

Whats New in AutoCAD Electrical 2013 Since AutoCAD Electrical 2010

All AutoCAD Electrical Users

What's New in 2011 Release

Catalogue Lookup

The catalogue lookup user-interface enhancements include:

- Control which fields are displayed and the field order in the catalogue lookup dialog box.
- Filter catalogue records by selecting existing values from any of the catalogue fields.
- Search for a catalogue record based on a value you supply, including wildcards, for any one of the catalogue fields.
- Sort catalogue records by clicking the column header of any of the displayed fields.
- BOM details displayed on the main dialog box (formerly called Catalo Check).
- Ability to define a default filter value for any catalogue field using the expanded `_LISTBOX_DEF` table in the catalogue database.
- Dialog box tooltips describing the function of each control on the dialog box.

Import Wire Type

Wire Types are defined on a per-drawing basis. You can import wire types from an existing drawing or template to another drawing. Use the Import button on the Create/Edit Wire Type dialog box to import wire types to the active drawing. Use the Project-wide Utilities to import wire types to a set of project drawings.

Item Numbering enhancements

Item numbering now supports fixed item numbers on panel components. If Re-sequence Item Numbers is run later on, fixed item numbers do not change.

Re-sequence item numbers based on the manufacturer values of the components. Select the manufacturers from a list of values used in the project. Only item numbers on components with selected manufacturer values change.

Define the re-sequence order based on the manufacturer values of the components. Use the Move Up and Move Down buttons to change the order of the manufacturers for processing by the Re-sequence Item Numbers command.

Project-specific catalogue database

Create a catalogue database containing only the catalogue values used in the project drawings. This command takes the default_cat.mdb database and removes all catalogue values not used in the project drawings. Use this smaller catalogue database to:

- Send to a client with the finished project.
- Limit future catalogue selections to components used in the project.

Location Box enhancements

When you insert a Location Box, a check box on the Location Box dialog box indicates whether to update the location and installation values for the parent components that fall within the new location box.

AutoCAD Electrical commands are now location box aware. If you insert or move schematic parent components into an existing location box, location and installation values update to match the location box. If you move schematic parent components out of a location box, choose whether to update component values to match the drawing defaults.

Note

Circuit commands do not update components within the circuit due to placement within an existing location box.

Suppress wire collision check

Turn the collision checking off temporarily when inserting wires. Default behaviour is to route around a component when routing a wire from one specified location to another. If you want the wire to break across any components encountered as you insert the wire, turn the collision checking off.

Learning Solutions

- Getting Started exercises added to the online Help.
- Title block tutorial added detailing how to create a template, create a title block, and define the title block mapping for a title block update.
- Cable Design Interoperability - AutoCAD Electrical and Inventor tutorial added with exercises in both environments.

What's New in 2012 Release

Library Standards

Two sets of library symbols are added that comply with the standards:

- IEEE 315/315A
- IEC-60617

The JIC standard is no longer updated, and is incorporated into the NFPA 79 standards. The NFPA standard states that the library symbols are to be in accordance with the IEEE 315/315A standard. The JIC and older IEC symbol libraries remain for legacy support.

Export/Import Drawing Settings

Export Drawing Settings properties modify the values in the output file and import the values back to the drawings and project file. These properties are exported:

- Section
- Sub-section
- Sheet (%S)
- Drawing (%D)
- IEC Project (%P)
- IEC Installation (%I)
- IEC Location (%L)
- Drawing Descriptions 1-3

Update components from catalogue database

When you assign a catalogue value to a component, the component updates with related values from the catalogue database. If these related values change later in the database, you can update the components with the new values. This feature updates the following values:

- Schematic parent pin list
- Weblink
- Text value
- Terminal properties

A list displays so you can surf to related components that need updates based on the changed values, such as child pins.

Copy Circuit enhancements

In the Copy Circuit Options dialog box, options are added for updating terminal numbers. Choose from the following options for terminals within the copied circuit:

- Keep terminal numbers
- Blank terminal number values
- Increase terminal numbers

Use AutoCAD Content Explorer in AutoCAD Electrical

Content Explorer combines content from a variety of local folders for quick location and real-time access from within the AutoCAD design environment. You can index content for quick access, catalogue the objects in each file, and perform searches on local folders. The following AutoCAD Electrical commands are available from Content Explorer:

- Insert schematic component
- Insert circuit
- Insert panel footprint, nameplate, or terminal

Add your AutoCAD electrical library folders to Content Explorer. Use the search function to find a library symbol or circuit, right-click and select the AutoCAD Electrical command from the menu.

