Dariusz Matuszek

GroupManager

Group Manager

Version 2021

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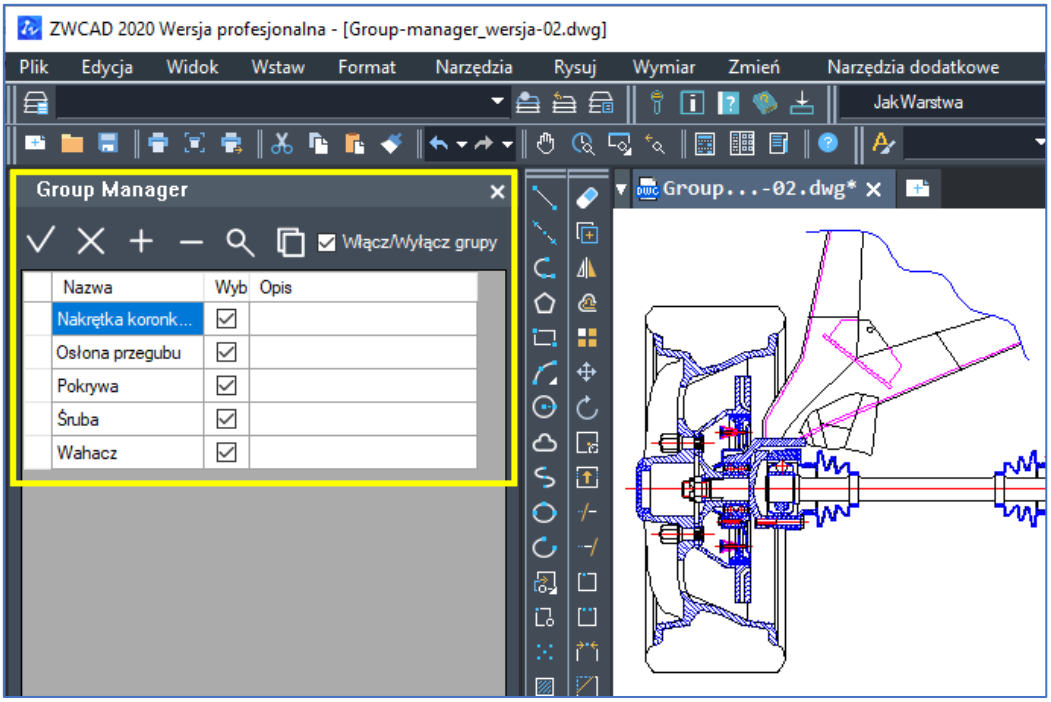
Introduction to Group Manager

We are often required to use edition functions on recurring elements. An example of this could be moving, mirroring or copying objects. Every single time that we need to select those elements one by one, we face a daunting, challenging and sometimes a very time consuming task. In order to get rid of inaccuracies, a function to group elements was added to ZWCAD (function: group), thanks to which we can create a selectable group from selected elements.

To extend the group function, we have designed a special Group Manager that includes an extra panel with additional options.

Once Group Manager is installed and launched along with ZWCAD, a panel will appear on the left side of ZWCAD with information regarding groups that are visible in the drawing. Function icons are visible above the file list.



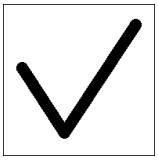
Group manager is able to:

- Create groups,
- Explode groups,
- Add and remove elements from a group,
- Search for groups in a drawing,
- Paste objects from clipboard as a group,
- Enable or disable selection of a particular group (whether it should be selected individually or as a group)
- Enable or diable all groups selection,
- Change the name of a group,
- Add or change group description,
- Quick selection of groups on the drawing,

- Display information regarding amount of groups in a drawing.

