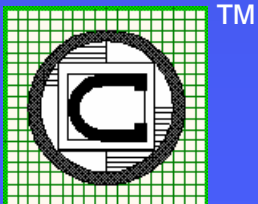


# Engineering Applications employing GIS Technology

How ArcGIS can be tailored  
for Engineering and  
Surveying Applications

Presenter:  
Aaron Norby  
Kadrmass, Lee & Jackson



Constantine Tonias, P.E.

The CEDRA Corporation

ESRI Survey and Engineering GIS Summit 2007

# Fields Utilizing GIS

**Business, Telecommunications, Defense,  
Health, Homeland Security, Education  
Oil & Gas, and many more...**

# Engineers and Surveyors

**Even Civil Engineers and Surveyors are using  
GIS,  
But not to its full extent.**

# Municipal Clients

**Civil Engineers and Surveyors working with municipal clients are finding themselves having to supply their clients with data that can be incorporated into the clients' GIS database**

# CAD to GIS

**A CAD file (.dxf, .dwg) has typically been used as the mechanism to transfer the engineer or surveyor's work to the municipal client**

# CAD to GIS

**The CAD file (.dxf, .dwg) provides:**

- **Exchange of geometric graphics**
- **But not a good mechanism for exchanging attribute data**
- **Attribute data is becoming more and more important for municipal clients**

# **A New Approach**

**Avoid the CAD to GIS transfer by  
performing the design within the GIS,  
that is, design with ArcMap !**

# Design within ArcGIS

**By creating custom commands and tools, we can utilize ArcGIS as the graphics engine for performing Civil Engineering and Surveying applications**



# Start to End Approach

**By creating custom commands and tools, we  
can utilize ArcGIS to design and draft in a  
GIS environment**

**"drafting as a by-product of the design process"**

# Custom Commands/Tools

Visual Basic 6

ArcObjects

Avenue Wraps



Active X DLL's

**Toolbars which can be added to ArcMap,**

**and**

# Design Processes

**which can be performed within ArcGIS**

**Survey – Field Work**

**Roadway Templates**

**Digital Terrain Model**

**Roadway Surface**

**Horizontal Alignments**

**Earthwork Quantities**

**Cross-Sections/Profiles**

**Subdivision Design**

**Vertical Alignments**

**P&P Drawings**

**To name a few**

# Topographic Mapping

Create a digital model of the project site

comprised of

contours and existing features utilizing:

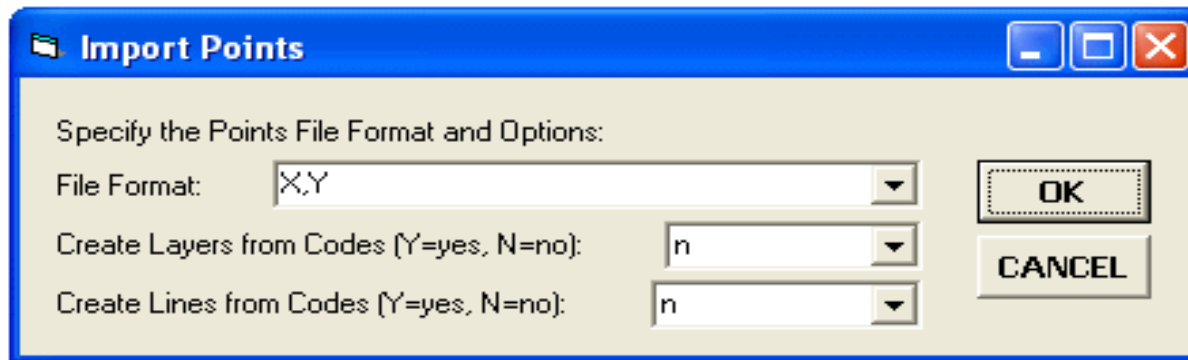
**Aerial photography, and/or**

**Conventional Field Survey Data, better yet**

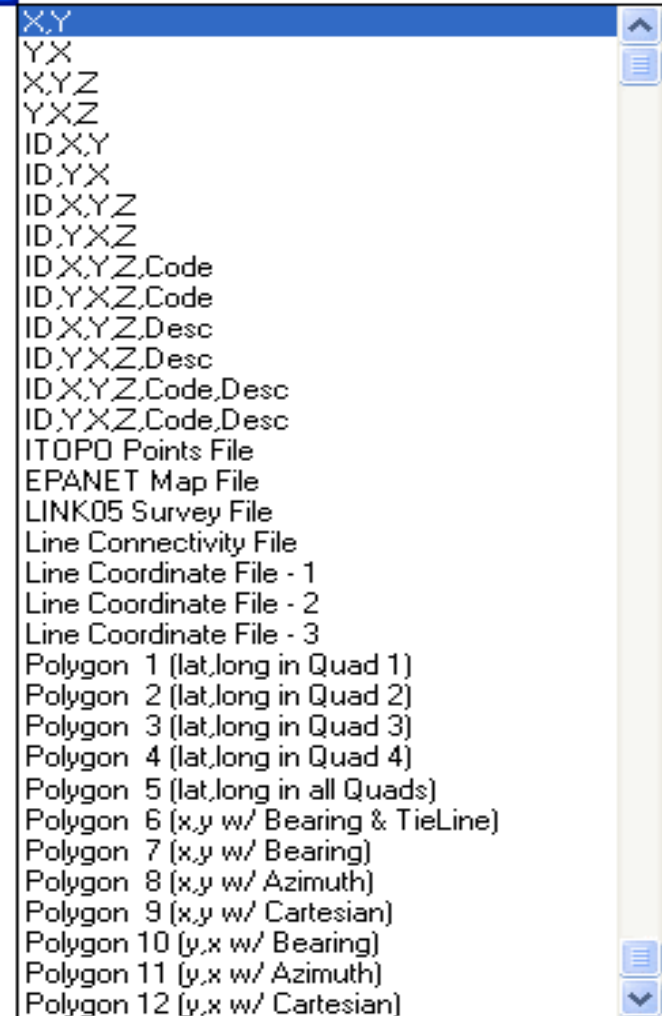
**Current GIS Database**

# Field Survey Data

**Create a custom command for the mass importing of field survey data in a variety of formats, and with the ability to generate line and curve features from point codes**



**LIST OF POINT, LINE AND POLYGON IMPORT FORMATS**



With the indicated choice list data fields, the user may Control the import of features as indicated below:

- TOP Select the format under which the subject Features are to be imported.
- MIDDLE Using the code associated with the subject features, the user may assign features of a certain code to an individual layer.
- BOTTOM Using the code associated with points being imported, the user may cause points of the same code to be connected with a line.

# Import Conventional Field Survey Data

# Contouring

Create a custom command for  
creating contours from:

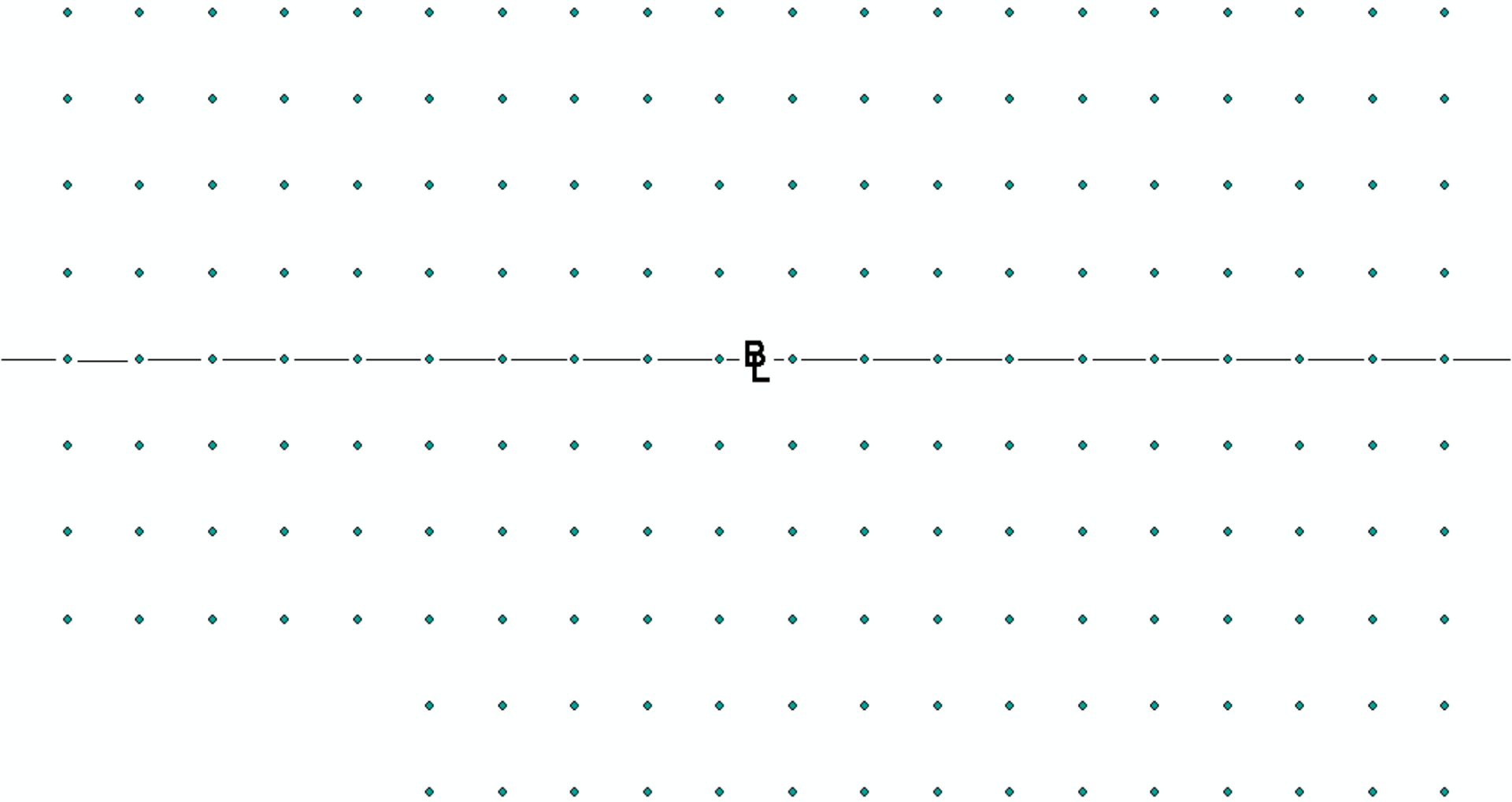
**Radial** survey, and  
**Cross-sectional** survey

