

# New SW2017 Tools for CAD Administrators

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SOLIDWORKS Product Definition

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# SOLIDWORKS WORLD 2017

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# Agenda

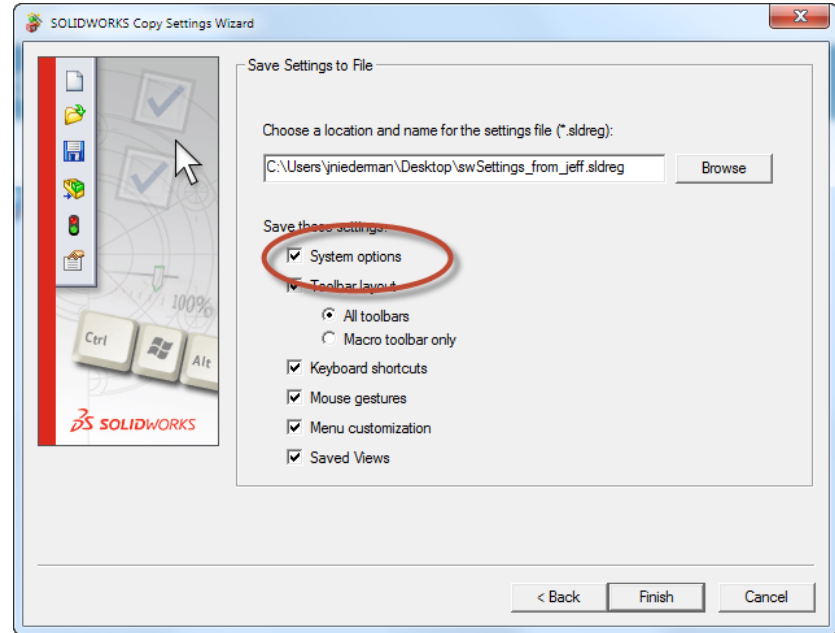
## New tools

- SOLIDWORKS Settings Administrator
- Rx Reliability
- CAD Admin Dashboard recent enhancements (time permitting)

# Setting Administrator

What was wrong with the old way – copy settings wizard?

- Sldreg file had too many settings



# Setting Administrator

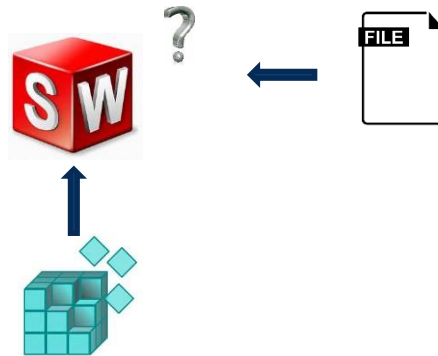
What was wrong with the old way – copy settings wizard?

- Only the person installing got the settings
- You can't easily change them after you installed
- Users can deviate

# Settings Administrator

## File-based settings

- Starting with SW2017, SOLIDWORKS looks for a sldsettings file
- Place the settings (.sldsettings) in a central location



# Settings Administrator

2 step process

- Author a sldsettings file
- Inform the SOLIDWORKS installations to use it

Edit the sldsettings file at any time. They'll get referenced on next start-up.

# Settings Administrator

## Accessing SOLIDWORKS Settings Administrator

- Create an Administrative Image of SOLIDWORKS 2017
- Run the Admin Image Options Editor
- Select the option “Use a settings file exported from the SOLIDWORKS Settings Administrator

*Note: you must have SOLIWORKS 2017 installed to run it*

# Settings Administrator

## Authoring a sldsettings file

- Start with some baseline settings
  - “Out of the box” settings
  - Existing SOLIDWORKS settings from your machine
  - An sldreg file
  - A previous sldsettings file



# Settings Administrator

## Authoring a sldsettings file

- Pick the System Options you want to Apply to the users
- Additionally decide if you want to lock those options
- Set the values of the options

# Settings Administrator

## 3 levels of control

- Set up the users for initial run and set them free
- Force settings to reset on each start-up, but give users freedom to change the options for their session if needed
- Force settings on each start-up and lock them

