

# Frequently asked questions

## General

### **What operating systems does Slick! v8.0 for Windows run on?**

V8.0 is a 32-bit version and will only run on Windows 95/98/ME/NT/2000/XP.

### **What is the difference between v4.0 and v8.0?**

Slick! v4.0 is 16-bit while v8.0 is 32-bit. New features include support for long filenames, faster zooms and pans, large raster files, new formats including Word 97 and Excel 97.

### **How do I change the graphics window background color?**

Run the Slick! configuration program and set the background color. Set it to 0 for black or 7 for white.

### **Why are some of my files not being listed in the files window?**

Use File ? Filespec to change the file specifications to include the missing file types. To make this permanent change, run the configuration program to set the desired file extensions.

### **Does Slick! supply special display drivers for Windows?**

No. Slick! uses your Windows display drivers.

### **The directory names and file names displayed are too small?**

Reconfigure your Windows display driver to display large fonts.

### **Can I call up Slick! from our applications for viewing files?**

Yes. Slick! can function as a DDE server. For more information, consult the DDE portion of the users manual.

### **Is there any other method of communicating with Slick! other than DDE?**

No.

### **Can you launch Slick! from Windows Explorer?**

Yes. Associate the extensions you wish to view with Slick!

## AutoCAD Related

### **Can Slick! view drawings created by DOS versions of AutoCAD?**

Yes. The drawing format for DOS is the same as the Windows format.

### **Can Slick! view AutoCAD LT and AutoCAD LT 95/97/98/2000/2002 drawings?**

Yes.

**Will Slick v8.0 view mechanical desktop drawings?**

Yes.

**What AutoCAD drawing versions are supported?**

AutoCAD R9 thru AutoCAD 2002

**Slick! does not display external references!**

Slick! tries to find the XREF using the absolute location indicated in the drawing file. If it cannot find it there, it uses the search path indicated in the ACAD environment variable.

In network installations, make sure that the user has read access to the directories containing the XREFs.

In some cases, Slick! might be able to locate the xref if the saved path in the drawing does not contain drive and path information. For example, myxref.dwg instead of m:\xrefs\myxref.dwg.

**Does CSUI have a DOS version of Slick!?**

No. CSUI does not have any plans of releasing newer versions for DOS. It is not necessary. The Windows version will view AutoCAD drawings even if they were created in a DOS-version of AutoCAD

**Why are circles being displayed as polygons?**

For viewing speed. If you want to display true circles, disable fast zooms in the Slick! configuration program.

**Why are some of my AutoCAD fonts not being displayed?**

Slick! cannot locate the .SHX fonts. For simplicity, store all your AutoCAD fonts in a centralized directory and set its location via the Slick! configuration.

**Can Slick! view R13/R14/2000/2002 drawings containing ACIS entities?**

Yes.

**Slick! does not display the diameter symbol.**

Make sure that the gdt.shx file is in the SHX directory or fonts directory.

## Redlining

**When I redline a drawing, does Slick! modify the drawing?**

No. You may save redline entities to the Slick! .RDL file. Later, you may use the provided redline.lsp file in AutoCAD to load the redline information on to the drawing as separate redline layers.

**What happens when you load the same redline file in AutoCAD twice?**

This will create duplicate entities in the redline layers.

**Can I use multiple redline files on the same drawing?**

Yes. Just make sure that you name the rdl files differently. Otherwise, the rdl files with the same names will overwrite each other.

## Database

**I used to be able to see database information for my drawings in the database window. I cannot see them anymore. Why?**

Most common reason is that you probably moved the drawing or file to another directory. The original location of the file is stored in the database record. After you move it, there will be a mismatch and Slick! will not be able to find a record in the database. You should use the Slick! copy command instead of the standard file manager copy.

Another reason is that the database is corrupted. The database might have been modified externally without maintaining the structure.

The index might also be corrupted. Delete the .CDX files from the Slick! database directory. Normally this is at SLICKDB.DIR at the root level of the drive. Slick! will automatically recreate the indexes.

**What is the fastest way to import all the title block information from our existing AutoCAD drawings into the database?**

Tag all the files in the directory and do an import drawing link.

**My drawings are in separate directories. Can I tag the entire drive?**

No. You can only tag files one directory at a time.

**Slick! says “Database does not exist” but I know it’s there.**

Another application has the database opened.

**Why is my database index is frequently corrupted?**

This problem is common in Windows 95 OEM Service Release 2.x.. The source of the problem is the file VREDIR.VXD. Microsoft has provided a new version (210k) for Windows 95 that will fix this problem. The patch executable is a self-installing program which will install itself and make the needed changes to your Windows setup.

More information on this bug can be found in article Q174371 in the Microsoft Knowledge Base.

## Raster Conversions

### **Can Slick! convert my drawing file to a raster file?**

Yes. Conversion to a PCX or TIFF file seems to offer the best conversions.

### **Can I convert my raster files to AutoCAD drawing files?**

No. This requires special raster to vector software.

### **What are the resolution limits for converting drawings to raster files?**

The maximum resolution for Windows 95, 98, ME is 2048.

