

Register for Carlson's "What's New in 2014" Webinar Series

As we're all getting ready for the release of Carlson's 2014 desktop products, Carlson Software has scheduled a series of 5 lunchtime webinars to introduce new features and enhancements. See below for details and registration links:

Carlson Survey and Civil 2014

Wednesday, July 24th – presented by Scott Griffin, Director of Sales

Carlson Construction 2014

Wednesday, July 31st – presented by Todd Carlson, Takeoff Product Manager

Carlson Hydrology 2014 and all new Carlson Trench

Wednesday, August 7th – Mark Long, Developer, & Todd Carlson

Carlson Mining 2014

Wednesday, August 14th – Grant Wenker, Director, Mining Division

All new CADnet

Wednesday, August 21st – Jim Carlson, Regional Sales Director

All new GeoTech

Wednesday, August 28th – Dave Sanford, Regional Sales Director

Carlson Software End of Year Specials

Last week Carlson announced their end-of-year specials for 2012. This year's offerings include steep discounts on Carlson Civil Suite, Survey with embedded AutoCAD, Takeoff and Survey.

All discounts will end at noon on 12/31/2012.

As with all of my pricing, I'm prohibited from advertising my actual lowest prices **so call or email for Coupon Codes** for further discounts.

\$2,795 for Carlson Civil Suite (includes one year of maintenance) – Retail price is \$3,954.50

\$2,295 for Carlson Survey 2013 with embedded AutoCAD – Retail price is \$2,995

\$5,000 for Carlson Takeoff 2013 with IntelliCAD – Retail price is \$9,000

\$6,500 for Carlson Takeoff T6 (2013) with embedded AutoCAD – Retail price is \$9,000

\$875 for Carlson Survey 2013 with IntelliCAD and one-year Maintenance for anyone who already owns SurvCE, Fast Survey or Triton. A valid serial number is required prior to purchase. Retail price is \$1,754.50.

Carlson Software Self-Study Manuals

In order to reduce the amount of time I've been spending in online training, I'd been considering putting together Carlson Software training manuals. But, in order to truly offset the majority of the training I do, the first book had to be more than a standard software training manual that covers a broad range of topics.

So, I've just completed and started shipping the first 2 books that I'm calling **Self-Study Manuals**. They will be a great substitute for training for beginning users of Carlson Software and also as "fill-in-the-blanks" training for more experienced users. The lessons are very detailed, down to every pick and click. You do not even need to know AutoCAD or IntelliCAD to complete them. I think you will find them very beneficial if you're new to Carlson or even to help bring your field crew up to speed as office help.

At this time, there are 3 lessons available: **Carlson Configuration and CAD Settings** (about 0.5 hours of instruction), **Getting Started with Points for Survey or Civil** (about 4.5 hours of instruction) and **Field to Finish** (about 6.5 hours of instruction). I've combined the **Carlson Configuration and CAD Settings** and **Getting Started with Points for Survey or Civil** into the first book and the **Field to Finish** is a separate book. Additional books are on the way... some will be detailed, self-study manuals and others won't. I will be focusing on the ones that most closely follow the demand for training.

The books can be purchased separately or as a **bundle from my online store**. Introductory pricing is available through the end of 2012.

View a sample of the Getting Started with Point Self-Study Manual here

View a sample of the Field to Finish Self-Study Manual here

Carlson Configuration and Settings

Approximately 0.5 hours of instruction

When first launching Carlson Software, you can make changes to the configuration and options that will apply to the current and future drawing sessions. Some of the settings and options are specific to Carlson Software and some are specific to AutoCAD® or IntelliCAD®.

Part 1 of this lesson contains Carlson Software-specific settings and is applicable to anyone using Carlson with either an AutoCAD or IntelliCAD platform.

Part 2 contains AutoCAD-specific settings.

Part 3 contains IntelliCAD-specific settings.

Appendix A explains how to use the Project Folder method of Project/Data File Setup as an alternative to the Drawing Folder method.

Appendix B explains the use of Carlson Quick Keys and how they interact with AutoCAD and IntelliCAD command Aliases.

Carlson Survey Getting Started with Points

Approximately 4.5 hours of instruction

This lesson starts by loading a configuration file with recommended settings and options for the program. We will also open a few toolbars that may be needed for the exercises.

