README.DRV - February 16, 1993

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AutoCAD Release 12 for Windows "Read Me" for
Autodesk Device Interface (ADI) Drivers

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This document contains last minute information that could not be included in the normal AutoCAD documentation regarding device drivers.

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1.0 - Displays That Are Incompatible with Windows Version 3.1

Please take a moment to read the Windows 3.1 SETUP.TXT document which ships with Windows 3.1. In that document, you will find a list of display adapters that can cause problems with Windows. As the SETUP.TXT file points out, the most serious problem is a system failure while running Windows Setup. If you encounter this problem, run Custom Setup, and then select one of the standard display types, such as VGA, provided with Windows version 3.1.

Be aware that some of the display adapters listed as possibly causing problems may have been fixed since the list was published. Contact your display adapter vendor for the latest status on Windows 3.1 compatibility.

Based on the initial release, the Windows 3.1 SETUP.TXT lists the following display adapters as potentially problematic:

[Listed Alphabetically]

- ATI Graphics Ultra and Vantage

  NOTE: These adapters are 8514/a-compatible and run well with the 8514/a driver provided with Windows 3.1.

- All DGIS display adapters (Direct Graphics Interface Standard) from Graphic Software Systems, including the following:
  NEC MultiSynch Graphics Engine (MGE)
  Zenith Z-649

HP IGC-10, IGC-20
GSS 1000 Series

NOTE: Some DGIS-based adapters are TIGA-compatible and run well when used with the appropriate TIGACD.EXE MS-DOS driver and with the TIGA driver provided with Windows 3.1.

- HP Ultra VGA
- IBM Image Adapter/A
- Matrox MG Series/M-WIN Series
- Palettized VGA 640x480, 16-color (provided with Windows Multimedia Extensions version 1.0)
- Radius SVGA MultiView

- All RGDI (Renaissance Graphics Device Interface) display adapters from Appian, Inc., including the following:
  Appian Rendition II, IIe, II/XE, and III
  Appian GV1024
  Decpc 433

- All S3 adapters, including the following:
  Orchid Fahrenheit 1280
  STB WIND/X
  Diamond Stealth VRAM

2.0 - Third Party ADI Drivers and AutoCAD R12

[NOTE: The following issues pertain primarily to Release 12 DOS 386. Although the information is pertinent to the Windows release, you are encouraged to reference Using AutoCAD for Windows and AutoCAD R12 Installation and Performance Guide for Windows when appropriate. This is especially important regarding use of Environment Variables and Configuration.]

If you are using a third-party ADI device driver, you should generally consult the manufacturer's documentation for instructions on usage. However, if you are using an older driver, the instructions may not work with AutoCAD Release 12. This is because the method of making ADI drivers work with AutoCAD has changed in Release 12. If you experience problems getting your third party ADI driver to work, you should:

1) Read the sections in the AutoCAD Installation and Performance Guide pertaining to your device to determine what has changed and apply those changes to the old instructions from your driver's manufacturer.

2) Contact your driver's manufacturer for updated instructions and possibly an updated driver.

Some third-party packet-mode ADI drivers instruct you to install their driver in a special directory. Some of these drivers have support files such as resource, font, or data files that are assigned to their own subdirectory. If you have such a driver, do one of the following so AutoCAD can locate the files and load the driver in the appropriate configuration menu:

1) Leave the driver files where they were installed, and add the driver's directory to the ACADDRV path.

2) Move the driver and the support files to a directory that is already on the ACADDRV support path. You may need to adjust the driver's configuration to enable the driver to locate its support files. For example, there may be environment variables that include the path to the support files.

Reconfiguring for a Different ADI Driver

If you have AutoCAD currently configured for an ADI driver and then reconfigure for a different driver, AutoCAD displays an error message if the search criteria no longer includes the path for the currently configured driver. The error message says:

"The driver for your currently configured digitizer is not in /files/acad/drv. If you select a different device, you may have difficulty restoring your current configuration.

"Do you want to select a different one anyway? <N>"

Note that the device type (digitizer in the example above) and the location in the error message will vary depending on your current configuration.

AutoCAD will still attempt to find drivers according to the search criteria (ACADDRV environment variable), but if the name of your currently configured driver doesn't match the name of any driver found during the search, then the error message will be displayed. Therefore, if you try to configure for another driver, AutoCAD will have trouble reconfiguring "back" for the currently configured driver because it can't find it anymore.

During reconfiguration, AutoCAD uses different rules when searching for drivers than when in the drawing editor. Therefore AutoCAD will still locate the driver when you start, but it might not look in the same location when reconfiguring.

The reason that AutoCAD might not find any drivers in the location of the currently configured driver is if, for example, the ACADDRV environment variable was changed and it didn't include the directory

of the currently configured driver, or if the file was removed from that directory.

The solution to this problem is to modify the ACADDRV environment variable to include the location of the currently configured driver as well as the directory of the driver you wish to reconfigure for.