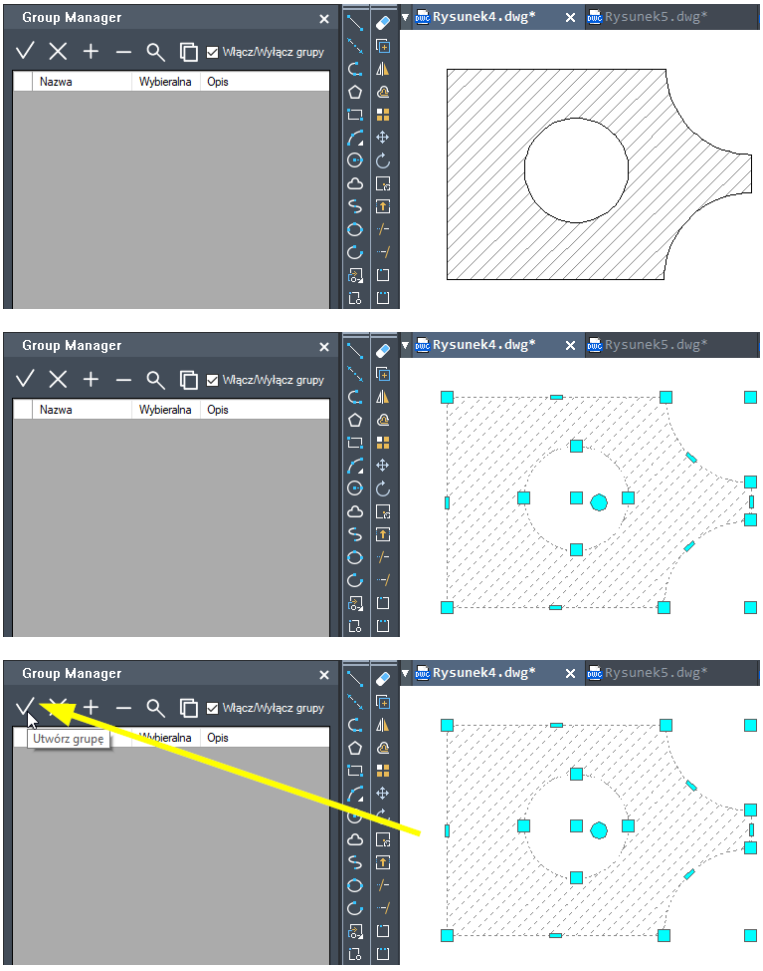
Group Manager functions

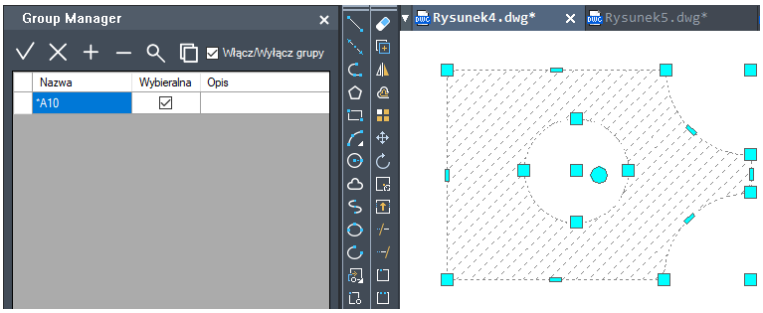
Creating groups



Once a group is created, a new field will appear in the table. The name of a group will be added automatically and will begin with a star (these are called anonymous groups). The button in the second column decides whether a group will be selected as one object or as a whole. The third column is a description of a group, which by default is set to be empty.

On the drawings below you can see the steps of creating a group in Group Manager.



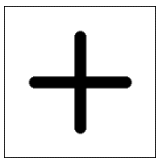


See how to **create groups** by clicking on this link https://youtu.be/MsFFCn8lVJg or scan the QR code with your phone camera.

See how to **edit names and description** of groups by clicking on this link https://youtu.be/jl4-OfvnNNc or scan the QR code with your phone camera.

See how to change **ways of selecting groups** (all element groups or every object individually) by clicking on this link https://youtu.be/n0S9J-3XqY8 or scan the QR code with your phone camera.

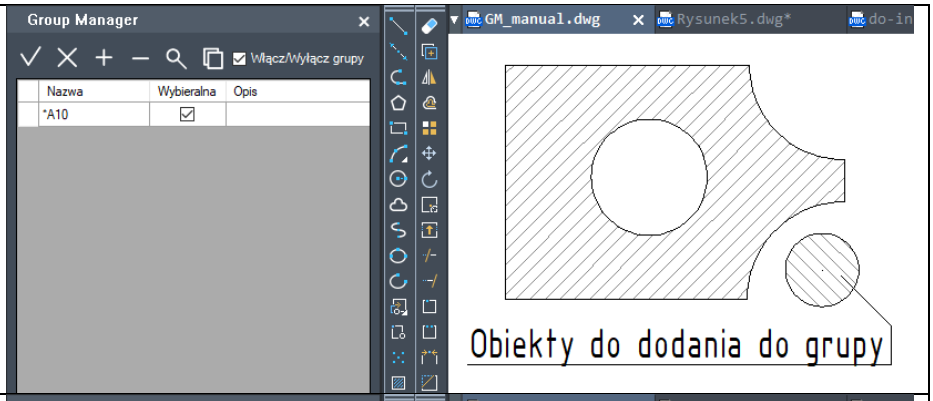
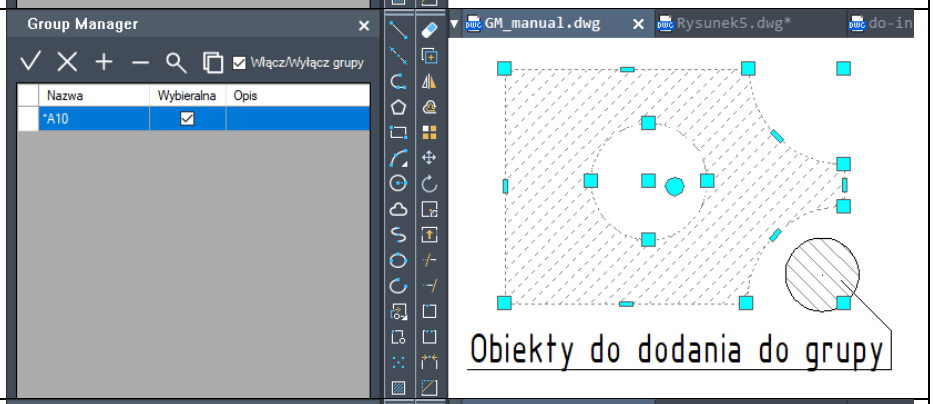
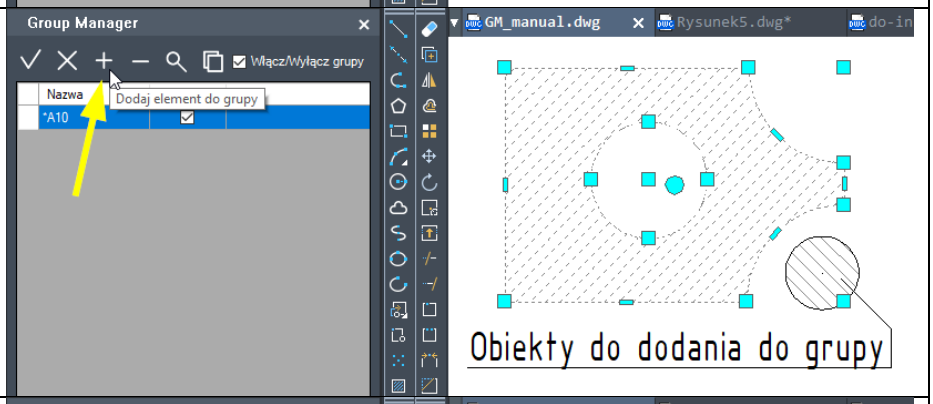
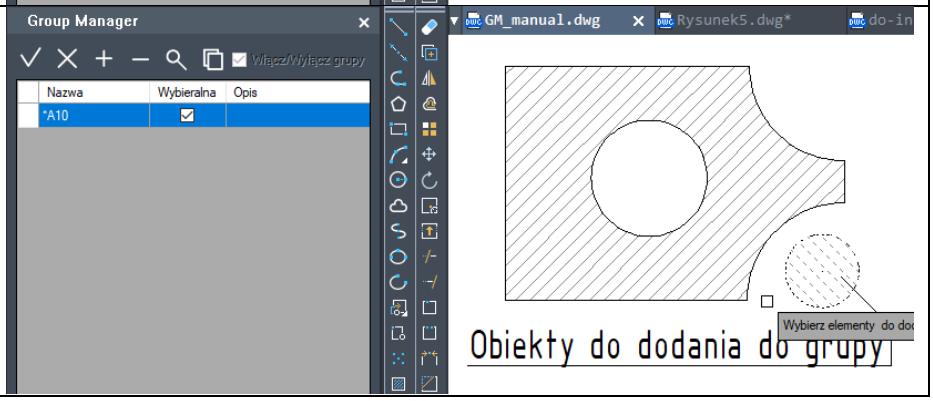
Adding elements to an existing group

