Fabrication: Advanced Scripting

Tim Catalano, Jubel Beren, & Scott Pittman

RK BIM Technology Coordinators & Construction Manager tcatalano@rkmi.com



Class summary

In this class we're going to get into some of the more advanced scripting techniques that you may not be aware of but will likely be useful in your workflows. We'll start by setting up Notepad++ to work with script files, then we'll dive into a script that covers a number of advanced workflows, including using lisp to create a command in AutoCAD

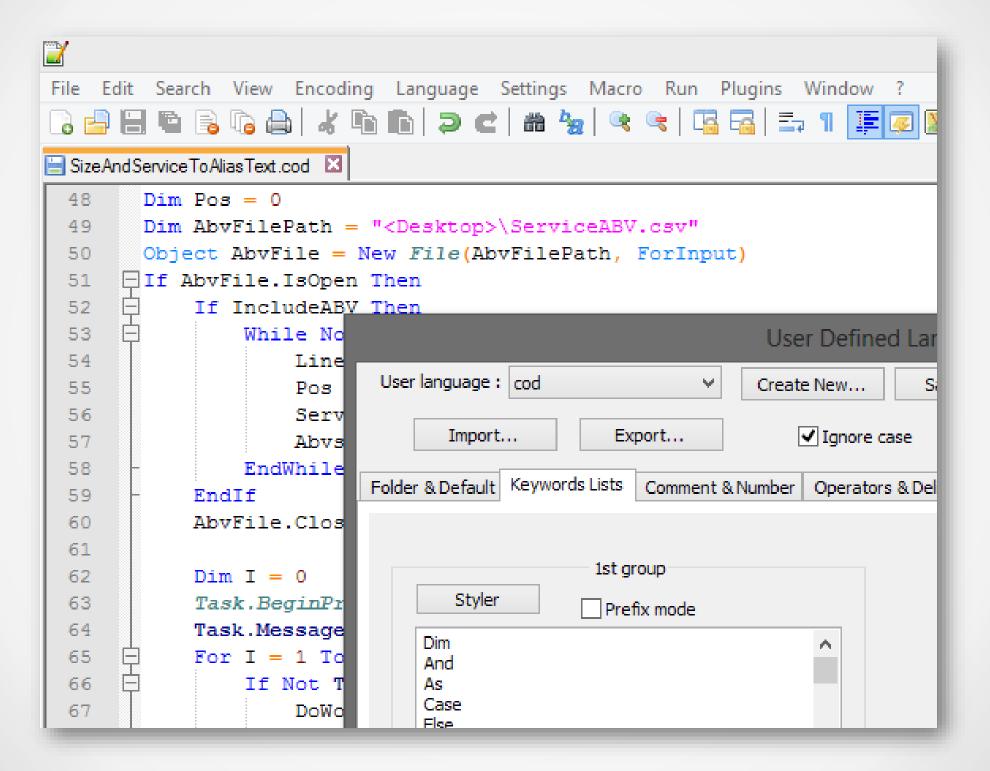
Key learning objectives

At the end of this class, you will be able to:

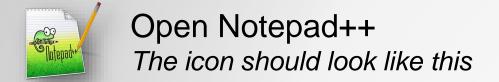
- Setup and work with Notepad++ for scripting
- Write an advanced script that makes use of multiple techniques including
 - Access exported data not directly available to scripts
 - Use undocumented features such as Task
 - Read external data into a script
 - Open and wait for a custom written html report from scripting
 - Write a command in Lisp that exports data and then executes a script

