DRAFT

IPLOT USER INSTRUCTIONS

REVISION DATE JUNE 2005

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BACKGROUND

WHAT IS IPLOT?

IPlot or InterPlot, is the Caltrans Standard for plotting.

InterPlot has been the plotting application platform for all Caltrans MicroStation CADD drawings since the Spring of 2000. It is a product of the Intergraph Corporation which has since become a part of Bentley Systems, Inc., which also produces MicroStation.

InterPlot works in the Windows NT environment and offers easy user interfaces inside and outside of MicroStation for creating plots and saving plot requests for processing later. It also allows easy creation and management of batch plotting request.

InterPlot is a powerful networked production plotting solution that goes far beyond standard plotting capabilities included in engineering CADD applications. Plot sets created with InterPlot can contain information from a combination of file formats, and they can be quickly reprinted as needed with updated data. InterPlot settings files, pen tables and environment variables significantly reduce the need for training individual contributors in how to plot, and at the same time ensure that finished images conform to corporate standards. InterPlot can reduce project time to completion, and the associated expenses of production time and consumables.

You can create Prints/Plots, Iparms and Tiff files in two ways with IPlot.
Either with IPlot in MicroStation or with the IPlot Organizer.
Note you can only batch plot in IPlot Organizer.

IPlot inside of MicroStation …

1. Plots only single files. (No batch)
2. Has the option to use either Shape Method or Fence Method.
3. Uses settings files.
4. Creates Plots/Prints, Iparms and Tiff files.

InterPlot Organizer:

1. Requires you must use the Shape Method. (It requires that a Shape defines the Plot area.)
2. Print single drawings or batch plots.
3. Uses settings files.
4. Creates Plots/Prints, Iparms and Tiff files.
5. Option to save Print Sets.

WHAT IS A SETTING FILE?

IPlot uses settings files to set parameters that are used over and over again. For the most part you will be using auto printer settings files that load automatically when you select a printer. The printer settings file sets:

- General Settings: Color Table, Pen Table, Workspace, …
- Plot Area: The method used fence or shape.
- Layout: Size (Paper size), Units, Scale, Rotation, Origin…
- Reference Files: Attach/ Detach.
- Levels: Turn on/off levels.
- Display: Display attributes.
- Raster: Raster Settings.

Settings files provide an easy and flexible way of defining default plotting values for your plots and plot sets. Settings files consist of common settings that pertain to an entire plot set and plot level settings that pertain to individual plots within the plot set.

You can use settings files to:

- Store plotting parameters so that they can be easily reused. For example, if you always plot at a particular size with a specific color table and pen table, then those qualifiers (along with their values) can be placed into a default settings file that InterPlot automatically reads.

- Establish settings that pertain to the entire plot set, such as printer name.

- Enforce drawing standards. By using settings files you can force on/off particular levels or display parameters, use particular scales, or pen tables.

- Eliminate typographical errors. Less typing and file selection is required in specifying the plotting parameters when you use settings files.

- Group together plotting parameters so that you can apply them to a specific plot or plot set.

- Assist novice users. Settings files can reduce the need to navigate through dialog boxes entirely. For most cases settings files get you closer to “one button plotting.”

If you need custom settings files created please contact Structures CADD Software Support Unit. It is important to use the standard Caltrans settings files when doing an expedite, addendum, CCO or as builts. You will need to follow the Procedure for Processing Electronic Structures Contract Plans handout.

WHAT IS A SHAPE?

The two main methods IPlot uses for defining a plot area is Fence or Shape.

Fence method:

Fence method uses the standard Microstation fence command to define a plot area. Inside Microstation you define a fence around the border. This defines your plot area.

Shape method:

Shape method uses a shape with certain element properties to define your plot area. For Caltrans Structures the shape is defined in MicroStation as follows:

Level = 10
Color = 10
Weight = 0
Style = 0

The Place Block Command is used to create the Shape in Microstation.

This shape with all these specific properties is now defined on all Caltrans Structures seed file borders.

The shape must be defined by using the Place Block Command. It can not be defined by grouping elements or using graphic groups.

WHAT IS AN IPARM?

An Iparm is a parameter file.

IPlot has four different parameter files.
IPARMs - IPLOT parameters files
APARMs - APLOT parameters files
RPARMs - Raster parameters files
DPARMs - Digital Archive parameters files
Caltrans Structures standard is the Iparms.

The settings you specify for a MicroStation plot job are saved in an IPARM file. Each step in the plotting process depends on the IPARM file.

IPARM files contain the following information:

- Parameters used to create the plot job such as view, size, and rotation.
- Design file information. (Each IPARM file is associated with a single design file and its associated reference files.)
- Name of the printer to which you are submitting the plot.
- Names of associated plot files such as a pen table, color table, or rendering attributes file.
- Workspace name.

By default, IPARM files have a .i extension. (The IPARM file extension is defined by the configuration variable IPLOT_IPARM_EXT in the IPLOT.CFG file).

WHAT IS A TIFF FILE?

TIFF Group 4 is the Caltrans Structures Standard file format for Final As Built files and for Maintenance (BIRIS). TIFF files must be created at size 22x34 not 11x17.

TIFF is an acronym for **T**ag(ged) **I**mage **F**ile **F**ormat. It is one of the most popular and flexible of the current public domain raster file formats.

TIFF was developed by Aldus and Microsoft Corp, and the specification was owned by Aldus, which in turn merged with Adobe Systems, Incorporated. Consequently, Adobe Systems now holds the Copyright for the TIFF specification.

Strengths:

- TIFF is primarily designed for **raster** data **interchange**.
- It's main strength is a highly flexible and platform-independent format which is supported by numerous image processing applications.
- Since it was designed by developers of printers, scanners and monitors, it has a very rich space of information elements for colorimetry calibration, gamut tables, etc. Such information is also very useful for remote sensing and multispectral applications.
- Another feature of TIFF which is also useful is the ability to decompose an image by **tiles** rather than scanlines. This permits much more efficient access to very large imagery which has been compressed (since one does not have to decompress an entire scanline).
- Theoretically, TIFF can support imagery with multiple bands (up to 64K bands), arbitrary # bits per pixel, data cubes, and multiple images per file, including thumbnail subsampled images.

IPLOT PRINTERS

The following is a sampling of some of the IPlot printers.
Please note:

- All the IPlot printers begin with "IPlot_~~~" this way it distinguishes IPlot printers from Novell printers.
- All the IPlot printers end with either "F" or "S". "F" is Fence Method and "S" is for Shape Method.
- All the IPlot printers have a "printer" settings file associated with them. The printer settings file sets things like paper size, pen table, units, scale, display attributes, etc..

For 8830 plotters, note the "D" or "L". "D" is for a D-size plot (22x34)
"L" is for a long plot (36x960)

IPlot_8830_Sec01_D_F
IPlot_8830_Sec01_D_S
IPlot_8830_Sec01_L_F
IPlot_8830_Sec01_L_S

For 5000/8000/8100 printers, these are all pretty much the same. They all print 11x17, use the same pen table and driver.

IPlot_Sec01_5000_F
IPlot_Sec01_5000_S
IPlot_Sec01_8000_F
IPlot_Sec01_8000_S
IPlot_TranLab_8100_F
IPlot_TranLab_8100_S

For 8500/8550 printers, these are the same as the 5000/8000/8100 except these are color printers.

IPlot_12h_3rd_36C_8500_F
IPlot_12h_3rd_36C_8500_S
IPlot_TranLab_8550_F
IPlot_TranLab_8550_S

For 4mv/4-plus/4v printers, these are the same as the 5000/8000/8100 printers.

IPlot_12h_3rd_32B_4v-mv_F
IPlot_12h_3rd_32B_4v-mv_S

IPlot_12h_3rd_34B_4plus_F
IPlot_12h_3rd_34B_4plus_S

For 1055/650 plotters, these are large format continuous roll color plotters. These plotters only print 36 inches wide.

IPlot_Cad_1055_F
IPlot_Cad_1055_S
IPlot_TranLab_650_F
IPlot_TranLab_650_S

For TiffOutput printers, these print to an output directory . Note the size for Tiff files must be 22x34.

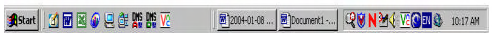
IPlot_TIFFOutput_F
IPlot_TIFFOutput_S
IPlot_TIFFOutput_Rotated_270_F
IPlot_TIFFOutput_Rotated_270_S

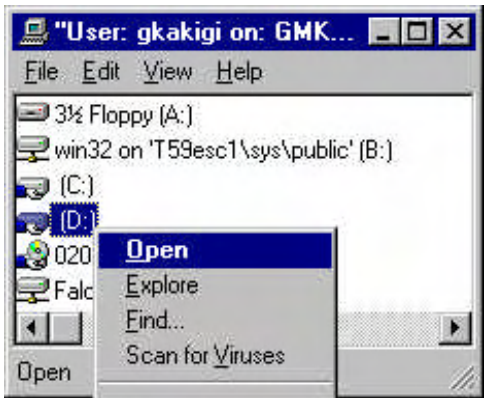
MAKE A DEFAULT LOCATION

It is a good idea to have a default location on the D:\ drive for your Iparms. In this example I made a folder called “MY IPLOT”.

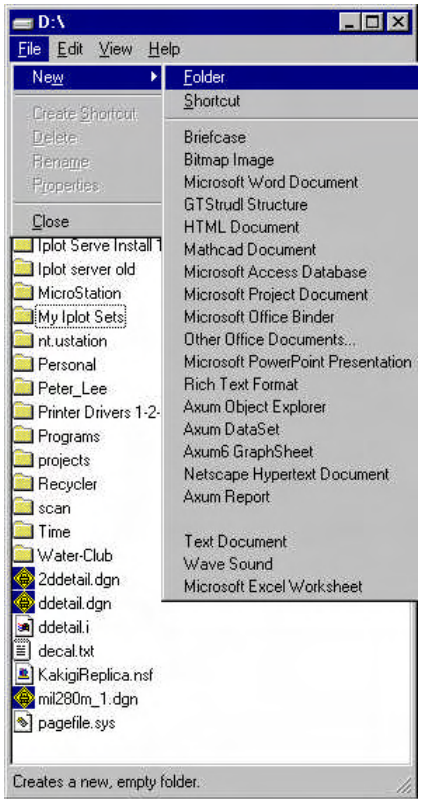
Making a Default Folder

1. Create a folder by clicking on my computer

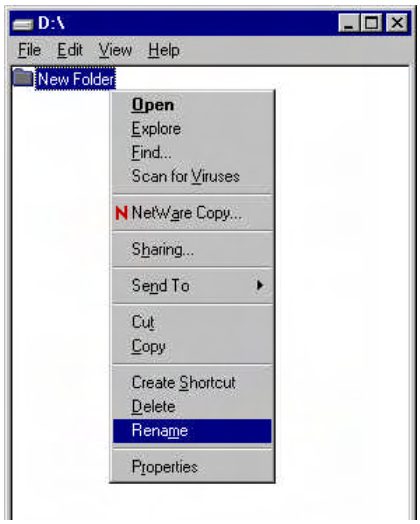




2. Open the D:\ Drive



3. Create a new folder by clicking on File / New / Folder



4. Name the folder anything you want. By Right Clicking on the new folder and selecting Rename.

5. In this example I named my folder "MY IPLOT"

6. You can now create files

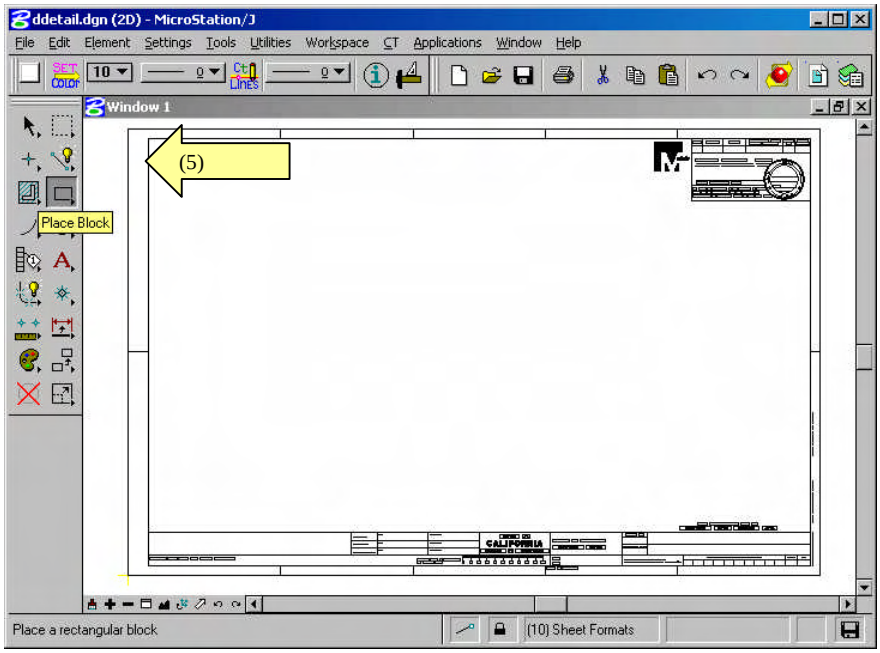
DEFINING A SHAPE FOR IPLOT

1. Open up Microstation as usual.

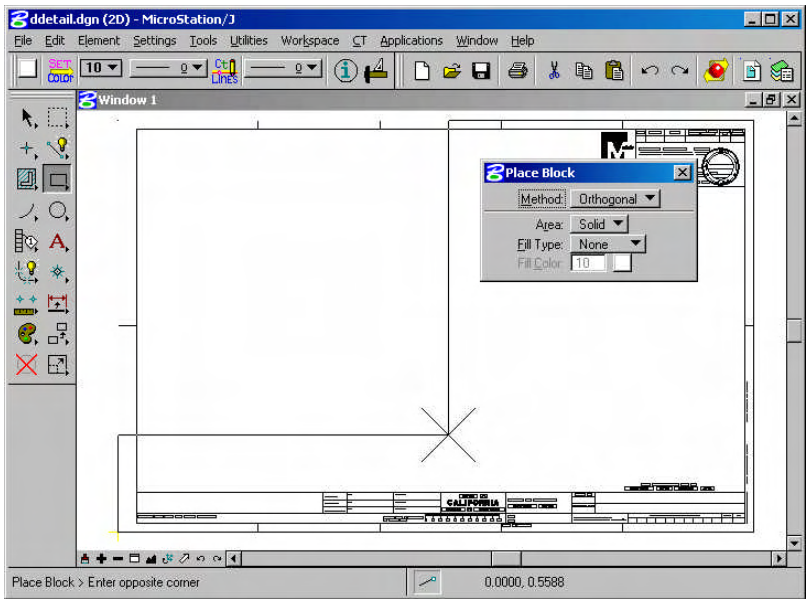
2. Open a drawing.

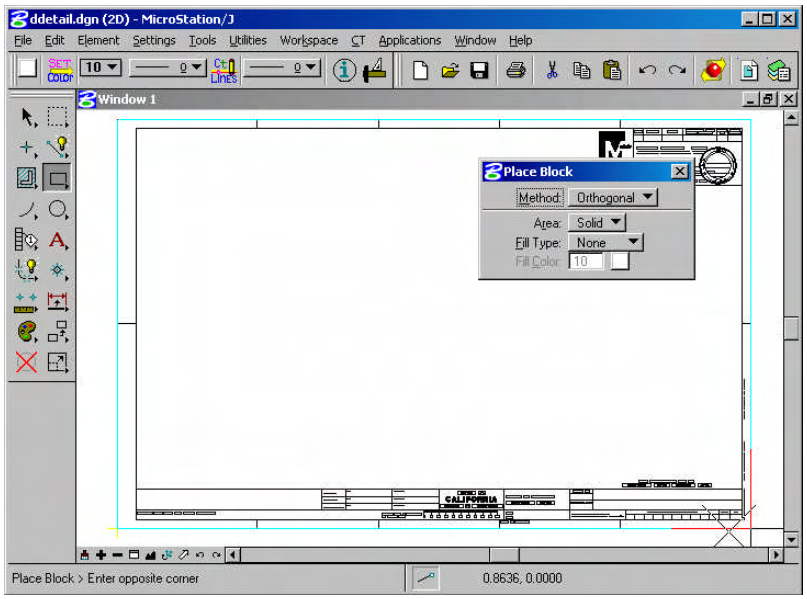
3. First set your level 10, color 10, weight 0, and style 0.

4. If the border does not already have a shape defining the cut lines, place a shape. (eg old files prior to 2004?)



5. From Microstation's main tool bar select the place block command.





6. Place the shape (block) by snapping to the corners of the cut lines of the border.

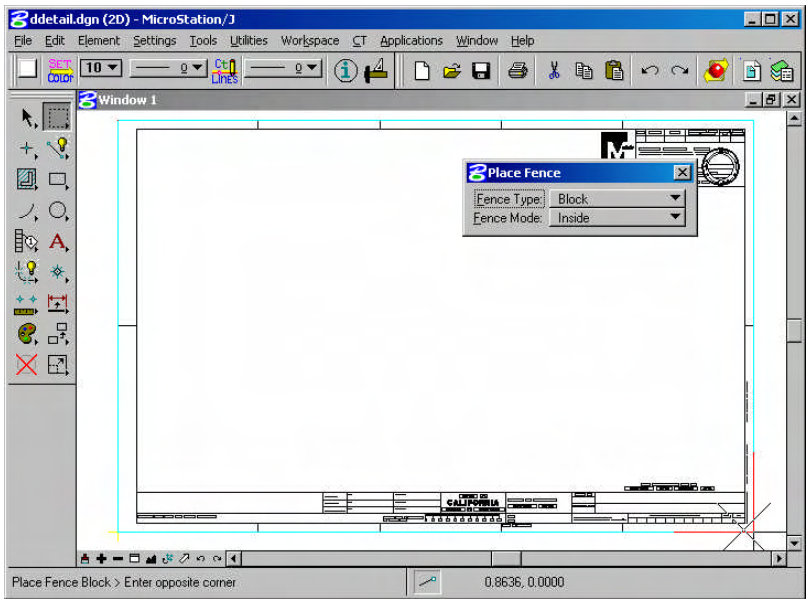
7. You now have created a shape for Iplot.

PLOTTING

Fence method inside of Microstation.

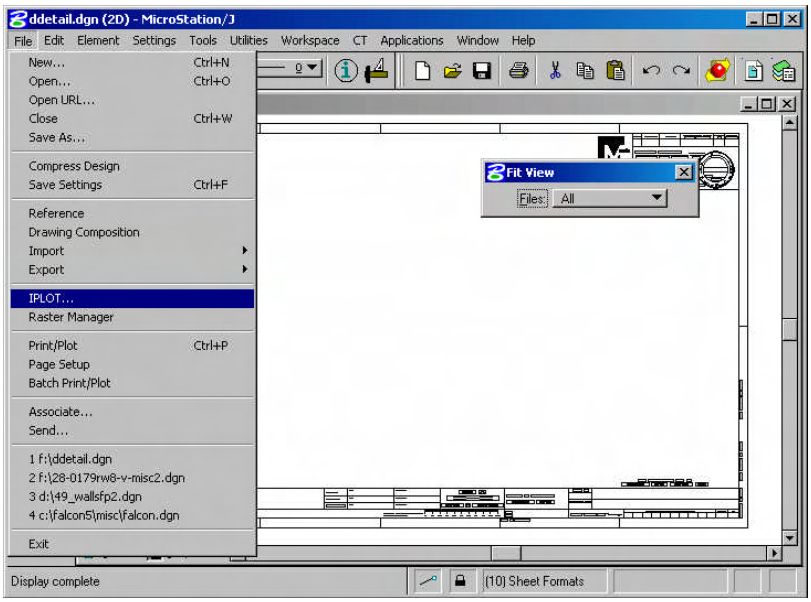
1. Open up Microstation as usual.

2. Open a drawing.



3. Snap a fence to the corners of the border cut lines.

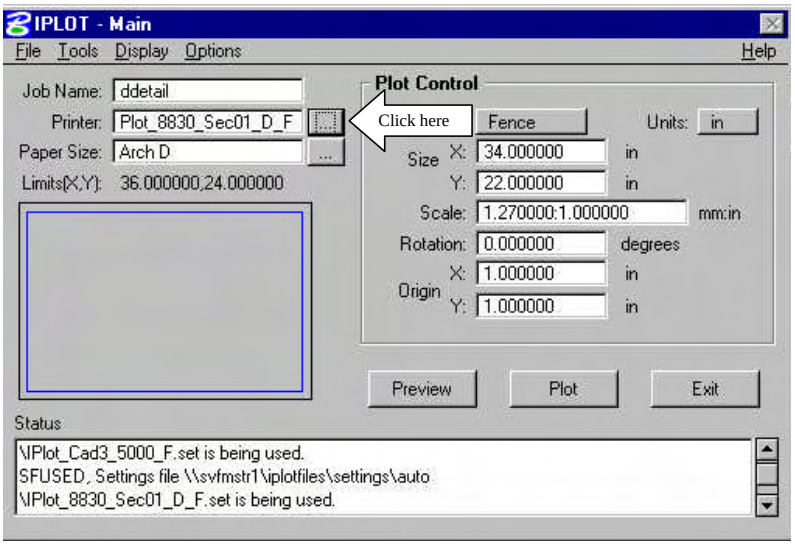
4. Open up Iplot by Clicking on ***File*** from the menu bar.



