

GENIUS TOOLS Starter

11.0.0.0

Release Information

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Content

1	Important information	2
2	New features in version 11	8

1 Important information

Starter: Rename environment variables (11.0.0.0)

Modified environment variables:

The environment variables for user and computer groups – **GTS_USER_GROUP** and **GTS_COMPUTER_GROUP** – are no longer supported. If these variables were used in a configuration block (config_*.pro file), they must be renamed to: **GTS_UNIT_DIR**.

See New features in Project Configurator: Groups become units.

The following new variables are supported by GENIUS TOOLS Starter:

GTS_CREO_INSTALL_DEFINITIONS_DIR

definitions directory under the install folder

GTS_CREO_INSTALL_DIAGNOSTIC

1 if *diagnostic tools* are activated, otherwise 0

GTS_CREO_INSTALL_FIREWALL

1 if *Write firewall entries* is activated, otherwise 0

GTS_CREO_INSTALL_HELP

1 if *Install help* is activated, otherwise 0

GTS_CREO_INSTALL_HELP_XML_DIR

XML directory for the help (install/definitions/<Unit or standard>/XML/help_Creo<MainVersion>)

GTS_CREO_INSTALL_MAIN_VERSION

Creo main version to be installed

GTS_CREO_INSTALL_TASKSKILL

1 if *taskkill is activated*, otherwise 0

GTS_CREO_INSTALL_UNIT_FOLDERS

List of the currently selected units (e. g. "Germany|Leipzig|Construction")

GTS_CREO_INSTALL_UPGRADE

-upgrade if the installation type was set to upgrade, otherwise ""

GTS_CREO_INSTALL_VERSION

Creo version to be installed (e. g. 11.0.1.0)

GTS_CREO_INSTALL_VIEWER

1 if *Install Thumbnail Viewer* is activated, otherwise 0

GTS_CREO_INSTALL_XML_DIR

XML directory (install/definitions/<Unit or standard>/XML/Creo<MainVersion>)

GTS_SATELLITEONLY_DIR

Directory that only exists on the main server and the satellite

GTS_MAIN_SERVER_DIR

Server path of the main server

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	<p>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.</p> <p>⇒ Allows the reduction of projects</p>	7.0.0.0
Apps projects	<p>Creates projects that run on any other program. Assigning a project directory and batch files is possible.</p> <p>⇒ GENIUS TOOLS Starter App can be made the central access point for users.</p>	7.0.0.0
Operating satellites in GENIUS TOOLS Starter Service	<p>Enables the connection of synchronization servers to a main server and their automatic synchronization.</p> <p>⇒ Faster connection of user computers to a synchronized satellite</p> <p>⇒ Reducing queries from network to main server</p>	7.0.1.0
Edit and compare configuration blocks	<p>Release-dependent config.pro editor and graphic comparison tool</p> <p>⇒ Quick overview, comparison and editing of project-related configuration blocks (config_*.pro files)</p>	7.0.1.0
Company-specific project collections	<p>Start projects can be put together in defined project groups by the administrator.</p> <p>⇒ In many projects, these can be structured according to your own requirements.</p>	7.0.2.0
Selectable project options	<p>Projects can be started with multiple, individually defined configuration blocks, e. g. for license extensions or additional programs.</p>	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
Unit-specific visibility of projects	<p>The visibility of projects in GENIUS TOOLS Starter App can be restricted to the selection of a specific unit for users who are assigned to several units.</p> <p>⇒ Use of units for project access</p>	11.0.0.0
Install Creo projects	Synchronize Creo Parametric setups to user computers, from which they can be started manually or automatically.	11.0.0.0

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 11

Starter: Migration to .NET 8.0 (11.0.0.0)



GENIUS TOOLS Starter has been converted to .NET 8. There is no need to make any adjustments, as .NET 8.0 is delivered with the software.