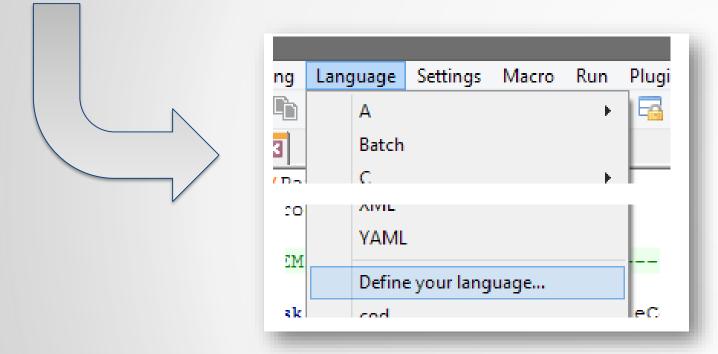
56.42

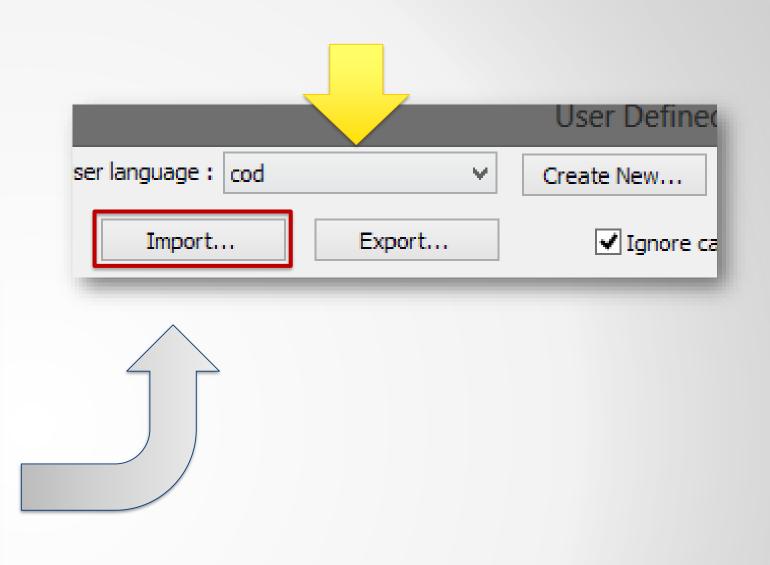
Notepad++



Notepad++







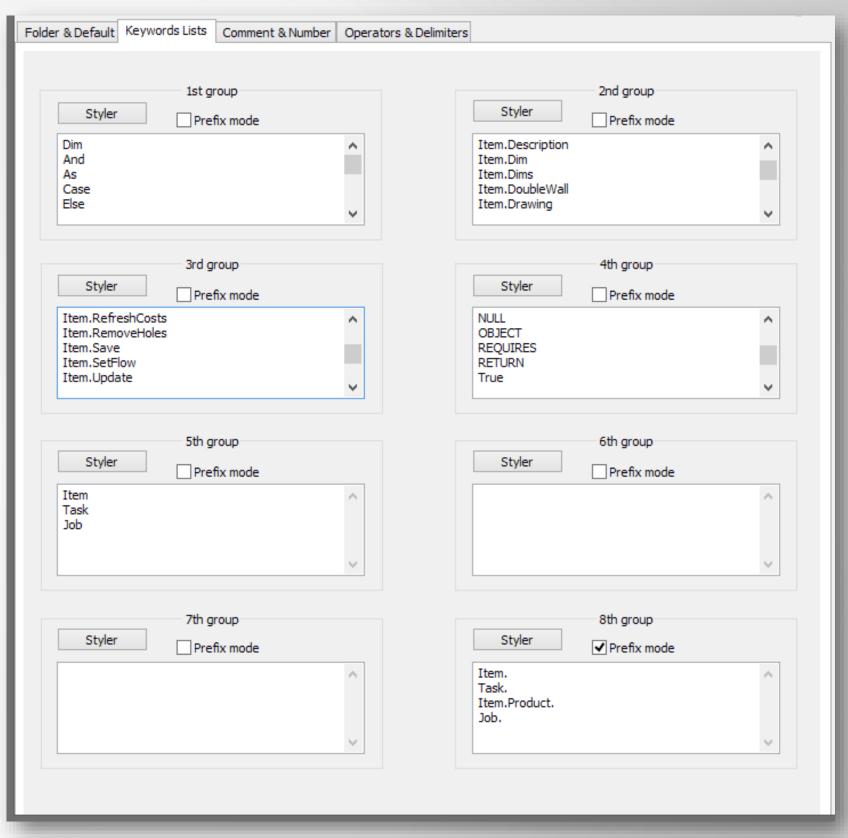
< Class Folder Directory>\MSF9703-L - Fabrication Advanced Scripting\cod.xml

When you're done, close and reopen notepad++ to ensure cod is usable

Notepad++

Keywords Lists

- 1st group is language keywords
 - Like And, If, Function, etc...
- 2nd group is properties
- 3rd group is functions
- 4th group is objects and constants
- 5th group is variables
- 8th group is error help
 - Like if you put Item.CIDD on accident, it will show up red
 - Also helps identify things that need to be added to the language definition





