

## **Tailor Made Tools for Vdraft**

Tailor Made Tools for Vdraft is a set of utilities that are designed to enhance the usability of SoftSource's Virtual Drafter (Vdraft). This limited version of Tailor Made Tools is included with Vdraft to demonstrate the types of utilities that are included in the Tools and to entice you to buy the full set or commission us to write new tools for your company. OK, we're blatant about it. However, you should find the sample Tools to be useful in it's own right. Please look over the utilities and see what can be useful to you.

### ***New Version***

There is probably a new version of Tailor Made Tools available on our web site by the time you read this. You can download the trial Tools at <http://www.tailormade.com/tmstools.htm>. If you do not have web access then you will need to either 1) upgrade to the full version or 2) find someone who does have web access as we will not provide new versions by any other means. Sorry, but we are unable to provide updates by mail for this Trial Version.

## **Contest**

You can win a full copy of Tailor Made Tools for Vdraft. How? It's quite simple: if you are the first to suggest a new utility to add to Tailor Made Tools and we decide to implement that utility, you will receive a free copy of the full Tools with your utility in it. There is no limit to the number of Tools that you can win, but the catch is we have to decide the utility is worthwhile enough to implement it. This means that it should be something that is 1) of general use, 2) possible to do in a small utility and 3) not been suggested before. We will include a line in the documentation giving credit to the person that first suggests a utility.

If you suggest several closely related utilities, like the Set Text UpperCase and Set Text LowerCase included with Tailor Made Tools, these will only get you one copy of the Tools. Sorry.

## ***How to Obtain the Full Version***

You can upgrade to the commercial version of Tailor Made Tools for Vdraft by calling us at 253-631-1513 or via e-mail at [staylor@tailormade.com](mailto:staylor@tailormade.com). Alternately you can send \$149 plus \$10 for regular shipping or e-mail shipping (total of \$159), \$25 for overnight mail (total of \$174), or \$50 for overseas shipments (total of \$199) to:

Tailor Made Tools Upgrade  
Tailor Made Software, Ltd  
28006 122nd Place SE  
Kent, WA 98031-8527

*Actually, if you call or e-mail us you will just be given instructions on where to send the check, so why not just write and save us both time.*

Purchase orders are only accepted from Fortune 500 companies. They can be faxed to 253-639-4022.

*Note: If you have trouble using our new area code (253) the old area code (206) will work until approximately 10/27/97.*

### **Foreign Customers**

All funds must be in U. S. dollars. Add \$10 if the check is drawn on a foreign bank as that is what our bank charges us to cash a foreign check.

Foreign customers can send money via interbank transfer. Please contact us for details. Note: we don't know why, but this can take up to two weeks. There is a \$10 fee as that is what our bank charges us.

## ***Shipping Options***

### **E-Mail**

Program files are sent via electronic mail. Hard copies are sent via normal mail.

Costs \$10

U. S. and Canadian addresses only

### **Normal Mail**

Program files and documentation are sent via normal mail.

Costs \$10

U. S. and Canadian addresses only

### **Overnight**

Program files and documentation are sent via FedEx (or equivalent).

Costs \$25

U. S. addresses only

### **Overseas "Expedited Delivery"**

Program files and documentation are sent via Express Mail.

Costs \$50

Non U. S. addresses only

### ***Differences Between Full and Trial Versions***

Aside from the differences listed above under the given utilities the main difference is that the Full Version will always have more utilities available and will be kept more up-to-date. The trial version may not be updated when a new version of the Full Tools is created.

The Trial Version is intended as a sampler to "whet your appetite. The Full Version will provide "more of the same".

## ***Future Plans***

We plan on adding more utilities to Tailor Made Tools. The following list details what we plan on adding over the next several months. Some of the utilities will be added to the Trial Version, but most will only be added to the Full Version. This list is not intended to be definitive. Some items listed here may not be added, while others that are not listed here may be added. We welcome feedback about the proposed plans. Also, don't forget you can win a copy of the Full Version through our [contest](#).

