

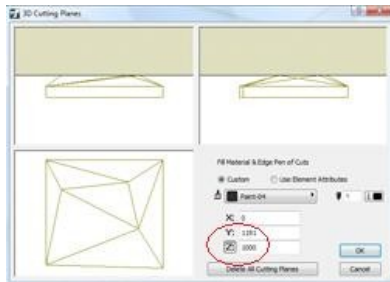
This month's Tech tips:

Contour Lines

Have you ever needed to find the 2D contours of an already existing 3D mesh?

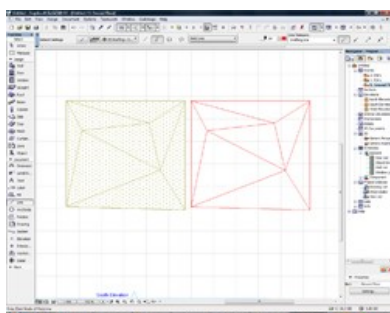
One method, to extract this information from the mesh and apply to the 2D view is:

- Step 1: Set your 3D Window Settings to Internal Engine, Hidden Line
- Step 2: Set your Parallel Projection Settings to Top View, Azimuth = 270?
- Step 3: With the mesh selected, right-click and select Show Selection/Marquee in 3D (so only the mesh appears in the 3D Window)
- Step 4: Set your 3D Cutting Planes: In the "Z" box, enter the height of the contour, click the "Z" icon to lock it, then draw the Z Cutting Plane in the window above, click above the line to remove all above, set the Fill Material & Edge of Pen Cuts to Custom, and set the pen number for a unique pen (this will help in seeing and selecting the lines)



- Step 5: Activate 3D Cutaway
- Step 6: Go to the 3D Window, your mesh will be cut at the contour height, the cut line will be the pen previously selected
- Step 7: Select the Marquee Tool, flat marquee option, select the area around the contour line and copy
- Step 8: In the Copy dialog box that appears, select Scaled Drawing, Edges, and Remove Redundant Lines
- Step 9: Go to the 2D Window and Paste, the contour lines will come in over the mesh matching their position from the 3D Window
- Step 10: Repeat steps 4 to 9 for each contour level

These steps will give you an accurate contour map of the mesh.



Bite Libraries

New 3d transportation objects have been added to our website this month. All objects are free to our UAS clients so [log on](#), download and enjoy. If you have any requests for objects please let us know at design@bite.co.uk



Artlantis Offer

The Artlantis Attitude: Getting the Attitude and Using It. The screen companion for Artlantis productivity. Written by : Dwight Atkinson, this book has been published as a PDF, in 'narrow' format well suited to be placed on-screen alongside Artlantis. Commissioned by Abvent, The Artlantis Attitude builds on the basic Artlantis tutorials and Help files by promoting an attitude of efficiency. Written with a sly wit and authoritative hand, The Artlantis Attitude screen companion projects the user into the Artlantis performance stratosphere by dissecting projects ranging from modest interiors to office towers. This is not a 'missing manual'. This is a guide to artistic and productive success.

This book can be downloaded FREE by all those who purchase Artlantis Studio 2 after July 16, 2009 and before August 31, 2009.



EcoDesigner

For any of you that wish to trial EcoDesigner first, before you buy, follow the link link below. Download the full version of the software in your desired language. Start ArchiCAD without your dongle, forcing the programme to run in demo mode, then start up EcoDesigner.

ArchiCAD training

Book NOW for amazing rates!!

August courses include **Essentials/Advanced ArchiCAD** and **Artlantis**. Places are limited so book now to avoid disappointment. Please call for more details and **fantastic offers**.

ArchiCAD Summer School 2009

Join us this year at the Nottingham University for the ArchiCAD Summer School 2009. The theme of this years summer school is 'Collaboration and sustainability', with Guest speakers including Roddy Langmuir, partner at Edward Cullinan and Pat Borer, architect to the Centre for Alternative Technology at Machynlleth in Wales. ArchiCAD 13 will be showcased with its best features being demonstrated by Graphisoft. Erase your fears about using ArchiCAD's more powerful capabilities with training courses, tips and tricks and experts on hand to answer all your questions.

This year we will also be showcasing IES, EcoDesigner, MEP (Mechanical/Electrical/Plumbing) Modeler and Virtual Building Explorer (VBE).

Places are now limited, so if you are intrested please [click here](#)

Please note: Due to ArchiCAD Summer School Bite will be running limited support on the Friday 11th September.

Bim Live Events & ArchiCAD 13

Due to the success of the BIM Live events in June, we will be running similar events in October, aimed at non ArchiCAD users who would like to gain an insight into BIM. So if you know anyone who may be interested please email us their details or tell them to register when the details are published. In conjunction with these events we will be holding training sessions covering specific aspects of **ArchiCAD 13**, to help users improve their productivity and enjoyment of ArchiCAD.

These training seminars are being offered at a special rate for UAS Members. We will be sending you further details of the content and timings shortly but if you are interested you can register your details by contacting Chloe on 0115 8404080 or email @ cbrooks@bite.co.uk. Places will be limited.

Confidence is returning.

June results of the RIBA future trends survey suggests downturn is bottoming out

Optimism is slowly returning to the architectural profession, according to the most upbeat RIBA future trends survey since the start of the year.

Data for June shows that conditions are still tough, but improving slightly.

polycount tool

Polycount is an ArchiCAD add-on that helps you control the number of 3D polygons in your ArchiCAD models. This tool can be used effectively if the project size or the limited physical memory of your computer makes the 3D model size a critical factor in your modeling decisions. Polycount can display the number of 3D polygons grouped by element types (walls, slabs doors, windows, objects etc.) and also their percentage compared to the complete model size. The add-on also allows you to change the 3D detail level of library parts in your projects. It can be downloaded from the Graphisoft website by going to the help menu > ArchiCAD 12 Goodies. You will then need to quit ArchiCAD, unzip the downloaded file and place it in the Add Ons folder.

As we all know, ArchiCAD trees use a vast amount of polygons and can soon make a small project very big. Door and window handles can be just as bad, some contain up to 1000 polygons per handle. The Polycount tool will indicate to you just how many polygons you are dealing with.

Running ArchiCAD in demo mode will automatically start EcoDesigner in demo mode.

EcoDesigner Download The official [EcoDesigner](#) Download Page is now live.

The site provides detailed information on how to download and install EcoDesigner in DEMO mode.



Practices predicting more work rose from 27% in May to 31% in June, while the number of staff that are currently unemployed fell from 27% in May to 23% in June.

Cadimage Stair Builder Tool

We will be sending you an email shortly to gather your views on the Cadimage Stair Builder Tool. We are extremely interested in your views/opinions of this tool so would encourage you to complete and return the questionnaire to us with as much detail as possible. Thank you