◢ EasternGraphics

pCon.planner 8.13

New Features

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Content

1 Materials

1.1 Rich Material Information

pCon.planner 8.13 supports materials with enhanced information from pCon.catalog. The material information is shown in the *Materials* dialog. What's more: information on a specific material is displayed when hovering over a surface with this material.

The additional information is also imported from PEC and PBOX files and is also part of your PEC exports.
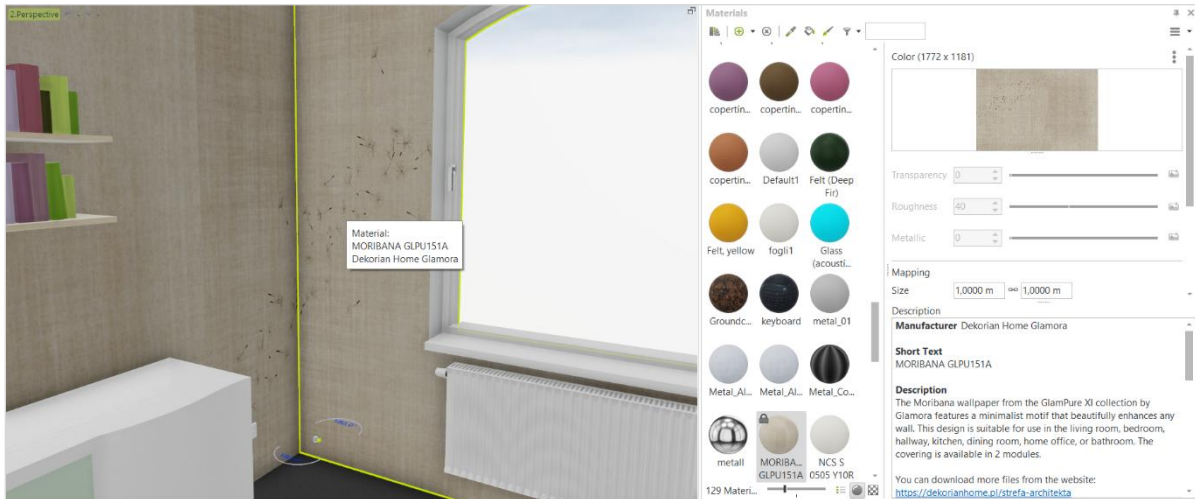
The displayed material information cannot be edited. The information is based on the selected data language.

1.2 Changes in the Material Dialog

Starting with pCon.planner 8.13, the *Material* dialog comes with a new information area listing out the enhanced material information (see 1.1) and linking to the respective manufacturer in pCon.catalog.

Materials from pCon.catalog have write protection. It is, however, possible to derive a copy of them and edit this duplicate.

Additional improvements in the *Material* dialog:

- Import of *.mat files
- Changed filter functionality:
    - Filter for material types
    - Hidden materials (OFML materials are filtered by default)
    - Filter for materials from attachments
- Display options for the material preview have been moved to the status bar of the dialog and provide different options for an overview of the materials in a project
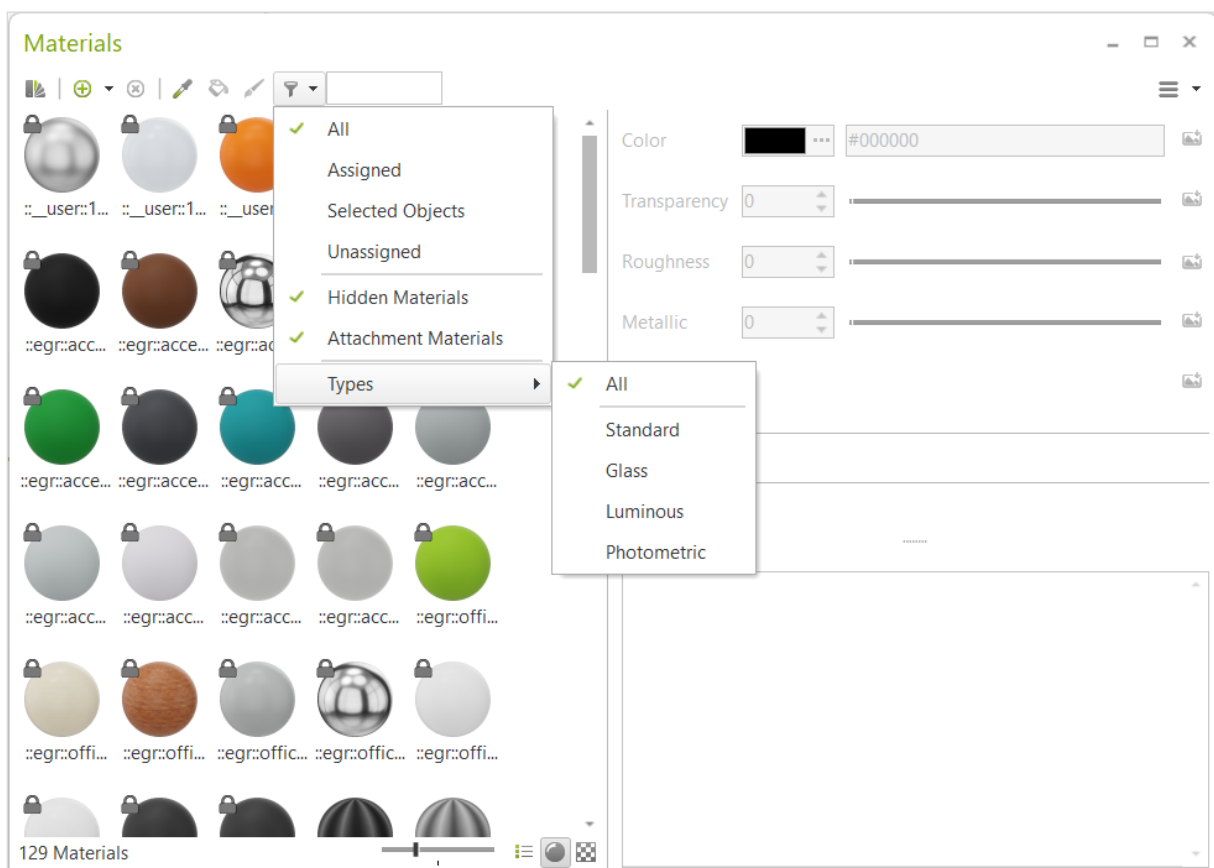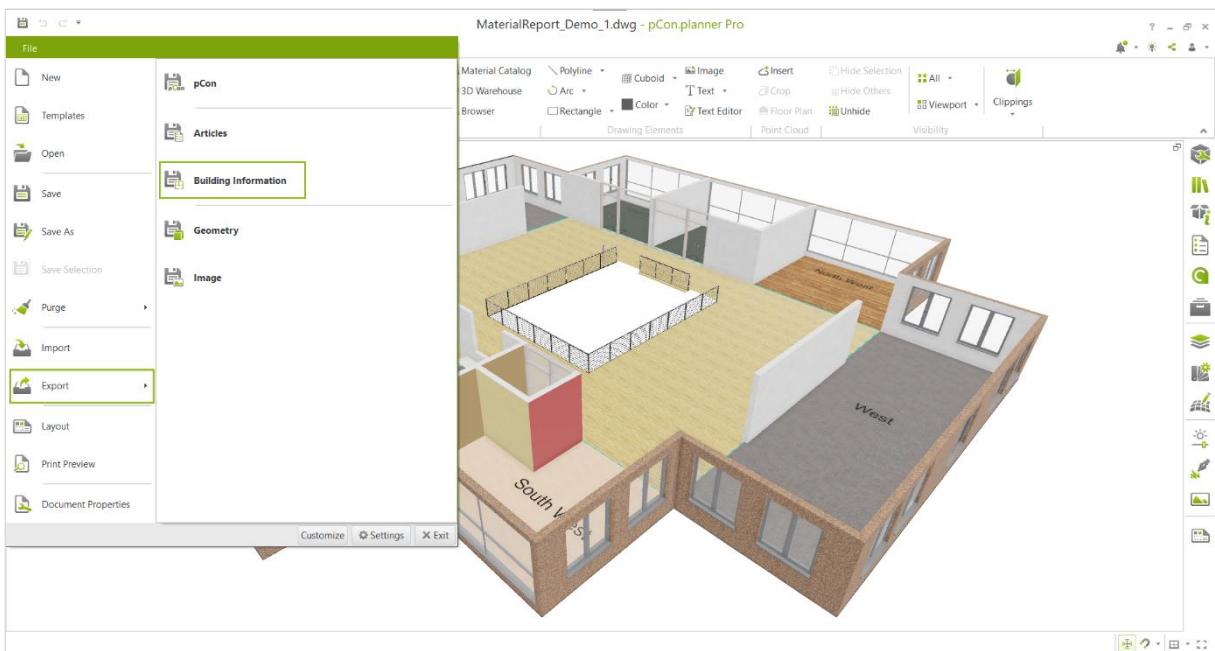
1.3 Material Report