# Radial Survey Data

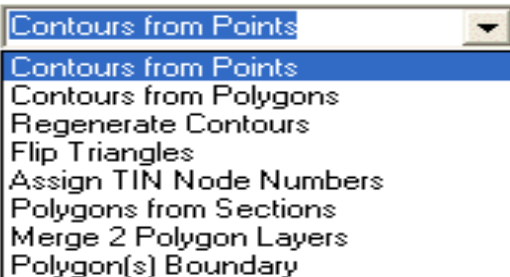




# Cross-Sectional Survey Data

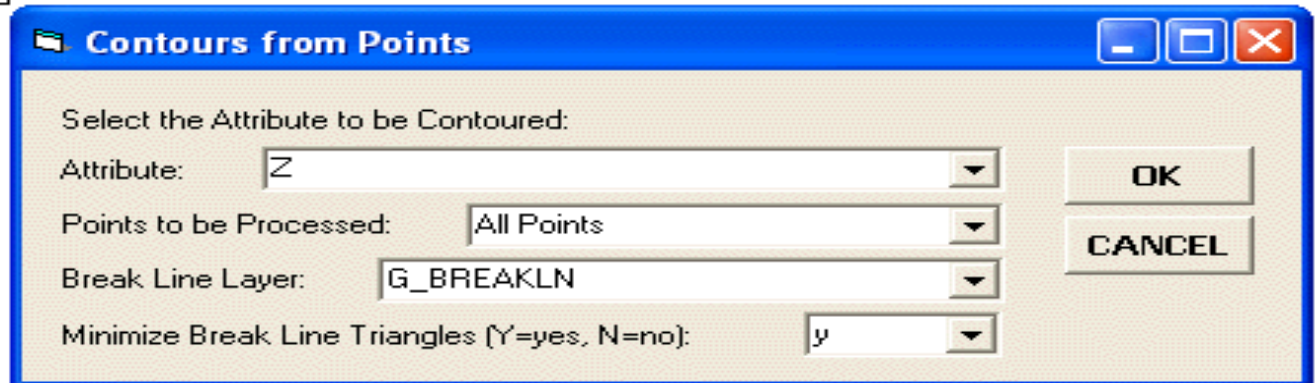


**Requires special contouring algorithm**

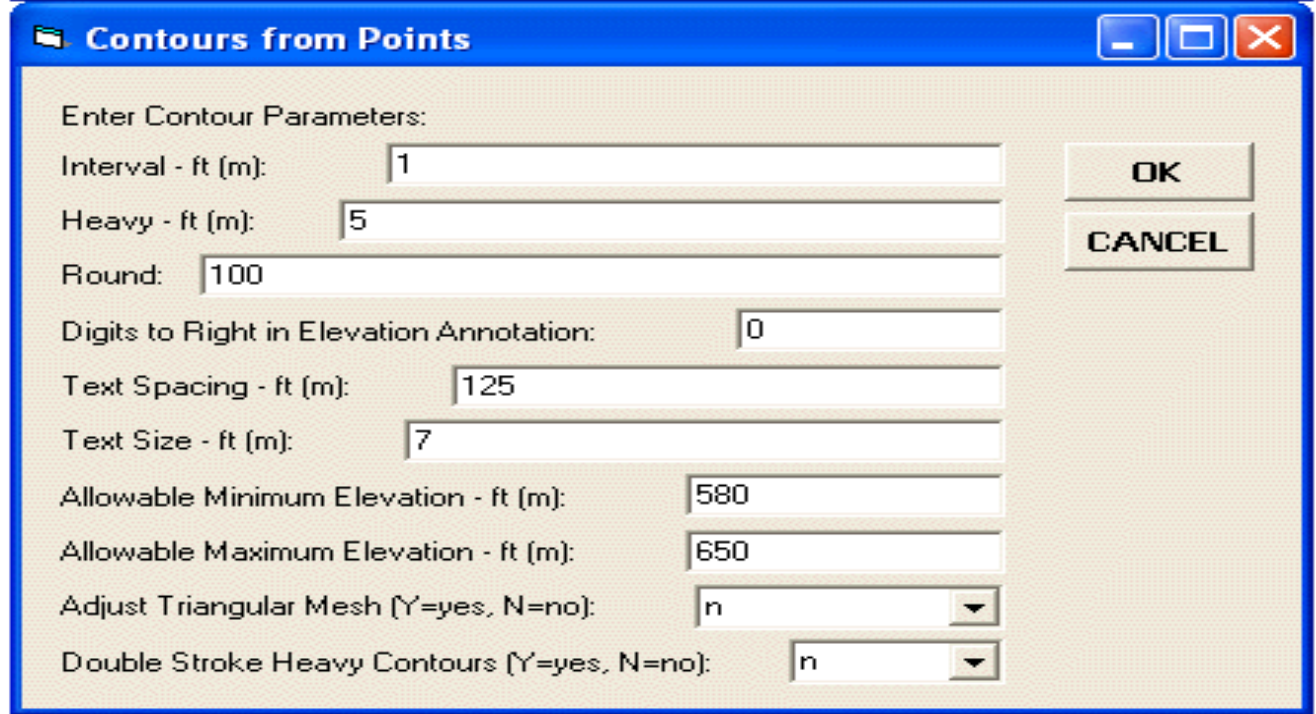


Menu combo box for generating and manipulating TINs and contours.

Dialog box for selecting the point attribute bearing the elevation, and controlling the break lines (lines that cannot be crossed by a TIN triangle).



Dialog box for specifying the various contouring parameters.



