

We are very excited to announce the release of VectorWorks 12.5 which runs natively on Intel Macs. As usual, this mid-version release includes a slew of new features for all users and is available free to registered version 12 users as a download from our web site. This newsletter also contains information about training and an upcoming OzCAD open house.

■ New Features in 12.5.0

Nemetschek North America chooses to release new technology as it becomes available so that its users can benefit more quickly. VectorWorks 12.5 continues this tradition and includes many new or improved features:

- Universal Binary Version for Intel Macs
- New Chain Dimensioning Functionality
- New Units Matching for DXF/DWG Imports
- Intelligent Detection of X-Refs for DXF/DWG import
- New Volume Control for VectorWorks Sounds
- New Arc by Two Points + Point on Arc
- New Circle from Three Lines
- New Centre Snapping for Regular Polygons
- New Inverse Selection Command
- New Custom Search Capabilities
- New Display/Hide 3D Loci Preference
- New Rendered Mesh Smoothing for OpenGL
- New Multi-lingual Text Support (unicode)
- Improved Alerts and Dialogues
- Major Improvements to the Offset Tool
- Improved Workgroup Referencing
- Improved Duplicate Array Command
- Improved Editing of Path and Slab Objects
- Improved Wall Tool [A]
- Support for Google™ Earth's KML files [A]
- New 2D/3D Kohler® Sanitaryware Symbols [A]
- New Bristle Roof Tile Textures [A]
- New Multistamp Tool for Door and Window IDs [A]
- New 2D/3D Car Symbols [AL]
- Improved Place Plant Tool [L]
- Improved Label Legend Manager [S]
- Improved Ganging Tool [S]
- New Auto-assignment of Label Legends [S]
- New Import PDF at Full Resolution [ALMS]
- New Export PDF to Produce Multi-Page PDFs from Saved Views/Sheets + Support for PDF Layers [ALMS]
- New Metal Textures [RenderWorks]
- New HDRI Support [RenderWorks]

Features marked with [A], [L], [M], [S] or [ALMS] are only available in Architect, Landmark, Machine Design or Spotlight respectively. For a more detailed description of these improvements and the benefits they offer, please [click here](#) for the

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New In VW 12.5 PDF. [Click here](#) to go to our web site to download the update for free, or contact OzCAD to order the update on DVD for the cost of \$20 including GST and postage.

■ Sydney Training Course

The September Sydney training courses are booked out for days 1 and 2, however there are still some vacancies for days 3 and 4. [Click here](#) to go to our web site for more information.

■ Adelaide Training

Jane Kanizay of JAFAR Designs Pty Ltd is planning to be in Adelaide for VectorWorks 12 training on Monday 23 October. Two group training sessions have been planned but she will also be available for Individual Training in your workplace. All classes are subject to demand.

Contact: Jane Kanizay

Mobile: 0414 357 783

Email: jane@jafar.com.au

■ New Training Materials

We now have stock of some new training materials for VectorWorks 12 from Resolve Software and Archoncad. This material covers VectorWorks Fundamentals, Architect, Landmark and RenderWorks. For more information, [click here](#) to go to our web site.

■ Artlantis Studio Available

Abvent have rounded out their new Artlantis product line up with the release of Artlantis Studio. This adds camera and object animation and also allows models to be saved in Quick-Time Panorama or Object format. Contact OzCAD for more information or upgrade options.

■ OzCAD Open House

VectorWorks users are invited to our Open House. Join us for drinks at 4.30pm and stay on for a demonstration of how to make the most of the new features in VectorWorks 12.

Date: Wednesday 4th October

Time: 4.30 - 6.30pm

Place: Unit 313, 30-40 Harcourt Parade Rosebery

RSVP: annabel@ozcad.com.au

■ Tips and Tricks

■ How can I maximise my compatibility with consultants who are using AutoCAD?

This is a common question so we prepared a Tech. Note in the form of a PDF and put it on our web site. [Click here](#) to open the PDF in your browser.

■ How can I best utilise the new Inverse Selection command in VectorWorks 12.5?

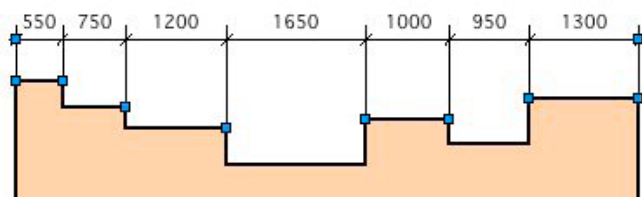
Sometimes when you need to select a large number of objects, it is quicker to select the things you don't want rather than the things you do. With *Inverse Selection* you can do just this, then choose the command to 'swap' the selection from the selected to the unselected objects.