Exercise 1

Size and Service Abbreviation to Alias Text

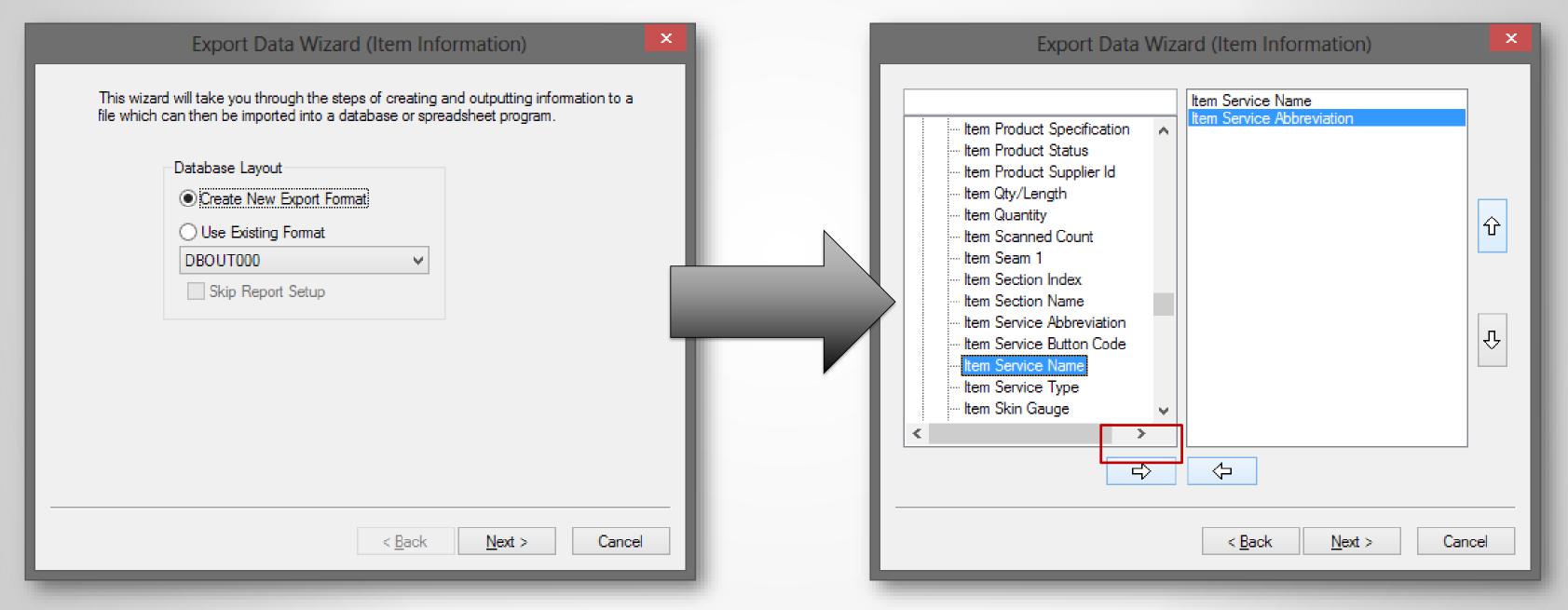


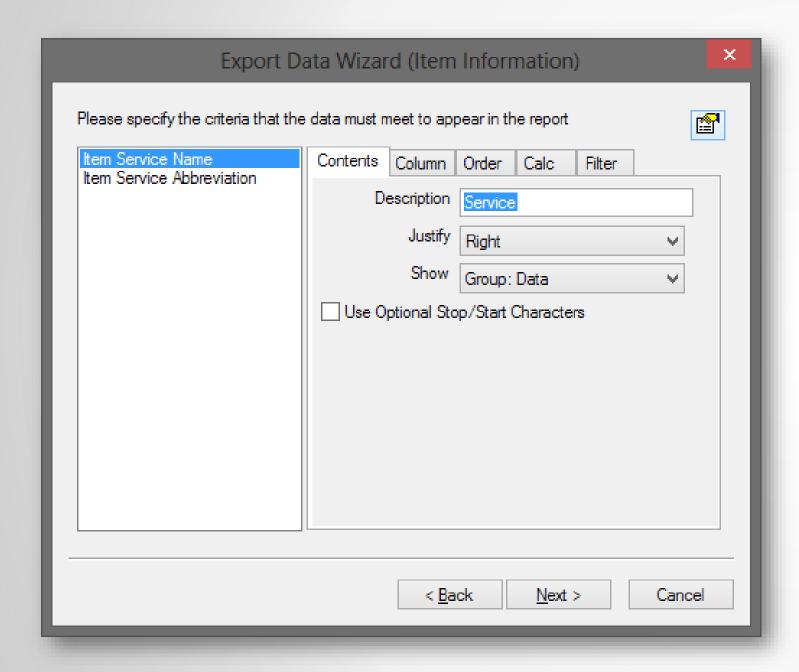
Open CADmep
The "F" icon with CME

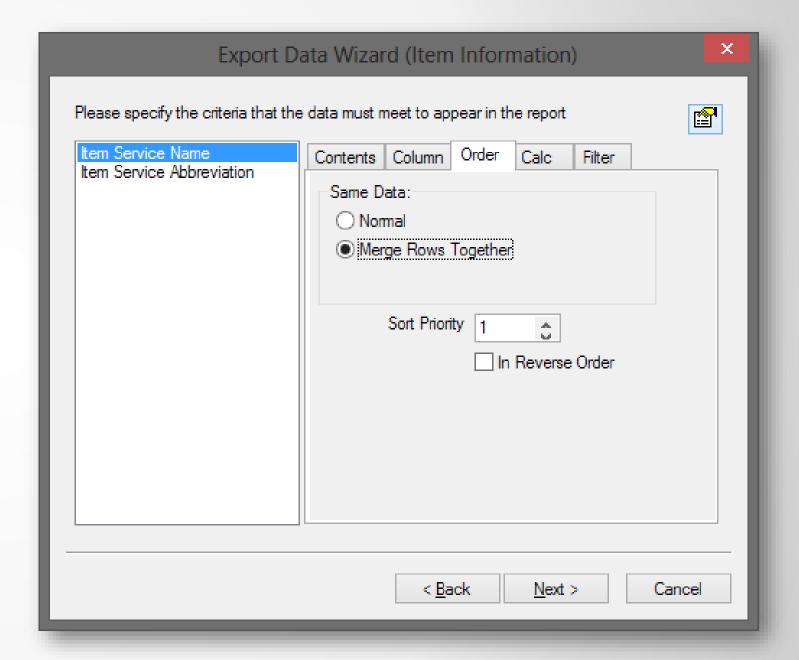
<Class Folder Directory>\MSF9703-L - Fabrication Advanced Scripting\Exercise 01\

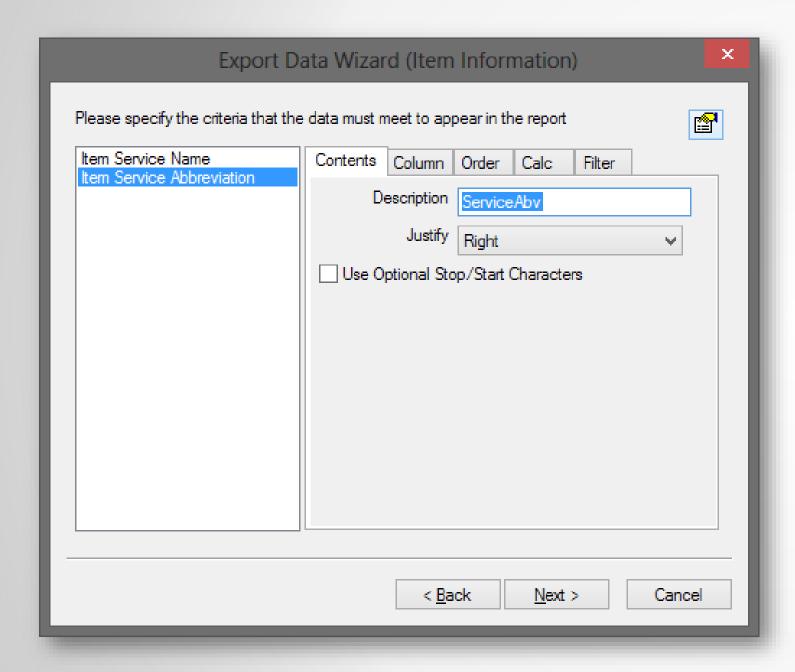
In CADmep open the dwg file: SizeAndServiceToAliasText_Tester.dwg