We will then start a new project and new drawing from a text/ascii file and will draw the points with the Draw-Locate Points command. Various point editing and reporting commands and features will be used. Some of these features include: Point Groups, Tag Non-Surface Points, Translate Points and Rotate Points. In wrapping up Part 1, we will export points to a new text/ascii file and also export the point data to a LandXML (.xml) file. Please note that Carlson's Field to Finish is covered in a separate lesson.

Appendix A covers, as a separate exercise, the new Esri-powered command Search Published Control that allows you to search published control data that is freely available on the National Geodetic Survey (NGS) website and then store the retrieved information to the active Coordinate File.

Appendix B provides a separate, in-depth, explanation of the Carlson Point Block entity and how its Symbols and Point Attributes (Point Number, Elevation and Description) are controlled with respect to Layers.

Carlson Field to Finish

Approximately 6.5 hours of instruction

This lesson starts by loading a configuration file that contains recommended settings and options for the program. We will also open a few toolbars that may be needed for the exercises.

Part 1 provides an overview of the Field to Finish feature of Carlson® Survey. We will start a new project and new drawing from a text/ascii file. The text file is very similar to the one used in Lesson 2a – Getting Started with Points except that it has been slightly modified to include special linework coding. We will use Field to Finish so that the points, symbols and linework are automatically generated and drawn on their proper Layers. Field to Finish will also create Point Groups and tag some points as Non-Surface so they can be easily excluded when we build a surface model.

In Part 2 we will create a new Field to Finish Code Table that includes a variety of Codes that can be used to create Symbols, 3d and 2d Linework.

In Part 3 we will simulate collecting more than 70 survey points in the field and then processing them with the Field to Finish Code Table created in Part 2. With this Code Table, we will collect points for features such as roadways, buildings, trees and property corners. We will also demonstrate the use of Special Codes for labeling descriptive information such as ½" Iron Pipe and 12" Oak Tree.

In Part 4 we will use the Separate Attribute Layers functionality within Field to Finish so that Symbols and Descriptions for points we process can be used to label features on printed plans.

In Part 5 we will go through the steps required take some of your existing point files to make a new Field to Finish Code Table for your company.

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](#)

Software Review: AutoCAD and

IntelliCAD

The May 2012 issue of Professional Surveyor magazine has been published. This month they are featuring a software review I submitted: AutoCAD and IntelliCAD.

You can order your FREE subscription to the print version of Professional Surveyor [here](#).

You can [click here](#) to learn more about Carlson Software's offerings that include IntelliCAD.

Carlson SurvCE and Field to Finish Training with Jeremy Taylor PLS

Join us on Monday, May 7th when Jeremy and I will be presenting this part-field and part-office training with SurvCE.

Topics for the day will include:

- Set up and configuration of SurvCE with your equipment
- Managing data files and import/export options between the field and the office
- Field collection for boundary, features and topo including GIS collection
- Working with the Map Menu to import and export .dwg, .dgn, .mxd and shapefiles
- Stakeout techniques

- Overview of Field to Finish

Register Here

SurvCE and Field to Finish Training Announcement

Tips & Tricks for Setting Points in Carlson – Webinar

Yeah, you know all of them already... Unless you don't!

Carlson has a lot of great tools that are available for setting points but some of them are a little hidden. I will be covering some features in Carlson Survey and Carlson Civil that will, hopefully, help you increase your productivity.

Register Now! Wednesday, February 29th – Tips & Tricks for Setting Points in Carlson

Carlson Boot Camp Training in New Jersey – Approved for PDH

Credit

I just received word from the NJ State Board of Professional Engineers & Land Surveyors that our Woodbridge classes will be accepted for continuing education credit. Our full list of upcoming classes in Columbus Ohio, Chicago Illinois and Upstate South Carolina can be found here.

Boot Camp! Carlson Survey & Field to Finish – April 10, 2012 – Woodbridge, NJ

Boot Camp! Surface Modeling – April 11, 2012 – Woodbridge, NJ

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
-

CAD Test – NC & SC Surveyors Edition!

Congratulations to Keith Garrison who won the software giveaway at the NC Surveyors Conference and to Xan Holland who won at the SC Education Conference and Trade Show.

We had a CAD Test with 25 questions for attendees to test their wits and the first person to get 100% or the high score won a free copy of Carlson Survey 2012 with IntelliCAD. Keith got a high score of 88% in Greensboro and Xan tied with Greg Flowe at 84% in Columbia. Xan and Greg went through two rounds of tie-breakers before Xan was declared the winner.

Look for our booth at the SC Engineering & Surveying Conference in June 2012 to test your CAD skills!