The new *Material Report* is located in the *Application Menu* in the *Export Section*, in the newly created subcategory *Building Information*. Using the Excel file format, this export provides more insight for architects by giving material related information for selected rooms or spaces.

Floor plans of the selected areas are included, as well as global and area specific material/color lists. Area measurements according to brut/net areas and circumferences round off the package. A wide range of architecture elements is taken into account, as well as user defined objects with own names.

Please note: the area measurements are approximated. Excel itself is not needed for this export.

2 Attachments: Stay Organized and Well-Structured in the Face of Complexity (pCon.planner PRO)

2.1 The Concept

Complex drawings become more structured and easier to process with the new *Attachment* concept. It allows you to set links to external DWG files. These attached files can be loaded into your main project, where they are displayed as a regular part of your drawing, but are initially locked for editing.

This concept enables multiple persons to work on different parts of a drawing at once. Adding changes on one part created externally to the project as a whole becomes easier. File sizes stay lower. The loading and saving processes for complex files is also accelerated.

With attachments, the semantic structure of your projects becomes clearer, since attachments enable you, for example, to separate changes regarding your floor plan and your interior design elements – and to merge them back into one file when finished.
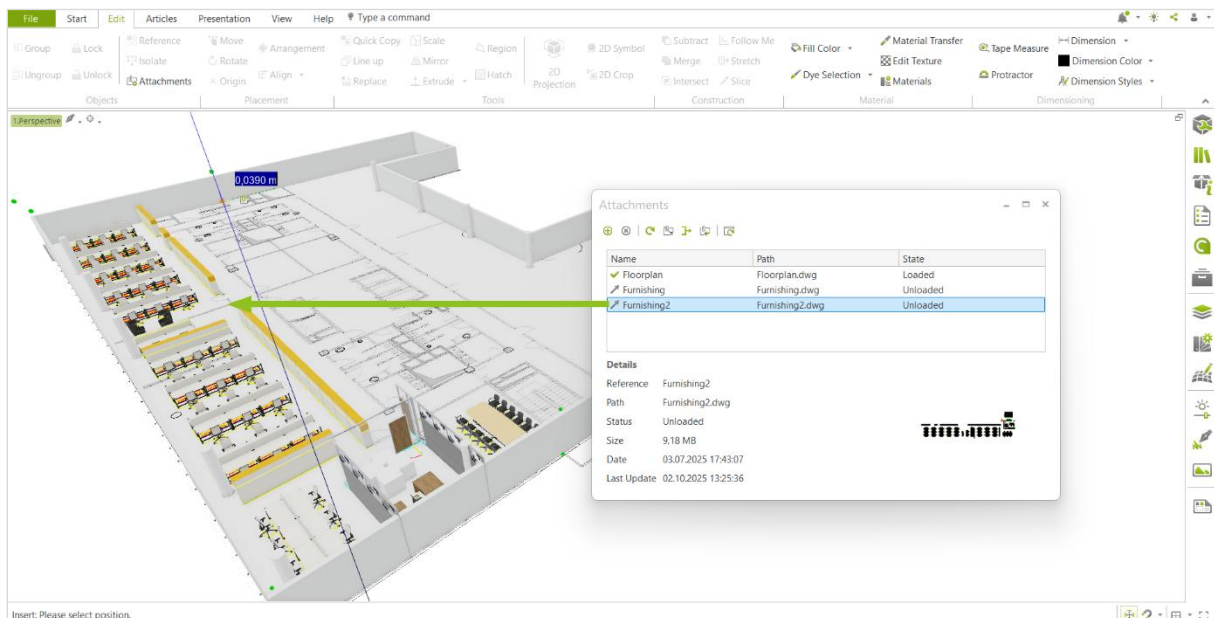
2.2 Handling
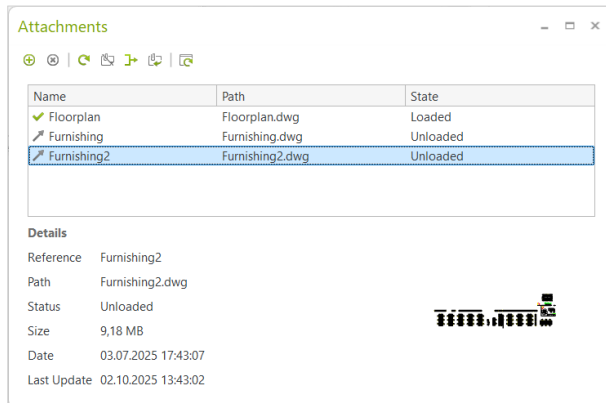
Your linked files are managed through the *Attachments* dialog on the *Edit* tab, *Objects* group. This is where you manage your attachments, add new ones, delete obsolete attachments or update them.