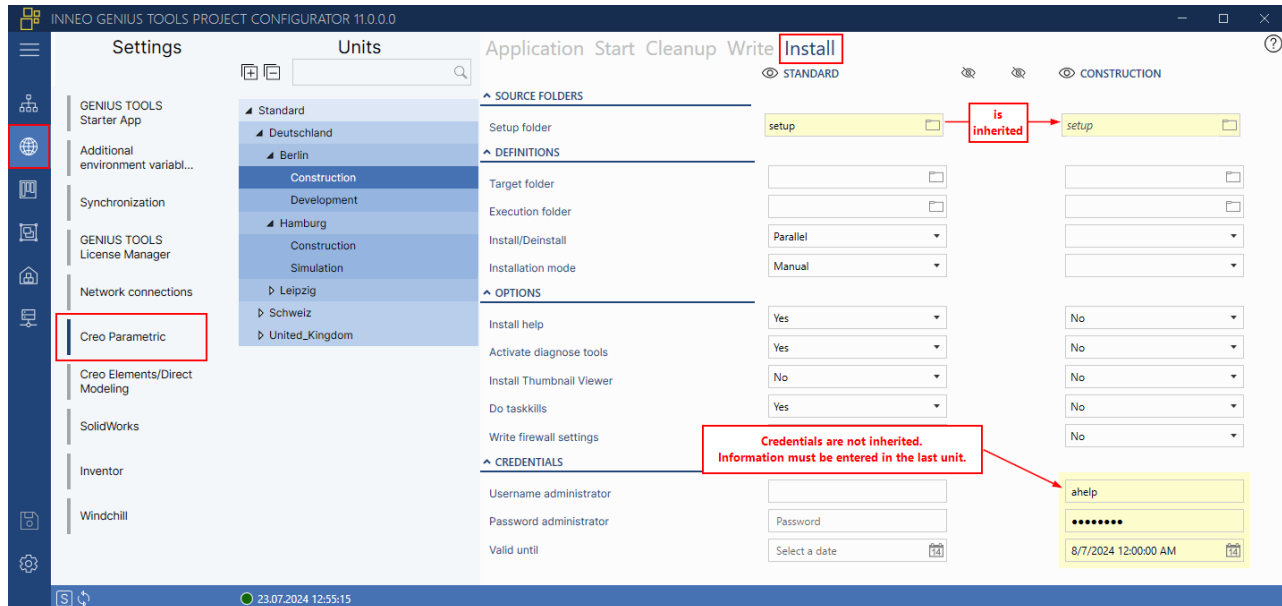
.NET Framework 4.8 must still be installed on the installation computer.

Project Configurator: Installing Creo Parametric on clients (11.0.0.0)

Creo Parametric setups can be synchronized to user computers and started there automatically or manually.

A Creo installation can be triggered automatically as soon as a user logs in with the corresponding unit in the GENIUS TOOLS Starter App, or manually when a Starter project is clicked on.

These settings are made in GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator in the menu item *Configuration*  in the new Install tab for global settings and units and in the menu item *Projects*  for individual projects.

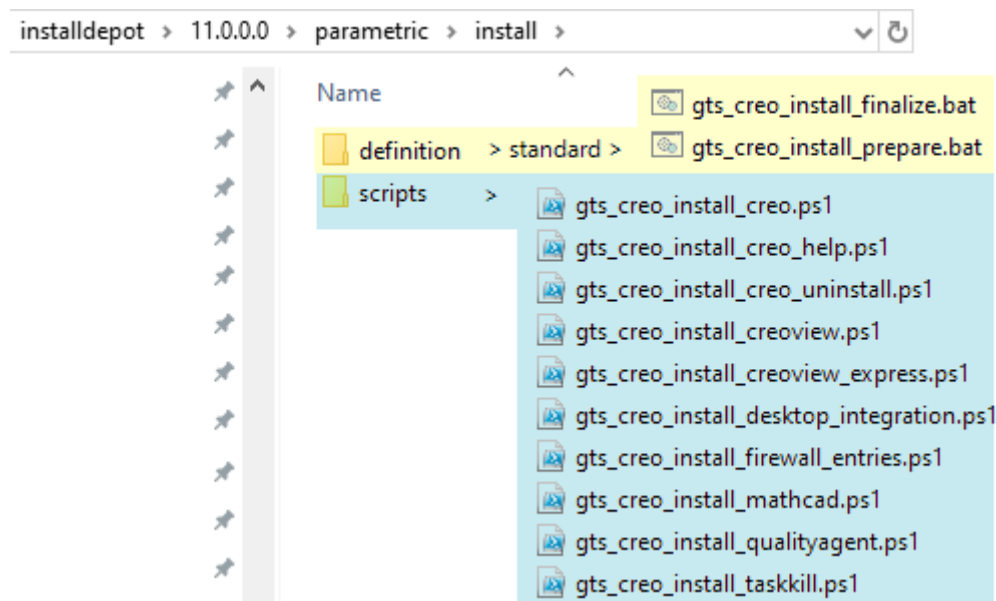


For the execution of Creo Parametric setups on the user computers, the setup and target directory are defined globally or for individual units, and the administrator's access data are specified with an expiration date for validity on the user computers.

