

GENIUS TOOLS Starter

10.0.2.0

Release Information

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1 Important information

GENIUS TOOLS Environment Administrator: No creation of versions older than 9.0.2.0 possible

GENIUS TOOLS Environment Administrator 10.0.0.0 cannot create installations of version 9.0.1.1 and older versions.

Different functionality depending on license type

Starting with version 6.0.1, perpetual licenses and subscription licenses come with different product functionality.

The following functions are available with a subscription license for GENIUS TOOLS Starter.

Subscription function	Description	Release
Dynamic access to Windows user management with LDAP/Active Directory (lightweight directory access protocol)	Creates access to Windows user management and enables live queries so that user assignment is always up-to-date. Users thus do not have to be created and maintained manually. ⇒ Less maintenance work	6.0.1.0
Configuring units	Adds a group element ("unit") that can easily reflect complex configurations such as for company sites and units. ⇒ Easier configuration for companies with many sites and/ or units ⇒ Allows for a reduction of projects	6.0.1.0
Access to directory "users"	Adds a group element ("users") that can easily reflect complex configurations for many users. ⇒ Less maintenance work	6.0.1.0

Subscription function	Description	Release
Selecting Creo startkey when starting a project	Provides a project with a choice from several Creo startkeys (start command that opens Creo with a defined license package). Users can start a project with a default startkey or select another one when opening a project in GENIUS TOOLS Starter App. ⇒ Allows the reduction of projects	7.0.0.0
Apps projects	Creates projects that run on any other program. Assigning a project directory and batch files is possible. ⇒ GENIUS TOOLS Starter App can be made the central access point for users.	7.0.0.0
Operating satellites in GENIUS TOOLS Starter Service	Enables the connection of synchronization servers to a main server and their automatic synchronization. ⇒ Faster connection of user computers to a synchronized satellite ⇒ Reducing queries from network to main server	7.0.1.0
Edit and compare configuration blocks	Release-dependent config.pro editor and graphic comparison tool ⇒ Quick overview, comparison and editing of project-related configuration blocks (config_*.pro files)	7.0.1.0
Company-specific project collections	Start projects can be put together in defined project groups by the administrator. ⇒ In many projects, these can be structured according to your own requirements.	7.0.2.0
Selectable project options	Projects can be started with multiple, individually defined configuration blocks, e. g. for license extensions or additional programs.	8.0.0.0

Subscription function	Description	Release
Reproducing organization structure with units and subunits	<p>Subordinate units (subunits) can be created to provide additional configuration levels for project settings.</p> <p>⇒ Better mapping for locations, subunits etc. and the resulting complex project configurations</p> <p>⇒ Allows for further reduction of projects</p>	8.0.1.0
Combined project options	<p>Users can select a project option in GENIUS TOOLS Starter App, which activates multiple configuration options which are located in different directories and configuration levels, e. g. for license extensions and add-on applications.</p> <p>⇒ Number of projects can be minimized</p>	8.0.1.0
Edit config.pro files in GENIUS TOOLS Config Editor	<p>Creo configuration options can be edited faster with auto-completion and color coding.</p> <p>⇒ Easier comparison and editing of configuration options, also in batch mode.</p>	8.0.2.0
Auto projects	<p>Settings for auto projects (e. g. Keyshot) can be specified for the configuration levels standard, unit, project and user.</p> <p>⇒ Company-specific configurations possible</p>	9.0.0.0
Create and migrate Creo Elements/Direct Modeling projects	<p>For Creo Elements/Direct Modeling projects, settings can be specified for the configuration levels standard, unit, project and user, and project settings and data packages can be added or migrated.</p> <p>⇒ Integration of an additional CAD application</p>	9.0.0.0

Subscription function	Description	Release
Create SolidWorks projects	<p>Projects for SolidWorks can be configured in the layers standard, unit, project and user. Project settings can be specified and data packages added.</p> <p>⇒ Integration of an additional CAD application</p>	9.0.1.0
Create Inventor projects	<p>Projects for Inventor can be configured in the layers standard, unit, project and user. Project settings can be specified and data packages added.</p> <p>⇒ Integration of an additional CAD application</p>	9.0.2.0
Create AutoCAD projects	<p>For the applications AutoCAD, AutoCAD Architecture and AutoCAD Mechanical, projects can be created for a specific release and be assigned project and data directories.</p> <p>⇒ Integration of an additional CAD application</p>	9.0.2.0
Support of AutoCAD LT	Projects can be created for AutoCAD LT	10.0.1.0
Select alternative authentication	<p>Users can authenticate against a system other than Windows. Windchill user data can be imported with GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator. For other systems, e. g. SAP, a self-created file can be used.</p> <p>⇒ Compatibility of Starter projects with other authorization systems, e. g. Windchill</p>	10.0.1.0

Warning: If you are using mixed licenses (perpetual and subscription) and configure functionality that is limited to subscription licenses, the projects in GENIUS TOOLS Starter App will no longer start if there is no subscription license available.

