

LECTURE THEATRE/
SECONDARY GALLERY
140 SEATS

KITCHEN

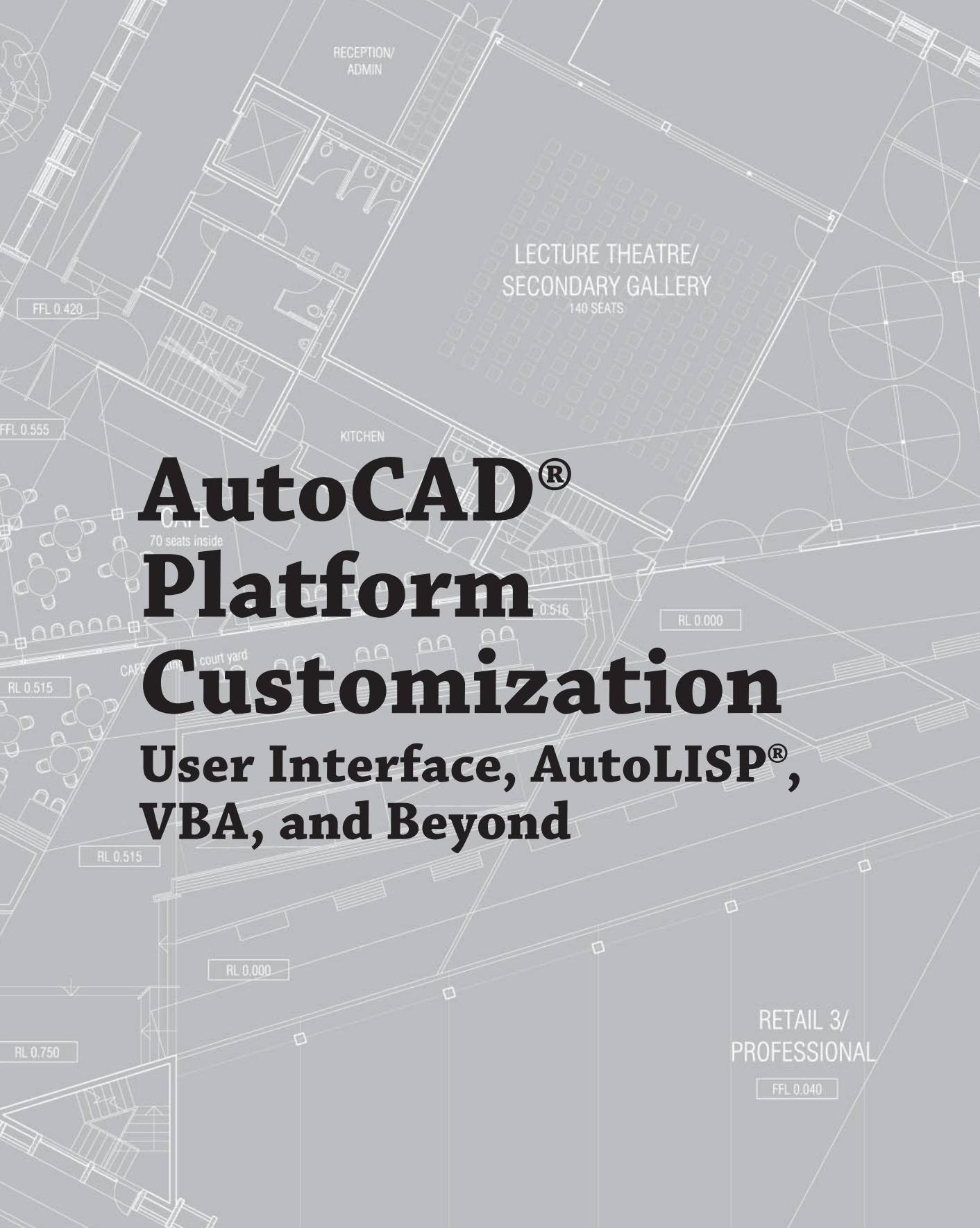
CAFE

70 seats inside

CAFE seating in court yard

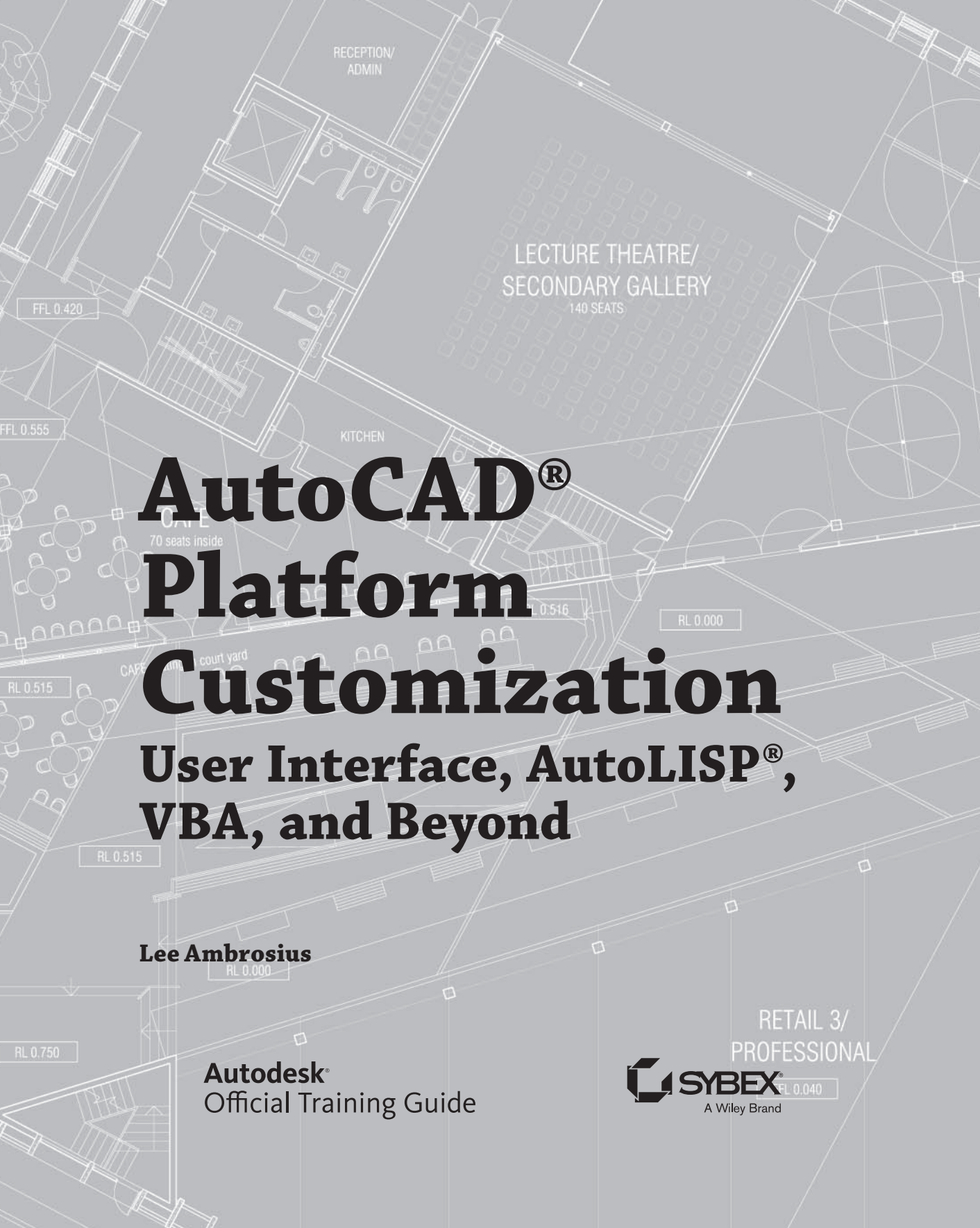
AutoCAD® Platform Customization

User Interface, AutoLISP®, VBA, and Beyond

The background is a detailed architectural floor plan of a building. It shows various rooms including a 'RECEPTION/ADMIN' area, a 'LECTURE THEATRE/SECONDARY GALLERY' with '140 SEATS', a 'KITCHEN', a 'CAFE' with '70 seats inside', and a 'court yard'. There are also several circular spaces and a 'RETAIL 3/ PROFESSIONAL' area. Elevation markers like 'FFL 0.420', 'FFL 0.555', 'RL 0.515', 'RL 0.000', and 'RL 0.750' are scattered throughout the plan. The text 'AutoCAD® Platform Customization User Interface, AutoLISP®, VBA, and Beyond' is overlaid in the center in a large, bold, black font.

AutoCAD® Platform Customization

User Interface, AutoLISP®, VBA, and Beyond



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User Interface, AutoLISP®, VBA, and Beyond

Lee Ambrosius

Autodesk®
Official Training Guide

RETAIL 3/
PROFESSIONAL
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Project Coordinator, Cover: Brent Savage
Cover Designer: Wiley
Cover Image: © Smileyjoanna/iStockphoto.com

Copyright © 2015 by John Wiley & Sons, Inc., Indianapolis, Indiana
Published simultaneously in Canada

ISBN: 978-1-118-79890-4
ISBN: 978-1-118-91741-1 (ebk.)
ISBN: 978-1-118-79891-1 (ebk.)

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Library of Congress Control Number: 2015936844

