

CadCamSystems

Support Document

Setting up PowerShape Defaults

PowerShape has changed the way the system defaults are stored. The old method of creating a master model file still exists but the new way is to save all the settings using a stored settings option. There are some settings that can not be saved in this manner so they have to be changed in a master model. Some users will have to use a mixture of both methods to get the results they want.

Master Model Method:

Advantage: The biggest advantage is all settings can be stored in the Master Model. The Master Model is the template that is copied to create your working space. Every time you create a new model, all the settings you chose to change will be used for that session. If you wanted to start with level names and geometry, that can be saved using this method.

Disadvantage: If you want to change a setting, you must go thru the entire process of creating a master model again. Macros can be used to speed the process, but it can be cumbersome to get it right.

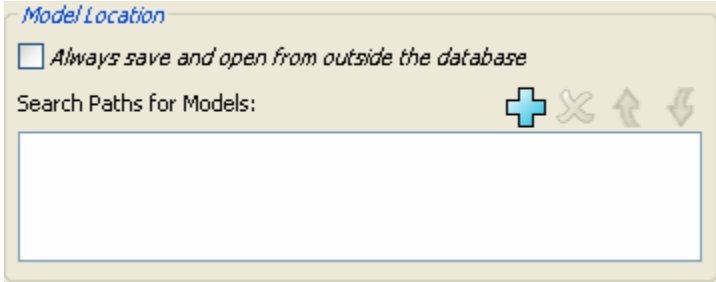
General tolerance will be the most common thing set here. If you did not set a drawing standard when you installed PowerShape and it starts in metric mode, you can set the default here to ANSI.

Everybody will have different settings for their defaults, but the process is always the same.

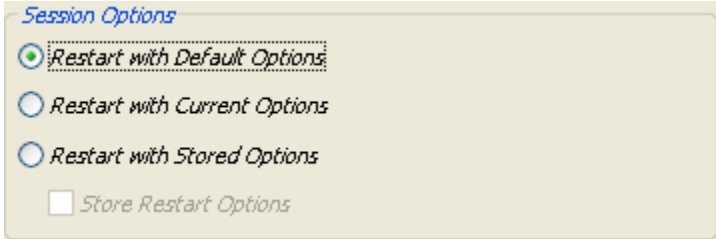
1) In PowerShape, go to the Tools menu on the top toolbar, and select login. A form will pop up and prompt you for a login name and password. Type in admin for the name and hit enter. No password is necessary. The software will reboot in administrator mode. This will allow us to access files that you otherwise could not.

2) Now go to the Macro menu and select record. Name the macro SETTINGS and save it in the C:\dcam folder. From here on do not make any unnecessary mouse clicks for they will be recorded in your macro which will be transferred from version to version as the software is upgraded. Go back to Tools and select Options. From here, change any of the options to the values you want. Some common items to change are listed at the end of this document. Some settings you can not change are the settings that control the model locations and how PowerShape starts up. Make sure these options are as shown.

File>Model



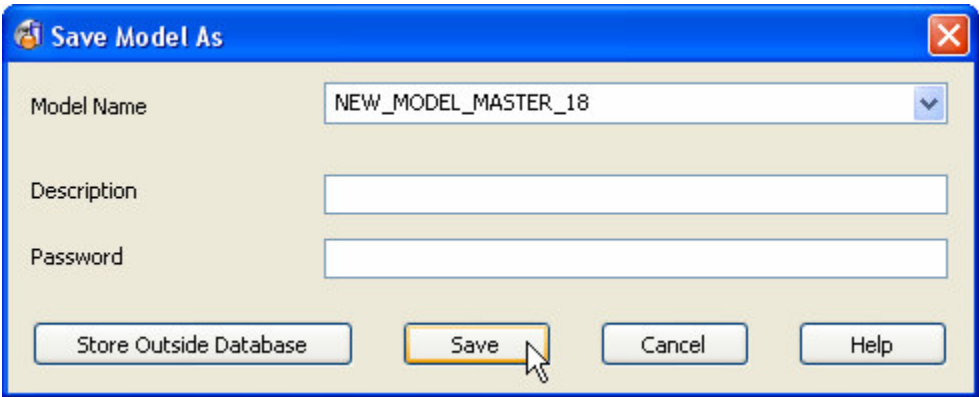
General>Properties



3) After you have changed all the settings you want to save, select OK on this form. Go back to the Macro menu and click record again to stop recording.

