



*Intelligent Paper to CAD Solutions®*

## **INCREASE THE VALUE OF YOUR REPROGRAPHICS SERVICES**

*Electronic drawing management complements reprographics. An electronic drawing environment is a logical extension of your blueprinting and document reproduction process. Scanning services, drawing database creation and CAD conversion services complement current reprographics services, including large document copying, photographic enhancement, microfilming and plotting. Both environments improve the quality of the drawings and the distribution of drawings. Anyone - architects, engineers, public utilities, manufacturers - that uses reprographic services will benefit from electronic scanning and drawing management.*

**B**oth independent and in-house reprographics service centers pride themselves in preserving one of the most precious assets of engineering and manufacturing firms - the archives of architectural and engineering drawings. Reprographers specialize in copying large documents, photographic enhancement and microfilming for such archives.

But, with the widespread introduction of computers, there is increasing demand for drawings to be in electronic format. Electronic drawings are easier to store and easier to access. CAD drawings are easier to revise and update.

GTx provides software solutions for raster enhancement, raster editing, hybrid editing and CAD conversion to complement existing reprographics techniques. These products help broaden services that are offered to clients or in-house departments.

### **Stop Deterioration with a Scan**

Paper drawings suffer from a common problem, they deteriorate over time. They yellow with age in a flat file and are marked-up, stained and torn with handling. Scanning a drawing into electronic format not only stops the deterioration process, it

immediately improves the quality of the drawing.

Today, a variety of scanners with built-in features are available to restore old and dirty drawings. Adaptive thresholding can capture even faint images or drawings of virtually any size, media type or quality. With just one scan, an electronic image can be produced with higher quality than the original,

### **Restore Drawings That Are Too Worn to Scan**

Many scanning service bureaus reject very worn drawings as too "hopeless" to scan and revive. Because images are too faint to distinguish light from dark or tears and rips make it impossible to run a drawing through a scanner.

However, large format cameras are available at reprographics centers for drawing enhancement. The new, crisp image is then scanned into raster format for inclusion into an electronic database. This restoration process blends current reprographics techniques with electronic scanning capabilities. In fact, one reprographics company states that 20 percent of the drawings processed with photographic techniques are drawings other scanning



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centers would have rejected. Every drawing is a candidate for scanning when using a reprographics technology.

### **Enhance the Image to Better than Original**

Along with any scan comes the wear and tear of the original document - the speckles, smudges, crooked lines and broken or skewed images. The image enhancement capability of the GTX software helps erase this wear and tear.

Remove speckles and smudges from the drawing. If the image is scanned improperly, use a mirror command to reverse it or the Autodesk skew command to correct its orientation. In just a few minutes, the drawing is not only reproduced, but an electronic drawing or plot has been created that is better than the original.

### **Improve Archiving and Access**

Creating an electronic image is just the beginning of the valuable services that can be provided using scanning and drawing management products. The drawing's value immediately increases by making them readily accessible to the people who need them.

By creating a centralized, electronic database of drawings, you can eliminate the time and money spent controlling access to files, locating and checking out drawings. One industry study reports that on any given day, 1.5 billion drawings are in use with ten to 21 percent of them lost or misfiled. Using drawing management systems, this problem is eliminated by providing up-to-date databases that allow engineers and others to retrieve drawings by any number of criteria, such as project number, drawing number, revision number, site or date.

Scan an entire group of drawings into electronic format and deliver them on an optical disk to your customer or engineering department. For Example, utility employees access drawings on a centralized optical disk system, significantly simplifying storage and access for the utility's decentralized sites.

### **Improve your Competitive Edge with CAD Conversion**

Service bureaus have been providing scanning and database services for years. Today, there is a rapidly growing demand to fully convert manual drawings into CAD format for revision in CAD. Only GTX offers a direct upgrade path from drawing enhancement and raster editing to automatic CAD conversion.

And the upgrade will be with GTX, the undisputed leader in automatic CAD conversion systems.

### **Invest in Capital Equipment with a Future**

With GTX, it is possible to start small and add to the system later. Start with an image enhancement system like GTXRaster CAD® for inside AutoCAD® or GTXImage Edit™, a standalone raster editing and enhancement solution. Add any third party document management system as your customers request it. Or, add CAD conversion with GTXRaster CAD® PLUS or GTXImage CAD™ PLUS, GTX®ICR PLUS™ or GTX OSR® for batch needs. GTX provides each and every component you need to stay competitive.

It all works together. The data on one system is directly usable on another. The computer screens all look and feel the same. Training on one system makes it easier and faster to learn the next.



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Customer training and support comes from the same source. The original investment is preserved even as the next one is being funded. It is a step-by-step partnership with GTX designed to meet your needs today and in the future.

### **Summary**

Meet industry demand to convert manual drawings into electronic format. Blend reprographics techniques and scanning technology to convert drawings other service bureaus can't handle. Offer a variety of database services for those requiring a central storage location.

Benefit from a new line of business that keeps up with industry changes. Invest in capital equipment that will fund your next service offering.



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