



AUTOCAD® MEP 2009

Creating Custom Panel Schedules with AutoCAD MEP 2009

In AutoCAD® MEP 2009 software, electrical panel schedules are created with AutoCAD® software tables instead of being generated by Microsoft® Visual Basic® code, as in AutoCAD MEP 2008 and earlier releases. This white paper explains the new panel schedules in more detail and provides an overview of how users can create their own custom panel schedules that match their company standard schedules.

Understanding AutoCAD Tables and Field Codes

The user should be familiar with how to create and edit AutoCAD tables. Tables are AutoCAD objects, unlike schedules, which are AutoCAD® Architecture software objects and AutoCAD MEP objects. While typical AutoCAD MEP schedules are maintained and edited in Style Manager, tables are maintained through AutoCAD software's Table Style dialog box. You can find more information about tables and table styles in the help documentation (AutoCAD Help>User's Guide>Annotate Drawings>Tables).

Several different sample panel schedule table styles are included in AutoCAD MEP 2009. These table styles are located in the panel schedule table styles drawing found in the Styles folder (example for US Imperial is *c:\Documents and Settings\All Users\Application Data\Autodesk\ACD-MEP 2009\enu\Styles\Imperial\Panel Schedule Table Styles (US Imperial).dwg* for Microsoft Windows XP software).

AutoCAD MEP 2009 electrical panel schedules also utilize AutoCAD field codes to populate the panel schedules with information from Circuit Manager. Please refer to the Help documentation (AutoCAD Help>Annotate Drawings>Notes and Labels>Use Fields in Text>Insert Fields) for more information about inserting fields into Tables. New special Field Codes (AEC Panel and AEC Circuit) have been created for use in panel schedules tables.

New Circuit Manager Information

New header and footer sections are in Circuit Manager for AutoCAD MEP 2009 to show more information about each panel. The header section contains information about the panel, such as voltage, rating, main size, enclosure type, and so forth. The footer section displays total panel load values as well as load breakdown by load category (with applicable demand factor), spare capacity, and phase balance.

The middle section of Circuit Manager contains the circuit data for each panel. This section has been updated to show more relevant information (such as circuit total load, load on each phase) but is very similar to what appears in Circuit Manager in prior releases.

Panel: **1PP1** Voltage: 277 / 480 Phase / Wire: 3 / 4

Panel Rating and Type: 400 A MLO AIC Rating (amps): 22000 Notes:

Main Rating: 400 A Mounting: SURFACE

Design Capacity: 400 A Enclosure: NEMA 1

HEADER

X
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Name	Description	Total Load	Rating	Voltage	# of Poles	Phase	Load Category	System	System Type	Wi
1,3,5	CH-1	178995	350	480	3	A,B,C	Cooling	Devc-P...	Power and Lig...	3x5
2,4,6	FPVAV-1-01	600	20	480	3	A,B,C	Heating	Devc-P...	Power and Lig...	3x1
7,9,11	FPVAV-1-02	2100	20	480	3	A,B,C	Heating	Devc-P...	Power and Lig...	3x1
8,10,12	FPVAV-1-03	4305	20	480	3	A,B,C	Heating	Devc-P...	Power and Lig...	3x1
13,15,17	FPVAV-1-04	1995	20	480	3	A,B,C	Heating	Devc-P...	Power and Lig...	3x1
14,16,18	FPVAV-1-05	7005	20	480	3	A,B,C	Heating	Devc-P...	Power and Lig...	3x1
19,21,23	FPVAV-1-06	9495	20	480	3	A,B,C	Heating	Devc-P...	Power and Lig...	3x1
20,22,24	FPVAV-1-07	1905	20	480	3	A,B,C	Heating	Devc-P...	Power and Lig...	3x1
25,27,29	FPVAV-1-08	4095	20	480	3	A,B,C	Heating	Devc-P...	Power and Lig...	3x1
26,28,30	FPVAV-1-09	1305	20	480	3	A,B,C	Heating	Devc-P...	Power and Lig...	3x1
31,33,35	FPVAV-1-10	3600	20	480	3	A,B,C	Heating	Devc-P...	Power and Lig...	3x1
32,34,36	FPVAV-1-11	10605	20	480	3	A,B,C	Heating	Devc-P...	Power and Lig...	3x1
37,39,41	FPVAV-1-12	10605	20	480	3	A,B,C	Heating	Devc-P...	Power and Lig...	3x1

CIRCUITS

Connected Load Total VA (A,B,C)	78870	78870	78870	
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	Connected KVA	Demand Factor	Demand KVA
Cooling	0.0	1.00	0.0
Heating	57.6	1.00	57.6
Motors	0.0	1.00	0.0
Motors (Largest)	179.0	1.25	223.7

Design	332.5 KVA
Demand	281.4 KVA
Spare	51.2 KVA
Spare	61.6 Amps
Spare	15 %

Phase Balance	
A TO B	100 %
B TO C	100 %
C TO A	100 %

Total KVA	236.6	281.4
Total Amps	284.6	338.4

FOOTER

Circuit Manager
☰

Figure 1: New Circuit Manager configuration for AutoCAD MEP 2009

Panel and Circuit Field Codes

As mentioned in the section above, the header and footer sections of Circuit Manager contain panel data while the center section contains circuit data. Every piece of data in Circuit Manager has a corresponding field code (either AEC Panel or AEC Circuit) that can be inserted into a panel schedule table style. When the panel schedule is inserted into a drawing, the field code displays the appropriate value.