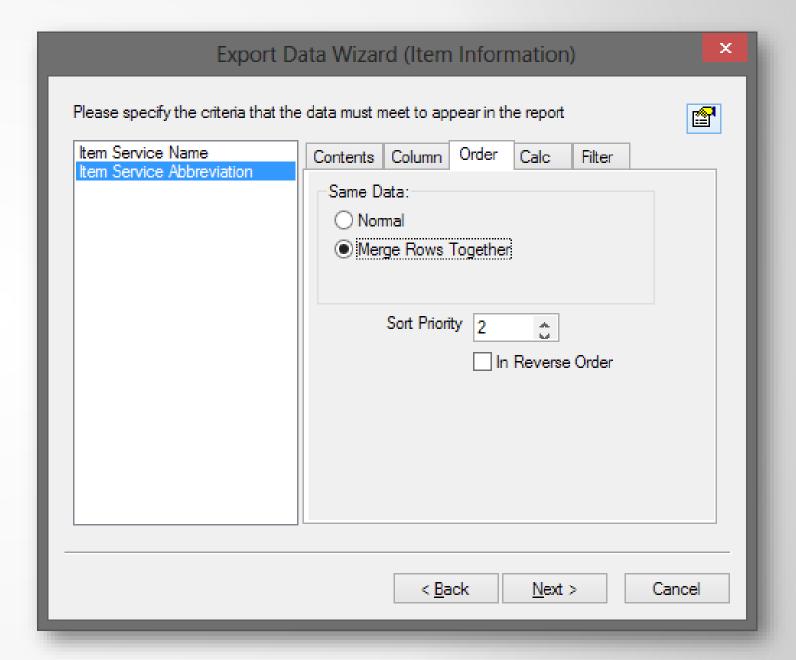
CSVExport

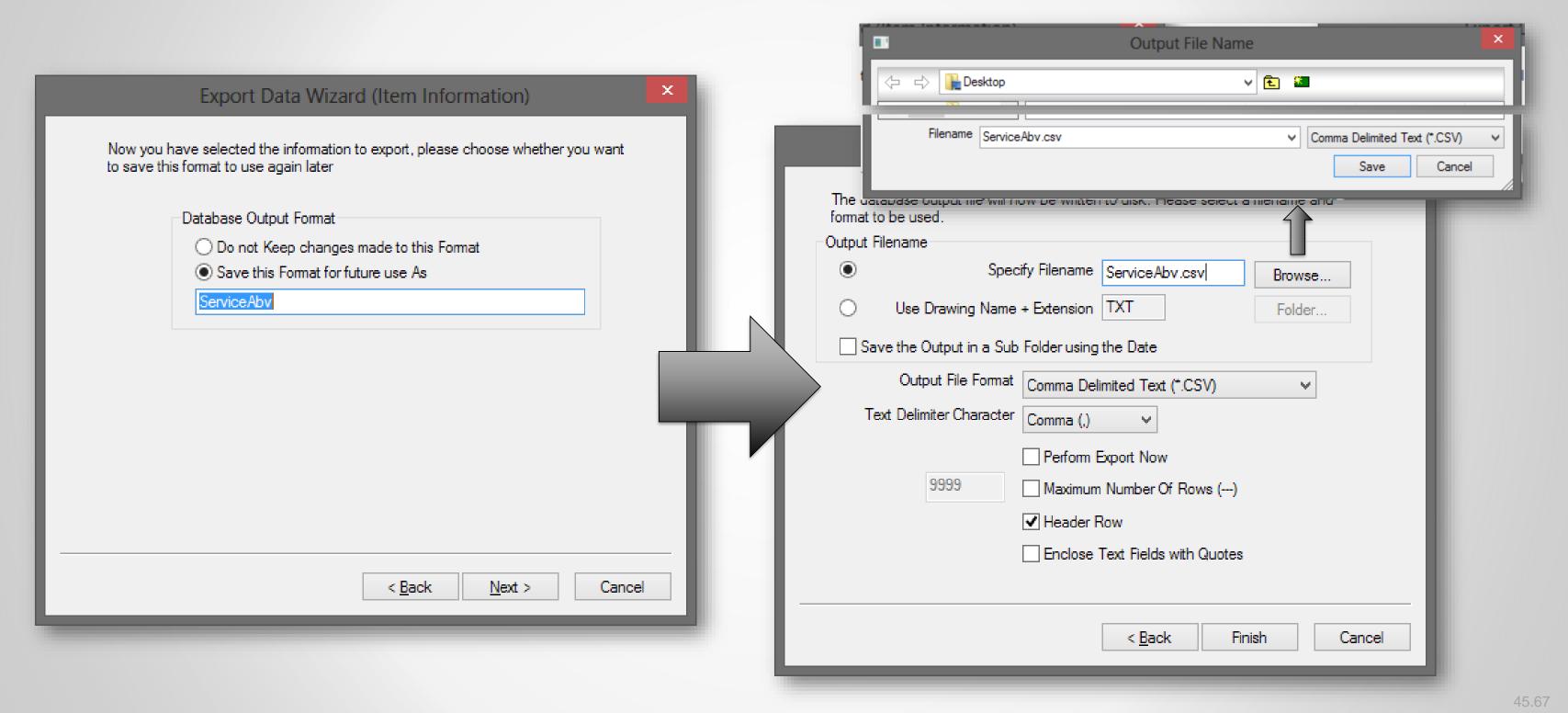






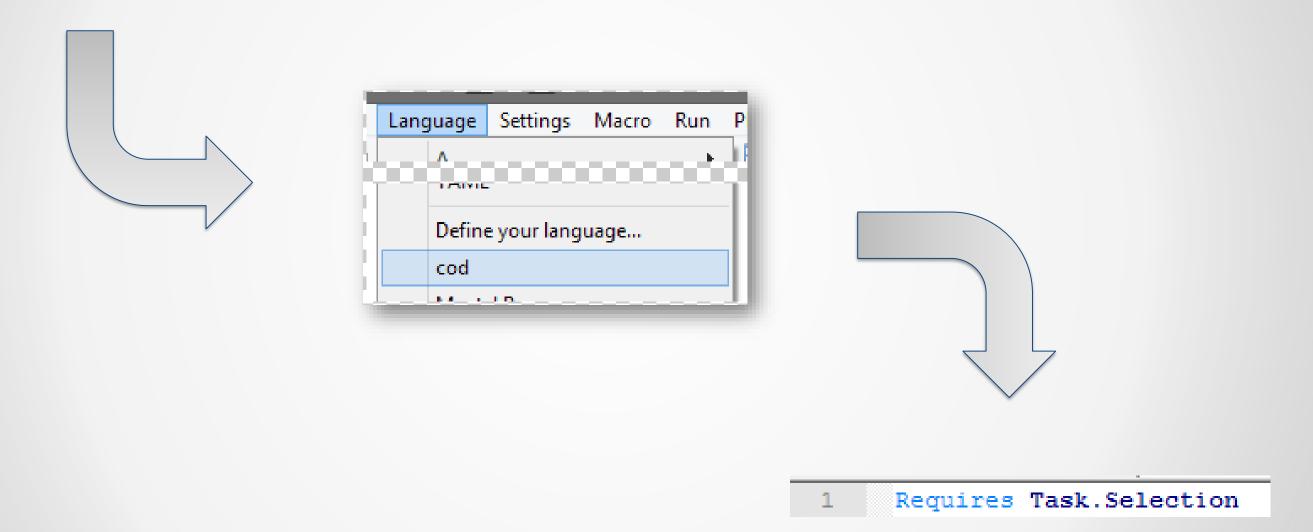








New Document
Toolbar icon, File/New, or Ctrl+N



<Class Folder Directory>\MSF9703-L - Fabrication Advanced Scripting\Exercise 01\Completed\ SizeAndServiceToAliasText.cod Open for reference or to Copy/Paste from

```
Dim CrLf = ASCII(13) + ASCII(10)

Dim Services = New Array(0)

Dim Abvs = New Array(0)

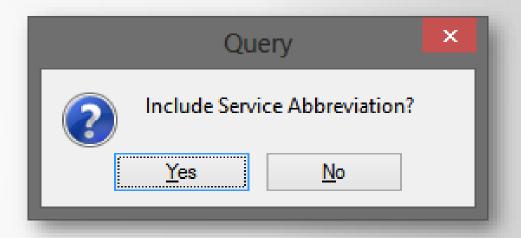
Dim Html = New Array(0)

Dim ColorBG = False

Dim ColorRowStyle = " style=""background-color: #CCFFFF"""

Dim SvcI = 0

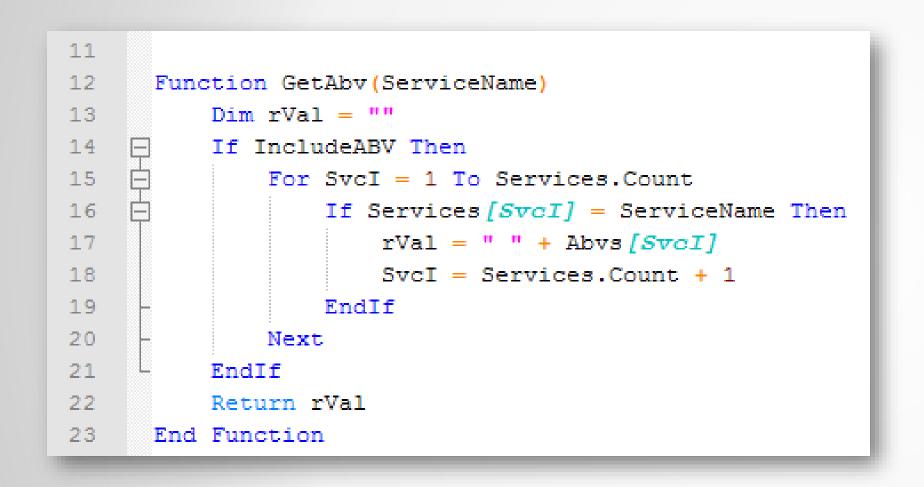
Dim IncludeABV = Query("Include Service Abbreviation?")
```

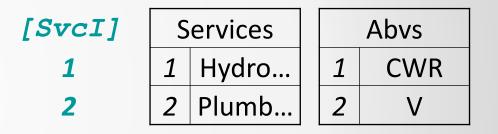


Variables

10.30







Function: GetAbv



```
24
25
     Function AddHtml (Item)
26
        Dim Style = ""
        If ColorBG Then
28
            Style = ColorRowStyle
29
           ColorBG = False
30
        Else
31
            ColorBG = True
32
        EndIf
        Html.Add("<tr" + Style + ">" + Item.CID + "" + Item.FileName +
33
                "" + Item.Service + "" + Item.Alias + "")
34
35
     End Function
```

Additional information about writing html: **W3schools.com**

Function: AddHtml



AUTODESK UNIVERSITY 2015 MEP & STRUCTURAL FABRICATORS FORUM

```
36
37
      Function DoWork(Item)
          Select Item.CID
38
              Case 972
39
40
                  Item.Alias = Item.Dim["Width"].Value + "x" + Item.Dim["Depth"].Value + GetAbv(Item.Service)
              Case Else
41
