MICROSTRAN V8

20th anniversary edition

Leading Edge Software for Structural Engineers

The product of 20 years' continuous development and support, Microstran V8 delivers unmatched productivity in structural analysis and design.

Graphical User Interface

- Named sets
- OpenGL virtual reality window
- VRML "walk through"
- Expanded data tips
- On-the-fly member attributes
- 20 configurable colours
- Smarter renumbering
- Faster operation
- Dynamic rotate, zoom, pan
- Join members command
- Reverse member command
- Copy member attributes
- Show specific member releases

Modelling

- Gap & fuse members
- Extensional member springs
- Rigid offsets in member axes
- More data checks
- Enhanced buckling detection

Steel Design

- Steel restraint visualisation
- Steel design toolbar
- Section library manager

Reports / Output

- User logo on output
- Improved printer management
- Scaled graphical output
- Adjustable report format

Also...

- Dual monitor support
- Web update
- New user manual

Go to:

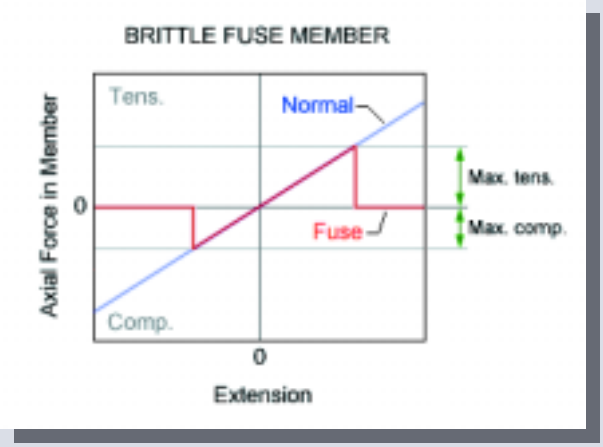
www.microstran.com.au

Virtual reality visualisation is available in two forms – an integrated OpenGL window and a VRML browser. The OpenGL view is quick and convenient while the VRML browser is more powerful, allowing you to "walk" through the structure or closely examine any part.

Named sets allow selected parts of the structure to be grouped and recalled by name for subsequent operations. For example, a set called "Top chord" may be defined and then selected to specify this group of members when reporting in steel design. Set definitions are saved with job data.

Dynamic Rotate, Zoom, & Pan commands offer improved convenience for manipulating the view. A new option permits rotating either the viewpoint or the structure.

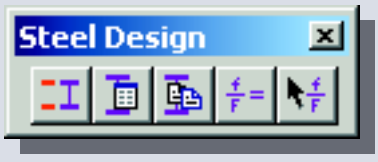
Gap and fuse members – this advanced option allows the member type to be set to gap, brittle fuse, or plastic fuse. Gap members are used to model slotted members or situations where one part of a structure bears on another after a certain relative displacement. Brittle fuse members are used to model members that fail in a non-ductile manner (e.g. rupture or buckling), while plastic fuse members are used to model elasto-plastic members.



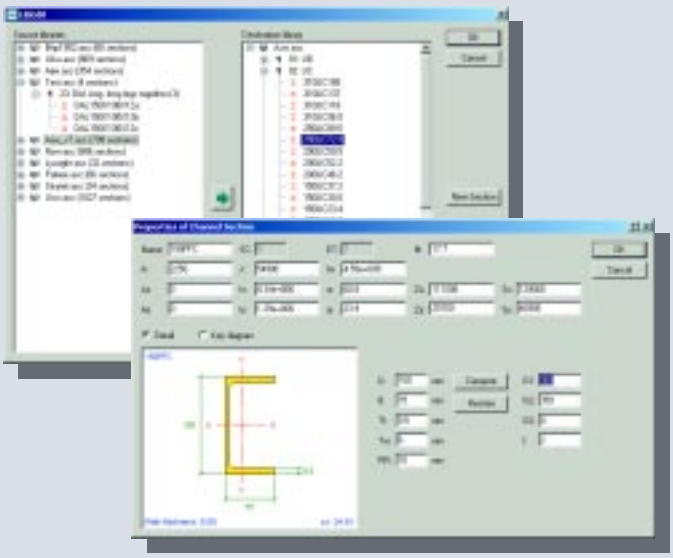
Join and Reverse commands permit changes to the structure model without loss of existing load and design data. This data is automatically adjusted for the changes in member connectivity.

Non-linear analysis has been enhanced with additional checks for better detection of members that have buckled. Buckled members are listed in the analysis log and a warning is displayed in the output window.

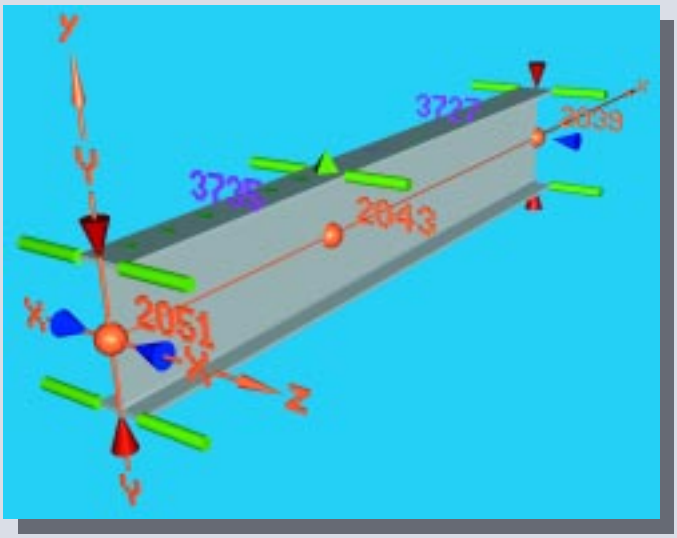
The Steel Design toolbar provides quick access to common steel member design tasks, including display of restraints, copying design data, checking all members, and querying design members.



The section library manager makes it easy to organise section data, including adding new sections and editing existing sections. Sections from different sources are shown in a tree view and may be selected and transferred to the destination library. The properties of any section in the destination library may be viewed, re-computed, or checked in a section property dialog box. During the compilation of the output library file a final check is performed, providing assurance that all your section data is correct.



Steel design restraint visualisation solves one of the most difficult problems in steel design, ensuring that restraint data is correct. Simple geometric shapes are used to distinguish the different restraint types in a virtual reality view. Actually seeing restraints makes it easy to determine whether lateral torsional buckling restraints are fully effective or elastic, for example, and whether they are on the top or bottom flange.



Show Releases is a new command on the Show menu that permits rapid identification of members having a specified end release.

Web Update is a new feature that lets you check that all your Microstran components are right up to date. Just click the Check Version button in the Help About Microstran dialog box while connected to the internet.

For more information contact Engineering Systems.
You can visit the Microstran website at
www.microstran.com.au

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