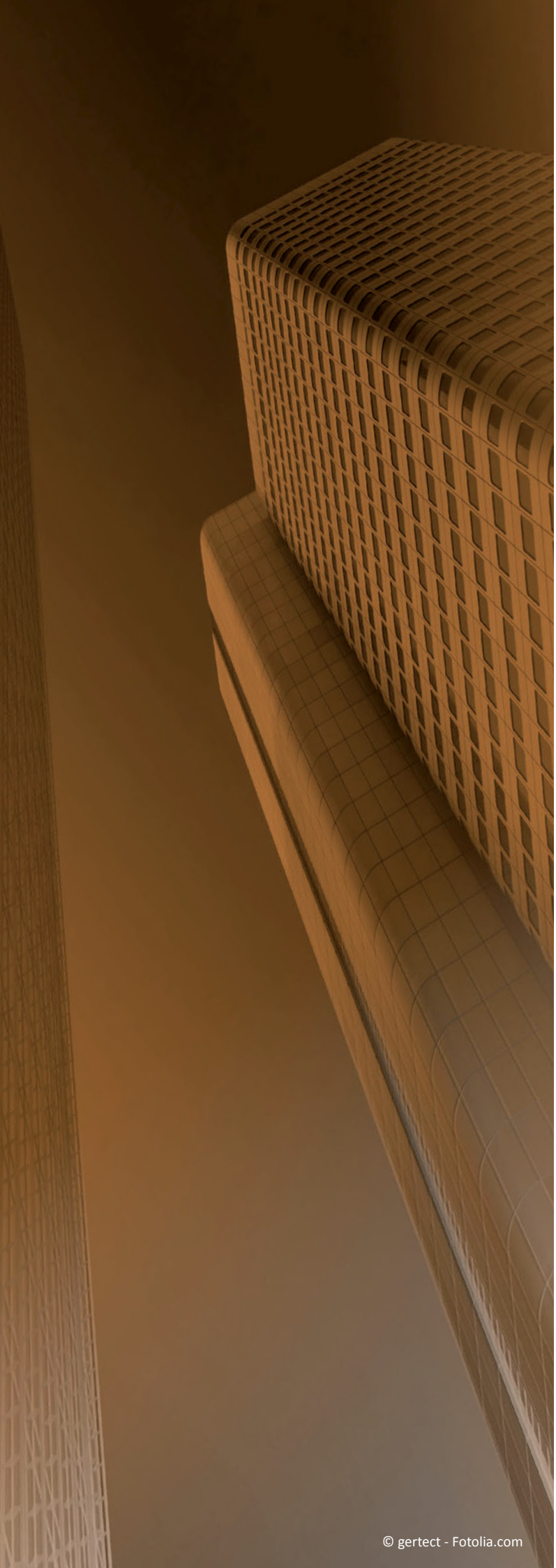

What‘s New?

STI SPIRIT | 2016

SPIRIT pro 2016

What's New?

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Table of Contents

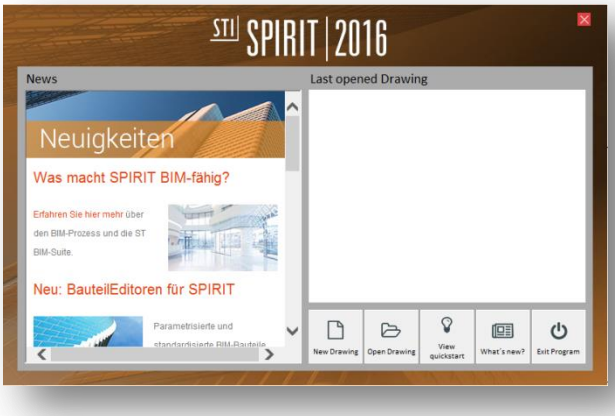
Note

The following pages describe the new features of the current version. All new features apply exclusively to SPIRIT, provided the corresponding licensed program sections are available on the user's/customer's computer.

🕮	For more information refer to the Online Help, the What's New features on the Welcome page that can be read in the context window.

The Welcome Dialog

Keep an overview and be always up-to-date.



Source: SOFTTECH GmbH

Description

SPIRIT offers you a new Welcome Dialog. With an active Internet connection you will always receive the latest news around SPIRIT and STI International.

In addition, the last 15 drawings which you have recently used are directly listed on your screen. You can also start a new drawing, open existing drawings, take a look in the What's New section and open the Quickstart Guide.

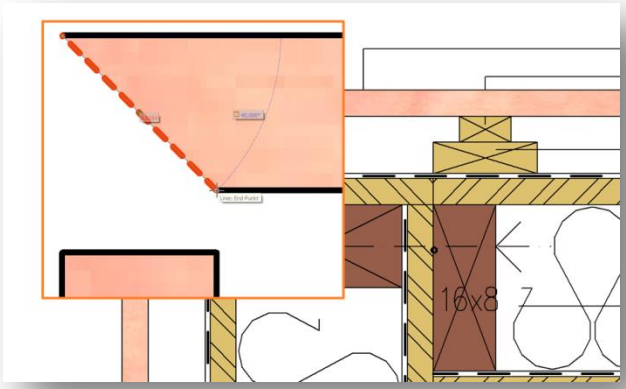
The Welcome Dialog is displayed each time you start SPIRIT and can be opened at any time from the pull-down menu ➪ *Data* ➪ *welcome dialog*.