                  Item.Alias = Item.Description + """" + GetAbv(Item.Service)
42
          End Select
43
44
          AddHtml (Item)
45
      End Function
```

Function: DoWork

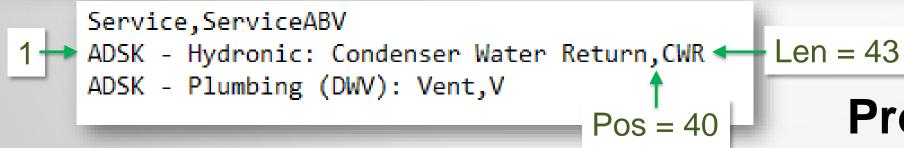


Change this to the path of your actual desktop, ex.: C:\Users\<UserName>\Desktop

```
46
47

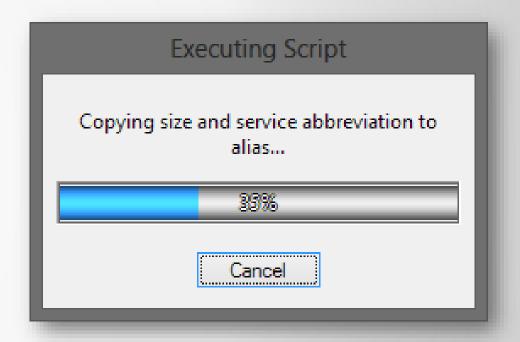
☐ If IncludeABV Then

        Dim AbvFilePath = "<Desktop>\ServiceAbv.csv"
48
        Object AbvFile = New File(AbvFilePath, ForInput)
49
50
        If AbvFile.IsOpen Then
           Dim Line = ""
51
52
           Dim Pos = 0
53
           While Not AbvFile.EOF
54
               Line = AbvFile.ReadLine()
55
               Pos = InStr(1, Line, ",")
               Services.Add(Left(Line, Pos - 1))
56
               Abvs.Add(Right(Line, Len(Line) - Pos))
57
           EndWhile
58
           AbvFile.Close()
59
60
        Else
           Debug "Unable to open Abbreviation File" + CrLf + AbvFilePath
61
           Html.Add("Unable to open Abbreviation File
62
           Html.Add("" + AbvFilePath + "")
63
        EndIf
64
65
     EndIf
```



Process: Read ServiceABV.csv

```
66
67
     Dim I = 0
     Task.BeginProgress()
68
     Task.Message = "Copying size and service abbreviation to alias..."
69
    For I = 1 To Task.Selection.Count
         If Not Task.Aborted Then
             DoWork (Task. Selection [1])
73
             Task.Progress = I / Task.Selection.Count
74
         Else
75
             I = Task.Selection.Count + 1
             Html.Add("Aborted")
76
         EndIf
77
78
    -Next
79
     Task.EndProgress()
```

