How to record video in CATIA V5

This guide shows you how to record video in CATIA V5 so you can capture your design process for documentation, tutorials, or sharing. You open a Part Design document, set the video recording properties, record your actions, preview the result, and find the saved file. The guide also explains how to capture still images of your workspace.

Prerequisites

Before you begin, make sure you have:

- CATIA V5 installed and ready to launch.
- A folder where you want to save the recording, such as your Desktop.

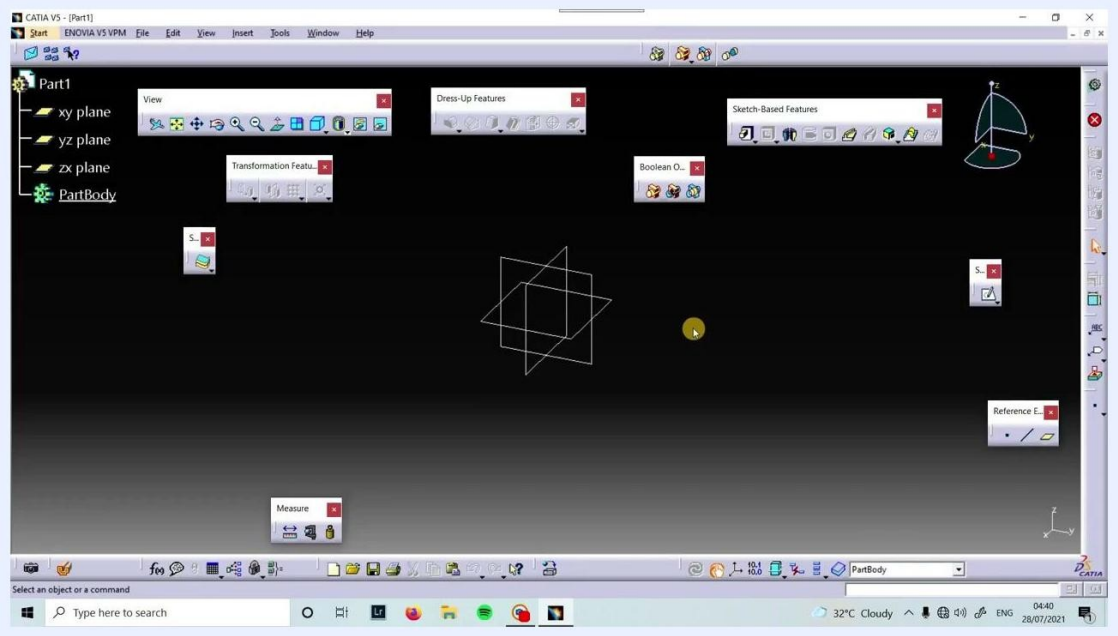
Open a Part Design document

Step 1: Start a new part in CATIA V5

Start a Part Design session so you have a workspace to record.

1. Launch CATIA V5.
2. In the top menu, click **Start**.

3. Hover over **Mechanical Design** and select **Part Design** from the dropdown menu.

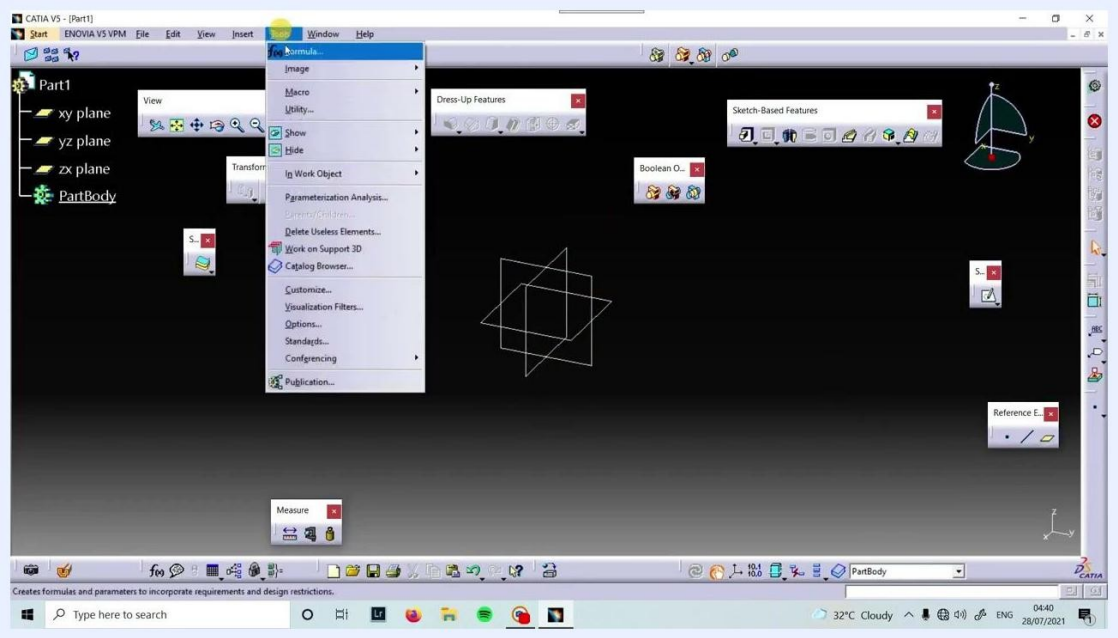


CATIA V5 main menu with Mechanical Design > Part Design highlighted, and modules and recent files visible

Wait for the Part Design workbench to load. The left panel shows the structure Part1, xy plane, yz plane, zx plane, and PartBody. Toolbars such as View, Dress-Up Features, Sketch-Based Features, Transformation Features, and Boolean Operations are visible.

Step 2: Prepare your workspace

Make sure the 3D workspace is clear and the toolbars are arranged for easy access. The central area displays the three main planes intersecting at the origin.



