

Sweet-CAD and Map Data



Sweet-CAD is a map-centric software application. This means that many of the functions of *Sweet-CAD* are built around the presence of map data in the system.

Sweet-CAD uses a standard map data format known as shapefile format.

Map data in shapefile format can be obtained from a variety of sources. Since map data is required for *Sweet-CAD* to function properly, we distribute free map data that is based on the U.S. Census TIGER database. This data is only updated every couple of years.

Customer's wanting to get updated map data may be able to acquire map data from their local county GIS office. The map data will need to meet our specifications to work well. A specification document is available upon request.

Another alternative is to acquire data from a commercial data source. The premiere commercial data source is TeleAtlas. TeleAtlas will license map data on a per county/per year basis. The TeleAtlas data is updated quarterly. Prospective customers can use address searches on a web site to evaluate the accuracy of data for a specific area. The website is:

<http://www.geographic.com/teleatlas/mapyouraddress/us/>.

Customers can get a quote for TeleAtlas data through our *Sweet-CAD* sales representative: 800-537-3927.

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