Technical University of Cluj-Napoca, Faculty of Automation and Computer Science Automation Department

DATA MANAGEMENT & SHARING USING AUTOCAD

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DATA MANAGEMENT & SHARING USING AUTOCAD. AUTODESK 360

INTRODUCTION

AutoCAD is an environment that facilitates one or multiple user access. Often, the design is more of a team effort, then a standalone development. More than often, the ability to share the drawings with the team members is a must. One possibility is sharing the designs through email, to change, improve and resend the board. This is a useful and safe method for small sized teams, but when the number of team mates increases, a final version of the product could be difficult to obtain using more or less already well-established methods.

Another option is given by Autodesk 360, a cloud based service available for each user that creates a user account. When installing the Desktop AutoCAD, the Autodesk 360 is available, too. A file directory will be created for file saving and sharing.

HOW TO USE AUTODESK 360

Next, a demonstration of the Autodesk 360 approach is presented.

First, a drawing will be created using AutoCAD. Next, the drawing is saved into A360 account choosing "Save as" -> "Drawing to the cloud" (see Figure 1) or Save and then. From the open dialog box, choose the folder A360 (see **Error! Reference source not found.**Figure 2 Saving resources in the Cloud). For backup, a local copy could be useful, especially when shared editing rights will be granted, in order to save one original drawing.



Figure 1 Saving the drawing in Cloud

Save in:	an A360 Drive (laur	a.vegh)	V 🔶 📮	1	🛱 💥 🖳 🛛 <u>V</u> iews	▼ Tools
A365 A365 History cuments cuments avontes	Name Automatic Co	Last py 12/1 12/1	Modified 7 7/2016 1:10 PM F 7/2016 1:10 PM 5	Ty Fil D\	Preview Options Update sheet and vie thumbnails now Copy Design Feed fro previous version	w
esktop	K File name:	ving2.dwg	2	>	~ 	Save

Figure 2 Saving resources in the Cloud

Next, from AutoCAD menu, the options A360 and Share document (Figure 3) will be selected. Available now is the window where all the involved users can be added by typing the email addresses. For each provided email address, the access rights can be individually edited: view only, save and modify.



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Figure 3 Sharing the "dwg" file

Next, Save&Invite option will be accessed (Figure 4). To add more users or to modify the rights, repeat the previous steps.

Test1.dwg	is not currently being shared				
Connection	Enter e-mail address of new connection	Add			
E-mail / Name	2		Access	Status	Invite
👤 laura_vec	n@yahoo.com		View	 Invited 	Ø
			Set Access Level		
			View & Download document		
			View Download & Undate documer		
			Full Access	1 total	connection
Enter perso	nalized message				
			Cance	Save	& Invite
2.4 			Cance	Save	& Invite

Figure 4 Ccustomising the access level

The invited users will be notified through email. The updated access rights will be directly visible, without specific notice.

60 by Autodesk <aska360@autodesk.com> laura_vegh@yahoo.com A360 Drive ura Vegh has shared the document Test1.dwg with you.</aska360@autodesk.com>	view iestr.dwy	Anderdeele
360 by Autodesk <aska360@autodesk.com> Iaura_vegh@yahoo.com A360 Drive aura Vegh has shared the document Test1.dwg with you.</aska360@autodesk.com>	Manu Tanaki shura	
360 by Autodesk <aska360@autodesk.com> laura_vegh@yahoo.com A360 Drive</aska360@autodesk.com>	ura Vegh has shared the document Test1.dwg with you.	
360 by Autodesk <aska360@autodesk.com> Jaura_vegh@yahoo.com</aska360@autodesk.com>	A360 Drive	
360 by Autodesk <aska360@autodesk.com></aska360@autodesk.com>	laura_vegh@yahoo.com	
	360 by Autodesk <aska360@autodesk.com></aska360@autodesk.com>	

Figure 5 The notification of sharing activities

To be able to access the drawing, one should have an Autodesk account, online, the AutoCAD instance not being required. If an account must be created, it should be associated to the email address specified through the sharing procedure. For the current example, the invited user is allowed to view the drawing and its previous versions (Figure 6).

1	Version	IS			
	2		Updated by laura.vegh 14 minutes ago		
	1		Created by laura.vegh 2 hours ago		
				1	

Figure 6 Versions

A360 Viewer does not allow online editing; in order to modify, the download, the updates and re-upload in the Cloud are required. The browser view facilities real time group discussions based on users' comments (Figure 7). The involved users' activity is also visible through A360. The Viewer is available through smartphone and tablet.



Figure 7 Comment adding



Figure 8 User activity

AUTODESK TOOL-URI FOR DATA SHARING

The Autodesk data sharing is an idea best represented by the next figure.



Figure 9 Sharing with Autodesk products

The center point is given by the project itself. The project is available for the whole team, anytime and anywhere, using an internet connection.

Autodesk 360 is the only free available product. All the rest are distributed for free for a 30 days trial period(BIM 360 for civil engineering şi Fusion for 3D drawings).

EXERCISE

- 1. Each student must create an Autodesk Account.
- 2. Group yourselves: one team for each line.
- 3. Choose a lead for each team.
- 4. The team lead will create an ACAD basic drawing and he/she will save it in A360.
- 5. The team lead will invite the team members to view the project (one person from each PC within the team).
- 6. After each invited team member has accepted the invitation, change the access rights for at least one of them.
- 7. Use the A360 Viewer, add comments.
- 8. From each PC, exercise the following: download, modify and upload the drawing. Identify the changes in A360.