Value

- ✓ A list of the last used drawings is displayed.
- ✓ Display of detailed information when selecting your drawing via the path.
- ✓ The latest news is displayed directly when you start the program.

Dynamic cursor

Input on the numeric keypad starts with a comma.



Source: SOFTTECH GmbH

Description

The input of dynamic values when the dynamic cursor (*dynamic cartesian* and *dynamic polar*) is active has been adjusted in the number pad area.

The shortcuts in SPIRIT play a major role for quick drawing. The two shortcuts for *Delete the last item* [,] and *Undo* [.] are already assigned on the keyboard.

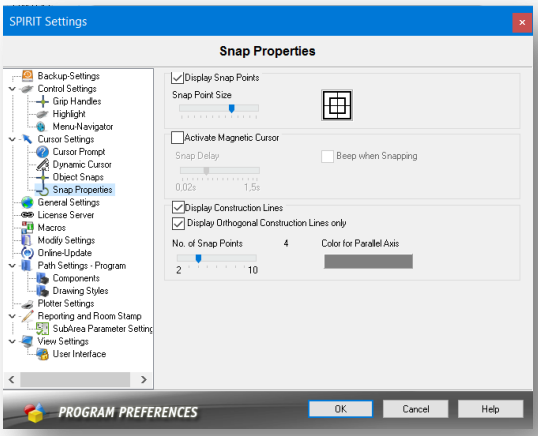
It is now possible to use the numeric keypad to enter distances > 1 directly with [,].

Value

- ✓ Faster input of values by using the numeric keypad.
- ✓ Shortcuts for *Undo* and *Enter* [,] on the numeric keypad are clearly separated.

Magnetic Cursor und Construction Lines

Sometimes things have to be separated.



Source: SOFTTECH GmbH

Description

With the *Magnetic Cursor* and the *Construction Lines* two drawing tools in SPIRIT have been combined into one function, because the snap points are not only used for exact drawing but also to define virtual snap points for the construction lines.

For easier handling we have optimized the magnetic cursor function. If only the magnetic cursor is active, there will be only one snap point. This allows you to snap safely to the defined snap entities such as end point, line center, circle center, intersection point, etc.

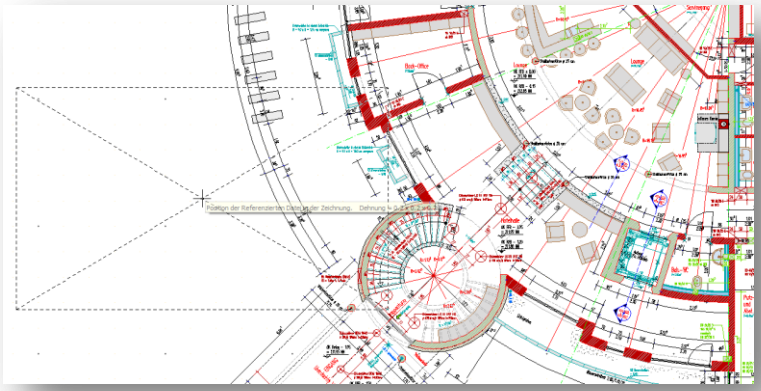
The construction lines and the associated snap points can simply be activated as an option when they are needed.

Value

- ✓ Controlled working with the magnetic cursor.
- ✓ No unnecessary display of snap points when working with the magnetic cursor.
- ✓ Virtual intersections can optionally be switched on and off by using the construction lines.

Inserting X-Refs

With outlines, single or multiple – always keep the overview.



Source: Rutschinski Architekten

Description

Working with X-Refs is a powerful feature in SPIRIT and is becoming increasingly important in the future, especially when it comes to BIM and the exchange of data with other project participants. That's why we constantly improve the handling of X-Refs.

The menu *Insert Xref* now offers the possibility to insert multiple references by using *F6 Multiple*. This offers you the option to insert references in your drawing either once or several times.

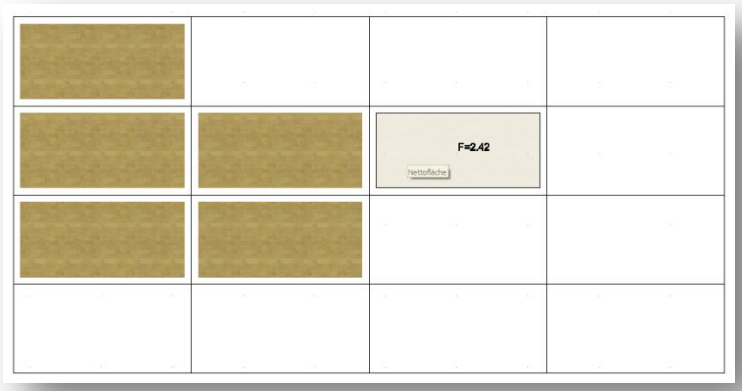
A further adjustment in the handling of X-Refs is that the reference attached to the cursor is now displayed not only with the Extendbox but additionally with two diagonals which extend from the two corner points of the maximum extension of the X-Ref. You can now see on the screen where the center of the X-Ref is located, thus showing you the size of the X-Ref in relation to the current drawing section respectively to your complete drawing.