4) Now go to File>Save as, and name this file according to the version of PowerSHAPE you have.

Version	Filename
PowerSHAPE 7.2.40	NEW_MODEL_MASTER_18
PowerSHAPE 7.3.50	NEW_MODEL_MASTER_18
PowerSHAPE 7.4.40	NEW_MODEL_MASTER_19
PowerSHAPE 8.0.80	NEW_MODEL_MASTER_20



5) After saving the file, go to File>Delete. Delete any NEW_MODEL_X_18 that is not the master that you just created. You have to do this because these files were created before the master was created and they have all the original defaults. Exit PowerShape.

You can now open PowerSHAPE and it will use the Master file you created as a template to open a new modeling session with all the defaults you selected.

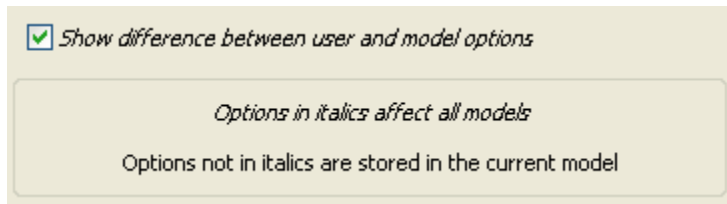
To change it again, after you login to admin mode, run the SETTINGS macro to replay all of your recorded steps. Then change the items you want to change. You can record another macro with a different name for these changes if you want to save them also. Before you can save your new file, you will have to delete the NEW_MODEL_MASTER_18 file first, then you can continue at step 4.

Stored Settings Method:

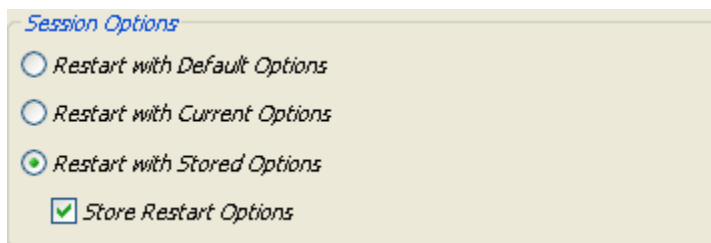
Advantage: The biggest advantage is most settings can be changed and stored by selecting a check box before you accept the options. This method stores the settings in the Windows Registry for quick access by PowerShape. Every time you create a new model, the settings you chose to change will be used for that session.

Disadvantage: Not all of the options are able to be saved in this manner. Some options are model options that can only be saved in a Master Model. General tolerance has to be saved in a Master Model.

Open the option page under the Tools menu. Look on the page under General>Units and Tolerances. Select the check box like shown.



User options can have the default setting stored in this manner. Model options have to be stored in the Master model. This is a good place to start to determine if you can make the change using the stored options. Make any changes to the options you want to be stored as the default. Under General>Properties select Restart with Stored Options and check Store Restart Options.



Now when you press OK, it will store the settings as the defaults so when PowerShape starts again, it will start with these options.

To make changes to the default options you have set, just select Store Restart Options to save the options again. If the item you change does not stay changed after you restart PowerShape, then that option has to be saved in the Master Model.

Default settings that we use:

Listed below are some of the more common settings to change. You can change any of the settings on the option pages to suit your preference.

General>Units And Tolerances

General Tolerance A value of .0002 is a good value to work with.

Drawing Tolerance .001

General>Toolbars

Automatically display/hide toolbars OFF

Objects>Arcs

Select fitted arcs

Objects>Comp Curves

Gap jumping multiplier 10 (value times tolerance = .002)

Objects>Lines

Select single lines

Objects>Surfaces

Select keep wireframe

Uncheck extrude normal to planer base

Format>Levels and styles

name and *used* should have a check mark in both places and *on* should not be checked in either.

Tools>Analysis>Surface Analysis

Select ***Display Wall Thickness***

View>Shading

Tolerance for shading .001