2 New features in version 10

Project Configurator: Use alternative directory (10.0.1.0)

You can specify in GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator an alternative path for storing Creo configuration. (*Configuration > Creo Parametric > Write tab: Use alternative path and Cleanuo tab: Alternative path*)

Starting with Creo Parametric version 9.0.2.0, it is possible to store the Creo configuration files *config.pro*, *config.sup* as well as *creo_parametric_admin_customization.ui* in a directory other than Text, Home or Start.

If an alternative path is specified,

- the PTC_CREO_ALT_SETTINGS_PATH environment variable will be set, and
- the destination directory of the *config.pro* file will no longer be used for version 9.0.2.0 and later. For projects of older Creo versions, the *config.pro* file is continued to be written to the target directory up to 9.0.1.0 and the *config.sup* file is written to the text directory.

In GENIUS TOOLS Starter App, the config tab of Creo projects displays the details of add-on applications from the files *protk.dat*, *prodev.dat* and *creotk.dat* if they are located in the alternate directory.

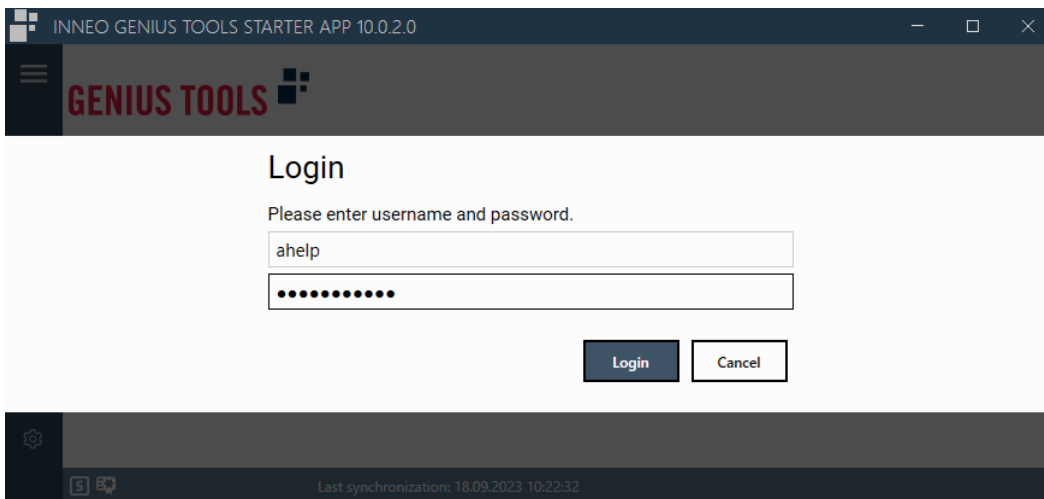
Starter: AutoCAD LT supported (10.0.1.0)


You can create projects for the application AutoCAD LT and define project and data directories as well as the startup behavior. Group settings cannot yet be made and no settings can be created for the different configuration layers.

AutoCAD projects are created in GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator in the Projects menu item and can be selected by users in GENIUS TOOLS Starter App.

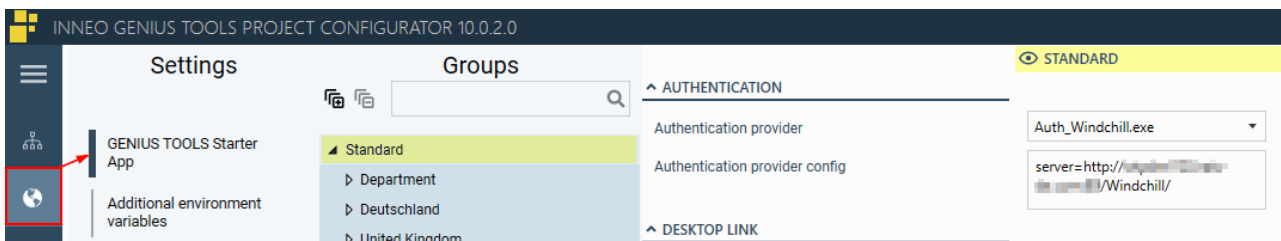
Starter: Using alternative authentication (10.0.1.0)

Administrators can set up authentication against a system other than Windows, for example Windchill. This requires users to enter their login credentials before being able to open GENIUS TOOLS Starter App and Project Configurator.



