



# Practice Workbook

This workbook is designed for use in the SMART Competition and includes tutorials on using AECOsim Building Designer and AECOsim Energy Simulator Bentley building design and energy simulator software applications.

This practice workbook is formatted for on-screen viewing using a PDF reader.

## SMART Competition

## Practice Workbook

**AECOsim Energy Simulator CONNECT Edition**  
**AECOsim Building Designer CONNECT Edition**  
**LumenRT**



TRNC00000-1/0001

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## Description and Objectives

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### Course Description

This workbook is for the SMART Competition and contains exercises for creating energy analysis simulations for the sample building project and exercises for adjusting the building orientation, investigating solar exposure, investigating daylighting and shading options, trying different construction materials and trying different HVAC options for optimum studies of the energy usage of the sample project.

### Learning Objectives

Upon successful completion of this course you will be able to:

- Export an analytical space model from AECOsim Building Designer, fixing architectural space errors.
- Run an energy simulation in AECOsim Energy Simulator.
- Investigate solar exposure, roof options and building orientation.
- Run a solar shadows study and add trees and plants.
- Adjust material constructions to optimize the energy efficiency of the building.
- Compare different HVAC systems.
- Run additional energy simulations to compare results.
- Export the design model to LumenRT to generate photo realistic images and fly-through videos.

## Getting Started - The Workspace and WorkSet

Every file created in AECOsim Building Designer should belong to a *WorkSet*, basically a set of files and folders that all belong to the same project. Every *WorkSet* will belong to a *WorkSpace* that defines common standards for all the projects in that *WorkSpace*. In a small organization there may be a single *WorkSpace* for all projects or *WorkSets*. In larger organizations the *WorkSpace* may define the standards of a particular building type or client.

For the Purpose of the *Energy QuickStart* Training you will install a *WorkSet* to the delivered *WorkSpace*, **AECOsimExamples**.

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1. Unzip the **SMART.zip** file to:

*C:\ProgramData\Bentley\AECOsim CONNECT Edition\Configuration\WorkSpaces\AECOsimExamples\worksets*

This should create a sub folder, *SMART* and two additional files, *SMART.cfg* and *SMART.dgnws* under the worksets folder. You now have all the files needed to do the exercises outlined in this workbook.

Start **AECOsim Building Designer** from the Start menu or desktop shortcut.

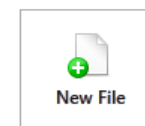
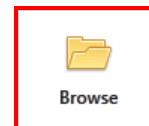
2. Set the *Workspace* to **AECOsim Examples** and the *WorkSet* to **SMART**.
3. Select **Browse**.
  - a. Select and Open the file **\_WorkingModel.dgn**.

### AECOsim Building Designer CONNECT Edition

AECOsimExamples ▾ SMART ▾

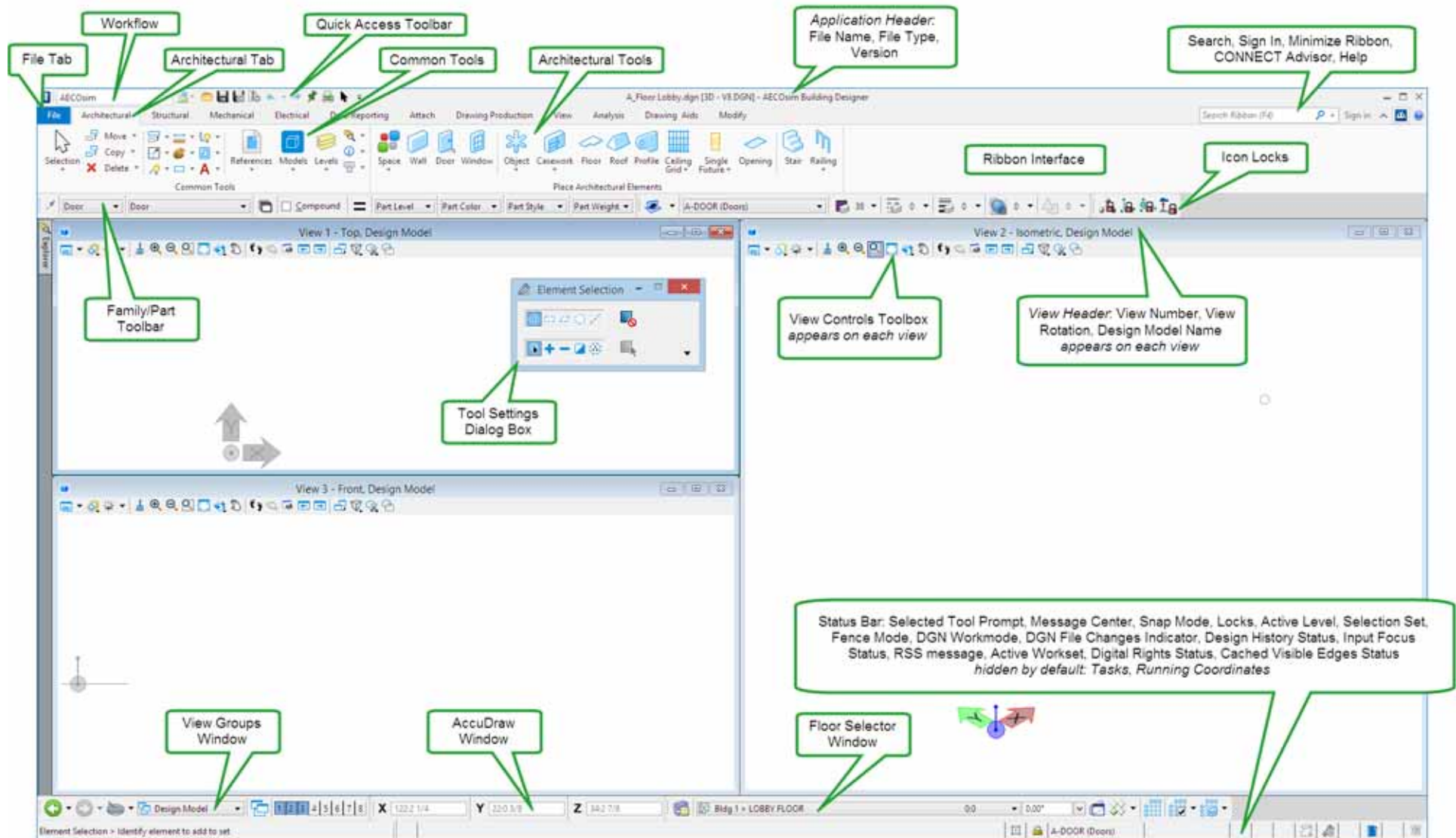
Recent Files

You haven't opened any files recently. To browse for a file, start by clicking on Browse.



## Reviewing the Main Application Interface and the Backstage View

Take a few minutes to review the interface, including the ribbon and the various names of the interface components.



- From the ribbon interface, click the **File** tab.

The **BackStage** view opens. The **Backstage** view now lists the newly opened file and will eventually include more recently opened files. The left side of the backstage screen is a **File** menu including tools such as **New**, **Save As**, **Save Settings**, **Tools**, **Utilities**, **Settings**, **Properties**, **Print**, **Export**, etc. On the right are buttons for file list options: **Show Details** and **Show Thumbnails**.

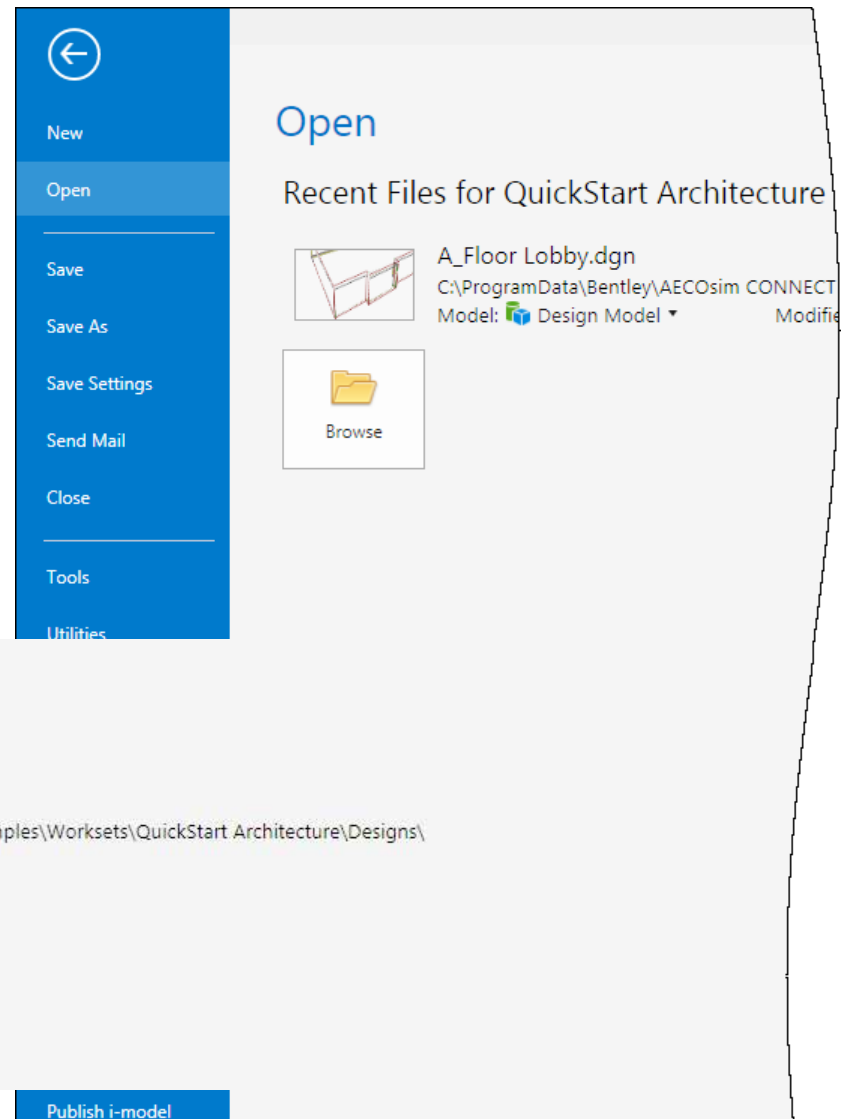
- Hover the cursor over the file details and *right-click*.

A pop-menu opens with the options: **Open**, **Open as readonly**, **Pin to list**, **Remove from list** and **Open Folder in File Explorer**.

- From the pop-up menu select **Open Folder in File Explorer**.

An explorer window will open to the folder location of the file.

**Hint:** This feature allows quick access to the folder location of the project.



- Click back in the AECOsim Building Designer **Backstage** view and press the **Escape** keyboard key to return to the main application view.

8. From the *Ribbon Interface*, open **CONNECT Advisor**.

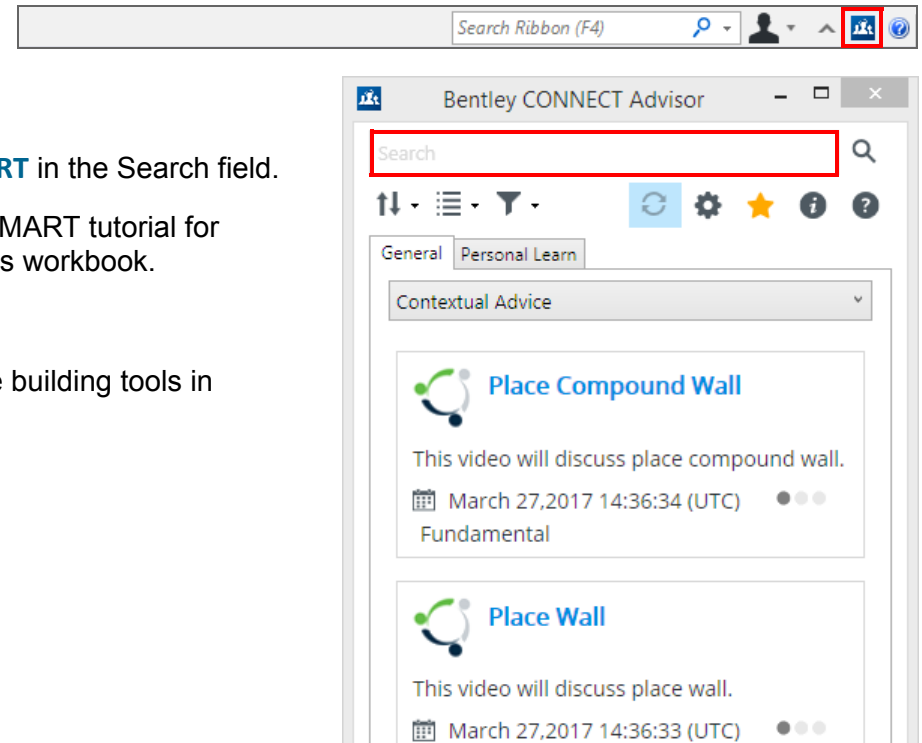
**CONNECT Advisor** is a one stop hub for personalized support and training recommendations.

9. In **CONNECT Advisor**, set the pull-down to *Search* and type **SMART** in the Search field.

The Connect Advisor will populate with tutorials specific to this SMART tutorial for AECOSim Energy Simulator. This includes all the exercises in this workbook.

10. In **CONNECT Advisor**, set the pull-down to *QuickStarts*.

The Connect Advisor will populate with additional tutorials for the building tools in AECOSim Building Designer.



## Energy Basics

Before we start using the software it is important to understand energy basics such as:

- What is energy?
- Forms of energy
- Converting energy

## What is Energy?

Energy is a measure of how much work an object or a system can do.

For example, a gallon of gasoline contains enough chemical energy to move an average motor car about 25 miles. The energy in the liquid oxygen and liquid hydrogen in the fuel tanks of a Saturn 5 rocket can move the rocket's payload to the moon. Or, more down to earth, a wound-up clock spring contains enough potential energy to make the clock work for perhaps 48 hours before it needs rewinding.

## Forms of Energy

There are many different forms of energy, some of which will be very familiar to you but some may be a little less familiar. Some examples of commonly encountered forms of energy are solar energy in the form of heat and light energy that we get from the sun, kinetic energy—the energy contained in an object by virtue of its motion, potential energy—the energy contained in an object by virtue of its position, and electrical energy—the energy resulting from the flow of charged particles; electrons.

Some less familiar forms of energy include chemical potential energy (CPE) – the energy resulting from the position or arrangement of atoms that make up a substance. For example the food we eat contains chemical potential energy. When we eat the food the atomic bonds inside the food are broken, releasing energy, then the energy is transferred into our bodies. Dynamite contains chemical potential energy! Once dynamite is ignited the energy is released extremely quickly, so quickly in fact that an explosion is created.

Another less familiar form of energy is electromagnetic energy – the energy associated with electric and magnetic fields. It is defined as the energy in a magnetic field that is produced by the motion of electric charges such as an electric current. Electromagnetic energy is a very fundamental form of energy; light energy is a form of electromagnetic energy.

Energy can neither be created or destroyed, however it can be converted from one form to another.

In the examples illustrated above we can track how energy is converted from one form into another. The chemical potential energy in the gallon of gasoline is converted to kinetic energy when the car starts moving down the road. Likewise in the Saturn 5 rocket, the chemical potential energy in the fuel is converted to kinetic energy when the rocket lifts off and starts moving.



The wound up clock spring is a little more interesting. The chemical potential energy contained in the muscles of the person who initially wound up the clock is converted to potential energy in the spring. The potential energy is slowly converted to both kinetic energy and potential energy in the escapement mechanism of the clock.

Energy can be converted from one form into another in many different ways. Naturally occurring energy conversions include photosynthesis, where light energy from the sun is converted to chemical potential energy in green plants. Wind is also an example of naturally occurring energy conversion. Thermal energy from the sun heats up the ground, the air close to the ground gets warm and rises. As the warm air rises, cooler air moves in to take its place. The cool air molecules gain kinetic energy. It is the moving air that makes the “wind” that we feel on our faces.

It is not surprising that the examples above both start with solar (light and heat) energy. Our sun is the major source of all energy we use on earth today.

All of the machines we use today convert energy from one form into another from which we can obtain some useful work. When energy is converted from one form to another less than 100% of the initial energy “makes it”.

One of the fundamental laws of physics, the law of thermodynamics, states that the conversion of energy from one form to another is never perfect. Not all the energy will be converted from one form to one other form. In the examples above, in addition to the kinetic energy of the car and rocket, the chemical potential energy in the gasoline and rocket fuel is converted into both heat and sound energy. In the example of the clock spring, some of the energy in the person’s muscle is converted into heat energy, although not enough to make the person sweat! And some of the energy in the clock spring is converted into sound energy, the “tick-tock” we hear from the clock’s works.

### Temperature, Thermal Energy, and Heat Transfer

On a microscopic scale, thermal energy is related to the kinetic energy of the atoms and molecules making up an object or system. The greater a material's temperature, the greater the thermal agitation and therefore kinetic energy of its constituent molecules.

Temperature is a measurement of the average kinetic energy of the molecules in an object or system and can be measured with a thermometer or a calorimeter. It is a means of determining the internal energy contained within the system.

While temperature represents the amount of thermal energy available in an object or system, heat transfer represents the movement of thermal energy from place to place. It is natural for regions containing greater molecular kinetic energy to pass this energy to regions with less kinetic energy, i.e., heat transfer is always from a hotter object to a cooler object. Heat transfers to and through some materials better than others.

There are three ways in which heat can be transferred from one object or system to another; these are conduction, convection, and radiation.



## Conduction

Conduction is the transfer of heat between substances that are in direct contact with each other. The better the conductor, the more rapidly heat will transfer. If one end of a metal rod is at a higher temperature than the other end, then energy will be transferred down the rod toward the colder end by the atoms and molecules inside the rod. The higher energy particles will collide with the lower energy particles with a net transfer of energy to the lower energy ones

## Convection

Convection is the primary method by which heat moves through liquids and gases. It is the up and down movement of liquids and gases caused by heat transfer.

As a liquid or a gas is heated, it warms, expands, and rises because it is less dense than the surrounding liquid and gas. When liquid or a gas cools, it becomes denser and falls. As the liquid or gas warms and rises, or cools and falls, it creates a convection current.

## Radiation

Electromagnetic radiation in the infra-red frequency range is a form of thermal energy. All sources of heat, the sun, a candle flame, or a camp fire for example, all radiate infra-red electromagnetic radiation. When electromagnetic waves come in contact with an object, the waves transfer the heat to that object. This is how the “heat” from those sources can be felt by the human body.

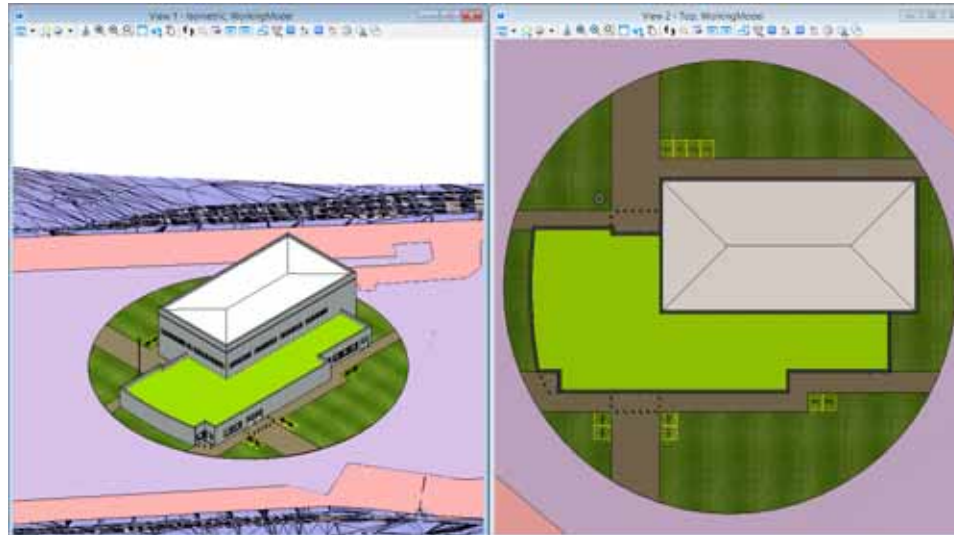
## Exercise 01: Exporting the Model to AECOsim Energy Simulation

This exercise will guide the user through the steps needed to create an analytical space model from AECOsim Building Designer. Creating an analytical space model (ASM) requires a building location, a building type, and the major components of the building's geometry like walls, spaces (areas and volumes), windows and doors (openings). The resulting ASM is a DGN model containing a combination of graphic elements and non graphic information that depicts walls, windows and openings as well as the spatial volumes and their physical relationships to the building.

AECOsim Building Designer can create an analytical space model (ASM) DGN that is read and processed directly by AECOsim Energy Simulator. See the Help contents for a list of requirements that must be satisfied in the AECOsim building Designer model before it can be exported to AECOsim Energy Simulator.

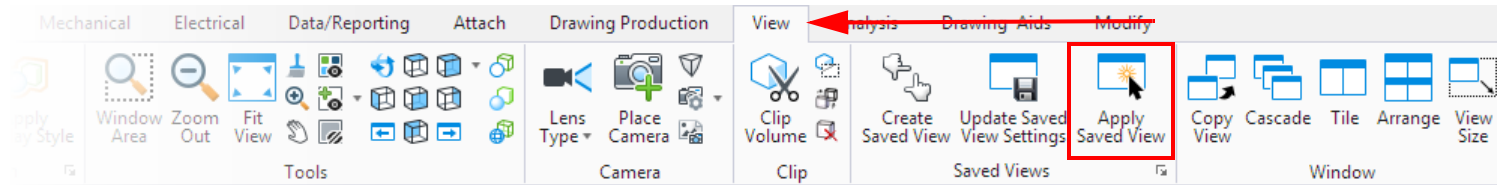
1. Continue in the file [\\_WorkingModel.dgn](#).

You will have two views; one an isometric view of the gymnasium building as it sits on the site, and the second a top view of the gymnasium building and site.



2. Use the scroll button on the mouse to zoom in and out to view the entire site.

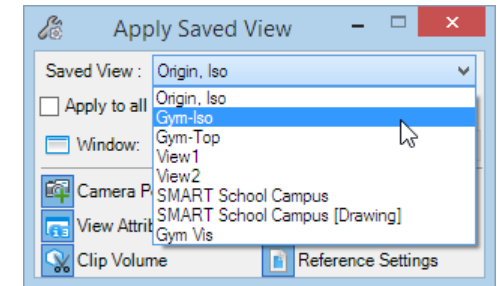
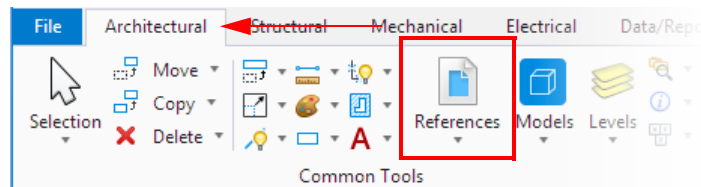
3. If you need to restore the original views select the **Apply Saved View** tool from the **View** tab on the ribbon.



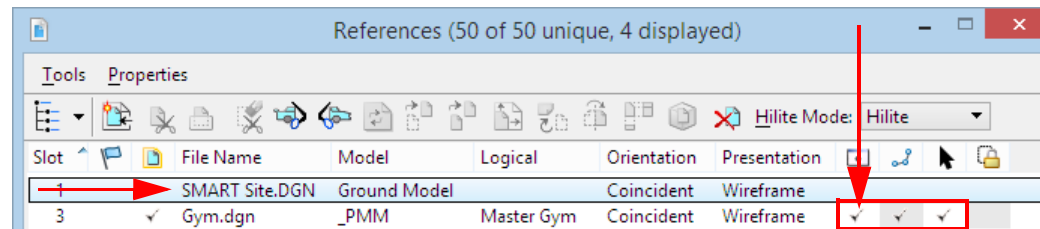
- a. In the **Tool Settings** for the **Apply Saved View** tool, select the desired view, **Gym-Iso** or **Gym-Top** and data point (**left-click**) in the view window to restore the view.

This working model has been created by referencing other models to this file. You can not actually edit any of the geometry of the building in this file. Before creating the analytical space model you will want to turn off the site model in order to focus on the gymnasium building.

4. Select the **References** icon from the **Architectural** tab on the **Ribbon Interface**.

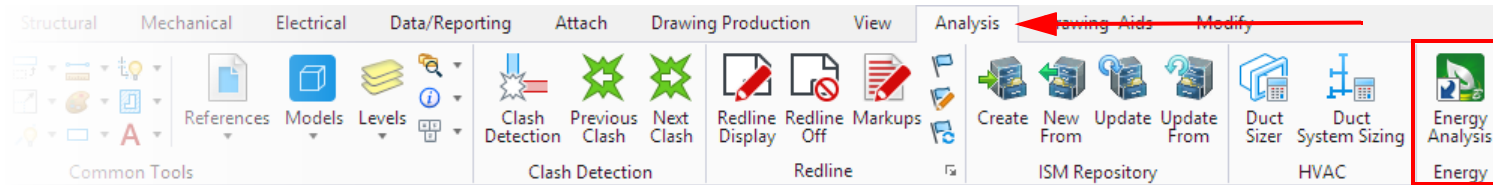


- a. In the **References** dialog, select the **SMART Site.dgn** reference and un-check the display toggle to turn the reference display **Off**.



- b. Close the **References** dialog box.

5. Select the **Energy Analysis** tool from the *Analysis* tab on the *Ribbon Interface*.



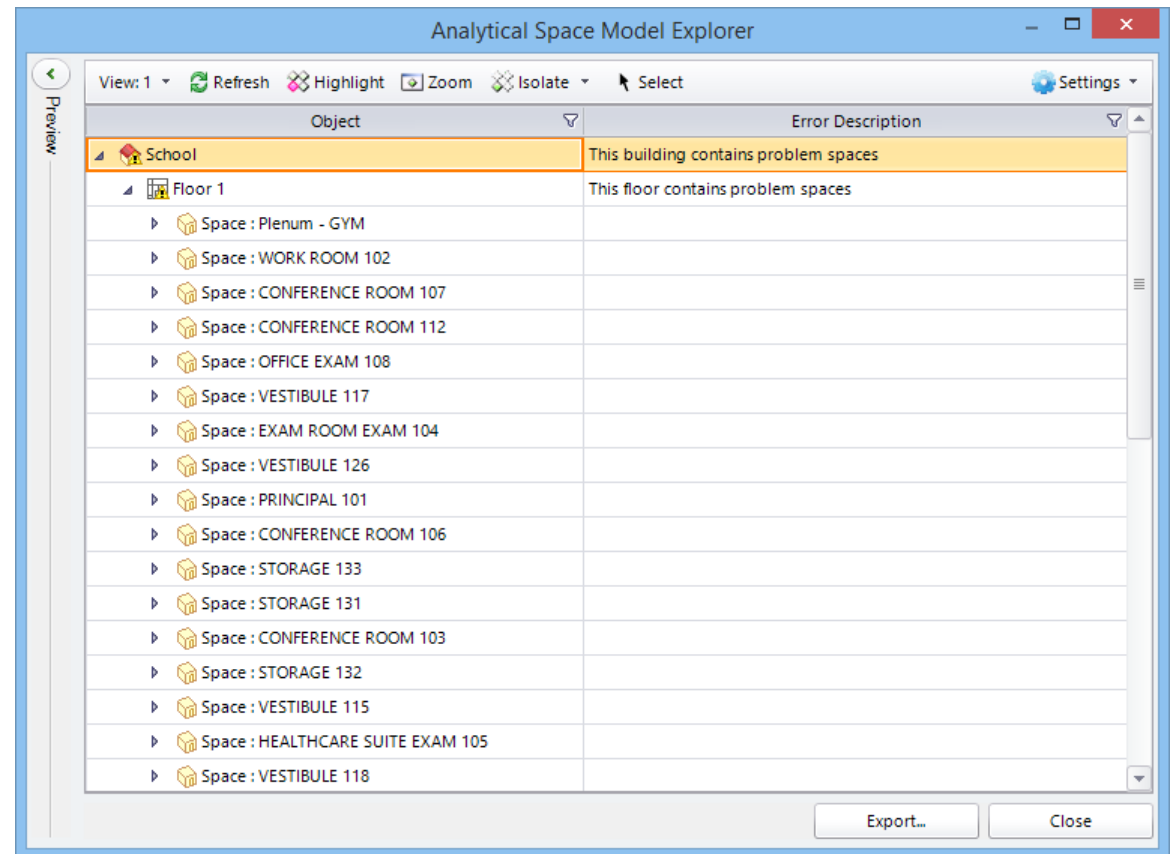
6. The *Analytical Space Model Explorer* will open.

The dialog shows a list of rooms or spaces, organized by floor on the right. It also shows if any errors or problem spaces were detected. Ideally you should correct any problem spaces before exporting the analytical space model.

7. Expand *School > Floor 1*

8. Scroll down to see any problem spaces.

In the example there are two problem spaces: Plenum - ADMINISTRATION and LOCKER ROOM 123. The spaces are missing boundaries. The Plenum - ADMINISTRATION space is the plenum space above all of the spaces in the administration part of the building. To correct both of the problem spaces, the wall in LOCKER ROOM 123 will be modified, fixing both the spaces as the wall is part if the boundary of both spaces.



- a. *Right-click* on LOCKER ROOM 123 and turn on **Show missing boundaries**.

The missing boundary will highlight in the model.