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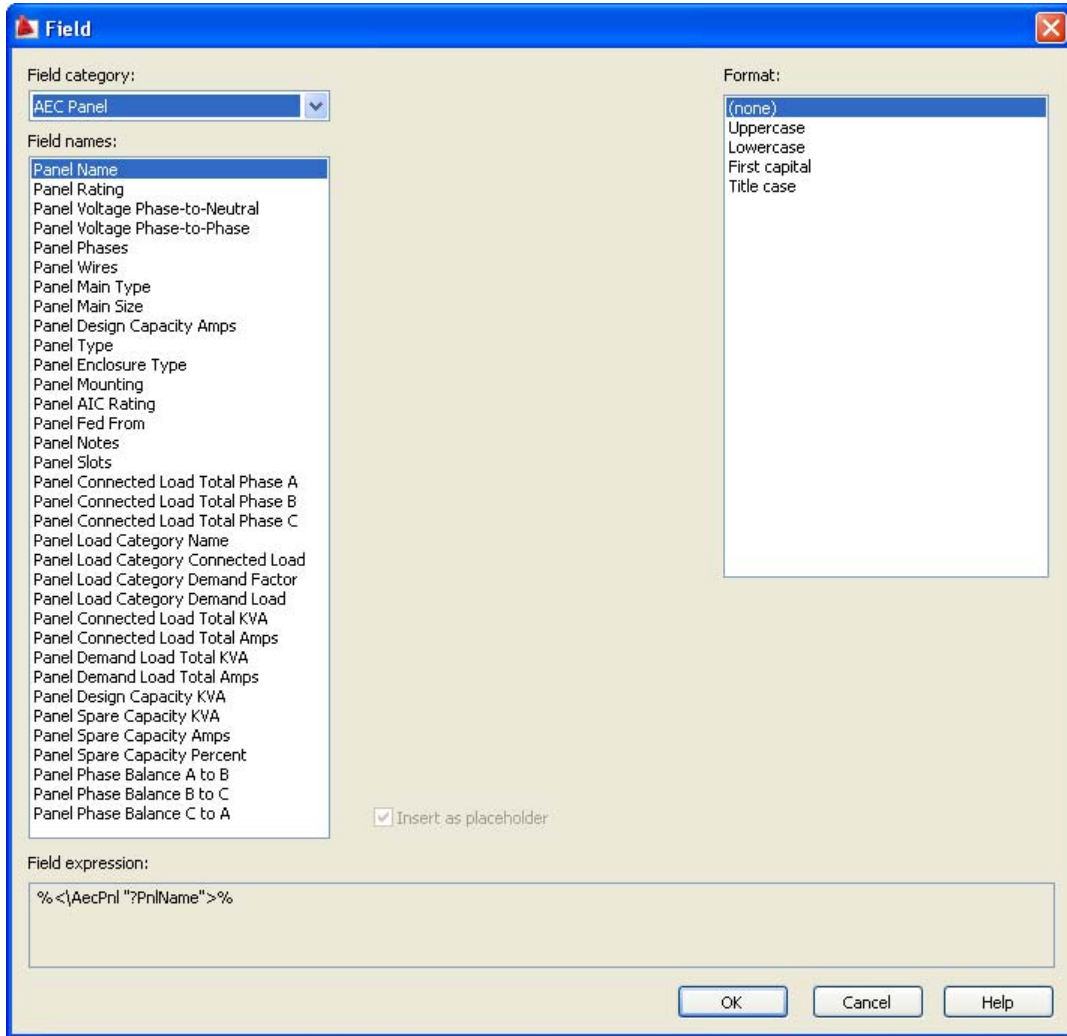


Figure 2 : New AEC Panel field codes

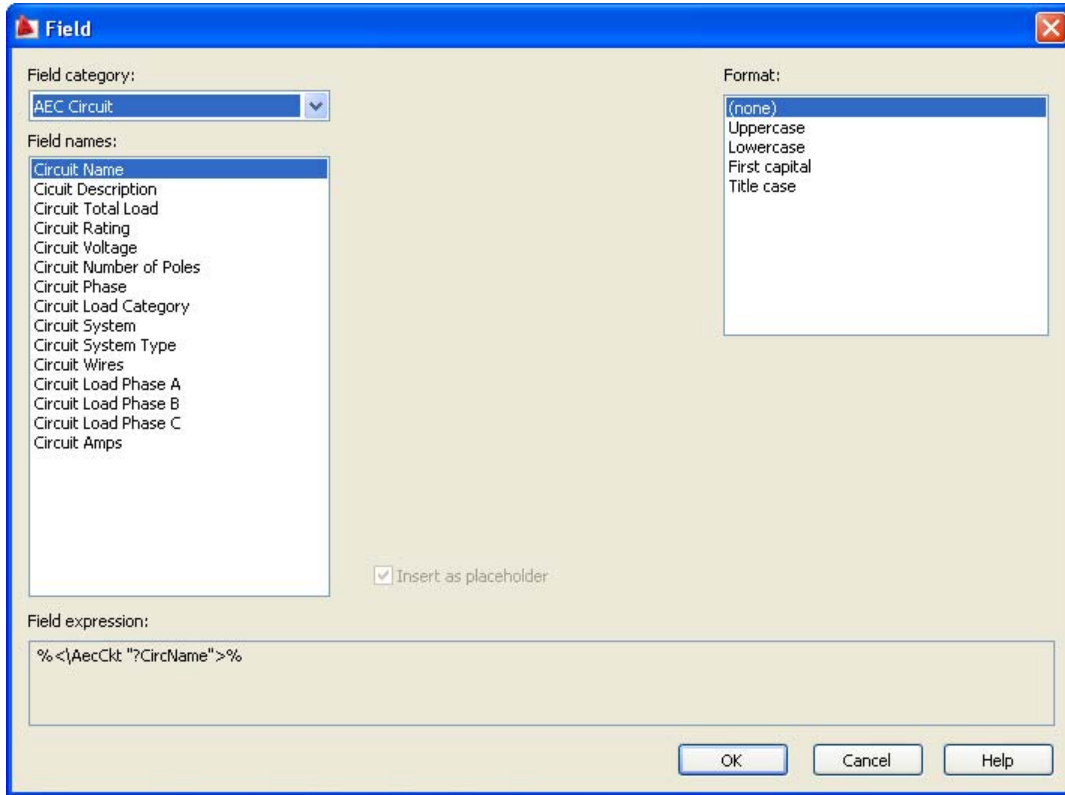


Figure 3: New AEC Circuit field codes

Panel Schedule Table Styles

Now that you have an understanding of AutoCAD tables, field codes, and the data available in Circuit Manager, we will review how these are used to create electrical panel schedules in AutoCAD MEP 2009. Open the panel schedule table style drawing (*c:\Documents and Settings\All Users\Application Data\Autodesk\ACD-MEP 2009\enu\Styles\Imperial\Panel Schedule Table Styles (US Imperial).dwg*) and look at some of the examples provided. For branch circuit panels, there are header and footer sections similar to what is shown in Circuit Manager.

