

ETABS® 2013 Version 13.2.1 Release Notes

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Notice Date: 2014-11-19

This file lists all changes made to ETABS since the previous version. **Most changes do not affect most users.** Incidents marked with an asterisk (*) in the first column of the tables below are deemed more significant.

Changes from v13.2.0 (2014-11-03)

User Interface Incidents Resolved

*	Incident	Description
	71619	An incident has been resolved that corrected several unreported "Abnormal Termination" errors that could occur when working with the graphical user interface. When these errors occurred the software would terminate with an option to save the model file under a new name.
	72408	An incident was resolved where an "Abnormal Termination" error could be generated when performing the following operations: (1) Using the command Define > Load Cases > Modify/Show Case, then clicking on the Design button. (2) Using the command Design > Concrete Frame Design (or any other type of design) > Select Design Combo, then clicking on the Show button for any load combination that contains nested load combinations. No results were affected in either case.
	72438 (a)	An incident was resolved where certain models could not be opened when they had been saved after deleting a tower and the display limits had been set for the deleted tower.
	72438 (b)	An incident was resolved where an "Abnormal Termination" error was generated when performing mouse operations or refreshing the view for certain models containing shell objects having no joints. This error was not common.
*	72554	The handling of errors in the user interface has been changed. Previously when an error was encountered, a message was presented to the user that an "Abnormal Termination" occurred, and an option was available to save the model under a different name. Now exceptions that occur when performing mouse operations, table operations, and tree operations in the model explorer will be handled internally without interruption to the user. For errors encountered during menu and form (dialog box) operations, a warning message will be provided when possible. The previous behavior will now occur only in the case of a non-recoverable error.
	72593	An incident was resolved where performing mouse operations (zoom, pan, rotate) on a model displayed in 3-D with shells shown in edge view, such as a 3-D elevation with perspective turned off (aperture angle set to zero), could cause an "Abnormal Termination" error, causing the software to close. No results were affected. This error only affected Version 13.2.0.
	72617	An incident was resolved in which an "Abnormal Termination" error could occur when displaying pier forces in an elevation view and moving the mouse cursor near a frame member.
	72620	An incident was resolved in which an "Abnormal Termination" error could occur when trying to export plot function data to tabular format for plots showing multiple functions. This did not affect results.
	72666	An incident was resolved where an "Abnormal Termination" error could occur while showing frame forces and moving the mouse cursor to display values for a frame object with a large number of output stations.

* Incident	Description
72693	An incident was resolved where the Define > Functions > Response Spectrum > Modify/Show Function command produced an "Abnormal Termination" error when the response spectrum function file was missing. Similar behavior was resolved for the command Define > Functions > Time History > Modify/Show Function.

Graphics and Drafting Incidents Resolved

* Incident	Description
72553	An incident was resolved where moving the end of a frame or link object did not always update the length properly. This was not common, but could occur when the end of the object was moved to an existing joint, causing the joints to merge. Moving the merged joint or importing the model from a text file would correct the length. When this error occurred, it could affect certain analysis and design results. The assumed length was shown in the right-button click properties form and in the tables. This error, while rare, could affect models from versions 9.5 to 13.2.0. Models opened in v13.2.1 and later will correct any previously incorrect lengths that are detected.

Modeling Incidents Resolved

* Incident	Description
72886	An incident was resolved for ChineseGB08.xml frame-section database file where the area of section "LN100X80X6" was incorrect due to a missing decimal point, i.e. the area used was 1063700 mm ² instead of 1063.7 mm ² . No other property values were affected except for R22 and R33 which depend upon the area.

Section Designer Incidents Resolved

* Incident	Description
72336	An incident was resolved where an error could be generated that could cause the software to terminate when editing a model that had no rebar definitions but that did have frame sections defined that required rebar. Such models are now corrected when they are opened by adding default rebar definitions if none are found. This was not common.
72468	An incident was resolved where the moments of inertia could be calculated incorrectly for Section Designer sections that included a structural steel shape with fillet radii if that shape was rotated by an angle different from zero. The moments of inertia were being calculated as if the shape had not been rotated. Structural shapes without fillet radii were not affected. Shapes drawn as polygons or converted to polygons were not affected. Affected structural shapes were those that were drawn using the Section Designer command Draw > Steel Shape, which admit fillet radii, and for which both the radii and rotation angle were set to non-zero values.

