INSTALL & SETUP OF RADIANCE FOR ECOTECT AND RADTOOL...

comment posted by craines :: 19 May 2004 - 4:14pm

[Archived phorum post from squ1.com v2 by craines]

Ok Rochelle, lets step through it...

I know this is something we should probably do in a tutorial, but this will have to do for now. BTW I am not a RADIANCE user and have never ever done this process myself before, so this is going to be a pretty straight forward intro -- but better than nothing hopefiully

So here goes...

Go to the Desktop RADIANCE website <u>http://radsite.lbl.gov/deskrad/</u>, go to the download page and choose the version you want to install -- I chose **Download Desktop Radiance 2.0 Beta** as it sounded pretty reasonable. You will then need to fill in LBNLs form and wait for their email to come through to you.

In case you are wondering, we are not going to install the full Desktop RADIANCE and we do not need AutoCAD etc. We will choose the bits we want later on during install as we only need the RADIANCE "engine".

2. Use the password that you were emailed to unzip the download into any directory on your computer. Then double-click the **Setup.exe** file to start the install process.

3. First off it asks us for an Install Directory, best to choose **C:\Radiance** as this will keep things very straight forward and not cause you any hassles later on when rendering with RADIANCE.

On the next screen choose the **Custom Installation** option -- this will then let us decide to only have the RADIANCE "engine" rather than the AutoCAD Desktop RADIANCE version.

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5. Next it is going to ask you for a series of install directories. Most of these are not important as we aren't using the full Desktop RADIANCE, but there is one in particular

which is vital to get right -- the main RADIANCE installation directory. The locations I chose are as follows and shown in the image below:

	utoCAD is or will be installed. A directory location is ce shortcuts. If AutoCAD is not yet installed, specify
	y be installed. Be sure to specify the AutoCAD
Destination Folder	

- Choose AutoCAD installation location = C:\Program Files\ACAD2000\

(I only chose this cause I had it, but if you don't it doesn't matter just skip this for the next step)

- Choose the Desktop RADIANCE main database installation = C:\Radiance\Database\ (again I don't think this matters for our non-desktop install)

- Choose RADIANCE for Windows installation location = C:\Radiance\

(It is **VERY IMPORTANT** you do not put spaces in this path. Our recommendation is the above, as again it will save you troubles later on down the line when using the software).

- Install Optics 5 = ??

(I didn't have/want this either, so just left it as was)

- Select Program Folder

(again not particularly relevant as we won't be using Desktop RADIANCE)

6. Then the install process will run through. Once that is done you will be able to navigate to the C:\Radiance\bin\ directory on your computer, and there you will find the infamous rad.exe. This means the RADIANCE engine is installed and you are ready to go with ECOTECT and the RadTool.

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7. Load up RadTool (either from within ECOTECT or just on its own from the Start Menu) and choose the **Settings button**. Make sure the RADIANCE Directory matches the one you chose during install -- in my case that was C:\Radiance. Everything else in that dialog I left as default.

ADTOOL: System Settings	
RADIANCE Directory	
C:\RADIANCE (Locate)	
Select the directory on this machine in which RADIANCE is installed. This directory must contain the 'bin', 'lib' and 'obj' sub-directories. Whilst most RADIANCE tools are reasonably tolerant of long file names, it is usually wise to install it in a directory that conforms to the original DOS 8.3 filenaming convention (directory names <= 8 chars and no spaces).	
Alternate Image File Viewer	
Locate	
Leave this item blank if you just wish to view RADIANCE PIC files. If you wish to display post-processed BMP/TGA/TIF and GIF files directly, simply locate an application capable of identifying and displaying image files of these formats.	
Command Execution Settings	
Clean up batch files after execution.	
Deletes the associated BAT file as soon as it completes it's task. Guiet batch file execution.	
Do not echo commands to the command line as they are run.	
Pause on completion.	
Check this item to prevent the DOS window controling the RADIANCE run from closing as soon as it is complete. This is essential when your run fails as you will need to read the error message displayed in order to fix the problem.	
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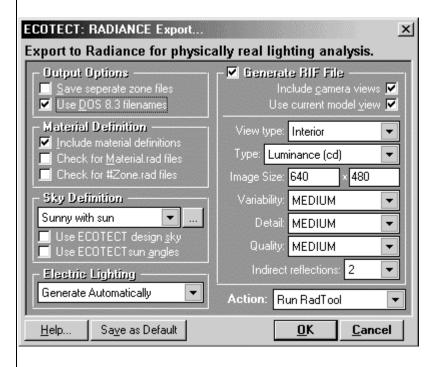
8. I then just did a really quick model in ECOTECT -- a simple box with a couple of windows, and saved a camera view from the OpenGL display window.

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9. Then I went back to the main ECOTECT window and chose the RADIANCE - Export Model Data option from the Export Manager. This asked me where I wanted to save my RADIANCE scene files, and then loaded up the dialog box shown below.

Here too it is **VERY IMPORTANT** to choose a directory on your computer that **DOES NOT** contain **ANY** spaces in the **ENTIRE LENGTH** of the directory path -- if there is even just one space RADIANCE will not be able to handle it and will generate obscure errors that don't make much sense, so **BE CAREFUL**.

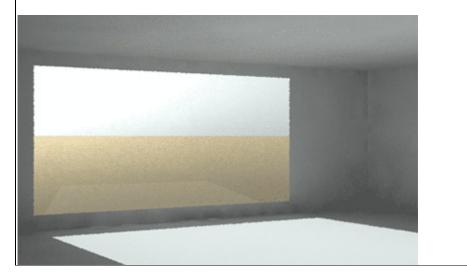
The dialog box I left with the default settings (cause to be honest, I really wouldn't have a clue what else to go with).



10. I also left the RadTool settings as default too, and just chose the **Interactively Render Selected View** option so I could see if it was all working.

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11. and ta da!! my first ever RADIANCE render done all on my own It's not very pretty, but I'm quite chuffed with myself bit of a relief to be honest as I didn't realy know if it would when I started this post.



Now for all those out there reading this, I promise I am not being sarcastic, I honestly have never ever done this whole RADIANCE thing before -- I have overheard the odd bit of troubleshooting etc. that Andrew has provided for others but thats about it... So no asking me any complex questions ok -- well at least until I've used it for a few more years Regards, Caroline

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