

MPANEL NEWS

May 2009

MPanel is *the* form-finding and patterning software for AutoCAD and Rhino

Autodesk
Authorized Developer

Rhinoceros
NURBS modeling for Windows

Structureflex Pacific

MPanel Compatibility

An important part of the MPanel development effort is ensuring that MPanel products work with the latest software and hardware, as well as maintaining compatibility with older platforms. As AutoDesk authorised developers, we have access to AutoDesk products before they are released for sale, enabling us to test against the latest platforms. And as Rhino developers, we also have access to Rhino pre release versions.

There is also a gradual movement towards 64 bit computer platforms. Part of our development effort is to ensure that MPanel products will work in pure 64, mixed 64/32, and pure 32 bit environments.

These development efforts ensure that your MPanel products future are proofed, so that you don't need to worry if your MPanel software will be compatible with new software and hardware.

See MPanel at the ACASPA in Melbourne

Alan Stewart, MPanel Australian distributor, will be showcasing MPanel products at the ACASPA EXPO 2009. The event will be held at the Melbourne Convention Centre, from May 30 through June 1.

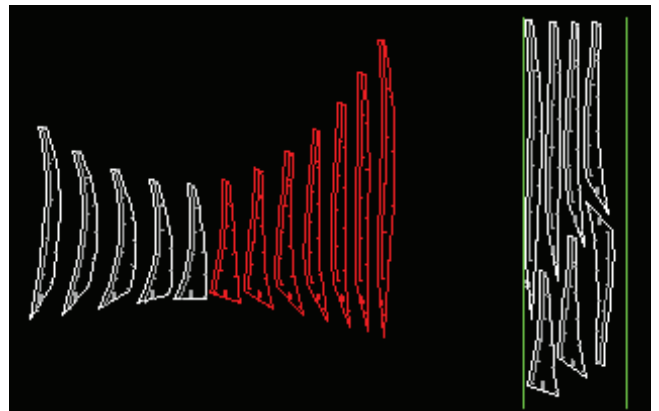
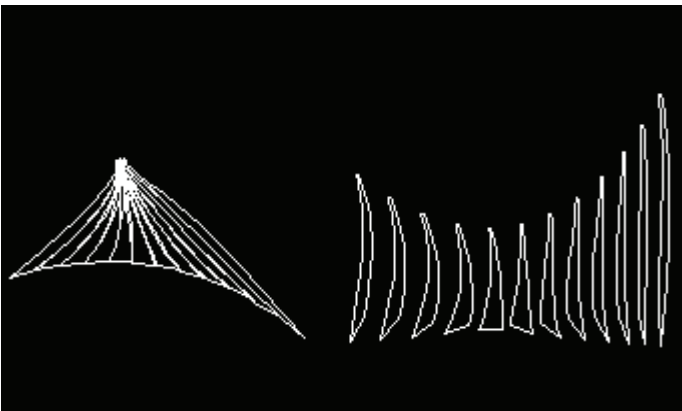


Alan and his crew will be giving live demonstrations of structures being created and patterned in MPanel. You can watch as these patterns are cut with a plotter and welded together, to show you the finished product.

So don't miss your chance to see MPanel in action...the complete process from beginning to end. Please come by the Structureflex stands, numbers **3&4**, and discuss your design needs with Alan. He will also be able to show you our finite element analysis software, MPanel FEA.

New features in MPanel v13.5

Panel Arranger Tool



MPanel v13.5 was released the first week of March, 2009. If you are an MPanel customer with a current Support Contract, you will have automatically received your new software.

As shown above on the left, the new Panel Arranger tool will spread out and orient a set of panels, allowing clear use of the detail, compensate, seam and stamp tools, and helping to organize the drawing layout.

Also this tool can arrange panels on a roll or cutting table, as shown above right. You simply draw in two lines defining your table or roll and then select the lines and the panel you want to include and run the tool. This is not full nesting, but is a good start on arranging the panels optimally on the roll.

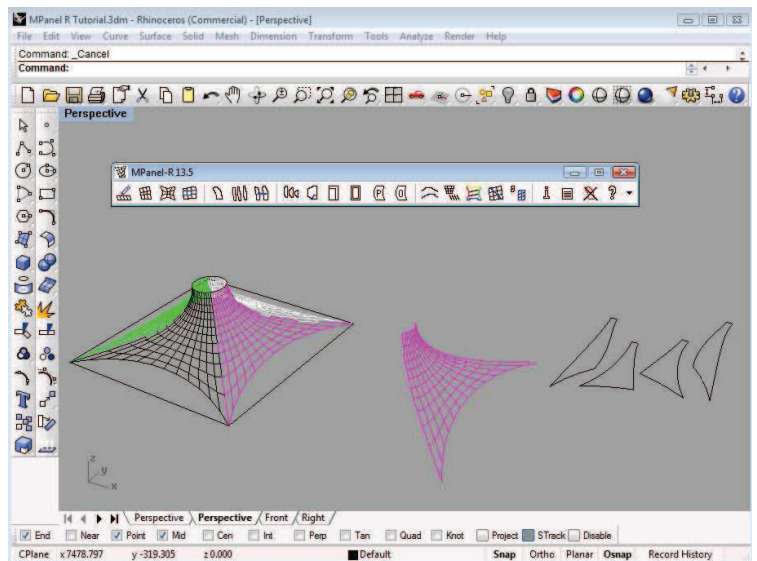
MPanel for Rhinoceros® is now available!

MPanel-R, the Rhinoceros version of our flagship MPanel product, was released in March.

MPanel-R incorporates all of the MPanel functionality, working as an add-on toolbar inside of Rhino, and is equally as powerful as the AutoCAD version when it comes to design and production.

So if you are a Rhino user who is looking for powerful, yet easy to use, design tools for tensile fabric structures, tents, awnings, exhibits, etc., please [contact us](#) for a 30 day fully functional evaluation version of MPanel-R v13.5.

If you are an MPanel customer, using AutoCAD, and you would like to change one or more of your MPanel seats to work in the Rhino environment, please contact us for details.



Using MPanel with Proliner®

Some of our customers have asked if MPanel can use data from the Proliner measuring device from Prodim. In fact, MPanel recognizes data from most measuring devices, in many different formats, including dxf and even text files with xyz coordinates.

The ease with which fixed reference points, captured by the measuring device, can be converted into a frame drawing for a fabric cover, will depend upon the situation and the operator. It's not unusual to have to clean up the data in the drawing to remove measuring mistakes. But with a good data set, MPanel software and a measuring device can be a powerful and time saving combination.

If you would like more information on how well MPanel interacts with data from measuring devices, just give us a call. We will be glad to discuss the pros and cons of using these devices with MPanel.

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