Value

- ✓ You can now insert multiple X-Refs at exact points.
- ✓ Visual feedback on the maximum extension of the X-Ref.
- ✓ Unintentional multiple insertion of large X-Refs is prevented.

Direct Offset for Polylines

Just at a distance.



Source: SOFTTECH GmbH

Description

To create surfaces directly or subsequently with a predefined distance you can now activate the function *F0 Offset* when drawing polylines. This allows you to draw a polyline directly with a predefined distance value.

If a polyline is created using the *Contour Search* and the active options *F2 Contour Search*, *F0 Offset* and *S4 Dynamic*, the distance value is already displayed in the dynamic preview.

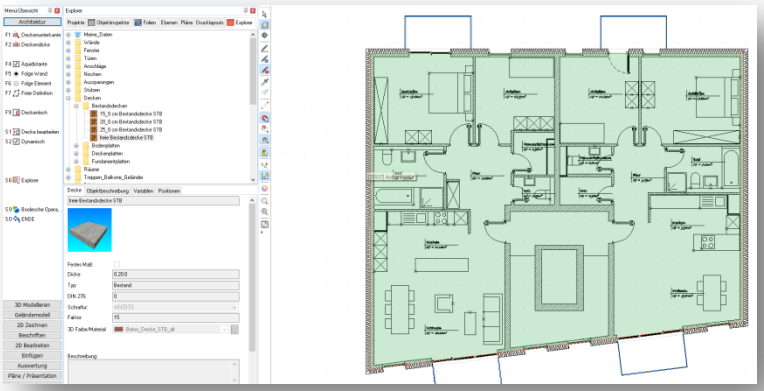
The value for the offset may be both negative or positive.

Value

- ✓ Parallel lines can be generated directly with an offset.
- ✓ Fillings, hatches etc. can also be inserted directly with an offset.

Dynamic Contour Tracking

Optical feedback for contour tracking.



Source: SOFTTECH GmbH

Description

Many innovations also create changes in the system itself. Useful functions in SPIRIT which are already there can thus be further enhanced during the development process of new features. In this way the dynamic contour tracking has now been enhanced and is available for even more elements.

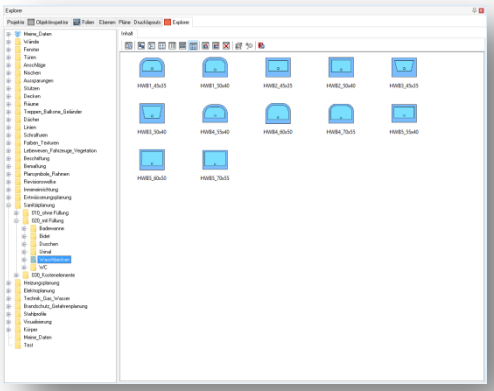
The new ceiling components can now be placed in the model including offsets if you use the dynamic input.

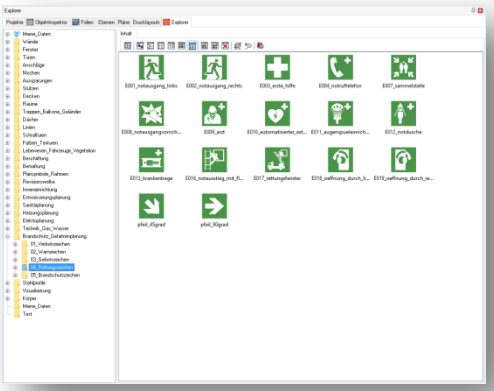
Value

- ✓ The contour tracking function gives you a visual feedback whether the contour is closed.
- ✓ Direct visual feedback whether a contour is filled, hatched or can be traced.

Symbols B12

B12 is the standard.





Source: SOFTTECH GmbH

Description

Symbols are simple and standardized characters which can be used for various purposes. The SPIRIT library, the resource browser, offers a multitude of symbols for different applications. Over the years there have been different symbol formats, ranging from *TPL catalog files* to the *SM6 format* and currently the *B12 format*. The difference between symbols in SM6 format and B12 format is the double precision, the unlimited number of colors and a greater amount of data that can be processed (Sweep objects and Polyslabs are retained when using *Explode*).

As we wanted to maintain a consistent symbol format in SPIRIT, we have changed all symbols in the library to the B12 format. We have revised all symbols, updated the previews and checked the corresponding Z-base and Z-height.

