



CADS UK Design 2026.1

Analysis and Design Release notes



Microsoft
Partner

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1 CADS UK Design 2026.1

Thank you for upgrading to the latest CADS UK Design.

These release notes summarise the enhancements and corrections made across all software.

CADS UK Design 2026.1 can be installed on Windows 10 and Windows 11.

Version Numbers

Product	Version	Build No.
CADS A3D MAX	4.66	1205
CADS VelVenti	3.1	375
CADS SMART Portal 2D	5.11	781
CADS SMART Portal 3D	3.55	690
CADS RC Beam Designer	4.34	931
CADS RC Column Designer	2.33	553
CADS RC Pad Base Designer	3.33	614
CADS RC Pile Cap Designer	2.32	431
CADS RC Slab Designer	1.41	311
CADS Composite Beam Designer	3.51	578
CADS Masonry Wall Panel Designer MAX	2.32	343
CADS Steelwork Moment Connections	2.5	682
CADS Steelwork Member Designer	3.84	571
CADS SMART Engineer	6.60	392
CADS App Support	2.1	633
CADS Licence Manager	26.6	0
CADS Windows Support	2.42	136
HASP Dongle driver	8.13	39675.1
CADS Nationally Determined Parameters	1.5	259
CADS Load Combination Wizard	1.2	77
CADS System – Analysis and Design Launcher	2.7	195

1.1 General

General:

1. Cloud licensing is now supported when the software is installed silently.
2. All applications have been updated to use the latest development tools and libraries.

1.2 CADS A3D MAX

Enhancements:

1. The lack of correlation factor defined in the UK National Annex to BS EN 1991-1-4 has now been included in the wind load calculations.
2. The Load Editor dialog has been enhanced with new options to duplicate one or more selected rows and to remove unused load types.
3. Sort and filter options have been added to the grids in the Load Editor dialog.
4. Uniform loads are now retained when merging members with have identical load characteristics.

Corrections made:

1. In certain cases, the application crashed when joints were copied and pasted in a model without members. This has now been fixed.
2. Previously, the generated wind zones and wind loads were not invalidated when the terrain level was edited. This has now been fixed.
3. In certain cases, moment values in the load category reactions table were printed as a dash because they did not fit within the table cell. These values are now rounded to fit the cell.
4. In certain cases, column widths in the Design & Check Results dialog were not saved when the design object was an RC base. This has now been fixed.
5. In certain cases, an 'Encountered an improper argument' error was displayed when creating or editing the design parameters of a design group. This has now been fixed.
6. In certain cases, invalid values were reported for the steel area required when bases were checked in RC Pad Base Designer from A3D MAX. This has now been fixed.
7. An error occurred when selecting a renamed load category in the Load Editor dialog. This has now been fixed.
8. The buckling parameter of I-sections in the European section library was incorrect, which resulted in incorrect equivalent slenderness and lateral torsional buckling results. This has now been fixed.
9. Minor updates to the help and other support documents.

1.3 CADS VelVenti

Enhancements:

1. The characteristic ground snow load can now be manually entered for locations where the software does not provide snow data.

Corrections made:

1. For sites in Ireland and Northern Ireland, the grid reference is now labelled 'Irish grid reference' instead of 'OS grid reference' in both the application and the report.
2. The structure orientation from North was reset when the number of wind loading sectors was changed. This has now been fixed.

1.4 CADS SMART Portal 2D

Corrections made:

1. In certain cases, the application crashed when viewing the member results. This has now been fixed.
2. In certain cases, the application crashed during member design. This has now been fixed.
3. Printing the base design summary results caused an exception when some of the ULS or SLS base load combinations were ignored. This has now been fixed.
4. In certain cases, the software crashed when viewing the member results after the default load combinations were deleted or ignored. This has now been fixed.
5. The effective length factors were not updated when the support conditions were changed. This has now been fixed.
6. In certain cases, the structure orientation from North was reset when the number of wind loading sectors was changed in VelVenti. This has now been fixed.
7. In certain cases, wind load data was not transferred from VelVenti when the structure height in VelVenti was less than the building height defined in the portal. The minimum structure height in VelVenti is now set to the building height of the portal.
8. Minor updates to the help and other support documents.