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To my wife, who is also my best friend: It is hard to imagine that I would be writing this book if it were not for you. It was you, all those years ago, who encouraged me to step outside of my comfort zone and share what I knew with others. Thank you for the push I needed and for coming along on this journey with me.

To my friend Kathy Enderby: You were one of the first people to encourage me to follow my passion for programming and sharing what I had learned with others. Thank you for believing in me all those years ago and for being there when I needed someone to bounce ideas off—especially during those late-night scrambles right before deploying a new software release.

Acknowledgments

I have to give a very special thanks to all the great folks at Sybex, especially Willem Knibbe, for working on and helping to get this project off the ground after a few years of talking about it. The next two people I would like to thank are Mary Ellen Schutz and Dassi Zeidel, the development and production editors on this book; you two made sure I stayed on track and delivered a high-quality book. I also want to thank Liz Welch (copyeditor), Candace Cunningham (proofreader), and Ted Laux (indexer) for the work you all did on this book.

Thanks to all the folks at Autodesk, who put in the long hours and are dedicated to the work they do on the Autodesk® AutoCAD® product. I cannot forget some of the most important individuals on this book, my technical editors: Rebecca Afshar, Craig Black, and Richard Lawrence. Rebecca Afshar performed the technical edit for Part I, “AutoCAD Platform Customization: User Interface and Beyond.” Rebecca has spent many years as both an instructor and user of AutoCAD; all of this experience helped to make this book even better.

