MicroStation – Special Text Characters

Overview

TECH NOTE

For certain MicroStation fonts, there are eight special characters that do not appear on the keyboard. They are:

- centerline symbol (`)
- degree circle (°)
- plus\minus (±)
- squared (2)
- cubed (3)
- phase symbol (Ø)
- 1/3
- 2/3
- delta symbol (Δ)
- large asterisk

These characters are only available in Font 50 (**PSE_std**), Font 164 (**Ariali**), Font 200 (**Arial**), and Font 217 (**Arialbd**). They will not be displayed using any other font.

Using The Characters

MicroStation's **Place Text** command places text with special characters. The look of this command dialog depends on which text editor interface you choose in *Workspace > Preferences* command, but they should all display similar results.

Centerline Symbol		`
Degree Symbol	^ (Shift + 6)	0
Plus\Minus Symbol	Alt + 0192	±
Squared Symbol	Alt + 0193	2
Cubed Symbol	Alt + 0194	3
Phase Symbol	Alt + 0195	Ø
1/3	Alt + 0196	1/3
2/3	Alt + 0197	2/3
Delta Symbol	Alt + 0198	Δ
Big Asterisk Symbol	Alt + 0199	*

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ALT + 0129 = 1/2 ALT + 0130 = 1/4 ALT + 0131 = 3/4 ALT + 0132 = 1/8 ALT + 0133 = 3/8 ALT + 0134 = 5/8 ALT + 0135 = 7/8 ALT + 0136 = 1/16 ALT + 0137 = 3/16 ALT + 0138 = 5/16 ALT + 0139 = 7/16 ALT + 0140 = 9/16 ALT + 0141 = 11/16 ALT + 0142 = 13/16 ALT + 0143 = 15/16 ALT + 0144 = 1/32 ALT + 0145 = 3/32 ALT + 0146 = 5/32 ALT + 0147 = 7/32	
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ALT + 0151 = 15/32	
ALT + 0152 = 17/32	
ALT + 0153 = 19/32	
ALT + 0154 = 21/32	
ALT + 0155 = 23/32	
ALT + 0156 = 25/32	
ALT + 0157 = 27/32	
ALT + 0158 = 29/32	
ALT + 0159 = 31/32	

When you use the **Alt** + number, turn on the number lock and the number pad as you enter the numbers.

The symbol appears when you release the **Alt** key. The correct symbol will appear in the design file, but not necessarily in the **Text Editor**.

For questions or comments on this tech note, contact your regional CAE Support Coordinator or the WSDOT CAE Help Desk at (360) 709-**8013**.

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