

Chapter 1.

Introduction

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ACIS 3D Geometric Modeler (ACIS) is an object-oriented three-dimensional (3D) geometric modeling engine from *Spatial Corp.* (*Spatial*). It is designed for use as the geometry foundation within virtually any end user 3D modeling application. Written in C++, ACIS provides an open architecture framework for wireframe, surface, and solid modeling from a common, unified data structure.

This manual introduces ACIS and the documentation set. It tells you how to find information, describes the ACIS architecture, and introduces the demonstration applications. It also contains examples to help you get started creating models in Scheme. For more information, refer to the following manuals in online help:

- 3D ACIS Fundamental Concepts Guide* . . . Introduces fundamental concepts for using ACIS, including geometry, topology, tolerance, curves and surfaces, how ACIS uses C++, etc.
- 3D ACIS Glossary* Provides a glossary of ACIS and geometric modeling terms.
- 3D ACIS Online Help User's Guide* Provides detailed information about how to use the online help system.

Spatial does not guarantee that an operation on an object in ACIS will have the same result from release to release.

Online Help

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The ACIS documentation set is available in online form. 3D ACIS Online Help (online help) is in HTML format that can be viewed with a Web browser (Netscape Communicator or Internet Explorer). Refer to Chapter 2, *Finding Information*, for an overview of online help, as well as information about how to use the documentation set. For more detailed information about using online help, refer to the *3D ACIS Online Help User's Guide*.



Spatial Web Site

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The *Spatial* Web site contains information about the company (including contact information) and the company's products. It also contains information for ACIS customers, such as updated product or documentation information (*information bulletins*), release notes, product upgrades, etc. Visit *Spatial's* Web site at:

www.spatial.com