

# MicroStation V8 XM Edition and MicroStation PowerDraft XM Edition –

## An Application Comparison

MicroStation V8 XM Edition and MicroStation PowerDraft XM Edition – Both are powerful and productive applications. Both are pillars of the content creation solutions from Bentley. The question is - How do you determine which of these two solutions is best suited for your needs?

**MicroStation PowerDraft XM Edition** is a comprehensive and integrated solution for 2D design and production drafting, offering native support for DGN and DWG files, effective management of change, and digitally secure workflows. MicroStation PowerDraft is an extremely powerful application both as a standalone design solution and as a complement to existing MicroStation and/or AutoCAD workflows.

**MicroStation V8 XM Edition** is a complete package for 2D and 3D design, drafting and visualization. In addition to the functionality available with MicroStation PowerDraft, MicroStation adds full 3D design capabilities including surface, solid and parametric feature-based modeling, professional-grade photo-realistic rendering and visualization and extensive customization and development facilities.

Additionally and at no extra charge for Bentley SELECT subscribing organizations, MicroStation is available with MicroStation configurations. These are industry-specific extensions that expand the reach and capabilities of MicroStation into your specific areas of expertise and serve as the platform for additional discipline-specific solutions available from Bentley.

The following chart provides a more detailed functionality comparison between MicroStation V8 XM Edition and MicroStation PowerDraft XM Edition:

Functional Areas	MicroStation PowerDraft XM Edition	MicroStation V8 XM Edition
2D Design and Detailing	Yes	Yes
3D Design and Detailing	Limited	Yes
Referencing of DGN Design Data	Yes	Yes
Referencing of DWG Design Data	Yes	Yes
Referencing of Raster Data	Yes	Yes
Native DWG Viewing	Yes	Yes
Native DWG Editing	Yes	Yes
Task-based interface	Yes	Yes
Project Explorer	Yes	Yes
ProjectWise StartPoint support	Yes	Yes
Fields	Yes	Yes
Design History	Yes	Yes
Digital Signatures	Yes	Yes
File Protection	Yes	Yes
AutoCAD Workmode	Yes	Yes
Interface Customization	Yes	Yes

Named Groups	Yes	Yes
Display Sets	Yes	Yes
Database Connectivity	Yes	Yes
Google Earth Support	Yes	Yes
Dimension Driven Design	No	Yes
Surface Modeling	No	Yes
Model Shading	Yes	Yes
Phong Rendering	No	Yes
Ray Trace Rendering	No	Yes
Radiosity Rendering	No	Yes
Solar Study	No	Yes
Animation	No	Yes
Parametric Solid Modeling	No	Yes
Feature-based Solid Modeling	No	Yes
Batch Plotting	Yes	Yes
Batch File Conversion	No	Yes
Available Civil Configuration	No	Yes
Available Plant Configuration	No	Yes
Available Building Configuration	No	Yes
Available Geospatial Configuration	No	Yes
Runs Vertical Applications	No	Yes
Development Platform	Limited**	Yes
Working Sets	No	Yes
Unit Lock	No	Yes
Boresite Lock	No	Yes
Text Node Lock	No	Yes
Linear Patterns	Yes	Yes
BSpline Curve Tools	Yes*	Yes
Construct Parabolic Fillet	Yes	Yes
HTML Author	No	Yes
Place Point(s) Between Tool	Yes	Yes
Place Point on Element Tool	Yes	Yes
Place Point at Intersection Tool	Yes	Yes
Place Point(s) Along Element Tool	Yes	Yes
Points at Distance Along Tool	Yes	Yes
Place Half Ellipse Tool	Yes	Yes
Place Quarter Ellipse Tool	Yes	Yes
Modify Arc Angle Tool	Yes	Yes

**Yes** - indicates capability previously only available to MicroStation users prior to the XM generation

\*Please note that only the most popular B-spline tools are in PowerDraft XM Edition.

\*\*Programming in MicroStation PowerDraft is limited to programs that do not call external .dlls.