

STL Import for AutoCAD

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STL Import for AutoCAD Help

Welcome to *STL Import for AutoCAD* Help!

This help file provides all the information you need to understand and use *STL Import for AutoCAD*. Click the links below or use the Contents tab on the left to browse help topics. You can also scroll the topics on the above right hand pane.

The *STL Import for AutoCAD* help file is divided into the following sections:

- [Introduction](#) - Introduction to *STL Import for AutoCAD*.
- [Command Reference](#) - Quick reference of all the commands added by *STL Import for AutoCAD*.
- [Tutorial](#) - Tutorial to get you started in the shortest possible time.

If you need any additional information please [contact](#) SYCODE.

Note:

- Please refer to the section "Loading Instructions" in the [ReadMe](#) file to load *STL Import for AutoCAD* plug-in file into the AutoCAD environment.
- Please read the [License Agreement](#) before using the software.

Introduction

STL Import for AutoCAD is a Stereolithography (.stl) file import plug-in for AutoCAD®. This plug-in gives AutoCAD the ability to import geometric data from ASCII and Binary STL files.

STL Import for AutoCAD reads polygon mesh data stored in STL files and imports it into AutoCAD. A polygon mesh in a STL file is comprised of a set of triangular faces. *STL Import for AutoCAD* recreates the STL model data inside the active AutoCAD drawing. The model can be recreated as set of points, lines, polylines, 3D faces or a polyface mesh.

STL Import for AutoCAD is designed to work with the following versions of AutoCAD:

- AutoCAD 2011 (32 & 64 Bit)
- AutoCAD 2010 (32 & 64 Bit)
- AutoCAD 2009 (32 & 64 Bit)
- AutoCAD 2008 (32 & 64 Bit)
- AutoCAD 2007
- AutoCAD 2006
- AutoCAD 2005
- AutoCAD 2004
- AutoCAD 2002
- AutoCAD 2000i
- AutoCAD 2000

STL Import for AutoCAD is very easy to use. Once installed, it must be loaded into the AutoCAD environment. There are simple instructions for this in the [ReadMe](#) file. Once loaded it adds new commands to AutoCAD's existing commands and a new submenu called "STLImport" to the AutoCAD menu containing these newly added commands.

STL Import for AutoCAD comes with detailed documentation as well as a [tutorial](#) to get you started in the shortest possible time.

If you need any additional information please [contact](#) SYCODE.

The STL File Format

The STL file format is the Rapid Prototyping industry's standard data transmission format and is the format required to interact with stereolithography machines. Stereolithography files contain solids which are made up of 3 sided facets. STL files may be ASCII or binary data, although binary is far more common due to the resulting size of the CAD data when saved to the ASCII format. A STL file describes a raw unstructured triangulated surface by the unit normal and vertices (ordered by the right-hand rule) of the triangles using a three-dimensional Cartesian coordinate system. Many CAD systems are able to output the STL file format among their other formats, but very few have the ability to import STL files.

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STL Import for AutoCAD

This is the *STL Import for AutoCAD* ReadMe file.

Thank you for installing STL Import for AutoCAD.

Please read this ReadMe document carefully and completely. It contains important information which is vital to the proper working of STL Import for AutoCAD.

Loading Instructions:

=====

Since STL Import for AutoCAD is a plug-in for AutoCAD, it has to be loaded into the AutoCAD environment before it can be used. Loading is a one time process. STL Import for AutoCAD will automatically load itself into AutoCAD the next time you run AutoCAD.

The STL Import for AutoCAD plug-in files are installed into the STL Import for AutoCAD installation folder (typically "C:\Program Files\SYCODE\STL Import for AutoCAD\"). The plug-in files have an extension of ".arx".

The list of plug-in files along with the version of AutoCAD is shown below. Please be sure to use the plug-in file that corresponds to your version of AutoCAD.

```
STLImport_VC60.arx    -> AutoCAD 2000, 2000i, 2002
STLImport_VC70.arx    -> AutoCAD 2004, 2005, 2006
STLImport_VC80.arx    -> AutoCAD 2007, 2008 (32 Bit), 2009 (32 Bit)
STLImport_VC80x64.arx -> AutoCAD 2008 (64 Bit), 2009 (64 Bit)
STLImport_VC90.arx    -> AutoCAD 2010 (32 Bit)
STLImport_VC90x64.arx -> AutoCAD 2010 (64 Bit)
STLImport_VC90.arx    -> AutoCAD 2011 (32 Bit)
STLImport_VC90x64.arx -> AutoCAD 2011 (64 Bit)
```

