

Mighty Macros: Pumping Up Productivity One Command at a Time

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Class summary

In this class you will gain knowledge to create custom macros that apply to your business needs and enhance your productivity on designs. You will develop a custom tool palette placing all of your new macros on there for quick access.

Most importantly, you'll be able to **bring back value** to your employer and the **knowledge to help you excel** within your field.

Key learning objectives

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

- Identify, change and create macros.
- Create a tool palette with custom macros enabled.
- Use the action recorder to create macros.
- Use macros to automate multiple tasks

Let's Get Started!

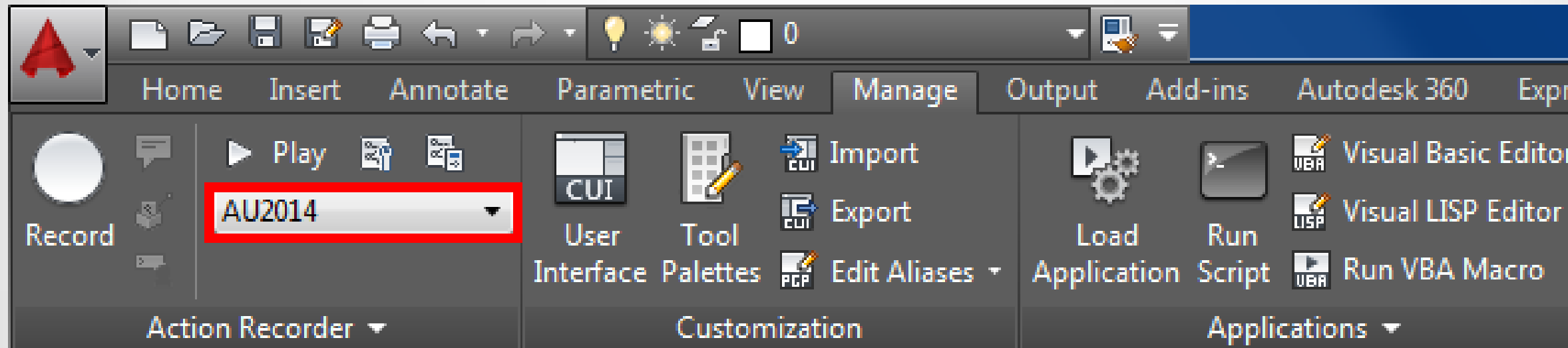


What is a Macro

very large quantities or on a large scale b : of or relating to macro-
economics 3 : GROSS lc
²macro *n. pl macros* [short for *macroinstruction*] (1959) : a single com-
puter instruction that stands for a sequence of operations
mac·ro·ag·gre·gate \,mak-rō-'ag-ri-gət\ *n* (1926) : a relatively large par-
ticle (as of soil or a protein) — mac·ro·ag·gre·gat·ed \-,gāt-əd\ *adj*
mac·ro·bi·ot·ic \-bī-'āt-ik, -bē-\ *adj* (1965) : of, relating to, or being an
extremely restricted diet (as one containing chiefly whole grains) that is

The Action Recorder and Tool Palettes

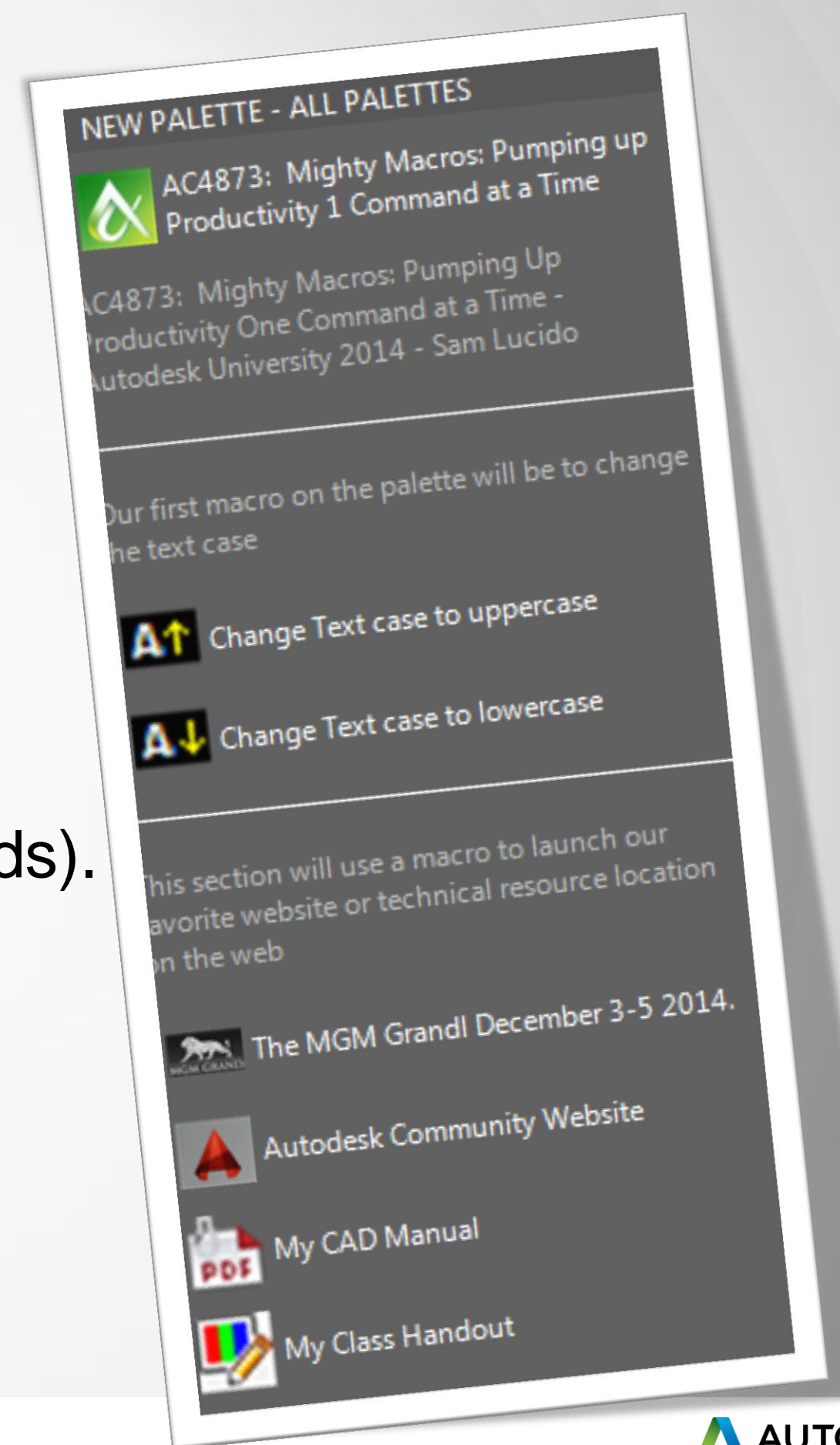
The action recorder is simply a tool to record macros for later use. AutoCAD will read the commands you input then save as a macro