Of course you may also continue to use previous symbol formats.

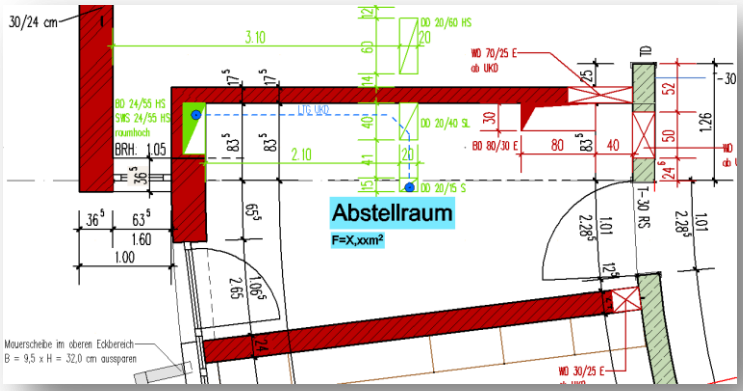
Another important change is that there is a *Default B12* template file for symbols in the *120_User Files* folder. In this S12 file you can define settings which apply each time you open a symbol file, for example coordinate input, snap criteria or measuring units.

Value

- ✓ B12 format as the standard format for all symbols included.
- ✓ Consistent data format for symbols.
- ✓ Individual settings for symbol editing by using a symbol template file.

Background Mask with Color

We add the splash of color.



Source: Rutschinski Architekten

Description

To facilitate reading text, text blocks, dimensions, room and object stamps in the drawing, the background mask in SPIRIT can simply be hidden. The enhancement of this function makes it now possible to additionally define the color of the rectangle. This offers additional advantages in making plans easier to read. The background can be switched on and off for selected text, dimensions, text blocks, room and object stamps via the *Object Inspector*. Properties like background color or hiding the background are always element-related and can therefore be set individually for each of the elements mentioned above. The background color for text can be defined via the text settings and for dimensions via the dimension editor. To ensure consistent working, these settings are also taken into account in the drawing style file if these options have been defined for each drawing style.

Note:

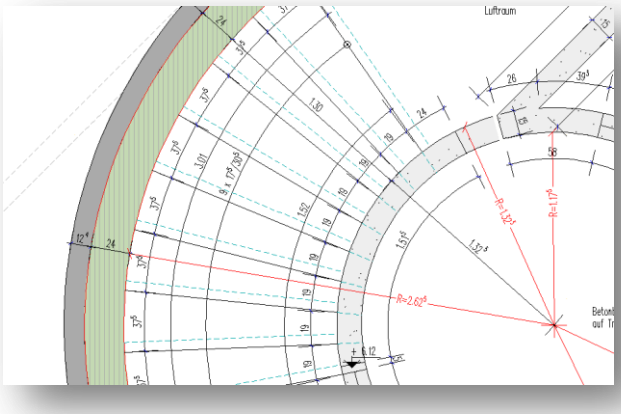
When exporting to DWG/DXF the set background color is ignored. Text, text blocks, dimensions, room and object stamps will therefore be transferred without the background.

Value

- ✓ Color drawings are much easier to read.
- ✓ Drawing information can be adjusted to underlying color patches.
- ✓ Important drawing information can be highlighted with colors.
- ✓ Color highlights to mark the planning and testing phase in connection with the revision cloud.

Arc Dimensioning

Arc dimensioning with one click.



Source: Rutschinski Architekten

Description

The dimensioning options in SPIRIT have been enhanced by arc dimensioning. As you know from radius and diameter dimensioning one click on the desired arc or circle is sufficient to select it. Now the arc dimensioning is dynamically attached to the cursor and can be placed at any distance to the original arc. The look of the arc dimensions depends on the predefined dimensioning parameters or the preset drawing style.

In addition you may also insert partial points or partial dimensions for the arc dimensioning. The overall dimensions of an arc can be divided into any number of partial dimensions.

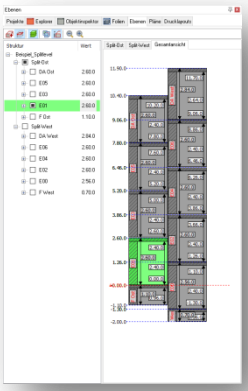
Once you have placed the arc dimensions in the drawing, the options *S1 Edit Dimension* ⇨ *F1 Insert* and *F2 Delete* appear in the menu. Just like with linear dimensioning these two functions allow you to insert or delete the partial dimensions within the arc dimensions. The arc dimensioning function can be selected from the pull-down menu *Annotation* or via the Menu-Navigator option *Annotate* in the menu *Dimension* ⇨ *F5 Arc*. After the arc dimensions have been inserted they are defined as a group and consist of separate elements.

