

Version 5.5 Roof Products Enhancements Lists

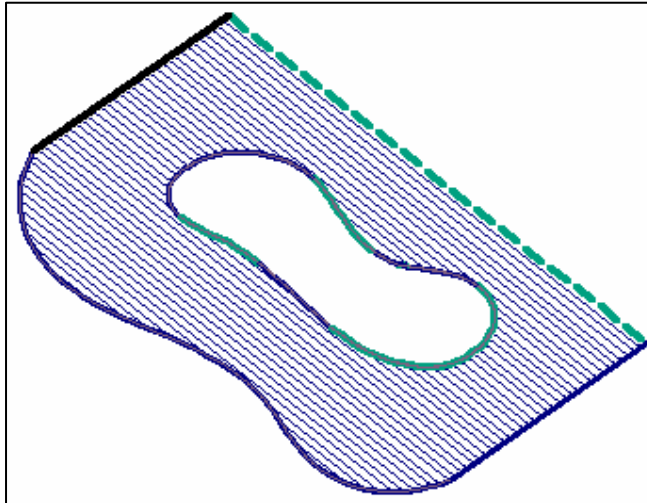


The following lists outline the enhancements that have been made to the Version 5.5 Roof products.

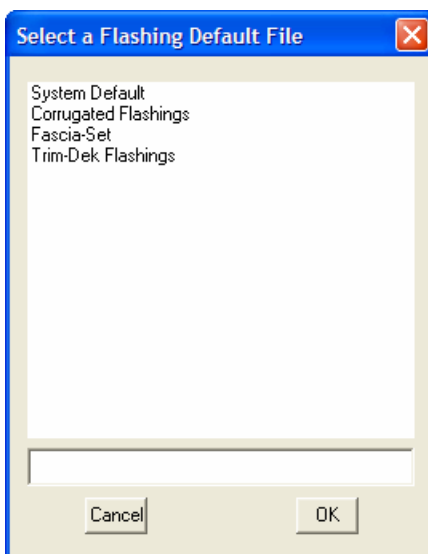
Generic Roofing Enhancements

- Modified code for auto-tracking in places such as SmartLines Ins-Plane to create line segments from Curves and Arcs. This functionality permits the creation of curved-edged roof planes, holes and cut-outs.

This functionality has also been added to the Gen-Roof Section command allowing roof shapes of curve sections to be produced also. New option under Tools Preferences allows user to specify how accurately curve is converted to lines.



- Changed custom flashings so definitions so that they can be created, modified or deleted. Included the Accessories option separately so these can be separately specified at a later date. The install rate can now also be separately modified without the need to modify the graphics.
- Changed Mirror command so that user is now provided with simpler interface of mirroring options. Entities are simply mirrored about 2-Points, Line or Plane.
- Smartlines menu modified to provide further functionality. Two extra options now exist to create a line as a projected intersection of one plane onto another and to add points to the edge of a plane. In addition, Show-Planes has been added to the Smartlines menu to assist in viewing the model.



- Various configurations of Flashings can now be saved and loaded using the Save-As, Load and Delete functions added to the dialog. This feature allows "systems" of flashing to be selected en-masse and provides a much faster way of changing between various flashing systems.
- A number of routines, including Mod-Roof Change-Verge and Roof Change-Eave now have a point selection routine available. This permits the user to select the screen location of where, for instance, the eave will be drawn to rather than having to specify the distance.

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- Code changed to allow user to save away a number of Nett-Rates files that can then be selected in the Nett-Only quote screen as values to use.
- Non table-based Reports can now be sized in either A4, A3 or A2 sizes, landscape or portrait. The software now auto-senses the report size and modifies the plot output accordingly.
- Added Read-RXF functionality which permits the reading in of RXF files. AppliCad specified Roof Transfer Files from other software manufacturers.
- Added new functionality to Hip/Valley Gables to permit creation of a flat or "skillion" panel rather than an intersecting gable roof. Further functionality allows for the specification of the flat plane pitch, or to alternatively draw the panel all the way to the Apex of the Hip/Gable.

