Updating a MSCAD2004 AutoMAP library to work in MSCAD2005.

To open an AutoMAP Library file from MSCAD2004 into MSCAD2005, the first step is to copy it from the C:\MSCAD2004\MSCAD folder to the C:\PROGRAM FILES\MICROSURVEY\MSCAD2005\MSCAD folder using Windows Explorer or My Computer. This way you are not working with the original file so it can still be used, unmodified, with MSCAD2004, if required.

If you jump right into MSCAD2005 and load the AutoMAP Library from MSCAD2004, this is what you are going to need to do and what you will see:

Start the MSCAD2005 program and open a drawing. Then run the AutoMAP command by going under the MsTraverse menu -> AutoMAP System -> AutoMAP Library. Then pick on the New Library button to clear the current library – then pick on the Open Library button and choose your Library you copied from MSCAD2004.

When you first load the AutoMAP library created in MSCAD2004 (or any previous version of MSCAD), in MSCAD2005, you will get a message:
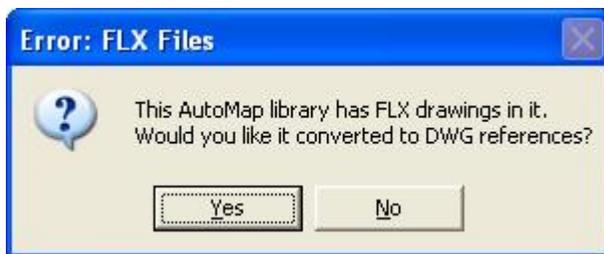
This message comes up because MSCAD2004 used FLX files for the drawings of the symbols, and MSCAD2005 does not understand them. MSCAD2005 uses the industry standard DWG files instead. This message gives you the ability to have us change all of the FLX references to DWG in the entire Automap library. (This is a good thing to do **but** it will not be the only thing you need to do to make your AutoMAP library work in MSCAD2005.)

As soon as the FLX extensions were changed to DWG, the routine then attempted to look for each of the symbols in the location specified in the AutoMAP library. Being most of those locations are now incorrect (it is still looking in the old MSCAD2004 folder locations), you will get a message telling you that at least 1 block was not found.
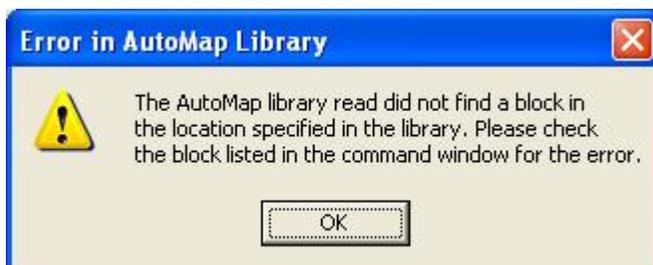
If you were to look in the command line, you may see a whole range of symbols not found, due to the paths being incorrect. Example below:

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BLOCK C:\MSCAD2004\MSCAD\BLOCKS\ICM_PTH.DWG was not found on the machine.
Block C:\MSCAD2004\MSCAD\BLOCKS\MH-M.DWG was not found on the machine.
Block C:\MSCAD2004\MSCAD\BLOCKS\ICM_PSIP.DWG was not found on the machine.
Block C:\MSCAD2004\MSCAD\BLOCKS\ICM_UMP.DWG was not found on the machine.
Block C:\MSCAD2004\MSCAD\BLOCKS\ICM_PTH.DWG was not found on the machine.
Block C:\MSCAD2004\MSCAD\BLOCKS\ICM_UMP.DWG was not found on the machine.
Block C:\MSCAD2004\MSCAD\BLOCKS\ICM_PSIP.DWG was not found on the machine.
Block C:\MSCAD2004\MSCAD\BLOCKS\ICM_PLP.DWG was not found on the machine.
Block C:\MSCAD2004\MSCAD\BLOCKS\ICM_PTH.DWG was not found on the machine.
Block C:\MSCAD2004\MSCAD\BLOCKS\ICM_AI.DWG was not found on the machine.
Block C:\MSCAD2004\MSCAD\BLOCKS\ICM_AP.DWG was not found on the machine.
Block C:\MSCAD2004\MSCAD\BLOCKS\ICM_DIP.DWG was not found on the machine.
Block C:\MSCAD2004\MSCAD\BLOCKS\ICM_FLP.DWG was not found on the machine.
Block C:\MSCAD2004\MSCAD\BLOCKS\ICM_FSC.DWG was not found on the machine.
Block C:\MSCAD2004\MSCAD\BLOCKS\ICM_CM.DWG was not found on the machine.
Block C:\MSCAD2004\MSCAD\BLOCKS\ICM_ETH.DWG was not found on the machine.
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The AutoMap library is still looking in the original path to find the DWG symbols (although it is now looking for DWG rather than FLX files).

