

File server vs Workbench for CAD file management

What's wrong with using a file server to share CAD files?

You waste time

- > Engineers waste time when two designers work on the same file by mistake
- > Very slow for remote users to access files via VPN
- > When a disk fills up you waste time migrating the data to new drives

You make mistakes

- > Assemblies get corrupted when a user renames or moves a file
- > With no version or revision control, people open the wrong file by mistake
- > Manually renaming files for version control leads to lost files

Non-CAD users can't open the file

- > Users waste time making screenshots so non-CAD users can see models
- > Non-CAD users can't see the latest model without bothering an engineer

You lose track of communications

- > Emails with ideas float around with no link to what version of the model they refer to

You have limited security

- > Anyone who can access the server can see all files
- > There's no record of who did what to which file
- > Files may not be backed up

Why is Workbench better?

GrabCAD Workbench is built to manage, share and view CAD files.

Feature	Server	Workbench
Multiple users can access same files	●	●
Access files directly from desktop CAD system	●	●
Mobile access to files	●*	●
Archives old file versions		●
User can lock files to prevent conflicts		●
Data securely accessible to chosen outsiders		●
Control upload/download of shared files		●
Users able to see 3D CAD models in browser		●
Sketches and comments directly on 3D model		●
Measure 3D models in the browser		●
View-only role to prevent data leakage		●

*In some cases