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# THE PEDALER'S PAGE

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*A Quarterly Newsletter for Epilog & Xenotech Owners brought to you by Brewer Sales  
Volume VIII, Number 3* *Editor: Jeanette Brewer-Richardson*

## **Quick Tips & News**

### **MultiMat**

Most of our mechanical / computerized engraver customers are sold on the *MultiMat* (hold-down) product for items that can't be clamped.

Many of our laser customers have recently started using the same product to hold down items (especially really thin items that tend to get "sucked" out by the exhaust!) in the laser. You might consider giving it a shot! 12x12 size is \$85.

### **Online Articles**

Among others, *Engravers Journal* has made dad's popular series of articles (actually, it was one of his seminars that was transcribed into a printed series), *Is That All Ya Got?* (showroom display), available online. See [www.engraversjournal.com](http://www.engraversjournal.com), then click on EJ Online Articles.

### **TECH SUPPORT INFO**

Epilog Tech Support (303)215-9171 (press 1 for the first available technician) OR email [tech@epiloglaser.com](mailto:tech@epiloglaser.com)  
[www.epiloglaser.com/service.htm](http://www.epiloglaser.com/service.htm)  
Xenotech Tech Support (225)752-0225 (press 2) or email [tech@xenotech.com](mailto:tech@xenotech.com)

## **CorelDRAW 12 Review**

Version 12 finally fixed two important HPGL bugs:

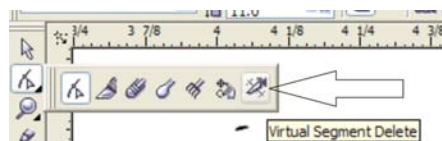
- 1) Simulated fill now works.
- 2) HPGL import/export scaling issues mostly eliminated.

Smart tools: figures out certain shapes you are "trying" to draw. Dynamic guide lines, fantastic new snap options make aligning extremely easy/powerful.

Very stable.

Very slow to load.

No support for MACs or 16 bit Windows (it will run *only* in XP, NT, 2000). While this will be a problem for some, this is the reason it is so stable; 12 is *true* 32bit software.



New Tool: Virtual Segment Delete tool (rightmost in Shape Tool flyout; see figure above): allows you to easily remove a portion of a curve – *extremely* useful for our

industry.

Export to Office is one of the things that the Corel experts (like Foster Coburn, Pradhan Balter, Rick Altman) have been requesting for years. Honestly, this is of very little interest to me. These experts say that this will allow an entirely new marketing program which should allow Corel into corporate America and, hence, stabilize its recent financial difficulties – which should be good for all of us.

Printed books are almost non-existent, but a great tutorial CD is included. Clipart continues to degrade (really seems to be the same as 11, so it is no worse ... we got nothing new). Keep your old Corel clipart CDs.

**Must buy?** I really like 12 but if you have Corel 10 or 11, I'd say wait for 13. If you have 9 or down, buy it with these precautions:

- 1) must have 32bit OS
- 2) check with your equipment manufacturers to be sure there are no machine specific or driver problems.

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## Pedaler vs. Peddler?

Do you really mean "Pedaler"? Occasionally, I'm reminded by a phone call or email that I should alert new readers to the meaning of the name of our newsletter.

Most in our "core" market and our small territory (6 states) are aware of the meaning, but we often have "newbies" and/or our industrial customers who say, "Don't you mean 'peddler'?"

A large percentage of folks in the awards & engraving industry are aware that one of daddy's few pastimes is riding a unicycle; hence, the play on words for the title of our newsletter & website.

If you are not one of the folks who was already aware of daddy's one-wheeled preferred method of transportation, he carries his unicycle with him wherever he goes & *loves* to show off! Just ask!

At the very least, get him to tell you one of his unicycle stories – they get better as the years go by!

## Scanners!

Much to our chagrin, HP ceased to include the Precision Scan (automatic raster->vector) software with their scanners. For months, we kept putting out a list of the remaining scanners that had the software included but they became harder & harder to find.

Daddy finally found a cache of used/re-furbed HP 5200 scanners. We've tested them & have them stacked up in our warehouse.

I had a waiting list of folks who said "If you find one, send it to me!" I gave them a "heads up" first but the rest of these are available on a first come, first served basis.

If you need one (or need a backup for your current HP scanner), call or email me. We're selling them for \$199 w/ a 30 day warranty.

## Email Worms

If you're like me, you download more & more email worms every day!

Here's some info that might come in handy:

1) Do not assume that Brewer Sales (or similar sender) has a virus just because a non-requested attachment comes in from [jeanette@brewersales.com](mailto:jeanette@brewersales.com) (or similar contact). An email worm actually "grabs" someone else's email list (on which Jeanette's address was included) and then is sent to the entire list as if it had come from Jeanette.

2) In light of that, if you receive an unexpected attachment from *anyone* (even if it's someone you know & trust), *always* email that person to ask if they sent it **before** you open the attachment.

## More News



### ***Congratulations!***

**Custom Built Awards** (Humble, TX) celebrated 25 years in business in July. Pam has been one of daddy's customers for more years than either of them will admit! Congratulations to Pam & the entire Custom Built gang!

### ***Clinic goes international***

Mike Fruciano really knows how to draw a crowd! At the LaserBits Laser Clinic that we hosted in Dallas (in June), we had some long-distance travelers. We had folks from Virginia, Montana and all the way from ICELAND!