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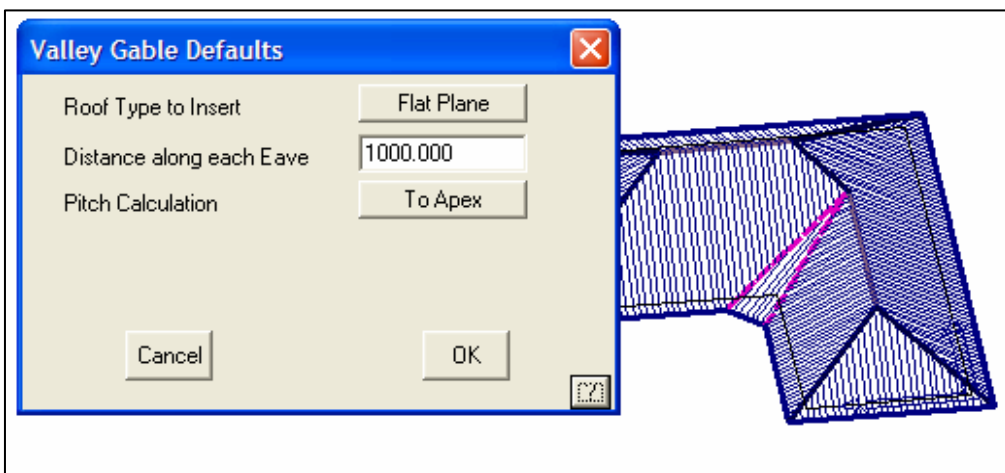
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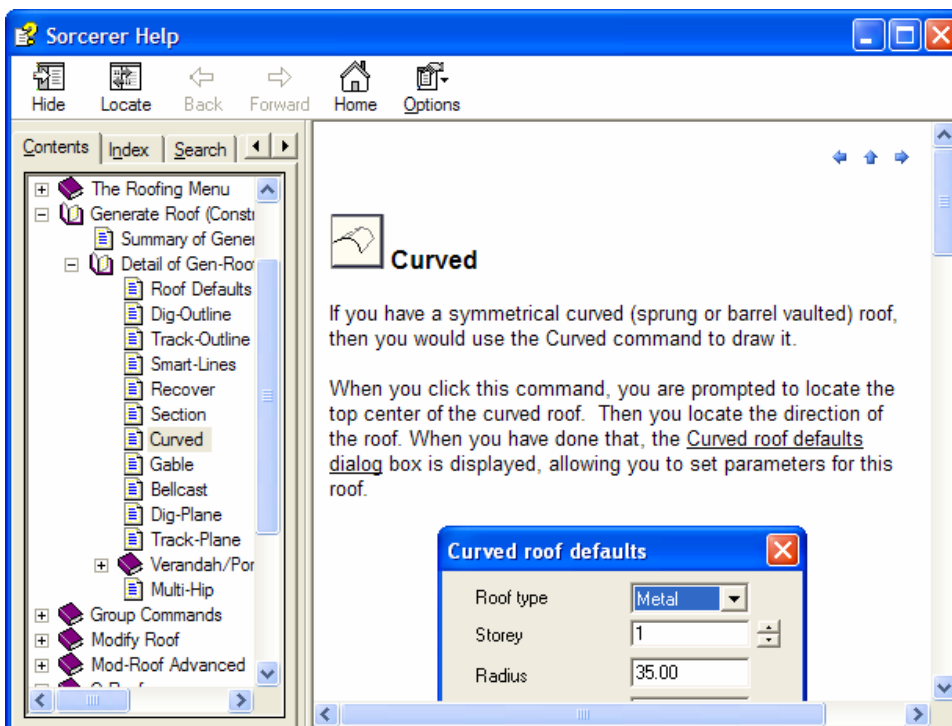
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- Inline Help Files have been added to each and every dialog box to allow the user to quickly and easily access the manuals. The user simply selects the '?' icon in the bottom right hand corner of the dialog and is presented with the section of the manual in HTML format to assist with the function usage.



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- Changed the Roof Battens/Purlins dialog box to incorporate increased functionality for spacing. Battens/Purlins can now be spaced at specified distances away from ridges and eaves, as well as providing for spacing in-between. In addition, offset distances for ridge, hip, apron and valley battens/purlins can now be specified. Batten/Purlins modification options have also been provided to allow battens/purlins to be split at rafter/support lines, deleted or merged.

