

File Transfer

Introduction:

The following example is meant to familiarize you with the File Transfer tool and display some of its features.

Using the Tool

You will find this problem in the "Examples" directory under the name "Sample Footing Design". Open the Sample Footing Design project. Once you have the file open, you will notice that it is a simple frame model. It contains Dead loads, Live loads, and Wind +X loads. The members are Grade 50 W-Shapes.

Exporting the Model

First, we will export the model. Once you are done examining the model, go to **Tools | File Transfer** to start the File Transfer tool. This brings up the "File Translation" dialog. The "Export" radio button should be selected. Next, **click** on the "Browse" button to bring up the "Select File" dialog. In this dialog you specify where you want the file to be saved. Notice that at the bottom of the dialog you can specify which type of file (.std or .sdnf) you want to save the file as. For this example, we will want to save the file in the .std format. Select a name and location for the file that is easy to find and choose "Save". You are brought back to the file translation dialog where you should choose "Next" to export the file. After choosing "Next", you are brought to the File Transfer dialog. Notice the message indicating the transfer was a success in this dialog. **Click** "Finish" to complete the export process.

Editing the .std File

Next we will want to add a bay to the structure by editing the .std file. Use Windows Explorer to navigate to the .std file created in the file transfer process and open it. This is a text file, so you should be able to open it using most text editors. Notepad is a good choice. Once in the file and following the conventions in the file, add joints (nodes) at (312, 96) and (312,0). Next, add members between nodes 3 and 5 and 5 and 6. Be sure to define properties and materials for the members as well. Once you are done adding the nodes and members select **File | Save** from the menu and close the .std file.

Importing

Now we will re-import the edited .std file. Start a new file in VisualAnalysis. Go to **Tools | File Transfer** to start the File Transfer tool. Since the model doesn't contain anything, the "Import" radio button will be selected in the File Translation dialog. Select the "Browse" button and navigate to the .std file you just finished editing. Once the file is selected choose "Next" and the model will be imported. A message indicating the import operation was a success will be displayed in the File Transfer dialog. Select the "Finish" button to complete the file transfer and the model (with an extra bay) should appear.