PANEL ?PnlName											
VOLTAGE (L-N):				?PnlVPN		ENCLOSURE TYPE:				?PnlEncl	
VOLTAGE (L-L):				?PnlVPP		MOUNTING:				?PnlMtg	
PHASES, WIRES:				?PnlPhs φ ?PnlWires W		AIC RATING (A):				?PnlAIC	
MINIMUM BUS CAPACITY (A):				?PnlRtg		NOTES:				?PnlNotes	
MAIN D.C. DEVICE (A):				?PnlMnSize							
CKT NO	DESCRIPTION	TRIP AMPS	POLE	PHASE LOADS (VA)			POLE	TRIP AMPS	DESCRIPTION	CKT NO	
				A	B	C					
?CircName	?CircDesc	?CircRtg	?CircPls	?CircLoadA	?CircLoadB	?CircLoadC	?CircPls	?CircRtg	?CircDesc	?CircName	
?CircName	?CircDesc	?CircRtg	?CircPls	?CircLoadA	?CircLoadB	?CircLoadC	?CircPls	?CircRtg	?CircDesc	?CircName	
?CircName	?CircDesc	?CircRtg	?CircPls	?CircLoadA	?CircLoadB	?CircLoadC	?CircPls	?CircRtg	?CircDesc	?CircName	
CONNECTED LOAD PHASE TOTALS (VA)											
				?PnlConnA	?PnlConnB	?PnlConnC					
				CONNECTED LOAD (KVA)	DEMAND FACTOR	DEMAND LOAD (KVA)					
				?PnlLCCLoad	?PnlLCDmF	?PnlLCDmLoad					
				?PnlLCCLoad	?PnlLCDmF	?PnlLCDmLoad					
				?PnlLCCLoad	?PnlLCDmF	?PnlLCDmLoad					
				?PnlLCCLoad	?PnlLCDmF	?PnlLCDmLoad					
				?PnlLCCLoad	?PnlLCDmF	?PnlLCDmLoad					
				?PnlLCCLoad	?PnlLCDmF	?PnlLCDmLoad					
				?PnlLCCLoad	?PnlLCDmF	?PnlLCDmLoad					
				?PnlLCCLoad	?PnlLCDmF	?PnlLCDmLoad					
				?PnlLCCLoad	?PnlLCDmF	?PnlLCDmLoad					
				?PnlLCCLoad	?PnlLCDmF	?PnlLCDmLoad					
TOTAL:				?PnlCKVA		?PnlDmKVA					
LOAD (AMPS):				?PnlCAmp		?PnlDmAmp					
							DEMAND LOAD	?PnlDmKVA	KVA		
							SPARE CAPACITY	?PnlSKVA	KVA		
							SPARE CAPACITY	?PnlSAmp	AMPS		
							SPARE CAPACITY	?PnlSprPct	%		
							PHASE BALANCE				
							A TO B	?PnlBalAtoB	%		
							B TO C	?PnlBalBtoC	%		
							C TO A	?PnlBalCtoA	%		

Figure 4: Sample layout of Three-Phase Branch Circuit Panel table style

One important thing to note is that the circuit section of the panel schedule table only shows a few rows (three rows in this example). This is because panel schedules can vary in the

number of circuits they contain. Instead of creating different schedules for every possible circuit configuration, only “unique” rows need to be created.

In this example for a three-phase branch circuit panel, we want circuits 1 and 2 to display load values in Phase A, circuits 3 and 4 to display load values in Phase B, and circuits 5 and 6 to display load values in Phase C. We can stop at this point because circuits 7 and 8 need to display load values in Phase A again, similar to the first row, so this is no longer a unique row. The circuit section we have created will continue to repeat itself until all of the circuit data has been populated on the panel schedule that is inserted into a drawing.

The circuit field codes are coded with special behavior that allows them to repeat until all of the circuits have been added. As such, only circuit field codes are allowed in a “circuit row” in the panel schedule tables. **If any other type field code appears in a row with circuit field codes, the panel schedule is invalid and it cannot be inserted into a drawing.**

CKT NO	DESCRIPTION	TRIP AMPS	POLE	PHASE LOADS (VA)			POLE	TRIP AMPS	DESCRIPTION	CKT NO
				A	B	C				
?CircName	?CircDesc	?CircRtg	?CircPole	?CircLoadA	?CircLoadA		?CircPole	?CircRtg	?CircDesc	?CircName
?CircName	?CircDesc	?CircRtg	?CircPole		?CircLoadB	?CircLoadB	?CircPole	?CircRtg	?CircDesc	?CircName
?CircName	?CircDesc	?CircRtg	?CircPole			?CircLoadC	?CircPole	?CircRtg	?CircDesc	?CircName
				CONNECTED LOAD PHASE TOTALS (VA)						
				?PnlConnA	?PnlConnB	?PnlConnC				

Figure 5: Circuit section of Three-Phase Branch Circuit Panel table style

More information about how to create a panel schedule table follows in the next section.

Creating a Panel Schedule Table

The easiest way to create a panel schedule table is to start from an existing Microsoft Excel® software schedule and copy it in to AutoCAD MEP.

Start a new drawing in AutoCAD MEP software, preferably using a “clean” AutoCAD template file such as *acad.dwt*. This will help keep the file size small and ensure that no Autodesk Architecture or AutoCAD MEP objects are present in the drawing. If you use the AutoCAD template you will need to edit the text style (Style command) to match your company standards and set it current before importing your table from Excel to minimize additional clean-up time.

Open your existing Excel panel schedule, and save it as something else. This is important because you need to remove any unneeded circuit rows. Also, you should merge as many of the blank cells together as possible prior to bringing into AutoCAD MEP. This will make the table creation process much easier.

