



[an error occurred while processing this directive]

Suggested Technique for Customizing Pro/ENGINEER Menus Using menu_def.pro

During feature creation, Pro/ENGINEER users will frequently use options such as setting up default datum planes and co-ordinate systems. Although these operations can be setup by means of a config.pro "mapkey", they also can be displayed as a menu selection by using a menu_def.pro file. Default settings for specified menu picks can also be created by means of a menu_def.pro. In this case, once a menu is displayed, Pro/ENGINEER will automatically select the specified menu option.

Procedure

1. Creating a menu_def.pro file is very similar to creating a config.pro file with the exception that it cannot be created or loaded from within Pro/ENGINEER. However, it will be read upon starting up a new session of Pro/ENGINEER. Figure 1 outlines the formatting for creation of a user defined menu pick.

```
@setbutton MENU_NAME MENUITEM "ActionDefinition"\  
"Short Help"
```

Where:

>MENU_NAME- refers to the title of the menu that always displays at the top of a menu window

>MENUITEM- refers to the user-defined menu selection name, and is case sensitive. Spaces are designated by a pound sign, "#".

>ActionDefinition- the actual sequence of selections that Pro/ENGINEER will automatically select.

>Short Help- a user defined text string that will appear on the bottom of the Information Window when the user-defined menu selection is highlighted. If there is no string defined, the system will default with "User Defined Action".

Note: At the end of each line there should be a backslash "\" to define the end of a line.

Figure 1

2. The proper syntax for a menu selection that creates a one-sided protrusion can be seen in Figure 2. The modified menu is shown in Figure 3. The defined Short Help message of "Creates Protrusion" will appear in the lower information window of Pro/ENGINEER (not shown). It is important to note that all items except for the MENU_NAME and ActionDefinition are case sensitive.

```
@setbutton PART ***** "" "User Defined Menus follow" \  
@setbutton PART Create#Protrusion "#feature;#create;#protrusion;#extrude;#solid;#done"\  
"Creates one-sided solid protrusion"
```

Figure 2

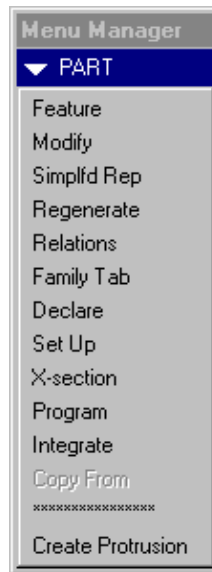


Figure 3

3. Some rules to remember about creating user-defined menu items are listed below:

- You CANNOT use "setbutton" to modify an existing Pro/ENGINEER menu option.
- You CANNOT modify a default menu pick if there is an existing Pro/ENGINEER default selection. For example, a default cannot be made for the **MODIFY** menu.
- The maximum number of characters in the MENUITEM field is 19. However, 12 characters fit a standard Pro/ENGINEER menu. It is possible to adjust the width of the menu using the config.pro option "set_menu_width" "value".
- In some cases, user-defined items are not valid even though the selection is still possible. The user-defined menu will not be grayed out if not available.
- You CANNOT create user-defined menus for menu selections available from the pulldown Menus. For this, create Mapkeys and add them to the Drop Down Menus using **#Customize Screen..** from the Utilities pulldown Menu.