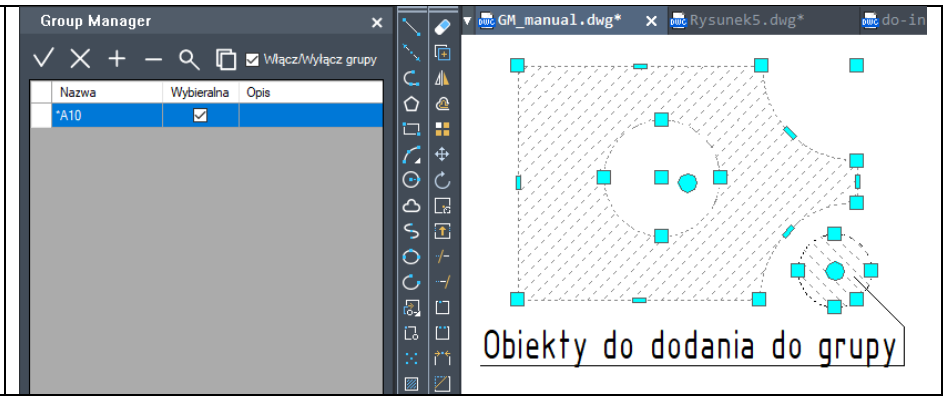


This function adds new objects to an existing group.

Before using this function, it is necessary to select a group to which new elements will be added and then select the function to add elements to an existing group.

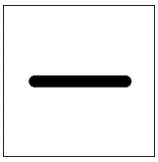
On the drawings below you can see the steps of adding elements to an existing group

Starting state	
We’re selecting a group that will have elements added to it.	
Click on Add elements to an existing group function.	
Select objects that are going to be added to the group and confirm.	

Objects were added to the group	

See how to **add new elements to a group** by clicking on this link https://youtu.be/r0ufz7BMTOw or scan the QR code using your phone camera.

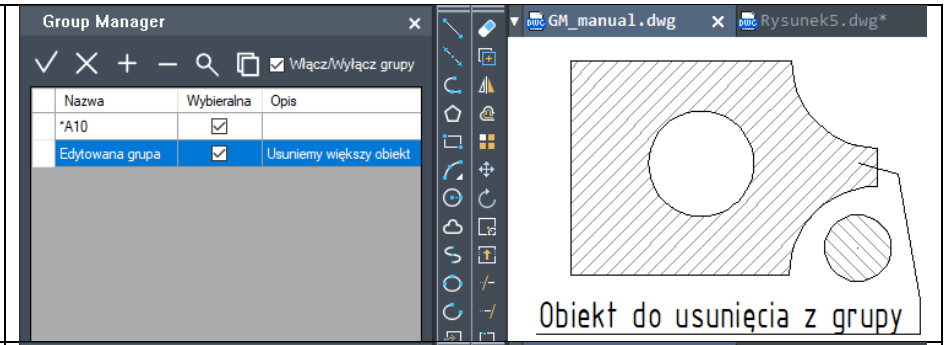
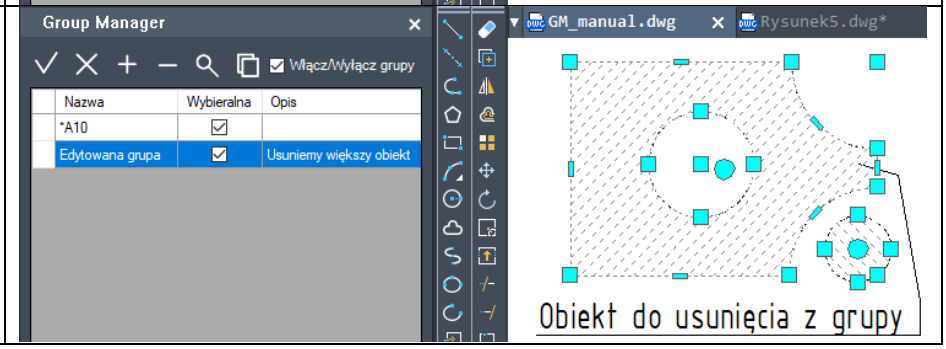
Removing elements from a group

