

STL Import for ARES Help

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Introduction

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

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

STL Import for ARES is designed to work with the following version of ARES:

- ARES 2010 (32 bit)

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

STL Import for ARES 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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ReadMe

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

STL Import for ARES is a add-in for ARES Commander Edition

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

Loading:

=====

Before you use the STL Import for ARES you need to load the add-in into the ARES environment. Loading is a one time process. The add-in will automatically load itself into ARES on startup henceforth. To load the add-in please carry out the following steps:

- 1) Click Tools->Options. This brings up the Options dialog box.
- 2) Select Add-Ins on the left.
- 3) Check the "New" button towards the top right.
- 4) Browse for the add-in DRX file (STLImport_ARES_3.02src_8.drx) in the STL Import for ARES installation folder (typically C:\Program Files\SYCODE\STL Import for ARES\) and click "Open"
- 5) Check "OK" on the Options dialog box to dismiss it.

Usage:

=====

STL Import for ARES adds new commands to ARES. It also adds a new menu the ARES menu "STLImport". Use the items on this menu to invoke the newly added commands.

The new commands are:

- 1) Import - Import a STL file
- 2) Help - Display the STL Import for ARES help file
- 3) Register - Register your copy of STL Import for ARES
- 4) About - Display the STL Import for ARES about box

Sample files are copied into the Samples folder (typically "C:\Program Files\SYCODE\STL Import for ARES\Samples"). You can use these sample files to try STL Import for ARES.

Support:

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

Contact

Mailing address	S1/116, Nova Cidade Complex, NH 17, Alto Porvorim, Goa - 403521 India
Phone	+91 9822689298
Fax	+91 832 2416615
E-Mail	info@sycode.com
Web Site	http://www.sycode.com