To correct this problem you need to edit the AutoMAP library and change the path from the old location to the new location where MSCAD2005 stores the symbols.

OK, so how do you edit the library to correct the paths?
Well you have 2 main options.

1) You can use the AutoMAP Library Editor in MSCAD2005 (which you just used to open your library). You would then have to pick on each description, one at a time, and edit that description.
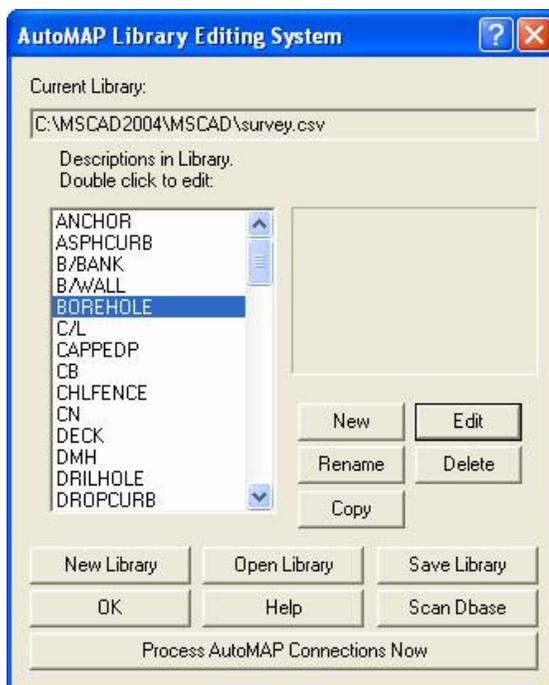
When you pick on the description and then pick on the Edit button, you will be shown another dialog where you can enter in the correct path and name of the desired symbol.