Craig Black performed the technical edit for Part II, “AutoCAD Platform Customization: AutoLISP.” I have known Craig for nearly 20 years and first met him while attending an AutoLISP® session at the local Autodesk Training Center, where he was an instructor. Craig is an excellent AutoLISP programmer and was a great asset as a technical editor on this book. It is always a pleasure to collaborate with Craig and this book was no different.

Last but not least, Richard Lawrence performed the technical edit for Part III, “AutoCAD Platform Customization: VBA.” Richard is a great friend who I met many years ago at Autodesk University. He is a passionate and driven user of AutoCAD and is always looking to improve the way he uses AutoCAD.

Being a technical editor is never the easiest job, but it is one of the most important and I appreciate what you all did to make this book better.

About the Author

Lee Ambrosius first started working with AutoCAD R12 for DOS in 1994. As a drafter, he quickly discovered that every project included lots of repetition. Lee, not being one to just settle for “this is just the way things are,” set out on a path that would redefine his career. This new path would lead him into the wondrous world of customization and programming—which you might catch him referring to as “the rabbit hole.”

In 1996, Lee began learning the core concepts of customizing the AutoCAD user interface and AutoLISP. The introduction of VBA in AutoCAD R14 would once again redefine how Lee approached programming solutions for AutoCAD. VBA made it much easier to communicate with external databases and other applications that supported VBA. It transformed the way information could be moved between project management and manufacturing systems.

Not being content with VBA, in 1999 Lee attended his first Autodesk University and began to learn ObjectARX®. Autodesk University had a lasting impression on him. In 2001, he started helping as a lab assistant. He began presenting on customizing and programming AutoCAD at the event in 2004. Along the way he learned how to use the AutoCAD Managed .NET API.

In 2005, Lee decided cubicle life was no longer for him, so he ventured off into the CAD industry as an independent consultant and programmer with his own company, HyperPics, LLC. After he spent a couple of years as a consultant, Autodesk invited him to work on the AutoCAD team; he has been on the AutoCAD team since 2007. For most of his career at Autodesk, Lee has worked primarily on the customization and end-user documentation. Recently, he has been working on the AutoLISP, VBA, ObjectARX, .NET, and JavaScript programming documentation.

In addition to working on documentation, Lee has been involved as a technical editor or author for various editions of *AutoCAD and AutoCAD LT Bible*, *AutoCAD for Dummies*, *AutoCAD & AutoCAD LT All-in-One Desk Reference for Dummies*, *AutoCAD 3D Modeling Workbook for Dummies*, and *Mastering AutoCAD for Mac*. He has also written white papers on customization for Autodesk and a variety of articles on customization and programming for *AUGIWorld*, published by AUGI®.

Contents at a Glance

<i>Introduction</i>	xxxi
---------------------------	------

Part I • AutoCAD Customization: Increasing Productivity

through Personalization..... 1

Chapter 1 • Establishing the Foundation for Drawing Standards	3
Chapter 2 • Working with Nongraphical Objects	35
Chapter 3 • Building the Real World One Block at a Time.....	69
Chapter 4 • Manipulating the Drawing Environment	99
Chapter 5 • Customizing the AutoCAD User Interface for Windows	121
Chapter 6 • Customizing the AutoCAD User Interface for Mac.....	167
Chapter 7 • Creating Tools and Tool Palettes.....	183
Chapter 8 • Automating Repetitive Tasks.....	201
Chapter 9 • Defining Shapes, Linetypes, and Hatch Patterns.....	221
Chapter 10 • Using, Loading, and Managing Custom Files.....	249

Part II • AutoLISP: Productivity through Programming..... 261

Chapter 11 • Quick Start for New AutoLISP Programmers.....	263
Chapter 12 • Understanding AutoLISP	277
Chapter 13 • Calculating and Working with Values	301
Chapter 14 • Working with Lists	333
Chapter 15 • Requesting Input and Using Conditional and Looping Expressions	359
Chapter 16 • Creating and Modifying Graphical Objects	405

Chapter 17 • Creating and Modifying Nongraphical Objects 461

Chapter 18 • Working with the Operating System and External Files 489

Chapter 19 • Catching and Handling Errors 513

Chapter 20 • Authoring, Managing, and Loading AutoLISP Programs 533

Chapter 21 • Using the Visual LISP Editor (Windows only) 567

Chapter 22 • Working with ActiveX/COM Libraries (Windows only) 587

Chapter 23 • Implementing Dialog Boxes (Windows only) 611

**Part III • AutoCAD VBA: Programming with VBA
and ActiveX (Windows only) 643**

Chapter 24 • Understanding the AutoCAD VBA Environment 645

Chapter 25 • Understanding Visual Basic for Applications 665

Chapter 26 • Interacting with the Application and Documents Objects 701

Chapter 27 • Creating and Modifying Drawing Objects 727

Chapter 28 • Interacting with the User and Controlling the Current View 757

Chapter 29 • Annotating Objects 795

Chapter 30 • Working with Blocks and External References 819

Chapter 31 • Outputting Drawings 865

Chapter 32 • Storing and Retrieving Custom Data 891

Chapter 33 • Modifying the Application and Working with Events 923

Chapter 34 • Creating and Displaying User Forms 953

Chapter 35 • Communicating with Other Applications 983

Chapter 36 • Handling Errors and Deploying VBA Projects 1019

Index 1053

Contents

Introductionxxxi

Part I • AutoCAD Customization: Increasing Productivity through Personalization . . . 1

