

InRoads FAQs

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Answers:

1. Isn't there a way to accurately snap to graphics when using InRoads commands like Move PI or Edit Feature?

Yes. You can use MicroStation's AccuSnap, but you'll have to use the keyboard toggle of pressing and holding <Ctrl>+<Shift> to turn it on. AccuSnap is normally deactivated for InRoads commands, but when the <Ctrl> and the <Shift> keys are pressed at the same time and held down, you can move your mouse around the screen and see that AccuSnap is now working. A simple left-click on the mouse will accurately locate the InRoads command. Then you can release the keys.

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2. What's the easiest or fastest way to display the slope of a bunch of 3D line segments?

Use InRoads **File>Import>Surface...** and the "From Graphics" tab to create features in a surface. Use the **Surface>View Surface>Annotate Feature...** command, turning on the annotation of "Line Segments" on the **Main** tab and checking the "Slope" on the **Line Segments** tab.

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3. How can I cut profiles at different offsets when they all show 0.000 as the distance on the Create Profile dialog?

The **Create Profile>Offsets** leaf only allows you to toggle the offsets on or off; it displays the distances and symbologies that are assigned in the properties of the surface. Select the **General** leaf and then click the [Properties...] button just below the "Surfaces" list. That will open the **Surface Properties** to the **Advanced** tab where you can set up the offset distances and symbologies for the surface. Once you click [Apply] on the **Surface Properties**, those offset distances will appear on the **Offsets** leaf of the **Create Profile** dialog. Offsets are a property of each surface; don't forget to save the surface after you add offsets.

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4. Why does my mouse become unresponsive when I try to move a vertical PI?

I suspect that you have vertically annotated an alignment with a lot of PIs using a preference or style designed for drafting. When InRoads has to find the VCcircle cell on a server-based workspace and there are a lot of PIs to display, it gets really slow! If you are just using a right-click **View** to display the vertical geometry in the profile; use **Geometry>Rename Geometry...** and assign the style named "ODOT" to your vertical alignment. (The CL_* styles use the cell and are slow). Right-click **View** the alignment again and it will now update much more quickly. If you have used **Geometry>View Geometry>Vertical Annotation...** to display the vertical alignment in a profile, use that command again and load the "ODOT" preference set to redisplay the vertical alignment with more dynamic graphics.

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5. When looking at a corridor in the cross section view of the Roadway Designer, I can see that one template is using an end condition from a different template. How can I fix this?

What fixed this situation was renaming the templates to remove the colon symbol from the template names. A ratio, like 1:4, had been used in the template names and the special character was having an adverse effect on the modeler's ability to process the template. The [best practice](#) is to use no special characters in InRoads when naming points, templates, corridors, features, surfaces, alignments, etc. Place those special characters in description fields.

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6. I launched InRoads and I saw the splash screen so I know it is loaded, but the InRoads Explorer is nowhere to be found! How can I get it back?

It is very easy to accidentally hide the InRoads Explorer by right-clicking hard in a MicroStation view window and selecting "Explorer Show/Hide". It is the second choice on the right-click context menu. Just select "Explorer Show/Hide" again and the InRoads Explorer will show up right where you left it.

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7. I want to use a template from another project's corridor on a new project, but I deleted the template from the template library; can I recover the template from the corridor?

Yes. Both the template library (.itl) and the roadway design file (.ird) are written in XML, so you can use the Template Library Organizer. Load the new project's template library (.itl), open the **Modeler>Create Template** dialog and choose **Tools>Template Library Organizer...** Expand the folder tree on the left to show the new project's template folder. Use the ellipsis button [...] on the right side and navigate to the other project's roadway design file (.ird) – change the filter on the types of files to *.ird. You will see a folder structure that matches the corridor names and inside each corridor you will see the template drops. Drag the template that you need from the corridor folder on the right and drop it onto the template folder on the left. Click **[OK]** and save when asked.

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8. My alignment has read-only access and some commands are not available, how can I edit the alignment?

Making your alignment “Read-Write” may be as simple as right-clicking on the alignment name in the workspace bar of the InRoads Explorer window and choosing “Read-Write” from the right-click menu. Alignments may be viewed, annotated, modeled, and reported on with an access mode of “Read-Only”. It is recommended that only the designer or surveyor change the access mode to “Read-Write”. The Default Access Modes in the Project Options for InRoads have been set to Read-Only to discourage non-designers from making inadvertent changes to geometry project files (.alg) stored in a shared location, like a crew share or ProjectWise. Designers should investigate [Access Control of Geometry](#) in the ODOT InRoads V8i User Guide for more information.

If you have made a copy of a geometry project file (.alg) in your own F:\ drive and the alignments show that they are locked by someone else, you can force free them by following the directions in the second paragraph of [Access Mode is Read-Only, not Read-Write](#) in the ODOT InRoads V8iUser Guide.

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