

Keep your V8 migration on track with Axiom's *FileFixer*.

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MicroStation cannot find any more elements after the corrupt one. When this V7 file is imported into V8, only the elements before the corrupt element are imported and displayed, leaving users with half-empty files. By using *FileFixer* to fix the V7 file prior to migration, all data containing the element size can be automatically repaired so that all elements are imported into the V8 file.

- The design file header (type 9) element is the first element in a V7

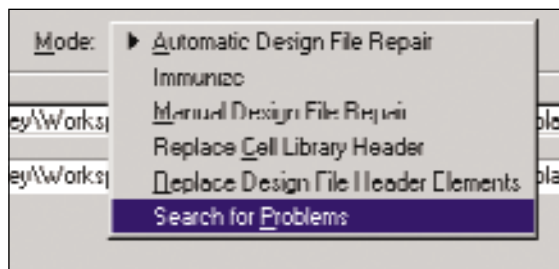
file. It stores a variety of vital information such as, the largest graphic group number in the file and the highest text node number in the file. Sometimes when this element is corrupt, none of the elements in a V7 file are displayed in MicroStation. You can expect that if this error is not fixed, no elements will display in V8 either. This problem can be easily fixed by using *FileFixer*'s "Replace Design File Header" command.

- In each element there is a bit called the complex bit, which is data that indicates

whether an element is part of a complex element, such as a cell. If this bit is not properly set (turned on) in a V7 element, then the complex element will be migrated as a simple element into the V8 design file. *FileFixer* can repair complex bit errors so that when the element is imported into the V8 file, it is part of the appropriate complex element it belongs to.

The above are just some of the more severe instances that will derail a successful V7 to V8 migration. To find these crippling symptoms of corruption, run *FileFixer*'s "Search for Prob-

lems" mode. After *FileFixer* searches for problems, it generates a report delineating all the problems present in the processed V7 design files.



Access *FileFixer*'s "Search for Problems" option from the "Mode" drop down menu.

Isolating problematic V7 design files

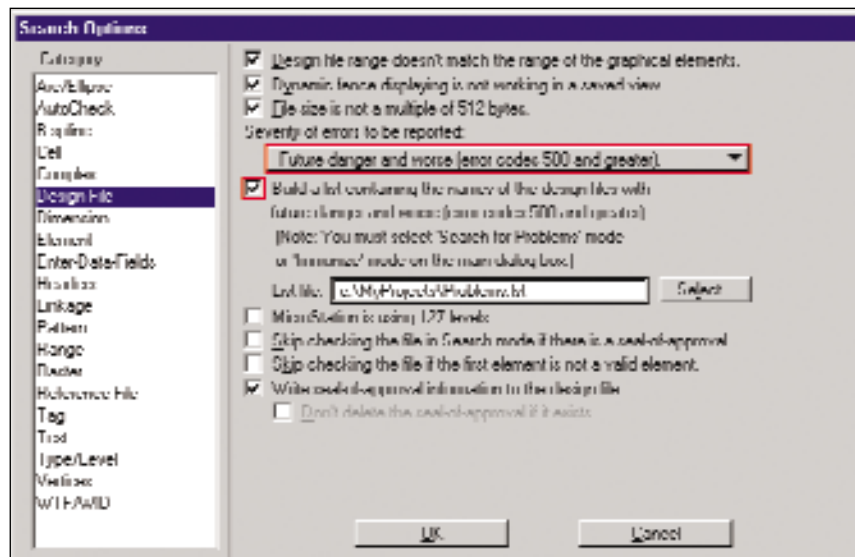
FileFixer allows users to fine-tune the severity of errors that are reported. The resultant list will contain those files with the most serious problems — repair those files with *FileFixer*, and afterwards they will be a lot less likely to be problematic during and after importing them into V8. *FileFixer* veterans routinely use *FileFixer*'s "Build a list..." option to isolate and handle the true trouble-marker files.

To do this, open *FileFixer* (V7 version) and

select "Options|Search". Within that dialog box, select the "Design File" category of options and check the "Build a list..." option:

Then, back on the

main *FileFixer* dialog box, select "Search for Problems" mode, type in



Set *FileFixer* to only search for files containing severe problems.

"*.dgn" (wildcard value that will include all DGNs in the drive the active design file is in) in the "Which files?" field, and click <Start> to analyze all of your design files.