An alternative authentication is set in GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator in the Configuration page  under *GENIUS TOOLS Starter App* > *Group: Standard* and applies globally, i.e. specifications in units are not possible.

The user who switches to another authentication provider is automatically saved as administrator, i. e. becomes a member of the Administrator role. For this purpose, the new credentials are requested before saving the database. GENIUS TOOLS Starter App is automatically refreshed.



Authentication setting in GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator

An alternative authentication is set in GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator under Configuration > GENIUS TOOLS Starter App > Group: Standard and applies globally, i.e. specifications in units are not possible.

The authentication provider for Windchill can be selected in the field *Authentication provider*. For other systems, you can create your own provider and store it in the new system directory *auth_provider*. If you use the Windchill provider (*Auth_Windchill.exe*), the Windchill server must be entered in the field *Authentication Provider Config* in the notation `server=<Windchill-Server-URL>`.

The procedure for creating your own authentication provider is described in the GENIUS TOOLS Starter manual in the chapter Authentication.


Note that it is possible to save a new authentication method even without successfully entering the credentials, namely by confirming the error message. If you want to make use of this possibility, e. g. because you access GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator externally, make sure that you enter correct credentials and check the role assignments and function accesses.


Warning: If incorrect credentials are saved for the new authentication method, you may not be able to re-enter GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator.

To avoid being permanently locked out of GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator, you can manually add your alternative authentication system user name or assign "Everyone" to the Administration role.

If you have locked yourself out of GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator when switching to an alternative authentication system, you can use the last database *sut_*.db* in Caddepot under *<OperatingEnvironment>\configuration\database\BackupDefaultAuth* to restore the operating environment.

Project Configurator: Importing users and user groups from Windchill (10.0.1.0)

If you have set the authentication method against Windchill, you can import users from Windchill under *Resources > Users* using the new Import function . This leads to static user entries, i. e. changes have to be made manually per entry in GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator.

Under *Resources > Roles* current user groups and their members can be queried from the authentication system with the new Update function  and can be assigned to the selected role under *Users (Authentication provider)*. This results in dynamic user entries.

Project Configurator: Inventor project file supported (10.0.1.0)

You can use an Inventor project file (IPJ file) for creating Starter projects. Place the file in the required configuration level (standard, units, projects, users) of an operating environment. If no IPJ file exists, GENIUS TOOLS Starter uses the default project file under *C:\Users\Public\Documents\Autodesk\Inventor <version>*.

In GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator, you can then specify libraries as global setting or for specific units in the new Libraries tab in the Configuration menu item, and for individual projects in the Projects menu item.

- Appearance libraries (ADSKLIB files)
- Material libraries (ADSKLIB files)
- Workspace
- Workgroup search paths
- Libraries
- Frequently used subfolders
- Content Center libraries (IDCL files)

