###-----_____ # Name : XrefManager.rb # # Description : Tools - 'Add Xref Component', 'Add Xref DWG/DXF'****, # "Make Into Xref, 'Xref Settings'**** and 'Manage Xrefs' # # added to Plugins menu under 'Xrefs Tools...' # **** = Currently on PCs only. # On PCs it requires 'win32ole.so' in the Plugins folder (v3.0+). # # Author : TIG (c) 11/2005 # # Usage : # Add Xref Component: # A file-browser dialog asks you to select a '.skp' file to # insert into the model as an "Xref Component".*** If you Cancel # the browser or the file is not a '.skp' or you try to insert # # the model back into itself you will get an error dialog and it # exits without adding anything. You pick one and OK and it is # added and is placed where you want in the model. # The added Xref Component is also given two new "XrefManager" entity attributes, which also identify it as an Xref Component # for future Xref Manager use, named: # "FilePath" i.e. path to the original skp file. # "FileAge" i.e. date the original skp file was last modified. # # The Add is easily Undo-able. # # ***An 'External (Xref) Reference' means that if you insert a # component from a file and then change the original file, you # can then use the Xref Manager or Xref Settings to Refresh it. # # Add Xref DWG/DXF: # # This Tool is available on 'Windows Platform' only # - sorry 'Apple Mac' users ! # A dialog asks you to confirm the DWG/DXF Import settings: # - Merge co-planar Faces - default = No # - Orient Faces Consistently - default = Yes # - Units - Inches, Feet, Millimeters, Centimeters and Meters # [the default is your model's units, BUT you might be working # in millimeters but importing a dwg that's in meters, so # # think about this bit...] # - Preserve Drawing Origin - fixed at = Yes # (but you can Move it later...) # Usually taking the defaults is recommended ... Additionally at the end is a setting called "Timer" # - default is 5 - see below for more details****... # A file-browser dialog then asks you to select a '.dwg/dxf' file # to insert into the model as an "Xref DWG/DXF Component". # If you Cancel or it's not a '.dwg/dxf' then you will get an # error dialog and it exits without adding anything. Normally # you'll pick a suitable file and select OK. It then briefly and # automatically opens the Import dialog and sets the dwg/dxf's # path/name and it also opens the Options dialog and sets it as # you have selected... NOTE: DO NOTHING WHILE THIS RUNS # # - no key strokes, mouse clicks etc or else you might affect the # processing. The Import Progress bar displays whilst the file # is processed. There is then a DWG/DXF Import Report dialog # displayed. It will auto-close after a few seconds, or you OK # it to continue... # The selected file is added to the model as an Imported DWG/DXF # Xref Component named as the dwg/dxf file

- e.g. "SitePlan.dwg". It's placed at the equivalent to the # dwg/dxf's X,Y,Z in the model; you can always Move it later, BUT # keeping Xrefs aligned is often critical. # # ****"Timer" option setting - an explanation: # There has to be a built in delay to allow the Import to finish completely before trying to add attributes etc, this is usually # a matter of seconds - the time before the Import Report dialog # is auto-closed and the special Xref Attributes are added to the # component. A "Timer" default of 5 should suit most PCs and # dwg/dxf imports: however if you have a fast PC or if you use simple, but large, dwg/dxf files that Import relatively # # quickly, i.e they are perhaps taking perhaps too long for the # Report to auto-close - then you can always reduce the Timer by a little to speed this up. Conversely if your PC is slow # or if you use dwg/dxf files that are very complex and that take # # longer to Import you might get errors messages - such as, 'Do you really want to stop the Import...' and Xref components that # don't have the "Xref[...]" prefix in their description and that # # don't get listed in the Xref Manager dialog because their # Attributes are not set up: in that case increase the Timer # setting a little and see if that helps, and then 'Refresh' any # 'faulty' Xref DWG/DXF with the new setting ... If you consistently get problems needing either excessively # long or short Timer settings then please give feed-back as it # might be fixable in the code itself... # Remember a 6Mb DWG might take 6 minutes to import - be patient, # Assuming the Timer is just right then the added Xref DWG/DXF # Component will be given the new "XrefManager" entity # Attributes, named: # "FilePath" i.e. path to the original skp file. # "FileAge" i.e. date the original skp file was last modified. # Additionally an Xref DWG/DXF Component gets attributes to cover # the earlier selected Import settings: # "Merge" (yes/no), "Orient" (yes/no), and "Units" (ins/ft/mm/cm/m). # Remember that its initial origin is always set as the # dwg/dxf's origin by default. These additional attributes are # 'fixed' for that Xref Component - if you want to change # (e.g. you got the units wrong) then you'll have to Refresh it # with the Xref Manager and re-do the settings... # # The Add is easily Undo-able. #