- b. In the *Analytical Space Model Explorer*, turn on **Zoom** and **Isolate > Isolate With Members**

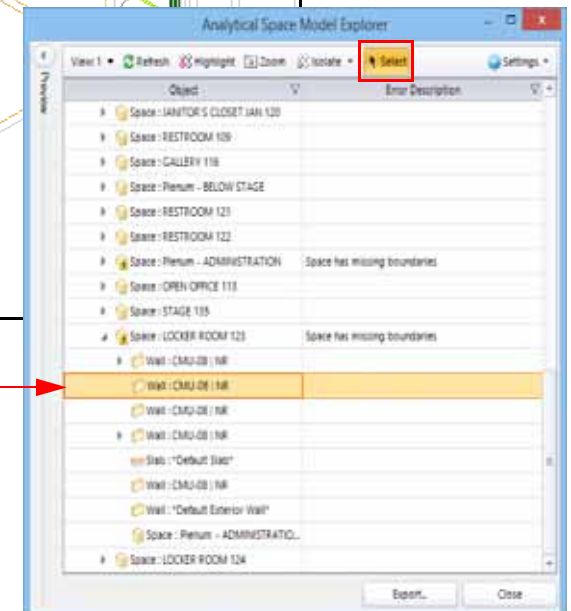
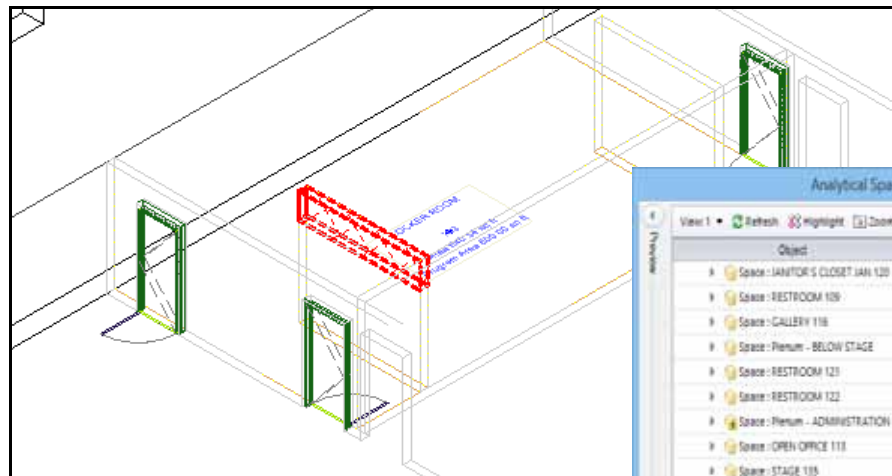
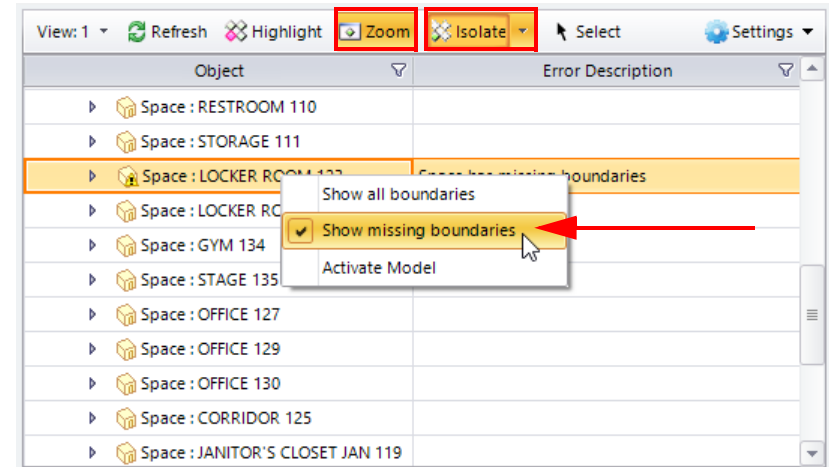
This will change the view that is set in the *Analytical Space Model Explorer* (in the example it is set to **View 1**) so that it is zoomed into the missing boundary and only the geometry associated with this space is displayed.

Note that the wall does not go all the way to the ceiling. The red highlight shows a missing volume. Next you will modify the wall so that the space is enclosed.

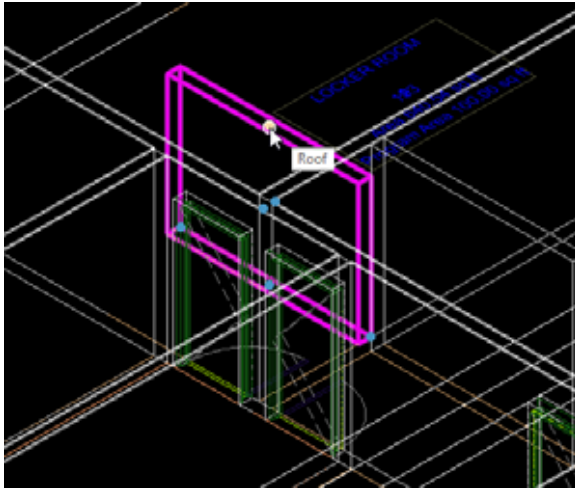
9. In the *Analytical Space Model Explorer*, *right-click* on the space again and turn on **Activate Model**.

The reference model that contains the missing boundary will be activated so that it can be modified.

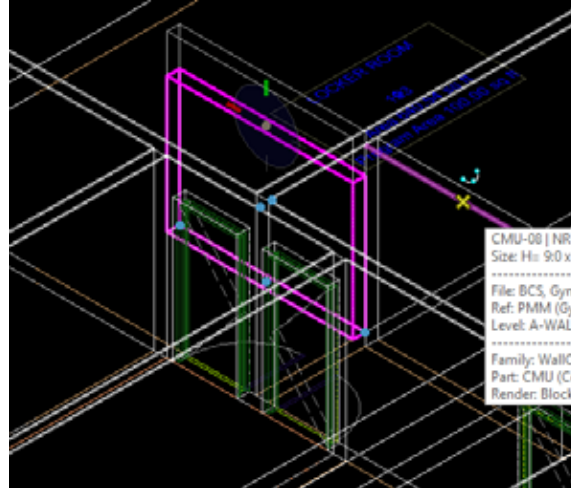
10. In the *Analytical Space Model Explorer*:
  - a. Turn off the **Zoom** button.
  - b. Turn off the **Isolate** button.
  - c. Expand the list for the *Space: LOCKER ROOM 123* space.
  - d. Select the second *Wall: CMU-08 | NR* wall in the list.
  - e. Turn on the **Select** button to select the wall.



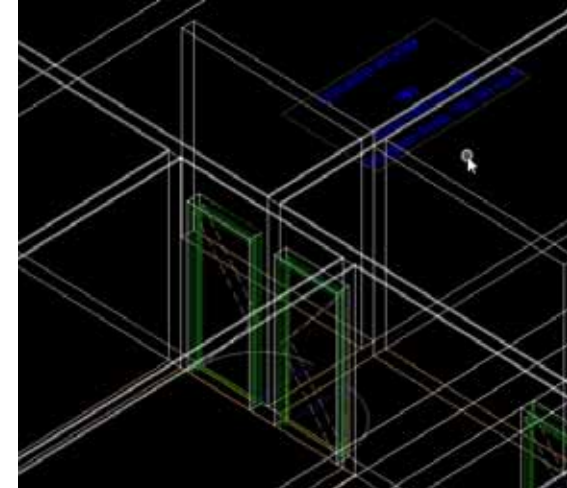
11. Select the “Roof” handle at the top of the wall.
12. Drag it up and move the cursor over the adjacent wall to snap to the top of that wall.
13. Data point (*left-click*) to accept the modification of the wall.



Step 11



Step 12

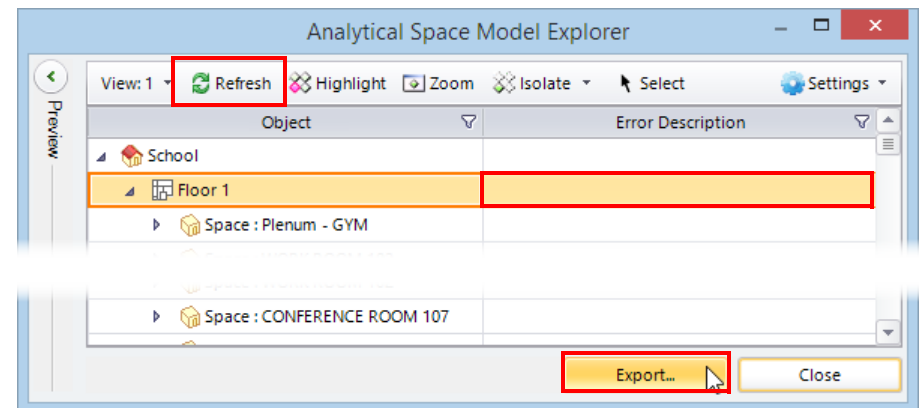


Step 13

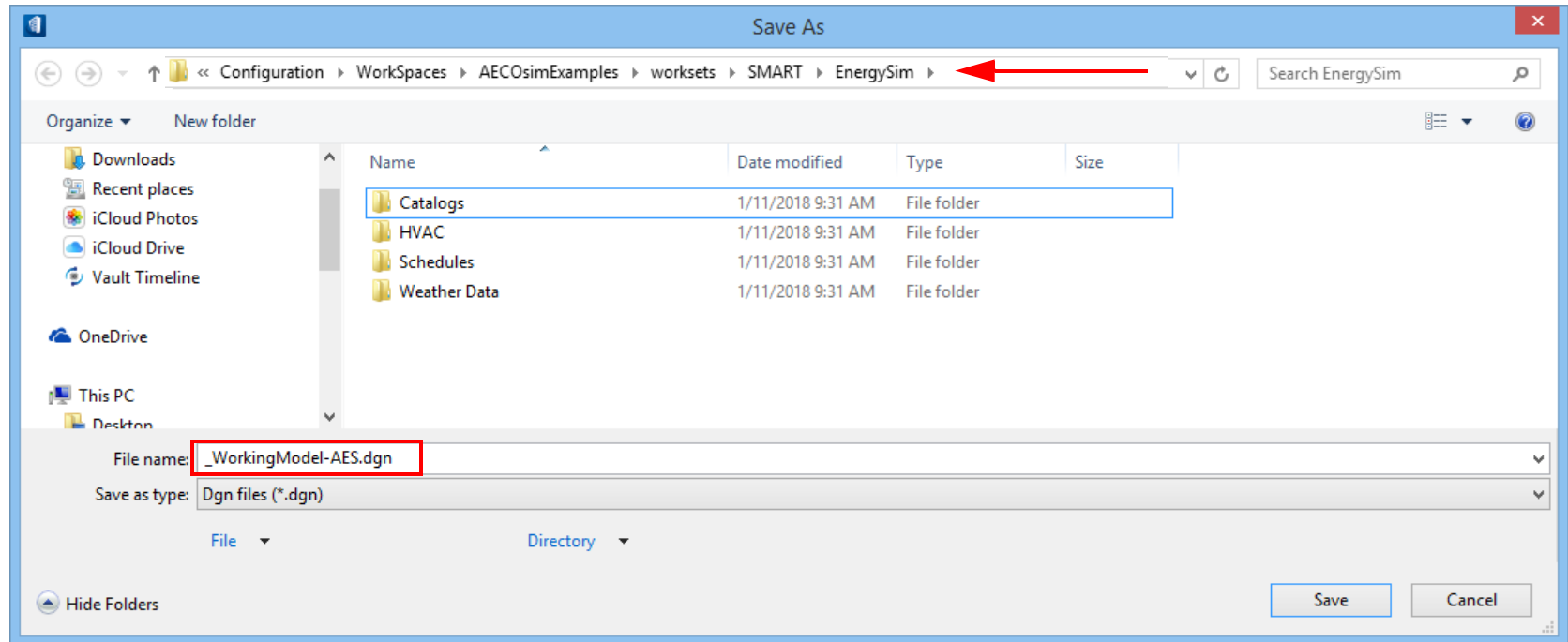
14. In the *Analytical Space Model Explorer*, select the **Refresh** button

**Note:** All errors should now be removed. If you had additional errors you would continue to repeat the steps above until all errors were removed.

15. In the *Analytical Space Model Explorer*, select the **Export** button.



a. Save the file to the */SMART/EnergySim/* folder.



A dialog will indicate *"Your file has been successfully exported. Would you like to Open it?"*

b. Select **Yes**.

The analytical space model will open in AECOsim Energy Simulator.

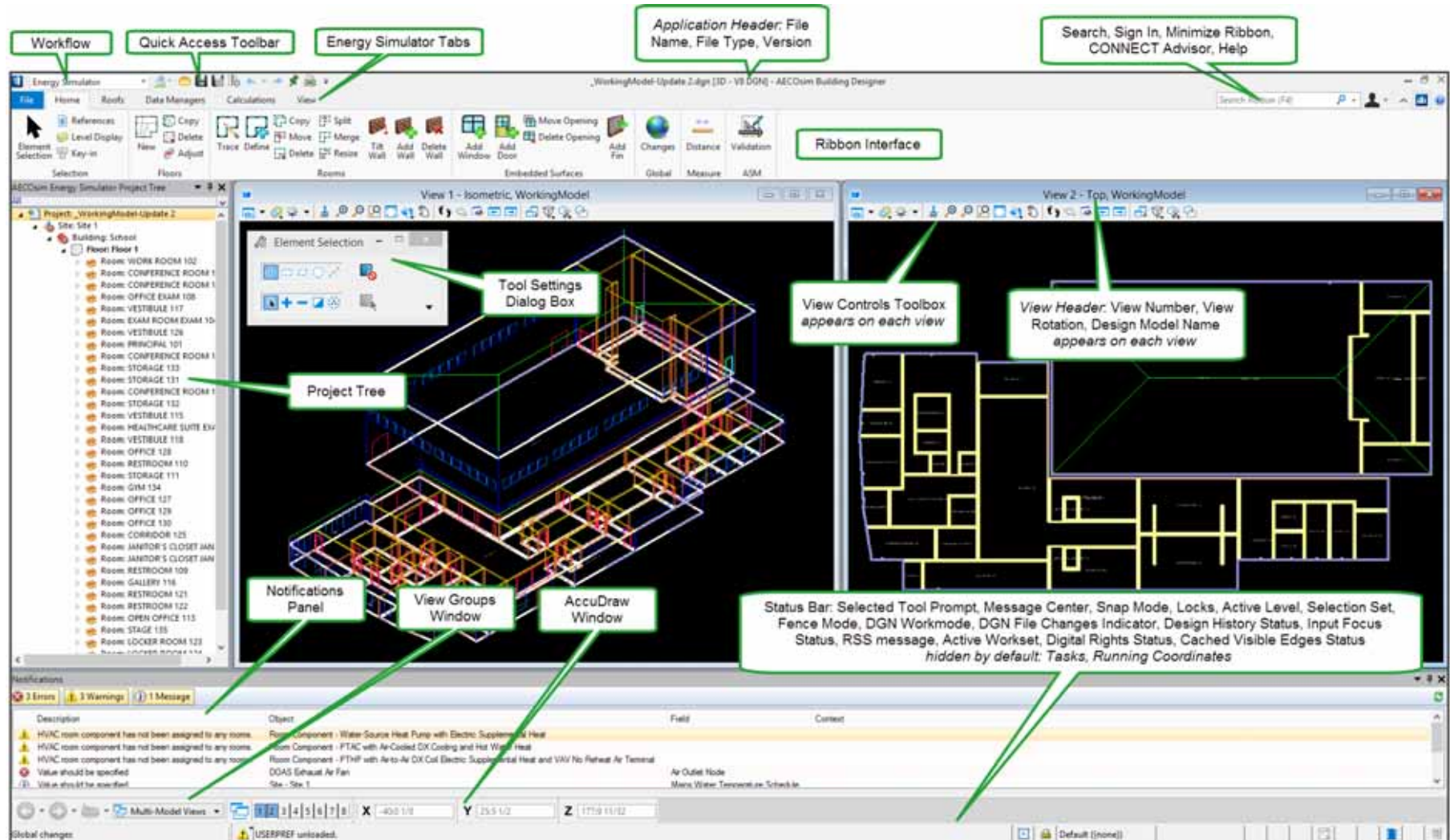
In this process, the architectural spaces are imported into an analytical model for use in AECOsim Energy Analysis energy simulations. An analytical space model contains the bound spaces, fenestrations, along with the construction material of the building and are optimized for running energy simulations.

For example doors in AECOsim Building Designer are physically represented, the frame, door leaf, view glass, door swing direction, etc. are all represented, whereas doors in AECOsim Energy Analysis are represented as openings in the space boundaries. The door openings include information about the construction materials of the doors.



## Reviewing the AECOsim Energy Simulator Application Interface

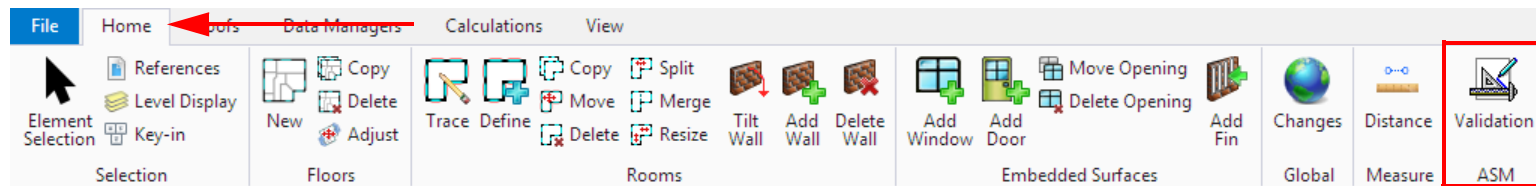
Take a few minutes to review the interface, including the ribbon and the various names of the interface components



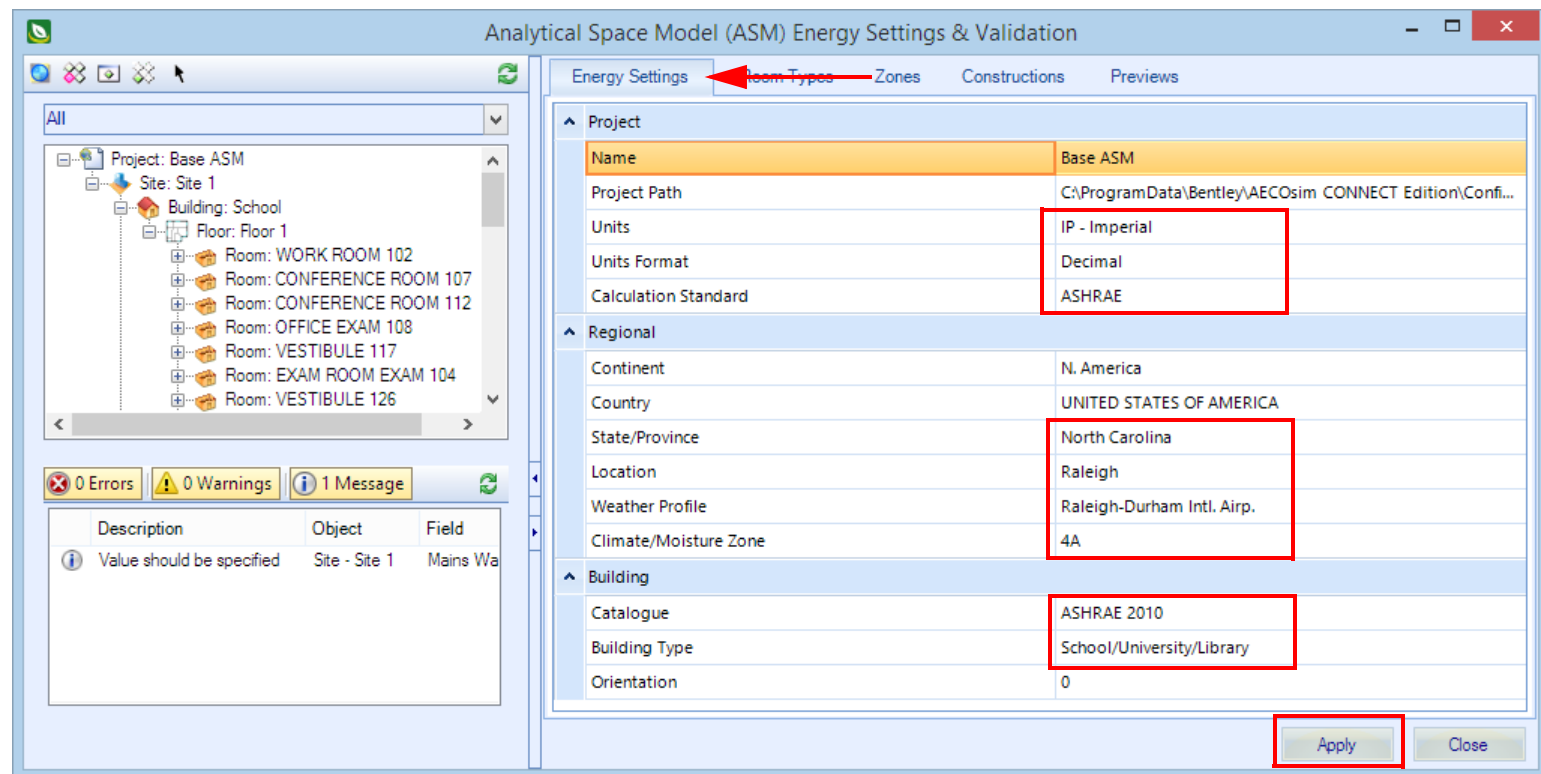
## Exercise 02: Performing an Energy Simulation

This exercise will guide the user through the steps needed to perform a baseline energy simulation. The baseline is intended to provide a starting benchmark. Additionally, upon completion of this exercise the user will know how to evaluate the resulting report.

1. To confirm the settings, open the *Analytical Space Model (ASM) Energy Settings & Validation* dialog by selecting **Validation** from the *Home* tab in the ribbon interface.

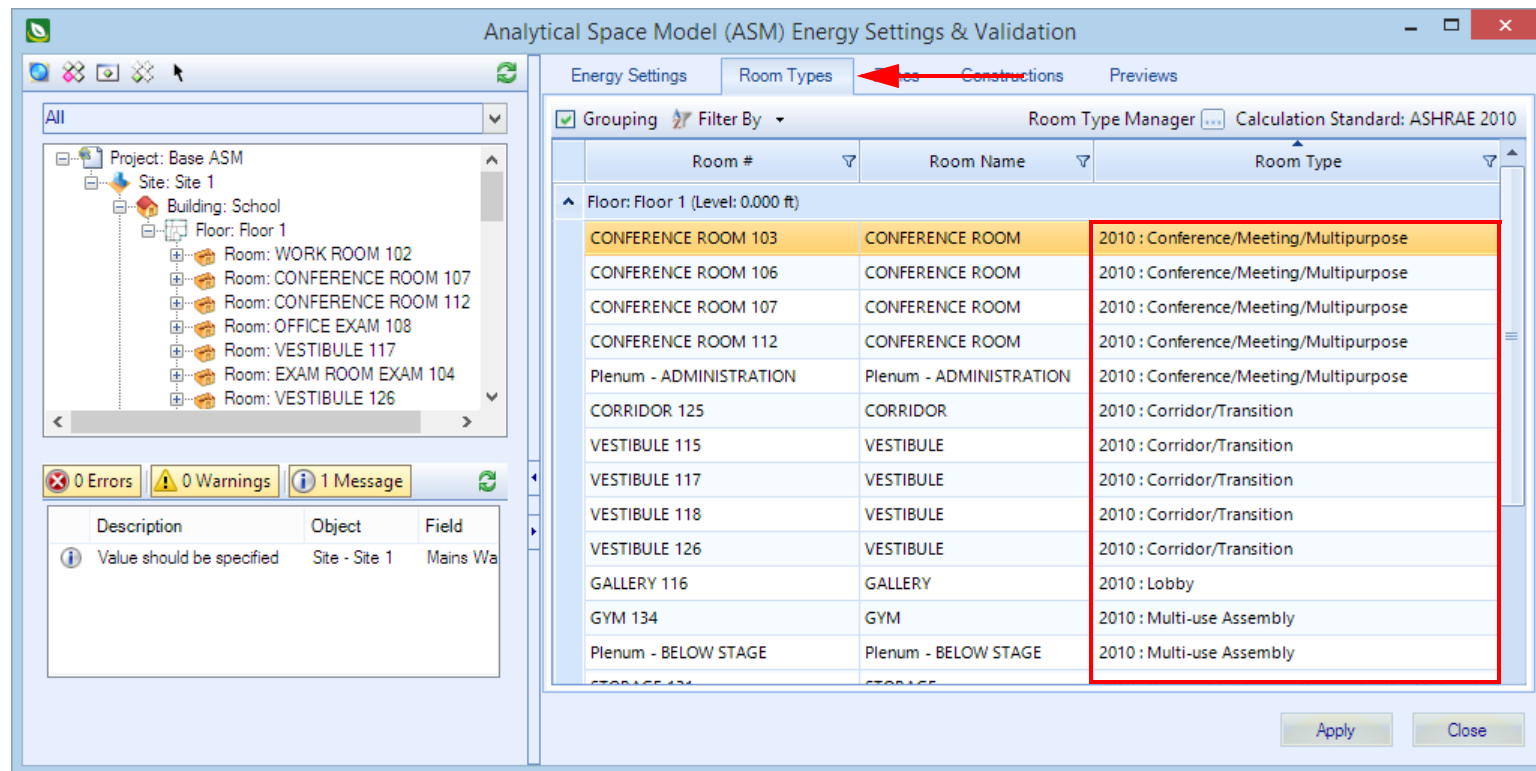


- a. On the *Energy Settings* tab set the *Project*, *Regional* and *Building* information as shown in the image on the right and select **Apply**.



b. On the **Room Types** tab check that all the rooms have been mapped to a **Room Type**.

**Note:** If any rooms are highlighted in red, that indicates that they have not been correctly mapped to a **Room Type**. You will need to select an appropriate **Room Type** and then select **Apply**.



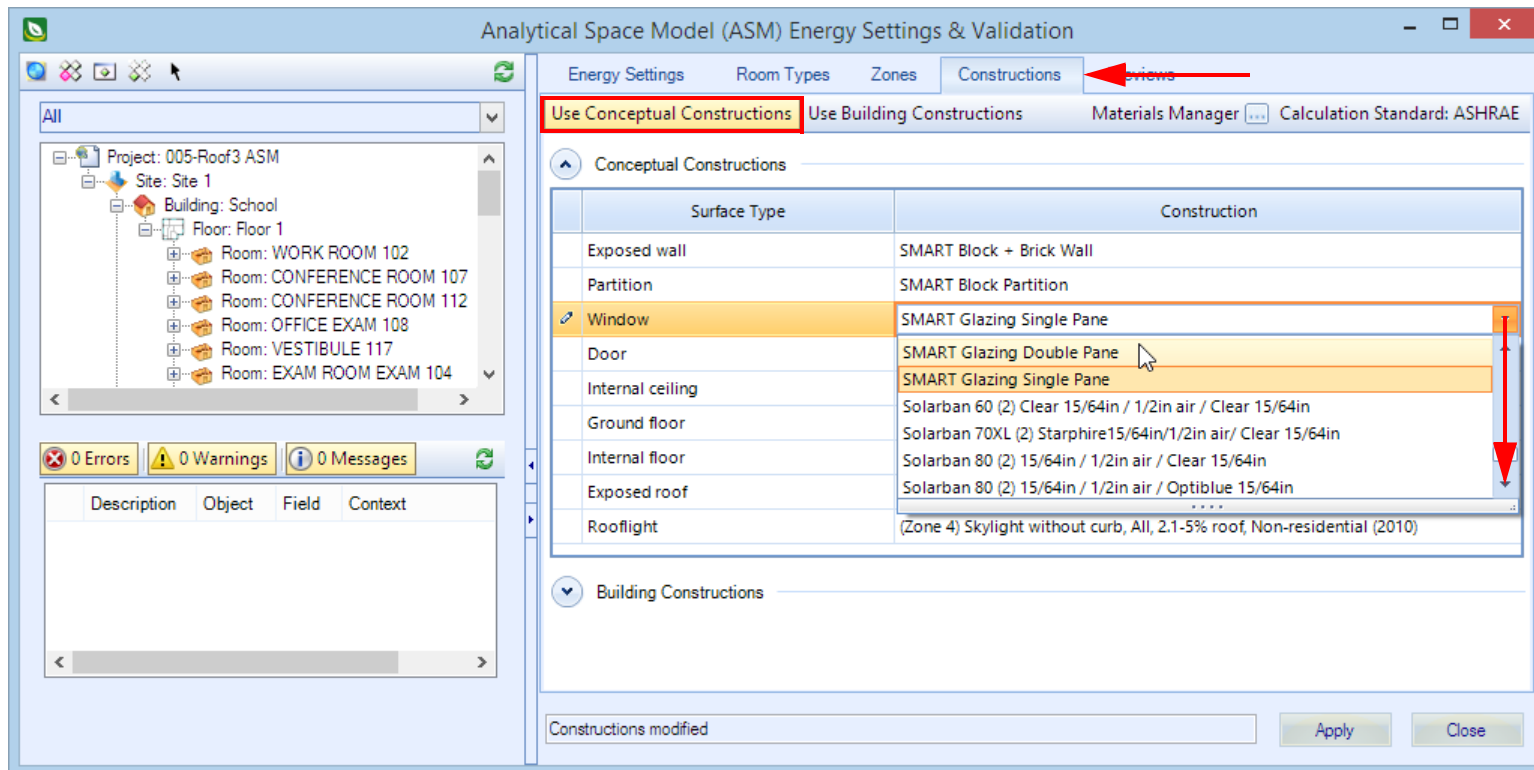
c. On the **Zones** tab, three zones have been defined, **AllRooms**, **Floor 1** and **Floor 1 Underfloor**.

d. Select zone **Floor 1**,

**Note:** The **Floor 1** zone includes all the rooms in the building except the plenum spaces. Since the plenum spaces are the only areas in the building that would *not* be heated and cooled, you may consider the **Floor 1** zone to be all the conditioned spaces in the building. The **Add** icon may be used to create additional zones. For instance, you might create a zone that included all the spaces in the lower portion of the building and another zone that included all the spaces in the gymnasium area.

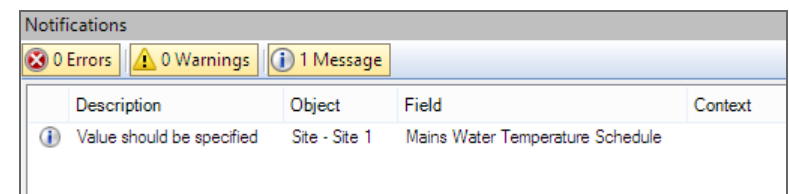
- e. On the **Constructions** tab select **Use Conceptual Constructions**.

These are basic wall, roof, door and window constructions that will be the initial defaults for the building's materials. The **Conceptual Constructions** could be modified now by selecting the construction and selecting a new construction from the pull-down, however, you will modify materials and constructions in a later exercise.



**Note:** The default constructions for the project were initially set in the **Defaults Manager** found on the **Data Managers** tab.

- f. **Close** the **Analytical Space Model (ASM) Energy Settings & Validation** dialog.
2. In the **Notifications** panel there is still one message.
  - a. **Double-click** on the message to open the **Properties For: Site: Site1** dialog.



- b. Set the *Mains water temp* to **HVACTemplateSystem-Always 10 (Value)**.

Name * Site 1			
Location			
Continent *	N. America	Longitude *	-78.63
Country *	UNITED STATES OF AMERICA	Latitude *	35.77
State/province *	North Carolina	Altitude *	269.029 ft
Location *	Raleigh	Mains water temp. *	<b>HVACTemplate-Always 10 (V)</b>
Weather profile *	Raleigh-Durham Intl. Airp.		

The *Mains water temp* setting is the temperature of the incoming water from the water main supply utility into the building.

- c. Set the *Terrain* information for the site.