# Settings Administrator

## Locking options

- Allow password override
- Keep options locked if user leaves the network
- Allow API to override locked options

# Settings Administrator

Informing SOLIDWORKS to use the file

- Install from Option Editor
- Manually enter the path to the sldsettings file in HKLM if you don't use Option Editor

# Settings Administrator

## Editing Settings

- Launch Settings Administrator from the Admin Image Option Editor
- Browse to existing sldsettings file.
- Make any edits and save it again (overwrite the original)

# Settings Administrator

## Recommendation

- If you have no near-term plans to use it, set 1 minor option for Apply and deploy with that, so you can strengthen it later if you need to

# Limitations

- Can't control color options
- Can't control Dismissed Messages
- Some other assorted options lag
- English Only
- Not 100% tamper-proof, but locked options are reported to CAD Admin Dashboard

# Questions on Settings Administrator



# SOLIDWORKS Rx Reliability Tab

Reports on the reliability of SOLIDWORKS over the last 60 days

- End times of all SOLIDWORKS sessions in a graph
- Exit method of each session
  - Normal
  - Terminated unexpectedly
  - Killed by user
- Installation Events

# SOLIDWORKS Rx Reliability Tab

For failed sessions

- Windows Events 5 mins before and after the time of the failure.
  - Application and System events on the same timeline
- Call Stacks for “Terminated Unexpectedly”

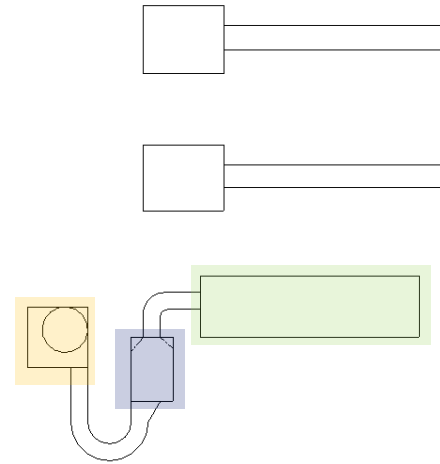
# SOLIDWORKS Rx Reliability Tab

Call Stacks – What are they?

sldarchiveu

SLDMODU

SLDDRWU



# SOLIDWORKS Rx Reliability Tab

## Call Stacks – How SOLIDWORKS uses them?

- Collected from Customer Experience Improvement Program
- Grouped together for analysis and correction
- Can be translated to failed line of code
  
- Not often possible to correct without data, environment, and procedure

# SOLIDWORKS Rx Reliability Tab

## Call Stacks – How you could use them?

- Look for patterns
  - Matching call stacks likely indicate the same crash
- Check the top of the stack for identifiable names. Can you guess what these might refer to?
  - PDMSW.dll
  - Atioglxx.dll
  - nvoglv64.DLL
  - Slddrwu.dll

# SOLIDWORKS Rx Reliability Tab

Not your job to troubleshoot stability?

- Reliability report is included with SOLIDWORKS Rx package to be opened by a local administrator, VAR, or SOLIDWORKS Tech Support

# SOLIDWORKS Rx Reliability Tab

## Limitations

- The reliability report does not diagnose problems
- The reliability report is not a replacement for a true problem capture with files, settings, and reproducible steps

The reliability report shows you patterns and clues to help troubleshoot harder to reproduce crashes

# Questions on Rx Reliability?



# CAD Admin Dashboard

## Dashboard in brief

- Users on subscription enable the Customer Experience Improvement Program option
- The Dashboard groups all serial numbers from the same Company into one dashboard
- The Dashboard shows you information about each machine in *your* “Company” when you access it from the Customer Portal or [www.solidworks.com/cadadmin](http://www.solidworks.com/cadadmin)

# CAD Admin Dashboard

## Recent Enhancements

- Last Updated Date (2015)
- Excel Export
- Delete Machines (2016)
- Show Service Pack (2017)
- Locked Options Detection (2017)



