

## 13\_01 Abandoning the XD Command in Model Navigation

### Question:

When using the new procedure for creating a public hearing map with the various predetermined Microstation file models, sometime elements in the whole file or a particular model will change to the Default level and their colors turn into white. What can be some possible explanations for this instance and what can we do to prevent this from occurring?

### Answer:

There are two main reasons which may explain this phenomenon:

1. Place Influence is accidentally checked On while performing a certain Microstation task which does not require for it to be checked On.
2. The navigation from one PHM file model to another is executed with the Microstation "XD" command as set in the D&C Manager.

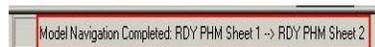
In the past and in *very rare* instances, the Microstation keyed in "XD" command has a low percentage of corrupting or changing levels as you move from file to file. Even though there is just one public hearing map DGN file, as one moves from model to model in the same DGN file, the chances of file corruption or levels changing are increased when combining the "XD" command with Geopak Place Influence feature accidentally turned On.

There are two steps to take to prevent this from occurring. It involves both the Designer's awareness and a new CADD VBA development.

1. For Designers, anytime one performs strictly a Microstation function, such as Move, Copy, or Merging Referenced File Models, CLOSE the D&C Manager before proceeding with the execution. If the D&C Manager is not needed to perform these purely Microstation functions, then by not having the D&C Manager loaded, the possibility of Placed Influence changing levels is eliminated.
2. Because Geopak Place Influence is required on some D&C items and 95% of model navigation ideally should be made through the D&C Manager (as taught in our PHM class), a new VBA program (RD\_OpenModel) has been created to navigate between models. Place Influence is also set automatically depending if it is warranted following this VBA execution. This is a generic Roadway VBA program which can also be used in other areas beside hearing map models and D&C Manager.

Set forth, anytime a D&C Manager navigation item is activated or double-clicked on, RD\_OpenModel will execute. Three possibilities can result.

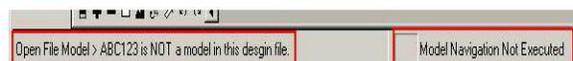
1. Successful model navigation with the following status message in the lower left screen corner.



2. If the model navigating to is the active model, then the following message will appear.



3. Lastly, remember that this is a generic VBA program. To run this program from a Microstation Key In field, simply key in **VBA RUN OpenModel** *argument*. The *argument* in this case is the model name. For example, **VBA RUN OpenModel Default** will attempt a navigation to the Default model. The following message will appear if this is keyed in, **VBA RUN OpenModel ABC123**.



By creating this generic VBA program and the Designers being aware of certain situations to close the D&C Manager, hopefully the chances of file corruption and levels changing unintentionally can be minimized or avoid all together. Note that the Microstation "XD" command is **NOT** used in [RD\\_AutoXD](#) MDL application nor is it used in the [RD\\_ModelNavigator](#) VBA program.