Terrain			
Category *	<b>Urban</b>	Usage category *	<b>Developed rural ar</b>
Soil type *	Clay	Soil thermal conductivity *	10.40 Btu-in
Topography coefficient *	1.00	Ground reflection *	0.20
Wind shielding *	<b>Countryside</b>		

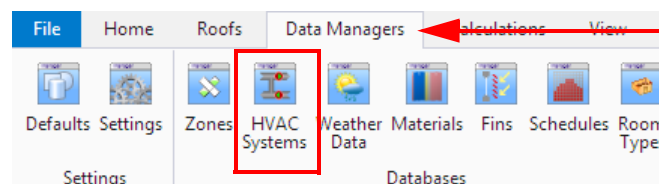
- d. Scroll down on the list and turn **On Use daylight saving**, so that the simulation takes into account the change in solar location during the months of the year when daylight savings time is in effect.

- e. Select **Apply** then **OK** to close the *Properties For: Site: Site1* dialog.

Daylight saving	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Use daylight saving
Start day *	28 Mar
End day *	31 Oct

Next you will assign an HVAC system to all the conditioned rooms, all the rooms in the *Floor1* zone.

3. Select the **HVAC Systems** tool from the *Data Managers* tab on the *Ribbon Interface*.





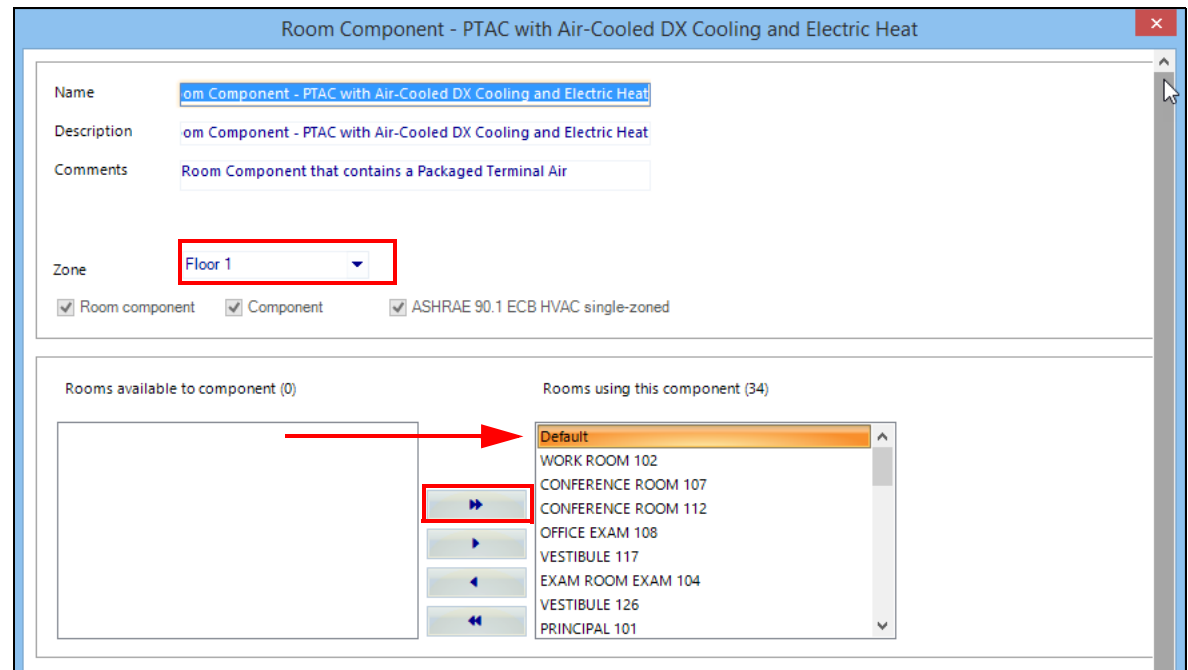
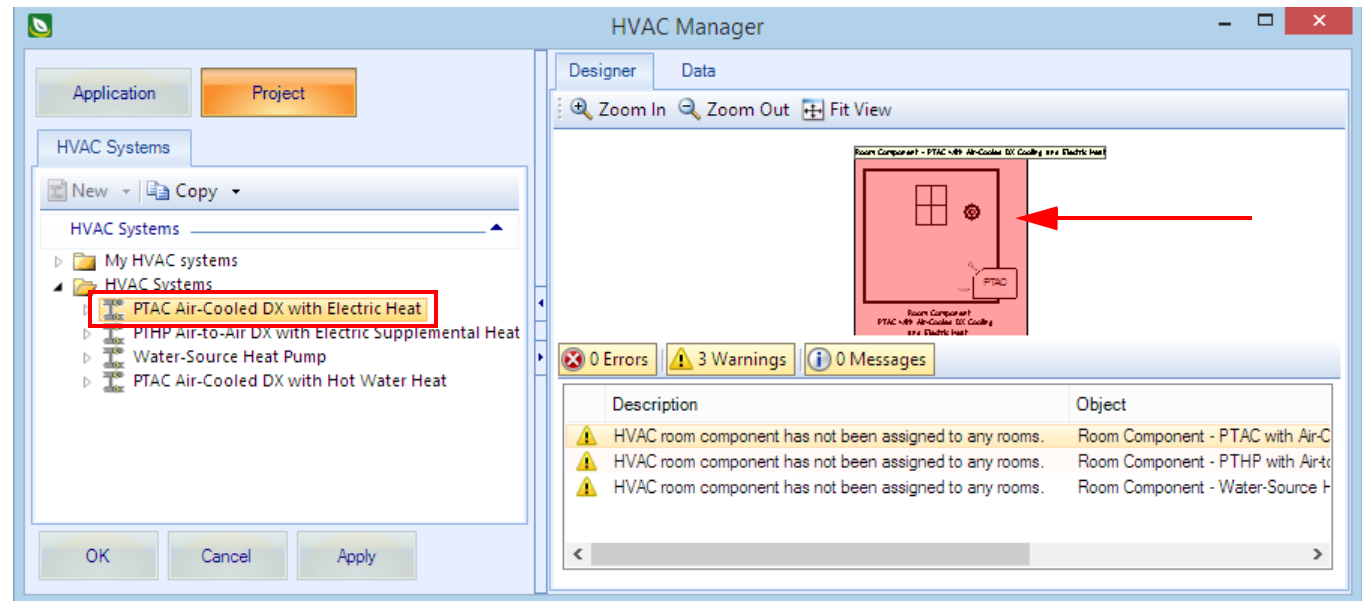
The *HVAC Manager* dialog and the *Designer Toolbox* will open.

4. In the *HVAC Manager*, expand the **HVAC Systems** folder and select the *PTAC Air-Cooled DX with Electric Heat*.
5. *Double-click* on the graphic in the *Designer* tab.

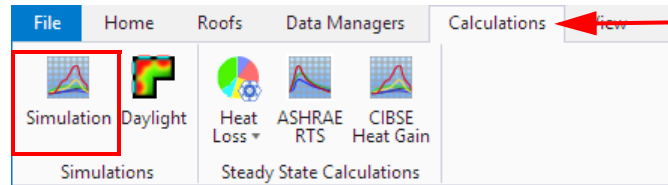
The *Room Component* dialog will open.

6. Change the *Zone* to **Floor 1**.
7. Move all the available rooms in this zone to the *Rooms using this component* list using the double arrow.
8. Close the *Room Component* dialog.
9. In the *HVAC Manager* dialog, select **Apply** then **OK** to close the *HVAC Manager* dialog.

The set up is complete and you are now ready to run the baseline simulation.



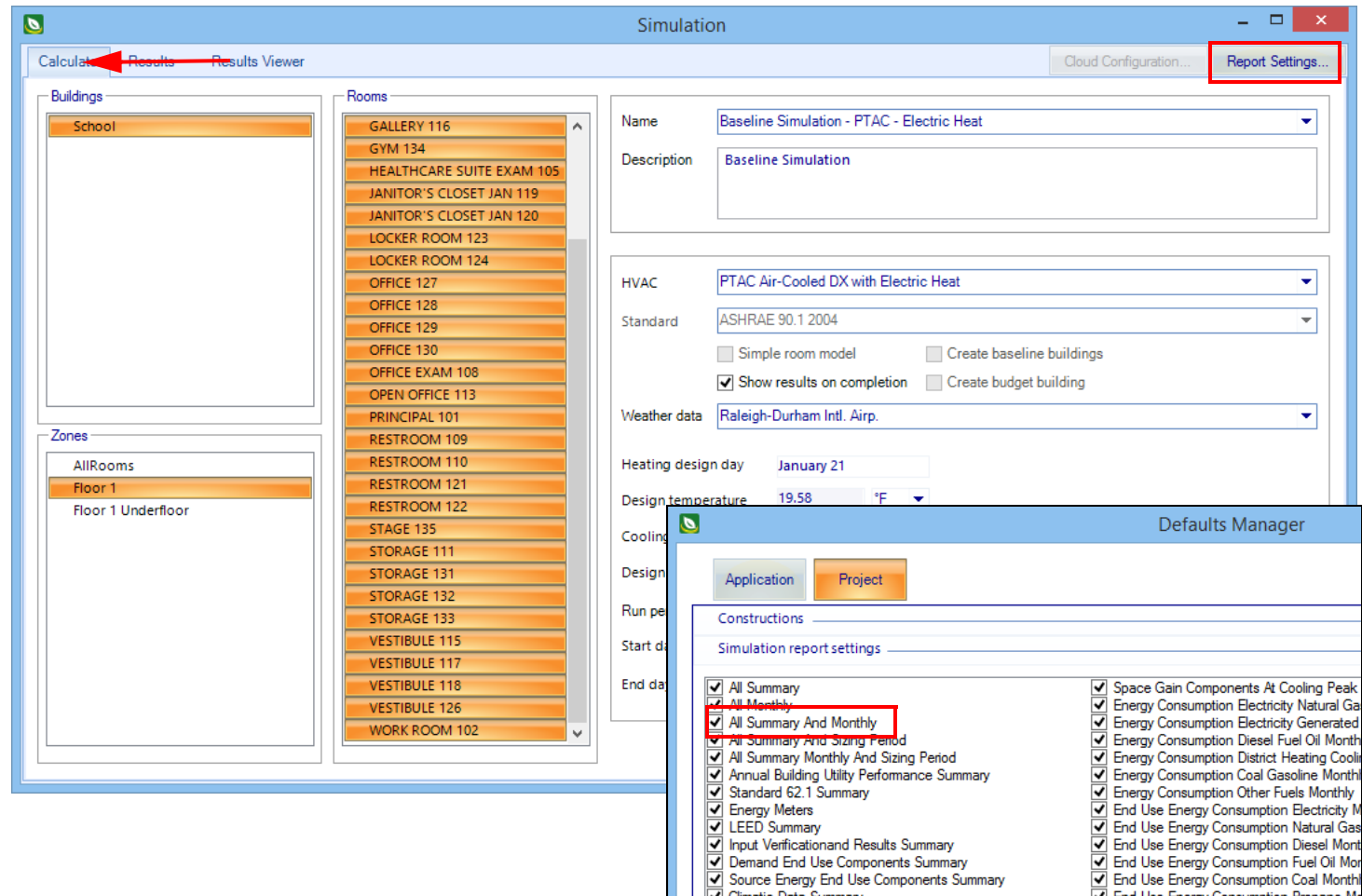
10. Select the **Simulation** tool from the *Calculations* tab on the *Ribbon Interface*:



A *Simulation* dialog window will now open. It contains the controls needed to setup and begin a simulation. The *Calculate* tab will allow the user to define the following: zones of the building to be included in the simulation, type of simulation, the weather data to use, and the length of the simulation.

11. Click **Report Settings** and a *Defaults Manager* window will open.

- Click in the check box for *All Summary and Monthly* to select all options.
- Click **Apply** and **OK** to save these changes and return to the *Simulation* window.





12. Ensure that under the **Buildings** heading, **School** is selected.

13. Ensure that under **Zones** heading **Floor 1** is selected.

This will automatically highlight all the rooms in the **Conditioned Rooms** zone under the **Rooms** heading.

14. A **Name** is required for the simulation, fill in the following fields:

a. **Name:** **Baseline Simulation - PTAC - Electric Heat**

b. **Description:** **Baseline Simulation**

c. **HVAC:** **PTAC Air-Cooled DX with Electric Heat**

d. **Weather data:** **Raleigh-Durham Intl. Airp.**

**Note:** This will populate the **Heating** and **Cooling** design day dates and temperatures.

15. Select the **Full year** icon to set the **Run period** duration to an entire year (Start day: 1/ 1/2018 and End day: 12/31/2018).

a. Select **Start** and simulation will begin.

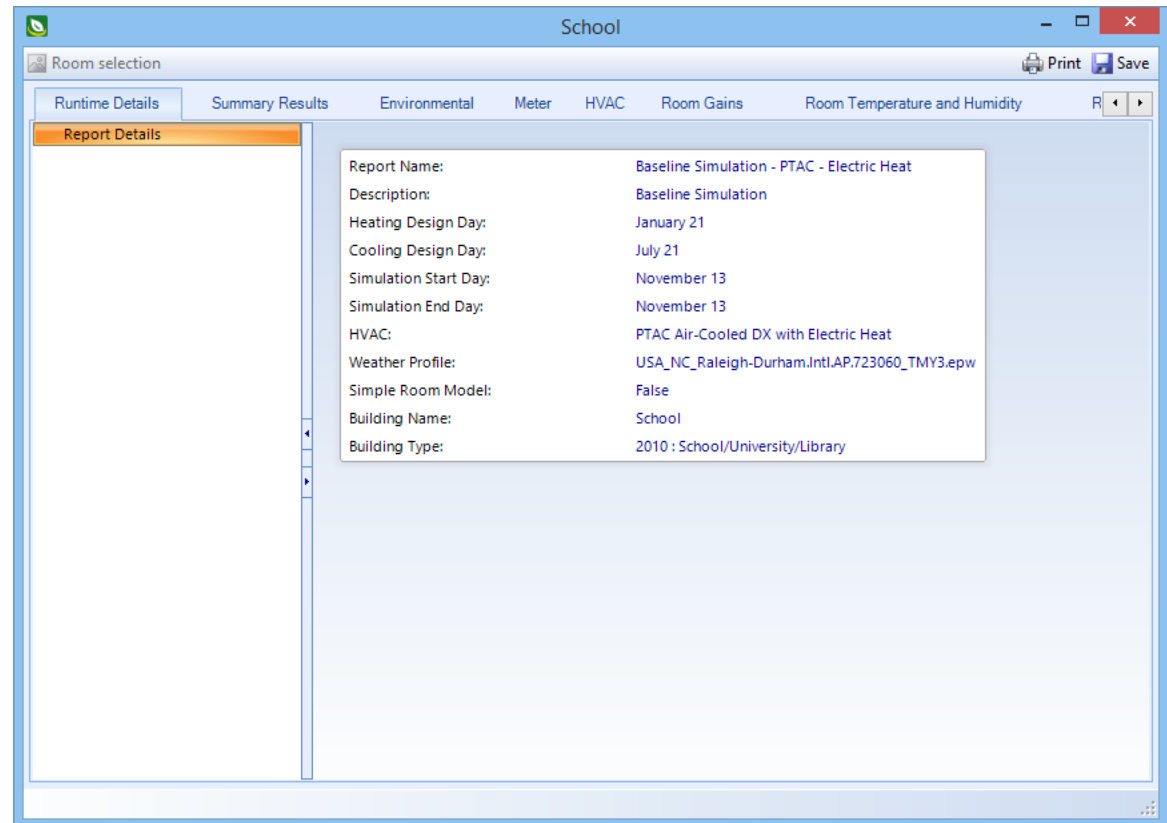
The screenshot shows the 'Simulation' window of a software application. The interface is divided into several sections:

- Buildings:** A list on the left with 'School' selected and highlighted with a red box.
- Zones:** A list below 'Buildings' with 'Floor 1' selected and highlighted with a red box.
- Rooms:** A large list on the right showing various rooms like 'GALLERY 116', 'GYM 134', etc., all of which are highlighted in orange.
- Simulation Settings:** A panel on the right with the following fields:
  - Name:** 'Baseline Simulation - PTAC - Electric Heat' (highlighted with a red box).
  - Description:** 'Baseline Simulation' (highlighted with a red box).
  - HVAC:** 'PTAC Air-Cooled DX with Electric Heat' (highlighted with a red box).
  - Standard:** 'ASHRAE 90.1 2004'.
  - Options:** 'Simple room model' (unchecked), 'Create baseline buildings' (unchecked), 'Show results on completion' (checked), 'Create budget building' (unchecked).
  - Weather data:** 'Raleigh-Durham Intl. Airp.' (highlighted with a red box).
  - Heating design day:** 'January 21'.
  - Design temperature:** '19.58 °F'.
  - Cooling design day:** 'July 21'.
  - Design temperature:** '92.30 °F'.
  - Run period:** 'Start day' is '1/ 1/2018' and 'End day' is '12/31/2018'. The 'Full year' icon is highlighted with a red box.
  - Buttons:** 'Cloud' (disabled) and 'Start' (highlighted with a red box).

A *Simulation Status* message in the *Notifications* panel indicates the simulation is running. The *Simulation* window shows the *Results* tab when the simulation is finished and a window named *School* will open with the detailed results.

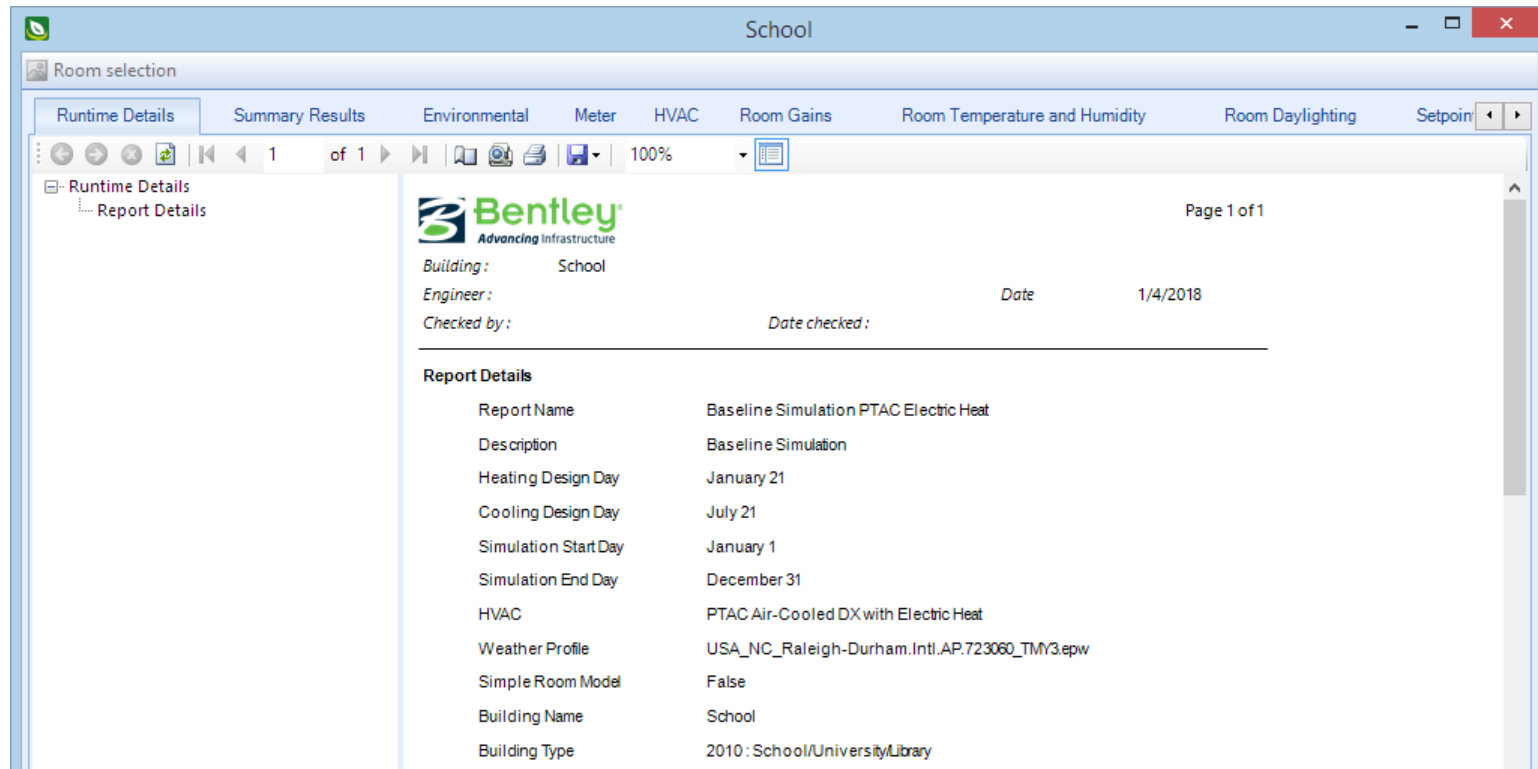
16. Select the **Save** button in the upper right corner.
  - a. Save this file to an appropriate location.

**Note:** This is the Baseline Report. The results can be accessed at a later time by returning to the *Simulation* window and selecting the *Results* tab near the top of the window. Find the simulation title needed and select it. Select the **Detailed** icon in the *Show* group near the bottom right of the window to see the detailed results of the simulation.



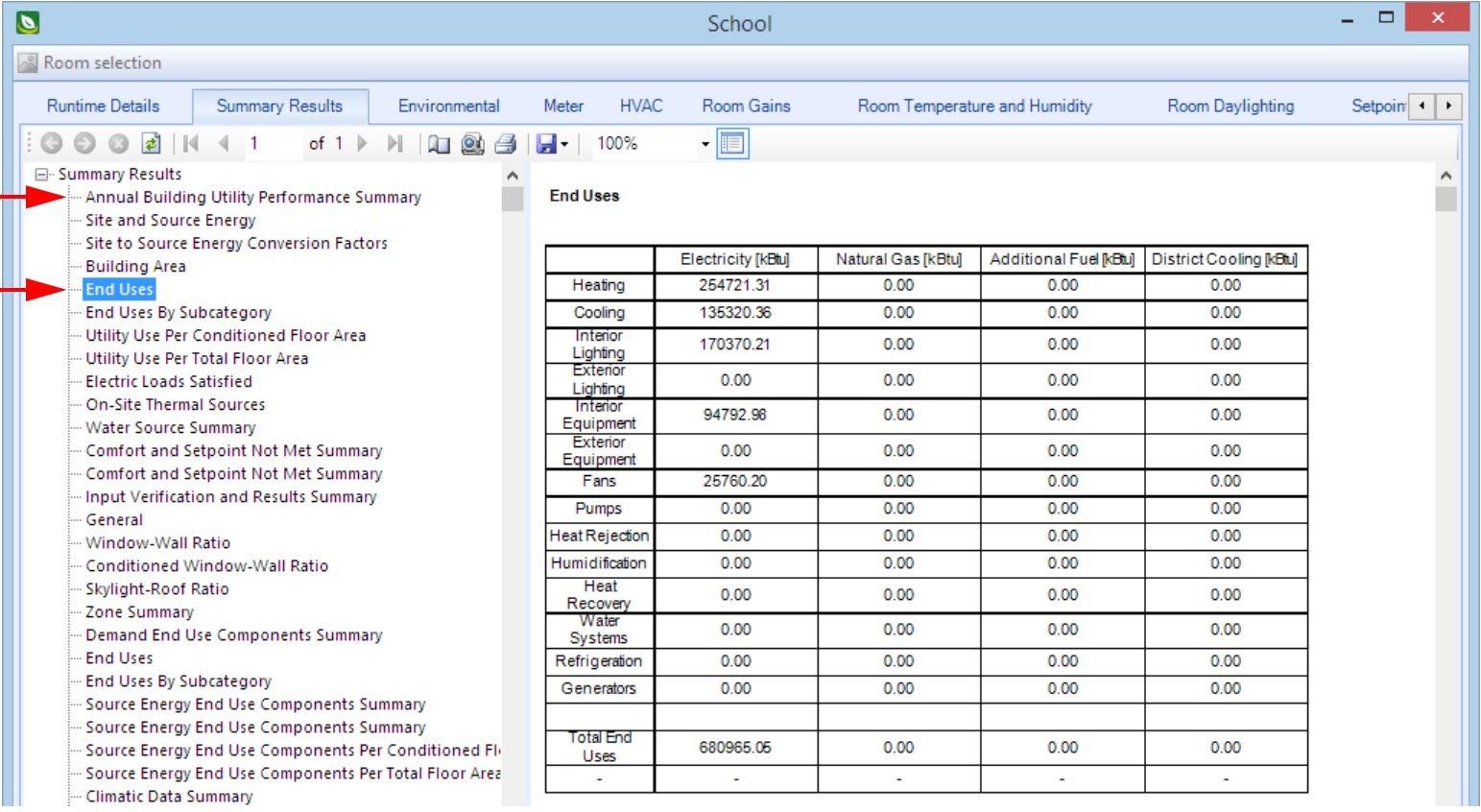
## Runtime Details

The first tab shows the *Runtime Details* view, which displays the different calculation design information as an overview.



## Summary Results

This tab contains a comprehensive report on many different aspects of the building design. An *Annual Building utility Performance Summary* is displayed at the top of this tab. the *End Uses* shows how much energy the various uses, heating, cooling, interior lighting, equipment and fans are each consuming.

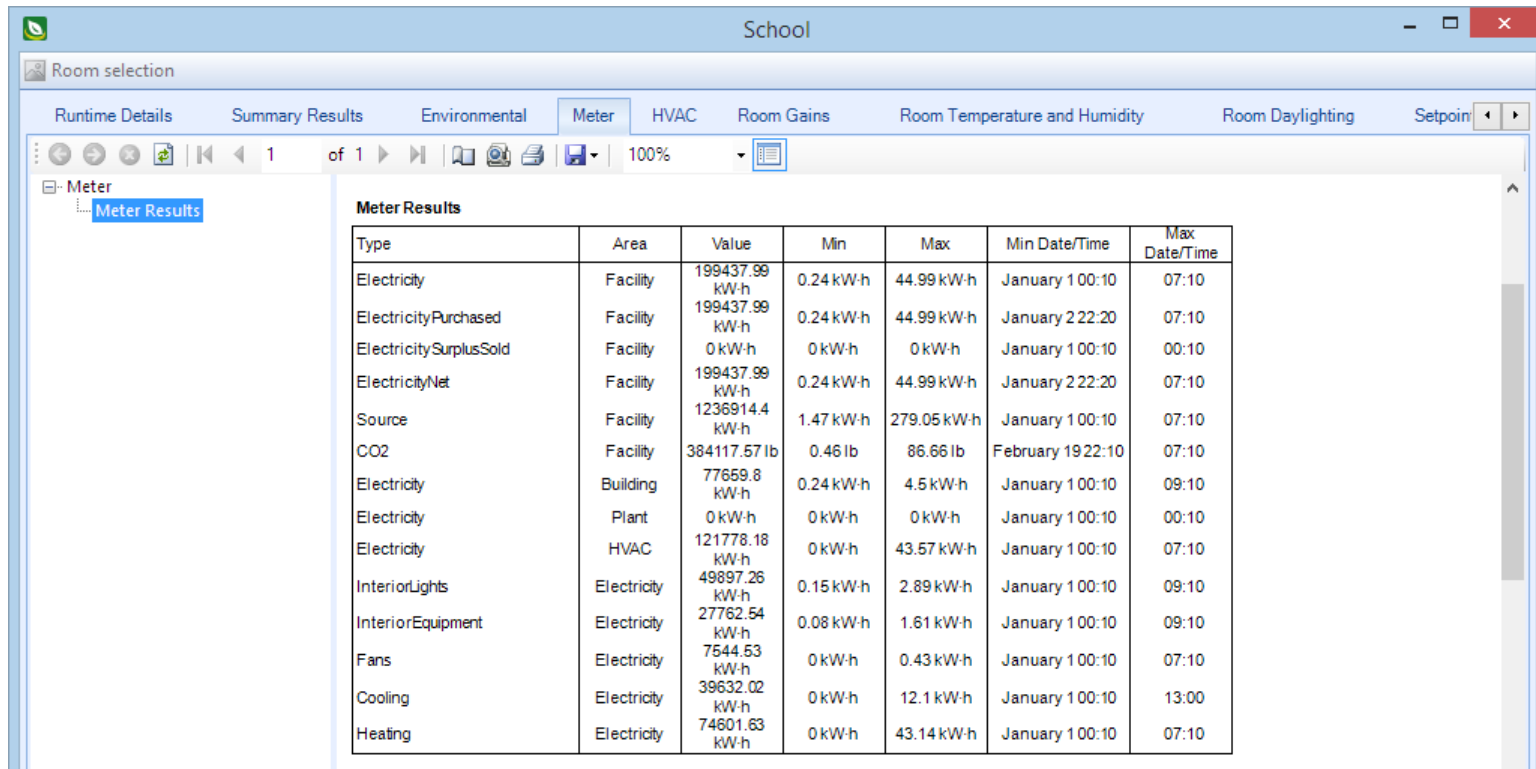


The screenshot shows the 'School' software interface with the 'Summary Results' tab selected. The left sidebar lists various report categories, with 'End Uses' highlighted. The main panel displays the 'End Uses' table, which details energy consumption for different building systems.

	Electricity [kBtu]	Natural Gas [kBtu]	Additional Fuel [kBtu]	District Cooling [kBtu]
Heating	254721.31	0.00	0.00	0.00
Cooling	135320.36	0.00	0.00	0.00
Interior Lighting	170370.21	0.00	0.00	0.00
Exterior Lighting	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Interior Equipment	94792.98	0.00	0.00	0.00
Exterior Equipment	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Fans	25760.20	0.00	0.00	0.00
Pumps	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Heat Rejection	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Humidification	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Heat Recovery	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Water Systems	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Refrigeration	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Generators	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Total End Uses	680965.05	0.00	0.00	0.00
-	-	-	-	-

## Meter

The meter tab displays the simulated power consumption data including minimum and maximum power consumption and corresponding dates for different areas of the project building.