To load STL Import for AutoCAD into AutoCAD please follow the steps listed below:

- (1) Select "Load Application..." from "Tools" menu or enter the "_APpload" command.
- (2) Click the "Contents" button in "Startup Suite"
- (3) Click the "Add" button.
- (4) Browse for the plug-in file for your version of AutoCAD (see list above).
- (5) Click the "Add" button on the Add File to Startup Suite dialog box.
- (6) Click the "Close" button to close the Startup Suite dialog box.
- (7) Click the "Close" button to close the Load/Unload Applications dialog box.

Now STL Import for AutoCAD is completely installed and ready for use.

Usage:

=====

STL Import for AutoCAD adds new commands to AutoCAD. The commands added are:

- 1) STLImport - Imports a STL file

- 2) STLImportHelp - Displays the STL Import for AutoCAD help file
- 3) STLImportRegister - Registers your copy of STL Import for AutoCAD
- 4) STLImportAbout - Displays the STL Import for AutoCAD about box

Sample Files:

=====

Sample STL files are copied into the Samples folder which is located in the STL Import for AutoCAD installation folder (typically "C:\Program Files\SYCODE\STL Import for AutoCAD\"). You can try STL Import for AutoCAD using these sample files.

Support:

=====

For support, please E-Mail support@sycode.com

Contact

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Fax	+91 832 2416615
E-Mail	info@sycode.com
Web Site	http://www.sycode.com

Command Reference

STL Import for AutoCAD adds new commands to AutoCAD and a submenu called "STLImport" which houses them. The new commands are:

STLImport	Import a STL file
STLImportHelp	Display the <i>STL Import for AutoCAD</i> help file
STLImportRegister	Register your copy of <i>STL Import for AutoCAD</i>
STLImportAbout	Display the <i>STL Import for AutoCAD</i> about box

