

# Digital Canal Corporation

## Solution Papers

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### Summary: **Creating Print Files to get Plotted on Large Size Paper**

**Product(s)** SolidBuilder for Windows

**Solution Paper:** Print files

**Release(s)** 15.0

**Revision:**

**Platform(s)** Windows 98 or later

**Creation Date:** 5/10/00

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**Overview:** If you do not have a large format plotter, then you can save a print in SolidBuilder™ and then take that file to a printing service to get plotted on any size paper. A saved print file in SolidBuilder™ will have a \*.PRN extension which is a Windows print file. The following steps will take you through how to create the print file in SolidBuilder™.

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### **Solution:**

**Note:** Before going through these steps, you need to contact the printing service and find out the name/type of the printer driver they will be using. Then you need to install this driver onto your computer through the Windows 'Add Printer' wizard or else download the driver from the internet and go through the install.

1. Once you have the plotter driver installed into your computer, click on the Windows *Start* button and then click on **Settings/Printers**.
2. Right click on the driver that was installed and click on Properties. There should be a tab for paper. You need to set the paper size that you would like to print on. Most drivers do not default to Architectural sizes-(18x24 or 24x36), so if this is the size you want to use then set that as the default.
3. Open the drawing that you would like to print in **SolidBuilder**.
4. You are going to setup the print just like you would if you had the plotter at your office. Click on **File/Print**. Select whether to use a border or not, and set the scale if you would like to scale the drawing. If you want to print more than one drawing on the same page, then you need to click on Create Overlay. (Refer to the Solution paper on "Creating Overlays" for information on overlays)
5. Click Ok. The Model Information will pop up if you selected a border. Click Ok and then you can place your drawing(s) onto the border. If you did not select a border then it will take you to the print preview.
6. Once you are at the print preview, click on **Print Setup**. Make sure the Printer 'Name' is set to the Plotter driver that you just installed. Also check over the paper size and orientation to make sure everything is how you want it printed. Click OK when done.
7. You can also click on **Page Setup** and edit anything in those boxes. Although, do not change anything in the 'Size' dialog box (SolidBuilder™ automatically resizes the drawing if a scale was selected in the Print options.). Click OK when done.
8. Make sure the Preview is not missing part of the drawing or the border. What you see in the preview is how it will print. So if something is cut off or it just does not look right, then you probably have an incorrect border size or the paper size selected is too small for the border.
9. Once everything looks good, then click on '**Print to File**' so it is checked. Then click Ok.
10. The Print File dialog box will appear. Type in a name to call the print file. You can also change the 'Save In' folder if you would like to save the file to a different directory. Each different print page will be a separate file, so if all your prints will be a total of 5 pages then you will have 5 print files.