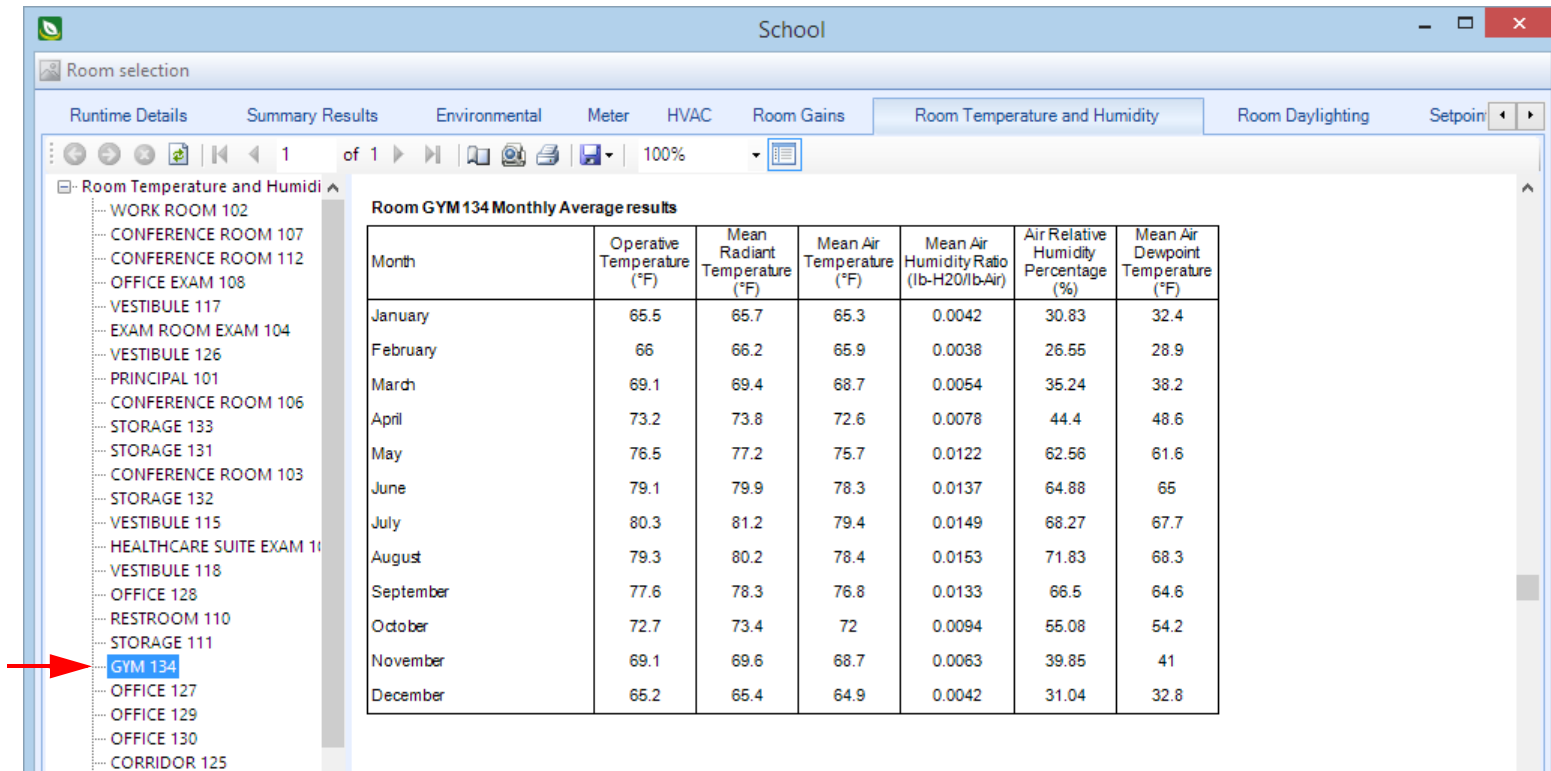


The screenshot shows the 'School' software window. The 'Meter' tab is selected in the navigation bar. The main display area shows a table titled 'Meter Results' with the following data:

Type	Area	Value	Min	Max	Min Date/Time	Max Date/Time
Electricity	Facility	199437.99 kW-h	0.24 kW-h	44.99 kW-h	January 1 00:10	07:10
ElectricityPurchased	Facility	199437.99 kW-h	0.24 kW-h	44.99 kW-h	January 2 22:20	07:10
ElectricitySurplusSold	Facility	0 kW-h	0 kW-h	0 kW-h	January 1 00:10	00:10
ElectricityNet	Facility	199437.99 kW-h	0.24 kW-h	44.99 kW-h	January 2 22:20	07:10
Source	Facility	1236914.4 kW-h	1.47 kW-h	279.05 kW-h	January 1 00:10	07:10
CO2	Facility	384117.57 lb	0.46 lb	86.66 lb	February 19 22:10	07:10
Electricity	Building	77659.8 kW-h	0.24 kW-h	4.5 kW-h	January 1 00:10	09:10
Electricity	Plant	0 kW-h	0 kW-h	0 kW-h	January 1 00:10	00:10
Electricity	HVAC	121778.18 kW-h	0 kW-h	43.57 kW-h	January 1 00:10	07:10
InteriorLights	Electricity	49897.26 kW-h	0.15 kW-h	2.89 kW-h	January 1 00:10	09:10
InteriorEquipment	Electricity	27762.54 kW-h	0.08 kW-h	1.61 kW-h	January 1 00:10	09:10
Fans	Electricity	7544.53 kW-h	0 kW-h	0.43 kW-h	January 1 00:10	07:10
Cooling	Electricity	39632.02 kW-h	0 kW-h	12.1 kW-h	January 1 00:10	13:00
Heating	Electricity	74601.63 kW-h	0 kW-h	43.14 kW-h	January 1 00:10	07:10

## Room Temperature and Humidity

The *Room Temperature and Humidity* tab will show monthly average temperature and humidity results for each room in the building.



Room selection

Runtime Details Summary Results Environmental Meter HVAC Room Gains Room Temperature and Humidity Room Daylighting Setpoint

Room GYM134 Monthly Average results

Month	Operative Temperature (°F)	Mean Radiant Temperature (°F)	Mean Air Temperature (°F)	Mean Air Humidity Ratio (lb-H2O/lb-Air)	Air Relative Humidity Percentage (%)	Mean Air Dewpoint Temperature (°F)
January	65.5	65.7	65.3	0.0042	30.83	32.4
February	66	66.2	65.9	0.0038	26.55	28.9
March	69.1	69.4	68.7	0.0054	35.24	38.2
April	73.2	73.8	72.6	0.0078	44.4	48.6
May	76.5	77.2	75.7	0.0122	62.56	61.6
June	79.1	79.9	78.3	0.0137	64.88	65
July	80.3	81.2	79.4	0.0149	68.27	67.7
August	79.3	80.2	78.4	0.0153	71.83	68.3
September	77.6	78.3	76.8	0.0133	66.5	64.6
October	72.7	73.4	72	0.0094	55.08	54.2
November	69.1	69.6	68.7	0.0063	39.85	41
December	65.2	65.4	64.9	0.0042	31.04	32.8

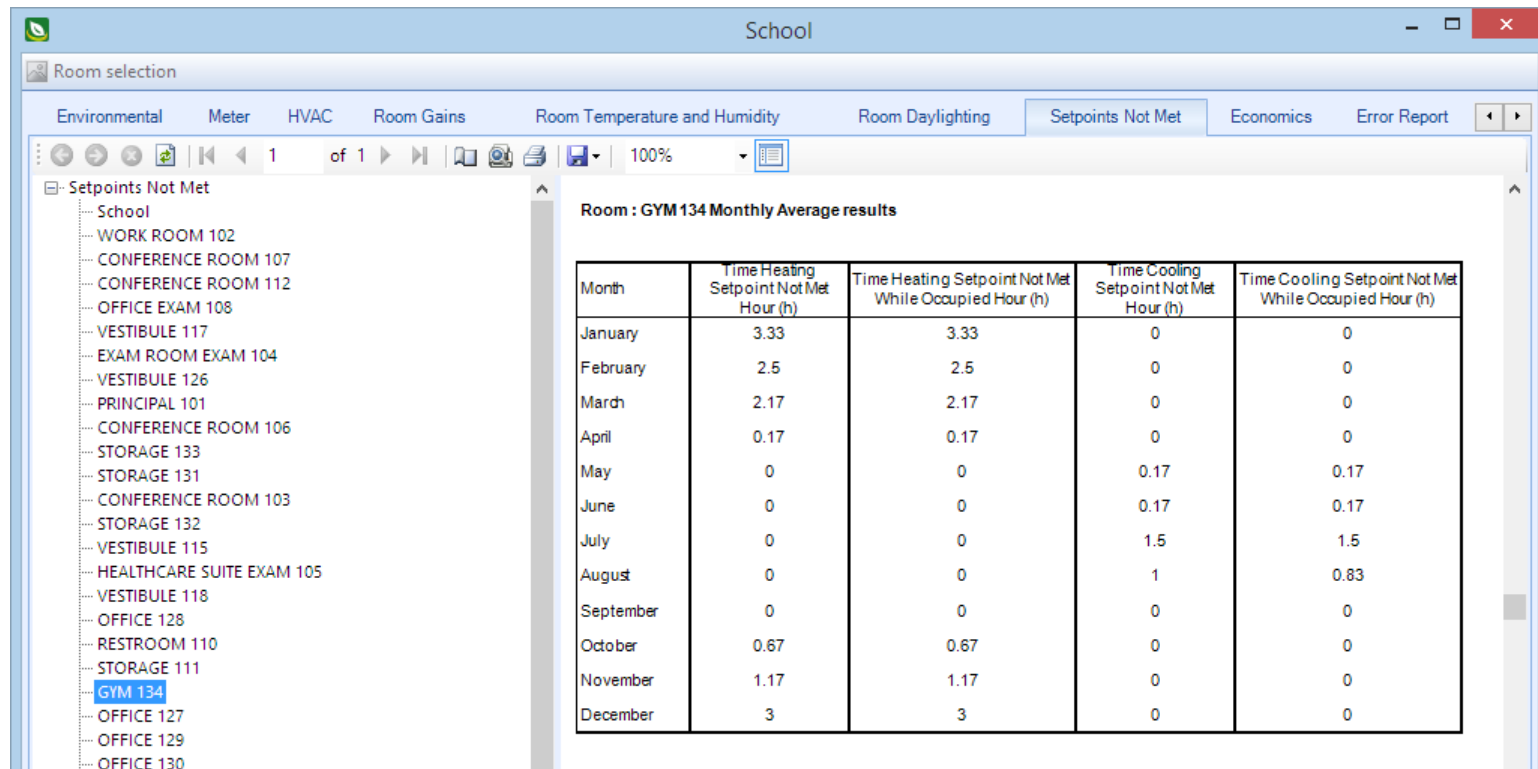
## Room Daylighting

The *Room Daylighting* tab will show the amount of illumination in each room from daylight on a monthly basis. At this point the values are all zero because daylighting was not considered in the base simulation. In the next simulation you will turn on the option to turn off interior lights when daylight is sufficient in a room, which should reduce the energy consumption from interior lighting.

## Setpoints Not Met

Scrolling over in the tabs displays the *Setpoints Not Met* tab, if heating or cooling setpoints are not met in the building these will be displayed here.

The results are split into results for the entire building and results for each individual room. For each of the results the table displays the time that the heating and cooling setpoint is not met for the month as well as for the occupied period only.



Room selection

Environmental Meter HVAC Room Gains Room Temperature and Humidity Room Daylighting **Setpoints Not Met** Economics Error Report

1 of 1

Setpoints Not Met

- School
- WORK ROOM 102
- CONFERENCE ROOM 107
- CONFERENCE ROOM 112
- OFFICE EXAM 108
- VESTIBULE 117
- EXAM ROOM EXAM 104
- VESTIBULE 126
- PRINCIPAL 101
- CONFERENCE ROOM 106
- STORAGE 133
- STORAGE 131
- CONFERENCE ROOM 103
- STORAGE 132
- VESTIBULE 115
- HEALTHCARE SUITE EXAM 105
- VESTIBULE 118
- OFFICE 128
- RESTROOM 110
- STORAGE 111
- GYM 134**
- OFFICE 127
- OFFICE 129
- OFFICE 130

Room : GYM 134 Monthly Average results

Month	Time Heating Setpoint Not Met Hour (h)	Time Heating Setpoint Not Met While Occupied Hour (h)	Time Cooling Setpoint Not Met Hour (h)	Time Cooling Setpoint Not Met While Occupied Hour (h)
January	3.33	3.33	0	0
February	2.5	2.5	0	0
March	2.17	2.17	0	0
April	0.17	0.17	0	0
May	0	0	0.17	0.17
June	0	0	0.17	0.17
July	0	0	1.5	1.5
August	0	0	1	0.83
September	0	0	0	0
October	0.67	0.67	0	0
November	1.17	1.17	0	0
December	3	3	0	0



## Economics

Scrolling over in the tabs displays the *Economics* tab. The economics results display the summary and cost tariff reports for the project building economics. The economics result contains a summary report and a tariff report.

The summary report contains a standardized tabular output with two reports that detail the simulated economics, or, calculation of annual utility costs for the project building. The economics result summary report displays a summary of multiple cost tariffs defined for the building in the properties dialog box. The report gives details on the three different cost types, simulated electricity, gas and other fuels for each cost type as well the total of all costs in each row.

**Economics Result Summary Report**

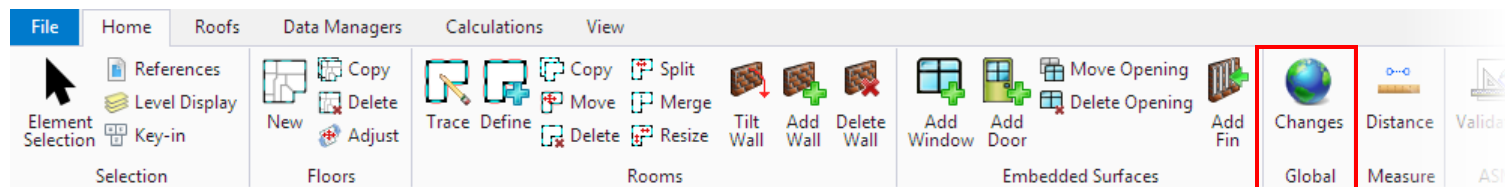
Cost Type	Electricity Dollar (n/a)	Gas Dollar (n/a)	Other Dollar (n/a)	Total Dollar (n/a)
Cost	30082.25	0	0	30082.25
Cost per Total Building Area	1.74	0	0	1.74
Cost per Net Conditioned Building Area	1.74	0	0	1.74

**Economics Tariff Summary Report**

Tariff Type	Selected	Qualified	Meter	BuyOrSell	Group	AnnualCost Dollar (\$)
PubServColorado_SG_SecondaryGeneral	Yes	Yes	ELECTRICITY:FACILITY	Buy	COMM ELECT	30082.25

Next you will make a global change to all the rooms in the project so that daylighting will be considered when determining the interior lighting load, global changes can be made to the surfaces in groups of rooms, zones or the entire building.

17. Select the **Changes** icon from the *Global* group on the *Home* tab as shown below:



The *Global Changes* window will appear:

**Note:** Selecting any of the *Zones* on the left side of the window will automatically highlight the associated rooms located in that specific selected zone on the *Rooms* list (located above the *Zones* list).

18. On the left side of the dialog select the zone **Floor 1**.

This will select all the rooms in the zone Floor 1, so that they changes made will be made to all the selected rooms.

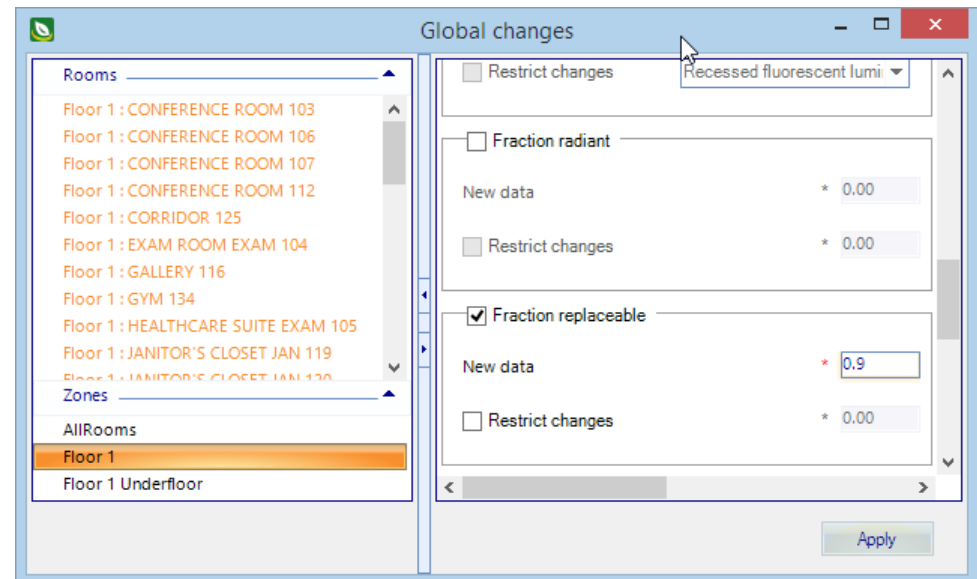
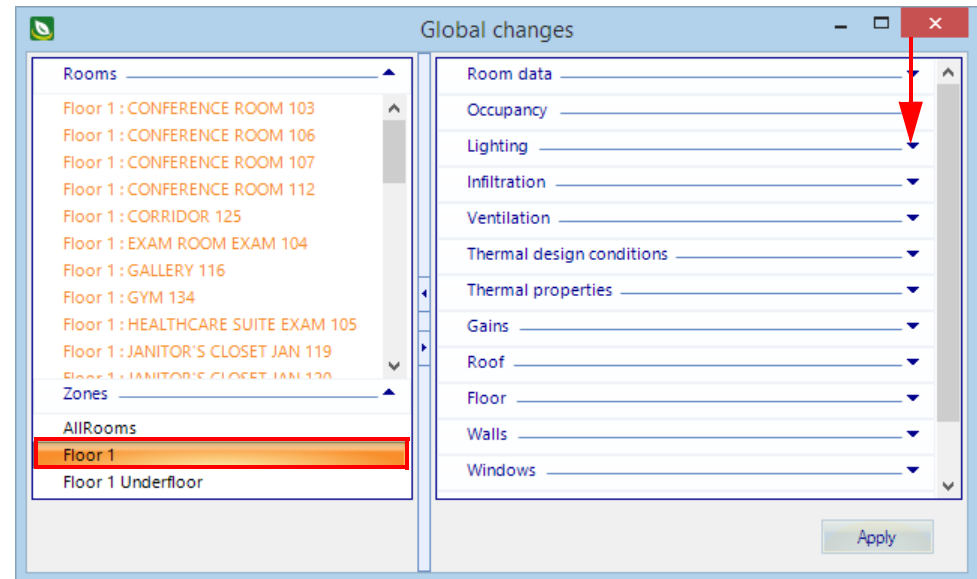
19. To change the lighting properties, select the arrow to the right of *Lighting* on the right side of the window.

a. Next, select the box next to *Fraction replaceable* (a check mark will appear). The *New data* drop down menu will become active. Type in **0.9**.

This means that 90% of the interior lighting in any room will be replaced with daylighting, when daylight levels are sufficient. In other words, the lights can be turned off.

20. Select **Apply**.

Repeat steps 10 -16 to run a second simulation report, naming it **Baseline Simulation with Daylight - PTAC - Electric Heat**.



When complete open both reports so that you can compare them side by side. Under the Summary Report compare the End Uses data.

Base Simulation		Base Simulation with Daylight	
End Uses		End Uses	
	Electricity [kBtu]		Electricity [kBtu]
Heating	254721.31	Heating	259765.99
Cooling	135320.36	Cooling	131810.87
Interior Lighting	170370.21	Interior Lighting	129393.10
Exterior Lighting	0.00	Exterior Lighting	0.00
Interior Equipment	94792.98	Interior Equipment	94916.72
Exterior Equipment	0.00	Exterior Equipment	0.00
Fans	25760.20	Fans	25000.77
Pumps	0.00	Pumps	0.00
Heat Rejection	0.00	Heat Rejection	0.00
Humidification	0.00	Humidification	0.00
Heat Recovery	0.00	Heat Recovery	0.00
Water Systems	0.00	Water Systems	0.00
Refrigeration	0.00	Refrigeration	0.00
Generators	0.00	Generators	0.00
Total End Uses	680965.06	Total End Uses	640887.46
-	-	-	-

**Note:** The amount of electricity used for interior lighting has decreased. In addition the cooling load has decreased. Why is that? However the Heating load has increased. Why is that?

## Analysis of Simulation Results

Consider the following when evaluating simulation results:

*Site energy use:* how much energy (kBtu/square foot) will the building use?

*Economics:* how much will the building owner pay for annual energy bills?

*Setpoints met:* will building occupants be comfortable?

## Simulation Results

As soon as the simulation calculation is complete, the simulation results will be displayed

## Runtime Details

The first tab shows the *Runtime Details* view, which displays the different calculation design information as an overview.

## Summary Results

This tab contains a comprehensive report on many different aspects of the building design. Site Energy, Building Area, and Utility Use Per Area are displayed near the top of this tab.

## Meter

The meter tab displays the simulated power consumption data including minimum and maximum power consumption and corresponding dates for different areas of the project building.

## Setpoints Not Met

Scrolling over in the tabs displays the *Setpoints Not Met* tab, if heating or cooling setpoints are not met in the building these will be displayed here.

The results are split into results for the entire building and results for each individual room. For each of the results the table displays the time that the heating and cooling setpoint is not met for the month as well as for the occupied period only.

## Room Temperature and Humidity

Also see the *Room Temperature and Humidity* tab for monthly average results per room.

## Economics

Scrolling over in the tabs displays the *Economics* tab. The economics results display the summary and cost tariff reports for the project building economics. The economics result contains a summary report and a tariff report.

The summary report contains a standardized tabular output with two reports that detail the simulated economics, or, calculation of annual utility costs for the project building. The economics result summary report displays a summary of multiple cost tariffs defined for the building in the properties dialog box. The report gives details on the three different cost types, simulated electricity, gas and other fuels for each cost type as well the total of all costs in each row.

## Exercise 03: Solar Exposure Calculation in AECOsim Building Designer

In this exercise the user will perform a series of solar exposure calculations on the building, using AECOsim Building Designer, to visually see how different building orientations change the solar exposure on the various surfaces of the building

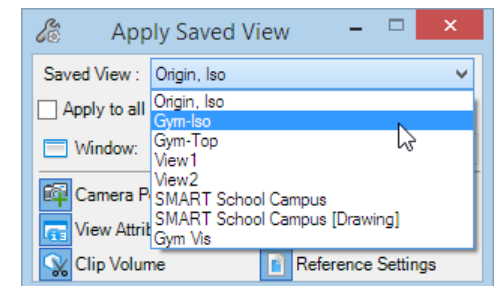
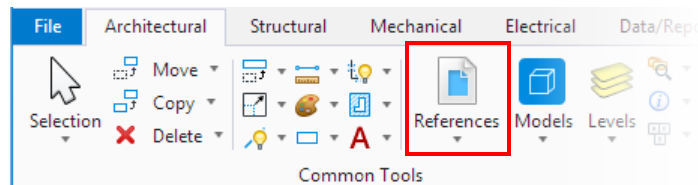
1. Start **AECOsim Building Designer** from the Start menu or desktop shortcut.
2. Set the *Workspace* to **AECOsim Examples** and the *WorkSet* to the workset created earlier.
3. Select **Browse**.
  - a. Select and open the **\_WorkingModel.dgn** file.
4. Apply the saved views, Gym-Iso and Gym-Top to View 1 and 2 respectively by selecting the **Apply Saved View** tool from the *View* tab on the ribbon interface.



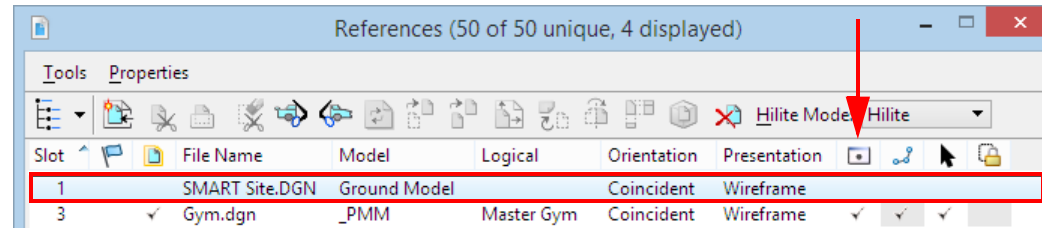
- a. In the *Tool Settings* for the **Apply Saved View** tool, select the desired view, *Gym-Iso* or *Gym-Top* and data point (*left-click*) in the view window to restore the view.

Before running the solar exposure you will want to turn off the site model to avoid time consuming calculations.

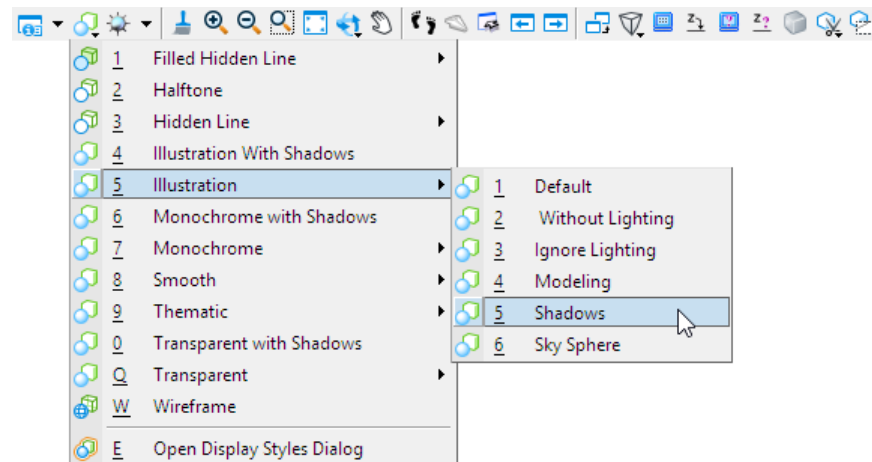
5. Select the **References** icon from the *Architectural* tab on the Ribbon Interface.



- a. Select the *SMART Site.dgn* reference and un-check the display to turn **Off** the reference display.



6. From the *View Control* tools, set the *View 1* and *View 2 Display Styles* to **Illustration: Shadows**.



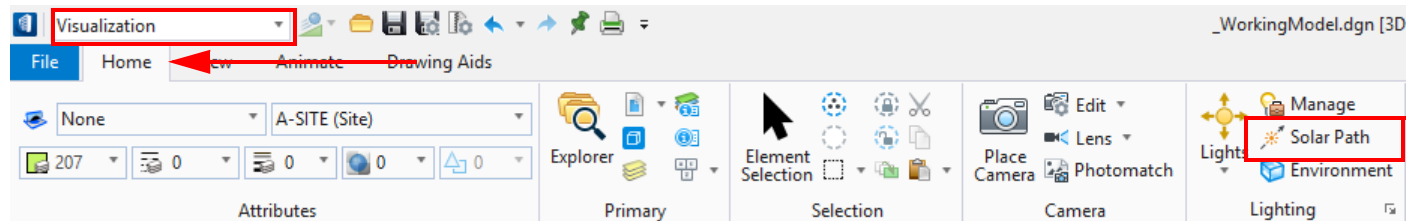


## The Solar Path

The longitude, latitude and north direction of the site have already been set under the solar properties in the light manager. To better understand the current orientation of the building in relation to the sun, use the **Edit Solar Path** tool to animate the solar path of the sun throughout the year.

7. Set the *Workflow* to **Visualization**.

a. Select the **Solar Path** icon from the *Lighting* group on the *Home* tab in the *Ribbon Interface*.



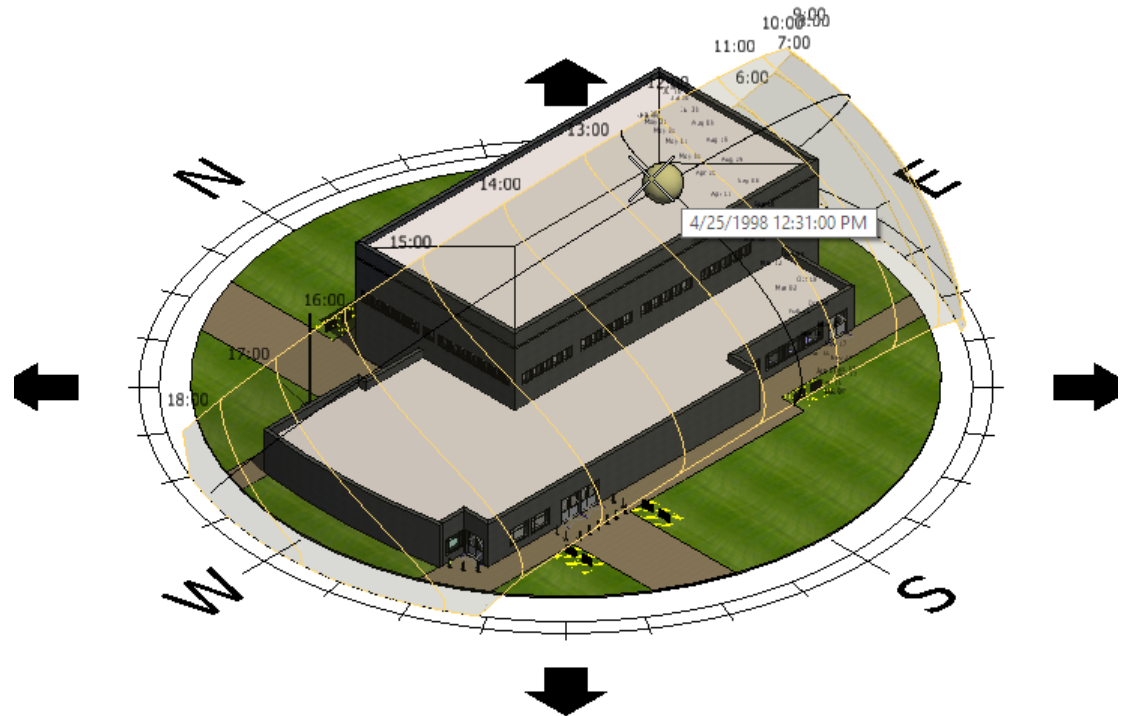
b. Zoom out a little in each view as needed.

c. Simply drag the sun icon to see its location on any given day at any given time. Allow the software a couple of seconds to update the shadows.

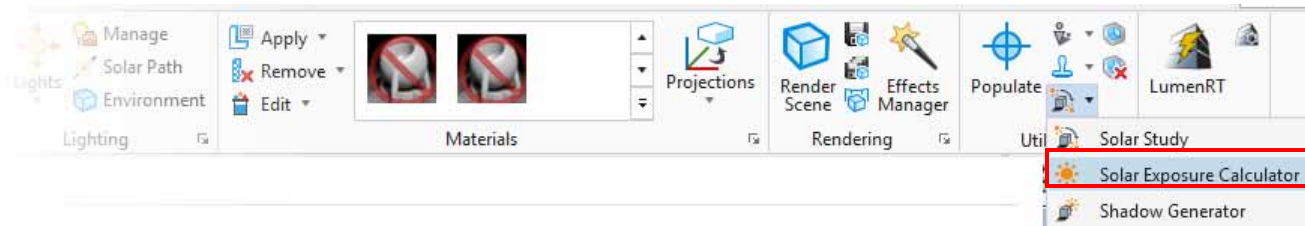
You can visually see how the building casts shadows on the local area.

