





## Developer's Tip

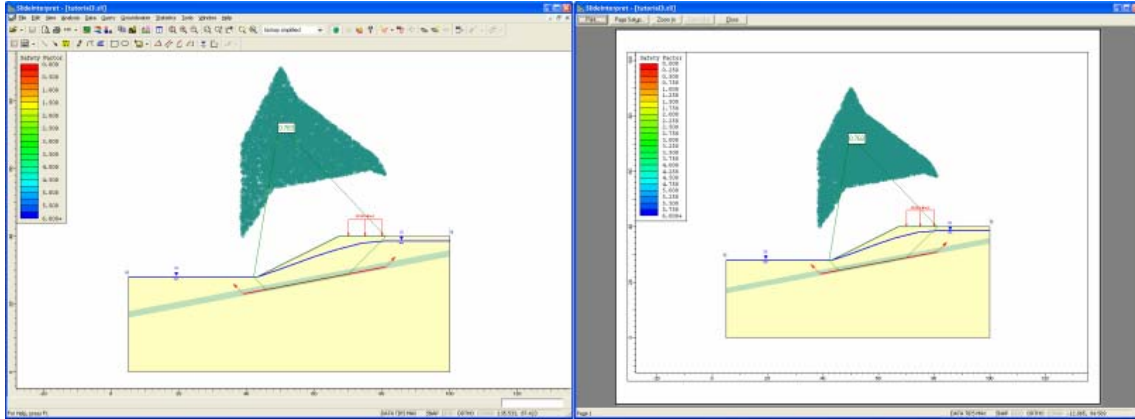
*Print to Scale Feature in Slide*

The latest update to *Slide 5.0* brings a number of improvements related to printing functionality, giving the user greater control over printed output. Users have the option of printing the model exactly as shown on screen, or to a specific scale. This article demonstrates the use of the new **Print to Scale** feature.

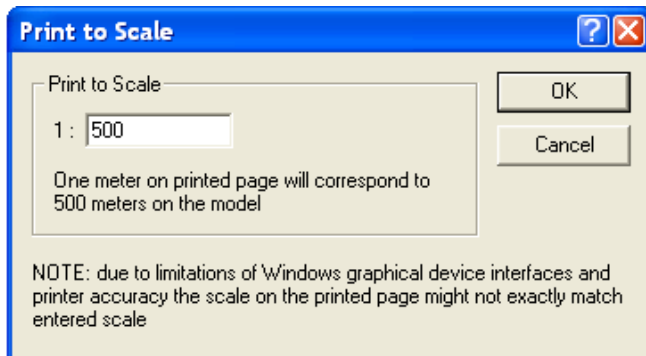
First make sure that you update your *Slide* program to the latest version (version 5.029 at the time of writing). You can do this easily by going to the **Help** menu and selecting **Check for Slide Updates** from the **Product Updates** submenu. Also, if you haven't turned on the automatic update notification feature, then please do so by selecting the **Check for Updates Automatically** option in the same menu. It is important to keep the program updated since Rocscience releases bug fixes and feature improvements on a regular basis.

For this demonstration we will use the model from Tutorial 03. Run the *Slide* program and open the **Tutorial 03** file by going to the **File > Recent Folders > Tutorials Folder** menu option. Run the analysis by clicking on the  Compute button on the toolbar. When the analysis is finished, open the Interpret module by clicking on the  Interpret button.

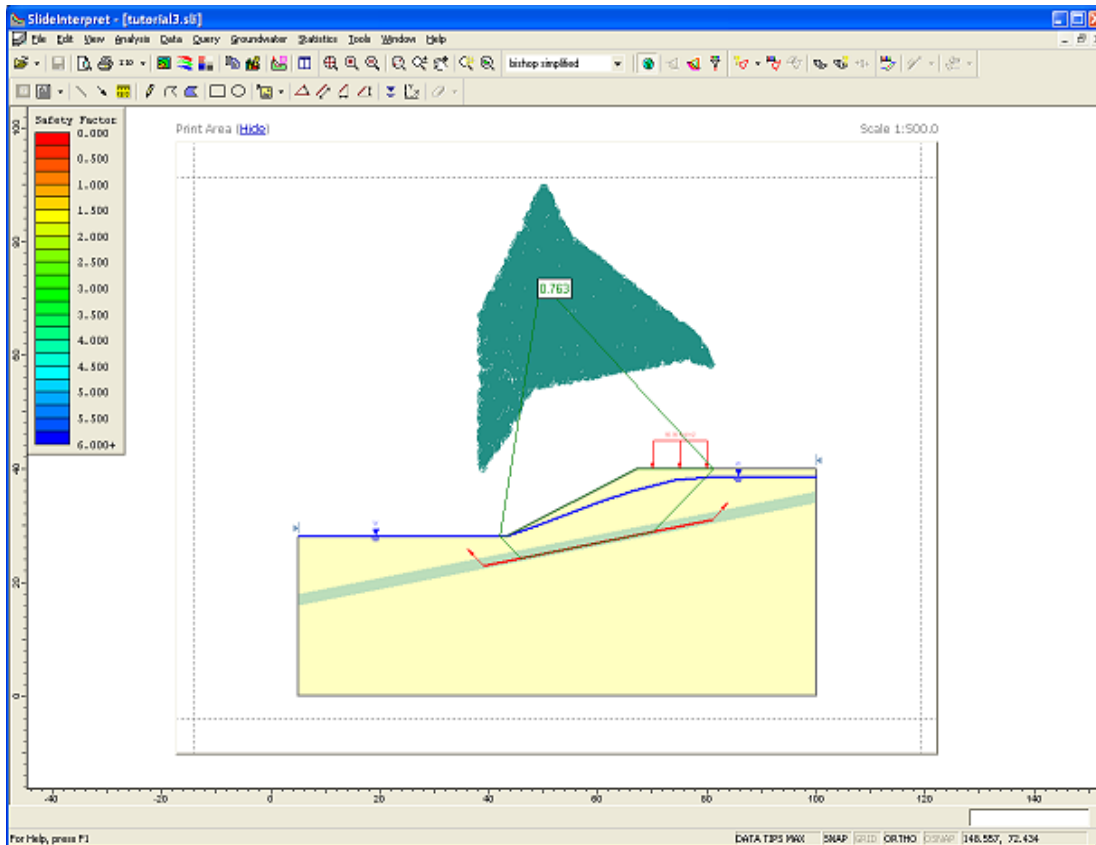
When the file is opened in Interpret, the default printing option, **Fit View**, is initially in effect, which fits the whole view into the printing area specified by the margins. The program tries to make sure that everything you see on the screen will be visible on paper as well. If you click on the **Print Preview** button on the toolbar you should get an output similar to the one shown below. Close the Print Preview window.



