Change the linetype attribute of a layer

ThanCad supports line types such as continuous, dashed, dash-dotted etc. ThanCad has an advanced concept about the length of the dashes in a non-continuous line. The length is measured in one of two distinct units: either mm (10^{-3} meters) or user data units (which are usually meters in Europe). When a drawing is plotted on parer, the length of the dashes is affected by the plot-scale of the plot, if the length is measured in user data units.

However if the length is measured in mm, then the length of the dashes is always the same; it is completely independent to the plot-scale. This is a major advantage as you don't have to calculate the length of the dashes, so that it is plotted with the desired length when plotted on a specific scale.

ThanCad also supports different line type scale for every layer. The scale is simply a coefficient which multiplies the length of the dashes.

ThanCad has currently some predefined lines types which correspond to international standards.

Line types are attributes of layers. A layer has a linetype which is inherited by all the elements that belong to it.

In order to change the line type of a layer (or any other of its attributes) type "layer" at the command prompt (it can be abbreviated to "la") and press enter, or click "layer" in the "Format" menu.



The main Layer window appears:

⊠ *	Thar	nCad - la1.thcx:	Layer Control		~ ^ X
Previous set	New Top Laye	er	Сору	Select All	
Next set	Next set New Child Layer				Deselect All
	Rename Laye	r	Cut		Invert selection
alines					Set Current
layer	moncolor	frozen texts	style	linetype	
- Root 0 alines	200 224 31 [200 224 31] red	_ stanc _ [stan _ [stan	lard dard] dard]	continuo [continuo [continuo	us,mm,1.000 pus,mm,1.000] pus,mm,1.000]
ОК					Cancel

To change the line type of a layer, select the layer (here "alines") by clicking on the name of the layer:

⊠ *	Th	anCad - la1.thcx:	Layer Control		~ ^ ×		
Previous set	New Top La	ıyer	Сору		Select All		
Next set	New Child L	Paste		Deselect All			
	Rename La	yer	Cut		Invert selection		
alines					Set Current		
layer	moncolor	frozen texts	style	linetype			
- Root	200 224 31	_ stand	lard	continuo	1s,mm,1.000		
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alines	red	_ [stand	dard	[continuo	bus,mm,1.000J		
					M <1		
OK					Cancel		

The current line type of layer "alines" is "continuous,mm,1.000" which means continuous line, the unit is mm, and the line type scale is 1. Click on the line type "continuous,mm,1.000" to change the line type of the layer. A dialog window is displayed:

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Line type (dashes)	<byparent></byparent>									
Line type unit	mm									
Line type scale	1.0									
OK		Cancel								

Now click on the button right to the "linetype (dashes)". A line type selection windows appears. On the left is the name of each line type and on the right a rough representation of the line type appearance:

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<byparent></byparent>				Δ
<personal></personal>				
continuous				
iso_chainthick_q1_p	3			
iso_chainthick_q1_p	4			
iso_chainthick_q2_p	3			
iso_chainthick_q2_p	4			
iso_chainthick_q3_p	3			
iso_chainthick_q3_p	4			
iso_chainthin_q1_p3				
iso_chainthin_q1_p4				
iso_chainthin_q2_p3				
iso_chainthin_q2_p4				
iso_chainthin_q3_p3				
iso_chainthin_q3_p4				
iso_dashedmedium_q1				
iso_dashedmedium_q2				
iso_dashedmedium_q3				
iso_dashedmedium_q4				
than_dot				

Click on "iso_dashedmedium_q3" to select this line type:

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<personal></personal>			l
continuous			l
iso_chainthick_q1_p	13		l
iso_chainthick_q1_p			l
iso_chainthick_q2_p	13		l
iso_chainthick_q2_p			l
iso_chainthick_q3_p	J3		l
iso_chainthick_q3_p			l
iso_chainthin_q1_p3	3		l
iso_chainthin_q1_p4	·		l
iso_chainthin_q2_p3	3		l
iso_chainthin_q2_p4	۱		l
iso_chainthin_q3_p3	3		l
iso_chainthin_q3_p4	·		l
iso_dashedmedium_q1			l
iso_dashedmedium_q2			l
iso_dashedmedium_q3	3		l
iso_dashedmedium_q4			
than_dot		$\overline{\nabla}$	2

The dialog window is displayed again. Now you may change the line type scale or the unit if desirable.

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Line type (dashes)	iso_dashedmedium_q	3								
Line type unit	mm									
Line type scale	1.0									
OK		Cancel								

Click on OK and the main Layer window appears. Notice that layer "alines" has a the line type you selected:

⊠ *	Thar	nCad - la1.thcx:	Layer Control			~ ^ X	
Previous set	Previous set New Top Layer				Select All		
Next set	New Child Lay	New Child Layer			Deselect All		
	Rename Laye	r	Cut		Invert selection		
alines					Set Current		
layer	moncolor	frozen texts	style	linetype			
- Root 0 alines	200 224 31 [200 224 31] red	_ stanc _ [stan _ [stan	lard dard] dard]	continuot [continuot iso_dashe	ıs,mm,1.000 us,mm,1.000] :dmedium_q3,mm,1.000		
ОК		,,		,	С	ancel	

Click on "OK" to save the changes, and return to the drawing:

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<u>F</u> ile	<u>E</u> dit	<u>V</u> iew	<u>I</u> mage	F <u>o</u> rmat	<u>T</u> ools	<u>D</u> raw	<u>E</u> ngineering	<u>P</u> hotogrammetry	<u>M</u> odify	<u>R</u> esearch	D <u>e</u> veloper	<u>W</u> ind	ow <u>H</u> elp	
Lay	er:			alines									Change Layer	\odot
														<u>`</u>
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														firefox
Con	mand	Rege	enerat	ing dra	wing.	.end	of regener	ration.						
Exi Con	sting mand	g dra v : la	ving h	as beer	n oper	ned.								
lay	er													
W	orld xy	z: 45.4	81 34.2	59 0.000										

Draw a line to see that it is dashed. If the length of the dashes seems small, please change the line type scale from 1 to 2 (or a bigger number).

