

# CostX® Version 3.31 Release Notes



## Overview

CostX® 3.31 is the latest release from the Exactal range of new-generation estimating software. It contains numerous additional features to increase ease-of-use and speed of takeoff.

## General

- In a network configuration, it is now possible to specify that certain data intensive tasks are run on the server. Supported server tasks such as exporting a building, recalculating a workbook, copying a building or workbook and running a report are now faster when run on the server as the slow point of the network connection is removed from the task. Additional server tasks will be added in future versions.
- New local drawing cache feature allowing a copy of the drawing file to be cached locally on the CostX® Client PC. The next time the drawing is opened it is loaded from cache which improves performance especially when the network connection to the drawings is slow. The other great advantage is that drawings can still be displayed when the computer is offline from the network.
- Now supports yards as a unit of measure (as well as square yards and cubic yards).
- The sidebar position is now saved if it is changed by the user allowing more of the dimension group, phraseology and other names to be seen on a widescreen monitor.
- CostX® client login prompt now supports using hostnames in the Server field (using the name of the server instead of the IP address).
- Improved upgrade procedure in a network configuration by automatically renewing the license when the client logs in if the license is under maintenance.
- Export Building menu now has new export type; Data Only without Drawing Files.
- Option added to CostX® Options whether to check for updates.
- New manual included with CostX® Server which explains how to configure Microsoft Event Viewer for email notifications for CostX® Server events.
- Updated Introduction and Advanced manuals.
- Updated Drawing Optimisation manual.

## Drawings

- Import Dimension Groups from CSV file.
- DWG file speed improvements.
- New Snap button which allows the snap to nearest point feature in raster mode to be turned on or off.

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- In raster mode, the B key now allows snap to point to be briefly toggled (turned off when the Snap button is on or turned on when the Snap button is off). This replaces and enhances the 'snap off' functionality of the O key in previous versions.
- New Raster button for raster mode.
- Calibration tool can now snap to points on vector drawings for increased accuracy.
- Mouse pointers on the drawing now indicate the current measurement mode (area, length, count).
- Rotated drawings can now be calibrated with separate X and Y calibrations even if the drawing has images.
- Improvements to View in 3D functionality including displaying images and white 'paper' backgrounds.
- Improved hiding/fading of measured lengths and counts when the Measured button is not pressed.
- Support for Autodesk 2012 drawing formats (DWG, DWF, DWFx).

## Drawings (3D & BIM)

- BIM Templates for Revit imports now support breakdown of objects into component parts.
- Model map 'IF' statements now support < , <= , >= and > for value comparisons.
- Improvements to IFC BIM Models.
- Improved support for Sketchup (SKP) files including support for Sketchup version 8 files and speed optimisations.
- Isolating dimensions on BIM Models is now available at a dimension group folder level (Isolate Folder).

## Workbooks

- Speed improvements on workbook recalculations.
- New buttons on the ribbon to easily adjust the rounding decimal places of CostX functions.
- Now displays more informative error messages for circular references in workbooks.
- Drag and drop multiple dimensions to the workbook at the same time.
- New XNUMBER function available in workbooks to extract the number values from text fields. For example, using the XNUMBER function on the text "1800mm x 1200mm Sliding Door" would return 1800 or 1200 depending on which number you want. The function is also available in the text fields of Model Maps.
- New XGETSPACEDLENGTHRND function available workbooks which is the same as XGETSPACEDLENGTH except each dimension is rounded.
- New XGETSPACEDCOUNTRND function available workbooks which is the same as XGETSPACEDLENGTHRND except it returns the count instead of the total length.

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- Ability to choose if CostX® functions with rounding do a Round or Round Up in workbooks (set on CostX® Server in the network version).

## System Administration

- Import Standard Dimension Groups from CSV file.

## CostXL

- CostXL now has a function to convert the live linked formulas in a spreadsheet to values so the file can be sent to users who need to edit it who do not have CostXL.
- CostXL also supports the XNUMBER function.

## The CostX® Range of Estimating Solutions

The CostX® range of products from Exactal allows companies to make a choice about their estimating requirements and match the product to the job, at the right price.

Use the links below to read more about our range of products:

