

Autodesk Telecom Module

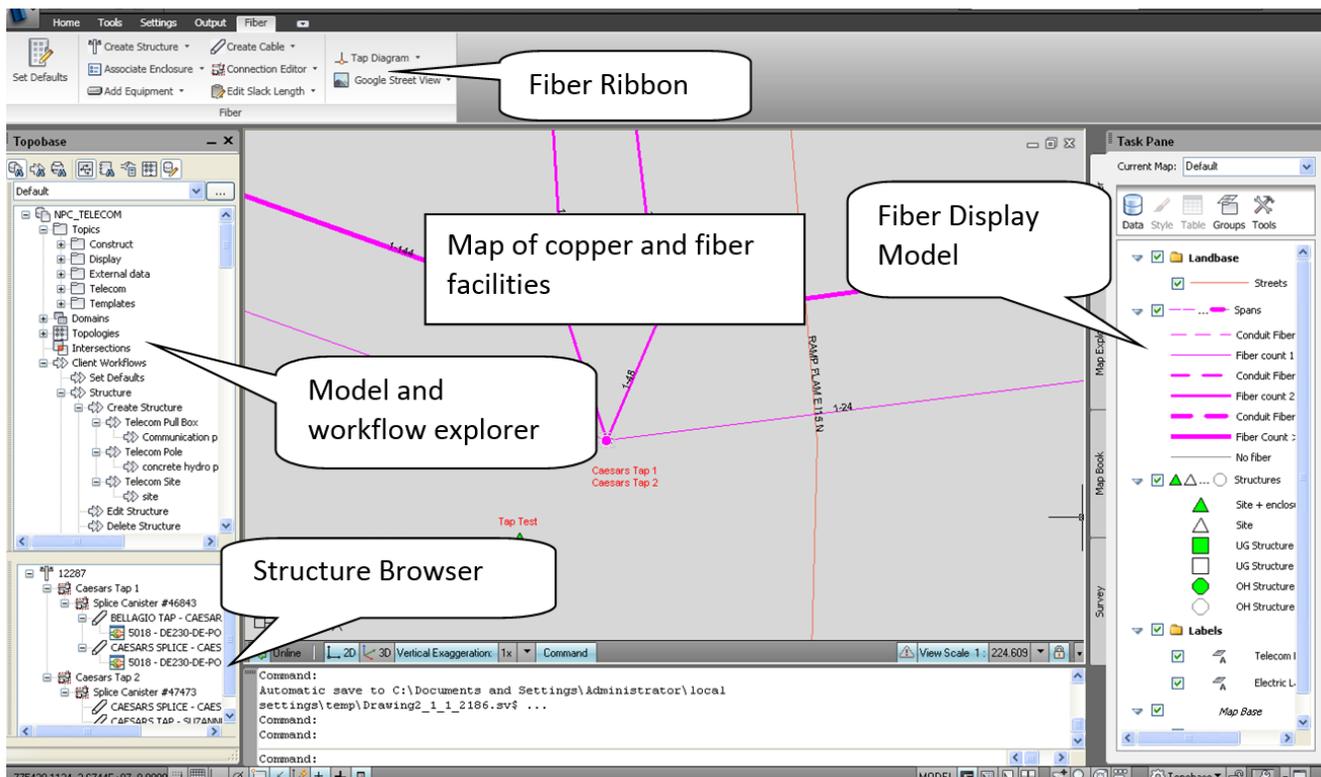
Introduction

IT and Telecommunications (Telecom) assets represent a major capital outlay for midsize to large companies. Even most government municipalities are in need of a process to manage their IT infrastructure to best maintain the facilities associated with the organization. The procurement and planning associated with the telecom operations may be peripheral to an organization's core purpose or business, but the IT infrastructure and management of those assets are critical to its operations. Therefore, it has become necessary to have a detailed and complete record of assets within the telecom infrastructure to maintain an accurate display of the system and its inventory.

Evolving from the familiar industry models available in the off-the-shelf version of the Autodesk AutoCAD Map 3D, The Telecom Industry Model creates a platform to support the comprehensive management of Fiber and Copper telephone cables and equipment from the central office of the organization's premises.

The Autodesk Telecom Module for Fiber and Copper Infrastructure

Brockwell IT Consulting provides the Autodesk Telecom Module as an add-on to Autodesk AutoCAD Map 3D. The solution provides both ease of use and flexibility for an end-to-end physical circuit from the central office to the premise equipment with full connectivity. The Autodesk Telecom Module has been developed to have the same look and feel as users expect from AutoCAD including ribbons, tool bars and other standard features of the AutoCAD family.



The Telecom Module is completely database centric. All data for cables and equipment is stored in the database, whether SQLServer or Oracle. Additionally, the user can create a display model (also referred to as an Industry Model) that is able to demonstrate and view the data and attributes according to drawing standards that are enforced by database rules.

Many of the reports, such as a slightly customized bill of materials, can be configured to use existing material and inventory records. Additionally, links between customers and equipment can be maintained easily using the appropriate customer key which is easily maintained as a foreign key within the Fiber/Copper telecom database.

Finally, cable and equipment naming can continue to follow existing standards. Display styles can be developed that automatically label cables and equipment based on actual feature information (such as in-service, cable name, terminal pairs).

Features of the Autodesk Telecom Module

The Telecom Module has many features that make it a comprehensive solution for the management of Fiber and Copper cables and equipment and graphic display of the data available. Some features to highlight are listed below.

Database Editing

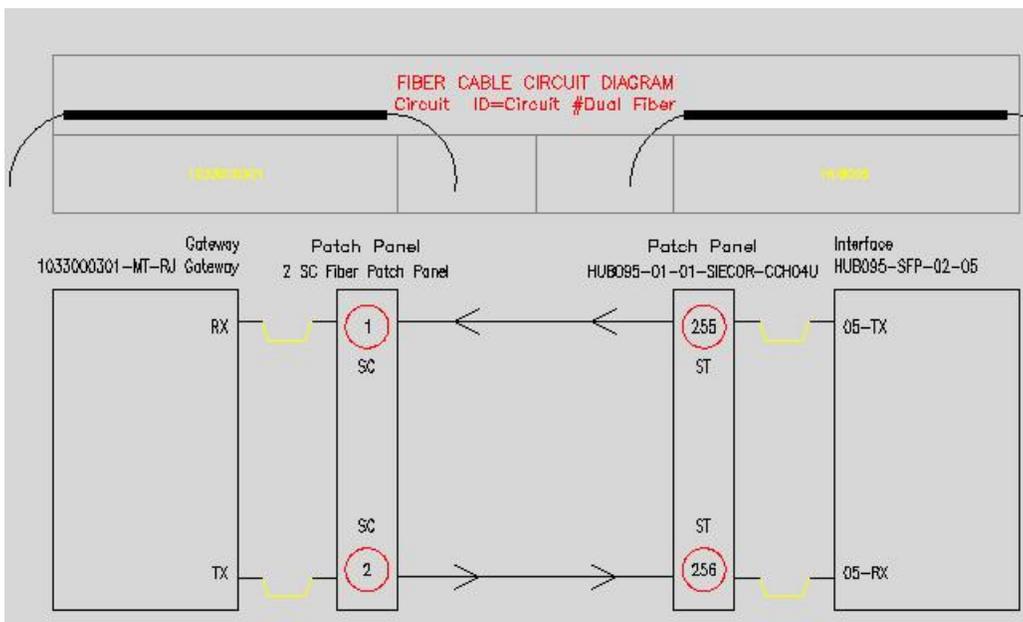
Because the Telecom Module and AutoCAD Map 3D Industry Models are database-centric, all edits are multi-user. Data is locked as necessary at the record level, not at the database or drawing level. This particular feature means more productive editing and zero internal bookkeeping to preserve a "master" as-built drawing.

Database-generated graphics

The symbols and line styles used in the Telecom Module are determined by the database values of infrastructure records, not placed manually by drafting. All graphics are generated from real database values automatically. The attributes and connectivity of the terminals determine how the model is graphically displayed.

AutoCAD based solution

As was mentioned previously, this is still an AutoCAD solution and the Telecom Module is a type of plug-in or add-on to the AutoCAD Map 3D application. Therefore, any paper space customizations, work print styles and so on can be preserved. In fact, any AutoCAD entity types can be used to annotate drawings as needed.



Connectivity and Tracing

Our model is completely and fully connected and supports fiber-level tracing from the premise to the central office.

Customizable Reports

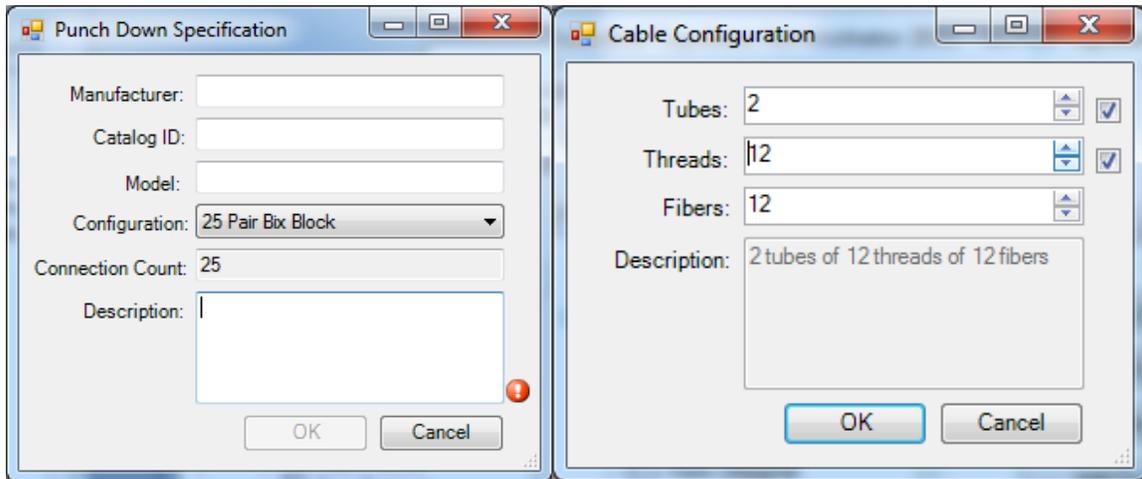
There are numerous AutoCAD reports that are generated automatically to document the terminations at a location and the fibers used for a circuit (these are comprehensively described in the user's guide which we've provided).

Auto Circuiting

Circuits are an inherent part of the solution and the tool is capable of finding capacity and low-loss circuits based on existing unused fibers.

Configurable Equipment Database

The equipment database included in the Telecom Module is configurable and can be set up to link to most existing inventory systems. All equipment types can be user-defined in the AutoCAD Map 3D Infrastructure Administrator. The illustration below shows the dialogs used to define specifications and configurations for equipment and cables. The Manufacturer, Model and Catalog ID information can be used to link the data in AutoCAD Map 3D with inventory and material cost records.



Summary

The Autodesk Telecom Module takes the information consuming features of AutoCAD Map 3D and applies them to fiber and copper asset management for the benefit of managing an organization's telecom infrastructure. This creates a solution that provides a comprehensive GIS-based telecom solution for Fiber and Copper developed and supported by Brockwell IT Consulting and Autodesk. The Telecom Module provides a cost-effective solution and using reliable, off-the-shelf applications with a solution supported by an industry-experts and an experienced technical team backed by Autodesk.

Brockwell IT Consulting can provide a unique package of comprehensive support and hands-on knowledge transfer for the Telecom Module. Services include implementation and customization of the Telecom Module and cost-effective on-demand ad-hoc activities. Brockwell IT Consulting has a proven record with our depth of knowledge in the industry as well as varied knowledge of many products and applications used in the utilities and telecom industry.



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