# **Stringer Topo** For BricsCAD<sup>®</sup> and AutoCAD<sup>®</sup>



## **Getting Started**

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# Typical Surveyors Workflow - Stringer Topo for CAD

Field Survey	• The Field survey is based on using Codes related to the Feature being located either by Code only(for a point) or by Code and String Number (for Breakline or stringing things together)
Raw Field File	<ul> <li>Supports a multitude of Total Stations and field observation file formats</li> <li>Travers adjustements can be added to reductions from AutoCAD/csv file</li> </ul>
Stringer Reduction	<ul> <li>Edit the RAW data in a user friendly display and save</li> <li>Review outputs and co-ordinate reduction</li> <li>Import points into the drawng</li> </ul>
Point Import and Display	<ul> <li>COGO points are displayed in the drawing</li> <li>Points can be edited and displays can be adjusted</li> </ul>
Stringer Settings	<ul> <li>Stringer Settings establish the point display to apply based on point code</li> <li>Define if the point is used in the surface</li> <li>Define if the point is used for generating 2D linework and/or a breakline</li> </ul>
Join All Codes	<ul> <li>Auotmatically creates a surface from the COGO points</li> <li>Automatically joins codes with string numbers and adds them to the surface as breaklines</li> <li>Automatically draws 2D linework</li> </ul>
Join All Codes Stringer Edit Commands	<ul> <li>Auotmatically creates a surface from the COGO points</li> <li>Automatically joins codes with string numbers and adds them to the surface as breaklines</li> <li>Automatically draws 2D linework</li> <li>Multitude of editing commands to correct/enhance the field survey</li> <li>Reorder out of sequence points, search and replace, and more</li> <li>Surface updates as changes are applied</li> </ul>
Join All Codes Stringer Edit Commands Surface Outputs	<ul> <li>Auotmatically creates a surface from the COGO points</li> <li>Automatically joins codes with string numbers and adds them to the surface as breaklines</li> <li>Automatically draws 2D linework</li> <li>Multitude of editing commands to correct/enhance the field survey</li> <li>Reorder out of sequence points, search and replace, and more</li> <li>Surface updates as changes are applied</li> <li>Apply surface styles, edit surface display</li> <li>Adjust contour intervals and add contour labels</li> <li>Turn on the triangles, height shading, slope arrows, etc</li> </ul>
Join All Codes Stringer Edit Commands Surface Outputs Point and Survey Outputs	<ul> <li>Auotmatically creates a surface from the COGO points</li> <li>Automatically joins codes with string numbers and adds them to the surface as breaklines</li> <li>Automatically draws 2D linework</li> <li>Multitude of editing commands to correct/enhance the field survey</li> <li>Reorder out of sequence points, search and replace, and more</li> <li>Surface updates as changes are applied</li> <li>Adjust contour intervals and add contour labels</li> <li>Turn on the triangles, height shading, slope arrows, etc</li> <li>Generate a Legend table</li> <li>Create a points table</li> </ul>

## Module 1 - Introduction to Stringer Topo for CAD

Stringer Topo provides a comprehensive set of tools for the creation of Topographical Surveys, and includes tools suitable for Cadastral Survey drawings and documentation.

Stringer Topo includes:

- Survey reduction tools, taking the field survey file and enabling editing of survey observations and click button transfer of Cogo Points into the drawing
- Point creation and editing tools, with customisable display incorporating symbols/blocks and text labelling
- Automated point display based on point coding (descriptions)
- Point group tools for grouping points and applying to surfaces
- Surface (TIN) modelling tools, updating based on edits made to Points and Breaklines.
   Surface functionality includes:
  - $\circ$   $\;$  Updating directly from edits to survey points and breaklines using Stringer Topo  $\;$
  - Creation using drawing data, such as 3D faces, BricsCAD points and 3D polylines
  - User controllable display for contours, contour labelling, triangles, slope arrows and height shading
- Automated breakline creation, totally customisable by the user and based on user defined point codes and string numbers.
- Extensive breakline editing tools to address any field errors such as:
  - o Incorrect string numbering
  - Unrecognised field codes
  - Out-of-sequence survey pickup of points
  - $\circ$   $\;$  Starting/stopping curved breaklines, closing breaklines, and more  $\;$
  - Dual coding
- Import and export tools to share data

## **Module 2: Introduction to Points**

All COGO points (Points) are created using Stringer Topo commands, and are represented on user definable layers with text and blocks. The total COGO point is contained inside an attributed block, and Stringer Topo includes functionality to easily turn text elements (such as elevation) on/off and to set up text sizes and positions for different elements of text display (eg: point number, elevation and description).

#### **Creating Points**

COGO Points can be created manually using the **Make Points** command, however the most used approach will be to import field survey data into the drawing.

