



## Is it true that I can have access to CAD drawings through PC-Topp?

*Drawings are accessed by clicking on links in PC-Topp Intranet pages*

Yes, you can have CAD drawings, and more: Any Windows document can be accessed from the PC-Topp order screen!

Imagine this: The Spec Number **885134** appears like an Internet link, and when you click on it, the spec sheet of the box appears, or the ArtiosCad Viewer opens the order's CAD drawing.

The possibilities are endless: It is even possible to launch another Windows application and feed it the order number, or the customer's name or any other field, and the application opens showing exactly the data you're expecting to see.

## How does this work?

*Clicking on a link makes Internet Explorer open a document in a specific location on the network*

Windows is responsible for the work behind the scenes, and makes everything surprisingly simple.

**File Type:** PC-Topp needs to be told which fields link to which application. For example, the printing dies (stereo) field might link to a drawing in Adobe Acrobat PDF format, while the spec number calls the CAD drawing in ArtiosCad.

**Directory:** A second setting tells PC-Topp where to look for the file containing the drawing that is linked to a particular field. That directory can be anywhere on the network.

**File Name:** The value in the field is used as the file name. That is the only requirement that needs to be met: The document name needs to be part of the order data known to PC-Topp.

**Example:** The die cut forme for an order is shown as **5613A**. PC-Topp has been told to look for PDF files in the network directory `\\SERVER\Drawings\Dies`. Clicking on the forme number will then cause Internet Explorer to open the file `\\SERVER\Drawings\Dies\5613A.pdf`

Obviously, the appropriate viewer software needs to be installed on every client PC. Luckily, the Adobe Acrobat viewer as well as the ArtiosCad Viewer are free.

## Which version of PC-Topp do I need to use this feature?

This technology is part of **PC-Topp 2000** and has been available since the beginning of 2001.

Users of earlier versions of PC-Topp need to have their system upgraded to PC-Topp 2000.

There is no extra license fee for PC-Topp 2000 or for the ability to show drawings,

the upgrade is covered by the Software Maintenance contract. However, the work time and expenses for the installation of the upgrade are chargeable.

(There is a small supplemental license fee for plants that are not yet equipped with a Communications Control or PC-Topp Services PC.)

## Will this work on the PC-Topp Machine Terminals as well?

*Drawings can also be accessed from DOS Machine Terminals*

Yes, drawings can be accessed on any PC-Topp workstation that gives access to the orders, including the Machine Terminal running in DOS mode under Windows.

On the Machine Terminal, users press the **VIEW GRAPHICS** button, and the order pops up in Internet Explorer, with the links to the drawings highlighted.

Clicking on the link then brings up the drawing (this can also be done via the keyboard). The Machine Terminal continues to operate in the background, and comes back automatically when the drawing is closed.

The new Free Terminal available with PC-Topp 2000 brings limited access to PC-Topp data, including the drawings, to every desktop, at no additional cost at all.

## What are the hardware requirements?

There is no special hardware needed by the drawings per se, but PC-Topp 2000 has certain minimum requirements. You can look them up on our web site at [www.pctopp.com/english/documentation](http://www.pctopp.com/english/documentation)

In short, you need to have Pentium II or better PCs running Windows 2000 or NT (Windows 98 is okay for most workstations).

All PCs should have at least 64 MBytes memory, and a large color monitor with at least XGA resolution (17" recommended).

**I don't know where I can get CAD drawings ...**

PC-Topp 2000 requires the Microsoft Internet Explorer version 5 or above.

Building a drawings database is easier than you think.

Talk to the people who make your printing dies (stereos). Most likely they already send a printed drawing with every job they do for you. Chances are they work with Windows or the Mac – then they can very easily deliver that same drawing in PDF format on a diskette or by email, they may even be prepared to do that for free.

Tell them to name the files so that the file name matches the value in the appropriate field in PC-Topp, and get organized to have those files deposited in the right directory.

You don't need to have drawings for all orders ready - you can start by asking the company to do the drawings for the most

popular boxes on a one-off basis, then slowly build a more and more complete data base by adding and updating every time a new or changed stereo arrives.

If you have an in-house CAD system, then the people working with that system can just as easily output the drawings in PDF format. Or, if your order system runs under Windows, you can have the specification sheets "printed" out to Adobe Acrobat to obtain paperless PDF documents.

Make sure that all updates and new additions are systematically put into the directory PC-Topp looks at.

Or, finally, there may be a free viewer available that can show the CAD files directly in their native format.

**My drawings have file names that are part of PC-Topp's order data ...**

The Spec Number, Print Number and Forme Number are the most popular fields to have drawings or other documents linked to them. It makes sense to name the files containing those drawings with that number.

However, it could be that the CAD people have always used a numbering system of their own, or that you have documents with strange file names for some other reason.

In that case, the file name needs to be sent to PC-Topp as part of the order data (OTDATA). We can then configure your personal order screen to show those fields as well, allowing everyone to access the drawings.

[This feature will become available in a future version of PC-Topp 2000.]