[Entity Creation](#)

[Entity Manipulation](#)

[Measurement](#)

## **Entity Creation**

*MakePoly*

Change lines or arcs to polylines

*ExplodePoly*

Changes polylines to lines and arcs

*Parabola*

Create parabolic curves

*Hyperbola*

Create hyperbolic curves

*ConvertTrace*

Change traces to polylines

*ImportXY*

Import 2D points from text file with optional labels

*ImportXYZ*

Import 3D points from text file

*Make3D*

Change 2D polylines into 3D polylines

*Spring*

Create 3D springs

*Stairs2D*

Create 2D stairs

*Stairs3D*

Create 3D stairs

*ArcText*

Create text around an arc

*CreateRoom*

Creates a rectangle and allows you to drag it into position



## **Entity Manipulation**

### *Space Dimensions*

Space dimensions out vertically

### *Attribute Copy*

Copy attributes as text entities

### *AutoTrim*

Automatic trim entity

### *EraseLayer*

Layer and all entities on it will be erased

### *JoinArcs*

Joins two arcs that touch each other. Creates a circle if appropriate.

### *BreakCircle*

Breaks a circle into two arcs at the specified points

### *RotateGrid*

Sets grid angle to the angle of a selected line

### *PositionGrid*

Sets grid location to endpoint of entity

### *ZeroGrid*

Set grid back to (0,0) and angle 0.

## **Measurements**

*FindArea*

Finds area inside a closed polyline

*ArcLength*

Finds the length of an arc or arc segment of a polyline

## ***Other Vdraft-Related Products***

Tailor Made Software, Ltd is committed to provided the best in Vdraft-related utilities and translation programs.  
Here is the current list of products:

### **LinkTamer for Vdraft**

Automagically fixes links (X-refs, fonts files, etc.) in Vdraft files

*June 1997*

### **Hp2Design for Vdraft**

Imports HPGL and HPGL/2 files

*Currently Available*

### **CgmDesign for Vdraft**

Imports CGM files

*Under Development*

### **IgesDesign for Vdraft**

Imports IGES files

*Summer 1997*

## **Custom Programming**

If there are other utilities that your company needs for Vdraft, or specialized programming for Vdraft of any kind, please contact us for a quote. We can provide fast, efficient service to meet your customization needs.

These tools represent only a small portion of what we can do with/for Vdraft. With over twenty years experience in CAD/CAM, Tailor Made Software can truly provide "Software the Way You Like It".

We also provide programs and expertise to translate between many CAD systems including AutoCAD, CATIA, CADAM, Pro/Engineer, MicroStation, VersaCAD, Hewlett Packard ME-10, Unigraphics II and many others.

Our client list includes most major CAD vendors (Autodesk, Parametric Technologies Corp., SolidWorks, 3D/Eye, Visio, Dassault Systemes, IBM, Intergraph, Bentley Systems) and major corporations including Boeing, United Airlines, Skidmore Owens Merrill, NBBJ, Loral Aerospace, US Army Corps of Engineers, US Navy and many others.

Contact: Scott Taylor  
+1.253.631.1513 (voice)  
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staylor@tailormade.com

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## **Utility Descriptions**

### Modify Entities

Delete By Type

Property Painter

Align Dimensions

Change Circle Radius

Cycle Horizontal Justification

Cycle Vertical Justification

Set Text UpperCase

Set Text LowerCase

### Create Entities

Copy Lines

Concentric Arc/Circle

Create Centerlines

Create Circular Pattern

Draw Rectangle

Draw Ellipse

Draw Ellipse (Center, Major, Minor)

Foreshortened Dimension

Date/Time Stamp

### Measurements

Line Angle

Arc Length

### Other

Configuration

Setup

## **Delete By Type**

The Delete By Type utility will delete all entities of a given type(s) from the drawing. It will not effect entities in a block. This is a very powerful utility. It will ask for confirmation before starting the process, but once confirmation is given, all entities of the given types will be permanently deleted. Which types are deleted is chosen via the “Configuration|Setup” dialog.

