

Autodesk® Constructware®
2012

What's New in Autodesk® Constructware® 2012

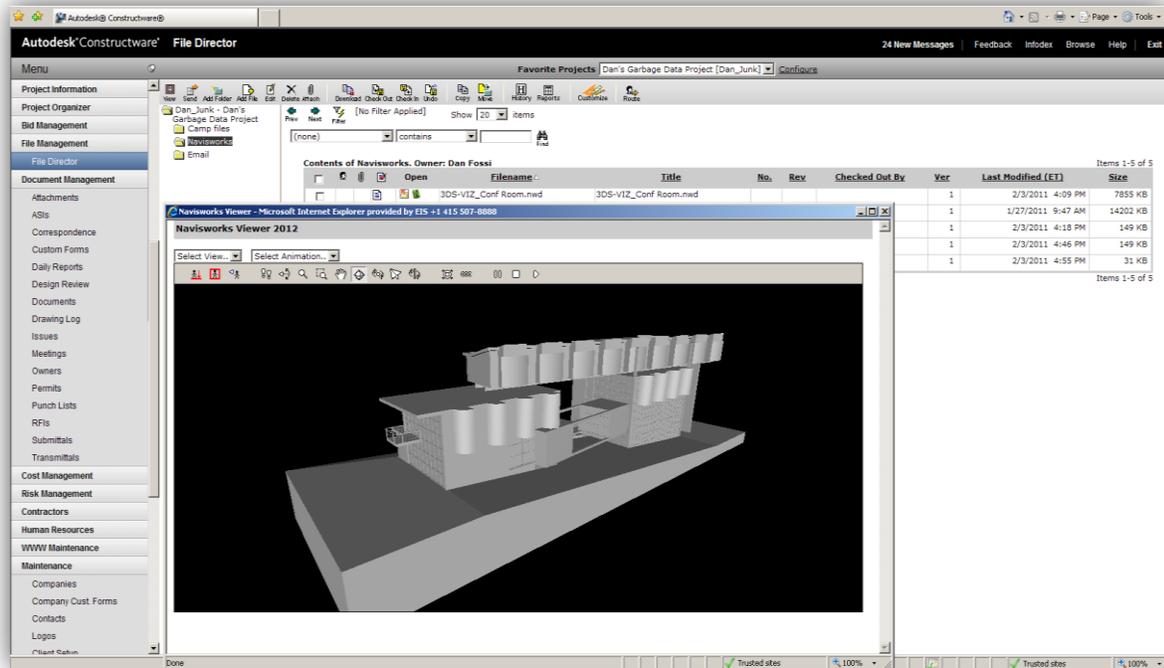


Figure 1. Autodesk® Constructware® 2012

Autodesk® Constructware® web-based project management software enables construction firms and owners to standardize and optimize business processes in order to deliver projects more efficiently.

Constructware connects people, information, and processes to help streamline operations, manage change, and optimize execution in the field. Greater project transparency and accountability improve insight across projects of all sizes.

Gain more accurate near time cost visibility with the ability to exchange project data with accounting systems. And the configurable web-based software as a service (SaaS) platform can help to reduce costs associated with implementing and managing an IT infrastructure.

Updated User Interface

With Constructware 2012, the User Interface has a new, more modern look and feel to it. The product workflows do not change with this release, but the menu, colors, and top navigation bar are changed to have an easier to understand, cleaner look to them.

The changes start with the login page. The login page is cleaner, with simpler, more informative links on it – taking you right to the pages you are looking for. As with the product itself, the login page has been designed to a minimum monitor resolution of 1024x768 pixels.