- In addition to the Batten/Purlin dialog being modified, a second batten/purlin linetype has been added to the Flashing dialog, permitting the creation of intermediate or safety battens as often required.
- Four user-defined linetypes have also been added to the software to provide for various flashings and other estimation requirements. The linetypes are entirely user-definable, including the text string representing the linetype. These new linetypes are defined in the Tools Preferences dialog and accessed through the Cover Flashing dialog.
- Modified the Hole Delete functionality so that it is accessible for a number of various uses including the removal of a dormer hole once the dormer graphics are deleted.
- When user changes views in the software, the view fits to the graphics contained within the view, thereby requiring less mouse clicks than previously.
- A new option for pitch entry has been added to the software, allowing the user to specify the pitch as a percentage. For example, a 45 degree pitch can now be specified also as either a 12/12 slope or a 50% pitch.
- Roof Spin function has been enhanced to allow the user to specify the amount of rotation per frame.

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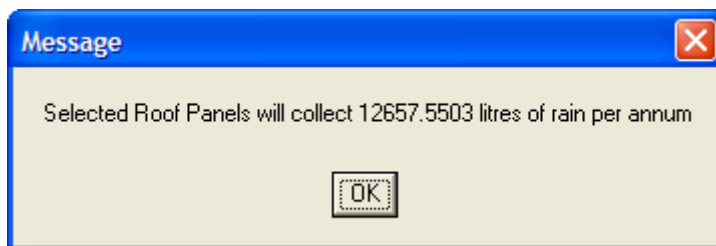
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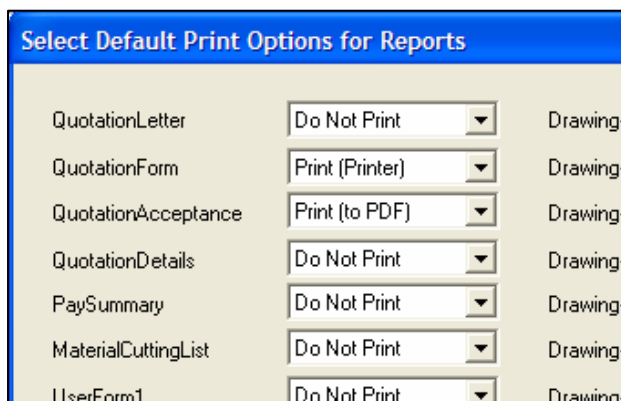
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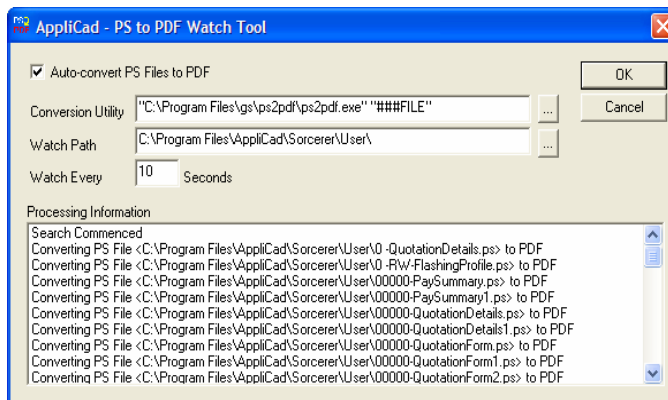
- The Tools Measure command has been enhanced with a tool to estimate the amount of rainfall a selected number of roof panels will collect in a given year. This tool is hoped to provide further information for rainwater collection, as well as assisting with downpipe sizing calculations.