Steps:



Use Configuration|Setup to choose the entity types to be deleted



Choose Delete By Type



Confirm that you want things deleted



All entities of the given type(s) will be deleted

### Limitations in Trial Version:

This function is not available in the Trial Version

### Extra features in Full Version

This function is only available in the Full Version

## ***Property Painter***

The Property Painter will change the linestyle, color and layer of each entity in a group of entities to match those of a selected entity. If both the master entity and the selected are text entities then the text justification is changed.

Steps:

- ▶ Select the master entity
- ▶ Select one or more entities to change
- ▶ Hit right mouse button to terminate selection
- ▶ The properties of all of the selected entities will change to be the same as the master entity

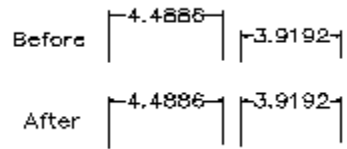
### *Limitations in Trial Version:*

- Only lines can be selected
- Linestyle, color and layer always changed

### *Extra features in Full Version*

- Any type of element can be selected
- User can configure utility to choose which properties are changed (linestyle, color, justification and/or layer)

## ***Align Dimensions***



Align Dimensions will change the selected dimension so that it will line up (align with) another dimension.

Steps:

- ▶ Select the master dimension
- ▶ Select the dimension to align
- ▶ The second dimension will be aligned with the master dimension

*Limitations in Trial Version:*

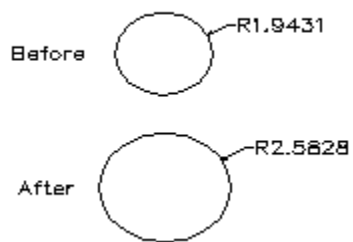
None

*Extra features in Full Version:*

None



## ***Change Circle Radius***



The Change Circle Radius utility will change the radius of a given circle.

Steps:

- ▶ Select the circle to change
- ▶ Indicate a point on the new circle radius
- ▶ The radius will change such that the circle will pass through the indicated point

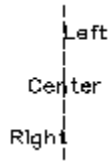
*Limitations in Trial Version:*

None

*Extra features in Full Version*

None

## **Cycle Horizontal Justification**



The Cycle Horizontal Justification utility changes the text justification for a given text string. It cycles through the three different text justifications (Left, Center, Right). For instance, a left justified string would be changed to center justified.

Steps:

- ▶ Select the text string to change
- ▶ The text will be modified
- ▶ Repeat as needed

Limitations in Trial Version:

None

Extra features in Full Version

None

## **Cycle Vertical Justification**

~~Baseline~~ ~~Bottom~~ ~~Middle~~ ~~Top~~

The Cycle Vertical Justification utility changes the text justification for a given text string. It cycles through the four different text justifications (Baseline, Bottom, Middle, Top). For instance, a Bottom justified string would be changed to Middle justified.

Steps:

- ▶ Select the text string to change
- ▶ The text will be modified
- ▶ Repeat as needed

*Limitations in Trial Version:*

None

*Extra features in Full Version*

None

## ***Set Text UpperCase***

Original	Text String
Upper Case	TEXT STRING
Lower Case	text string

The Set Text UpperCase utility will change the selected text string to all uppercase letters (A, B, C...). Numbers and special characters are not affected.

Steps:

- ▶ Select the text string to change
- ▶ The text will be modified
- ▶ Repeat as needed

Limitations in Trial Version:

None

Extra features in Full Version

None

## ***Set Text LowerCase***

Original	Text String
Upper Case	TEXT STRING
Lower Case	text string

The Set Text LowerCase utility will change the selected text string to all lowercase letters (a, b, c...). Numbers and special characters are not affected.