Warning: The inheritance rules do not apply to the credential details. For the setup to be executed, this information must be entered in the Unit that the user selects.

Administrators specify a template installation and copy the required XML files manually

into the caddepot. The new system folder *install* under *parametric* is available for this purpose.



Follow the procedure in the GENIUS TOOLS Starter Manual in the chapter *Project Configurator > Creo Parametric > Installing Creo on user computers*.

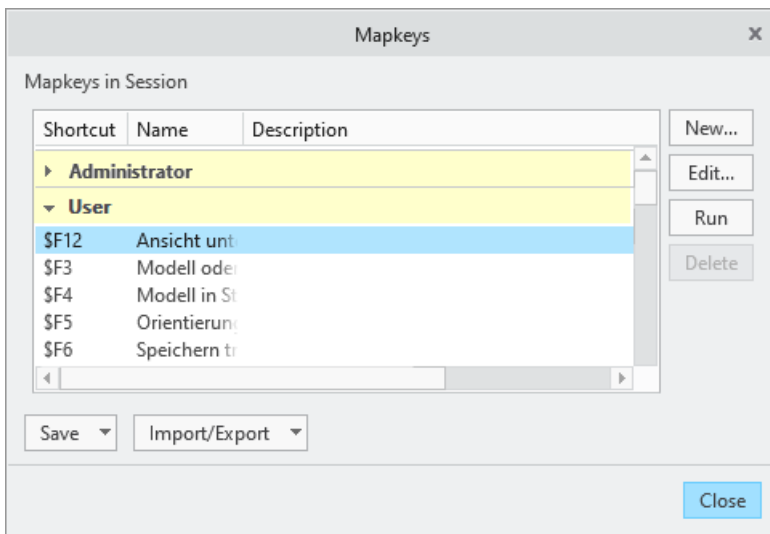
Starter: Transfer of mapkeys supported (11.0.0.0)

As of Creo Parametric version 11.0.0.0, mapkeys (keyboard macros) are no longer read from the file *config.pro*, but saved in a new, separate mapkey file: *mapkeys.pro*. The storage location of this file determines whether the mapkeys it contains are used as administrator or user mapkeys.

Location for user mapkeys /	%PTC_WF_ROOT%\Settings\mapkeys.pro
User directory:	

Location for administrator mapkeys /	<Installationsverzeichnis> \Common Files\text\
Administrator directory:	mapkeys.pro

Mapkey files can be located in both directories.



Creo mapkeys dialog as of release 11

When Creo Parametric 11.0.0.0 is started for the first time, Creo automatically loads user and administrator mapkeys into the Mapkeys dialog, but does not create a file for administrator mapkeys.

GENIUS TOOLS Starter supports the transfer of mapkeys as follows:

1. User mapkeys are created

Mapkeys from a *config.pro* file that is located in the start or home directory are written to a mapkey file in the user directory.

2. Administrator mapkeys are created

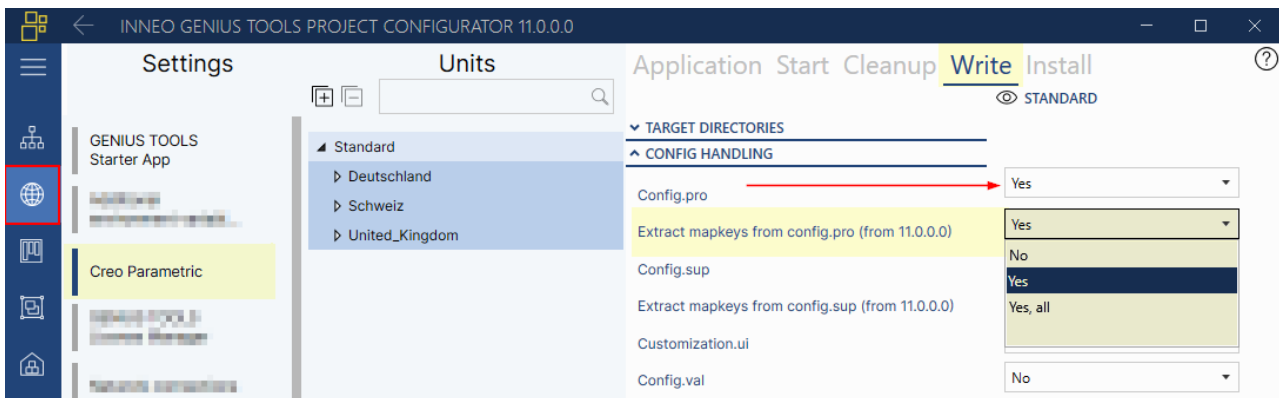
Mapkeys from a *config.pro* file that file that is located in the text directory or alternative path are written to the administrator directory.