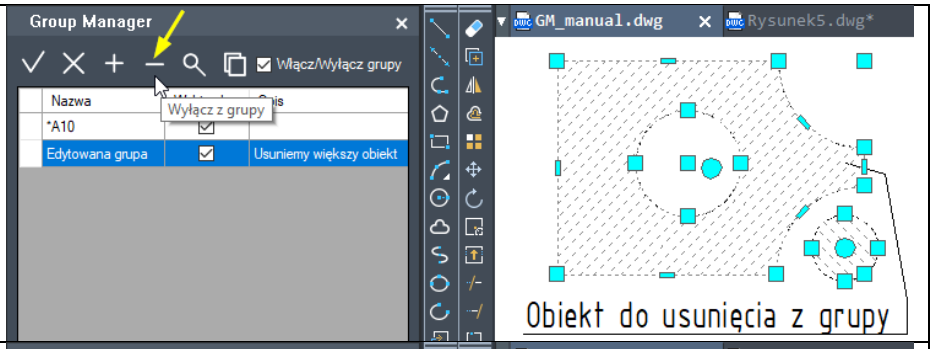
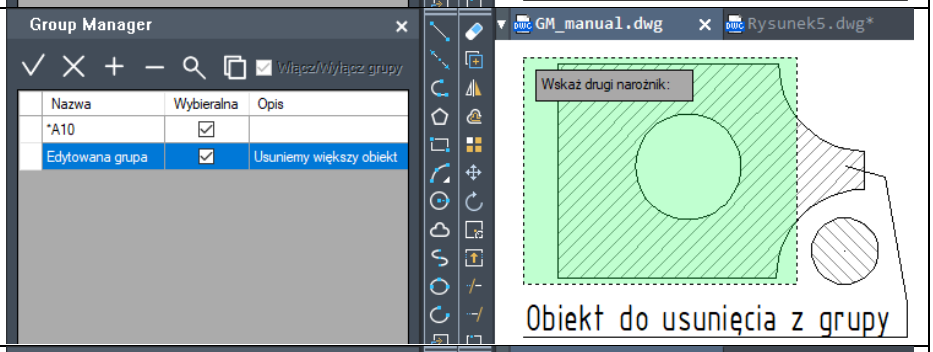
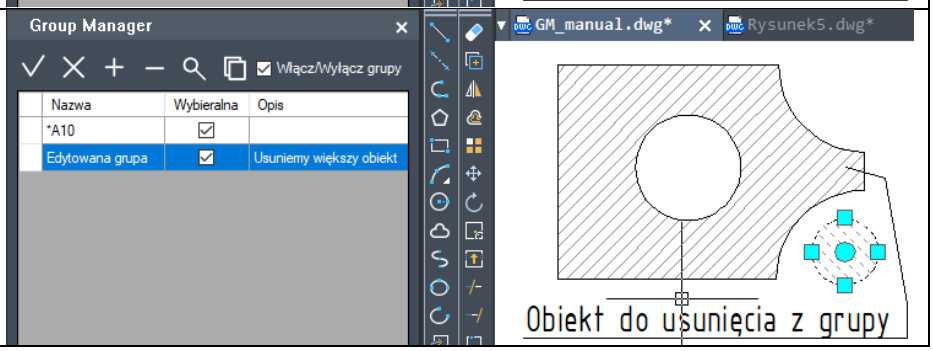


This function removes selected objects from an existing group.

In order to remove elements from a group, firstly select a group, click on Remove elements from a group function and select elements that are going to be removed.

The steps to remove elements from a group are presented below:

Starting state	
Selecting a group from which elements will be removed.	

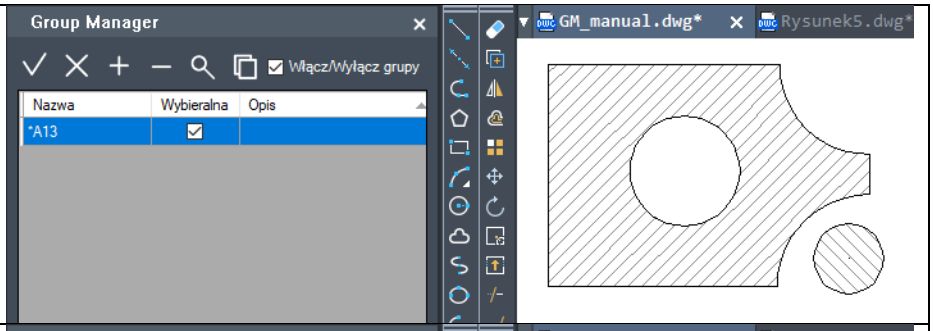
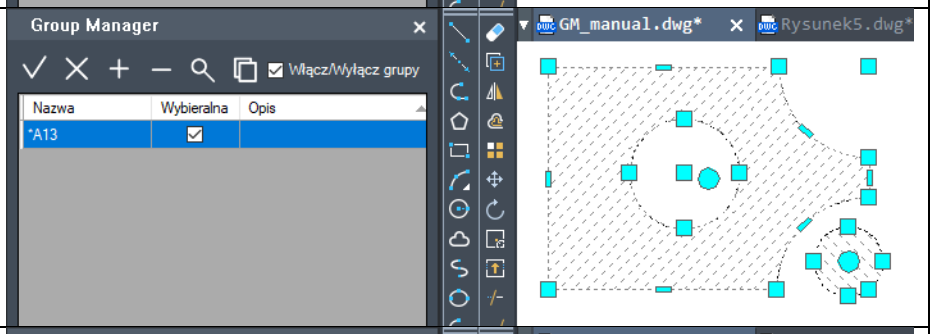
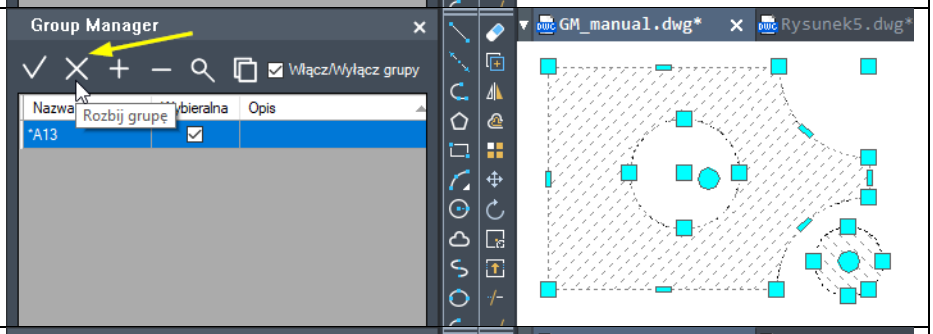
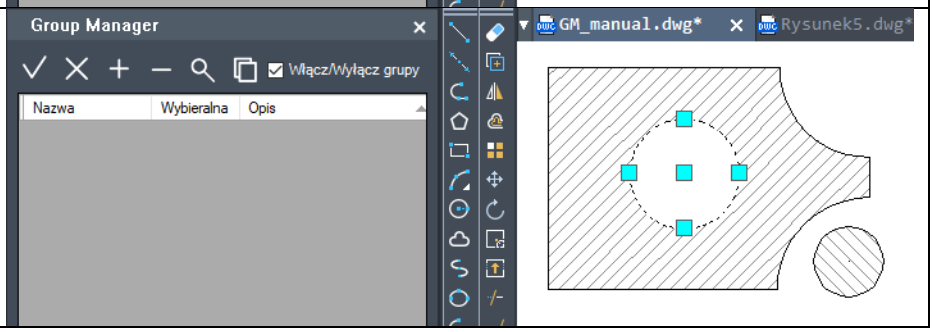
Select the function Remove elements from a group	
Select elements	
The group will no longer include previously selected elements	