Steps:

- ▶ Select the text string to change
- ▶ The text will be modified
- ▶ Repeat as needed

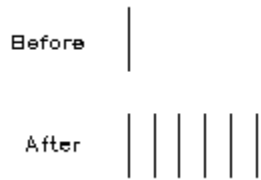
Limitations in Trial Version:

None

Extra features in Full Version

None

## Copy Lines



The Copy Lines utility will make copies of a given line at a given distance and direction. All attributes of the original line are recreated.

Steps:

- ▶ Fill in the dialog box giving the distance between lines and the number of copies to make
- ▶ Select a line to duplicate
- ▶ Indicate the direction the duplicates should be
- ▶ New lines will be created at multiples of the given distance in the direction indicated

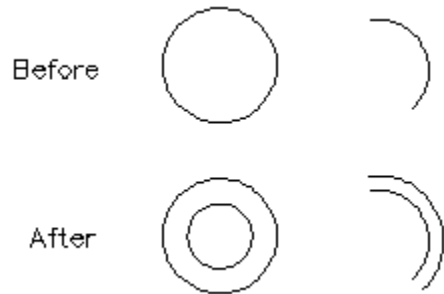
### *Limitations in Trial Version:*

- Attributes are always inherited from the original line
- Linestyle, color and layer always changed

### *Extra features in Full Version*

- User can choose to inherit attributes from the original line or to use the current defaults
- ▶ User can configure utility to choose which properties are changed (linestyle, color and/or layer)

## Create Concentric Arcs and Circles



The Create Concentric Arcs and Circles command will create duplicate copies of arcs or circles as a specified distance from the radius. All attributes of the original arc/circle are recreated. In the case of arcs the starting and ending angles of the new arc will be the same as the original arc.

Steps:

- ▶ Select an arc or circle to duplicate
- ▶ Indicate a point to lay on the new arc/circle
- ▶ A new arc or circle will be created sharing the same center point at the distance specified.

*Limitations in Trial Version:*

- ▶ None

*Extra features in Full Version*

- ▶ None

## **Create Centerlines**

▶ The Create Centerlines utility will make centerlines for a given circle.

Steps:

- ▶ Select a circle
- ▶ Center lines will be added.

*Limitations in Trial Version:*

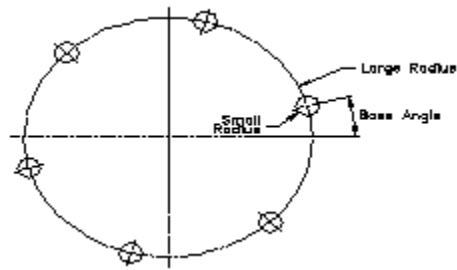
▶ The center lines will always extend outside of the circle a distance equal to 25% of the radius of the circle.

*Extra features in Full Version*

▶ The amount the lines extend outside of the circle is determined by the Center Lines Setup settings.



## Create Circular Pattern



The Create Circular Pattern utility creates a pattern of small circles at a given distance from a given point.

Steps:



Fill in the dialog box listing the distance from the center point to the circle pattern, the radius of the circles in the circle pattern, the number of circles to create in the pattern and an angle from the x-axis to start the pattern.



Indicate a point for the center of the pattern.



A series of circles will be created around the given point of the given size. Also a centerline circle will be created passing through the circle pattern and centerlines will pass radially through each circle.

*Limitations in Trial Version:*



None

*Extra features in Full Version*



None

## ***Draw Rectangle***

The Draw Rectangle utility will create a polyline in the shape of a rectangle centered about a given point.

Steps:



Fill in the dialog giving the width and height of the rectangle and any angle to rotate the rectangle from the x-axis. If the height and width are the same a square will be drawn.



Indicate a point for the center of the rectangle.