#### **Point Display Output and Control**

When a COGO point is selected it can be edited using Stringer Topo commands and also from the Attributes area of the BricsCAD Properties panel:

	**	General	-
		Color	ByLayer
		Layer	104_Existing_Surface
		Linetype	ByLayer
		Linetype scale	1
		Plot style	ByColor
		Lineweight	ByLayer
		Transparency	ByLayer
		Hyperlink	
		3D Visualization	-
$\sim$		Material	ByLayer
00		Geometry	-
		Position X	630879.2307
a'		Position Y	5749760.584
Y		Position Z	0
104		Scale X	0.2
104		Scale Y	0.2
_		Scale Z	0.2
		Misc	-
		Name	Surveypoint_104
		Rotation	90d0'0"
		Annotative	No
		Block Unit	Unitless
		Unit factor	1
		Attributes	-
		Point_Number	1138
	10	Elevation	87.20
	E I	True_Elevation	87.1965949137362
	R	Description	104
	DP	Contourable	1
	We want	Num Decimals	2

Stringer Topo includes a single interface for creating Point Styles, that are then set to display for particular point descriptions.

<b>A</b>		Point Style Editor	×
Point Styles In Drawing surveypoint_001 v Make a copy of Survey Point Style Symbols In Drawing _ARD_Drawing v Make a New Point Style using Symbol	Point_Number Bevation True_Bevation Description Contourable Num_Decimals Add a New Attribute Remove Attribute	Point Number       Attribute Tag         Easting       Description         Bevation       Raw Code         Description       Constructed Attribute Text         Description       Description         ✓ Visible       Num. Decimals         Insertion Pt       X         1.11 ↔       Y         Justification       Right         East       Layer         Description       ▼	

The **Point Style Creator** is used to manage creation and editing of different Point displays:

The **Stringer Settings** form sets up what Point Style to display for different point Codes that you pick up in the field:

🗲 Key Description Associations							×
APEX AROW	^	BLDG		New Delete	Point Style	SURVEYPOINT	~
BCK BI BIN		Description	BUILDING		Conve	ert Current Symbol to	a Point Style
BL BL BLDG		Point Layer	BUILDING	~	Symbol Files	<none></none>	~
BLDG BM BMOS		Symbol Layer	BUILDING	~			
BMS BMSH		Scaling	Use Curr Scale	] Use Paramet	er 🗹	Apply Scale	1
BORE BREK		Rotations		Use Paramet	er 🗸	Apply Rotation	0
BRGE BUND BUS		Line Work	○ 2D	🔿 Do Not Stri	ing		DTM Point 🗹
BUSST CABL		2D Line Layer	Major_Building_Strin_L		~	Template	
CABNT CB		3D Line Layer	Topo3d_Breaklines		~	<none></none>	~
CE CF		C:\CSS TRAININ	IG DATA\BCAD 201	7\STRINGER TOPO	STRINGER SET	TINGS FILESVALPHA	(SURVEY)USA.SDB
CHEK CHIM	~		Select Different C	Correlation File	Save File	Save and Exit	Quit

This form is significant in automating outputs. It controls:

- Your list of Point Codes that you use in the field
- For each point code
  - What Point Style to apply
  - $\circ~$  A symbol (optional, since the Point Style can include a symbol also)
  - The description
  - $\circ$   $\,$  The layer to use
  - $\circ$   $\;$  The scaling and rotation of the point  $\;$
  - Whether the point code is used
    - For drawing 2d line work
    - For inclusions as a breakline in the surface

#### **Point Groups**

Point groups provide users the ability to control the points that are used to build a surface, to allow group edits (such as moving, scaling, rotation and datum shift) and for output (such as to a table or as an exported external file).

The **Point Group** command is used for this purpose:

Point Groups						
All Points Contourable	Contourable	Add New Group	Delete Group App	ly Changes Number of	of Poi	nts in Group : 631
	Raw Codes to Include	•				
	Raw Codes to Exclude	•.	U*,*.Z*,TR*,SHRB*			
	Elevation to Include					
	Elevation to Exclude		320			
	Point Numbers to Include					
	Point Numbers to Exclude	2	1001			
Pt Num	Fasting	Northing	Flevation	Code		Group Commands
(	2069151.688	18859583.920	298.386	SPK		Move
	2069040.763	18859658.270	304.407	SPK,		Rotate
4	2068827.083	18859251.760	308.595	SPK		Scale
20004	2068826.877	18859251.867	308.590	CHK FROM 1 - SPK		Transform
3	2068826.827	18859251.841	308.590	SPK		Transform
20005	2069040.610	18859658.475	304.401	CHK FROM 1 - SPK		Add to Elev.
2000	2069151.562	18859584.111	298.379	CHK FROM 1 - SPK		Compare Points
1007	2069360.719	18859119.667	285.227	FL01		Create Table
1008	2069367.290	18859141.959	286.060	FL01		
1009	2069370.301	18859151.349	285.691	FL01		SDR 20 V
1010	2069370.259	18859151.724	285.911	FL02		Export Group
101	2069384.115	18859197.820	287.842	FL02		700M
1012	2063337.385	18859242.783	290.482	FL02		2001 - +
1013	2065405.386	18809288.133	294.628	FLU2	×	Exit

## Module 3: Data Import and Getting Started

In this example, we will be starting from:

- a raw observation file from a Sokkia data recorder (.sdr format), and
- a comma delimited (.csv) file containing a list of known control points with co-ordinates. This file will be used to shift, rotate and scale the survey

#### Transferring from your Total Station/Data Recorder to File

Survey reduction occurs from a raw observation file that has been transferred from the Total Station/Data Recorder to the computer or to a file.