Getting Started

In this section we will:

- Use the action recorder to swap tool palettes.
- Create a macro to change text case.
- Create a macro to open a web page.
- Create a macro to open a pdf file (CAD Standards).





Special Characters in Macros

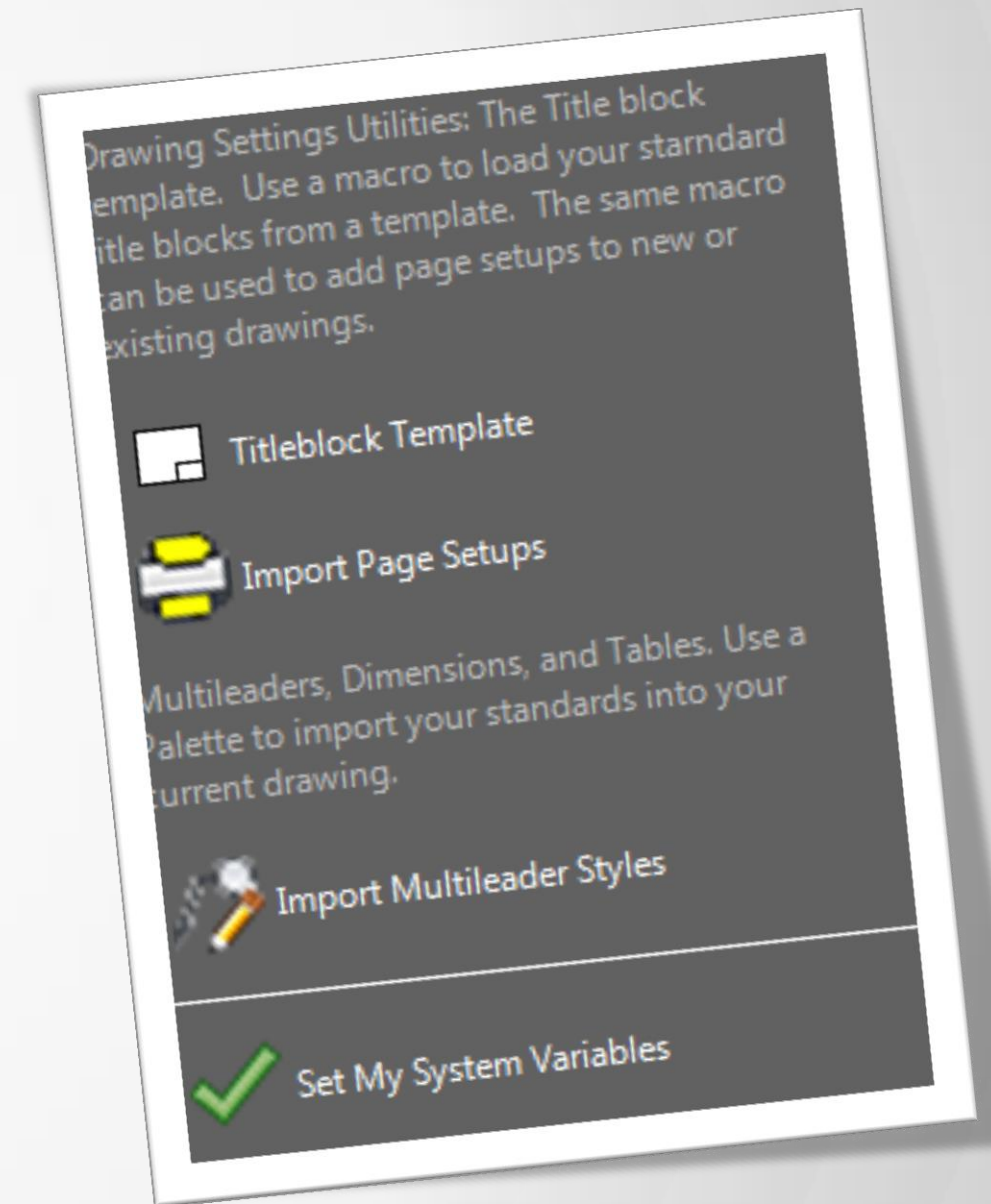
Table 1 - Special Characters in Macros

Character	Description
;	Issues Enter
^M	Issues Enter
^I	Issues Tab
[blank space]	Enters a space; a blank space between command sequences in a command is equivalent to pressing the Spacebar. Allows you to access a built-in command even if it was undefined using the UNDEFINE command. (Not Available in AutoCAD LT)
\	Pauses for user input (cannot be used with accelerators)
. (period)	Allows you to access a built-in command even if it was undefined using the UNDEFINE command. (Not Available in AutoCAD LT)
_	Translates commands and options that follow
=*	Displays the current top-level pull-down, shortcut, or image menu
*^C^C	Repeats a command until another command is chosen
\$	Introduces a conditional DIESEL macro expression (\$M=)
^B	Turns Snap on or off (equivalent to Ctrl+B)
^C	Cancels the active command or command option (equivalent to Esc)
^D	Turns Dynamic UCS on or off (equivalent to Ctrl+D)
^E	Sets the next isometric plane (equivalent to Ctrl+E)
^G	Turns Grid on or off (equivalent to Ctrl+G)
^H	Issues Backspace
^O	Turns Ortho on or off
^P	Turns MENUCHO on or off
^Q	Echoes all prompts, status listings, and input to the printer (equivalent to Ctrl+Q)
^R	Turns command versioning on or off. Command versioning is required for some commands to ensure command macros written in an older release work properly in the latest release.
^T	Turns tablet on or off (equivalent to Ctrl+T)
^V	Changes the current viewport
^Z	Null character that suppresses the automatic addition of Spacebar at the end of a command

Templates, Page Setups, and System Variables

In this section we will:

- Create a macro to insert company title blocks.
- Create a macro to import page setups.
- Create a macro to import multileader styles.
- Create a macro to set system variables.