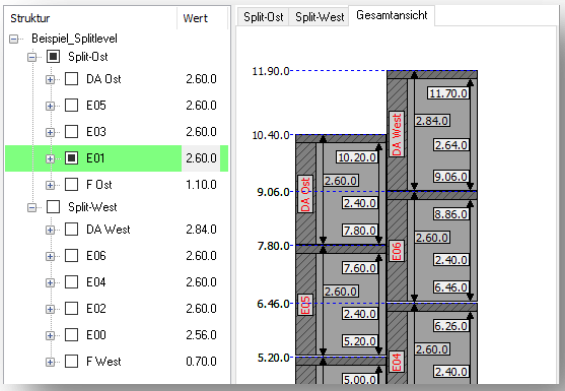
Value

- ✓ Quick and easy dimensioning of the length of an arc or circle.
- ✓ Dynamic positioning of arc length.
- ✓ Arc lengths with intermediate dimensions for dividing an arc or circle.

The Level Manager

Give structure to your model.





Source: SOFTTECH GmbH

Description

Without a clear structure of the building the component-oriented working method is difficult to maintain. The new Level Manager allows you to create, edit and clearly structure your levels (floors) when you are working with architectural components. The new dialog offers a lot of new features and integrates seamlessly into the existing environment.

The Level Manager is divided into two windows:

In the left column, the defined levels are displayed as a structured list indicating level zone and level name (e.g. "E01") with height information for absolute wall base, absolute wall height and ceiling thickness. Optionally, you can show and hide the layers of the levels. For more clearness the active level is displayed in green color, exactly like the active layer.

The right column displays the defined levels graphically. For a better overview each construction phase is represented by a separate tab with the respective levels. The contour lines for all levels and each construction phase can be switched on and off. The graphical overview can be saved as an image.

All heights can be edited anytime and anywhere by double-clicking. The entered height references and changes to the parameters will always affect the entire building model. Here the new dialog *Adjust levels* can be very useful. This allows you to define how the changes will affect the building model.

The Level Manager will also indicate if levels overlap within a level zone. This overlap is also highlighted red in the graphic level overview.

In order to create levels with all the important parameters right from the beginning, the dialog *New level* has been enhanced. When you create new levels you can directly enter the base and height of the walls or the ceiling height, specify the ceiling thickness, define the level name and assign the level optionally to a level zone.

Editing and defining the ceiling thickness via the Level Manager is now possible because the ZAC ceiling components in SPIRIT 2016 have been enhanced by free ceilings. For more information see the following section **Free ceilings**.

What is the level zone? It allows you to assign different levels and offers you a multitude of options to adapt their structure to your needs. You can use the level zone in 2D and in connection with rooms to create different room structures. You can also create several buildings within one drawing or create partitions of a building using split level.

Wall adjustments using the Level Manager are always relative to the base and height of the level. If walls are adjusted using the Object Inspector, these values remain continuously relative to the base and height of the level.

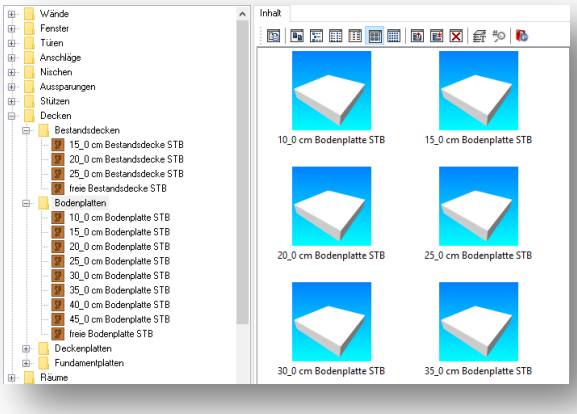
Naturally there are many different variations of how a wall within a level should behave. We have chosen the wall reference relative to the base and height to make wall adjustments more consistent and comprehensible. If you want the walls remain unchanged within a level you can define a fixed height via the Object Inspector.

Value

- ✓ The Layer Manager provides central administration of the building structure.
- ✓ Levels are indicated including ceiling thickness in the dimensions.
- ✓ Intuitive customization options for the entire building model.
- ✓ Clear display of all levels as a building structure and as a graphical Live-overview.
- ✓ Overview of all level heights (contour lines) including graphical output.
- ✓ Management of different levels using areas.
- ✓ Split-level partitions.
- ✓ Collision detection for levels.
- ✓ Consistent behavior when adjusting level heights in relation to the wall components.

Free Ceilings

Be flexible with free ceilings.



Source: SOFTTECH GmbH

Description

In connection with the Level Manager described above all ceiling components in SPIRIT were revised and enhanced. The ceiling components in SPIRIT are now also available as free ceilings. They can be assigned a 3D color for the display in the 3D model and can be displayed in plan view as well as in sectional view with the corresponding architectural detailing.

Free ceilings offer many advantages in connection with the new Level Manager because free ceilings always adapt to the 3D model if you are using the *Levels* dialog for editing. Changes to the ceiling thickness will relate to the entire model if you define the parameters correspondingly. Manual changes to the free ceiling concerning the ceiling thickness as well as the base and the height can be made independent of the new Level Manager. You can predefine the plan view and sectional view via the respective ZAC component just like you do with walls. If you want to change the plan view or the sectional view of the ceiling you must edit the corresponding ZAC component. Make sure that you always save differing and self-defined components in separate building component catalogs.