See how to **remove elements from a group** by clicking on this link https://youtu.be/iftGM7v5m6g or by scanning the QR code by using your phone camera.

Exploding groups

Exploding groups allows users to select single elements rather than a whole group. After exploding a group, some elements which are whole will remain unchanged.

Instruction on how to explode groups can be found on the screenshots below:

Starting state. One group is created with the following name: *A13	
Select the group which will be exploded	
Click on the button representing the explode function	
The group will disappear from the list. Objects will remain unaltered.	

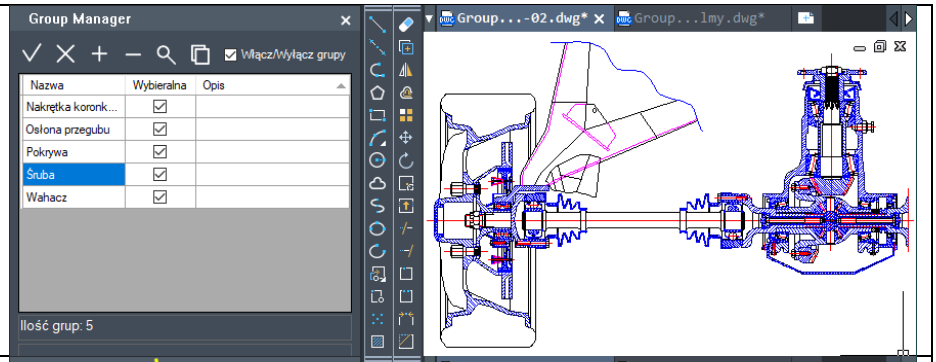
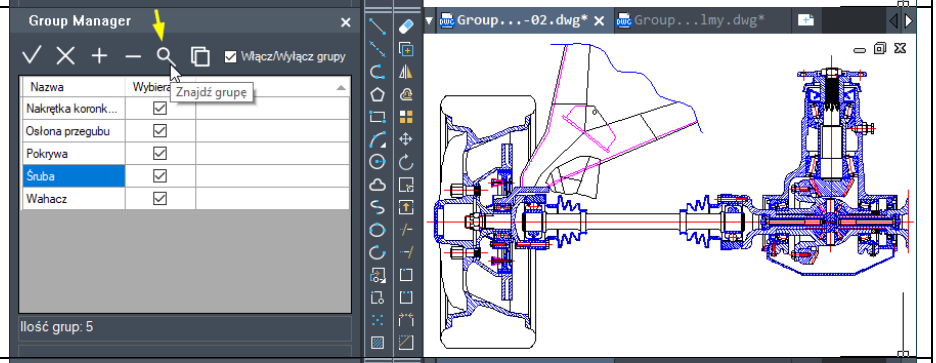
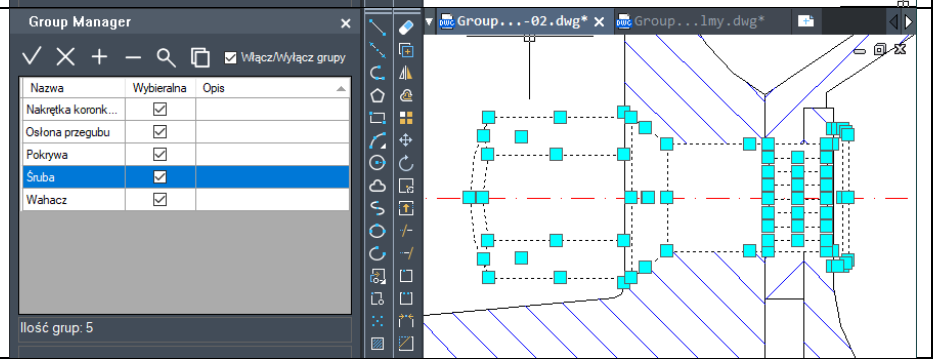
See how to explode a group by clicking on this link https://youtu.be/R7EZsIoMlpA or scan the QR code using your phone camera

Searching for groups within a drawing

Using this function we can quickly find groups within a drawing.