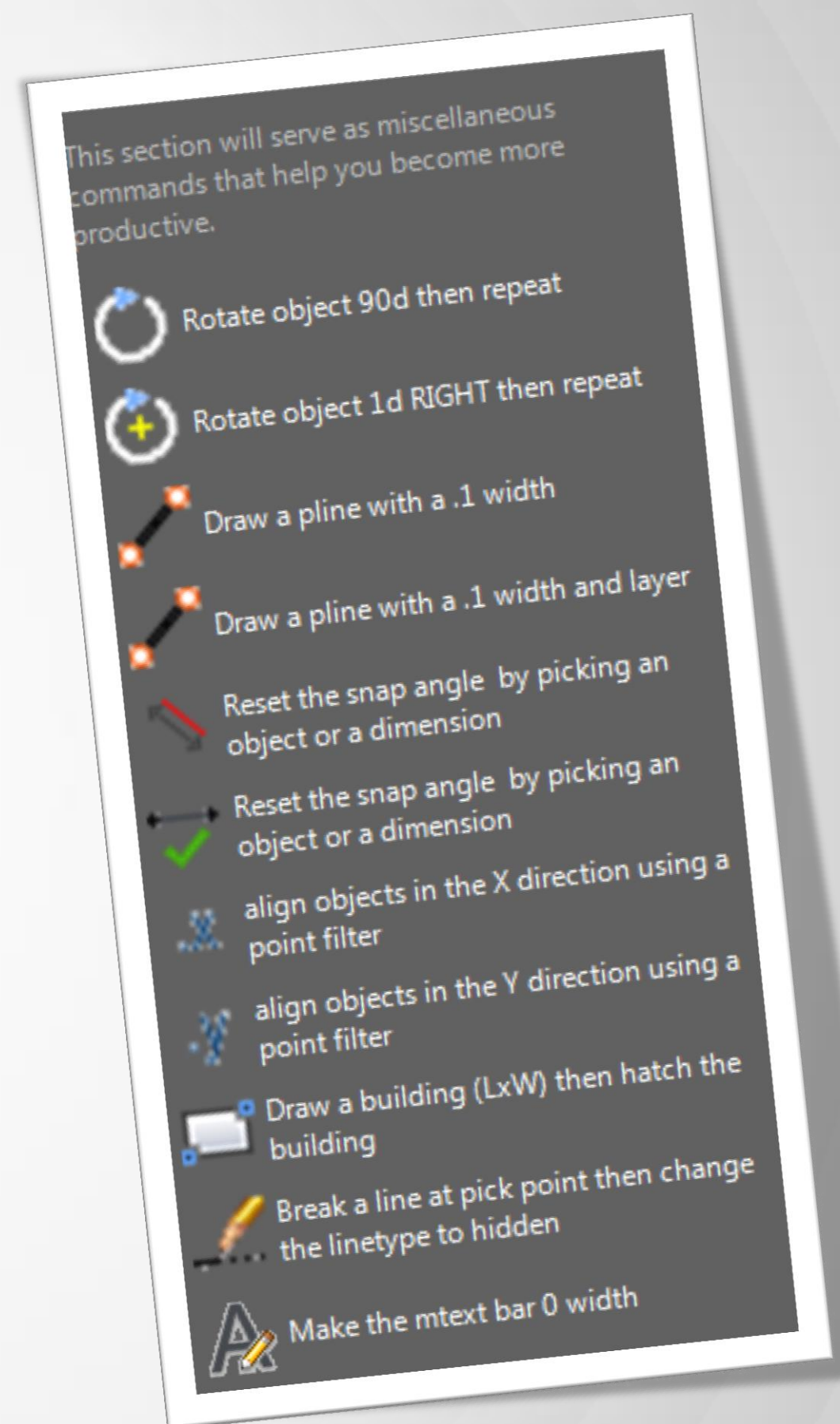




Quick Editing with Macros

In this section we will cover various editing commands in AutoCAD.

- Rotate objects and repeat.
- Polyline editing and setting snap angles.
- Point filters made easy.
- Line break and quick mtext.

