

SATURN

ATKINS

Dirck Van Vliet

SATVIEW - The Next Steps



Thursday 27th November 2014

Plan Design Enable



SatView is coming...

It works from reading network files,

.UFN – unloaded networks OR

.UFS – loaded networks (or historically .UFA files)

However, it needs a little information so that it can locate the network correctly over a [Bing Maps](#) background.

Users can help themselves by doing a little preparation in their *network.DAT* files (for versions 11.3.07) and later.

[But don't worry – it will allow you to give the information manually when you load a network that does not have the information stored in it]



ALL USERS - Preparation for SatView

In preparation for SatView,

ALL USERS should add to their *network.dat* files (V11.3.07 and later) the **&PARAM** namelist parameters:

IEPSG EPSG code – defines the base coordinate system

Default 27700 is British Ordnance Survey National Grid

XYFACT Factor applied to SATURN coordinates to give coordinates in EPSG system

Note – Not XYUNITS which is used to convert to link lengths, but often the same

IXSHFT X and Y shifts to add to factored values to give coordinates in EPSG system

IYSHFT

See SATURN Manual 6.8 – Note 12.



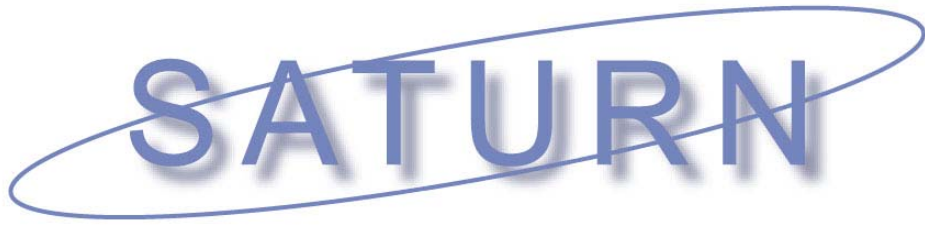
SatView testing

We plan to give SatView a road test before a general release

- Planning for a December/January start
- Feedback on all sorts of targeted issues

So, introducing...





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SATURN Beta Beta Programme for Users



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SATURN Beta Programme

A more formalised controlled pre-release of SATURN software in the user environment.

We are looking for a wide range of users who would like to be beta testers on the technical side as well as the user side, initially of SatView but continuing on to other software.

- This includes installation and local machine configuration investigations
- User and usability surveys



What's in it for me?

As a Beta User

- early hands on experience of potential new features
- chance to influence development
- working more closely with SATURN development team
- potential resolution of in-house IT “problems” before Release



But what is expected of me?

Users in the test programme must...

- be prepared to actively use and respond to us
- understand that they are not working with a finished product
 - comment on whether the tool is working
 - localised practical suggestions on enhancements
- be prepared to go through a check list of tests
 - and return check list pass/fail + timings and log files
- accept features/methods and output formats may change
 - any building of features/methods in to users' future working practice would be purely at the users' risk



Requirements

Users must be in a position to...

- rapidly install new versions
 - it is expected that releases will be fortnightly
 - some developments may require intermediate uploads/testing
- run basic tests and report back timely
- be able to participate in bimonthly(?) forum webinars
 - in terms of personal time
 - and necessary communication facilities

Software Restrictions

- Development License
 - will be dongled/time expiry
 - limited in number
- so if not actively responding will require dongle returned

Other QTMBA - or FAQ before they are (1)

Can I use it for external fee paying work?

- Yes BUT remember that it is at your risk – for example...
 - we may not take the development under investigation in to release
 - the development may be withdrawn as alternative methods are investigated
 - the dongle / testing license may have to be withdrawn

How long will it run for?

- It is intended to become part of standard SATURN development process
 - but flexibly Beta users may change according to specific investigations
 - please register an interest in being a Beta User
 - even if you do not wish to participate in the current SatView investigations

Do I get my costs reimbursed?

- No but you have the opportunity to work more closely with the SATURN development team and earlier access to the latest software

Other QTMBA - or FAQ before they are (2)

What's it going to cover?

- Initially SatView
 - both technically in terms of deployment
 - and user interface / usability
- then possibly Licensing Software...

How frequent are releases going to be?

- Normally every two weeks
 - but bug fixing/testing may require more active user/developer interaction

How do I provide feedback?

- We are currently investigating which of our internal processes may be extended for external feedback
 - Internally for communications we have been using Lync and how beta users may remain on top of known problems and those arising from other testers
- Short term, our email address for this is saturnbeta@atkinsglobal.com

Other QTMBA - or FAQ before they are (3)

How do I register an interest?

- Please register an interest here at the meeting, or send an email to saturnbeta@atkinsglobal.com
- We will require a few technical details which you may not have to hand so we will send you an electronic form to complete

Will I automatically be selected?

- No – the number of development licenses is limited, and we wish to cover a broad spectrum of users / organisations / computing facilities

Do I have to sign an agreement?

- Probably yes (when selected) – but we wish to keep this to the minimum

When does it start?

- Hopefully a Christmas present!