The **Fit View** option is probably suitable for most cases, but if you need to print the model to a specific scale, go to the **File** menu and select **Print to Scale** from the **Print Area** submenu. A dialog will pop up asking you to enter the scale. For this demonstration we will use a 1:500 scale which should produce an output of the model that fits nicely on A4 or Letter size paper. Enter 500 in the Print to Scale dialog, then click OK.



You should see an outline of the paper and margins on the screen as shown in the screenshot on the following page.

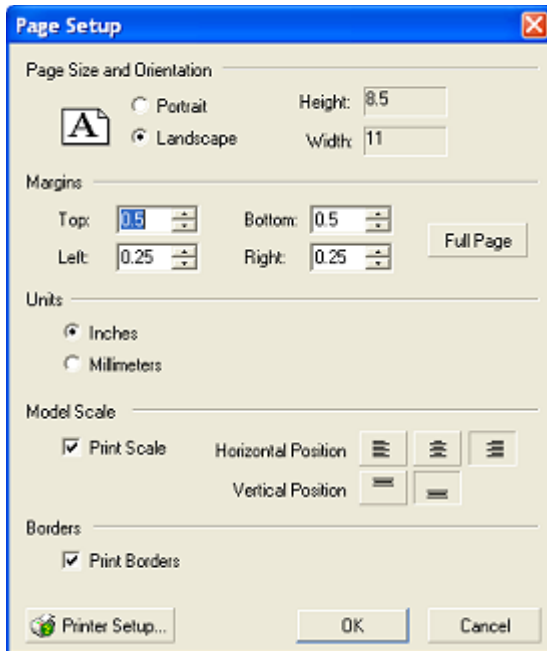


The outline shows what is going to be printed and lets you adjust the position of the print area relative to the model. Note: the outlined area is not exactly the same as Print Preview, because the legend and ruler are still positioned relative to the screen and not relative to the page outline.

If you click anywhere on the page outline with the left mouse button, the corner points and edge centers will highlight and the mouse cursor will change to a **Move** cursor indicating that you can move this print area to anywhere on the screen. It is very similar to moving drawing tools in Interpret and might be useful for centering a print area over a specific region of the model.

Once you are done setting up the scale and position of the page, you can hide the page outline by clicking on the **Hide** hyperlink in the top-left corner. The Hide option is also available if you right-click on the page outline or from the **File > Print Area** submenu.

To show the scale of the model on the printed page, select **File > Page Setup** and turn on the **Print Scale** checkbox in the Page Setup dialog. By default, the text is positioned at the bottom-right corner, but it can be easily adjusted with the alignment buttons next to the checkbox, shown on the following page.



The model width for the Tutorial 3 example is 95 meters, so with a scale of 1:500 the width of the model on paper should be 190 millimeters. If you click **Print Preview**, you should see a screen similar to the one on the following page. Select the **Print** button to print the model at a scale of 1:500. You can verify the scaling by measuring with a ruler.

Note: depending on your printer and printer driver the scale might not be exact which is common for most consumer-grade printers. If the difference is very noticeable (a few millimeters for example), first make sure that you entered the correct scale in the **Print to Scale** dialog. If the number is correct, then you might have an issue with the printer driver. Try obtaining the latest driver for your printer from the manufacturer's website.

To cancel Print to Scale, you can switch back to the default printing option (Fit View) by selecting it from the **File > Print Area** submenu. This concludes the developer's tip on the new Print to Scale feature in *Slide*.