The maximum resolution for Windows NT, 2000, and XP is 8192.

The maximum resolution for converting to color raster images is 3072 regardless of operating system.

## PDF Conversions

### **Can Slick! convert my drawing file to a PDF file?**

Yes. Slick! will convert whatever is visible on the graphics screen to a raster PDF file. If you are converting to the same PDF file, a new page is added to the file.

### **How can I get higher resolution for the converted PDF?**

If you are converting Cals files, the converted raster PDF does not suffer from loss of resolution even when zoomed-in.

For other files, it is suggested that you use Adobe PDFwriter available from Adobe Corporation. Configure Slick! to print to the PDFWriter printer. The result will be a high-resolution PDF file.

### **I have a bunch of files I want to convert to PDF. What is the best way to do this?**

You have two options.

You can use the raster convert feature. Tag the files to be converted and select the convert tagged files option.

Or you can batch print to PDFWriter if you have it installed. This is the best way to achieve high-resolution PDF files.

## Printing

### **Why do I get floating-point errors while printing?**

Make sure that the plot area or user scales contains valid values. For example, you cannot have a 0 by 0 plot area.

### **Does Slick! supply special printer drivers?**

No. Slick! uses your Windows printer drivers. If you are having printing problems,

try to get to the latest drivers from the printer manufacturer.

**Why can't Slick print to a particular printer while it prints on others?**

Some printer drivers can only print text information and not vector or graphics files. See if the manufacturer can update your driver for you.

**Why do I get blank areas on my printed output?**

Imagine the graphics window as the paper itself. Slick! prints whatever is on the graphics window. If you have blank areas on the screen, you will get corresponding blank area on the paper. Try adjusting the left or right edge of the graphics window.

**When I print using landscape mode, the image is not filling the page.**

Reverse the x and y plot area values. For example if portrait x,y values are 8 by 10. Landscape should be set to 10 by 8.

**The lines on my print out are too fine. How do I get thicker lines?**

This problem occurs in version of Slick! prior to v7.0.002. Newer versions solved this problem. Visit [www.slickwin.com](http://www.slickwin.com) to download the latest version. This occurs normally on high-resolution printers running at 600 dpi or more. On black and white printers, the first thing to do is to set all colors to pen 7 (black) in the Slick! print dialog box or select the "Print to Black" option (7.0.014). Colored lines will now appear sharper. You may try any of the following. Setup your Windows printer to a lower resolution, enable print to black option if available, or disable dithering of bitmap images. You can also disable dithering using the Slick! configuration program.

**Does Slick! support lineweights?**

Yes for AutoCAD 2000/2002 drawings only. For older release, Slick! cannot increase the thickness of printed lines. Some plotters like the HP DesignJet 650C allow you to set pen widths by color via firmware. This has proved satisfactory for most users.

**I can view cals .gp4 files with a black background but would like to print with a white background. How do I do this?**

Try using the Invert menu in the display menu to convert white-on-black to black-on-white and vice-versa. Slick! will always print whatever is on the screen. You cannot reverse the colors for printing.

## Network Version

**Are the network licenses concurrent?**

Yes. If you have a five-user license, any five users can access Slick! at the same time. However, all potential users of Slick! must have a Slick! configuration file in their local hard disk. Slick! itself is stored in the network server.

**Can I order additional nodes if my company needs more?**

Yes.

**Can I install the single user version of Slick! on the network drive for use by users connected to the network?**

Absolutely not. The single user version is for use on a stand alone computer. If you wish to use Slick! in a network environment you should purchase the network version.

**How do you set the SLICK environment variable under Windows NT?**

You may set the Slick environment variable from the Windows NT control panel. Choose the system icon. In the System dialog box, select any variable from the Environment Variables box.

In the Variable box, enter the variable name SLICK. In the Value box, enter the path to the Slick! configuration directory for this user. Then choose Set. The new variable will now be listed in the User Environment list box. Then reboot the system for the new environment variable to take effect.

**Can two Slick! users view the same file at the same time?**

Yes. As long as the users' access rights to the directory are set to READ or the file itself has the read-only attribute set. Also, make sure that SHARE.EXE is loaded into DOS upper memory using the load high DOS command.

**Can Slick! view a drawing while it is being edited in AutoCAD by another user?**

Yes. As long as you have not enabled file-locking in AutoCAD.

**I am getting a busy signal trying to run Slick! on the network when I am the only one trying to run it. Why?**

Chances are the SLICK.PCT file which monitors the number of concurrent users is corrupted. This can happen if users log on to Slick! but do not log off. Slick! thinks they are still connected and does not decrement the license counter. Make sure that nobody is using Slick! and then delete the SLICK.PCT file from its location on the network server.

**When I configure Slick! to do an automatic drawing link import, the database records are automatically created with information from the AutoCAD attributes. How can I create a record with non-AutoCAD files?**

You can still create the database record by importing the link. Slick! will not find any matches but will create the record anyway. When you browse thru the database you will see the path and filename of the non-AutoCAD drawing.

**Will the network version run on a peer-to-peer network?**

Yes. As long as a unique drive letter is mapped to the server.

**Does the network version support UNC?**

No.