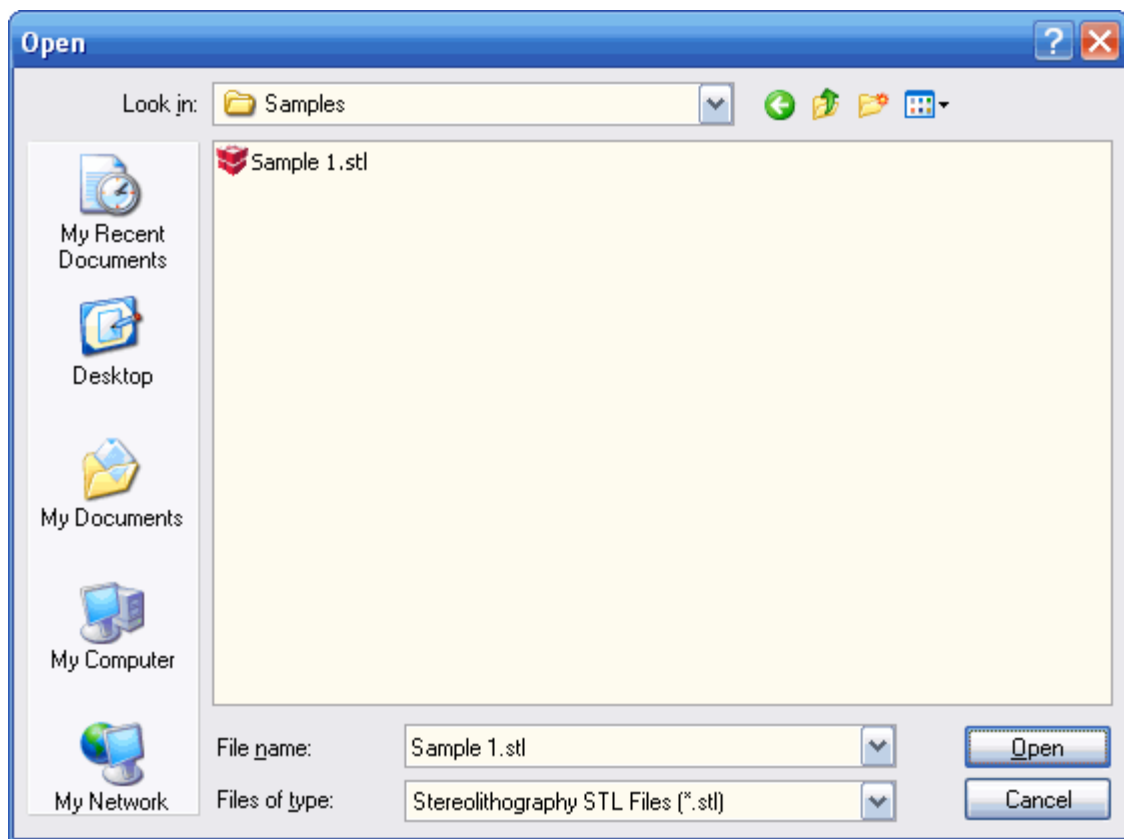
STLImport

Menu Button	STLImport > Import
Command	STLImport

This command imports geometric data from ASCII and Binary STL files into AutoCAD.

To import a STL file

1. Select *Import* from the "STLImport" menu or type *STLImport* at the AutoCAD command prompt and press *Enter*.
2. The AutoCAD "Open" dialog box is displayed. Browse for the STL file you wish to import and click *Open*.



3. The "STL Import for AutoCAD Options" dialog box is displayed. Set the options as desired and click *OK*.

Note:

- An AutoCAD polyface mesh cannot contain more than 32,767 vertices and/or faces. If you select to import the STL model as a polyface mesh and if it exceeds this limit then *STL Import for AutoCAD* will import the model as a set of 3D faces. This is a limitation of AutoCAD and not of *STL Import for AutoCAD*.

STLImportHelp

Menu Button	STLImport > Help
Command	STLImportHelp

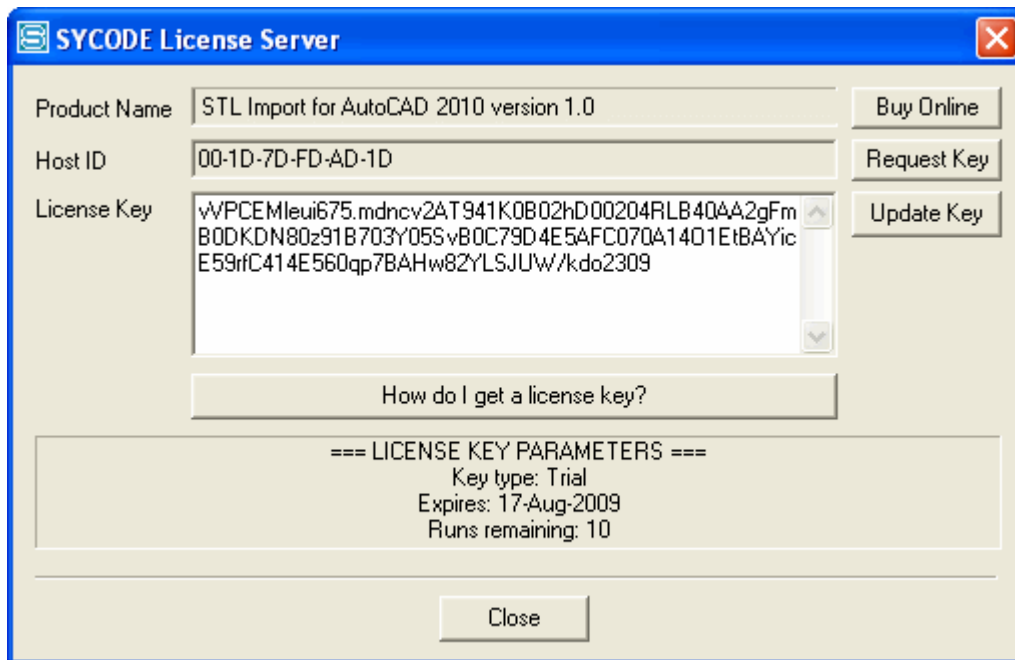
This command displays the help file. The [Welcome](#) page is a good place to start.

STLImportRegister

Menu Button	STLImport > Register
Command	STLImportRegister

This command is used to register your copy of *STL Import for AutoCAD*.

You need a license key to start using the software. A license key can be of two types: Trial or Permanent. A trial key is issued to you instantly and completely free of cost so that you may try the software before you purchase a license. A permanent key is issued after you have purchased a license.



How do I get a Trial Key?