## Solar Exposure Calculator

Next you will calculate the solar exposure (hours of day exposed to sunlight) of every surface of the building using the solar exposure calculator. Ideally you will want to calculate solar exposure for each season throughout the year, so you will use four days throughout the year; the spring equinox (March 20), the summer solstice (June 20), the fall equinox (September 22) and the winter solstice (December 21).



8. Select the **Solar Exposure Calculator** icon from the *Utilities* group on the *Home* tab in the *Ribbon Interface*.

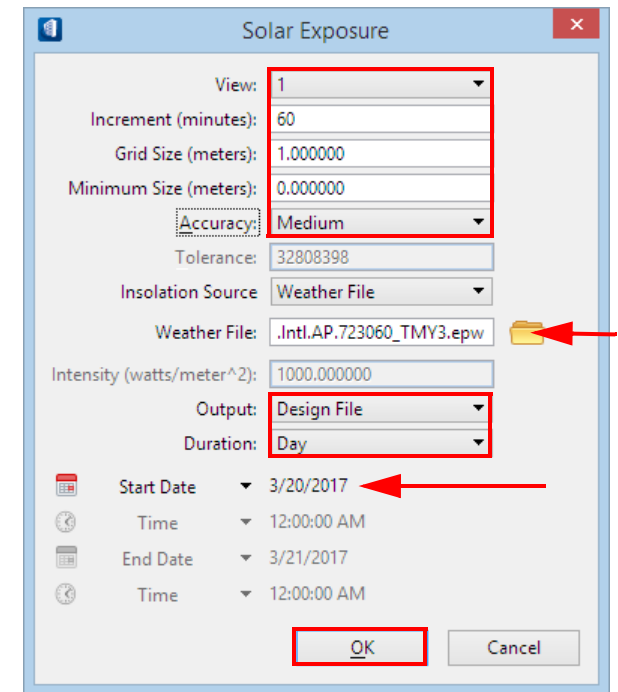


9. Fill in the *Solar Exposure Calculator* to indicate the day as shown here:

- a. *View*: **1**
- b. *Increment (minutes)*: **60**
- c. *Grid Size (meters)*: **1.000000**
- d. *Minimum Size (meters)*: **0.000000**
- e. *Accuracy*: **Medium**
- f. *Insolation Source*: **Weather File**

**Note:** Using a weather file will account for the actual number of sunny days based on the location specified. Weather files can be found at *C:\ProgramData\Bentley\AECOsिम CONNECT Edition\Configuration\Datasets\EnergyData\Weather Data\Weather Files\*.

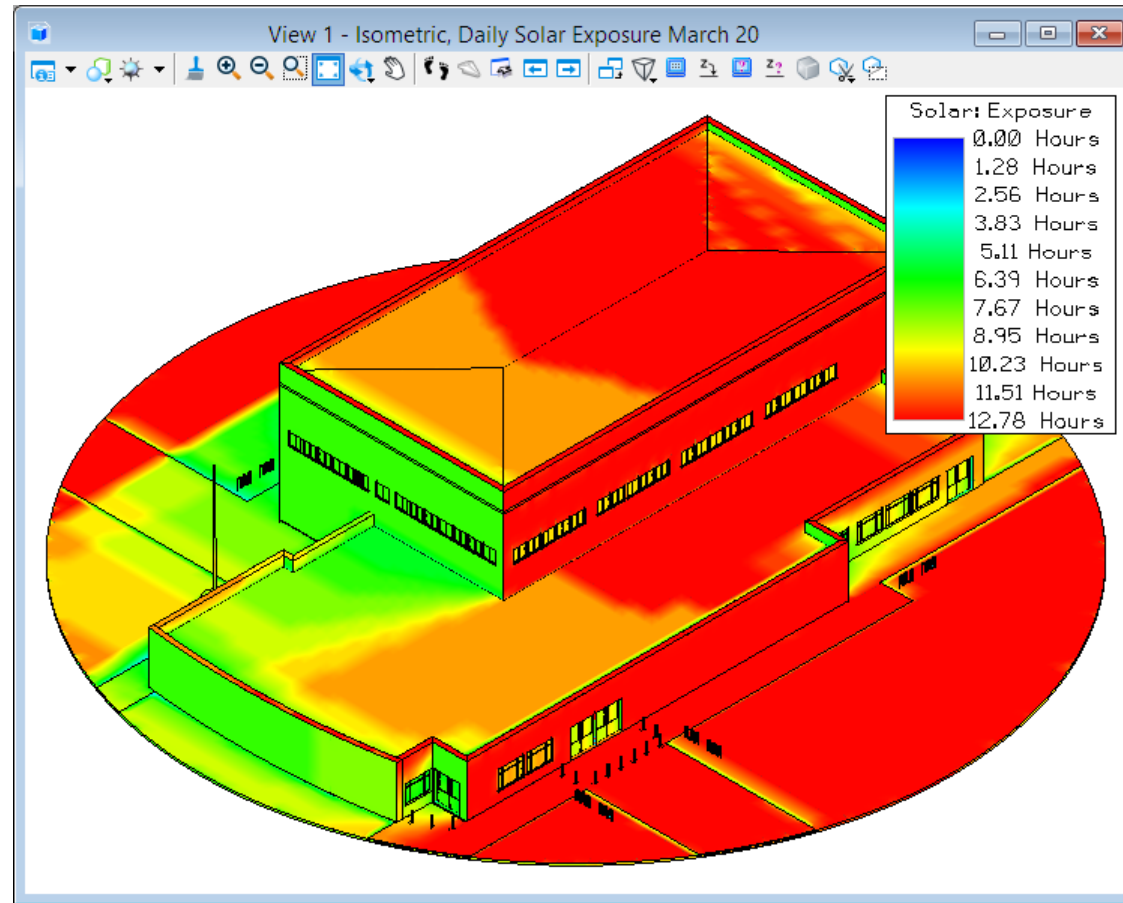
- g. *Weather File*: **USA\_NC\_Raleigh-Durham.Intl.AP.723060\_TMY3.epw**
- h. *Output*: **Design File**
- i. *Duration*: **Day**
- j. *Start Date*: **3/20/2018**



10. Select **OK**.
11. Name the new design file **\_Solar\_Baseline-0320.dgn**.

The new design file showing the solar exposure opens.

12. Review the results.



**Note:** You may wish to save these images as part of a final report.

## Saving Images

13. Select the **Save Image** icon from the *Rendering* group on the *Home* tab.



- a. *View*: 1
- b. *Format*: Portable Network Graphics
- c. *Compression*: Deflate Compression (Extended)
- d. *Mode*: RGB
- e. *Shading*: From View (Smooth)
- f. *Light Setup*: Active
- g. *Gamma Correction*: 1.70
- h. *Ignore Lines and Text*: Off
- i. *Antialiasing Quality*: High
- j. *Page Size / DPI*: 200

14. Select **Save**.

By default the image will be saved to the */SMART/Output/* folder, save it here.

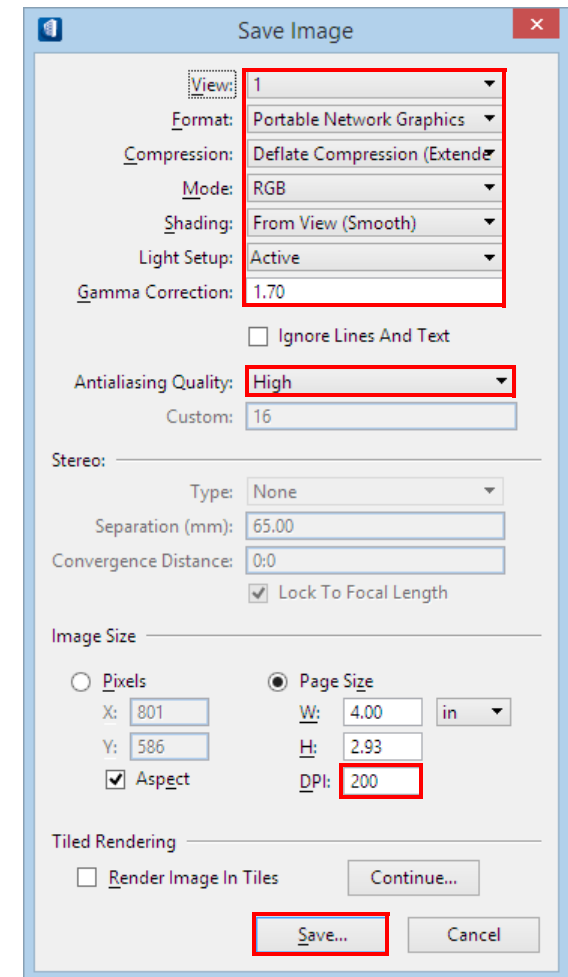
15. Go back to the \_WorkingModel.dgn and repeat this process for each of the four days listed earlier.

**Note:** Name each solar exposure file as a series that indicates the settings, such as:

\_Solar\_Baseline-0620.dgn

\_Solar\_Baseline-0922.dgn

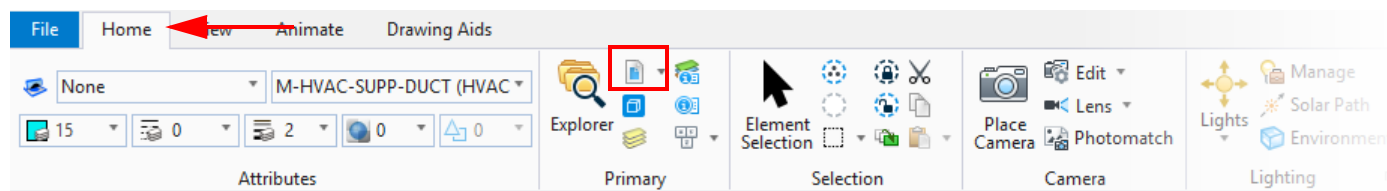
\_Solar\_Baseline-1221.dgn



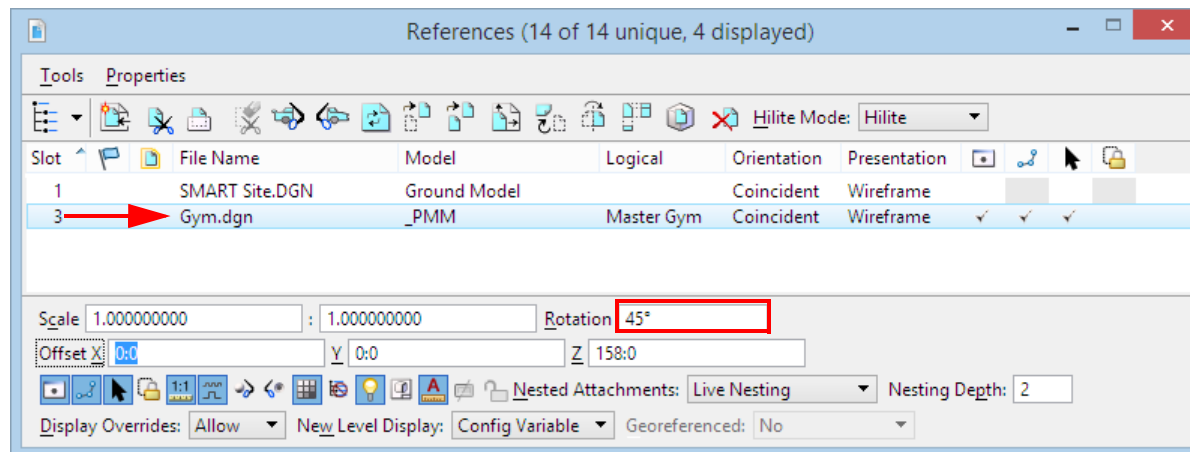
## Exercise 04: Changing the Building Orientation

Changing the building's orientation will also affect which surfaces receive the greatest exposure to the sun. Since the building model, Gym.dgn is referenced to the \_WorkingModel.dgn, you can easily change its orientation on the site. The site is situated so that North is directly up along the Y-axis.

1. Return to the **\_WorkingModel.dgn** file.
2. Open the **ReferenceS** dialog from the **Home** tab on the **Visualization** workflow in the **Ribbon Interface**.



- a. Select the **Gym.dgn** reference file and type in various angles in the **Rotation** field; this will rotate the building on the site.



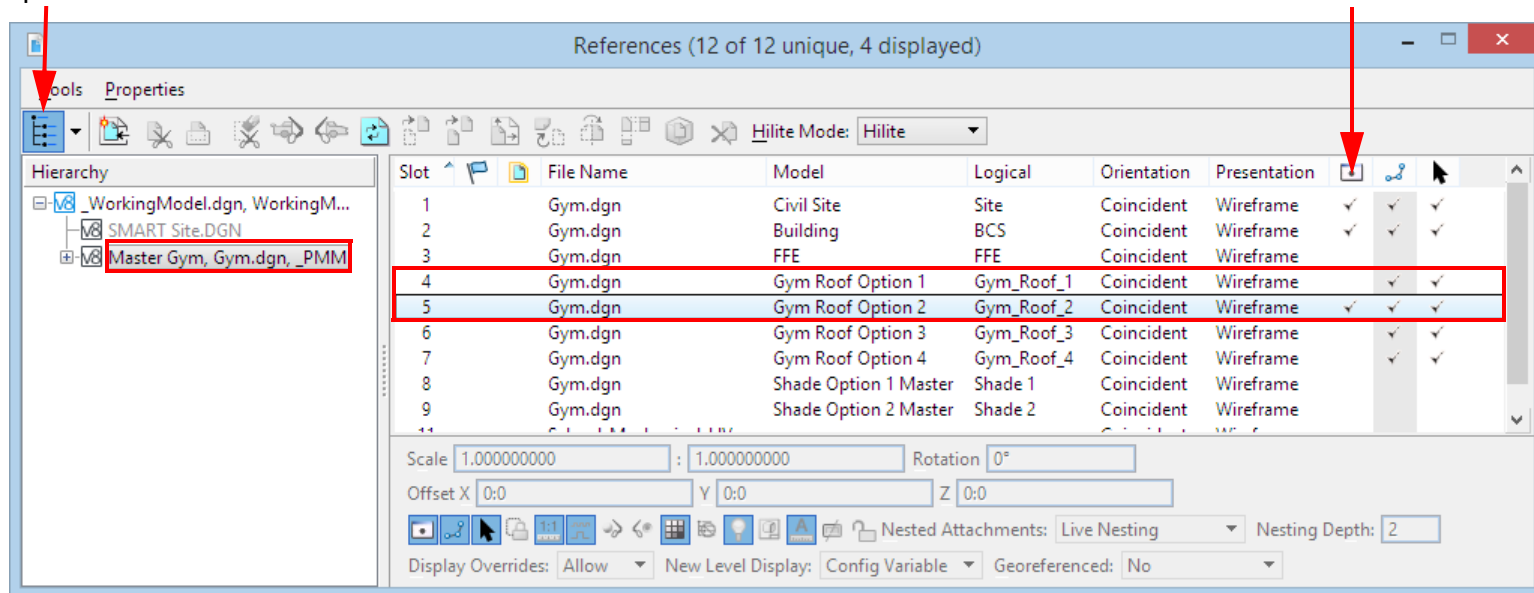
3. Rerun solar exposure calculations for as many rotations as you choose to study until you feel you have found the optimal orientation for the building.
4. Back in the **\_WorkingModel.dgn** file, use the keyboard shortcut, **Ctrl-F**, to apply a **Save Settings** to save the current settings.

## Exercise 05: Roof Options

There are various ways to reduce the amount of solar exposure on a building. Different roof configurations might increase the amount of surface area exposed to the sun, or they might shade other surfaces of the building.

1. Continue in the **\_WorkingModel.dgn** file.
2. Open the **References** dialog.
3. Select the **Show Hierarchy** button and expand the tree in the left-hand field so that you can see all the reference files attached to this model.
  - a. Select the file **PMM, Gym.dgn, \_PMM**.

In the right field you will see all the reference files that are attached to Gym.dgn. These are known as nested references. You will note that along with the Civil Site, the Building and the FFE (furniture, fixtures and equipment) model there are four Roof Options and two Window Shade options.



- b. Turn the display **Off** for **Gym Roof Option 1** and the display **On** for **Gym Roof Option 2**.

**Note:** The the roof of the gymnasium changes showing the different option, like steeper slope, sloped on one direction, etc.

4. Rerun the solar exposure calculations to see if it improves the solar exposure.
5. Do the same for the other roof options. Determine your preferred option.

As a bonus, you might want to create your own options for a roof. Open the file Gym.dgn and create new models within the file by copying one of the delivered options and then modifying the geometry. See the Help files for more information on creating models. For creating 3D objects investigate the tools in the *Modeling Workflow, Forms* and *Solids* tabs.

In addition, the **Roof** tool in the *AECOSim Workflow, Architectural* tab is a useful tool for creating sloped roofs.

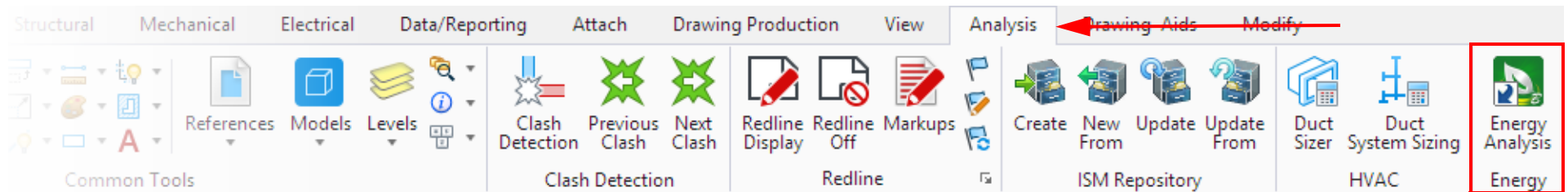
Now that you have selected the building orientation and roof preference you will export the revised model to AECOSim Energy Simulator for energy analysis.



## Exercise 06: Exporting the Updated Model to AECOsim Energy Simulator

As shown in Exercise 1, this exercise goes through exporting the adjusted model from AECOsim Building Designer to AECOsim Energy Simulator.

1. Return to the **\_WorkingModel.dgn** file.
2. From the *Reference* dialog ensure that the *SMART Site.dgn* is displayed **Off** and that the selected *roof option* is displayed **On**.
3. Select the **Energy Analysis** tool from the *AECOsim* workflow, *Analysis* tab on the *Ribbon Interface*.



4. The *Analytical Space Model Explorer* will open.
  - a. Correct any problem spaces before exporting the analytical space model.
5. Select **Export...**
  - a. Save the file to the */SMART/EnergySim/* folder, naming it in a descriptive way that includes the building rotation and roof option, such as 045-Roof2 ASM.dgn.

The export process will process the model from AECOsim Building Designer.

A dialog will indicate “Your file has been successfully exported. Would you like to Open it?”

- b. Select **Yes**.
6. Review **Exercise 02: Performing A Simulation** to set up the file and run a new simulation.

## Exercise 07: Solar Shadows Study

As we move outside the building and into the campus we will look at solar study considerations for placement of vegetation, green building campus considerations and elements that represent power generation for the campus.

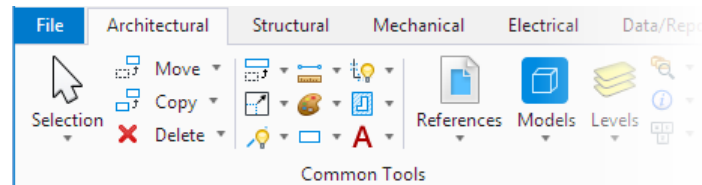
1. Start **AECOsim Building Designer** from the Start menu or desktop shortcut and open the file **\_WorkingModel.dgn**.

### Solar Shadow Study

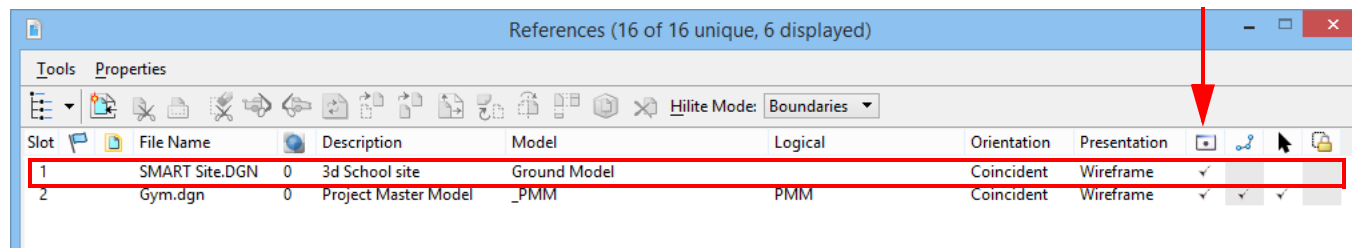
Next you will do a solar shadow study using the **Solar Study** tool. Again, you will use four days throughout the year; the Spring Equinox, the Summer Solstice, the Fall Equinox, and the Winter Solstice.

Before running the solar shadow study you will want to turn the site reference model back on.

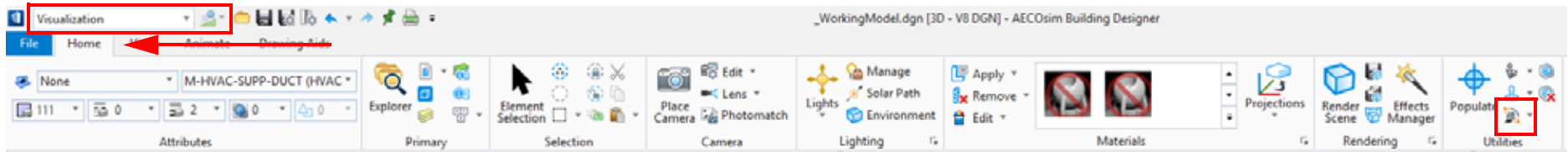
2. Select the **Reference** icon from the **Architectural** tab on the Ribbon Interface.



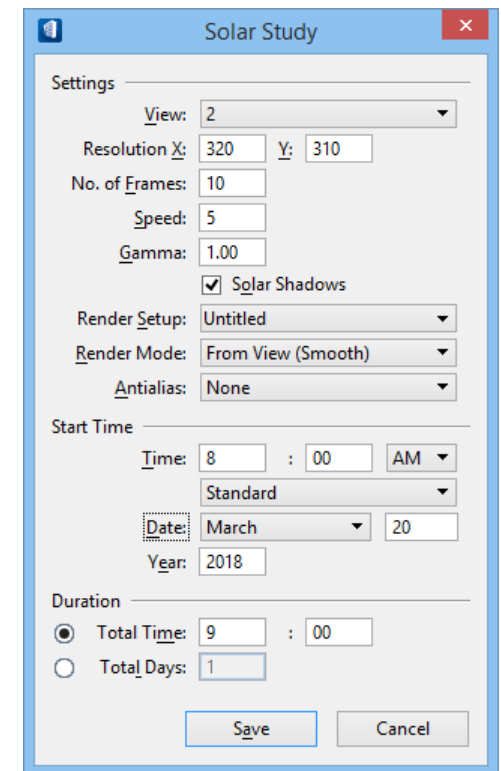
- a. Select the **Site.dgn** reference and check on the display toggle to turn **On** the reference display.



3. Set the *Workflow* to **Visualization**.
4. Select the **Solar Lighting** icon from the *Utilities* group on the *Home* tab in the *Ribbon Interface*.



5. Fill in the *Solar Study* parameters:
  - a. *View*: Select a view that you would like to use, this could be a top view or even a front or side view. To start, use a top view.
  - b. *No. of Frames*: The study can be saved as either images or an animation. This number should coordinate with the *Duration*, so if the *Duration* is 9 hours, make the number of images 10, so that there is an image for each hour.
  - c. *Speed*: This setting affects animations, the higher the number the slower the speed.
  - d. *Render Setup*: **Untitled**
  - e. *Render Mode*: **From View**. The view should have a display style set to *Monochrome: Shadows*.
  - f. *Antialias*: **None**
  - g. *Start Time*: Set the *Time* and *Date* for a start of the solar study.  
**Note:** Dates for the equinoxes and solstices (2018): March 20, June 21, September 22, December 21
  - h. *Duration*: Set the *Total Time* in hours for the solar study.



6. Select **Save**.

The solar study can be saved as a series of images in a number of different formats or as an animation, such as an FLI file that will run in QuickTime.

By default it will be saved in the output folder within the support folder of the workset project folder.

7. In the *Record Sequence* dialog rename the file to indicate the date used for the solar study, e.g., 2018-03-20\_WorkingModel.
8. Click the **OK** button.
9. Once finished, open the solar study and review where the shadows are generated from the building.

**Note:** A quick way to access the workset folder is to go select the **File** tab (this opens the backstage page), right-click on file name and select **Open Folder in File Explorer**.

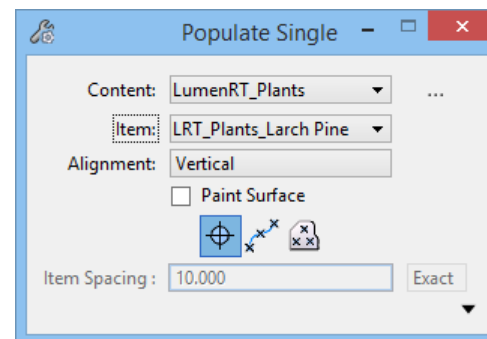
Which parts of the building shade other parts of the building? Does the roof provide shade to the building? Do the solar shading devices provide shade to the building? Repeat this process for the four times of year. Again review the different solar studies. Does the building receive more shading at certain times of the year?

Next you will locate trees on the site to help shade the building.

## Adding Trees

Based on the solar study and the solar exposure calculations done earlier, determine where you would like to provide more shade to the building. Think about the size and type of trees and the location that would best provide that shade.

10. Set the *Workflow* to **Visualization**.
11. Select the **Populate** icon from the *Utilities* group on the *Home* tab in the *Ribbon Interface*.
12. In the *Tool Settings* for the **Populate** tool dialog set:
  - a. *Content*: **LumenRT Plants**
  - b. *Item*: Select the tree type you wish to place



**Note:** Use the browse icon (the ... icon) to open the *Populate Contents – Trees* dialog. Here you can see a list of all the tree types available to you and the tree height. There are additional plants in the XFrog Plants content option.

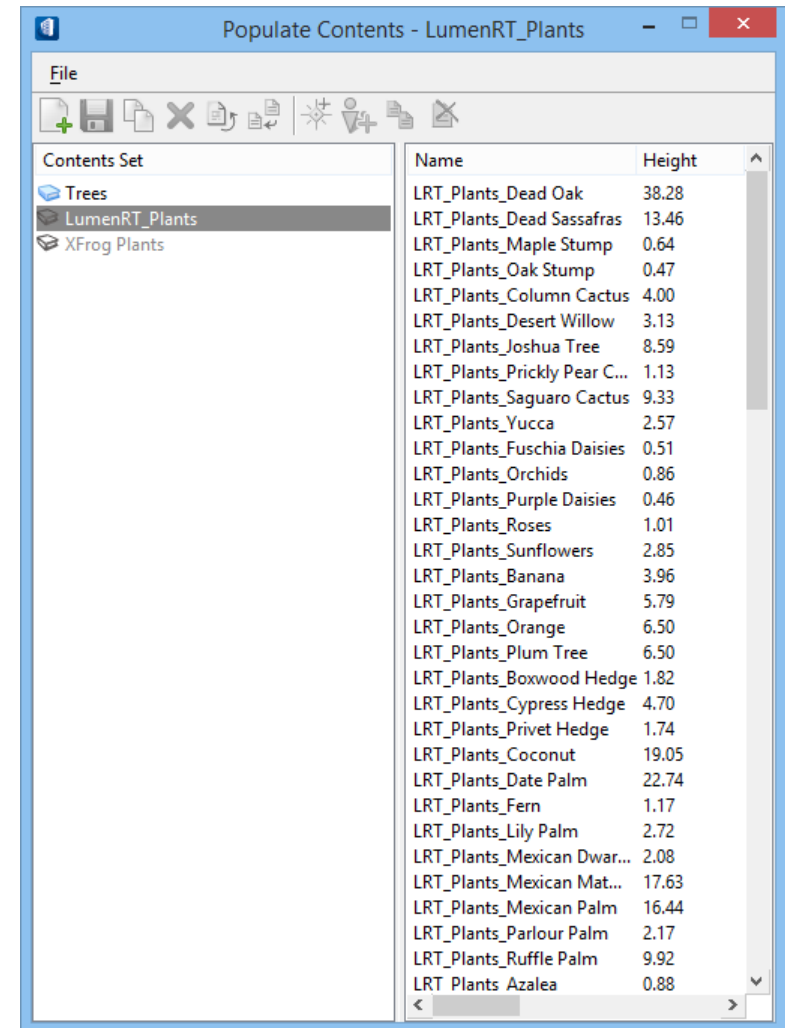
c. *Alignment: Vertical*

13. Using the **Place Single** icon place a tree with a datapoint (*left-click*) in the model. It will be placed on the ground surface.

Place as many trees as you like based on both the need for shade on the building and daylight within the building at various times of the year. Pay attention to whether the tree type is an evergreen or deciduous tree, because although the tree cells all have leaves and provide shade in the solar study, they do not all have leaves throughout the year.

14. Rerun the solar studies with the trees in place and compare to the solar studies run earlier.

To further understand the effect of the trees on the building run a new solar exposure calculation (done in exercise 3) and compare to the one run without trees.



## Exercise 08: Daylighting and Shading Devices

In this exercise you will add external shading devices, or fins, to the building and run a fourth simulation.

1. Continue working in the same ASM file.

In order to further reduce the *solar gain* you may have added window shading devices and roof overhangs to the building model. While external shading devices can reduce the solar gain in the summer months they may also reduce the passive solar heat gain in the winter months increasing the heating required. They might also reduce the natural daylight, increasing the interior lighting required. By adding this data to the Analytical Space model, you can determine if these devices are increasing or decreasing the energy consumption.