Value

- ✓ Free Ceilings adjust automatically to the 3D model when you use the new Level Manager.
- ✓ Plan and sectional view are now automatically predefined for the respective architectural detailing and can be edited. Changes in each editing phase can thus be completed much faster.
- ✓ New ceiling components to record and describe existing parts of a building.
- ✓ Textures for the 3D display are independent of the 2D display.

SketchUp 2016 Import

Import from SketchUp 2016.

Source: SOFTTECH GmbH

Description

To make sure that the interaction between SPIRIT and SketchUp continues to run smoothly, the import of SketchUp files in SPIRIT 2016 was updated to the latest version SketchUp 2016.

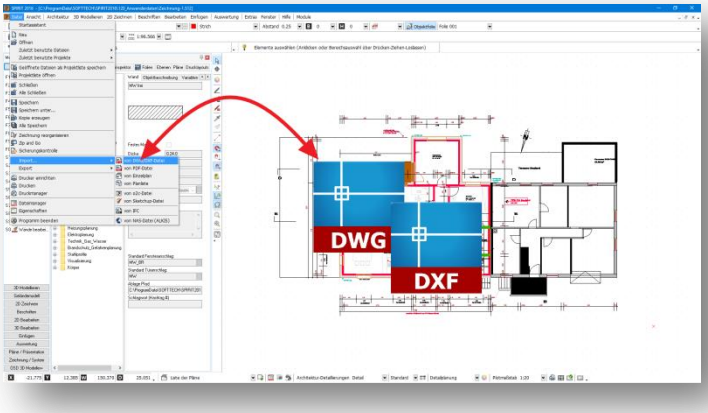
Note: For more information on SketchUp 2016 see http://www.softtech.de/die-software-architekten/sketchup.

Value

- ✓ Direct exchange of data between SPIRIT and SketchUp.
- ✓ Optimized and simple workflow between SPIRIT and SketchUp.

DWG/DXF Interfaces

Completely redesigned import and export of DWG/DXF files.



Source: SOFTTECH GmbH

Description

Even in times of BIM or maybe because of it the DWG/DXF interface remains one of the main interfaces in the CAD world. Therefore we have implemented the latest interface for the import and export of DWG/DXF files.

All common DXF/DWG formats can be imported in SPIRIT.

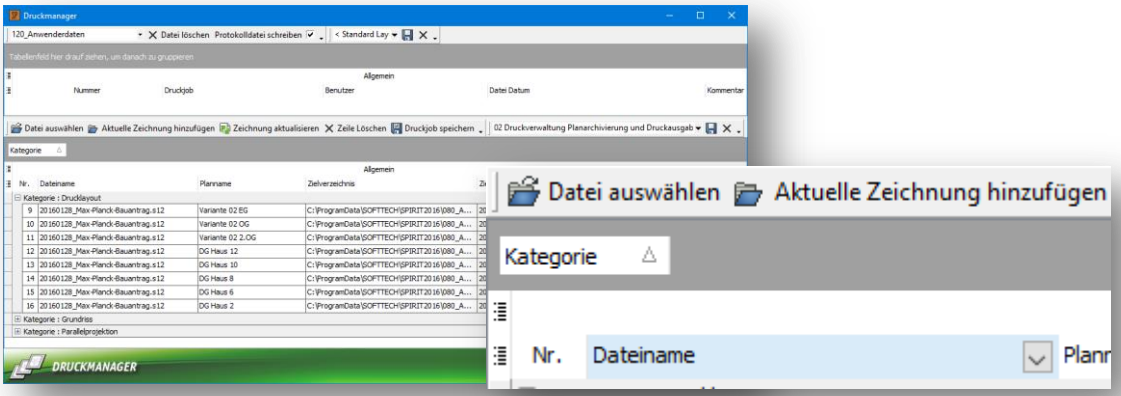
DXF/DWG export has been enhanced by the DWG/DXF formats 2004, 2007, 2010, 2013. This allows you to individually use the appropriate format for the communication with project partners.

Value

- ✓ The latest DWG/DXF formats can be imported.
- ✓ The latest DWG/DXF formats are available for export to optimize the exchange of data.

Views and Sheets

For a better overview.



Source: Lara Hoffmann

Description

In order to distinguish between *Views* and *Sheets* when using the Print Manager you can now use the option *Category* to sort the print layouts which you want to plot, archive or export.