The sample Excel file used as the basis for the three-phase panel schedule table in AutoCAD MEP 2009 is shown below. Notice that the circuit section only contains the three unique rows as previously mentioned.

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CKT NO	DESCRIPTION	TRIP AMPS	POLE	PHASE LOADS (VA)			POLE	TRIP AMPS	DESCRIPTION	CKT NO
				A	B	C				
				CONNECTED LOAD PHASE TOTALS (VA)						
				CONNECTED LOAD (KVA)	DEMAND FACTOR	DEMAND LOAD (KVA)		DEMAND LOAD	KVA	
								SPARE CAPACITY	KVA	
								SPARE CAPACITY	AMPS	
								PHASE BALANCE		
								A TO B	%	
								B TO C	%	
								C TO A	%	
	TOTAL:									
	LOAD (AMPS):									

Figure 6: Sample Microsoft Excel file used as starting point for table style

After editing your Excel file, start a new drawing in AutoCAD MEP based on the *acad.dwt* template file. Be sure that the scale is set to 1:1 to allow the panel schedule to scale properly when it is inserted into a drawing. Select all of the cells in Excel, copy it, then select Paste Special as AutoCAD Entities into your drawing. **Tip: Be sure to paste the file in the positive X,Y coordinate section and place it on Layer 0.**

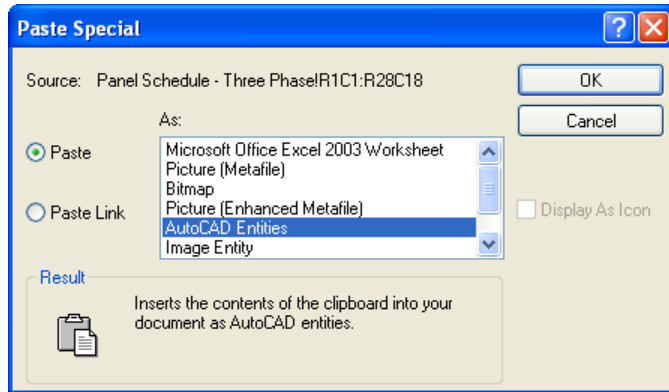


Figure 7: Select AutoCAD Entities in the Paste Special dialog box

The result should be a table that closely approximates the version you had in Excel.

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PANEL										
VOLTAGE LEVEL:					ENCLOSURE TYPE:					
VOLTAGE LEVEL:					BORDER NO.:					
PANEL VAPOR:					JAC PATH NO.:					
MINIMUM BUS CAPACITY (A/C):					NOTES:					
MINIMUM BUS CAPACITY (A/C):										
CIT NO	DESCRIPTION	TRIP AMPS	POLE	PHASE LOAD (VA)			ROLE	TRIP AMPS	DESCRIPTION	CIT NO
				A	B	C				
				CONNECTED LOAD (WAVE TOTAL) (VA)						
				CONNECTED LOAD (VA)	DEMAND FACTOR	DEMAND LOAD (VA)		DEMAND LOAD		FVA
IC								EMERGENCY CAPACITY		FVA
IC								EMERGENCY CAPACITY		AMPS
IC								EMERGENCY CAPACITY		%
IC								PHASE BALANCE		
IC								L TO B		%
IC								B TO C		%
IC								C TO A		%
TOTAL:										
LOAD (AMPS):										

Table
 Color ByLayer
 Layer 0
 Linetype ByLayer

Figure 8: New table created in AutoCAD MEP drawing

This is probably a good time to mention that you should be saving often throughout this process!

You will need to alter some of the cells widths to more closely match your desired final version, but this is a much easier process than trying to create a new schedule directly in AutoCAD MEP. The table may also have additional border lines that need to be deleted, such as the lines in the top row of Figure 8 above and in several rows in the footer section.

It can very difficult to determine which cells have borders and which ones are just displaying the cell gridlines (similar to Excel). The easiest way to determine the difference is to do a plot preview. This will quickly show which items are borders (that will plot) and which one are just gridlines, which will not plot. If you receive an error message while trying to do a plot preview, be sure to set things up in the Page Setup Manager (File>Page Setup Manager...).

While most of the borders from Excel will come across, the thickness (lineweight) may not be retained. You should format the border widths as desired in AutoCAD MEP to get the preferred look of the schedules. To edit borders, select a table cell (or multiple cells), right-click, and select the Borders option.

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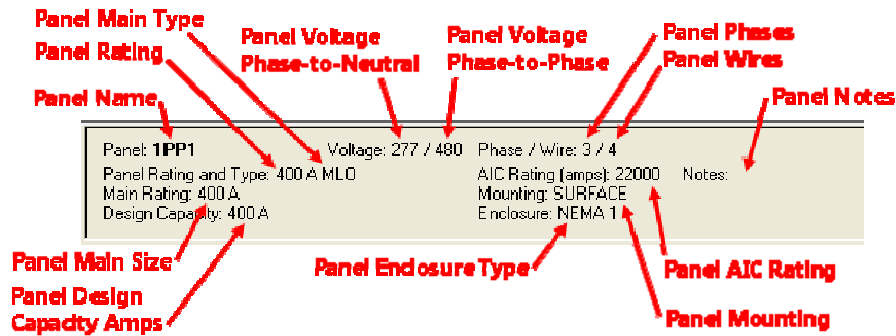


Figure 13: Circuit Manager header section

Circuit Total Load
Circuit Description
Circuit Name
Circuit Voltage
Circuit Rating
Circuit Number of Poles
Circuit Phase
Circuit Load Category
Circuit System
Circuit System Type
Circuit Wires