5. Click on ***IPLOT…***, (You might have to wait a few seconds).

6. The ***IPLOT – Main*** dialog window will come up.

7. This is what the dialog box should read except for the ***Job Name:*** would be different (the name of your .dgn should be here) and the printer may be different.

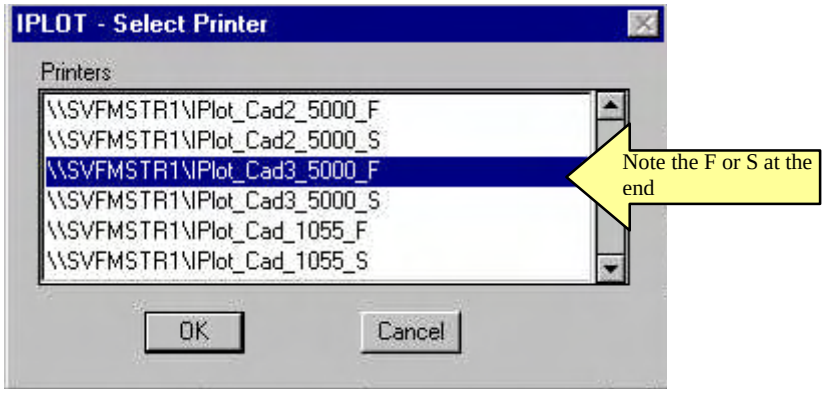


8. First Select the Iplot printer you want to print to. By Clicking on the Printer button.

9. An Iplot – Select Printer window should open.

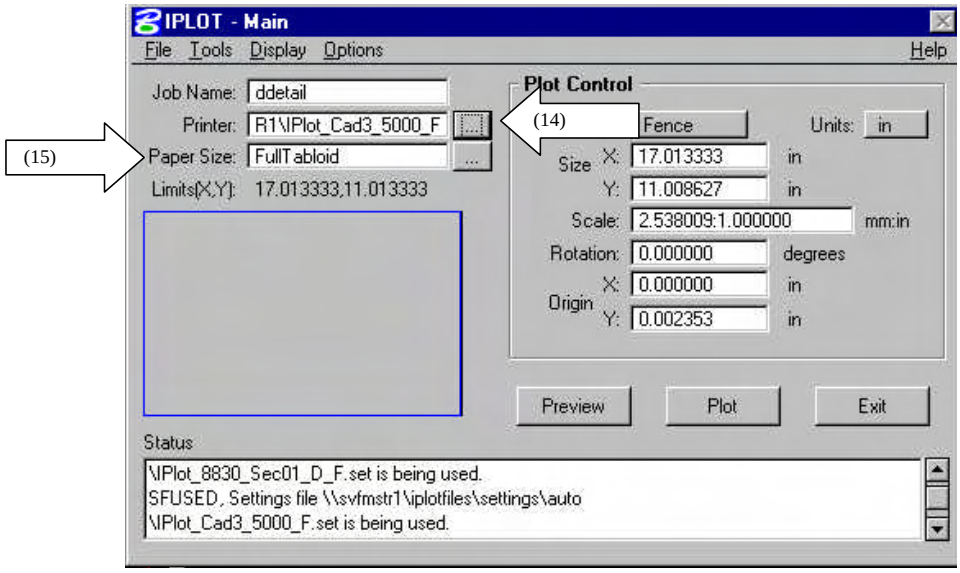
10. Note: every printer in the list ends either with an “F” or “S”.

11. “F” is for Fence and “S” is for Shape.



12. Since we are using a fence, the printer you choose must end with “F”

13. Scroll through the printer list till you find the one you want and select it. Then Click OK.



14. You should now see the printer you selected in the Printer field.

15. Also note the Paper Size field.

16. You now can select the ***Preview*** button to see if your plot looks OK. If everything looks good, you can select the ***Plot*** button at this time.

17. If you do not need to preview the plot, select the ***Plot*** button now.

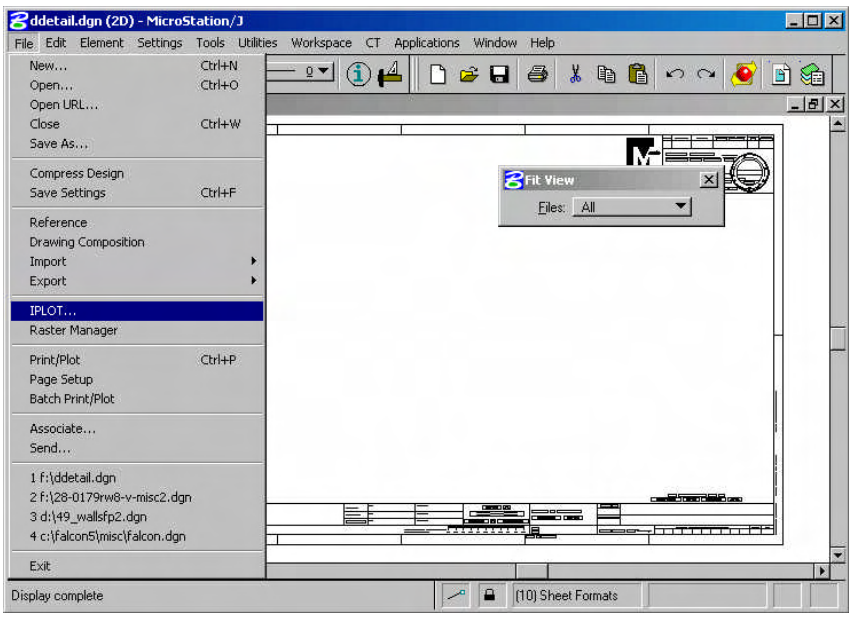
18. Then select the ***Exit*** button to get out of the ***IPLOT – Main*** dialog window.

Shape method inside of Microstation.

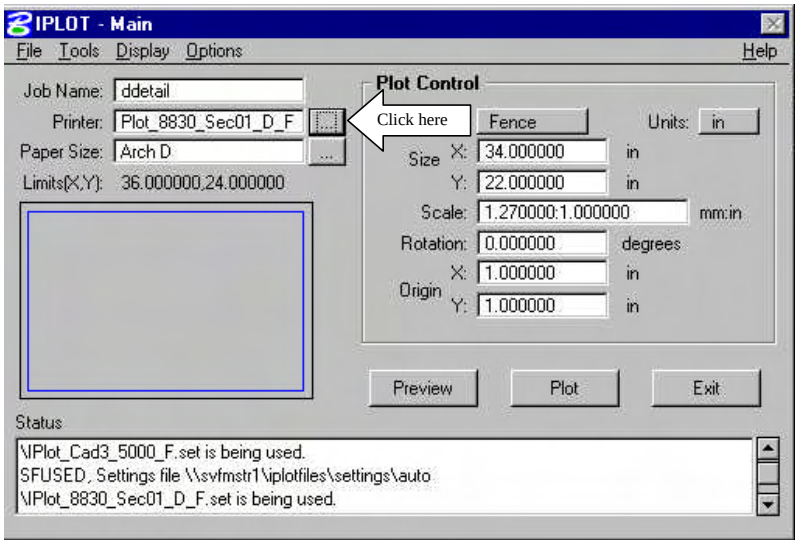
Note: A shape must already be defined on the cut line of the Border in the DGN (See "Defining a Shape for Iplot" instructions above)

1. Open up Microstation as usual.

2. Open up Iplot by Clicking on ***File*** from the menu bar.



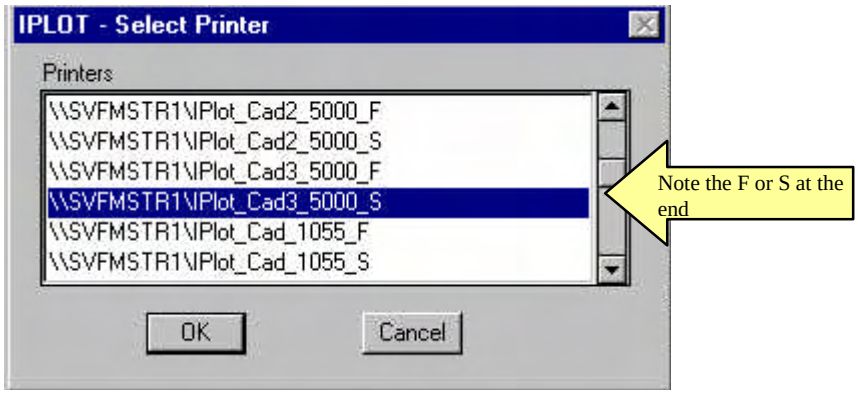
3. Click on ***IPLOT...***, (You might have to wait a few seconds).



4. The ***IPLOT – Main*** dialog window will come up.

5. This is what the dialog box should read except for the ***Job Name:*** would be different (the name of your .dgn should be here) and the printer may be different.

6. First Select the Iplot printer you want to print to. By Clicking on the Printer button.



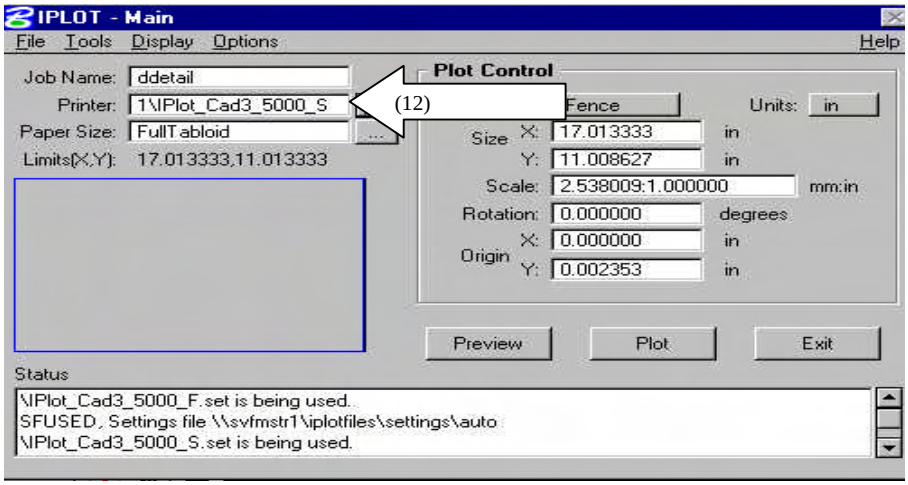
7. An Iplot – Select Printer window should open.

8. Note: every printer in the list ends either with an “F” or “S”.

9. “F” is for Fence and “S” is for Shape.

10. Since we are using a shape, the printer you choose must end with “S”

11. Scroll through the printer list till you find the one you want and select it. Then Click OK.



12. Note you should now see the printer you selected in the Printer field.

13. You now can select the ***Preview*** button to see if your plot looks OK. If everything looks good, you can select the ***Plot*** button at this time.

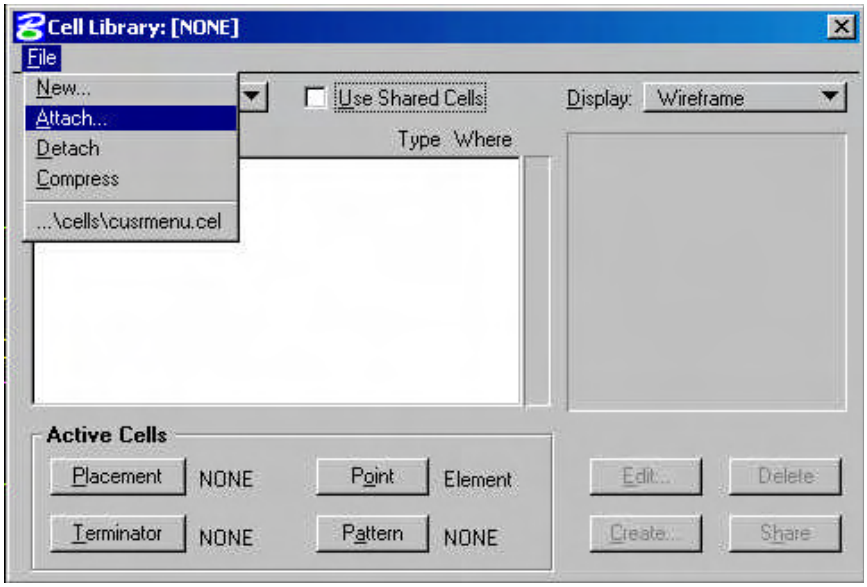
14. If you do not need to preview the plot, select the ***Plot*** button now.

15. Then select the ***Exit*** button to get out of the ***IPLOT – Main*** dialog window.

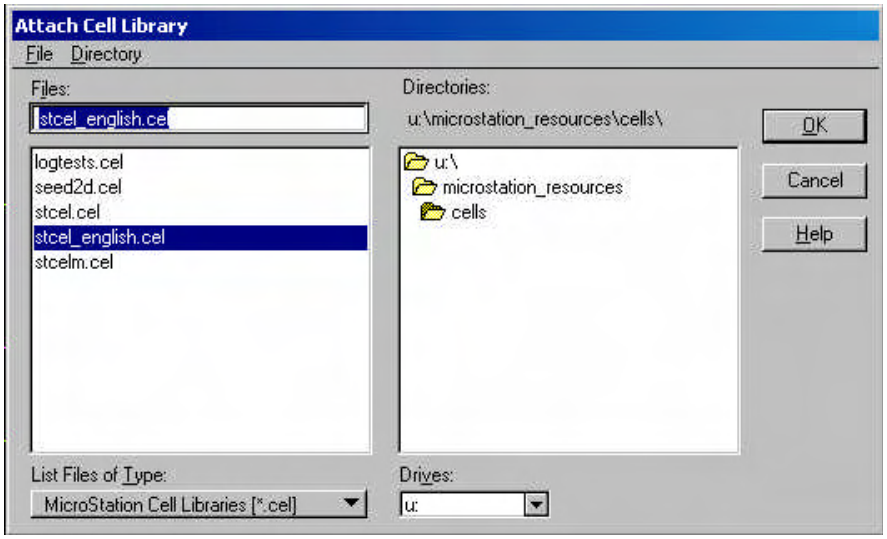
Long plot using shape method inside of Microstation.

1. Open up the Microstation drawing you want to plot.

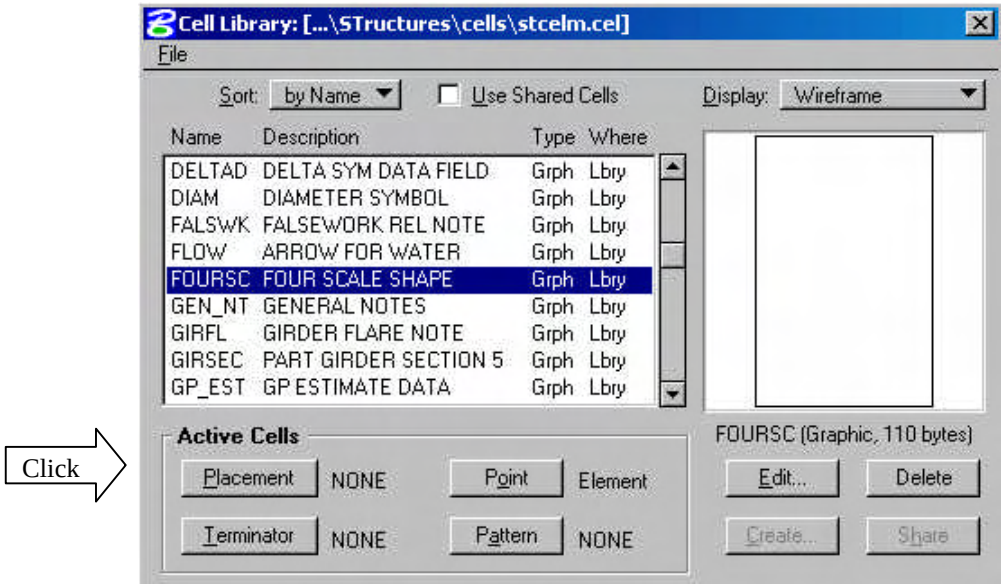
2. Go to Element → Cells



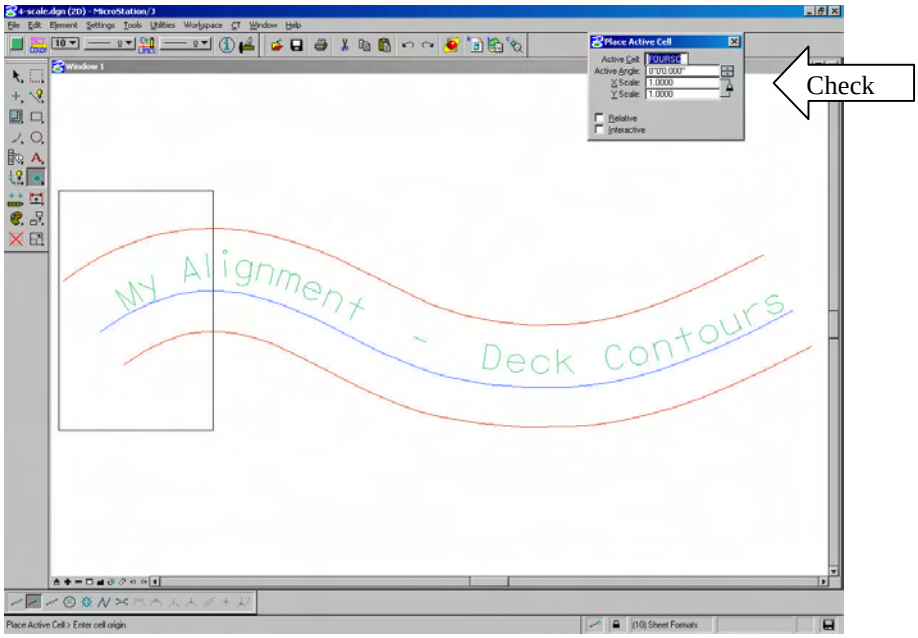
3. In the Cell Library window go to File → Attach



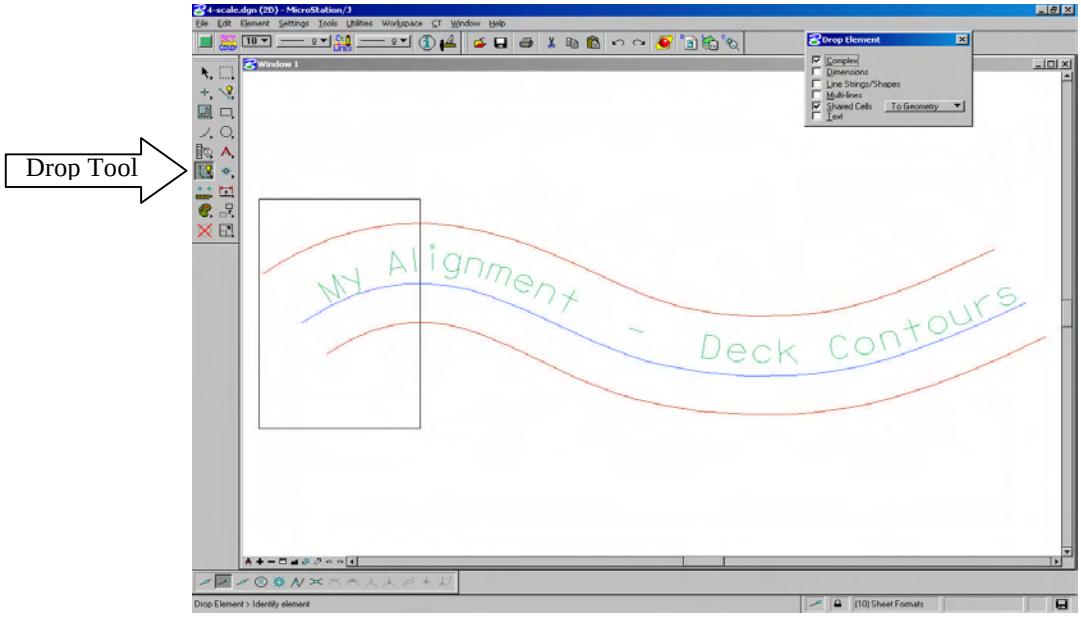
4. In the Attach Cell Library window navigate to the Structures cell libraries and select the appropriate library, English or metric.