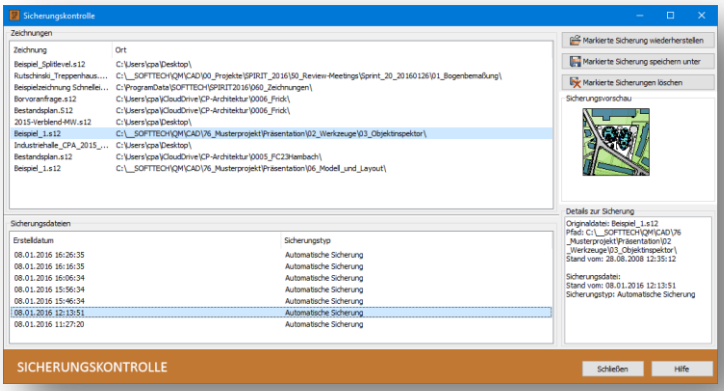
This gives you the possibility to directly select the sheets to be printed in large drawings.

Value

- ✓ Selection according to views or sheets in the Print Manager.
- ✓ Creating groups according to category in the Print Manager.

The Recovery Assistant

Enhanced settings for optimized backups.



Source: SOFTTECH GmbH

Description

Something can always go wrong; a computer crash, a power failure, a number of opened applications that no longer respond or perhaps a simple drawing error. Perhaps you just edited the current design and perceived that the design from an hour ago was more appropriate. With the new *Recovery Assistant*, you will no longer lose drawing data. SPIRIT archives and manages not only the automatic backups, but also any manual backups directly in the *Recovery Control* dialog.

In the event that SPIRIT closes unexpectedly, the new *Recovery Assistant* dialog will automatically appear the next time the program is started. You no longer have to concern yourself about the selection of recovery files. After selection of the recovery, SPIRIT opens the best possible drawing backup to continue working with. If you wish to keep an eye on the available drawing backups, you can easily access the recovery controls via selection in the new dialog. You can obtain the automatic and manual backups for any of the last opened drawings shown. For simple and intuitive operation, the *Recovery Control* was developed in such a way as to display a file preview with details such as original file name and creation date for each backup file. You can easily load the desired backup and continue with your work.

In SPIRIT *Settings*, you can define the number of backup files to be created per drawing, the interval at which they are created and after how many days automatic backups are removed. These settings can be found under *Tools* 🡒 *Program Prefrences...* 🡒 *Backup-Settings*. Be sure to take a look in the Online Help for further information with regards to the new backup and recovery control.

Enhancements

The new version offers you additional options for the automatic backup. You can now choose between two ways how SPIRIT takes the time which is set for the automatic backup.

Time until next recording is running:

- Always

Directly after opening the drawing the specified number of minutes is counted down. It does not matter whether you open and/or edit the drawing in the background (standard setting up to version SPIRIT 2015).

- Only if drawing is active

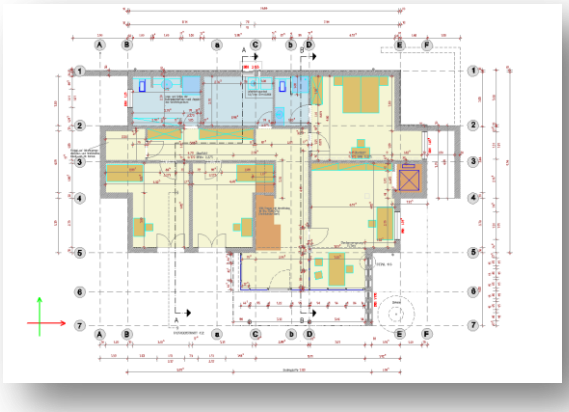
The timer for the automatic backup runs only when the drawing is the active drawing. For open drawings in the background the timer will stop.

You will find these settings in the pull-down menu *Tool* ➪*Program Preferences* ➪ *Backup Settings*.

Value

- ✓ Best backups are automatically loaded.
- ✓ No complicated file conversion dialog.
- ✓ Direct access to different plan versions.
- ✓ No final selection of the backup file necessary because backups will not be deleted after loading.
- ✓ Detailed information and file preview for each backup.
- ✓ Optimized memory performance for data on the network.

Absolute Zero



Source: SOFTTECH GmbH

Description

Each drawing contains a point where the absolute coordinate values of the world coordinate system (WCS) for X, Y and Z have the value "0". All coordinates of the drawing elements relate to this point. It is called zero point (of the drawing), point of origin, or drawing origin. The zero point cannot be moved.

This point is now a part of the drawing and will not be highlighted together with drawing elements in the default file. The temporary zero point, referred to as coordinate zero point in SPIRIT, can be toggled on and off using *Cursor and coordinate system* in the SPIRIT *Options*.

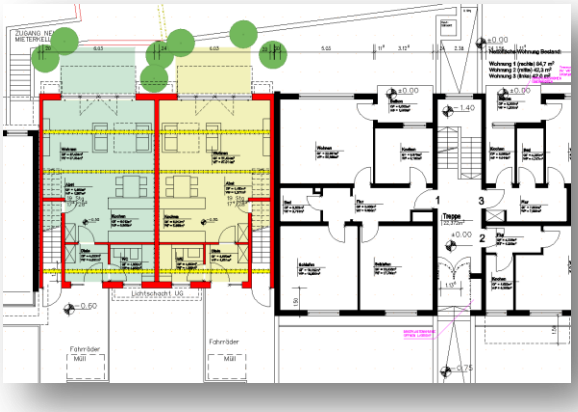
In addition, the color values can also be controlled using the option *Color for input direction*.

