

# TIPS from Tech Support

## Translating Drillhole View Data into Geometry Object Data

The MineSight® drillhole view is a critical component to exploration resource evaluation, reserve estimation, and production grade control. Drillhole views possess a wide range of versatile display options and functions. Situations may arise when the functionality of a geometry object (selectable data and editing) is desired while displaying the data from a drillhole view.

One such circumstance might arise when drillhole points of intersection with a complicated irregular surface are required as a geometry. Consider the following: there is an exploration drilling pattern (Figure 1), and it is necessary to see where the holes intersect with an irregular surface. Using a fence diagram would be appropriate if the desired plane is vertical. In the case of an inclined and irregular surface, a fence diagram isn't appropriate due to the complex nature of the surface of intersection. In this case, it is desirable that the points of intersection be geometry objects to better reflect the actual position.

First, export the data from the drillhole view. In the **Data Manager**, select the drillhole view to be exported and using the right-click menu, choose **Export DH List** (Figures 2 and 3). Choose the options as shown in Figure 4 for the **Export Dialog Box**, selecting all holes for export using the export format **Intervals**.

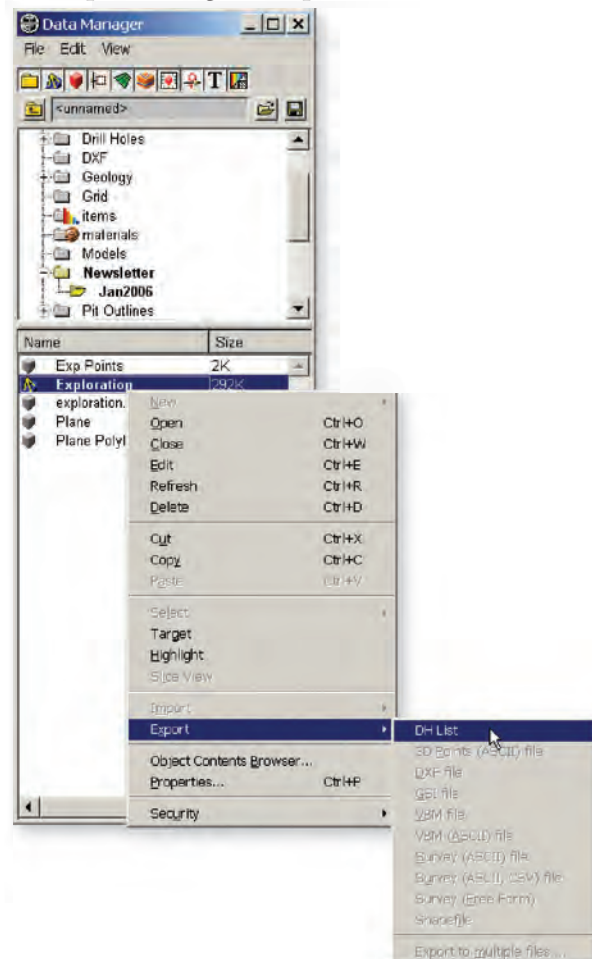


Figure 2

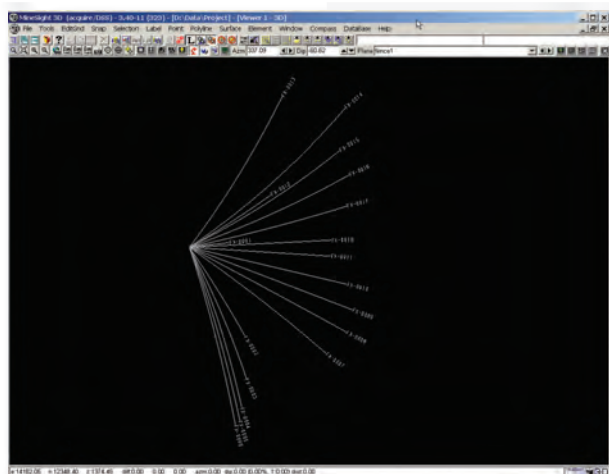


Figure 1

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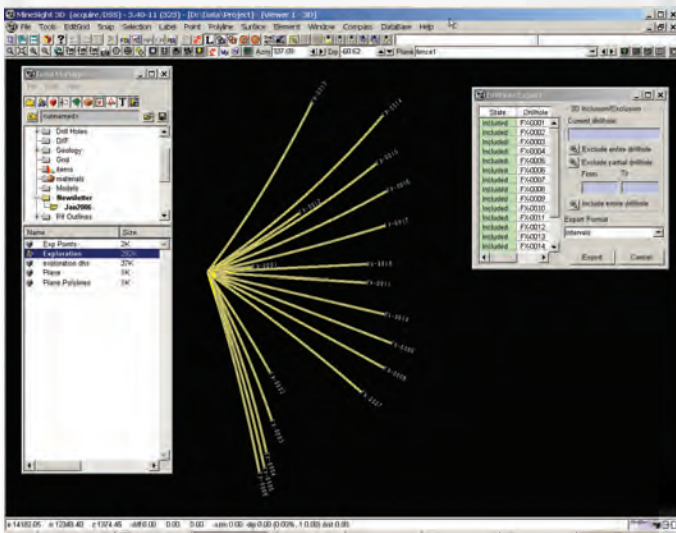


Figure 3

Browse to an appropriate directory and save the file with a **.dhs** extension (**drillhole.dhs**). This will create an ASCII file of the trace of the drillholes.

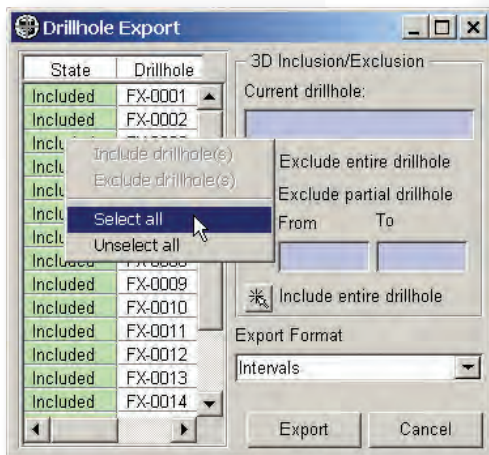


Figure 4

Import the newly exported **drillhole.dhs** file. This demonstrates the usefulness of the importer tool as well as the ease of switching between data formats. To import the drillholes as a geometry object, use the **Data Manager** right-click menu and highlight the folder where the data will be imported. Select **Survey Free Form** (Figure 5) and open the **drillhole.dhs** file that was created from the export step outlined above. Fill in the panel as shown on the right (Figure 6). The particular settings can be saved to be used again. A variety of data formats can be imported using the import options of MineSight®.