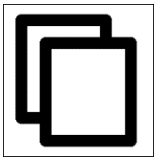
Select a group in the table and then click on the magnifying glass icon. The selected group will be magnified so that it is presented on the whole drawing.

To find out how to do it, please look at the screenshots below:

An example drawing includes a few groups.	
Select the group that you want to findand click on the icon.	
The drawing will change. It will represent the selected group.	

To see how to find groups within a drawing please click on this link https://youtu.be/R13XVB4W7vA or scan the QR code with your phone camera.

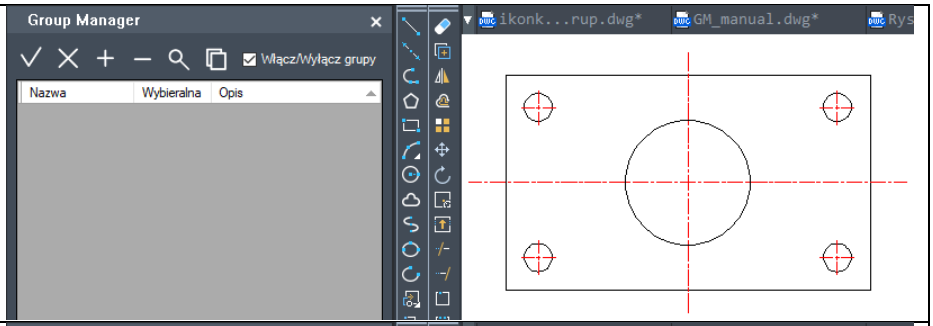
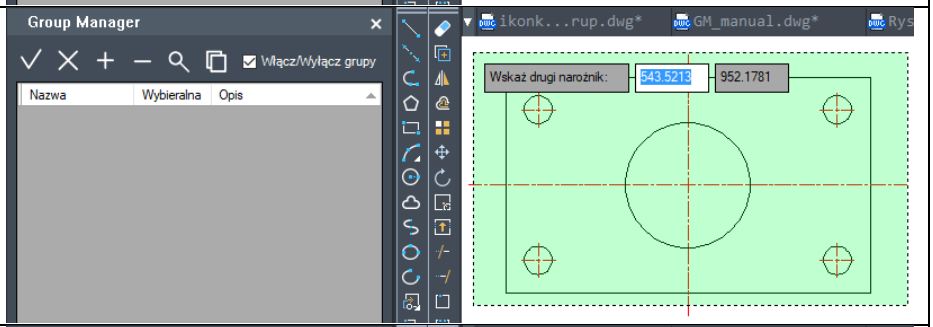
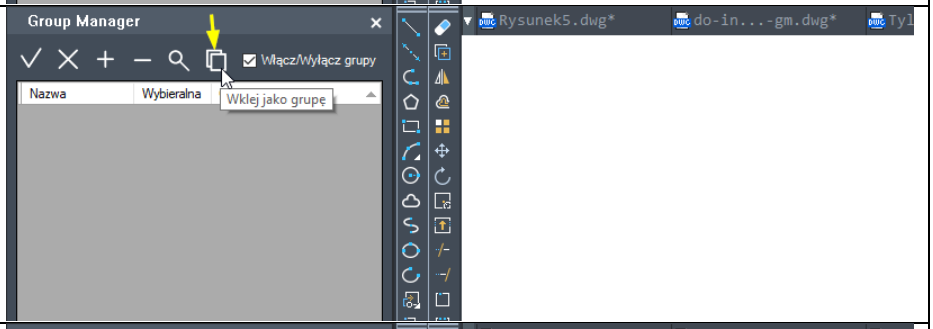
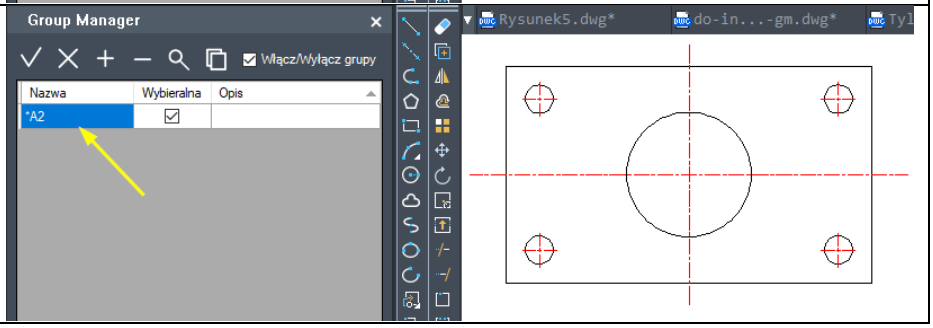
Add drawing elements as a block



This function allows users to paste drawing objects into a drawing and to create a group from them.

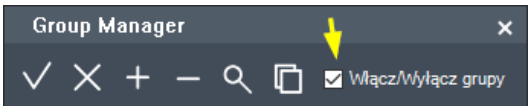
Such functionality is useful when copying objects from one CAD Project to another.

To see how to use this function, please look at screenshots below:

We are in the Drawin from which we want to copy elements.	
Select elements to copy.	
Go back to another drawing and click on this icon.	
Specify a location where those elements will be added. Once they are added, a group will be created.	

