Release Notes

Forte® software v5.4
for North America
Release Date: May, 2018

Release Notes Content

- Description of New Features
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Description of New Features

For more detailed information, refer to the Help file included with the program. To access the help file, use the Help menu. You can also use the Forte® Getting Started Guide for a general overview of the Forte application.

Features and Fixes

Enhanced Hole Analysis

Additional considerations are now included for hole design. These changes may allow holes to pass analysis when they would have previously failed.

Holes that are too close together will now be combined into a single hole for analysis. Additionally, holes that are too close to a support will now be considered for analysis using a reduced support capacity and web stiffeners placed at the support.

Hanger Design Updates

Hanger design is now returning the appropriate hanger(s) for selection when a hanger customization option (e/g. slope, skew, offset, etc.) exists at the end support for a member. For more information, please refer to Weyerhaeuser Software Advisory 1802a

Miscellaneous

- Upward cantilever deflection will no longer fail design of the member. A new warning message will be displayed when upward deflection exceeds the allowable deflection criteria

- Sloped TJI® members at flush supports will require web stiffeners when slope is greater than .25/12

Defects Fixed

- Addressed an issue with a conservative deflection calculation for National Building Code of Canada (NBCC) 2015 under certain conditions
- Location Analysis results now match the reported Critical Shear results for a member when they exist at the same location.
- The Lateral Stability Factor is now applied correctly when a right end cantilever exists for a sloped member.

Product Changes and Additions

Updates to Trus Joist® products:
- Plank bending values have been reduced for all Microllam LVL products
- 8 5/8", 9 ¼", and 11 ¼" depths of 3 ½" 1.3E TimberStrand® LSL products are no longer available for selection or design
- All 18 ¾" depths of Microllam® LVL products are no longer available for selection or design
- All 18 ¾" depths of Parallam® PSL products are no longer available for selection or design
- TJI Joists with Flak Jacket® Protection products are no longer available for selection or design

Updates to hanger products:
- Hanger design has been updated to include the newest product offerings for Simpson Strong-Tie®

Installation Requirements

To install Forte® software, your system must be configured to the following hardware requirements:

Minimum System Requirements
- Pentium® 4 1.4MHz or equivalent AMD® processor
- 1 GB RAM
- 200 MB available hard drive space
- Minimum Display Resolutions:
  - o Using 100% Display Scale (96 DPI) - 1024 x 768 (4:3) monitor with suggested high-color minimum display resolution
  - o Using 125% Display Scale (120 DPI) – 1440 x 900 (8:5) monitor with suggested high-color minimum display resolution
  - Note: Forte software is not recommended for use with Display Scales higher than 125%.

Forte software requires both Microsoft .Net Framework v3.5 and v4.5.1, which can take up to 500 MB of available space if you do not have it already installed.

Supported Operating Systems

- Microsoft® Windows® 10 32-bit and 64-bit
- Microsoft® Windows® 8.1 32-bit and 64-bit
- Microsoft® Windows® 8 32-bit and 64-bit
- Microsoft® Windows® 7 32-bit and 64-bit