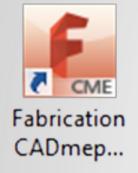


```
Change this to the path of your actual desktop, ex.: C:\Users\<UserName>\Desktop
80
      Dim HtmlPath = "<Desktop>\SizeAndServiceToAliasText.html"
81
      Object HtmlFile = New File(HtmlPath, ForOutput + UnicodeText)
82
    If HtmlFile.IsOpen Then
83
         HtmlFile.WriteLine("<!DOCTYPE html><html><head><title>Size and Service to Alias Text</title>")
84
         HtmlFile.WriteLine("<style type=""text/css"">tr, td, th, thead, tbody, table {border-style: solid;
85
                           border-width: thin; padding: 1px 10px 1px 10px; }</style></head><body>")
86
         HtmlFile.WriteLine("<thead>Size And Service To Alias Text Report")
88
         If IncludeABV Then
89
             For SvcI = 1 To Services.Count
                HtmlFile.WriteLine("" + SvcI + "" +
90
                                  Services [SvcI] + "" + Abvs [SvcI] + "")
91
92
             Next
93
         EndIf
         HtmlFile.WriteLine("CIDFileNameServiceAlias
94
95
         Dim HtmlI = 0
96
         For HtmlI = 1 To Html.Count
             HtmlFile.WriteLine(Html [HtmlI], False)
97
98
         Next
         HtmlFile.WriteLine("</body></html>")
99
         HtmlFile.Close()
100
         Task.Message = "Waiting for report to close..."
101
         Dim rVal = Exec(HtmlPath, Exec Default + Exec Wait, "", "")
102
         Debug "Size and Service to Alias Text Completed!" + CrLf + rVal
103
104
    □Else
                                                                                              Output
         Debug "Unable to open html output file" + CrLf + HtmlPath
105
      EndIf
106
```

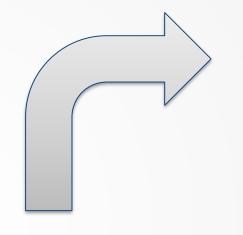
Save your Script

<Desktop>\SizeAndServiceToAliasText.cod

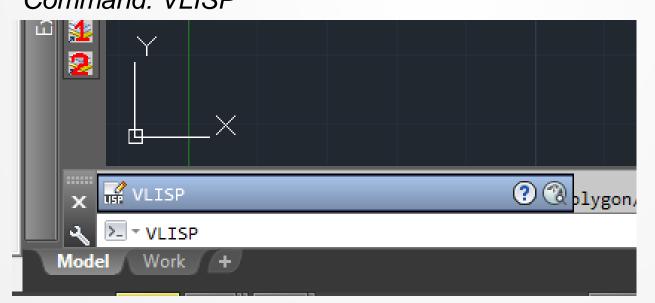
Ex.: C:\Users\<UserName>\Desktop\SizeAndServiceToAliasText.cod

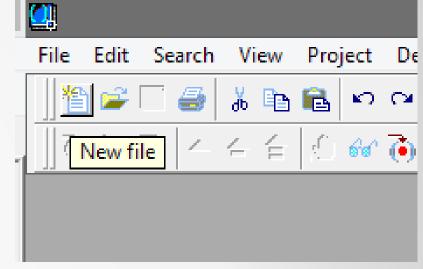


Open Fabrication CADmep The "F" icon with CME



Open Visual Lisp IDE Command: VLISP

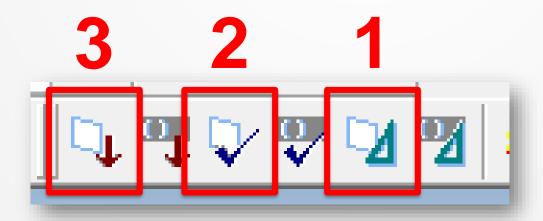




Create a New File Toolbar icon, File/New, or Ctrl+N

11.64

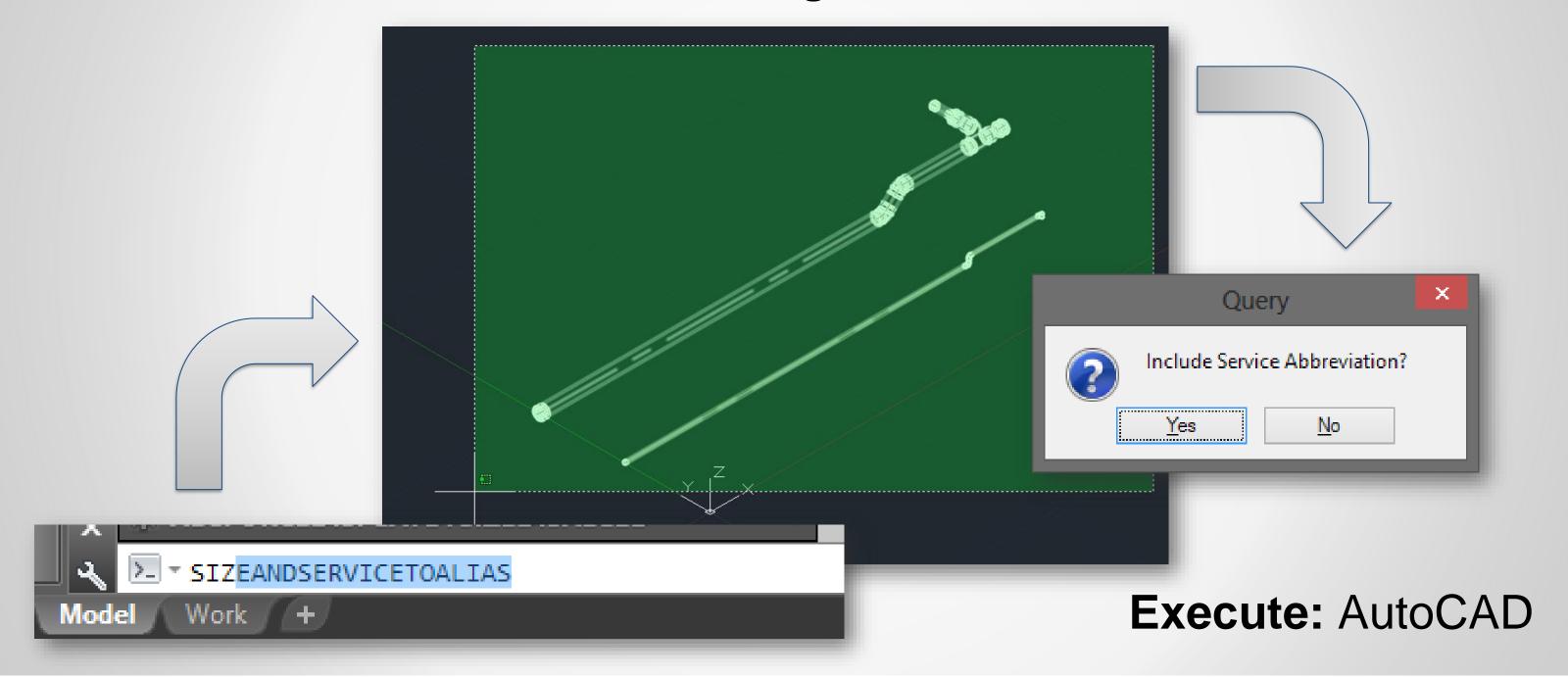
Change
to
Backslash to Forward Slash
In Paths copied in from explorer



