

Relocation of Content Center Files

Issue

If you just install Inventor and started off working you may run into issues with your Content Center components if they are not stored in a common location. A common location could be your local machine for a single user of Inventor or on a server location if you have multiple users.

The most common issue is when either a user goes to share his or hers assembly with Content Center components and the other user gets request for resolving all the locations of Content Center components. Other symptoms are if you are as single user and upgrade to a newer version of Inventor and open a exist assembly and you get the same issue of being asked to resolve the location of all your Content Center components.

The reason for that is, for Autodesk Inventor to comply with and Windows compliance some folder configurations are not optimal for day to day use. Content center file location is one of these. The default location %USERPROFILE%\Documents\Inventor\Content Center Files\R20XX\ has two things that prevents sharing and the other limits it us to one release of Inventor.

The first one is the use of the Users folder. This directory is intended for use by the user logged in on the computer. If your project file or application option points to user folder and you try sharing they well are asked for each content center component to resolve its location. Since it not on their machine or in a different user's folder it can't be accessed.

The second is the use of a version number as you can see in the path above it has \R20XX in it. If a single user upgrades to a new version of Inventor its default will look at the new version path and not the old one. Once again when opening an assembly that contains Content Center Components it will ask you to resolve each instance of components used from the Content Center.

Solution

To correct this will require some additional work and creating some common file folders.

First create a common directory. If you are part of multiple user environment you will want to create this on a network server that is accessible by everyone. Even as a single user of Inventor you will want to create a new directory outside of your user account. For this example well use this as the new folder location. <Path>\Inventor Library\Content Center Files.

With the new folder created you will want to browse to the existing %USERPROFILE%\Documents\Inventor\Content Center Files\R20XX\ folder under it you will see the different standards used. The most common would be the en-US folder. Highlight and copy the folders. Then paste the copied files in the newly created common directory. The new folder structure should

look something like this <Path>\Inventor Library\Content Center Files\en-US. You will notice there is no destination for the release version of Inventor in the new path.

If you have been a user for multiple releases of Inventor you will want to repeat these steps for each version folder you have.

With the files now in a common location you will need to edit your Application Option\Files\Content Center Files or your project file.

In your Application Options\Files change the path for Default Content Center Files from %USERPROFILE%\Documents\Inventor\Content Center Files\R2014\ to you new location.

In your Project file under the Folder Options change Content Center Files to you new location. Please remember that the path in the project file over rights the application options. Also if you have multiple users using the same project file this is the quickest change that can be passed on to other users.

With your Project file and Application Options updated you can create new Content Center components. But you need to address any existing assembly files using Content Center components created before the change.

Updating Existing Assemblies with Content Center components before the changing location.

Any existing files before relocating the Content Center files will need to be addressed. You can do this on an as needed basis.

To address existing Assemblies with Content Center components you will need to open the assembly file. When you do it will as to resolve the Content Center components (since they have moved) to their new location. Once you have done this you can save the assembly and the issue will be resolved.

What to do when the next upgrade comes out

Since you now have a common location all you need to do is see that your Application Options\Files\Default Content Center Files and/or Project file\Folder Options\Content Center Files are pointed to the location you moved all the past files to.