The handling is as comfortable as usual, including working with multi selection, your well-known shortcuts as well as different drag&drop options: draw external attachments onto the dialog or into your drawing to place them there.

If you load a project that contains attachments, the *Attachments* dialog provides you with an overview on your attachments. From the dialog, attachments can be loaded (making them appear as a part of the drawing) or unloaded (removed from the drawing while keeping them as attachment).

As soon as your work process is finished, you can bind the attachments into your main drawing via the respective operation in the *Attachments* dialog. This integrates the content from the attachment as an editable part of your main file while removing it from the list in the dialog.

Attachments that are selected in the drawing are marked with a separate icon next to the cursor. More information on the attachment currently selected in the dialog is displayed in a separate information area.

2.3 Good to know

- Whilst the *Attachments* dialog is a pCon.planner PRO feature, loading and displaying attachments is also supported in the other editions
- Layers in an attachment take the attachments name as a prefix
- If attachments are deleted, their layers and materials are completely purged
- Materials from attachments are marked as "read only" in the Materials dialog, they cannot be unlocked and are hidden by default
- Articles in attachments are not updated; in order to update the articles, please open attachments separately, update and save them
- When loading a file with its attachments, always the newest versions of your attachments are loaded
- External changes to the content of an attachment file during a running pCon.planner session lead to the attachment getting a separate flag in the *Attachments* dialog

3 Media Creation and Sharing

3.1 Improved Sharing Process

The media sharing process has improved in two ways:

- Content from the *Image* dialog can now be handed over to impress directly from there. The share icon has been implemented as part of the dialog.
- The *Share* dialog does now include a preview image of the content you want to share. On opening the dialog, the shared link will automatically be copied to your clipboard.
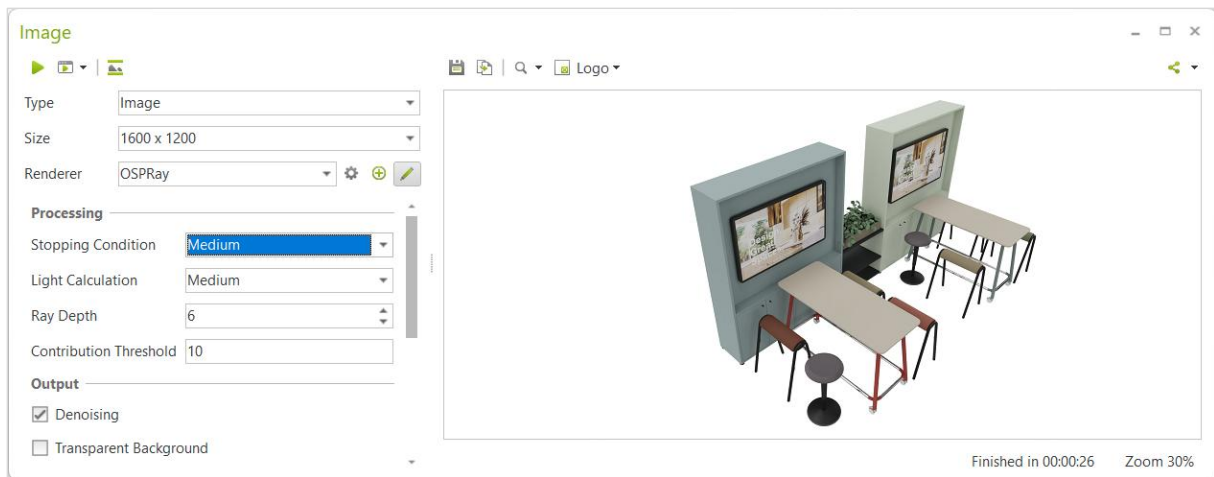
3.2 Updated Video Creation