You have access to a wide range of tools to obtain this file, including the use of – Leica Geo Office Tools (for Leica instruments), Prolink (for Sokkia Instruments), Topcon Link (for Topcon instruments) and others. Software often comes with your data recorder to assist in this part of the process.

## Working with Raw Observation Files

Stringer Topo includes functionality to read raw observation data from a wide variety of data recorders and typical data file formats. The supported instruments and file formats are routinely updates as required. Currently the following file formats are directly supported:

- ✓ RW5 (Native format for editing)
- ✓ NEU (CivilCAD)
- ✓ FBK (Autodesk)
- ✓ GSI Code Before/After (Leica)
- ✓ SDR/RAW (Sokkia)
- ✓ CRD/RW5 (Sokkia)

- ✓ RAW C&G
- GRE Code Before/After
- ✓ DN/RAW (Nikon)
- ✓ FC?/DATA/GT7 (Topcon)
- ✓ JOB/.ARD/AGA/DC? (Trimble)
- ✓ CSV file (Comma Delimited)

Once a file is selected the software creates a matching copy of the file and opens it for immediate editing and adjustment of the observations.

Points can be exported from this process and imported directly into  $\operatorname{BricsCAD}^{\circ}$ 

#### **Getting Started**

If required, start BricsCAD

From the File menu, select New.

Browse to C:\CSS Training Data\Stringer Topo\For BricsCAD\V18\ and **Open** the Field Survey Start Drawing.DWG file.

➢ For AutoCAD the path includes "For AutoCAD".

Go to File > Save As and save the drawing with name Field Survey.dwg.

**Note:** This drawing contains Point Styles, Point Groups and Layers suitable for the survey data we are importing.

#### **Open the Raw Field Survey File**

**Step 1.** From the Ribbon select the Stringer Connect icon (or from the Stringer menu select

Stringer-Regular Icons Toolbar and then Stringer Connect

Stringer Connect allows you to select from a variety of raw survey files, edit the observations and generate co-ordinated points directly inside BricsCAD<sup>®</sup>. Select the Field Survey.RW5 file



If your raw data is in an SDR format, you use the interface to select the original survey data file:

- Use the pick list on the right hand side to select the file format of **SDR Sokkia**.
- Now to locate and select the file:
  - o Click on the .SDR file you want to process
  - Click on the Open button (or you can double click on the file) The software prompts you to create an intermediary file for editing

Simply click on **Save** to create a **COPY** of the original data for editing

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File name: Save as type:	C:\CSS Training RW5 files (*.rw5)	Data\Civil 3D 2013\Strin	iger\Topo Survey Made Easy\Jones Oval - 20081127.RWS	•
lide Folders				Save Cancel

Note: The original survey file is not

edited as part of this process. Adjustments are made to this saved .RW5 file.

Next step is to review and adjust the observed data before creating co-ordinated points.

#### Edit the Observations

The Stringer Connect observations editor immediately opens and includes all your survey data.

itrol Op	tions					
w Data	Misclose	es Reduced Coord	s Preview			
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Coord	PN 002	1000.000	2000.000	0.000	5	
Orient	OP 001	BP 002	BC 0.0000	BS 117.5755		
HT	HI 1.942	TH 0.000				
Shot	OP 001	FP 002	SD 0.000	AR 117.5755	ZE 89.3950	
HT	HI 1.942	TH 1.800				
Shot	OP 001	FP 1000	SD 0.000	AR 314.5020	ZE 88.2305	001
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Each type of survey data recorded is colour coded for quick and easy identification. You can click on any cell to make direct edits within the cell, or use the dynamic data editing window at the bottom to make any changes to the data row and click Accept.

Use the scroll on the right to review the recorded data or click in the display and use the roller on the mouse.

You can readily move data that has been taken out of sequence and also Add extra data.

Search and Replace tools are available for you to make bulk edits to (usually) the point descriptions (Codes).

#### Adding Observations

It's easy to add observations in the system by using the Add button..

	- /1687.60 - 1Ar.	/23.#135 ZE 92.1815	191201
Shot OB 004	ED 1000 ED 169 E20 AD	122 402E 7E 02 201E	01201
Shot OP 004	FP 1010 SD 168.484 AR	122.3820 ZE 92.1855	91202
ISNOC UP UU4	FP 1011 SD 170,693 AR	17.4405 ZE 92.0515	91202
Shot OP 004	FP 1012 SD 173.936 AR	113.0620 ZE 91.4700	91202
Shot OD 004	ED 1013 SD 176 666 AD	INS 3615 7E 01 2045	01202
Side Shot Station 004 Point Num Code	Distance 1010 Bearing 91202 Vertical	168.484 122.3820 92.1855	Accept Options ADD SAVE To Note FBK Help SRCH-REP COORDS CS XL CLOSE

#### **Removing Observations**

Some of the data picked up in the field may be incorrect or no longer needed for inclusion in the output. You can remove it from the co-ordinated points by turning any data row into a Note.