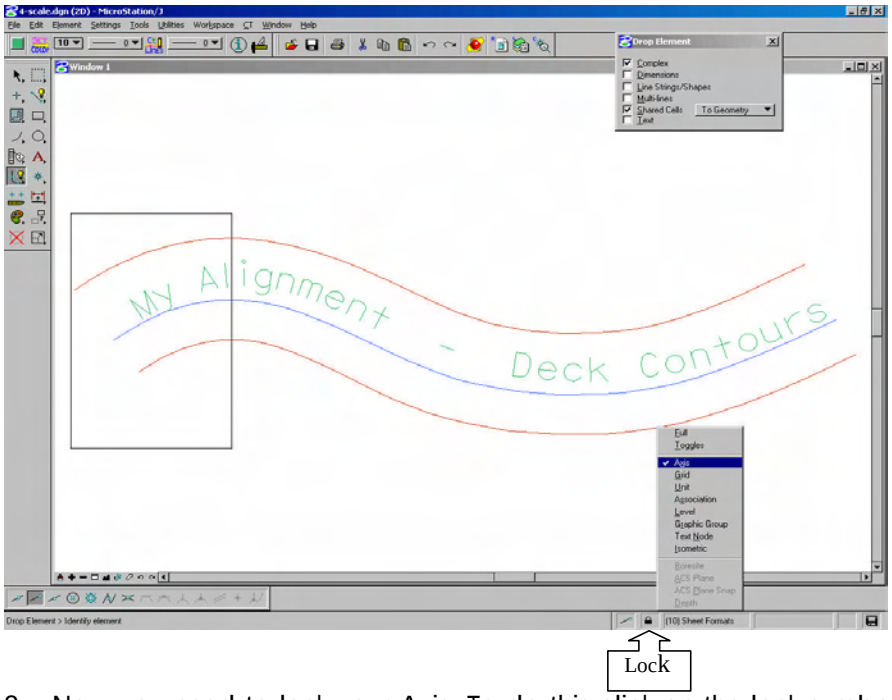
5. When the library is attached select the FOURSC cell then click on Placement



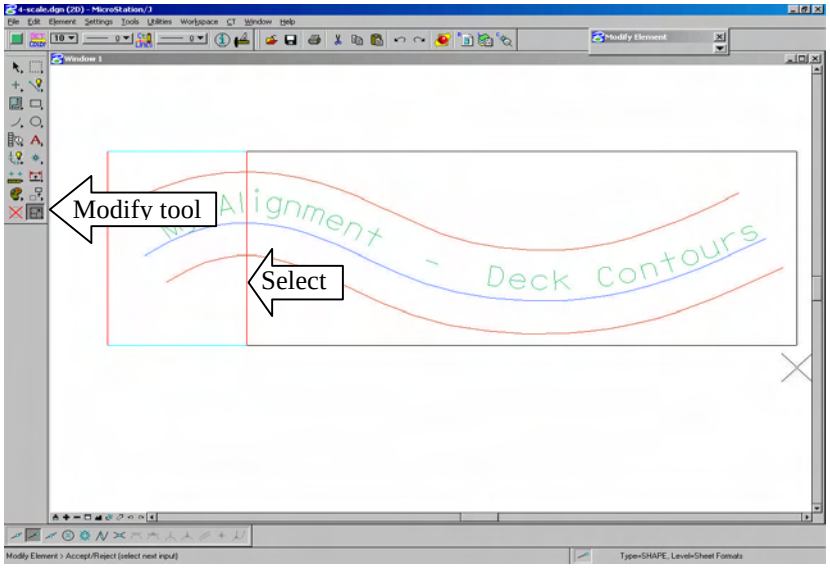
6. Place the Cell in your drawing aligning it to your layout. Make sure the Active Angle is set to 0 and X and Y Scales are set to 1.00



7. The Cell must be dropped first. Select the Drop tool then select the FOURSC cell in the drawing. Make sure you only select the cell once. We are only trying to drop the Cell portion of it. If you select it twice you will drop the Shape into separate line.



8. Now you need to lock your Axis. To do this click on the lock symbol on the lower right portion of the screen and click on Axis.



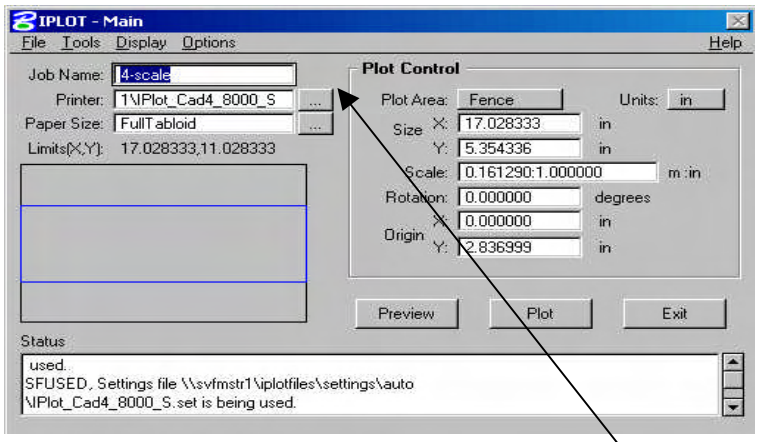
9. Now select the Modify Element tool and select the shape somewhere on the middle. Then drag to the end of your alignment.

The Cell\Shape you have just placed and modified has all the correct values associated with it which will allow Iplot to plot the elements inside the shape to the correct scale when set to plot to a 8830 plotter.

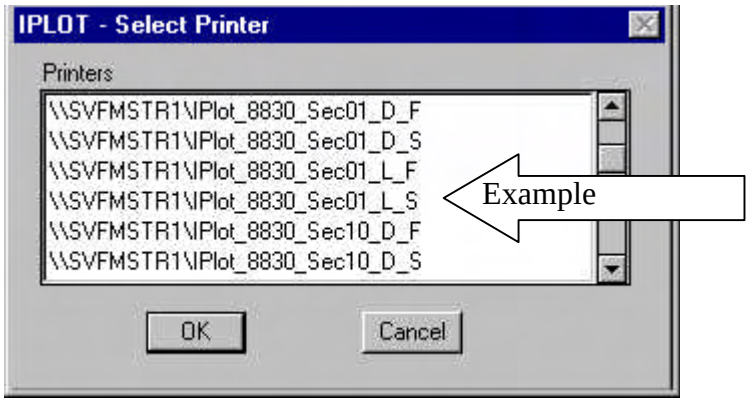
<u>The following will show you how to send this to a correct Plotter</u>

1. Open up Iplot by Clicking on ***<u>File</u>*** from the menu bar.

2. Click on ***IPLOT...***, (You might have to wait a few seconds).



3. The Iplot-Main window will come up. Click ------

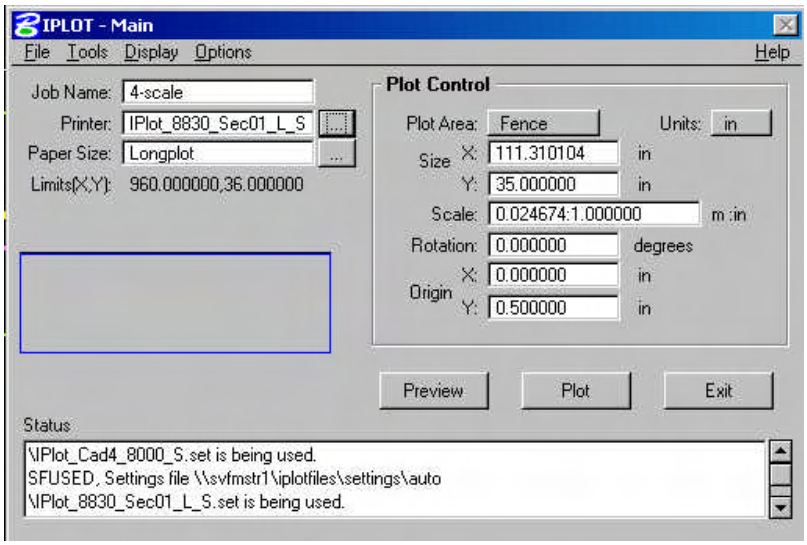


4. The Iplot-Select Printer window will open.

Note 1: Every printer in the list ends either with and "F" or "S". "F" is for Fence and "S" is for Shape.

Note 2: Also notice that for 8830 plotters are denoted with a "L" or "D". "L" is for long plot and "D" is for D-size (22x34)

5. Since you are using the Shape for a long plot select a 8830 near you which ends with L_S. Then click on OK



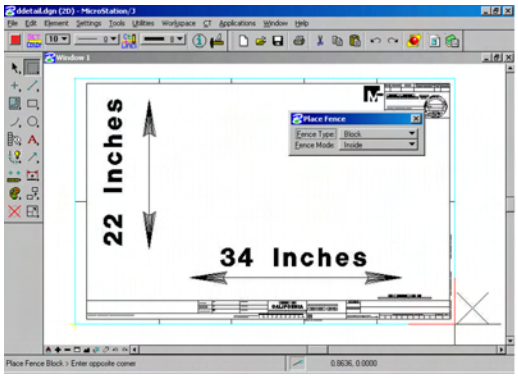
6. Your Iplot-Main window will update the correct Printer and Paper Size.

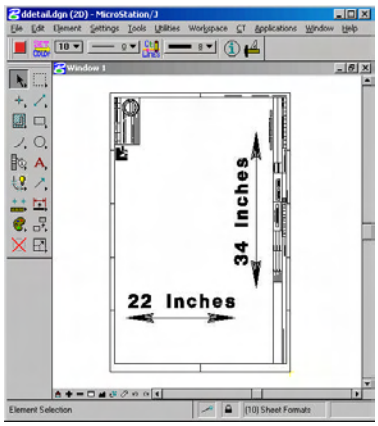
7. Select Plot and wait for your print to come out.

Long plot using fence method inside of Microstation.

1. Open up Microstation as usual.

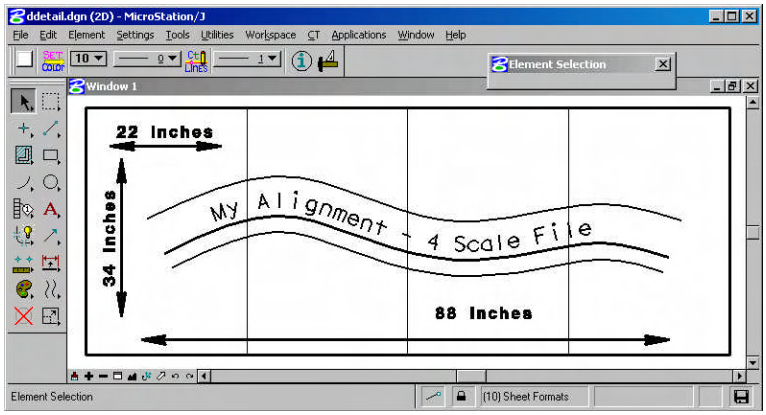
2. Open a drawing.





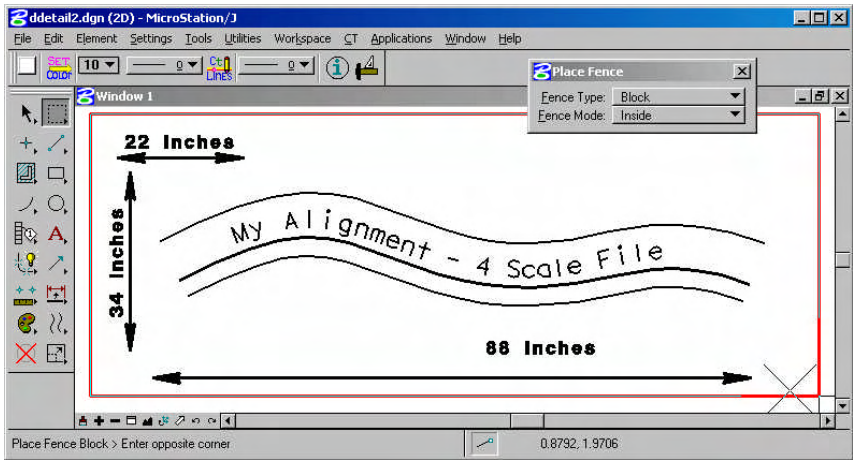
3. Snap a fence to the corners of a border that you create and know the size of.

   For me, I use the cut lines of our border and rotate the cut lines 90 degrees



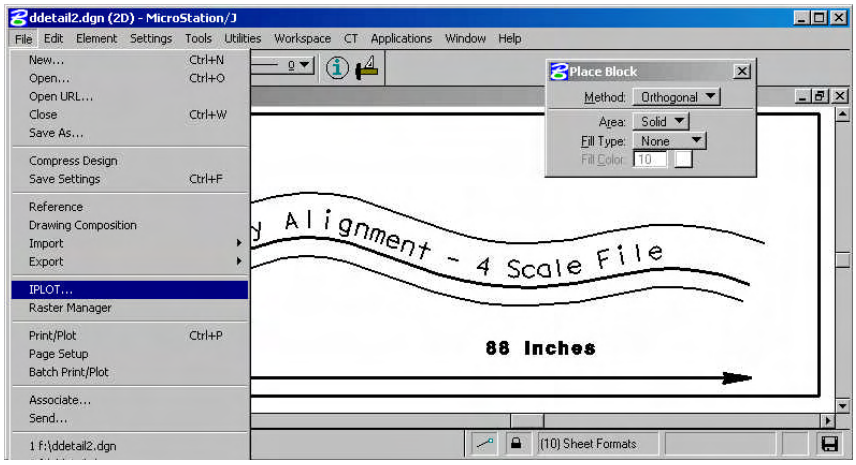
4. I then stretch or copy the 34 inch cut line so that the length can grow to any length.

Note: For 36 inch paper the max width is 35.5 inches and the max length is 960 inches for a full roll of paper.
For 12 inch paper the max width is 11.25 inches and the max length is 960 inches for a full roll of paper.



5. Snap a fence to the corners of the cut lines that you create and know the size. (in this case its 88 x 34)

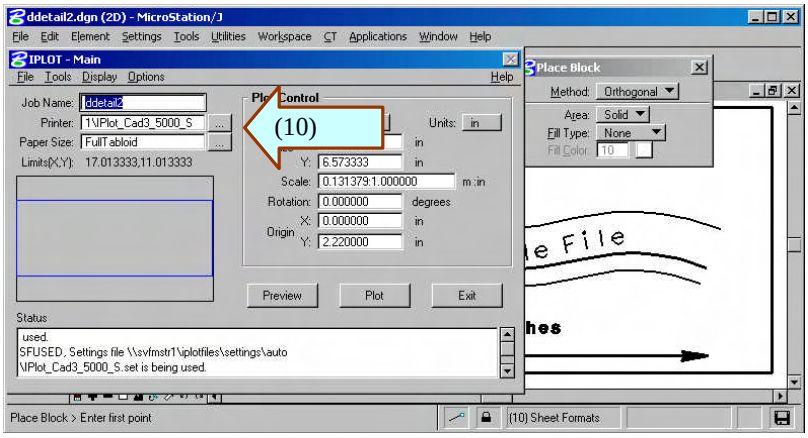
6. Open up Iplot by Clicking on ***File*** from the menu bar.



7. Click on ***IPLOT*** ..., (You might have to wait a few seconds).

8. The ***IPLOT – Main*** dialog window will come up.

9. This is what the dialog box should read except for the ***Job Name:*** would be different (the name of your .dgn should be here) and the printer may be different.

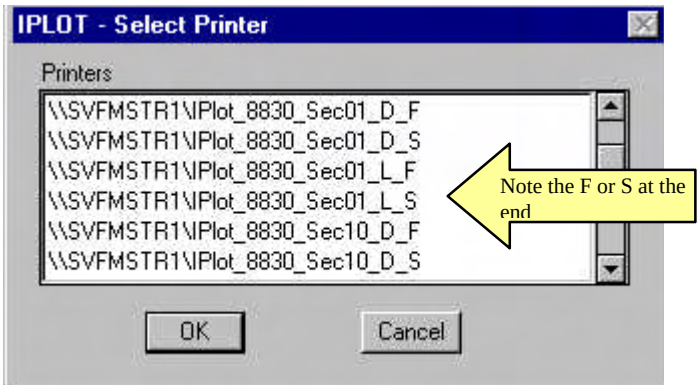


10. First Select the Iplot printer you want to print to. By Clicking on the Printer button.

11. An Iplot – Select Printer window should open.

12. Note: every printer in the list ends either with an “F” or “S”.

13. “F” is for Fence and “S” is for Shape.

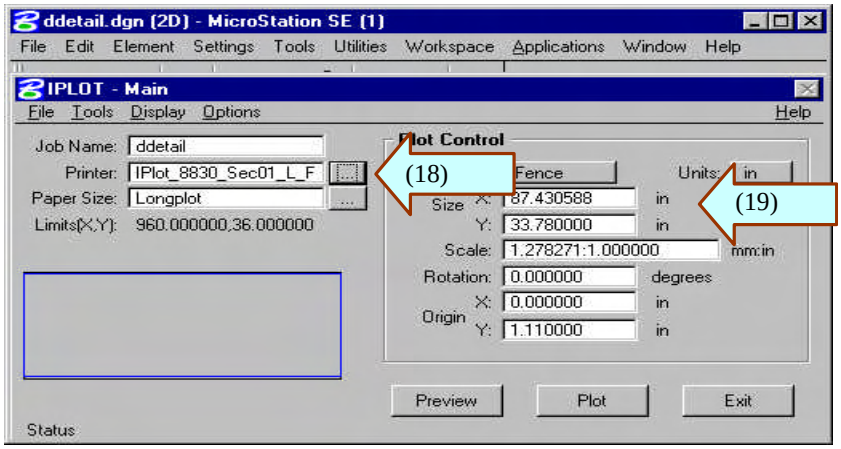


14. Also Notice that for 8830 plotters are denoted “L” or “D”

15. “L” is for long plot and “D” is for D-size (22x34)

16. Since we are using a fence, the printer you choose must end with “F” and be a long plot printer “L”.

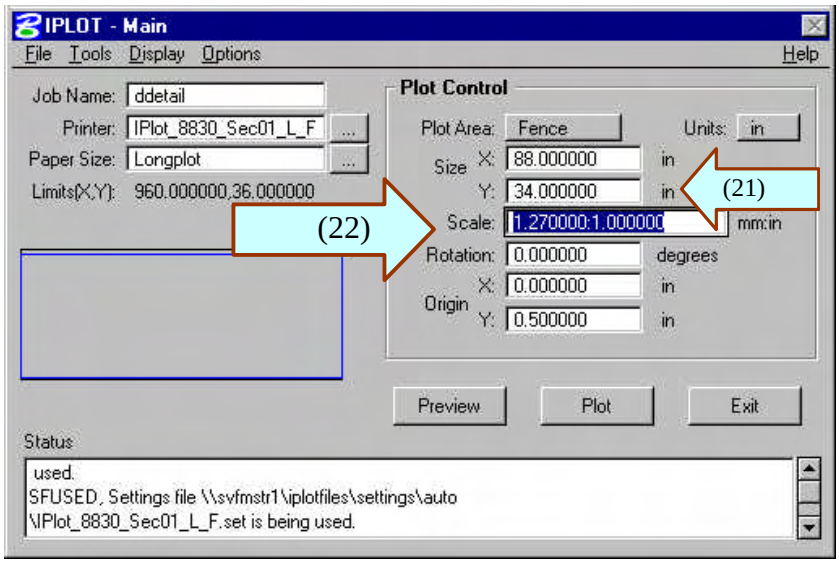
17. Scroll through the printer list till you find the one you want and select it. Then Click OK.



18. Note you should now see the printer you selected in the Printer field.

19. Notice the values for Size X: and Size Y: do not say 34x88 as we would expect for this case.

20. It is due to the default size, which is unspecified. So if you type in the X or Y value in the Size field it should adjust to the correct size.



21. So type 34 in the Y field and the X field automatically adjust to the correct length.

22. Note the Scale for Working Units 1000 / 10000 the Scale should read .0254 ~ : 1.
    The Scale changes for different Working Units.
    You may have to adjust the Scale Numbers to get a scalable plot.

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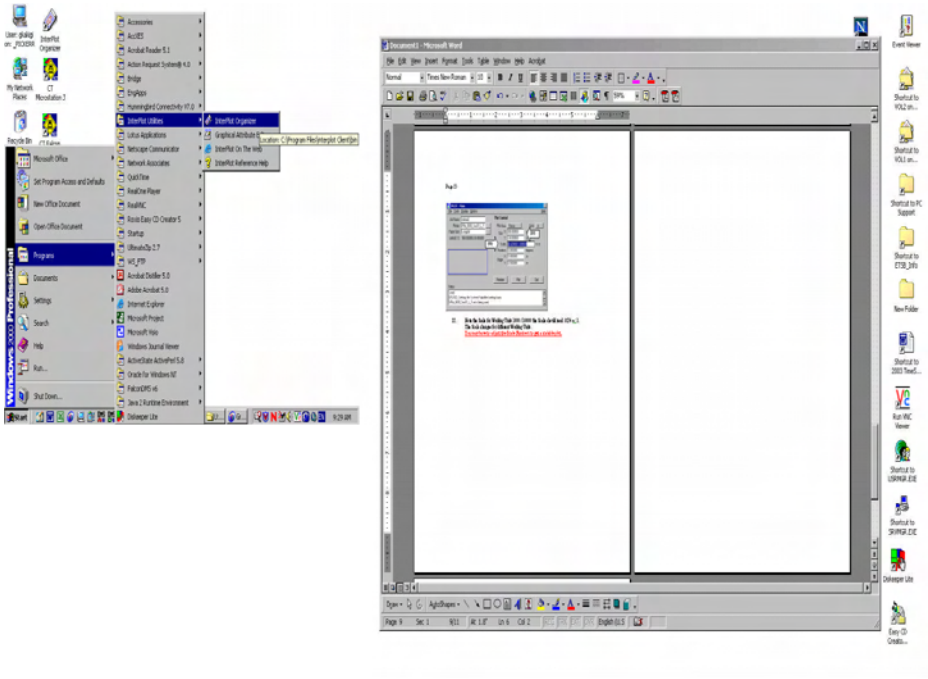
23. You now can select the ***Preview*** button to see if your plot looks OK. If everything looks good, you can select the ***Plot*** button at this time.

