




tecplot.360 2010

Release Notes

Tecplot, Inc.
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Additional Resources

In addition to these Release Notes and HTML Help, Tecplot 360 includes access to the following online forum and eight manuals to help you explore all of Tecplot 360's functionality.

- [Getting Started Manual](#) Your introduction to Tecplot 360, including tutorials that will help you learn your way around.
- [User's Manual](#) This manual provides a complete description of working with Tecplot 360 features.
- [Scripting Guide](#) This guide provides Macro and Python command syntax and information on working with Macro and Python files and commands.
- [Quick Reference Guide](#) This guide provides syntax for zone header files, macro variables, keyboard shortcuts, and more.
- [Data Format Guide](#) This guide provides information on outputting simulator data to Tecplot 360 file format.
- [Add-on Developer's Kit - User's Manual](#) This manual provides instructions and examples for creating add-ons for Tecplot 360.
- [Add-on Developer's Kit - Reference Manual](#) This manual provides the syntax for functions included in the add-on kit.
- [Installation Guide](#) These instructions give a detailed description of how to install Tecplot 360 on your machine.
- [Tecplot Talk](#) A user-supported forum discussing Tecplot 360, Tecplot Focus, Python scripting, Add-on development, TecIO and more. Visit www.tecplottalk.com for details.

Welcome to Tecplot 360 2010

Welcome to Tecplot 360 2010! This release includes several new features frequently requested by users.

What's New

- **Even better performance**

In our tests, Tecplot 360 2010 loads data up to 25% faster on common workflows than Tecplot 360 2009 R2, and up to three times faster than Tecplot 360 2009 R1. You may see even more improvement on individual operations. The exact improvement you will see depends upon your system and configuration.

- **TrueType and Unicode support**

On most platforms, Tecplot 360 now can use any installed TrueType font for labels, legends, and more. If your operating system allows you to enter Unicode text, you can create text in virtually any language, including Russian, Japanese, Chinese, and Korean.

- **Fewer clicks when working with files**

Tecplot 360 now tracks the directory most recently used to open or save files (even between sessions), so you use fewer clicks when working with files.

- **Simplified deployment**

Our installers have been streamlined to let you install your new software with a minimal amount of clicking. Licensing information (such as license key or network license server) is now managed within Tecplot 360 itself.

- **Improved EnSight loader**

Tecplot 360's EnSight loader has been completely rewritten. It now handles polytope and particle zones and is significantly faster at loading data.

- **Linux Itanium support**

By popular demand, Tecplot 360 2010 (including the Reprise License Manager) is now supported under Linux running on Itanium hardware.

- **RLM upgrade**

The Reprise License Manager used by Tecplot products has been upgraded Network license users in particular will appreciate the improved reliability of this new RLM. While Tecplot 360 2010 is compatible with older RLM servers, we recommend that you upgrade your license servers to get the full benefit of the new RLM.

- **Python changes**

When running Python scripts, Tecplot 360 2010 uses its own copy of the Python interpreter to avoid conflict with other installed versions of Python. The SciPy and NumPy modules are not included but may be installed.

Graphics Drivers

For best results, please make sure that you are using the latest graphics drivers compatible with your hardware and operating system. These can be obtained from your graphics adapter vendor's Web site. Old versions may have issues with Tecplot 360, especially with larger data sets.

- **NVIDIA:** <http://www.nvidia.com/Download/index.aspx>

The NVIDIA driver versions we have tested are 185.18.x (Linux) and 6.14.x (Windows).

- **ATI:** <http://support.amd.com/us/gpudownload/Pages/index.aspx>

- **Intel:** <http://downloadcenter.intel.com/Default.aspx>

ATI and Intel graphics users should download the latest available for your system and adapter.

Bug Updates

For a list of bugs fixed in this release, visit:

http://download.tecplot.com/360/bugs_fixed.html

For a list of current known bugs in this release, visit:

<http://download.tecplot.com/360/bugs.html>

Platform-specific Issues

The following table outlines the support for various platform-specific features in Tecplot 360 2010.

	Linux	Mac	Windows	UNIX
FLOW3D loader	Y	N	Y	N
ABAQUS loader	N	N	Y	N
TrueType/ Unicode	Y	Y	Y	N

Refer to the remainder of this section for issues specific to your operating system.

32-bit

On 32-bit operating systems, the address space provided to applications is limited to 2-3 GB (the exact amount depends on which operating system you use). You must use the 64-bit version of Tecplot 360 on a 64-bit OS to visualize solutions larger than this.