Name	Description	Total Load	Rating	Voltage	# of Poles	Phase	Load Category	System	System Type	Wires
1	RESTROOMS, JANITOR	1260	20	120	1	A	Receptacles	Devc-P...	Power and Lig...	1x12;1x12;1x12;-
2	CORRIDOR	900	20	120	1	A	Receptacles	Devc-P...	Power and Lig...	1x12;1x12;1x12;-
3	RECEPTION	720	20	120	1	B	Receptacles	Devc-P...	Power and Lig...	1x12;1x12;1x12;-
4	CONFERENCE ROOM	720	20	120	1	B	Receptacles	Devc-P...	Power and Lig...	1x12;1x12;1x12;-
5	RETAIL AREA	1260	20	120	1	C	Receptacles	Devc-P...	Power and Lig...	1x12;1x12;1x12;-
6	CONFERENCE ROOM	720	20	120	1	C	Receptacles	Devc-P...	Power and Lig...	1x12;1x12;1x12;-
7	CALL CENTER	1080	20	120	1	A	Receptacles	Devc-P...	Power and Lig...	1x12;1x12;1x12;-
8	CALL CENTER	1440	20	120	1	A	Receptacles	Devc-P...	Power and Lig...	1x12;1x12;1x12;-
9	CALL CENTER	720	20	120	1	B	Receptacles	Devc-P...	Power and Lig...	1x12;1x12;1x12;-
10	OFFICES	1440	20	120	1	B	Receptacles	Devc-P...	Power and Lig...	1x12;1x12;1x12;-
11	OFFICES	1440	20	120	1	C	Receptacles	Devc-P...	Power and Lig...	1x12;1x12;1x12;-
12	OFFICES	720	20	120	1	C	Receptacles	Devc-P...	Power and Lig...	1x12;1x12;1x12;-
13	CORRIDOR	1080	20	120	1	A	Receptacles	Devc-P...	Power and Lig...	1x12;1x12;1x12;-
14	BREAK/SUPPLY	720	20	120	1	A	Receptacles	Devc-P...	Power and Lig...	1x12;1x12;1x12;-
15	OFFICES	1440	20	120	1	B	Receptacles	Devc-P...	Power and Lig...	1x12;1x12;1x12;-

Circuit Load Phase B
Circuit Load Phase A
Circuit Load Phase C

Name	Description	Total Load	Rating	Voltage	# of Poles	Phase	Load Category	Load Phase A	Load Phase B	Load Phase C	System
1	RESTROOM...	1260	20	120	1	A	Receptacles	1260	0	0	Devc-Power . .

Figure 14: Circuit Manager circuit sections

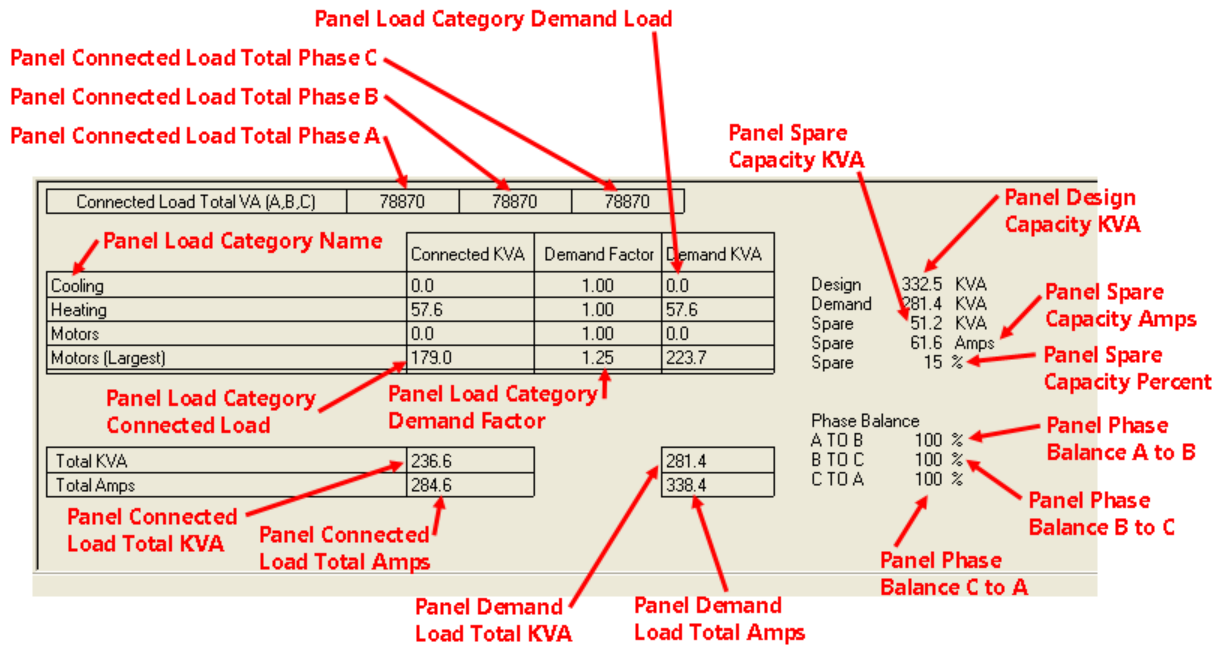


Figure 15: Circuit Manager footer section

Here are some rules that must be followed when using the panel and circuit field codes in tables.

1. Circuit field codes are unique because of their “repeating” behavior. As noted in an earlier section, you cannot have anything but circuit field codes in a row in your panel schedule table. If any other types of field codes are found in the same row as a circuit field code, the panel schedule will not be generated.
2. It is not possible to use the circuit load field codes (Circuit Load Phase A, Phase B, Phase C) in the same table as the circuit total load field code. Refer to the existing styles as examples—the branch circuit panels utilize the circuit phase load fields while the switchboard and distribution boards use the circuit total load field.
3. Panel load category field codes (Name, Connected Load, Demand Factor, Demand Load) also have a “repeating” behavior because the number of load categories on a panel will vary depending on the types of loads connected to it. If any other type of field code is in the same row as the panel load category fields, the row will not repeat. If only panel load category fields are in a row, the row will repeat until all of the load category rows have been populated. For a better understanding of this, refer to the load category section at the bottom of the distribution board schedule.