Workspace with the three planes intersecting at the origin and toolbars arranged for access

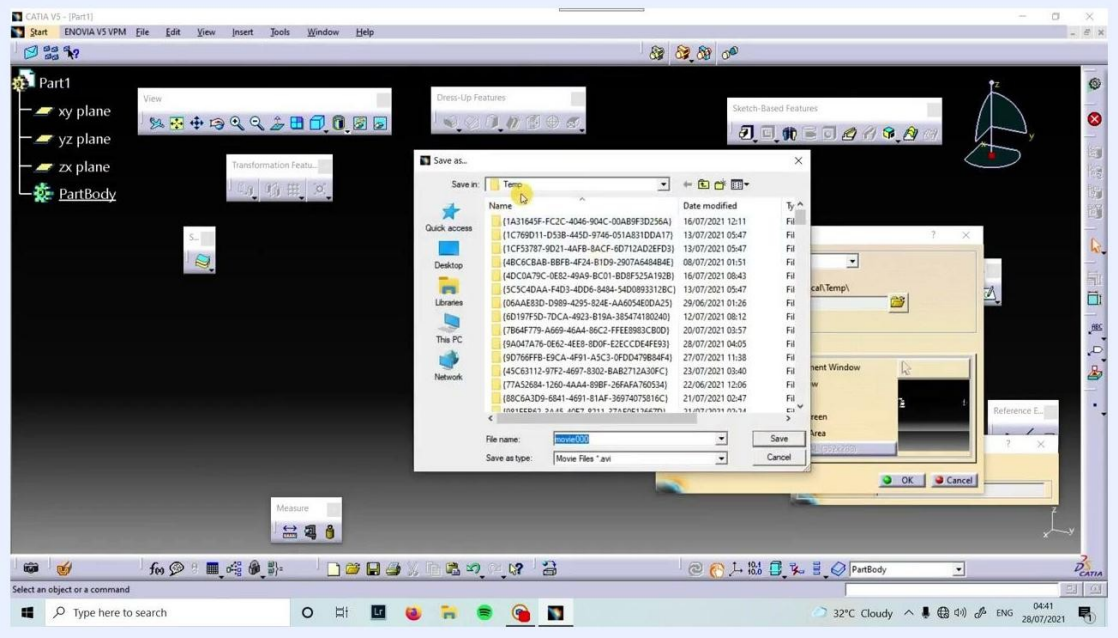
Set the video recording properties

Step 3: Open the video recording feature

To record video in CATIA, start from the Tools menu.

1. In the top menu, click **Tools**.
2. Hover over **Image**.

3. Select **Video...** from the submenu.



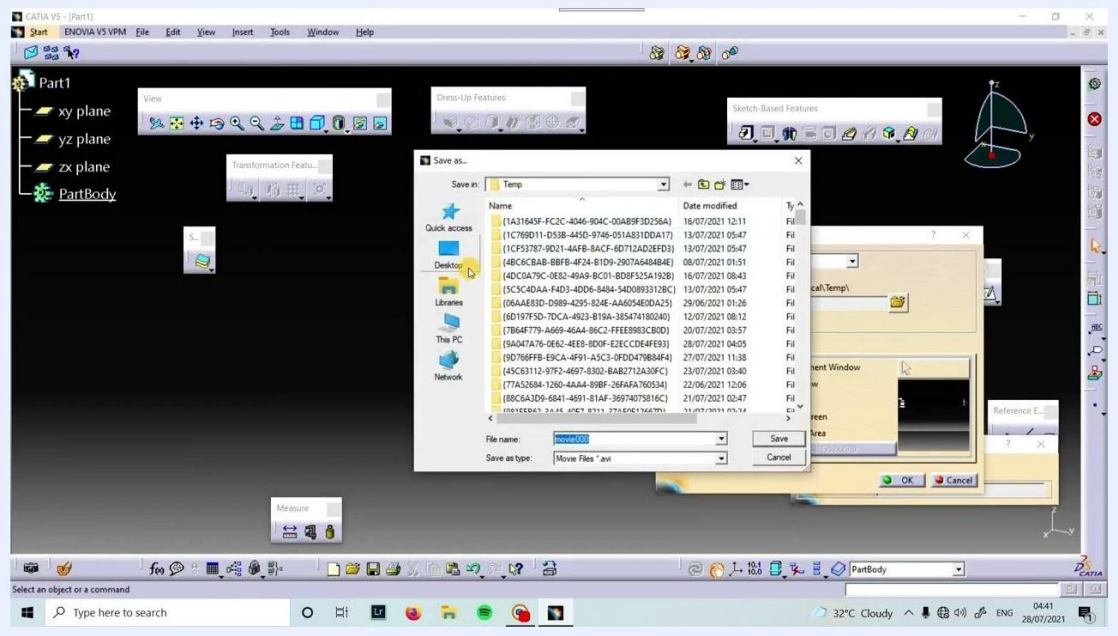
Tools menu open with Image > Video... highlighted

Step 4: Choose the file location and name

A **Save As** dialog appears. By default, the file location is the Temp folder.

1. To change the location, click **Desktop** or your preferred folder in the left sidebar.
2. Enter a file name, for example movie000.avi.

3. Click **Save**.



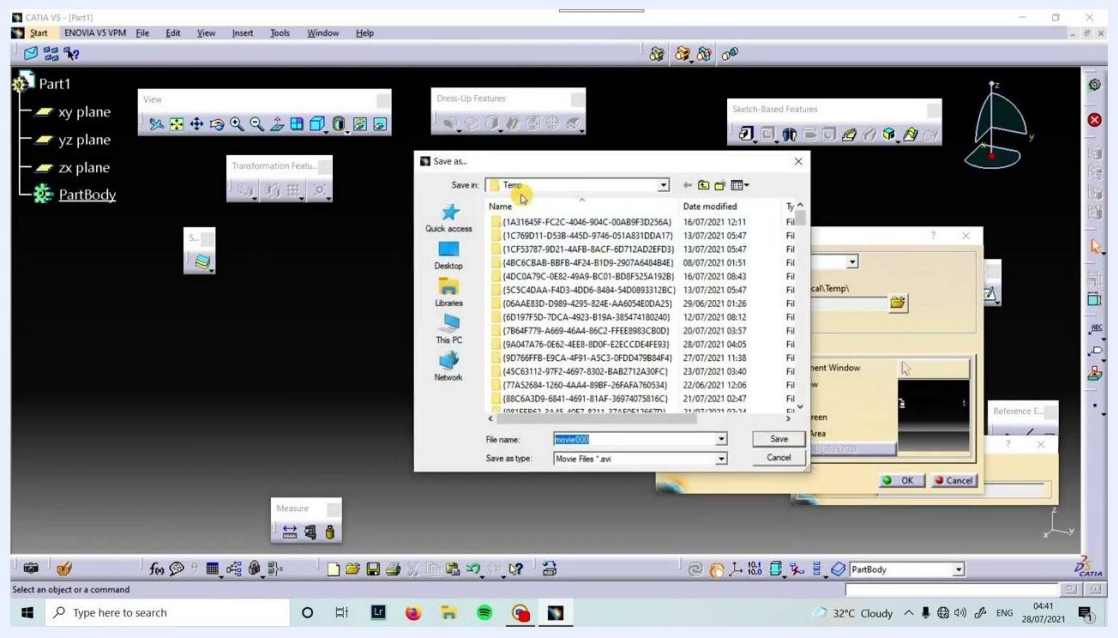
Save As dialog showing navigation to Desktop and a file name entered

Step 5: Configure the video properties

In the **Video Properties** window, review these settings:

- **Format:** VFW Codec is the default.
- **Directory:** Confirm your chosen save path, for example C:\Users\Mr.BK\Desktop.
- **Name:** Make sure the file name is correct, for example movie000.avi.

