

# **VTK Export for Pro/ENGINEER Help**

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# VTK Export for Pro/ENGINEER Help

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Welcome to *VTK Export for Pro/ENGINEER* Help!

This help file provides all the information you need to understand and use *VTK Export for Pro/ENGINEER*. 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 *VTK Export for Pro/ENGINEER* help file is divided into the following sections:

- [Introduction](#) - Introduction to *VTK Export for Pro/ENGINEER*.
- [Command Reference](#) - Quick reference of all the commands added by *VTK Export for Pro/ENGINEER*.
- [Tutorial](#) - Tutorial to get you started in the shortest possible time.

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

**Note:**

- If you have trouble loading the *VTK Export for Pro/ENGINEER* plug-in file into the Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire environment, please refer to the [ReadMe](#) file.
- Please read the [License Agreement](#) before using the software.

# Introduction

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*VTK Export for Pro/ENGINEER* is a Visualization Toolkit VTK file export plug-in for Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire. This plug-in gives Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire the ability to export 3D solid data from a Pro/ENGINEER part and assembly document to mesh objects in a VTK file.

*VTK Export for Pro/ENGINEER* tessellates the solid bodies in a Pro/ENGINEER part or assembly document into individual triangular meshes. These meshes are then exported to a VTK file as polygon mesh objects. The VTK file can then be imported into other applications that read VTK files.

*VTK Export for Pro/ENGINEER* is very easy to use. Once installed, it must be loaded into the Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire environment. Follow the simple instructions in the "ReadMe" document which can be found in the installation folder. Once loaded, it adds new commands to Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire and a submenu called "VTKExport" to the Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire menu.

*VTK Export for Pro/ENGINEER* 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 VTK File Format**

The Visualization ToolKit (VTK) is an open source, freely available software system for 3D computer graphics, image processing, and visualization used by thousands of researchers and developers around the world. VTK consists of a C++ class library, and several interpreted interface layers including Tcl/Tk, Java, and Python. The Toolkit stores geometric data in a file format known as VTK. Very few CAD applications have the ability to read and write VTK files.

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## ReadMe

---

This is the *VTK Export for Pro/ENGINEER* ReadMe file.

VTK Export for Pro/ENGINEER is a plug-in for Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire

### Installation:

=====

VTK Export for Pro/ENGINEER is a Pro/TOOLKIT application and needs to be registered with Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire before it can be used. Once you register the plug-in with Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire, it will be automatically loaded every time you start Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire. Before you register VTK Export for Pro/ENGINEER it is important that you note down the folder where the plug-in was installed. The default installation location is "C:\Program Files\SYCODE\VTK Export for Pro ENGINEER".

### Plug-in Registration:

=====

1) The plug-in installer copies a file called protk.dat into the installation folder. Open it in NotePad and observe the lines starting with "exec\_file" and "text\_dir".

2) The line starting with "exec\_file" is the full path of the plug-in DLL. You need to choose the correct plug-in DLL depending upon your version of Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire. Modify the file path to match your plug-in installation folder and replace XXX in the file name as explained below:

For Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire 1.0 and 2.0, replace "XXX" with  
"VTKExport\_VC60.dll"

For Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire 3.0, replace "XXX" with "VTKExport\_VC71.dll"

For Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire 4.0 and 5.0 (32 Bit), replace "XXX" with  
"VTKExport\_VC80.dll"

For Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire 4.0 and 5.0 (64 Bit), replace "XXX" with  
"VTKExport\_VC80x64.dll"

For example, if you have installed VTK Export for Pro/ENGINEER in the default location and you are using Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire 4.0 (64 bit) the line will be as follows:

```
exec_file C:\Program Files\SYCODE\VTK Export for Pro  
ENGINEER\VTKExport_VC80x64.dll
```

**IMPORTANT:** This is a critical step. The plug-in will not load into Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire if this step is not carried out properly. To better understand this step you may want to browse to the installation folder (typically C:\Program Files\SYCODE\VTK Export for Pro ENGINEER) and take a look at the file names of the plug-in DLL's copied into it.

3) The line starting with "text\_dir" tells Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire where to look for supporting files required by the plug-in. Modify the folder path

to match your plug-in installation folder.

4) Save protk.dat and exit NotePad.