Make Into Xref:

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Select any component in the model. Select the 'Make Into Xref' Tool. That component is made into an Xref Component. If there is no selection or the selected item is not a component then there are error dialogs. If the component is 'internal'** then a dialog suggests you do the following - select the component in the Component Browser, Right-click and pick Save-As. It is now saved externally and it can then made into an Xref with this Tool... Using this Tool on an existing Xref Component will update its File-path and Last-modified Attributes to the external file's current settings*. This Tool is also useful for fixing Xrefs that have problems Refreshing etc because the Component Browser's 'Delete' function has been used and/or it's been manually 'Reloaded' from the Browser - loosing some Xref Attributes in the process, or ones that have been made into ordinary components with 'Bind' and you'd like them back as Xrefs - *depending on its state the confirming dialog will say ..XXX 'made into'.. or 're-created as an'.. Xref Component... **NOTE if you run this on an Xref DWG/DXF Component it is also 'internal', so you are warned what it is, and it than exits

without doing anything - if you really want to save it as an external component you can still do so manually...

Xref Setting:

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This Tool is available on 'Windows Platform' only - sorry 'Apple Mac' users ! It opens a dialog which lets you set the type of Xref Checking that runs when you first open a model containing Xref Components - you can choose two options if the chosen setting is 'Open Xref Manager If Needed' and it finds anything that needs fixing then it opens 'Xref Manager' (see below). Note than changes done initially at startup are NOT subsequently undo-able. If it is set to 'Do Nothing' then there is no initial checking.

Xref Manager:

This allows you to manage Xref Components. If there are no Xref Components to manage then an error dialog tells you and it exits. Otherwise a dialog lists each Xref Component by its type (.SKP:/.DWG:/.DXF:), name and its Status... e.g. i.e. it's all OK - path confirmed, .SKP: Buildingloaded and up-to-date. .SKP: Building-2 [Un-Pathed] i.e. remembered file path no longer exists. .SKP: Building-3 [Un-Loaded] i.e. component not in the model but still in comp-browser. .SKP: Building-4 [Superseded] i.e. original skp file has been changed recently. Any DWG/DXF Xrefs are also included in the Manager list at the end and are prefixed to suit, e.g. .DWG: SitePlan [...] i.e. a dwg of the site... .DXF: Building-9 [...] i.e. a dxf of building-9... They can be 'OK'd' (Un-Changed), 'Deleted' or 'Bound', note

that on PCs only they can also be 'Refreshed' and 'Re-pathed' in a similar way as SKPs - however on non-PCs they will be autore-set to be 'Un-Changed [PC ONLY]'...

Note: any Xref Component can also have a combined Status - e.g. Un-Loaded + Superseded.

Each Xref Component listed has a drop-down to its right giving a choice of Actions - these are defaulted to suit the present Status and the likely Fix (1 of first 3) thus:

- "OK..." i.e. leaves Xref Component unchanged.
- "Refresh" i.e. refreshes Xref Component from the original file - you do not need to refresh unless its Status is shown as 'Superseded'.
- "Re-Path" i.e. resets the path of the original file you do not normally need to Re-Path, unless you have moved or renamed the original file and its Status is shown as 'Un-Pathed', however you might want to change a placed Xref for another file.
- "Bind" i.e. removes the "XrefManager" attributes and makes the Xref Component into an ordinary component. You can undo this with 'Make Into Xref' which will convert the component back into an Xref one.