Chapter 1 • Establishing the Foundation for Drawing Standards3

Naming Standards for Projects and Files. 3
 Project Names 4
 Filenames 5
Managing Standards with Drawing Templates 6
 What Is a Drawing Template? 6
 Units of Measurement and Format 7
 Graphical and Named Objects 9
 Organize Output with Layouts 10
 Working with System Variables 11
Choosing a File Format for Your Drawings 14
Defining Plotter Configurations and Plot Styles. 15
 Configuring Output Devices 16
 Using and Creating Plot Styles 18
 Managing Plotter Configuration and Plot Style Files 21
Enforcing CAD Standards 22
 Drawing Standards (DWS) Files (Windows Only) 23
 Configuring, Checking, and Fixing Drawing Standards (Windows Only) 24
 Translating Layers (Windows Only) 31

Chapter 2 • Working with Nongraphical Objects35

Standardizing the Names of Nongraphical Objects. 35
 Layer Names 36
 Other Object Names 37
 Renaming Nongraphical Objects 37
Managing Object Properties with Layers 38
 Setting the Default Properties for New Objects. 39
 Creating and Managing Layers 40
 Significance of Colors 44
 Defining Appearance with Linetypes, Lineweights, and Transparency. 45
 Controlling Output with Plot Styles 48
 Accessing Layer Settings 48
 Grouping and Filtering Layers 52
 Creating and Using Layer States 54

Creating and Managing Annotation Styles	55
Text Heights	55
Text Styles	56
Dimension Styles	59
Table Styles	61
Multileader Styles	62
Annotative Styles and Annotation Scaling	63
Defining and Managing Other Nongraphical Objects	65
Removing Unused Nongraphical Objects	67

Chapter 3 • Building the Real World One Block at a Time69

Defining and Editing a Block Definition	69
Defining a Block Definition	69
Editing a Block Definition	73
Using the Block Editor	74
Using and Managing Block Definitions	78
Inserting or Replacing a Block Reference	78
Renaming and Purging Unused Block Definitions	80
Importing or Exporting a Block Definition	81
Embedding Information in a Block Definition	
with Attributes	81
Adding an Attribute Definition	81
Inserting a Block Definition with Attributes	85
Editing Attribute Values and Properties in a Block Reference	85
Redefining Block Definitions with Attribute Definitions	86
Using Fields with Attributes	86
Adding Dynamic Properties to a Block Definition	87
Using Parameters to Modify Geometry in a Block Definition	
(Windows Only)	88
Associating an Action with a Parameter (Windows Only)	89
Creating a Lookup Table (Windows Only)	91
Defining Visibility States (Windows Only)	92
Inserting and Modifying Dynamic Blocks	94
Extracting Properties and Values from a Block Reference	95

Chapter 4 • Manipulating the Drawing Environment99

Getting Started with Drawing-Environment Customization	99
Customizing the AutoCAD Startup Process	100
Specifying Application Preferences	104
Customizing the Elements in the Drawing Window	107
Configuring Command and Dynamic Input	109
Command Input Search Options	109
Command Input History	110
Dynamic Input	111
Creating and Modifying Command Aliases	113

Defining Command Aliases	113
Defining External Commands (Windows Only)	115
Adding Synonym and AutoCorrect Entries (Windows Only)	116
Working with System and Environment Variables	117
Listing and Editing System Variables	118
Listing and Editing Environment Variables	119

Chapter 5 • Customizing the AutoCAD User Interface

for Windows	121
Getting Started with the CUI Editor	121
Creating Commands and Defining Command Macros	123
Understanding the Basics of a Command Macro	123
Creating and Modifying Commands	128
Creating and Assigning an Image to a Command	130
Customizing User-Interface Elements	133
Quick Access Toolbar	133
Ribbon	137
Pull-Down Menus	145
Shortcut Menus	147
Toolbars	150
Shortcut and Temporary Override Keys	152
Double-Click Actions	154
Other Elements	156
Setting Up Rollover Tooltips and the Quick Properties Palette	157
Organizing the User Interface with Workspaces	159
Working with Customization Files	162
Creating CUIx Files	162
Loading CUIx Files	163
Transferring User-Interface Elements between CUIx Files	164
Loading AutoLISP Files	164
Controlling the Tools on the Status Bars	164

Chapter 6 • Customizing the AutoCAD User Interface

for Mac	167
Getting Started with the Customize Dialog Box	167
Creating Commands and Defining Command Macros	168
Understanding the Basics of a Command Macro	168
Creating and Modifying Commands	173
Assigning an Image to a Command	174
Customizing User-Interface Elements	175
Pull-Down Menus	176
Toolsets	178
Controlling the Tools on the Status Bar	181

Chapter 7 • Creating Tools and Tool Palettes.	183
What Is a Tool Palette?	183
Using the Tool Palettes Window	184
Defining Tool Palettes	186
Creating a Tool Palette	186
Modifying Tool Palettes	187
Adding and Modifying Tools	188
Creating a Tool	189
Using a Tool	196
Modifying Tools	197
Adding Text Labels or Separators	198
Organizing Tool Palettes with Tool-Palette Groups	198
Sharing Tool Palettes and Tool-Palette Groups	200
 Chapter 8 • Automating Repetitive Tasks	 201
Creating and Running Scripts	201
What Is a Script?	202
Creating a Script	206
Running a Script	208
Recording Action Macros (Windows Only)	209
What Is an Action?	209
Using the Action Recorder	210
Recording Actions for Playback	211
Modifying Action Macros	215
Managing Action Macros	217
Sharing and Specifying Paths for Action Macros	218
 Chapter 9 • Defining Shapes, Linetypes, and Hatch Patterns	 221
Creating and Compiling Shapes	221
Structure of a Shape	221
Defining a Shape	228
Compiling a Shape	229
Loading and Inserting a Shape	229
Defining a Font	230
Creating and Using Custom Linetypes	231
Structure of a Linetype	232
Defining a Custom Linetype	235
Loading a Custom Linetype	237
Controlling the Display of Linetypes	238
Creating and Applying Custom Hatch Patterns	239
Structure of a Hatch Pattern	240
Defining a Custom Hatch Pattern	243
Using a Custom Hatch Pattern	245