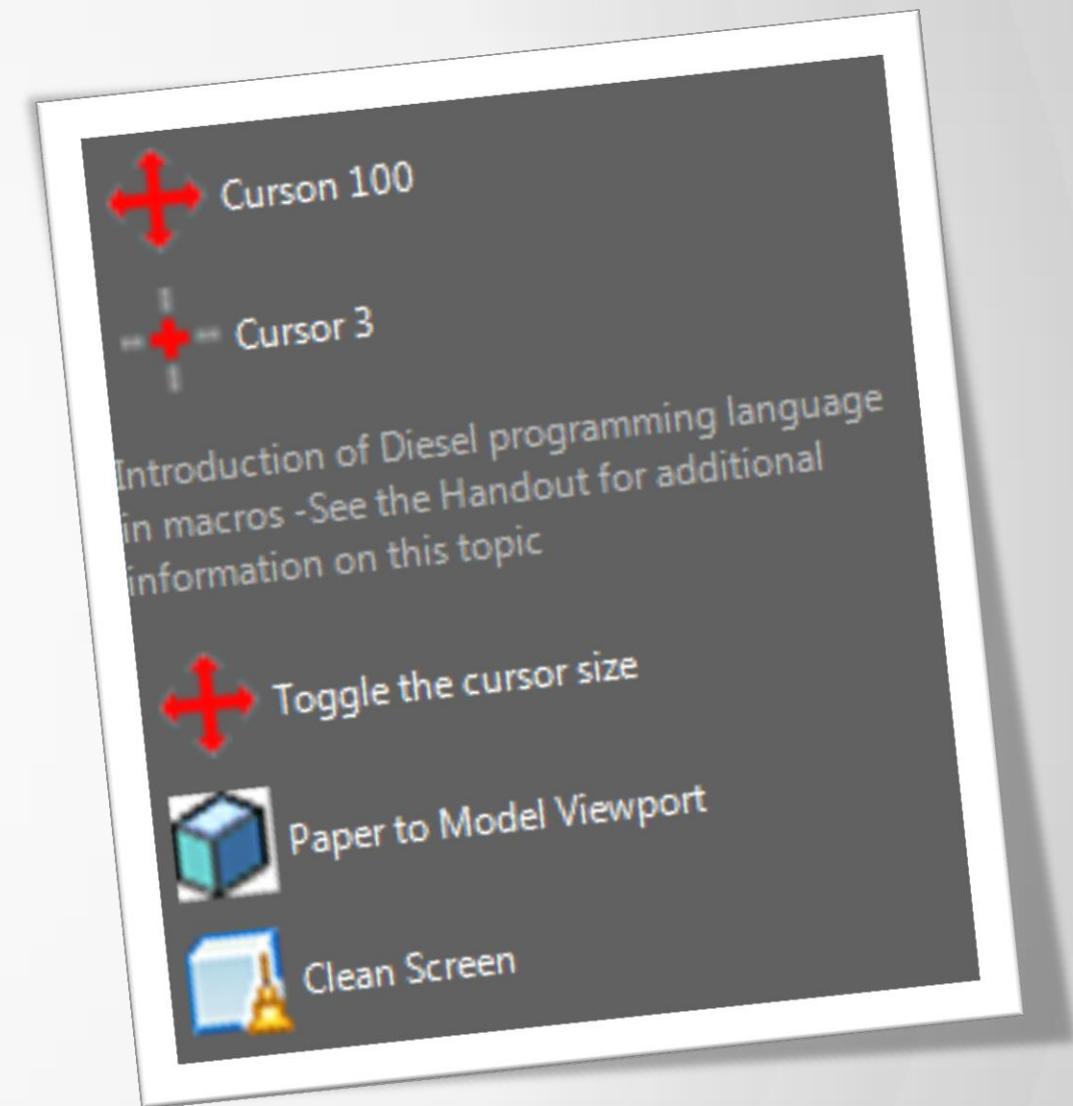




Diesel Programming in Macros

In this section we will:

- Create macros to alter the cursor size.
- Use Diesel programming to toggle cursor size.
- Use Diesel programming to clean the screen with options and to switch from paper space to model space.

