



# MicroStation V8 Configuration

The configuration of MicroStation V8 can be considered complex, as it has been implemented by the Iowa DOT. The reason for the complexity is due to the various offices within the DOT, and the differences with the implementation needs of each. However, there are a few files common to the entire IDOT, and we will start with those:

- **Agency.cfg** – The *Agency.cfg* file should be located in the folder where the MicroStation V8 program is installed, which can be on either the local computer or on the network server if using the LinkNet version of V8. This file intercepts the ordinary startup process of MicroStation and causes it to read an additional set of configuration files located on the DOT network. It does this by stating:  
“If a local.cfg file exists, (at the proper location), then read it”.  
The *Agency.cfg* file is to be located as follows:  
    \Bentley\Workspace\Standards\Agency.cfg
- **Local.cfg** – The *local.cfg* file must be located as indicated in the *agency.cfg* file. It is convenient to place the *local.cfg* file on the network server so it can be found regardless of the computer that being used. The purpose of this file is to define the location of the next two config files to be included, which are the *Cadd.cfg* and the *Dsn.cfg*. Each login ID has a separate *local.cfg* file, but *local.cfg* files throughout the same office, (such as Road Design), will probably be identical.
- **Cadd.cfg** – The *cadd.cfg* file defines the value for several MicroStation configuration variables used by the Highway Division. While most of these settings can be overwritten by the other config files that follow, some are locked and cannot be changed later.
- **Dsn.cfg** - The *dsn.cfg* file is a Highway Division level file that simply points to the office level *RoadDesign.cfg* file.
- **RoadDesign.cfg** – The *RoadDesign.cfg* file defines several configuration variables and paths specific to the Office of Road Design, such as those for Seed File and Cell Library locations.
- **username.ucf** – The path to the *username.ucf* file is established in the *Agency.cfg file*. This is the User Configuration File (.UCF), and includes personal, (or User), environment variable additions or changes to previously defined definitions, (if not locked). This file also includes a definition of the variable locating the correct PCF file to open. This file can be manually changed, and MicroStation also writes to this file, with a new PCF file definition, each time a new Project is selected in MicroStation Manager.
- **projectnumber.pcf** – Every Iowa DOT project is located in a unique “project” folder, residing under the Project Directory folder, W:\Projects\. Also, every project has a unique Project Configuration File (.PCF), which has the MS\_RFDIR environment variable definitions containing the Reference File paths for the project. The name of the PCF file is read from the *username.ucf* file.

In addition to the above listed configuration files, more information is necessary for MicroStation V8 to function properly, as defined and used at the Iowa DOT.

- **units.def** – The *units.def* file defines all of the units available for MicroStation to draw with, (including Survey Feet, which is the standard unit of measure for Iowa DOT English projects). The “units.def” file is normally located as part of the MicroStation installation as follows:

\Bentley\Workspace\System\data\units.def

- **FolderStructure.txt** – This file shows the basic structure of the folder where all Office of Design MicroStation V8 basic operational files are stored, such as Seed Files, Cell Libraries, etc. The file is located on the web, and also at server location W:\Highway\Design\CADD\. Being familiar with this file structure will add understanding to the paths mentioned in the previously listed config files.
- **WSUI (WorkSpace User Interface)** – The office Workspace User Interface folder is named **RoadDesign** and is at the following server location:

W:\Highway\Design\CADD\MicroStation\Config\RoadDesign\.

Presently, there are no changes to the interface that alters the appearance or function of MicroStation, or that must be used, as there was with MicroStation V7. Changes to the interface are included in a file called **ustn.s01**. There is currently a *ustn.s01* file, but it contains only an optional icon menu, ORD1, designed for convenient access of some commands but not a necessity.