



The Envision Group, Inc.

MicroStation & InRoads | EDUCATION•CONSULTING•SUPPORT•VISUALIZATION

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Coordinate Input

Placing elements in MicroStation is usually done one of two ways: absolute coordinates or relative to an existing point. Workflows for placing those elements to absolute coordinates can be done one of two ways: using the Key-in Browser dialog or using AccuDraw's Data Point Key-in

Via the Key-in Browser:

Absolute Coordinates

1. Select a placement tool
2. In the key-in browser type the coordinates: "**XY=1000,1000,0**"
3. Hit the Enter key on the keyboard or the Run icon from the key-in browser. The element will be placed at the keyed in coordinate value.
4. Continue to use the key-in browser and the "XY=" key-in to finish placing elements/vertices/cells...

Relative Point

1. Select a placement tool.
2. Tentative snap to the relative origin point.
3. In the key-in browser type the relative distance you want to move : "**DL=20,10,0**"
4. Hit the Enter key on the keyboard or the Run icon from the key-in browser. The element will be moved 20 units in the X direction, 10 units in the Y direction, and 0 units in the Z direction.

[Robert Mecham](#) is a partner with the firm [The Envision Group](#) in Madison, WI. The firm specializes in MicroStation and the InRoads Suite of products. In addition to providing training for MicroStation & InRoads, they offer visualization services and consulting for clients throughout the United States.



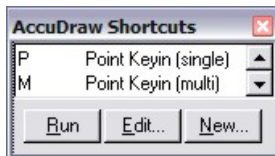
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Via AccuDraw:

There are two shortcut key-ins defined in AccuDraw that will allow you to place elements to specified values, they are “P” and “M”.

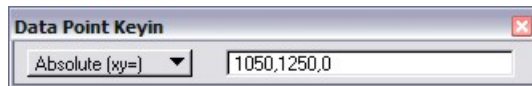


- “P” - will open the Data Point Key-in dialog for a one time key-in value and will then close when it is accepted.
- “M” - will open the Data Point Key-in dialog and will remain open after each value is accepted.



Absolute Coordinates

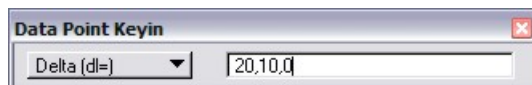
1. Select a placement tool
2. With the Focus with the AccuDraw dialog use the “M” shortcut key. The Data Point Key-in dialog will appear.
3. From the drop down list select the “**Absolute (xy=)**” and enter the values in the key-in field.



4. Hit the Enter key on the keyboard. The element will be placed at the keyed in coordinate value.
5. Continue to use the Data Point Key-in and the “**Absolute (xy=)**” option to continue placing elements/vertices/cells...

Relative Point

1. Select a placement tool.
2. Tentative snap to the relative origin point.
3. With the Focus with the AccuDraw dialog use the “M” shortcut key. The Data Point Key-in dialog will appear.
4. From the drop down list select the “**Delta (dl=)**” and enter the values in the key-in field.



5. Hit the Enter key on the keyboard. The element will be moved 20 units in the X direction and 10 units in the Y direction.