Batch plot using Iplot Organizer (outside of Microstation)

Note: A shape must already be defined on the cut line of the Border in the DGN
(See "Defining a Shape for Iplot" instructions on page 11)

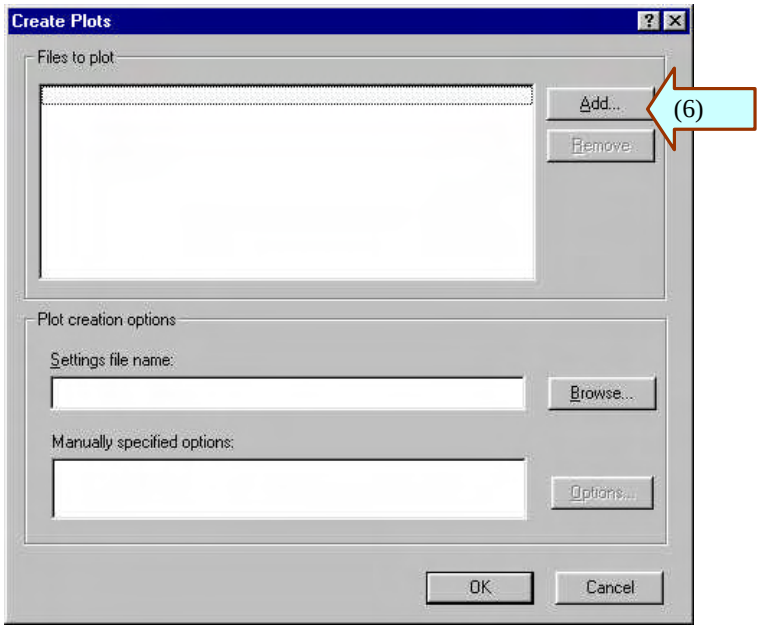


1. Click on ***Start***, then navigate to ***InterPlot Organizer***, then right click.

2. An InterPlot splash screen will appear.

3. A Welcome to InterPlot Organizer window opens up.

4. Select the ***OK*** button at this time.

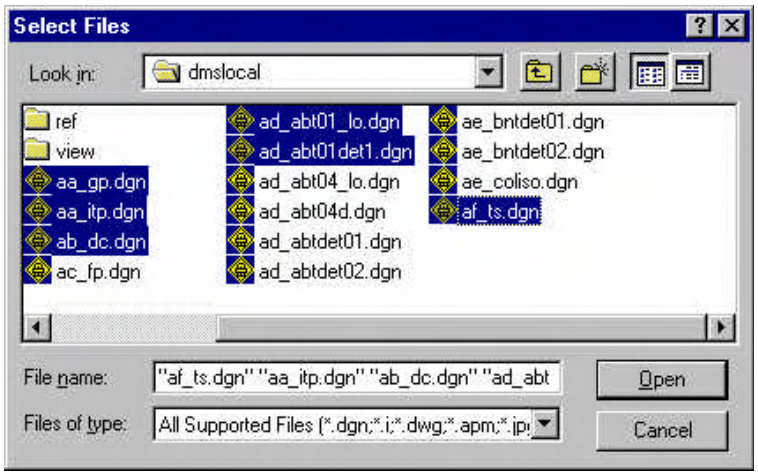


5. The ***Create Plots*** dialog window will come up.

6. Click on the ***Add***… button.

7. The ***Select Files*** dialog window will come up.

8. Navigate to where the files are located on your PC.

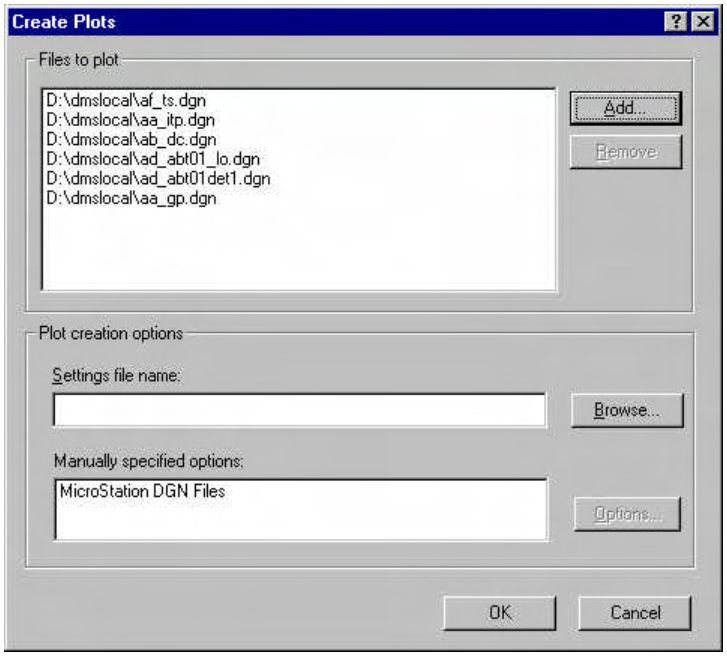


9. And select the files.

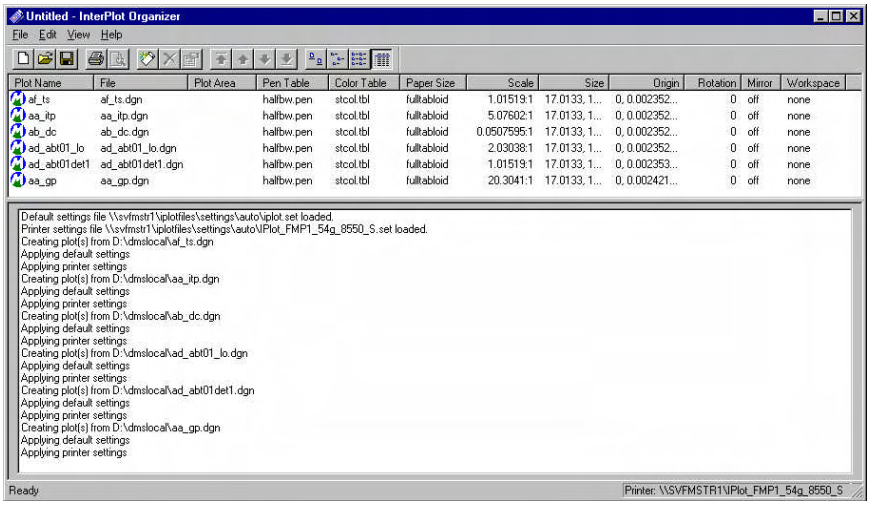
Note: If you are working with Falcon you need to check out the drawings from Falcon and go to the DMSLOCAL directory on your D:\ Drive.

10. Then click the ***Open*** button.

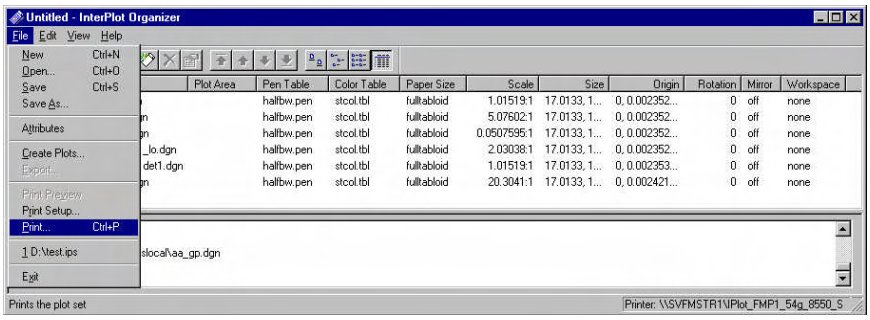
11. The selected files are placed in the ***Files to plot*** field.



12. Now select ***OK***

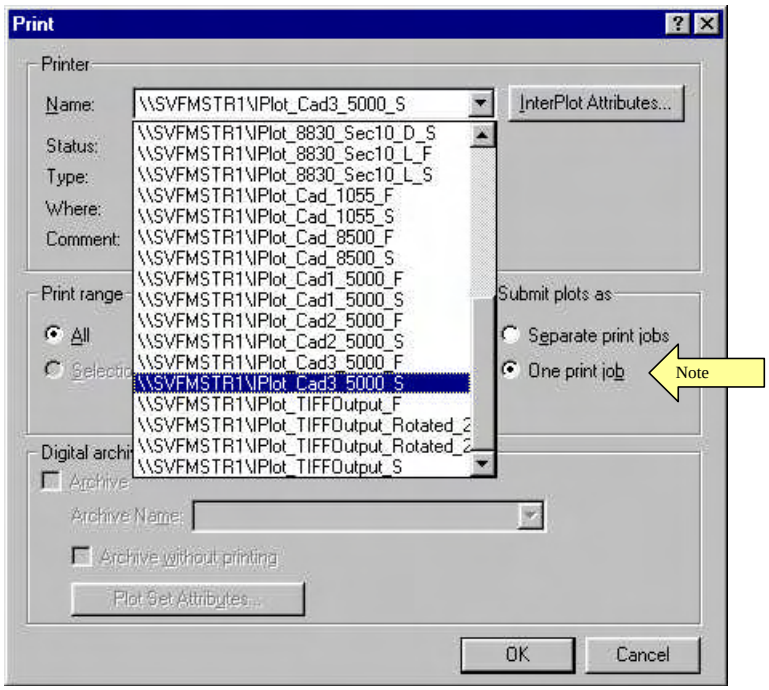


13. This will now add all the files to the ***Untitled – InterPlot Organizer***.



14. Now Select The Printer Icon on The ***Untitled – InterPlot Organizer*** toolbar or from the File pull down menu, Select Print.

15. The ***Print*** dialog window will come up.



16. Now select the printer you will be printing to.

Note: When using the Iplot Organizer you will most often be using a shape to print your drawings. So when selecting your printer make sure you choose one that ends with an "S" for shape.

17. Then select ***OK.*** To plot them.

Plot Sets.

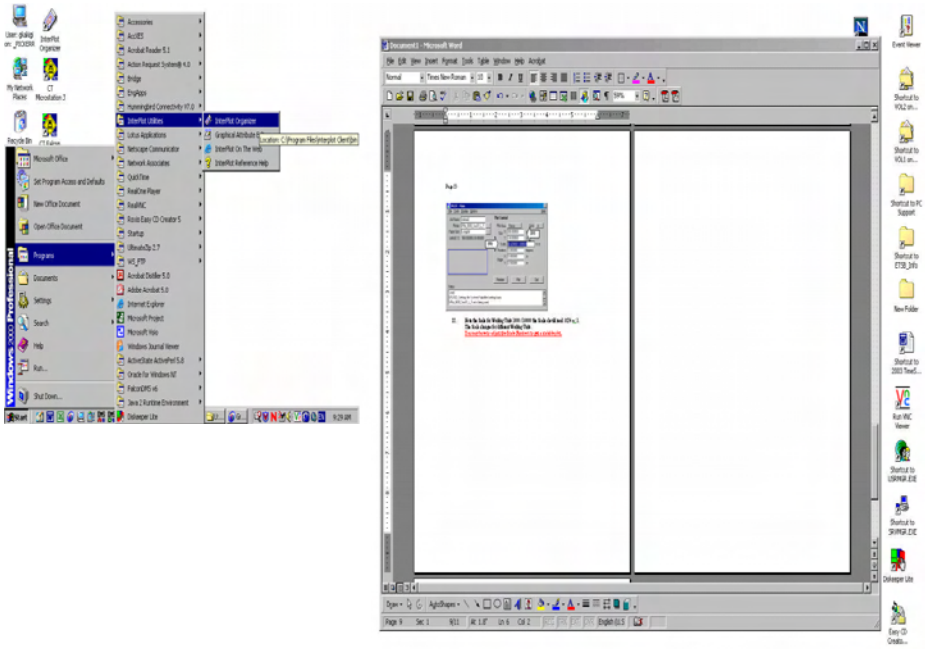
Note: To be able to print Plot Sets later, you will have to make sure you have the drawings in the same location. For Falcon users that means you need to check the files out and they need to be in the same locations and have the same filenames.

It is a good idea to have a default location on the D:\ drive for your Plot Sets.

In this example I have created a folder called “MY IPLOT”. To create a default folder see “Make a Default Location” instructions above.

Note: A shape must already be defined on the cut line of the Border in the DGN file.
(See “Defining a Shape for Iplot” instructions on page 11)

Create plot sets



1. Open up Iplot Organizer as usual.

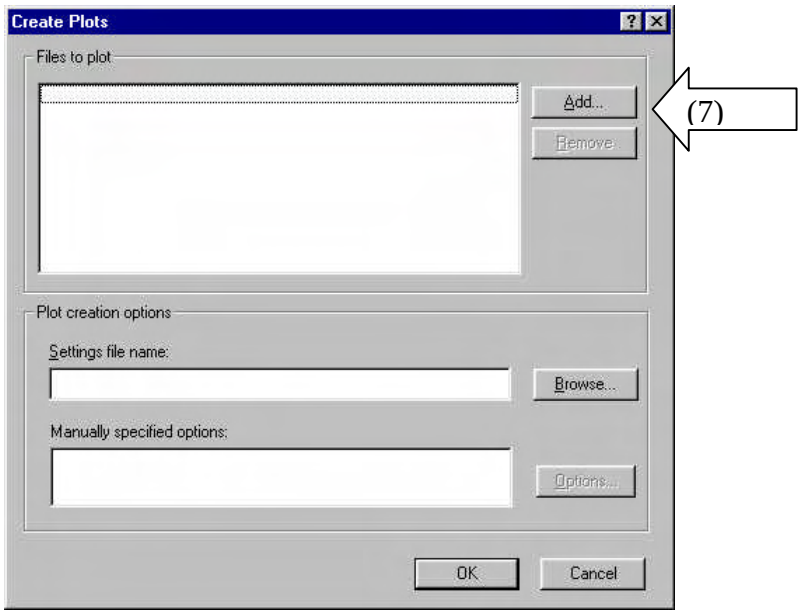
2. Click on ***Start***, then navigate to ***InterPlot Organizer***, then right click.

3. An InterPlot splash screen will appear.

4. AWelcome to InterPlot Organizer window opens up.

5. Select the ***OK*** button at this time.

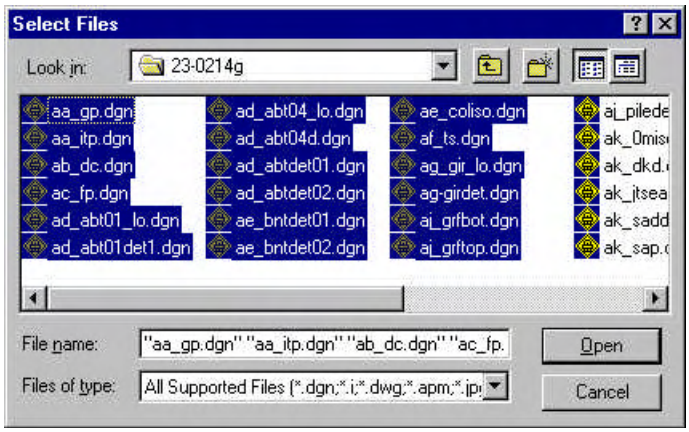
6. The ***Create Plots*** dialog window will come up



7. Click on the ***Add***… button

8. The ***Select Files*** dialog window will come up

9. Navigate to where the files are located on your PC.

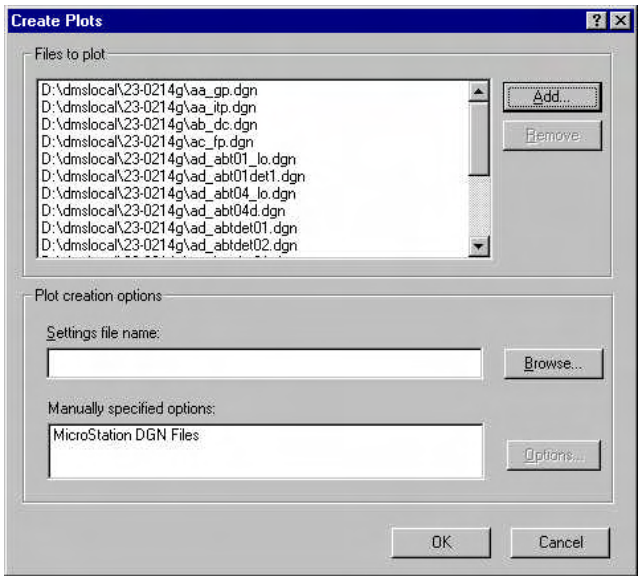


10. And select the files

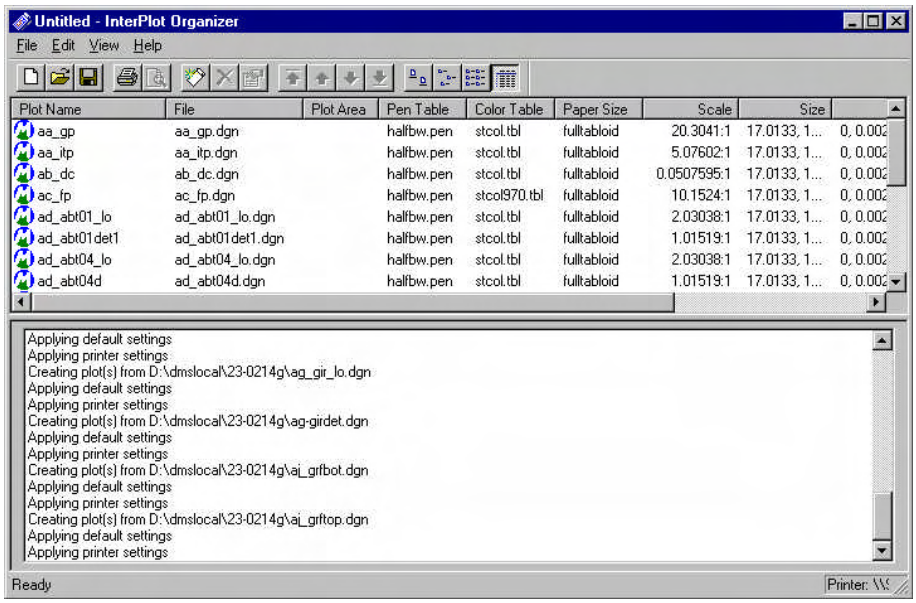
Note: If you are working with Falcon you need to check out the drawings from Falcon and go to the DMSLOCAL directory on your D:\ Drive.

11. Then click the ***Open*** button

12. The selected files are placed in the ***Files to plot*** field

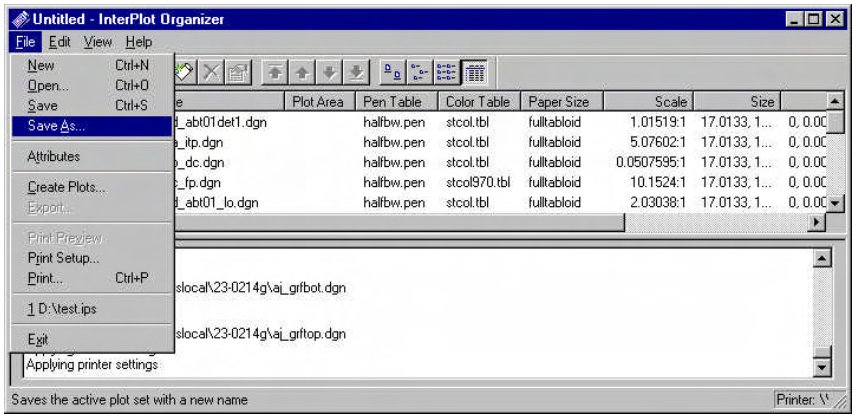


13. Now select ***OK***



14. This will now add all the files to the ***Untitled – InterPlot Organizer***

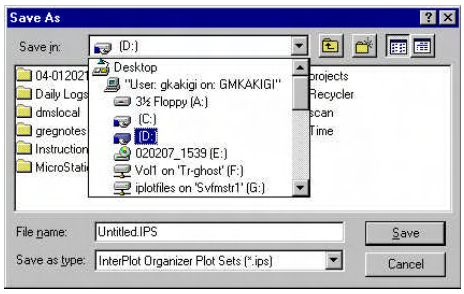
15. To save these drawings as an ***InterPlot Organizer Plot Sets (.IPS).*** (This will allow you to batch plot these files again and again without selecting the drawings.)