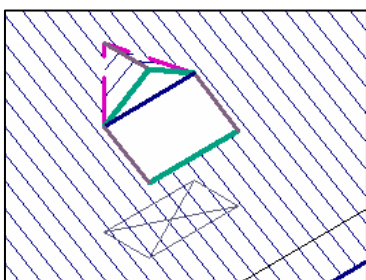
- Plotting of reports and drawings in the software has been revamped to provide a number of features that will drastically improve this side of the software. Firstly, printing to PDF is now possible using an external PostScript to PDF converter such as either GhostScript® or Adobe® Distiller™. This option is turned-on using the Tools Preferences command. Options regarding which reports and drawings to print can now be pre-set using the Tools Define-Printing function. If PDF has been enabled, the dialog box will provide options to either Print as Default, Don't Print, or Create PDF files.



- AppliCad have developed a PStoPDF conversion tool that, whilst it doesn't do the actual conversion, will assist with the auto-conversion utilising a tool such as GhostScript®, which does not have its own auto-start routine. The tool "watches" a given path and starts the required application to convert the file from a PostScript to a PDF file.



- The Print button on the Tools Tally-Quantities dialog now accesses a template entitled Roof-Quantities, populating and printing this template immediately without asking for other templates as this command did previously.



- Amended the fixture insertion routine to allow a hole to be created in the roof. In addition to this, a new feature has been added to the Mod-Roof command to allow "crickets" to be inserted simply. An example of a fixture with a hole created and then a cricket inserted is provided here to further explain the new functionality.

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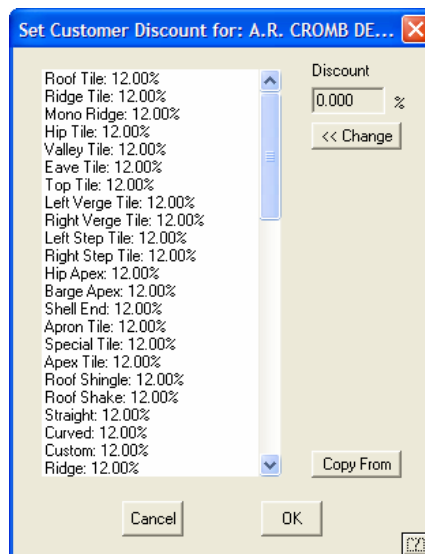
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- Discount product structures can now be specified on a per-customer basis. These discounts cross-reference the description in the pricing dialog and apply the appropriate discount based on the customer selected. Template files can be setup which permits only a certain number of fields to have a discount applied, so that larger organisations can manage their employees providing discounts. Tools have also been provided to copy discount structures from one customer to another, so multiple customers can be set up with the same discounts quickly.



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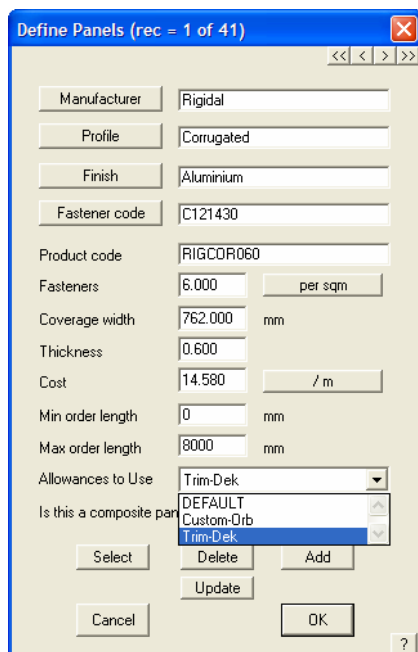
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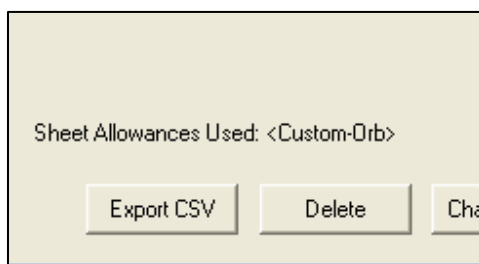
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- Eave Overhang has been added to the Dig-Plane and Track-Plane commands, thus allowing eaves on flat roof panels.



- Flashing and Sheet Allowances can now be saved away to allow for different configurations of allowances. This feature is linked into the Metal Panels setup, as well as the Cover Flashings dialog, allowing sheets to be linked to allowances and flashing configurations to be linked to flashing allowances. In addition, the allowance values that are in use are now displayed on the panel cutting list and flashing cutting list dialog boxes.