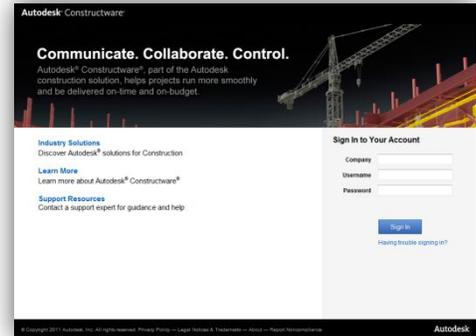


Figure 2. Login Page

Inside the product, you will notice the following changes:

- **Menu:** The folder-based navigation menu has been replaced with a menu that feels more like a desktop application. The top level navigation is in bold text, and the modules themselves are indented with standard text. The selected module is indicated with the blue background as shown in Figure 3.
- **Header:** The icons Feedback, Infodex, View/Open document and Help have been replaced with the text as follows: “Feedback”, “Infodex”, “Browse”, and “Help.”
- **Wizards:** The navigation buttons are now text, and much easier to understand as compared to the previous arrow icons. (Back, Next, Cancel, Finish)

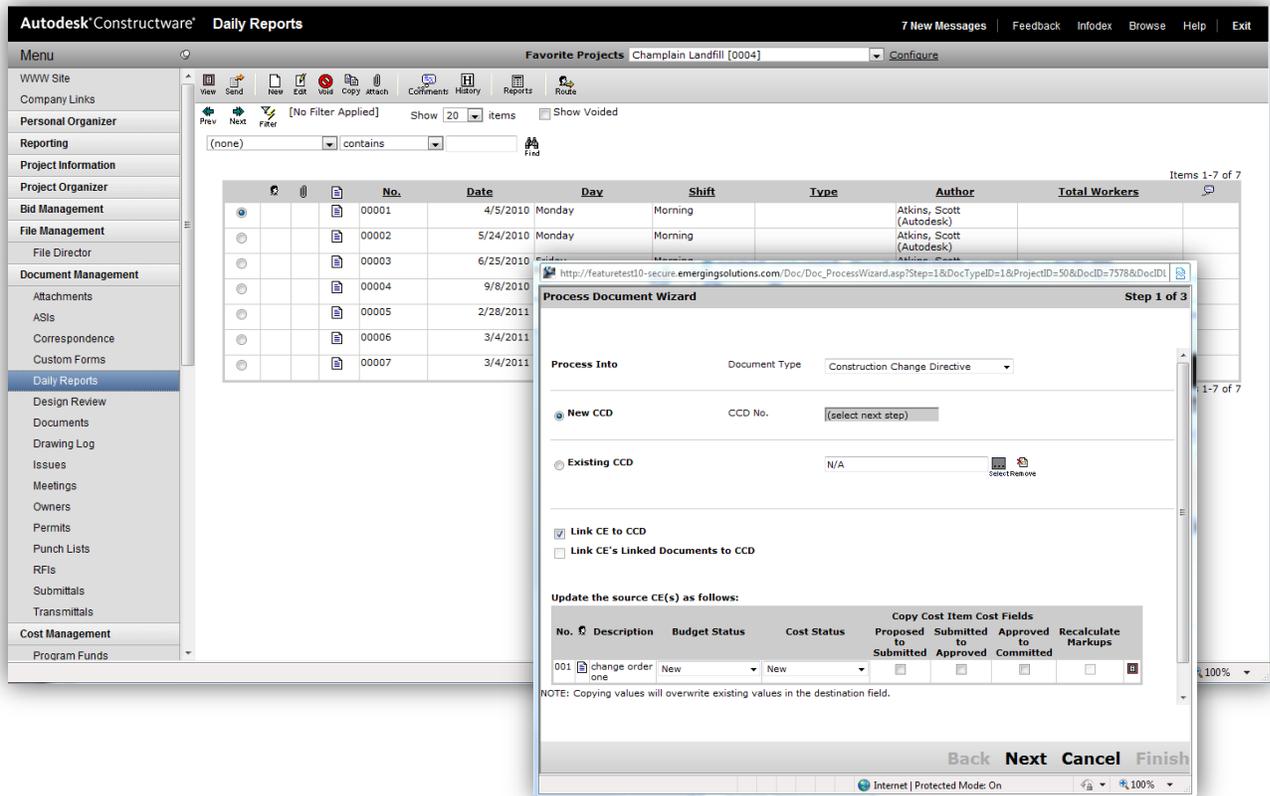


Figure 3. Constructware User Interface and Wizard Interface

Email Integration & Outlook Add-In

Constructware 2012 introduces an Application Programming Interface (API) intended to allow your organization to load emails and their attachments into Constructware more easily. The emails are then stored in Project Organizer > Project Inbox, in a new Email tab.