1.5 CADS SMART Portal 3D

Corrections made:

1. In certain cases, A3D MAX displayed an error indicating that loads did not fit in some members when importing a model from SMART Portal 3D. This has now been fixed.
2. Printing the base design summary results caused an exception when some of the ULS or SLS base load combinations were ignored. This has now been fixed.
3. Previously, analysis and design could proceed when all the applicable load combinations were ignored. A warning message is now displayed in such cases.
4. In certain cases, the structure orientation from North was reset when the number of wind loading sectors was changed in VelVenti. This has now been fixed.
5. In certain cases, wind load data was not transferred from VelVenti when the structure height in VelVenti was less than the building height defined in the portal. The minimum structure height in VelVenti is now set to the building height of the portal.
6. Minor updates to the help and other support documents.

1.6 CADS RC Beam Designer

Corrections made:

1. In certain cases, the lengths of the end bars were not rounded to the selected rounding value. This has now been fixed.

2. In certain cases, the bars at the right-hand cantilever reverted to L-bars even when the U-bend or U-splice option was selected. This has now been fixed.

1.7 CADS RC Column Designer

Corrections made:

1. Previously, the maximum longitudinal bar spacing entered in the Materials dialog was treated as a clear spacing when calculating the minimum number of bars. It is now correctly treated as the centre-to-centre spacing.

1.8 CADS RC Pad Base Designer

Enhancements:

1. The imposed load category can now be selected in the load combination factors dialog, and the corresponding partial safety factor is taken from the Nationally Determined Parameters dialog.

Corrections made:

1. Previously, the batch print function was disabled. This has now been fixed.
2. The initial area of reinforcement provided in the 'Bar arrangement' tab was calculated incorrectly. This has now been fixed.
3. In certain cases, invalid values were reported for the steel area required when bases were checked from A3D MAX, SMART Portal 2D or SMART Portal 3D. When the applied moment is zero, the minimum area of reinforcement required by the design code is now reported.

1.9 CADS Steelwork Moment Connections

Corrections made:

1. For connections designed to Eurocode (SCI P398), the buckling strength of stiffened webs was reported as the yield strength because the imperfection factor was not applied. This has now been fixed.
2. Input dialogs did not respond to mouse clicks when positioned to the left of the main monitor in a multiple-monitor setup. This has now been fixed.

1.10 CADS Steelwork Member Designer

Corrections made:

1. The buckling parameter of I-sections in the European section library was incorrect, which resulted in incorrect equivalent slenderness and lateral torsional buckling results. This has now been fixed.

1.11 CADS SMART Engineer

Corrections made:

1. The help manual for the timber floor joist template has been updated to explain the deflection check.

2 CADS UK Design 2026.0

Thank you for upgrading to the latest CADS UK Design.

These release notes summarise the enhancements and corrections made across all software.

CADS UK Design 2026.0 can be installed on Windows 10 and Windows 11.

Version Numbers

Product	Version	Build No.
CADS A3D MAX	4.65	1184
CADS VelVenti	3.0	367
CADS SMART Portal 2D	5.10	766
CADS SMART Portal 3D	3.54	677
CADS RC Beam Designer	4.33	912
CADS RC Column Designer	2.32	535
CADS RC Pad Base Designer	3.32	601
CADS RC Pile Cap Designer	2.31	421
CADS RC Slab Designer	1.40	306
CADS Composite Beam Designer	3.50	571
CADS Masonry Wall Panel Designer MAX	2.31	335
CADS Steelwork Moment Connections	2.4	671
CADS Steelwork Member Designer	3.83	561
CADS SMART Engineer	6.59	381
CADS App Support	1.97	620
CADS Licence Manager	26.0	0
CADS Windows Support	2.42	136
HASP Dongle driver	8.13	39675.1
CADS Nationally Determined Parameters	1.5	259
CADS Load Combination Wizard	1.2	77
CADS System – Analysis and Design Launcher	2.7	195

