

Celebrity Custom Homes builds Denver dream homes smarter and faster with Autodesk Revit and 3Dconnexion 3D mice

3D Mouse: SpacePilot Pro®

Application: Autodesk Revit™



In-house designer leverages the power of Autodesk Revit and SpacePilot Pro for architecture and construction designing

Celebrity Custom Homes in Lone Tree, Colorado builds residential homes in some of Denver's most coveted custom home neighborhoods, with the goal to create special neighborhoods that will stand the test of time and provide long-lasting value to residents.

In-house designer Dave Geist uses Autodesk® Revit® Architecture in the development of all 3D design drawings and construction documents. "I've been using Revit for almost two years now in the development of a new housing project," says Geist. "Working in 3D allows us to get a better look at houses while still in the software stage, and allows us to detect areas that might be a design concern early in the process."

Following the announcement of 3Dconnexion 3D mouse support in Revit 2012, Geist integrated the SpacePilot Pro 3D mouse into his workflow to significantly improve his ability to position and view 3D content, resulting in increased productivity and enhanced comfort. SpacePilot Pro also complements the intuitive interface

and modeling and documentation tools in Revit, helping Geist at every stage of the design process.

"The ability to pan, zoom and rotate simultaneously in the middle of a command is so helpful, specifically the ability to rotate the model to review without using the keyboard," says Geist. "Before the SpacePilot Pro, I would have to move the drawing to where I could see everything, like running dimension strings or notes."

The SpacePilot Pro also features programmable function keys for instant access to commonly used application commands, and QuickView Navigation keys for one-touch access to specific views. Geist has customized the buttons in order to keep his hands on the 3D mouse for most of his workflow. "After working with the 3D mouse for a few weeks, I realized I could customize its function keys to Tab, Space and Delete, and work through the drawings without wasting time moving my hand to the keyboard."



Geist was so excited about the support of 3D mice in Revit, he purchased the SpacePilot Pro prior to even having the Revit 2012 software. And while he has only been using it a short time, it only took him a couple of days to feel very comfortable with his new workflow. "Today, I feel proficient," says Geist. "And I'm really looking forward to getting better at using the 3D mouse for client walk-throughs, where the smooth transitions the SpacePilot Pro provides will help our clients better visualize their future home."

Overall, the SpacePilot Pro makes designing easier and Geist more efficient. "I was recently working on putting gutters around a house, and I had a wall that had shifted out of place. With the SpacePilot Pro, I was easily able

to spin the design to see why my roof wasn't coming together anymore, and I fixed the problem faster and easier than I would have without the 3D mouse – and that's really what matters most."

Geist tells other Revit users, "If you're not using a 3D mouse, you're crazy! It makes a world of difference, and quite simply, it's the best way to move around. I know it sounds cliché, but there really is no better way to explain it other than saying it's like holding a model in your hand."