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DISTRIBUTION BOARD ?PnlName									
?PnlMn/?PnlMPP VOLTS		?PnlPhs φ ?PnlWires W		?PnlMnSize AMP ?PnlMnType		?PnlAIC A.I.C. RATING			
				?PnlDsnAmp AMP BUS		?PnlMtg MOUNTED			
CKT NO.	TRIP/ POLES	DESCRIPTION			DEMAND LOAD VA	WIRE SIZE			
?CircName	?CircRtg/?CircPis	?CircDesc			?CircLoad	?CircWires			
Load Category		Connected Load (KVA) x	Demand Factor =	Demand Load (KVA)	TOTAL CONN. LOAD:	?PnlCKVA	KVA		
?PnlLCName		?PnlLCCLoad	?PnlLCDmF	?PnlLCDmLoad	TOTAL DEMAND LOAD:	?PnlDmKVA	KVA		
?PnlLCName		?PnlLCCLoad	?PnlLCDmF	?PnlLCDmLoad	TOTAL DEMAND LOAD:	?PnlDmAmp	AMPS		
?PnlLCName		?PnlLCCLoad	?PnlLCDmF	?PnlLCDmLoad	SPARE CAPACITY:	?PnlSAmp	AMPS		
?PnlLCName		?PnlLCCLoad	?PnlLCDmF	?PnlLCDmLoad					

Figure 16: Distribution Board Schedule table style

The first three rows contain panel load category fields as well as other fields on the right (as marked above). These rows will not be repeated, but the fourth row only contains panel load category fields so it will repeat as many times as necessary to include all of the load categories on the panel. In the example below, there are eight load categories and the table automatically adjusts to include all of them.

DISTRIBUTION BOARD MDP									
277/480 VOLTS		3 φ 4 W		1200 A AMP MCB		65000 A.I.C. RATING			
				1200 A AMP BUS		SURFACE MOUNTED			
CKT NO.	TRIP/ POLES	DESCRIPTION			DEMAND LOAD VA	WIRE SIZE			
1,3,5	400/3	PANEL BPP1			198390	<Undefined>			
2,4,6	400/3	PANEL 1PP1			281359	<Undefined>			
7,9,11	200/3	PANEL 2PP1			55590	<Undefined>			
8,10,12	200/3	PANEL 3PP1			64890	<Undefined>			
13,15,17	40/3	PANEL BLP1			5133	<Undefined>			
14,16,18	40/3	PANEL 1LP1			17020	<Undefined>			
19,21,23	40/3	PANEL 2LP1			28900	<Undefined>			
20,22,24	40/3	PANEL 3LP1			27820	<Undefined>			
25,27,29	100/3	PANEL 1RP1 via Transformer			14270	<Undefined>			
26,28,30	100/3	PANEL BRP1 via Transformer			4680	<Undefined>			
31,33,35	200/3	PANEL 2RP1 via Transformer			24350	<Undefined>			
32,34,36	200/3	PANEL 3RP1 via Transformer			24588	<Undefined>			
Load Category		Connected Load (KVA) x	Demand Factor =	Demand Load (KVA)	TOTAL CONN. LOAD:	702.1 KVA			
Cooling		132.0	1.00	132.0	TOTAL DEMAND LOAD:	717.4 KVA			
Equipment		2.4	1.00	2.4	TOTAL DEMAND LOAD:	862.9 AMPS			
Heating		212.8	1.00	212.8	SPARE CAPACITY:	337.1 AMPS			
Lighting		63.1	1.25	78.9					
Motors		12.2	1.00	12.2					
Motors (Largest)		179.0	1.25	223.7					
Receptacles (0 - 10 KVA)		10.0	1.00	10.0					
Receptacles (Over 10 KVA)		90.6	0.50	45.3					

Figure 17: Example of a Distribution Board Schedule inserted into a drawing

Creating the Table Style

Once the formatting, text, and borders have been set up as desired and all of the field codes have been added, you are ready to create the table style to use for your panel schedules. Be sure to save your drawing then type Tablestyle at the command line and click the New... button.

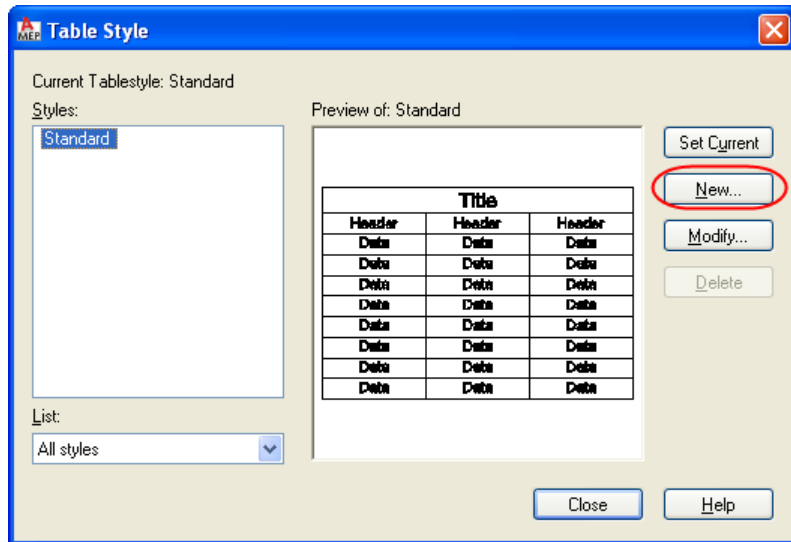


Figure 18: Table Style dialog box

Another dialog box appears asking for the new style name. Give your schedule a meaningful name such as 3-Phase Panel. The New Table Style dialog box appears and all of the settings should remain as-is, do not make any changes. The only thing to do is click on the button to select a starting table style to use.