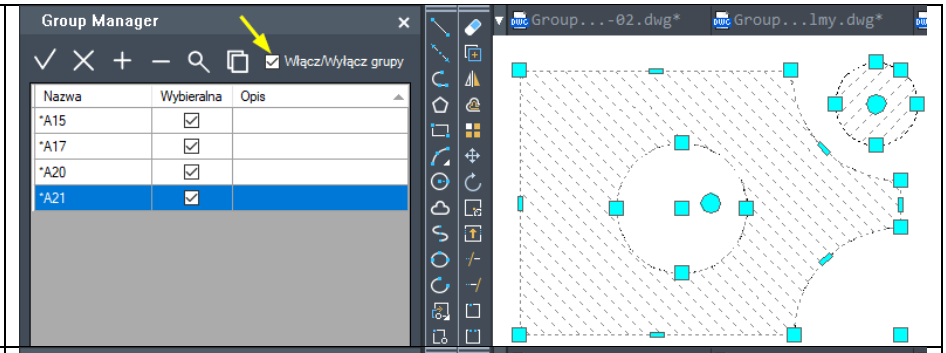
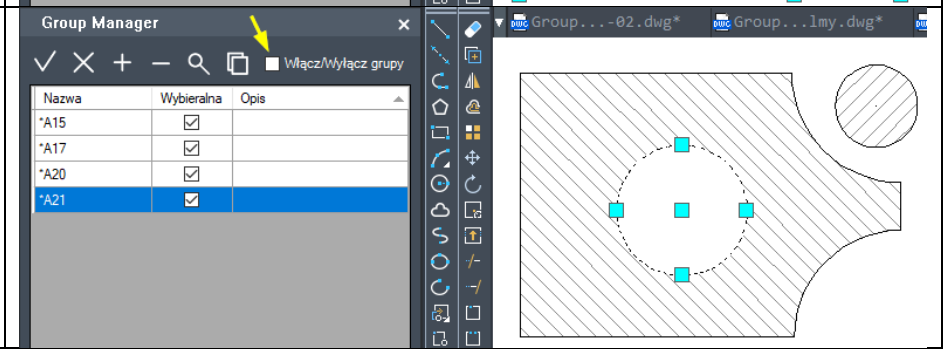
In order to see how to add elements as a block please click on this link https://youtu.be/uivwB5t55jI or scan the QR code with your phone camera.

Turning selection of groups on or off



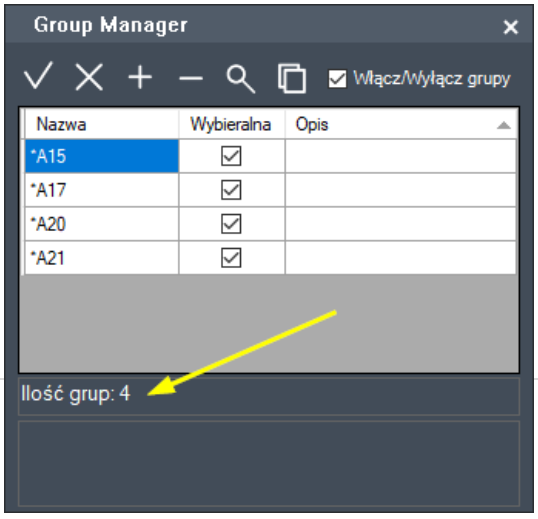
We can choose whether groups will be selected as a whole or as separate entities.

To see what checking the box does, please refer to the screenshots below:

Selecting as a group is turned on (this setting is turned on by default). By clicking on a single element, whole group will be selected.	
Selecting as a group is turned off. We can select elements separately.	

To see how this checkbox works, please click on this link https://youtu.be/Qu9UgQj98JQ or scan this QR code with your phone camera.

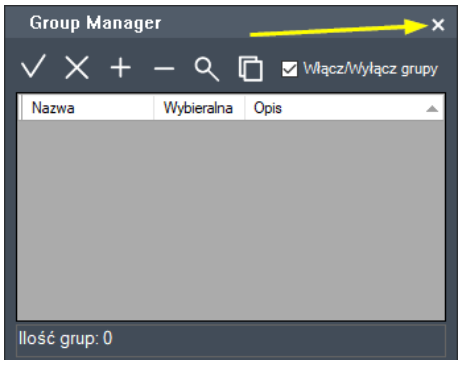
Amount of groups in a drawing



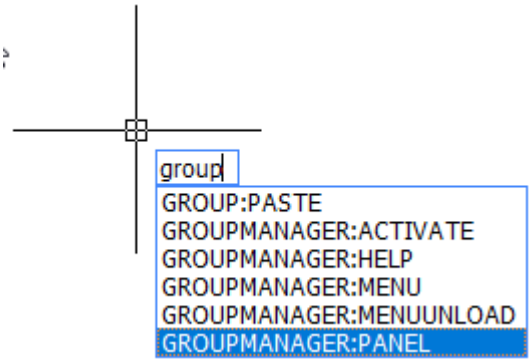
The amount of groups in an active drawing can be seen in the application panel.

Deactivating the application

If you'd like to deactive the Group Manager panel, just click on the cross located in the right hand corner of the application.



To make the panel appear again. Please type in the following command: GROUPMANAGER:PANEL.



Installing Group Manager

Downloading the program

Group Manager can be downloaded from here:

https://cad.szansa.net.pl/?dir=Group_Manager_2021

The application requires ZWCAD 2021, which can be downloaded from here:

- 32 bit: https://www.zwcad.pl/links/ZWCAD__32bit_EN.php
- 64 bit: https://www.zwcad.pl/links/ZWCAD__64bit_EN.php

If ZWCAD is already installed, there is no need to install it again.