16. Click on ***File*** on the menu bar on the ***Untitled – InterPlot Organizer*** dialog window, then click on ***Save As…***

17. The ***Save As*** dialog window will come up

18. Navigate to a location you want to save your IPS files.

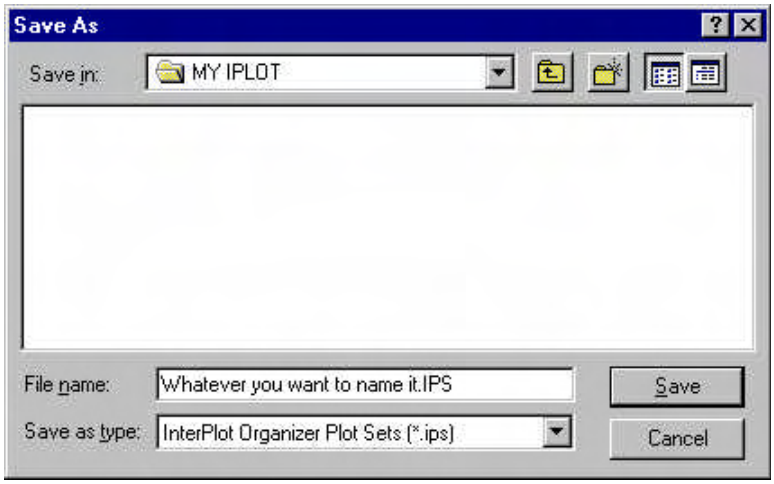


19. Under the ***Save in:*** field, navigate to a location on your D: drive

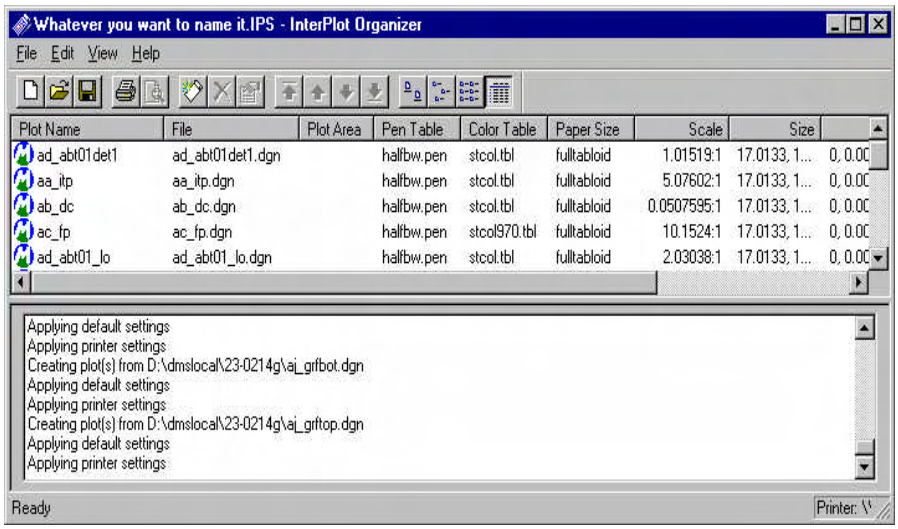
Note: It is a good idea to have a default location on the D:\ drive for your Plot Sets. In this example I made a folder called "MY IPLOT". To create a default folder see "Make a Default Location" instructions above.

Do Not save these files on the network drives. For Falcon users, I **DO NOT** recommend saving these files in you local dmslocal folder.

20. Under the ***File name:*** field it should read ***Untitled.IPS.*** Change the ***File name:*** to the project you are working on, this can be a bridge name, retaining wall, etc.



21. Now select ***Save.***

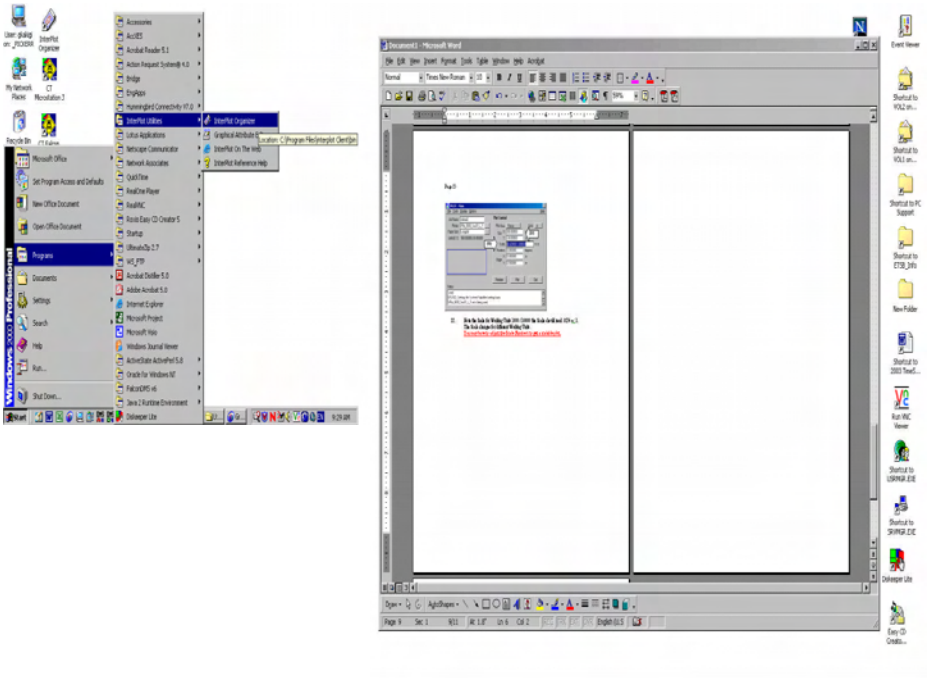


22. The ***Untitled-InterPlot Organizer*** dialog window should now be changed to the name you gave it.

23. At this time you can exit out of InterPlot Organizer Program.

Open plot sets

1. Open up Iplot Organizer as usual.

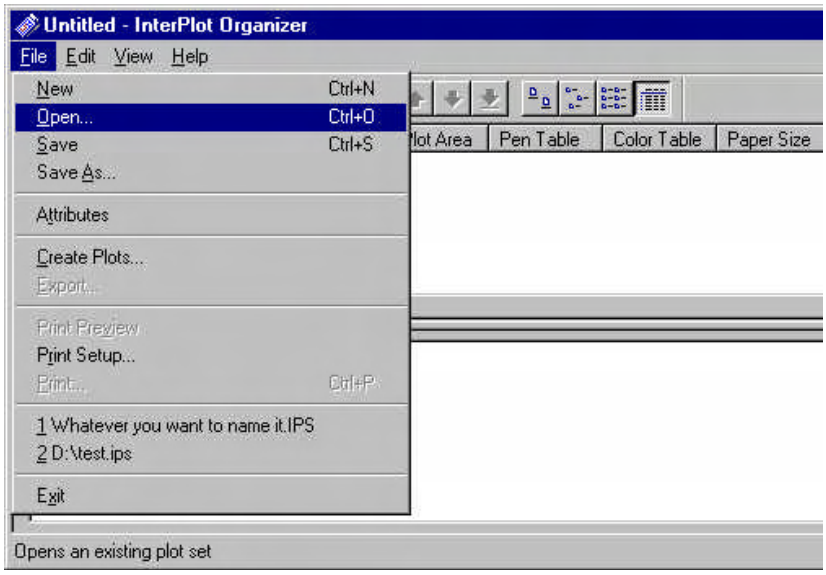


2. Click on ***Start***, then navigate to ***InterPlot Organizer***, then right click.

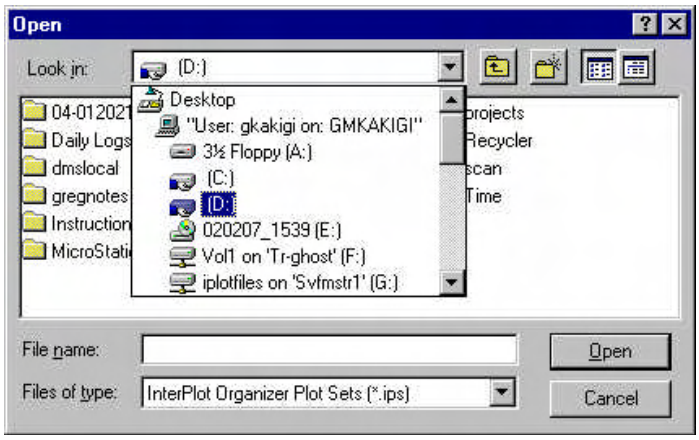
3. An InterPlot splash screen will appear.

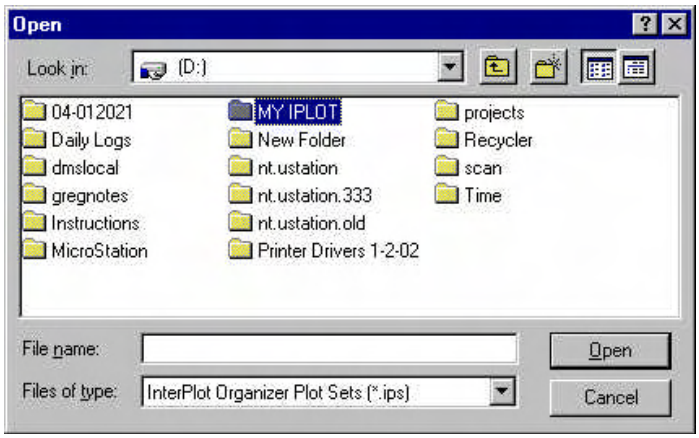
4. A Welcome to InterPlot Organizer window opens up.

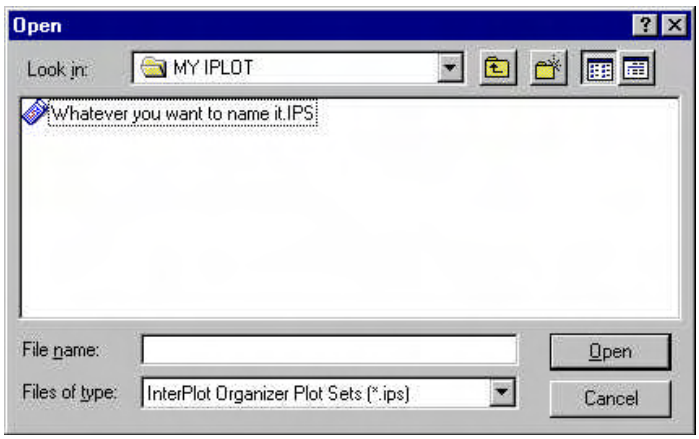
5. Select the ***Cancel*** button at this time.



6. Click on ***File*** on the menu bar on the ***Untitled – InterPlot Organizer*** dialog window, then click on ***Open.***

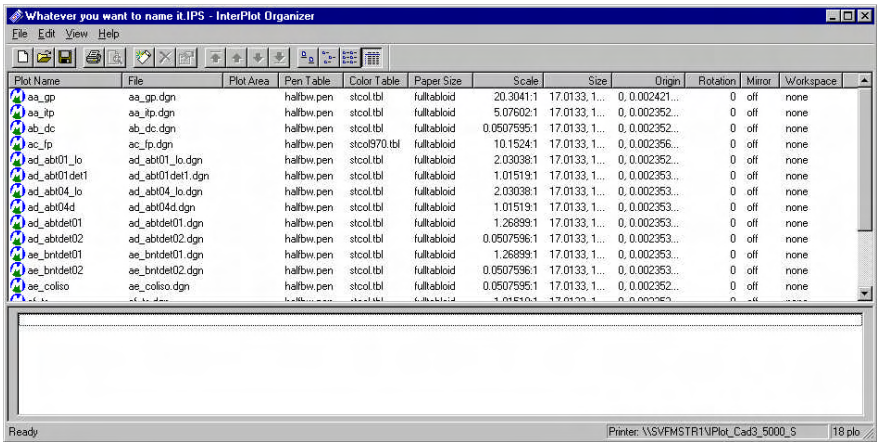




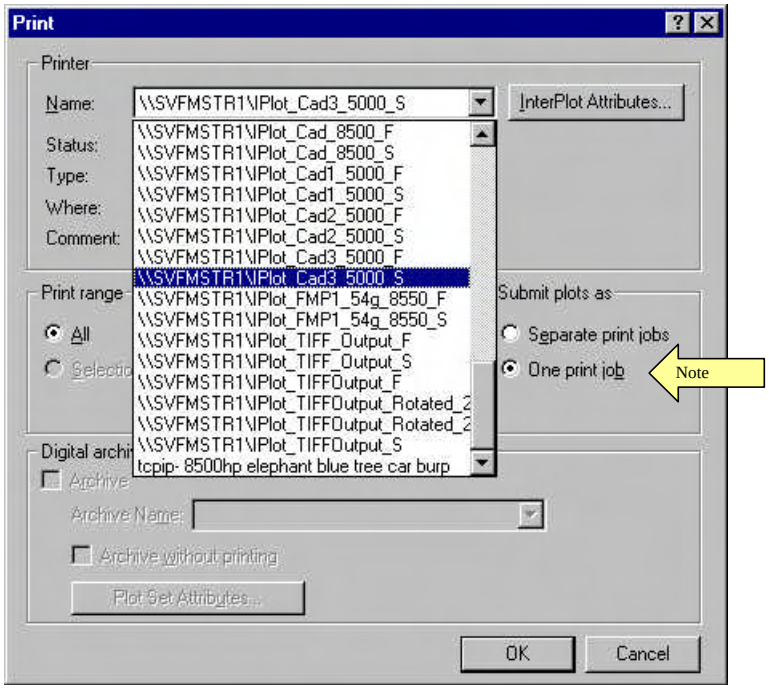


7. Navigate to where you saved the Iplot Set files.

8. Highlight the file you want then Click Open.



9. You should now see the same files you saved before in the Iplot Organizer window.



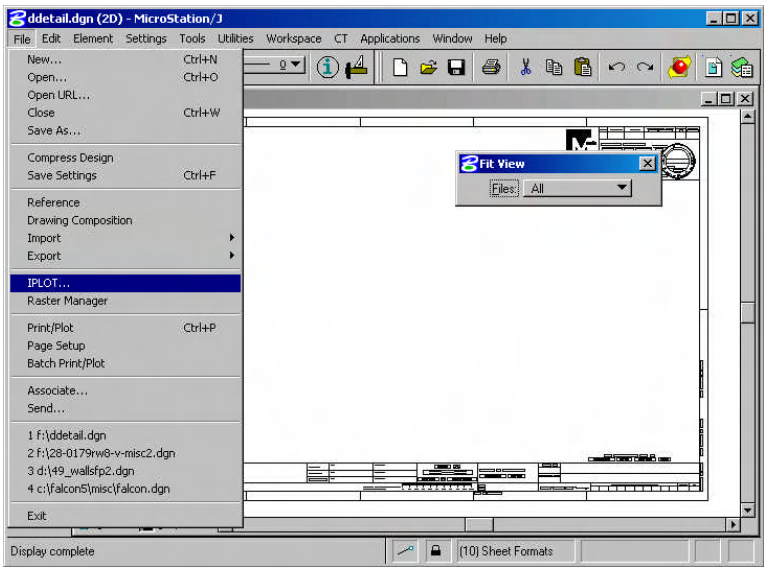
10. You can now plot these files by clicking on the Printer Icon and selecting a Printer.

11. Select OK.

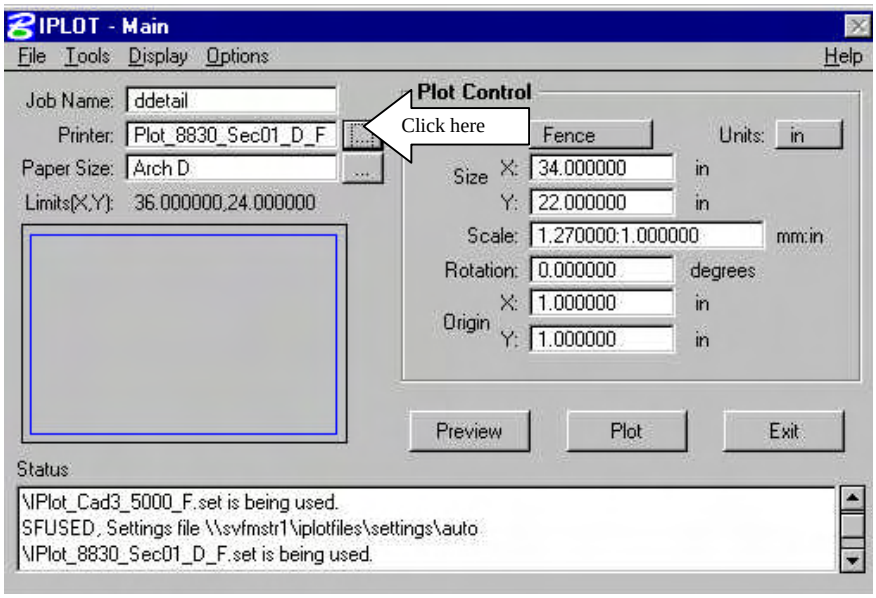
CREATING TIFF FILES

Tiff file using fence Method inside of Microstation.

1. Open up Microstation as usual.
2. Open a drawing.
3. Snap a fence to the corners of the border cut lines.
4. Open up Iplot by Clicking on ***File*** from the menu bar.



5. Click on ***IPLOT…***, (You might have to wait a few seconds).
6. The ***IPLOT – Main*** dialog window will come up.
7. This is what the dialog box should read except for the ***Job Name*** would be different (the name of your .dgn should be here) and the printer may be different.



8. First Select the Iplot printer you want to print to, by Clicking on the Printer button.

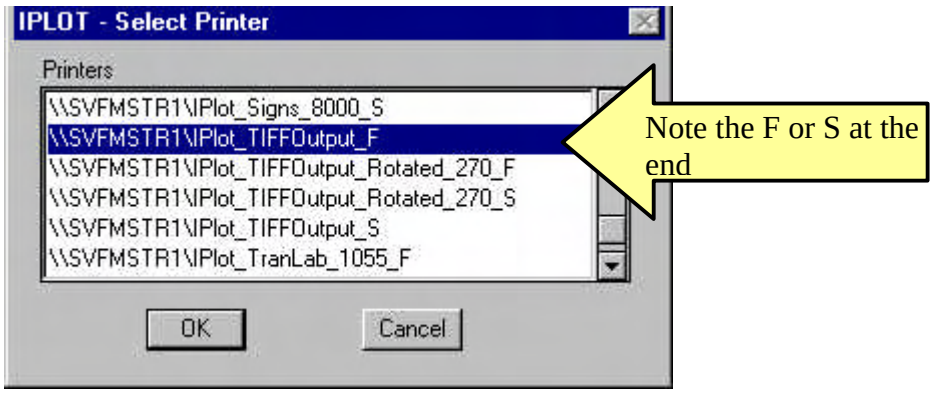
9. An Iplot – Select Printer window should open.

Note: Every printer in the list ends either with an “F” or “S”.
“F” is for Fence and “S” is for Shape.

10. Since we are using a fence, the printer you choose must end with “F”

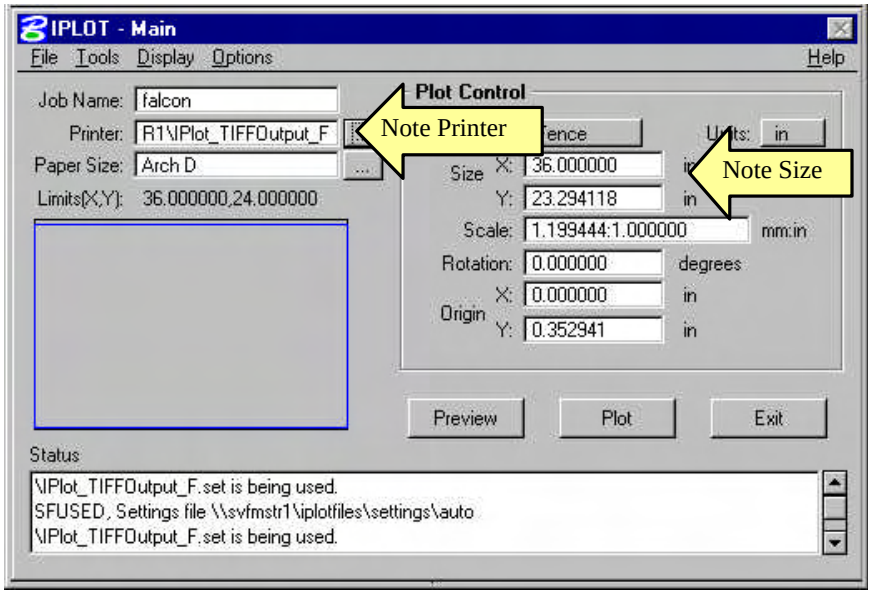
11. For tiff output you must select a TiffOutput printer

Note there are Rotated or none rotated Tiff printers.