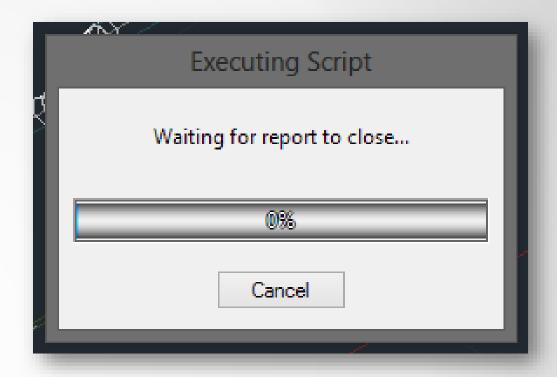
Output

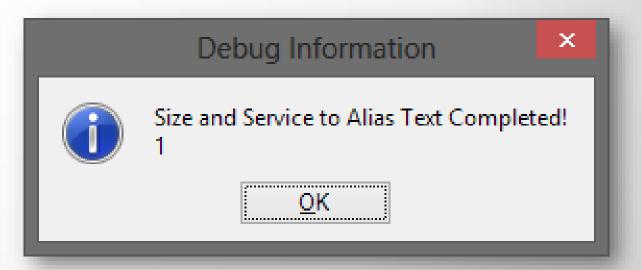
7 40

<Class Folder Directory>\MSF9703-L - Fabrication Advanced Scripting\Exercise 01\
SizeAndServiceToAliasText_Tester.dwg



Size And Service To Alias Text Report			
1	Service		ServiceABV
2	ADSK - Hydronic: Condenser Water Return		CWR
3	ADSK - Plumbing (DWV): Vent		V
CID	FileName	Service	Alias
2060	No116 - Cap (HUB)	ADSK - Plumbing (DWV): Vent	6" V
2060	No116 - Cap (HUB)	ADSK - Plumbing (DWV): Vent	3" V
2041	DWV Pipe 20' (PL)	ADSK - Plumbing (DWV): Vent	3" V
2051	No102 - Pipe Increaser (HUB)	ADSK - Plumbing (DWV): Vent	3"x6" V
2041	DWV Pipe 20' (PL)	ADSK - Plumbing (DWV): Vent	6" V
2060	No116 - Cap (HUB)	ADSK - Plumbing (DWV): Vent	6" V
2041	DWV Pipe 20' (PL)	ADSK - Plumbing (DWV): Vent	6" V
2900	No503 - Combination Wye 45 (HUB)	ADSK - Plumbing (DWV): Vent	6" V
2041	DWV Pipe 20' (PL)	ADSK - Plumbing (DWV): Vent	6" V
2523	No321 - E11 45 (HUB)	ADSK - Plumbing (DWV): Vent	6" V
2041	DWV Pipe 20' (PL)	ADSK - Plumbing (DWV): Vent	6" V
2523	No321 - Ell 45 (HUB)	ADSK - Plumbing (DWV): Vent	6" V
2041	DWV Pipe 20' (PL)	ADSK - Plumbing (DWV): Vent	6" V
2060	No617 - Cap (C)	ADSK - Hydronic: Condenser Water Return	1" CWR
2060	No617 - Cap (C)	ADSK - Hydronic: Condenser Water Return	1/2" CWR
2522	Pipe Pup Piece Type L PE	ADSK - Hydronic: Condenser Water Return	1/2 CWR
2060	No617 - Cap (C)	ADSK - Hydronic: Condenser Water Return	1/2" CWR
2522	Pipe Pup Piece Type L PE	ADSK - Hydronic: Condenser Water Return	1/2 CWR
2160	No611 - Tee (C)	ADSK - Hydronic: Condenser Water Return	1"x1/2"x1/2" CWR
2041	Pipe-B88-CU-L(PE)	ADSK - Hydronic: Condenser Water Return	1" CWR
2523	No607-I - Elbow 90 (C)	ADSK - Hydronic: Condenser Water Return	1" CWR
2522	No600-DS - Coupling (C)	ADSK - Hydronic: Condenser Water Return	1" CWR
2522	Pipe Pup Piece Type L PE	ADSK - Hydronic: Condenser Water Return	1 CWR
2522	No600-DS - Coupling (C)	ADSK - Hydronic: Condenser Water Return	1" CWR
2523	No607-2-2 - Fitting Elbow 90 (Ftg)	ADSK - Hydronic: Condenser Water Return	1" CWR
2041	Pipe-B88-CU-L(PE)	ADSK - Hydronic: Condenser Water Return	1" CWR