Command Reference

Command Reference

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

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

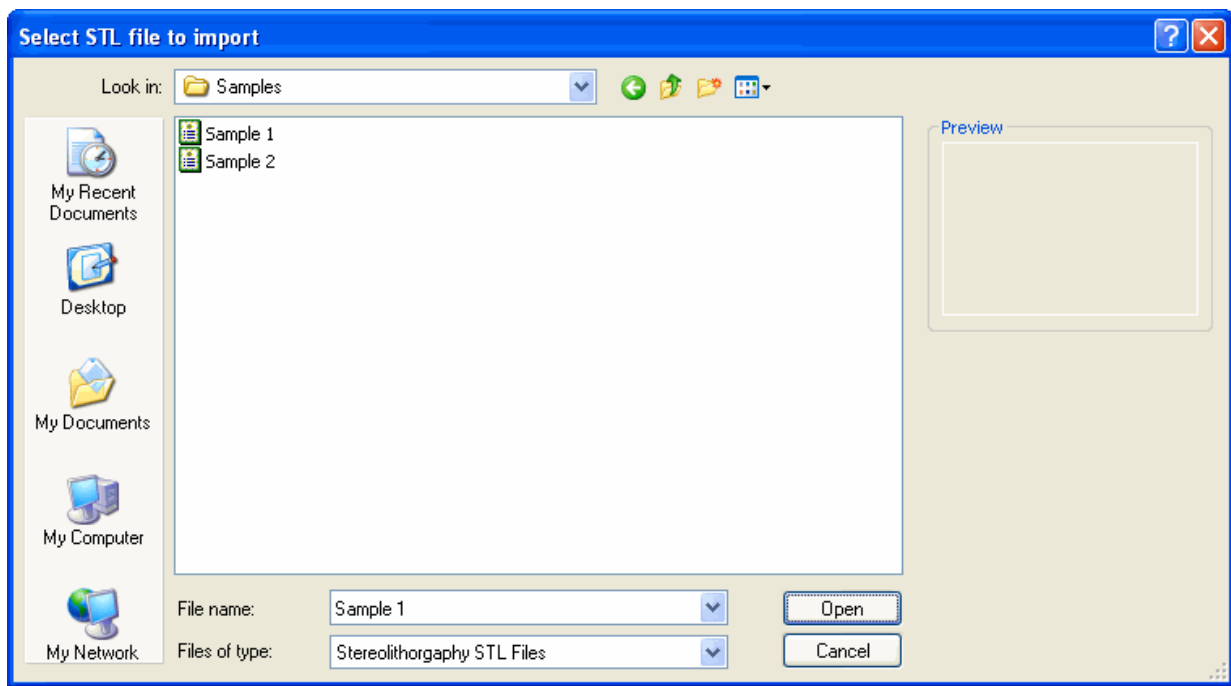
STLImport

Menu Button	STLImport > Import
Command	STLImport

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

To import a STL file

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



2. At the ARES command prompt, select the "Options" as required and click OK.

STLImportHelp

Menu Button	STLImport > Help
Command	STLImportHelp

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

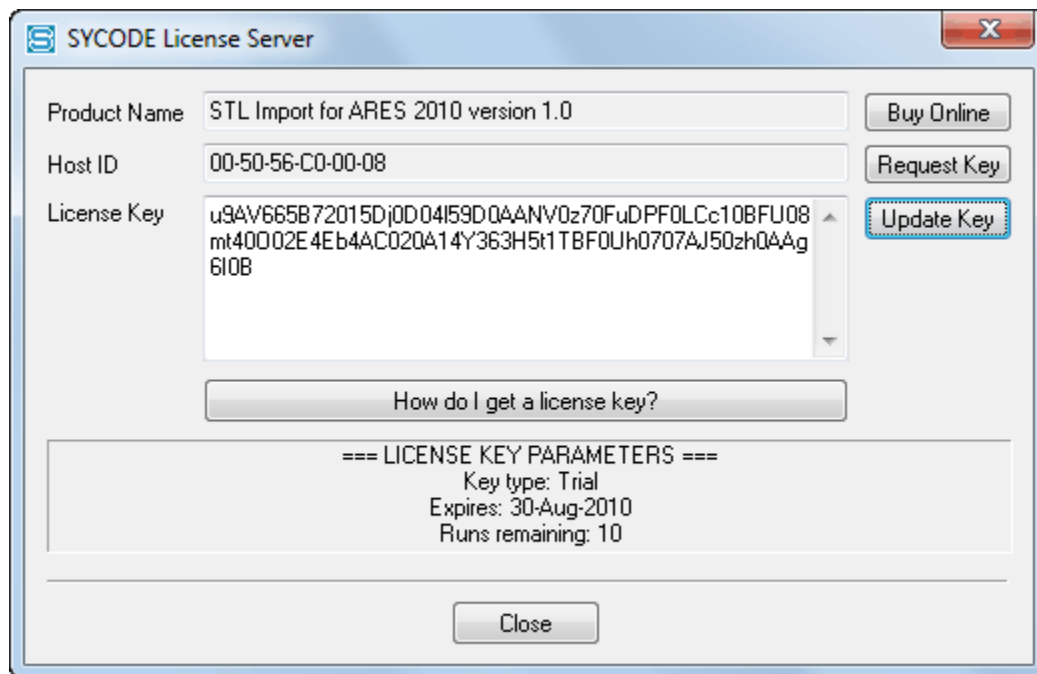
STLImportRegister

Menu Button STLImport > Register

Command STLImportRegister

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

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:

STL Import for ARES Help

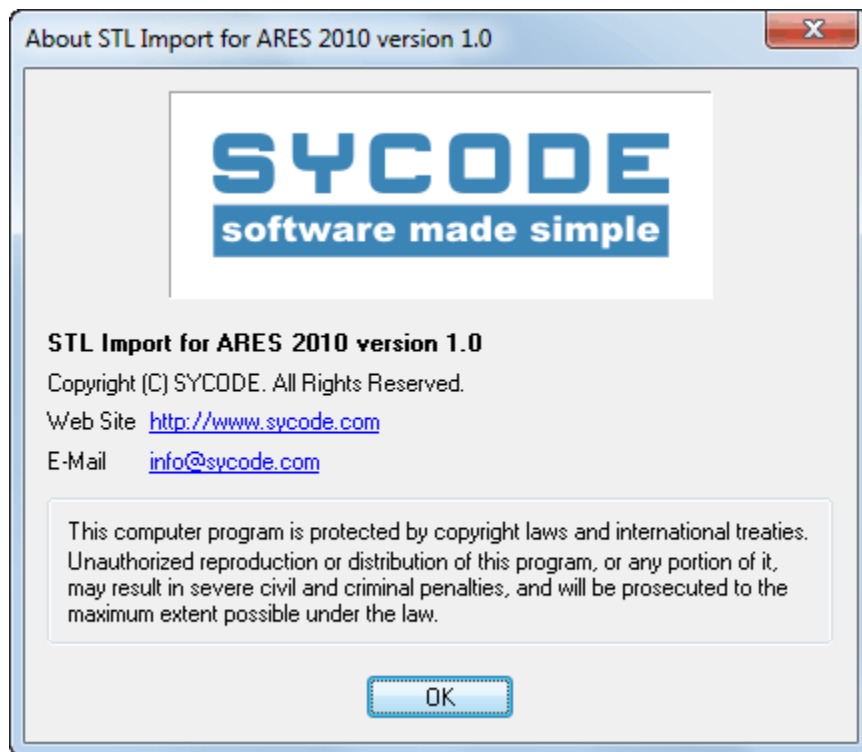
- (1) Please ensure that your computer is connected to the internet before you request for a key.
- (2) Please be sure to enter a valid email address as the key will be sent to you by email.
- (3) To avoid disruption in your work-flow we urge you to place your order before the trial period ends.

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 ARES* About box. The About box lists the software and its version.



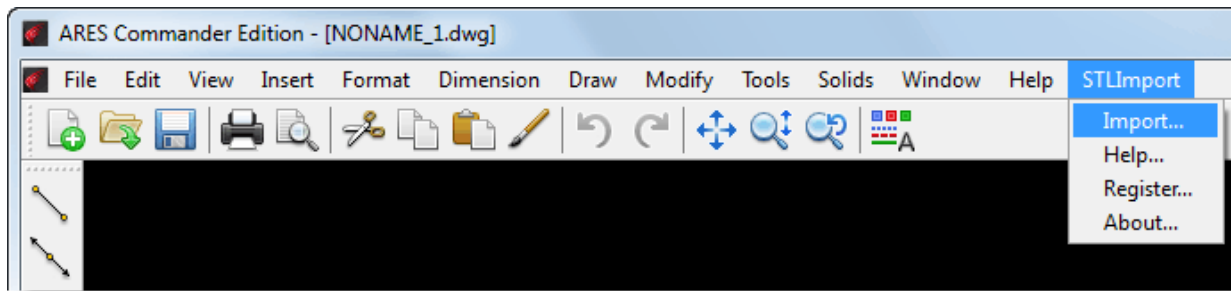
Tutorial

Tutorial

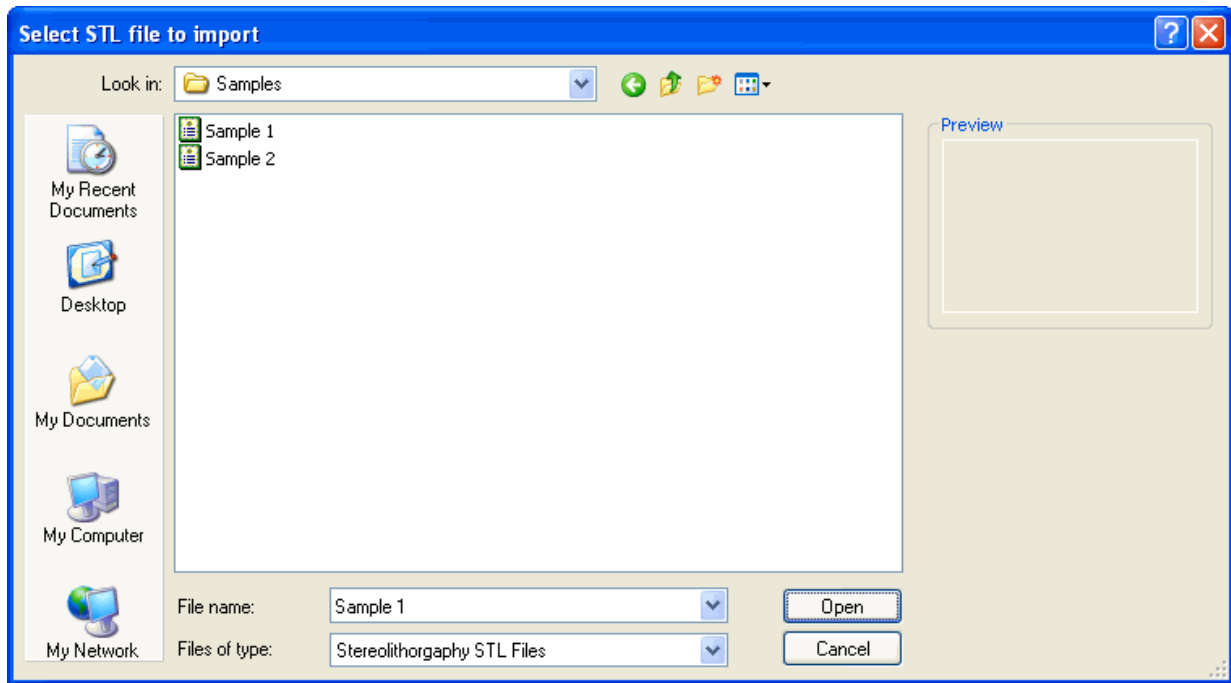
This tutorial provides the necessary information and hands-on experience to help you get started with *STL Import for ARES*.

