

Why Use Plot Files?

The benefits of using plot files include:

- 1) **Cost.** Plot files are sent direct to our print queue management system. They require no processing and therefore we do not charge extra for printing them. (n.b. we cannot preview or alter plot files so we strongly recommend using a full preview before saving the file)
- 2) **What you see is what you get.** Its your drawing and you will control how it prints. You use your line thickness settings, text styles, and scale without having to send us ctb files. The instructions we require relate to the paper size of the print, quantity, folding and collating, not the print itself. Some customers simply send us a batch of plot files and a drawing issue sheet.
- 3) **Speed.** If we do not have to collect a roll of originals to copy, or spend time processing CAD drawings, it means we can deliver your prints even quicker! We can often print and deliver quicker than customers own inkjet plotters can print, with the added benefit of us delivering collated and folded prints to you.
- 4) **Application independent.** It doesn't matter what program you use, as plot files are not tied to the application that created them.
- 5) **Plot files are environmentally friendly!** We save diesel; you save inkjet paper and ink.

How to Create Plot Files

To create plot files you first need to install the correct printer driver on your system. This can be done from within AutoCAD or, if you are using a different application such as Autsketch, as a Windows system printer.

- 1) Adding the correct printer driver from within AutoCAD
 - 2) Launch the wizard from within AutoCAD by choosing the <plotter manager> option from the <File> menu (in some versions this maybe a sub-option of the <plot> option)
 - 3) Click on <add-a-plotter> wizard
 - 4) Select <my computer> to install driver on your local PC
 - 5) Select <Oce> from the list of manufacturers
 - 6) Select the model from the list of Oce printers. We have the <TDS600> but older versions of AutoCAD may not have this recent a machine. In this case select the <9600> model
 - 7) When prompted for a printer port select <print-to-file>
 - 8) Give the plotter a name (eg Adlamrepro plotter)
 - 9) Finish. Your driver is now installed and a new icon will appear in the same window as the <add-a-plotter> wizard.
-
- 1) Adding the correct printer driver in Windows
 - 2) Launch the wizard by choosing the <printers and faxes> option from the <settings> option in the <Start> menu
 - 3) Click on <add printer>
 - 4) Select <local printer> to install driver on your PC (not automatically detecting plug & play)
 - 5) When prompted for a printer port use FILE:(print to file)
 - 6) Select <Oce> from the list of manufacturers. If Oce is not available select <HP> and choose the <generic HP-GL2 plotter> option.
 - 7) Select the model from the list of Oce printers. We have the <TDS600> but many versions of windows may not have this recent a machine. In this case select the <Oce 9600 raster> (not postscript) model.
 - 8) Give the plotter a name (eg Adlamrepro plotter)
 - 9) Finish. Your driver is now installed and a new icon will appear in the same window as the <add-a-plotter> wizard.

To create a plot file you simply follow the procedure you would use if you were plotting to your own printer, except that you should select "Adlamrepro plotter" and check the 'plot to file' option. Make sure that your scale and paper size are correct by doing a full preview first. When you are happy with the plot click <OK> and you will be prompted for a directory in which to save the plot file. (Recommendation - create a folder called 'plot files' in 'my documents'). Once the plot file has saved, you simply email it to info@adlamrepro.co.uk as an attachment and we'll print it out.

Need Help?
call Mark on
01844 273600