A polyline of the given dimensions will be created around the indicated point

*Limitations in Trial Version:*



None

*Extra features in Full Version*



None

## **Draw Ellipse**

The Draw Ellipse utility will create a polyline in the shape of an ellipse (Virtual Drafter 1.0 does not have a true ellipse entity).

Steps:



Fill in the dialog giving the length of the major and minor axis of the ellipse and any angle to rotate the ellipse from the x-axis. If both the major and minor axis lengths are the same a circular ellipse will be created.



Indicate a point for the center of the ellipse



An ellipse of the given dimensions will be created around the indicated point

*Limitations in Trial Version:*



None

*Extra features in Full Version*



None

### ***Draw Ellipse (Center, Major, Minor)***

The Draw Ellipse utility will create a polyline in the shape of an ellipse (Virtual Drafter 1.0 does not have a true ellipse entity). The user indicates three points to be used to construct the ellipse. The first is the center, the second is the end of the major axis and the third is the distance (as measured from the center of the ellipse) for the minor axis.

Steps:

- ▶ Indicate a point for the center of the ellipse
- ▶ Indicate a point for the end of the major axis
- ▶ Indicate a point for length of the minor axis
- ▶ An ellipse of the given dimensions will be created around the indicated point

*Limitations in Trial Version:*

- ▶ None

*Extra features in Full Version*

- ▶ None

## **Foreshortened Dimension**



The Foreshortened Dimension utility creates a foreshortened radial dimension. A foreshortened dimension is used to indicate the radius of an arc when the center of the arc is either off the drawing or so far removed from the arc that using a standard radial dimension is impractical.

Steps:

- ▶ Select the arc to dimension
- ▶ Indicate a point for the “center” of the dimension
- ▶ A foreshortened dimension will be created running from the new “center” to the arc.

*Limitations in Trial Version:*

- ▶ None

*Extra features in Full Version*

- ▶ None

## ***Date/Time Stamp***

The Date/Time Stamp utility will add the file name and a date and time stamp to the drawing at a given point.

Steps:



Indicate the point at which to place the date/time stamp



A text entity with the word "FILE:" followed by the file name will be created above the point and another text entity with the word "DATE:" followed by the current date and time will be created below the point.

*Limitations in Trial Version:*



None

*Extra features in Full Version*



None

## **Measure Line Angle**

Measures the angle of a chosen line and the angle between subsequent selected lines.

Steps:



Select a line



The angle of the line will be listed in the Tool Tips box by the cursor (move the mouse if it does not appear).



Select another line



The angle of the new line will be listed along with the angle between this line and the previous line.



Repeat until finished. Click away from the geometry or choose a non-line to end..

*Limitations in Trial Version:*



None

*Extra features in Full Version*



None

## **Measure Arc Length**

Measures the length of an arc or the circumference of a circle.

Steps:



Select an arc or circle



The length of the arc or circumference of the circle will be listed in the Tool Tips box by the cursor (move the mouse if it does not appear).



Repeat until finished. Click away from the geometry or choose a non-arc/circle to end..

*Limitations in Trial Version:*



None

*Extra features in Full Version*



None



## **Configuration**

The Configuration utility allows the user to specify which utilities are listed on the Vdraft Extensions menu.

Steps:



Click on the name of a given utility to have the utility listed (and therefore usable) or not. A check mark or "X" (depending on operating system version) indicates the utility is accesable.



The next time that Vdraft is loaded Tailor Made Tools sub-menu will list only those utilities selected.

*Limitations in Trial Version:*



None

*Extra features in Full Version*



None

## **Setup**

The Setup Create Centerlines utility will define how the Create Centerlines utility creates the centerline for a given circle. These values will persist until changed, even between sessions.

Steps:



Select whether a set amount or a percentage of the radius is used to determine the over run distance.



Input the percentage or distance as appropriate.

*Limitations in Trial Version:*



This feature is not available in Trial Version

*Extra features in Full Version*



This feature is only available in the Full Version

