



Welcome to this issue of ON TRACK

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In future ON TRACK will be emailed to all on our mailing list. If you'd like to add your name then go to www.savoy.co.uk/maillist.php.

Message from the Editor

What a difference a year makes! Over the past year we've had the credit crunch in the US leading to a decline in the housing market, rising fuel and food costs and now we have the very real possibility of more serious economic recession on the horizon. Interestingly, at Savoy we have had record Q1 sales so we're hopeful that businesses are viewing the problems with the economy as a short term blip and it's business as usual. Certainly, our work load has never been greater, we're optimistic, and as you'll see below, we have had no hesitation in recruiting more expertise to help us expand into new areas. Let's hope that in another year's time the problems with the economy will be a fading memory.

More new faces at Savoy

This quarter we're pleased to welcome Chris Beeching (on the right) and Andrew Kendall to our merry band of workers.

Chris will be helping us market the product both in the UK and around the world so there's a good chance you'll see him popping up at exhibitions. He has already made a valuable contribution to the team and has some interesting ideas to develop. If all goes to plan, Chris will be taking over the editorship of this newsletter from the next issue.

Andrew is an experienced and highly competent software engineer who will be helping us to build in all the exciting new features we've got planned for you. His first small project is nearing completion and it's looking great. We're hoping it will bear fruit for us quite soon.

Both are very pleased with their new roles and already doing a great job.



New contact in Japan

Tomohiro Kobayashi will be leaving our Japanese dealer, Kindai Sekkei, at the end of the month. We would like to thank Tomohiro for his efforts on our behalf and wish him well for the future.

Even though Tomohiro has left, Kindai will continue to sell and support AutoTrack in Japan. Until Tomohiro's replacement has been confirmed our Japanese customers should contact Kenji Ishida at k.ishida@kindai.co.jp.

New Polish dealer

We are delighted to announce that we have just agreed terms with a new Polish agent. Marcin Bieniak of PROMB will be our agent in Poland with immediate effect. Marcin is a civil engineer who has extensive experience with engineering software, including AutoTrack and AutoCAD, and he is looking forward to showing AutoTrack to Polish engineers. Marcin had this to say about his appointment... "I am very happy that I have an opportunity to be representing Savoy in Poland. I used to use Autotrack as a client and I think that it's great software and I am sure that polish clients will really appreciate that".

You can contact Marcin on +48 (79) 1747184 or at mbieniak@gmail.com. If you use Skype then you can also contact him on skype id [biuropromb](https://www.skype.com/people/biuropromb).



See us in Las Vegas!

If you want to see AutoTrack in action and are in the Las Vegas area in December then why not make a diary note to visit us at Autodesk University 2008.



The show is in The Venetian Hotel, Las Vegas between 2- 5 December. The entire world-beating AutoTrack product range will be on display at special show prices. More details will follow in our Autumn newsletter. See also the AU site at au.autodesk.com.

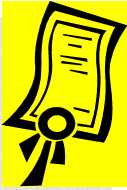
Slow progress for Denby Eco-Link trailer

You may recall the Denby Eco-Link trailer from an article in the September 2006 edition of **ON TRACK**. At 25.25m long, this is one of a new breed of Longer, Heavier Goods Vehicles (or LHV's) and is the subject of much debate within the EU. Even though it is nearly 10m longer than conventional articulated vehicles, its rear steering allows it to turn within the EU guidelines and, per tonne of cargo moved, it produces lower CO₂ emissions and takes up less road space. What's the problem you might think!



In September 2007 the European Commission announced that Independent Consultants consisting of Leuven University, the French "Laboratoire Central Des Ponts et Chaussees" and the Dutch TNO, were to report on "The Future for LHVs in Europe" by May this year. In April the Secretary of State for Transport, Ruth Kelly, announced a delay, advising that the report would be published before the summer recess. We will be watching developments with a keen interest.

Training News



Yet again this quarter we've had a number of calls from people who were pleasantly surprised to find a feature in AutoTrack that they were unaware of. Whilst it's always nice to discover a new feature it obviously makes more sense for you if you know what tools are available without having to experiment. That's why making the effort to find one or two days free to attend a training course makes perfect sense and is such a good investment.

Only this week we had a trainee who emailed us the following day thanking us for an excellent course saying "I was very impressed by some of the features I didn't realise would make my use of the software much easier & quicker".

If you think you could benefit from some hands-on AutoTrack training then give us a call on 01580 720011 or email us at sales@savoy.co.uk. We can even come to you if you wish.

Tips and Tricks

AutoTrack for Highway Design: Steering & Articulation graphs

An AutoTrack swept path shows you whether a vehicle can negotiate a particular route but it doesn't give you much indication of how easily. That's where the steering and articulation graph comes in. The graph plots the steering and articulation angles, along the path, compared to the maximum possible. This allows you to see at a glance where the angles, or changes in angles, are most severe. To try this:-

1. Select an articulated vehicle and create a simple three point turn.
2. Click the **Place Outline** button and place an outline somewhere along the path.
3. Now select the path and click the **Insert Graph** button.
4. Select the upper right hand corner grip of the graph and drag to resize it and select the green bottom left grip to move it.
5. The horizontal axis shows the vehicle speed and direction, whilst the vertical axis shows the steering or articulation angle.
6. From the shape of the graph (the steeper the line the faster the angle is changing), and the peak values (which are shown both as absolute values and as percentages of the maxima), it is possible to judge the severity of the manoeuvre.
7. Finally, the outline that you placed is shown on the graph as a vertical yellow line. This allows you to see the values at particular points.



Place Outline button



Insert Graph button

And finally...

We were talking last issue about wind turbine transporters. Well here's what can happen if you get it wrong!



Thanks for reading...
...bye for now

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authorised developer



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SAVOY



**COMPUTING
SERVICES LTD**

Savoy Computing
Services Ltd
Clermont House
High Street
Cranbrook
Kent, TN17 3DN
England

T: +44(0)1580 720 011
F: +44(0)1580 720 022
E: sales@savoy.co.uk
W: www.savoy.co.uk
US: 1-866 527 3790