Step 1: Start ARES.

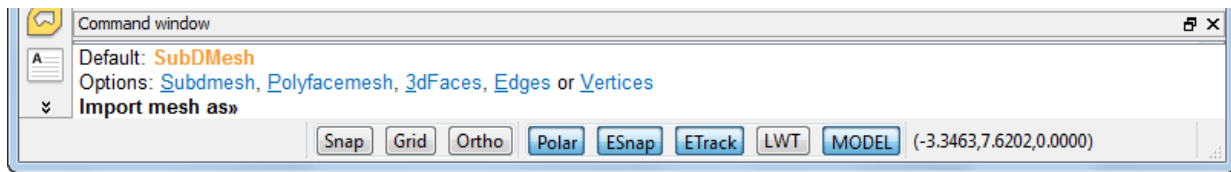
Step 2: Select *Import* from the "STLImport" menu or type *STLImport* at the ARES command prompt and press *Enter*.



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



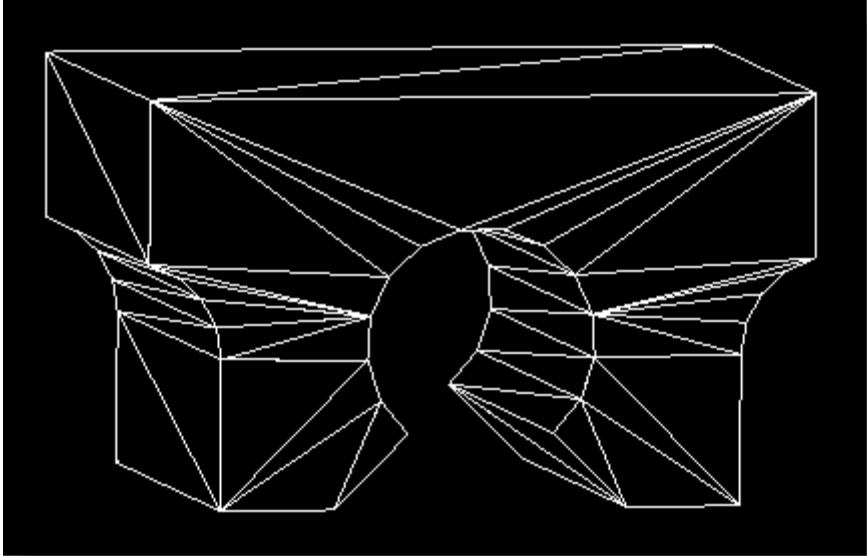
Step 4: At the ARES command prompt, select the "Options" as required and click OK.



Note:

1. When importing a STL file object with "Subdmesh" option will import as "Vertices", this is a known limitation and we have reported this behavior to Graebert. Graebert will fix it in the next release.

The below shows an STL file opened in ARES.



Wireframe mode