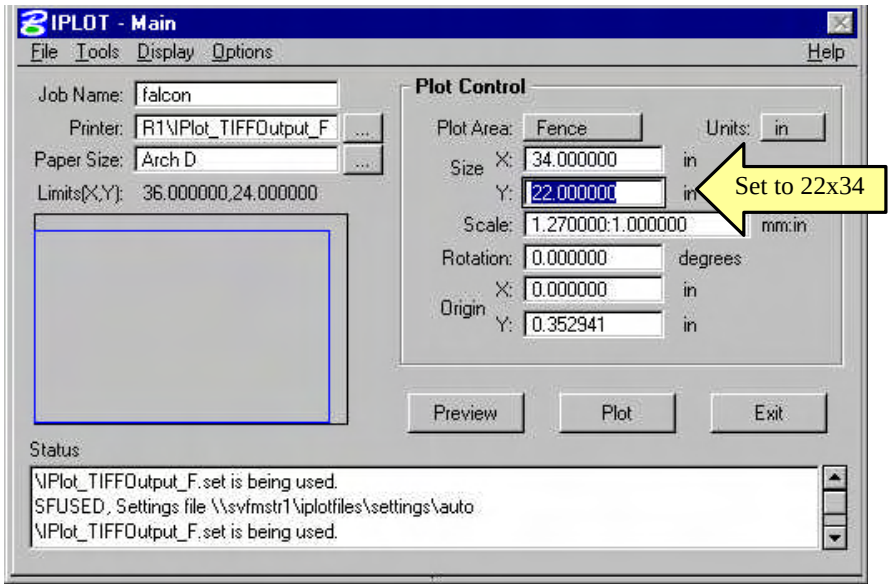
12. Use the Non-Rotated Tiff printer for everything. (Only use the Rotated Tiff printers for Hard Copies that were scanned on the 8830 scanners.)

13. Scroll through the printer list till you find the one you want and select it. Then Click OK.



14. Note you should now see the printer you selected in the Printer field.

Note the Size of the Tiff plot. **Tiff plots must be set to 22 x 34**



15. If the size is not set to 22 x 34, then set it in the size field

16. You now can select the ***Preview*** button to see if your plot looks OK. If everything looks good, you can select the ***Plot*** button at this time.

17. If you do not need to preview the plot, select the ***Plot*** button now.

18. Then select the ***Exit*** button to get out of the ***IPLOT – Main*** dialog window.

19. To check if the tif file was created go to u drive.

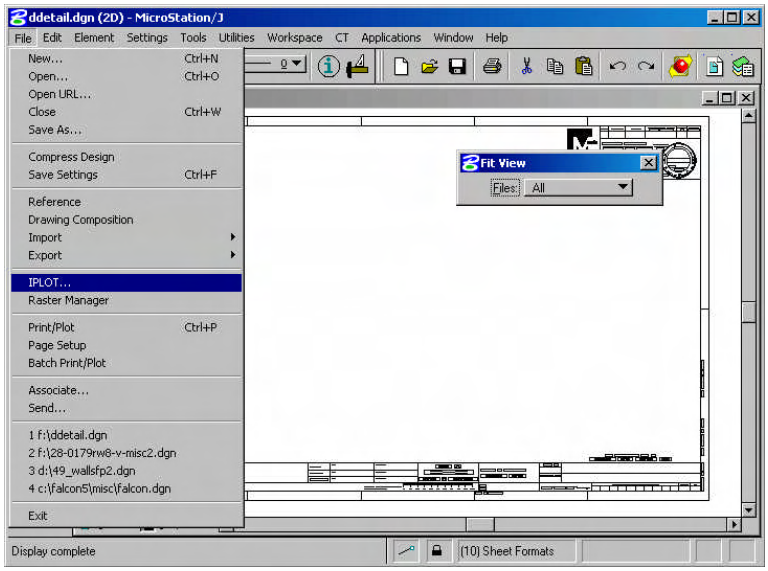
Tiff file using shape method inside of Microstation.

Note: A shape must already be defined on the cut line of the Border in the DGN (See “Defining a Shape for Iplot” instructions above)

1. Open up Microstation as usual

2. Open a drawing

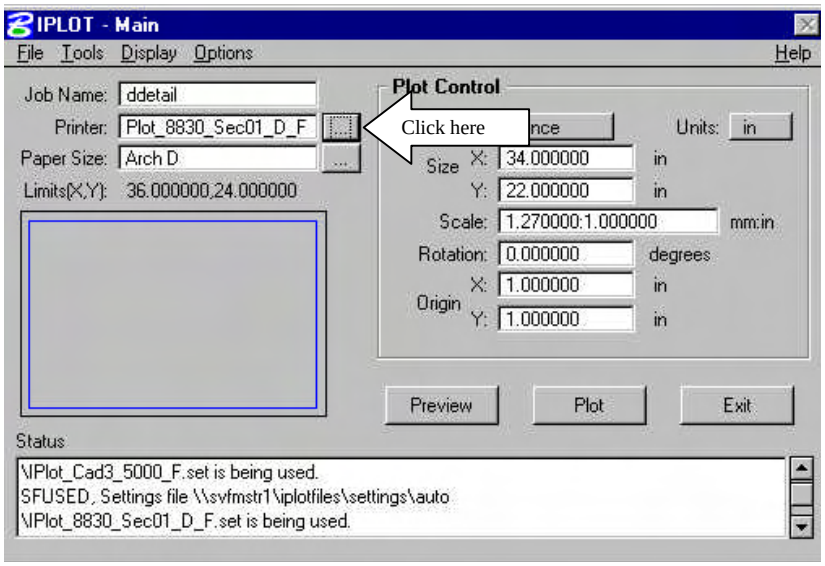
3. Open up Iplot by Clicking on ***File*** from the menu bar.



4. Click on ***IPLOT…***, (You might have to wait a few seconds).

5. The ***IPLOT – Main*** dialog window will come up.

6. This is what the dialog box should read except for the ***Job Name:*** would be different (the name of your .dgn should be here) and the printer may be different.



7. First Select the Tiff Iplot printer you want to print to, by clicking on the Printer button.

8. An Iplot – Select Printer window should open.

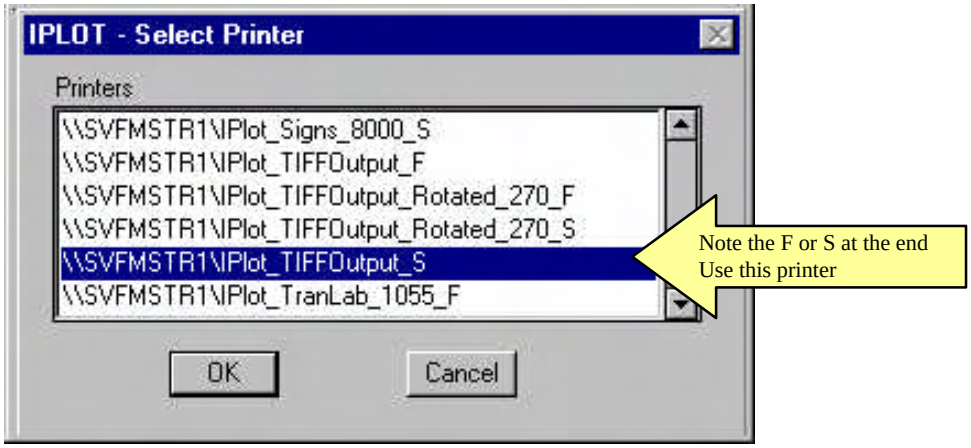
9. Scroll down till you see the Tiff printers.

Note: Every printer in the list ends either with an “F” or “S”.
“F” is for Fence and “S” is for Shape.

10. Since we are using a shape, the printer you choose must end with “S”

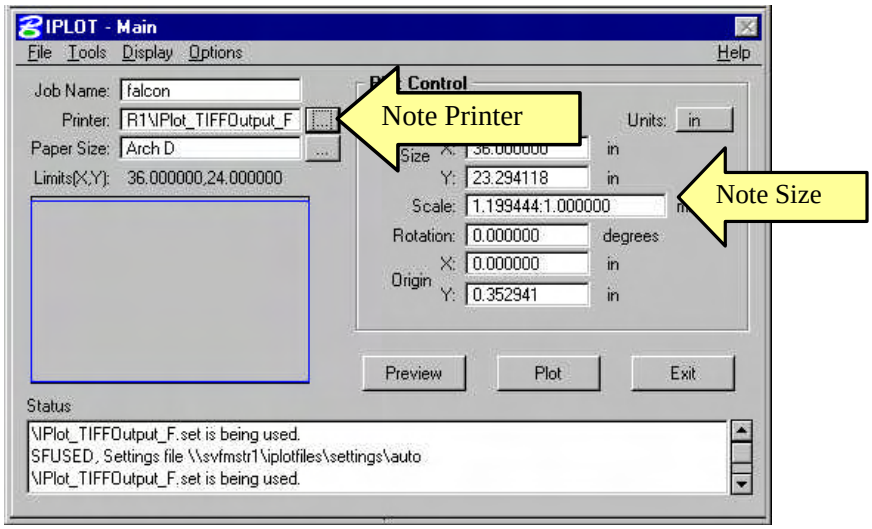
11. For tiff output you must select a TiffOutput printer

Note there are Rotated or Non-Rotated Tiff printers.



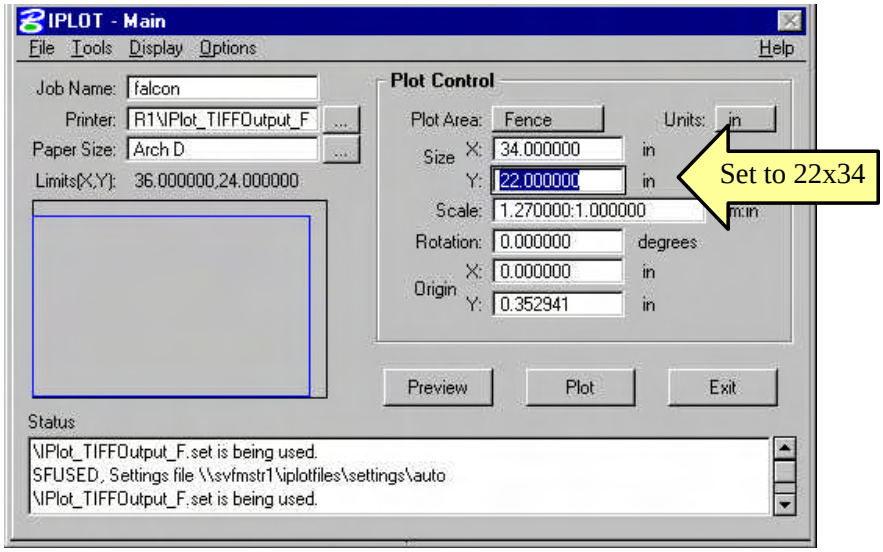
12. Use the Non-Rotated Tiff printer for everything. (Only use the Rotated Tiff printers for Hard Copies that were scanned on the 8830 scanners.)

13. Select the TIFFOutput_S printer. Then Click OK.



14. You should now see the printer you selected in the Printer field.

Note the Size of the Tiff plot. **Tiff plots must be set to 22 x 34.**



15. If the size is not set to 22 x 34, then set it in the size field.

16. You now can select the ***Preview*** button to see if your plot looks OK. If everything looks good, you can select the ***Plot*** button at this time.

17. If you do not need to preview the plot, select the ***Plot*** button now.

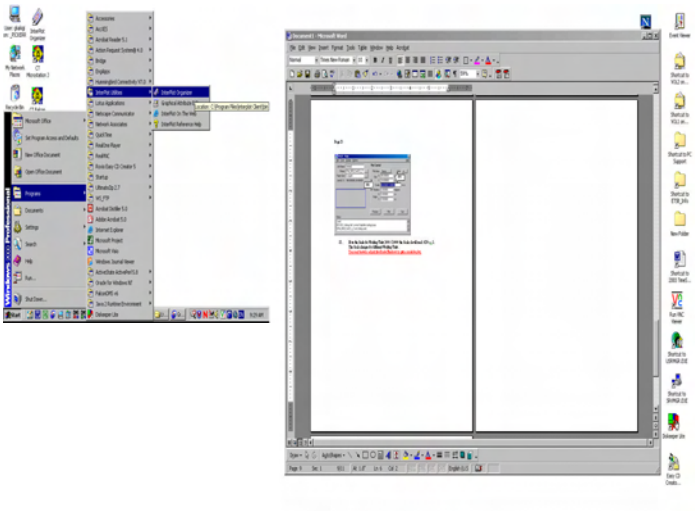
18. Then select the ***Exit*** button to get out of the ***IPLOT – Main*** dialog window.

19. The Tiff file will be created on the Iplot server in a directory called Tiff Ouput

20. To get your Tiff files see “To Retrieve your Tiff files” on page 58 through 59.

Tiff files using Iplot Organizer (outside of Microstation)

Note: For Iplot Organizer to work there must be a plot shape defined exactly over the cut lines of the border. (See "Defining a Shape for Iplot" instructions on page 11)



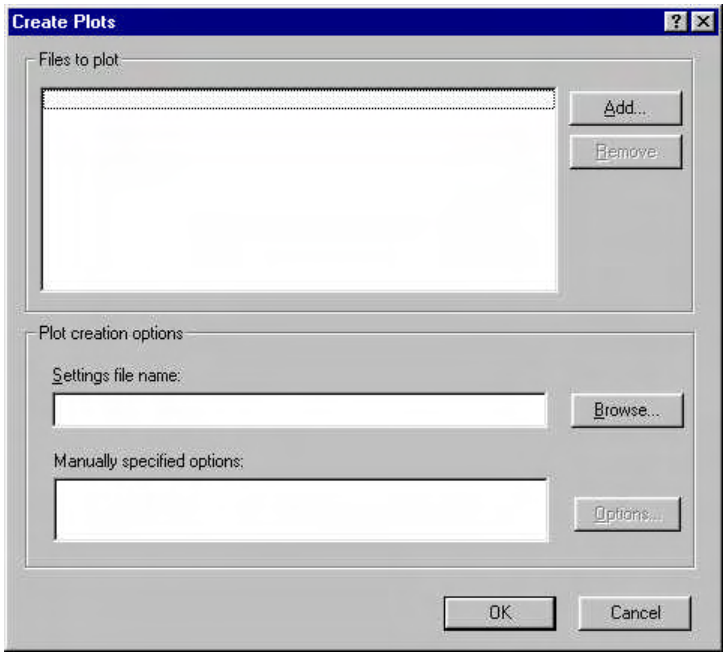
1. Click on ***Start***, then navigate to ***InterPlot Organizer***, then right click.

2. An InterPlot splash screen will appear.

3. A Welcome to InterPlot Organizer window opens up.

4. Select the ***OK*** button at this time.

5. The ***Create Plots*** dialog window will come up.

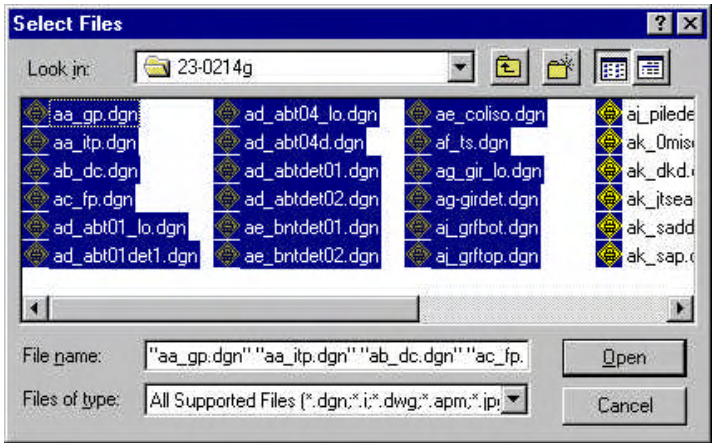


6. Click on the ***Add***… button.

7. The ***Select Files*** dialog window will come up.

8. Navigate to where the files are located on your PC.

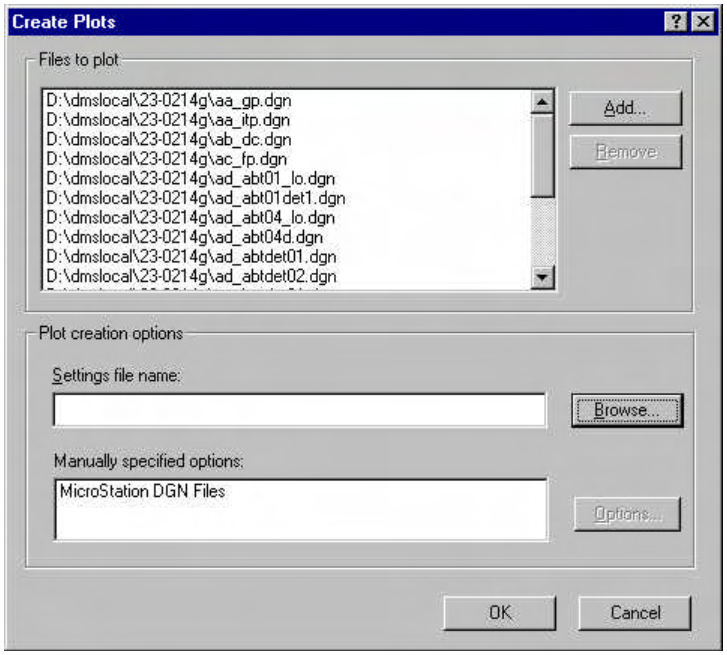
Note: If you are working with Falcon you need to check out the drawings form Falcon and go to the DMSLOCAL directory on your D:\ Drive.



9. And select the files.

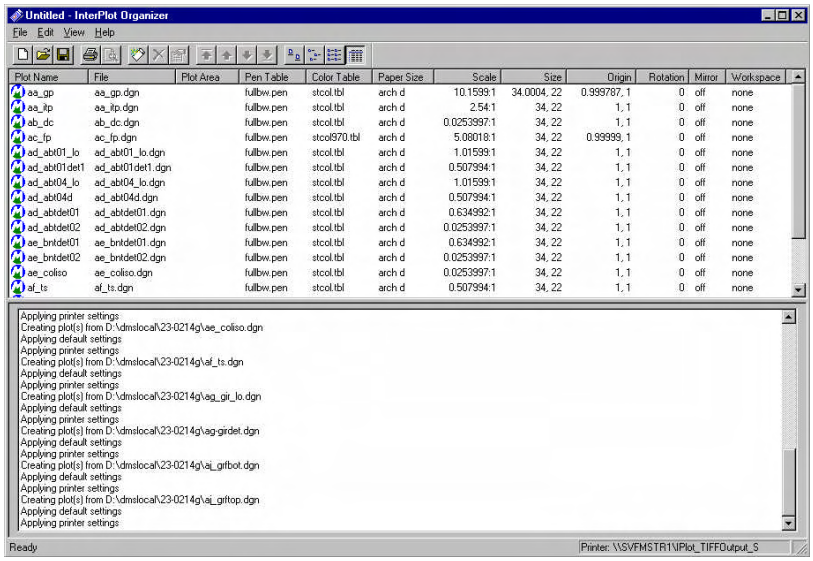
10. Then click the ***Open*** button.

