



STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

ROY COOPER
GOVERNOR

J.R. "JOEY" HOPKINS
SECRETARY

MEMORANDUM TO: Project Engineers
Project Design Engineers

FROM: B. C. Hanks, P. E.
State Structures Engineer

DATE: November 28, 2023

SUBJECT: V8 DGN MIGRATION TO OPENBRIDGE

NCDOT is in the process of migrating from MicroStation V8 to OpenX. In response to the Technical Services memo dated August 2, 2023, on OpenX Migration, this memo provides guidance on managing structure drawings (.DGN) that were developed using V8 and converting to OpenBridge Modeler or Designer. This policy is for structure plans that do not meet the criteria for full conversion to OpenX.

Drawing Format

V8 files can be opened in the OpenBridge software without loss of data. When a V8 file is opened in OpenBridge, a message will appear asking if the user would like to update the file. Accept the update to convert the drawing to the OpenBridge format. When a drawing is converted, the V8 levels, attributes, and format will be brought forward in the updated file, however these attributes will not be converted to match the Structure Management Unit's (SMU) OpenBridge workspace. Once updated to OpenBridge, there is no need to change the text and line styles to the new OpenBridge format or move to the use sheet models. Note, because the V8 attributes have not been updated to the OpenBridge workspace, text fonts will appear different from the text displayed in the V8 drawings. If no modifications to the drawing content are required, the drawing may be printed (on paper or PDF) as usual.

Drawing Modifications

When V8 drawings are converted to OpenBridge and a note or dimension needs to be added, copy and paste existing text then edit the new note or dimension. If a drawing detail needs modification, the user should proceed as usual. Note if new lines are placed in the drawing, their naming convention will utilize the OpenBridge workspace and will appear the same as the existing lines when printed.

Adding Drawings to the Plan Set

When additional drawings are needed for an existing plan set, use OpenBridge to develop the new drawings and save them as separate files using SMU's file naming convention. These drawings will utilize the OpenBridge workspace and the text will appear different from the converted or modified drawings. During the OpenBridge transition period, SMU plan sets with differing text fonts will be acceptable.

Standard Drawings and Standard Plans

The majority of SMU's Standard Drawings and Plans have been converted to the OpenBridge format using the procedures described above. The Standards will not be updated for consistency with the OpenBridge workspace until revisions to the content are required. During plan development, always use standard drawings and plans available on SMU website.

Additional working days or project extensions for converting V8 files to OpenBridge should not be necessary. Please coordinate with SMU if you have any questions.

This policy for V8 conversion to OpenBridge is effective immediately.

BCH/GM/NAP

Cc: G. Muchane, P.E.
T. H. Carroll, P.E.
J. A. Evans, P.E.
Division Bridge Program Managers