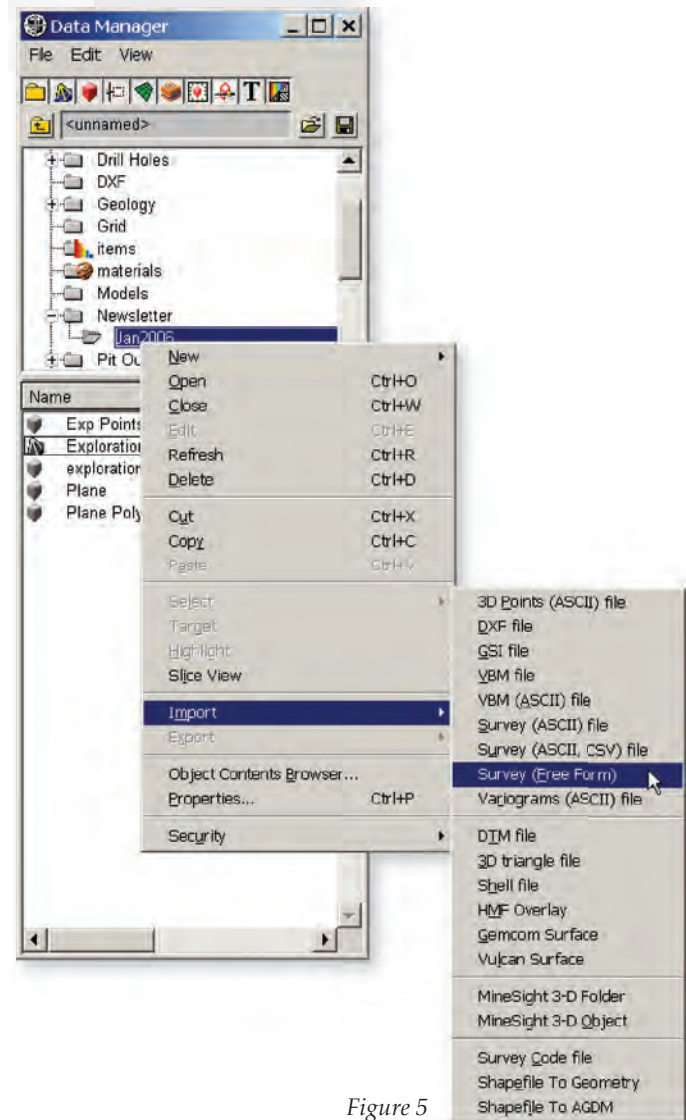


Figure 5

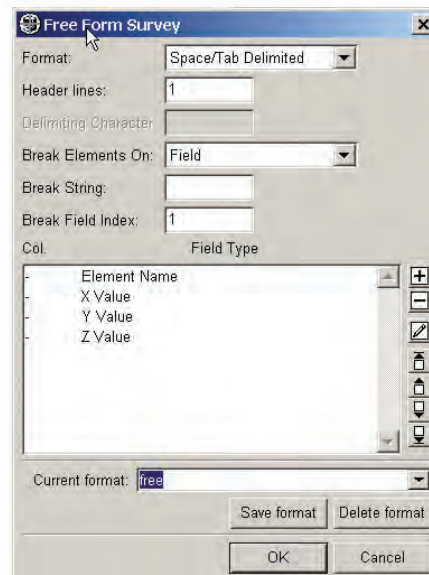


Figure 6

(continued on page 8)

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Selecting **OK** will bring up the second part of the import tool (Figure 7). Here it is possible to shift or exchange the coordinates from the original data source. Ensure that **Save Point ID's** is selected and choose an appropriate distance to split between polylines.

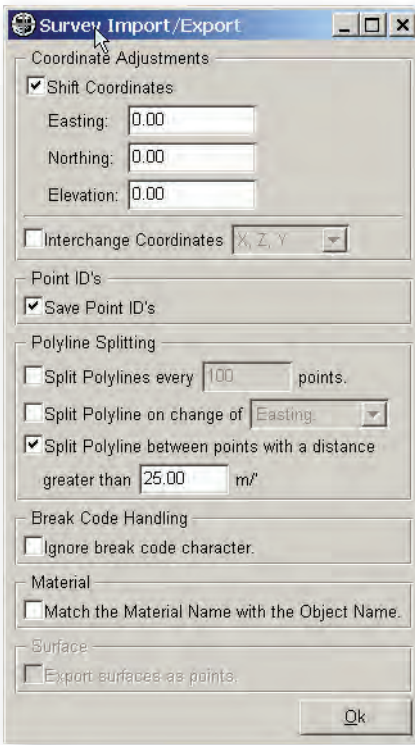


Figure 7

An exact duplicate of the original drillhole view data has been created as a geometry object. Each hole will possess the attributed drillhole name, but, none of the grade information will be available in this format.