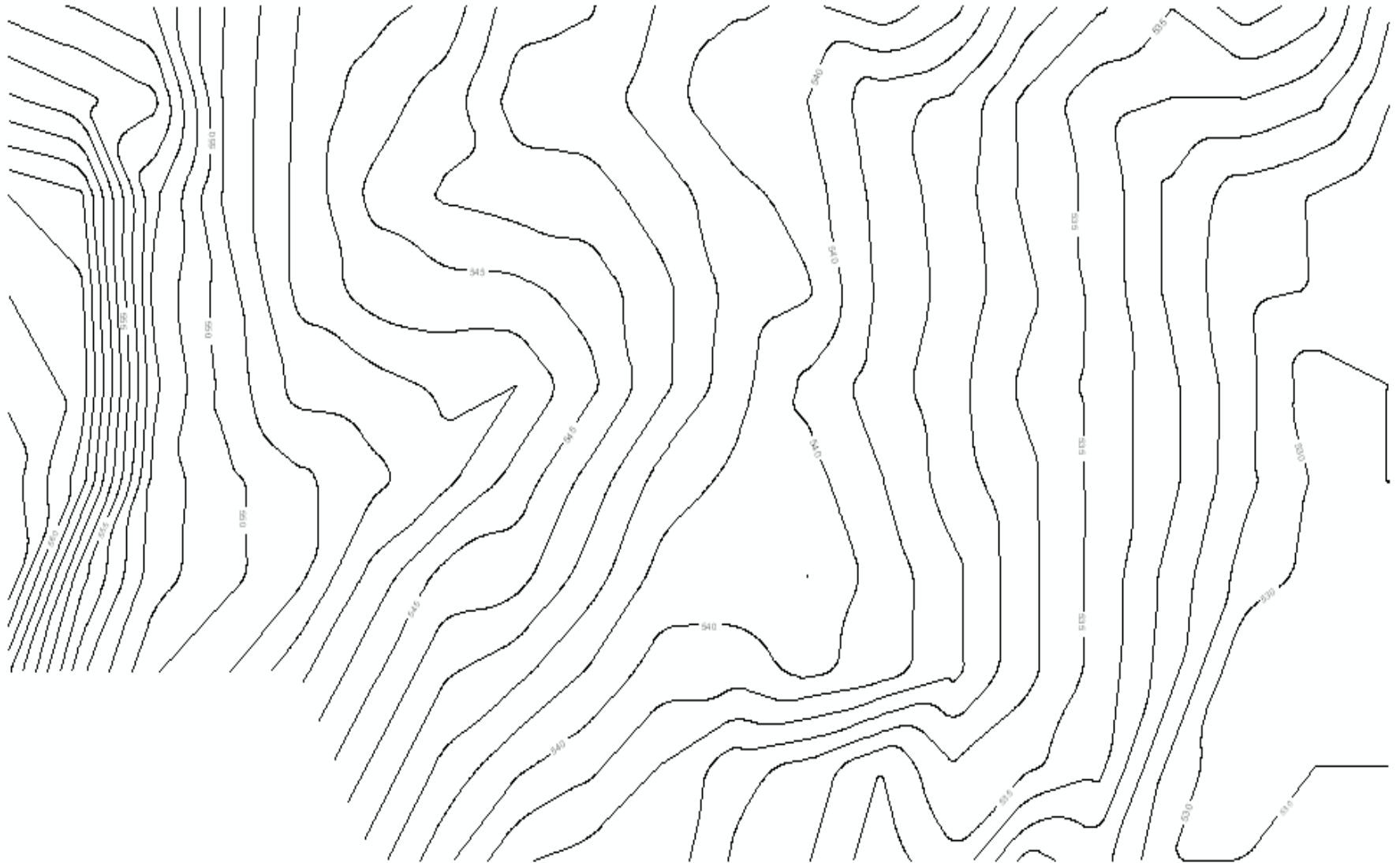
# Contouring Parameters

# GeoDatabase

Stored in a geodatabase are the:

- ❖ **Contour strings** (polyline features with the elevation stored as an attribute)
- ❖ **Elevation annotation**
- ❖ **Polygons** comprising the TIN (3D polygon features)

# Contours from Cross-Sectional Survey Data



# Roadway Design

## Requires Geometry and Design Data

- ❖ **Design Data is assigned an Identifier**
- ❖ **Custom Commands reference the  
Design Data Identifier**

# Specification of Design Data

Facility Function

- Facility Function
- Design Parameters ID
- Traffic Volume & Speed
- Stop. Dist. & Height of Eye & Object
- Superelevation
- Alignment
- Right-of-Way
- Pavement Ribbon
- Subdivision Lots



Menu combo box for the assignment of roadway design information

Sample dialog box for the specification of design information regarding ROW lines and cul-de-sac design

**Right-of-Way Design Parameters**

Enter the Design Parameters for the Right-of-Way in Feet or Meters:

Design Parameter ID:

Main Roadway Left Offset - ft (m):

Main Roadway Right Offset - ft (m):

Main Roadway Intersection Return Value - ft (m):

Main Roadway Intersection Return Type:

Cul-de-sac Main Radius - ft (m):

Cul-de-sac Center Offset - ft (m):

Cul-de-sac Left Curve Return Radius - ft (m):

Cul-de-sac Right Curve Return Radius - ft (m):

OK

CANCEL

# Horizontal Alignments

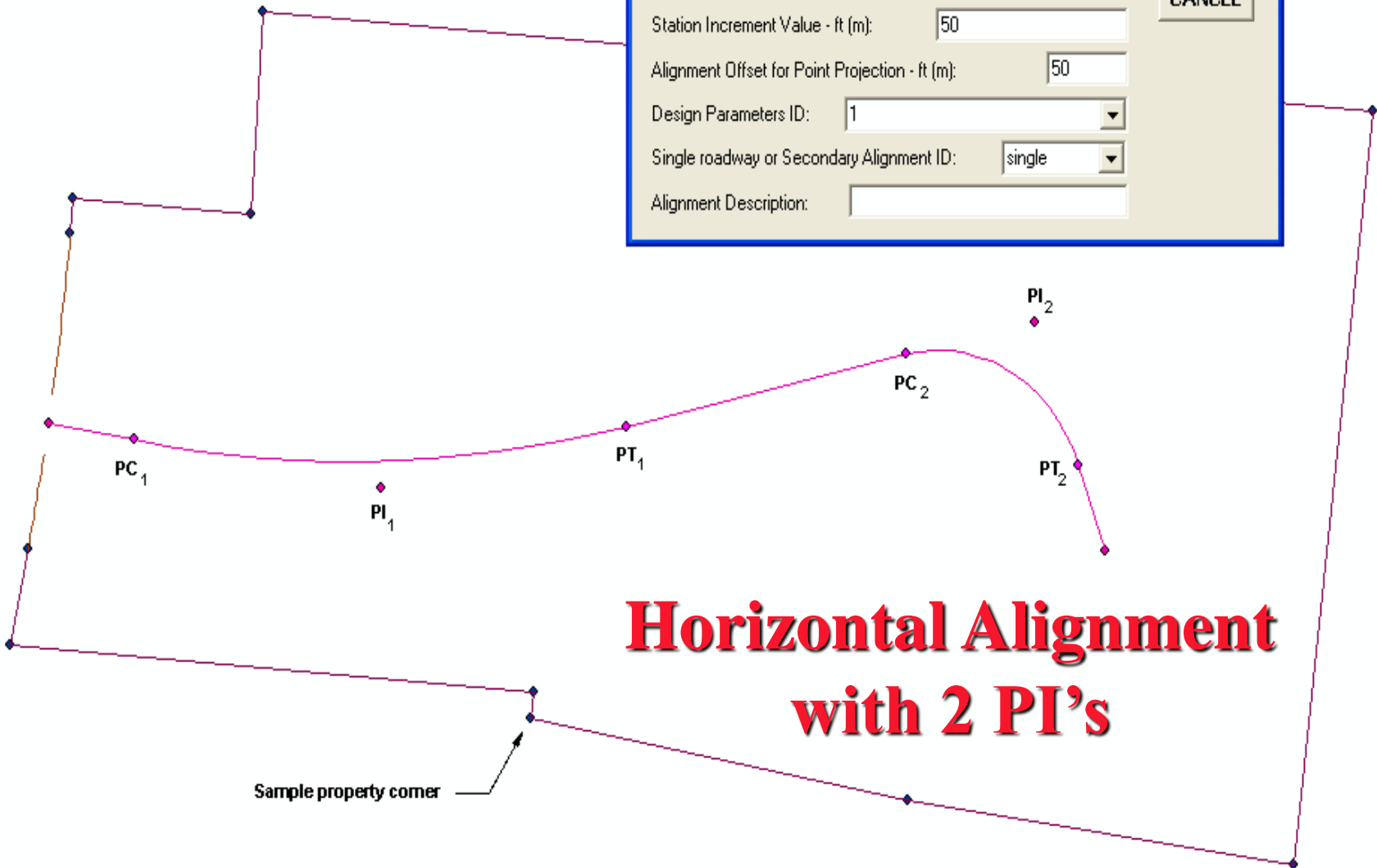
**An interactive design feature to introduce one or many PI's with curves and spirals, and dynamically display alignment changes as each PI is dragged across the monitor screen**

Menu combo box for the assignment of roadway centerline information

**Specific Horizontal Alignment Data**

Enter the Design Data for a Specific Horizontal Alignment:

|   |                                     |                                       |
|---|-------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Horizontal Alignment ID Number:                 | <input type="text" value="2"/>      | <input type="button" value="OK"/>     |
| Starting Station Value - ft (m):                | <input type="text" value="1000"/>   | <input type="button" value="CANCEL"/> |
| Station Increment Value - ft (m):               | <input type="text" value="50"/>     |                                       |
| Alignment Offset for Point Projection - ft (m): | <input type="text" value="50"/>     |                                       |
| Design Parameters ID:                           | <input type="text" value="1"/>      |                                       |
| Single roadway or Secondary Alignment ID:       | <input type="text" value="single"/> |                                       |
| Alignment Description:                          | <input type="text"/>                |                                       |



# Horizontal Alignment with 2 PI's

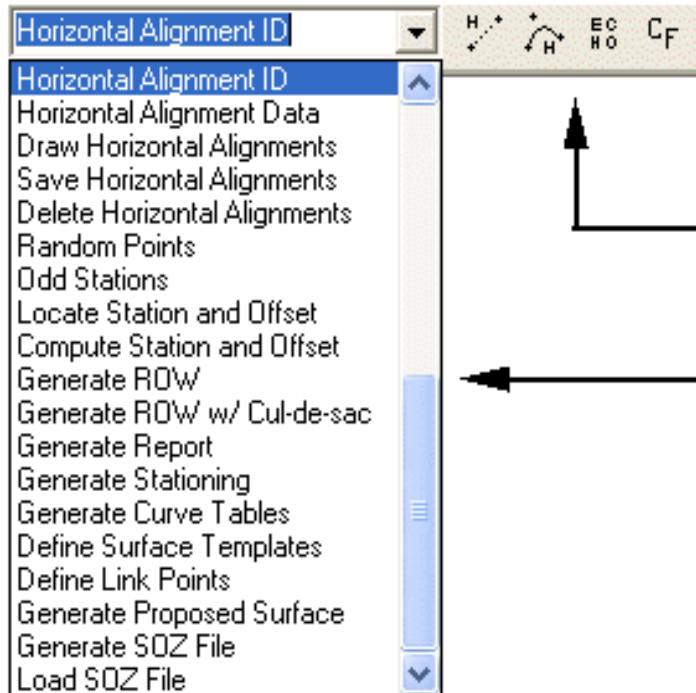
Sample property corner



# Horizontal Alignment Editing

**Specialized commands were developed to facilitate the editing, or modification of the horizontal alignments**

# Horizontal Alignment Commands and Tools



Tool bar for the dynamic design of horizontal alignments

Menu combo box for the definition and manipulation of roadway alignments

Some of the menu commands include the automatic station annotation, application of typical roadway sections (templates), display of curve data, generation of alignment reports, etc.