"Delete" # i.e. deletes any Xref Component instances in the model - please use 'Delete' with care ! # # # On picking the OK button each listed Xref Component is # processed with the selected Action thus: # # 'Refresh' means the Xref Component is updated from a file. The old version in the comp-browser is renamed as # # '#Xref-Scrap[#nn]' and becomes an ordinary unused component # that will be removed from the model data-base if you select the # Auto-Purge-Unused option (PC only), or when you next pick # 'Purge Unused' on the compo-browser dialog fly-out (a dialog # asks / reminds you of this). If you picked 'Refresh' but the # file is shown as Un-Pathed then 'Re-Path' will run as set out # in the paragraph below, asking you to re-define the file-path. # 'Re-Path' runs a file-browser dialog that asks you to select a # # '.skp' file to reinsert into the model as the Xref Component. # If you Cancel the browser or the file is not a '.skp' or you # try to insert the model back into itself you will get an error # dialog and it exits without processing that Xref Component -# also any remaining on the list are also NOT processed - you will need to re-run the tool. Otherwise Re-path is # similar to Refresh in the way '#Xref-Scrap[#nn]' is made... # # 'Bind' removes the "XrefManager" attributes and make the Xref # Component into an ordinary loaded component. You can undo # 'Bind' by using the 'Make Into Xref' Tool... # # # 'Delete' erases the Xref Component Instances in the model. # The version in the compo-browser is renamed as '#Xref-Scrap[#nn]' and becomes an unloaded ordinary component; # it will be removed from the model data-base if you select the # Auto-Purge-Unused option (PC only), or when you next pick # 'Purge Unused' on the compo-browser dialog fly-out (a dialog # asks / reminds you of this). Use Xref 'Delete' with care ! # # Note: DWG/DXF Xrefs can only be Added or Refreshed/Repathed on # a PC, so if the model is subsequently opened on a Mac system # and Xref Manager is invoked then the options are limited for # that type of Xref - see above... # # It is recommended that you Refresh only ONE DWG/DXF at a time, # otherwise it can take a long time and sometimes errors might # occur with multiple refreshings (multiple SKP's are OK). # # # If you cancel out of a Re-Path during an Xref Manager session it might not all complete successfully and an error dialog # warns you. # At the end of processing the Xrefs that were listed then a # report dialog is displayed showing what was done. # (Note: A currently known, but unidentified, bug sometimes means # that to close this dialog more than one click on 'OK' might be # # required !) # All Actions Undo - depending on the list and action then more # than one Undo might be needed. # # # Notes: # # Do NOT manually 'Reload' an Xref Component from the Component Browser or Context-Menu - it'll lose its Xref Attributes (the # # same result as 'Bind'). But you can use the 'Make Into Xref'

tool to convert it back into an Xref Component...

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			only AND Mac using SUp v6
	'old' Xref Components will be removed from the model data-base if you select the Auto-Purge-Unused option, or when you next pick 'Purge Unused' on the compo-		
			ly-out (a closing dialog asks / reminds you of
			ser the Component Browser 'Delete' option to
	remov	ve former Xre	efs - this might cause the current Xref to fail
			rly. You will need to Reload it from the
	-		r and use the 'Make Into Xref' tool to convert
	it ba	ack into an X	Kref Component
	Туре	: Tool	
	Vers		
	1.0		First issue.
		27/11/05	Error with mpath = "" if unsaved now trapped.
		28/11/05	Error with menu call typo fixed.
		03/12/05	Xref Class added (for TBD !).
	1.4	10/12/05	'Add Xref' dialog now has [0,0,0] placement
			clue in title-bar. 'Refresh/Repath/Delete'
			reminders now only one per dialog session.
			'Xref Settings' Tool added to allow settings
			for Xref.check which runs at model open, if
			needed suggests use 'Xref Manager'. 'Make Into
			Xref' Tool added. Xref Component description
			now prefixed with 'XREF: '.
	1.5	12/12/05	Name of script corrected to 'XrefManager.rb'
			- doh ;-}
	1.6	20/12/05	Start_operation glitch trapped for Mac users.
	1.7	21/12/05	Mac friendliness improved ? Undos improved.
	1.8	21/12/05pm	Mac friendliness re-improved ?
	1.8a	21/12/05pm	Mac version = cut-down - no setting/check
			(limited issue)
	1.9	21/12/05pm	Forced refresh/repath improved. Setting/Check
			reinstated (at end). Xref.make improved.
	2.0	22/12/05	Xref.check waits for model info to load then
			runs Xref.manager. Report after Xref.manager
			layout improved.
	2.1	22/12/05	Mac cannot now use Xref.setting/check option
			- saves failures.
	2.2	22/12/05	Platform checking improved.
	2.3	25/01/06	Automatic Purge-Unused (PC only) added.
	3.0		Add Xref id split into Component(SKP) & DWG/DXF
			(PC only). Xref Manager now identifies
			SKP/DWG/DXF Xrefs separately, currently some
			actions for these are only available on PC.
	3.1	08/02/06	Timer default etc and dwg management adjusted
			following beta testing.
	3.2	27/02/06	Timer issues resolved.
		10/05/06	Version fix for extra import types, Naming of
			dxf and DXF etc allowed.
	3.4	12/05/06	Typos corrected etc.
	3.5	10/06/06	Manager Message glitch fixed if only skp's.
	3.6	11/06/06	More Manager glitches fixed.
	4.0		Updated to work with SUp v6.
	4.1	14.01.07	Trapped for empty model not making a component of
	- • -	/	its first imported DWG/DXF.
	4.2	15/01/07	PC AND Mac Auto-Purge All now available if SUp 6.
	1 • L	,, _,	Glitch with multiple Manager report dialogs fixed.
	5 0	05/03/08	Glitch with Make Xref fixed.
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