Under the capture options, select the recording area. You can choose Document Window, Window, Area, Full Screen, or Fixed Area. Then set the timer interval, for example 1000 ms. Optionally, check Include Cursor if you want the mouse pointer visible in the recording.



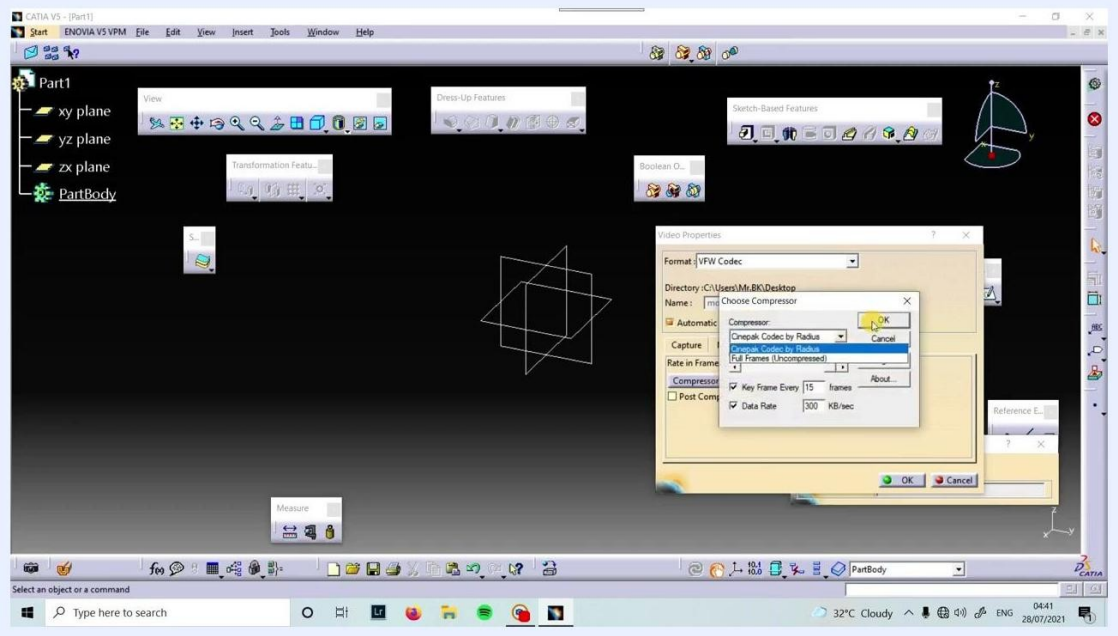
Video Properties dialog with format, directory, file name, capture area, timer, and cursor options

Step 6: Adjust the compressor settings (optional)

You can change how the recording is compressed.

1. In the **Video Properties** dialog, click **Compressor Setup...**.
2. Choose a compressor, for example Cinepak Codec by Radius or Full Frames (Uncompressed).

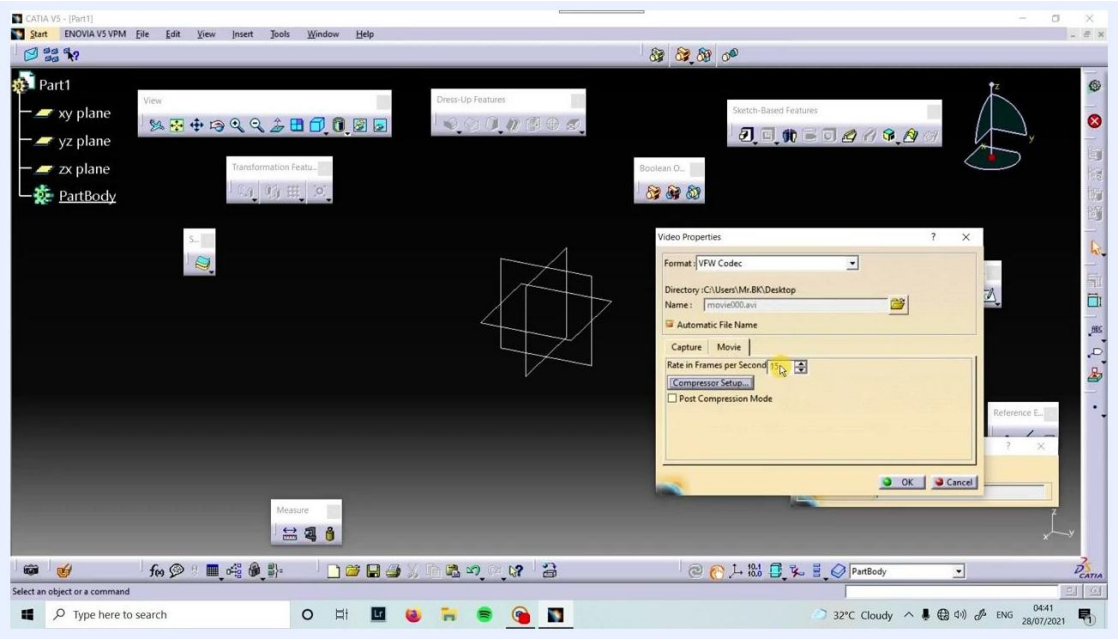
3. Click **OK** to confirm your selection.



Compressor selection window over Video Properties, listing Cinepak Codec by Radius and Full Frames (Uncompressed)

Step 7: Set the frame rate

In the **Video Properties** dialog, find the Rate in Frames per Second field. Enter the frame rate you want, for example 10 for 10 FPS, or leave the default of 15 FPS. Adjust the value based on how smooth you need the recording to be.



