

Third Issue: (Creo) 5/2013

It is one of our 'best practices' to display the weight of anything sizable, and we usually do so by an updatable note on our drawings. We found there's two ways to do this. In either case, assigning materials in the Model Properties window is a must. (In assemblies, each part must be assigned some material. At the very least, a reasonable density.)

The first way is John A's way. He likes to use the built-in mass properties parameter of "pro\_mp\_mass". There's no model-side setup to using it (other than assigning materials). In the course of typing in your drawing note, simply put in an "&" in front of pro\_mp\_mass, and you get the assembly's (or part's) mass in your note. The only thing you have to worry about is if you should change any of the assigned materials. The pro\_mp\_mass parameter is not immediately updatable. You have to 'Generate a Report' (done in the Model Properties screen using the Mass Properties 'change' function). Just run the report, close all the properties windows, and go look at your drawing. That note will have then updated. (I'm sure someone can make a simple mapkey for that...)

The other way is the one that's worked since 2000i2 days. I guess that makes it primeval, but it still works. Create a mass\_properties feature (described in Issue 2 above, only Mass is the only parameter you want). Then investigate your new analysis feature by right-clicking on it in your Model Tree and choosing 'Edit Parameters'. This pops up a Parameters window. Take note of the Feature ID number which is above the table. You'll need that. Then in your drawing, create a note with the following syntax: &mass:FID\_#### where you want the weight to show up. (That #### section is the analysis feature's ID number that you noted before.) This arcane method is a bit formal but once entered, you needn't be concerned with it updating. It just does...

This pic shows the syntax in both ways of doing this kinda thing. (The ":1" business is simply the colon number associated with the model in question which was an assembly.)