To enable emails to integrate with your Project Inbox, you will need to enable the API. To do this for your project, go to Project Organizer > Project Inbox, select the Email tab, and click “Customize.” Set “Enable API Access” to “Checked.” To do this for all projects on your site, make this change in Maintenance > Data Maintenance > Module Customization, for Project Inbox – Email.

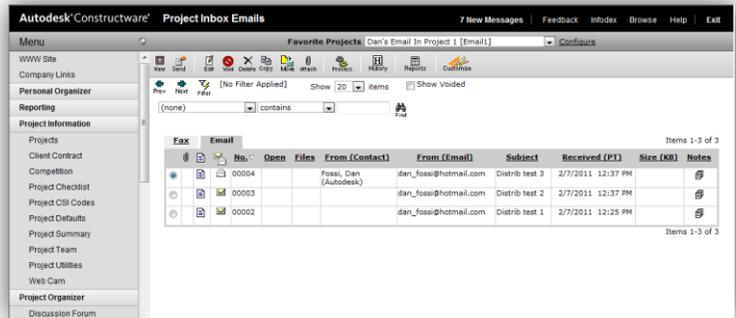


Figure 4. Project Inbox - Email

While the API is available for integration with any email package, based on surveys of Constructware customers we have also created the **Autodesk® Constructware® Add-In** for Microsoft® Outlook® 2003, 2007 and 2010. This Add-In will be available at www.autodesk.com/constructware after Constructware2012 release date.

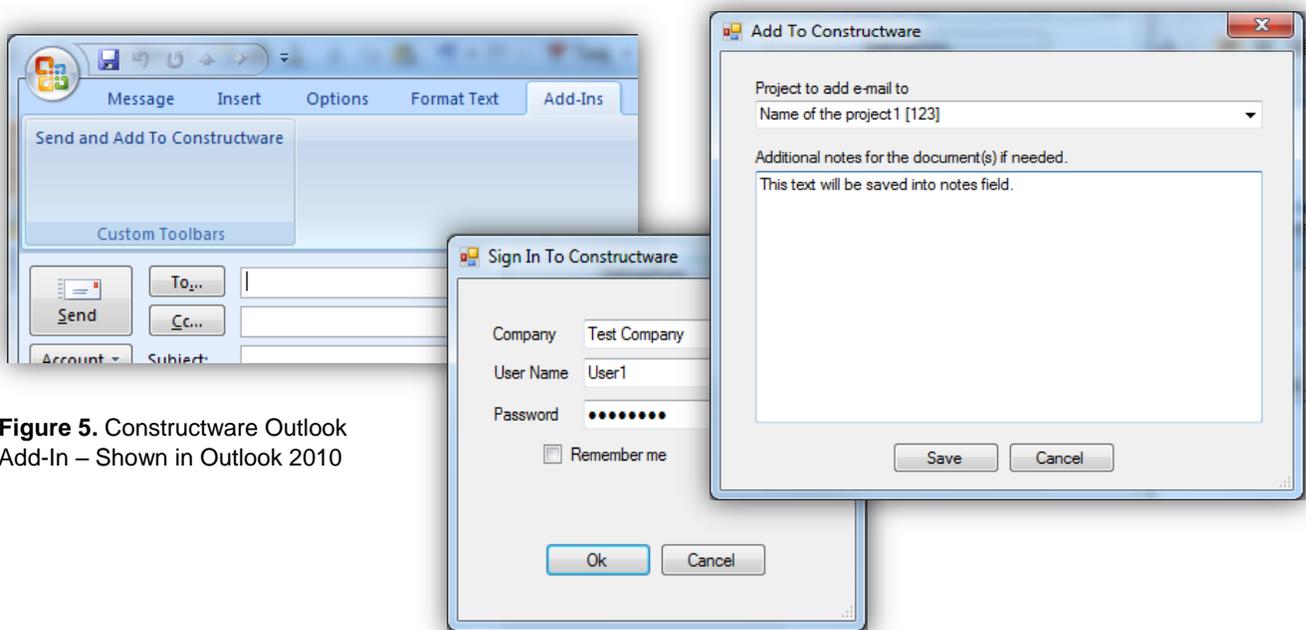


Figure 5. Constructware Outlook Add-In – Shown in Outlook 2010

The Add-In adds a button in Outlook to load emails and their attachments into Constructware. To ensure performance, there is a 20-MB size limit for the attachments. If your attachments are too big to upload, the Add-In will let you know this, and you can upload to File Director separately.