### ***The NEW Engraving Etc. Forum***

Right after we mailed our last issue of the *Pedaler's Page*, Engraving Etc. announced a move from Delphi to its own site. This will eventually be a "pay-based" (I've heard it will be a nominal fee) forum but for now, you can log on & check it out at no charge. [www.engravingetc.org](http://www.engravingetc.org) You'll find scores of helpful tips!

## CorelDRAW Patches

If you're using Corel 11 & you haven't already done it, you'll want to log on to [corel.com](http://corel.com) to download Service Pack 2. Among the many fixes, probably the most significant to engravers will be the HPGL filter fixes. Automatic weld, Plotter unit storage, scaling and cross hatch have finally been corrected and seem to work fine.

Step-by-step:

- 1) log on to [corel.com](http://corel.com)
- 2) Downloads
- 3) Patches & Updates
- 4) CorelDRAW 11
- 5) Service Pack 2 (Windows)
- 6) Follow directions from Corel

There are already two Corel 12 fixes on the website also. First, I am not aware of any "fixes" included in these that are significant to our industry. Second, if you accepted default installation and are connected to the Internet, then Corel 12 has probably already alerted you to these and suggested you install the patches automatically. Although many are afraid of the newer breed of software releases, I've never had any problems with these auto-updaters.

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## Send 'em My Way!

Several times a week, I'm asked to send a list of laser owners (&/or computerized engraver owners) in a particular area of our territory. These requests are most often from folks who have a project that needs to be laser engraved.

I also get calls from our customers who need an industrial engraving job done ... or a sublimation job done ... etc. They ask me who, in their area, would be interested in doing some wholesale work for them.

I've started a database of folks who would *like* me to send business their way. How about you?

If you want to be included on a list of engravers in your area who would be interested in taking on more work, let me know (preferably via email [jeanette@brewersales.com](mailto:jeanette@brewersales.com) but call me if you don't have access to email).

## Serializing in Corel

Beginning with CorelDRAW version 10, we can serialize or auto increment. This feature is part of Print Merge. *Really fantastic* ... but, it does have a few "issues".

I suspect that 99% who see this long list will be too intimidated to climb the learning curve to use it, but I'm telling you this is like falling off a log – after you've done it a few times. As far as I know, this feature is not documented anywhere; you can forget the newsgroups, as far as I can tell none of the "geeks" are using this function.

1. Create a layout as normal including a "place holder" for your serial number (that is, the appropriate font, justification, position, etc.).
2. File>Print Merge>Create a datafile from scratch.
3. In the PMerge wizard, type in a name for your serial number "field" and add to list of variables (as far as I know,

there is no limit).

4. With that name selected, Check the Incremental Data box.
5. Assign a starting number.
6. Turn off Auto Increment (I haven't figured out how to get this to work).
7. Give it an ending number one more than you really want (one of the "issues"). Need 1200? Assign ending # 1201.
8. Assign a format. (Example: 00x)
9. Click NEXT to see the "database" of numbers.
10. Click NEXT to move to final page.
11. If you save the datafile, you must type in the fully-qualified path and filename (not just a filename).
12. Click Finish to return to DRAW with the Print Merge toolbar visible on the screen. (Continued on page 4)→

*Serializing in Corel (continued) ...*

- 13. Sweep select your place holder (see #1) [must be “swept” with text tool, not selected with Pick tool]
- 14. Click the [Insert Selected Print Merge Field] icon, (rightmost in PrintMerge toolbar) to replace placeholder with the name you assigned your auto incrementing field.
- 15. Be sure you deselect **everything** (another little “issue”) before going to next step.
- 16. Click the Perform Print Merge icon in the PrintMerge toolbar (3<sup>rd</sup> from left).
- 17. Now in the Print dialog, select the appropriate printer and then click the Layout tab.
- 18. Inside the Layout tab, open the Imposition Layout drop down and select one of the prepared layouts or create one of your own.
- 19. If you do not have your MiniPreview (you should!), click Print Preview to see your work.
- 20. *Nifty huh?*

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# Websites

- [www.brewersales.com](http://www.brewersales.com)
- [www.epiloglaser.com](http://www.epiloglaser.com)
- [www.epilogmini.com](http://www.epilogmini.com)
- [www.xenotech.com](http://www.xenotech.com)
- [www.corel.com](http://www.corel.com)

- [www.engraversjournal.com](http://www.engraversjournal.com)
- [www.ara.org](http://www.ara.org)
- [www.nbm.com](http://www.nbm.com)
- [www.graphicspro.org](http://www.graphicspro.org)
- [www.engravingetc.org](http://www.engravingetc.org)

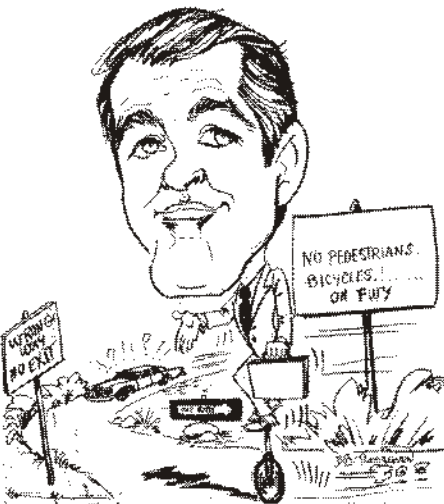
<http://forums.delphiforums.com/engrave>  
 (Former home of Engraving Etc.)

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/trophyandawardengravers>

[www.dallascowboys.com](http://www.dallascowboys.com) ☺



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