#### **Re-Ordering Observations**

Point co-ordinates are calculated by reading and applying the edited observation data working from the top down. You may have taken some shots 'out of sequence' or need to otherwise reorder the survey entries – this can easily happen when an Instrument/Target Height adjustment is missed in the field and added later during the field survey.

#### Adjusting Control Points – Shift, Rotate and/or Scale

It is not uncommon to setup on known control points in the field and to apply assumed co-ordinates and bearings during the field survey. The exact co-ordinates may not be known at the time of the survey or you may wish to adjust these when you are back in the office.

**Stringer Topo** includes the tools you may require to adjust your control points as part of the import process:

- Inside Stringer Connect:
  - By typing in the corrected co-ordinates directly in the cells during the reduction process, or
  - Importing a file of points (this takes the form of a comma delimited file with extension .csv) with point numbers matching and adjusted co-ordinates – the software will read in the file and update all the point co-ordinates
  - $\circ$   $\;$  Scaling the co-ordinate points based on imported control points
- Using BricsCAD<sup>®</sup> :
  - Graphically move and rotate your control points inside BricsCAD<sup>®</sup> and update the coordinates inside Stringer Connect by reading the updated point co-ordinates from the drawing
  - Undertake a traverse adjustment and update the co-ordinates inside Stringer Connect by reading the point co-ordinates from the drawing

In this example we will import a file of known co-ordinates to update the control point co-ordinates inside the editable Field Survey file.

#### Adjusting the Control Points – From File

A file has been created with adjusted control points. The format of the file is as follows (viewed in Notepad):

The file contains the following information (comma delimited):

Pt No, Easting, Northing, Elevation, Description

Since this is a .csv file format it can be created, editing and viewed in Excel.

 Field Survey - Control Point Coordinates.csv - Notepad

 File
 Edit
 Format
 View
 Help

 1,2069679.929,18858806.71,328,1
 2,2067275.199,18861037.34,0,
 4,2068827.083,18859251.76,308.595192,18

 5,2069040.763,18859658.27,304.406632,18
 6,2069151.688,18859583.92,298.386192,18

Stringer Connect - File Name : CICSS TRAINING DATA/CIVIL 3D 2013/STRINGER/TOPO SURVEY MADE EASYJONES OV

DMS

StringerConnect

ed from file : C:\CSS Training Data\Civil 3D 2...

This Filename : C:\CSS TRAINING DATA\CIVIL 3...

00NMSDR33 V04-04.26 01-Mar-00 01:54 113121

121111

Assumed Co-ordinates

13PCP.C. mm Applied: 0.00

BC+>BS

10NMoval

06NM1.000

1300Current view 13TS26-Feb-00 00:04

Stringer Connect will match up the Point Numbers and replace the control point data from this file.

Select Different File Select Control File

Append RW5 File

Collate Control Collate Multiple Shots to Stations Get Control from Autocad

Replace Numeric

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Space Rem

Control Options

Step 2. From the menu Control Options select the command Select Control File.

You will be prompted to locate and open a control file

<i>Step 3.</i> Navigate to the file <b>Field</b>
Survey – Control Point
Coordinates.csv.

The file is located in:

C:\CSS Training Data\Stringer Topo\For BricsCAD\V18

Step 4. Click on Save to include the file

*Step 5.* At the prompt to add the points to the RW5 file, click on **Yes** 

Select Control File		the second se	
🔾 🗢 📕 « C:Drive (C:) 🕨	CSS Trai	ning Data → Civil 3D 2013 → Stringer → Topo Surv	ey Made Easy
Drganize 🔻 New folder			
Stringer Versions	^	Name	Date modified
CSS Training Data		JONES OVAL - 20081127 rawfile.csv	11/11/2011 10:44
Livil 3D 2012		🖳 Jones Oval - Control Point Coordinates.csv	21/05/2009 11:12
Swinburne University		Survey Made Easy.csv	3/08/2011 10:03 AN

SD 0.000 AR 117.5755 ZE 89.3950

5 Points Added Add to RW5 file?		

FP 002

The corresponding Points in the RW5 are updated from the file.

#### **Preview Tab**

Now that you have the Adjusted Co-ordinates for the Instrument Stations in the raw data you can now look at a preview of the data before adding it to the drawing so you know that the data you have edited will reduce as specified. Below is a screen grab of the Preview Tab in Stringer Connect:



In the Preview Tab you can zoom in and out with you wheel on your mouse, you can also zoom into an area and when you want to zoom extents again you can double click on the wheel again just like in BricsCAD.

It also has the co-ordinates in the bottom left corner of anywhere where the mouse is at the time. You can change it from the Pt Numbers to show Codes, so it's up to you with what you want to see while in this display.

#### Importing Coordinated Points into BricsCAD<sup>®</sup>

After you have reviewed and edited the field data, the next step is to reduce these to co-ordinated points and import them into BricsCAD<sup>®</sup>.