5) When Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire starts it looks for a file called protk.dat and loads the plug-ins listed in it. Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire looks for protk.dat in a folder called "text" located in the Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire installation folder. For example, in the case of Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire 4.0, the "text" folder may be "C:\Program Files\proeWildfire 4.0\text". Copy the protk.dat that you just edited to the Pro/ENGINEER "text" folder.

**IMPORTANT:** If there is already a file called protk.dat in the "text" folder, it means that you already have registered other plug-ins. Do not overwrite it. Instead, append the contents of the protk.dat file you just edited to the contents of the existing protk.dat file in the "text" folder.

Now VTK Export for Pro/ENGINEER is ready for use.

Usage:

=====

VTK Export for Pro/ENGINEER adds new commands to Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire. It also adds a submenu to the Pro/ENGINEER menu called "VTKExport" containing these new commands. Simply click on the menu items in this sub menu to run these new commands.

The new commands are:

- 1) Export - Exports a VTK file
- 2) Help - Display the VTK Export for Pro/ENGINEER help file
- 3) Register - Display the VTK Export for Pro/ENGINEER product registration dialog box
- 4) About - Display the VTK Export for Pro/ENGINEER about box

Support:

=====

For support, please E-Mail [support@sycode.com](mailto:support@sycode.com)

## Contact

---

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Phone	+91 9822689298
Fax	+91 832 2416615
E-Mail	<a href="mailto:info@sycode.com">info@sycode.com</a>
Web Site	<a href="http://www.sycode.com">http://www.sycode.com</a>

# Command Reference

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*VTK Export for Pro/ENGINEER* adds a new menu to Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire. The 'VTKExport' menu consists of the following commands:

<a href="#">Export</a>	Exports a VTK file
<a href="#">Help</a>	Displays the <i>VTK Export for Pro/ENGINEER</i> help file
<a href="#">Register</a>	Registers your copy of <i>VTK Export for Pro/ENGINEER</i>
<a href="#">About</a>	Displays the <i>VTK Export for Pro/ENGINEER</i> about box

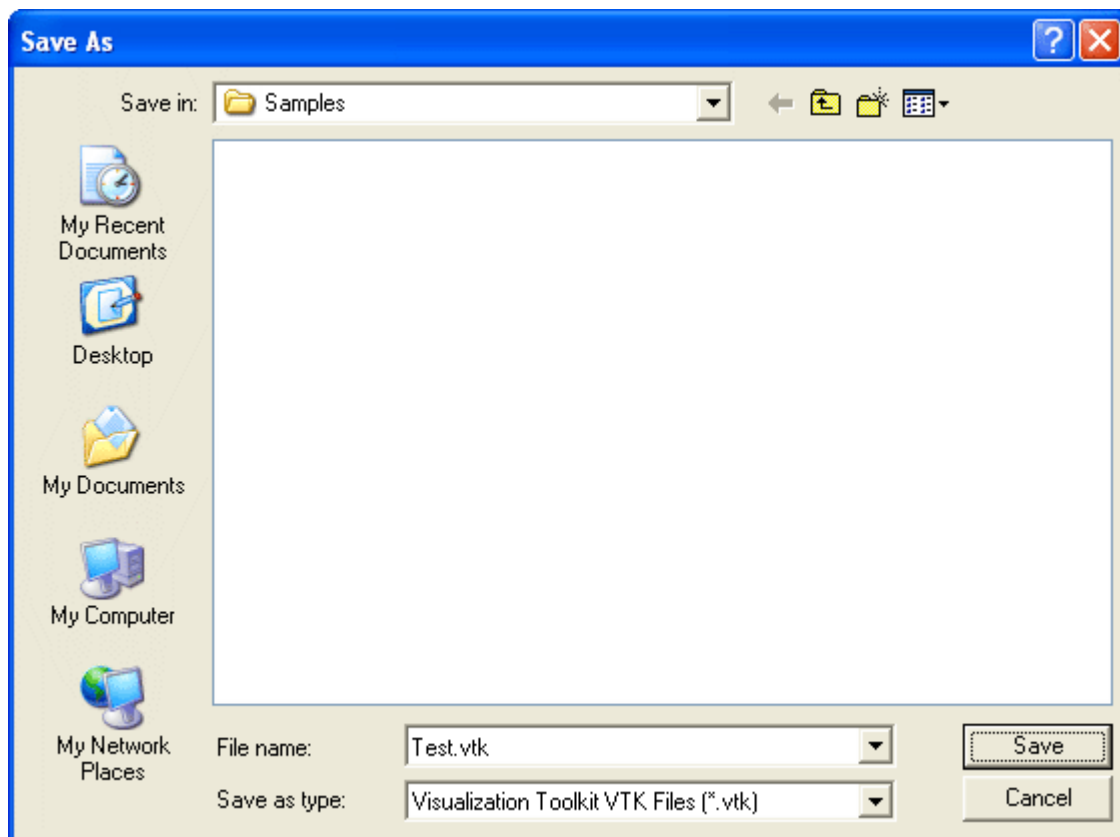
## Export

**Menu Button** VTKExport > Export

This command reads curve data in the active Pro/ENGINEER drawing and saves it to a VTK file.