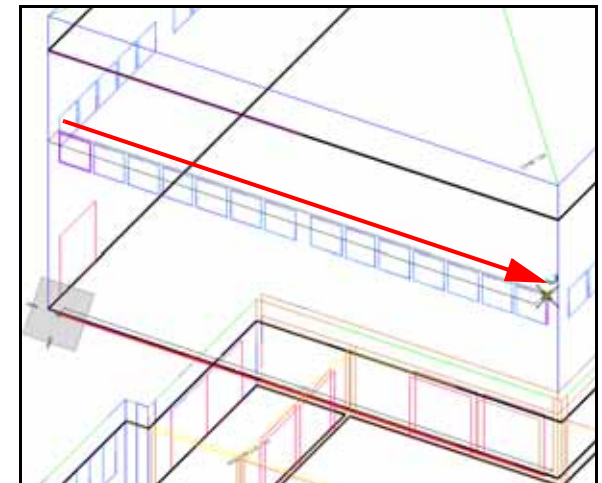
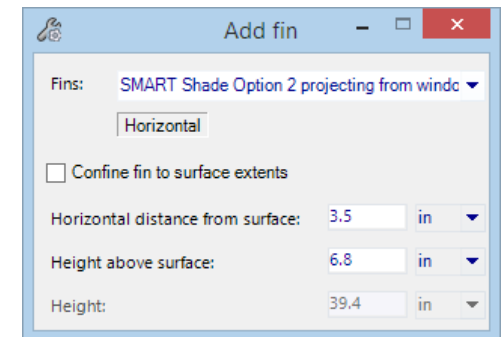
On the *Home* tab select the Add Fin icon from the *Embedded Surfaces* group.

2. In the *Tool Settings* dialog for the **Add fin** tool set the following:
  - a. *FinType*: **SMART Shade Option 1 [2] projecting form window head**
  - b. Leave all values to the defaults.
3. Select one of the windows on the Gym building, this will actually select the entire wall that the window is set in.
  - a. *Right-click* to un-select the wall and select just the window.
  - b. Start drawing the fin by selecting a datapoint (*left-click*) at one end of the run of windows and selecting a second datapoint (*left-click*) at the other end of the run of windows. The fin is created and highlighted in the model.

**Note:** If the fin as been created in the wrong direction, *right-click* on it in the *Project Tree* and select **Properties**. Modify the *Length* property to a negative number.

4. Repeat for the other two sides of the Gym building.

You can also use a solid fin to create the roof overhang.

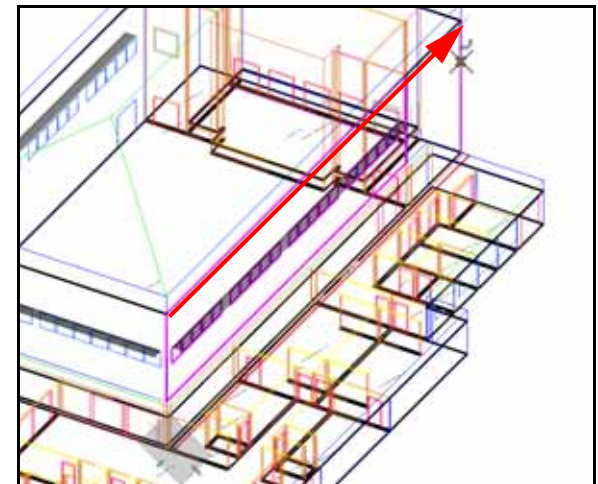
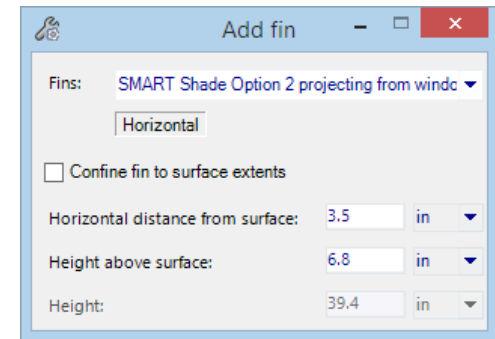


5. On the *Home* tab select the Add Fin icon from the *Embedded Surfaces* group.
6. In the *Tool Settings* dialog for the **Add fin** tool set the following:
  - a. *FinType*: **SMART Shade Option 1 [2] projecting form window head**
  - b. Leave all values to the defaults.
7. Select one of the walls on the Gym building.
  - a. Start drawing the fin by selecting a *data-point* at one end of the wall and selecting a second data point at the other end of the wall. The fin is created and highlighted in the model.

**Note:** If the fin as been created in the wrong direction, *right-click* on it in the Project Tree and select **Properties**. Modify the *Length* property to a negative number.

8. Repeat for the other sides of the Gym building that have a roof overhang.
9. Run a new simulation, naming the simulation report in a descriptive way that indicates this simulation includes shading devices.
  - a. *Name*: **Simulation with Shading Devices - PTAC - Electric Heat**
  - b. *Description*: **Simulation with Shading Devices and PTAC Electric Heat**

Compare this report with the previous report. Was the cooling load reduced? Was the entire electrical load increased or decreased?





## Exercise 09: Changing Material Constructions

This part of the tutorial will guide the user through making various updates that will impact energy usage, by changing the building's material and glazing options.

1. Continue working in the same ASM file.

Materials and construction were originally assigned to all the surfaces of the ASM when the model was originally brought into AECOsim Energy Simulator (see Exercise 01 in the ES101 course).

The *AECOsim Energy Simulator Project Tree* window allows the user to select specific rooms and view the material types (along with associated properties). The default construction for all the exposed floors in the SMART project was set as a carpet on a concrete slab. However the gym floor should be changed to a wood floor. You will make this change from the *Project Tree*.

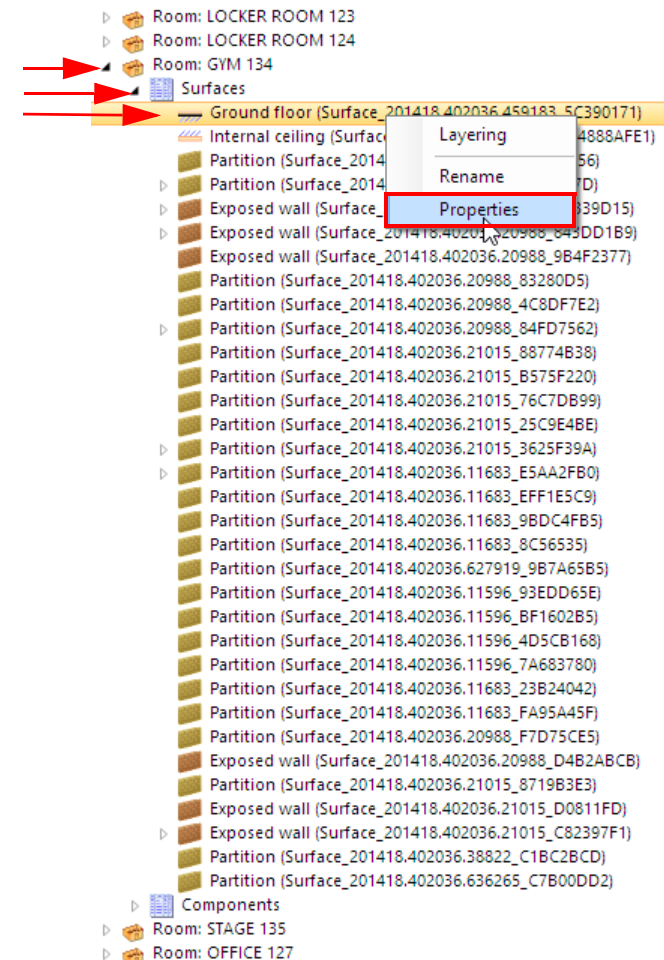
2. First, select the room in the *Project Tree*, **Room: GYM 134** as shown here.

**Note:** The room is highlighted in the geometry model views; this highlighting feature continues as other building elements are selected in the *Project Tree*.

3. Next select the arrow to the left of the room to expand the list. Within this list select the arrow next to *Surfaces*.

This will display items such as Exposed Roof, Exposed Wall, Ground Floor and Partition.

4. In the *Surfaces* list, *right-click* on **Ground Floor** and select **Properties** to see the material type (and associated properties).





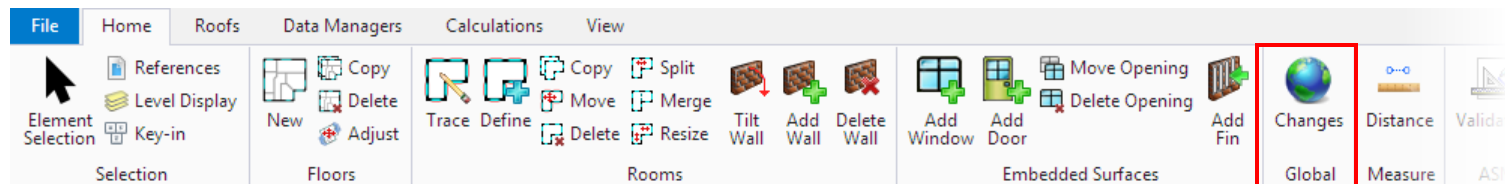
- a. Change the *Construction* to **SMART Wood on Slab Floor**.

The screenshot shows the 'Properties' window for a 'Surface' category. The 'Sub type' is 'Ground floor' and the 'Name' is 'Surface\_201418.40203'. The 'Construction' dropdown is highlighted with a red box and set to 'SMART Wood on Slab Floor'. The 'Dimensions' section shows Length, Width, and Height all set to 0.000 ft. The 'Area' is 6997.66 ft², 'Volume' is 0.00 ft³, and 'Orientation' is 0.00°. The 'Calculate view factor to ground' checkbox is checked, and the 'View factor to ground' is 0.000. The 'Heatflow' section shows the 'Type' set to 'Ground'.

- b. Select **Apply** and **OK**.

In addition to individually changing materials on surfaces from the project tree, global changes can be made to the surfaces in groups of rooms, zones or the entire building.

5. Select the **Changes** icon from the *Global* group on the *Home* tab as shown below:



The *Global Changes* window will appear:

Let's assume we want to change all the windows in the building to have a different glazing type.

**Note:** Selecting any of the *Zones* on the left side of the window will automatically highlight the associated rooms located in that specific selected zone on the *Rooms* list (located above the *Zones* list).

6. On the left side of the dialog select the zone **AllRooms**.

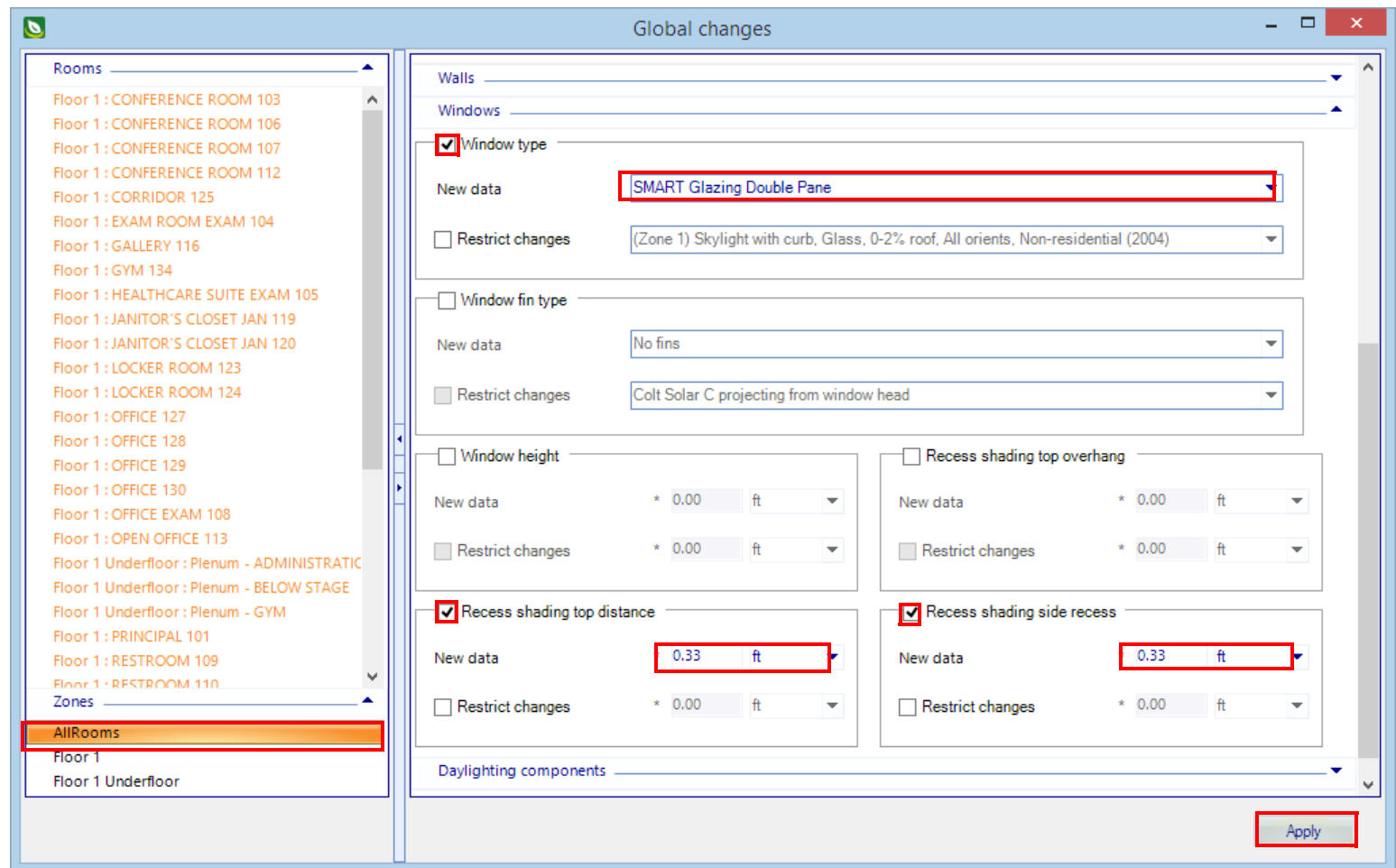
7. To change the window type, select the arrow to the right of *Windows* on the right side of the window.

a. Next, select the box next to *Window type* (a check mark will appear). The *New data* drop down menu will become active. Select the arrow to see and scroll through options.

b. Select a the window type, **SMART Glazing Double Pane**.

8. Select **Apply**.

9. Before running a simulation, click **Save** at the top of the AECOsim program window to save any changes made since the last simulation.



10. Run a new simulation, naming the simulation report in a descriptive way that indicates this simulation includes double pane window glazing.

a. **Name:** Simulation with Double Pane Windows - PTAC - Electric Heat

b. **Description:** Simulation with Double Pane Windows and PTAC Electric Heat

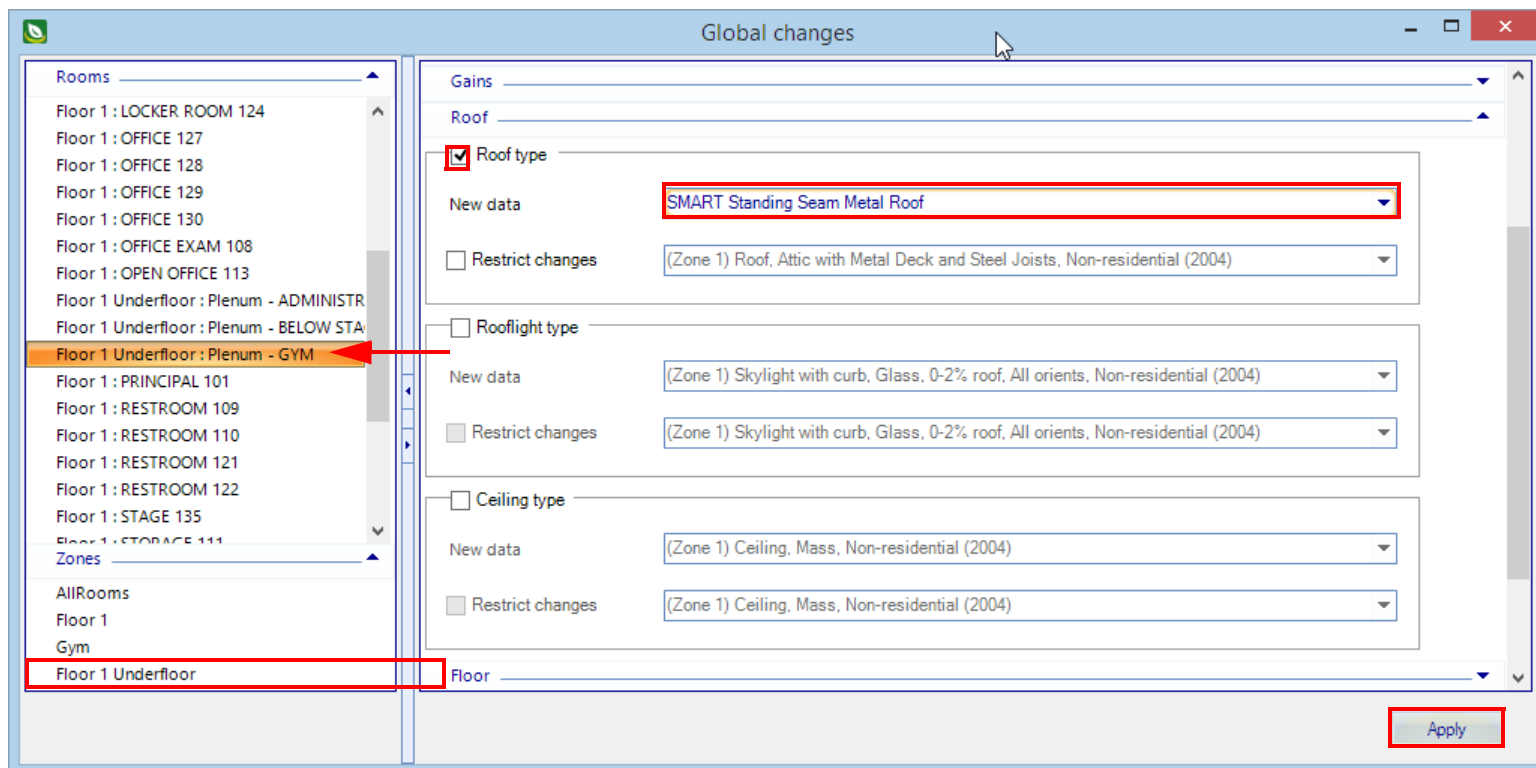
Compare this report with the previous reports. Next, you will change the construction of the walls and roof of the gym building.

11. In the **Rooms** list, select **Floor 1 Ceiling: Plenum - GYM**.

12. To change the roof type for the sloped roof over the gym, select the arrow to the right of **Roof** on the right side of the window.

a. Next, select the box next to **Roof type** (a check mark will appear). The **New data** drop down menu will become active. Select the arrow to see and scroll through options.

b. Select the roof type, **SMART Standing Seam Metal Roof**.



c. Select **Apply**.

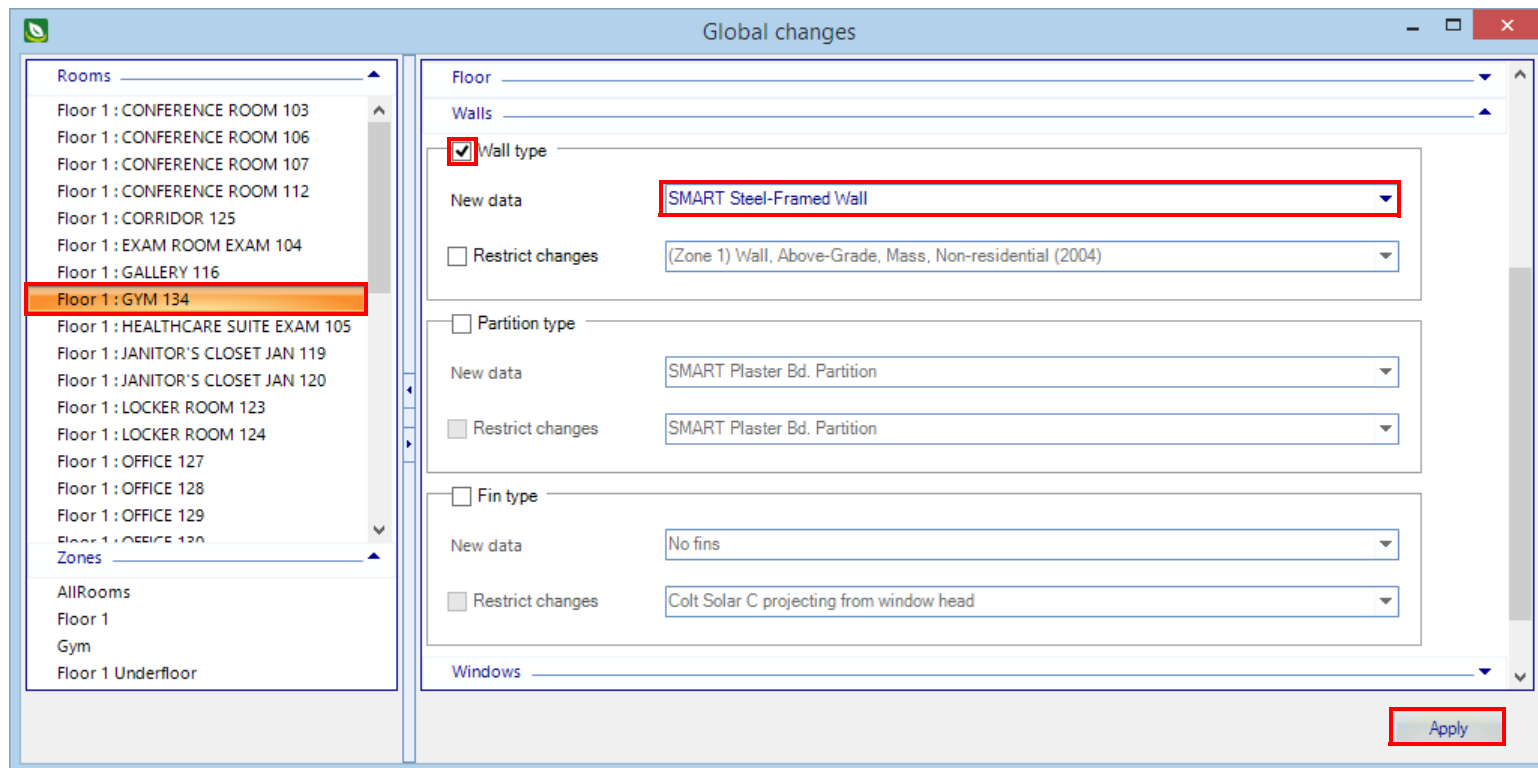
In addition to changing the roof over the gymnasium, you may wish to change the wall construction around the gymnasium.

13. Select the **Changes** icon from the *Global* group on the *Home* tab.

14. In the *Rooms* list, select **Floor 1: GYM 134**.

15. To change the wall construction for the gym, select the arrow to the right of *Wall* on the right side of the window.

a. Next, select the box next to *Wall type* (a check mark will appear). The *New data* drop down menu will become active. Select the arrow to see and scroll through options.



b. Select the wall type, **SMART Steel Framed Wall**.

c. Select **Apply**.

16. Close the *Global Changes* dialog.

17. Before running a simulation, click **Save** at the top of the AECOsim program window to save any changes made since the last simulation.
18. Run a new simulation, naming the simulation report in a descriptive way that indicates this Simulation includes new constructions.
  - a. *Name:* **Simulation with Metal Roof Steel Framed Walls on Gym - PTAC - Electric Heat**
  - b. *Description:* **Simulation with Metal Roof Steel Framed Walls on Gym and PTAC Electric Heat**

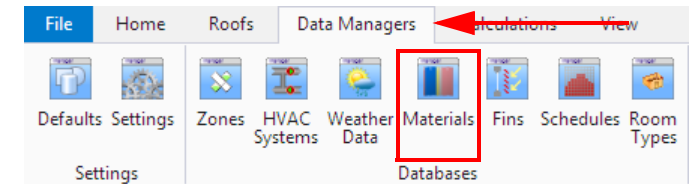
Compare this report with the previous reports.

## Exercise 10: Managing Materials

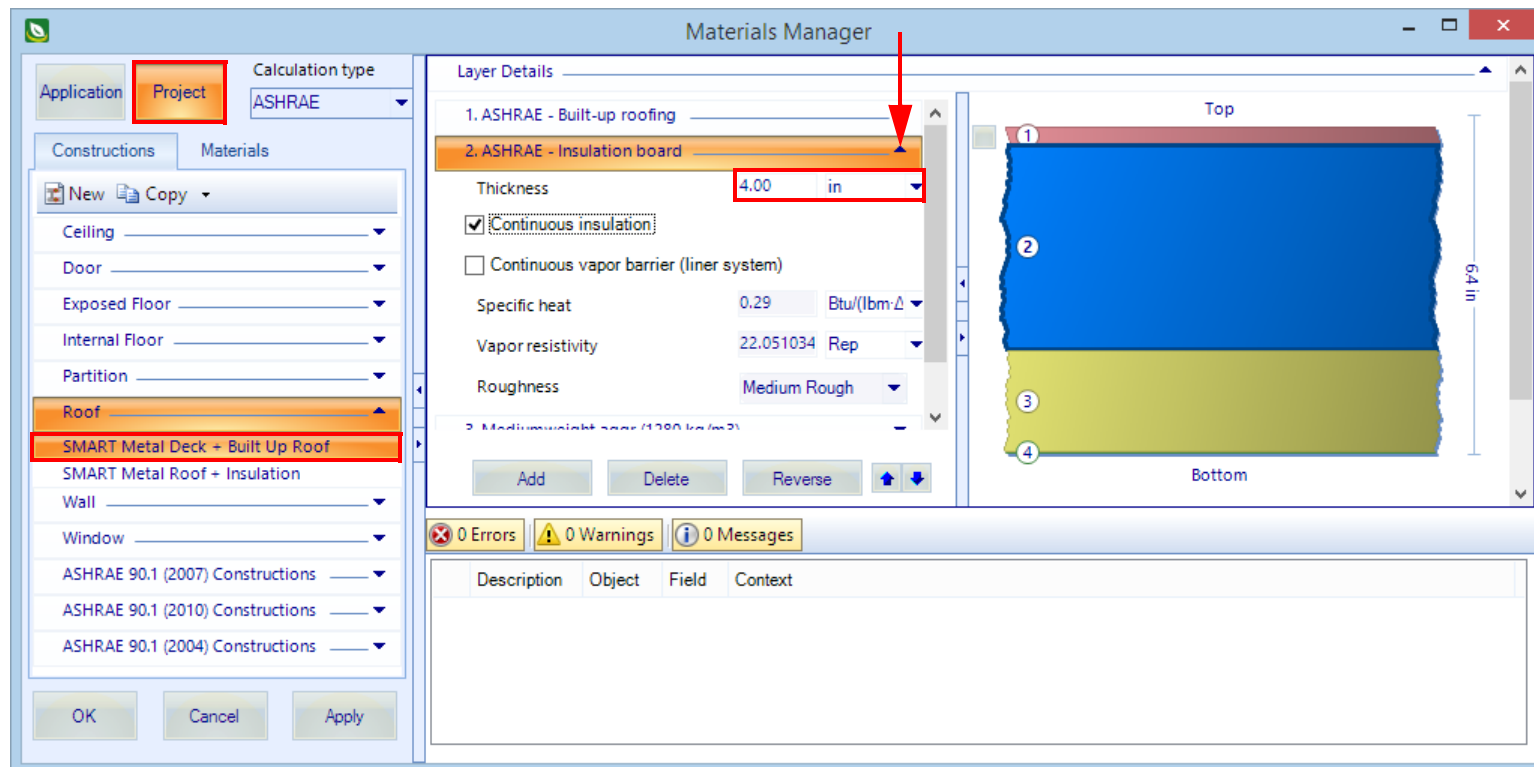
The materials manager allows the modification of material constructions so that you can create and test constructions that might improve the energy performance of the building

1. Select the **Materials** icon form the *Data Managers* tab in the *Ribbon Interface*.

The *Materials Manager* dialog will open. The **Application** tab will show a library of constructions that can be copied to the **Project** tab for use in the project. A small library of constructions has already been copied to the SMART project. Once in the project they can be modified.



2. Expand the *Roof* group and select the **SMART Metal Deck + Built Up Roof**. This is the roof construction that is applied to the lower, administrative portion of the building.

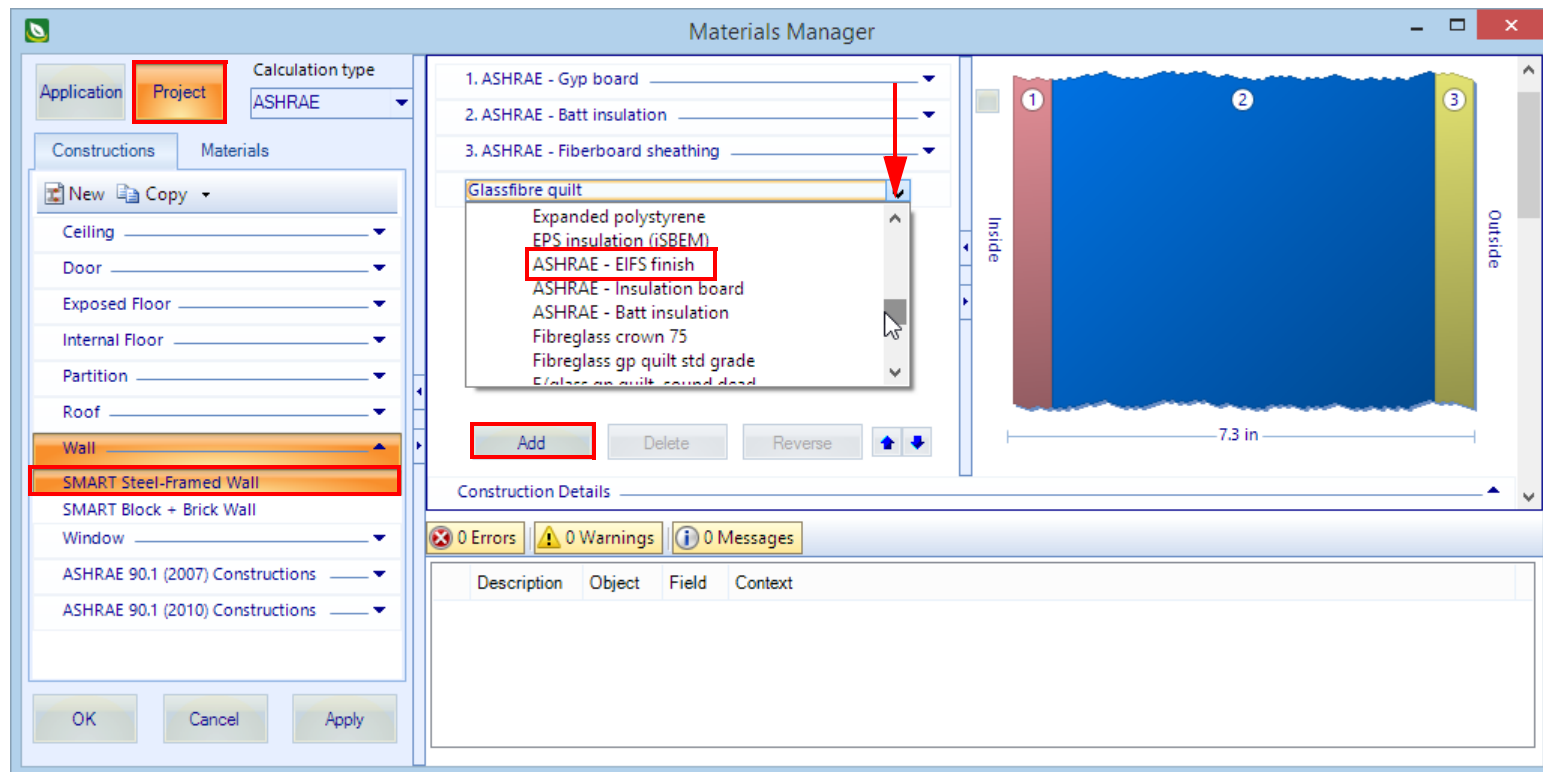


On the right of the dialog each layer of the roof construction is defined along with a graphic preview.