2.1 General

Corrections made:

1. Minor updates to the help and other support documents of all the products.

2.2 CADS A3D MAX

Enhancements:

1. A new option has been added to the print layout dialog to view or print member end-effects envelopes. This feature enables quick access to a summary of the maximum axial force, shear force, and bending/torsional moment at member ends, which can be directly used for connection design.

Corrections made:

1. In certain cases, multiple support reactions were incorrectly displayed at a single support when switching from partial view to full view. This issue has now been fixed.
2. In certain cases, graphical results were not updated when the envelope option was selected. This issue has now been fixed.
3. In certain cases, an out-of-memory error occurred when applying EHF. This issue has now been fixed.
4. In certain cases, support moment labels were displayed incorrectly when the envelope option was selected. This has now been fixed.
5. In certain cases, the application crashed during analysis when paired members were present. This has now been fixed.
6. In certain cases, column widths in the Design & Check Results dialogue were not saved. This has now been fixed.
7. In certain cases, the application crashed when switching from Light to Dark mode in the configuration dialog. This has now been fixed.

2.3 CADS VelVenti

Enhancements:

1. The user interface has been redesigned to provide an improved user experience.
2. Dynamic pressure values for sites in the USA are now calculated in accordance with ASCE 7-22.
3. Snow load calculations have been updated to comply with the latest Irish National Annex NA+A2:2020 for sites in Ireland.
4. The wind velocity contours and town boundaries can now be optionally displayed on the map for supported regions.
5. A 3D preview is displayed for the site, which can be zoomed, panned or rotated. A satellite display is shown by default. Alternatively, the display can be switched to show a 3D road map view with street names and building outlines.
6. Updated distance to shoreline calculation to account for large inland lakes for sites in the UK.
7. Improved effective height calculation to consider both the influence of tall neighbouring buildings and the sheltering effects of surrounding buildings when both are selected.
8. Reports can now be exported to Microsoft Word.

Corrections made:



1. In certain cases, the probability factor was calculated incorrectly. This has now been fixed.
2. Previously, characteristic ground snow load values for UK sites at altitudes below 100 m did not incorporate the altitude modification factor by default, as specified in Equation NA1 of the UK National Annex to BS EN 1991-1-3. This has now been fixed.

2.4 CADS SMART Portal 3D

Corrections made:

1. In certain cases, a warning about duplicate reference names in load combinations was displayed when exporting the model to A3D MAX. This issue has now been fixed.
2. In certain cases, the bill of quantities format was incorrect in the print preview when there were no end frame posts at the near end. This has now been fixed.
3. In certain cases, the ultimate suction load calculated for the left and right walls was incorrect. This has now been fixed.

2.5 CADS RC Column Designer

Corrections made:

1. In certain cases, the auto design of circular columns was performed incorrectly for Eurocode. This has now been fixed.
2. Previously, the input option to limit the spacing of longitudinal bars was not considered in Eurocode based design. This has now been fixed.

2.6 CADS RC Beam Designer

Corrections made:

1. In certain cases, the stirrup bar layout was incorrect when the detailing code was set to BS 8666:2020. This has now been fixed.

2.7 CADS Masonry Wall Panel Designer MAX

Corrections made:

1. In certain cases, the characteristic strength for flexure (horizontal span) was calculated incorrectly. This has now been fixed.

2.8 CADS Steelwork Moment Connections

Corrections made:

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1. In certain cases, the input range for the inner bolt centre was not updated when the minimum bolt centre spacing/bolt diameter ratio was edited. This has now been fixed.
2. In certain cases, the moment capacity was reported as zero when bolts were provided only above the top flange in a splice connection. This has now been fixed.