Simply click the 'Request Key' button and select 'TRIAL KEY' as the type of key being requested. Fill the form and submit it. A trial key will be immediately sent to you by email.

How do I get a Permanent Key?

To get a permanent key you need to have already purchased a license. If you have not yet purchased a license you can do so by clicking the 'Buy Online' button. After you place your order click the 'Request Key' button and select 'PERMANENT KEY' as the type of key being requested. Fill the form and submit it. Your order will be verified and a permanent key will be sent to you by email within one business day.

IMPORTANT:

(1) Please ensure that your computer is connected to the internet before you request for a key.

STL Import for AutoCAD

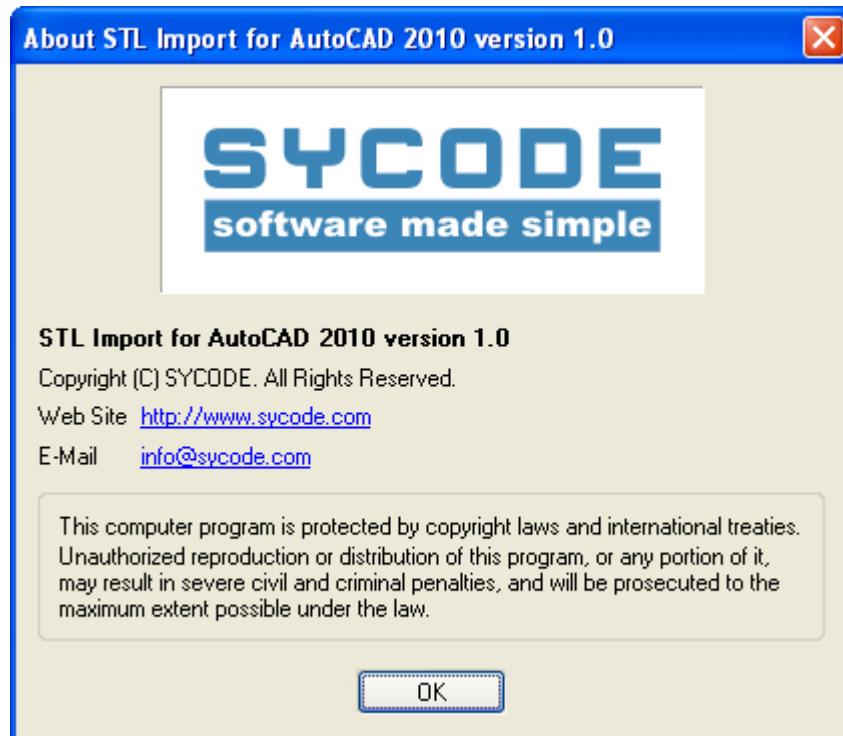
- (2) Please be sure to enter a valid email address as the key will be sent to you by email.
- (3) To avoid disruption in your work-flow we urge you to place your order before the trial period ends.

If you need anything else please send an email to register@sycode.com

STLImportAbout

Menu Button	STLImport > About
Command	STLImportAbout

This command is used to display the *STL Import for AutoCAD* About box. The About box lists the software and its version.