11. The selected files are placed in the ***Files to plot*** field.

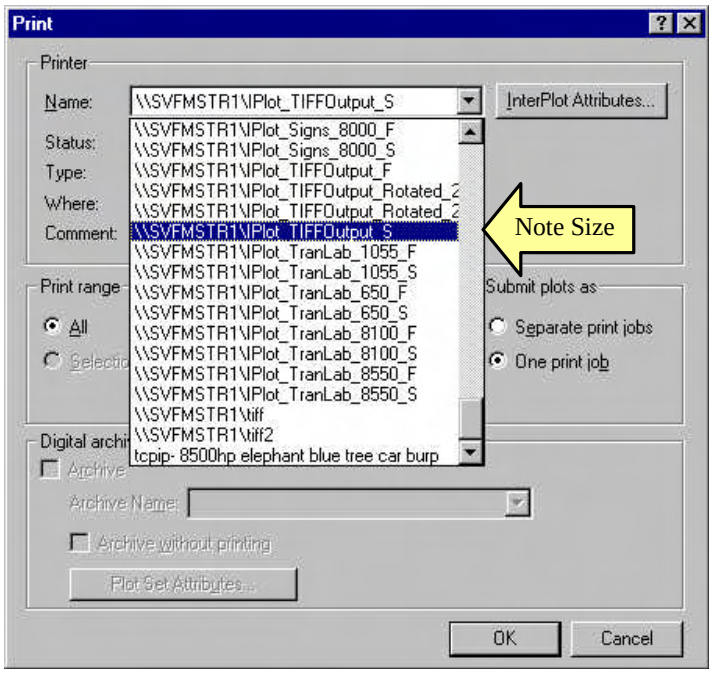


12. Click on the Ok button

13. This will now add all the files to the ***InterPlot Organizer***.



14. Now Select the Printer Icon on the ***Untitled – InterPlot Organizer*** toolbar.

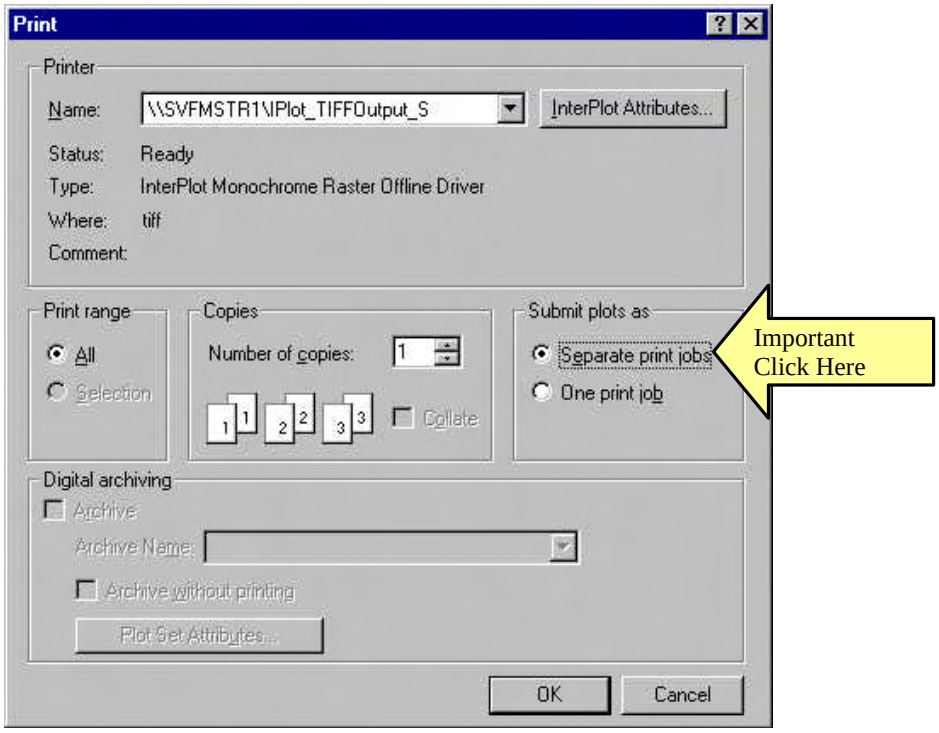


15. The ***Print*** dialog window will come up.

16. Now select the Tiff printer you will be printing to.

17. Select TIFFOutput_S printer.

Note: When using the Iplot Organizer you must always use a shape to print your drawings. So when selecting your printer make sure you choose one that ends with an “S” for shape.



18. Select Separate print jobs

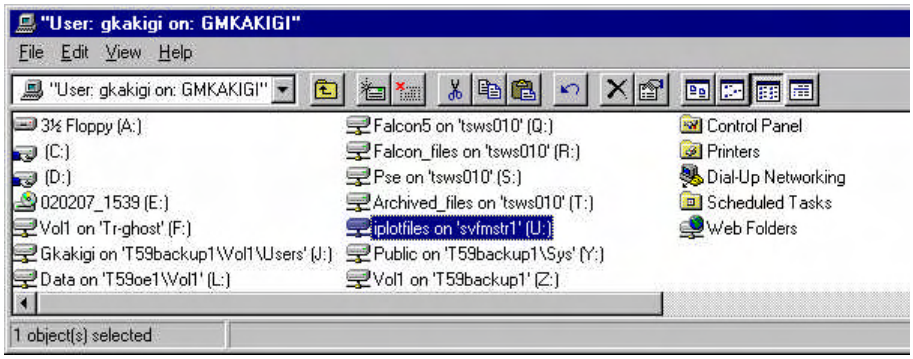
19. Then select ***OK.*** To plot them.

Retrieving Tiff files

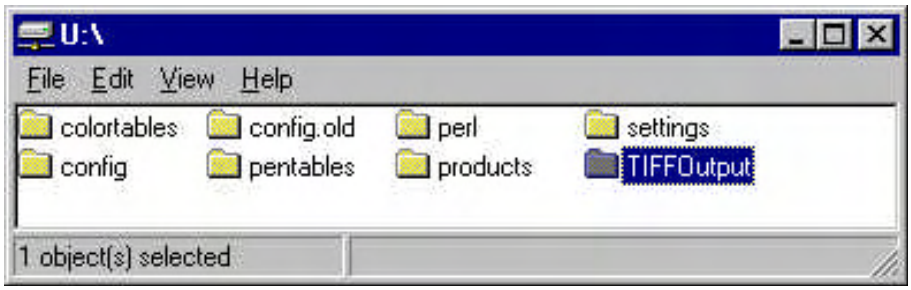
Note: In this example I have created a folder called “MY IPLOT”. To create a default folder see “Make a Default Location” instructions on page 8.

1. To retrieve your output ….

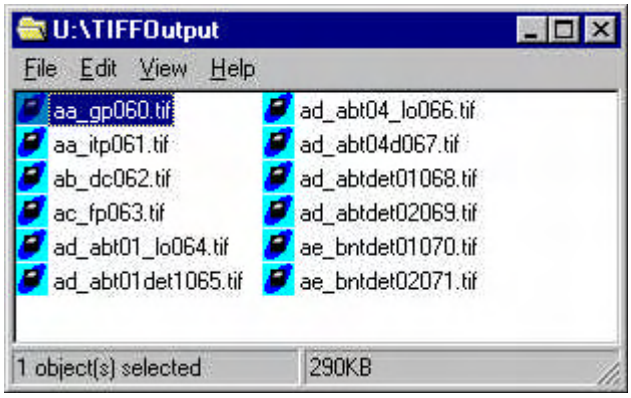
2. Click on My Computer Icon



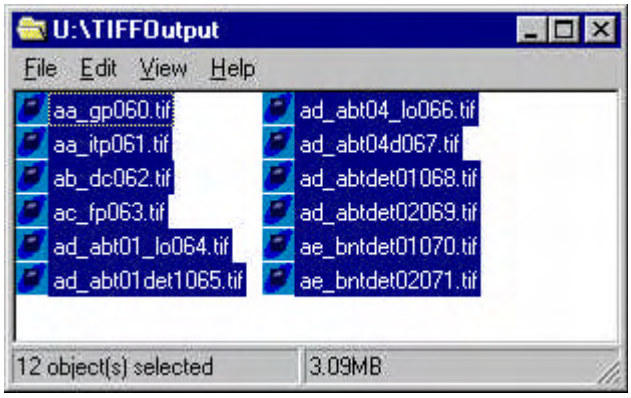
3. Click on your U:\ drive



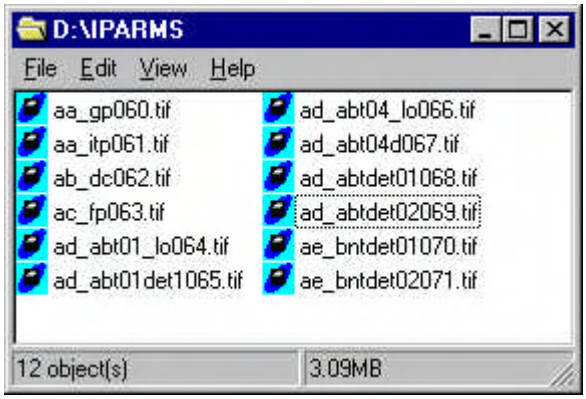
4. Click on TIFF Output



5. You should see your tiff files



6. Select all (Highlight) the files.



7. Copy your files from U:\TIFFOutput to D:\ MY IPLOT or a local drive.

Iparms

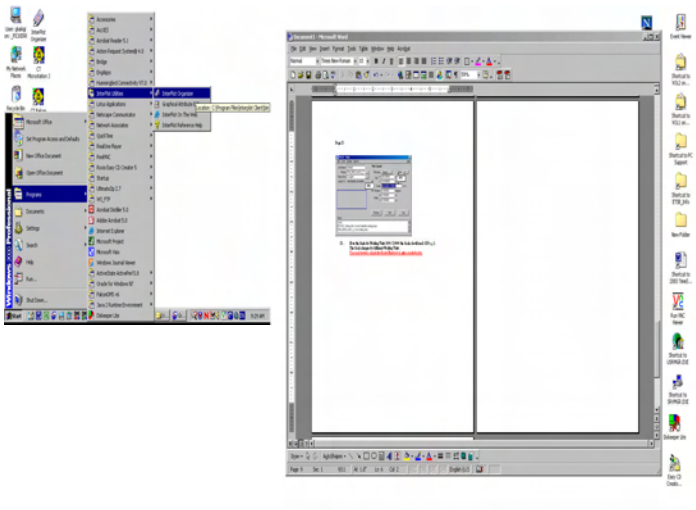
Note: Iparms must be created at 22 x 34. Not at 11 x 17.

The easiest way to create Iparms is through Iplot Organizer.

Iplot Organizer requires that you must have a shape defined on the cut line of the border.

It is a good idea to have a default location on the D:\ drive for your Iparms or for expedites you can save Iparms directly to the PSE directory. In this example I made a folder called "MY IPLOT". To create a default folder see "Make a Default Location" instructions on page 8.

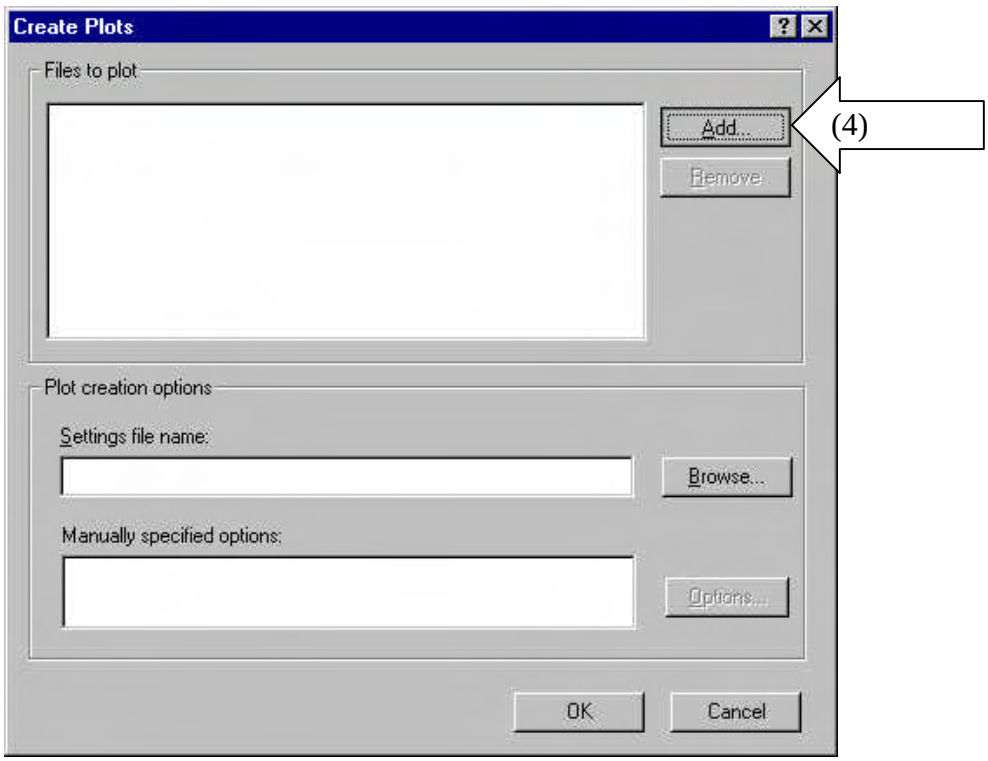
Creating Iparms in Organizer ("exporting")



1. Open up Iplot Organizer

2. Select the ***OK*** button at this time

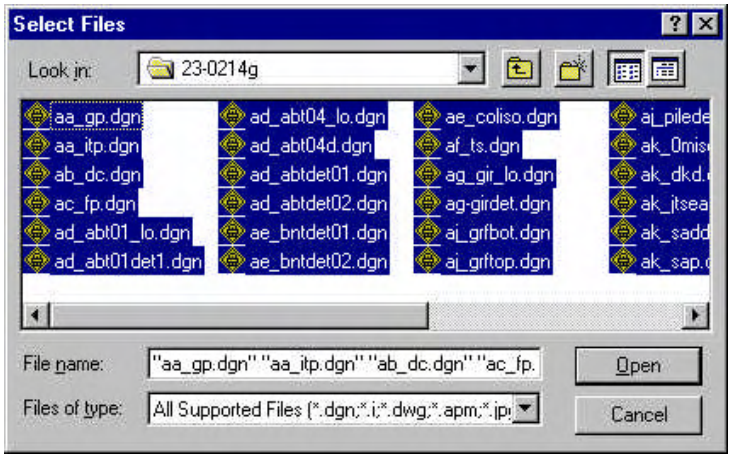
3. A Create Plots window opens up.



4. Select Add.

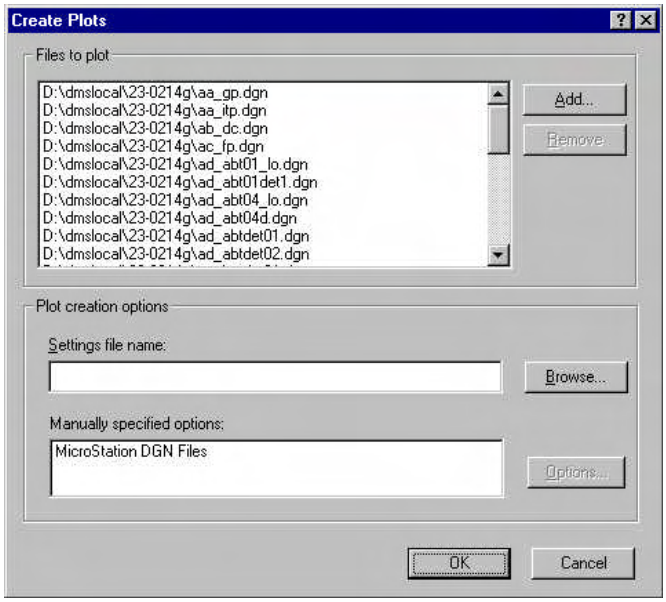
5. A Select Files window opens up.

6. Navigate to your files. For Falcon Users, you must have all your files checked out of Falcon.



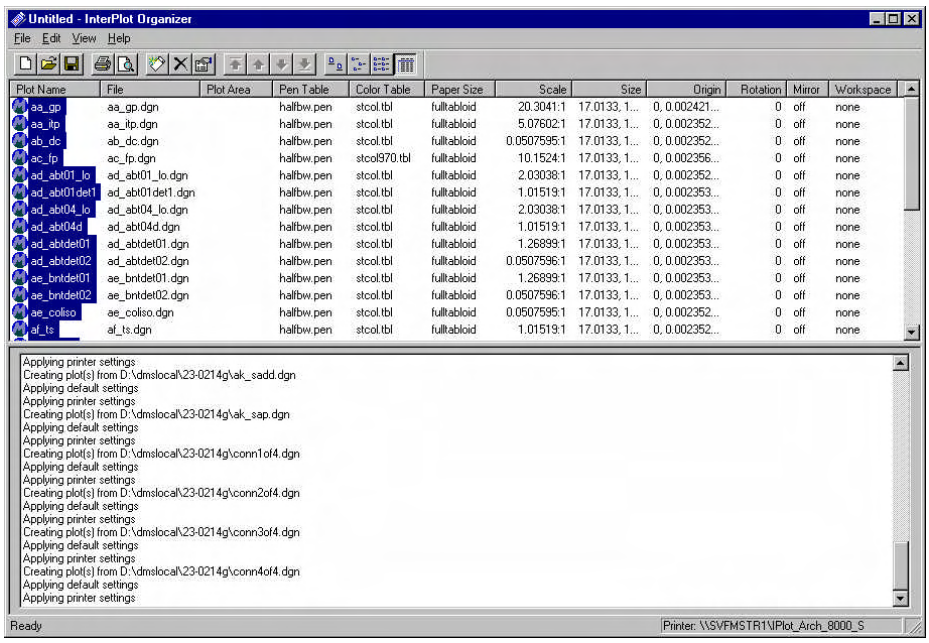
7. Select the files you want.

8. Click open

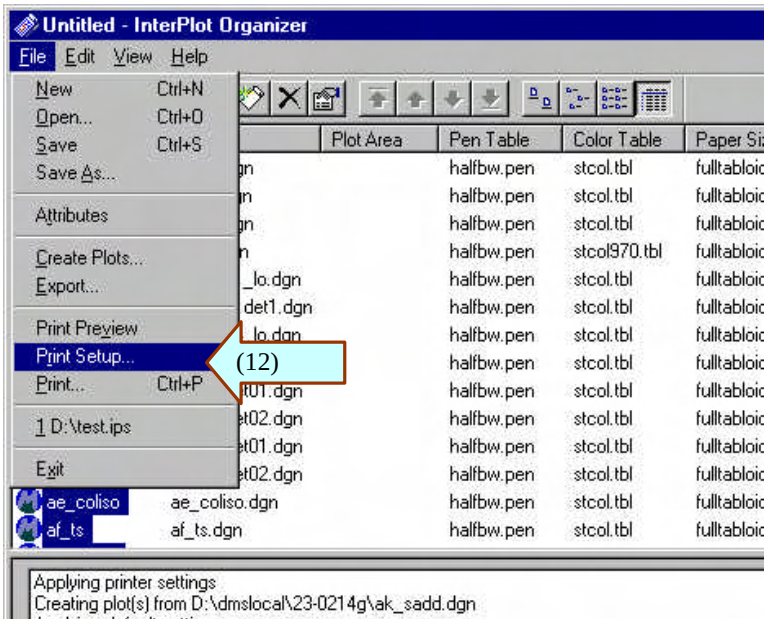


9. You should now see the files in the File to Plot field.

10. Click OK



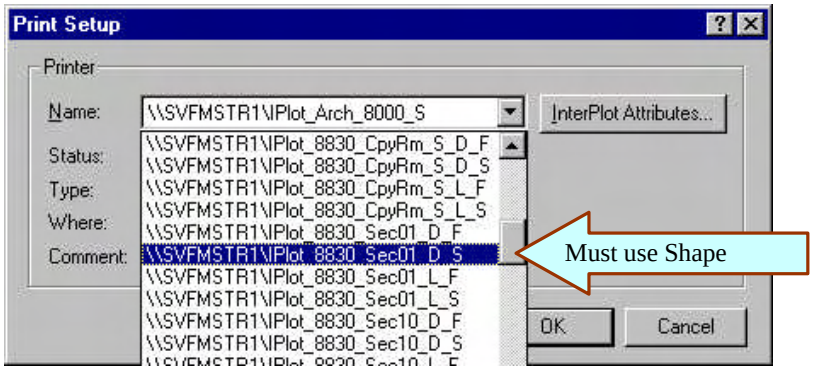
11. Select all of your files by highlighting them.



12. Select File / Print Setup from the file menu.

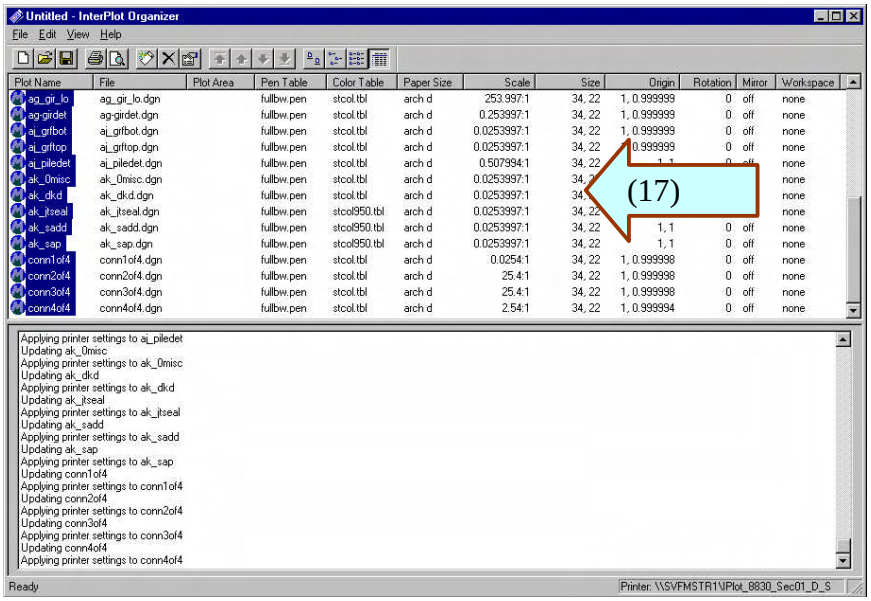
13. Iparms must be created 22 x 34. So a large format printer must be selected.

