

# VUMC Record Set Deliverable Requirements Training

## ***Converting AutoCAD 2000+ to CAL file format for media submittal***

**General.** Converting your Drawings from AutoCAD to raster is simply a matter of "printing" to file with one of the included Print drivers. This also offers you the advantage of having a fast, small file format that is widely supported by plotters for your printing needs.

*These instructions are AutoCAD 2000 but later versions should be similar. We suggest CAL as it produces the correct bilevel (2 bit color) file with the least steps.*

### **AutoCAD Plotter Driver Setup:**

- 1) There are 2 CALS raster drivers included with AutoCAD 2000. You want the second “**Dimensional CALS..**” Go to File, Plotter Manager and select Add a Plotter.
- 2) Choose Raster File Formats, “Dimensional CALS Type 1...” This version saves the actual page dimensions to file.

### **To use the CALS driver in AutoCAD:**

*Check settings – Layout tab (if prepared), File/ Page Setup will show plot settings if defined.*

- 1) File, PLOT.
- 2) On the Plot Device Tab, choose the new Dimensional CALS driver.
- 3) Select its Properties. (beside the device name)
  - Under Media, set the Plot (paper) size (W x H).
  - Under Graphics, set the resolution. 300 is default.(the Hints button will tell you about raster formats)
- 4) Select Monochrome Plot style (pen and color assignments) (You can edit or import the assignments here as you see fit.)

*Note that the Plot to File settings show the DWG file name with an RST (raster) extension.*
- 5) Ensure it is saving to the correct directory.
- 6) On the Plot Settings tab, verify the paper size corresponds to the Properties setting above.
- 7) On Plot Scale, set Scale as required, Scale to Fit if suitable. May also wish to “scale line weights” (If the layout is undefined, on the drawings Model tab, click Window and drag out your Plot area.)
- 8) You may wish to check Center the Plot, if available.
- 9) Click OK to plot.
- 10) Right click on the Drawing, choose Options/ Plotting tab to set defaults. Successive plots will be faster as you have now created the settings. These instructions may vary, depending on saved settings and original configurations.

The quick checklist to plot: Dimensions driver, monochrome, file location, then page size, scale, center. Under Page Setup Name, you can pick Previous Plot for prior settings.

*Note that AutoCAD 2000 uses an HDI driver to output raster files. For some reason, it may output CALS files with an RST rather than CAL extension. You can rename them to RST to CAL before committing to deliverable media. To view the files, you may need to rename them, depending on the viewer. One other issue only with 2000 – polylines may display and print as dotted (very light) lines after conversion. This is an AutoCAD 2000 driver issue. The solution is to explode these lines.*