Just click “Add to Constructware”, log in (once per Outlook session), pick a project, and Save.

Important note: By default, Constructware limits the “from” email addresses to the Project Team members. You can turn this off, and allow your users to add emails from anyone, by updating the setting in Maintenance > Data Maintenance > Module Customization, on the Attributes tab. Select the attribute called “Acceptable Senders” and changing from “Project Team” to “Anyone.” As with other areas of the product, you can alternately make this change at a project level in Project Inbox > Module Customization.

To avoid cluttering your Project Inbox with emails not from the Project Team, use the Acceptable Senders list to limit activity. If you do not set the setting to “Anyone,” users will receive error messages in Outlook when they try to upload emails from non-listed contacts to Constructware.

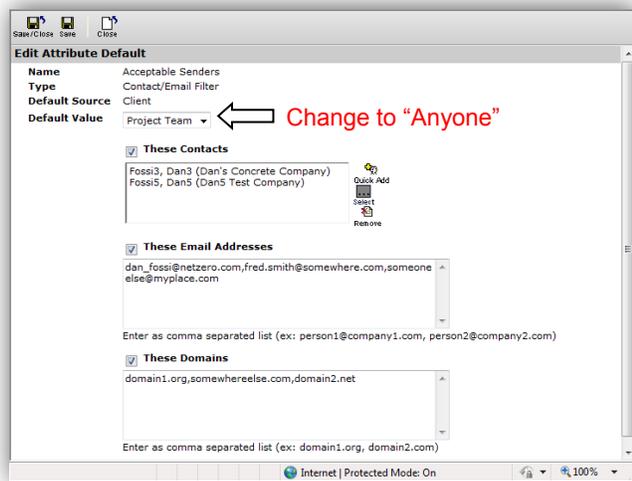


Figure 6. Acceptable Sender Management

Navisworks Viewing

Constructware 2012 includes access to the Autodesk® Navisworks® 2012 Redistributable ActiveX viewer. With this control, you can now give your users access to viewing and navigating your NWD files for easy project review for all team members – without having to know anything about Navisworks at all.

To use the Navisworks viewer, upload an NWD file to File Director, Documents, or Drawing Log. Instead of a “Brava” icon, you will now see a “Navisworks” icon. When you click on this icon, Constructware will check to see whether or not you have the ActiveX control installed – and if you do not, it will install it for you.

Installation

When you first click on the Navisworks icon, a new window will launch that includes some navigation controls. Otherwise, the page will be blank while your computer determines whether it needs the ActiveX control or not, and presents it to you.

The page will update with a yellow bar near the top to ask you if you want to install the “Full control” add-on from Autodesk, LTD. Click on the bar and choose to download and install the add on.

After the control downloads, you will be asked to accept the License Agreement, and allow installation. During the installation, you will continue to see a blank screen. Once the ActiveX control is fully installed, then you will be able to view and navigate the model.