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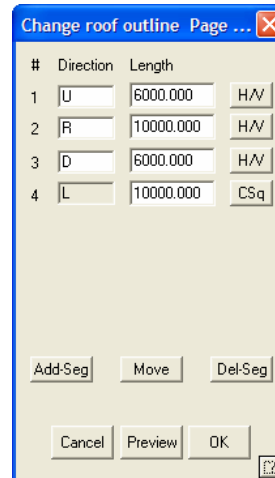
- A new feature has been added to the Tools menu to assist with the location of collinear lines and coincident lines and planes in the model. In addition to this, the new command, Tools Check, also provides a model integrity checker, which ensures the model is free from any corruptions that might occur during the creation of the roof model.
- Generate Flashings command now highlights the lines being processed as it works, so that user receives feedback of progress. This is especially useful if a flashing has been incorrectly set-up, allowing the user to more quickly identify the flashing in error.

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- Added a field to the Flashing Allowances dialog to allow the user to define the standard Flashing Annotation Text Size. This will be a useful addition for users who have trouble reading the flashing text at its current size.
- The Change Outline Routine has been modified to allow much easier calculation of the modified outline, including horizontal and vertical input buttons as well as allowing the last 2 points to be “closed-square” as in the outline specification functions.
- Set All On/Off buttons added to the Set Display dialog for each storey so that an entire storey can be easily turned on or off, without the requirement to set each field as previously required.
- Added a Set-Text-Width command to the Tools menu to allow users to more easily define the text width for the Notes text and other width-definable text on reports.
- Added a Define-Notes routine to the Tools menu permitting a user to store away complex notes and to manage them using this tool. In addition to this tool being provided, the selection of a number of Notes fields can now be performed in the Notes section of Report printing, allowing complex notes to be built up from a number of smaller note options selected.



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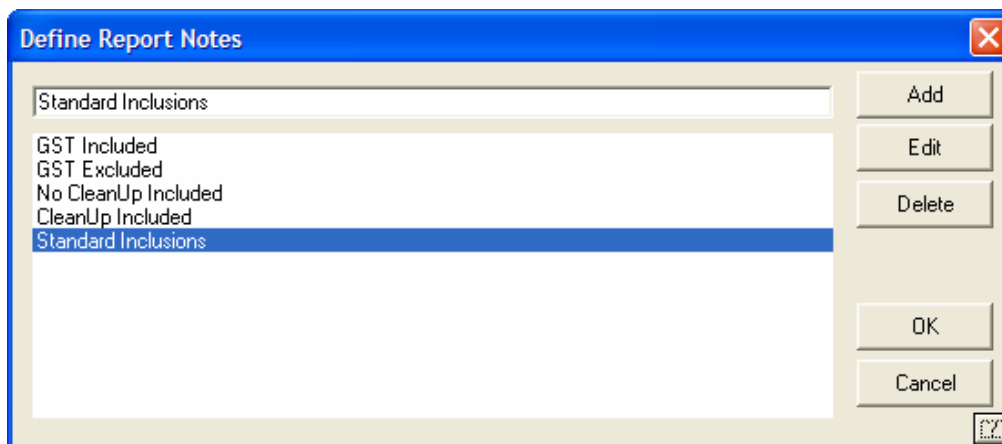
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Metal Roofing Enhancements

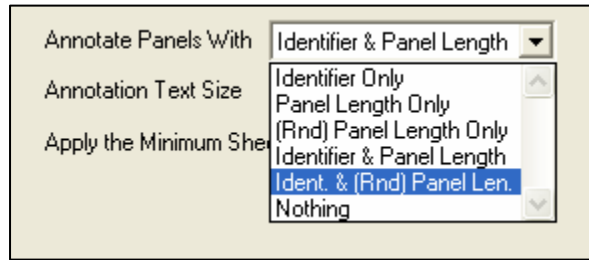
- Allowed for the saving away of sheet allowances – see previous section of a more complete explanation.
- Changed the Display Sheets Summary Dialog so that the “Show” button is no longer required. The sheet type selected for display of its cut list is now automatically highlighted on-screen.
- Automated the tallying of blocks after auto-blocking of sheets is performed, as well as auto-tallying of panels if they are changed during the Tally-Panels cut list is being displayed.