14. You must use shape to define your print when using Iplot organizer

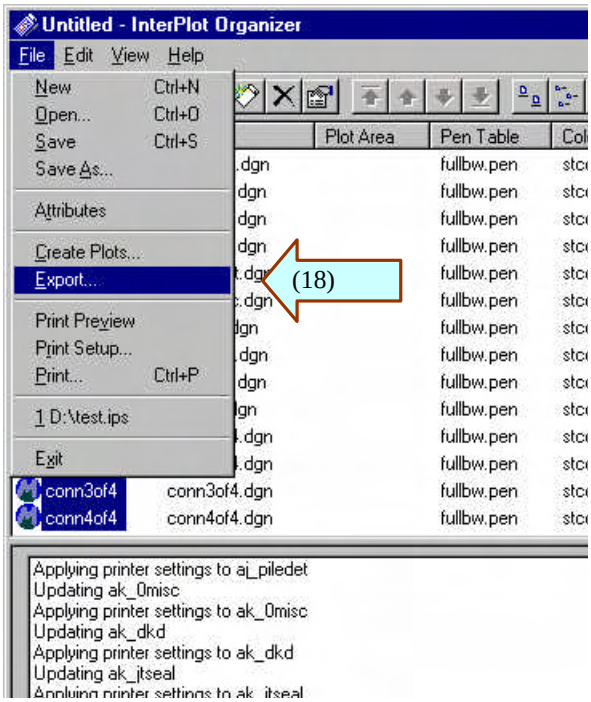


15. So for this example select IPlot_8830_Sec01_D_S.

16. Click OK

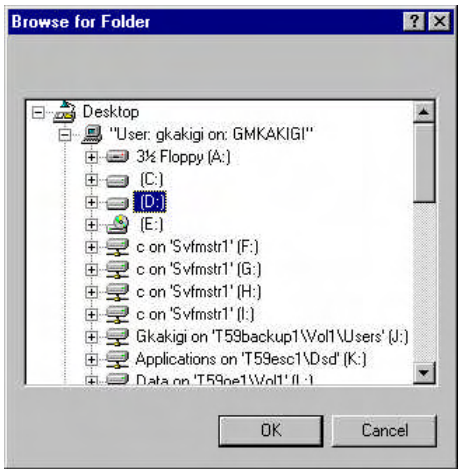


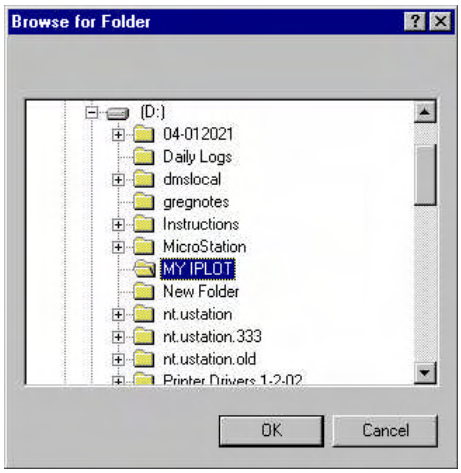
17. Note the size of the plot should be approximately 22 x 34.



18. From the file menu select File / Export

19. Navigate to a location where you want the Iparms to be created.





20. In this example I am using a folder on my D:\ drive called "MY IPLOT"

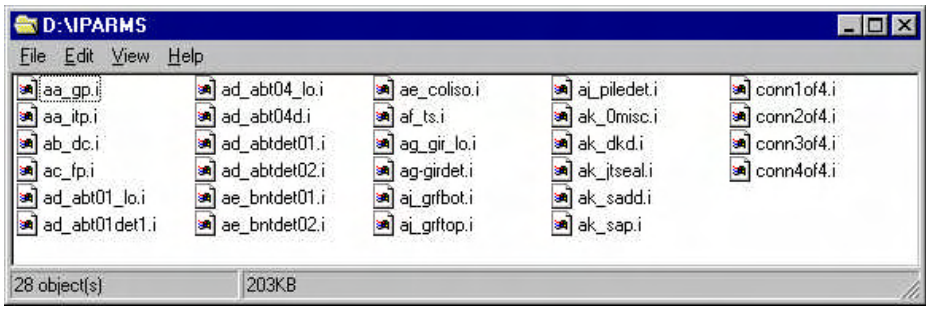
Note this location as this is where the Iparms will be created.

21. Click OK

22. The Iparms will be created in the folder you specify.

23. Navigate to the folder you defined previously.
In this example I am using a folder on my D:\ drive called Iparms

24. You should see something similar.



25. Note the extension is ".i"

Creating Iparms Using Iplot from within Microstation

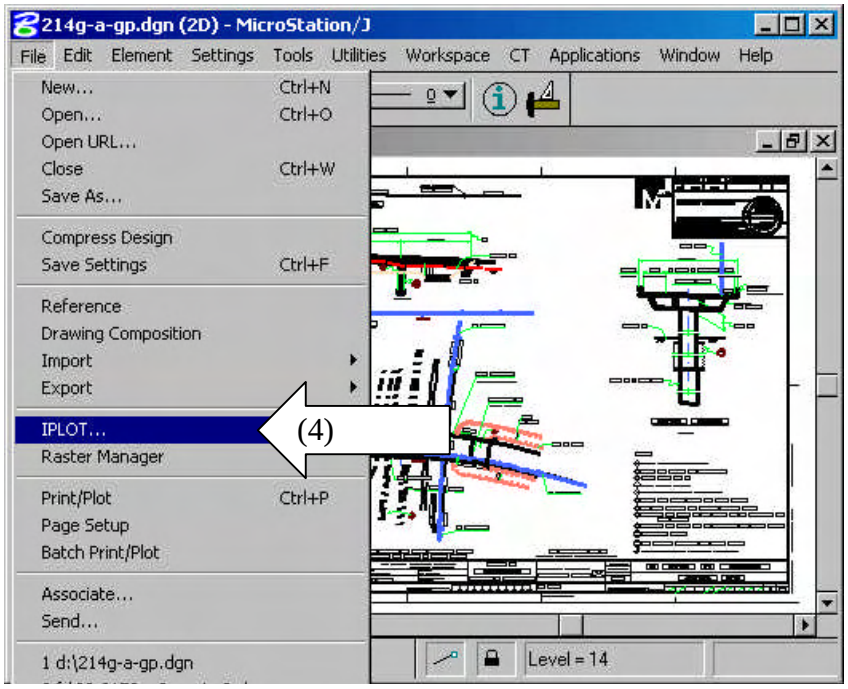
I recommend creating Iparms in Iplot Organizer rather than inside Microstaion.

Note: At the time these instructions were written there have been inconsistencies found in creating Iparms with this method. Use this method at your own risk.

1. Open up Microstation as usual

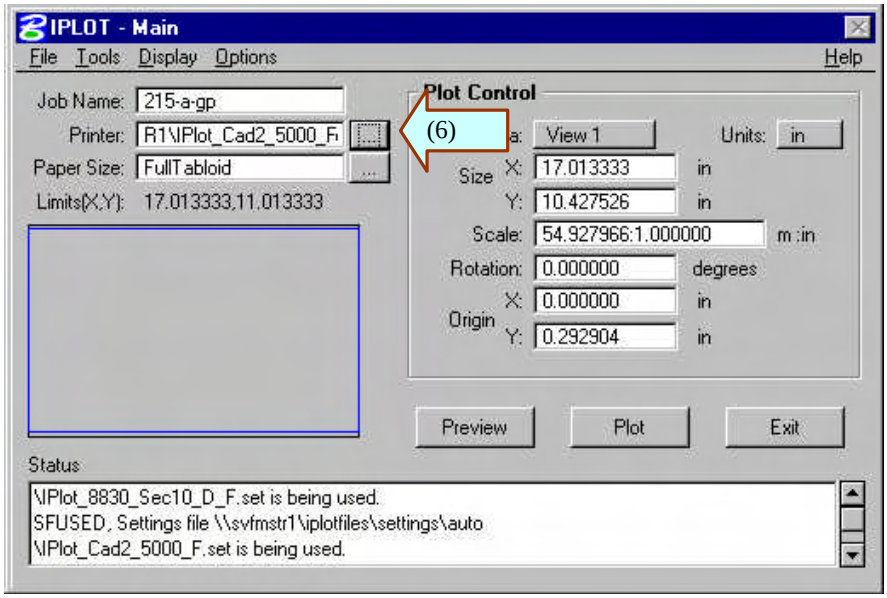
2. If you are using the fence method, place a fence on the cut line.

3. If you are using the shape method, make sure there exists a block shape on the cut line that is level 10, color 10, weight 0 and style 0.



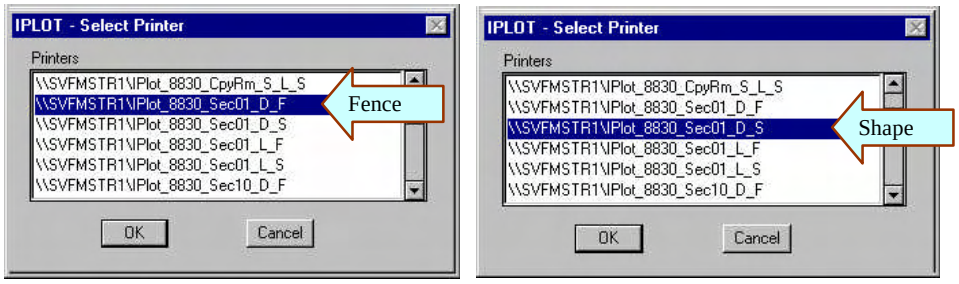
4. Initiate Iplot

5. Iparms must be created at 22 x 34. So we need to use a large format plotter.



6. Select the appropriate plotter by clicking on Printer.

7. From the IPLOT-Select Printer dialog box select a large format printer.

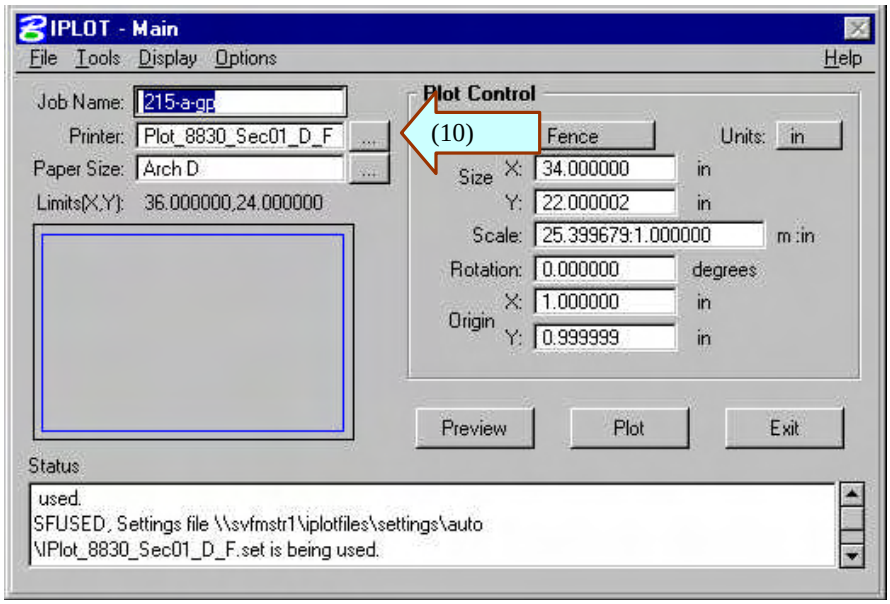


8. If you are using fence method make sure you Select an 8830 that ends with "F" OR

   If you are using shape method make sure you Select an 8830 that ends with "S".

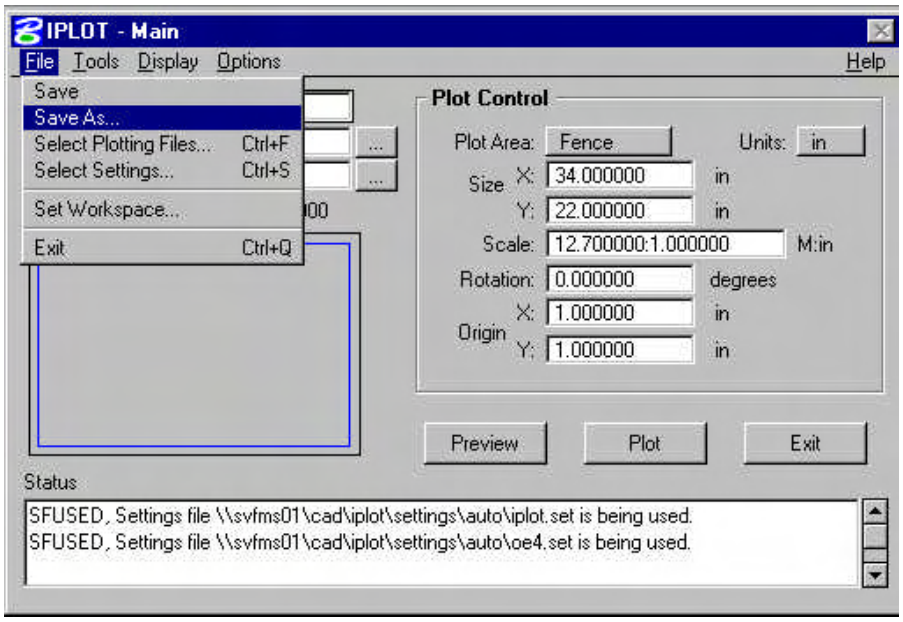
9. Click ok

10. You should now see the printer you selected in the Printer field.



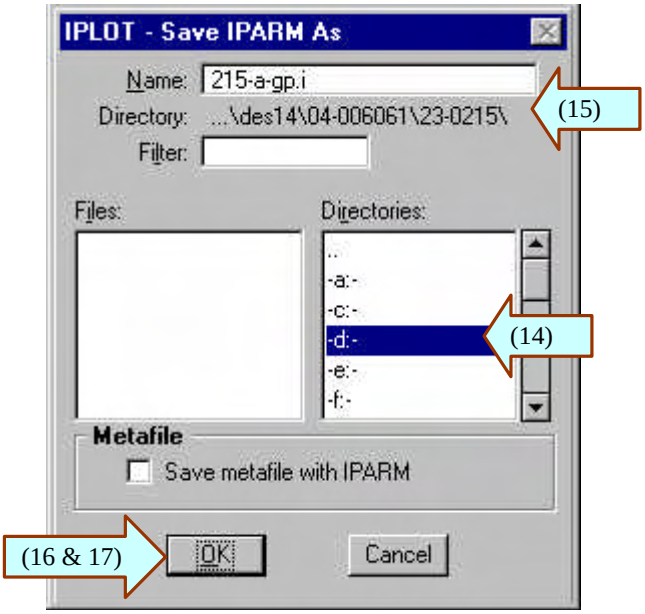
11. Note the size. If it does not read 22 x 34 then type it in.

12. To Create the Iparm.



13. Click File / Save as

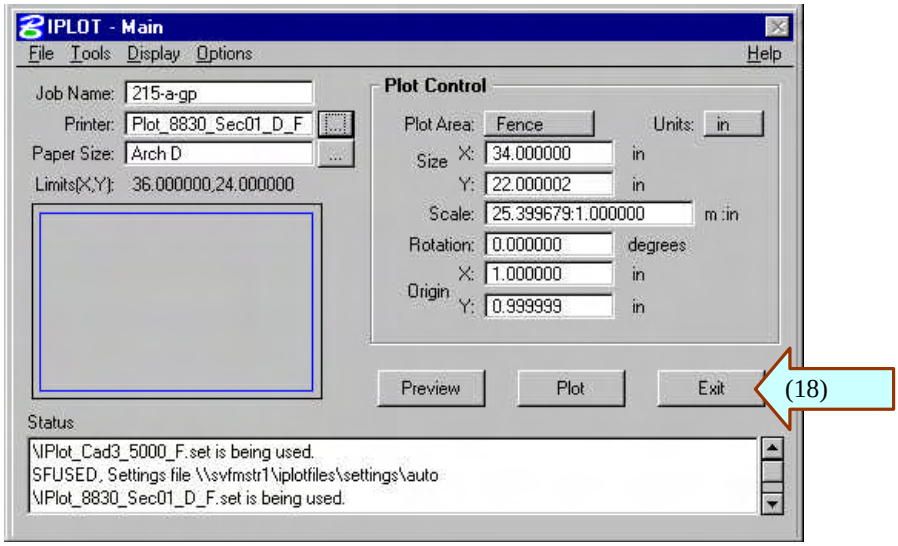
14. Click on the D:\ drive.



15. Note the Directory Path, this is the Default location that the Iparms will be created.
    (It may be in different locations depending on where the dgn is located.)

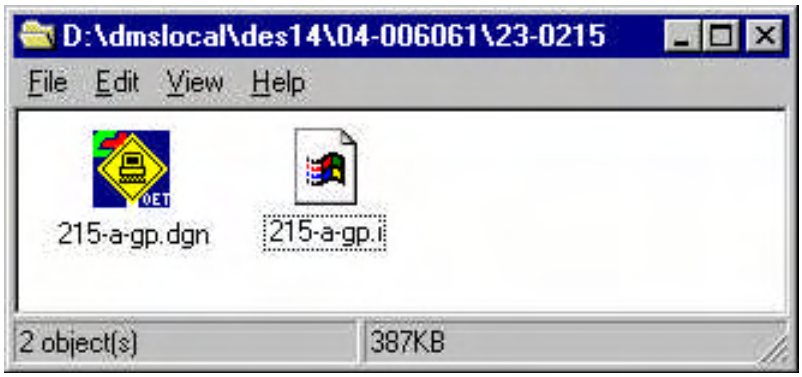
16. Click OK to make your Iparm.

17. NOTE: Once you have clicked OK the Iparm will be created in the default folder.



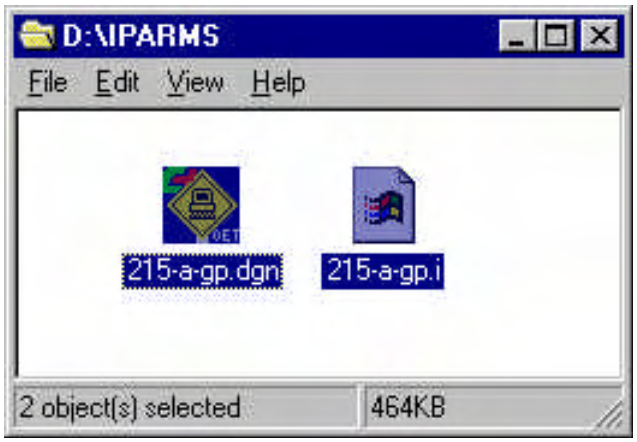
18. Once you close the Iplot dialog box the Iparm will be **DELETED** automatically. So you must copy the Iparm from the Default directory to where it was created to a location you want to save it to. (Preferably on your D:\ drive)

19. In this case I will be saving my Iparm to my Iparm folder located on my D:\ drive.

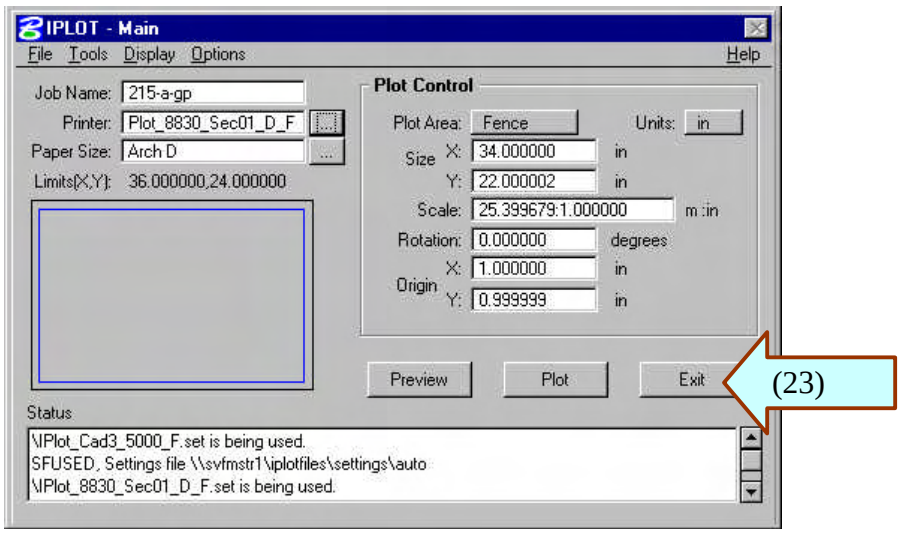


20. Navigate to the folder where the Iparms were originally created.

21. You should see your dgn and Iparm



22. Copy the Iparm to a different folder on your D:\ drive to a folder called Iparms



23. Now you can exit out of the Iplot window in MicroStation.

24. Done.