Batch Conversion from FLX to DWG

MSCAD2004, by default, saved all of it's drawings in a FLX file format. This FLX format can not be used by any other programs.

MSCAD2005 uses the industry standard DWG file format.

To get all of your old FLX files converted into DWG files, MSCAD2004 includes a Batch Conversion Utility.

Start MSCAD2004 – when the Project Manager comes up on screen, allowing you to pick a job to open – hit the Cancel button to exit from this dialog.

Go under the File menu -> Batch Processing.



There are 3 steps that Must be done to complete the process.

Pause MSCAD – this removes our Survey routines so the CAD batch process routine can run.

Batch Process File – this will permit you to do the actual conversions.

Restart MSCAD – this will reload our Survey routines, so you could continue to work in MSCAD2004. If you are simply exiting the program after the conversions are done – then this step can be ignored.

Now that you know the steps to do – let's do them:

Pause MSCAD – pick on this command from the menu. You won't see much happen – the command line will display the following: > (setq mscadpause 1) 1 Batch Process File - pick on this command from the menu. You will see this dialog:

You chan be o	should save your drawing before proceeding. Otherwise you ges will be lost, because the current drawing data base will verwritten!
- Op	tions for proceeding
C	Save current drawing
C	Save current drawing under another name
•	Don't save the current drawing (discard changes)

Being we have exited the project manager – the drawing you have open is the default, drawing_0, and we do not need to save it. Pick on the third button then hit Continue.

You will now see the main conversion dialog:

Select Directory to add Files from Include Subdirectories Types: J.FLX DXF DWG Filter: Select Directory to add Files from To printer Into BMP file Into BMP file Into BMP file Into WMF file Into WMF file Overwrite existing files Cenvent to FLX Delete selection from list Clear list (Delete all from list) Clear list (Delete all from list) Select order of processing Sort Reverse Move up Move down Move to top Move to end Catematic	ompose the List for Batch Processing	Actions for Batch Processing
Soft Reverse Move up Move down Move to top Move to end CATEMPNFCADBATPROCLOG	<< Select Directory to add Files from Include Subdirectories Types: FLX DXF Filter: *FLX**DXF**DWO Invert None All Maik by pattern matching >> Delete selection from list >> Clear list (Delete all from list) List file Save >	Print / Plot View Extents To printer Into BMP file Into WMF file Doverwrite existing files Convert to FLX DXF V DWG Overwrite existing drawings No refresh itself C Always
		Logfile Create Logfile Filename: Select CATEMPWFCADBATPROCLOG

There are two main section of the dialog that will be of concern to do the conversion from FLX to DWG files.

Choosing what to select to convert.

< Select Directory to add Files from							
🔽 Include Subdirectories							
Types:	.FLX 🔲 .DXF 🔲 .DWG						
Filter:	*.FLX;*.DXF;*.DWG						

This section allows you to decide if you wish to list FLX, DXF or DWG file formats. In this case you only need FLX selected.

The Include Subdirectories option is up to you. It will automatically look in all subdirectories of any folder you select and grab all of the FLX files in any of those subdirectories as well as the main directory you pick.

The first button with the << on it, allows you to pick which folder you wish to grab the FLX files from. Pick this to select the desired folder. When you do, you will see the following dialog:



Using the mouse, pick on the + or - signs to expand and collapse the folders to find the desired location on your computer. Once there, pick on the folder name to process. Pick on OK and you will return to the previous dialog.

All of the FLX files in the folder you selected – and the subdirectories (if turned on) will now be listed in this dialog.

Batch Plotting and Converting	
Batch Plotting and Converting Compose the List for Bath Processing Clybbs2004-losurestm/2502dt1kt Clybbs2004-losurestm/25031365-stubt Clybbs2004-margaret040138-st.1kt Clybbs2004-margaret040138-s	Actions for Batch Processing Print / Plot View C Extents To printer Into BMP file Into DWF file Overwrite existing files Convert to FLX DXF V DWG
cv(bbs2004)4034,4% cv(bbs2004)4034,4% cv(bbs2004)4034,4% cv(bbs2004)4,4% cv(bbs2004)4,1% cv(bbs2004)1111,11% cv(bbs2004)1111,11% cv(bbs2004)111,11% cv(bbs2004)12,1% cv(bbs2004)12,1% cv(bbs2004)12,1% cv(bbs2004)12,1% cv(bbs2004)12,1% cv(bbs2004)12,1% cv(bbs2004)2,1%	FLX DXF DWVG Overwrite existing drawings R Not multiple No refresh itself Always Logfile Filename: Select C.\TEMPVFCADBATPROC.LOG
0 files selected from 185 in list. 185 files from cNjobs2004h and 49 subdirectories added.	Start ? Cancel

You can repeat this process to choose additional folders to process at the same time.

Choosing what to convert to.

The next section of the dialog to be concerned with is Convert To:

Convert to			
🗌 FLX 🔲 DXF 🔽 DWG			
✓ Overwrite existing drawings			
🔿 Not multiple			
🔘 No refresh itself			
Always			

Select DWG to tell it you wish to create DWG files from the FLX files.

You have the option to Overwrite Exiting Drawings. If selected, then if a DWG file is already on the computer, it will be replaced with the new one being created. If you do not turn this on – if a DWG file already exists then the save option is skipped for that FLX and it proceeds to the next FLX automatically.

Once you have set these features as desired – pick the **START** button in the bottom right – and sit back while the computer does the work for you. The DWG file will be saved in the same folder as the original FLX. The original FLX is not modified or erased. The same database files are used in both programs so nothing needs to be worried there.

A Log file is created, if you have this option turned on.

Logfile Create Logfile				
Filename: Select				
C:\Temp\FCADBATPROC.log				

It will look something like this:

```
Starting batch processing of 151 files...
Creating temporary database for Batproc: C:\TEMP\$FCATBATPROC$.FLX
Preparation done
File 1: "C:\JOBS2004\GUIDO-PAPA\03-165C5-SUBD.FLX"
Opening ... done.
Saving File as "C:\JOBS2004\GUIDO-PAPA\03-165C5-SUBD.DwG" ... File already exists. -> Skipped.
```

The FLX processed above already had a DWG file for it – and the over-write option was off – the DWG was Skipped.

Below you can see the FLX files are all being saved as DWG files as it processes through the list of FLX files you selected.

```
Starting batch processing of 149 files...
Creating temporary database for Batproc: C:\TEMP\$FCATBATPROC$.FLX
Preparation done
File 1: "C:\JOBS2004\VOL2.FLX"
Opening ... done.
Saving File as "C:\JOBS2004\VOL2.DWG" ... done.
File 2: "C:\JOBS2004\VOL1.FLX"
Opening ... done.
Saving File as "C:\JOBS2004\VOL1.DWG" ... done.
File 3: "C:\JOBS2004\TTT1.FLX"
Opening ... done.
Saving File as "C:\JOBS2004\TTT1.DWG" ... done.
```

Depending upon how many FLX files you have selected to convert – and the size of each – this entire process may take some time.

Restart MSCAD – This would allow you to continue working in MSCAD2004 by reloading our Survey routines. The command line will show the following: > (setq mscadpause nil) nil

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