POINTOOLS Vortex

API User Guide and Reference

# Pointools Vortex API Documentation

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# THE VORTEX ENGINE

# Introduction

The Pointools Vortex point cloud engine is the core component driving the Pointools product range. The engine has been developed and continuously refined over 5 years and has been used with data from practically every scanner available during this period. Pointools products are used in a wide range of industries including petro-chemical, security, forensics, defense, architecture, heritage, archeology, engineering, mining, marine, transport, planning and various governmental institutions.

# Background

Pointools develop a range of products designed as easy to use solutions for working with scan data. Our debut product was Pointools View which enabled users to large volumes of visualize scan data, take measurements and produce ortho imagery.

Development of Pointools View started in late 2002. At this time medium range scanning solutions were limited to the Cyrax 2500 scanner which produced scans that where each 1million data points. Typical scan projects where composed of 10 or 20 scans or 50-100 scans at the top end. Our engine was designed accordingly and was able to manage the quantity of data that was typical of most scanning projects. View 1.0 excelled in the speed with which point clouds could be visualized and in this respect was unmatched at the time.

By late 2003 it was clear that a different approach was required as scan projects represented by files that were larger than a machine's available RAM where no longer uncommon. The engine was redesigned to manage these datasets efficiently and offer the highest performance of any platform for point cloud visualization on standard hardware.

This is the design on which Vortex is based today and it differs from the original approach. The 2004 engine introduced view based streaming as the method of loading data from disk enabling the viewer to start visualizing the scan data immediately. This is coupled with careful memory management to ensure optimal performance.

Since this time graphics technology has evolved and the bottlenecks have shifted, CPUs have become more commonly multi-core and RAM is inexpensive with most machines being equipped with at least 3Gb. The Vortex engine has adapted to these changes to ensure that whilst it retains the architecture of the 2004 engine it still delivers optimal performance on today's consumer grade and professional grade hardware.

# Functionality

The Vortex engine comprises of the point cloud database, the display engine and various plug-in importers and exporters for scan data exchange.

The functionality of the engine can be summarized as:

### • IMPORT AND EXPORT OF SCAN DATA FORMATS

The following formats are currently supported: Leica ptx, pts, ptz, ptg; Riegl 3dd, rxp, rsp; Topcon cl3, Faro fls, fws; Optech ixf; In addition Z+F zfc should be available soon. Data from other scanners can be imported via a flexible generic ascii importer and the ability to create the POD format is provide enabling addition of additional formats by users of the engine.

# POINT CLOUD ORGANIZATION IN OPTIMIZED FILE STRUCTURE (POD FILE)

The structure of Vortex pod files optimizes point data fetch by visible region and enables compression without loss of accuracy.

### • FILE AND SCENE MANAGEMENT

File management includes opening files, closing files and temporarily unloading / reloading files.

Scene management includes view based loading of point cloud files and careful management of memory resources to deliver optimal performance.

# POINT CLOUD RENDERING TO OPENGL CONTEXT

Optimised rendering to OpenGL contexts. User rendering to non-GL contexts is also possible using the querying interface.

### POINT QUERYING

Point data can be extracted from the engine using the query functions.

## POINT EDITING

Point data can be selected, moved or copied between layers and hidden for segmentation or removal of unwanted artifacts

# • USER CHANNELS

Additional channels of data can be added to point clouds at run-time and displayed as colour or point position offsets

# Features

The Vortex engine has been subject to 6 years of development, improvement and redesign. Today a number of features differentiate the engine's features and performance industry wide:

### • INDEXED FOR HIGH PERFORMANCE

Data is organized and indexed optimally for fast retrieval and display. Data is compressed but without meaningful loss of accuracy (in relation to capture accuracy) when importing data into the Vortex database format and no loss of density. Large multi-Gb collection of scan files can be imported from scanner formats and indexed into the Pointools pod format in a short time.

### • SUPPORT FOR MASSIVE POINT CLOUD DATASETS

Multi-billion point datasets can be loaded into the Vortex engine. All of Vortex's functionality is tested with huge datasets to ensure end-users of the engine experience the fluidity and speed of workflow that is associated with Pointools products.

### DISPLAY ENGINE AND SHADER FLEXIBILITY

The Vortex engine includes a display component for rendering to OpenGL with a range of shading possibilities are supported by the display engine including rgb, intensity, height, edge and lighting. Shading methods can also be blended and configured via options.

The display engine prioritizes the data within the user's view or tool based area of interest. Scene management responds accordingly to ensure these areas are given load priority to deliver as smooth a visualization experience as possible.

It is also possible to build alternative display pipelines not based on OpenGL, in this case Vortex provides a fast query interface and software shading system that exactly replicates the OpenGL shader based system.

### FAST AREA SELECTION

Areas of the point cloud can be quickly selected using rectangle, fence, plane or 3d brush tools. The selection algorithm is extremely fast even on multi-billion point datasets. If multiple cores are available on the CPU these are all utilized efficiently. Points can be moved or copied into one of seven layers.

### FAST POINT QUERY AND EXTRACTION

Point queries can be run quickly against large point cloud datasets and the points extracted to a client buffer. Queries can be configured to return the full query result, a representational sample or split the results into multiple buffers allowing for parallel processing.

# • RAY INTERSECTION FOR POINT SNAPPING

Ray intersections with the point cloud or nearest point computation can be performed via the API. This provides an easy way to implement point snapping for CAD applications.

# THE VORTEX API

# Background

The Pointools Vortex API provides the point cloud loading, display and extraction capabilities in Pointools products, including Pointools 4 Rhino and Model for AutoCAD. The API has a clean and easy to integrate interface provided by a single header and binary dll file.

# API Design Philosophy

An understanding of the API's design philosophy will be useful in understanding the API usage. A number of key objectives have determined the design:

### FULL OBJECT LIFETIME MANAGEMENT

Client code does not have to allocate or manage any objects to use the API. All objects are managed by the engine and referenced via a handle. This frees the client code from all memory management tasks directly related to the use of the API.

### COMPATIBLE WITH MOST COMPILERS

The API is binary compatible almost any win32 C++/C compiler since functions are imported at run-time and the calling convention is specified.

# • ABILITY TO EXPOSE ONLY PARTS OF THE INTERFACE

Applications requiring only part of the interface need only import those functions

# • ABILITY TO EASILY BIND TO DIFFERENT LANGUAGES

The interface is straight C and can be bound to other languages, or wrapped by C++ into an object model suiting the application

### • UPDATABLE WITHOUT BREAKING CHANGES TO THE INTERFACE

The engine can be extended, improved and updated by Pointools in most cases without breaking the interface requiring no re-compile for client code.

## • MINIMAL SETUP FOR CLIENT CODE

Client code implementation can be minimal and quick to implement. A straight C interface means that clients of the API may also choose to better adapt the API to their architecture by means of a C++ wrapper.

# • BINARY DEPENDENCIES ON STANDARD LIBRARIES ONLY

No additional third party libraries are required; the only requirements are basic system libraries and OpenGL

# The Vortex API - Getting Started

The Pointools Vortex API is contained in a single dll file containing scene management and display engine functionality. Note that at this time scan format import and export is not implemented in the API, these functions are available in the PTFormatsIO API. Please contact Pointools support for further information if you require this functionality.

#### LIBRARY LOADING AND INITIALISATION

Source code to perform the loading of the library and import of functions with error checking is provided with the library. Inclusion and use of these files (pointoolsAPI\_import.h/cpp) is the recommended method for importing the library into an application.

After the API is loaded, the following code will initialize it:

```
ptInitialize( clientLicenseCode );
```

You will need to obtain the client license code from Pointools otherwise this will fail. This code is usually provided in the vortexEvalCode.c file distributed with the evaluation pack.

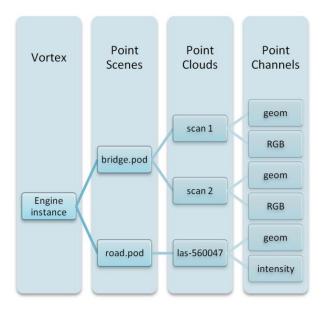
### POD FILE LOADING

POD files (**PO**int **D**atabase) are the proprietary optimized file type directly loaded by the Vortex Engine. The format is compact and structured for rapid partial loading. The Vortex engine pages the POD file according to the current view requirements using a local cache to minimize IO reads. When querying for points or rendering a large point cloud the engine may also supplement the cache by loading point channels in the current thread.

A POD file consists of:

- 1. File version and basic structure
- 2. Extended Meta data
- 3. Point cloud structure
- 4. Point data channels

A single POD file contains a point cloud *scene* which contains one or more *point clouds* composed of at least a *geometry* channel and optionally *intensity*, *rgb* and *normal* data channels. The Vortex engine can load multiple POD files in a single session.



Run-time data model in the Vortex Engine

Note that the Vortex engine always loads POD files read only enabling multiple engine sessions to access the same file.

The following code segment opens a windows file browser and allows the user to select one or more pods file to load. A handle is returned if the load is successful. This will only be the first handle in the case of multiple files.

In the listing below the lists the handles for the files that have been loaded to std::cout.

```
PThandle ptscene = ptBrowseAndOpenPOD();

if (ptscene != PT_NULL)
{
    int newNumScenes = ptNumScenes();
    PThandle *handles = new PThandle[newNumScenes];
    ptGetSceneHandles( handles );

    for ( int sc=numScenes; sc<newNumScenes; sc++ )
    {
        std::cout << "Pod file: " << handles[sc] << std::endl;
    }
    delete [] handles;
}</pre>
```

Alternatively using ptOpenPOD(PTstr\*filename) will load the file directly without displaying a file browser.

### VIEWPORT MANAGEMENT

Pointools API will keep track of shading and other settings per viewport. In order to do this you must notify the API when the active viewport changes. You can use the

ptSetViewportByName(PTstr\*name) method to do this by providing a unique name for the viewport. Note that names like 'top'. 'perspective' ect will not work well since there maybe more than one viewport with a name like this. Also note that there is no need to 'Add' the viewport, although the command does exist in the API.

#### SHADER SETTINGS

These are very easy to change and include RGB / intensity, lighting, plane shading etc. Here are a few examples: Also see the 'simple' example project for more detail.

```
ptEnable( PT_LIGHTING ); // Enables lighting. Use ptDisable to disable settings.

// changes the intensity ramp to the currently selected index in a combo box.
ptShaderOptioni( PT_INTENSITY_SHADER_RAMP, m_cboIntensityRamp.GetCurSel() );

// set up material properties for lighting
ptShaderOptionf( PT_MATERIAL_AMBIENT, 0.3f );
ptShaderOptionf( PT_MATERIAL_DIFFUSE, 0.7f );
ptShaderOptionf( PT_MATERIAL_SPECULAR, 0.1f );
ptShaderOptionf( PT_MATERIAL_GLOSSINESS, 0.1f );
```

Note that these settings operate per viewport. To copy settings from the active viewport to the others use ptCopyShaderSettingsToAll();

### DRAWING

Using the API draw functions will in most cases result in the simplest implementation and best performance when rendering points to the viewport. This is possible only when drawing into current OpenGL context (support for DirectX to follow) that you are using in your application. To do this simply use the ptDrawGL (bool dynamic) function. Note that creating an OpenGL context and ensuring that it is active is not handled by the API, you must do this yourself.

When using OpenGL the API will not setup a camera modelview or projection matrices, this must be performed by the host application. Once set the entire view setup can be read by Vortex using ptReadViewFromGL. This must be done before calling ptDraw.

The dynamic flag indicates that Vortex API should try to draw the scene quickly to maintain frame-rate. This may mean that the view is decimated and can be used to provide fast drawing whilst the user is navigating the scene. When the user has finished navigation (usually when the mouse button is up) a full draw settings dynamic to false should be performed.

You can also use ptDrawSceneGL (PThandle scene) to draw a particular scene (ie file). The drawing mode can be over-ridden be using ptOverrideDrawMode with PT\_DRAW\_MODE\_INTERACTIVE, PT\_DRAW\_MODE\_STATIC and PT\_DRAW\_MODE\_DEFAULT (to reset). This is useful when a peripheral part of the client code needs to influence the draw mode.

For none OpenGL drawing the point querying interface can be used with settings specifically designed for retrieval of point buffers for drawing. This requires that a valid view comprising of projection, eye space transform and viewport size have been setup via the ptSetView... functions. Thereafter ptCreateFrustumPointsQuery should be used to setup a query that returns points within the viewing frustum. To control the volume of points that are returned ptSetQueryDensity can be used with PT\_QUERY\_DENSITY\_LIMIT to limit the overall number of points to a specific amount or PT\_QUERY\_DENSITY\_VIEW to return an optimal number of points for the current view.

See the 'tuning' example for an implementation of a simple renderer that uses this method.

### UNITS

To ensure correct scaling you should set the host units using ptSetHostUnits according to the units used in your application to one of the following:

```
PT_METERS
PT_CENTIMETERS
PT_MILLIMETERS
PT_FEET
PT_FEET_US_SURVEY
PT_INCHES
```

The default units are meters. Note that POD files are unitless by default.

# SELECTION REGIONS

The Vortex API allows the selection of areas of the point cloud and subsequent hiding or retrieval of points. Selection can be in one of three of the following modes:

```
PT_EDIT_MODE_SELECT — Points are selected in the selection region
PT_EDIT_MODE_UNSELECT — Points are deselected in the selection region
PT_EDIT_MODE_UNHIDE — Points are unhidden in the selection region
```

The mode is set by using ptSetSelectPointsMode with one of the constants above.

Selection of points can be performed in screen space (often by the user) or in 3D project space. The following functions perform selection in screen space:

ptSelectPointsByRect	Selects points using a screen rectangle. This method is highly optimized and in most cases can be used to give instantaneous feedback to the user.
ptSelectPointsByFence	Selects points using a screen fence (polygon). This method is more flexible than the use of a rectangle but does not offer the same performance.

In 3D project space the following functions can be used to select points:

ptSelectPointsByBox Selects points using an axis aligned bounding box. This method is

extremely quick and can be used to implement a user real-time 3d

brush selector.

ptSelectPointsBySphere Selects points using a sphere. This method is also extremely quick and

can be used to implement a user real-time 3d brush selector.

The point selection can be inverted and cleared by the use of ptInvertSelection and ptUnselectAll. Selected points can be hidden with ptHideSelected.

It is possible to store the current selection and visible state for later retrieval both within session memory and on disk. Please see the API reference for details on how to do this.

New to version 1.3 of the API is the ability to move or copy points between layers. These can be used to provide CAD layer like functionality or for point catergorisation or segmentation. Layers can be shown / hidden as well as locked.

Currently 6 layers are provided, the maximum number of layers is provided by PT\_MAX\_LAYERS. This number will be increased in future versions of the API.

### QUERYING

Points and their attributes can be extracted from the Vortex API using the querying part of the API interface. A query object is first created using one of a number of methods that return a handle to the object. For example to the ptCreateBoudingBoxQuery can be used to create a query for points within an axis aligned bounding box. Once the query is created, client code should allocate a buffer for at least the point geometry, this can be either an array of floats or doubles. In addition buffers for intensity, rgb and normals may also be allocated if required.

Points can then be extracted using the ptGetQueryPoints functions which return the number of points extracted. Depending on the size of the buffer and the number of points in the query you may need to call this function a number of times until it returns zero. Each iteration will fill the buffer until all the query points have been extracted. This is most conveniently performed in a while loop with the number of points returned as a condition.

Note that the ptGetQueryPoints function takes a number of pointers to intensity, rgb and other buffers. These are optional and it is safe to pass null pointers for attributes you do not need other than point geometry which cannot be a null pointer.

Queries take minimal resources until they are actually executed. This is because a query is also only evaluated when it is executed using ptGetQueryPoints. As a result, a SelectedPoints query would return points that are selected when the query is *executed* not those selected when the query was created.

Once a query has returned all its points it will not return more points until ptResetQuery is called with the query handle.

### **USER CHANNELS**

Point clouds have a geometry channel (x,y,z) and often RGB and intensity channels also. Additional runtime channels can be added to store arbitrary numeric per point data. These are called User Channels and are not stored directly in the POD file format unlike RGB and intensity. There are a number of applications where this is extremely useful. For example holding temporary values whilst processing points in an algorithm, a user channel removes the burden of tracking point references in client code and can also be stored out-of-core enabling efficient use of memory.

User Channels can also be used to display results of an algorithm by telling Vortex to interpret values as a colour ramp position or RGB value.

A User Channel can be to persist between sessions by using the ptSaveUserChannels and ptLoadUserChannels file functions. When loaded the channels are automatically mapped to the correct point clouds if these are loaded in Vortex.

To create a user channel use the ptCreateUserChannel function and store the returned handle to the channel for onward reference. User channel values are read and written by creating queries and retrieving values using one of the ptGetDetailedQueryPoints functions in which additional parameters for User Channel access can be specified. These values are returned to a local buffer you provide, this buffer can be both read from and written to. Changes made to the values in the buffer can be written back to the User Channel by calling ptSubmitPointChannelUpdate.

For a demonstration of User Channel usage see the 'moving-points' example project.

# **VORTEX API EXAMPLES**

The Pointools Vortex API is distributed with a number of example projects in the 'examples' folder. These are contained in a single Visual Studio 2005 solution file, *examples.sln* which is set up to build out-of-the-box without any changes or specification of additional folders.

Most of the examples use GLUI, a simple OpenGL/glut based UI library to set up the user interface and as much of the peripheral application framework code as possible has been placed in *src/appframework.cpp* to keep the example code clear. The GLUI is used under a LGPL license requiring any modifications to the source code of the library to be made available under the same license terms. To obtain the modified source if required, please contact vortex@pointools.com

### SIMPLE

The simple project demonstrates basic use of the API including file loading, shading options and basic view settings for the OpenGL renderer

### **EDITING**

The editing project demonstrates the point selection, point hiding and layers capability of the engine. A number of editing tools are implemented, including screen space selections such as rectangle and polygon and 3d brush selectors.

The available point 6 layers are shown in 6 rows of buttons below the editing tools:

The **V** button is used to control visibility

The L button is used to lock a layer, preventing editing operations from affecting this layer

The *Layer* button is used to make a layer current. The current layer is also made visible.

Once points are selected, switching the current layer and using the *Copy* or *Move* buttons will copy or move points into the current layer.

The example also demonstrates a simple query based renderer, which although still using OpenGL, queries the engine for points and renders these in the example code.

### MAKE BMP

The *makebmp* project demonstrates the use of bitmap viewport contexts to create and save a bitmap of the current view

# SNAPPING

The *snapping* project demonstrates the use of the ray intersection and nearest point functions to implement accurate point snapping.

### **MOVE PNTS**

The *movepnts* project demonstrates the use of User Channels to add per point values on the whole of or part of a point cloud. Using the OpenGL renderer the channel is rendered as an offset to the point position resulting in a distortion of the point cloud. Though there is little direct application of distorting a point cloud in this way, the example is intended to illustrate use of User Channels and persistence of User

Channels between sessions. Note that persistence will not work correctly on POD files generated from Pointools products before May 2009.

### TUNING

The *tuning* example demonstrates some of the available engine tuning parameters and implements a simple query based renderer. The example takes the query renderer further than the *editing* example with a number of settings available that change the behavior of the query renderer.

### **METADATA**

The *metadata* example demonstrates the reading of metadata from a POD file and displays the header information in a grid

# VORTEX API COMMAND REFERENCE

# Initialization

# Initialize

### **DEFINITION**

PTbool ptInitialize ( const PTubyte \*license )

### **DESCRIPTION**

Initialises the Vortex engine and checks license state. This must be the called before any other Vortex API function.

### **PARAMETERS**

license

This is a license string provided by Pointools usually held in a variable declared in a file named license.c

### RETURN VALUE

PT\_TRUE if initialisation is successful.

# IsInitialized

### **DEFINITION**

PTbool ptIsInitialized

## **DESCRIPTION**

Checks if the Vortex engine has been initialized by a previous successful call to ptInitialise.

### RETURN VALUE

PT TRUE if initialisation was successful.

# SetWorkingFolder

### DEFINITION

PTvoid ptSetWorkingFolder ( const PTstr folder )

### **DESCRIPTION**

Sets the working folder for the engine resources. In Vortex 2.0 this the only resources that are loaded via files are the shader files. In Vortex 1.4 and earlier this would include the *ramps* folder containing gradient images for the intensity and plane shader, however this is now longer required and the ramps folder can safely be removed from the working folder.

### **PARAMETERS**

folder A file path to the working folder

# GetWorkingFolder

### **DEFINITION**

const PTstr ptGetWorkingFolder

### DESCRIPTION

Gets the working folder previously set with ptSetWorkingFolder

### **RETURN VALUE**

The working folder path as a string

# GetVersionString

#### **DEFINITION**

const PTstr ptGetVersionString

### **DESCRIPTION**

Returns a string representing the current Vortex version and build number

### **RETURN VALUE**

A string representing the current Vortex version and build number

# GetVersionNum

## **DEFINITION**

PTvoid ptGetVersionNum( PTubyte \*version );

# **DESCRIPTION**

Returns a 4 byte size numbers representing the current Vortex version number. For example version 1.5.1.0 would return numbers 1,5,1 and 0. le version[0] = 1, version[1]=5 and so on.

### **PARAMETERS**

version

An array of at least 4 unsigned bytes

# Release

# **DEFINITION**

PTvoid ptRelease

# **DESCRIPTION**

Releases all resources associated with the use of the engine. This should only be called when use of the Vortex API is no longer required within the session as part of the application clean-up.

# Handle Management

# GetCloudHandleByIndex

#### **DEFINITION**

PThandle ptGetCloudHandleByIndex( PThandle scene, PTuint cloud index )

#### DESCRIPTION

Returns a point cloud's handle using its index within a given scene. Most functions referencing point clouds require a handle rather than an index to the point cloud. This function enables conversion of a point clouds index in the scene file to a point cloud handle.

### **PARAMETERS**

scene A valid handle to a scene

index The zero-based index of the point cloud within the scene

### RETURN VALUE

The handle to the point cloud is returned if the function succeeds otherwise a zero handle is returned. Reasons for failure are an invalid scene handle or a point cloud index that is out of bounds.

# GetNumCloudsInScene

### **DEFINITION**

PTuint ptGetNumCloudsInScene ( PThandle scene )

### DESCRIPTION

Return the number of point clouds that are contained in an loaded scene

### **PARAMETERS**

scene A valid handle to a scene

### RETURN VALUE

The number of point clouds in the scene file. Zero is returned If the scene handle is invalid

# Files

# OpenPOD

#### **DEFINITION**

PThandle ptOpenPOD ( const PTstr filepath )

### **DESCRIPTION**

Opens a POD file and reads the structure into the Vortex engine. A single POD file represents a point cloud scene that is comprised of one or more point clouds.

### **PARAMETERS**

filepath The file path to the POD file

### RETURN VALUE

A valid handle is returned if the operation was successful. A valid handle is a handle with a non-zero value. This is a session handle that used to reference the scene file held in the engine.

# OpenPODStructuredStorageStream

#### **DEFINITION**

PThandle ptOpenPODStructuredStorageStream(const PTstr filepath, PTvoid \*stream)

### **DESCRIPTION**

Uses the given COM Structured Storage IStream (cast to void) to open a POD file and reads the structure into the Vortex engine. A single POD file represents a point cloud scene that is comprised of one or more point clouds. The filepath is used for reference only and never to actually open a file. The filepath must begin with a URI style protocol typing PTSS e.g. "PTSS://myfile.pod"

### **PARAMETERS**

filepath URI based name of POD used for reference (must begin PTSS:)

stream COM structured storage stream already opened on a POD file in a storage.

### RETURN VALUE

A valid handle is returned if the operation was successful. A valid handle is a handle with a non-zero value. This is a session handle that used to reference the scene file held in the engine.

# IsOpen

### DEFINITION

PThandle ptIsOpen ( const PTstr filepath )

### **DESCRIPTION**

Checks if a file is opened by the engine

### PARAMETERS

filepath The file path to the POD file

### RETURN VALUE

The file's corresponding scene handle if the file is open, otherwise a null handle.

# BrowseAndOpenPOD

# DEFINITION

PThandle ptBrowseAndOpenPOD

# DESCRIPTION

A helper function that opens a win32 file chooser dialog box and allows the user to pick files to open

# RETURN VALUE

The handle to the first scene file opened. The scene management functions can be used to determine if more than one file was opened.

# Scene Management

# **NumScenes**

#### DEFINITION

PTint ptNumScenes

### **DESCRIPTION**

Returns the number of scene files currently managed by the Vortex engine

### **RETURN VALUE**

The number of scene files currently managed

# GetSceneHandles

### **DEFINITION**

PTint ptGetSceneHandles ( PThandle\* handles )

### **DESCRIPTION**

Get an array of scene handles for all the scenes currently managed by the engine

### **PARAMETERS**

handles

An array of PThandles. To prevent buffer overrun it is important to first check the number

of scenes to ensure the buffer is sufficiently large enough

# **RETURN VALUE**

The number of scene handles returned

# SceneInfo

# **DEFINITION**

### DESCRIPTION

Gets information about a scene

### PARAMETERS

scene The scene's handle

name String buffer to return the name of the scene. This should be at least 64 characters in size.

clouds Int (by ref) to return the number of clouds in the scene.

*num\_points* Unsigned int (by ref) to return the number of points in the scene.

specification Returns details about the point cloud data as a bit mask of the following values

PT\_HAS\_INTENSITY One or more of the point clouds have an intensity channel

PT\_HAS\_RGB One or more of the point clouds have a colour RGB channel

PT\_HAS\_NORMAL One or more of the point clouds have a normal RGB channel

Ioaded Boolean (by ref) to return a scene's loaded state

visible Boolean (by ref) to return a scene's visibility state

### **RETURN VALUE**

PT\_TRUE if successful. Passing an invalid scene handle will return PT\_FALSE

# SceneFile

## DEFINITION

const PTstr ptSceneFile( PThandle scene )

### **DESCRIPTION**

Gets the file path to a scene's POD file

### **PARAMETERS**

scene The scene's handle

### **RETURN VALUE**

A const C string with a path to the scene's POD file. A null pointer is returned if the scene handle is invalid.

# CloudInfo

### **DEFINITION**

PTres ptCloudInfo( PThandle cloud, PTstr name, PTuint &num\_points, PTuint &specification, PTbool &visible )

## DESCRIPTION

Gets information about a cloud within a scene.

# PARAMETERS

cloud The cloud's handle. To form a valid cloud handle from the scene handle and cloud index

use the ptGetCloudHandleByIndex function

name String buffer to return the name of the cloud. This should be at least 64 characters in size.

num\_points Unsigned int (by ref) to return the number of points in the cloud.

visible Boolean (by ref) to return a cloud's visibility state

specification Returns details about the point cloud data as a bit mask of the following values

PT\_HAS\_INTENSITY The point cloud has an intensity channel
PT\_HAS\_RGB The point cloud has a colour RGB channel
PT\_HAS\_NORMAL The point cloud has a normal RGB channel

### **RETURN VALUE**

A value indicating the result of the call. Possible results are:

PTV\_INVALID\_HANDLE PTV\_SUCCESS

The point cloud handle is invalid
The function completed successfully

# LayerBounds

### **DEFINITION**

```
PTres ptLayerBounds( PTuint layer, PTfloat *lower3, PTfloat *upper3, bool approx fast );
```

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Retrieves the bounding extents of a layer in world coordinates.

### **PARAMETERS**

*layer* The layer index (valid layer indices are from 0 to 6)

*lower3* An array of 3 float values to receive the lower extent of the box *upper3* An array of 3 float values to receive the upper extent of the box

approx\_fast When true returns a more appromixate but faster calculation of the layer bounds

#### **RETURN VALUE**

A value indicating the result of the call. Possible results are:

PTV\_INVALID\_HANDLE The layer index is invalid

PTV\_SUCCESS The function completed successfully

# LayerBoundsd

### **DEFINITION**

```
PTres ptLayerBoundsd( PTuint layer, PTdouble *lower3, PTdouble *upper3, bool approx_fast);
```

### **DESCRIPTION**

Retrieves the bounding extents of a layer in world coordinates as doubles for greater precision.

### **PARAMETERS**

The layer index (valid layer indices are from 0 to 6)

lower3 An array of 3 double values to receive the lower extent of the boxupper3 An array of 3 double values to receive the upper extent of the box

approx\_fast When true returns a more appromixate but faster calculation of the layer bounds

### **RETURN VALUE**

A value indicating the result of the call. Possible results are:

PTV INVALID HANDLE The layer index is invalid

PTV\_SUCCESS The function completed successfully

# SceneBounds

## **DEFINITION**

PTres ptSceneBounds( PThandle scene, PTfloat \*lower3, PTfloat \*upper3);

### **DESCRIPTION**

Retrieves the bounding extents of a scene in world coordinates.

### **PARAMETERS**

scene The scene's handle

*lower3* An array of 3 float values to receive the lower extent of the box *upper3* An array of 3 float values to receive the upper extent of the box

### RETURN VALUE

A value indicating the result of the call. Possible results are:

PTV\_INVALID\_HANDLE The point cloud handle is invalid PTV\_SUCCESS The function completed successfully

# SceneBoundsd

### **DEFINITION**

PTres ptSceneBoundsd( PThandle scene, PTdouble \*lower3, PTdouble \*upper3 );

### **DESCRIPTION**

Retrieves the bounding extents of a scene in world coordinates as doubles for greater precision.

### PARAMETERS

scene The scene's handle

*lower3* An array of 3 double values to receive the lower extent of the box *upper3* An array of 3 double values to receive the upper extent of the box

### RETURN VALUE

A value indicating the result of the call. Possible results are:

PTV\_INVALID\_HANDLE The point cloud handle is invalid
PTV\_SUCCESS The function completed successfully

# CloudBounds

### **DEFINITION**

PTres ptCloudBounds( PThandle cloud, PTfloat \*lower3, PTfloat \*upper3 );

### DESCRIPTION

Retrieves the bounding extents of a point cloud in world coordinates.

### **PARAMETERS**

scene The point cloud's handle

lower3 An array of 3 float values to receive the lower extent of the boxupper3 An array of 3 float values to receive the upper extent of the box

## **RETURN VALUE**

A value indicating the result of the call. Possible results are:

PTV\_INVALID\_HANDLE The point cloud handle is invalid PTV\_SUCCESS The function completed successfully

# CloudBoundsd

#### **DEFINITION**

PTres ptCloudBoundsd( PThandle cloud, PTdouble \*lower3, PTdouble \*upper3);

### **DESCRIPTION**

Retrieves the bounding extents of a point cloud in world coordinates as doubles for greater precision.

### **PARAMETERS**

scene The point cloud's handle

*lower3* An array of 3 double values to receive the lower extent of the box *upper3* An array of 3 double values to receive the upper extent of the box

### **RETURN VALUE**

A value indicating the result of the call. Possible results are:

PTV\_INVALID\_HANDLE The point cloud handle is invalid PTV\_SUCCESS The function completed successfully

# ShowScene

# DEFINITION

PTres ptShowScene( PThandle scene, PTbool visible );

### DESCRIPTION

Sets the visibility of all point clouds contained in a scene file. The visibility will affect subsequent query and draw operations.

### PARAMETERS

scene The scene's handle

visible The new desired visible state for scene

# RETURN VALUE

A value indicating the result of the call. Possible results are:

PTV\_INVALID\_HANDLE The scene handle is invalid

PTV\_SUCCESS The function completed successfully

# ShowCloud

### DEFINITION

PTres ptShowCloud( PThandle cloud, PTbool visible );

### **DESCRIPTION**

Sets the visibility of a point cloud. The visibility will affect subsequent query and draw operations on the point cloud.

### **PARAMETERS**

scene The point cloud's handle

visible The new desired visible state for point cloud

### RETURN VALUE

A value indicating the result of the call. Possible results are:

PTV\_INVALID\_HANDLE The point cloud handle is invalid PTV\_SUCCESS The function completed successfully

# IsSceneVisible

### **DEFINITION**

PTbool ptIsSceneVisible( PThandle scene );

### **DESCRIPTION**

Returns the visibility setting for a scene as previously set by ptShowScene

### **PARAMETERS**

scene The scene's handle

### **RETURN VALUE**

A Boolean value indicating the scene's visible setting

# **IsCloudVisible**

## **DEFINITION**

PTbool ptIsCloudVisible( PThandle cloud );

## **DESCRIPTION**

Returns the visibility setting for a scene as previously set by ptShowScene

### **PARAMETERS**

scene The point cloud's handle

## **RETURN VALUE**

A Boolean value indicating the point cloud's visible setting

# UnloadScene

# DEFINITION

PTres ptUnloadScene ( PThandle scene )

# DESCRIPTION

Unloads the scene's point data from the engine. Note that this retains a reference to the scene and does not remove the scene from the engine. This can be used to free memory used by a point cloud when that point cloud is not required for display or query but a referenced must be retained.

### PARAMETERS

scene The scene's handle.

### **RETURN VALUE**

A value indicating the result of the call. Possible results are:

PTV\_INVALID\_HANDLE The scene handle is invalid

PTV\_SUCCESS The function completed successfully

# ReloadScene

## DEFINITION

PTres ptReloadScene ( PThandle scene )

#### DESCRIPTION

Reloads the scene's point data which was previously unloaded.

### PARAMETERS

scene The scene's handle.

### RETURN VALUE

A value indicating the result of the call. Possible results are:

PTV INVALID HANDLE The scene handle is invalid

PTV SUCCESS The function completed successfully

# RemoveScene

# DEFINITION

PTres ptRemoveScene ( PThandle scene )

## DESCRIPTION

Removes the scene from the engine and closes the associated POD file. No reference to the scene POD file is retained in the engine session.

### **PARAMETERS**

scene The scene's handle.

## RETURN VALUE

A value indicating the result of the call. Possible results are:

PTV INVALID HANDLE The scene handle is invalid

PTV SUCCESS The function completed successfully

# RemoveAll

# DEFINITION

PTvoid ptRemoveAll

### **DESCRIPTION**

Removes all scenes from the engine and closes all POD files. All references to scene files are retained in the engine session.

# GetLowerBound

### **DEFINITION**

PTbool ptGetLowerBound( PTdouble \*lower )

### **DESCRIPTION**

Gets the lower coordinate bound of all point cloud data currently managed by the engine

### **PARAMETERS**

lower

An array of 3 doubles to receive the point representing the lower bound

### **RETURN VALUE**

PT\_TRUE if successful. PT\_FALSE is returned if no data is managed by the engine.

# GetUpperBound

### DEFINITION

PTbool ptGetUpperBound( PTdouble \*upper )

### DESCRIPTION

Gets the upper coordinate bound of all point cloud data currently managed by the engine

# PARAMETERS

upper

An array of 3 doubles to receive the point representing the upper bound

## RETURN VALUE

PT\_TRUE if successful. PT\_FALSE is returned if no data is managed by the engine.

# Meta Data

# ReadPODMeta

### DEFINITION

PThandle ptReadPODMeta( const PTstr filepath )

# **DESCRIPTION**

Reads the meta data from a POD file without loading the point cloud data or adding the POD scene to the Vortex engine.

# **PARAMETERS**

filepath The path to the POD file as a string

# RETURN VALUE

A handle to the meta data is returned which can be used in meta data query functions. A zero handle indicates failure.

# GetMetaDataHandle

### **DEFINITION**

PThandle ptGetMetaDataHandle ( PThandle sceneHandle )

### DESCRIPTION

Returns meta data handle for a POD file already loaded into the Vortex engine. The handle's lifetime is independent of the scene's (POD file's) lifetime so that closing the file does not invalidate the meta data handle.

### **PARAMETERS**

sceneHandle A handle to the POD file scene already loaded in the Vortex engine

### RETURN VALUE

A handle to the meta data is returned which can be used in meta data query functions

# GetMetaData

### **DEFINITION**

### **DESCRIPTION**

Returns basic meta data from a POD file using its meta data handle created previously with one of the above functions. Valid basic meta data is returned for any POD file supported by the Vortex engine.

### **PARAMETERS**

metadataHandle A handle to the meta data created using ptReadPODMeta or

ptGetMetaDataHandle

name A character buffer to receive the name of the Scene. The buffer must be at least

128 characters in size.

num\_clouds Receives the number of point clouds in the Scene file

num\_points Receives the total num of points in the Scene file, note the use of 64bit unsigned

integer since the number of points can exceed the capacity of a 32bit integer.

scene\_spec Returns details about the point cloud data as a bit mask of the following values

PT\_HAS\_INTENSITY The point cloud has an intensity channel
PT\_HAS\_RGB The point cloud has a colour RGB channel
PT\_HAS\_NORMAL The point cloud has a normal RGB channel

lower3 A pointer to an array of 3 doubles to receive the lower bounding box extent of

the point cloud Scene

upper3 A pointer to an array of 3 doubles to receive the lower bounding box extent of

the point cloud Scene

### **RETURN VALUE**

A value indicating the result of the call. Possible results are:

PTV\_INVALID\_HANDLE PTV\_SUCCESS The metadata handle is invalid
The function completed successfully

# GetMetaTag

### DEFINITION

PTres **ptGetMetaTag(** PThandle metadataHandle, const PTstr tagName, PTstr value )

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Returns a specific meta data tag from the Scene. Note that the meta tag may not be available in the Scene.

# **PARAMETERS**

metadataHandle A handle to the meta data created using ptReadPODMeta or

ptGetMetaDataHandle

tagName The name of the tag formatted as "section.tagname". The following values are

accepted:

"Instrument.ScannerManufacturer"

The Manufacturer of the sensor used to capture the

data

"Instrument.ScannerModel" The name of the scanner Model

"Instrument.ScannerSerial" The serial number of the scanner

"Instrument.CameraModel" The camera model used to capture RGB

"Instrument.CameraSerial" The camera serial number

"Instrument.CameraLens" The camera lens

"Survey.Company" The company that captured the data

"Survey.Operator" The operator name

"Survey.ProjectName" The project name

"Survey.ProjectCode" The project code, does not have to conform to

particular convention

"Survey.DateOfCapture" The date of capture, must be specified as

YYYY-MM-DD, for example 2009-06-29

"Survey.Site"	Text describing the site or object captured
"Survey.SiteLong"	Site's Longitude. This does not affect data positioning and is for information only
"Survey.SiteLat"	Sites Latitude. This does not affect data positioning and is for information only
"Survey.CoordinateSystem"	Coordinate system descriptor. This does not affect data positioning and is for information only
"Survey.ZipCode" or "Survey.Postcode"	Zip or Postal code of site
"Description.Description"	Description of the scans contents
"Description.Keywords"	Keywords describing data, multiple keywords are separated by semicolons
"Description.Category"	Category, one of:
	"Aerial Lidar"
	"Terrestrial Phase Based"
	"Terrestrial Time of Flight"
	"Mobile mapping"
	"Bathymetric"
	"Photogrammetric"
	"Synthesized"
"Audit.ScanPaths"	Original file paths of source input files. To retrieve multiple file paths the function can be called multiple times each time returning one of the file paths until an empty string is returned.
"Audit.OriginalNumScans"	Number of original scans, note this may differ from number of original files
"Audit.CreatorApp"	The application that created the POD file
"Audit.Generation"	The generation of the file, where each modification and resave of the file increments the generation number.

"Audit.DateCreated"

The date the file was originally created, this may differ to the system date created value of the file.

value

A string buffer to accept the value of the tag. The buffer should be at least MAX\_META\_STR\_LEN characters long to prevent buffer overrun

### RETURN VALUE

A value indicating the result of the call. This will be one of the following values:

PTV\_METATAG\_NOT\_FOUND PTV\_METATAG\_EMPTY The meta tag indicated by tagName was not found

The meta tag is empty

The function completed successfully

# FreeMetaData

PTV SUCCESS

### **DEFINITION**

PTvoid ptFreeMetaData ( PThandle metadataHandle )

### **DESCRIPTION**

Frees memory used by the Vortex engine to hold meta data associated with this handle.

### **PARAMETERS**

metadataHandle

A handle to the meta data to be freed. This handle must have been previously created using ptReadPODMeta or ptGetMetaDataHandle. The handle will be invalid after this call.

# NumUserMetaSections

### **DEFINITION**

PTint ptNumUserMetaSections ( PThandle metadataHandle )

# DESCRIPTION

Returns the number of user meta data sections

## PARAMETERS

metadataHandle

A handle to the meta data created using ptReadPODMeta or

ptGetMetaDataHandle

RETURN VALUE

The number of user meta data sections

# NumUserMetaTagsInSection

### **DEFINITION**

PTint ptNumUserMetaTagsInSection( PThandle metadataHandle, PTint sectionIndex )

### DESCRIPTION

Returns the number of user meta data tags in a section.

### **PARAMETERS**

metadataHandle A handle to the meta data created using ptReadPODMeta or

ptGetMetaDataHandle

sectionIndex The zero based index of the section of meta data tags

### RETURN VALUE

The number of user meta data tags in a section

# UserMetaSectionName

### DEFINITION

### **DESCRIPTION**

Returns the number of user meta data tags in a section.

