



# Tech Tip: Standalone engines

Several of the engines that are built into MineSight 3D (MS3D) are available as standalone programs that can be run from the command line. These deal primarily with some of the CAD functions that are usually accessed through MS3D. Running these engines from the command line offers several advantages over running the same processes from the GUI, namely a reduced CPU/RAM overhead and the ability to automate running these processes or incorporate them into batches. A lower overhead is particularly useful when working with old hardware or processing very large jobs. However, MS3D will usually also be required to check the result is correct. Also, due to their standalone nature, these programs often work with file types other than the standard MineSight Resource (\*.MSR) file. This means that in order to use these programs, geometry objects must first be converted to the correct format.

These programs are distributed with MS3D and are located in the MineSight directory. A list of the engines available along with their function is shown below.

<i>bmfToCsv.exe</i>	Convert a Vulcan block model to an ASCII output file in CSV format
<i>cdt.exe</i>	Correcting Delaunay Triangulation (remove flat spots)
<i>contour.exe</i>	Contour surfaces
<i>create_cut_solid.exe</i>	Extrude a polygon and make a solid
<i>datamineBlockToCsv.exe</i>	Convert a Datamine block model to an ASCII output file in CSV format
<i>dtb.exe</i>	Delaunay Triangulation
<i>filter.exe</i>	Removes unwanted data from triangulation
<i>mocode.exe</i>	Drillhole and Model Coding
<i>pclip.exe</i>	Polygon/Polygon intersection
<i>sclip.exe</i>	Solid/string clipping
<i>sgr.exe</i>	Surface Gridding and Volume Calculation
<i>SolidExpand.exe</i>	Solid Expansion engine
<i>union.exe</i>	Solid/solid intersection engine
<i>voxel.exe</i>	Calculates block partials from solids

Several options can be configured for each program. If a program is executed from the command line without any arguments, the usage syntax will be displayed. Use the help option from this list or refer to the helpdoc (MineSight\helpdoc\standaloneengines.chm) for more detailed information on how to run each of these programs.