3. Select layer **2. ASHRAE - Insulation board** and expand it to see the properties.
  - a. Change the thickness from **2 in**, to **4.00 in**.
  - b. Select **Apply**.
4. Repeat for the **SMART Standing Seam Metal Roof** material.

You could make similar changes to the wall constructions.

5. Select the **Materials** icon form the *Data Managers* tab in the *Ribbon Interface*.
6. Expand the *Wall* group and select the **SMART Steel Framed Wall**. This is the wall construction that is applied to the Gym.



On the right of the dialog each layer of the wall construction is defined along with a graphic preview.

7. Select layer **4.ASHRAE - Stucco** and **Delete**.
8. Select **Add** to add a new layer.
  - a. From the pull-down for the new layer select **Insulation > ASHRAE - EIFS finish**.  
EIFS is an exterior insulated finishing system. It has an appearance similar to stucco, with increased insulation properties.
  - b. Change the **Thickness** to **1.50 in**.
  - c. Check **Continuous Insulation**.
9. Select **Apply** and then **OK** to close the **Materials Manager**.

Next, a simulation will be performed to determine how the changes made to the model have impacted different results parameters.

10. Before running a simulation, click **Save** at the top of the AECOsim program window to save any changes made since the last simulation.
11. Run a new simulation, naming the simulation report in a descriptive way that indicates this Simulation includes new constructions.
  - a. **Name:** **Simulation with Wall and Roof Insulation- PTAC - Electric Heat**
  - b. **Description:** **Simulation with Wall and Roof Insulation and PTAC Electric Heat**

Compare this report with the previous reports.

Experiment with other materials and constructions to create an energy efficient envelope for the building.



## Exercise 11: Updating the Building Materials

In this exercise you will make changes to the wall constructions in the building model to match the materials and constructions that were chosen in the previous simulations in AECOsim Energy Simulator.

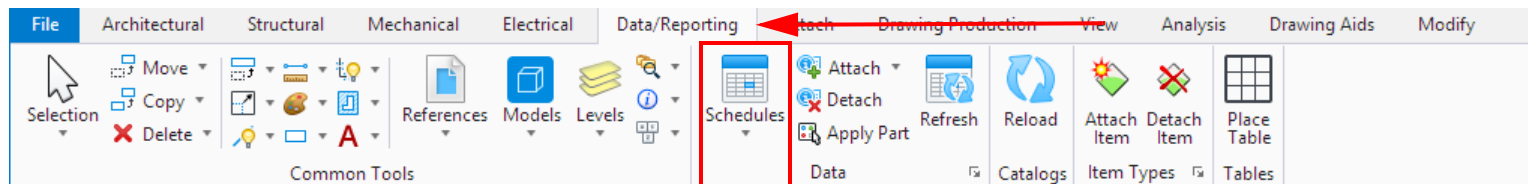
1. In **AECOsim Building Designer**, continue in the **\_WorkingModel.dgn** file.

**Note:** If you are starting a new session of **AECOsim Building Designer** remember to start with these steps:

- a. Start **AECOsim Building Designer** from the Start menu or desktop shortcut.
- b. Set the *Workspace* to **AECOsim Examples** and the *WorkSet* to **SMART**.
- c. Select the **\_WorkingModel.dgn** file (it will be in the list of files from being opened in a previous session).

In order to change the materials on the school model you will open the **Schedules** dialog and modify the part assigned to the building elements.

2. Select the **Schedules** tool from the *Data* group on the *Data/Reporting* tab.

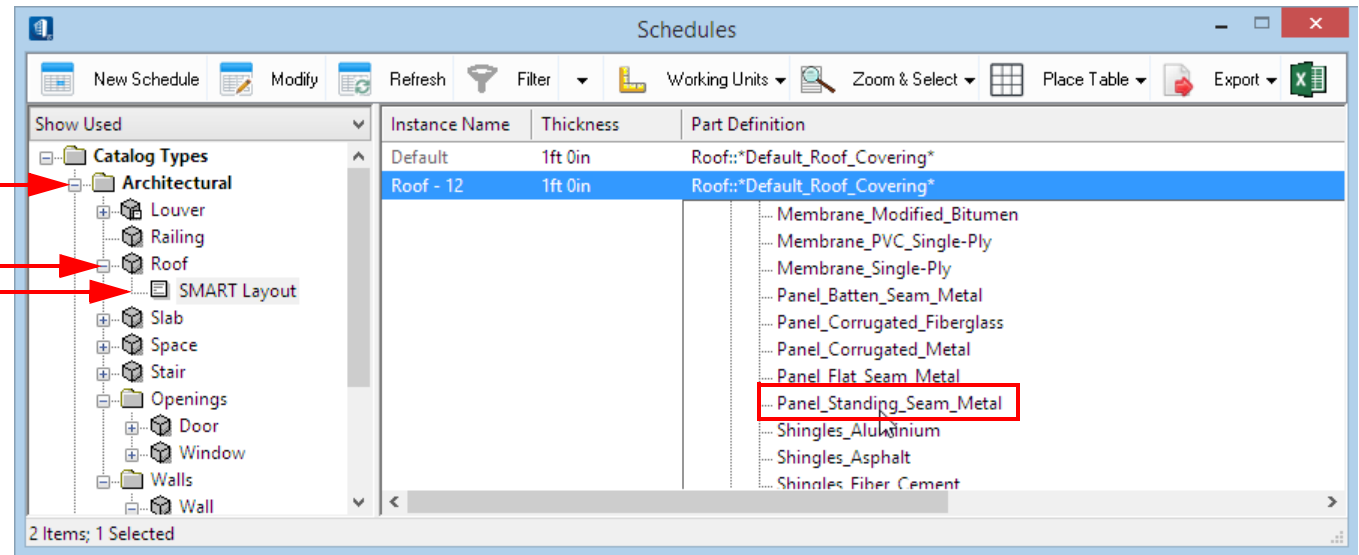


3. Expand the *Catalog Types* on the left side of the dialog to show *Architectural > Roof > SMART Layout*.

- a. From the right side of the dialog select the roof over the gymnasium building. (The roof will highlight in the model as it is selected.)

- b. *Double-click* on the *Part Definition* field.

4. Select a different *Part Definition*, such as **Panel\_Standing\_Seam\_Metal**

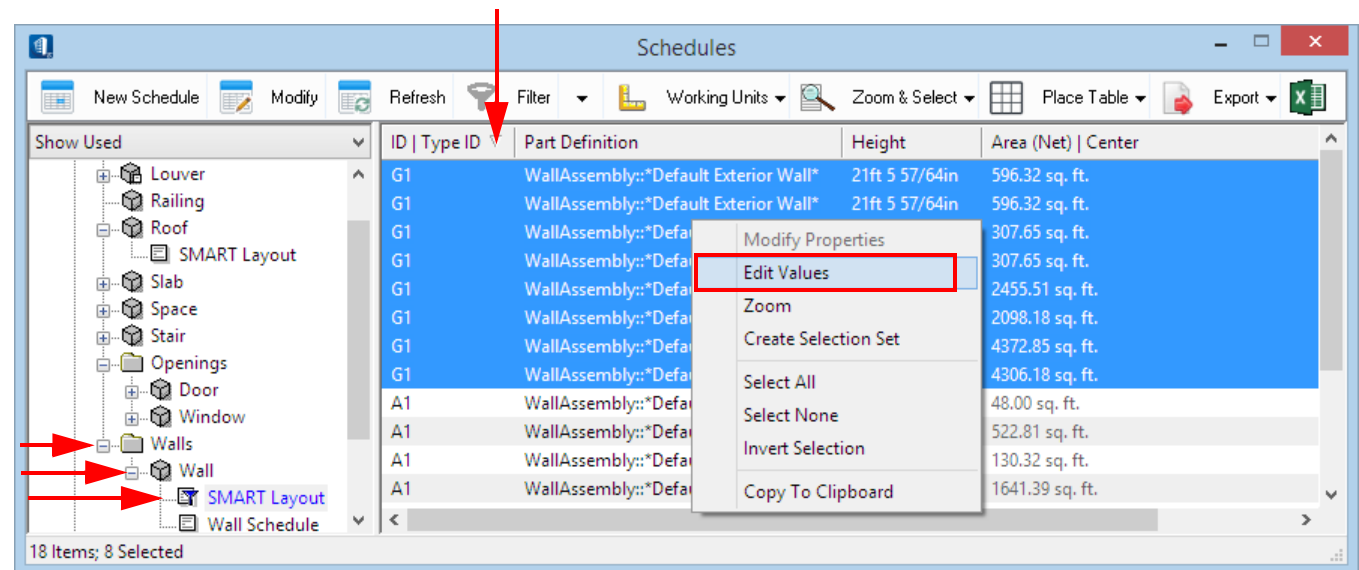


Next, you will change the construction of the walls around the gymnasium by modifying the parts assigned to the various walls.

5. Expand the *Catalog Types* on the left side of the dialog to show *Architectural > Walls > Wall > SMART Layout*.

- a. From the right side of the dialog select all the walls with a *ID | Type ID* of **G1**. (The data can be sorted by clicking on each column header.)

6. *Right-click* on the data in the *Part Definition* field and select **Edit Values**

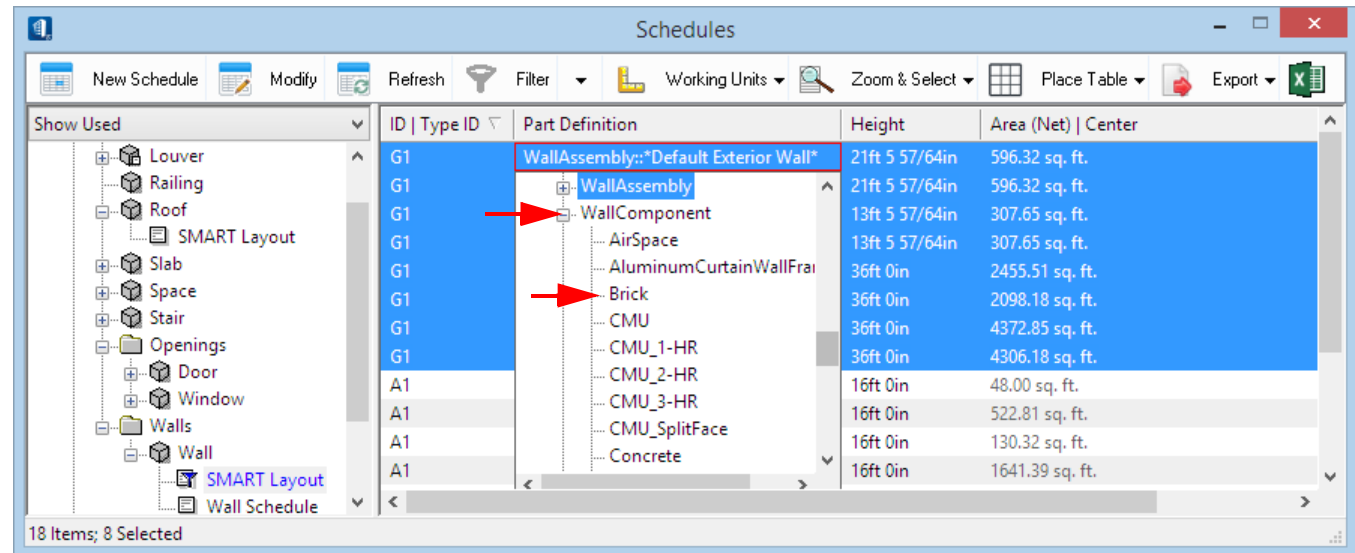


- b. Select a different *Part Definition*, such as **WallComponents > Brick**.

The Brick part will be assigned to all the walls around the gymnasium.

Select all the A1 walls in order to change the wall material on the administration part of the school.

7. Close the *Schedules* dialog.
8. Set the *Display Style* on the model to **Illustration:Ignore Lighting** to see the changes you have made.



## Exercise 12: HVAC Modifications

This part of the tutorial will guide the user through making various updates that will impact energy usage by modifying the heating, ventilation and air conditioning (HVAC) system.

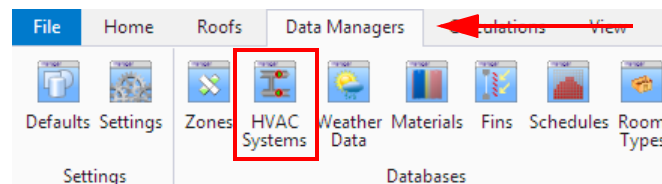
### Making changes to the efficiency and performance ratings of the HVAC system

Each HVAC system has different key variables that can be adjusted to alter the system's energy usage. Examples include coefficient of performance (COP), supply-air fan efficiency, motor efficiency, etc. In order to better understand the impact of changing such variables, simulations will be run before and after the variables are changed. The steps below outline where to find the variables in the HVAC manager.

Different HVAC systems have different key components that can be changed. Therefore, four different HVAC systems will be assigned to the building to generate four separate hypothetical building set-ups. Simulations will be performed before and after for each of the four set-ups.

This will require selecting and assigning a new HVAC system to the building then removing the assignment. These steps will be performed in the HVAC manager as detailed below.

1. Select the **HVAC Systems** tool from the *Data Managers* tab in the *Ribbon Interface*.



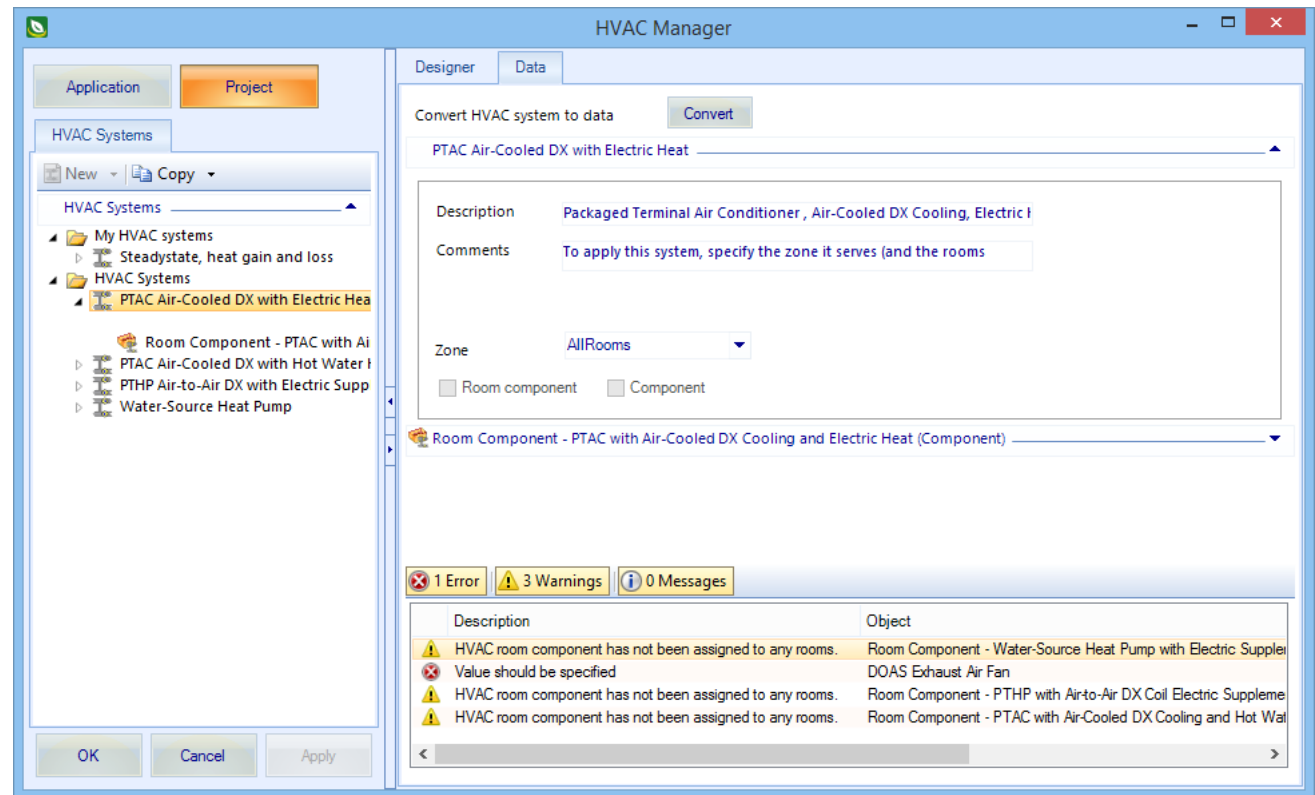
The *HVAC Manager* and the *Designer Toolbox* dialog boxes open. The *Designer Toolbox* can be used by mechanical engineers to design HVAC systems from scratch. For the purposes of this course the *Designer Toolbox* is not used, we will use four predefined systems defined for this project.

2. Select the **Project** button.
3. In the *HVAC Systems* list expand *HVAC Systems*
4. Select the **PTAC Air-Cooled DX with Electric Heat** system.
5. Click on the *Data* tab.

The *HVAC Manager* dialog box is used to manipulate HVAC systems, sub-systems, and component data. Controls and settings are provided for adding and modifying new components and sub-systems. Virtually all EnergyPlus HVAC objects and properties are available to accurately create any HVAC system desired.

The following four HVAC systems have been added to this project for use in this exercise:

- **PTAC Air-Cooled DX with Electric Heat (baseline system)**
- **PTAC Air-Cooled DX with Hot Water Heat**
- **PTHP Air-to-Air DX with Electric Supplemental Heat and Central Ducted DX-based DOAS**
- **Water-Source Heat Pump**



There are two methodologies available for adding or modifying HVAC data in the HVAC Manager: the *Designer* mode and the *Data* mode. Both are contained within the *HVAC Manager* dialog box and will be displayed whenever a HVAC system, sub-system, or component is selected. Systems can be modified on the *Data* tab in numerical form or in a graphical form through the *Designer* tab.

In this exercise, all edits will be made using the *Data* tab.

**Note:** To see a more detailed view of each system, right click on any component under the main system title in the *Project Tree* and select **Edit Component** (if available).

## HVAC Component properties

When a component is selected and added to the active HVAC system or subsystem, its data is enabled and available for modification in a dedicated properties panel.

The objects selected from the component drop list vary greatly in their properties. EnergyPlus, where the components originate, provides a comprehensive listing of all HVAC objects and their properties. For more information on EnergyPlus visit <https://energyplus.net/>

## Required properties

A subset of component properties is required for the HVAC system to simulate successfully. That is, they must be defined if they are set to undefined. These properties are denoted by a red asterisk character, as seen in the screen shot below.

Room Component - PTAC with Air-Cooled DX Cooling and Electric Heat (Component)	
Heating Setpoint Temperature Schedule	Heating Setpoint (1)
Room Cooling Design Supply Air Temperature Input Method	* SupplyAirTempera
Room Cooling Design Supply Air Temperature Difference	
Room Heating Design Supply Air Temperature	104.0 °F
Room Cooling Design Supply Air Humidity Ratio	* 0.01
Room Design Outdoor Air Flow per Person	0.00 ft <sup>3</sup> /m
Room Design Outdoor Air Flow per Room	0.000 ft <sup>3</sup> /min
Room Air Distribution Effectiveness in Heating Mode	1.00
Cooling Setpoint Temperature Schedule	Cooling Setpoint (1)
Room Cooling Design Supply Air Temperature	57.2 °F
Room Heating Design Supply Air Temperature Input Method	* SupplyAirTempera
Room Heating Design Supply Air Temperature Difference	
Room Heating Design Supply Air Humidity Ratio	* 0.008
Room Design Outdoor Air Flow per Room Floor Area	0.00 ft <sup>3</sup> /m
Room Air Distribution Effectiveness in Cooling Mode	1.00
PTAC Availability Schedule	* Always On

Required properties vary for different types of HVAC systems. This section will review how to edit selected properties using the baseline system as an example; follow these steps to edit properties in whichever HVAC system is selected for the final model. Additional notes on each of the four HVAC systems are included at the end of this section.

The screen shot below shows the **Data** tab variables for the baseline HVAC system. To edit any of these variables, simply click in the field and replace the existing value with a new value. *Refer to the end of this section for guidance on which values may be edited for each of the four suggested HVAC systems.*

**Designer** **Data**

Convert HVAC system to data [Convert](#)

☐ Room component ☐ Component

**Room Component - PTAC with Air-Cooled DX Cooling and Electric Heat (Component)**

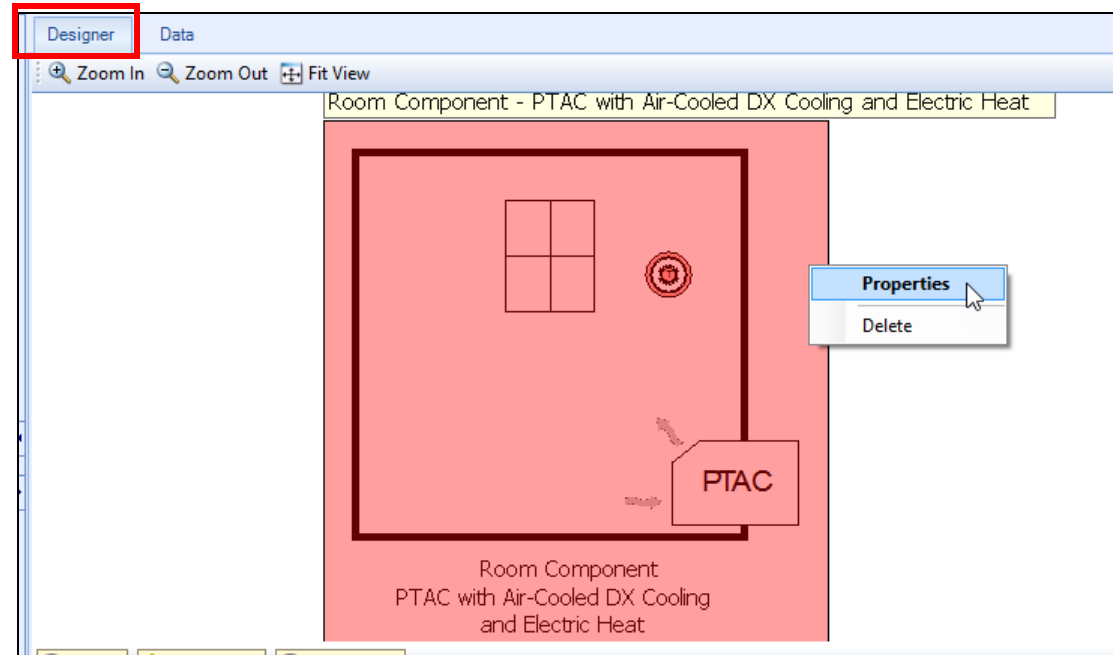
Heating Setpoint Temperature Schedule	Heating Setpoint (1)	Cooling Setpoint Temperature Schedule	Cooling Setpoint (1)
Room Cooling Design Supply Air Temperature Input Method	* SupplyAirTempera	Room Cooling Design Supply Air Temperature	57.2 °F
Room Cooling Design Supply Air Temperature Difference	Δ°F	Room Heating Design Supply Air Temperature Input Method	* SupplyAirTempera
Room Heating Design Supply Air Temperature	104.0 °F	Room Heating Design Supply Air Temperature Difference	Δ°F
Room Cooling Design Supply Air Humidity Ratio	* 0.01	Room Heating Design Supply Air Humidity Ratio	* 0.008
Room Design Outdoor Air Flow per Person	0.00 ft³/(m	Room Design Outdoor Air Flow per Room Floor Area	0.00 ft³/(m
Room Design Outdoor Air Flow per Room	0.000 ft³/mi	Room Air Distribution Effectiveness in Cooling Mode	1.00
Room Air Distribution Effectiveness in Heating Mode	1.00	PTAC Availability Schedule	* Always On
Supply Air Flow Rate During Cooling Operation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0.000 ft³/mi	Supply Air Flow Rate During Heating Operation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0.000 ft³/mi
Supply Air Flow Rate When No Cooling or Heating is Needed	<input type="checkbox"/> 0.000 ft³/mi	Outdoor Air Flow Rate During Cooling Operation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0.000 ft³/mi
Outdoor Air Flow Rate During Heating Operation	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0.000 ft³/mi	Outdoor Air Flow Rate When No Cooling or Heating is Needed	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0.000 ft³/mi
Supply Air Fan Efficiency	0.50	Supply Air Fan Pressure Rise	* 0.40 inH2O
Supply Air Fan Maximum Flow Rate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0.000 ft³/mi	Supply Air Fan Motor Efficiency	0.60
Supply Air Fan Motor In Airstream Fraction	1.00	Supply Air Fan Operating Mode Schedule	PTAC-SupplyAirFe
Electric Heating Coil Nominal Capacity	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0.000 Btu/h	Rated Total Cooling Capacity (Gross)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0.000 Btu/h
Rated Sensible Heat Ratio (Gross)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0.00	Rated Cooling COP (Gross)	3.00 W/W
Rated Air Flow Rate	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 0.000 ft³/mi		

After values have been edited as desired, click **Apply** to save any changes made to the settings for the four systems.

## Applying HVAC system changes to the building zones

After changes are made to different parts of the HVAC system, the rooms that will utilize the system need to be assigned properly to ensure the changes are applied.

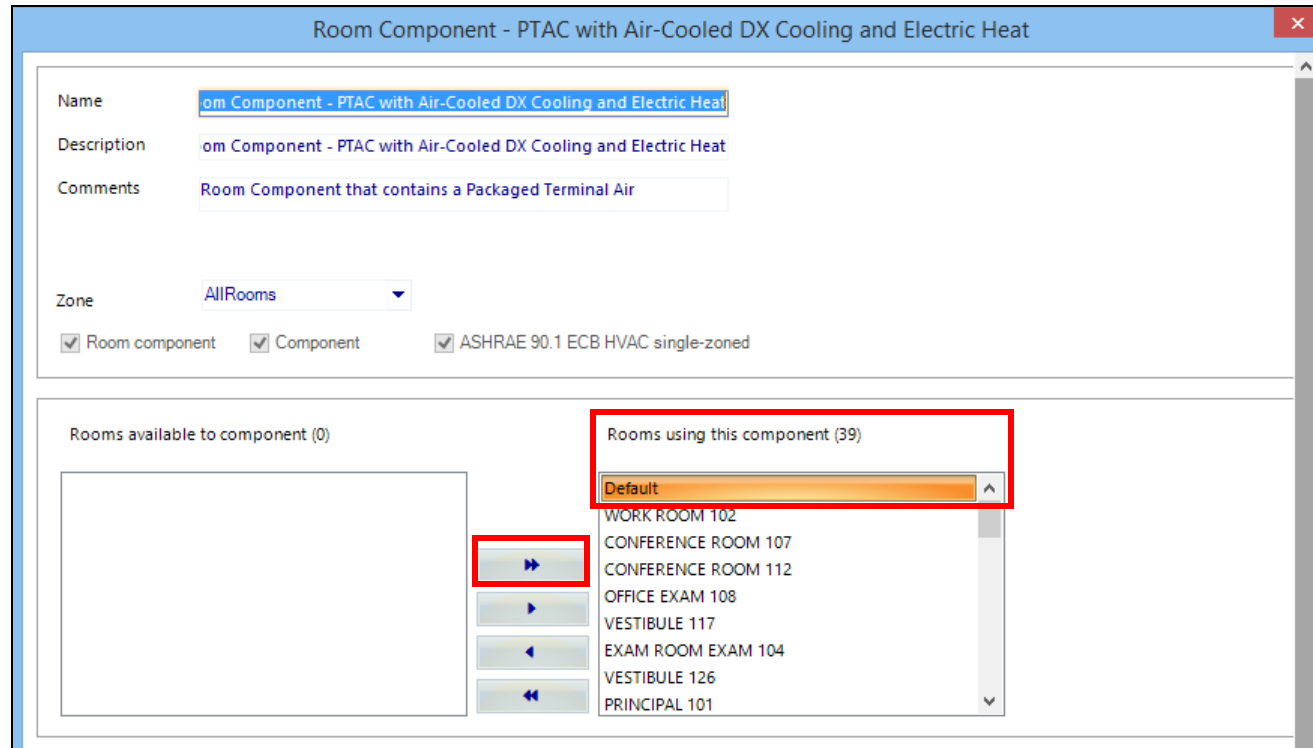
6. In the *HVAC Manager* window, switch to the *Designer* tab.
7. Right-click on the *Room Component – PTAC with Air-Cooled DX Cooling and Electric Heat* image and select **Properties**.



The *Room Component* window opens.



8. Use the arrows to move all the rooms under the *Rooms using this component* list. :



9. Ensure that **Default** is highlighted in the *Rooms using this component* list and in the *HVAC Manager* window click **Apply**.

10. Click **OK** to save the changes and exit the *HVAC Manager*.

After all desired edits have been made and applied to the HVAC system, refer back to **Exercise 02** of this tutorial for guidance on how to run a simulation and save the results to a PDF.

## Guidance on Property Values To Be Edited In Each HVAC System

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### PTAC Air-Cooled DX with Cooling with Electric Heat

The packaged terminal air conditioner (PTAC) is a compound object made up of other components. Each PTAC consists of an outdoor air mixer, direct expansion (DX) cooling coil, heating coil (gas, electric, hot water, or steam) and a supply air fan. The packaged terminal air conditioner coordinates the operation of these components and is modeled as a type of zone equipment.

PTAC units are often used in schools, hotel rooms, hospitals, etc.

Below is a list of variables that may be edited within this system, with a recommended range of values for each.