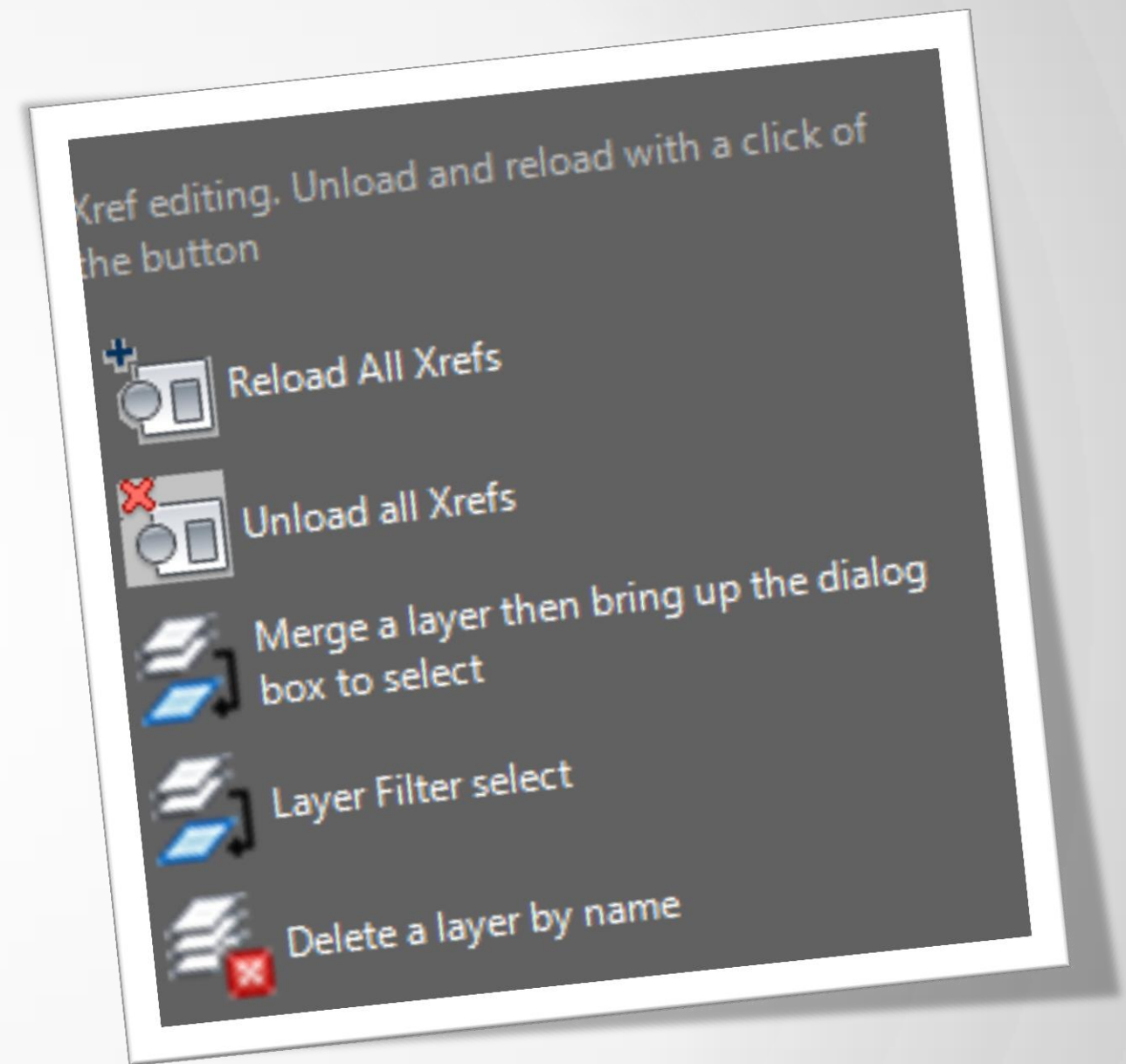




Xrefs and Layer Tricks

In this section we will:

- Unload and reload Xrefs.
- Merge and delete layers by names.
- Bring up layer filters on the fly.

