive to tablet and mobile phone browsers. We'll now begin the task of redesigning the Ashlar-Vellum website to do the same. Making websites mobile-friendly boosts rankings on Google and other search engines.
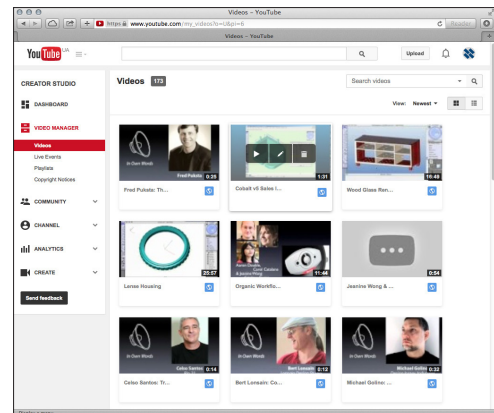
Kinetics™ v2

A new version of Kinetics, Ashlar-Vellum's new motion simulation software, is anticipated early in the third quarter. In addition to some new features, Kinetics v2 will feel more familiar to native English speakers.

Bilingual Extended Support

Starting next month Ashlar-Vellum and AlphaCorr will be offering extended technical support hours until 10pm Central Time, in both English and Spanish. This will help us better cover the time on the west coast of the US and the language needs of the South American market.

YouTube Videos

We're looking to include some new videos on YouTube on Ashlar-Vellum products. If you have suggestions on topics to cover or would like to make one yourself, please let us know. Any of our products are appropriate. While the 3D modeling software is sexier, we all make our money from selling Graphite. So if you want to make Graphite videos, do it. With increased Graphite sales we can invest in our 3D modeling development.

Graphite Surfacer

Graphite Surfacer is in beta testing. This product, which allows polygonal (approximate) surfaces to be hung on a Graphite wireframe, is a temporary measure, allowing Graphite v9 users to also use Kinetics motion simulation software. For more information or to download the beta, contact Ashlar-Vellum support.