040b73747265616d747970656481a203840163c48403737373810a0a810b 0b815f5f84012584067f411b312d37

Alignment of Elements

The Alignment tool enables you to align several elements horizontally or vertically. If the tool is loaded, the corresponding menu entry is added to the *Element* menu of OneVision's main menu:

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Reference Elements;¬Reference Elements
You can only align elements that are selected. For horizontal alignments, the default reference element (the element to which other elements align) is the topmost selected element. For vertical alignments, it is the leftmost selected element. If you want to use a particular element to serve as the reference element, you can explicitly select it using the button shown below.

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Click the <*Set First*> command. This puts you in connection mode, changing your cursor to the symbol displayed on the right of the command button. Now select the element you want to use as the first reference element (this element should not be selected in advance). This element will now be used as a reference for all types of alignments.

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If you want to distribute several elements evenly between two elements, the leftmost and rightmost elements are used as the default reference elements for horizontal spacing. The topmost and the bottommost elements are the reference elements for vertical spacing. You also can specify the reference elements yourself. Select the first one as described in the previous paragraph. At this

point, the label of the *<Set First>* button changes to *<Set Second>*. Now select the second reference element, which will be used as the right or bottom reference.

The label of the button then changes to *<All Set>*, indicating that no further reference elements can be specified. To release the reference elements, click the *<Release>* command.

Note: Elements used as reference elements (either by default or explicitly set) never change their positions.

Horizontal / Vertical
After you have selected the elements you want to align and their reference elements, you can align them with the command in this portion of the panel. Horizontal and vertical alignments can be done independently. Each of these alignments offers the options *<Align>* and *<Distribute Evenly>*.

For the *<Align>* option in the *<Horizontal>* section, the following command buttons are available:

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Clockwise from the upper left, these buttons:
- align elements at their left edge
- align elements at their vertical center line
- line up elements horizontally
- align elements at their right edge

For the *<Align>* option in the *<Vertical>* section, the following command buttons are available:

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Clockwise from the upper left, these buttons:
- align elements at their upper edge
- align elements at their horizontal center line

- line up elements vertically
- align elements at their bottom edge

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In both the *<Horizontal>* and *<Vertical>* sections is an entry field where you can specify how much space should be inserted between elements when aligning them. For lining up elements, the value you enter here specifies the absolute distance between them. For the other alignment commands, this value serves as a multiplier for indenting elements. For example, say you are aligning a series of elements and you want them to be aligned horizontally at their left edge. If you specify an alignment value of 0.2 inch, the leftmost object will be the reference element, and the second one will be indented 0.2 inch from the left edge of the first element, the third one will be indented 0.4 inch, the fourth one 0.6 inch, etc.

<u>Note</u>: If you enter negative values, the elements will overlap.

The option *<Distribute Evenly>* in the *<Horizontal>* section offers these command buttons:

 928680_paste.tiff ¬
Clockwise from the upper left, these buttons:
- ensure equal distances between the left edges of the elements
- ensure equal distances between the vertical center lines of the elements
- ensure equal horizontal distances between the elements
- ensure equal distances between the right edges of   the elements

The section *<Vertical>* section shows the following commands for the <Distribute Evenly> option:

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Clockwise from the upper left, these buttons:
- ensure equal distances between the top edges of the elements

- ensure equal distances between the horizontal center lines of the elements
- ensure equal vertical distances between the elements
- ensure equal distances between the bottom edges of   the elements

Revert
When executing an alignment command, the elements are immediately repositioned. Clicking the *<Revert>* button moves each aligned element back to its original location.

Set
Positioning elements with the alignment commands is only temporary. You must click the *<Set>*   button to fix aligned elements in their new positions.

Notes: After you have applied any of the *<Align>* commands,   the *<Distribute Evenly>* option becomes disabled. Likewise, the *<Align>* option can't be selected after you've clicked a button from the *<Distribute Evenly>* commands. You also can't set or release reference elements after you have aligned any element to them. To get all commands working again you must either *<Set>* or *<Revert>* your alignments.

If you have aligned a number of selected elements and change this selection without having first fixed their alignment, an attention panel will appear. Here you must decide whether the currently selected elements should keep their positions or whether you want to revert them to their old positions.

You can't align elements that clip each other, because clipped elements must keep their relative positions. You have to group the clipping element with the clipped one before you can align them with other elements.

Next: ;Load.rtfd;;¬   Load Elements