Windows

Please help us make Tecplot products better by submitting an electronic report to Microsoft in the event that Tecplot 360 terminates unexpectedly. All you need to do is click the Send Error Report button when it appears.



The 32-bit version of Tecplot 360 is not supported on 64-bit Windows platforms. If you have a 64-bit version of Windows, install the 64-bit version of Tecplot 360.

- **Windows Vista™ and Windows 7 Users**

 - Installation*

 - You must have administrator rights on your computer to install Tecplot 360.

Linux

- **Temporary Directory**

Tecplot 360 relies on being able to create temporary files in the system temporary directory. On Linux, this directory is `/usr/tmp` or `/var/tmp` by default. If this directory is not writable, you can override the default either by setting the `TMPDIR` environment variable in your profile or by setting the `TEMPFILEPATH` in the `tecplot.cfg` file.

- **Menu Shortcuts**

Menu shortcut keys will not work if the `NUM LOCK` is on. You may set the `NUM LOCK` to turn off automatically at boot in your computer's BIOS.

- **SELinux**

SELinux (provided with some Linux distributions) adds an extra layer of security. If you see this error message:

```

./bin/tecplot.shared: error while loading
shared libraries: ./lib/libtec.so: cannot
restore segment prot after reloc:
Permission Denied

```

Enter these two commands (you will need the root password):

```

sudo chcon -c -v -R -u system_u -r object_r
-t lib_t $TEC_360_2010/lib/

```

```

sudo chcon -t texrel_shlib_t
$TEC_360_2010/lib/*

```

You can then run Tecplot 360 without disabling SELinux.

- **Ubuntu®**

Tecplot 360 2010 is supported only on LTS (Long Term Support) releases of Ubuntu.

- **Remote Display Issues**

If you have a **Network** or **Site** license, you can run Tecplot 360 on one computer and display it on a second computer (via an X server). However, if you are running the OpenGL version of Tecplot 360, the X server must have the GLX extensions. If you are working with a large grid file remotely, try using the `-mesa` option to minimize the number of OpenGL commands sent across the network.

When displayed remotely, Tecplot 360 may exhibit substantially lower drawing speeds than when it is displayed locally, especially for text and geometries.

- **Mesa Versions**

Mesa, an OpenGL-equivalent graphics library, performs 3D rendering in software. It is typically used when hardware acceleration is unavailable or when working with remote display of large data.

The Mesa version of Tecplot 360 functions slower, especially for 3D plotting. If you must run the Mesa version and display remotely, you can speed up the

rendering for XY Line and 2D plots by setting the environment variable below. (On some machines, this may improve the speed of 3D plotting.)

```
export MESA_BACK_BUFFER=Pixmap
```

UNIX

Tecplot 360 does not support TrueType fonts or Unicode text entry on UNIX platforms (IBM AIX, Solaris, or HP/UX).

- **IBM AIX**

Tecplot 360 2010 requires AIX Technology Level 7 or later. You must install OpenGL yourself, as this is not part of a standard AIX install.

Macintosh

- **Intel Support**

If you have a Mac with an Intel Core processor (rather than a Core 2 or later processor), you cannot run the 64-bit Mac version of Tecplot 360, even if *setuptec* recommends this version. Install the 32-bit version of Tecplot 360 instead.

To determine the type of processor in your Mac, choose “About This Mac” from the Apple menu. If the processor field displays “Intel Core” or “Intel Core Duo”, you have a Core processor. If it displays “Intel Xeon” or “Intel Core 2 Duo”, you can run the 64-bit version of Tecplot 360.

- **Off-Screen Rendering**

Due to a problem with the Macintosh X Server, using off-screen rendering with OpenGL on a Macintosh machine may cause exported images to be all black. This is a known bug, #4889883, in Apple’s X11 server. For this reason, we have disabled off-screen rendering as the default for Macintosh installations. Image exporting and copying to the clipboard are performed using on-screen rendering instead.

Should you want to enable it (for example, for anti-aliasing and variable resolution image buffering), please add the following line to your *tecplot.cfg* file:

```
$!INTERFACE USEOFFSCREENBITMAP = YES
```

Alternatively, you can use the "-mesa" option when launching Tecplot 360 to use the software-only 3D renderer. However, you will lose the benefits of hardware acceleration.

Enjoy Tecplot 360 2010 and master the view!