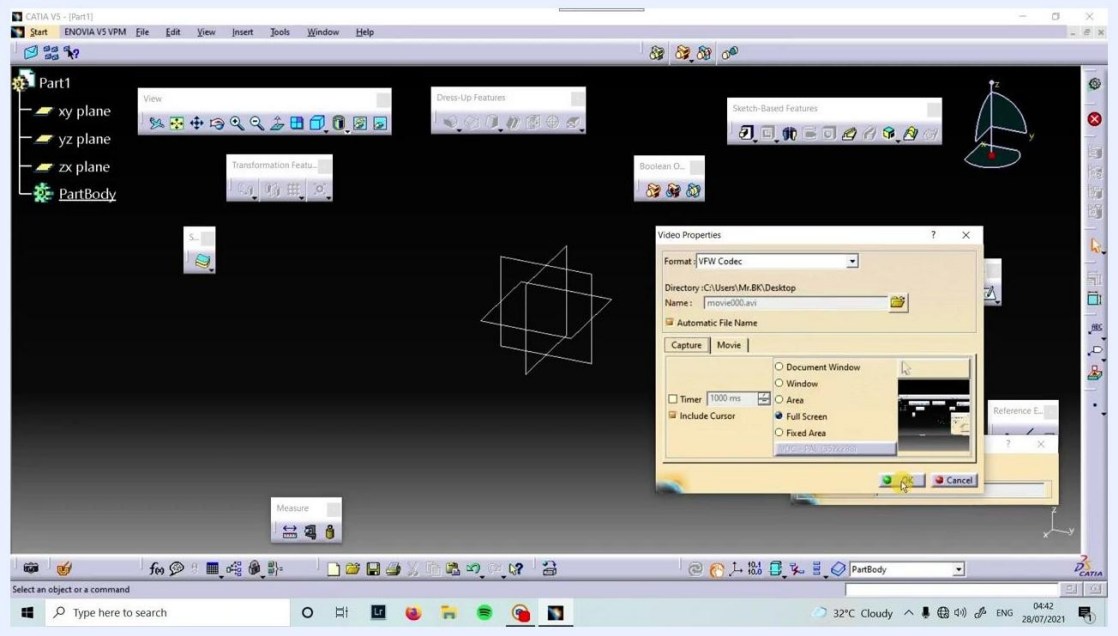
Video Properties dialog with Rate in Frames per Second set to 15

Step 8: Confirm your settings

Before you record, check that every setting is correct:

- Format: VFW Codec
- Directory: for example, C:\Users\Mr.BK\Desktop
- File name: for example, movie000.avi
- Frame rate: for example, 10 or 15
- Capture area: for example, Full Screen

Click **OK** to close the **Video Properties** dialog.



Video Properties dialog with the OK button highlighted, ready to start recording

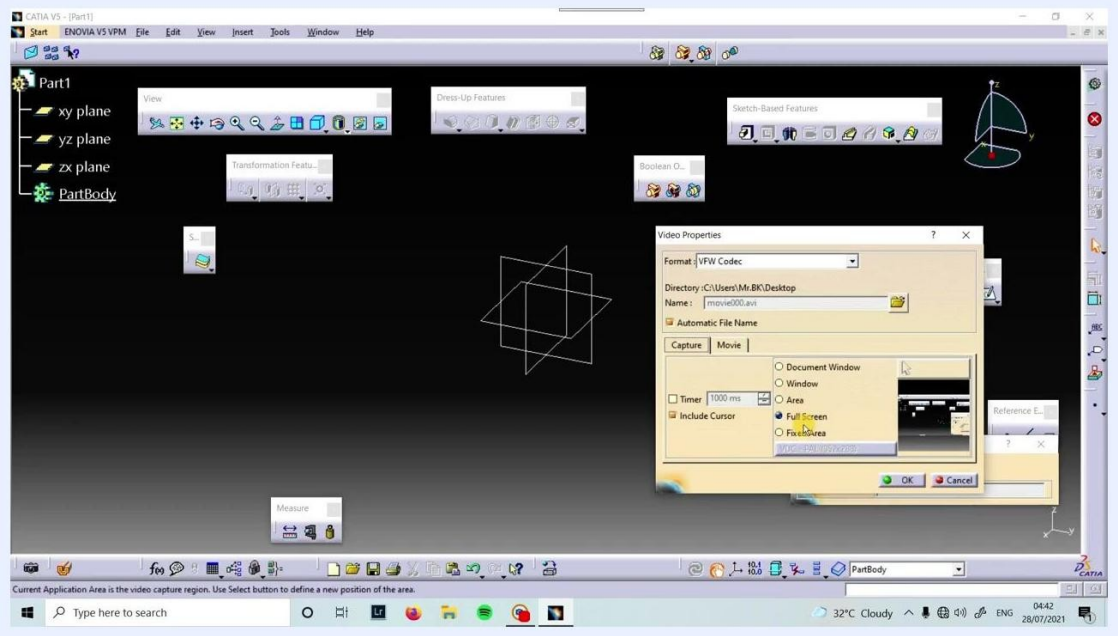
Record your CATIA session

Step 9: Start recording in CATIA V5

The **Video Recorder** control panel appears and shows the file name and recording status.

1. Click the red **Record** button to start capturing your actions.

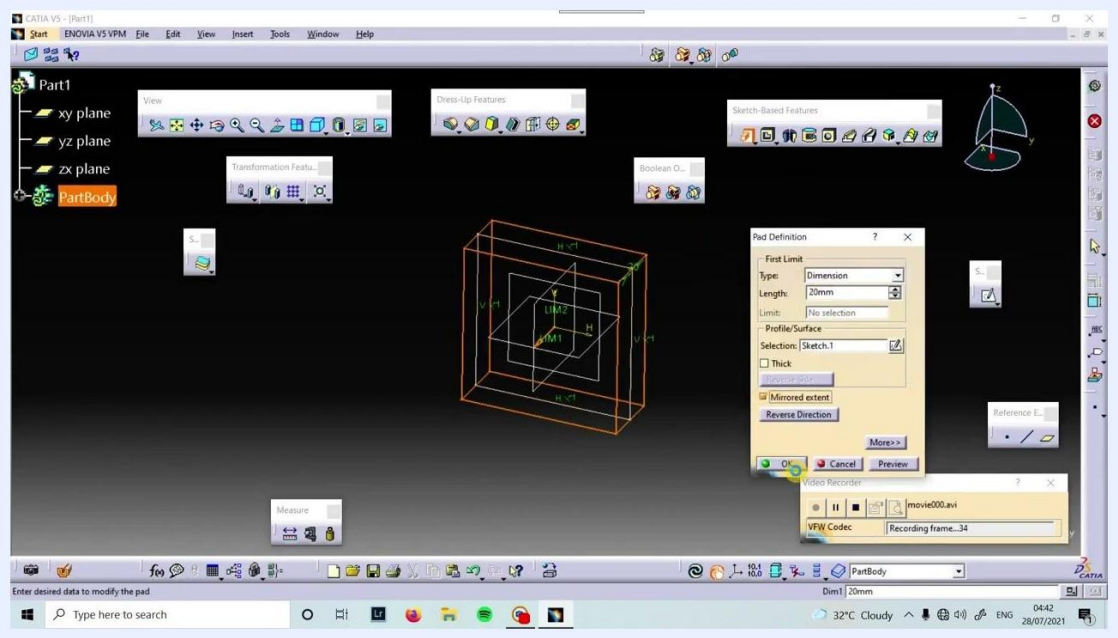
2. Continue your design work as usual. CATIA records all your actions.



CATIA workspace with the Video Recorder panel showing a recording in progress

Step 10: Perform the design actions you want to record

Keep working in CATIA, for example by creating sketches or features. For instance, select PartBody, create a sketch, and use the **Pad** tool to extrude a feature. The Video Recorder displays the current frame count as it records.