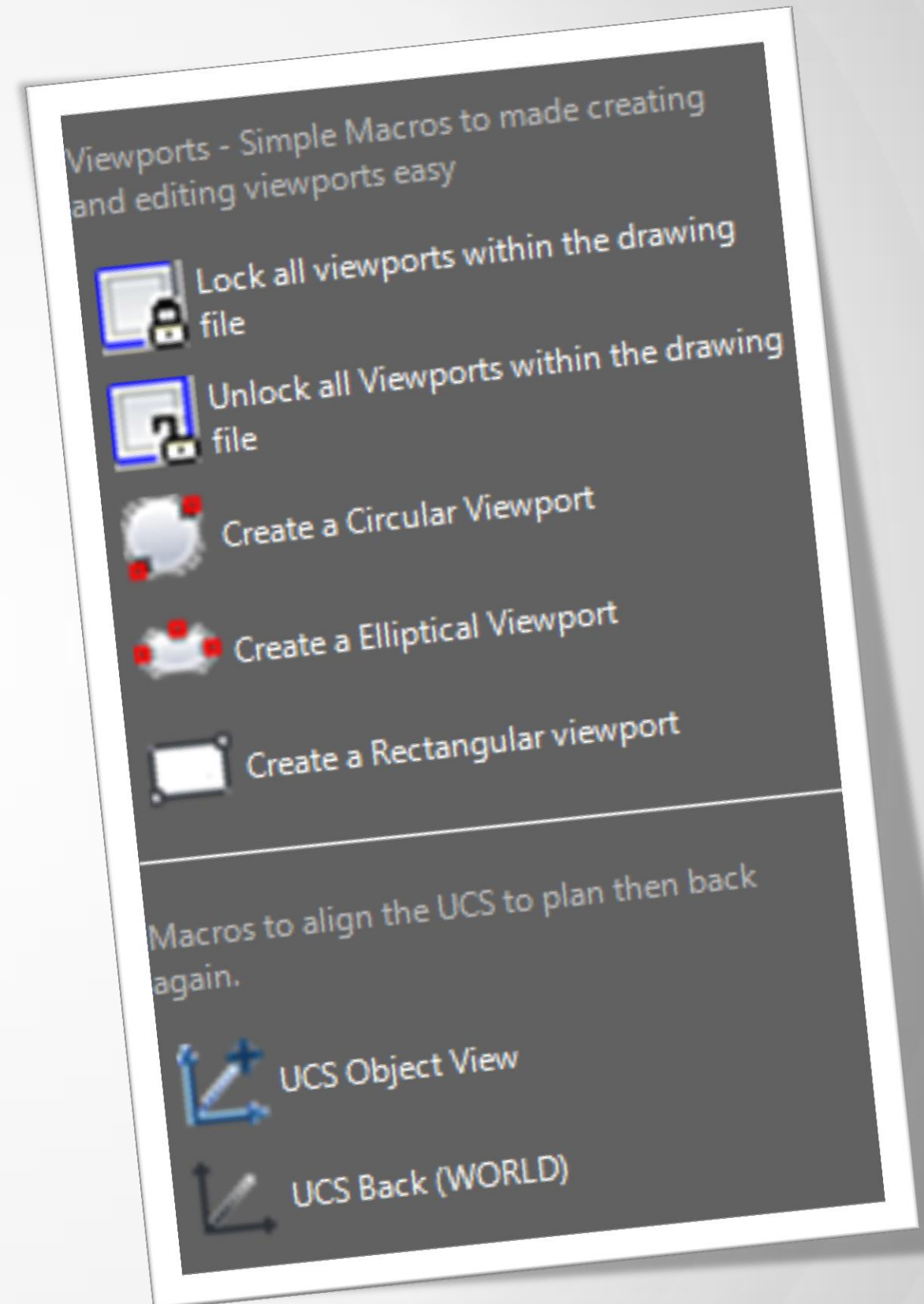




Viewports and UCS Control

In this section we will:

- Lock and unlock viewports.
- Create different size viewports.
- Alter the UCS to align with an object.

