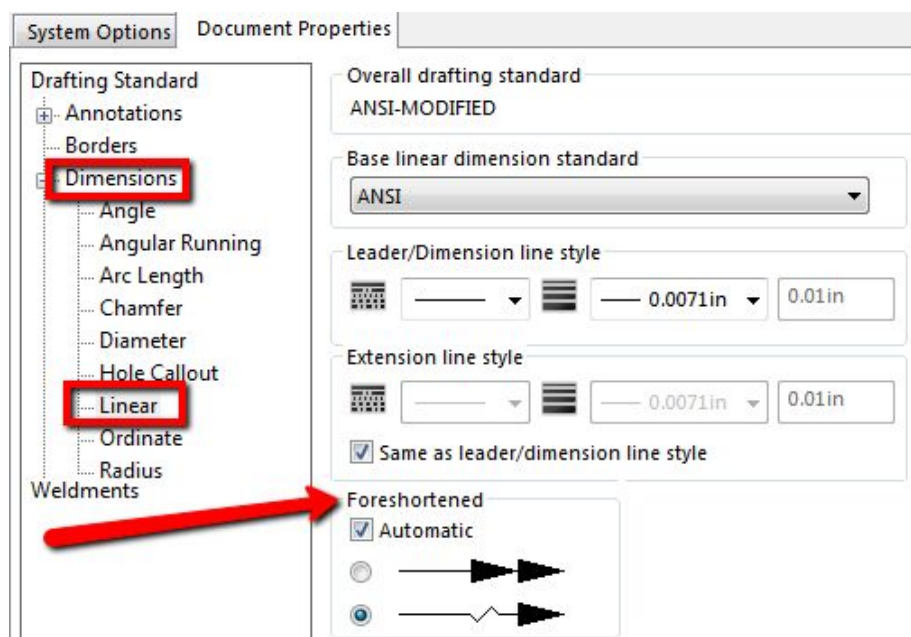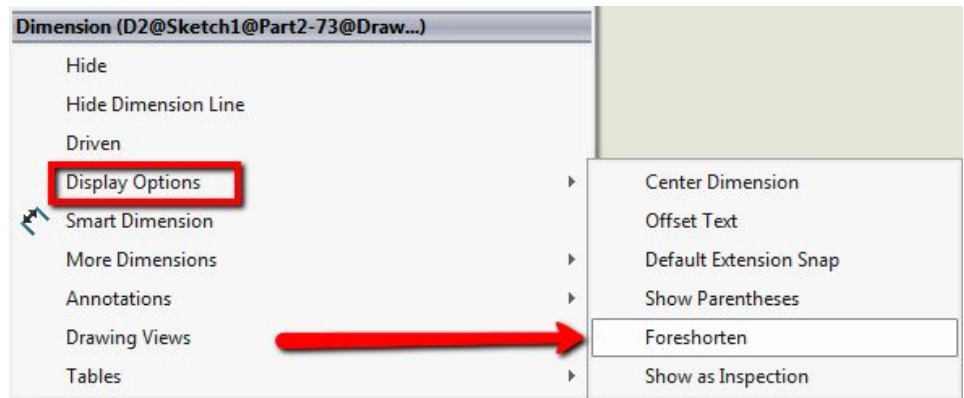# *Foreshortening Linear Dimensions*

In SOLIDWORKS 2015, foreshorten dimensions were only available for linear dimensions in broken views or for radius dimensions. Now in SOLIDWORKS 2016, linear dimensions can be foreshortened in all drawing views not just broken views.

To add the foreshortened symbol to a linear dimension right-click the dimension line, not directly on top of the dimension value, and select "**Dimension Options**" then pick "**Foreshorten**".

There are now settings to control the style of how the foreshortened linear dimension will look. It is similar to how the radius foreshortened dimension option worked in SOLIDWORKS 2015, with the ability to use a zig zag symbol or use double arrows on the foreshortened dimension arrow.

The new **Automatic** option works well with detailed and broken views, adding the foreshortened symbol automatically if the setting is checked. For cropped views, the foreshorten symbol must be added manually or a dimension can be moved to the cropped view from another view by holding down the shift key.

Use the ANSI Drafting Standard setting within Document Properties to see the double arrow or zig zag foreshorten symbol. The ISO drawing standard does not support the foreshortened symbols.

Note: even though the foreshortened linear dimension is available in all view types, the three views it works the best in are Cropped, Detailed and Broken views.