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i n s i d e

# AutoCAD<sup>®</sup> LT

## for Windows<sup>®</sup> 95

Francis Soen, Howard Fulmer, & Michael Beall

New  
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# INSIDE AutoCAD® LT FOR Windows® 95

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# Inside AutoCAD LT for Windows 95

By Michael Beall, Howard Fulmer, and Francis Soen

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## **Dedication**

I dedicate this book to my parents who have made it possible for me to work at what I enjoy doing. — Francis Soen

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# INTRODUCTION

This version of AutoCAD LT is far from “lite.” When first introduced, the product was dubbed with the LT moniker intending to refer to a product that could be used with a laptop. It was intended to have the *power* of standard AutoCAD without the additional weight of 3D objects and the AutoLISP “wiring” for the connectability of hordes of third-party products. Surprisingly to most users, this resulted in an extremely affordable and powerful, albeit slimmer, version of AutoCAD.

AutoCAD LT for Windows 95 is even more powerful by virtue of being blessed with many of the new features added to Release 13. And users of Release 13 for Windows will be hard-pressed to see a significant difference between the menus and tools available in the two products.

Hopefully, this effort on the part of the authors and New Riders will provide you with an effective means by which you can feel immediately comfortable with an extremely useful CAD tool.

# LEARNING FROM THIS BOOK

*Inside AutoCAD LT for Windows 95* is designed as a tutorial to help new users learn how to use AutoCAD LT. Concepts and exercises are organized to build your knowledge and understanding gradually. This section presents conventions and terms used to explain commands and concepts.

## Terms Used with the Pointing Device

When using the Windows pointing device, referred to throughout the book as a mouse, you will encounter the following terms to describe the mouse actions:

- **Click:** Press and release the pick button, button 1.
- **Click on, click in:** Position the cursor on the appropriate user interface object (such as an icon, edit box, menu item tool, and so on), then click the pick button.
- **Double-click:** Press and release the pick button twice in rapid succession.
- **Pick:** Position the AutoCAD LT cursor or pointer on the appropriate object, then click the pick button.
- **Select:** Highlight an object in the AutoCAD drawing area by picking it or by using other object selection methods. Also, to highlight an item, word, or character in a drop-down list, dialog box, or edit box by clicking on it.
- **Choose:** Select an item in a menu or dialog box by either clicking on it or typing its hot key letter.
- **Drag:** Move the mouse and cursor, causing lines or objects in the drawing area to move with the cursor.
- **Press and drag:** Press and hold down the pick button of the mouse, drag the object across the drawing area, then release the mouse. This could also refer to the dragging of the scroll box in a scroll bar.

## Notes, Tips, and Warnings

*Inside AutoCAD LT for Windows 95* features three special types of sidebars that are shown apart from the normal text by icons: Notes, Tips, and Warnings. These notations provide you with extra help and information to supplement the general discussion.



**N**OTE

A Note gives you extra information that is not critical to the subject at hand, but can be useful. A Note can tell you how to avoid problems with your computer or describe situations that can occur under certain circumstances and might tell you what steps to take.

**T**IP

A Tip can tell you how to get the most out of AutoCAD LT for Windows 95 as you follow the discussion of a topic. A Tip might show how to make your system run a little faster, how to speed up a procedure, or how to perform a time-saving or system-enhancing technique within AutoCAD LT or the Windows 95 environment.

**W**ARNING

A Warning alerts you to when a procedure might be disastrous (when you run the risk of losing data, locking your system, or even damaging the hardware). Warnings can tell you how to avoid these situations or describe steps to take to remedy such situations.

## Toolbar Selection

New to AutoCAD LT for Windows 95 are command toolbars. When you rest your cursor on a tool, you are given a *tooltip* in a little yellow box. This is the name of the tool and oftentimes the name of the command issued by that tool. On some toolbars, choosing a tool will cause another set of tools to pop up either to the right or below the tool. These are known as *flyouts*. Tools are referred to by their name and the name of their corresponding toolbar (and flyout). If you are instructed to choose *Dtext* (*Draw, Text*), for example, you would choose the Dtext tool located in the Draw toolbar on the Text flyout.

## Pull-Down Menu Selections

When you see instructions such as Choose Draw, Line, this means to move the mouse to the pull-down menu item Draw and click the left mouse button. You can also use the accelerator key (a combination consisting of the Alt key and the letter underlined in the menu bar item) to display the menu. In the previous example, you could either click on the Draw pull-down menu, then choose Line, or press Alt+D and then L.