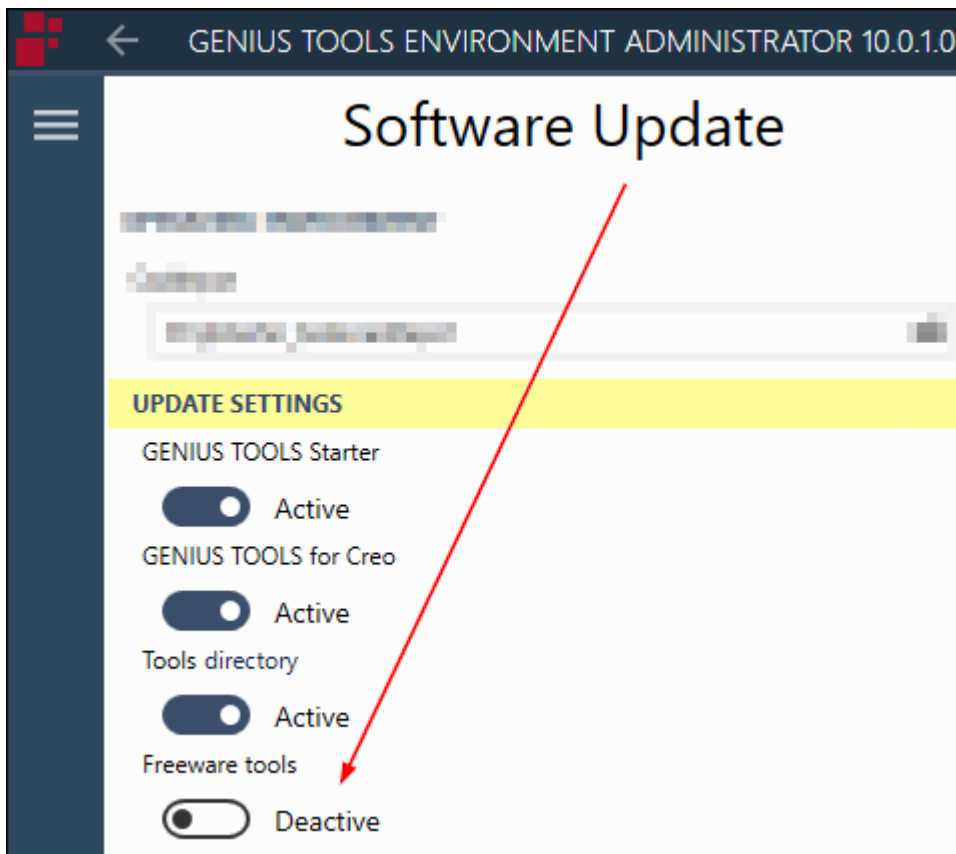
Please note: The library information of a unit overwrites all library information of the higher order unit(s).

If you want to add a library path to a subordinate unit, do not forget to copy the paths of the unit above into this unit. Use the copy function for this purpose, because copied library entries (grayed out) adopt changes made in the original path.

The library information is written to the Inventor project file by GENIUS TOOLS Starter.

Environment Administrator: Updating freeware tools (10.0.1.0)

When updating software with GENIUS TOOLS Environment Administrator, you can also update the included free applications in the Update Settings area.




The freeware applications are located in the Caddepot in the serveronly directory under tools. They are

- from the GENIUS TOOLS product line: Comma To Dot, Flexnet Watcher, Material Browser and Purge
- as well as the applications FreeCommander, XML-Import, SQLite Browser and others.

Please note: The update function of GENIUS TOOLS Environment Administrator only updates the selected software GENIUS TOOLS Starter, GENIUS TOOLS for Creo, GENIUS TOOLS Config Editor/Requirement Check and freeware products as well as the help directory in an operating environment. Updating configuration settings, configuration files and object data of an application (data packages) has to be undertaken manually, see chapter *Update process* in the Installation manual of GENIUS TOOLS Environment Administrator.

Project Configurator: Create and monitor satellites (10.0.2.0)

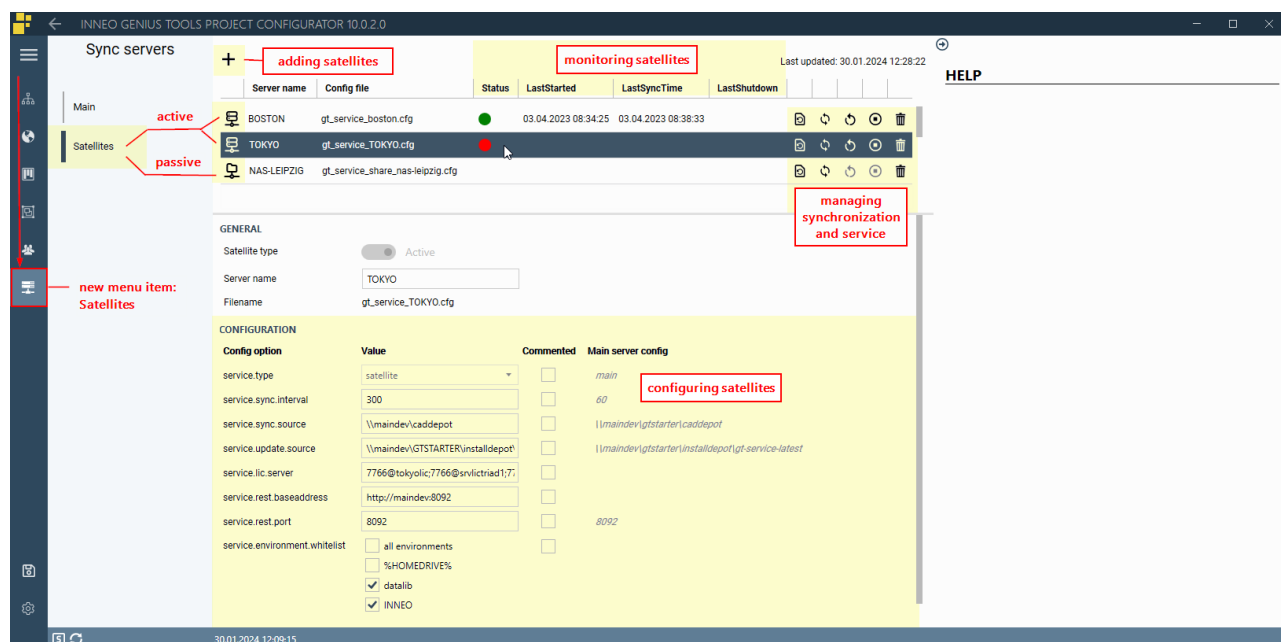
Satellites (mirror servers) are managed in the new Satellites menu item . The sub-item Synchronization Server in the Resources menu has been removed.

