

This appendix describes the purpose and usage of RDF files, a compact file format for interchange of CAD data. A technical description of RDF files can be supplied separately.

**Introduction** The RDF file is a medium for the transfer of drawings between different CAD systems, and for the provision of drawing data for 'post-processing'. Each file contains all the data associated with a single drawing — that is, the drawing itself plus any inserts included in it.

**Creating RDF files:** RDF files can be created in several ways:

- By EXPORTING a drawing from Accucadd.
- By RoboMill, Accumill, and other Robo Systems products.
- From Robo Apple II-based drafting systems, using the translation program provided for that system.
- By many third party programs.

**Using RDF files** You can:

- Read an RDF file into Accucadd.
- Translate RDF data into AutoCAD DXF format using Library: Export DXF.
- Write software to put RDF files to other uses.

RDF files are also used to transmit drawings between the various Robo Systems programs.

**RDF system versions** The RDF system exists in several versions:

- Version 5 RDF is used by Accucadd, and RoboCAD 21 series software. It uses IEEE high-precision floating-point numbers for data storage, in place of the integers used in older versions. As Version 5 files are incompatible with previous versions, the design of the file format was cleaned up at the same time.
- Version 4 RDF is used by several Accucadd subsystems: RoboSOLID, RoboBUILD and RoboDATA. Robo programs produce and read Version 4 RDF files for communication with their subsystems. Version 4 was the primary RDF format of RoboCAD 20, RoboDRAFT and RoboCAD 4, and is sometimes known as '20' format.
- Version 2 was used with all versions of Accucadd 3.0. The RoboSOLID subsystems can also create version 2 RDF files.
- Version 1 RDF was produced with monochrome versions of RoboCAD-PC, and is completely obsolete.

**Details:** To convert files from old versions of RDF, IMPORT them into the Accucadd drafting program, and re-EXPORT them.

Version 4 files are not obsolete, and can be used by Accucadd for communication with other programs; they are described in detail in the

first edition of the Robo Data Format Guide. That volume will be helpful in learning to work with RDF Version 5 files, although the sample programs in it won't work with Version 5. It is available from Robo Systems.