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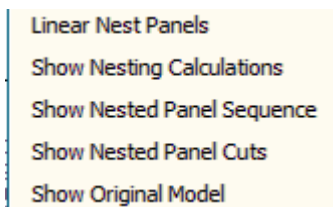
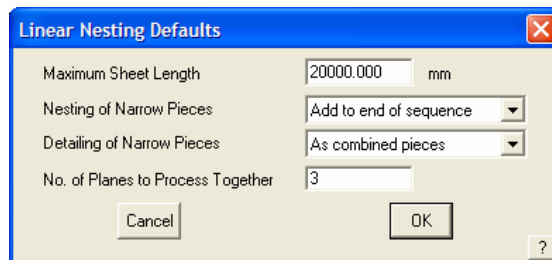
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- The modification of sheet lengths is now possible within Gen-Panels by utilising the Modify-Panels Cha-Panel-Len command. This command provides the user with the capability to add or subtract a given amount off the sheets selected.



- Two further options have been added to the Sheet Allowances dialog, permitting users to display the rounded sheet length instead of the actual sheet length, with or without the identifier included.

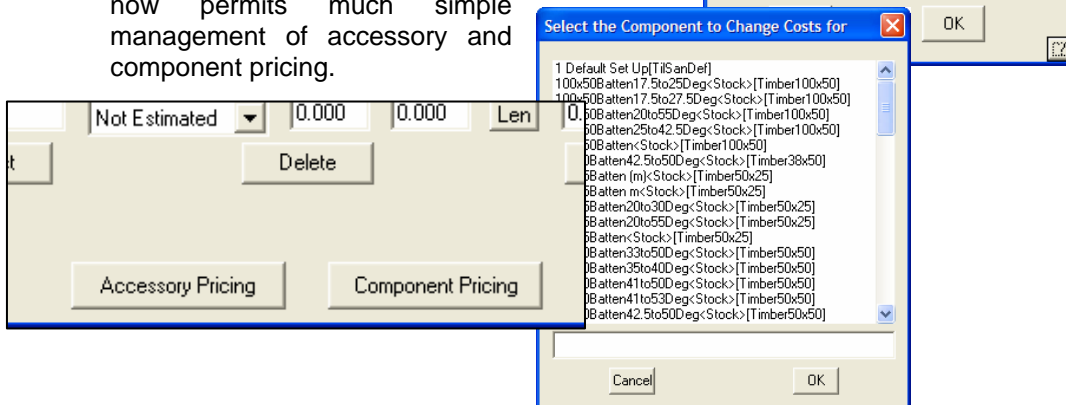
- Added new functionality to the Gen-Panels Linear-Nesting functionality to permit the user to identify the number of roof planes to be processed simultaneously. This feature permits users to arrange the roof planes in any given order and then to ensure sheets selected are chosen in that order, thus localising the sheets selected for nesting. The benefit of this is that users can form "packs" of nested sheets where the sheets in each pack come from nearby planes, rather than "all over the roof" as previously.



- Added functions to show the Linear Nesting menu to permit the display of the Nesting Calculations, the Nested Panel Sequence and Cutting Details and a new menu to allow for returning to the Original model from which the sheets have been nested.

Tile Roofing Enhancements

- Accessory and component pricing in the Tiles+ functionality can now be easily modified without the need to recursively track through each component. This function was included due to the complexity of tiling systems in the UK and now permits much simple management of accessory and component pricing.