Satellites can now be created and configured in a graphical interface. This, the manual copying of template files is no longer necessary.

In addition, the status of the satellites – i. e. availability and synchronization process – can be monitored and data synchronization can be triggered.

The previous web solution at <http://<mainservername>:<portnumber>> is no longer available.

To monitor satellites you can also use the freeware Flexnet Watcher, see New feature in version 1.0.11.0: Monitoring synchronization servers.



New menu item Satellites in GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator

Satellites are suitable for locations that have a slow connection to the main server. User computers can significantly reduce the time required for data synchronization by accessing a satellite that is easier to reach.



To connect a satellite, GENIUS TOOLS Starter Service must be installed on the main server. In the new Satellites menu item, the path to the caddepot and the port name must be specified in the Mainserver area and the Use Satellites switch must be set to Yes.

You can operate active and passive satellites. Active satellites require GENIUS TOOLS Starter Service, passive satellites can be operated without the service. Consult the instructions in the installation manual of GENIUS TOOLS Starter for detailed information on satellite operation.

Starter Service: Trigger satellite synchronization in the event of changes (10.0.2.0)

If satellites (mirror server) are to be synchronized immediately when changes are made to data in an operating environment or when the software is updated, specify the following option in the configuration for the main server:

`service.push.whitelist`

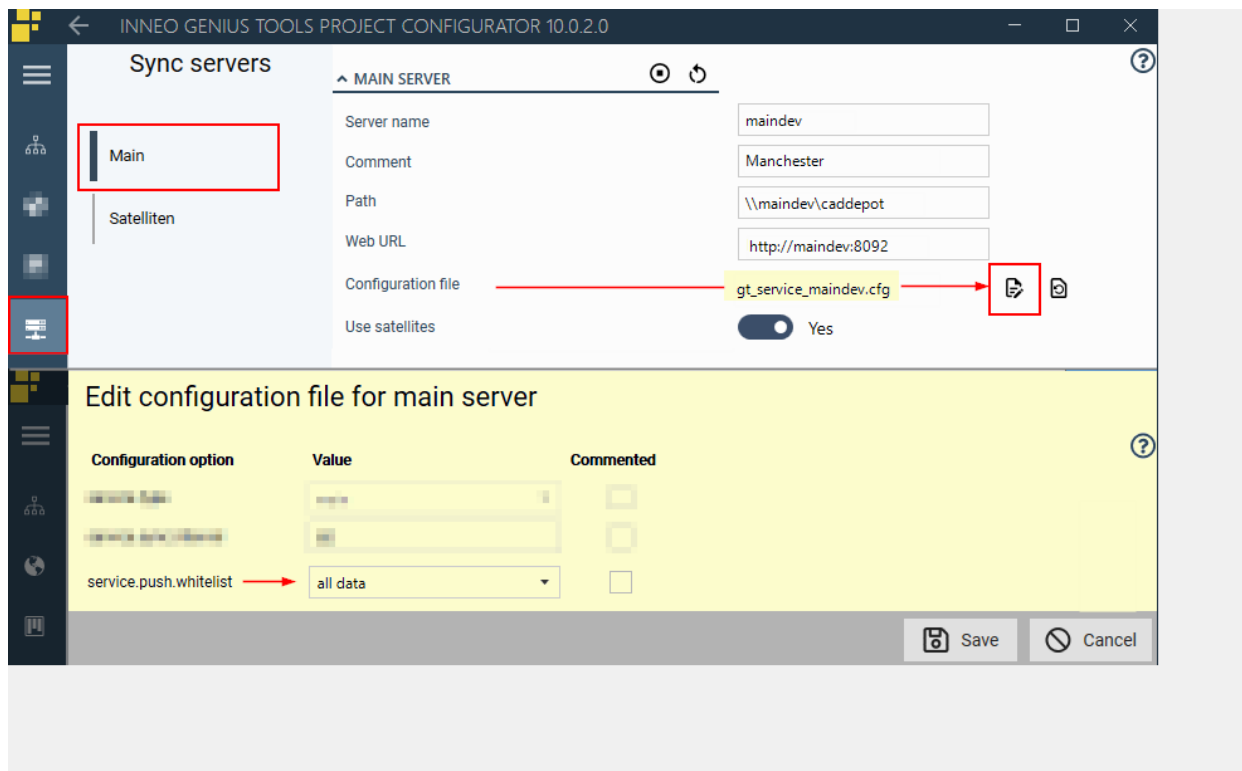
You can do this in GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator in the new Satellites menu item  under *Main > Mainserver > Configuration file > Edit* . The default setting corresponds to the previous mode of operation.