To intersect the drillholes with a feature such as a geological unit, a marker horizon, or an ore zone, use the function **Polyline | Clip Polylines, Points, Labels** function (Figure 8). Put the drillhole geometry object into selection mode and open **Polyline | Clip Polylines, Points, Labels**. This will create a series of points exactly at the intersection with the surface. For extremely irregular surfaces, this technique allows more flexibility and precision.

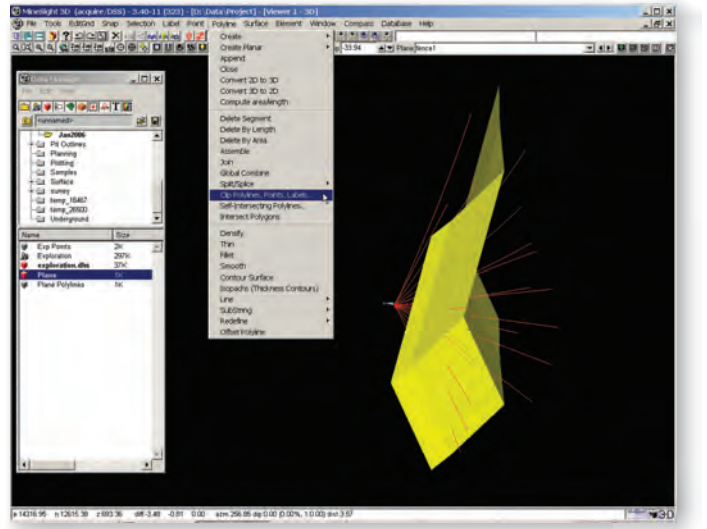


Figure 8

Select **Create points at intersections** (Figure 9) and pick the surface to intersect from the MineSight® viewer window using the blue ribbon icon under **Boundaries**. This will result in a series of points that can be stored to a new or existing geometry object. Preview the objects (Figure 10). If you are satisfied with the results, click **Apply** and send the data to an appropriate object.

