

# IMAGINiT Helps to Future Proof Wade Trim's Civil 3D Customizations



## The Organization

**Wade Trim** is a civil engineering firm committed to maximizing the value of their clients' infrastructure investments. For nearly a century, they've been solving complex engineering challenges to create stronger communities. Wade Trim employs more than 600 civil engineering, planning, surveying, and landscape architecture professionals and support staff in 21 offices in nine states. Markets they serve include water resources, community design, industrial, commercial, energy, and transportation.



## The Challenge

Since its inception, Wade Trim has been employee owned. Wade Trim has fostered an immensely loyal workforce by offering the opportunity for investment in the company to every full-time employee with a minimum of one year of service. "Ownership creates pride that helps us retain employees for a very long time, which benefits our work approach, collaborative culture, and ability to deliver client solutions," said Shannon Collins, IT Engineering Support Analyst, Wade Trim. "It can also create challenges when a long-term employee leaves."

Wade Trim encountered these difficulties when a CAD manager with over two decades of tenure moved on from the company. "For decades, this CAD manager had been designing customizations for Autodesk Civil 3D software, such as creating commands to automate repetitive tasks that engineers frequently perform, and developing standards that align with requirements," said Shannon. "He also migrated those customizations and standards to every new version of the software."

With the impending release of the latest Autodesk Civil 3D version approaching, and with over 300 Wade Trim employees relying on the functionality of these customizations, the company had a pressing need to identify a solution to complete the migration process.

## The Solution

"Our IMAGINiT account manager is the person I call for anything related to the Autodesk products we use, which include the AEC collection, BIM Collaborate Pro, Build, and Docs," said Shannon. "As I expected, all I needed to do was call him, and the ball was rolling."

The account manager brought in IMAGINiT experts specializing in Autodesk Civil 3D. Together they developed a solution that entailed close collaboration with Wade Trim to gain insights into the customizations that included 10 lisp routines, 200 tool palettes, and the menu file. With an understanding of existing customizations, IMAGINiT would complete the migration and work with Wade Trim to thoroughly test the commands before releasing them to the users.

## The Results

"Because these customizations are critical to our team performing efficiently, I was a bit nervous going into the project," said Shannon. "It turned out that I had nothing to worry about."

Shannon continued, "The IMAGINiT team was incredibly responsive. We communicated frequently throughout the process, and any questions we had were answered quickly. Not only did the migration go smoothly, the IMAGINiT team reduced the number of lisp customizations from 10 to 2, which means that updating for future versions of Civil 3D will be much easier."



IMAGINiT also engaged with Wade Trim to:

- Consolidate all the main directories and programming into one directory that is not version specific, leaving only three version-specific directories—Templates, Pipes and Survey database information—and the Wade Trim custom dynamic link library (DLL)
- Create a single Wade Trim Menu file that will work with any future versions of Civil 3D

"I call what IMAGINiT did 'future proofing,' because it should remove the need to go through all the data with every new version," said Shannon. "Instead, whether we turn to IMAGINiT when the next version of Autodesk Civil 3D comes out or we perform the migration internally, we will just need to update two lisp routines, the templates for that version, and the DLL."

Partnering with IMAGINiT to perform the Civil 3D customizations resulted in saved time and improved efficiencies, now and for the future.

**Do you need help customizing Autodesk software to meet your specific needs? [Contact us today.](#)**

## Solutions Beyond Software

IMAGINiT Technologies, a division of Rand Worldwide, helps architects and engineers become more proficient in the use of 3D technologies to design, develop and manage complex engineering projects faster and more cost-effectively.