#### **PARAMETERS**

metadataHandle A handle to the meta data created using ptReadPODMeta or

ptGetMetaDataHandle

sectionIndex The zero based index of the section of meta data tags

### RETURN VALUE

The name of the user meta data section as a pointer to a string held within the Vortex engine.

The string should be copied as its lifetime cannot be guaranteed.

# GetUserMetaTagByIndex

## **DEFINITION**

PTres ptGetUserMetaTagByIndex ( PThandle metadataHandle,

PTint section\_index, PTint tag\_index,

PTstr name, PTstr value )

### **DESCRIPTION**

Gets a user meta data tag name and value pair by the section and tag index.

### **PARAMETERS**

metadataHandle A handle to the meta data created using ptReadPODMeta or

ptGetMetaDataHandle

sectionIndex The zero based index of the section of meta data tags

tagIndex The zero based index of the user meta tag within the section

name A string buffer to receive the name of the tag. The buffer should be at least 64

chars in size.

value A string buffer to receive the value of the tag. The buffer should be at least

MAX\_META\_STR\_LEN chars in size.

### **RETURN VALUE**

A value indicating the result of the call. This will be one of the following values:

PTV\_INVALID\_HANDLE
PTV\_VALUE\_OUT\_OF\_RANGE
PTV\_VOID\_POINTER
PTV\_SUCCESS

The metadata handle provided is not valid the section index or tag index is out of bounds The name or value parameter is a null pointer The function completed successfully

# ${\sf GetUserMetaTagByName}$

### DEFINITION

#### DESCRIPTION

Gets a user meta data tag name and value pair by the section and tag index.

### **PARAMETERS**

metadataHandle A handle to the meta data created using ptReadPODMeta or

ptGetMetaDataHandle

sectionDotName The case-sensitive name of the meta tag formatted as "section.name"

value A string buffer to receive the value of the tag. The buffer should be at least

MAX\_META\_STR\_LEN chars in size.

## **RETURN VALUE**

A value indicating the result of the call. This will be one of the following values:

PTV\_INVALID\_HANDLE The metadata handle provided is not valid
PTV\_METATAG\_NOT\_FOUND The metatag indicated by sectionDotName was not found
PTV\_VOID\_POINTER The name or value parameter is a null pointer

PTV SUCCESS The function completed successfully

# Transformation

# SetCloudTransform

#### **DEFINITION**

```
PTres ptSetCloudTransform( PThandle cloud, const PTdouble *transform4x4, PTbool row order )
```

### **DESCRIPTION**

Sets the user transformation for a point cloud. If the point cloud is stored in scan space and has a registration transformation, the user transformation is applied after the registration one.

### **PARAMETERS**

cloud A handle to the point cloud

transform4x4 An array of 16 double values representing a 4 by 4 transformation matrix

row\_order Boolean indicating the ordering of the values in the matrix. Use PT\_TRUE to indicate row

major ordering and PT\_FALSE for column ordering.

### **RETURN VALUE**

A value indicating the result of the call. This will be one of the following values:

PTV\_INVALID\_HANDLE The metadata handle provided is not valid
PTV\_VOID\_POINTER The transform4x4 is a null pointer
PTV\_SUCCESS The function completed successfully

# SetSceneTransform

### DEFINITION

```
PTres ptSetSceneTransform( PThandle scene, const PTdouble *transform4x4, PTbool row order )
```

## DESCRIPTION

Sets the user transformation for a scene.

## **PARAMETERS**

scene A handle to the scene

transform4x4 An array of 16 double values representing a 4 by 4 transformation matrix

row\_order Boolean indicating the ordering of the values in the matrix. Use PT\_TRUE to indicate row

major ordering and PT FALSE for column ordering.

# RETURN VALUE

A value indicating the result of the call. This will be one of the following values:

PTV\_INVALID\_HANDLE The metadata handle provided is not valid PTV\_VOID\_POINTER The transform4x4 is a null pointer PTV\_SUCCESS The function completed successfully

# GetCloudTransform

### **DEFINITION**

PTres ptGetCloudTransform( PThandle cloud, PTdouble \*transform4x4, PTbool row order )

#### DESCRIPTION

Retrieves the user transformation for a point cloud.

#### **PARAMETERS**

cloud A handle to the point cloud

transform4x4 An array of 16 double values to receive the 4 by 4 transformation matrix

row\_order Boolean indicating the desired ordering of the values in the matrix. Use PT\_TRUE to

indicate row major ordering and PT\_FALSE for column ordering.

### **RETURN VALUE**

A value indicating the result of the call. This will be one of the following values:

PTV\_INVALID\_HANDLE The metadata handle provided is not valid
PTV\_VOID\_POINTER The transform4x4 is a null pointer
PTV\_SUCCESS The function completed successfully

# GetSceneTransform

### **DEFINITION**

PTres **ptGetSceneTransform**( PThandle scene, PTdouble \*transform4x4, bool row\_order )

### **DESCRIPTION**

Retrieves the user transformation for a scene

# **PARAMETERS**

cloud A handle to the scene

transform4x4 An array of 16 double values to receive the 4 by 4 transformation matrix

row\_order Boolean indicating the desired ordering of the values in the matrix. Use PT\_TRUE to

indicate row major ordering and PT\_FALSE for column ordering.

### RETURN VALUE

A value indicating the result of the call. This will be one of the following values:

PTV\_INVALID\_HANDLE The metadata handle provided is not valid PTV\_VOID\_POINTER The transform4x4 is a null pointer PTV\_SUCCESS The function completed successfully

# CreateSceneInstance

## DEFINITION

PThandle **ptCreateSceneInstance**( PThandle scene )

#### DESCRIPTION

Duplicates a scene and returns a new handle to this scene. The scene may be independently transformed and edited.

## PARAMETERS

scene A handle to the scene to be edited

## RETURN VALUE

The handle of the new scene instance if successful or else a zero handle to indicate failure

# Persistence of Viewport Setup

# GetPerViewportDataSize

#### **DEFINITION**

PTuint ptGetPerViewportDataSize

#### DESCRIPTION

Returns the maximum size of the binary blob as a number of bytes. The blob will contain all per viewport data intended for storage.

#### **RETURN VALUE**

The size of the binary blob in bytes

## GetPerViewportData

#### **DEFINITION**

PTuint ptGetPerViewportData( PTubyte \*data )

#### DESCRIPTION

Retrieves the per viewport settings as a binary blob. This can be written to disk for later restoration of per viewport shader settings.

#### **PARAMETERS**

data

an array of unsigned bytes at least the size returned by ptGetViewportDataSize

#### **RETURN VALUE**

The actual number of bytes returned in data. This value can be used to write the data to storage.

# SetPerViewportData

#### **DEFINITION**

PTres ptSetPerViewportData( const PTubyte \*data )

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Used to restore per viewport settings from the previously saved binary data.

#### **PARAMETERS**

data

A pointer to the binary blob containing the per viewport data as previously retrieved with ptGetPerViewportData.

### **RETURN VALUE**

A value indicating the result of the operation. Valid values are:

PTV\_INVALID\_BLOCK\_VERSION The data blob contains errors and cannot be processed

The data may have been created from a more recent version

of the Vortex API than is being used.

PTV\_SUCCESS The operation completed successfully

## Errors

# GetLastErrorString

#### **DEFINITION**

PTstr ptGetLastErrorString

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Returns the latest error string generated by a Vortex API function call

#### **RETURN VALUE**

A immutable English language string describing the error

## GetLastErrorCode

#### **DEFINITION**

PTres ptGetLastErrorCode

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Returns the last error code generated by the previous API function call. The error codes are defined in the PointoolsVortexAPI\_ResultCodes.h header file. Values above zero are warnings and do not indicate an error. Values below zero are error codes that may require client side handling.

#### RETURN VALUE

The error code generated by a previous function call. This can be one of:

PTV_FILE_NOT_EXIST	The file that is attempted to be openend does not exist
PTV_FILE_NOT_ACCESSIBLE	The file that is attempted to be openend is not accessible by the file system. The file may be in a locked state.
PTV_FILE_WRONG_TYPE	The file being opened is the wrong type of file although the file extension may be correct
PTV_FILE_COM_ERROR	A COM error has occured. This is only returned by ptBrowseAndOpen file in which a standard file selector dialog is shown.
PTV_FILE_USER_CANCELLED	The user cancelled the file open operation. This is only returned by ptBrowseAndOpen file in which a standard file selector dialog is shown
PTV_FILE_ALREADY_OPENED	The file being attempted to be opened is already open in the Vortex engine
PTV_FILE_NOTHING_TO_WRITE	There is nothing to write in the channel file since there is no channel data

PTV_FILE_WRITE_FAILURE	A write operation failed
PTV_FILE_READ_FAILURE	General read failure
PTV_FILE_FAILED_TO_CREATE	The file failed to be created. This could be due to an invalid path, user rights or Anti-virus software blocking file creation.
PTV_UNKNOWN_ERROR	An unknown error has occurred
PTV_INVALID_PARAMETER	A supplied parameter is invalid
PTV_VALUE_OUT_OF_RANGE	A supplied value is out of range for the function
PTV_INVALID_OPTION	A supplied option value is not value. This happens if an incorrect preprocessor defined constant value is used for a function
PTV_INVALID_VALUE_FOR_PARAMETER	The value supplied is not valid for this parameter
PTV_INVALID_HANDLE	The supplied handle is not valid
PTV_VOID_POINTER	A void pointer was supplied where a pointer to memory was expected
PTV_NOT_INITIALIZED	The Vortex engine has not been initialised with ptInitialise
PTV_NOT_IMPLEMENTED_IN_VERSION	The function has not yet been implemented
	,
PTV_OUT_OF_MEMORY	The function could not be completed due to lack of memory
PTV_OUT_OF_MEMORY PTV_LICENSE_EXPIRY	The function could not be completed due to lack of
	The function could not be completed due to lack of memory
PTV_LICENSE_EXPIRY	The function could not be completed due to lack of memory  The vortex license has expired
PTV_LICENSE_EXPIRY PTV_LICENSE_MODULE_ERROR	The function could not be completed due to lack of memory  The vortex license has expired  There was an error processing the license
PTV_LICENSE_EXPIRY  PTV_LICENSE_MODULE_ERROR  PTV_LICENSE_CORRUPT	The function could not be completed due to lack of memory  The vortex license has expired  There was an error processing the license  The license code is corrupt and cannot be read  The maximum number of viewports have already been
PTV_LICENSE_EXPIRY  PTV_LICENSE_MODULE_ERROR  PTV_LICENSE_CORRUPT  PTV_MAXIMUM_VIEWPORTS_USED	The function could not be completed due to lack of memory  The vortex license has expired  There was an error processing the license  The license code is corrupt and cannot be read  The maximum number of viewports have already been used and new ones cannot be created  A data blob being used to restore viewport or editing settings was created by a more recent version of the

## Coordinate Handling

## SetAutoBaseMethod

#### DEFINITION

PTvoid ptSetAutoBaseMethod( PTenum type )

#### **DESCRIPTION**

This function sets the APIs internal method used to reposition (rebase) geometry to minimize coordinate sizes. This is important when hardware acceleration is being used for rendering (ie OpenGL or Direct3D) in order to avoid loss of precision in the display pipeline.

#### **PARAMETERS**

type

The method used to auto re-base (reposition) geometry, the following values can be used

PT\_AUTO\_BASE\_DISABLED Auto base is disabled

PT\_AUTO\_BASE\_CENTRE Geometry is centered at the origin

PT\_AUTO\_BASE\_REDUCE Geometry is repositioned to reduce the coordinate size if needed. This is done using a power of 10 round number.

For multiple point cloud files it may be important to ensure that the geometry is only repositioned once. For example in a CAD application where CAD geometry may already reference the first point cloud loaded. To ensure geometry is only re-positioned once add the PT AUTO BASE FIRST ONLY value with the Or ( | ) operator.

## GetAutoBaseMethod

#### **DEFINITION**

PTenum ptSetAutoBaseMethod

#### DESCRIPTION

Gets the method current set for geometry rebasing.

## RETURN VALUE

A PTenum representing the method in use. Valid values are listed in the *SetAutoBase* method documentation.

## SetCoordinateBase

#### **DEFINITION**

PTvoid **ptSetCoordinateBase**( const PTdouble \*coordinateBase )

#### DESCRIPTION

Explicitly set the coordinate base (origin) of all geometry held in the engine.

#### PARAMETERS

coordinateBase The coordinate representing the new base of the geometry as an array of 3 doubles.

# GetCoordinateBase

## DEFINITION

PTvoid **ptSetCoordinateBase** ( PTdouble \*coordinateBase)

## DESCRIPTION

Retrieve the current coordinate base. This could the coordinate set by the SetCoorindateBase function or automatically by the API.

## PARAMETERS

coordinateBase Array of 3 doubles to receive the coordinate.

# Shading

## Enable

#### **DEFINITION**

```
PTvoid ptEnable ( PTenum shader option )
```

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Enables a display option in the active viewport

#### **PARAMETERS**

Option The display option to be enabled. Valid values are:

PT\_RGB\_SHADER RGB colour is displayed PT\_INTENSITY\_SHADER Intensity is displayed

PT\_BLENDING\_SHADER RGB and Intensity are blended
PT\_PLANE\_SHADER Shade by distance from a plane

PT\_LIGHTING Point lighting

PT\_ADAPTIVE\_POINT\_SIZE Point size is adapted to reduction in dynamic rendering

PT FRONT BIAS More detail is rendered near front during dynamic rendering

## Disable

## DEFINITION

PTvoid **ptDisable**( PTenum shader option )

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Disables a display option in the active viewport

### **PARAMETERS**

shader\_option The display option to be disabled. Valid values are the same as Enable

## IsEnabled

### DEFINITION

PTbool ptlsEnabled ( PTenum shader option )

### DESCRIPTION

Checks if a display option is enabled in the active viewport

#### **PARAMETERS**

shader option The display option to be checked. Valid values are the same as Enable

## **PointSize**

#### **DEFINITION**

```
PTres ptPointSize ( PTfloat size )
```

#### DESCRIPTION

Sets the point display size for the active viewport

#### **PARAMETERS**

size

The pixel size of each point rendered with ptDrawGL or ptDrawSceneGL. Valid values are between 1 and 10

## RETURN VALUE

A value indicated the result of the function, possible values are:

PTVALUE\_OUT\_OF\_RANGE PTV SUCCESS The point size specified is outside the acceptable range

The function completed successfully

# ShaderOption

#### **DEFINITION**

```
PTres ptShaderOptionf( PTenum option, PTfloat value )
PTres ptShaderOptionfv( PTenum option, PTfloat *value )
PTres ptShaderOptioni( PTenum option, PTint value )
```

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Sets a shader option for the active viewport.

PT\_INTENSITY\_SHADER\_BRIGHTNESS

### **PARAMETERS**

option

The shader option that is being set.

The following are valid options for  ${\tt ptShaderOptionf}$ :

PT_PLANE_SHADER_DISTANCE	The distance over which the plane shader operates.
PT_PLANE_SHADER_OFFSET	The offset to the start of the plane shader
PT_MATERIAL_AMBIENT	The strength of the point material's ambient quality (lighting). Valid values are between 0 and 1
PT_MATERIAL_DIFFUSE	The strength of the point material's diffuse quality (lighting) Valid values are between 0 and 1
PT_MATERIAL_SPECULAR	The strength of the point material's specular quality (lighting) Valid values are between 0 and 1
PT_MATERIAL_GLOSSINESS	The glossiness of the point material's (lighting). Valid values are between 0 and 1 with lower values resulting in a Matte surface and higher values a shiny surface
PT_INTENSITY_SHADER_CONTRAS	The contrast setting for the intensity shader. Valid values are between 0 and 360

The brightness setting for the intensity shader. Valid

The following are valid options for ptShaderOptionfv:

PT PLANE SHADER VECTOR The normal of the plane used in the plane shader. This is an

array of 3 floats and should be a unitized vector.

The following are valid options for ptShaderOptioni:

PT INTENSITY SHADER RAMP The index of the intensity colour ramp that is used to shade

intensity values

PT PLANE SHADER RAMP The index of the plane shader ramp that is used to shade points

by distance from a plane

PT PLANE SHADER EDGE The behavior at the edge of the planar shading range (distance)

value The shader option's new value.

Values for PT PLANE SHADER EDGE can be one of the following:

PT EDGE REPEAT The shading is repeated (modulated)

PT EDGE CLAMP The colour at the edge is clamped

PT EDGE BLACK Anything outsied the range is black

PT EDGE MIRROR The shade at the edge is mirrored. Note that this is only supported on

OpenGL 2.0 when using Vortex's hardware rendering via ptDrawGL

#### RETURN VALUE

A value indicated the result of the function, possible values are:

PTV\_INVALID\_OPTION The option parameter is not a valid value PTV\_SUCCESS The function completed successfully

# GetShaderOption

## **DEFINITION**

```
PTres ptGetShaderOptionf( PTenum option, PTfloat *value )
PTres ptGetShaderOptionfv( PTenum option, PTfloat *value )
PTres ptGetShaderOptioni( PTenum option, PTint *value )
```

## DESCRIPTION

Gets a shader option for the active viewport

### PARAMETERS

option The shader option whose value is being retrieved. Valid values are the same as for the

option parameter of ptShaderOption

value A pointer to a buffer to take the option's values

## RETURN VALUE

A value indicated the result of the function, possible values are:

PTV\_INVALID\_OPTION The option parameter is not a valid value PTV\_VOID\_POINTER The pointer to the value buffer is null PTV\_SUCCESS The function completed successfully

# ResetShaderOptions

#### **DEFINITION**

PTvoid ptResetShaderOptions

#### DESCRIPTION

Resets shading options in the active viewport to their default values

# CopyShaderSettings

#### **DEFINITION**

PTvoid ptCopyShaderSettings( PTuint dest viewport )

#### DESCRIPTION

Copys shader settings from the current viewport to the destination viewport

#### **PARAMETERS**

# CopyShaderSettingsToAll

#### **DEFINITION**

PTvoid ptCopyShaderSettingsToAll

#### DESCRIPTION

Copys shader settings from the current viewport to all other viewports

## **NumRamps**

#### **DEFINITION**

PTint ptNumRamps

#### DESCRIPTION

Gets the overall number of shading ramps loaded by the engine.

## RETURN VALUE

The number of shading ramps

# RampInfo

### **DEFINITION**

```
const PTstr ptRampInfo( PTint ramp, PTenum *type )
```

## DESCRIPTION

Gets information about a particular shading ramp referenced by its index

### PARAMETERS

ramp Gets The index of the ramp where ramp is less that the number of ramps

type A pointer to a PTenum to receive the ramp type information.

The type will be a value that is a combination of the following values:

PT INTENSITY RAMP TYPE A ramp used to shade intensity

PT PLANE RAMP TYPE A ramp used by the planar distance shader

Note that the constants above may be or'ed together for ramps that are intended for

both purposes.

#### **RETURN VALUE**

The name of the ramp as a string

## AddCustomRamp

#### **DEFINITION**

```
PTres ptAddCustomRamp(const PTstr name, PTint numKeys, const PTfloat *positions, const PTubyte* colour3vals, PTbool interpolateInHSL)
```

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Adds a user colour ramp to the available ramps in the Vortex engine. If successfully added this ramp will be then be available for use with the shader options that use colour ramps. The colour ramp is described as an array of position / colour value keys which are interpolated to generate the colour ramp.

### **PARAMETERS**

name A unique name for the new colour ramp

numKeys The number of colour key(position and colour value) pairs in the arrays.

positions An array of single float values of size numKeys in ascending order of the position of the

keys along the ramp. These values will be internally normalized to 0 to 1 so the input

values can use any range of values.

colour3vals An array of triple unsigned byte values representing the key's RGB values. The size of the

array will therefore be 3 x numKeys values.

interpolateInHSL If set true the key colour values will be interpolated in Hue, Saturation, Lightness

(HSL) space rather than Red, Green Blue (RGB)

#### RETURN VALUE

PT\_SUCCESS if the function succeeds.

