

# 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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## **IntelliCAD Webinar – Do Over**

Last week I presented a webinar sponsored by Carlson Software on the topic “Updates and Overview of IntelliCAD 7”. Unfortunately we had some technical difficulties and didn’t get a complete recording to post to the Movies collection on Carlson’s website.

For those who are interested, we will be re-doing the webinar on Thursday, March 29th. By that time we expect to have additional updates and improvements to announce.

Keep an eye on this site to register for the next IntelliCAD webinar

You can register for these future webinars by clicking the link below:

- Tips and Tricks for Setting Points
  - Debunking the “Carlson Isn’t Dynamic” Myth
  - Carlson Annotation and Labeling
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## **New Carlson Build – 120219**

Carlson released a new build of their desktop software earlier this week. This includes updates to the IntelliCAD/for AutoCAD versions of Survey, Civil, Hydrology, GIS, Basic Mining, Geology, Underground Mining, Surface Mining, Natural Regrade, Field, Takeoff, Construction and Point Clouds.

To confirm your current build number, go to Help > About Carlson. You’ll see the build number on the top line of the text box.

You can download the latest full version or updates to your current installation [here](#).

If you would like to try out any of the Carlson Software products for 30-days, email me [here](#).

For those anxious to try out the very latest and greatest updates in the testing versions of IntelliCAD 7.1, you can also send me an email to gain access to a new blog, “The Little CAD Engine That Could”, administered by Leonid Entov of Carlson Software.

Participation in the testing and access to the blog is by invitation only, so email me and I’ll pass along your request.

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# Carlson 2012 Updates

You can download the most recent updates to Carlson's 2012 desktop software [HERE](#)

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## What is Carlson up to?

This is a good article about Bruce Carlson and where Carlson Software is planning to go in the future...

Independence All the Way

Originally posted on **Carlson Connection** by Jennifer Dibona

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## Carlson Software Manuals

Looking for Carlson Software manuals? Prior to the 2010 release, Carlson included printed manuals with your purchase and, in addition, the manuals have always been available to print for yourself from the Help files.

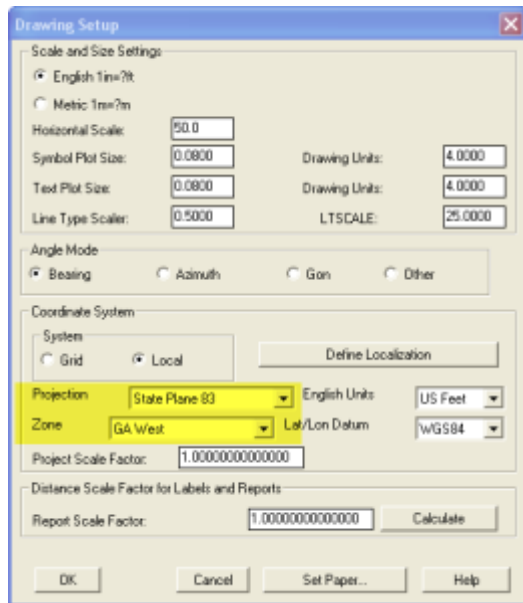
With the 2010 release, Carlson "opened" a storefront on the self-publishing site called Lulu.com. You can order 2009 and 2010 Carlson Software manuals [here](http://stores.lulu.com/carlsonsw)  
<http://stores.lulu.com/carlsonsw>.

# Export IntelliCAD or AutoCAD DWG files to Google Earth

I've recently started using a very cool feature in Carlson Software. The bad thing... it was in the 2009 version and I didn't even realize it!

I had no idea exporting our DWG files from IntelliCAD or AutoCAD out to Google Earth was so easy.

1. Download and install Google Earth. You can download it here: <http://earth.google.com/>
2. Open any one of your project DWG files that has been positioned at its correct state plane coordinate system.
3. In Carlson, go to Settings → Drawing Setup and then select the correct **Projection** and correct **Zone** for the project site. If you're not sure of the **Projection**, try using "State Plane 83". This will work for most systems.



4. Next, go to File → Polyline File → Write Polyline File. When prompted for “Polyline File Format”, type “G” for Google. You will be prompted to specify a new filename and save location for a “Google Earth File to Write (.kml)”.
5. You will then be prompted to select the entities that are to be exported out to the .kml file and viewed in Google Earth. After selecting the entities, press Enter. For this exercise, we only want to see the drawing entities in 2D, so press “N” for “No” when prompted to “Use elevation from drawing in Google Earth [Yes/<No>]?”
6. Finally, you are then prompted “Would you like to display the file in Google Earth now [<Yes>/No]?”. Press “Y” for “Yes”. Google Earth should automatically launch and zoom into the project location.

In the example shown below and pointed out with arrows, notice how closely the new roads and designed turn lanes match up to the existing roadway. Also, you can see the designed graded slopes perfectly avoiding the tank that is to be preserved during construction.

Not too shabby...

This feature is available in all of the Carlson Desktop

products: Carlson Civil, Survey, Hydrology, Construction and TakeOff.

Look for a future post on bringing Google Earth surface data into Carlson Software. Hint: It's easy too!

Originally posted on **Carlson Connection** by Jennifer Dibona

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## PDF Conversion in Carlson 2010

With more construction bid sets being issued in Portable Document Format (PDF), more companies find themselves in the position of needing to generate estimating and construction data from these files. Carlson Software now provides tools to import PDF files into a drawing as either an image or as CAD linework. These tools are available exclusively through Carlson Takeoff 2010 and the new Carlson Construction 2010.

To import a PDF file into your CAD drawing, go to the Tools pull-down menu, then choose Import/Export, then choose Import PDF. You will be prompted to select whether you want the file imported as a background image or as linework. If you choose the linework option, it will automatically convert the elements of the PDF image into separate polylines. Please note, since this is an automatic conversion, it may take a while, so be patient as it processes.

Once the polylines have been brought into the drawing, you can use the standard clean-up tools to assign elevation information to these polylines. These tools can elevate polylines representing contours (single elevations) as well as those representing breaklines (varying elevations). This can be done with most of the Carlson desktop software modules including

Takeoff, Construction, Survey, and Civil.

Once the polylines have been updated with the elevation information, they can be used to create surface models for design, estimating, staking, or machine control. This procedure can literally save hours of time that used to be spent manually recreating the information released as paper drawings or PDF files. Digitizing may have become a thing of the past!

Originally posted on **Carlson Connection** by Felicia Provencal