Chapter 10 • Using, Loading, and Managing Custom Files	249
Deploying Your Custom Files	249
Organizing Your Customized Files	250
Where to Place Customized Files	250
Maintaining Files Offline	251
Customizing the Folders Used by AutoCAD	252
Using and Loading Custom Programs	254
What Are Custom Programs?	254
Loading a Custom Program	256
Locating Custom Programs on the Internet	258
Backing Up and Migrating Customization	259
 Part II • AutoLISP: Productivity through Programming.	261
 Chapter 11 • Quick Start for New AutoLISP Programmers	263
Working with AutoLISP Expressions	263
Working with Commands and Input	265
Conditionalizing and Repeating Expressions	267
Grouping Expressions	269
Storing and Loading AutoLISP Expressions	271
 Chapter 12 • Understanding AutoLISP	277
Getting Started with AutoLISP	277
Understanding the Syntax of an Expression	278
Executing Expressions	280
Accessing the AutoLISP Documentation	281
Storing and Retrieving Values	281
Setting and Using Variables	283
Working with System Variables	287
Accessing Environment Variables	288
Exploring Data Types	290
Leveraging AutoCAD and Third-Party Commands	292
Using the <i>command</i> Function	293
Using the <i>command-s</i> Function	294
Working with Commands That Display a Dialog Box	295
Defining and Using Custom Functions	295
Defining a Custom Function	296
Using a Custom Function	297
Example: Drawing a Rectangle	298
 Chapter 13 • Calculating and Working with Values	301
Calculating Values with Math Functions	301
Performing Basic Math Calculations	301
Performing Advanced Math Calculations	305
Working with Bitwise Operations	306

Manipulating Strings	310
Concatenating Strings	311
Getting the Length of and Searching for Strings	311
Replacing and Trimming Strings	313
Changing the Case of a String	317
Evaluating Values to Strings	318
Converting Data Types	319
Converting Numeric Values to Strings	319
Converting Strings to Numeric Values	320
Converting Numeric Values to Other Number Types	322
Returning a Value from a Custom Function	323
Exercise: Drawing a Rectangle (Revisited)	325
Creating the <i>drawplate.lsp</i> File	326
Revising the <i>drawplate</i> Function	327
Adding the Revised <i>drawplate</i> Function to <i>drawplate.lsp</i>	328
Creating the <i>utility.lsp</i> File	329
Loading the LSP Files into AutoCAD	330
 Chapter 14 • Working with Lists	333
What Are Lists?	333
Creating a List	335
Getting an Element from a List	336
Retrieving a Specific Element	337
Stepping Through a List	340
Appending, Substituting, and Removing Elements	341
Appending Elements	341
Substituting Elements	343
Removing Elements	343
Determining Whether an Item Exists in a List	344
Sorting the Elements of a List	346
Using Point Lists to Calculate Geometric Values	346
Measuring Angular and Distance Values	347
Calculating Points	348
Finding and Snapping to Points	348
Translating Points	350
Converting Measurement Units	350
Accessing the AutoCAD Calculator	351
Converting Lists to Strings and Strings to Lists	352
Exercise: Adding Holes to the Plate	352
Defining the New <i>Get-Sysvars</i> and <i>Set-Sysvars</i> Utility Functions	353
Defining the New <i>createcircle</i> Utility Function	355
Revising the <i>drawplate</i> Function	356
Using the Revised <i>drawplate</i> Function	357

Chapter 15 • Requesting Input and Using Conditional and Looping Expressions	359
Interacting with the User	359
Requesting Input at the Command Prompt	360
Providing Feedback to the User	375
Working with the Graphics Windows	380
Conditionalizing and Branching Expressions	382
Comparing Values	382
Grouping Comparisons	388
Validating Values	388
Evaluating if a Condition Is Met	389
Testing Multiple Conditions	391
Repeating and Looping Expressions	393
Repeating Expressions a Set Number of Times	394
Performing a Task While a Condition Is Met	395
Exercise: Getting Input from the User to Draw the Plate	399
Revising the <i>drawplate</i> Function	399
Using the Revised <i>drawplate</i> Function	402
 Chapter 16 • Creating and Modifying Graphical Objects	 405
Working with Entity Names and Dotted Pairs	405
Creating a Dotted Pair	407
Accessing the Elements of an Entity Data List and Dotted Pair	408
Adding Objects to a Drawing	409
Selecting Objects	414
Selecting an Individual Object	414
Working with Selection Sets	416
Filtering Selected Objects	422
Modifying Objects	423
Listing and Changing the Properties of an Object Directly	424
Updating an Object's Properties with an Entity Data List	430
Deleting an Object	433
Highlighting Objects	434
Working with Complex Objects	435
Creating and Modifying Polylines	435
Creating and Modifying with Block References	438
Extending an Object's Information	442
Working with XData	442
Defining and Registering an Application Name	443
Attaching XData to an Object	443
Querying and Modifying the XData Attached to an Object	446
Removing XData from an Object	448
Selecting Objects Based on XData	448
Exercise: Creating, Querying, and Modifying Objects	449
Revising the Functions in <i>utility.lsp</i>	449
Testing the Changes to the <i>drawplate</i> Function	450