Loading Incidents Resolved

* Incident	Description
72621	An incident was resolved for version 13.2.0 only where an error message "Error cleaning Wind Loads Array-Error No. 91" was generated when running the analysis for models from versions 13.1.5 and older having wind loads for code AS/NZS 1170.2:2011 defined with the option set to All Directions. When this occurred, two cases of wind loading with eccentricity were analyzed instead of the previous four cases. For version 13.2.0 and later, this type of wind load has been changed to only generate two cases, and the error message is removed with version 13.2.1.

Analysis Incidents Resolved

*	Incident	Description
	72369	An incident was resolved that affected models with multiple mass sources defined: (1) If only one of the mass source definitions used the option to Lump Lateral Mass at the Story Levels, then all mass source definitions would lump the lateral mass from joints at story levels; lateral mass from frame and shell objects was not lumped as described for Incidents 72562 et al. (2) If more than one of the mass sources definitions used the option to Lump Lateral Mass at the Story Levels, then the analysis would fail to run with an error message if any mass was actually redistributed from an inter-story location to a story level. Models with a single mass source definition (the most common case) were not affected. Models with multiple mass source definitions were not affected if none of the definitions used the option to Lump Lateral Mass at the Story Levels, or if all the mass was defined only at the story levels.
	72397	An incident was resolved where using the command Analyze > Modify Undeformed Geometry could generate an error message, depending on the current display in the model window, in which case the geometry would not be updated as requested.
*	72403 72412 72439	An incident was resolved where the analysis would terminate with an error message on certain 64-bit Windows 8.1 machines when using the 64-bit solver with the Advanced or Multi-Threaded options. This could affect the 32-bit version of ETABS 2013 v13.2.0 when the analysis was run in a separate process (the default), or the 64-bit version when the analysis was run in the GUI process or a separate process. When this error occurred, no results were available.
	72460 72524	An incident was resolved where the analysis would fail to run with an internal error message related to "mass flow" for models having joints located above the top story or below the bottom story and using the Lump Mass at Story Level option in the definition of the mass source (command Define > Mass Source). When this error occurred, no results were available. This only affected Version 13.2.0. Now masses at joints that do not fall within a story are not lumped to the story levels, but remain at the joint.
*	72562 72597 72645	An incident was resolved that addressed several issues with mass source in Version 13.2.0 only: (1) The mass source definition was incorrectly generating vertical masses when the "Include Vertical Masses" checkbox was not selected but the mass source was using "Element Self Mass and Additional Mass" only and no load patterns. This error did not occur when load patterns were included in the mass source definition. (2) Floor self-mass was not being included in the model for floors with the auto mesh option (command Assign > Shells > Floor Auto Mesh Options) set to "For Defining Rigid Diaphragms and Mass Only" when the mass source was using the "Element Self Mass and Additional Mass" option, whether with or without load patterns. (3) When the option to "Lump Lateral Mass at Story Levels" was selected, mass from frame and shell elements was not always lumped at the story levels, but could remain at mid-story joints. The effect on response was small.

Composite Beam Design Incidents Resolved

*	Incident	Description
*	72492	An incident was resolved where changing the composite beam design preferences would cause all composite beams to lose their design method assignment. Changing the composite beam design preferences a second time would cause an abnormal program termination if the design method of the composite beams had not been reset in between. When this occurred, most of the composite beam design preferences were changed when the model was saved under a new name as prompted and re-opened, but not all were changed (for example shear stud spacing, minimum percentage of composite action, maximum deflections were not changed). Changing the design code to another code in the Composite Beam Design Preferences form, clicking OK and returning to the form prevented both issues from occurring.

Results Output and Display

Incidents Resolved

*	Incident	Description
	72517	An incident was resolved where the borders and legend text were sometimes truncated in the output produced using the command File > Print Graphics. No results were affected. In addition, margin settings were being reset to default each time the Print Graphics command was used. Now they retain their previous settings for the current ETABS session.

Data Files (.EDB, .E2K, .SET)

Incidents Resolved

*	Incident	Description
	72305	An incident was resolved where importing a model from a text file containing Section Designer sections that included line or point rebar objects would sometimes corrupt the rebar material. This happened with models originally created in ETABS v9, was rare, and would result in a run time error when the model was opened in v13.2.0 or when the Section Designer section was processed in any version of ETABS 2013.
	72595	An incident was resolved where certain model text files (.SET or .E2K) were unable to be imported when the Grid Data in the X-direction did not have any grids defined.

Miscellaneous

*	Incident	Description
	72431	The version number has been changed to v13.2.1 for a new minor release.