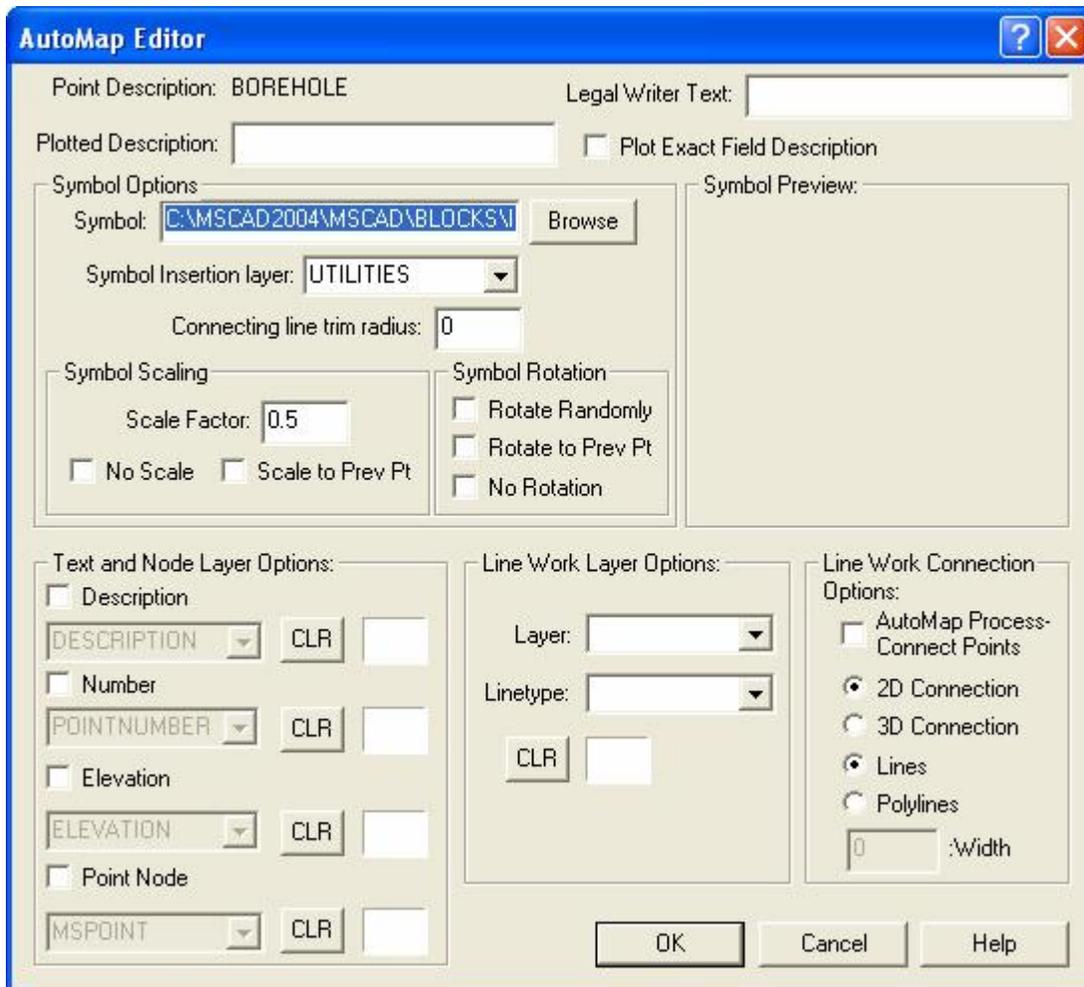
You can either type in the correct path and name or use the Browse button to go to the hard drive and find it. You would have to change the 'Look in:' Field to the correct hard drive location, then pick on the correct, desired symbol, then pick open. Then the correct path and symbol name will be placed in the symbol field for that description.
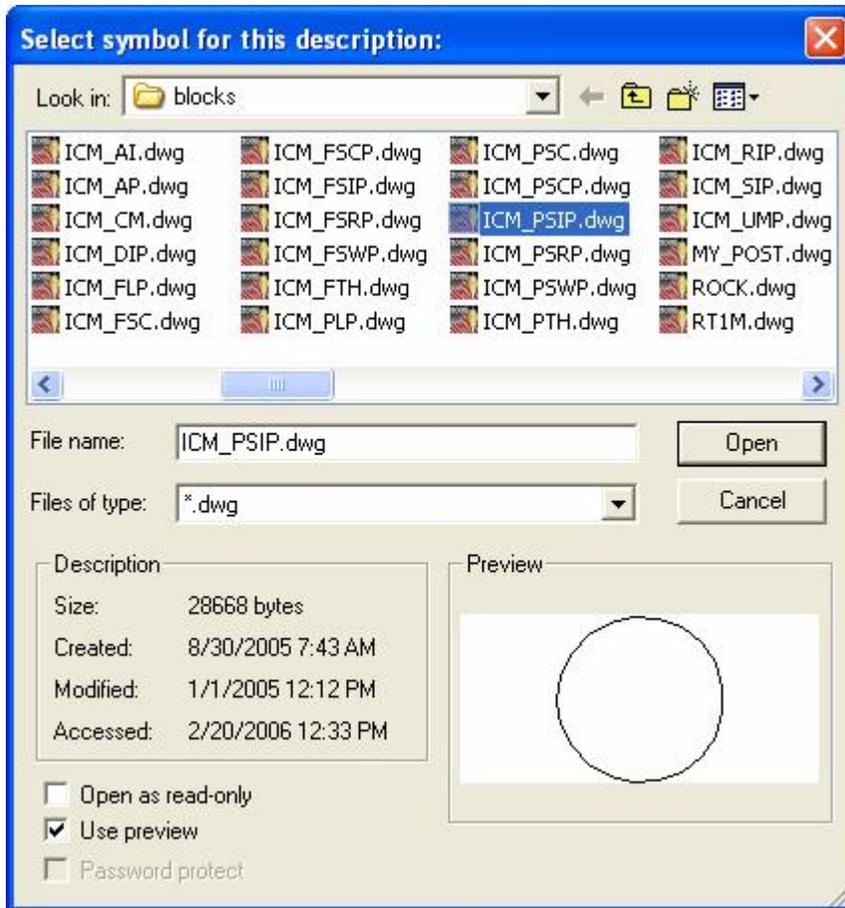
This would have to be done for each and every symbol that needs to be corrected, one at a time. If you have several hundred symbols, this could take a long time to do.