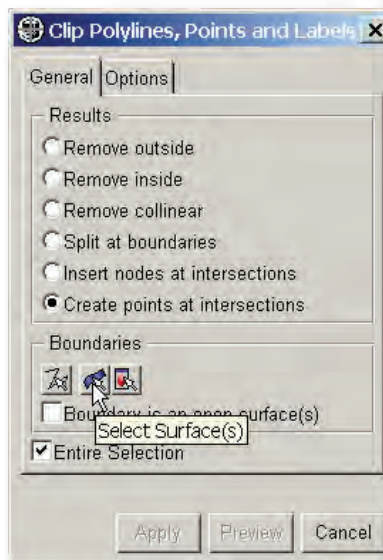


Figure 9

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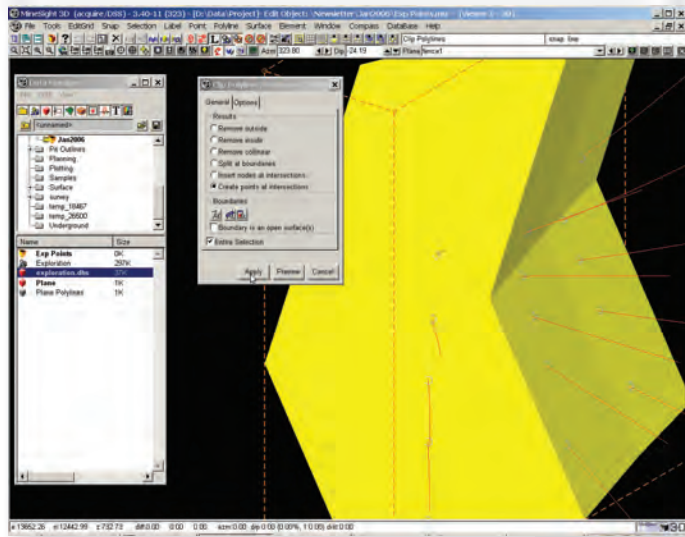


Figure 10

Drillhole intersection points at the contact of the surface.

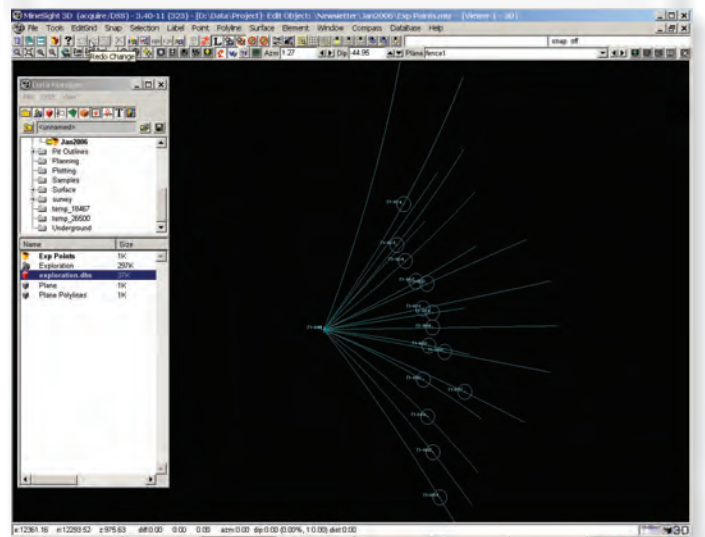


Figure 11

# Training, Always a Sound Investment!

Manager 1: "What if I train my people and they leave?"

Manager 2: "What if you don't train them and they stay?"

Sounds like an interesting conversation doesn't it? Sound familiar? If it does sound familiar or even if this conversation has never taken place, the question of whether to train or not to train is difficult. Consider the following when deciding to send yourself or your personnel to training:

"Training costs too much."

It would cost more to have your personnel not properly trained. Learning by doing may be a great way to get people working, but it generally costs more to "do it over" than to do it right the first time. Mintec, Inc. training will help your personnel do it right the first time.

"Training takes away my people."

On-site training is available. Also consider the benefit that training employees allows them an opportunity to enhance their skills.

"We won't use most of what is discussed in the training."

Consider specialized training. Mintec, Inc. provides training to suit your specific needs.

With the Mintec training options available to you, the decision to train your staff should be an easy choice. Contact Rick Rochon, Mintec Training Coordinator at: [train@mintec.com](mailto:train@mintec.com) to further discuss your training needs.