### To export to a VTK file

1. Select *Export* from the "VTKExport" menu.
2. The Pro/ENGINEER "Save As" dialog box is displayed. Enter the output file name of a VTK file and click *Save*.



3. The "VTK Export for Pro/ENGINEER Options" dialog box is displayed. Set options as shown below and click *OK*.

## Help

---

**Menu Button** VTKExport > Help

---

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

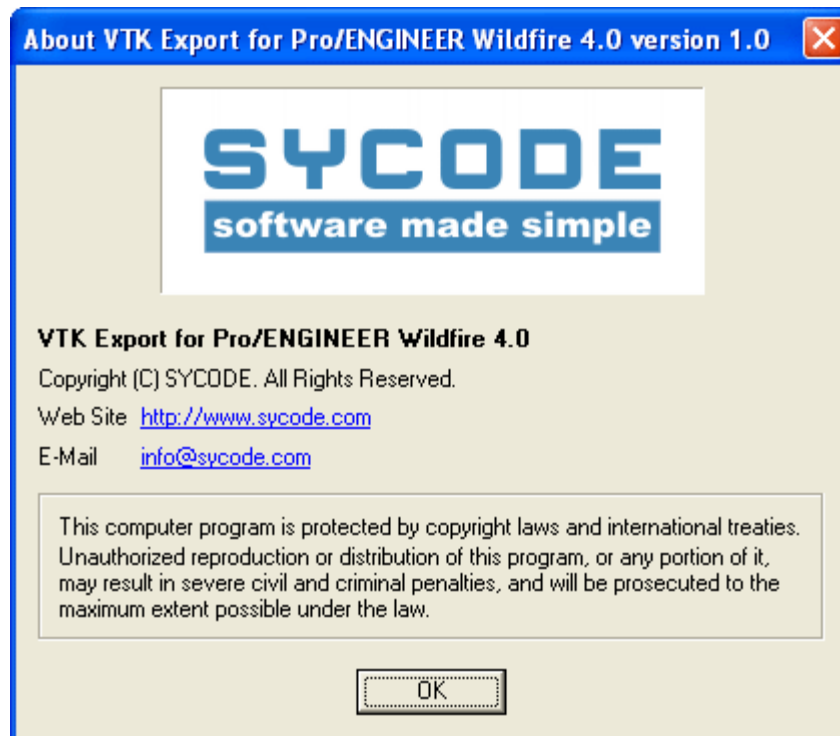
## About

---

**Menu Button** VTKExport > About

---

This command is used to display the *VTK Export for Pro/ENGINEER* About box. The About box lists the product and its version.



## Register

**Menu Button** VTKExport > Register

This command is used to register your copy of *VTK Export for Pro/ENGINEER*.

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.
- (2) Please be sure to enter a valid email address as the key will be sent to you by email.

## VTK Export for Pro/ENGINEER Help

(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](mailto:register@sycode.com)

# Tutorial

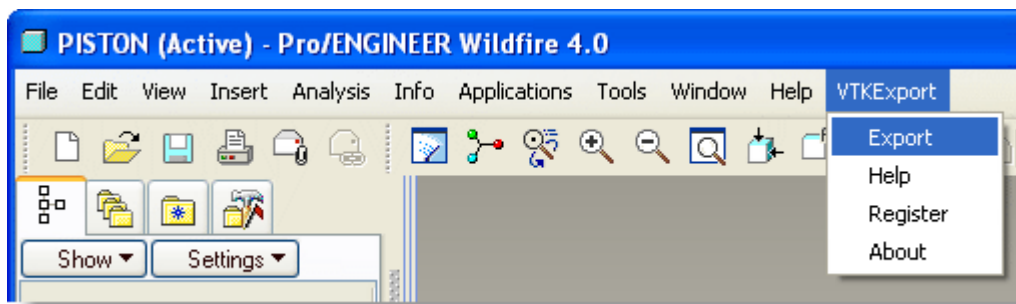
---

This tutorial provides the necessary information and hands-on experience to help you get started with *VTK Export for Pro/ENGINEER*.

