

Comments from Michael Dooley, Fosdick & Hilmer, Inc. M.E.P. Engineering Consultants
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I think what you are doing is great. I hope it is successful. I realize that you cannot please everybody all the time. In our CADD world you must please the majority of the people most of the time. Here are my opinions, some of them are influenced by standards that in the making here at Fosdick & Hilmer, Inc. M.E.P. Engineering Consultants. CADD Standards here are virtually non-existent at the moment. This lets us shoot for the best possible scenario.

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The standards require every final plotted drawing sheet to have its own separate electronic drawing file. This is absolutely necessary. Please define final plotted drawing sheet. Also address project status changes. Do this inside the title block.

Response: A final plotted drawing sheet is a sheet that has been plotted and approved for inclusion into a set of drawings as part of the contractual documents. The final plotted drawing sheet is made up of referenced model files, as well as sheet-specific items (north arrow, title block information, etc.). The Typical Issue Block on the border sheet is used to note a sheet has been revised.

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Avoid using polylines in schematic diagrams if possible.

Response: Polylines should not be used in order to ensure all lines translate between CADD systems properly.

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Table 4 leaves a lot to be desired. I totally disagree with this approach. I realize that there are computers out there that do not support 256 color. I believe that in near future these machines will be obsolete by the complexities of drawing graphics for A/E/C/ CADD Drawings. Here at Fosdick & Hilmer, 15 new monitors and video cards were purchased to bring everyone up to the 256 AutoCad 14 color standard. Our version of your Table 4 addresses all 256 colors in a manner that allows coordination between layers by utilizing the increased color variations. Please reconsider your position regarding Table 4. Look toward the future, lets not remain in the past.

Response: We realize the technological advancements in hardware allowing more color capabilities, but at the present time, all users have not upgraded to systems with this capability. Due to this limitation, the standards will continue to make a recommendation that accommodates this circumstance.

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The Monotext font. Very wise practice.

Response: Concur.

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XREFs Define where to keep them.

Response: Xrefs are referenced model files. They are stored in the folders/directories where the project is located.