



3DVIA Composer: FAQs

Product

What is “3DVIA Composer”?

3DVIA Composer revolutionizes the product documentation processes. It is an authoring tool for creating technical images (raster and vector) and 3D animations to be created by non-CAD users for technical publications, interactive product documentation and marketing presentations. By using 3DVIA Composer, Technical Publishers (commonly referred in the industry as Tech-pubs) can easily create documentation (such as user manuals, service manuals, marketing catalogs, etc) by directly repurposing the 3D CAD data generated by design engineers. With its powerful functionality in animations, 3DVIA Composer take the documentation processes to the next level by enabling interactive 3D content such as animated assembly instructions and service instructions in a highly compressed distributable format.

The highest business value for customers is realized by the 3DVIA Composer’s ability to **seamlessly update** the published documentation with all the changes that design engineers implement in the CAD documents. The associativity with CAD data saves significant time in product development cycle and provides up-to-date and reliable documentation to be consumed by manufacturing, assembly shops, as well as customers.

For SolidWorks and resellers, this product provides a big opportunity to tap into Pro/E accounts, enable documentation processes (3DVIA Composer directly reads Pro/E without any conversion) and leverage the relationship to penetrate into design processes to convert to SolidWorks accounts. 3DVIA Composer directly reads multiple CAD formats (such as SolidWorks, CATIA, **Pro/E**, etc.) providing a single interface to users to work with multiple formats of 3D data from various sources (read vendors and customers).

What products are offered in the 3DVIA Composer product suite?

Product	Configuration	Pre-requisite	Description
3DVIA Composer	Standalone	None	Creating technical illustration and 3D interactive content.
3DVIA Sync	Standalone	None	Batch mode software for automating content creation and synchronizing changes in underlying CAD data to 3DVIA Composer files.
3DVIA Check	Add-on	3DVIA Composer	Enables static and dynamic clash

			detection, to help users qualify assemblies for service and assembly procedures.
3DVIA Safe	Add-on	3DVIA Composer	Enables access control to users Intellectual Property in 3DVIA Composer-generated deliverables.

Pricing

What is the pricing of the 3DVIA Composer product line?

Product	USD		EURO		GBP		YEN	
	License	Sub	License	Sub	License	Sub	License	Sub
3DVIA Composer	\$9,995	\$2,499	9,995 €	2,499 €	£7,196	£1,799	1,789,100 ¥	447,300 ¥
3DVIA Sync	\$8,000	\$2,000	8,000 €	2,000 €	£5,760	£1,440	1,432,000 ¥	358,000 ¥
3DVIA Safe	\$3,995	\$999	3,995 €	999 €	£2,876	£719	715,100 ¥	178,800 ¥
3DVIA Check	\$3,995	\$999	3,995 €	999 €	£2,876	£719	715,100 ¥	178,800 ¥

Sales and Distribution

What is the global rollout schedule?

The product will be available for sell worldwide from January 16th 2008.

Who can sell this product?

SolidWorks VARs can sell this product. They will have to consult with their SolidWorks sales managers for details of a sales program and the process to get a demo license.

How the product is distributed?

The product will be available for download by customers on the SolidWorks customer portal. Please note that the product is available by **electronic download only** and does not involve physical media distribution.

How does VARs place an order?

The process is similar to the existing SolidWorks order process. VARs can place an order using a shopping cart on VAR portal. SolidWorks order management team will handle orders placed through the VRC.

Who will provide customer service and technical support to customers and resellers?

SolidWorks customer service team will service licensing requests received from customers.

- First-line technical support to customers will be provided by resellers.
- SolidWorks technical support team will provide second-line technical support to the resellers.
- 3DVIA Composer technical support team and R&D teams provide third-line technical support.

Which other channels are selling the same products from 3DVIA?

Dassault Business Transformation (BT) channel: DS Direct
Dassault PLM Value Channel (VC): PLM Partners (DS VARs)

Training

Will there be training materials for 3DVIA Composer?

End-user training manual is developed by the SolidWorks training department and is currently used for technical training. These manuals are being updated per feedback and will be available by the end of February. Resellers can order the on-demand printed manuals using the existing web store.

What is the plan for Customer training?

Resellers will conduct the customer training based on training materials available from SolidWorks.

What are the dates for technical training?

