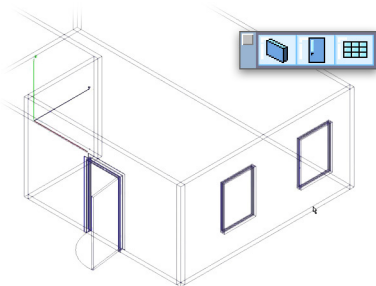


Ashlar-Vellum Channel Partner Newsletter

January 2011

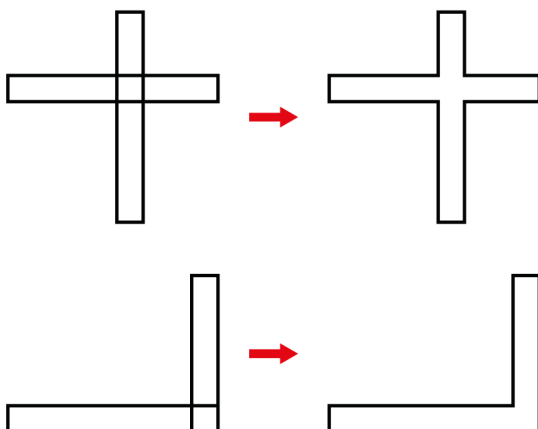
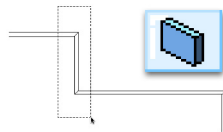
Looking Ahead to Cobalt v9

In development for Cobalt, Xenon and Argon v9 are some new architectural tools for walls, windows and doors.



Walls

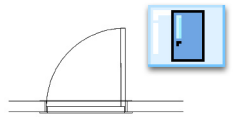
Version 9 of Cobalt, Xenon and Argon will contain Smart Walls, similar to those found in previous versions of Graphite. These are double lines that are automatically trimmed at the intersections when the walls are on the same layer. Thickness, height, angle and length can all be specified in the Status Line. Optional wall properties include hatch pattern, hatch color, trimming, single or double lines and wall orientation such as center line, inside or outside.



Smart walls in the action. Overlapping lines are automatically trimmed at the intersections.

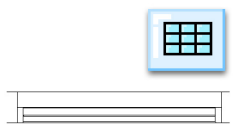
Doors

Doors can be inserted in wall segments in Cobalt, Xenon and Argon v9. When viewed from the top, the arc and width of the door appear. From all other views, the door appears as a 3D object. Options include single and double doors.



Windows

Cobalt, Xenon and Argon v9 will include a tool for adding windows to a wall segment. Like the doors, the windows appear appropriately in top vs. other three-dimensional views. Windows can have overlapping, tight or standard sills.



Training for JC Penney

Five talented designers from JC Penney's Hard Home division joined Ashlar-Vellum trainer, Nick Slaughter for Xenon training at our facilities in Austin, TX this month. The Hard Home group focuses on the design and production of furniture, home accessories, luggage, outdoor and seasonal items.



JC Penney designers clockwise from front left: Jay Keller, Daniel Keating, Lauren Hunter, Glenn Yelvington and Kimberly Lopez.

Training for WLM Pattern & Machine

Bill McConnell, owner of WLM Pattern & Machine escaped the cold of Vineyard Haven, MA this month to join us in Austin, TX to expand his knowledge of 3D modeling.



An experienced Argon user, Bill recently upgraded to Xenon and wanted to get the most out of Xenon's associativity, detail and section views. His pattern and machine shop produces the highest quality ferrous and non-ferrous castings and machine parts for the industrial, architectural and marine industries.

Bou to Ukraine

Ashlar-Vellum President, Robert Bou visited our team in Kiev, Ukraine this month. While there he worked with both the Cobalt and Graphite development teams, our web master, our chief tech support person and our QA specialist.



Robert Bou, left, discusses CAM-related options for DXF export in our upcoming Graphite v9 with developer Andrew Patlan.

Graphite v8 SP3

Graphite v8 SP3r0 was released last month just before the end of the year. This month, emails were sent to all licensed users of Graphite, Cobalt and Xenon v8; Graphite, Cobalt and Xenon v5, v6 and v7 users; and all prospects who have contacted us in the past 18 months.



Issues addressed in SP3, also known as Build 881, include:

- Corrected a minor issue with the crash log.
- Implemented Preference setting for mouse wheel direction.
- Corrected a minor issue when ungrouping some geometry.
- Implemented support for first pen button on some Windows tablets.
- Corrected an issue with previous tool selected in multi-palette situation.
- Resolved case in which Graphite failed to prompt to save on close.
- Resolved font issue (GR158).
- Resolved offset placement with closed groups.
- Resolved Copy/Paste bug with Word.
- Enabled immediate refresh for dimension property changes.
- Resolved mystery of occasionally disappearing palettes.
- Clarified Edit Object dialog box for midpoint line objects.
- Enhanced software to ignore case sensitivity on file name extensions.
- Enhanced Preferences to track arrow settings for Pen menu.

If you have not yet updated to SP3, from within Graphite v8, simply use **Help>Check Web for Updates**.