Defining the New <i>Get-DXF-Value</i> and <i>Set-DXF-Value</i> Utility Functions	451
Moving Objects to Correct Layers	452
Creating a Basic Block Attribute Extraction Program.	454
Using the Functions in the <i>furntools.lsp</i> File	458

Chapter 17 • Creating and Modifying Nongraphical Objects. 461

Working with Symbol Tables	461
Accessing and Stepping through Symbol Tables.	462
Adding and Modifying Entries in a Symbol Table	464
Creating and Modifying Block Definitions	470
Working with Dictionaries	472
Accessing and Stepping through Dictionaries.	472
Creating a Custom Dictionary	475
Storing Information in a Custom Dictionary	477
Managing Custom Dictionaries and Entries	477
Exercise: Creating and Incrementing Room Labels	478
Revising the <i>createlayer</i> Function in <i>utility.lsp</i>	479
Creating the Room Label Block Definition.	479
Inserting a Block Reference Based on the Room Label	
Block Definition	481
Prompting the User for an Insertion Point and Room Number	484
Adding Room Labels to a Drawing	486

Chapter 18 • Working with the Operating System and External Files 489

Storing Information in the Windows Registry or a Plist File	489
Creating and Querying Entries	490
Editing and Removing Entries	492
Accessing Data from External Files.	493
Opening and Creating an External File	493
Reading Characters and Lines from a File	496
Writing Characters and Lines from a File.	497
Closing an Open File	498
Working with Directories and Files in the Operating System	499
Locating and Listing Files and Directories	499
Managing Files and Directories	505
Getting Information about a File	506
Exercise: Reading and Writing Data	506
Creating Layers Based on Data Stored in an External File	507
Adding Layers to a Drawing with the <i>loadlayers</i> Function	509
Writing the Bill of Materials to an External File	510
Using the <i>furnbomexport</i> Function	511

Chapter 19 • Catching and Handling Errors	513
Identifying and Tracking Down Errors	513
Putting Your Code Under the Microscope	514
Displaying Messages During Execution	516
Tracing Functions	521
Catching Errors in a Program	522
Defining and Using a Custom Error Handler	524
Grouping Functions into a Single Undo Action	525
Exercise: Handling Errors in the <i>drawplate</i> Function	528
Using the <i>drawplate</i> Function	529
Implementing a Custom *error* Handler and Undo Grouping	530
Testing the Changes to the <i>drawplate</i> Function	531
 Chapter 20 • Authoring, Managing, and Loading	
AutoLISP Programs	533
Storing AutoLISP Expressions	533
Selecting an Editing Environment	534
Creating an AutoLISP File	534
Editing an AutoLISP File	536
Writing Modular Code	537
Adding Comments	538
Undefined and Redefining Standard AutoCAD Commands	541
Defining a Startup Function	542
Loading AutoLISP Files	543
Manually Loading an AutoLISP File	543
Automatically Loading an AutoLISP File	544
Using the Load/Unload Applications Dialog Box to Load a LSP File	546
Managing the Locations of AutoLISP Files	549
Specifying Support File Search Paths	549
Identifying Trusted Locations	551
Deploying AutoLISP Files	553
Deployment Methods (Local vs. External)	554
Defining a Plug-in Bundle	556
Implementing Help for Custom Functions	558
Exercise: Deploying the <i>drawplate</i> Function	560
Loading the <i>utility.lsp</i> File by Reference	560
Loading the <i>drawplate.lsp</i> File on Demand	561
Enabling Help Support for the <i>drawplate</i> Function	561
Configuring the AutoCAD Support and Trusted Paths	562
Testing the Deployment of the <i>drawplate</i> Function	563
Creating <i>DrawPlate.bundle</i>	564
Deploying and Testing the <i>DrawPlate.bundle</i>	565

Chapter 21 • Using the Visual LISP Editor (Windows only)	567
Accessing the Visual LISP Editor.	567
Managing AutoLISP Files with the Visual LISP Editor	568
Formatting an AutoLISP File	569
Coloring Syntax.	570
Formatting Code	571
Commenting Code	572
Validating and Debugging Code.	572
Executing Code from the Visual LISP Editor	572
Checking and Loading Code in the Current Editor Window	573
Debugging Code	575
Creating a Visual LISP Project	577
Compiling LSP and PRJ Files into a VLX File	579
Exercise: Working with the Visual LISP Editor.	580
Formatting, Checking, and Debugging the <i>badcode</i> Function.	580
Stepping Through and Inspecting the <i>badcode</i> Function	582
Creating and Compiling a Project	585
 Chapter 22 • Working with ActiveX/COM Libraries (Windows only)	 587
Understanding the Basics of ActiveX	587
Accessing Classes, Objects, and Collections	588
Specifying Properties and Invoking Methods.	591
Working with Variants and Arrays	594
Importing COM Libraries.	598
Using the AutoCAD COM Library	599
Accessing the AutoCAD Application and Current Drawing Objects	600
Working with Graphical and Nongraphical Objects in the Current Drawing	601
Monitoring Events with Reactors.	604
Leveraging the Windows and Microsoft Office COM Libraries.	606
Accessing the Windows Shell Object.	607
Working with Microsoft Office.	609
 Chapter 23 • Implementing Dialog Boxes (Windows only)	 611
What Is Dialog Control Language?	611
Defining and Laying Out a Dialog Box	613
Defining a Dialog	613
Adding Tiles	614
Grouping, Aligning, and Laying Out Tiles	618
Creating and Previewing a Dialog in a DCL File	622
Loading and Displaying a Dialog Box	624
Loading and Unloading a DCL File.	624
Displaying a Dialog	625
Initializing Tiles	627