Sample dialog box for the specification of base curve data

The displayed coordinates is echo information which may be overwritten

The dialog box is titled "Define Alignment PI" and contains the following fields and buttons:

- Enter PI Data
- Alignment Number:
- X coordinate (easting):
- Y coordinate (northing):
- Back Spiral Length - ft (m):
- Curve Radius - ft (m):
- Forward Spiral Length - ft (m):
- OK button
- CANCEL button

# Post-Processing

**Specialized commands were developed to post-process the horizontal alignments so as to facilitate the drafting process (automated generation of lines, curves and annotation features from design data)**

Dialog box, in response to the [Generate ROW w/ Cul-de-sac] command (see the menu combo box of Figure 8), for the mass generation of ROW lines, with or without cul-de-sacs. The same command can be used to mass generate pavement ribbons, gutter or curb lines, and the like.



**Generate ROW**

Enter the following:

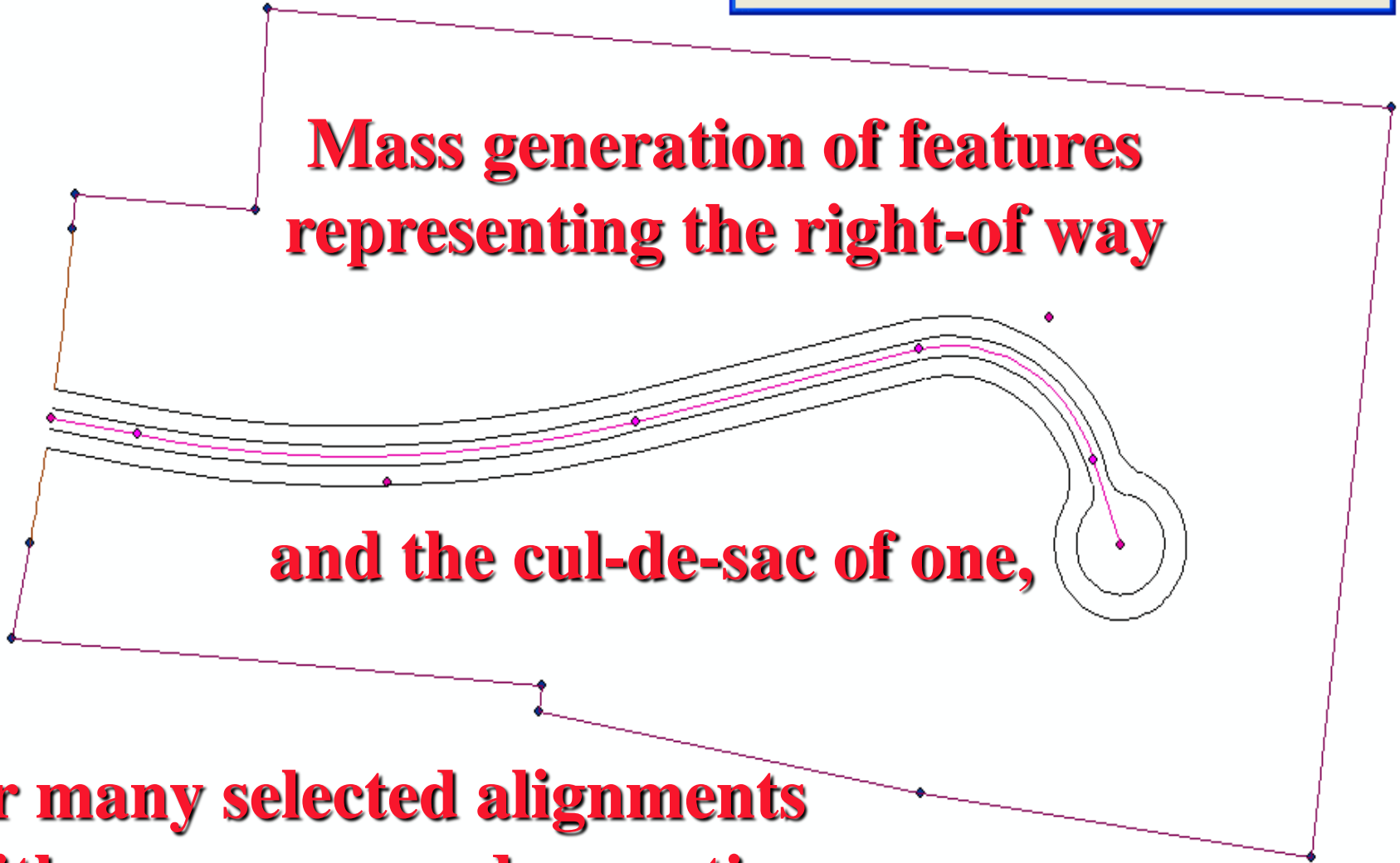
Alignment number range (start,end):

Right-of-Way Design Parameter ID:

**Mass generation of features  
representing the right-of way**

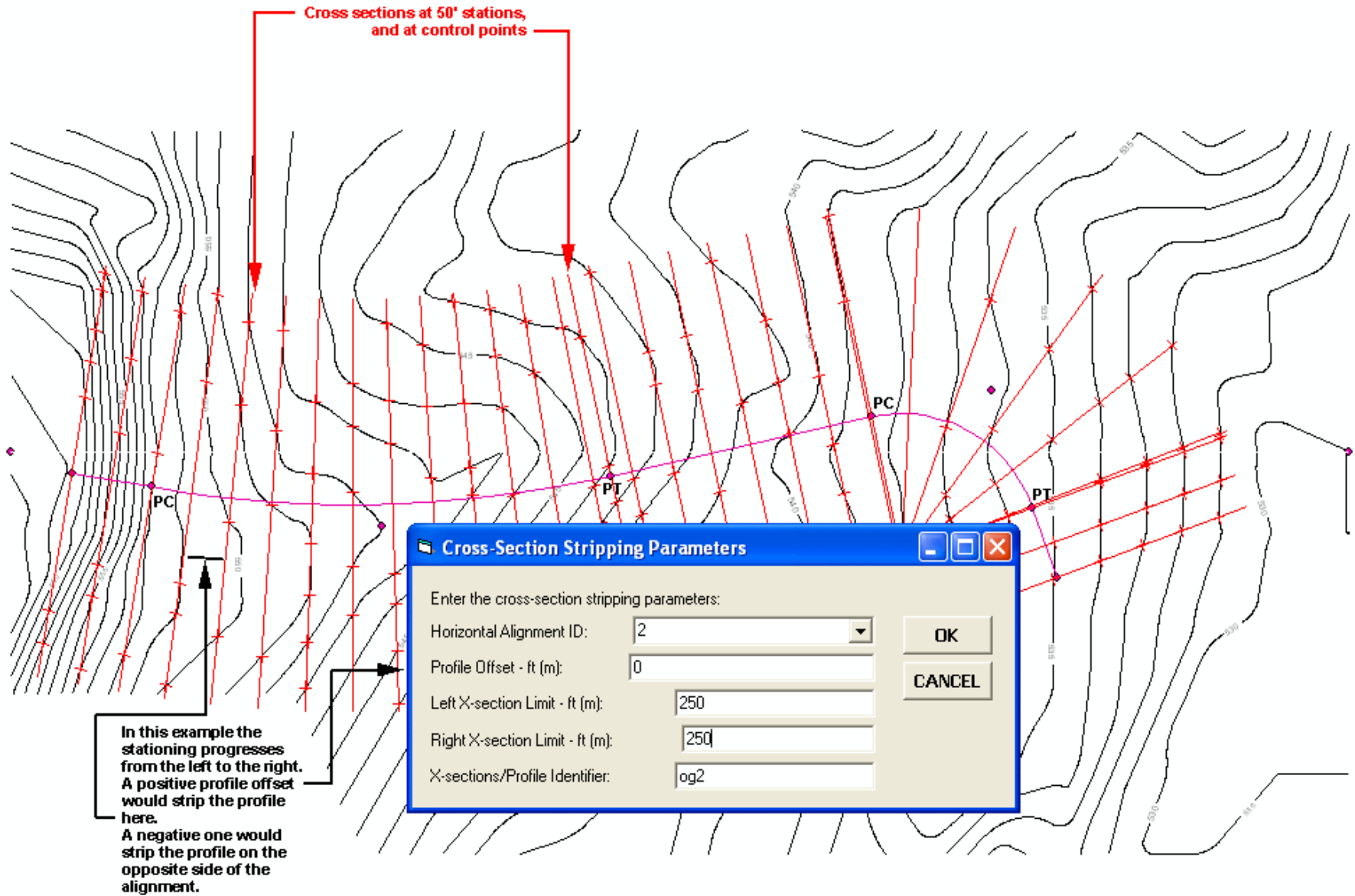
**and the cul-de-sac of one,**

**or many selected alignments  
with one command execution**



# Cross-Section/Profiles

**Using the horizontal alignment  
existing ground  
cross-sections and profiles can be  
extracted from the digital terrain model**



