



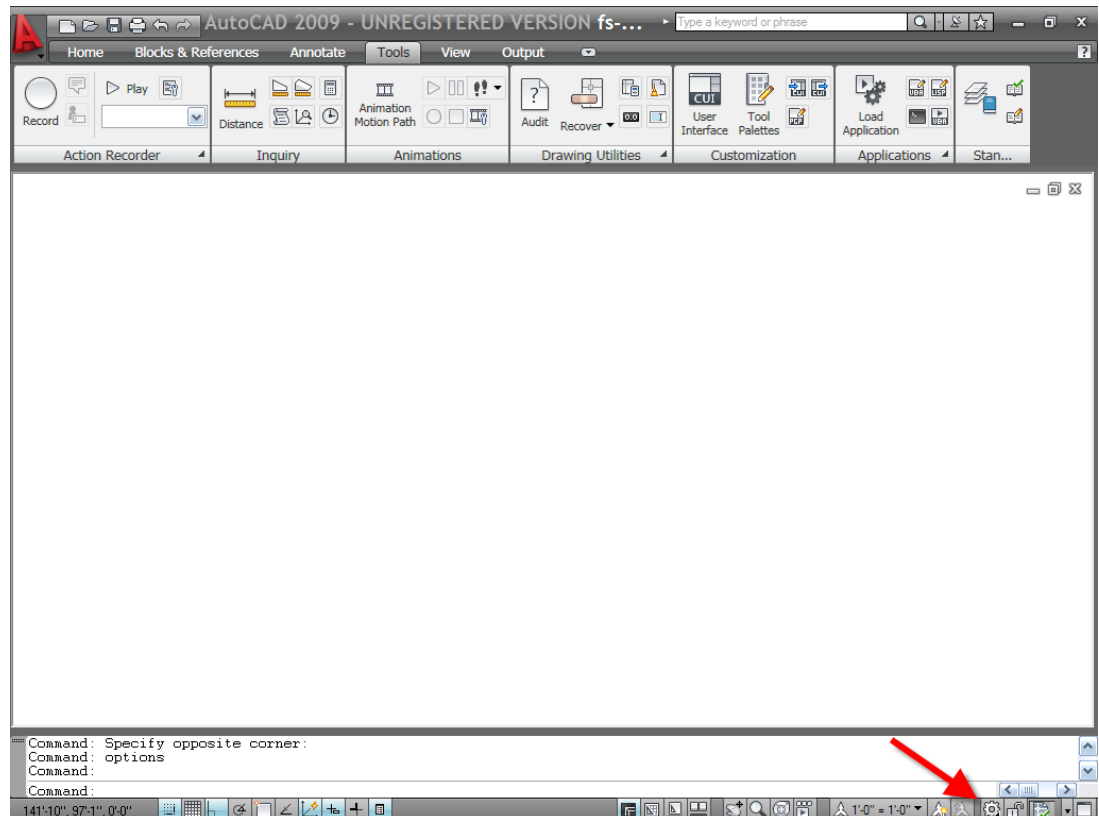
AutoMATE Technical Bulletin

Issue:

AutoCAD 2009 introduces a completely new User Interface based on the 'ribbon' concept in Microsoft Office 2007. It replaces traditional icon-based toolbars with the ribbon and eliminates the dropdown menu - actually, it is relocated, but finding it is a challenge. For many, the new User Interface is both confusing and slow and they want to return to the classic AutoCAD menu. While you can't restore all of the look and feel of the classic menu, you can restore much of it.

Solution:

Load plain AutoCAD and locate an icon on the new Status Bar that looks like a gear. This icon controls the AutoCAD workspace. Click on the icon and a list of default work spaces will appear. Pick AutoCAD classic and the dropdown menus will appear in their traditional location and the ribbon will be removed from the screen.



You'll probably also want to change the drawing area from white to black. Type *config* on the command line and press enter to bring up the AutoCAD options dialog box. Don't be tempted to choose Color Scheme and set it to Dark, because that just changes the appearance of various user interface elements. Instead, pick the Colors button. On the left, choose a context you want to change (e.g. 2D model space), choose the appropriate background element (e.g. Uniform background) and choose Black or any particular shade that takes your fancy. There is a Restore Classic Colors button, but that only takes you back to AutoCAD 2008. When you're done, pick Apply & Close, then OK.