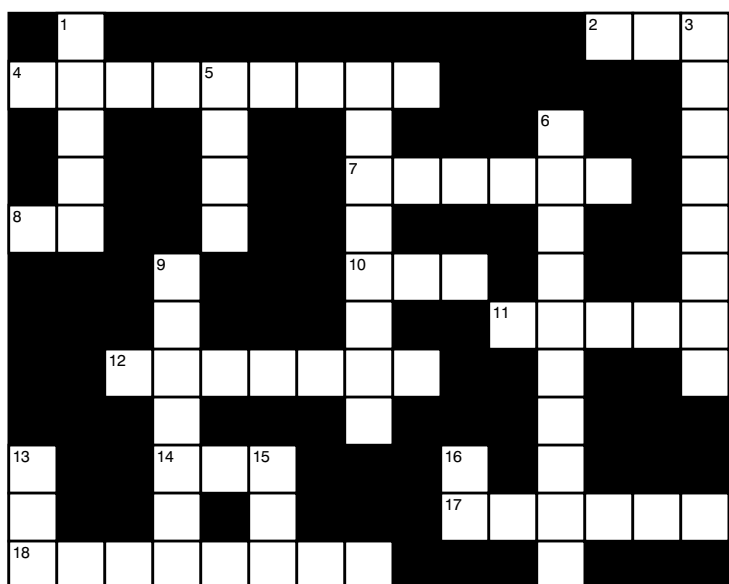
Quick solution for major problems

After running *FileFixer* on the V7 design files in "Search for Problems" mode and finding out which design files could threaten your successful migration, use *FileFixer*'s "Automatic Repair" mode to repair the most severely damaged. Doing so will eliminate over 97% of the problems on the first run and greatly increase the chances of successfully

migrating your legacy V7 files to V8.

Heed the warnings! We hope that this article has enlightened technical personnel regarding the importance of ensuring the integrity of legacy V7 files which are to be migrated to V8. To learn more about how *FileFixer* can help during V7 to V8 migrations, contact an Axiom MicroStation Consultant today! Call +1-727-442-7774 extension 9145, e-mail 9145@axiomint.com or visit Axiom on the Web at www.axiomint.com now! **MSI**

Take the *MicroStation Today* Crossword Challenge



Down:

- To color in with evenly spaced lines in a closed area
- Generic name for all the parts of a dialog box, such as text fields, check boxes, and option menus.
- Generic name for each individual "3 Down" in a dialog box.
- File containing the default specifications for menus and dialog boxes.
- Rendering method that generates a surface model using only lines.
- Method of shading a rendered image by calculating the color of the polygons at their boundaries and blending those colors across the polygon interiors.
- Interchange file format is for tabular data.
- "7 Across" for cell libraries.
- Two-letter key-in for the reference grid or two-letter onomatopoeia for the sound an angry lion makes.

Across:

- Acronym used for firms that design, engineer and build.
- Location of 2005 BE Conference
- Characters separated from the main part of a filename by a period. Interchangeable with the word "extension."
- Two-letter key-in for active height.
- Acronym for user commands
- J stops at 63.
- 3D geometric construction that can partition space, but cannot enclose a volume.
- A curved open element that has a constant radius around a single center point.
- To convert from a file into visual form.
- A fence mode in which only the elements that are completely outside the fence and those parts of elements outside or overlapping the fence are included in the fence contents.

Answers will be published in the next electronic issue of *MicroStation Today*. Good luck!

The answers to the November 2004 crossword challenge can be found online at www.axiomint.com/news/november-2004-crossword.htm.

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specific sheet files or snapshots of project milestones as a project progresses.

Modify reference file level symbology

When a reference file is attached to a master file, the attached file can be displayed using its original symbology or new symbology. New display symbology can be defined for an attachment and is saved in the master file *without modifying the reference file itself*.

In the following example, the reference file "Reference.dgn" is attached to the master file "Master.dgn". The attachment is displayed using the original symbology stored in Reference.dgn.

MicroStation V8's Level Manager can be used to modify both master file and attachment symbology. An attachment's level symbology can be modified at any time by simply clicking on its color, style or weight in MicroStation's Level Manager dialog.

In the next example, the attachment's symbology has been altered — subdued colors have been selected (there's no need for the attachment's furniture or landscaping to be highlighted by the reference file's original bright colors):

When an attachment's level symbology has been changed from the original settings stored in the reference file itself, an asterisk is displayed in front of reference file's level name in MicroStation's Level Manager (as

above).

Note: In the above example, Reference.dgn has not been changed — only the symbology used to display it while attached to the master file. The modified symbology settings are stored in the master file.

If you are dealing with large numbers of master files and reference files, manual changes to attachment level symbology is tedious and error prone.

To further complicate the matter, attachment symbology can be different in each view!

Fortunately, the new release of *RefManager for V8* solves all of the preceding reference file attachment problems for you, eliminating the time, tedium and potential errors involved with controlling level display and

level symbology for multiple attachments in multiple project files.

There's no need to suffer through long hours of repeated manual reference file level display or level symbology modifications. The new release of *RefManager for V8* allows you to stay in control of level display and level symbology for every level, every view and every reference file attachment. Go home early for a change.

Call now!

For more information on *RefManager* contact an Axiom MicroStation Consultant today! Call +1-727-442-7774 extension 9144, e-mail 9144@axiomint.com or visit Axiom on the Web at www.axiomint.com now! **MSI**