



## ShapeBuilder 4 Does More

### Major Improvements

Look what's new! You will find a list of benefits in ShapeBuilder 4 that were not available in version 3 of the software. The new version is now available for [pre-order](#) and [beta-testing](#). We will be shipping this software very soon! Please take a moment to verify that [ShapeBuilder 4](#) meets your needs, and drop us a note if there are any problems or questions!

### Customer Requested Improvements:

-  **AISI Effective Section Properties Analysis**
-  **Easier Export to VisualAnalysis, VisualDesign, etc.**
-  **Advanced Stress Analysis for Non-Merged Shape Groups**
-  **Units and Layout Saved with File**
-  **Resultant Shear Stresses Calculated and Plotted**

### Better Reporting:

-  **Report total shear stress**
-  **Adjustable report margins**
-  **Adjustable report fonts**
-  **"Flyby Tips" for stress values in result views**
-  **Repositionable legend in result views**

### Enhanced Engineering:

-  **Create dimensions for concrete results**
-  **Advanced stress analysis for shapes with 'notches' (holes on the edge)**
-  **DXF file import and export improvements**
-  **Yield-stress weighted plastic modulus for composite shapes**

### Improved Editing Capabilities:

-  **Mid-point snapping** (also 1/3 points, 1/4 points etc.)
-  **Improved dimension editing**
-  **Lock Shapes** in place to prevent accidental movement
-  **Hole creation** based on shape intersection
-  **Deform shapes** by vertex editing
-  **Polar grid** in sketch view, for radial editing and snapping.

### Productivity and Ease of Use:

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## Thanksgiving in America

### Happy Thanksgiving

We would like to wish you and your families a blessed Thanksgiving holiday. You may find the following presidential proclamations helpful in remembering our rich history in this holiday, and for sharing that tradition with friends and family. Click on the proclamation links to read the complete text for these proclamations and to get more information about Thanksgiving.

### 3 October 1789

#### A Proclamation

Whereas it is the duty of all Nations to acknowledge the providence of Almighty God, to obey his will, to be grateful for his benefits, and humbly to implore his protection and favor--and whereas both Houses of Congress have by their joint Committee requested me "to recommend to the People of the United States a day of public thanksgiving and prayer to be observed by acknowledging with grateful hearts the many signal favors of Almighty God especially by affording them an opportunity peaceably to establish a form of government for their safety and happiness.

*-George Washington*



### Import "x-y points" or centerline

- "Mouse-wheel" and "Area" zooming
- "Mouse-wheel" scroll/pan.
- Property calculations no longer slow down editing.
- Single-step "Mirror & Copy" command
- Mirror multiple shapes about a common point
- New parametric shapes
- Improved Preference settings
- Plus dozens of other minor improvements, not worth listing here...

### Reliability:



ShapeBuilder 4.0 is more stable, flexible and robust than 3.0

### QuickRFooting and VisualAnalysis 5.1 [\[to Contents\]](#)

#### Results To Loads

Last month we were not sure, but today you can directly use the new QuickRFooting tool from within VisualAnalysis 5.1. We have implemented a new menu item in VisualAnalysis (**Design | Export to QuickRFooting**) that will take the results from selected base nodes and export them as loads into QuickRFooting!

#### Mechanics and Options

The new feature will allow you a very easy way to design footings from your VisualAnalysis project files. The data exchange happens through a simple XML file that is written into the QuickRFooting folder, called *ImportFile.xml*. You should pre-select the base nodes to export before choosing the command from the menu.

This text-based file is also easy to create yourself if you have loads from other sources that you wish to import into QuickRFooting. If you need to modify the file you may edit it in any text editor. You may view the contents formatted in Internet Explorer by simply double-clicking on the file in Windows Explorer.

#### Future of QuickRFooting

We have had many questions regarding the ability of the QuickRFooting to design a strip footing, a combined footing, or a mat footing. Unfortunately, the current answer is 'No'. We are looking to expand this tool in the future to handle more complicated footings.

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### Updates

There is an [update available](#) for the VisualAnalysis 5.1 Package. Build 17 corrects a few problems that have been discovered:



- Wood Design axial-use glu-lam checks were missing in some cases.
- Cold-formed steel design report header contained duplicate information
- Thermal member loads were incorrectly transformed between local and global directions, in certain instances of member orientation.

### October 3, 1863

#### A Proclamation

The year that is drawing towards its close, has been filled with the blessings of fruitful fields and healthful skies. To these bounties, which are so constantly enjoyed that we are prone to forget the source from which they come, others have been added, which are of so extraordinary a nature, that they cannot fail to penetrate and soften even the heart which is habitually insensible to the ever watchful providence of Almighty God...

*-Abraham Lincoln*

### Thanksgiving Day, 2003

#### A Proclamation

Each year on Thanksgiving, we gather with family and friends to thank God for the many blessings He has given us, and we ask God to continue to guide and watch over our country.

Almost 400 years ago, after surviving their first winter at Plymouth, the Pilgrims celebrated a harvest feast to give thanks. George Washington proclaimed the first National Day of Thanksgiving in 1789, and Abraham Lincoln revived the tradition during the Civil War. Since that time, our citizens have paused to express thanks for the bounty of blessings we enjoy and to spend time with family and friends. In want or in plenty, in times of challenge or times of calm, we always have reasons to be thankful.

America is a land of abundance, prosperity, and hope. We must never take for granted the things that make our country great: a firm foundation of freedom, justice, and equality; a belief in democracy and the rule of law; and our fundamental rights to gather, speak, and worship freely...

*-George W. Bush*

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