# Lighting

## LightOption

#### **DEFINITION**

PTres ptLightOptionf ( PTenum Light option, PTfloat value )

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Sets a lighting option for the current viewport

#### **PARAMETERS**

option The lighting option to change. Valid values are

PT LIGHT STRENGTH Sets the strength of the lighting. Valid values (for value

parameter) are between 0 and 2.0

value The new desired value for the lighting option

#### **RETURN VALUE**

A value indicated the result of the function, possible values are:

 ${\tt PTV\_INVALID\_OPTION} \qquad \qquad {\tt The option parameter is not a valid value}$ 

PTV\_VALUE\_OUT\_OF\_RANGE The value parameter is outside the acceptable range

PTV SUCCESS The function completed successfully

# GetLightOption

#### **DEFINITION**

PTres ptGetLightOptionf( PTenum Light\_option, PTfloat \*value )

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Gets a lighting options current value for the current viewport

### **PARAMETERS**

option The option whose value is being requested, valid options are:

PT LIGHT VECTOR The direction from which the light is coming from. A

vector represented by 3 float values will be returned

PT LIGHT COLOUR The colour of the light. An RGB value represented by 3

float values will be returned

PT LIGHT AMBIENT COLOUR The ambient colour of the light. An RGB value

represented by 3 float values will be returned

PT LIGHT DIFFUSE COLOUR The diffuse colour of the light. A RGB value

represented by 3 float values will be returned

PT LIGHT SPECULAR COLOUR The specular colour of the light. A RGB value

represented by 3 float values will be returned

PT LIGHT ANGLE The direction of the light source expressed as XYZ

euler angles. XYZ rotation values represented by 3

float values will be returned

PT\_LIGHT\_STRENGTH The overall strength of the lighting. A single float value

is returned

value A float buffer to receive the value at least the size of the returned values

## RETURN VALUE

A value indicated the result of the function, possible values are:

PTV\_INVALID\_OPTION The option parameter is not a valid value

PTV\_NULL\_POINTER The value parameter is null

PTV\_SUCCESS The function completed successfully

# CopyLightSettings

#### **DEFINITION**

PTvoid **ptCopyLightSettings**( PTuint dest\_viewport )

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Copys lighting settings from the current viewport to the destination viewport

## **PARAMETERS**

dest\_viewport The index of the destination viewport to copy the settings to

# CopyLightSettingsToAll

## **DEFINITION**

PTvoid ptCopyLightSettingsToAll

#### DESCRIPTION

Copys lighting settings from the current viewport to all other viewports

# ResetLightOptions

#### **DEFINITION**

PTvoid ptResetLightOptions

## **DESCRIPTION**

Resets the lighting setup options to their default state

## View Parameters

## ReadViewFromGL

#### **DEFINITION**

PTbool ptReadViewFromGL

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Reads the entire view setup (projection, eye transform and viewport size) from the current OpenGL context

#### **RETURN VALUE**

Boolean value indicating success. Returns GL\_FALSE if no OpenGL context is current in this thread

## SetViewProjectionOrtho

#### **DEFINITION**

```
PTvoid ptSetViewProjectionOrtho( PTdouble 1, PTdouble r, PTdouble b, PTdouble t, PTdouble n, PTdouble f)
```

#### DESCRIPTION

Sets the view projection to an parallel view identical to glOrtho

#### **PARAMETERS**

I,r Specifies the coordinate for the left and right clipping planes
 t, b Specifies the coordinate for the top and bottom clipping planes
 n,f Specifies the coordinate for the near and far clipping planes

## SetViewProjectionOrtho

### **DEFINITION**

```
PTvoid ptSetViewProjectionOrtho( PTdouble 1, PTdouble r, PTdouble b, PTdouble t, PTdouble n, PTdouble f)
```

#### DESCRIPTION

Sets the view projection to an parallel view identical to glOrtho

#### PARAMETERS

I,r Specifies the coordinate for the left and right clipping planes
 t, b Specifies the coordinate for the top and bottom clipping planes
 n,f Specifies the coordinate for the near and far clipping planes

# SetViewProjectionFrustum

#### **DEFINITION**

```
PTvoid ptSetProjectionFrustum( PTdouble 1, PTdouble r, PTdouble b, PTdouble t, PTdouble n, PTdouble f)
```

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Sets the view projection to an perspective frustum

#### **PARAMETERS**

I,r Specifies the coordinate for the left and right clipping planes
 t, b Specifies the coordinate for the top and bottom clipping planes
 n,f Specifies the coordinate for the near and far clipping planes

# SetViewProjectionPerspective

#### DEFINITION

```
PTvoid ptSetProjectionFrustum( PTenum type, PTdouble fov, PTdouble aspect, PTdouble n, PTdouble f)
```

#### DESCRIPTION

Sets the view projection to an perspective view

#### **PARAMETERS**

type Specifies the method used to calculate the projection matrix. One of the following values

can be used:

PT\_PROJ\_PERSPECTIVE\_GL Use the same method as OpenGL PT\_PROJ\_PERSPECTIVE\_DX Use the same method as Direct3D

fov Specifies the field-of-view in degrees

aspect Specifies the aspect ratio that determines the field of view in the x direction. The aspect

ratio is the ratio of x (width) to y (height) and can most often be computed using the

viewport dimensions.

The distance from the viewer to the near clipping plane
 The distance from the viewer to the far clipping plane

# SetViewProjectionMatrix

#### DEFINITION

```
PTvoid ptSetProjectionMatrix( const PTdouble *matrix, bool row major )
```

#### DESCRIPTION

Sets the view projection matrix by directly providing an array of values.

### PARAMETERS

matrix An array of the 16 double values of the 4 x 4 projection matrix

row\_major If true interpret the matrix values as being row ordered (like Direct3D) otherwise values

are interpreted as column ordered (like OpenGL).

## GetViewProjectionMatrix

#### **DEFINITION**

PTvoid **ptGetViewProjectionMatrix**( const PTdouble \*matrix )

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Gets the view's eye space transformation matrix by into an array of values. The matrix values are returned in column major order

#### **PARAMETERS**

matrix

An array of the 16 doubles to receive the values of the 4 x 4 projection matrix

## SetViewEyeLookAt

#### **DEFINITION**

PTvoid **ptSetViewEyeLookAt**(const PTdouble \*eye, const PTdouble \*target, const PTdouble \*up);

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Sets the eye transformation (modelview in OpenGL) derived from an eye point, a view target and an up vector. The matrix maps the target point to the negative z axis and the eye to the origin, so that when a typical projection matrix is sued the target maps to the centre of the viewport. The matrix produced is identical to gluLookAt.

#### PARAMETERS

eye Specifies the location of the viewer as an array of 3 doublestarget Specifies the point being looked at as an array of 3 doubles

*up* Specifies the up vector as an array of three doubles

## SetViewEyeMatrix

#### **DEFINITION**

PTvoid ptSetViewEyeMatrix (const PTdouble \*matrix, bool row major)

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Sets the view's eye space transformation matrix by directly providing an array of values.

#### **PARAMETERS**

matrix An array of the 16 double values of the 4 x 4 projection matrix

row\_major If true interpret the matrix values as being row ordered (like Direct3D) otherwise values

are interpreted as column ordered (like OpenGL).

# GetViewEyeMatrix

### **DEFINITION**

PTvoid **ptGetViewEyeMatrix** ( const PTdouble \*matrix )

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Gets the view's eye space transformation matrix by into an array of values. The matrix values are returned in column major order

### **PARAMETERS**

matrix

An array of the 16 doubles to receive the values of the 4 x 4 projection matrix

# SetViewportSize

### DEFINITION

PTvoid **ptSetViewportSize**( PTint left, PTint bottom, PTuint width, PTuint height)

#### DESCRIPTION

Sets the size and position of the viewport used to map normalized device coordinates to the window coordinates

### PARAMETERS

# Editing

## SetSelectPointsMode

#### **DEFINITION**

PTvoid **ptSetSelectPointsMode**( PTenum select mode )

#### DESCRIPTION

Sets the mode for subsequent selection operations

#### **PARAMETERS**

select\_mode The selection mode for subsequent operations. This can be one of the following:

PT_EDIT_MODE_SELECT	Points are selected in the selection region
PT_EDIT_MODE_UNSELECT	Points are deselected in the selection region
PT EDIT MODE UNHIDE	Points are unhidden in the selection region

## GetSelectPointsMode

#### **DEFINITION**

PTenum ptGetSelectPointsMode

## **DESCRIPTION**

Gets the mode for subsequent selection operations

#### RETURN VALUE

The current selection mode as one of following values:

PT_EDIT_MODE_SELECT	Points are selected in the selection region
PT_EDIT_MODE_UNSELECT	Points are deselected in the selection region
PT EDIT MODE UNHIDE	Points are unhidden in the selection region

## SetSelectionDrawColor

#### DEFINITION

```
PTvoid ptSetSelectionDrawColor( const PTubyte *col3 );
```

#### DESCRIPTION

Sets the color which is used for drawing selected points. This will affect both the Vortex hardware rendering and the RGB values returned by point queries when the RGB mode is set to shader.

### **PARAMETERS**

col3

An array of 3 bytes specifying Red, Green and Blue components of the color

## GetSelectionDrawColor

#### **DEFINITION**

PTvoid ptGetSelectionDrawColor(PTubyte \*col3);

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Returns the color which is used for drawing selected points.

#### **PARAMETERS**

col3 An array of 3 bytes to receive the Red, Green and Blue components of the color

## SelectPointsByRect

#### **DEFINITION**

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Selects points with a screen space rectangle. Note that in Vortex screen space Y coordinates increase upwards (OpenGL convention). Use ptFlipMouseYCoords if a win32 / MFC mouse position is being used.

#### **PARAMETERS**

x\_edge The position of the left edge of the rectangley\_edge The position of the bottom edge of the rectangle

width The width of the rectangleheight The height of the rectangle

## SelectPointsByFence

#### DEFINITION

PTres ptSelectPointsByFence(PTint num vertices, const PTint \*vertices)

## **DESCRIPTION**

Selects points with a screen space polygonal fence. Note that in Vortex screen space Y coordinates increase upwards (OpenGL convention). Use ptFlipMouseYCoords if a win32 / MFC mouse position is being used.

## PARAMETERS

num\_vertices The number of vertices in the polygon, must be at least 3 vertices An array of vertices in screen space as X, Y integer pairs

## RETURN VALUE

A value indicated the result of the function, possible values are:

PTV\_INVALID\_PARAMETER The num of vertices parameter is invalid PTV\_VOID\_POINTER The vertices parameter is null PTV\_SUCCESS The function completed successfully

# SelectPointsByCube

#### DEFINITION

PTres ptSelectPointsByCube (const PTdouble\* center, PTdouble radius)

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Selects points within an axis aligned cube

#### **PARAMETERS**

center The center of the cube expressed as an array of 3 double values representing a point

radius The radius of the cube, ie the half edge length

#### RETURN VALUE

A value indicated the result of the function, possible values are:

PTV\_INVALID\_PARAMETER The radius is zero or less than zero
PTV\_SUCCESS The function completed successfully

# SelectPointsByPlane

#### **DEFINITION**

PTres **ptSelectPointsByPlane**( const PTfloat \*origin, const PTdouble \*normal, PTdouble thickness)

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Selects points that lay within a distance of a plane

#### **PARAMETERS**

origin The origin of the plane, this can be any point the plane passes through. The value is

expressed as an array of 3 double values

normal The plane's normal. This should be a normalized value. The value is expressed as an array

of 3 double values

thickness The thickness to select points within

#### RETURN VALUE

A value indicating the result of the function, possible values are:

PTV\_VOID\_POINTER The origin or normal values are null PTV\_SUCCESS The function completed successfully

# SelectPointsByBox

#### DEFINITION

PTres ptSelectPointsByBox( const PTdouble \*lower, const PTdouble \*upper )

### **DESCRIPTION**

Selects points within an axis aligned box.

#### **PARAMETERS**

lower The lower extents of the box expressed as an array of 3 doubles representing the lower

box corner

upper The upper extents of the box expressed as an array of 3 doubles representing the upper

box corner

#### **RETURN VALUE**

A value indicated the result of the function, possible values are:

PTV\_VOID\_POINTER The lower or upper values are null PTV\_SUCCESS The function completed successfully

# SelectPointsByOrientedBox

#### DEFINITION

```
PTres ptSelectPointsByOrientedBox( const PTdouble *lower, const PTdouble *upper, const PTdouble * pos, PTdouble * uAxis, PTdouble * vAxis)
```

#### DESCRIPTION

Selects points using a positioned and oriented bounding box. The box's dimensions are specified in its own local coordinate system. The coordinate system is defined by the position and the U and V axes, which are the X and Y axes of the local coordinate system. The W (Z) axis of the local coordinate system is calculated automatically. U and V must be orthogonal, but not normalized.

#### **PARAMETERS**

Iower
 In the lower extents of the box in its own coordinate system as an array of 3 doubles
 In the upper extents of the box in its own coordinate system as an array of 3 doubles
 In the position of the box as an array of 3 doubles representing the translation vector

uAxis The U axis represented by an array of 3 doubles vAxis The V axis represented by an array of 3 doubles

#### **RETURN VALUE**

A value indicated the result of the function, possible values are:

PTV\_VOID\_POINTER One of the parameters is null
PTV\_SUCCESS The function completed successfully

# SelectPointsBySphere

#### DEFINITION

```
PTres ptSelectPointsBySphere( const PTdouble *centre, PTdouble radius )
```

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Selects points within a sphere

#### **PARAMETERS**

center The center of the sphere expressed as an array of 3 double values representing a point

radius The radius of the sphere

#### RETURN VALUE

A value indicated the result of the function, possible values are:

PTV\_INVALID\_PARAMETER
PTV\_SUCCESS

The radius is zero or less than zero The function completed successfully

## InvertSelection

#### DEFINITION

PTvoid ptInvertSelection

#### DESCRIPTION

Inverts the selection of points so that points that were previously selected are deselected and vise-versa

## IsolateSelected

#### **DEFINITION**

PTvoid ptIsolateSelected

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Isolates the selected points with the active layers. Points which are not selected will be hidden. This is the same as a InvertSelection followed by a HideSelected but is more efficient.

## UnselectAll

#### DEFINITION

PTvoid ptUnselectAll

### DESCRIPTION

Unselects all points

## HideSelected

#### **DEFINITION**

PTvoid ptHideSelected

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Hides selected points from view

## UnhideAll

## DEFINITION

PTvoid ptUnhideAll

## **DESCRIPTION**

Shows all points resetting previous hide commands

# InvertVisibility

### **DEFINITION**

PTvoid ptInvertVisibility

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Inverts the visibility of points so that points that were previously visible are hidden and vise-versa

# SetSelectionScope

#### **DEFINITION**

PTvoid ptSetSelectionScope ( PThandle sceneOrCloudHandle )

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Sets the selection scope restricting subsequent selection operations to a particular point cloud or scene. The selection scope can be reset to global by providing a zero handle as the sceneOrCloudHandle parameter

#### **PARAMETERS**

sceneOrCloudHandle

A handle to a scene or point cloud. Use zero to reset the scope to global

## RefreshEdit

#### DEFINITION

PTvoid ptRefreshEdit

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Re-applies editing operations in the current edit stack ie all operations since the last clear command. This may be necessary if subsequent to selection more points have been loaded into memory.

## ClearEdit

#### **DEFINITION**

PTvoid ptClearEdit

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Clears the editing stack, this has the affect of deselecting and unhiding all points and returning the editing system to its startup state

## StoreEdit

#### **DEFINITION**

PTvoid **ptStoreEdit**( const PTstr name )

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Stores the current edit stack for application later

#### **PARAMETERS**

name

A string to identify the stored edit stack

## RestoreEdit

### **DEFINITION**

PTbool ptRestoreEdit ( const PTstr name )

## DESCRIPTION

Restores the current edit stack for identified by its name

#### **PARAMETERS**

RETURN VALUE

A string that identifies the previously stored edit stack

PT\_TRUE if successful. PT\_FALSE is returned if the edit stack referred to cannot be found

# RestoreEditByIndex

#### DEFINITION

PTbool ptRestoreEditByIndex( PTint index )

### **DESCRIPTION**

Restores the current edit stack for identified by its index

#### PARAMETERS

index

A index that identifies the previously stored edit stack

#### **RETURN VALUE**

PT\_TRUE if successful. PT\_FALSE is returned if the edit stack referred to cannot be found

## DeleteEdit

#### **DEFINITION**

PTbool ptDeleteEdit ( const PTstr name )

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Deletes the current edit stack for identified by its name

#### **PARAMETERS**

name

A string that identifies the previously stored edit stack

#### RETURN VALUE

PT\_TRUE if successful. PT\_FALSE is returned if the edit stack referred to cannot be found

## DeleteEditByIndex

#### **DEFINITION**

PTbool ptDeleteEditByIndex( PTint index )

#### DESCRIPTION

Deletes the current edit stack for identified by its index

#### **PARAMETERS**

index

A index that identifies the previously stored edit stack

#### **RETURN VALUE**

PT\_TRUE if successful. PT\_FALSE is returned if the edit stack referred to cannot be found

## **Delete All Edits**

### **DEFINITION**

PTvoid ptDeleteAllEdits

#### DESCRIPTION

Deletes all edit stacks stored in the Vortex engine

## **NumEdits**

#### **DEFINITION**

PTint ptNumEdits

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Gets the number of edit stacks stored in the Vortex engine

#### RETURN VALUE

The number of edit stacks stored in the Vortex engine

## EditName

#### **DEFINITION**

```
\verb|const|| \verb|PTstr|| \textbf{ptEditName} ( | \verb|PTint|| index | )
```

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Gets the name of the edit stack referenced by its index

#### **PARAMETERS**

index The indexed position of the edit stack. This will be >0 and <ptNumEdits

#### RETURN VALUE

The name of the edit stack as a C string

## GetEditData

#### **DEFINITION**

PTint ptGetEditData ( PTint index, PTubyte \*data )

### DESCRIPTION

Provides a binary chunk of data that represents the entire edit stack. This can be used for persistence between sessions of the client application.

#### **PARAMETERS**

index The indexed position of the edit stack. This will be >0 and < ptNumEdits

data A pointer to a buffer to receive the binary. The size of this buffer should be at least the

number of bytes indicated by ptGetEditDataSize

#### **RETURN VALUE**

The number of bytes written to data

# SelectPointsInLayer

### DEFINITION

PTvoid ptSelectPointsInLayer ( PTuint layer )

### DESCRIPTION

Select all the points in a layer.

### **PARAMETERS**

layer A layer index from 0 to 6

# DeselectPointsInLayer

#### DEFINITION

PTvoid ptDeselectPointsInLayer ( PTuint layer )

### DESCRIPTION

Deselect all the selected points in a layer.

#### **PARAMETERS**

layer A layer index from 0 to 6

## SelectCloud

## **DEFINITION**

PTres ptSelectCloud ( PThandle cloud )

#### DESCRIPTION

Select all the points in a cloud.

## **PARAMETERS**

cloud A valid cloud handle

## RETURN VALUE

A value indicated the result of the function, possible values are:

PTV\_INVALID\_HANDLE
PTV\_SUCCESS

An invalid cloud handle was passed to the function The function completed successfully

## DeselectCloud

#### **DEFINITION**

PTres ptDeselectCloud ( PThandle cloud )

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Deselect all the points in a cloud.

#### **PARAMETERS**

cloud A valid cloud handle

#### **RETURN VALUE**

A value indicated the result of the function, possible values are:

PTV\_INVALID\_HANDLE
PTV SUCCESS

An invalid cloud handle was passed to the function The function completed successfully

## SelectScene

#### **DEFINITION**

PTres ptSelectScene ( PThandle scene )

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Select all the points in a scene.

#### **PARAMETERS**

scene A valid scene handle

#### **RETURN VALUE**

A value indicated the result of the function, possible values are:

PTV\_INVALID\_HANDLE PTV SUCCESS

An invalid scene handle was passed to the function The function completed successfully

## DeselectScene

### **DEFINITION**

PTres ptDeselectScene ( PThandle scene )

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Deselect all the points in a scene.

#### **PARAMETERS**

scene A valid scene handle

### RETURN VALUE

A value indicated the result of the function, possible values are:

PTV\_INVALID\_HANDLE PTV\_SUCCESS An invalid scene handle was passed to the function The function completed successfully

## GetEditDataSize

#### **DEFINITION**

PTint ptGetEditDataSize ( PTint index )

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Calculates the number of bytes required to store the binary chunk of data that represents the entire edit stack.

#### PARAMETERS

index

The indexed position of the edit stack. This will be >0 and <ptNumEdits

#### **RETURN VALUE**

The number of bytes required to store the edit stack

## CreateEditFromData

#### DEFINITION

PTvoid ptCreateEditFromData ( const PTubyte \*data )

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Creates an edit stack from a binary chunk previously written by ptGetEditdata. This is most often used to restore the named edit stacks between sessions. Usually this data is being read from a project file.

