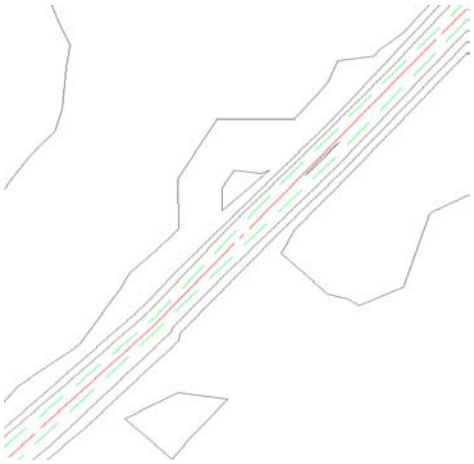
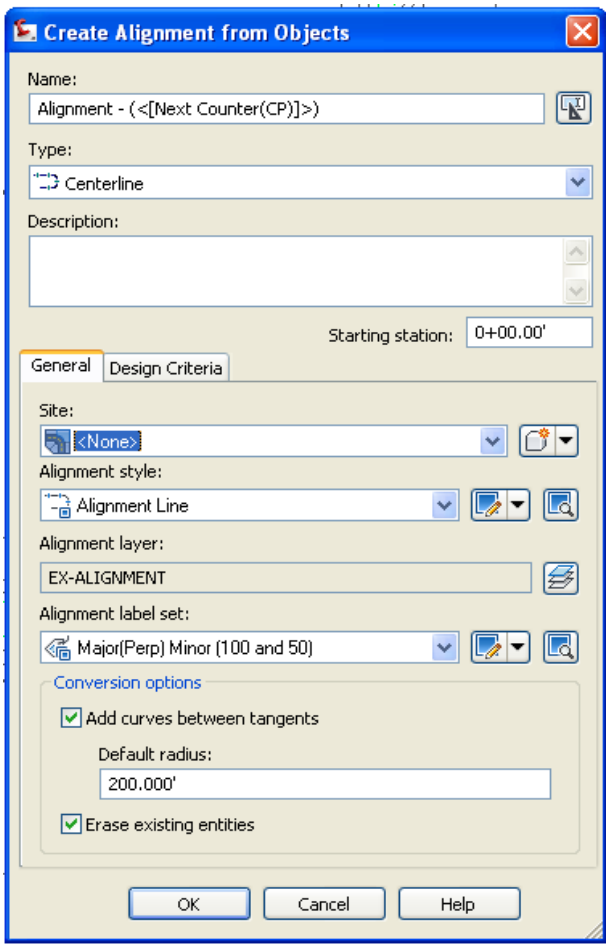
An alignment can be defined using existing lines, curves or polylines. This reference guide covers the procedure for defining an alignment based on a polyline that has been drafted in a drawing.

1. Go to the *Create Design* panel on the *Home* ribbon.
2. Click on the down arrow next to *Alignment* and select *Create Alignment from Objects.*
3. At the command line, you will be prompted to select the first line/arc/polyline. Click on the polyline that will be used to define the alignment, represented by the red line near the centerline of the channel shown in the figure to the right. By default, the end of the object closest to the point where you select it will be set as the beginning point for the alignment.

   If there is more than one object being used to define the alignment, continue to click on objects until all have been selected. When you are finished selecting objects, right click or hit the ENTER key to continue.



4. Next, you will be asked at the command line to accept the alignment direction, or type R at the command line to reverse the direction.
5. The Create Alignment from Objects window will now appear. The following settings can be made in this window:



- Alignment Name: An alignment name will have been created based on the default naming convention provided in the Minnesota drawing template. You can replace this with your own alignment name.
- There are four types of alignments that you can specify; Centerline, Offset, Curb Return, and Miscellaneous. This procedure is an example of a centerline alignment.
- You can assign the alignment to a specific Site, if you have created sites in the drawing, or you can leave the site setting to <None>.
- Choose an alignment style. For more information on the alignment styles provided with the Minnesota drawing template, refer to Quick Reference Guide *500.0 Styles – Alignment Lines*.
- By default, the alignment will be placed on the layer EX-ALIGNMENT. This can be changed by clicking on the icon next to the alignment layer.
- Choose an alignment label set. For more information on the alignment label sets provided with the Minnesota drawing template, refer to Quick Reference Guide *501.0 Styles – Alignment Station Labels*.
- Under Conversion options you can choose to add curves between tangent sections, and specify a radius for the curves. You can also choose to erase the existing entities, which will remove the object(s) used to define the alignment from the drawing.
- There is also a *Design Criteria* tab in the *Create Alignment from Objects* window where you can control criteria related to the design of roadways, such as roadway superelevation and sight distance requirements.

An alignment has been created from the object(s) that you selected in Step 3. The alignment labels will be placed based on the label set that you selected in the *Create Alignment from Objects* window.

The size of the alignment labels is controlled using the drawing's annotation scale. The annotation scale is controlled using the menu on the Application Status Bar at the bottom of the window, as shown below. In the figures above and to the left, an annotation scale of 1"=100' is applied, while the figure above and to the right, an annotation scale of 1"=50' is applied.