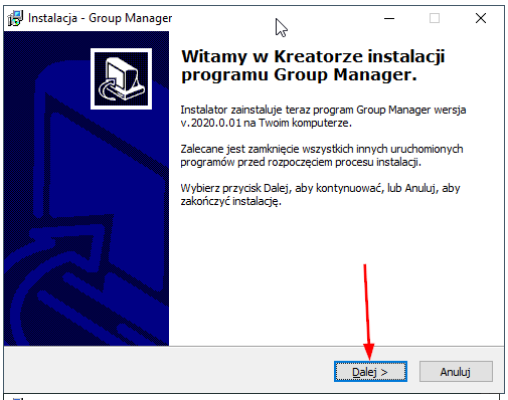
Installation process

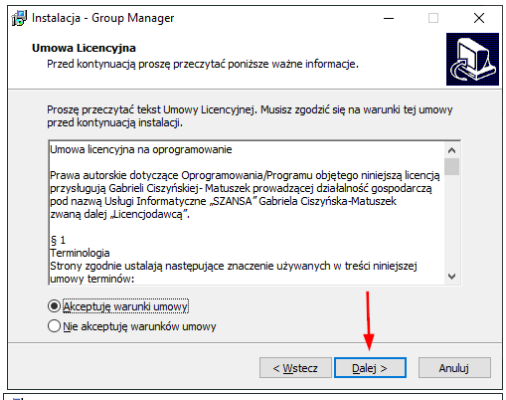
Installation needs to be completed on a Windows account with administrative privilages.

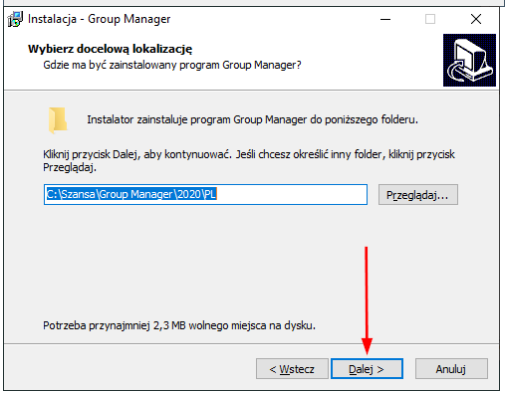
ZWCAD needs to be closed during Group Manager installation.

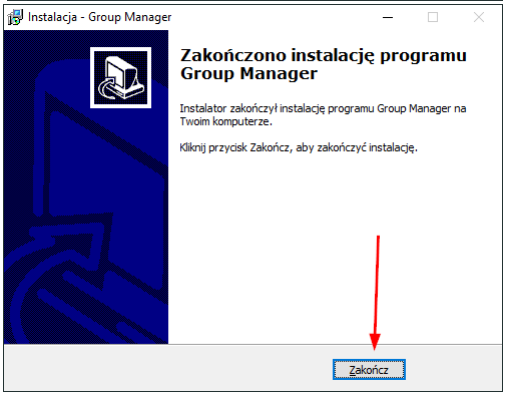
Launch the installation file by double clicking on it.

Follow the installation process as instructed by the installation file.

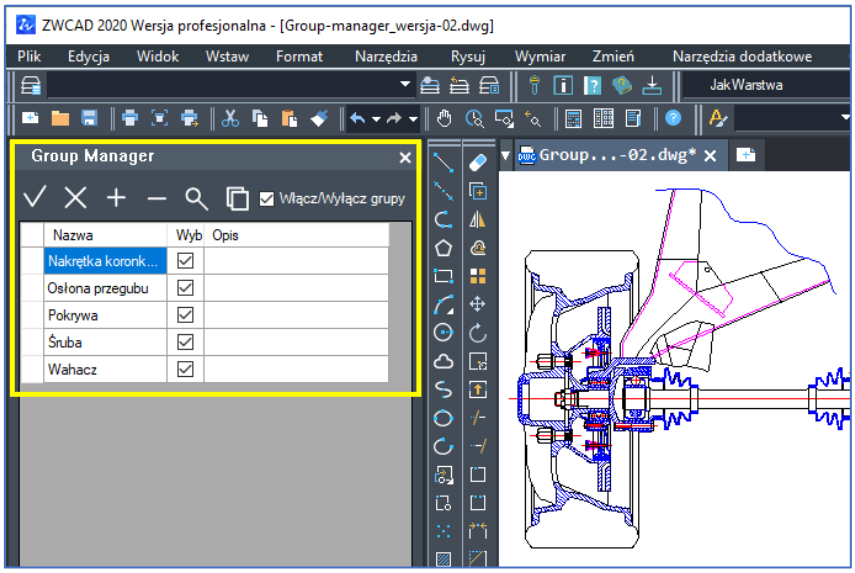








Once installed, launch ZWCAD and Group Manager will be visible as it is presented on the screenshot below:



Click on the link below to see how to install Group Manager https://youtu.be/XEJU_NMxX04 or scan the QR code by using your phone camera.

System and hardware requirements of Group Manager

Group Manager requires one of these applications to function:

- ZWCAD 2021 Professional,
- ZWCAD Architecture 2021,
- ZWCAD Mechanical 2021.

System requirements:

Operating System	Windows® Vista 32 and 64 bit, Windows® 7 32 and 64 bit, Windows® 8 32 and 64 bit Windows® 10 32 and 64 bit
Processor	2GHz minimum
	Multi-core processor recommended
RAM	500MB minimum for ZWCAD
	2000MB or more is recommended for ZWCAD
Hard drive	Minimum 500MB
Monitor	Minimum resolution 1024x768
	Recommended resolution 1280x1024 or more
Pointing devices	Mouse and keyboard
Additional devices	CD/DVD driver or internet connection for installation or download
Activating ZWCAD and the application	Internet connection, being able to connect with ports 8888 and 11024