*Step 6.* From the **Tabs** up the top click on the **Reduced Coords** Tab. The points will immediately be converted into co-ordinates and displayed for review and importing into BricsCAD<sup>®</sup>.

If you want to save a CSV file of the original points from the field click on the **Save as CSV** button at the bottom of the form.

Some Alpha codes that have been typed into the data recorder can be in lower case. Use the **Code Up** button to change all lower case letters to upper case letters.

ntrol	Options						
aw Da	ta Misclose	Reduced Coords Preview					
			Find Same	CODE UP	Transfer Points	Save to CSV	Close
1	6	2069151.6880	18859583.9200	298.3862			spk \land
1	5	2069040.7630	18859658.2700	304.4066			spk,
1	4	2068827.0830	18859251.7600	308.5952			spk
1	2	2067275.1990	18861037.3400	.0000			spk
1	1	2069679.9290	18858806.7100	328.0000			pm
1	1001	2070034.5652	18858199.3051	348.2663			pm
1	4	2068826.8772	18859251.8673	308.5903		chk fror	n 1 - spk
1	3	2068826.8265	18859251.8411	308.5896			spk
1	5	2069040.6097	18859658.4753	304.4014		chk fror	n 1 - spk
1	6	2069151.5616	18859584.1111	298.3790		chk fror	n 1 - spk
1	1004	2069680.1365	18858806.6017	328.0231			spk
1	1007	2069360.7186	18859119.6666	285.2266			fl01
1	1008	2069367.2902	18859141.9585	286.0604			fl01
1	1009	2069370.3010	18859151.3487	285.6915			fl01
1	1010	2069370.2591	18859151.7238	285.9105			fl02
1	1011	2069384.1154	18859197.8199	287.8421			fl02
1	1012	2069397 3852	18859242 7829	290 4823			fI02

#### Step 7. Click on the Miscloses Tab to display information regarding the survey accuracy

The report confirms the accuracy of your shots taken in the field by comparing the Existing Control Points to the raw observed data shot.

The report can be readily exported to a text format.

Step 8. Click on the Reduced Coords Tab to transfer the points into the drawing



The final step is to transfer the points into BricsCAD

*Step 9.* Click on the **Transfer Points** button down the bottom right of the **Reduced Coords Tab** as shown from Step 8.

BricsCAD<sup>®</sup> protects surveyors from creating duplicate points. This form allows you to determine how to deal with duplicate points.

Step 10. Un-tick the option to Create Error Ellipse and then click on



#### Proceed.

If required double click the middle mouse button to zoom to the extents:

All points are now included in the drawing.

Each point has been assigned Point Style based on its description.

You can zoom in and click on any point in the drawing and view the BricsCAD<sup>®</sup> properties such as point number and elevation.

Note: Stringer has a function called **Point Group Commands** which will scale a Point Group you have created in the **2d scale** only (X,Y not the Z values). These functions are very handy for multiple day jobs.



## Module 4 – Working with Points and Surface Breaklines

With Stringer Topo, you will be prompted to create a surface as soon as you start editing COGO points – Stringer Topo will automatically add points to the surface as well as breaklines. This happens because of the Stringer Settings, which we will discuss in this section.

#### **Reviewing your Point Codes**

In a medium to large surveying firm it is important to ensure consistency in the point codes used in the field.

When survey points are imported into  $BricsCAD^{*}$  it is important to check that the survey includes all the expected field codes – this can be done by checking all point codes in the drawing to ensure that they match the list of codes specified in the Stringer Settings (which we will discuss later). This check also happens at the time of importing.



#### les Validate Codes command

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Step 11. From the Stringer Ribbon select the Codes

After a few moments, a validation check is made between the points in the drawing and the Stringer Settings

Point Codes shown right have been used in the field survey but do not have a corresponding code in the Stringer Settings

It is usual to either include these point codes in the Stringer Settings (so the points are put on the correct layer and have the expected display) or else change the Point Code to match one in the Stringer Settings that's already there.

#### Point Search and Replace

Point code search and replace tools exist in the drawing.

Step 12. To replace all points with description FL with description SWL (swale) select the Search and Replace Dialog (SRD) command from the Stringer Ribbon (or from the Stringer menu select Stringer Point Edit Toolbar and then Search and Replace Dialog)

At the command prompt, press [Enter].

At the Replace Codes form, set the following:

- Code to Replace: FL
- Enter New Code: SWL

Click Check ALL PTS.

1	×
STRINA	ÆR .
Point Number	
Code to Replace	
Enter New Code	
	Cancel
Check Some PTS	Check All PTS

Click **OK** when prompted to select points to replace, and then press [Enter] to select all points in the drawing.