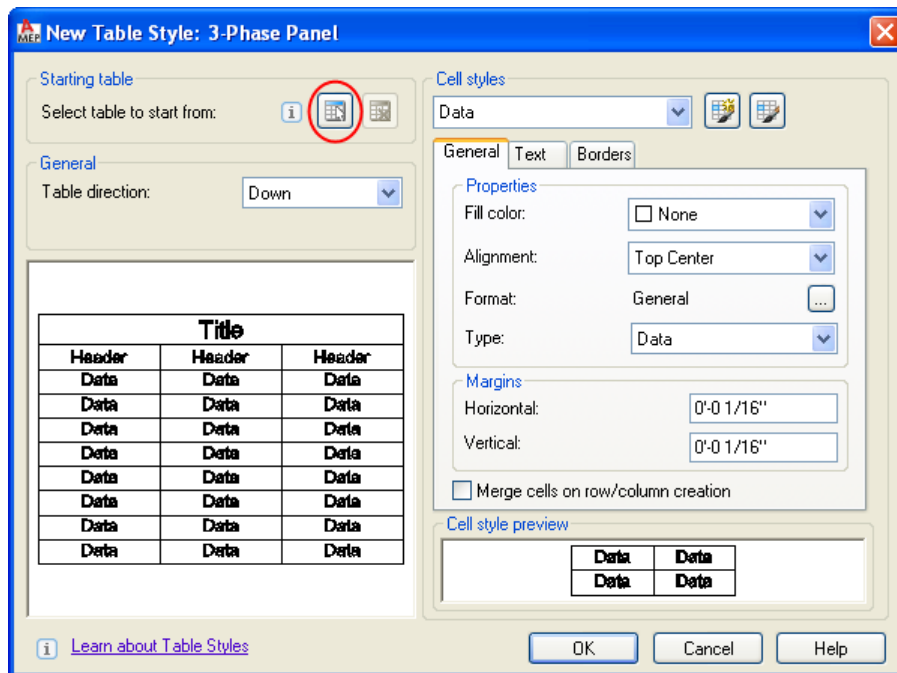


Figure 19: New Table Style dialog box

After a table has been selected, the Preview window updates to show the new table.

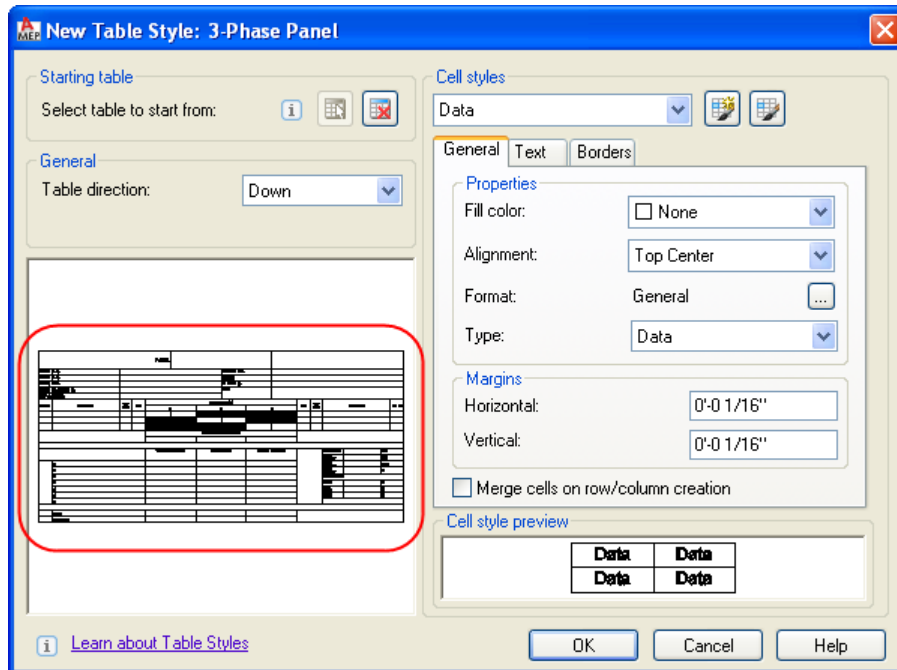


Figure 20: New Table Style dialog box with updated preview image

Click OK, then click Close on the Table Style dialog box and save your drawing. You now have a panel schedule table style that can be used for your electrical panel schedules. Repeat the process until you have created all of the desired panel schedule table styles that you need. You can create Tool Palette tools that point to this table style to facilitate the insertion of panel schedules.

Modifying a Panel Schedule Table

When modifying a panel schedule table style, you will need to reassign the style in the Table Style dialog after making your revisions to the table.

To do this, make the necessary changes to the table style and save the drawing. Then type in Tablestyle to launch the dialog box shown previously. Select the name of the table to update then click the Modify... button.

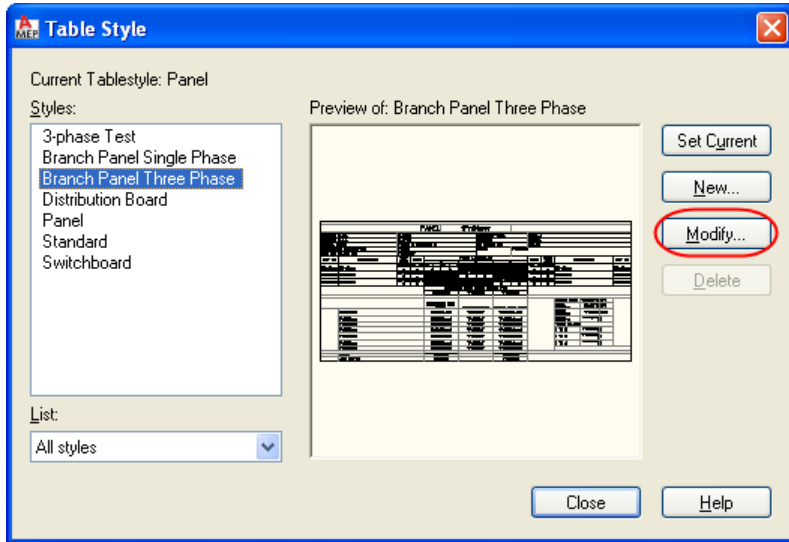


Figure 21: Table Style dialog box

In the next dialog box, click the button in the Starting Table section in the upper-left side of the dialog box.