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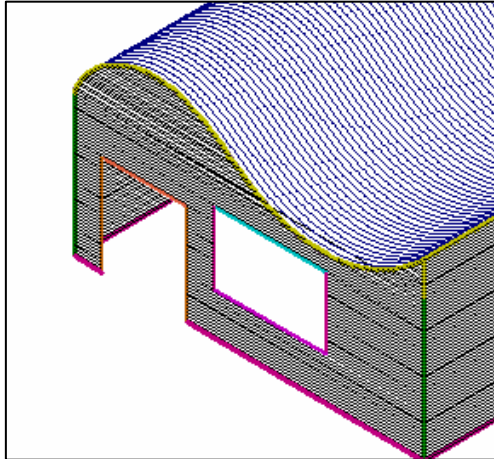
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Warlock Enhancements

- Wall battens/purlins can now be specified for any walls drawn in the model. The spacing, dividing, trimming and deletion commands incorporated into the roof batten/purlin functions have also been added to the walls commands, permitting quite complex batten/purlin configurations.
- When drawing/tracking walls paths, it is no longer a requirement to have the loop of the walls closed to Allowed users to create open wall configurations, as well as ensuring that walls are drawn flat in the z.
- Wall Track-Edge has been enhanced to allow a non-linear path of entities to be selected. This allows for a requirement of existing users to model large sheds that often have curved or arcing roofs.
- Enhanced the Wall Openings function to allow for openings to be pre-defined, thus greatly reducing the amount of data entry each time an opening is selected and inserted into a wall. Furthermore, the insert opening function has been enhanced to permit the dynamic insertion of openings using the mouse instead of typing in X and Y offset values. In this instance, the opening snaps to grid coordinates spaced at 10mm or 1 inch, depending on the units being used.
- Move-Opening and Delete-Opening commands to allow for further manipulation of openings once inserted. The Move-Opening command even allows for the movement of an opening from one wall to another.



Bug Fixes

- Fasteners for Custom Flashings and Assemblies were not flowing through to the Reporting software. This issue has been fixed.
- Offsetting of roofs for Gen-Panels where batten size was greater than zero in the Allowances did not work correctly. This has been revised and amended according to the new allowances functionality.
- Added bounds checking to the user and nett rates functionality to reduce the incidence of unbounded values in dialog boxes.
- Modified the Custom Flashings so that the install rate flows through to the costing and reporting.
- Gutter and Fascia flashing configurations for lines on different part of a roof were causing conflicts with the final creation of the flashings and their accessories. This issue has been resolved by processing each flashing in its own right, rather than attempting to group together first.
- Changed Eave Offset text to Eave Overhang.

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- Changed buttons on Outline Modification Dialog to number each item with 1, 2 and 3 to highlight to users the order in which the commands need to be performed.
- Modified the sorting of wall sheets so that they are sorted from the bottom of the wall upwards and now the top 2 wall panels are not reversed as they were previously. Sorting can still be strange when windows and doors have been inserted however modification of wall numbering will be provided in a future version.
- Modified wall numbering so that if a Wall Identifier is not specified for a given wall then it will number the wall commencing with 1 as the first number. This replaces the old functionality where unspecified wall were prefixed with 0.
- Fixed issue where cartage was not being included for tiles after waste calculations were added. Shell ends and apexes were also being miscalculated after waste calculation so this issue was also fixed.
- Modified software so that offset panels do not cross-hatch. An uninitialised variable resulted in the panels cross-hatching at unpredictable times.
- Fixed issue where new coursing valued being entered for tiling courses were not being applied before the course was being inserted. Modified code to delete courses first, thus forcing the re-application of the tile coursing information.
- Fixed issue where converting to V5.0 Labour Rates would scroll interminably at the bottom of the screen.
- Changed timeout number for reading in of Labour Records from 500 to 50. Thus, if file locking prevents access to labour records, the result is returned to the user much faster than previously.
- Removed the check boxes from the Slope/Pitch menu dialog to overcome difficulties in migrating between fields and proceeding to the next dialog.
- Fixed problem where first sheet in linear nesting would sometimes be left off the completed list, thus also affecting the total area calculations.
- Fixed issue of Linear Nesting being aborted from Gen-Offcuts resulting in Sheet area reporting less than roof area.
- Fixed TilerRoof1 etc. key text strings that stopped working at some time in the past.
- Removed Tile Waste options from the labour rates dialog as these are now covered in the Tile Waste dialog.
- Fixed issue with GRIM output of fasteners. ###LINEITEM value was trimming off colour from the description. Result is that output will be truncated in favour of reporting the colour, e.g. RED:R01.
- Fixed issue where ###Multipitches was being overwritten by StarterCourse option in some instances.

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