#### **PARAMETERS**

data

The binary data representing the stored edit stack

## Layers

## SetCurrentLayer

#### **DEFINITION**

PTbool ptSetCurrentLayer ( PTuint layer )

#### DESCRIPTION

Sets the current layer. The current layer is the target layer for Copy or Move operations. The current layer is always visible and cannot be locked.

#### **PARAMETERS**

layer Layer index from 0 to PT\_MAX\_LAYERS

#### **RETURN VALUE**

Boolean indicating success. PT\_FALSE is returned if the layer is locked or out of bounds

## GetCurrentLayer

#### **DEFINITION**

PTuint ptGetCurrentLayer

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Retrieves the current projection matrix used by Vortex for visibility determination

#### RETURN VALUE

The current layer index

# LockLayer

#### DEFINITION

PTbool ptLockLayer ( PTuint layer, PTbool lock )

### DESCRIPTION

Locks or unlocks a layer. Locking a layer prevents point selection in that layer. Layer locking is independent of layer visibility and a locked layer maybe shown or hidden.

### **PARAMETERS**

layer Layer to lock or unlock as an index from 0 to PT\_MAX\_LAYERS

lock Boolean indicating desired lock status

## RETURN VALUE

Boolean indicating success. PT\_FALSE is returned if the layer is current or out of bounds

## IsLayerLocked

#### **DEFINITION**

PTbool ptlsLayerLocked( PTuint layer )

### DESCRIPTION

Retrieves the locked status of a layer

#### **PARAMETERS**

layer Layer to be queried as an index from 0 to PT\_MAX\_LAYERS

#### RETURN VALUE

Boolean indicating locked status of layer.

# ShowLayer

#### **DEFINITION**

PTbool ptShowLayer( PTuint layer, PTbool show )

#### DESCRIPTION

Sets the visible property of a layer causing the layer to be shown or hidden

#### **PARAMETERS**

layer Layer to show or hide as an index from 0 to PT\_MAX\_LAYERS

show Boolean indicating desired visibility status

### RETURN VALUE

Boolean indicating success. Attempting to hide the current layer returns PT\_FALSE

# IsLayerShown

## DEFINITION

PTbool ptlsLayerShown( PTuint layer)

### DESCRIPTION

Retrieves the visible status of a layer

### **PARAMETERS**

layer Layer to be queried as an index from 0 to PT\_MAX\_LAYERS

### RETURN VALUE

Boolean indicating success. There is no OpenGL context current if PT\_FALSE is returned

## DoesLayerHavePoints

#### **DEFINITION**

PTbool ptDoesLayerHavePoints( PTuint layer )

### DESCRIPTION

Returns the points occupancy status of a layer. This can be used to provide a visual cues to the empty / occupied status of a layer. Note that the method returns a pre-computed state and therefore does not incur significant processing overhead

#### **PARAMETERS**

layer Layer to be queried as an index from 0 to PT\_MAX\_LAYERS

#### RETURN VALUE

Boolean indicating occupancy status ie. PT\_TRUE is returned if there are points in the layer and PT\_FALSE if there are not.

## ClearPointsFromLayer

#### DEFINITION

PTvoid ptClearPointsFromLayer( PTuint layer)

### DESCRIPTION

Removes points from the specified layer

## PARAMETERS

layer The layer to remove points from as an index from 0 to PT\_MAX\_LAYERS

## ResetLayers

### DEFINITION

## PTvoid ptResetLayers

### DESCRIPTION

Clears all layers and places all points into layer 0 ie sets the layer status to the startup state

# CopySelToCurrentLayer

#### **DEFINITION**

PTbool ptCopySelToCurrentLayer( PTbool deselect )

## DESCRIPTION

Copies selected points to the current layer. Points can exist in more than one layer. There is no duplication in this case so that selecting a point in one layer causes it to be selected in all layers.

#### **PARAMETERS**

deselect Deselect the points after the copy. Usually this is the desired behavior

## RETURN VALUE

Boolean indicating success.

# MoveSelToCurrentLayer

#### **DEFINITION**

PTbool ptMoveSelToCurrentLayer( PTbool deselect )

### **DESCRIPTION**

Moves selected points out of all active (ie unlocked) layers to the current layer.

#### **PARAMETERS**

deselect Deselect the points after the copy. Usually this is the desired behavior

### RETURN VALUE

Boolean indicating success.

# Drawing

## OverrideDrawMode

#### **DEFINITION**

PTvoid **ptOverrideDrawMode**( PTenum mode )

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Overrides the draw mode forcing drawing into either dynamic or static mode. This is useful when a tool requires a particular draw mode but it is not possible to check this at draw time.

#### **PARAMETERS**

mode

A constant representing the draw mode. The following values are can be used:

PT_DRAW_MODE_STATIC	Draw in static mode. In this mode a full view is rendered, for large volumes of data this may take up to 2 or 3 seconds.
PT_DRAW_MODE_DYNAMIC	Draw in dynamic mode. The drawing is optimized and attempts to return without the time frame determined by the frame rate.
PT_DRAW_MODE_DEFAULT	Resets the draw mode to the default mode, it is important to do this after the override is no longer required

## DrawGL

## DEFINITION

PTvoid ptDrawGL

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Draws all visible objects to the active OpenGL context. This will use the active context's modelview and projection matrices. It does not affect the pre-call GL state with the exception of initializing resources on the first call in a new context. The view setup is extracted from OpenGL and used to determine visible areas and prioritize point data loading.

Support for OpenGL 1.4 or later is required to use all the features of the display engine. In most cases where sufficient support is not available the display will gracefully drop unsupported features.

Client code that requires non-GL drawing should still set up an OpenGL context for the purpose of setting up a viewing frustum and viewport that Vortex can use. This could be done with an off-screen context so that the client application is not affected. Drawing could then be performed via a visible points query with the query density set to viewing frustum. See the query section of the API documentation.

The call is not asynchronous and returns after drawing has completed.

## DrawSceneGL

### **DEFINITION**

PTvoid ptDrawSceneGL( PThandle scene, PTbool dynamic )

### **DESCRIPTION**

Draws a point cloud scene into the active OpenGL context. See DrawGL for more information on OpenGL state and requirements.

### **PARAMETERS**

mode A constant representing the draw mode. The following values are can be used:

PT\_DRAW\_MODE\_STATIC Draw in static mode. In this mode a full view is rendered, for

large volumes of data this may take up to 2 or 3 seconds.

PT DRAW MODE DYNAMIC Draw in dynamic mode. The drawing is optimized and attempts

to return without the time frame determined by the frame

rate.

# WeightedPtsLoaded

#### **DEFINITION**

PTuint ptWeightedPtsLoaded( PTbool reset )

### DESCRIPTION

Returns the number of points loaded since the last resetting call of the function. The number of points is a weighted value that takes into account the visual significance of the points loaded. This value can be used to determine if the view requires a redraw to show the recently loaded point data.

### **PARAMETERS**

reset Reset the counter to zero

### RETURN VALUE

The weighted number of points loaded since the last reset call

# PtsLoaded In Viewport Since Draw

### DEFINITION

 ${\tt PTint64} \ \, \textbf{ptPtsLoadedInViewportSinceDraw} \, ( \ \, {\tt PThandle} \ \, \text{forScene} \, \, )$ 

### **DESCRIPTION**

Returns the number of a scene's points loaded for the current viewport since the last ptDrawGL call. This can be used to determine if a viewport redraw is required to show the recently loaded points.

### **PARAMETERS**

forScene

Specifies a particular scene for which the metric is required. Using a zero value returns results for all scenes that are loaded

The number of points loaded in the viewport since the last ptDrawGL call

## PtsToLoadInViewport

#### DEFINITION

PTint64 ptPtsToLoadInViewport( PThandle forScene, PTbool reCompute )

### **DESCRIPTION**

Returns the number of points that are pending for loading to complete the viewport in the current viewport and for a particular scene

### **PARAMETERS**

forScene Specifies a particular scene for which the metric is required. Using a zero value returns

results for all scenes that are loaded

reCompute Recompute this value, this will give an exact number at the expense of some CPU

overhead.

#### **RETURN VALUE**

The number of points that are pending for loading

## **StartDrawFrameMetrics**

### **DEFINITION**

PTvoid ptStartDrawFrameMetrics

### **DESCRIPTION**

This function should be called before starting to draw a frame to enable the Vortex API to correctly compute the data available to draw since the last frame. If a single ptDrawGL command is used to draw the frame it is not necessary to call this function.

## **EndDrawFrameMetrics**

### DEFINITION

 ${\tt PTvoid} \ \, {\tt ptEndDrawFrameMetrics}$ 

### **DESCRIPTION**

This function should be called after drawing of the frame is complete to enable the Vortex API to correctly compute the data available to draw since the last frame.

## Units

## SetHostUnits

### **DEFINITION**

```
PTvoid ptSetHostUnits( PTenum units )
```

## DESCRIPTION

Sets the units used in the client environment. Subsequent draw and query operations will use the units specified

## **PARAMETERS**

units

The units to be used. This can be one of the following values:

```
PT_METERS Metric meters (default)
PT_DECIMETERS Decimeters
PT_CENTIMETERS Centimeters
PT_MILLIMETERS Millimeters
PT_FEET Feet
PT_FEET_US US Survey feet
PT_INCHES Inches
```

## **GetHostUnits**

### **DEFINITION**

```
PTenum ptGetHostUnits( void )
```

## DESCRIPTION

Return the current units setting set previously with ptSetHostUnits or the default PT METERS

### **RETURN VALUE**

The units used, possible values are:

```
PT_METERS Metric meters (default)
PT_DECIMETERS Decimeters
PT_CENTIMETERS Centimeters
PT_MILLIMETERS Millimeters
PT_FEET Feet
PT_FEET_US US Survey feet
PT_INCHES Inches
```

## Viewports

Viewports are used to track shading settings and camera setup. Correct Viewport and view definition is important for applications that render the point cloud data since the current view settings are used to identify point visibility and drive background loading of point data.

If OpenGL is being used for rendering, each viewport is assumed to have its own GL context

## AddViewport

### **DEFINITION**

```
PTint ptAddViewport( PTint index, const PTstr name, PTenum viewportContext )
```

### **DESCRIPTION**

Adds a viewport to the Vortex Engine. This does not create a hardware viewport context but will attach to an existing context as specified by the viewportContext parameter.

### **PARAMETERS**

index The desired index of the viewport

name The name of the viewport

viewportContext The type of viewport being added. Valid values include:

PT\_GL\_VIEWPORT An OpenGL based viewport

PT\_DX\_VIEWPORT A DirectX based viewport (not implemented as of 1.5.0.6)
PT SW VIEWPORT A viewport that does not attach to a hardware context

### **RETURN VALUE**

The actual allocated index of the viewport

## RemoveViewport

### **DEFINITION**

```
PTvoid ptRemoveViewport( PTint index )
```

### **DESCRIPTION**

Removes a viewport from the Vortex engine freeing resources associated with its storage

## **PARAMETERS**

index The index of the viewport to free

# SetViewport

## **DEFINITION**

```
PTvoid ptSetViewport( PTint index )
```

### DESCRIPTION

Sets the current viewport. Many functions use the current viewport setting that is set with this function. For example subsequent shader settings will only affect the current viewport.

### **PARAMETERS**

index The index of the viewport to set as current

# SetViewportByName

### **DEFINITION**

PTint ptSetViewportByName( const PTstr name )

### **DESCRIPTION**

Set the current viewport to the one identified by the name parameter

### **PARAMETERS**

name

The name of the viewport. Note that for many applications names such as Top, Left, Perspective etc may not be appropriate if multiple viewports can have the same viewing direction.

### **RETURN VALUE**

The index of the viewport set as current

# CurrentViewport

### **DEFINITION**

PTint ptCurrentViewport

### **DESCRIPTION**

Returns the current viewport by its index

### **RETURN VALUE**

The current viewport index

# EnableViewport

### **DEFINITION**

PTvoid **ptEnableViewport**( PTint index )

### **DESCRIPTION**

Sets a viewport's state to enabled so that ptDrawGL will draw in that viewport and visibility computation and data loading will be active for that viewport. This is the default state

### **PARAMETERS**

index

The index of the viewport to be enabled.

# DisableViewport

### **DEFINITION**

PTvoid ptDisableViewport( PTint index )

### **DESCRIPTION**

Sets a viewport's state to disabled so that ptDrawGL will not draw in that viewport and visibility computation and data loading will be inactive for that viewport.

## **PARAMETERS**

index

The index of the viewport to be disabled.

# IsViewportEnabled

### **DEFINITION**

PTbool ptlsViewportEnabled( PTint index )

### DESCRIPTION

Return the enabled state for a viewport

### **PARAMETERS**

index The index of the viewport

### RETURN VALUE

A Boolean indicating the enabled state of the viewport

# **IsCurrentViewportEnabled**

### DEFINITION

PTbool ptIsCurrentViewportEnabled

### **DESCRIPTION**

Returns the enabled state for the current viewport

### **RETURN VALUE**

A Boolean representing the enabled state of the current viewport

# ViewportIndexFromName

### **DEFINITION**

PTint ptViewportIndexFromName ( const PTstr name )

### **DESCRIPTION**

Return the index of a viewport specified by its name.

### **PARAMETERS**

name

The name of the viewport

The index of the viewport. If the returned integer is negative the viewport was not found.

## CreateBitmapViewport

### **DEFINITION**

PTvoid\* ptCreateBitmapViewport(int w, int h, const PTstr name)

### **DESCRIPTION**

Creates a off-screen OpenGL viewport for rendering to an image. This is demonstrated in the MakeBitmap example project. The viewport can be made current by name, ie by using ptSetViewportByName

### **PARAMETERS**

w The width of the bitmap

h The height of the bitmap

name The unique name of the viewport

### RETURN VALUE

A HBITMAP value cast to void. If the value is not null it is safe to cast the void pointer back to HBITMAP to gain access to the bitmap data.

# DestroyBitmapViewport

## DEFINITION

PTvoid ptDestroyBitmapViewport(const PTstr name)

### DESCRIPTION

Frees resources used by the bitmap viewport specified by its name. The HBITMAP associated with this viewport will no longer be valid after this is called.

### **PARAMETERS**

name The name of the bitmap viewport

# **Engine Tuning**

## DynamicFrameRate

#### **DEFINITION**

PTvoid ptDynamicFrameRate ( PTfloat fps )

### **DESCRIPTION**

Sets the frame rate in frames per second that is maintained during dynamic draw mode. Dynamic draw mode is usually active during user navigation operations where less points are drawn to ensure smooth navigation.

Lowering the frame rate helps to retain detail whilst navigating but may cause the navigation to become jerky. Increasing the frame rate results in a smooth navigation but may reduce the view density.

### **PARAMETERS**

fps The frame rate in frames per second. Valid values are from 1 to 30, the default value is 15

# GetDynamicFrameRate

#### **DEFINITION**

PTfloat ptGetDynamicFrameRate

### **DESCRIPTION**

Gets the current display frame rate

### **RETURN VALUE**

The frame rate in frames per second

## StaticOptimizer

### **DEFINITION**

PTvoid ptStaticOptimizer( PTfloat opt )

## DESCRIPTION

Sets the static optimizer strength. This is the optimizer that optimizes the static drawing. Lowering this value is sometimes necessary if the optimizer is too aggressive and causes some areas to become faint in density.

### **PARAMETERS**

opt The optimizer strength. Valid values are from 0 to 1, default 0.5

## GetStaticOptimizer

### **DEFINITION**

PTfloat ptGetStaticOptimizer

## DESCRIPTION

Gets the current static optimizer value

The optimizer strength expressed as a float between 0 and 1.

# GlobalDensity

### **DEFINITION**

PTvoid ptGlobalDensity ( PTfloat density )

### **DESCRIPTION**

Sets the global display density. This is used to fade the display of point clouds and can help to compare solid or line geometry against the point cloud which would otherwise be hidden by the dense point cloud.

### **PARAMETERS**

density

The density value. Valid values are from 0 to 1, default 1.0

## GetGlobalDensity

### DEFINITION

PTfloat ptGetGlobalDensity

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Gets the current global density value

### RETURN VALUE

The density expressed as a float between 0 and 1.

# ${\sf SetLoadingPriorityBias}$

### DEFINITION

PTres ptSetLoadingPriorityBias ( PTenum bias )

### **DESCRIPTION**

Sets the priority bias for background loading of view based point data. This can significantly impact perceived performance. For interior environments for example, it can be more effective to prioritise loading data furthest from the viewer – for exterior the opposite is true. The default method uses a combination of distance from the viewer and centrality to the view to determine loading priority.

### **PARAMETERS**

bias The engine tuning option to be set. This can be one of the following:

PT_LOADING_BIAS_SCREEN	A screen based metric is used to control loading bias. This is the default method
PT_LOADING_BIAS_NEAR	Points nearer to the viewer are loaded first
PT_LOADING_BIAS_FAR	Points further from the viewer are loaded first
PT_LOADING_BIAS_POINT	Point loading priority is based on distance from a point that can be specified with ptSetTuningParameterfv

The density expressed as a float between 0 and 1.

PTV\_INVALID\_OPTION PTV\_SUCCESS

The bias value is invalid

The function completed successfully

## SetTuningParameter

### DEFINITION

PTres ptSetTuningParameterfv( PTenum param, const PTfloat \*values )

### DESCRIPTION

Sets an engine tuning option.

### **PARAMETERS**

param

The engine tuning option to be set. This can be one of the following:

PT LOADING BIAS POINT

If the loading priority bias is set to PT\_LOADING\_BIAS\_POINT then this option will set the actual point from which the loading bias is computed. The point should be passed through *values* as an array of 3 floats representing a point.

Values An array of float values

### **RETURN VALUE**

A value indicating the result of the function, possible values are:

PTV\_INVALID\_OPTION

The param value is invalid

PTV SUCCESS

The function completed successfully

# ${\sf GetTuningParameter}$

### **DEFINITION**

PTres ptGetTuningParameterfv( PTenum param, PTfloat \*values )

### **DESCRIPTION**

Gets an engine tuning option.

### **PARAMETERS**

param

The engine tuning option to get. This can be one of the following:

PT\_LOADING\_BIAS\_POINT

The point from which is used when the loading priority is set to PT LOADING\_BIAS\_POINT. The point will be returned in values

as an array of 3 floats representing a point.

Values

An array of float values to receive the result

A value indicating the result of the function, possible values are:

PTV\_INVALID\_OPTION PTV SUCCESS

The origin or normal values are null The function completed successfully

## SetCacheSizeMb

### **DEFINITION**

PTvoid ptSetCacheSizeMb ( PTuint mb )

### DESCRIPTION

Sets the in memory cache size for background loading. A larger cache will minimize loading activity and improve performance.

## **PARAMETERS**

mb

The amount of memory in mb to use for the cache

## GetCacheSizeMb

### **DEFINITION**

PTuint ptGetCacheSizeMb

### DESCRIPTION

Gets the in memory cache size for background loading.

## AutoCacheSize

## DEFINITION

PTuint ptAutoCacheSize

### DESCRIPTION

Tells Vortex to manage the cache size according to the available memory

## Point Search

## SetIntersectionRadius

#### DEFINITION

PTres ptSetIntersectionRadius (PTfloat radius)

#### DESCRIPTION

Sets the intersection radius for Ray intersection queries. Since a point has no dimension, an intersection radius specifies the nominal spherical radius to consider when computing point ray intersection.

#### **PARAMETERS**

radius The radius of the point

### **RETURN VALUE**

A value indicating the result of the function, possible values are:

PTV\_INVALID\_PARAMETER The radius is zero or less than zero
PTV\_SUCCESS The function completed successfully

## GetIntersectionRadius

#### **DEFINITION**

PTfloat ptGetIntersectionRadius

### **DESCRIPTION**

Returns the intersection radius setting

### RETURN VALUE

A float representing the intersection radius

## FindNearestScreenPoint

### DEFINITION

PTint ptFindNearestScreenPoint( PThandle scene, PTint screenx, PTint screeny, PTdouble \*pnt )

## **DESCRIPTION**

If OpenGL rendering is being used, this function will check the depth buffer for the current viewport context and unproject the point at screen, screen. The unproject point is used as a seed point to search for the actual point cloud point projected to this screen position. This can be used to implement fast point snapping on the point cloud.

### PARAMETERS

scene The scene to restrict the search to. Use zero to use a global search

screenxThe x position of the on screen pixelscreenyThe y position of the on screen pixel

pnt An array of 3 double values to which the resulting point will be written

## RETURN VALUE

The number of pixels difference between the screen position and the returned point projected position.

