

MPanel FEA

Version 17 update

The version 17 update continues to improve solver performance and features combined with changes to the core of the program to ensure compatibility with current versions of AutoCAD and Rhino. Below is a brief list of the updates with reference details in the update drawing file and links to some detailed videos which demonstrate how the new features work.

Fix only in LC0



A new poly special status has been added to fix for load case 0 only allowing the fabric to move based on assigned constraints for other load cases. This is useful for situations such as mid arches of barrel vaults where fabric should be allowed to lift off the arch with wind uplift loads.

Fabric and cable weight added

Fabric and cable mass variables have been added to the materials databases which if provided, will show on the materials tables. A new option has been added to the solver to allow the user to determine if these dead loads should be included for each load case allowing these loads to be included in LC0 for example.

Options menu now a ribbon style

A ribbon menu has been added to make it clearer which menu options are active or greyed out (inactive) depending on the currently selected primary menu function. This can also be turned off for users with smaller screens.

Help improvements

The help button is now context sensitive and will take you to the relevant help file page based on the currently selected primary menu function.

We have added a number of new tutorial videos to the examples to demonstrate use of the program for various fabric forms.

We trust you will enjoy these new features and that they will benefit your company.

Thank you for your continued support and again, we encourage you to provide feedback and suggestions for improvements.

MPanel Support Team