

Attn: David Wishengrad

I have worked with Autocad since Version 1, and have maintained continuous upgrades through Version 2004. It has been the single most important software application utilized in our manufacturing business. We have continually looked at various alternatives to supplement our drafting & modeling needs. Over the years several add-in products have been utilized to expand on Autocad's feature set. We also started using Autodesk Inventor and blend the best of both products together. The bottom line is that we mix our tools based on the project needs. There has not been one single product that accomodated every aspect of what we wanted for features.

Autocad solid modelling has been used extensively by our designers. Using boolean operations to create complex solids gave us the desired end results, but the computer time required was getting too long on our larger air handler projects. We discovered similar parts, such as door panels, cabinet framing, fan wheel sizes etc. would require complete redraws due to just slight variations in sizes or feature positions.

Then came SmartLister. It was hard for me to actually believe what I read on your internet site... that we could actually stretch native Autocad solids! That was huge! I had sought software add-ins for many years both from Autocad directly and 3rd parties for exactly such a product. SmartLister was the first to deliver. I downloaded a trial version WHICH PERFORMED AS ADVERTISED!! We're a small business so capital investments are treated with care. We immediately bought two copies of the product and have not regretted the decision once. Complex part modifications are now done in 1/10th the time previously taken. For example, a door latch mounting hole or slot can simply be moved as a feature to a specific distance from its original location to match up with a new cabinet rail. Gone are the days of remaking the solid part, or "plugging" the hole with a boolean slug, then boolean subtracting newly positioned holes or slots. Not only is the SmartLister move function quicker, it's much less prone to causing problems with misaligned features. Move a hole 1.25" to the left.... BOOM.... DONE. I can't tell you how many times I might have done the same operation in a complex model using booleans only to find out at final assembly in the factory that the hole was off by a gage thickness of metal or the like.

Another classic example of how we utilize SmartLister is in the layout of custom stainless steel wall assemblies. We fabricate enclosures which have a tendence to grow or shrink in height based on jobsite changes in elevations. For example, our customer could install their ceiling lower/higher than initially shown on the job prints. SmartLister to the rescue. We can now look at a front elevation of the ENTIRE wall system which is comprised of many wall panel sections and stretch ALL parts simultaneously to the new correct elevation. What now takes about 30 seconds would have required perhaps 4-hours before. We can now handle 10 times the work with the same number of people.

SmartLister is one of the smartest buys I have ever made!!! I highly recommend it.

Sincerely,

Vince Bongio  
Owner & Chief Engineer

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