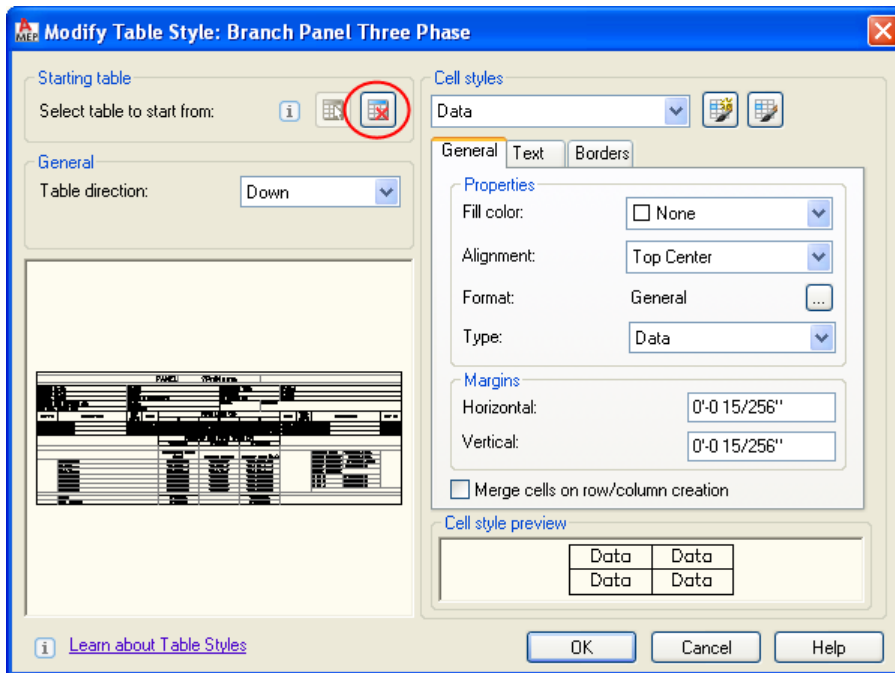


Figure 22: Modify Table Style dialog box

Then click the Start From button and choose the updated table in the drawing. Click OK for this dialog then click Close on the Table Style dialog. Save the drawing and the updated table is now ready to be used.

Using a Panel Schedule Table Style to Add Panel Schedules

Once your table styles have been created, you are ready to use them in your construction documents. Your new panel schedule table style can be selected in the dialog box every time you run the PanelAdd command. Browse to find the file in the panel schedule style location

section then choose the desired panel schedule table style. In this example, we have created a new style called “MyCompanyPanel”:

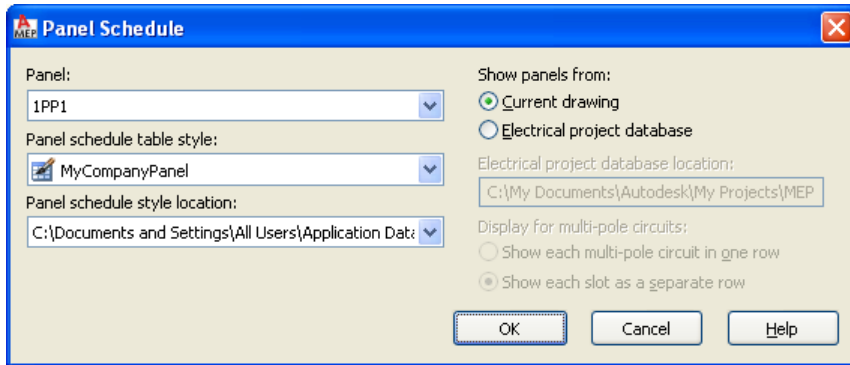


Figure 23: Panel Schedule Add dialog box

A better way to use your new panel schedule table style is to create a tool on the Tool Palette with settings already predefined. Several panel schedule tools are currently available on the Tag & Schedule tab of the Electrical Tool Palette.

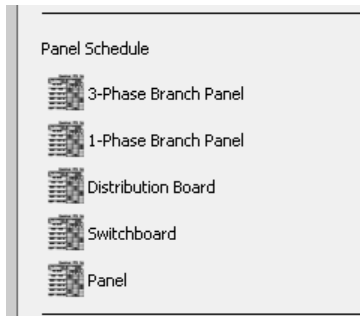


Figure 24: Panel Schedule tools on Properties Palette

To create a new tool, right-click on an existing tool, select Copy then right-click in an empty area of the Properties Palette and select Paste. The new tool will appear at which point you can right-click on it and select Properties.

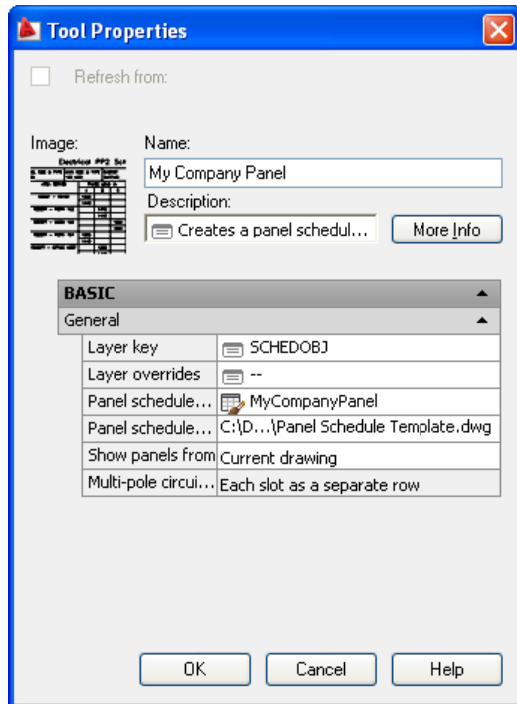


Figure 25 - Tool Properties dialog box

Change the name to something meaningful then make the desired selections for layer key, drawing that contains the table style, and whether your panel data is always found in the current drawing or in an electrical project database (using the EPD is the preferred method). Click OK to close the dialog then drag the tool to the desired location on the Properties Palette.

Now, whenever you click the tool, the Panel Add dialog will be prepopulated with all the correct settings.

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