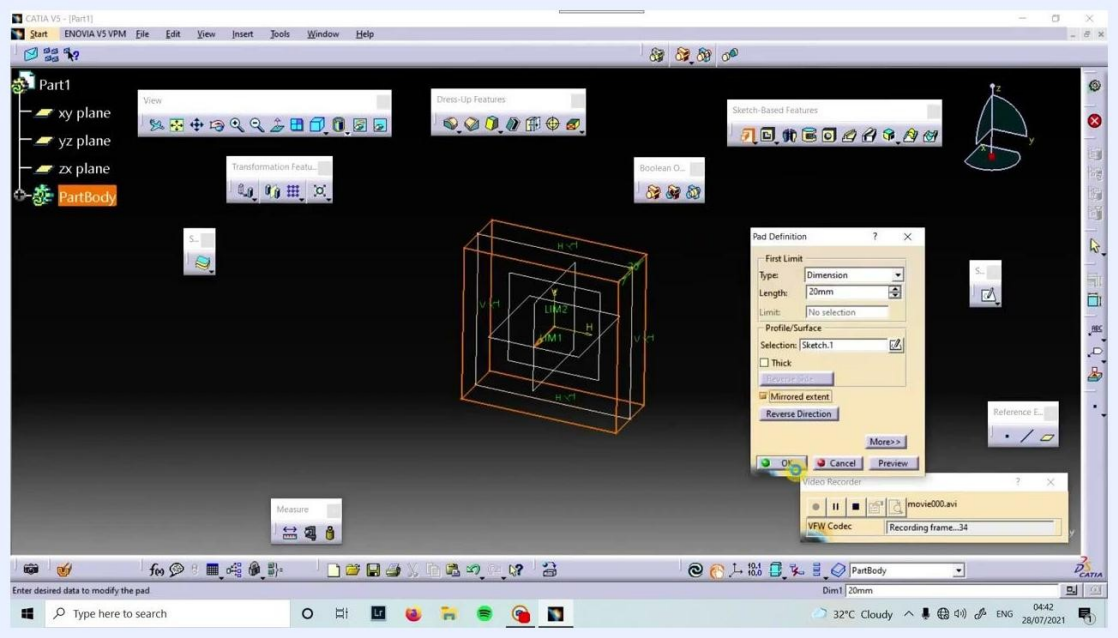
CATIA workspace with the Pad Definition dialog open and a 3D feature being created while the Video Recorder is active

Step 11: Stop the recording

When you finish your demonstration, click the **Stop** button (square icon) on the Video Recorder panel. CATIA saves the recording to the location you specified, for example your Desktop.

Step 12: Preview the recording

Click the **Preview** button (play icon) in the Video Recorder panel. The recording plays back all captured actions at the selected frame rate.

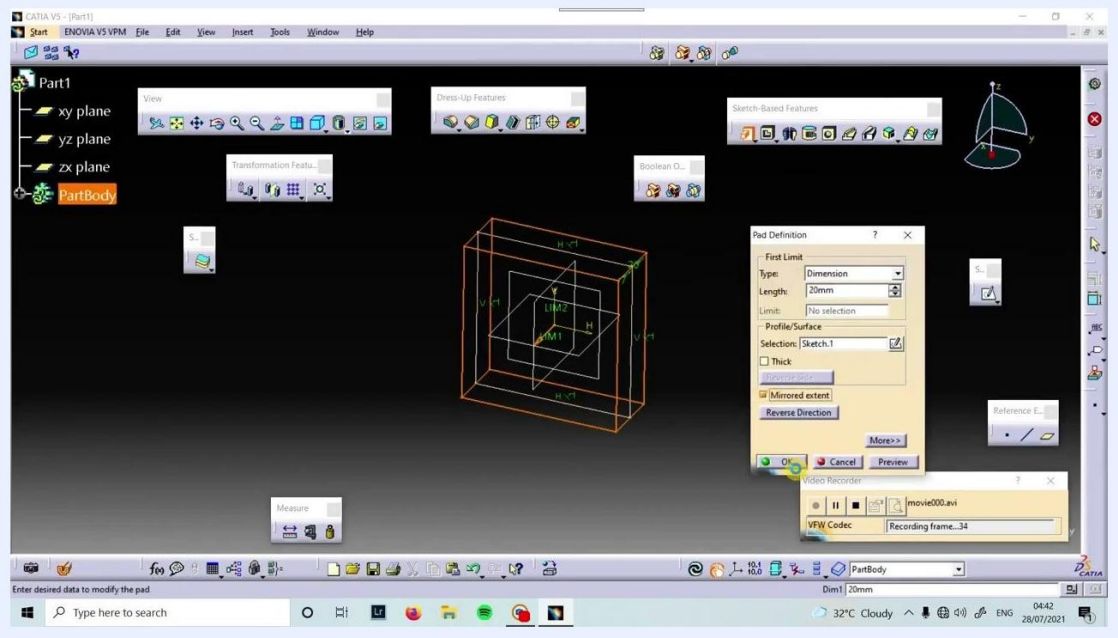


CATIA workspace with the Video Recorder panel in preview mode

Step 13: Find and open the saved file

1. Minimize or close CATIA V5 to return to your desktop.
2. Find the recorded file, for example movie000.avi, on your Desktop or in the directory you selected earlier.

3. Double-click the file to open it in your preferred media player.



Windows desktop with the movie000.avi file visible among other icons

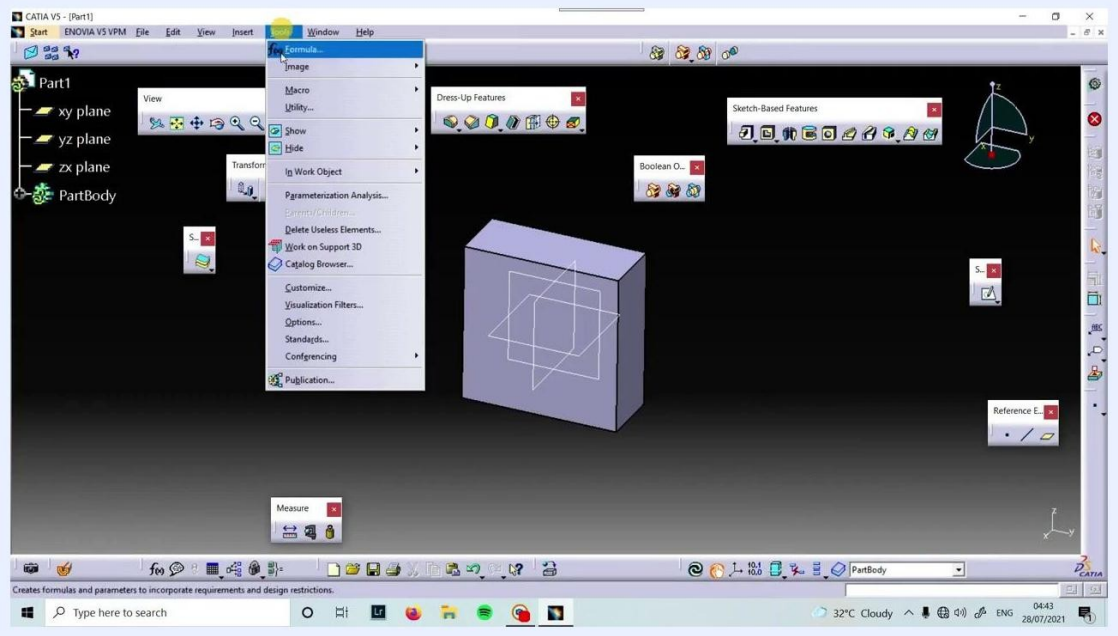
Capture still images in CATIA V5

You can also capture still images of your workspace using the same **Image** menu.