## FindNearestScreenPointWDepth

### **DEFINITION**

```
PTint ptFindNearestScreenPointWDepth( PThandle scene, PTint screenx, PTint screeny, PTfloat *dpArray4x4, PTdouble *pnt )
```

#### DESCRIPTION

In cases where an OpenGL context is not accessible or being used by providing depth values around the vertex, this function will search for the nearest point to a screen point in a similar way to ptFindNearestScreenPoint. This can be used to implement fast point snapping on the point cloud.

### **PARAMETERS**

scene The scene to restrict the search to. Use zero to use a global search

screenx The x position of the on screen pixel screeny The y position of the on screen pixel

dpArray4x4 Array of 16 values arranged in a row major 4 x 4 matrix representing depth values of

points around screen point

pnt An array of 3 double values to which the resulting point will be written

### RETURN VALUE

The number of pixels difference between the screen position and the returned point projected position.

## **FindNearestPoint**

### **DEFINITION**

```
PTfloat ptFindNearestPoint( PThandle scene, const PTdouble *search_pnt, PTdouble *nearest)
```

### DESCRIPTION

Finds the nearest point to the search point in the point cloud scene. This can be used to implement point snapping in a CAD system where an approximate 3d point can be resolved from the cursor by unprojecting the screen point given a depth value.

### **PARAMETERS**

scene A handle to the scene to search

search pnt The search point as a tuple of doubles (x,y,z)

nearest A pointer to a tuple of doubles to receive the nearest cloud point

### RETURN VALUE

The distance between the search point and nearest cloud point. A negative distance indicates that no point was found.

# IntersectRay

### **DEFINITION**

```
PTbool ptIntersectRay(PThandle scene, const PTdouble *origin, const PTdouble *direction, PTdouble *intersection, PTenum densityType, PTfloat densityValue)
```

#### DESCRIPTION

Finds the nearest point to the start of the ray that lays on the ray within a the intersection radius (see ptSetIntersectionRadius). This can be used to implement point snapping in a CAD system where the camera position and cursor can be used to compute the ray parameters. Performance in this case would be acceptable, even on large datasets. However intensive use for applications such as ray tracing may not be practical.

### **PARAMETERS**

scene A handle to the scene to search

origin The ray origin as a tuple of doubles (x,y,z)

direction The pointer to a tuple of doubles to receive the nearest cloud point

intersection The nearest intersection point candidate

densityType The density type setting used to determine the number of points evaluated in the query

See ptSetDensityQuery for a complete explanation of this parameter.

densityValue The density value setting used to determine the number of points evaluated in the query.

See ptSetDensityQuery for a complete explanation of this parameter.

## RETURN VALUE

PT TRUE if an intersection was found.

## IntersectRayPntIndex

### **DEFINITION**

```
PTbool ptIntersectRayPntIndex( PThandle scene, const PTdouble *origin, const PTdouble *direction, PThandle *cloud, PThandle *pntPartA, PThandle *pntPartB)
```

### DESCRIPTION

Finds the nearest point to the start of the ray that lays on the ray within the intersection radius (see ptSetIntersectionRadius). This can be used to implement point snapping in a CAD system where the camera position and cursor can be used to compute the ray parameters. Performance in this case would be acceptable, even on large datasets. However intensive use for applications such as ray tracing may not be practical.

This function differs to the ptIntersectRay in that it returns a handle to a point that can be used with PointAttributes to retrieve the point's details.

### **PARAMETERS**

scene A handle to the scene to search

origin The ray origin as a tuple of doubles (x,y,z)

direction The pointer to a tuple of doubles to receive the nearest cloud point

cloud Pointer to receive the cloud handle

pntPartA Pointer to handle to receive part A of the point handlepntPartB Pointools to handle to receive part B of the point handle

### RETURN VALUE

PT TRUE if an intersection was found.

## **PointData**

### **DEFINITION**

### **DESCRIPTION**

Retrieves a points position and other data channels from a cloud handle and the points index within the point cloud

#### **PARAMETERS**

cloud The point cloud handle

pointIndex The points index in the point cloud

position Array of 3 double values to receive the point's position

intensity Pointer to single short value to receive the point's intensity

rgb Pointer to 3 unsigned byte values to receive the point's intensity

normal Pointer to 3 float values to receive the point's normal

### RETURN VALUE

PT\_TRUE if the function succeeds

## **PointAttributes**

## **DEFINITION**

PTuint ptPointAttributes ( PThandle cloud, PThandle pntPartA, PThandle pntPartB )

## **DESCRIPTION**

Returns a bitmask of the points attributes. This is a combination of the following bit masks:

PT\_HAS\_INTENSITY The point has an intensity value

PT\_HAS\_RGB The point as an RGB colour value

PT\_HAS\_NORMALS The point has a normal vector value

## PARAMETERS

cloud The point cloud that the point is in

pntPartA The point's part A handle
pntPartB The point's part B handle

### **RETURN VALUE**

A bitmask of points attributes

## GetPointAttribute

## DEFINITION

PTbool **ptGetPointAttribute**( PThandle cloud, PThandle pntPartA, PThandle pntPartB, PTuint attribute, void\* data)

### **DESCRIPTION**

Returns a point's attribute by its handle

### **PARAMETERS**

cloud The point cloud that the point is in

pntPartA The point's part A handle
pntPartB The point's part B handle

attribute The required attribute, this should be one of the following:

PT\_HAS\_INTENSITY The point has an intensity value

PT HAS RGB The point as an RGB colour value

PT\_HAS\_NORMALS The point has a normal vector value

data A pointer to a buffer to receive the point's attribute

### RETURN VALUE

PT\_TRUE if the function succeeds

## Point Query

## CreateSelPointsQuery

### DEFINITION

PThandle ptCreateSelPointsQuery

### **DESCRIPTION**

Creates a query for selected visible points only. This can be used in conjunction with rectangle, fence and other selection tools to develop downstream tools based on a select and operate paradigm with, for example for meshing, primitive fitting and feature extraction.

### **RETURN VALUE**

A handle to the query. This handle is valid until the query is deleted. The query can be used multiple times.

## SetQueryDensity

#### **DEFINITION**

PTres **ptSetQueryDensity**( PThandle query, PTenum densityType, PTfloat densityValue )

### **DESCRIPTION**

Sets the detail level for the query allowing quick processing of a view or density based subset of points.

### **PARAMETERS**

query Handle of the query to update

densityType The level of detail required. This can be one of the following:

PT QUERY DENSITY FULL The query returns every point including points that in

held in out-of-core storage useful for algorithms that need to process every point. This is the default behavior, however setting a densityValue less than 1 returns a subset of points, ie a percentage of 100 x the

density value.

PT QUERY DENSITY VIEW A view based optimal point set.

This is can be used for displaying points or providing a

preview of a tool's result.

PT\_QUERY\_DENSITY\_VIEW\_COMPLETE

A view based optimal point set.

This is can be used for displaying points or providing a

preview of a tool's result.

PT\_QUERY\_DENSITY\_LIMIT The query returns a subset of points that best

represent the entire point set. The number of points

to be returned is specified by the densityValue.

densityValue

A coefficient that modulates the density type. This is applied per region and can be used to evenly reduce the density of points retrieved. Used with PT\_QUERY\_DENSITY\_VIEW the densityValue can be used to select a level-of-detail for fast dynamic display.

In the case of PT QUERY DENSITY LIMIT, the density value specifies the maximum

number of points to be returned.

#### **RETURN VALUE**

A value indicating the result of the function, possible values are:

PTV\_INVALID\_OPTION PTV SUCCESS

The densityType parameter is invalid The function completed successfully

## SetQueryRGBMode

### **DEFINITION**

PTres ptSetQueryRGBMode ( PThandle query, PTenum mode )

### DESCRIPTION

Sets the RGB colour retrieval mode. This has no affect if a colour buffer is not provided in the following ptGetPoints function.

### **PARAMETERS**

query Handle of the query to update

Mode The RGB colour retrieval mode, this can be one of the following:

PT\_QUERY\_RGB\_MODE\_ACTUAL

The query returns the actual scan RGB values. This is unaffected by the enabled state of point intensity or

the plane shader

PT\_QUERY\_RGB\_MODE\_SHADER

The query returns rgb values that composite the current shading options. This might include intensity, scan rgb and the planar shader. This means that client code can simply use these RGB values to display the points without considering what shading options are to be applied. Note that this excludes any lighting

consideration.

## **RETURN VALUE**

A value indicating the result of the function, possible values are:

PTV\_INVALID\_OPTION PTV SUCCESS

The mode parameter is invalid The function completed successfully

# ${\it CreateVisPointsQuery}$

### **DEFINITION**

PThandle ptCreateVisPointsQuery

### **DESCRIPTION**

Creates a query for visible points only. This is all points that have not been hidden by an edit operation or by hiding a point cloud or scene. Note that this may also includes points that are outside the viewing frustum, ie not visible on screen.

### RETURN VALUE

A handle to the query. This handle is valid until the query is deleted. The query can be used multiple times and is evaluated on execution.

## CreateBoundingBoxQuery

### DEFINITION

```
PThandle ptCreateBoundingBoxQuery( PTdouble minx, PTdouble miny, PTdouble minz, PTdouble maxx, PTdouble maxx, PTdouble maxz)
```

### **PARAMETERS**

minx	Minimum extent of bounding box in X
miny	Minimum extent of bounding box in Y
minz	Minimum extent of bounding box in Z
maxx	Maximum extent of bounding box in X
таху	Maximum extent of bounding box in Y
maxz	Maximum extent of bounding box in Z

### **DESCRIPTION**

Creates a query for points within an axis aligned bounding box.

### **RETURN VALUE**

A handle to the query. This handle is valid until the query is deleted. The query can be used multiple times and is evaluated on execution.

# CreateBoundingSphereQuery

### **DEFINITION**

```
PThandle ptCreateBoundingSphereQuery ( PTdouble *cen, PTdouble radius )
```

### PARAMETERS

cen Centre point of the sphere as an array of 3 double values

radius Radius of sphere

### **DESCRIPTION**

Creates a query for points within a sphere.

### RETURN VALUE

A handle to the query. This handle is valid until the query is deleted. The query can be used multiple times and is evaluated on execution.

# CreateFrustumPointsQuery

### **DEFINITION**

PThandle ptCreateFrustumPointsQuery

#### DESCRIPTION

Creates a query for points within the current viewports view frustum. In order to ensure the frustum has been setup the viewport must either use OpenGL (these settings are read from OpenGL) or provide the projection, eye space transform and viewport dimensions via the View parameter functions.

#### **RETURN VALUE**

A handle to the query. This handle is valid until the query is deleted. The query can be used multiple times and is evaluated on execution.

## CreateKNNQuery

### **DEFINITION**

PThandle **ptCreateKNNQuery** ( PTfloat \*vertices, PTint numQueryVertices, PTint k, PTfloat queryLOD)

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Creates a K-Nearest Neighbor query for a compact set of query points. Query points are specified in the vertices buffer in (X,Y,Z) triples. The number of vertices specified is passed, along with k, the requested maximum number of neighboring points to find for each query point. LOD specifies the minimum level of detail in the range [0..1] to use during analysis, where 0 is none and 1 is full detail. This algorithm makes use of coherence between points in the query set. For best performance, the query set's extents should be compact and small in relation to the over all scene. Query points may be unique or a subset of the scene. Note that if queries are a subset of the scene being analyzed, the query points themselves will be members of the result set. Multiple scenes and clouds are included in the analysis. A query scope will limit the regions analyzed, defined using setQueryScope(). Use ptGetQueryPointsMultif() to execute and obtain the results. Each query point has a set of results that may contain up to k items. Usually, if k or more items are available in the data set, exactly k items will be returned for each query point. Each query point's results are returned in sorted order with increasing distance from the query point.

### RETURN VALUE

A handle to the query. This handle is valid until the query is deleted. The query can be used multiple times and is evaluated on execution.

# GetQueryPoints

### **DEFINITION**

```
PTuint ptGetQueryPointsd ( PThandle query, PTuint bufferSize,
                             PTdouble *geomBuffer, PTubyte *rgbBuffer,
                             PTshort *intensityBuffer,
                             PTubyte *selectionBuffer )
PTuint ptGetQueryPointsf ( PThandle query, PTuint bufferSize,
                             PTfloat *geomBuffer, PTubyte *rgbBuffer,
                             PTshort *intensityBuff,
                             PTubyte *selectionBuff )
```

### **DESCRIPTION**

Retrieves query point geometry and optionally rgb, intensity and selection channels into one or more buffers. If the buffers are filled by the retrieval the function returns. To get the remaining points the function should be called until it returns 0 points.

parameters query	The query's handle. This is obtained from one of the query creation functions
bufferSize	The size of the buffer to retrieve points as the number of points, not array elements
geomBuffer	A pointer to the buffer to retrieve point geometry.  This should be an array of floats (or doubles) that has at least 3 x the number of point elements
rgbBuffer	A pointer to the buffer to retrieve point geometry.  This should be an array of PTubyte that has at least 3 x the number of point elements. See SetQueryRGBMode for how the RGB retrieval can be configured. A null pointer can be passed for this parameter if point RGB is not required.
intensityBuff	A pointer to the buffer to retrieve point intensity values as an array of 16 bit signed

shorts.

A null pointer can be passed for this parameter if selection state is not required.

A pointer to the buffer to retrieve point selection / hidden state values as an array of selectionBuff PTubyte. A null pointer can be passed for this parameter if selection state is not required.

## **RETURN VALUE**

The number of points written to the buffers by this iteration.

# GetQueryPointsMulti

### **DEFINITION**

```
PTuint ptGetQueryPointsMultid ( PThandle query, PTuint numResultSets,
                             PTuint bufferSize,
                             PTuint *resultSetSize,
                             PTdouble **geomBufferA,
                             PTubyte **rgbBufferA,
```

```
PTshort **intenBufferA,
PTubyte **selectionBufferA)
```

PTuint ptGetQueryPointsMultif ( PThandle query, PTuint numResultSets,

PTuint bufferSize,
PTuint \*resultSetSize,
PTfloat \*\*geomBufferA,
PTubyte \*\*rgbBufferA,
PTshort \*\*intenBufferA,
PTubyte \*\*selectionBufferA)

### **DESCRIPTION**

Retrieves multiple query point geometry and optionally RGB, intensity and selection channels into one or more buffers. This call should be used in conjunction with multiple query types such as ptCreateKNNQuery().

### **PARAMETERS**

query The query's handle. This is obtained from one of the query creation functions

numResultSets The number of result sets expected by the caller. This should usually be equal to the

number of query points included when a multi point query was created as one result set is

associated with each query point.

bufferSize The size of each result buffer to retrieve points as the number of points, not array

elements.

resultSetSize An array of integers in which to return the size of each result set. Usually, the size of this

array must be at least equal to numResultSets.

geomBufferA A pointer to an array of pointers to result set buffers to retrieve point geometry.

Result set buffers should be arrays of floats (or doubles) with 3 x the number of points as

elements.

rgbBufferA A pointer to an array of pointers to result set buffers to retrieve point RGB color.

Result set buffers should be arrays of PTubyte with at least 3 x the number of points as

elements. See *SetQueryRGBMode* for how the RGB retrieval can be configured. A null pointer can be passed for this parameter if point RGB is not required.

intenBufferA A pointer to an array of pointers to result set buffers to retrieve point intensity values as

an array of 16 bit signed shorts.

A null pointer can be passed for this parameter if selection state is not required.

selectionBufferA A pointer to an array of pointers to result set buffers to retrieve point selection / hidden

state values as an array of PTubyte. A null pointer can be passed for this parameter if

selection state is not required

## RETURN VALUE

The number of resultSets.

# GetCloudProxyPoints

PTuint **ptGetCloudProxyPoints**( PThandle scene, PTint num\_points, PTfloat \*pnts, PTubyte \*col )

### **DESCRIPTION**

Extracts a small number of points that can be used as a scene proxy when the scene is unloaded or hided. This is a convenience function, using a Query with the appropriate density and colour setting will give the same result.

### **PARAMETERS**

scene A handle to the scene

num\_points The number of points desired

pnts An array of floats that is at least 3 x num\_points in size to receive the point positions col An array of unsigned bytes that is at least 3 x num\_points in size to receive the point

colours

## RETURN VALUE

The actual number of points returned which may be lower than num\_points

## GetDetailedQueryPoints

### **DEFINITION**

PTuint ptGetDetailedQueryPointsd ( PThandle query, PTuint bufferSize,

PTdouble \*geomBuffer, PTubyte \*rgbBuffer, PTshort \*intensityBuffer, PTubyte \* selectionBuffer, PTuint numPointChannels, const PThandle \*pointChannelsReq, PTvoid \*\*pointChannels)

PTuint ptGetDetailedQueryPointsf ( PThandle query, PTuint bufferSize,

PTfloat \*geomBuffer, PTubyte \*rgbBuffer, PTshort \*intensityBuffer, PTubyte \* selectionBuffer, PTuint numPointChannels, const PThandle \*pointChannelsReq, PTvoid \*\*pointChannels)

### **DESCRIPTION**

These are detailed versions of GetQueryPoints allowing access to User Channels.

### **PARAMETERS**

See GetQueryPoints above for shared parameters

numPointChannels The number of user point channels to be returned

pointChannelsReq A pointer to an array of point channel handles specifying which channels should

be returned in the query.

pointChannels A pointer to an array of point channel buffers to receive the point channels.

These are specified as pointers to void and it is important that the buffers are at least the size of user channels bytes-per-point x the *bufferSize* to avoid buffer

overrun.

### RETURN VALUE

The number of points written to the buffers by this iteration.

# DeleteQuery

### **DEFINITION**

PTbool ptDeleteQuery( PThandle query )

### **PARAMETERS**

query The query's handle. This is obtained from one of the query creation functions

### **DESCRIPTION**

Free's resources associated with the query. The query handle will be invalidated after the call.

### **RETURN VALUE**

Boolean indicating success. If the query cannot be found PT\_FALSE is returned.

## ResetQuery

### **DEFINITION**

PTbool ptResetQuery( PThandle query )

### **PARAMETERS**

query The query's handle. This is obtained from one of the query creation functions

### **DESCRIPTION**

Resets the query to its creation state.

## RETURN VALUE

Boolean indicating success. If the query cannot be found PT\_FALSE is returned.

# SetQueryScope

### **DEFINITION**

PTres ptSetQueryScope ( PThandle query, PTuint cloudOrSceneHandle )

## **DESCRIPTION**

By default a query will return points from every point cloud currently held by the Vortex engine. This function can be used to limit the scope of a query to a specific point cloud or point cloud scene (file).

### **PARAMETERS**

Query A handle to the query whose scope is to be set

cloudOrSceneHandle A handle to either a point cloud or a point cloud scene to which the queries

scope is being limited to

### **RETURN VALUE**

A value indicating the result of the function, possible values are:

PTV\_INVALID\_HANDLE PTV\_SUCCESS The cloudOrSceneHandle or query handle is invalid The function completed successfully

## Interaction

# ${\sf Flip Mouse YCoords}$

## DEFINITION

PTvoid ptFlipMouseYCoords

## DESCRIPTION

Flips all screen coordinates in Y. Use this if the incoming mouse coordinates are from win32 or MFC and not OpenGL viewport coordinates. This function affects all functions that use screen coordinates, for example ptSelectPointsByFence.

# ${\sf DontFlipMouseYCoords}$

#### DEFINITION

PTvoid ptDontFlipMouseYCoords

## DESCRIPTION

Unflips all screen coordinates in Y. This function affects all functions that use screen coordinates, for example ptSelectPointsByFence.

## View Setup

## ReadViewFromGL

### DEFINITION

PTbool ptReadViewFromGL

### **DESCRIPTION**

Reads the current view setup from the current OpenGL context. This is used in visibility computation and optimization of view based queries and rendering. If this method is used there is no need to use any further view setup functions found in this section.

### **RETURN VALUE**

Boolean indicating success. There is no OpenGL context current if PT FALSE is returned

## SetViewProjectionOrtho

### **DEFINITION**

```
PTvoid ptSetViewProjectionOrtho ( PTdouble 1, PTdouble r, PTdouble b, PTdouble t, PTdouble n, PTdouble f )
```

### DESCRIPTION

Sets up an ortho (parallel) view projection based on the frustum plane positions. This is used in visibility computation and optimization of view based queries and rendering.

### **PARAMETERS**

```
    Frustum's left plane position
    Frustum's right plane position
    Frustum's bottom plane position
    Frustum's top plane position
    Frustum's near plane position
    Frustum's far plane position
```

# ${\sf SetViewProjectionFrustum}$

### DEFINITION

```
PTvoid ptSetViewProjectionFrustum ( PTdouble 1, PTdouble r, PTdouble b, PTdouble t, PTdouble n, PTdouble f)
```

## **DESCRIPTION**

Sets up a perspective (parallel) view frustum. This is used in visibility computation and optimization of view based queries and rendering.

