



## Four-X Hint

# Where did all the space go?



*This hint is part of a semi-regular series 'published' on the Whittle User's Email Discussion Group*

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### DISK DIET 1

I thought I'd start off with the big question, everyone ask very early after running Proteus **"Where did all the disk space go?"**

Well the simple answer is that it gets used up with all the work files [which you no longer have to worry about managing under proteus]. One very simple trick to save a lot of space is to save the bigger files (ie model, results and mining sequence files in coma delimited format. This is achieved by a simple change to the FX.ini file. Find the system section of this file and change the following Store????= keywords to the Comma format (as shown below)

```
[System]
StoreMinSeq=Comma
StoreModel=Comma
StoreResults=Comma
```

This should reduce the size of these files to close to half their fixed format size.

One limitation on this is that some mining packages will only read the fixed format files, In which case, you probably need to buy a bigger disk or if you are really keen you could do the runs with the coma delimited format then change the FX.ini file back to fixed when you export the relevant files (eg results and mining sequence files) from proteus in preparation for importing back into your mining package.

### DISK DIET 2

The second trick is to investigate working on a reblocked model [and make that the first step you do]. It is generally the case that an 8 times reduction in model size (eg 2 by2 by 2 reblock) has less than a 1-2% affect on anything (Pit Size, Ore Tonnes, NPV). All your large working files will then be around an eighth the size.

Reblocking is another productivity issue that needs a lot more discussion but I'll stop it here, for now. If you are worried about reblocking do a few test runs very early in any investigation and get to know the safe level of reblocking for your model/deposit.

### DISK DIET 3

A third trick is to carefully use the "hand" run tool (which holds execution of the current node and any nodes below this) and then "delete generated" from the context sensitive menu (by right clicking the mouse while pointed to the same node). This can get rid of lots of the work files for less important sections of your design. Maybe you where just trying out an idea and don't really want to permanently store the results. In doing this you will also loose any graphs, reports and files generated but they can be quickly regenerated by clicking off the hand and rerunning from that node onwards.

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