MicroStation – Entering Bearings in AccuDraw

Overview
This document describes how to enter bearings using the MicroStation AccuDraw functionality.

Workflow
First, set your AccuDraw settings to read out in bearing mode and set the level of precision that you'd like, using the *Settings > Design File > Coordinate Readout* command.

You may also want to toggle off **context sensitivity** for AccuDraw on the *Settings > AccuDraw > Operation* tab; this will keep the compass from rotating.

Polar Mode
AccuDraw can operate in polar mode. The keyboard spacebar toggles between rectangular and polar mode. The following shortcuts have been programmed for polar mode input:

Northeast = quadrant #1

Northwest = quadrant #2

Southwest = quadrant #3

Southeast = quadrant #4

Application
The quadrant number replaces the standard input of N45^23'45"E with a key-in of *1 45^23'45"* and AccuDraw will interpret it as N45^23'45"E

Alternate Key Strokes
As an alternate to using the **<Shift 6>** key for the degree input, try using the semicolon instead. Now your input can be *1 45;23'45*.

This lowers the keystrokes from twelve to nine. While this does not seem to be a huge difference, it does make this task 25% more efficient and eliminates cumbersome keystrokes.

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