Step 14: Open the Capture dialog

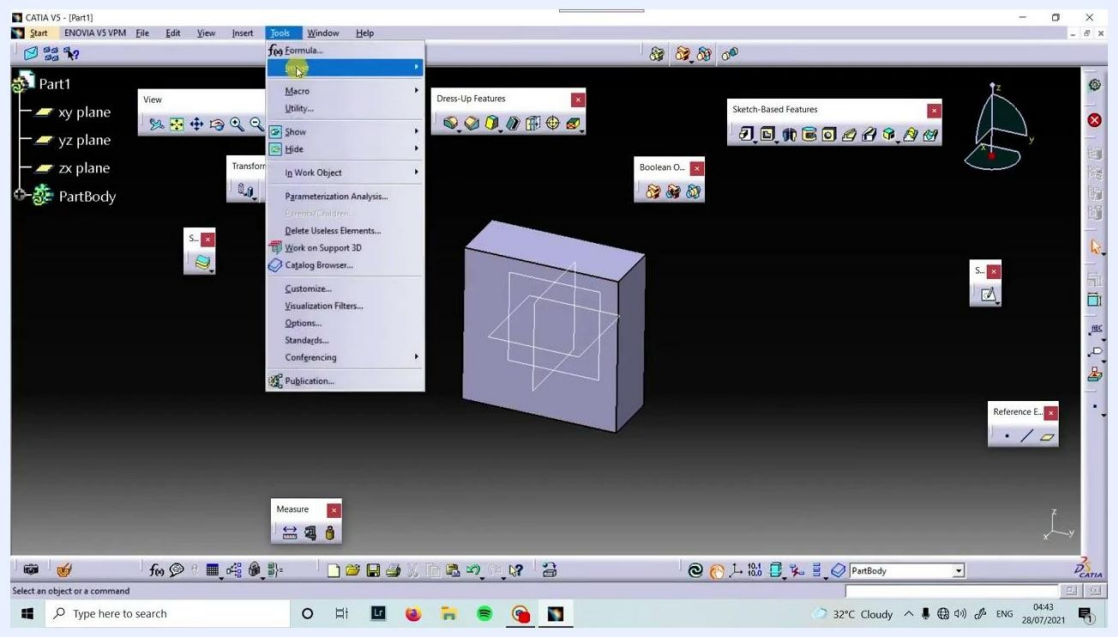
1. Reopen CATIA V5 if needed.
2. In the top menu, click **Tools**.

3. Select **Image** to access the image capture options.



CATIA V5 workspace with the Tools menu open and the Image option highlighted

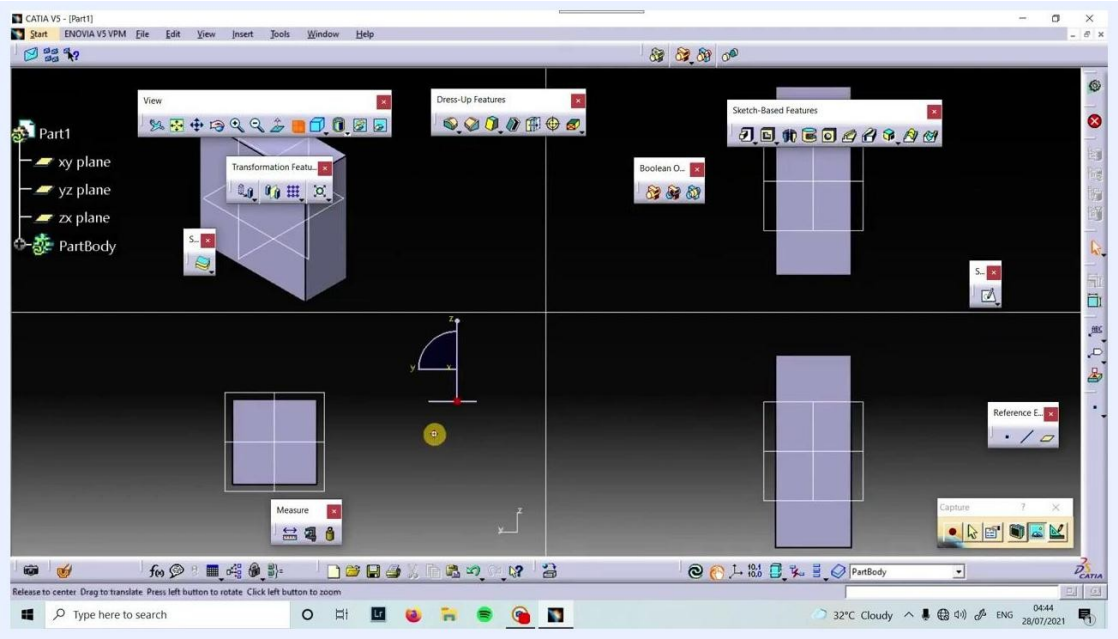
Then click **Capture** from the **Tools** > **Image** menu. The Capture dialog appears so you can configure the image capture settings.



CATIA V5 workspace with Tools > Image > Capture highlighted

Step 15: Explore the capture options

In the Capture Options dialog, move between the General, Pixel, and Vector tabs to see all available settings. Adjust the color, pixel, and vector options to suit your documentation needs. Settings such as album location, compressor, and file format are all available here.