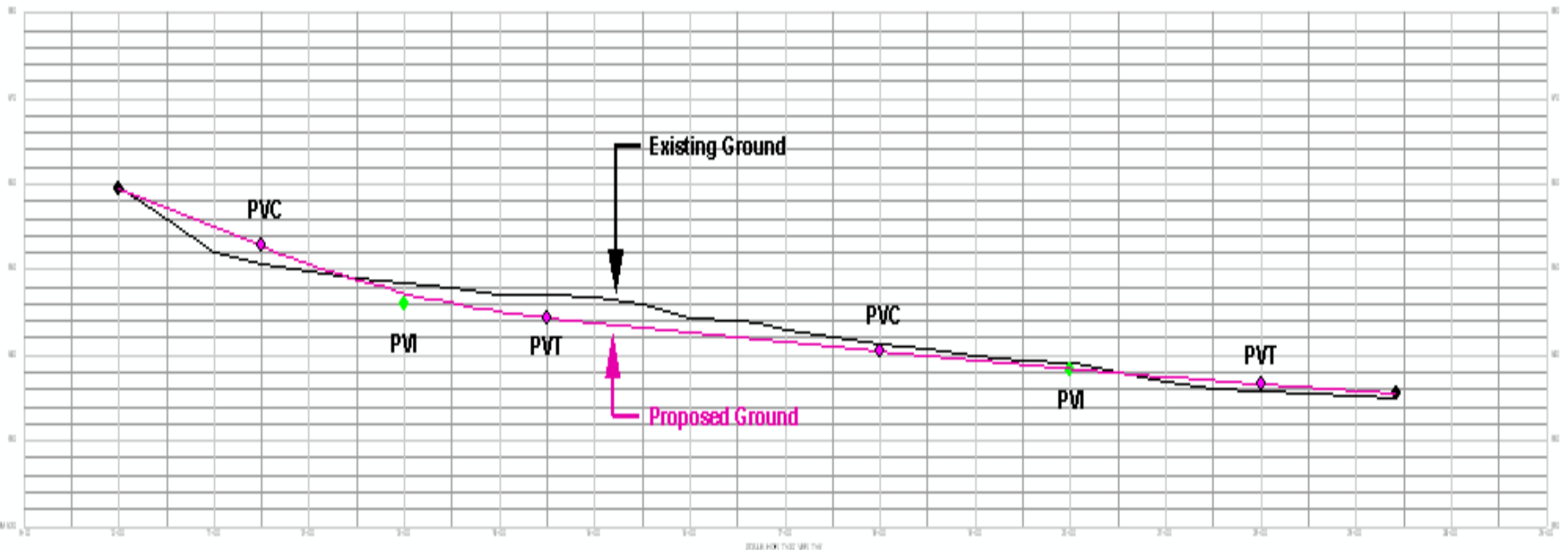
# Cross-Section/Profile Extraction

# Vertical Alignments

**An interactive design feature to introduce one or many PVI's with parabolic curves, and dynamically display alignment changes as each PVI is dragged across the monitor screen.**

# Vertical Alignment Design

This area is reserved for the plan view





# Vertical Alignment Editing

**Specialized commands were developed to facilitate the editing or modification of the vertical alignments**

Vertical Alignment ID

Vertical Alignment ID  
 Annotate Vertical Alignments  
 Annotate Surface Elevations  
 Create Elevations Table  
 Create Alignment Input File  
 Compute/Display Low Points

← Tool bar for the dynamic design of vertical alignments

← Menu combo box for the definition and manipulation of vertical alignments Some of the menu commands include the automatic annotation, display of curve data, and generation of alignment reports.

Sample dialog box for the specification of vertical curve data →

**Create Elevations Table**

Enter Elevations Table Parameters:

Vertical Alignment ID: 1

Original Ground: og1\_pro

Start Station: 1000

End Station: 3500

Station Increment: 50

Number of Digits Right of Decimal Point: 2

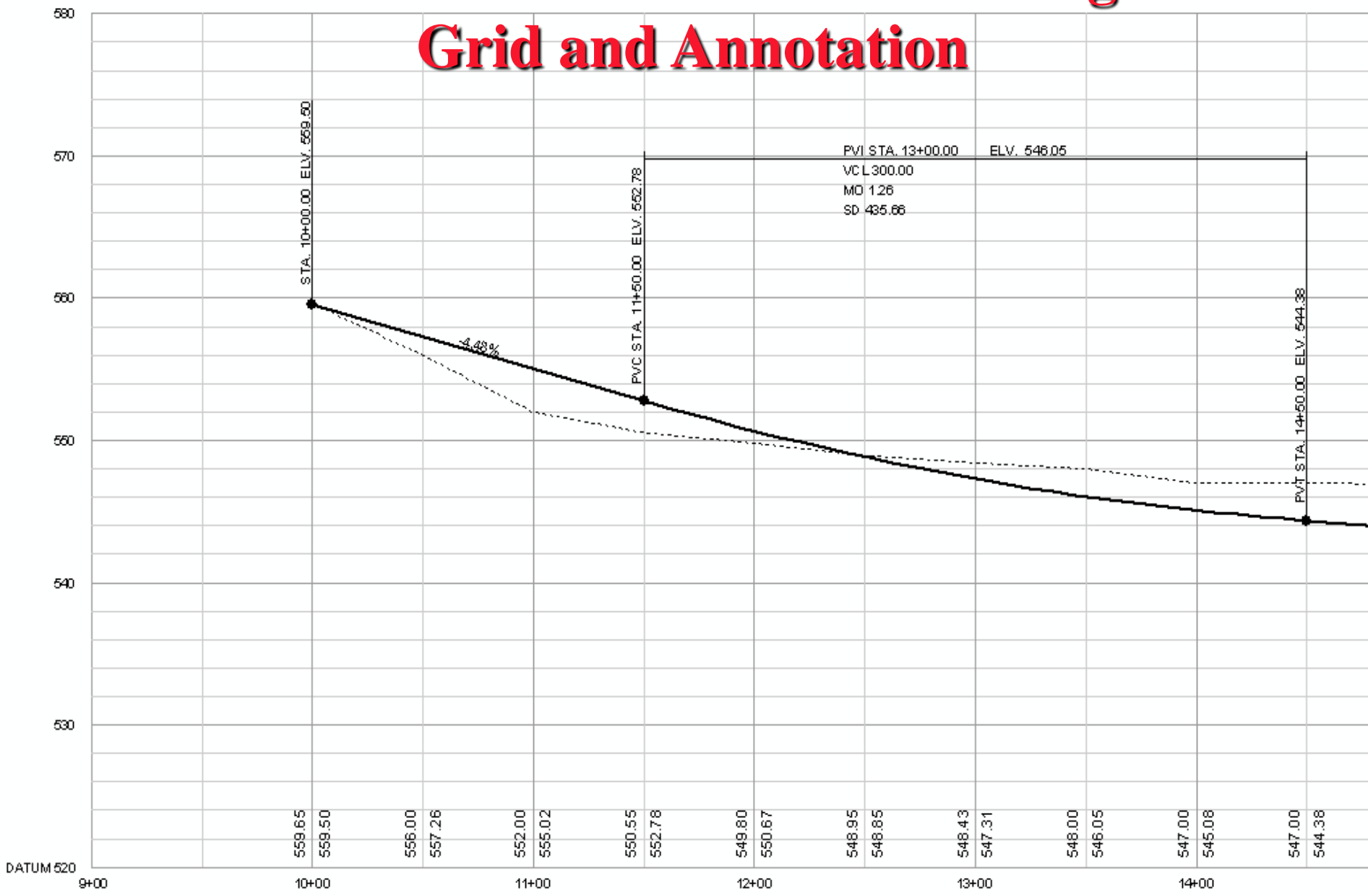
Text Size (points): 7

OK

CANCEL

# Vertical Alignment Commands and Tools

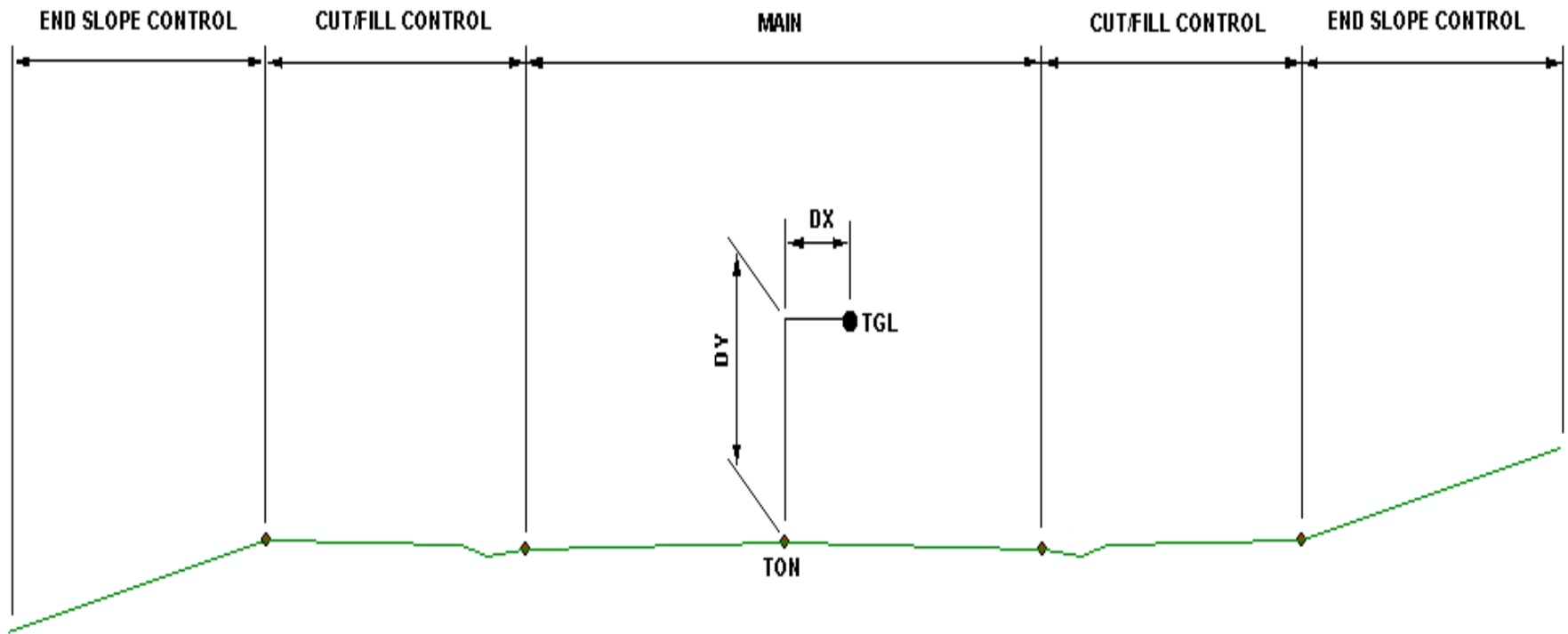
# Automated Generation of Vertical Alignment Grid and Annotation



# Proposed Ground Templates

**Proposed ground templates (typical sections) are drafted using a custom tool for handling offset distances as well as slope and distance values**

# Typical Proposed Ground Template And its Components



# Proposed Ground Surface

Proposed ground surface created by  
combining:

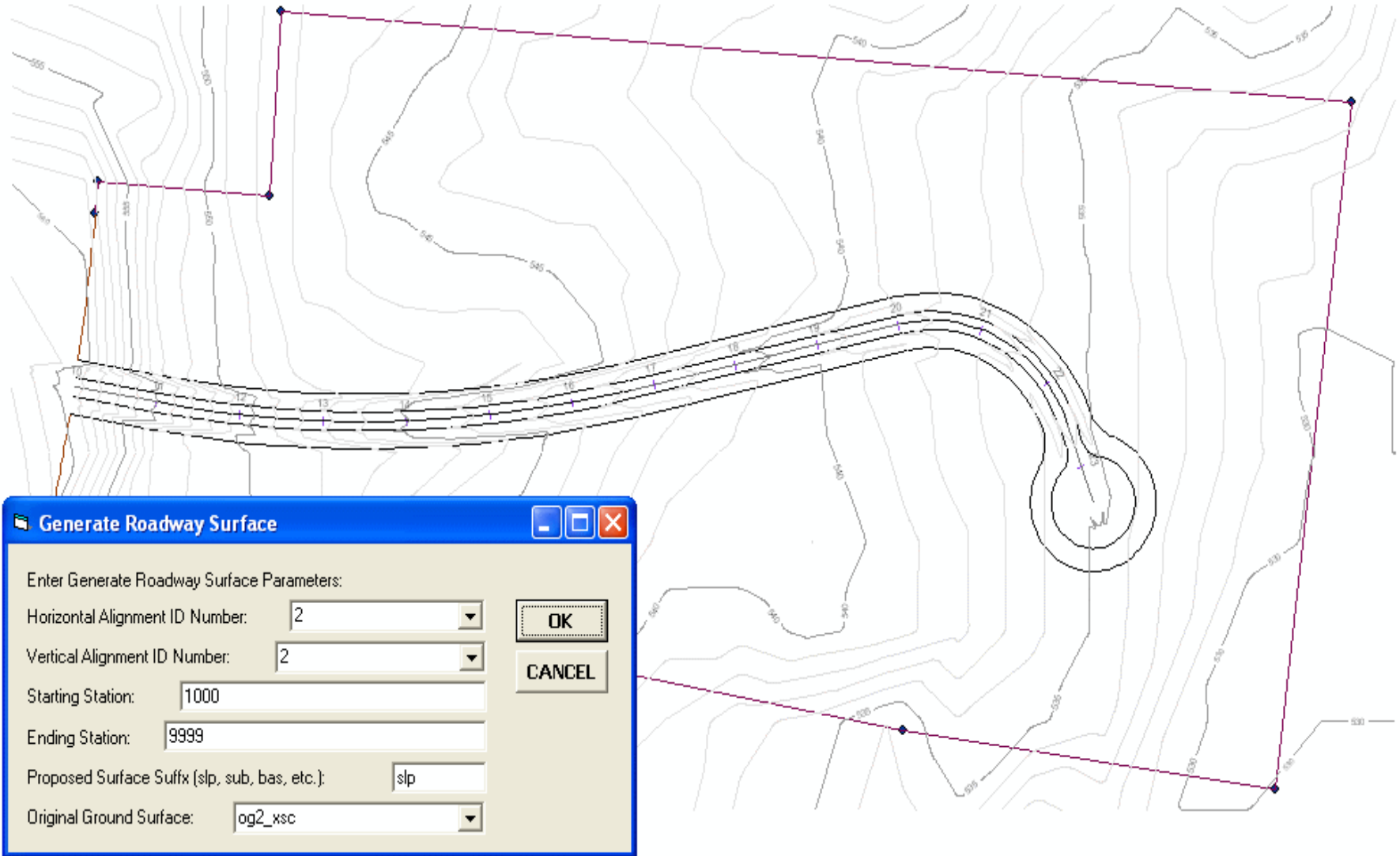
❖ Horizontal Alignment

❖ Existing Ground Cross-Sections

❖ Vertical Alignment

❖ Proposed Ground Templates

# Site Contours created from the Proposed Ground Surface



# Cross-Section Plotting

**Fully Annotated Cross-Sections  
are produced by using a custom  
command which stores the line  
and annotation features in a  
geodatabase**



Sections from Contours

- Sections from Contours
- Sections from Polygons
- Plot Original Ground Profile
- Plot Profile Table
- Plot Profile from Polyline
- Plot Cross Sections
- Generate Earthwork Report
- Points from Sections

Menu combo box for cross section and profile plotting and computational reports.

Dialog box for the specification of cross section plotting parameters

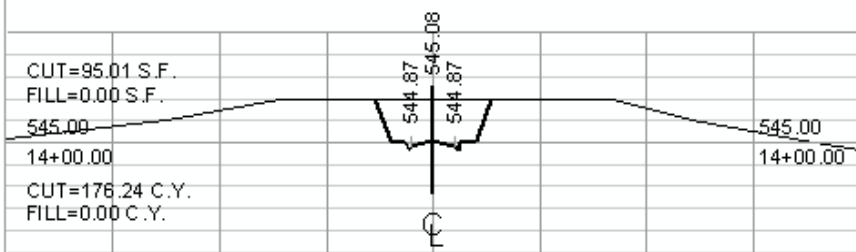
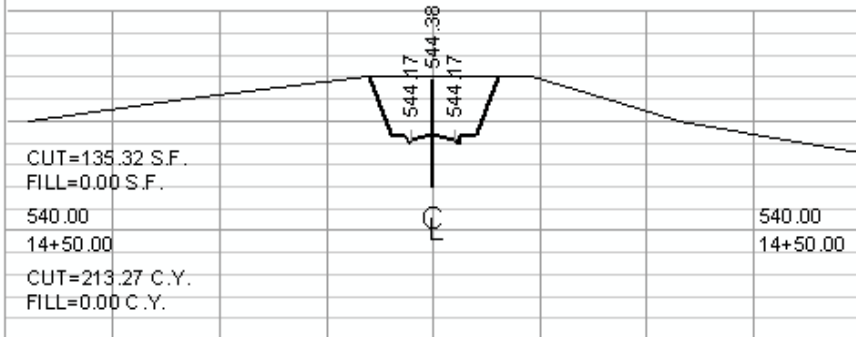
**Plot Cross-Sections**

Enter the sheet layout parameters:

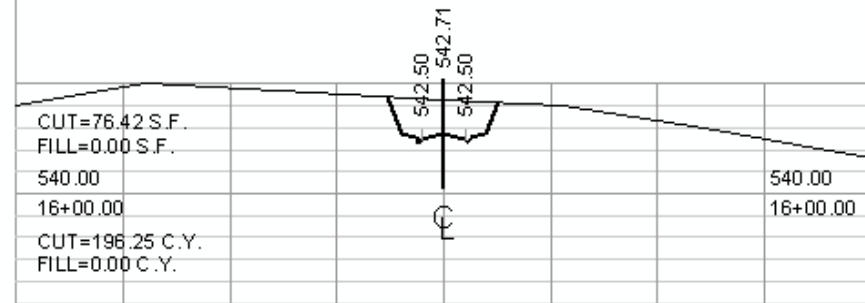
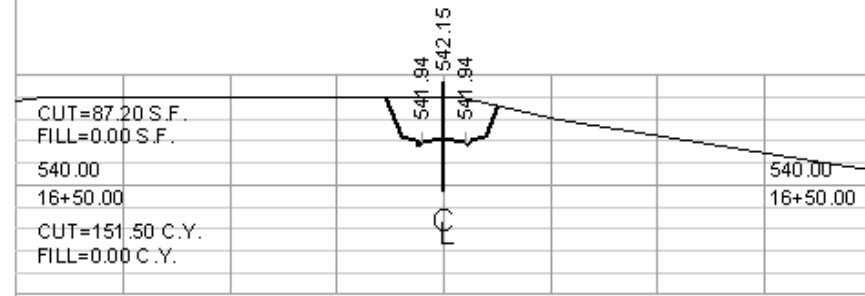
|   |                                   |  |
|---|-----------------------------------|--|
| Beginning Station - ft (m) - Omit the + :             | <input type="text" value="1000"/> | <input type="button" value="OK"/><br><input type="button" value="CANCEL"/> |
| Ending Station - ft (m) - Omit the + :                | <input type="text" value="1700"/> |  |
| Distance to Plot LEFT of BL - ft (m):                 | <input type="text" value="200"/>  |  |
| Distance to Plot RIGHT of BL - ft (m):                | <input type="text" value="200"/>  |  |
| Sheet Width - in (mm):                                | <input type="text" value="36"/>   |  |
| Sheet Height - in (mm):                               | <input type="text" value="26"/>   |  |
| Top Margin - in (mm):                                 | <input type="text" value="2"/>    |  |
| Bottom Margin - in (mm):                              | <input type="text" value="0.5"/>  |  |
| Horizontal Sheet Spacing - in (mm):                   | <input type="text" value="1"/>    |  |
| Vertical X-section Spacing, datum to datum - in (mm): | <input type="text" value="2.7"/>  |  |
| Horizontal Scale - ft/in (m/mm):                      | <input type="text" value="50"/>   |  |
| Vertical Scale - ft/in (m/mm):                        | <input type="text" value="5"/>    |  |
| Offset Ticks Interval - ft (m):                       | <input type="text" value="50"/>   |  |
| Plot the Full Grid ?                                  | <input type="text" value="Yes"/>  |  |

# Cross-Section Parameters

# Cross-Sections with Earthwork



SCALE: HOR 1"=50' VER 1"=5'

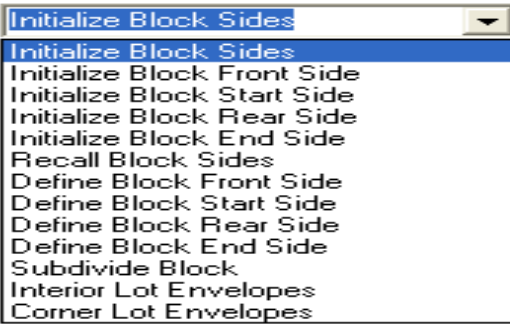


SCALE: HOR 1"=50' VER 1"=5'

# Subdivision Design

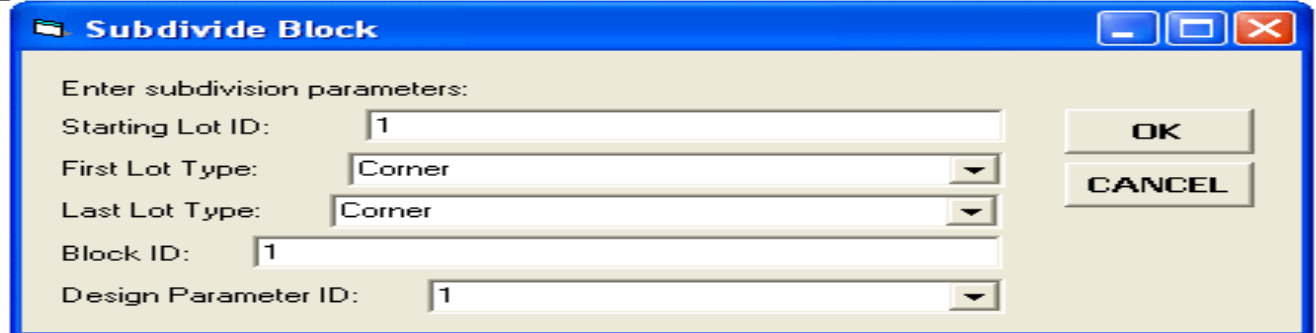
**A “Block” of land can be subdivided into individual lots by specifying:**

- **The four sides comprising the block and**
- **The design zoning criteria identifier**

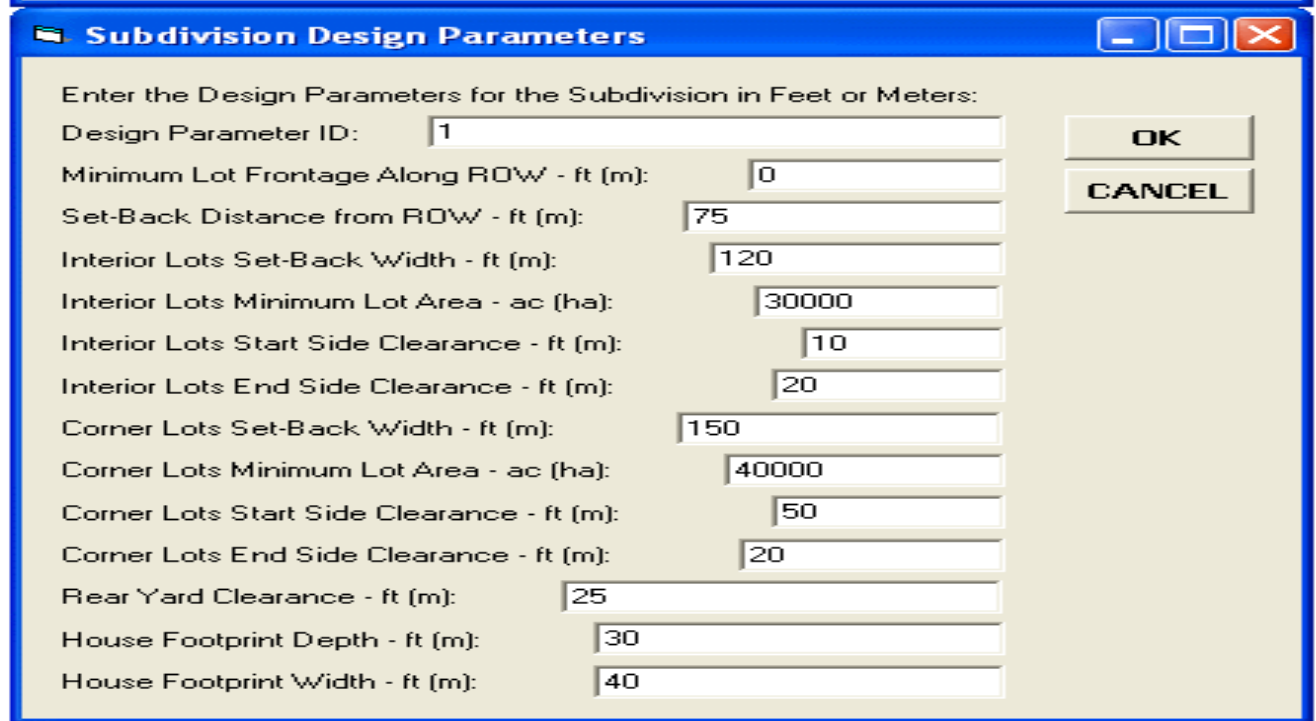


Menu combo box commands for automatically subdividing a parcel of land.

Dialog box for dividing a block into lots in accord of pre-established criteria.