### **PARAMETERS**

1	Frustum's left plane position
r	Frustum's right plane position
b	Frustum's bottom plane position
t	Frustum's top plane position
n	Frustum's near plane position
f	Frustum's far plane position

# SetViewProjectionMatrix

### **DEFINITION**

```
PTvoid ptSetViewProjectionMatrix( const PTdouble *matrix, bool row major )
```

### **DESCRIPTION**

Sets up a view projection using a 4x4 projection matrix. This is used in visibility computation and optimization of view based queries and rendering.

### PARAMETERS

matrix An array of the 16 double values of the matrixrow\_major Boolean indicating the ordering of the matrix values

# SetViewProjectionPerspective

### **DEFINITION**

```
PTvoid ptSetViewProjectionPerspective(PTenum type, PTdouble fov, PTdouble aspect, PTdouble n, PTdouble f)
```

### **DESCRIPTION**

Sets up a perspective view projection. This is used in visibility computation and optimization of view based queries and rendering.

### **PARAMETERS**

*type* The model used to compute the projection matrix. Any of the following values can be used:

PT_PROJ_PERSPECTIVE_GL	The projection matrix is calculated to produce a matrix identical to OpenGL's gluPerspective
PT_PROJ_PERSPECTIVE_DX	The projection matrix is calculated to produce a matrix
	identical to a DirectX perspective matrix

fov The field of view in degrees

aspect The aspect ratio of the projection. This should normally be the viewport width / height

n The frustum's near plane positionf The frustum's far plane position

## SetViewEyeLookAt

### **DEFINITION**

```
PTvoid ptSetViewEyeLookAt ( const PTdouble *eye3, const PTdouble *target, const PT double *up3 )
```

### **DESCRIPTION**

Sets up an eye transformation based on an eye position and target position. The result will be identical to OpenGL's gluLookAt matrix

### **PARAMETERS**

eye3 The eye location specified as an array of 3 double values ie x,y,z

target The location of the target of the view. Thie point will be mapped to the centre of the

viewport. The target is specified as an array of 3 doubles.

up3 The up vector specified as an array of 3 doubles. This is usually the Z or Y axis.

## SetViewEyeMatrix

### **DEFINITION**

```
PTvoid ptSetViewEyeMatrix( const PTdouble *matrix16, PTbool row major)
```

## **DESCRIPTION**

Sets up an eye transformation directly by specifying a transformation matrix. Care should be taken to when using matrices that the row\_major parameter is correctly specified.

## **PARAMETERS**

matrix16 An array of the 16 double values of the matrixrow\_major Boolean indicating the ordering of the matrix values

## SetViewportSize

### **DEFINITION**

PTvoid **ptSetViewportSize**(PTint left, PTint bottom, PTuint width, PTuint height)

### **DESCRIPTION**

Specifies the viewport size and position that the viewing frustum is mapped to. It is important to specify this correctly in order for the visibility computation to be correctly performed.

### **PARAMETERS**

left The viewport left position in pixelsbottom The viewport bottom position in pixels

width The viewport's width in pixelsheight The viewport's height in pixels

## GetViewEyeMatrix

### DEFINITION

PTvoid **ptGetViewEyeMatrix**( PTdouble \*matrix )

#### DESCRIPTION

Retrieves the current eye transformation matrix used by Vortex for visibility determination

### **PARAMETERS**

matrix Buffer of 16 double values to receive the matrix values in column order

# GetViewProjectionMatrix

### DEFINITION

PTvoid **ptGetViewProjectionMatrix**( PTdouble \*matrix16 )

### **DESCRIPTION**

Retrieves the current projection matrix used by Vortex for visibility determination

### **PARAMETERS**

matrix16 Buffer of 16 double values to receive the matrix values in column order

## User Channels

## CreatePointChannel

#### **DEFINITION**

PThandle **ptCreatePointChannel**( PTstr name, PTenum typesize, PTuint multiple, void \*defaultValue, PTuint flags)

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Creates a user points channel enabling storage of arbitrary per point numerical data.

### **PARAMETERS**

name A unique name for the user channel.

typesize The size of the per point value data type being stored in bytes.

multiple The number of values per point

default Value The default value specified as a void pointer to a buffer containing the values. If there are

multiple values per point the buffer must contain all these values and be of size typesize x

multiple.

flags Additional creation options. A bitmask of the following options can be used:

PT\_CHANNEL\_OUT\_OF\_CORE The user channel data is stored out-of-core. This will

reduce memory overhead significantly at the cost of

access performance.

### **RETURN VALUE**

A handle to the user channel.

## DeletePointChannel

### DEFINITION

PTres ptDeletePointChannel ( PThandle channel )

### DESCRIPTION

Frees resources associated with the user channel. After calling this function the channel handle will no longer be valid.

### RETURN VALUE

A value indicating the result of the function, possible values are:

PTV\_INVALID\_HANDLE The channel handle is invalid
PTV\_SUCCESS The function completed successfully

# SubmitPointChannelUpdate

### DEFINITION

PTres ptSubmitPointChannelUpdate( PThandle query, PThandle channel )

### **DESCRIPTION**

Submits changes made to user channels that have been changed after being retrieved in a buffer using a query. Vortex checks the contents of the buffer using the previously supplied pointer and saves the changed values back to the internal user data structures.

### **RETURN VALUE**

A value indicating the result of the function, possible values are:

PTV\_INVALID\_HANDLE The channel handle is invalid
PTV\_SUCCESS The function completed successfully

## DrawPointChannelAs

### **DEFINITION**

PTres ptDrawPointChannelAs ( PThandle channel, PTenum method, PTfloat param1, PTfloat param2 )

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Instructs the Vortex renderer to interpret the user channel values using a particular method for the purpose of drawing. In most cases only a single interpretation method can be active at one time enabling the rendering of a single User Channel only.

### **PARAMETERS**

channel A handle to the channel to draw

method The method used to interpret the channel for drawing purposes. Any of the following

values may be used:

PT CHANNEL AS OFFSET User channel values are interpreted as x,y,z offsets to

the original point positions. The user channel must have a multiple of 3 values per point, ie one for each of the x,y and z components although the type of

value can vary.

param1 specifies a scale value that is applied to the

offset.

param2 is unused.

PT\_CHANNEL\_AS\_RAMP User channel values are interpreted as indices into a

colour ramp. Index values range from 0 to 1. Values beyond this range will be modulated to fall in range.

param1 specifies the colour ramp to be used

param2 specifies a scaling factor to be applied the

user channel values

 ${\tt PT\_CHANNEL\_AS\_ZSHIFT}^{\star} \qquad \quad {\tt Use\ channel\ values\ are\ interpreted\ as\ an\ offset\ to\ the}$ 

original point's Z value.

param1 specifies a scale value that is applied to the offset.

param2 is unused.

PT CHANNEL AS RGB\*

Use channel values are interpreted as R, G, B values. The user channel must have a multiple of 3 values per point, ie one for each of the x,y and z components although the type of value can vary.

param1 specifies a blend value that is used to blend the RGB values to the original RGB values. Valid values are between 0 (no channel rgb) to 1 (full channel rgb).

param2 is unused.

param1 First parameter, see above for usageparam2 Second parameter, see above for usage

### **RETURN VALUE**

A value indicating the result of the function, possible values are:

PTV_INVALID_OPTION	The method parameter is invalid
PTV_INVALID_VALUE_FOR_PARAMETER	The value of <i>param1</i> or <i>param2</i> for the given method option is invalid
PTV_NOT_IMPLEMENTED_IN_VERSION	The method has not been implemented
PTV_INVALID_HANDLE	The <i>channel</i> handle is invalid
PTV SUCCESS	The function succeeded

### NOTES

Methods mark with an \* have not been implemented as of release 1.5.0

## WriteChannelsFile

### DEFINITION

PTres **ptWriteChannelsFile**( const PTstr filename, PTint numChannels, PThandle \*channels)

## **DESCRIPTION**

Writes a file that stores the specified channels for later retrieval. The channels file references the point clouds by the cloud GUID values, this enables order-independent loading of the channel file and POD file into the Vortex engine.

## **PARAMETERS**

filename The full path to the file to write. Any extension can be used

numChannels The number of channels to be written to the file. This will be the number of elements in

the following channels array

channels An array of channel handles specifying the channels to output to the file

### **RETURN VALUE**

A value indicating the result of the function, possible values are:

PTV FILE WRITE FAILURE There was a write failure

PTV FILE FAILED TO CREATE The file failed to be created. This might be due to user

permissions or file write being block by the OS or Anti-virus

software

PTV\_SUCCESS The file was written successfully

## ReadChannelsFile

#### DEFINITION

PTres ptReadChannelsFile ( const PTstr filename, PTint &numChannels, PThandle \*\*channels)

### DESCRIPTION

Reads a channel file containing one or more point channels. The channels reference the point clouds by the cloud GUID values, this enables order-independent loading of the channel file and POD file into the Vortex engine.

### **PARAMETERS**

filename The full path to the file to write. Any extension can be used numChannels [out] The number of channels that are read from the file

channels [out] A pointer to a handles pointer that will be set to point to an internal channels array.

This will contain the channel handles that are read. Memory at this pointer must not be

deleted as it is managed by Vortex.

## RETURN VALUE

A value indicating the result of the function, possible values are:

PTV_FILE_READ_FAILURE	There was a read failure
PTV_FILE_WRONG_TYPE	The file is not a channels file
PTV_FILE_NOT_ACCESSIBLE	The file is not accessible
PTV_FILE_NOT_EXIST	The file does not exist
PTV_SUCCESS	The file was read successfully

## SetChannelOOCFolder

## DEFINITION

PTres ptChannelOOCFolder( const PTstr filepath )

## DESCRIPTION

Sets the folder for temporary Out-of-Core files. This is by default the operating system's temporary folder.

### **PARAMETERS**

filename The full path to the folder to be used.

## RETURN VALUE

A value indicating the result of the function, possible values are:

PTV FILE NOT ACCESSIBLE The folder is not accessible for writing to

PTV\_SUCCESS The folder was set successfully

## DeleteAllChannels

## DEFINITION

PTvoid ptDeleteAllChannels

### DESCRIPTION

Deletes all the channels in the Vortex engine

## Clipping Planes

## EnableClipping

#### DEFINITION

PTvoid ptEnableClipping

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Enable all clipping functionality. This enables overall clipping but does not switch on individual clipping objects.

## DisableClipping

### **DEFINITION**

PTvoid ptDisableClipping

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Disable all clipping functionality. This disables overall clipping but does not switch on individual clipping objects.

## SetClipStyle

### DEFINITION

PTres ptSetClipStyle ( PTuint style );

### **DESCRIPTION**

Set the current global clip style. The default clip style is PT\_CLIP\_OUTSIDE which clips all points all points that are outside the currently enabled clipping planes. The other clip style is PT\_CLIP\_INSIDE which gives the inverse result to PT CLIP OUTSIDE.

#### PARAMETERS

style The clip style to be applied.

#### **RETURN VALUE**

A value indicating the result of the function, possible values are:

```
{\tt PTV\_INVALID\_VALUE\_FOR\_PARAMETER} \quad \mbox{ If the passed clip style is not $\tt PT\_CLIP\_OUTSIDE or $\tt PT\_CLIP\_INSIDE. \label{eq:proposition}
```

PTV SUCCESS

The clip style was set successfully.

## GetNumClippingPlanes

#### **DEFINITION**

PTuint ptGetNumClippingPlanes

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Get the number of clipping planes currently supported. Currently this is set to 6 planes.

#### RETURN VALUE

The number of available clipping planes.

## IsClippingPlaneEnabled

#### DEFINITION

PTbool ptIsClippingPlaneEnabled ( PTuint plane );

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Is the passed clipping plane enabled.

#### **PARAMETERS**

plane A clipping plane index between 0 and the number of clipping planes - 1. (Get the number of clipping planes by calling ptGetNumClippingPlanes)

#### RETURN VALUE

true if the clipping plane with the passed index is enabled, false otherwise.

# EnableClippingPlane

#### DEFINITION

PTres ptEnableClippingPlane ( PTuint plane );

#### DESCRIPTION

Enable a clipping plane. Note that enabling a clipping plane does not change the global clipping state, to enable clipping globally call ptEnableClipping().

### **PARAMETERS**

plane A clipping plane index between 0 and the number of clipping planes - 1. (Get the number of clipping planes by calling ptGetNumClippingPlanes)

### RETURN VALUE

A value indicating the result of the function, possible values are:

```
PTV_INVALID_VALUE_FOR_PARAMETER The passed clipping plane index was not valid.

PTV_SUCCESS The clipping plane was enabled.
```

# DisableClippingPlane

#### **DEFINITION**

PTres ptDisableClippingPlane ( PTuint plane );

#### **DESCRIPTION**

Disable a clipping plane.

#### **PARAMETERS**

plane A clipping plane index between 0 and the number of clipping planes - 1. (Get the number of clipping planes by calling ptGetNumClippingPlanes)

#### **RETURN VALUE**

A value indicating the result of the function, possible values are:

```
PTV_INVALID_VALUE_FOR_PARAMETER The passed clipping plane index was not valid.

PTV_SUCCESS The clipping plane was disabled.
```

## SetClippingPlaneParameters

#### **DEFINITION**

PTres ptSetClippingPlaneParameters ( PTuint plane, PTdouble a, PTdouble b, PTdouble c, PTdouble d);

### DESCRIPTION

Set the parameters of the passed clipping plane according to the plane equation ax + by + cz = d.

#### **PARAMETERS**

plane A clipping plane index between 0 and the number of clipping planes - 1. (Get the number of clipping planes by calling ptGetNumClippingPlanes)

a,b,c Three doubles that represent the normal vector of the clipping plane according to the clipping plane equation ax + by + cz = d.

d The constant of the clipping plane from the clipping plane equation ax + by + cz = d.

#### **RETURN VALUE**

A value indicating the result of the function, possible values are:

```
PTV_INVALID_VALUE_FOR_PARAMETER The passed clipping plane index was not valid.

PTV_SUCCESS The clipping plane was disabled.
```