Interacting with and Responding to a User	631
Specifying the Action of a Tile	631
Getting Information about a Tile	632
Terminating or Closing a Dialog Box	633
Hiding a Dialog Box Temporarily	634
Exercise: Implementing a Dialog Box for the <i>drawplate</i> Function.	635
Creating the <i>drawplate</i> Dialog Box	636
Renaming the Existing <i>drawplate</i> Function.	638
Defining a New <i>drawplate</i> Function	638
Testing the <i>drawplate.lsp</i> Changes.	641

Part III • AutoCAD VBA: Programming with VBA and ActiveX (Windows only) 643

Chapter 24 • Understanding the AutoCAD VBA Environment 645

What Makes Up an AutoCAD VBA Project?	645
What You'll Need to Start	647
Determine If the AutoCAD VBA Environment Is Installed	647
Install the AutoCAD 2015 VBA Enabler	648
Getting Started with the VBA Editor	648
Identifying the Components of a VBA Project.	649
Navigating the VBA Editor Interface.	651
Setting the VBA Environment Options.	655
Managing VBA Programs	655
Creating a New VBA Project.	656
Saving a VBA Project	657
Loading and Unloading a VBA Project.	657
Embedding or Extracting a VBA Project.	659
Executing VBA Macros	660
Accessing the AutoCAD VBA Documentation	663

Chapter 25 • Understanding Visual Basic for Applications 665

Learning the Fundamentals of the VBA Language	665
Creating a Procedure	666
Declaring and Using Variables.	668
Controlling the Scope of a Procedure or Variable	670
Continuing Long Statements	671
Adding Comments	672
Understanding the Differences Between VBA 32- and 64-Bit	673
Exploring Data Types	674
Working with Objects	676
Accessing Objects in a Collection.	678
Storing Data in Arrays	679
Calculating Values with Math Functions and Operators.	682
Manipulating Strings.	683
Converting Between Data Types	686

Comparing Values	688
Testing Values for Equality	688
Comparing String Values	689
Determining If a Value Is Greater or Less Than Another	690
Checking for Null, Empty, or Nothing Values	691
Validating Values	692
Grouping Comparisons	692
Conditionalizing and Branching Statements	693
Evaluating If a Condition Is Met	693
Testing Multiple Conditions	695
Repeating and Looping Expressions	696
Repeating Expressions a Set Number of Times	696
Stepping Through an Array or Collection	697
Performing a Task While or Until a Condition Is Met	698

Chapter 26 • Interacting with the Application and

Documents Objects 701

Working with the Application	701
Getting Information about the Current AutoCAD Session	702
Manipulating the Placement of the Application Window	703
Managing Documents	704
Working with the Current Drawing	705
Creating and Opening Drawings	705
Saving and Closing Drawings	707
Accessing Information about a Drawing	710
Manipulating a Drawing Window	711
Working with System Variables	712
Querying and Setting Application and	
Document Preferences	714
Executing Commands	715
Exercise: Setting Up a Project	716
Creating the <i>DrawingSetup</i> Project	717
Creating and Saving a New Drawing from Scratch	718
Inserting a Title Block with the <i>insert</i> Command	720
Adding Drawing Properties	722
Setting the Values of Drafting-Related System Variables	
and Preferences	724

Chapter 27 • Creating and Modifying Drawing Objects 727

Understanding the Basics of a Drawing-Based Object	727
Accessing Objects in a Drawing	732
Working with Model or Paper Space	733
Creating Graphical Objects	735
Adding Straight Line Segments	735
Working with Curved Objects	736
Working with Polylines	740

Getting an Object in the Drawing	743
Modifying Objects	745
Deleting Objects	746
Copying and Moving Objects	746
Rotating Objects	747
Changing Object Properties	748
Exercise: Creating, Querying, and Modifying Objects	749
Creating the <i>DrawPlate</i> Project	749
Creating the Utilities Class	750
Defining the <i>CLI_DrawPlate</i> Function	752
Running the <i>CLI_DrawPlate</i> Function	754
Exporting the Utilities Class	755

Chapter 28 • Interacting with the User and Controlling

the Current View757

Interacting with the User	757
Requesting Input at the Command Prompt	758
Providing Feedback to the User	769
Selecting Objects	771
Selecting an Individual Object	771
Working with Selection Sets	773
Filtering Objects	776
Performing Geometric Calculations	778
Calculating a Coordinate Value	778
Measuring the Distance Between Two Points	779
Calculating an Angle	780
Changing the Current View	781
Zooming and Panning the Current View	781
Working with Model Space Viewports	783
Creating and Managing Named Views	786
Applying Visual Styles	787
Exercise: Getting Input from the User to Draw the Plate	787
Revising the <i>CLI_DrawPlate</i> Function	788
Revising the <i>Utilities</i> Class	791
Using the Revised <i>drawplate</i> Function	793

Chapter 29 • Annotating Objects..... 795

Working with Text	795
Creating and Modifying Text	795
Formatting a Text String	797
Controlling Text with Text Styles	800
Dimensioning Objects	802
Creating Dimensions	802
Formatting Dimensions with Styles	804
Assigning a Dimension Style	806

