Inventor Performance Degradation Troubleshooting Tips

01. Apply all critical updates and service packs for the Windows operating system as well as all hotfixes and service packs for Autodesk Inventor.

02. Verify that your system meets the required specifications to run Autodesk Inventor software, which can be found on the Autodesk website at <http://usa.autodesk.com>.

03. Verify that you are using a certified graphics card and appropriate driver with Inventor. Please refer to the Autodesk Inventor Hardware Web Site at <http://www.autodesk.com/us/inventor/graphic_cards/> for more information regarding compatibility. Also grab the latest hardware library registry file here.

04. Close all other applications and disable any services or antivirus software running in the background if possible.

05. Defrag the hard drive and make sure there is enough available space for Inventor to write to, notably the temp file.

06. Increase the paging file size to approximately 1.5 times the amount of physical RAM available. Set the initial and maximum size equal to each other or close to it. Also consider placing the paging file on a separate physical disk to reduce disk access contention.

07. Reboot the machine.

08. Minimize screen resolution (1024 x 768 or 1152 x 864).

09. Within Inventor, go to tools - application options - general tab and increase the undo file size to 1000 mb, 256 mb is the default.

10. Within Inventor, go to tools - application options - display tab and uncheck such things as Silhouettes, Depth Dimming, and Smooth Display Quality which are all settings for optimal appearance rather than performance. Also try setting View Transition Time to 0 seconds and Minimum Frame Rate as high as possible. These are purely graphical settings and will not affect model geometry or drawing accuracy.

11. Don't use nested search paths in the project file. They'll turn red if you are. Always keep your workspace local and use as few workgroups as possible. Consider using Vault for data management.

12. Turn off adaptivity.

13. Hide work planes when not in use.

14. Suppress large patterned arrays (such as a metal grating). Inventor must compute each instance individually.

15. Suppress complex features and decals.

16. Take advantage of using design views in which the visibility of several parts and/or sub assemblies is turned off. Show only the sub system(s) which you are working on.

17. Utilize an Autodesk Inventor part file (IPT) instead of a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet (XLS) to drive parameters within an assembly. Refer to solutions TS81031 and TS82124 for details on how to do this.

18. If you are working over a network copy the files to your local machine. This is especially important when working on assemblies or drawings which access part files for information. The project workspace should be set locally. This eliminates excessive network usage and eliminates issues of data getting out of sync or lost if the network or server goes down. Autodesk Vault is an excellent solution for this situation since it allows you to store data on a server from which you can "check in or check out" files that get copied to your local machine for revisions.

19. Be sure to save a backup copy of your files and use the migration utility to migrate and rebuild all the entire dataset to the latest release of Inventor.

20. If your operating system is Windows XP, consider enabling the 3 gigabyte switch by editing the boot.ini file. More information on exactly how to do this can be found on Microsoft's web page as well as Autodesk's graphic card web page.

21. One of the cheapest ways to upgrade your hardware is to increase the size of your physical RAM by purchasing additional memory or larger memory sticks depending upon the number of available slots on your computer's motherboard.

22. Reformat the hard drive and reinstall the operating system and necessary applications.

23. Upgrade your system hardware. Items to consider include: RAM, processor, graphics card, NIC (100Mbit vs. 1Gbit), disk (IDE vs. SCSI, RAID), etc.