7 th – 9 th Jan	Internal Training (conducted successfully)	Concord
5 th – 7 th Feb	Internal and Reseller Training	Concord
12 th – 14 th Feb	Internal and Reseller Training	UK
12 th – 14 th Feb	Internal and Reseller Training	Santa Monica
4 th – 6 th Mar	APAC Internal and Reseller Training	Singapore

What are the dates for Sales training?

16 th Jan	Internal Sales Training	Webinar
22-Jan	Internal and Reseller Training	SolidWorks World
TBD	Internal and Reseller Training	Concord

Will there be VAR certification?

A reseller certification program is targeted for launch in the beginning of Q2 2008.

General

When will marketing material be available?

VAR Resource center (VRC) has a new product information page at <http://www.solidworks.com/home/var/desktop/products/collaboration/3DVIAComposer.html>. Product overview presentation, demo materials, data sheet, FAQs (this document) and other sales tools are available at this page.

SolidWorks website will be updated on January 16 with 3DVIA Composer product and related information (Videos, sample images, etc).

(<http://www.solidworks.com/pages/products/3DVia/3DVIAComposer.html>)

Who are the existing customers using 3DVIA Composer?

The existing customer base of 3DVIA Composer is product designers, mechanical designers, medical devices OEMs, automotive companies, etc. Some of the names to mention here are companies, such as: Volvo, John Deere, Beckman Coulter, Renault, Teradyne, etc.

Is there a demo available today?

YES. Visit www.3dviacomposer.com and <http://www.3dviacomposer.com/index.php?id=62>

How is 3DVIA Composer different from SolidWorks?

SolidWorks is used to design products and used primarily by engineers and designers. 3DVIA Composer is a complementary product that leverages 3D data to create content for technical illustrations (2D/3D images, exploded views, etc) as well as create interactive 3D content (animations for assembly instructions, product training, marketing demonstration, etc). 3DVIA Composer empowers the technical publishers and marketers, who do not operate CAD software,

to independently create required deliverables and save designers time to focus on core design work.

How is 3DVIA Composer different from eDrawings?

eDrawings is a visualization tool whereas 3DVIA Composer is an authoring tool. eDrawings is a viewer for 2D and 3D for engineering and manufacturing, 3DVIA Composer creates the content that is used for publisher's deliverables.

Would a SolidWorks user need 3DVIA Composer?

The target audience of 3DVIA Composer would be non-CAD users who could repurpose the 3D Data for functions surrounding the design process. The users of Composer are in departments such as technical publications, assembly processes, field service, training, marketing, etc.

How is 3DVIA Composer licensed?

Products are available in stand-alone configurations with a node-locked license file. Floating licenses are not available. On installation, users can request a license file by an auto-generated email and later install the license file received by email.

How does it read the CAD files?

The users directly open the CAD files inside 3DVIA Composer, which automatically translates the geometry and metadata to a simplified XML format. Thus, the CAD files are never directly modified. The changes to underlying CAD files are automatically propagated to XML structure, thereby retaining any changes done inside Composer, such as annotations, section views, animations, etc.

What is the version of product? Why is it not 2008? Will there be service packs? When is next release and version scheduled?

The 3DVIA Composer follows version scheme from 3DVIA, and hence its current version is "V6R1". Solidworks version scheme follows the year in which the software will be used. So "V6R1" is equivalent to "2008" as in "Solidworks 2008". However, the release cycle of 3DVIA Composer will not be aligned with that of SolidWorks, and hence there will be next version "V6R2" available while "SolidWorks 2008" version will be in the market. There are no service packs for 3DVIA Composer products. Instead internal build number is used for reference and future incremental builds. Current build number is 3DVIA Composer V6R1 HFWK0308.

What languages does 3DVIA Composer support?

The software is available in two languages, English and French. The languages planned for next release are German and Japanese.

How does the user share the files with others who do not have Composer?

Users can simply share the 3DVIA Composer outputs to various audiences. Anyone can read those files by using the free 3DVIA Player. The player allows visualization of the 3D data (such as exploded views & animations), dynamic sectioning, annotations & redline markups.

What is the relation between Seemage and 3DVIA Composer?

Dassault Systemes acquired Seemage and merged the company with its existing business unit 3DVIA. The existing product mix of Seemage was simplified by removing certain products and renaming other products, including the 3DVIA prefix.

Old Product Mix	New Product Mix
Viz	<i>(Discontinued)</i>
MockUp	<i>(Discontinued)</i>
Publisher	3DVIA Composer
Sync Light	3DVIA Sync
Secure 3D	3DVIA Safe
Clash and Clearance	3DVIA Check