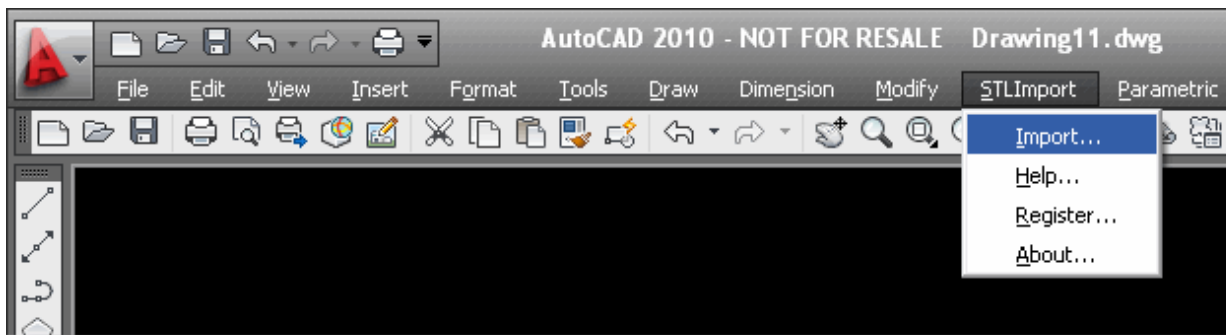


Tutorial

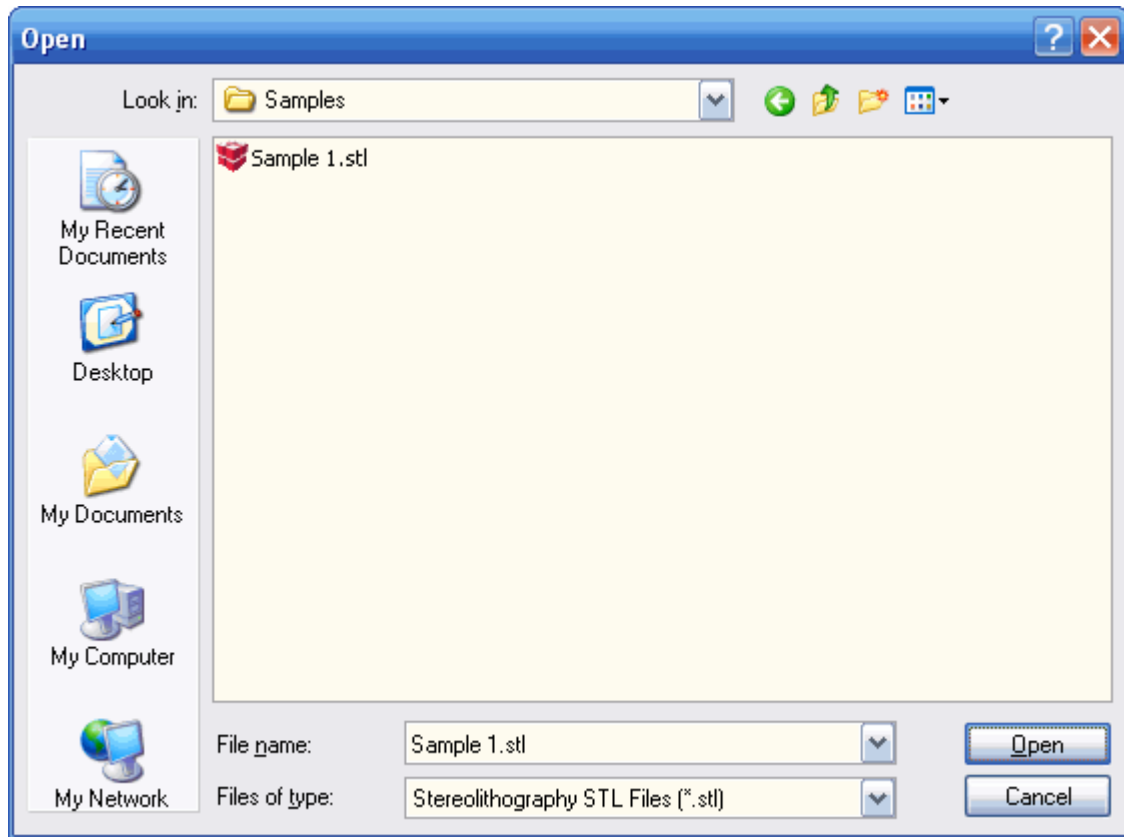
This tutorial provides the necessary information and hands-on experience to help you get started with *STL Import for AutoCAD*.

Step 1: Start AutoCAD.

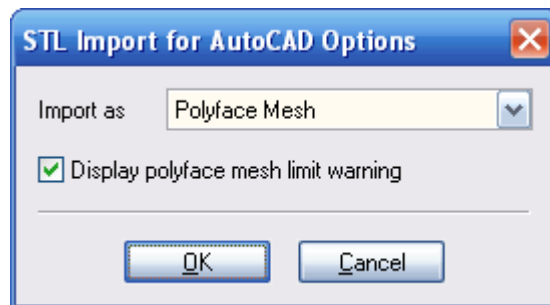
Step 2: Select *Import* from the "STLImport menu" or type *STLImport* at the AutoCAD command prompt and press *Enter*.



Step 3: The AutoCAD "Open" dialog box is displayed. Browse for the file typically located at "C:\Program Files\SYCODE\STL Import for AutoCAD\Samples\Sample 1.stl" and click *Open*.



Step 4: The "STL Import for AutoCAD Options" dialog box is displayed. Set the options as required and click *OK*.



The figure below shows the final result.

