

Objectives and Chapter Hints

Chapter 2 – Hardware of an AutoCAD System

Objectives

After studying this chapter you should be able to

1. Identify the major categories of computers
2. Identify the major components of a personal computer system and their general purpose
3. Describe the various media used for data storage
4. Describe the peripheral equipment that is commonly associated with a CAD system

Chapter Hints

This chapter provides a great opportunity for “show-and-tell” activities. If you have an old computer available (working or not), open it up and pull it apart for the students to see. Pass around the video card and pop out the CPU and memory. The mysterious box will suddenly seem less magical. If possible, have an example of each of the peripheral devices mentioned in the chapter (printer, plotter, digitizer, mouse, and scanner).

If a plotter is not available, a sample of the output could be obtained from a local firm or the plotter vendor.

Contrast the output of pen and inkjet plotters with respect to quality, speed, and cost of operation.

Set two monitors side by side and adjust the display resolution differently to demonstrate the concept of resolution.

Pass around the various data storage media discussed in the chapter and contrast their capacities and cost.