All points with description FL are changed to SWL. Any stringing associated with the points will stay the same, just the code is changed. e.g. FL01 - SWL01

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#### **Surface Creation and Adding Surface Breaklines**

You should review the settings before adding breaklines. The main forms are shown, below:

#### **Point Groups**

From the Points Panel – select Point Groups

Point Groups						
All Points Contourable	Contourable	Add New Group	Delete Group Appl	ly Changes Number of	of Poir	nts in Group : 631
	Raw Codes to Include	·				
	Raw Codes to Exclude	•.	U*,*.Z*,TR*,SHRB*			
	Elevation to Include					
	Elevation to Exclude	 >:	320			
	Point Numbers to Include					
	Point Numbers to Exclude	2	1001			
Pt Num	Easting	Northing	Elevation 💌	Code	~	Group Commands
6	2069151.688	18859583.920	298.386	SPK		Move
5	2069040.763	18859658.270	304.407	SPK,		Rotate
4	2068827.083	18859251.760	308.595	SPK		Scale
20004	2068826.877	18859251.867	7 308.590	CHK FROM 1 - SPK		Transform
3	2068826.827	18859251.841	308.590	SPK		
20005	2069040.610	18859658.475	304.401	CHK FROM 1 - SPK		Add to Elev.
20006	2069151.562	18859584.111	298.379	CHK FROM 1 - SPK		Compare Points
1007	2069360.719	18859119.667	7 285.227	FL01		Create Table
1008	2069367.290	18859141.959	286.060	FL01		
1009	2069370.301	18859151.349	285.691	FL01		SDR 20 V
1010	2069370.259	18859151./24	285.911	FL02		Export Group
1017	2069364.115	18859242 783	207.042	FL02		700M - +
1012	2069405 386	18859288 139	294 628	FL02		
1013	2000-00000	10000200.100	204.020	1 202	$\mathbf{v}$	Exit

#### **Stringer Settings**

From the settings Panel, select Stringer Settings. This is the main form that you control all display information associated with a code.

🖌 Key Description Associations							×
ASCL	^	CUL		New Delete	Point Style	SURVEYPOINT	~
BIN		Description	CULVERT - BOX		Conve	rt Current Symbol to a	a Point Style
BLDG		Point Layer	CULVERT - BOX	~	Symbol Files	<none></none>	~
BMS		Symbol Layer	CULVERT - BOX	~			
BUSST CB CF		Scaling	Use Curr Scale 🗌	Use Paramete	er 🗹	Apply Scale	1
CHIM		Rotations		Use Paramete	er 🗹	Forced Rotation	0
COG CONC CT		Line Work	○ 2D	O Do Not Stri	ng		DTM Point 🔽
CUL CULR		2D Line Layer	Box_Culvert_L		~	Template	
DOWNP DRN		3D Line Layer	Topo3d_Breaklines		~	<none></none>	~
DRNCS DTR		C:\CSS TRAININ	G DATA\STRINGER	OPO/FOR BRICS	SCAD\V18\IMPER	IAL\STRINGER TOP	D\STRINGER SETTI
ECAB	¥		Select Different Cor	relation File	Save File	Save and Exit	Quit

#### Add all Breaklines and Create the Surface



**Step 1.** Select the **Stringer Tab > Join All > Join All Codes** command from the Stringer Ribbon Step 2. You will be prompted for a Surface Name. Type in NS and click OK.

A Surface will be created and displayed in the drawing. Breaklines and 2D line work will also be displayed:



#### **About Crossing Breaklines**

The Crossing Breaklines command helps you review crossing breaklines.

POINTS LIST				$\times$	1560
Easting	Northing	First	Second		Not a
2069036.857	18859546.571	RCP05	TOP11		Breakline
2068951.367	18859663.451	LIP24	BCK25		
2068953.007	18859662.256	LIP24	BCK25		
2068984.180	18859673.302	EB10	PB21		
2068983.315	18859669.614	EB10	PB21		
2069011.631	18859694.115	PB21	DRN60		1455
2069048.306	18859662.012	PB21	DRN60		1457 1457 306.11 306.11
2069029.206	18859678.106	PB21	DRN60	3	06.64
2069135.795	18859577.673	RET32	SPK41		
2069141.641	18859578.098	RET32	SPK41		
2069227.031	18859568.733	SPK41	RET30	<b>~</b>	
ZOOM - +			Exit		

You can step through each and zoom directly to the problem. In the above example, the drain code has an improper setting and generates breaklines. You can correct the code, or simply delete the breakline.

Breaklines may also occur on 3 point curves along a curb return as an example. Creating the curve will automatically correct the breakline.

#### **About Points and Point Display**

All points are managed by Stringer Topo.

Points can be edited using four methods:

- Graphical Edits Since the point is a block the point object can be selected and moved graphically this will be reflected dynamically in the Points List
- Tabular Edits The figures in the Points list (as shown above) can be adjusted to change the point this will be reflected in the drawing when you exit the Points List form
- Point Edit by Properties Double clicking on a point in the drawing will open the point data in the Properties Dialog box for editing.
- Points can be deleted by using the BricsCAD delete command

The Points List command lets you see all the COGO points created in a spreadsheet layout.

#### **Control the Display of Point Data**

Stringer Topo Point Styles and Stringer Settings are used to control the display of point data.

Point Styles are stored in the drawing and are normally maintained in the prototype (template) drawing you use to start new drawings.

## Module 5: Surface Display Control

As you have seen, COGO points and breaklines created by Stringer Topo will dynamically update the surface.