all data: all data is synchronized immediately when changes are made

none (default): no triggering before the synchronization interval expires

software: GENIUS TOOLS Starter Service software (*installdepot\gts-service-latest*) and GENIUS TOOLS Starter (*caddepot\<operatingenvironment>\software*)

specify directories: Name(s) of directory / directories



Editing the configuration file in GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator

If you want to edit the configuration file manually, specify the option in the file `gt_service_<mainservername>.cfg` in the configuration directory (`\GTSTARTER\installdepot\gts-service-latest\conf`) as follow:

all data: `service.push.whitelist=<leer>` (no entry)

none (Default): `service.push.whitelist=none`

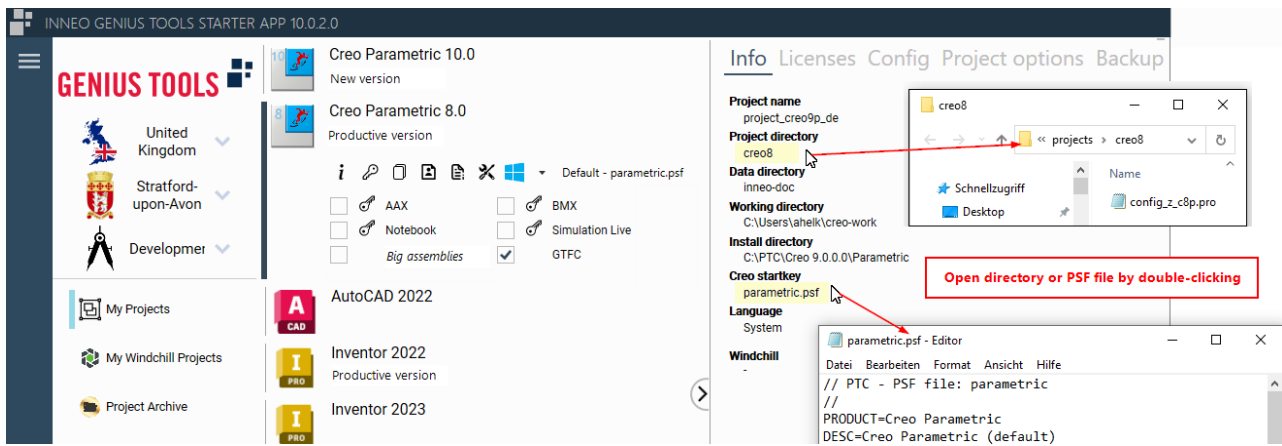
software: `service.push.whitelist=software`

specify directories: `service.push.whitelist=<directory1>,<directory2>` (list separated by a comma)

Starter App: Open directories and files in Info tab (10.0.2.0)

Users may be able to open all directories and files – such as the PSF file (Creo startkey) – in the Info tab of a project by double-clicking on a line.

To access this function, users need to be given the access right *Can open configuration blocks*. Access rights are granted to the role to which a user has been assigned to.



Info tab in GENIUS TOOLS Starter App