**Step 1:** Start Pro/ENGINEER Wildfire.

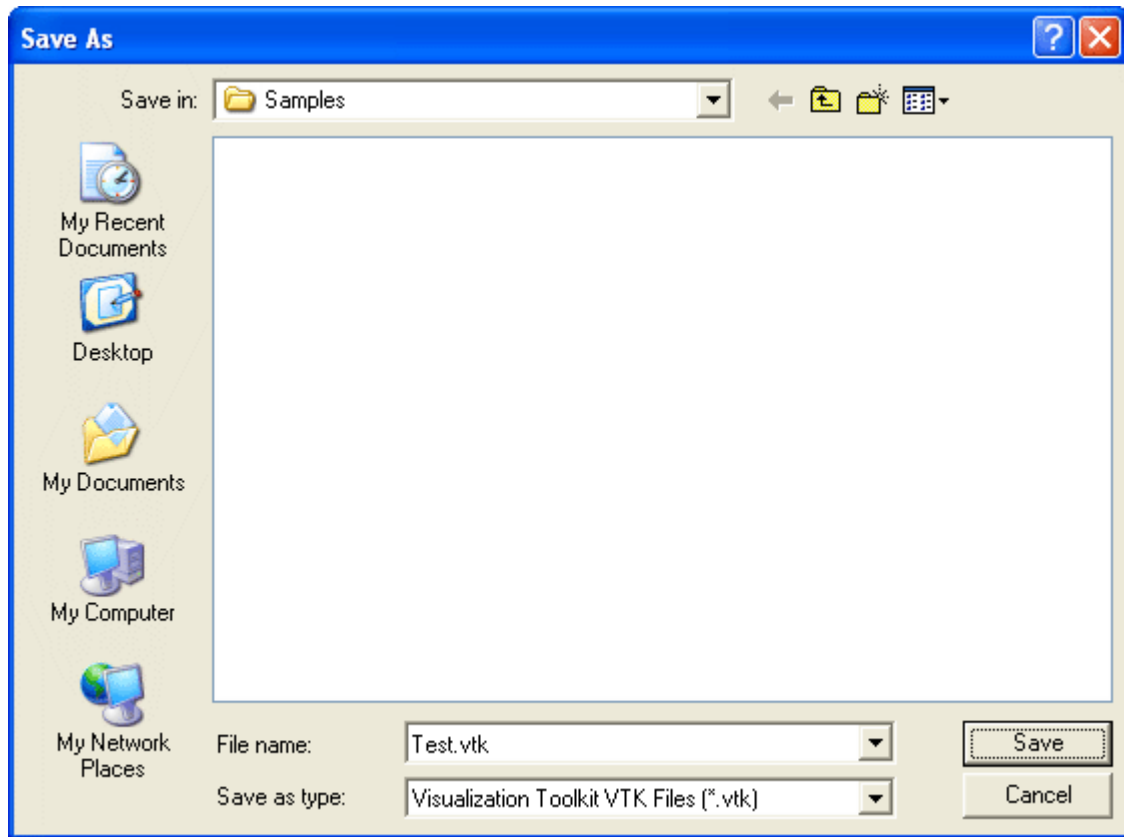
**Step 2:** Open the file "C:\Program Files\3DM Export for Pro ENGINEER\Samples\Piston.sat" as a part document.

**Step 3:** Select *Export* from the "VTKExport" menu.

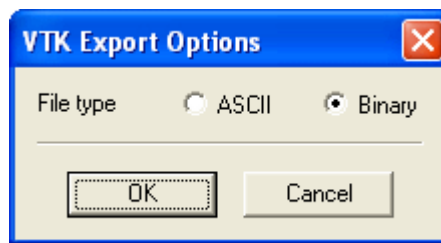


**Step 4:** The Pro/ENGINEER "Save As" dialog box is displayed. Enter the output file name of a VTK file and click *Save*.

## VTK Export for Pro/ENGINEER Help



**Step 5:** The "VTK Export for Pro ENGINEER Options" dialog box is displayed. Set options as shown below and click *OK*.



The VTK file will be created in the location you specified.