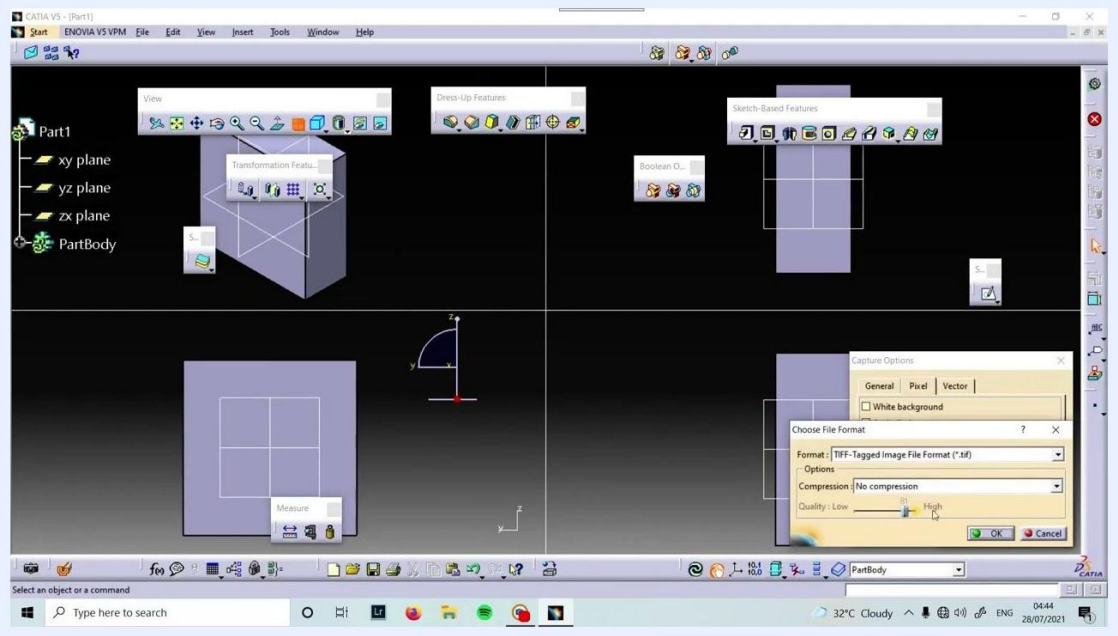


Capture Options dialog with the General, Pixel, and Vector tabs

Step 16: Set the file format and compression

1. Select your preferred file format, for example TIFF-Tagged Image File Format (*.tif).
2. Set compression to No compression for maximum quality, or adjust it as needed.

3. Use the quality slider to set the image quality, for example High.



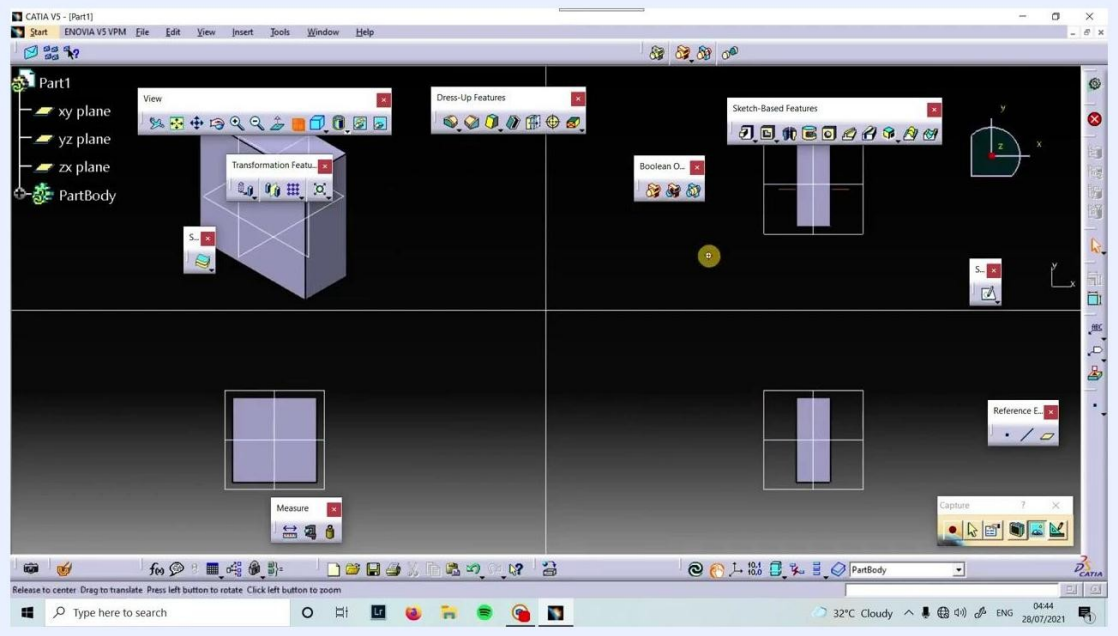
Capture Options dialog with file format set to TIFF, compression set to No compression, and the quality slider at High

Step 17: Set the image capture options

Adjust these settings in the Capture Options dialog:

- **Rendering Quality:** Select Highest for the best image resolution.
- **Monochrome Filter:** Choose a filter, for example Dither.
- **Other preferences:** Enable or disable options such as White background, Anti-aliasing, and Constant size capture.

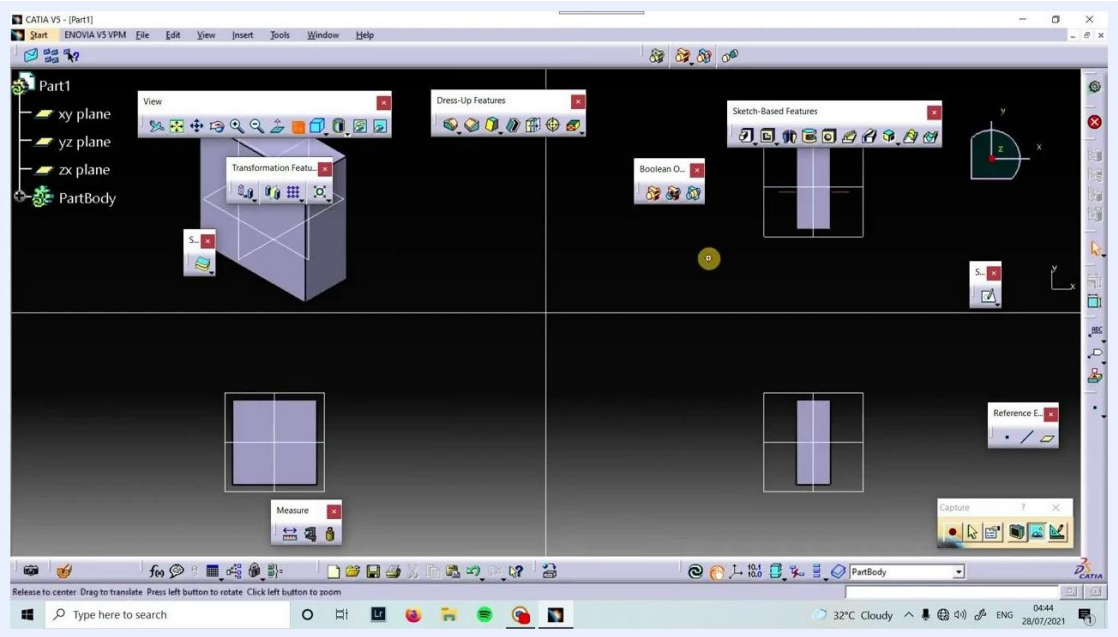
Click **OK** to confirm your settings.



