

Help in Determining System Specifications

Operating System

1. Click the "Start" button
2. Click "Control Panel" from the menu, and then "System"
3. In the General Tab of the System Properties pop-up, you'll see your Operating System listed under System. For the STI, this should be Microsoft Windows XP Professional, Service Pack 2

Hard Drive Space

1. On your desktop, double-click on the "My Computer" Icon.
2. On the screen that pops up, you may see the Free Space of your Local Disk listed (under Hard Disk Drives).
3. If the free space is not displayed, right-click on the icon for your Local Disk and select "Properties".
4. Under the "General" Tab of the pop-up screen, your amount of Free Space is displayed. This number must be larger than 7 GB. Remember: this number is only for installing and running the software and does not account for any files you'll need to save for your coursework during the STI.

RAM (Random Access Memory)

1. Click "Start" from the Desktop
2. Click on Control Panel from the menu and then System
3. On the System Properties pop-up menu, your RAM is listed on the General tab under Computer.

Virtual Memory

Virtual memory is a feature of Microsoft Windows where Hard drive space is used as a substitute for RAM. It is used primarily for programs that require a large amount of memory to run (such as AutoDesk Inventor).

You need to ensure that your computer has 2-4 Gigs of Virtual Memory Space. To check and see if you meet this requirement:

1. Click Start, then select the Control Panel
2. Select "System"
3. On the pop-up screen for System Properties, click on the Advanced tab (might be called Performance).
4. Under Performance, click Settings
5. Under the Advanced tab, your Virtual Memory is listed. You can select Change if your setting is not between 2-4GB.



Processor Speed

1. Click Start, select Control Panel, then System
2. On the pop-up screen for System Properties, click the “General” tab.
3. Your processor model and speed in Hz is listed under Computer.

DVD-CDRW Drive

Inspect the outside cover of your CD drive and look for the “DVD ROM” and “Compact Disc Rewritable” labels.

Graphics Card

1. Right click on the desktop, select “Properties”
2. Select “Setting” Tab, then click “Advanced”
3. Select “Adapter Tab”
4. Under “Adapter Information”, Memory Size should be at least 64 MB.
5. You will need to check documentation specific to your graphics card for information on compatibility with Open GL, Direct X9, and 3D CAD (usually available online from your card manufacturer’s website). You may also need to download current drivers for these interfaces to function properly (check your card manufacturer’s website for downloads and more information.)
6. Visit the Autodesk Graphics Hardware site to see if your card is AutoCAD compatible.

http://usa.autodesk.com/adsk/servlet/hc?status=1&status=2&status=3&os=WinXP&os=Win2K&siteID=123112&catID=6711614&id=6711853&linkID=2475161&is_results=1

PLEASE NOTE: Basic Intel graphic chipset and SiS graphic chipsets or other chipsets with shared memory are not recommended for video display. All graphic chipsets must be 3D capable and support OpenGL. A third party Graphic card is usually necessary.

Do I have Administrative Rights?

You need to have administrative rights on your laptop in order to install software for the STI. To check and see if you do,

1. Click “Start”
2. Click “Control Panel” then “User Accounts”
3. On the pop up screen, under the Users tab, look for your login name. Under Group, it will tell you if you are listed as an Administrator.
4. If you are not listed as an Administrator, see the IT department in your school to have this changed or to get an administrator login & password.

Ethernet Address

1. Click on the Start button, and then select Programs, then Accessories folder.
2. Select the Command Prompt application.

3. At the MS DOS prompt type **ipconfig/all** and press Enter.

If a message appears stating that IPConfig could not be found, you probably need to install the TCP/IP networking component, which contains the IPConfig program.

4. Write down the number that appears in the Physical Address field. This 12 digit alpha/numeric combination is your Ethernet hardware address.

Service Pack Installed

1. Click the “Start” button
2. Click “Control Panel” from the menu, and then “System”
3. In the General Tab of the System Properties pop-up, you’ll see your Service Pack number listed under System. For the STI, this should be Service Pack 2.

USB Ports

USB Ports are located along the back or side of your laptop. You need at least 2 ports for the STI, 4 are recommended. (<http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/USB>)

Internet Explorer 6 Installed

To find the version of Internet Explorer you have, open a browser (open Internet Explorer). Click on the “Help” menu and choose “About Internet Explorer.” On the pop-up menu that appears, the version is listed. You need a version of 6 or higher for this STI.

Anti- Virus Software

The Anti Virus program installed will be listed in your Programs list (click “Start” then select “Programs” to display list.)