■ What benefits will the improvements to path object editing in VectorWorks 12.5 bring?

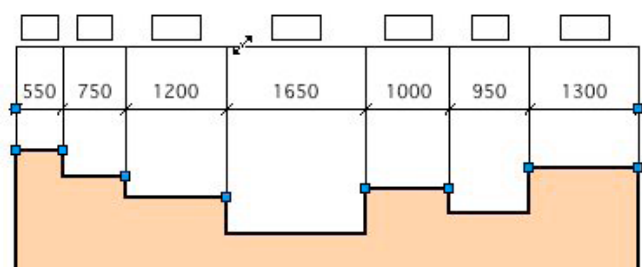
Most users would be aware of the *Add/Subtract/Intersect Surface* commands. These allow you to add, subtract or intersect 2D shapes with or from one another. In VectorWorks 12.5, these commands will now also work with path and slab objects, such as *Plants, Ceiling Grids, Hardscapes, Spaces, Site Modifiers, Floors, Roof Faces* and *Pillars*.

■ How can I make the most of the new Chain Dimension Tool in VectorWorks 12.5?

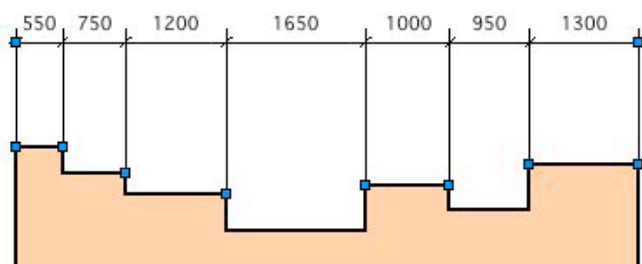
Placing a *Chain Dimension* is unchanged in VectorWorks 12.5. It is the editing of these objects that has changed. The most obvious is that a chain dimension is now a single object and can be moved as a single object as well. This also means that changing any attribute in the *Obj Info* palette will affect all dimensions in the chain.



1. Moving a Chain Dimension – original position

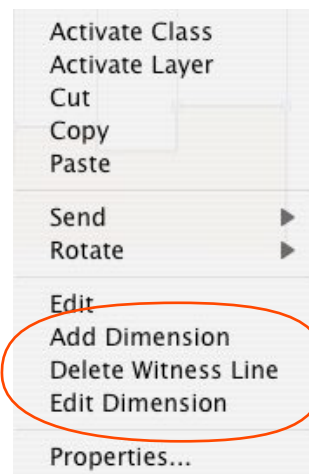


2. Moving a Chain Dimension – while click-dragging

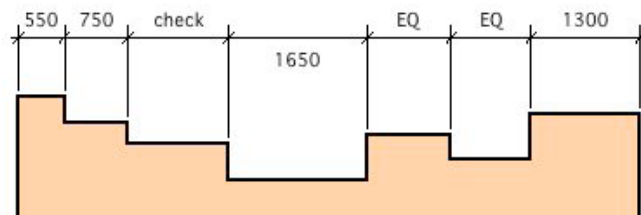


3. Moving a Chain Dimension – completed move

One of the key elements of this new object type is the *Contextual Menu*, which is activated by right clicking (Ctrl clicking with a single button mouse) on part of the chain dimension:



Notice the three new items near the bottom? *Add Witness Line* allows you to add another dimension within the chain. When you do, the other dimensions will be adjusted appropriately. *Delete Witness Line* allows a dimension to be removed from the chain. *Edit Dimension* allows a dimension in the chain to be given different attributes from the rest, like a leader or trailer, different precision or dim standard, etc.



Different settings for dimensions within a chain

You can also *Ungroup* a chain dimension to break it into individual dimensions, but more importantly you can use the *Compose* command to convert an existing line of dimensions into a *Chain Dimension*. The only requirement is that they each be touching and are in the same line.

■ When placing dimensions, how can I make them go into the active class, instead of the dimension class?

Go to *Document Settings* in the *File* menu, switch to the *Dimension* tab then uncheck the box that says "Create dimensions in the dimension class". This is useful when you wish to have multiple dimension classes within a drawing.

While still in the dialogue, notice the option to *Associate Dimensions?* This controls whether dimensions are associated with objects as they are placed.

■ I imported a DWG file and now my drawing is covered with dashed lines. What can I do?

This is a very common question with a very easy solution. Go to *VectorWorks Preferences/Edit* tab and uncheck "Snap to loci".