Preset colors are: red for the X-axis, green for the Y-axis and blue for the Z-axis.

Value

- ✓ The WCS point of origin is no longer highlighted together with the drawing elements. Therefore the point of origin layer in the default file is not required anymore.
- ✓ The number of elements in the drawing is not distorted by the point of origin.

Room/Floor area Layer



Source: Lara Hoffmann

Description

The SPIRIT room consists of several drawing elements and was previously stored on three different layers:

- the room layer for the room contour, the net room area and the room stamp
- the WTL layer for the subarea index (can be switched on and off since version SPIRIT 2013)
- the layer "1-2m line"

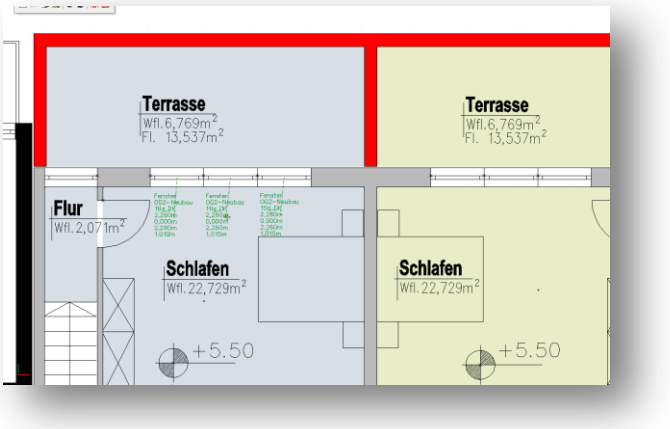
Now SPIRIT creates two comprehensible layers which clearly correspond to their description name. The WTL contour line is identical to the net room area of the room but may eventually vary in the roof space. Also the room stamp and its variables are clearly associated with the existing elements.

Both room layers are required for evaluation and to comply to DIN 277 standards.

Value

✓ Clearly associated names for room layers.

Object Stamp



Source: Lara Hoffmann

Description

Object stamps can now be assigned to any currently selected element simply and quickly via the context menu. You only select the matching stamp and store the information with the corresponding element in the drawing.

You can now directly assign an object stamp to the following elements via the context menu: wall, door, window, ceiling, column, line, polyline, circle, ellipse, point and symbol.

To enable you to directly select an object stamp we have created new template stamps for the respective elements.

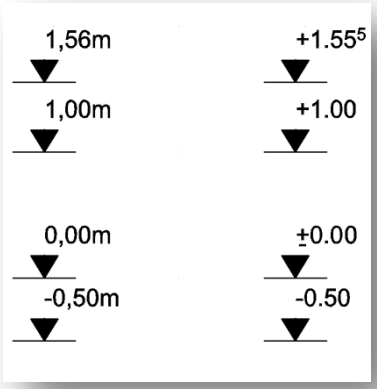
These can be found under 052_Object Stamp Templates

Value

✓ Assign object stamps to selected elements much faster.

Object Stamp – Copy-and-paste

Fit in the object stamp.



Source: SOFTTECH GmbH

Description

In addition, object stamps allow you to create elevation numbers for elevation dimensioning. For this, already existing system information, such as the Y-coordinate of a symbol, is simply displayed via the object stamp in the drawing.

In the current SPIRIT version the object stamps for elevation numbers have been revised. They now offer a better overview and are reduced in data volume.

You can now copy elevation numbers (symbols + stamps) using the standard Windows functions [Ctrl] + [c] and [Ctrl] + [v] within one drawing as well as between several drawings at any time.

Value

- ✓ Standard Windows functions for copying objects with object stamp.
- ✓ Revised symbol stamp for elevation numbers in plan and sectional view.

My Files

Quick access to your libraries.

Source: SOFTTECH GmbH

Description

The SPIRIT library, the resource browser, contains more than 1000 symbols, drawing styles and architectural components. The new folder *My Files* is linked to the SPIRIT resource browser and offers you an independent place where you can store individual library data.

You will now find the *My Files* folder in first place in the resource browser. This offers you a better overview and gives you faster access to your libraries.

Contents from the SPIRIT resource browser can now directly be inserted to your library for editing using copy-and-paste.

Did you know that Cloud storage services like Dropbox, oneDrive, iClodDrive etc. can directly be linked to the SPIRIT resource browser? This allows you to update your data online and gives you access to it from the SPIRIT resource browser on any computer. Give it a try!

The settings for the *My Files* folder can be made in the menu *Tools* ➪*Program Preferences…* ➪ *Path Settings* ➪ *Components* ➪ *My Files*.

Value

- ✓ Faster access to your individual libraries and components.
- ✓ Direct link to Cloud storage services.
- ✓ Easy creation of individual library data.