

Features and Benefits

Autodesk® Utility Design, built on AutoCAD® Map 3D, enables you to plan and design distribution networks from start to finish in a single environment. Autodesk Utility Design streamlines the design process with true rules-based automation by integrating the creation of construction sketches, performing engineering calculations to size facilities, and linking to ordering systems to create the correct materials orders for new facilities. Use Autodesk Utility Design to quickly generate finished construction work orders that include layouts, engineering data, bills of materials, and estimated costs. With Autodesk Utility Design, complete your network design projects faster, more easily, and more accurately—all in one solution.

AUTODESK UTILITY DESIGN FEATURES AND BENEFITS

Feature	Description	Benefit
Design layout tools	Tool palettes provide a simplified interface that saves utility designers time. By using the auto-hide and transparency features of the palettes, designers also gain valuable screen real estate and see more of the drawing at once.	Reduce your design layout time.
Engineering calculations	A comprehensive set of engineering tools—including automatic guying, voltage drop calculations, and clearance checking, and more—helps designers correctly size facilities. You can configure these calculations to incorporate their particular utility's engineering standards.	Standardize your designs, resulting in improved network reliability and fewer over-orders of materials.
Engineering reports	Improved engineering reports enable you to interactively rerun calculations right in the reporting tool. This saves time, and reduces extra steps during important tasks such as calculating voltage drops and sag.	Improve your productivity and design decisions.
Materials ordering	Simplify your ordering process with automatically created materials lists available on a “by location” basis. Integration into existing materials ordering systems enables users to directly use your materials database during the design phase.	Increase your productivity and optimize the materials ordering process.
Detailed cost estimates	Generate a complete report of the materials costs associated with the job. If your compatible units database includes labor estimates, the cost estimate for the job can include labor costs as well.	Improve the accuracy of your budgeting and cost planning during the construction phase.

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Integration with work management systems	Autodesk Utility Design can be integrated into existing work management systems, allowing designers, estimators, or planners to directly generate work orders related to the design.	Streamline your design-to-build process to increase your return on investment.
Drawing manager	Manage and maintain AutoCAD DWG™ sketches per project or design job, integrating the construction documentation process.	Improve your design-to-construction process to save time and costs.
Facility information tool	The facility information tool shows all relevant facility information. With it, your designers can query drawings and see size, type, cost, status, load, and engineering results on all objects specified in Autodesk Utility Design.	Make quicker, more accurate design decisions.
One command to draw and label	Save time by combining the process of drawing and labeling conductors or mains. For commonly used facilities, the Draw and Label command enables designers to do in one step what previously took two.	Reduce your AutoCAD drafting time, while creating informative construction drawings.
Configurable user interfaces	Customize Edit Material, Project Explorer, and other modules previously only configurable by editing XML files. This enables Autodesk Utility Design to be quickly and easily configured to reflect your corporate standards, while providing users with familiar user interfaces.	Accelerate user productivity.
Gas and water configurations	Gas and water utility customers get out-of-the-box support for gas and water symbols, materials databases, logic files, menus, toolbars, and configuration files.	Reduce startup time for gas and water utilities by building on these components.

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Built on AutoCAD Map 3D 2009	Built on AutoCAD Map 3D 2009, which incorporates AutoCAD 2009, Autodesk Utility Design 2009 contains all the features and capabilities of these two products—including direct access to GIS files and databases through Feature Data Objects (FDO) and native AutoCAD functionality.	Leverage existing AutoCAD and AutoCAD Map 3D skills to accelerate your productivity.
Automated materials ordering COM API	By using the automated materials ordering Application Programming Interfaces (API), utility companies can write logic in Microsoft® Visual Basic® for Applications (VBA) or any other COM-compliant language, including .NET. Working in VBA or a development environment of your choice, you can use the newer COM-based APIs for Autodesk Utility Design and enjoy improved debugging and other productivity enhancements provided by your development environment.	Improve the accuracy of your bills of materials (BOMs) and cost estimates through direct integration with materials ordering systems.

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