By entering a search string into the search field, Content Explorer goes through every file located in the selected folder and returns the files with a file name, author, keyword, comment, name, subject, or title that meets the search criteria.

You can also search for text contained in:

- MText
- Tables
- Fields
- Multileaders
- Dimensions
- Attributes

For more information see the documentation on Content Explorer in the AutoCAD documentation.

Project Manager

The Open Project button is added to the Project Manager to open a project.

Multiple balloon placement

When a component has multiple catalogue values, select the direction for placement of multiple balloons. Options include up, down, left, right, and angle of last segment.

Report enhancements

- User-Defined Attributes support xdata in AutoCAD Electrical. Only xdata names with the VIA_WD_ prefix are included. Do not include the VIA_ prefix in the User-Defined Attributes list.
- Bill of Material reports include sheet and reference fields.

Electrical Audit enhancement

Components and wires highlight when you select the Go to function from Electrical Audit, making it easier to identify the object with the exception.

Footprint update enhancement

When you modify a catalogue on a schematic component, a footprint symbol can update on the related panel footprint. If the footprint for the new catalogue does not exist, choose from the options:

- Leave the footprint symbol unchanged while updating the catalogue values.
- Cancel the catalogue change.

Update a schematic component from a one-line component

Copy information from a one-line component to a schematic component. Select which types of values to update:

- Descriptions
- Catalogue values including multiple catalogue values
- Installation/Location
- Ratings
- All values

Duplicate tag check for panel footprints

On the Panel Layout - Component Insert/Edit dialog box, when you enter a tag value, the program checks for duplication.

Terminal Strip Editor

- Create a terminal strip with the Terminal Strip Editor, even if there are no terminals present in the active project.
- When creating a Terminal Strip table, table styles from the active drawing are available for selection.

What's New in AutoCAD Electrical 2013

Marking Menu

The marking menu replaces the right-click context menu for AutoCAD Electrical objects. You can perform a selection from the marking menu in either menu mode or marking mode.

- **Menu mode**

Right-click in the graphics window. Menu items surround the cursor. To dismiss the marking menu, click once again in the centre of the menu display. Do not press the Esc key, this can cancel a command in progress.

- **Mark mode** (also called gesture behaviour)

Draw a mark. To enter this mode, press and hold the right mouse button, and immediately move the cursor in the direction of the desired menu item. A trail follows the cursor. Release the mouse button to select and execute the command that corresponds to the direction of movement of the cursor.

The marking menus are built dynamically based on the context menus defined in the .cui file. Customize the marking menu by modifying the context menus using the Customize User Interface (cui) editor.

Project organization

Sub-divide a project into folders, grouping related drawings. Use the context menus to add or remove folders within the project.

- Unlimited folder levels
- Select drawings to process based on folders
- Easily revert to a flat list

Note The project folder structure does not change the actual drawing location.

Drag and drop within Project Manager

Drag & drop to organize drawings and subfolders within the project.

- Reorder drawings
- Reorder subfolders
- Move drawings in or out of a subfolder
- Move drawings from one subfolder to another

Item Numbering

Item numbers between schematic and panel representations of the same component are kept in sync. Assign or edit an item number and the item number on each representation of that component is updated to match. The Item Re-sequence command updates panel and schematic components.

Autodesk Exchange Apps

Extend AutoCAD Electrical with Autodesk Exchange Apps. Discover and download apps that are powerful, fun and help you get your job done faster!

Essential Skills Videos

The essentials videos demonstrate basic workflows to master when learning AutoCAD Electrical. The videos present a general overview for a particular process to give you an understanding of the concepts. These videos are not step by step tutorials. The intent of these videos is to give a base understanding of core concepts for using AutoCAD Electrical.

The videos include:

- Overview
- User Interface
- Projects
- Schematic Creation
- 1-line Creation
- Productivity Tools

