

LinkMotion and AutoCAD 2005:

After you install LinkMotion software and setup all settings launch AutoCAD software.

Important notes:

Zero or thinnest line width and No fill are the most important things to remember when you are designing a file for Vector output. Do not fill the shape for any vector output.

Raster will have the fills and it is used mostly for the laser output.

Solustan tests the primary function of accepting hair lines (vector lines) from the third party application software to make the vector moves on the machine using LinkMotion driver. Solustan may test additional functions. However, it is not a detailed testing. The developer and marketer of the third party software make changes to their applications quite often. It is the responsibility of the user to make sure that the necessary functions are available while making the choice of off-the-shelf application software.

Solustan's liability is limited to the purchase price of the LinkMotion driver software.

It is necessary for the user to own the application that will be used for the job design. There are many books of various levels available for all these popular applications. This document is simply a guideline to point the user in the right direction. We welcome feedback from our users. Share your findings with us and we will include them here for all users benefit.

(1) How to setup AutoCAD for proper Table(Machine) Size and Page Size?

Launch **AutoCAD 2000** application.

Select **Lineweight** from the **Format** menu.

Under **Default** select **0.000"**.

Click on the **OK** button.

Now select **Layout 1** from the bottom of the page.

Dialog box will open with the **Page Setup Manager**.

Click on the **New** button.

Here select **<Default Output Device>** from **Start with:**

Click on the **OK** button.

You should see your machine name under Printer name.

Click on the **Properties** button.

Click on the **Custom Properties** button.

Check **Portrait or Landscape** depending on your Table size.

Click on the **OK** button.

Click on the **OK** button on the Plotter Configuration Editor.

You should see your machine name under Printer/plotter name selection.

Plot offset comes with default value of 0.125" for both X and Y axis.

Make them both 0.00" if you wish to have the full table size for the output.

Plot Scale should be 1:1 selected and Fit to paper should not be checked.

Under Plot Options – Plot with plot styles and Plot paper space last should be unchecked. Only **Plot lineweights** should be checked.

Drawing orientation should be **Portrait or Landscape** depending on your Table size.

Click on the **OK** button.

Under Page Setup Manager **Setup 1** should be highlighted.
Click on the **Set Current** button.
Click on the **Close** button.

Plot settings for AutoCAD:

After you are done with your design go to the **File menu** and select **Plot**. If you are sending your design for the output on your machine you simply click on the **OK** button. LinkMotion will be active and your machine should be in action.

If you have purchased **M and G-Code (RS274/NGC)** driver you need to click on the button for **Plot to File** in the **Plot** dialog box. Give proper **Name** to the file and make sure to save file in the proper **Location** and click on the **OK** button. Now you can work with your M and G-Code file.

LinkMotion and AutoCAD 2000:

(1) How to setup AutoCAD for proper Table(Machine) Size and Page Size?

Launch **AutoCAD 2000** application.

Select **Page Setup** under **File** menu.

Here select **Plot Device** menu.

In Plotter configuration under name select **Your Machine Name**.

Click on the **Properties** button on the right.

Here make sure **Device & Document Settings** tab is selected.

Under **User Defined Paper Sizes & Calibration** select **Modify Standard Paper Size (Printable area)**.

At the lower section of **Modify Standard Paper Sizes** Select **Table Size**. (If your table size is smaller than 8.5"x11" **Table Size** choice may not show up here and AutoCAD will select from some of the standard available sizes. You may be able to select **Plotter Calibration** and follow Autocad's instruction to get your machine table size.)

Click on **Modify** button on the right.

Here you will see values for Top, Bottom, Left and Right. **Make sure all the values are 0.00**.

Click on the **Next** button.

Here you will have to assign a file name **Your Machine Name.PMP**.

Click on the **Next** button.

Click on the **Finish** button.

Click on **Save As**. Give the file name **Your Machine Name.pc3**

Click on **Save**.

Click on the **OK** button.

In Plotter configuration under name select **Your Machine Name.pc3**

Now you should have your full size table available to you.

Now select **Layout Settings** menu.

In **Paper Size** click on the arrow on the right and select **Table Size**.

Selection in the **Drawing orientation** depends on the size of **Your Machine**.

If X direction size is larger than Y then select **Landscape**.

If X direction size is smaller than Y then select **Portrait** mode.

In **Plot scale** area **Scale** should be **1:1** selected by the arrow on the right.

In **Plot options** area check **Plot with plot styles**.

Do not check Scale Lineweight in the Plot Scale area.

Click on **OK** button.

(2) How to set up AutoCAD for using 0.00mm or 0.00in line thickness permanently?

Click on the **Page Setup** from the **File** menu.

Under **Plot style table[pen assignments]** click on the **New** button to the right.

Click on **Start from Scratch**.

Click **Next** button.

Here give a file name same as **Your Machine Name**.

Click **Next** button.

Click on the button **Plot Style Table Editor**.

Click on the box for **Lineweight**.

Here select **0.00mm** or **0.00in**. It may be necessary to do this for different color pens if you are using color designs.

Click on **Save and Close**.

Uncheck the box **Use this plot style table for the current drawing**.

Check the box **Use this style table for new and pre-AutoCAD 2000 Drawings**.

Click on **Finish**.

Make sure that under **Plot Style Table** file with **Your Machine Name.stb** is selected.

You may need to close the Page Setup once and select it back from the file menu for you to see your machine name.stb.

Click on the **Options** button and make sure of the following settings.

Click on the **Plotting** menu.

On the right in **Select Default Plot Style Table** select **Your Machine Name.stb** file.

Under **Default plot settings for new drawings** select the button for **Use as default output device**.

Make sure **Your Machine Name** is selected here.

Click on the **Apply & Close** button.

Other settings for AutoCAD

Go to the **Tools** menu and Select **Options**.

Click on the **User Preferences** menu. Most default settings are fine.

Make sure to check **Plotting** and **PostScript Output** under **Object Sorting Methods**.

Click on the **Lineweight Settings** button.

Under Line Weights select **0.00mm** or **0.00in**.

Under Display Line Weight on the right select **0.00 in or mm** (all the way on the top) by clicking on the arrow.

Click on the **Apply & Close** button.

Again click on the **Apply & Close** button from the bottom.

You are done with all the basic settings. Now you can start designing with text and graphics. You can refer to AutoCAD's manual for how to design your file.

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