

PRESS INFORMATION

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Sign design software checks spelling

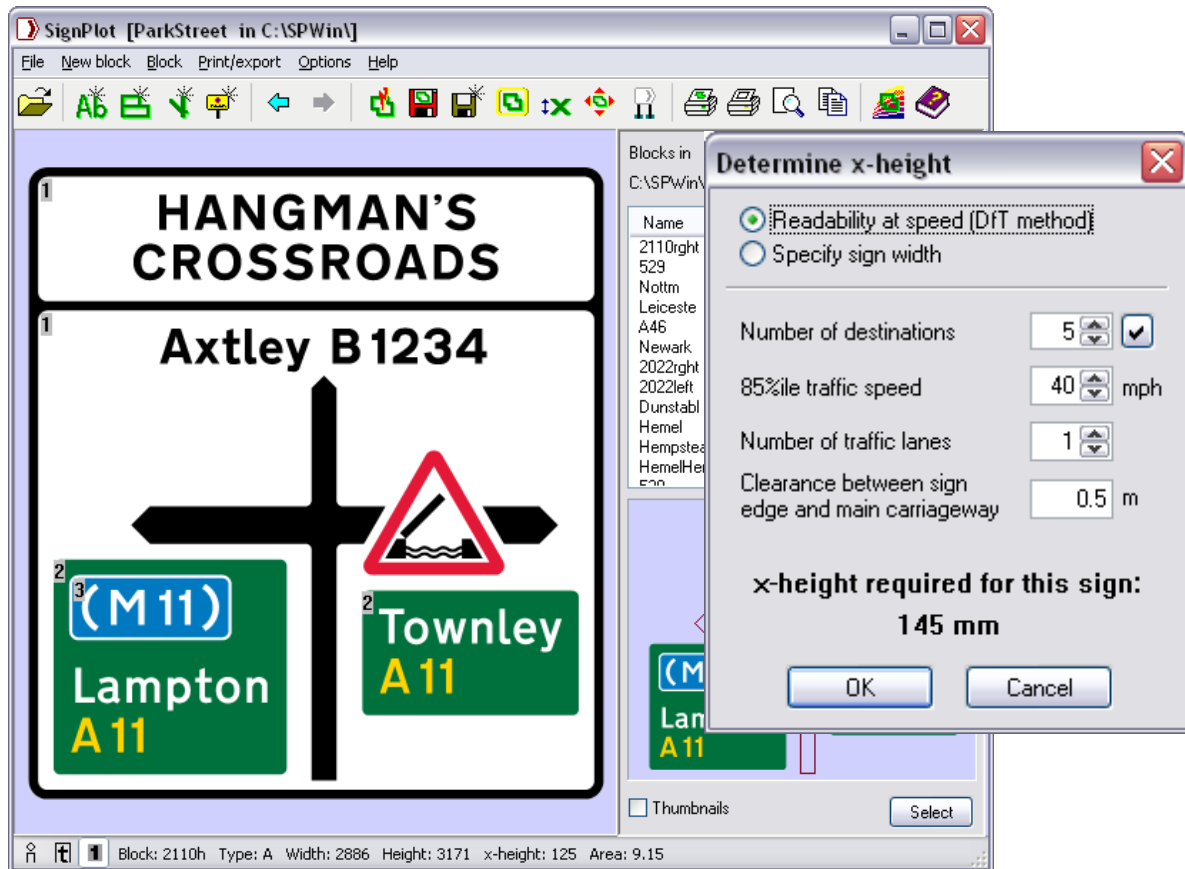
Being launched at Traffex 2011 is version of SignPlot that can spell check traffic signs and determine how big they should be. It also supports the latest innovation in sign manufacturing: digital printing.

Everyone thinks they can spell, but it is surprisingly common for signs to be erected with embarrassing mistakes, particularly of place names unfamiliar to those involved. SignPlot 2.60 helps to avoid this by linking to the Microsoft Word spelling dictionary. This has the advantages of being UK-specific, already containing many town and city names, and being easy to add to (both in Word and in SignPlot) for village names, smaller localities, and tourist destinations.

In the event of a spelling or capitalisation problem, 'Hintman' appears, rolls his eyes and suggests possible replacement words.



On the DfT website is the recommended method for accurately determining the size of a direction sign, depending upon the road speed, width and number of destinations on the sign. This procedure is somewhat problematic to implement, as before you start it requires you to know or to guess the sign width, and deciding what counts as a destination is far from easy. SignPlot has overcome both these problems, by determining for itself the number of destinations on any sign, and removing the need for any guesswork or iteration.



Another change, for manufacturers digitally printing the final sign onto reflective sheeting, is the option of a 'bleed margin' around the edge. This ensures that there are no uncoloured areas or edge lines when the sheeting is applied to the substrate and trimmed.

With these and other new features, SignPlot 2.6 represents a major step forward for both traffic sign designers and manufacturers.

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Notes to Editors

Separate press releases are available giving more detail on other software systems Buchanan Computing is launching at Traffex. Illustrations in various high-resolution formats will also be supplied on request.

Traffex/Parkex runs from 29-31 March 2100 at NEC, Birmingham. Buchanan Computing is on stand Z2, immediately to the left as you enter the hall. See www.Traffex.com for more information.

Buchanan Computing is a leading supplier of software and training for traffic professionals, with over 20 years experience in computer mapping, design and data management for the highway. Its range of products for highway and traffic engineers and the police includes SignPlot, ParkMap and AccsMap: the UK's best selling systems for traffic sign design, traffic order management and road collision analysis, respectively.

The DfT formula for calculating the x-height of a traffic sign, implemented in SignPlot 2.6, is at: www.dft.gov.uk/pgr/roads/tss/tsmanual/chapter2/tsschapter2-x-height.pdf