Stringer Topo creates a dynamic, continuous representation of a surface by connecting the surface points in a network of triangles. The display of surfaces is managed by the Surface Manager – you can set up Surface Styles to automate the presentation of surfaces upon creation and by selecting Style.

You can create as many surfaces as you like, and surfaces can read Drawing Data (eg: 3D faces, 3D polylines, BricsCAD points) to build a surface – this process is described in the Appendix.

You can also make copies of surfaces to raise/lower them, change their display and apply surface Boundaries. Let's use the Surface you've made in the current drawing to show how you can change and manage the surface display.

## **Quick Surface Display Toggles**

Step 1: From the ribbon, click on Stringer Tab > Surface Panel > Surface Display Surface Display
Display.

	Display	Control	for Surfa	ces	- □ >
Surfaces					
Surface		Mesh	Contours	Major Interval	Minor Interval
NS			~	5.000	1.000

Use the tick boxes to turn the Mesh (triangulation) on/off, turn contours on/off and change the contour interval. For more control, you need to open the Surface Manager.

**Step 2:** Click OK to exit the form.

#### Manage Surface Display and Boundaries

## **Step 3:** From the ribbon, click on *Surface* > **b** *Surface Manager*.

This form consists of three (3) tabs:

- *Inputs*: use the tabs to select input data for the surface
- Outputs: manages the display of contours, contour labels, slope shading, direction and height shading
- Statistics: lists the statistics of the surface – you can copy this information across to use as inputs elsewhere

Note: This form is 'modeless' – you can position it where you want, leave it open and still work in BricsCAD.

🖳 Crea	te/Edit S	urface										-		×
		Curer	it 🗌			• 🖍					Import)	m. 💰	Export XM	a.
Inputs	3D Fa	ces p	oints	Breaklines	Point Files	Boundaries	Editing •	<b>*</b>	Add 🂦	]				
Outputs	*	La	yer Na	me										
Statistics														
	æ	Q					Close	Form	🤇 🧕 Upda	te Display	Ð	Build Su	rface 🧕	

The surface is a single object in the drawing – there are export tools to generate base BricsCAD entities of the triangles and contours, for final presentation. (Extract Objects command).

You can add Boundaries to the surface to include and exclude triangulation. This is commonly used to limit the triangulation around the outside of the surface, and to hide areas inside the surface (such as buildings).

## Module 6: Point, Breakline and Surface Edits – Stringer Topo Tools

Let's start reviewing the surface triangulation and breaklines. Where issues are identified, we will explore a wide range of tools to quickly make corrections.

#### **Deleting a Line Segment**

- Step 1. Go to the Stringer Ribbon and from the Stringer Tab >Stringer Point Edits Panel > Delete Line Segment icon.
- Step 2. Select the Polyline in the drawing that you want deleted



**Step 3.** Once selected, the Higher Pt Number of the 2 points connecting the string will get the next available String Number applied to it. All subsequent points that had the same string number are also adjusted. The new string is automatically being added to the surface.

#### **Useful** .Parameters

Dot parameters are used to automate many manual drafting steps. These are reviewed below

#### **Point Display Controls**

It is often useful to turn off the elevation display when editing the point codes. Select the Point Display button to expose the point display control form. You control the display of individually or a globally.

🖌 Point Attribute Display Overric	les	×
O Manually Select Points		
O Change for a Point Style		
Global Set		
Change for a Point Code		
Force Elevation	On	● Off
Override Number of Decimals	0.00	$\sim$
Force Description	) On	Off
Force Point Number	) On	Off
Reset to Styles Cancel	F	roceed

#### **Closing Line work/Breaklines**

To close the line work, do the following:

Select the Close String command from the Stringer Ribbon

Select a point to close line work (Point number 1187) – a .C will be added to that point and the line work will close.

Hint: Use the point list to find and zoom to Point 1187

#### **Creating Rectangle Line work/Breaklines**

To form a rectangle, do the following:

Step 1. Select theRectangle from 3ptsR Rectangle from3pts command from the Stringer Ribbon

Let's close off SHED 10 by adding a .R to point number 1184





#### **Fixing Out-Of-Sequence Points**

Breaklines and line work is formed by connecting unique point code/strings working from the lowest to highest point number.

It is easy to pick up points out of sequence – these results in overlapping breaklines and incorrect model triangulation (in the case of a breakline being added).

In the example, right, the point numbers 1490-1499 (description **FL**) represent a curb flow line and have been recorded out of sequence.

Zoom to the points in the drawing and note the overlapping breakline.



There are a number of tools to fix up points that have been picked up out of sequence. One very

effective tool is Re-order Distance to Next – this takes all the points of a selected description and re-orders them working from the lowest Pt Number and finding the closest next point, repeating to the end, with the highest Pt Number last just as if you picked it up in that order out in the field.

- Step 2. Select the Distance to Next command from the Stringer Ribbon
- Step 3. At the command prompt, click on point number 1494 in the drawing. The collection of points with description FL40 will be resequenced and the line work and breakline updated.