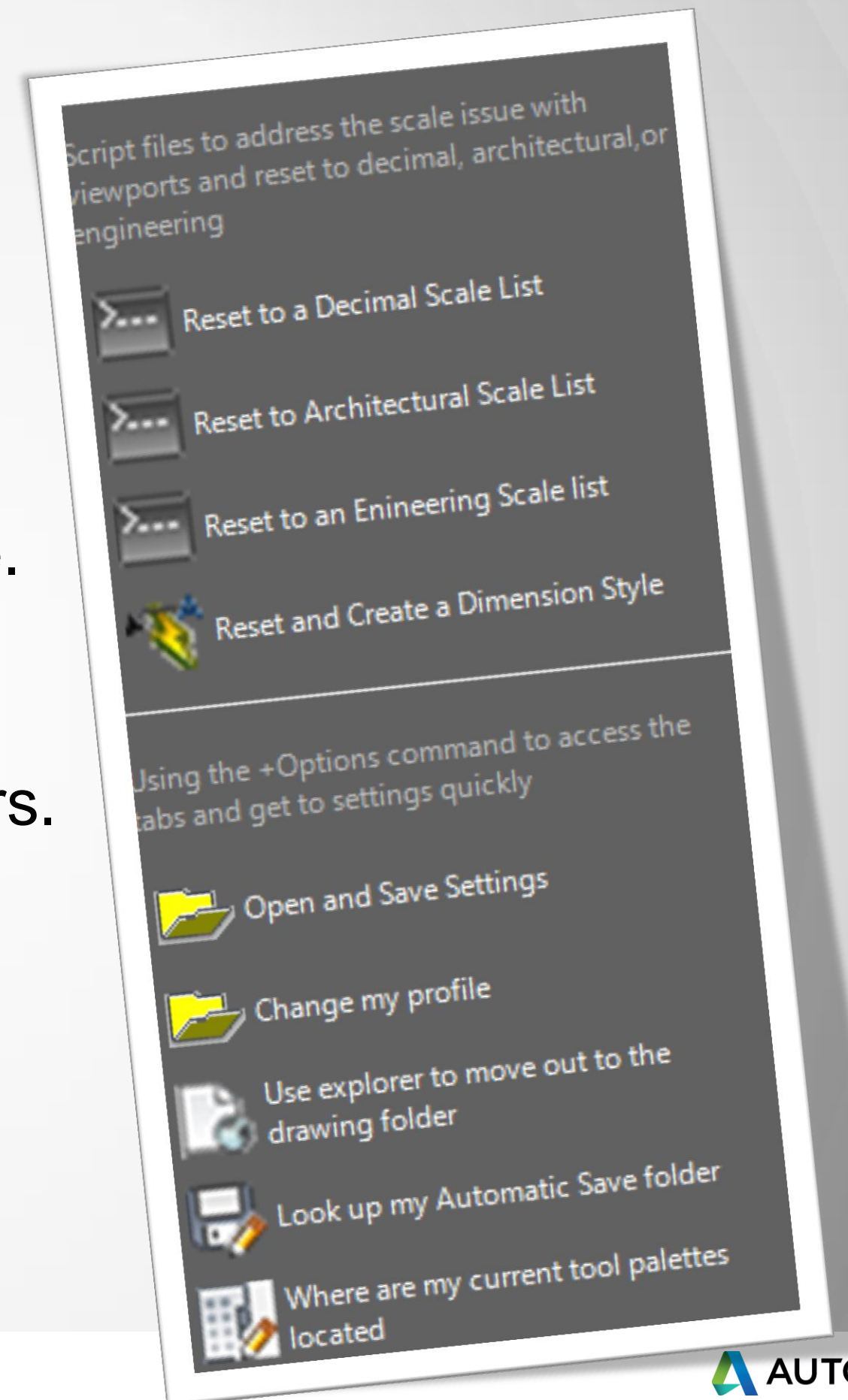




Scripts, Explorer, and Options

In this section we will:

- Load a script file from a macro.
- Create a macro to setup a new dimension style.
- Get to my profiles quickly.
- Use shell commands to access Windows folders.

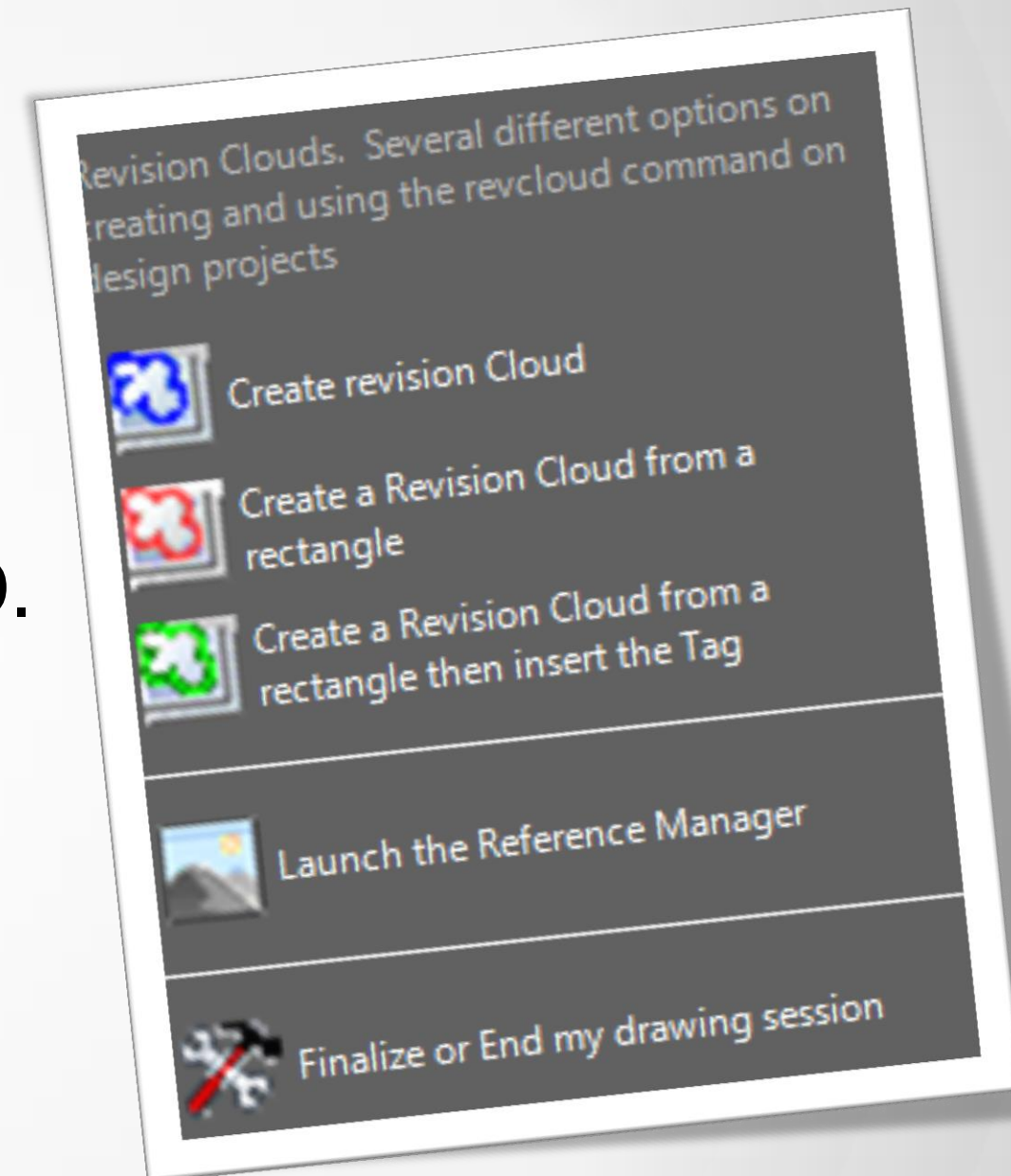




Revision Clouds, Reference Manager, and Finalize

In this section we will:

- Create revision clouds with a consistent size.
- Create a revision clouds and insert a marker.
- Launch the Reference Manager from AutoCAD.
- Finalize a drawing with cleanup commands.

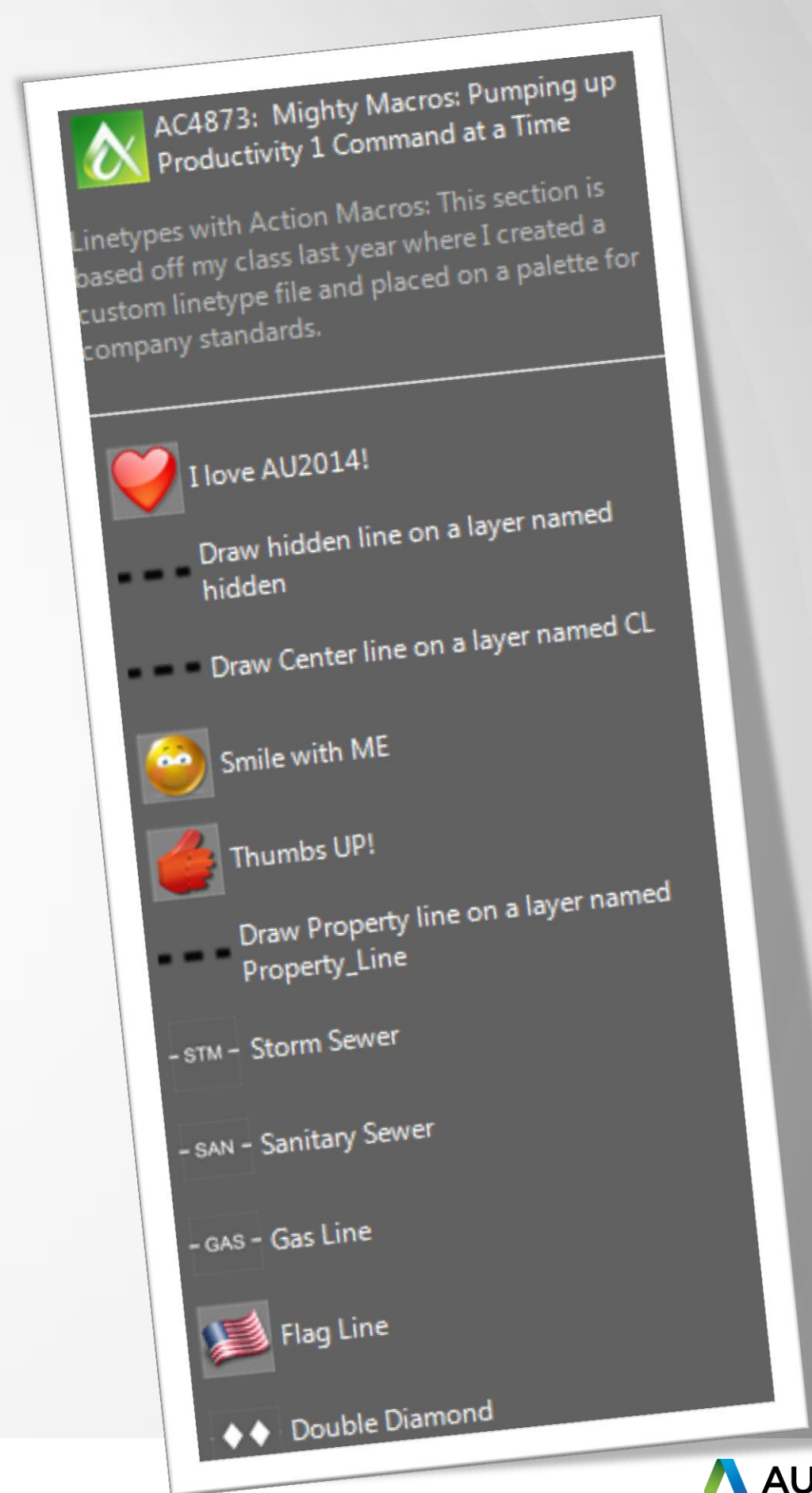




Linesanity! It's Back and Better

In this section we will:

- Create custom linetypes using standard fonts.
- Use a macro to create a new text style.



Almost Done!



Autodesk University Session Feedback

Session feedback is very important to Autodesk

- ✓ Attendees can complete the session survey on their mobile device, PC, or at a survey station.
- ✓ Each completed session survey enters you in that days drawing for a free AU2015 pass!
- ✓ You can help make AU2015 better!



Thank You



***Time to start thinking
about AU2015!***

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