

Ashlar-Vellum Channel Partner Newsletter July 2010

Graphite™ v8 SP2 r3 Released



864

The latest hot patch for Graphite, build 864, is released and posted to the download website. In this release our development team:

- Implemented Ashlar-Vellum crash reporter with file recovery (Windows only).
- Resolved Apple event error 1708 after printing on Snow Leopard.
- Resolved printing issues under Windows on selected HP printers.
- Solved DWG import issues in Demo mode.
- Resolved a dozen user-reported issues.

Cobalt™, Xenon™ & Argon™ v8 SP2 r5 Coming

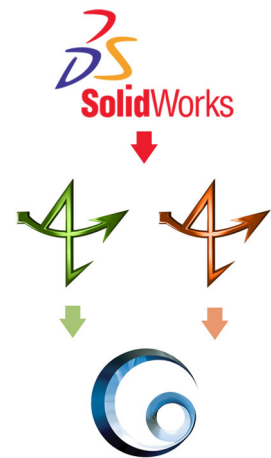
The Cobalt development team is working on the next service pack of Cobalt v8 SP2, which includes:

- Adding Construction Line icon to tool pallet.
- Enhancing grid line display order and infinite length.
- Resolving crash issues specific to particular customer files.
- Resolving issues with select DWG files crashing upon import.
- Resolving issue when turning off Model-to-Sheet layers.
- Resolving materials lost on Undo.



Improvement for SolidWorks to .SAT Export

While simple parts are easily exported from SolidWorks to .SAT files, there's been several reported problems regarding complex parts with mirrored surfaces when exported from SolidWorks out to .SAT files.



Instead of exporting .SAT files from SolidWorks then importing them into Cobalt, we recommend importing SolidWorks files directly into Cobalt via one of our Alchemy translator plug-ins. Ashlar-Vellum Alchemy:Essential™ and Alchemy:Adept™ use Transmagic technology, a completely different algorithm from that developed by the SolidWorks programmers. So far the success has been excellent.

A Sneak Peak at IridiumTM

Engineering insight for product designTM



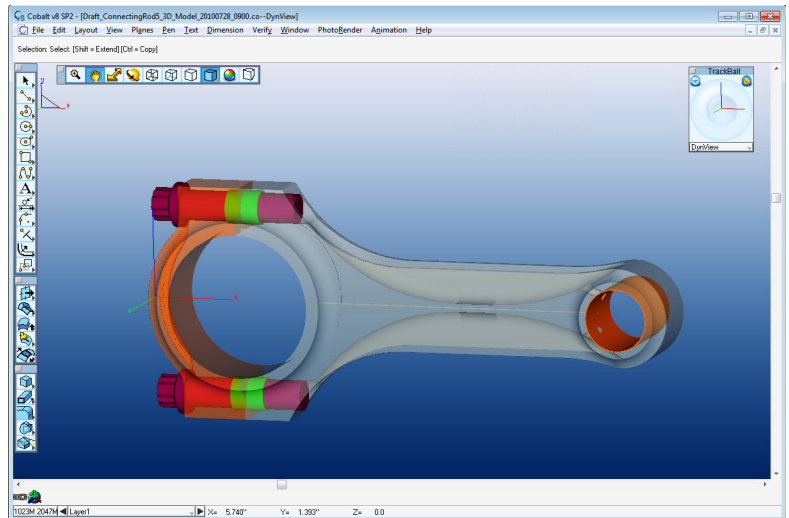
Ashlar-Vellum is preparing to announce our newest software program, Iridium, for product design finite element analysis. Created especially for design engineers, Iridium lets you visually analyze and understand the strength, heat, and harmonic characteristics of designs. Its approachable interface makes FEA useful to validate and optimize designs.

Bring 3D models into Iridium, develop surface and volume meshes, apply boundary conditions and loads, run the analysis, then visualize results. Engineering stress and strain data is visualized in meaningful ways including contour, iso surface, vector and animation.

Iridium's virtual validation eliminates the tedium of doing calculations and analysis by hand, making it easier to spot vulnerable areas and optimize the design, while reducing the number of prototypes.

Iridium will initially be a separate program as we work toward tighter and tighter integration within Cobalt. It will also integrate with our Alchemy translator plug-ins, allowing files from other 3D modeling software to be brought in and analyzed.

Ashlar-Vellum anticipates the start of beta testing in August or September. Initially available on Windows, the Mac version will follow later in the year. Aggressive competitive pricing will put the power of finite element analysis in the hands of more people. While the actual numbers are still in discussion, the idea is that Iridium and Cobalt together would sell for about one half of the equivalent SolidWorks total system price.



This connector rod was modeled in Cobalt (top) and brought into Iridium for meshing and analysis. The visualizations in Iridium show (middle) the von Mises stress analysis, and (bottom) the displacement.