#### Adding Curves to Breaklines and Line work

Many features picked up in the field, particularly curbing, includes horizontal curves.

It is easy to add Stringer parameters to your point codes to result in curves being added automatically to the line work/breakline that is formed.

In the example, right, the curb shown (zoom to point 1371) must first be closed and then filleted to define the curb, to eliminate crossing breaklines and to properly triangulate the surface.

You can 'fit' a 3 point curve from any point, with curves being applied forward until you restore the line work back to straight lines.

Let's explore this functionality

To join the front and back of curbs applying curves to the line work and breakline select the Join Co de Icon (keyboard JCS):

- Step 1. Join the back of curb string (south to north) and then the lip of curb string (south to north)
- Step 2. Select the Fit3 Pt Arc Add .F command from the Stringer Ribbon. At the command prompt, click on point number 1374 and then 1370.

Curves will be applied from these numbers forward to the end of the line work/breakline.







Step 3. Select the Command from the Stringer Ribbon

At the command prompt, click on point number **1385** and **1381**.

The breakline and line work will be restored to line segments from these numbers forward to the end of the line work/breakline.

Curved line work/breaklines are created from points that have a **.F** parameter applied to the point description.

Line segment line work/breaklines are created from points that have a .L parameter applied to the point description.



Note: If you add a .Parameter to a point but in the wrong spot, just click on it again and it will take it off the point you just added it to



#### Joining Breaklines and Line Work

To make your survey pickup efficient in the field there will be many circumstances when you do not pick up points for a feature in a continuous line – you may start the pickup from either end and work your way to the middle.

This traditionally results in a 'gap' in the feature where the different point codes meet. Stringer Topo includes a number of tools to resolve this type of issue, such as the **Join Codes** command

#### Surveying Trees with Independent trunk and canopy scaling.

In AutoCAD<sup>®</sup> Civil 3D<sup>®</sup> each point surveyed in the field can have a single symbol assigned to it based on a scaling parameter. Using these tools, surveyors need to make two shots to a tree in order to independently scale the tree trunk and canopy

For many surveyors, it would be preferred to take one shot to a tree and specify the trunk diameter, canopy diameter and height all at once. Stringer facilitates this process by applying multiple BricsCAD<sup>®</sup> blocks to a point based on its description and the sizing parameters.

The Tree Block Definition command allows you to set the codes that should be used for creation of tree symbols.

You need to have all your tree codes added to this form. This form will then allow you to add the tree block that you want associated with that code to be added as a block in the drawing.

How do we do this? Let's run through the steps?

A point exists at the bottom right corner of the survey with the following parameters:

Point Number: 1227

Point Description TR 1 15 30

Stringer will interpret the description (using the space as a separator) as follows:

- TR Code requiring a symbol
- 1 Trunk diameter
- 15 Canopy diameter
- **30** Tree height
- **Step 4.** Select the **Replace Tree Symbols** command from the Stringer Ribbon

A 2D block is applied for the trunk, a 2D block applied for the canopy and a 3D block applied for the tree with height. Each block is independently scaled. Location in Plan





Step 5. If you haven't already done so, save your drawing

## **Module 7: Production Outputs**

#### **Creating a Points Table**

To create a Points Table you need to go the Point Groups display and make a point group of what codes you require in the table and click on the Create Table button under the Group commands

A BricsCAD Table can be added to the drawing with the same headings as the PointGroup display.

		Setor	Jt	
PN	East	North	Elev	Code
388	630786-759	5749900-552	93-604	104
387	630780-381	5749902-245	94-238	104
320	630758-111	5749826-082	93-731	104
1319	630761-867	5749839-750	93-60Z	104
1318	630773-474	5749854-625	92-213	104
1314	630780-182	5749875-617	92.445	104
292	630734-482	5749724-060	90-336	104
1291	630739-179	5749741-841	91-058	104
289	630743-178	5749754-756	91-621	104
287	630750-216	5749779-848	92-041	104
286	630755-370	5749796-844	92-308	104
285	630761-013	5749813-505	92-078	104
284	630765-826	5749827-955	91945	104
283	630774-495	5749843-423	90-738	104
282	630781-795	5749852-296	90-594	104
1281	630794-063	5749866-021	90-851	104
280	630802-380	5749875-909	91623	104
268	630801-456	5749859-417	90-191	104

#### Adding a Legend Table

When you have finished all your editing of the field data you will need to add a **Legend** of what is in the drawing. There are two options for this:

- Generate a borderless text table for the legend, or
- Generate an BricsCAD table for the legend



To create an BricsCAD table for the Legend

To get a Legend in an BricsCAD table (as per Fig.98, above) do the following:

**Step 1.** Type in **LEG** in the command line

Step 2. It will then ask you to "Indicate Top Left of Table".

Step 3. Select a spot on the screen where you want the Legend to be added

#### **Point Exporting**

You can use the Point Group command to export coordinated points out to file, using different formats for output.

#### Surface Display

In the **Surface Manager** you can export out the contour linework as BricsCAD polylines – this puts in plain BricsCAD entities and doesn't require Stringer Topo for display.