



tecplot.focus 2010

Release Notes



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Additional Resources

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

- [Getting Started Manual](#) Your introduction to Tecplot Focus, including tutorials that will help you learn your way around.
- [User's Manual](#) This manual provides a complete description of working with Tecplot Focus 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 Focus file format.
- [Add-on Developer's Kit - User's Manual](#) This manual provides instructions and examples for creating add-ons for Tecplot Focus.
- [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 Focus on your machine.
- [Tecplot Talk](#) A user-supported forum discussing Tecplot Focus, Tecplot 360, Python scripting, Add-on development, TecIO and more. Visit www.tecplottalk.com for details.

Welcome to Tecplot Focus 2010!

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

What's New

- **Even better performance**

In our tests, Tecplot Focus 2010 loads data up to 25% faster on common workflows than Tecplot Focus 2009 R2, and up to three times faster than Tecplot Focus 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**

Tecplot Focus 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 Focus 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 Focus itself.

- **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 Focus 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 Focus 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 Focus, 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/focus/bugs_fixed.html

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

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

Platform-specific Issues

Refer to 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 Focus 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 Focus terminates unexpectedly. All you need to do is click the Send Error Report button when it appears.



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

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

- Installation*

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

Linux

- **Temporary Directory**

Tecplot Focus 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_FOCUS_2010/lib/
```

```
sudo chcon -t texrel_shlib_t
$TEC_FOCUS_2010/lib/*
```

You can then run Tecplot Focus without disabling SELinux.

- **Ubuntu®**

Tecplot Focus 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 Focus on one computer and display it on a second computer (via an X server). However, if you are running the OpenGL version of Tecplot Focus, 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 Focus 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 Focus 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
```

Macintosh

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 Focus, even if *setuptec* recommends this version. Install the 32-bit version of Tecplot Focus 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 Focus.

- **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 Focus to use the software-only 3D renderer. However, you will lose the benefits of hardware acceleration.

Enjoy Tecplot Focus 2010 and master the view!