When you had them all changed, you would then save the AutoMAP library to your hard drive.

2) You can use an external editor such as Wordpad or Excel, and open the AutoMAP library file in it.

NOTE: You can do all of the edits in either program, for the path as well as replacing the FLX extension with DWG, prior to ever opening the AutoMAP library in MSCAD2005.

Wordpad) To do this – exit from MSCAD2005 and run Wordpad in Windows.

When you open your AutoMAP CSV file in Wordpad, it will look like a jumble of text to most. The file actually contains more info than you need to worry about. The very first line in the file tells you what order the fields are in and the one you are concerned about is the one for SYMBOL (which is the fourth one over).

In the following example, the symbol path and name are shown as highlighted text.

It shows the file extension already being changed to DWG but the path is still showing the MSCAD2004 location for the symbol.
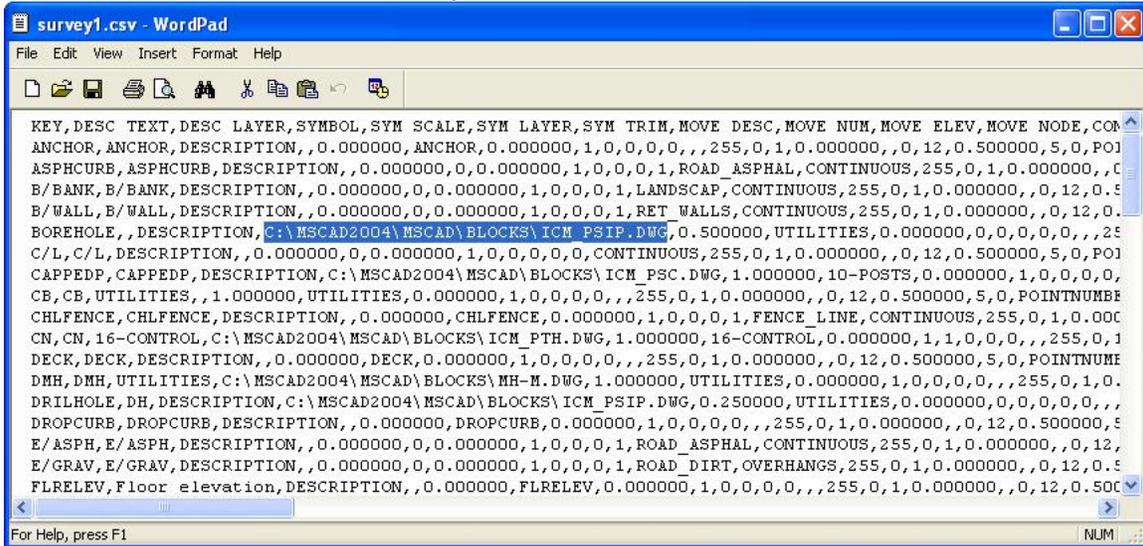
You would have to know the correct path for the MSCAD2005 DWG symbol, then we can do a simple search and replace to change them all in one step.

