

## RIGHT CLICK FUNCTIONS AND PURGE.BAT FOR PRO/E

In Pro/Engineer, there are utility programs that run outside of the model software and can be very useful. The big disadvantage of these functions is you have to go out of the modeling software and use the DOS window to type in the commands and full file-path to run. This can be time consuming and frustrating.

Fortunately, in Windows Explorer these functions can be assigned to run with the right-click of a mouse, making the routines much simpler to execute and greatly reducing the time required. Below is a description of the process for assigning right-click commands – as well as the routines we like to use.

### OVERVIEW:

*(In Windows 2000, other Windows platforms should be similar.)*

- Opening Windows Explorer, select **Tools>Folder Options** from the menu bar.
- In the dialog box that comes up, select the **File Types** tab.
- Scroll down to and select the object or filetype the command is to be run on. Commonly these are .prt files or file folders.
- Click on the **Advanced** button, in the “Details for <object> extension” portion of the dialog. The “Edit File Type” dialog will come up.
- Add a new action by clicking the **New** button. The New Action dialog box will come up.
- Type a short explanatory name for the function in the Action Field.
- Type the dos command to run in the Application Used field. Knowing what to write as the command line is the trickiest part of this setup, and experimentation using the dos command prompt is often required. One handy symbol to know is %1, which indicates to the function to use whatever object is selected in the command line at that point.
- Once the command line has been added:  
**OK** the New Action dialog, **OK** the Edit File Type dialog, and **OK** the File Options box.

Now when you want run the program you can just right-click on the intended target, and then select your command from the context menu that pops up. Almost painless.

That's it. A quick description of the process:

Told Windows that an action could be run on the selected file or folder.

Told Windows what that action is, by giving it a command line entry as if you were in dos mode.

## Running the Purge.bat command for Pro/Engineer on a file folder

This is a tip passed along to us a while back. Since Pro/Engineer incrementally saves part models rather than saving over the same file, you can end up with a large amount of history files in the working directory. Occasionally we like to clean them up to save drive space, especially at the end of a project or when the old files are no longer needed. While you can delete all old versions of an open model in Pro-E, the purge.bat function allows you to clean out an entire directory at once.

As a warning, this deletes *all* old versions of the models in a directory so if you want to keep any versions but the most current save those first.

### TO RUN IT:

To run purge.bat, go through the process described above for editing filetypes. Enter the specifics below.

When the New Action dialog box comes up:

- purge.bat routine will be run and all old models will be deleted for you.

Type "Purge Directory" in the Action Field.

- Type "<system command path>cmd.exe /c cd "%1" &"<Pro/E Bin Directory>\purge.bat" \*"\*" in the Application Used field

(ex: "c:\winnt\system32\cmd.exe /c cd "%1" &

"c:\proe2001\bin\purge.bat" \*"\*")

*(Leave out the outside parenthesis on both the above entries.)*

*(It may be necessary to replace <Pro/E Bin Directory> with whichever directory "purge.bat" is located)*

- **OK** the New Action dialog, **OK** the Edit File Type dialog, and **OK** the File Options box.

Now when you wish to clean out a folder with Pro/E models, just right-click on the folder and pick "Purge Directory".