#### **PTAC with Air-Cooled DX Cooling with Electric Heat**

##### **Room Component**

Property	Values
<i>Supply Air Fan Efficiency</i>	Default 0.50, Range 0-1
<i>Supply Air Fan Pressure Rise</i>	Default 0.40, Range 0-1
<i>Supply Air Fan Motor Efficiency</i>	Default 0.60, Range 0-1
<i>Supply Air Fan Motor In Airstream Fraction</i>	Default 1.00, Range 0-1
<i>Rated Cooling COP (Gross)</i>	Default 3.00, Range 2.5 to 5

### PTAC Air-Cooled DX with Hot Water Heat :

#### Variable Speed Hot Water Pump

Property	Values
<i>Motor Efficiency</i>	<b>0.77, Range 0-1</b>

#### Hot Water Boiler with Generic Performance Curve

Property	Values
<i>Boiler Nominal Thermal Efficiency</i>	<b>0.80, Range 0-1</b>

#### Room Component

Property	Values
<i>Supply Air Fan Efficiency</i>	<b>Default 0.50, Range 0-1</b>
<i>Supply Air Fan Pressure Rise</i>	<b>Default 0.52, Range 0-1</b>
<i>Supply Air Fan Motor Efficiency</i>	<b>Default 0.60, Range 0-1</b>
<i>Supply Air Fan Motor in Airstream Fraction</i>	<b>Default 1.00, Range 0-1</b>
<i>Rated Cooling COP (Gross)</i>	<b>Default 3.00, Range 2.5 to 5</b>

## PTHP Air-to-Air DX with Electric Supplemental Heat

The packaged terminal heat pump (PTHP) is a compound object made up of other components. Each PTHP consists of an outdoor air mixer, direct expansion (DX) cooling coil, DX heating coil, supply air fan, and a supplemental heating coil as shown in the figure below. The packaged terminal heat pump coordinates the operation of these components and is modeled as a type of zone equipment.

Below is a list of variables that may be edited within this system, with a recommended range of values for each.

### **PTHP Air-to-Air DX with Electric Supplement Heat and Central Ducted DX-based DOAS**

#### **Room Component**

Property	Values
<i>Supply Air Fan Efficiency</i>	Default 0.50, Range 0-1
<i>Supply Air Fan Pressure Rise</i>	Default 0.40, Range 0-1
<i>Supply Air Fan Motor Efficiency</i>	Default 0.60, Range 0-1
<i>Supply Air Fan Motor in Airstream Fraction</i>	Default 1.00, Range 0-1
<i>Rated Cooling COP (Gross)</i>	Default 3.00, Range 2.5 to 5
<i>Rated Heating COP (Gross)</i>	Default 2.75, Range 1.75-4

## Water-Source Heat Pump

The water-source heat pump is composed of several major components. The water-source heat pump is not a geothermal heat pump. A geothermal heat pump is connected to a loop that circulates water to a loop in the ground. Water-source heat pumps are connected to a common water loop controlled to maintain temperatures between 60°F and 90°F. Each heat pump unit contains a fan, heating and cooling coils, and outside air intake. Heat pump units are located in each room or zone. The heat pump water loop also includes a boiler (to add heat to the loop), a cooling tower (to remove excess heat), and a pump to circulate the water.

Below is a list of variables that may be edited within this system, with a recommended range of values for each.

### Water Source Heat Pump

#### Hot Water Boiler with Generic Performance Curve

Property	Values
<i>Boiler Fuel Type</i>	<b>Default: Natural Gas</b>  <b>Options: Electric, Natural Gas, Propane Gas, Fuel Oil #1, Fuel Oil #2, Coal, Diesel, Gasoline</b>
<i>Boiler Nominal Thermal Efficiency</i>	<b>Default 0.8</b>

#### Room Component

Property	Values
<i>Supply Air Fan Efficiency</i>	<b>Default 0.52, Range 0-1</b>
<i>Supply Air Fan Pressure Rise</i>	<b>Default 1.32, Range 0-1</b>
<i>Supply Air Fan Motor Efficiency</i>	<b>Default 0.80, Range 0-1</b>
<i>Supply Air Fan Motor in Airstream Fraction</i>	<b>Default 1.00, Range 0-1</b>
<i>Rated Cooling COP (Gross)</i>	<b>Default 5.12, Range 2.5 to 5</b>
<i>Rated Heating COP (Gross)</i>	<b>Default 4.75, Range 1.75-4</b>

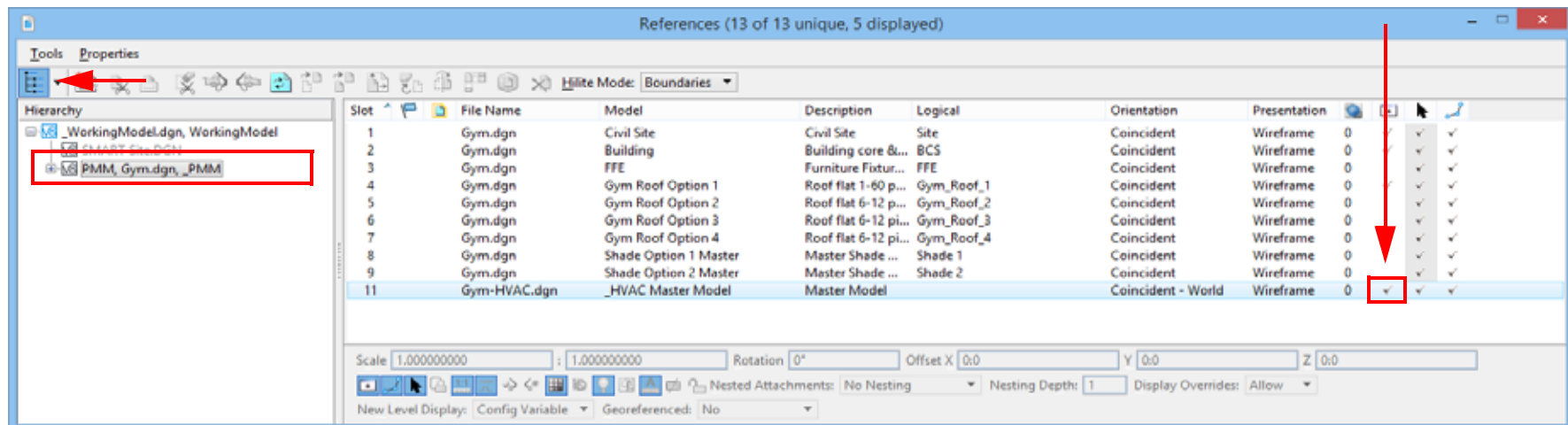
## Exercise 13: Updating the HVAC System in AECOsim Building Designer

Examples of the four different HVAC systems you can analyze in AECOsim Energy Simulator have been modeled in AECOsim Building Designer, including the different roof arrangements of the gymnasium. The options are included as reference attachments to the `_Working Model.dgn` file. In this exercise the Reference dialog box is used to turn off and on the various HVAC configurations.

1. In **AECOsim Building Designer**, continue in the `_WorkingModel.dgn` file.

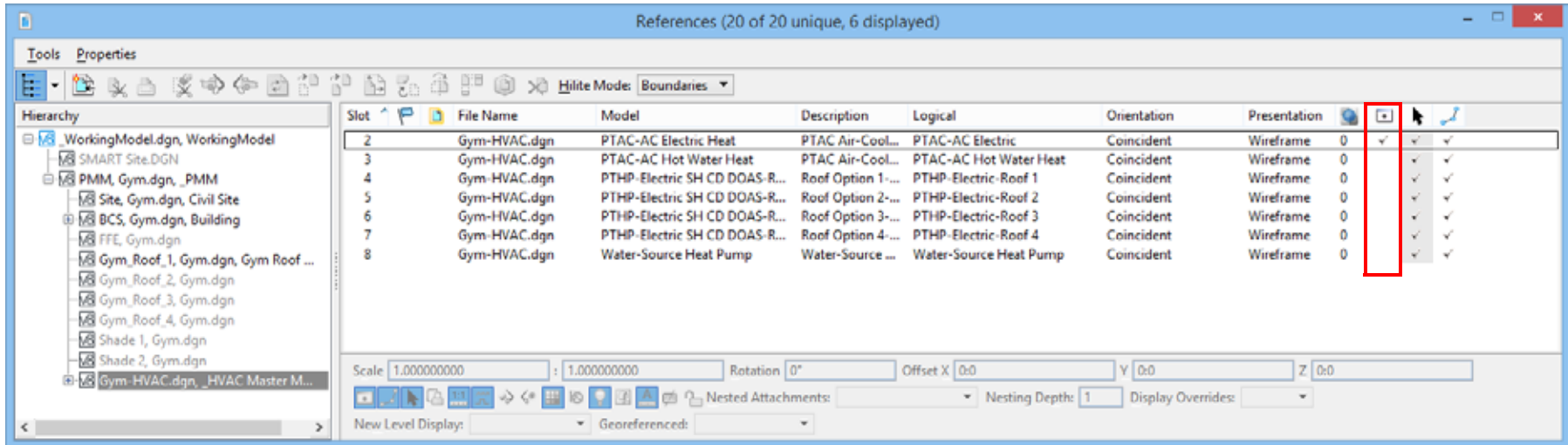
**Note:** If you are starting a new session of **AECOsim Building Designer** remember to start with these steps:

- a. Start **AECOsim Building Designer** from the Start menu or desktop shortcut.
  - b. Set the *Workspace* to **AECOsim Examples** and the *WorkSet* to **SMART**.
  - c. Select the `_WorkingModel.dgn` file (it will be in the list of files from being opened in a previous session).
2. Select the **References** dialog from the *Ribbon Interface, Common Tools* group.
  3. Select the **Show Hierarchy** button and expand the tree in the left-hand field and select the **PMM, Gym.dgn** reference.
  4. Turn on the display for the **Gym-HVAC.dgn** reference.
  5. Select the file **HVAC Master, Gym-HVAC.dgn** reference.



6. In the hierarchy list, expand the tree for the **PMM, Gym.dgn** reference and select the **Gym-HVAC.dgn** reference.

The list of references show the nested attachments for the **Gym-HVAC.dgn** reference.

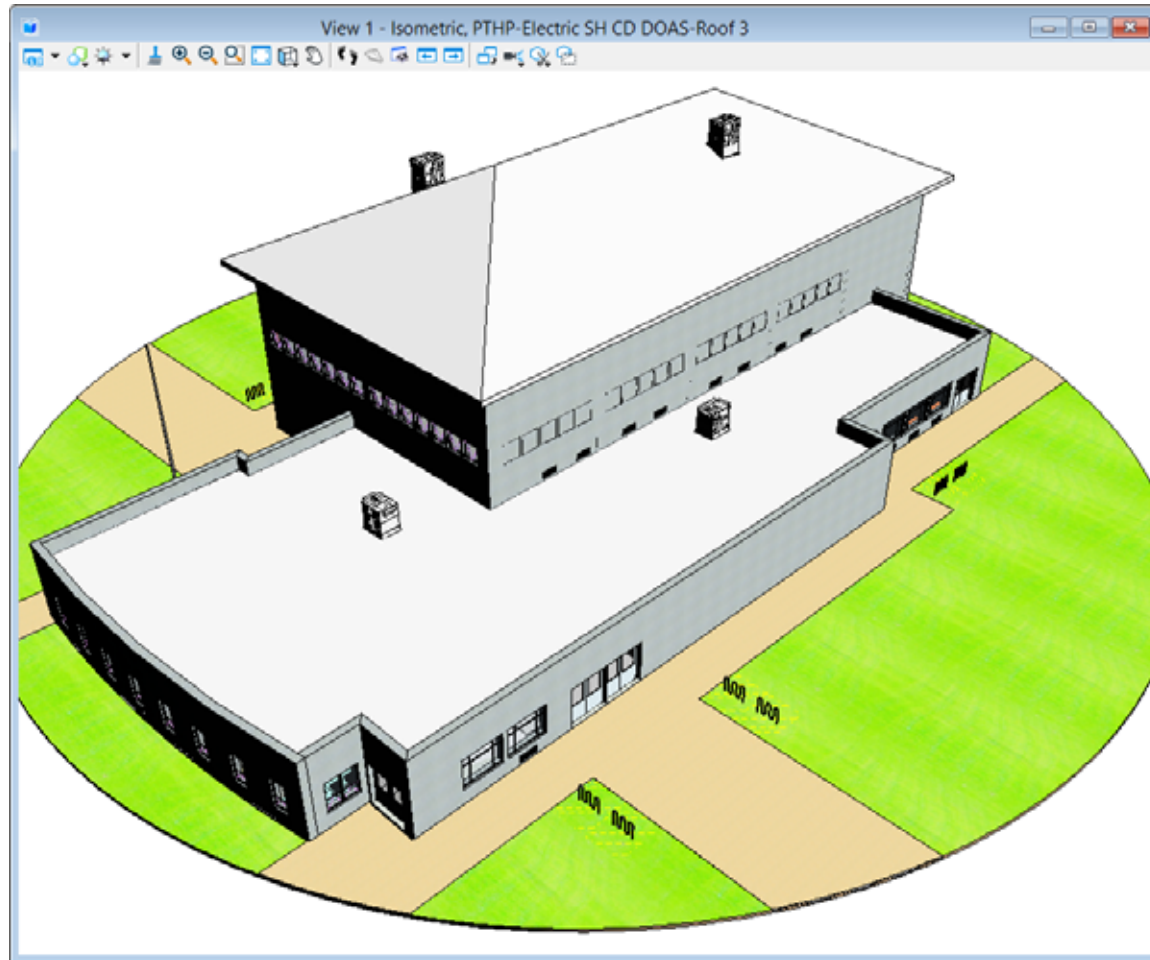


7. Use the **Display** column to toggle off and on the different HVAC models representing the different options.

**Note:** The the reference descriptions reflect the name of the HVAC systems utilized in **AECOsim Energy Simulator** analysis done in the previous exercise. Also, there are different models for the roof options of the gymnasium PTHP Air-to-Air with Electric Supplemental Heat and Central Ducted DX-based DOAS system. This is the only system that has equipment on the rooftop of the gymnasium, so utilize these in conjunction with the architectural reference roof options.

The PTAC Air-Cooled DX with Hot Water Heat system includes a boiler room (separate from the school building and the Water-Source Heat Pump system adds a chilled water unit as well.

Use these options in the subsequent solar study and visualization exercises to reflect the system your project is using.





## Exercise 14: Energy Simulator Tutorial: Final analysis

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### General Procedure for developing a final model:

Perform a simulation.

Review the results.

Modify model variables and perform simulation.

Compare results to your previous models as described below:

*Site energy use*: how much energy (kBtu/square foot) will the building use?

*Economics*: how much will the building owner pay for annual energy bills?

*Setpoints met*: will building occupants be comfortable?

After all the desired edits have been made and applied to the building, refer back to Exercise 01 of this workbook for guidance on how to run a simulation and save the results to PDF for analysis.

Your final solution recommendations should also include how the site affects the surrounding community including power generation, power distribution and power storage. Refer to section three—six of the lesson narrative documentation.

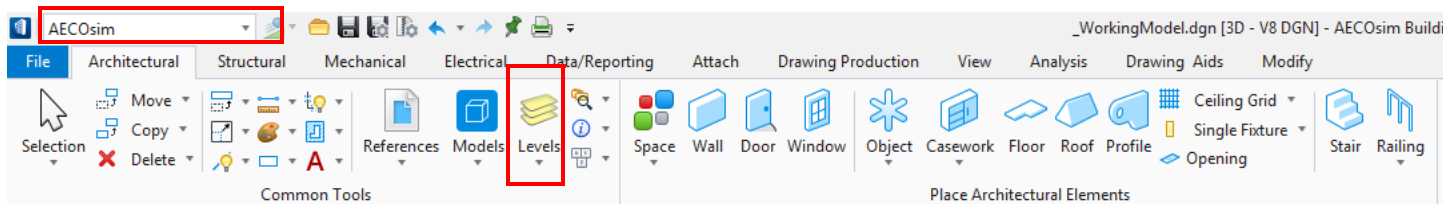
## Exercise 15: AECOsim Building Designer and LumenRT: Visualization

In preparation for your final deliverables this tutorial will walk you through options to create visualization and videos of your design with LumenRT, an AECOsim Building Designer companion software for real-time visualization.

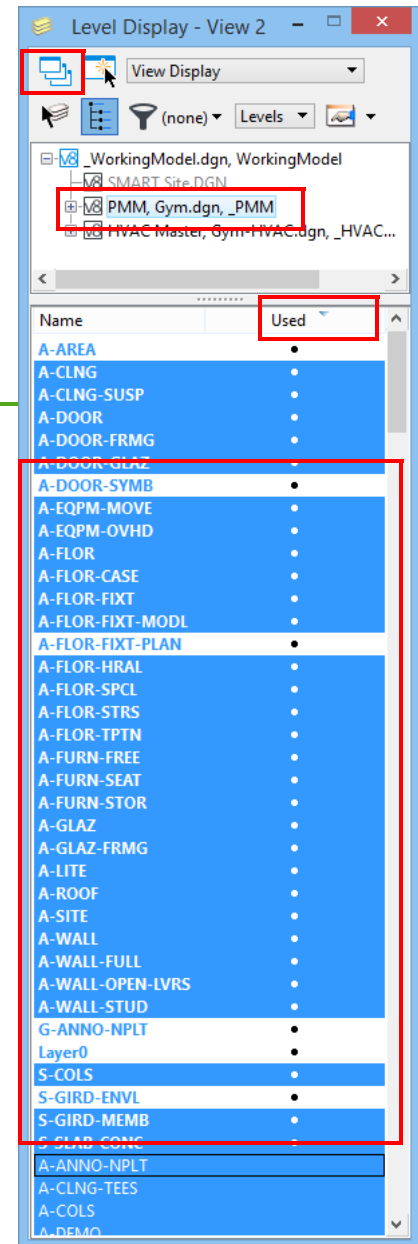
AECOsim Building Designer can export the model to LumenRT, which creates a “Live Cube”, where visualization, video and animation can be quickly generated. In this exercise the model is exported to LumenRT. In LumenRT renderings and videos are generated to be included in your project.

To prepare the model for export to Lumen RT first you will turn some levels off.

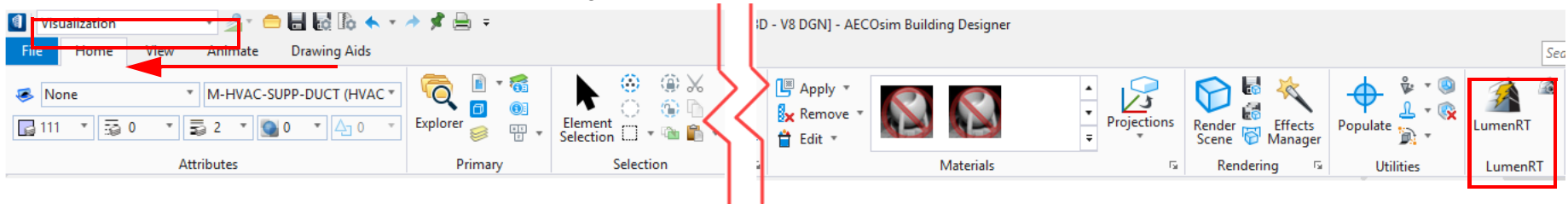
1. Set the **Workflow** to **AECOsim** and select the **Level Display** tool.



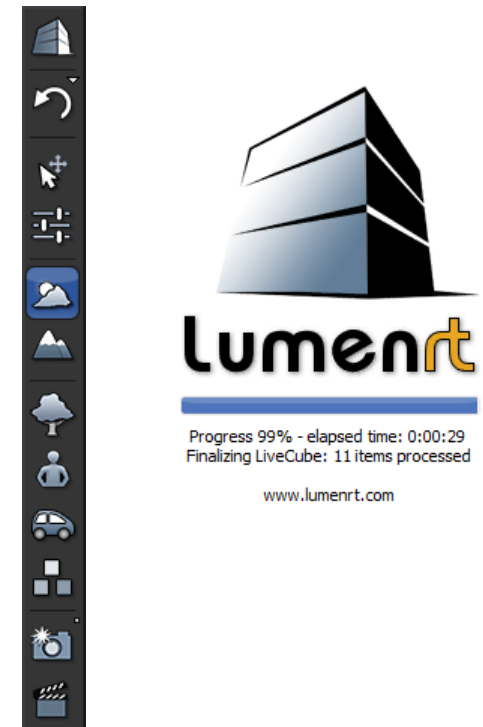
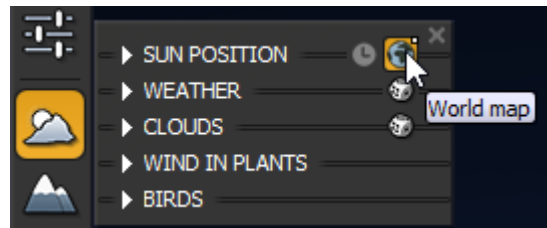
2. In the **Level Display** dialog set:
  - a. Highlight the reference **PMM,Gym.dgn**
  - b. Click the **Used** column header *twice* to sort the levels by usage.
  - c. In the list of levels click the levels as shown in the image to the right.  
Levels with a blue background are on, levels with a white background are off.
  - d. Click the **Apply to Open Views** tool to apply the settings to all the open views.
3. Select the **Save Settings** tool in the **Quick Access** tool bar.



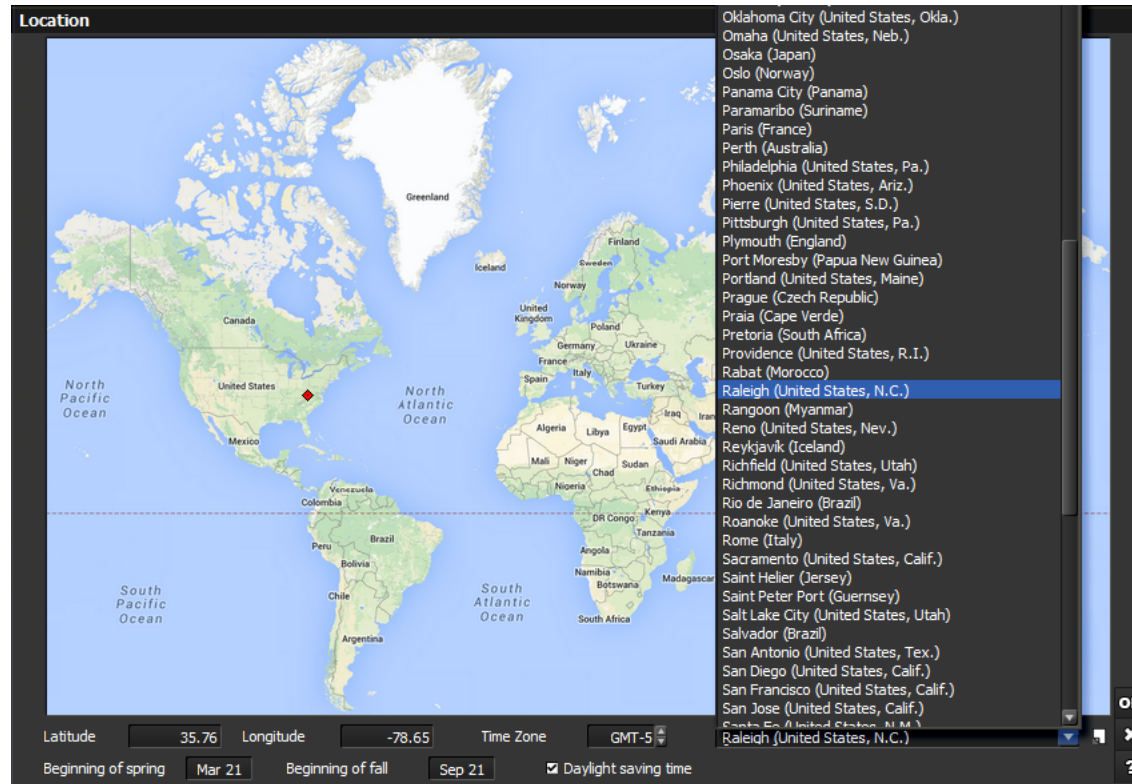
4. Set the *Workflow* to **Visualization**.
5. Select the **LumenRT** icon from the *Utilities* group on the *Home* tab in the *Ribbon Interface*.



6. An *Alert* dialog box opens, click the **Proceed** button.
- The **LumenRT** application will process the model from **AECOsim Building Designer** and open.
7. In the LumenRT toolbar, select the **Sun & Atmosphere Settings** tool.
  8. Right-click the **World Map** tool to access the *Location* dialog.



9. In the *Location* dialog select **Raleigh (United States, N.C.)** from the pick list.



10. Turn on the **Daylight saving time** toggle.
11. Click **OK** in the *Location* dialog.
12. In the *Sun & Atmosphere Settings* expand the *SUN POSITION* settings and click the **Time** toggle to switch **day/night** to day.
13. On the lower right of the interface set the **Display Setting** to *three stars*.

14. Review the **LumenRT** interface:



1. **Main Side-Bar Menu:** accessed by pressing the tab key and contains all of the top level LumenRT tools.
2. **Side-Bar Sub Menu:** displays the sub menu options for the main Side-Bar tools.
3. **Navigation Compass:** displays the camera direction with a red true north indicator.
4. **Basic Navigation Control Help Menu:** an optional help screen showing the high level mouse and key navigation commands.
5. **Scene Display:** the main window for displaying scene objects and content.
6. **Atmosphere:** the dynamic sky, clouds, haze, and sun display.
7. **Display Quality:** clicking the stars sets the display quality from 1 star (low) to 5 stars (high)

15. Right-click on the **Photo** tool to access the photo options and set:

a. **RESOLUTION:**

- **Aspect Ratio:** **Standard PC (4:3), 1024 x 768**

b. **WHEN I CLICK THE PHOTO ICON**

- **Save photo to disk:** **On**
- **Add to photo strip:** **On**
- **QUALITY:** **Standard**

c. **DESTINATION:**

- **Other:** Set this to a location on you computer. e.g.,  
C:\ProgramData\Bentley\AECOsims CONNECT  
Edition\Configuration\WorkSpaces\AECOsimsExamples\worksets\SMART\Output\

- **Save as:** Give the file a name, e.g., My SMART Building 01

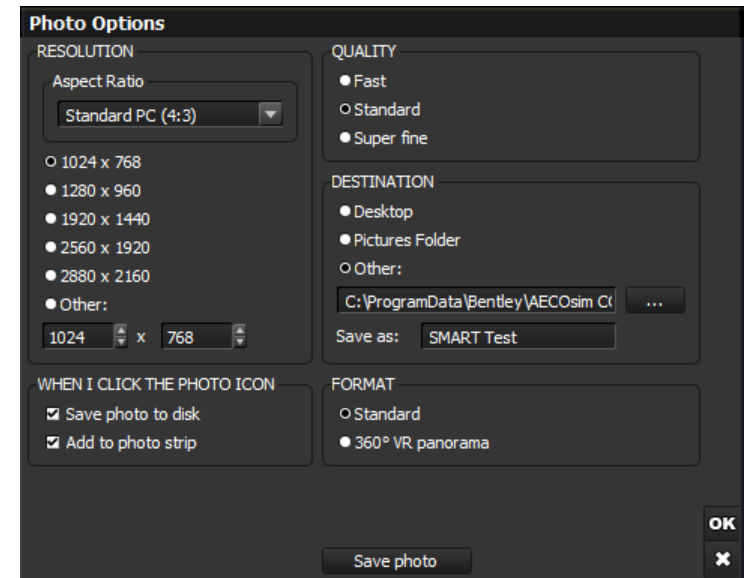
d. **FORMAT:**

- **Standard**

16. Click **OK**.

17. Click the **Photo** tool to save the photo.

18. Click **OK** in the alert dialog box.





19. In *Windows Explorer* browse to the location the file was saved to review the photo.



20. Rotate the live cube to another orientation.

21. Click on the **Photo** tool to take another photo.

**LumenRT** will save the images with a sequential numbering, e.g., *My SMART Building 01\_001.jpg*, *My SMART Building 01\_002.jpg*

22. Take a few photos. These will be added to the photo strip in the **Movie** tool.

23. Click on the **Movie** tool.

24. In the Movie interface select *Movie Editor* tab.

25. Preview the movie by selecting the **Play** tool.

The movie tool will “stitch together” the saved photos and move the camera accordingly to create a movie.

26. Select the **Export Movie** tool.

27. In the *Movie Options* set:

a. **RESOLUTION: 720p HD (1280 x 720)**

b. **DESTINATION:**

- **Other:** Set this to a location on you computer. e.g.,  
*C:\ProgramData\Bentley\AECOsिम CONNECT Edition\Configuration\WorkSpaces\AECOsिमExamples\worksets\SMART\Output\*

- **Save as:** Give the file a name, e.g., *My SMART Building Movie 01*

c. **QUALITY: Standard**

d. **VIDEO ENCODER: MPEG-4 part 2**

- **Frame Rate: 30 fps**

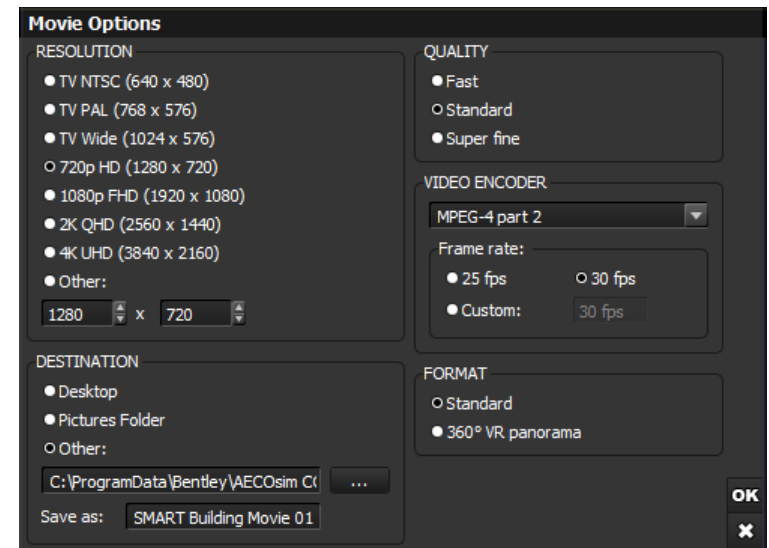
e. **FORMAT: Standard**

28. Click **OK**.

An MPEG-4 movie is generated, *this will take several minutes depending on the computer you are using.*

29. From the Main Side-bar menu select the File tool.

- Right-click on the Save tool and save the LumenRT scene file to a location and name, e.g., *C:\ProgramData\Bentley\AECOsिम CONNECT Edition\Configuration\WorkSpaces\AECOsिमExamples\worksets\SMART\Output\My SMART Building 01.lrt*





**LumenRT** is a quick and easy to use program for creating images and movies for project presentations. More terrain, landscaping, people, weather, seasons, birds, vehicles, sounds, etc. can be added to the live cube with the various tools. To learn more about utilizing all these tools, while in **LumenRT** press there is a series of introductory videos on YouTube: LumenRT for Beginners Learning Series.

Experiment with creating more robust photos and videos after reviewing the tutorials.

