

# That CAD Girl Newsletter | June 2012

Our June newsletter has been posted... Read it here: [June 2012 Newsletter](#)

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## Carlson 2013 Has Been Released

Carlson released the 2013 version of their desktop products today. This includes: Civil Suite, Civil, Survey, Hydrology, GIS, Takeoff, Construction, Point Cloud, Geology, Surface/Underground Mining and Natural Regrade.

The 2013 embedded-AutoCAD versions of Takeoff and Survey have not yet been released.

Unlike previous versions of Carlson that support running on top of IntelliCAD or AutoCAD products 2000-2012, **Carlson 2013 can only be run on IntelliCAD or AutoCAD products 2004-2013**. This includes AutoCAD, Map, Land Desktop and Civil 3d. Also, anyone using the FREE IntelliCAD that comes with Carlson is eligible for a FREE GIS Starter Kit from Esri which includes ArcMap.

You can download Carlson 2013 [here](#).

If you are using 2012 and are current on your annual maintenance contract, you can [click here](#) to look up your new 2013 serial number online. You will need to enter your contact information and your 2012 serial number in order to generate the 2013 serial number. You can find your serial number by opening Carlson

Software and going to Help > About Carlson Software > Change Registration.

If you have trouble finding your serial number or would like to know the cost to upgrade to 2013, please email me with your request.

[Click here for the full list of improvements to Carlson 2013](#)

[Click here for improvements to the General commands in 2013](#)

[Click here for the additional data file & conversion support in Carlson 2013](#)

[Click here for improvements to Survey commands in 2013](#)

[Click here for improvements to Civil commands in 2013](#)

[Click here for improvements to Hydrology commands in 2013](#)

[Click here for improvements to GIS commands in 2013](#)

[Click here for improvements to Takeoff commands in 2013](#)

[Click here for improvements to Point Cloud commands in 2013](#)

[Click here for improvements to Geology commands in 2013](#)

[Click here for improvements to Surface/Underground Mining commands in 2013](#)

[Click here for improvements to Natural Regrade commands in 2013](#)

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# Did you know... that you can print your CTB files?

Several years ago when I started my business, my first contract was as an outside CAD manager for a civil & land planning firm. In trying to document their pen weights, screening, etc. I found a utility available on Autodesk's website that allowed me to export all the values in a CTB file to a .csv file that could be opened (and printed) with Excel.

Here is the old Autodesk Knowledge Base article – it still works for anyone using AutoCAD-based programs version 2007-2008.

Unfortunately, I haven't been able to find a more current version of this utility until recently. Govert's Tools has a program called PlotStyleViewer. You can download it [here](#).

In his words,

*This inspired me to create a CTB/STB view/print application that works completely **independent of AutoCAD and Autodesk tools!** The program consists of just one executable file, there are no other exe's or dll's needed. It should work with CTB's/STB's from AutoCAD 2000 upto the latest version. The purpose of this tool is that you can **view** CTB's, **print** them and **save as** text file that you can open in Excel etc.*

It's a handy little utility and doesn't seem to be limited to a particular version. Hope you get as much use out of it as I do.

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# New Carlson Build with IntelliCAD 7.x Updates

On May 24, 2012 Carlson posted a new build on their downloads page. This brings the Carlson Civil Suite products, (Survey, Civil, Hydrology, GIS), Takeoff, Construction, Point Clouds and Mining, etc. up to build 120524 and IntelliCAD 7.x up to 7.1.1644.53233.P. There are a lot of big updates to stability and productivity in this release.

And, just as a reminder to anyone wanting access to more regular updates to IntelliCAD 7.x, send me an email and I'll help you get access to a separate, private blog being maintained for users interested in trying out test versions of the software before they're provided to the general public.

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## Esri GIS Starter Kit for Carlson's IntelliCAD Users – Repost

[This offer ended on 12/31/2013]

Since there's a renewed interest in IntelliCAD with the improvements to 7.0, I'll re-post this...

Those currently using Carlson with IntelliCAD are eligible for a FREE "GIS Starter Kit" from ESRI. The Kit includes:

- ArcGIS ArcView desktop software

- A copy of the book *A to Z GIS: An Illustrated Dictionary of Geographic Information Systems*
- A copy of *GIS Tutorial: Workbook for ArcView 9*, Third Edition
- A 10% discount for the ESRI Survey & Engineering GIS Summit (\$325 – standard registration price)

To take advantage of the offer, call 1-800-GIS-XPRT (1-800-447-9778) and request the **Carlson-IntelliCAD GIS Starter Kit** and **please have your Carlson Serial Number available**.

You can read more about ESRI's commitment to survey and engineering services by visiting <http://www.ESRI.com/engineering>.

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## Did you know... About DWG Convert & True View?

As most everyone knows, every 3 years Autodesk ruins a perfectly good DWG format by introducing a new one...

With the 2013 version of the Autodesk products now released, anyone using a version of AutoCAD older than 2013 can expect to start receiving 2013 .dwg files that they can't access because its an incompatible version. This is where the DWG Convert function inside of DWG TrueView can be a lifesaver.

DWG TrueView is FREE utility available from Autodesk. They release a new version of this program every year, just like their other products.

With the True Convert utility you can convert any newer version DWG or DXF to any earlier version. I'd recommend you enable the option that creates a .bak file with the original just in case you need it later.

Inside the True Convert utility you can also enable several other options that will run routines such as Audit, Purge, XREF Binding, etc. during the convert process.

You can download DWG True View 2013 [here](#).