

RISA Webinar Q&A

Steel Connection Design Using RISAConnection

Oct. 13, 2010

- **0**: Does RISAConnection integrate with RISA-3D/RISAFloor?
- A: Version 1.0 does not integrate with RISA-3D. We have already started working on Version 2.0, which will be fully integrated with both RISA-3D and RISAFloor. Everyone who purchases RISAConnection Version 1.0, will automatically get Version 2.0 at no additional cost as soon as it is released.
- **0**: Did RISA buy another developer's program, or did you develop all of this in-house?
- A: RISAConnection was developed from scratch here at RISA Technologies, in-house.
- **0**: Suggestion: Can you include a horizontal brace connection for industrial structures that don't have a floor?
- A: Thank you for the suggestion; we will add this suggestion to the development list. All of our new features and additions come from user suggestions, so be sure to let us know if there is something further that you would like to see in the program.
- **0**: Can you input more than one load? Such as axial load for this connection?
- A: In Version 1.0 we will not be addressing axial forces in connections. These are considerations which we do plan to address in upcoming releases of the program however.
- **Q**: Where are the code reference numbers on the connections?
- A: RISAConnection code references are from the AISC 360-05 (13th Edition) unless otherwise noted. We have also noted where AISC Design Guide 4 (2nd Edition) was used in the code checks specific to it.
- **0**: Is this connection (beam-column) checked for column web bending?
- A: It is checked for column-web yielding, column-web buckling, and column-flange bending.
- **0**: What is the smallest bolt diameter that the program will handle and also does it handle various bolt grades?
- A: The smallest bolts available are 5/8", and you can set the grade to ASTM A307, A325, or A490.
- **0**: Does the program have HSS, Brace, Sloped, Skewed, Splice or Special Seismic connections?
- A: Currently none of these features are in Version 1.0, however we have a very aggressive development schedule planned, and you can expect to see all of these connections in upcoming releases.
- **Q**: What size are the weld elements used in the IC method?
- A: We use 20 elements per inch which means 0.05"

- **0**: What does the shape database currently contain? Is it limited to Wide Flange?
- A: Currently, RISAConnection only contains the AISC Wide Flange shapes, but we will be adding additional shapes soon.
- **Q:** Do you have end plate moment connections?
- A: Yes, RISAConnection has Extended End-Plate Moment Connections, designed per the AISC Design Guide 4 (2nd Edition).
- **Q:** When will Version 2.0 be released?
- A: It depends on how many features we plan to add into Version 2.0, but definitely in 2011, and definitely as soon as possible.
- **0**: Can you specify bolt hole diameter, or is it determined by the AISC code?
- A: RISAConnection Version 1.0 only supports the standard hole sizes prescribed by the AISC Specification (360-05).
- **Q**: What limitations are there on the demo version?
- A: The only limitation is that Demonstration Version is printed across the screen and printouts, and that the steel strength capacities are hardwired to fictitious values and cannot be changed.
- **Q:** Can we download this web session?
- A: You can view the recorded webinar for up to 2 weeks after the webinar. Please contact us for more information at info@risatech.com
- **Q:** What new features are scheduled to be included in Version 2.0?
- A: The main feature in RISAConnection 2.0 will be integration with RISA-3D & RISAFloor. There will definitely be other features and connections however we have not yet finalized what they will be.
- **Q:** Is there a network version of RISAConnection?
- A: Yes, RISAConnection is available as a network version. A network license requires a minimum of 2 licenses.
- **0**: If the software is purchased, how many computers can it be installed on?
- A: The software is licensed with a USB key, and it can be installed on as many computers as you want. The USB key must be plugged into the computer to operate the software.
- **Q:** Does the program have an "auto-design" feature? Can the program provide a suggested design based on the loads, members, and engineer's connection criteria?
- A: RISAConnection Version 1.0 does not have any design automation built-in. This is a very difficult feature to add to the program, as each person has their own preferences as to what makes the most sense in upsizing a connection. We are looking into adding this feature though.

- **Q:** Does the program design/consider stiffeners?
- A: RISAConnection Version 1.0 does not have stiffeners. However, we have an aggressive development schedule planned, and you can expect to them in an upcoming release.
- **0**: Will RISAConnection have the capability of generating a dxf drawing of a connection once it is designed?
- A: Currently the program provides printable shop drawing-style 2D views. However, they cannot be exported to AutoCAD. This is a feature that we plan to add in an upcoming release.

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