

SuperBeam 4.1 changes

This leaflet contains the same information that is displayed when you select the Miscellaneous, Latest Information option. For the very latest SuperBeam information go to www.sda.co.uk/usersbw.htm

Loading and B.M. & S.F. diagrams

The key change in this release is the addition of a beam loading diagram option and the ability to print the B.M. and S.F. Diagram which until now could only be viewed on screen. This involves the following changes:

1. An additional toolbar button displays the beam load diagram.
2. Diagram colours, fonts and print size are set up in an additional configuration menu option which has screen and printer pages. The printer settings relate to the currently selected printer. Note that the diagram legend size depends on the selected font, and we would suggest that you choose a small and/or narrow font to keep its size down.
3. The Project Details dialog lets you set the default print options for beams you add to a project (existing beams are not affected)
4. The Load page of the Beam Edit dialog includes check boxes which determine whether the load diagram and/or B.M. & S.F. diagram are printed: there's not a lot of point of printing a load diagram for a UDL only beam!
5. The Print dialog includes a check box which when unchecked suppresses the printing of diagrams; this may be of use if you want to print a set of draft calculations without the diagrams.

If you have any comments on this new feature please let us know. The one known issue is that if you have point loads very close to one another the loading figures on the load diagram will overlap. At a future date we will endeavour to improve this.

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Other enhancements:

1. The Print Project item selection dialog now adds a check box for printing the Project Summary at the start of the selected sheets. This option also appears in the Project Details dialog. (added at user request)
2. The Print Project button now initially displays the selected item list, instead of the selection dialog so as to cut out one step in the process if the list is already correct. Whilst the list is on display it is now automatically updated if you add or delete items from your project and whenever an edit dialog is closed. (Print project procedure made a little simpler following user feedback)
3. You can now specify a 3-character prefix to go in front of page numbers (added at user request)
4. Note lines at the end of calculations are now joined together and are printed out as one wordwrapped paragraph instead of being printed line by line as entered.
To make text you enter print out as the start of a new paragraph line leave a blank line before it.
5. Tabbed dialogs now use the standard Windows control instead of a third party one: you can change the tab colours (or set them all to the standard Windows grey) from within the Configuration, Window Colours dialog.
6. The '!!!' member fails indication is now shown at the start of the window caption instead of at the end, so it is always visible. A '???' indication is now shown where stresses (for beams) exceed the flag percentage entered. For stanchions an arbitrary 99% flag value is now used: future versions will allow you to set your own value. These warnings are also now shown in the Project Manager. (follows a request from a user that failing members should be more prominently identified on screen).
7. You can now put up to 30 loads on a beam instead of 25 (user request)

8. The User Setup dialog is now split into two pages: Preferences and Paths & Files
9. Some changes have been made to improve speed and window resizing.
10. The default steel data file has been updated so as to use section properties from Steelwork Design Guide to BS5950 Volume 1 5th edition. and many properties have changed very slightly (generally <1%). The new file is dated 9.8.93 so will replace earlier data files issued by us, but not any file that you have modified.

Bug fixes:

1. Overridden steel size was lost on reading in project if any beam details were changed: fixed.
2. When a ProSteel file is read in, 'Unknown command' messages are now not shown.
3. Autosave will now not cut in whilst an edit dialog is open: previously it did and unconfirmed data was lost.
4. When a beam is added to a project, 'Print load+steel calculation' or 'Print load+timber calculation' is now automatically added to the Print Project list.
5. When using the 'Save As' option you are no longer asked whether you wish to change the project name to 'xxx' if this was the previous name
6. Project Manager was displayed before disclaimer acceptance
7. On-screen summary flitch beam calculation was incomplete
8. Changing beams from loads only to timber and/or steel is now handled better

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If you find any problems please let us know as soon as possible. Your feedback and suggestions are also welcome: most of the enhancements in this release have come about as a result of user feedback.