



Frequently Asked Questions

Updated RISAFloor and RISA-3D building design software

What are RISAFloor and RISA-3D used for and how do they interact?

RISA offers three software programs which now have integrated wood features—RISA-2D, RISAFloor and RISA-3D. RISAFloor and RISA-3D together comprise the “building system” software used to design a complete structure. RISAFloor is used first for gravity analysis and design, and RISA-3D is then used for lateral analysis. (This is where shear walls and diaphragms are analyzed and designed.) RISA-2D is generally used for single component design, including multiple shear walls in one wall line.

What’s the connection/interaction between RISA-2D and RISA-3D?

Any RISA-2D model can be opened directly in RISA-3D. Users also have control over which vertical axis to use, Y or Z.

Is the RISA software compatible with Autodesk’s Revit or any other programs?

As a premier partner with Autodesk, RISA provides a high degree of design compatibility with Revit Structure. New models can be created in Revit Structure or RISAFloor/RISA-3D and transferred seamlessly between programs. All geometry, loads and reaction information is shared and users have the option of transferring the entire model or specific sections.

RISAFloor and RISA-3D can also import and export DXF files (simplifying interaction with AutoCAD and other drafting packages) and SDS/2 files (for interaction with steel detailing software such as SDS/2 and Tekla Structures as well as plant software such as Smartplant 3D and PDS). SDF and STAAD. Pro files can also be imported.

Is there a demo I can see to better understand what the software does?

Yes, tutorials demonstrating various aspects of the software are available on the RISA website (www.risa.com) under Training/Videos.

What do the new wood features allow me to do?

The updated software includes elements that don’t exist in any comparable software, saving engineers hours of calculation time and allowing them to design a complete building with one software package. The integrated wood features include gravity loading, lateral force design, hybrid structure design, shear wall design and diaphragm design. The software is also integrated with the *National Design Specification® for Wood Construction (NDS®) 2005*, *International Building Code 2006* and *California Building Code 2007*.

What wood materials can be used in RISA?

The RISA software accommodates any type of wood. The program includes everything in the NDS, including solid sawn, glued laminated timber (glulam), I-Joists, laminated veneer lumber (LVL) and Paralam. User-friendly databases allow a design list to be customized for any product and imported into RISA for immediate use.