pCon.planner 8.13 generates videos in *.mp4 file format by using the Windows integrated x264 codec. Unlike the previous process, a conversion of the videos is no longer needed. This increases compatibility and speeds up the creation of videos.

4 Imports and Exports

4.1 PEC Import and Export

The enhanced material information (see 1.1) is now part of PEC files. The PEC format does now also support the transfer of the current 3D layer visibility between applications.

For the PEC export, elements from 2D layers are now excluded to avoid artefacts when displaying your content in impress.
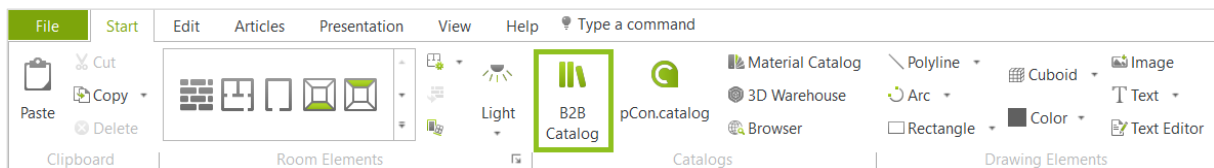
4.2 STEP/IGES Import

For STEP and IGES import, we have lowered the tessellation, leading to faster imports and more lightweight geometries.

5 Changes to the User Interface

5.1 B2B Catalog

Your *Products* catalog got a new name, alongside with a new, appealing icon: The *B2B Catalog* now is the place where you find your locally installed manufacturer data.

5.2 Application Menu: Building Information as new Export Category

The *Export* section in the *Application* menu now comprises of an additional category. *Building Information* provides access to the following export formats:
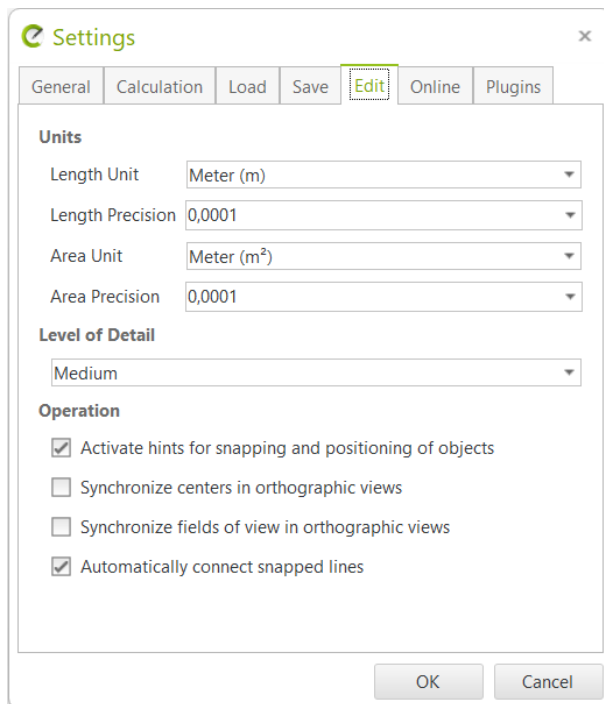
- Material Report
- IFC Export

6 Additional Improvements

6.1 Working with Articles

- The Conversion to user articles is now also possible multi selection
- New option in the context menu when selecting complex articles: *Select higher level* allows you to include parent elements into your selection

6.2 Dimensioning and Units

The unit for area measurements can now be altered independently from the *Length Unit* under *Settings → Edit → Area Unit*. The formatting of the output numbers has been improved and follows the rules for the respective unit.

To enhance the repertoire of units in pCon.planner, Yards and Miles are now available as options for *Length Unit* and *Area Unit*.

6.3 Print and Layout

We improved the results of the PDF export as well as the output of semi-transparent elements on your layout pages.

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