### VORTEX API INTERFACE

The Pointools Vortex API header file contains definitions of functions and extern declarations. As such, it is as not as easily read as a header file containing function declarations that most programmers are more familiar with. For this reason such an interface is provided here for reference purposes only.

```
/* typedefs */
typedef unsigned int
typedef bool
typedef int
typedef int
typedef int
typedef int
typedef dunsigned int
typedef float
typedef float
typedef double
typedef short
typedef unsigned short
typedef unsigned short
typedef char
typedef unsigned char
typedef unsigned char
typedef unsigned __int64
typedef __int64
#define PTstr wchar_t*
PTenum;
PTuint;
PTuint;
PTdouble;
PTshort;
PTushort;
PTbyte;
PTupte;
PTuint64;
PTint64;
 /* typedefs */
typedef void
typedef PTuint
typedef unsigned char
                                                 PTvoid;
                                           PThandle;
PTubyte;
 /* Shader Enables */
 #define PT RGB SHADER
                                                                       0 \times 01
#define PT_INTENSITY_SHADER
#define PT_BLENDING_SHADER
#define PT_PLANE_SHADER
#define PT_PLANE_SHADER
                                                                       0x02
                                                                       0x03
                                                                       0x04
 #define PT_LIGHTING
                                                                        0x05
 #define PT CLIPPING
                                                                        0x06
 /* Display Enables */
 #define PT_ADAPTIVE_POINT_SIZE
                                                                      0X100
 #define PT_FRONT_BIAS
                                                                       0X101
 #define PT DELAYED CHANNEL LOAD
                                                                       0X102
 /* Shader Settings */
 #define PT_PLANE_SHADER_DISTANCE
#define PT_PLANE_SHADER_VECTOR
                                                                0x11
 #define PT PLANE SHADER_VECTOR
                                                                       0x12
 #define PT PLANE SHADER OFFSET
                                                                       0x13
                                                                    0x14
 #define PT INTENSITY SHADER CONTRAST
 #define PT_INTENSITY_SHADER_CONTRAST
#define PT_INTENSITY_SHADER_BRIGHTNESS
                                                                       0x15
 #define PT RGB SHADER CONTRAST
                                                                       0x16
 #define PT_RGB_SHADER_BRIGHTNESS
                                                                       0x17
 #define PT LIGHT VECTOR
                                                                        0x18
 #define PT LIGHT ANGLE
                                                                       0x19
 #define PT LIGHT COLOUR
                                                                       0x1a
 #define PT_LIGHT_AMBIENT_COLOUR
#define PT_LIGHT_DIFFUSE_COLOUR
#define PT_LIGHT_SPECULAR_COLOUR
                                                                       0x1b
                                                                       0x1c
                                                                       0x1d
#define PT_LIGHT_AMBIENT_STRENGTH
#define PT_LIGHT_DIFFUSE_STRENGTH
                                                                       0x1f
                                                                       0x20
                                                                       0x21
```

```
#define PT LIGHT SPECULAR STRENGTH
                                                                  0x22
#define PT_INTENSITY_SHADER_RAMP
#define PT_PLANE_SHADER_RAMP
                                                                  0x23
                                                                   0x24
#define PT_MATERIAL_AMBIENT
#define PT_MATERIAL_DIFFUSE
#define PT_MATERIAL_SPECULAR
#define PT_MATERIAL_GLOSSINESS
                                                                   0X25
                                                                   0x26
                                                                    0x28
                                                                   0x29
#define PT PLANE SHADER EDGE
#define PT EDGE REPEAT
                                                                   0x00
#define PT EDGE CLAMP
                                                                   0x01
#define PT EDGE BLACK
                                                                   0x02
#define PT EDGE MIRROR
                                                                  0x03
/* units */
#define PT_METERS
#define PT_DECIMETERS
#define PT_CENTIMETERS
#define PT_MILLIMETERS
#define PT_FEET
#define PT_FEET_US
#define PT_INCHES
#define PT METERS
                                                                   0x100
                                                                   0x101
                                                                   0x102
                                                                   0x103
#define PT_FEET_US
#define PT_INCHES
                                                                    0x104
                                                                    0x106
                                                                    0x105
/* draw modes */
#define PT_DRAW_MODE_STATIC 0x01
#define PT_DRAW_MODE_INTERACTIVE 0x02
#define PT_DRAW_MODE_DEFAULT 0x00
#define PT_DRAW_MODE_COMPATIBILITY 0x04
/* selection modes */
#define PT SELECT
                                                                   0x01
                                                                    0x02
#define PT_DESELECT
#define PT_SELECT_TOGGLE
                                                                    0x03
/*context */
#define PT_GLOBAL_CONTEXT
#define PT_SCENE_CONTEXT
#define PT_CLOUD_CONTEXT
#define PT_VIEWPORT_CONTEXT
                                                                   0x01
                                                                   0x02
                                                                   0x03
                                                                  0x04
/* constants */
#define PT_MAX_VIEWPORTS 32
#define PT_TRUE true
#define PT_FALSE false
                                                        false
#define PT NULL
#define PT ERROR
/* coordinate base */
#define PT_AUTO_BASE_DISABLED 0x0
#define PT_AUTO_BASE_CENTER 0x01
#define PT_AUTO_BASE_REDUCE 0x02
#define PT_AUTO_BASE_FIRST_ONLY 0x04
/* ramps */
#define PT_INTENSITY_RAMP_TYPE 0x01
#define PT_PLANE_RAMP_TYPE 0x02
/* point attributes */
/* point attributes */
#define PT_HAS_INTENSITY 0x01
#define PT_HAS_RGB
                                                          0x02
```

```
/* editing */
 #define PT_EDIT_MODE_SELECT 0X01
#define PT_EDIT_MODE_UNSELECT 0X02
#define PT_EDIT_MODE_UNHIDE 0X03
 /* query */
 #define PT_QUERY_DENSITY_FULL 0x01
#define PT_QUERY_DENSITY_VIEW 0X02
#define PT_QUERY_DENSITY_LIMIT 0X03
#define PT_QUERY_DENSITY_VIEW_COMPLETE 0X04
#define PT_QUERY_DENSITY_SPATIAL 0x07
 #define PT_QUERY_RGB_MODE_ACTUAL
#define PT_QUERY_RGB_MODE_SHADER
                                                               0x04
                                                               0x05
 #define PT QUERY RGB MODE SHADER NO SELECT 0x06
 /* imaging */
 #define PT_IMAGE_TYPE_COLOUR
#define PT_IMAGE_TYPE_NORMAL
#define PT_IMAGE_TYPE_DEPTH
#define PT_IMAGE_TYPE_BUMP
                                                                0x01
                                                                0x02
                                                                0x03
                                                                0X04
 /* tuning */
 #define PT_LOADING_BIAS_SCREEN
#define PT_LOADING_BIAS_NEAR
#define PT_LOADING_BIAS_FAR
#define PT_LOADING_BIAS_POINT
                                                               0x01
                                                               0x02
                                                               0x03
                                                               0 \times 04
 /* fitting */
 #define PT_FIT_MODE_USE_SELECTED
#define PT_FIT_MODE_USE_INPUT
                                                               0x01
                                                               0x02
 /* eye perspective type */
 #define PT_PROJ_PERSPECTIVE_GL
#define PT_PROJ_PERSPECTIVE_DX
#define PT_PROJ_PERSPECTIVE_BLINN
                                                               0x01
                                                                0x02
                                                               0x03
 /* channel constants */
 /* draw as */
 #define PT_CHANNEL_AS_OFFSET
#define PT_CHANNEL_AS_RAMP
#define PT_CHANNEL_AS_ZSHIFT
                                                               0x01
                                                               0x02
                                                               0x03
 #define PT CHANNEL AS RGB
                                                                0x04
 /* options */
 #define PT_CHANNEL_OUT_OF_CORE
                                                               0X01
 /* meta data */
 #define MAX META STR LEN
                                                               512
 /* clipping options */
 #define PT CLIP OUTSIDE
                                                                0x01
 #define PT CLIP INSIDE
                                                               0x02
/* Pointools Vortex API v2.0 */
/* intitialization */
PTbool ptInitialize( const PTubyte *license );
PTbool ptIsInitialized();
```

```
PTvoid ptSetWorkingFolder( const PTstr folder );
const PTstr ptGetWorkingFolder( void );
const PTstr ptGetVersionString( void );
PTvoid PTAPI ptGetVersionNum( PTubyte *version );
PTvoid ptRelease( void );
/* handle management */
            ptGetCloudHandleByIndex( PThandle scene, PTuint cloud index );
PThandle
PTuint.
             ptGetNumCloudsInScene( PThandle scene );
/* importing scene data */
PThandle
             ptOpenPOD( const PTstr filepath );
PThandle
              ptIsOpen( const PTstr filepath );
PThandle
              ptBrowseAndOpenPOD( void );
/* management */
PTint ptNumScenes( void );
PTint ptGetSceneHandles ( PThandle *handles );
PTbool ptSceneInfo( PThandle scene, PTstr name, PTint &clouds, PTuint
&num points, PTuint &specification, PTbool &loaded, PTbool &visible );
const PTstr ptSceneFile( PThandle scene );
PTres ptSceneInfo( PThandle scene, PTstr name, PTuint &num points,
      PTuint &specification, PTbool &visible );
PTres ptCloudInfo( PThandle cloud, PTstr name, PTuint &num_points,
      PTuint &specification, PTbool &visible );
PTres
      ptLayerBounds ( PTuint layer, PTfloat *lower3, PTfloat *upper3,
      bool approx fast );
PTres ptLayerBoundsd) ( PTuint layer, PTdouble *lower3, PTdouble *upper3,
      bool approx_fast );
      ptSceneBounds( PThandle scene, PTfloat *lower3, PTfloat *upper3);
PTres
PTres
       ptSceneBoundsd( PThandle scene, PTdouble *lower3, PTdouble *upper3 );
       ptCloudBounds( PThandle cloud, PTfloat *lower3, PTfloat *upper3 );
PTres
PTres
       ptCloudBoundsd( PThandle cloud, PTdouble *lower3, PTdouble *upper3 );
PTres
       ptShowScene ( PThandle scene, PTbool visible );
PTres
       ptShowCloud( PThandle cloud, PTbool visible );
PTbool ptIsSceneVisible( PThandle scene );
PTbool ptIsCloudVisible( PThandle cloud );
PTres
       ptUnloadScene ( PThandle scene );
PTres
      ptReloadScene( PThandle scene );
```

```
ptRemoveScene ( PThandle scene );
PTvoid ptRemoveAll();
/* Meta data */
PThandle ptReadPODMeta( const PTstr filepath );
PThandle ptGetMetaDataHandle ( PThandle sceneHandle );
PTres ptGetMetaData( PThandle metadataHandle, PTstr name,
                    PTint &num clouds, PTuint64 &num points, PTuint &scene spec,
                    PTdouble *lower3, PTdouble *upper3 );
PTres ptGetMetaTag( PThandle metadataHandle, const PTstr tagName,
                    PTstr value );
PTvoid ptFreeMetaData( PThandle metadataHandle );
/* user metatags */
PTint ptNumUserMetaSections ( PThandle metadataHandle );
const PTstr PTAPI ptUserMetaSectionName ( PThandle metadataHandle,
      PTint section index );
PTint ptNumUserMetaTagsInSection( PThandle metadataHandle,
      PTint section index );
PTres ptGetUserMetaTagByIndex( PThandle metadataHandle,
      PTint section index, PTint tag index, PTstr name, PTstr value );
PTres ptGetUserMetaTagByName( PThandle metadataHandle,
      const PTstr sectionDotName, PTstr value );
/* scene duplication */
PThandle
            PTAPI ptCreateSceneInstance( PThandle scene );
/* transformation */
PTres ptSetCloudTransform( PThandle cloud, const PTdouble *transform4x4,
      bool row order );
PTres ptSetSceneTransform( PThandle scene, const PTdouble *transform4x4,
      bool row order );
PTres ptGetCloudTransform( PThandle cloud, PTdouble *transform4x3,
      bool row_order );
PTres ptGetSceneTransform( PThandle scene, PTdouble *transform4x3,
      bool row order );
/* persistence of viewport setup */
PTuint ptGetPerViewportDataSize();
PTuint ptGetPerViewportData( PTubyte *data );
PTres ptSetPerViewportData(const PTubyte *data);
/* points */
```

```
PTuint ptGetCloudProxyPoints( PThandle scene, PTint num points, PTfloat *pnts,
      PTubyte *col );
PTuint ptGetSceneProxyPoints( PThandle cloud, PTint num points, PTfloat *pnts,
      PTubyte *col );
/* error handling */
PTstr ptGetLastErrorString( void );
PTres ptGetLastErrorCode( void );
/* view parameters - these operate in current viewport */
PTbool ptReadViewFromGL( void );
PTvoid ptSetViewProjectionOrtho( PTdouble 1, PTdouble r, PTdouble b, PTdouble t,
      PTdouble n, PTdouble f );
PTvoid ptSetViewProjectionFrustum( PTdouble 1, PTdouble r, PTdouble b, PTdouble
      t, PTdouble n, PTdouble f );
PTvoid ptSetViewProjectionMatrix( const PTdouble *matrix, bool row major );
PTvoid ptSetViewProjectionPerspective( PTenum type, PTdouble fov, PTdouble
      aspect, PTdouble n, PTdouble f);
PTvoid ptSetViewEyeLookAt( const PTdouble *eye3, const PTdouble *target3, const
      PTdouble *up3 );
PTvoid ptSetViewEyeMatrix( const PTdouble *matrix16, bool row major );
PTvoid ptSetViewportSize( PTint left, PTint bottom, PTuint width, PTuint height
PTvoid ptGetViewEyeMatrix( PTdouble *matrix );
PTvoid ptGetViewProjectionMatrix( PTdouble *matrix16 );
/* draw */
PTvoid ptOverrideDrawMode( PTenum mode );
PTvoid ptDrawGL( void );
PTvoid ptDrawSceneGL( PThandle scene, PTbool dynamic );
PTuint ptKbLoaded( PTbool reset );
PTuint ptWeightedPtsLoaded( PTbool reset );
PTint64 ptPtsLoadedInViewportSinceDraw( PThandle forScene );
PTint64 ptPtsToLoadInViewport( PThandle forScene, PTbool reCompute );
PTvoid ptEndDrawFrameMetrics( void );
PTvoid ptStartDrawFrameMetrics( void );
/* units */
PTvoid ptSetHostUnits( PTenum units );
PTenum ptGetHostUnits( void );
```

```
/* Coordinate Management */
PTvoid ptSetAutoBaseMethod( PTenum type );
PTenum ptGetAutoBaseMethod( void );
PTvoid ptGetCoordinateBase( PTdouble *coordinateBase);
PTvoid ptSetCoordinateBase ( PTdouble *coordinateBase );
/* viewports */
PTint ptAddViewport( PTint index, const PTstr name );
PTvoid ptRemoveViewport( PTint index );
PTvoid ptSetViewport( PTint index );
PTint ptSetViewportByName(const PTstr name);
PTvoid ptCaptureViewportInfo( void );
PTvoid ptStoreView(void);
PTint ptCurrentViewport( void );
PTvoid ptEnableViewport( PTint index );
PTvoid ptDisableViewport( PTint index );
PTbool ptIsViewportEnabled( PTint index );
PTbool ptIsCurrentViewportEnabled( void );
/* offscreen viewport */
PTvoid* ptCreateBitmapViewport(int w, int h, const PTstr name);
PTvoid ptDestroyBitmapViewport(const PTstr name);
/* bounds of data */
PTbool ptGetLowerBound( PTdouble *lower );
PTbool ptGetUpperBound( PTdouble *upper );
/* shader options */
PTvoid ptEnable( PTenum option );
PTvoid ptDisable( PTenum option );
PTbool ptIsEnabled( PTenum option );
PTres ptPointSize( PTfloat size );
PTres ptShaderOptionf( PTenum shader option, PTfloat value );
PTres ptShaderOptionfv( PTenum shader option, PTfloat *value );
PTres ptShaderOptioni( PTenum shader option, PTint value );
```

```
ptGetShaderOptionf( PTenum shader option, PTfloat *value );
PTres
PTres
       ptGetShaderOptionfv( PTenum shader option, PTfloat *values );
       ptGetShaderOptioni( PTenum shader option, PTint *value );
PTres
PTvoid ptResetShaderOptions( void );
PTvoid ptCopyShaderSettings( PTuint dest viewport );
PTvoid ptCopyShaderSettingsToAll(void);
PTint ptNumRamps(void);
const PTstr ptRampInfo( PTint ramp, PTenum *type );
/* lighting */
       ptLightOptionf( PTenum Light option, PTfloat value );
PTres
PTres
       ptLightOptionfv( PTenum Light option, PTfloat *value );
      ptLightOptioni( PTenum Light option, PTint value );
PTres
PTres
      ptGetLightOptionf( PTenum Light_option, PTfloat *value );
PTres ptGetLightOptioni( PTenum Light option, PTint *value );
PTvoid ptCopyLightSettings( PTuint dest viewport );
PTvoid ptCopyLightSettingsToAll();
PTvoid ptResetLightOptions();
/* editing options */
PTres ptSetSelectPointsMode( PTenum select mode );
PTenum ptGetSelectPointsMode( void );
PTvoid ptSelectPointsByRect( PTint x edge, PTint y edge, PTint x2 edge,
      PTint y2 edge, PTint height);
PTres ptSelectPointsByFence( PTint num points, const PTint *points);
PTres ptSelectPointsByCube( const PTfloat *centre, PTfloat radius );
PTres ptSelectPointsByPlane( const PTfloat *origin, const PTfloat *normal,
      PTfloat thickness );
PTres ptSelectPointsByBox( const PTfloat *lower, const PTfloat *upper );
PTres ptSelectPointsByOrientedBox( const PTfloat *lower, const PTfloat *upper,
                                const PTfloat *pos, PTfloat *uAxis, PTfloat
                          *vAxis );
       ptSelectPointsBySphere( const PTfloat *centre, PTfloat radius );
PTres
PTvoid ptInvertSelection( void );
```

```
PTvoid ptInvertVisibility( void );
PTvoid ptHideSelected( void );
PTvoid ptUnhideAll( void );
PTvoid ptUnselectAll( void );
PTvoid ptSelectAll( void );
PTvoid ptSetSelectionScope( PThandle sceneOrCloudHandle );
PTvoid ptRefreshEdit( void );
PTvoid ptClearEdit( void );
PTvoid ptStoreEdit( const PTstr name );
PTbool ptRestoreEdit( const PTstr name );
PTbool ptRestoreEditByIndex( PTint index );
PTbool ptDeleteEdit( const PTstr name );
PTbool ptDeleteEditByIndex( PTint index );
PTvoid ptDeleteAllEdits( void );
PTint ptNumEdits( void );
const PTstr ptEditName( PTint index );
PTint ptGetEditData( PTint index, PTubyte *data );
PTint ptGetEditDataSize( PTint index );
PTvoid ptCreateEditFromData( const PTubyte *data );
PTvoid ptSelectPointsInLayer ( PTuint layer );
PTvoid ptDelectPointsInLayer ( PTuint layer );
PTres ptSelectCloud ( PThandle cloud );
PTres ptDeselectCloud ( PThandle cloud );
PTres ptSelectScene ( PThandle cloud );
PTres ptDeselectScene ( PThandle cloud );
/* point layers */
PTbool ptSetCurrentLayer( PTuint layer);
PTuint ptGetCurrentLayer();
PTbool ptLockLayer( PTuint layer, PTbool lock );
PTbool ptIsLayerLocked( PTuint layer );
PTbool ptShowLayer( PTuint layer, PTbool show);
```

```
PTbool ptIsLayerShown( PTuint layer);
PTbool ptDoesLayerHavePoints( PTuint layer );
PTvoid ptClearPointsFromLayer( PTuint layer);
PTvoid ptResetLayers();
PTbool ptCopySelToCurrentLayer( PTbool deselect );
PTbool ptMoveSelToCurrentLayer( PTbool deselect );
/* optimisation and rendering options*/
PTvoid
           ptDynamicFrameRate( PTfloat fps );
PTfloat
           ptGetDynamicFrameRate();
PTvoid
            ptStaticOptimizer( PTfloat opt );
PTfloat
           ptGetStaticOptimizer();
PTvoid
           ptGlobalDensity( PTfloat opt );
PTfloat ptGetGlobalDensity(void);
/* Query */
             ptSetIntersectionRadius(PTfloat radius);
PTres
PTfloat
            ptGetIntersectionRadius( void );
PTint
             ptFindNearestScreenPoint( PThandle scene, PTint screenx, PTint
                                       screeny, PTdouble *pnt );
PTint ptFindNearestScreenPointWDepth( PThandle scene, PTint screenx,
             PTint screeny, PTfloat *dpArray4x4, PTdouble *pnt );
PTfloat ptFindNearestPoint( PThandle scene, const PTdouble *pnt,
             PTdouble *nearest );
PTbool ptIntersectRay( PThandle scene, const PTdouble *origin,
             const PTdouble *direction, PTdouble *intersection );
PTbool ptIntersectRayPntIndex( PThandle scene, const PTdouble *origin,
             const PTdouble *direction, PThandle *cloud, PThandle *pntPartA,
             PThandle *pntPartB );
PTbool ptPointData( PThandle cloud, PThandle pointIndex,
      PTdouble *position, PTshort *intensity, PTubyte *rgb, PTfloat *normal );
PTuint ptPointAttributes (PThandle cloud, PThandle pntPartA, PThandle pntPartB
PTbool ptGetPointAttribute( PThandle cloud, PThandle pntPartA, PThandle
                          pntPartB, PTuint attribute, void* data );
/* Selection */
PThandle ptCreateSelPointsQuery();
PThandle ptCreateVisPointsQuery();
```

```
PThandle ptCreateFrustumPointsQuery();
PThandle ptCreateKNNQuery(PTfloat *vertices, PTint numQueryVertice, PTint k,
                           PTfloat lod = 1);
PThandle ptCreateBoundingBoxQuery( PTdouble minx, PTdouble miny,
      PTdouble minz, PTdouble maxx, PTdouble maxy, PTdouble maxz);
PThandle ptCreateOrientedBoundingBoxQuery( PTdouble minx, PTdouble miny,
      PTdouble minz, PTdouble maxx, PTdouble maxy, PTdouble maxz, PTdouble posx,
      PTdouble posy, PTdouble posz, PTdouble ux, PTdouble uy, PTdouble uz,
      PTdouble vx, PTdouble vy, PTdouble vz);
PThandle ptCreateBoundingSphereQuery( PTdouble *cen, PTdouble radius );
PTbool ptDeleteQuery( PThandle query );
PTbool ptResetQuery( PThandle query);
PTres ptSetQueryRGBMode( PThandle query, PTenum mode );
PTres ptSetQueryDensity( PThandle query, PTenum densityType,
      PTfloat densityValue );
PTres ptSetQueryScope( PThandle query, PThandle sceneOrCloudHandle );
PTuint ptGetQueryPointsd( PThandle query, PTuint bufferSize,
      PTdouble *geomBuffer, PTubyte *rgbBuffer, PTshort *intensityBuffer,
      PTubyte *selectionBuffer );
PTuint ptGetDetailedQueryPointsd( PThandle query, PTuint bufferSize,
      PTdouble *geomBuffer, PTubyte *rgbBuffer, PTshort *intensityBuffer,
      PTfloat *normalBuffer, PTubyte *filter, PTuint numPointChannels,
      const PThandle *pointChannelsReq, PTvoid **pointChannels );
PTuint ptGetQueryPointsf( PThandle query, PTuint bufferSize,
      PTfloat *geomBuffer, PTubyte *rgbBuffer, PTshort *intensityBuffer,
      PTubyte *selectionBuffer);
PTuint ptGetDetailedQueryPointsf( PThandle query, PTuint bufferSize,
      PTfloat *geomBuffer, PTubyte *rgbBuffer, PTshort *intensityBuffer,
      PTfloat *normalBuffer, PTubyte *filter, PTuint numPointChannels,
      const PThandle *pointChannelsReq, PTvoid **pointChannels );
PTuint ptGetQueryPointsMultif( PThandle query, PTuint numResultSets,
       PTuint bufferSize, PTuint *resultSetSize, PTfloat **geomBufferArray,
      PTubyte **rgbBufferArray, PTshort **intensityBufferArray,
      PTubyte **selectionBufferArray);
PTuint ptGetQueryPointsMultid( PThandle query, PTuint numResultSets,
       PTuint bufferSize, PTuint *resultSetSize, PTdouble **geomBufferArray,
      PTubyte **rgbBufferArray, PTshort **intensityBufferArray,
      PTubyte **selectionBufferArray);
/* screen interaction */
PTvoid ptFlipMouseYCoords( void );
PTvoid ptDontFlipMouseYCoords( void );
/* tuning and memory management */
```

```
PTvoid ptSetCacheSizeMb( PTuint mb );
PTuint ptGetCacheSizeMb();
PTvoid ptAutoCacheSize();
PTres ptSetLoadingPriorityBias( PTenum bias );
PTenum ptGetLoadingPriorityBias();
PTres ptSetTuningParameterfv( PTenum param, const PTfloat *values );
PTres ptGetTuningParameterfv( PTenum param, PTfloat *values );
/* User data channel */
PThandle
             ptCreatePointChannel ( PTstr name, PTenum typesize, PTuint
      multiple, void* default value, PTuint flags );
PThandle ptCopyPointChannel( PThandle channel, PTstr destName,
             PTuint destFlags );
PTres ptDeletePointChannel ( PThandle channel );
PTres ptSubmitPointChannelUpdate( PThandle query, PThandle channel);
PTres ptWriteChannelsFile( const PTstr filename, PTint numChannels,
             PThandle *channels );
PTuint64 ptWriteChannelsFileToBuffer ( PTint numChannels,
             const PThandle *channels, PTubyte *&buffer, PTuint64 &bufferSize );
PTvoid ptReleaseChannelsFileBuffer (PTuint64 bufferHandle);
PTres
       ptReadChannelsFile( const PTstr filename );
      ptReadChannelsFileFromBuffer (void *buffer, PTuint64 bufferSize,
             PTint &numChannels, const PThandle **channels );
PTres ptDrawPointChannelAs( PThandle channel, PTenum method, PTfloat param1,
             PTfloat param2 );
PTres ptSetChannelOOCFolder( const PTstr foldername );
PTvoid ptDeleteAllChannels( void );
/* Clipping planes */
PTvoid ptEnableClipping( void );
PTvoid ptDisableClipping( void );
PTres ptSetClipStyle( PTuint style );
PTuint ptGetNumClippingPlanes( void );
PTboo ptIsClippingPlaneEnabled( PTuint plane );
PTres ptEnableClippingPlane ( PTuint plane );
PTres ptDisableClippingPlane ( PTuint plane );
PTres ptSetClippingPlaneParameters( PTuint plane, PTdouble a, PTdouble b,
             PTdouble c, PTdouble d );
```