Capture Options dialog with Rendering Quality set to Highest and other options visible

Step 18: Arrange multiple views

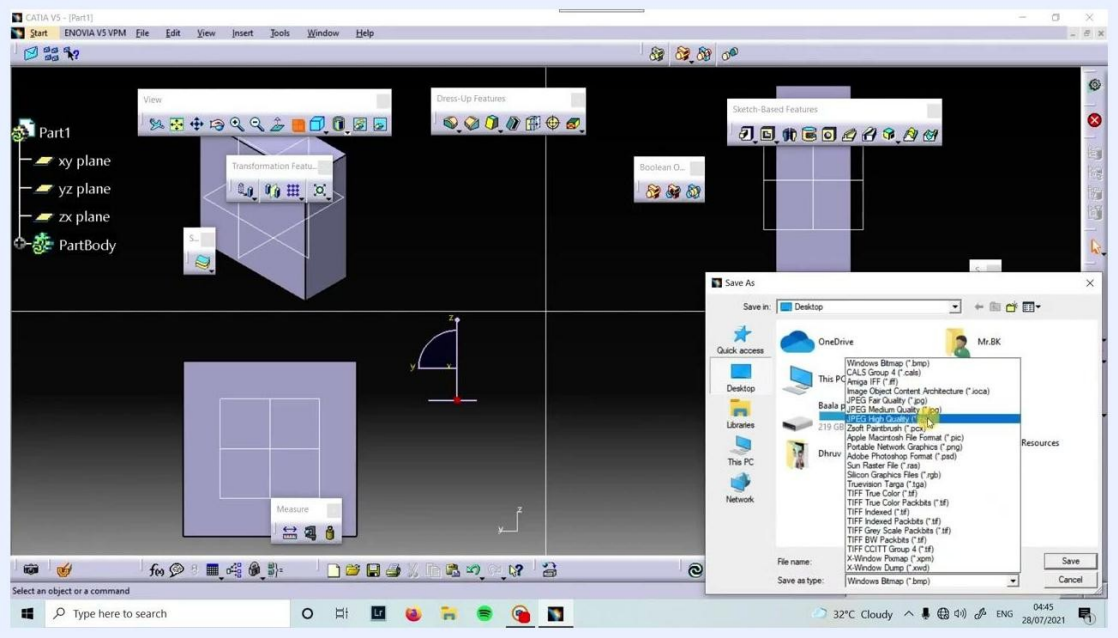
To capture images from different perspectives, switch to the four-view layout. Use the zoom and pan tools to adjust each view before you capture. The Capture toolbar stays accessible for quick image capture.



CATIA V5 workspace in the four-view layout with the Capture toolbar visible

Step 19: Take the snapshot

1. Make sure the capture settings, such as resolution, background, and file format, are configured in the Capture Options dialog.
2. In the CATIA V5 workspace, find the Capture toolbar, typically at the bottom right of the screen.
3. Click the **Record** button (red circle icon) to take a snapshot of your current workspace.



Four-view layout with the cursor hovering over the Record button on the Capture toolbar

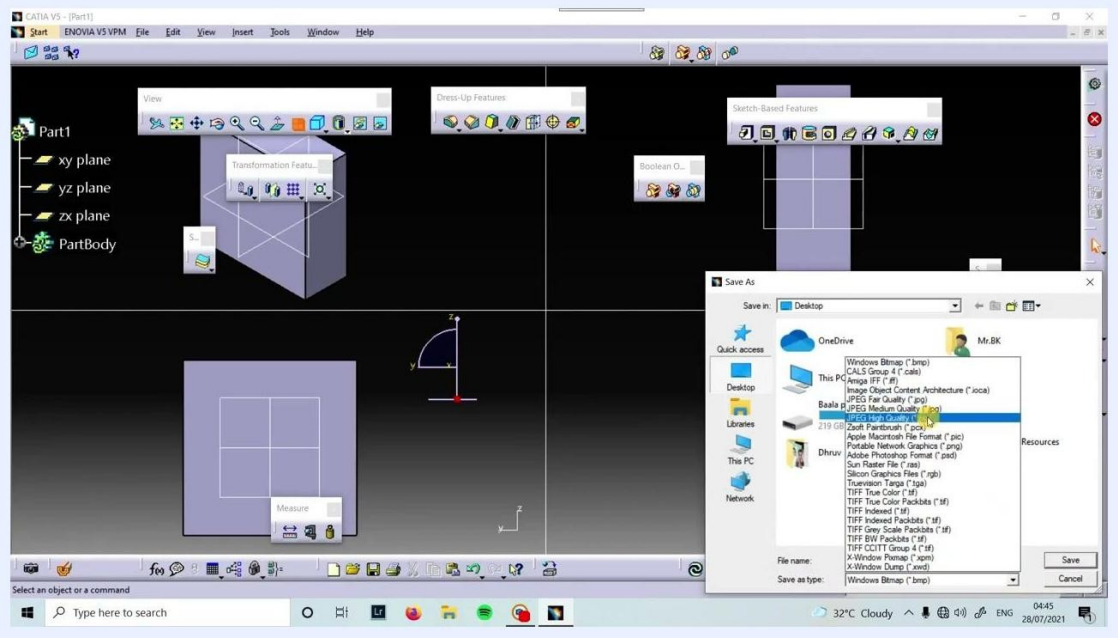
Save and open the captured image

Step 20: Save the image

After you click **Record**, a **Save As** dialog appears.

1. Choose where to save the image, for example your Desktop.
2. Select a file format from the dropdown menu, for example JPEG High Quality (*.jpg), PNG, or TIFF.
3. Enter a file name.

4. Click **Save**.



Save As dialog with the file format dropdown open, JPEG High Quality selected, and Desktop as the save location

If the **Save As** dialog does not close automatically, close it. Then confirm that the image file appears in your chosen directory.

Step 21: Verify the saved image

1. Minimize or close CATIA V5 to view your desktop or the folder where you saved the image.
2. Find the new image file.
3. Double-click it to open it in your default image viewer and check the capture quality.

Step 22: Return to CATIA V5 or finish

Return to CATIA V5 if you want to capture more images or keep working. If you are finished, you can close CATIA V5.

Summary

You now know how to record video in CATIA V5. Open a Part Design document, go to **Tools** > **Image** > **Video...**, set the file name, format, capture area, and frame rate, and click **Record**. When you finish, click **Stop**, preview the recording, and open the saved file from your chosen folder.

You can use the **Capture** options in the same menu to save still images of your workspace.