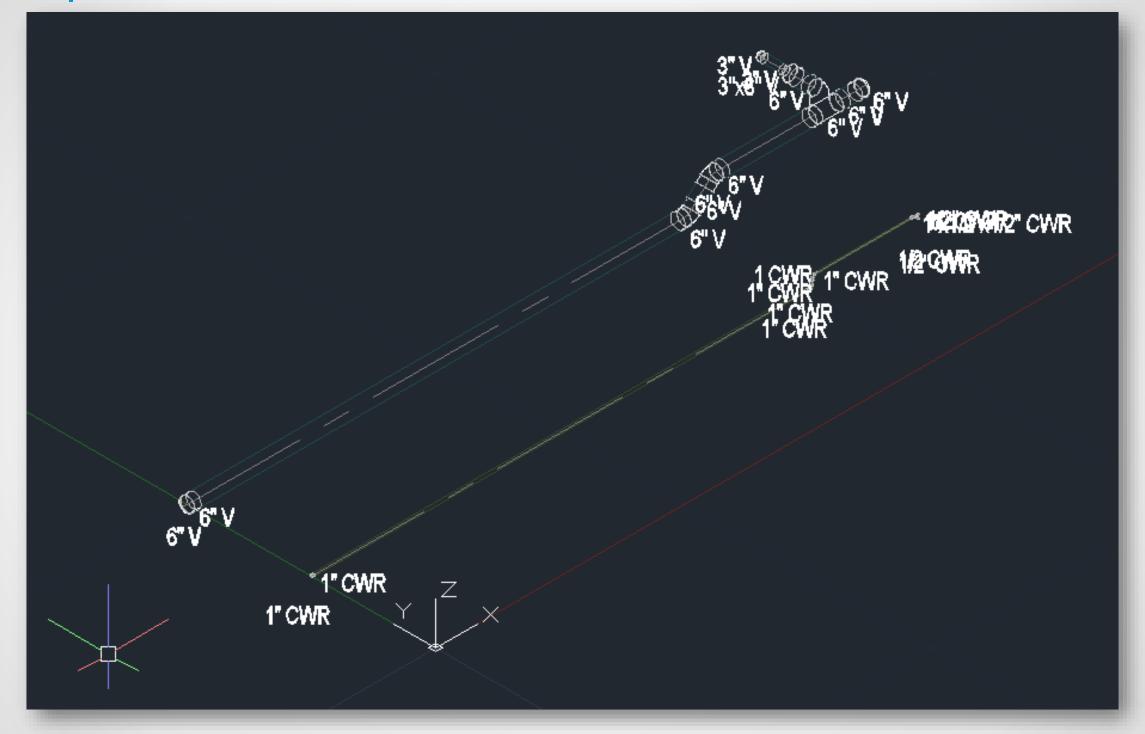


Results



Debugging

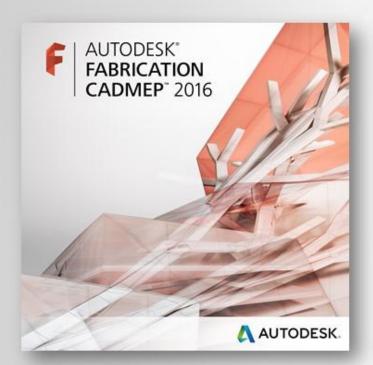
- Verify all spelling, look for red code as the first step.
- Did you miss a Then on an If statement?
- Verify you changed < Desktop> to your actual desktop path
 - Ex.: C:\Users\<UserName>\Desktop\
 - Every instance in your script as well as the path in your lisp file
- All parenthesis, square brackets, and quotes closed?
- If all else fails, Copy/Paste from the completed code.

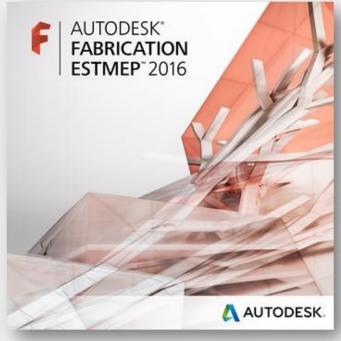


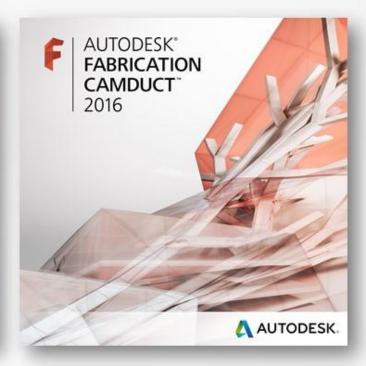
Results

MEP Fabrication Suite 2016

Everything MEP in one box!





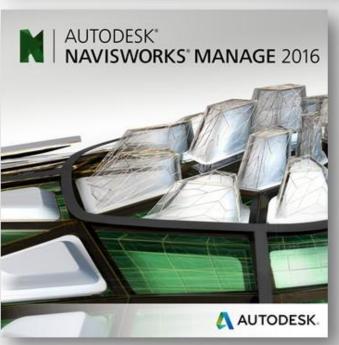






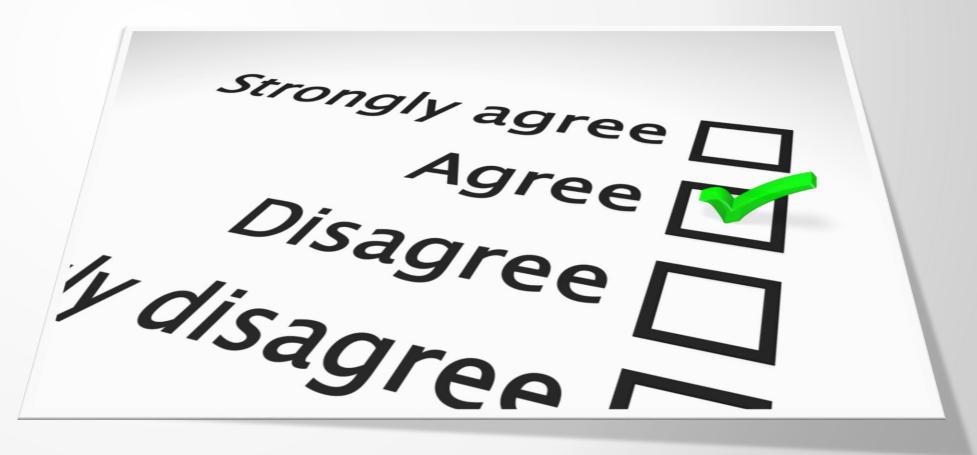






Be heard! Provide AU session feedback.

- Via the Survey Stations, email or mobile device.
- AU 2016 passes awarded daily!
- Give your feedback after each session.
- Give instructors feedback in real-time.



Too many sessions, too little time?

After AU visit:

AutodeskUniversity.com

- Recorded sessions
- Presentations and handouts
- Key learnings

Don't miss a second! Find hundreds of sessions waiting for you.



