

[Top 10 reasons to move from AutoCAD to AutoCAD P&ID.](#)

Posted May 18, 2010 on <http://www.technology4design.com>

Made specifically for P&ID process plant designers and engineers, AutoCAD® P&ID software enables faster and more efficient creation, manipulation, and revisions to P&ID drawings.

1. Industry-standard P&ID symbols

AutoCAD P&ID includes complete P&ID symbol libraries conforming to standards for PIP, ISA, JIS, and ISO/DIN. Easy-to-use tool palettes provide quick access to equipment, lines, and components needed to create P&ID drawings.

2. Easy-to-learn interface

AutoCAD P&ID is built on the most up-to-date version of AutoCAD® software and leverages standard AutoCAD features. The AutoCAD P&ID interface enhancements allow quick start-up time and increased productivity with little to no training. If you know AutoCAD, learning AutoCAD P&ID is easy and maintenance doesn't require complex IT support.

3. Dynamic process and signal lines

Easy-to-draw process lines automatically snap to equipment connection points and intelligently reroute when connected equipment is moved. Lines automatically break and mend as components are attached or removed. Intuitive edit control grips make editing lines quick and easy.

4. Dynamic components

AutoCAD P&ID provides industry standard components that can be edited and moved using intuitive control grips. Components automatically align and snap into location when placed on process lines. When a process or signal line is moved or edited, components stick with the line, maintaining the right order, orientation, and relationship to the line.

5. Easy symbol creation and substitution

AutoCAD P&ID lets you customize and convert a group of geometric shapes or lines into distinct components or equipment to meet your company standards. Add new symbols to the project symbol library to increase drawing consistency within the organization. Substitute an existing drawing symbol with a new, similar symbol with a single click.

6. Report and list generation

The AutoCAD P&ID Data Manager feature makes it easy to generate, view, and print a variety of common reports for all drawings in a project. Reports include Instrument Lists, Line Lists, Equipment Lists, and Valve Lists. Use AutoCAD P&ID to create and customize these reports.

7. Import and export to Microsoft Excel

Many engineering teams across disciplines provide input on the information contained in the P&ID drawings. Share drawing data with other teams by exporting the drawing or project data to Microsoft Excel and then importing the updated information back into the drawings. Electronically transmit P&ID drawing files containing embedded information without the need to query and filter data from a database.

8. Review and approve data edits

AutoCAD P&ID makes it easy to identify all changes submitted when data is imported from Excel. Click on changes in the Data Manager to highlight both the suggested change and to display the relevant part of the drawing. Changes can be accepted or rejected individually or in groups—a feature that helps manage revisions made externally and maintains the integrity of the drawing files.

9. Tag generation and uniqueness

As you add objects to a drawing, AutoCAD P&ID maintains the uniqueness of the object across all drawings in the project, which helps prevent users from purchasing the same plant asset multiple times. Enter associated data properties for all symbols and drawing elements at any time throughout the project.

10. Search and edit using a spreadsheet interface

The Data Manager functionality—a dedicated utility within AutoCAD P&ID—applies a spreadsheet interface to all the objects on a drawing. Use the Data Manager to sort, filter, and find components in P&ID drawings and quickly enter data properties specific to those objects. Line numbers, component values, and other data edited in the Data Manager are instantly updated in your P&ID drawings. Zooming features within Data Manager instantly zoom your drawing window to the appropriate drawing object or record in the Data Manager.