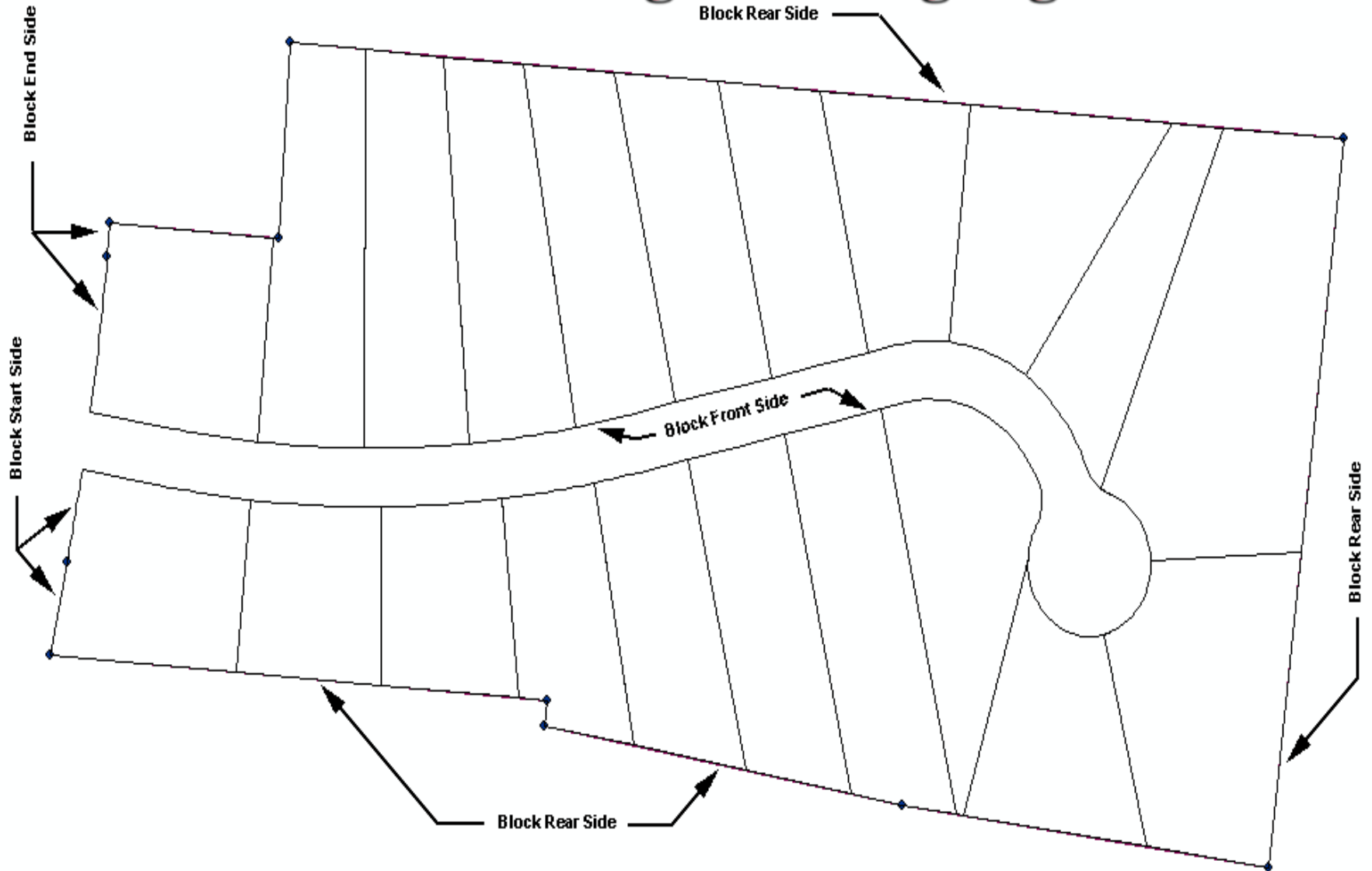


Dialog box for specifying the zoning criteria affecting the subdivision of a parcel of land.



# Subdivision Design Data

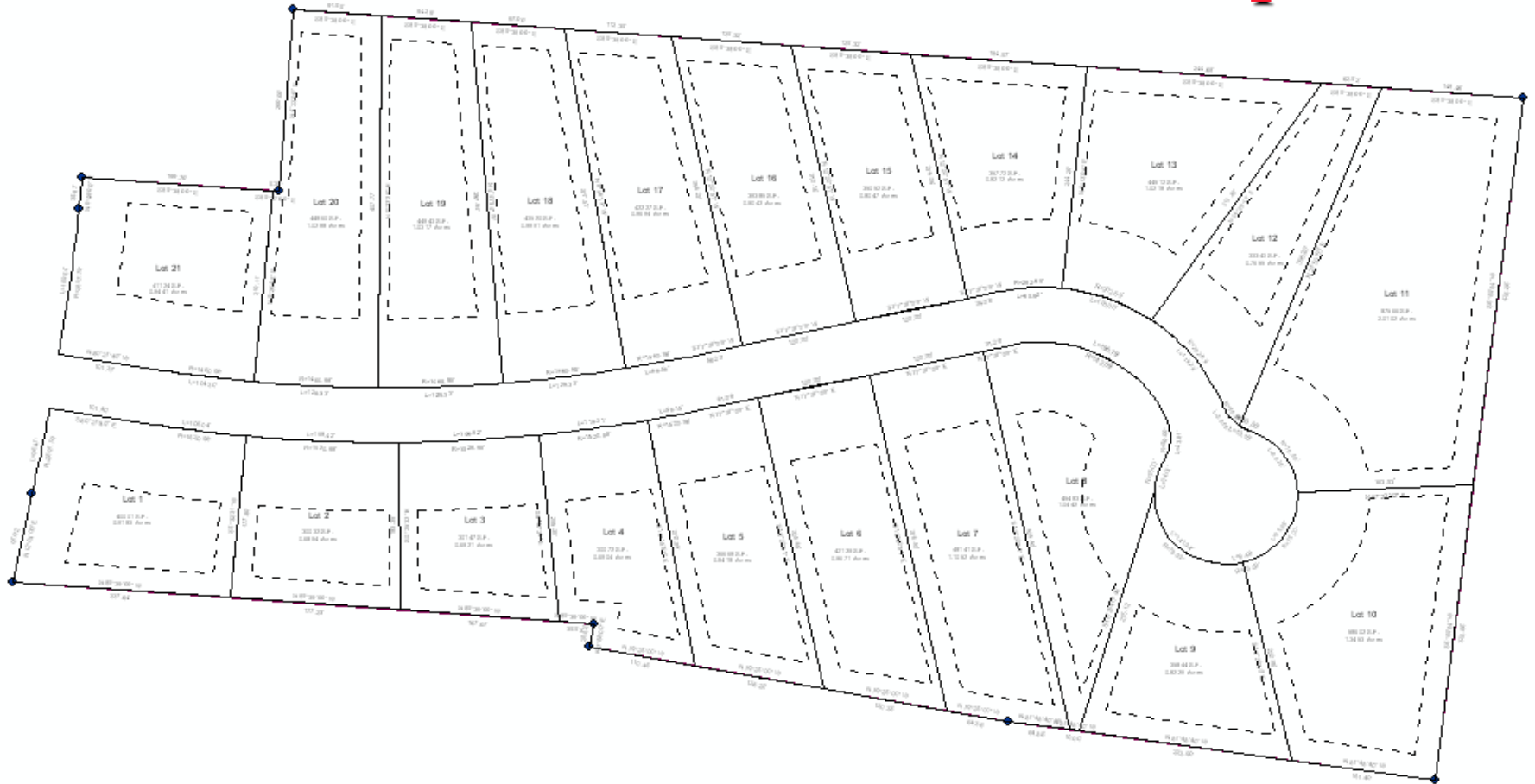
# A four sided “Block” and its automatic division into lots conforming to zoning regulations



- Annotate Distance
- Annotate Azimuth
- Annotate Bearing
- Annotate Distance and Azimuth
- Annotate Distance and Bearing
- Annotate Parcel PIN
- Annotate Parcel Area
- Annotate Parcel Centroid (X,Y)
- Annotate Point Data
- Annotate Text or Attribute

# Mass Generation of

- Lots,
- Metes & Bounds and
- House envelopes



# Plan and Profile Drawings

**P&P Drawings are created by specifying:**

- **A sheet identifier and**
- **The components to be included on the drawing, as the plan view, profile view, north arrow, drawing sheet border, etc.**

- Define Clip Sheet Data
- Define Clip Sheet Data
  - Delete Clip Sheet Data
  - Clip Sheet
  - Define Build Sheet Data
  - Edit Build Sheet Data
  - Delete Build Sheet Data
  - Delete Sheet Component Data
  - Build Sheet
  - Build Grid
  - Activate Data Frame
  - Print Data Frame

Menu combo box commands for creating final design drafting sheets.

# P&P Drawing Components

Dialog box for assembling final design drafting sheets

**Edit Build Sheet Data**

Enter Sheet Parameters for Sheet 1 (Page 1 of 1)

| Shapefile or PGD FeatureClass          | Scale | Rotation | Base X         | Base Y        | New X | New Y |
|--|-------|----------|----------------|---------------|-------|-------|
| C:\Proj02814\Site\Plan.mdb\Sheet_1     | 30    | 0        | 1204854.165683 | 785082.556093 | 1.5   | 14.4  |
| C:\Proj02814\Site\Profile1.mdb\Sheet_1 | 1     | 0        | 0.000          | 0.000         | 4.510 | 1.850 |
| C:\Proj02814\Borders\g_brd.mdb\g_brdln | 1     | 0        | 0              | 0             | 0     | 0     |
| C:\Proj02814\Borders\g_brd.mdb\g_brdtx | 1     | 0        | 0              | 0             | 0     | 0     |
| C:\Proj02814\Borders\g_brd.mdb\g_brdpg | 1     | 0        | 0              | 0             | 0     | 0     |

OK Cancel





# Design Data Exchange

During the design, pertinent information can be stored with the drawing features such as:

|              |               |              |
|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| Lot Number   | Pipe Length   | Street Name  |
| House Number | Pipe Material | Design Speed |
| Block Number | Pipe Size     | etc.         |

data which is pertinent to the municipal client

**Integration  
with the 3D  
Analyst**



# Summary

- ArcGIS **can be used** as a graphic engine for design and drafting applications.
- Performing the design in ArcGIS enables the engineer to provide a **more compatible product** for incorporation into the municipal client's GIS.

# Summary

- The fundamental ArcGIS concept of combining data with graphics in one environment provides a path towards the **total design process** of a project.