

Questions and Answers

Here are some frequently asked questions and answers about Autodesk Factory Design Suite.

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1. General Product Information

1.1 What is Autodesk Factory Design Suite?

Autodesk® Factory Design Suite is a 2D/3D factory layout solution purpose-built to help you make better layout decisions by creating a digital prototype of your factory. It provides tools for integrating 2D layout data with 3D models of machine and facility components, creating digital factory models, and 3D factory-specific visualization and analysis to help teams collaborate and make better layout decisions before equipment is installed and commissioned.

1.2 What does Autodesk Factory Design Suite do for me?

If you are creating machine line layouts, layouts of manufacturing facilities, production lines, or factories, chances are you are dealing with the following business challenges.

- Unable to clearly communicate layout ideas through 2D layout proposals, making it difficult for your company to win new business
- Inefficient layout processes eroding your profitability and impacting your bottom line revenue
- Lack of a focused layout solution in the market at an affordable price
- Time consuming to create accurate layout plan views and drawings for installation of equipment on the factory floor
- Spending lot of time capturing the as-built state of the facility through tape measurements
- Detecting clashes or space constraints when installing equipment on the factory floor, causing considerable rework
- Not able to easily collaborate with your team members and members of your supply chain; difficulty in sharing your layout models with the various stakeholders
- Having to deal with different point solutions from different software vendors, high cost of ownership, running into version and file compatibility issues

Autodesk Factory Design Suite enables you to visually communicate your layout ideas. Purpose-built to enhance your existing layout workflow, it helps you address the business challenges discussed above, thereby enabling you to improve your profitability and increasing your bottom line revenue.

1.3 How does it work?

Autodesk Factory Design Suite helps factory layout users save hours of effort, so they can spend time innovating rather than drafting. From conceptual design through to final installation drawings or modification order, it can help design and visually communicate 3D factory layouts in three easy steps:

- a. Create the 2D conceptual layout in AutoCAD or import existing 2D layouts.
- b. Drag and drop machines and other facility equipment directly on the 2D layout from a library of commonly used factory content, or easily build and include your own factory asset models to the layout to try multiple “what if” scenarios until you find the best solution.
- c. Communicate your ideas and build layout proposals easily. From automatically generating 2D drawings with sections views to conducting engineering reviews of the virtual factory model with 3D walk-throughs, Autodesk Factory Design Suite helps you identify potential issues early on in the design stages.

1.4 What are the key features of Autodesk Factory Design Suite?

- **Power of AutoCAD**—Architectural drafting tools such as walls, doors, windows, and so on for facility layout so you can continue to work in your familiar AutoCAD software-based working environment.
- **Visual Layout**—Enable users to easily create visual layouts and try different “what if” scenarios by dragging and dropping 3D factory models on top of the 2D floor plan.
- **Factory Assets**—Extensive library of out-of-the-box parametric factory content such as conveyors, material handling equipment, facility equipment, and so on, or easily create your own factory content using the tools provided.

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- **Design Efficiency**—Improve your design efficiency by automating manual repetitive tasks such as creation of plan views and section views of the layout and save time on tedious tape measurements by leveraging laser scanning in your layout workflows.
- **Engineering Review**—Integrate large factory data sets into a single coordinated model, collaborate easily with your team members, and reduce installation risks by analyzing the digital factory model for clashes and space constraints digitally, before they become problems on-site.

1.5 Who is Autodesk Factory Design Suite meant for?

Whether you are a machine or equipment builder looking to create machine line layouts, a systems integrator delivering turnkey layout solutions to your customers, or a manufacturer and looking to create efficient layouts of your manufacturing facility, Autodesk Factory Design Suite is the solution for you.

1.6 What makes Autodesk Factory Design Suite unique?

Autodesk Factory Design Suite is powered by the Autodesk Factory Design Utility; it delivers incremental value-added functionality inside the core products of the suite enhancing them to meet the specific needs of the layout user and presenting the user with a meaningful workflow.

Some key features of the Autodesk Factory Design Utility include a visual layout environment, parametric factory-specific content such as conveyors, material handling equipment, safety fences, and so on, and a Factory Asset Builder empowering users to create their own factory content.

1.7 Who is the target user?

Autodesk Factory Design Suite is purpose-built for the layout user. A user creating machine line layouts, layouts of manufacturing facilities, or factories will benefit from this solution.

1.8 What are the key components of Autodesk Factory Design Suite?

Autodesk Factory Design Suite consists of 5 key components:

- **AutoCAD Architecture**—For 2D conceptual layout, gives you all the power and functionality of AutoCAD, plus a set of focused architectural tools for creating facility layout such as doors, walls, windows, and other productivity enhancements.
- **Autodesk Inventor**—For 3D visual layout, delivers a focused environment for leveraging the conceptual layout and creating a 3D visual layout, helping you to build a Digital Prototype of your factory.
- **Autodesk Navisworks**—For engineering reviews and collaboration, enables you to integrate large factory data sets into a single coordinated model, create virtual fly-throughs and walk-throughs of the layout model, collaborate easily with your team members and reduce installation risks by analyzing the digital factory model for clashes and space constraints digitally, before they become problems on-site.
- **Autodesk Vault**—For data management, Autodesk® Vault software reduces errors and promotes design reuse by consolidating product information in a single location, enabling you to track your design data and manage work-in-progress designs without the need for manual, paper-based processes.
- **Autodesk Factory Design Utility**—Provides value-added functionality inside Autodesk Inventor to meet the specific needs of the layout user as well as presenting the user with a compelling workflow to move from 2D conceptual layout all the way to creating virtual fly-throughs and walk-throughs of the layout models.

1.9 What does the packaging of Autodesk Factory Design Suite look like?

Autodesk Factory Design Suite is available in two versions: premium and advanced. The table below shows the suite packaging.

Autodesk Factory Design Suite Premium	Autodesk Factory Design Suite Advanced
AutoCAD Architecture	AutoCAD Architecture
Autodesk Inventor	Autodesk Inventor Professional
Autodesk Vault	Autodesk Vault
Autodesk Navisworks Simulate	Autodesk Navisworks Manage
Autodesk Factory Design Utility	Autodesk Factory Design Utility

2. Licensing

2.1 Does Autodesk Factory Design Suite software use product activation for stand-alone licenses?

Yes, with Autodesk Factory Design Suite software, the authorization process includes product activation.

2.2 What is product activation?

Product activation is a software-based license management technology incorporated into many Autodesk products. It is a secure and trouble-free process that authenticates licensed users running Autodesk software. The process verifies that the serial number is legitimate and is activated only on eligible computers. It does not affect the ability of licensed users to operate their software the way they have always done. It is similar to the authorization mechanism in Autodesk products in the past but provides additional capabilities for security and special product versions (such as student and trial versions).

2.3 Why is Autodesk requiring Autodesk customers to activate their software?

Product activation is a simple way to reduce and deter unauthorized use and casual copying of Autodesk products, with little to no impact on loyal customers.

2.4 How do I activate my software?

Through the activation and registration interface, you can activate your product 24 hours a day, seven days a week, over the Internet or via email. Either option takes only a few steps to complete and requires your product serial number and registration information.

2.5 What if I have more than one computer? Will product activation allow me to use the software on multiple machines?

Autodesk recognizes that some users may need to operate the software when they are away from their usual work location. To accommodate this need, the product activation technology allows an employee to install the software on a second computer owned by the employee's company, provided it is for use away from the employee's usual work location, the software is used only by that employee and no other, and only one of the two copies of the software is ever in use at any one time. Consult the Autodesk Software License Agreement for details about using the software on a second computer.

2.6 How do I transfer my software license to another machine?

The Online License Transfer (OLT) Utility allows licenses to be moved between machines. The OLT replaces the former Portable License Utility. To transfer a license, simply start the transfer utility and choose Export. Then log in to the OLT website and “park” your license at an Autodesk “parking area.” At the destination computer, start the transfer utility and choose Import. Log back in to the OLT website and import your license to the destination computer.

2.7 Where can I find more information about software activation?

More information on product activation can be found at **www.autodesk.com/activation**.

3. Support and Training

3.1 How do I obtain direct technical support?

Direct technical support is available from both Autodesk and Autodesk Authorized Resellers.

Furthermore, Autodesk Subscription is a comprehensive software, support, and training package that simplifies your technology upgrades and boosts your design productivity. Purchase of Autodesk Subscription includes web support from Autodesk technical experts for all your installation, configuration, and troubleshooting questions.

To learn more about Autodesk Subscription, contact your Autodesk Account Executive or your Autodesk Authorized Reseller or visit **www.autodesk.com/subscription**.

3.2 How can I get personalized support and training for Autodesk Factory Design Suite software?

If you purchased this product from an Autodesk Authorized Reseller, contact your reseller for support and training information. To locate an Autodesk Authorized Reseller in your area, call your local Autodesk office or visit the Autodesk website at **www.autodesk.com/reseller**.

3.3 Is technical support available through Autodesk Subscription?

When you enroll your Autodesk Factory Design Suite software licenses in Autodesk Subscription, you are entitled to direct technical support via the web. Your Autodesk Distributor, Autodesk Authorized Reseller, or Autodesk Retailer can provide you with Autodesk Subscription enrollment rules, terms and conditions, and program and pricing details for your location. For more information about Autodesk Subscription, visit **www.autodesk.com/subscription**.

3.4 How do I find out if service packs are available for Autodesk Factory Design Suite software?

In the event that Autodesk releases an Autodesk Factory Design Suite software service pack for the suite products, it is easy to access and install it using the Communication Center feature within the suite products. Look at the top of the Communication Center window to see if an update is available. Autodesk Factory Design Suite products automatically recognize if you have the most up-to-date release and prompt you if there is an update available. When you click the link, Autodesk Factory Design Suite products automatically download and install the update.

3.5 How do I learn more about Autodesk Factory Design Suite?

You can check out the product overview and demonstration videos on YouTube, search using Autodesk Factory Design Suite as the keyword. You can also contact an Autodesk Authorized Reseller for more information.

3.6 Can I try Autodesk Factory Design Suite before I buy it?

Yes, you can try it out by downloading Autodesk Factory Design Suite software trial version. This fully functioning version is available as a free* 30-day trial. Simply download the trial version at www.autodesk.com/factorydesignsuite-trial.

3.7 How do I purchase Autodesk Factory Design Suite?

Autodesk Factory Design Suite is available from Autodesk Authorized Resellers. Please contact an Autodesk Authorized Reseller for more information.

4. System Requirements

4.1 What are the system requirements for Autodesk Factory Design Suite?

Please refer to www.autodesk.com/factorydesignsuite.

4.2 Is Autodesk Factory Design Suite supported on Windows 7?

Yes, please see the system requirements above.

*This product is subject to the terms and conditions of the end-user license agreement that accompanies download of the software.

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