Creating and Modifying Geometric Tolerances	807
Adding Leaders	808
Working with Multileaders	808
Creating and Modifying Legacy Leaders	811
Organizing Data with Tables	812
Inserting and Modifying a Table	812
Formatting Tables	813
Assigning a Table Style	814
Creating Fields	814
Exercise: Adding a Label to the Plate	815
Revising the <i>CLI_DrawPlate</i> Function	815
Revising the <i>Utilities</i> Class	817
Using the Revised <i>drawplate</i> Function	817

Chapter 30 • Working with Blocks and External References 819

Managing Block Definitions	819
Creating a Block Definition	820
Adding Attribute Definitions	822
Modifying and Redefining a Block Definition	825
Determining the Type of Block Definition	826
Inserting and Working with Block References	827
Inserting a Block Reference	827
Modifying a Block Reference	828
Accessing the Attributes of a Block	831
Working with Dynamic Properties	833
Managing External References	836
Working with Xrefs	836
Attaching and Modifying Raster Images	841
Working with Underlays	843
Listing File Dependencies	845
Exercise: Creating and Querying Blocks	846
Creating the <i>RoomLabel</i> Project	847
Creating the <i>RoomLabel</i> Block Definition	847
Inserting a Block Reference Based on the <i>RoomLabel</i> Block Definition	849
Prompting the User for an Insertion Point and a Room Number	850
Adding Room Labels to a Drawing	852
Creating the <i>FurnTools</i> Project	853
Moving Objects to Correct Layers	854
Creating a Basic Block Attribute Extraction Program	856
Using the Procedures of the <i>FurnTools</i> Project	863

Chapter 31 • Outputting Drawings 865

Creating and Managing Layouts	865
Creating a Layout	866
Working with a Layout	866
Controlling the Display of Layout Tabs	867

Displaying Model Space Objects with Viewports	867
Adding a Floating Viewport	868
Setting a Viewport as Current	869
Modifying a Floating Viewport	869
Controlling the Output of a Layout	872
Creating and Managing Named Page Setups	873
Specifying an Output Device and a Paper Size	873
Setting a Plot Style as Current	876
Defining the Area to Output	878
Changing Other Related Output Settings	879
Plotting and Previewing a Layout	879
Exporting and Importing File Formats	881
Exercise: Adding a Layout to Create a Check Plot	882
Creating the Layout	883
Adding and Modifying a Plot Configuration	884
Inserting a Title Block	885
Displaying Model Space Objects with a Viewport	886
Putting It All Together	886
Testing the CheckPlot Procedure	890
 Chapter 32 • Storing and Retrieving Custom Data	891
Extending Object Information	891
Working with Xdata	892
Defining and Registering an Application Name	893
Attaching Xdata to an Object	893
Querying and Modifying the Xdata Attached to an Object	896
Removing Xdata from an Object	902
Selecting Objects Based on Xdata	902
Creating and Modifying a Custom Dictionary	903
Accessing and Stepping through Dictionaries	904
Creating a Custom Dictionary	906
Storing Information in a Custom Dictionary	907
Managing Custom Dictionaries and Entries	908
Storing Information in the Windows Registry	909
Creating and Querying Keys and Values	909
Editing and Removing Keys and Values	911
Exercise: Storing Custom Values for the Room Labels Program	912
Attaching Xdata to the Room Label Block after Insertion	913
Revising the Main <i>RoomLabel</i> Procedure to Use the Windows Registry	913
Testing the Changes to the <i>RoomLabel</i> Procedure	916
Persisting Values for the Room Label Procedure with a Custom Dictionary	917
Retesting the <i>RoomLabel</i> Procedure	919
Selecting Room Label Blocks	920

Chapter 33 • Modifying the Application and Working with Events	923
Manipulating the AutoCAD User Interface	923
Managing Menu Groups and Loading Customization Files	924
Working with the Pull-Down Menus and Toolbars	925
Controlling the Display of Other User-Interface Elements	937
Using External Custom Programs	938
Working with Events	939
Exercise: Extending the User Interface and Using Events	944
Loading the <i>acp.cuix</i> File	945
Specifying the Location of DVB Files	946
Adding the Document Events	947
Implementing an Application Event	948
Defining the <i>AcadStartup</i> Procedure	949
Testing the <i>AcadStartup</i> Procedure	950
Testing the Application and Document Events	951
 Chapter 34 • Creating and Displaying User Forms	 953
Adding and Designing a User Form	953
Adding a User Form to a VBA Project	953
Considering the Design of a User Form	954
Placing and Arranging Controls on a User Form	956
Placing a Control on a User Form	956
Deciding Which Control to Use	957
Grouping Related Controls	960
Managing Controls on a User Form	961
Changing the Appearance of a User Form or Control	963
Defining the Behavior of a User Form or Control	965
Displaying and Loading a User Form	968
Showing and Hiding a User Form	968
Loading and Unloading a User Form	969
Exercise: Implementing a User Form for the <i>DrawPlate</i> Project	970
Adding the User Form	970
Adding Controls to the User Form	971
Displaying a User Form	974
Implementing Events for a User Form and Controls	975
Testing the User Form and Controls	980
 Chapter 35 • Communicating with Other Applications	 983
Referencing a Programming Library	983
Creating and Getting an Instance of an Object	984
Creating a New Instance of an Object	985
Getting an In-Memory Instance of an Object	988
Accessing a Drawing File from outside of AutoCAD	990
Working with Microsoft Windows	991