Using the Replace option under the Edit menu in Wordpad, we need to Find
C:\MSCAD2004\MSCAD\BLOCKS
And replace it with
C:\PROGRAM FILES\MICROSURVEY\MSCAD2005\MSCAD\BLOCKS
(or whatever is the correct path depending upon where the symbol is actually located for MSCAD2005). If you have your own custom symbols then you would have to ensure that they exist as DWG files, and set the path to the location where they are stored on your computer.
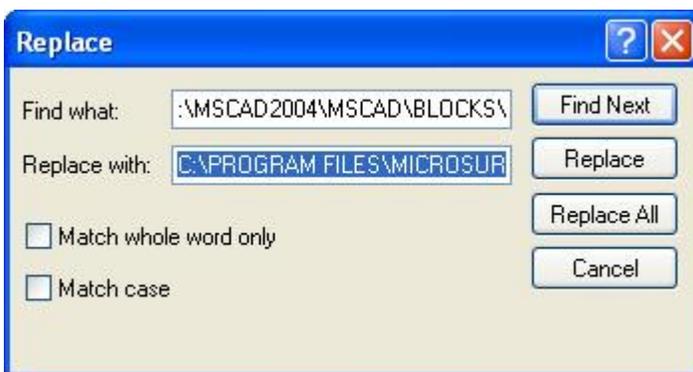
Pick on the Replace all button. This will find every symbol that matches this folder location and update it with the replace folder location.

You may need to do a few other find and replaces to correct any other unique path locations for other symbols.

Excel) To do this – exit from MSCAD2005 and run the Excel program.
Open your AutoMAP CSV file. Each field is under it's own column and the only column of data you need to worry about is column D which displays the path to the Symbols.

In the following example, the symbol path and name are shown as highlighted text both in the filed as well as on the formula line. It shows the file extension already being changed to DWG but the path is still showing the MSCAD2004 location for the symbol.

Using the Replace option under the Edit menu in Excel, we need to Find
C:\MSCAD2004\MSCAD\BLOCKS
And replace it with
C:\PROGRAM FILES\MICROSURVEY\MSCAD2005\MSCAD\BLOCKS
(or whatever is the correct path depending upon where the symbol is actually located for MSCAD2005). If you have your own custom symbols then you would have to ensure that they exist as DWG files, and set the path to the location where they are stored on your computer.
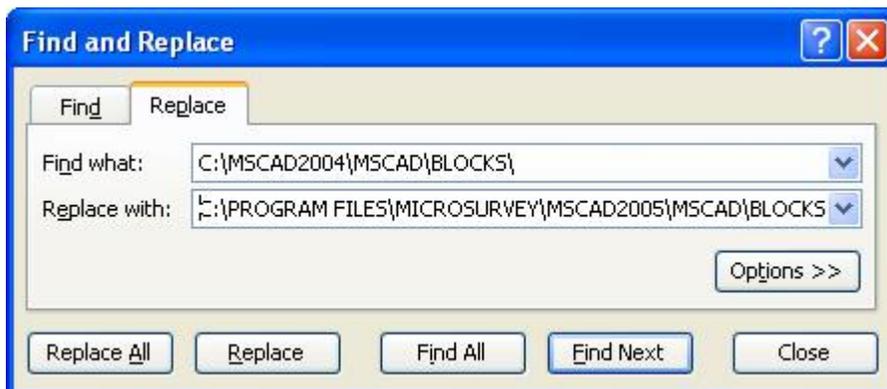
Pick on the Replace all button. This will find every symbol that matches this folder location and update it with the replace folder location.

You may need to do a few other find and replaces to correct any other unique path locations for other symbols.

The only issue you will run into when using the Excel program to do your editing is when you go to save the file and exit. You will get this warning dialog:

We do not need any of the features so we would pick on the **YES** option to save it to a standard CSV file.

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You could now open this AutoMAP library file in MSCAD2005 and all of the descriptions that you corrected, will now place the correct symbols.

Now that all of the symbols are correctly updated, you can now go back to each description via the AutoMAP Library Editor and, if desired, update the other fields to take advantage of some of the new features that AutoMAP can now do for you. Your help file in MSCAD describes these new options in detail.

Glen W. Cameron, C.E.T.
Technical Support Manager