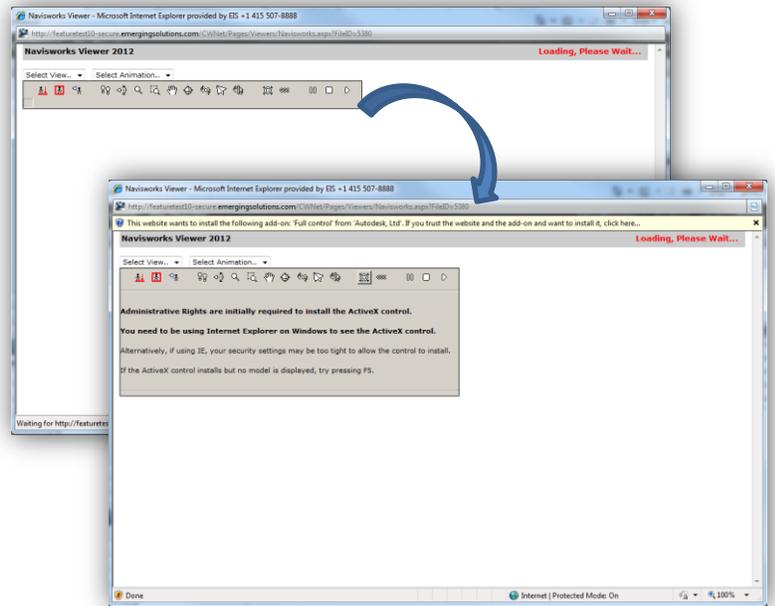


Figure 7. Navisworks Viewer Installation

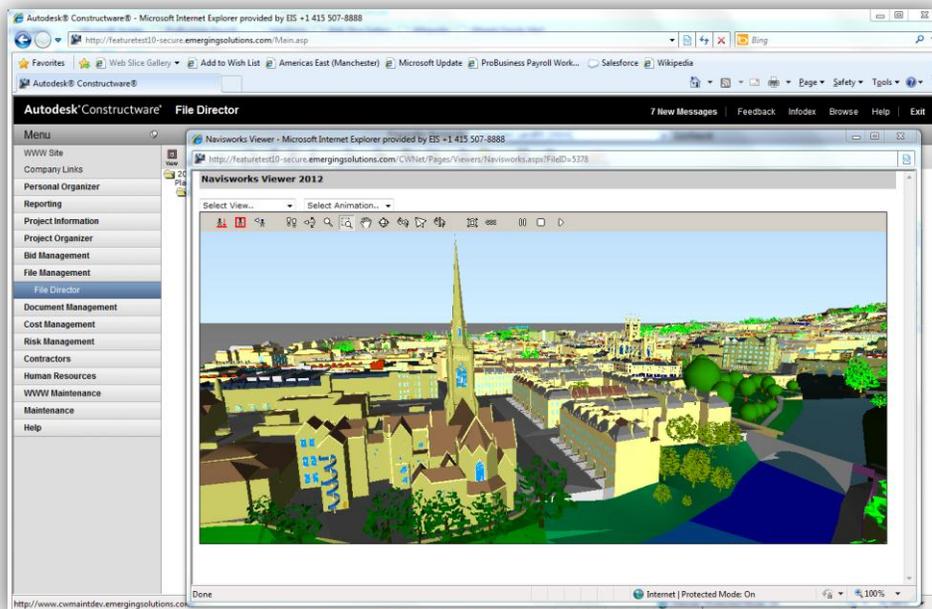


Figure 8. Navisworks Model in Constructware

Miscellaneous Improvements

Daily Reports - Routing

The standard Routing functionality has been added to the Daily Reports module. Routing allows you to create approval or other workflows, standardizing the process of reviewing, updating, and approving data. You can create Routes at the project level, or for use across your site. Create Routes using the “Customize” button in Daily Reports at the project level, or in Maintenance > Data Maintenance > Module Customization.

Daily Reports - Search

The standard Search functionality has been added to Daily Reports. This means that text searches in Reporting > Search will now be able to find content inside Daily Reports records.

Daily Reports - Copy

In response to customer feedback, we've made it easier to copy a Daily Report when creating a new one. The changes are as follows, and save approximately three clicks as compared to the previous process:

- In the Copy Wizard, there is a new link on the final page to take you directly to “Edit new Document”
- This link shows up only for single document copying (if you create more than one at a time, you do not see the link)
- Click the link to close the Copy Wizard and go to the Edit page for that new Daily Report.

File Director - Storage Utilization Report

There is a new report called “Storage Utilization,” which shows by project the total storage used by File Director and by the new Project Inbox email functionality. This report will enable you to understand which projects are using the most storage, and to then be able to take actions to better manage your storage or ask those projects to pay for increased storage allowances.

Construction Change Directives – Masking & Labeling

In the CCD module, Masking and Labeling have been enabled for the “Cost – Time and material” attribute (field). The Masking and Labeling will affect the Edit page, View page, and CCD Log Report. “Masking” allows you to change the fields to Read Only or Hidden status, and “Labeling” allows you to change the name of the field. Enable Masking and Labeling in Maintenance > Data Maintenance > Module Customization.

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