Mapkeys from a *config.sup* file are written to the administrator directory.

Please note: As soon as a mapkeys file exists in the user or administrator directory, mapkeys are only read from the Mapkeys.pro file(s), i.e. all mapkey entries in the Config.pro file and the Config.sup file are ignored by Creo Parametric.

3. Transfer of mapkeys can be defined

This transfer supported by GENIUS TOOLS Starter can be defined and switched off in GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator.



Go to *Configuration > Creo Parametric > Write tab > Write configuration files*. If you set the field *Config.pro* to *Yes*, the new field *Extract mapkeys* appears below:

- Leave the default setting at *Yes* if there are no mapkeys in the file *config.sup*.
- Select *No* to disable support by GENIUS TOOLS Starter. Creo then automatically loads user or administrator mapkeys in the Mapkeys dialog, but does not create a mapkeys file for administrators. A message window appears in Creo.

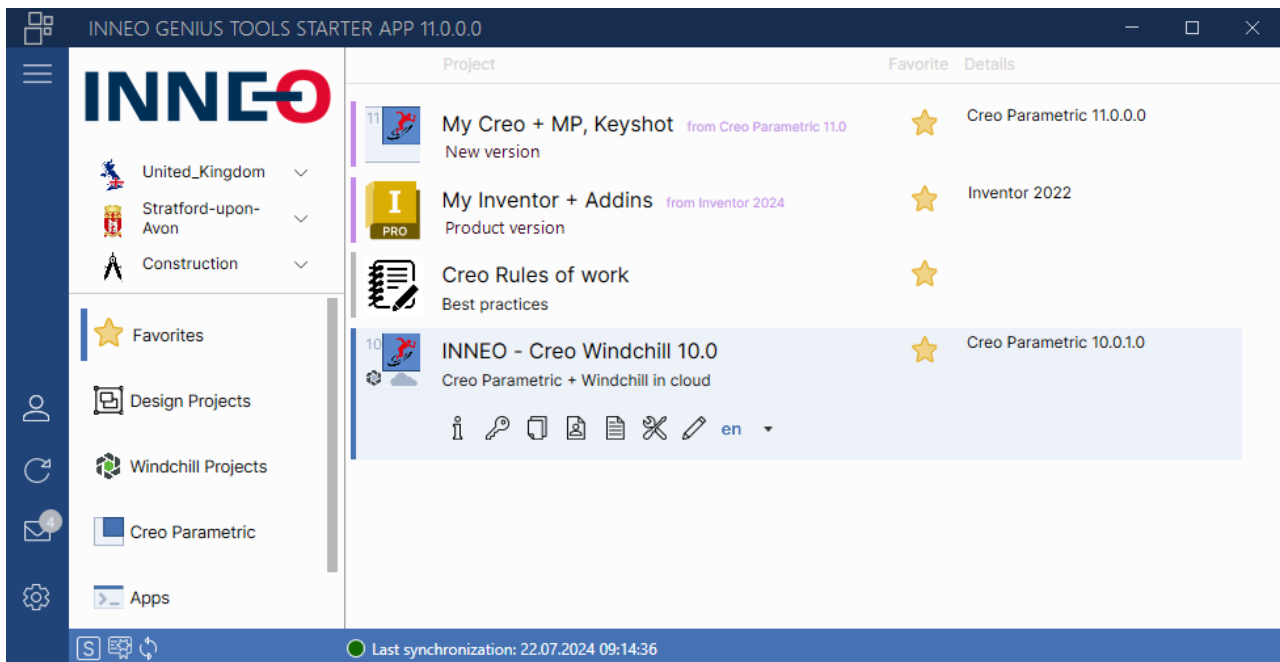
If there are mapkeys in both the *config.pro* and the *config.sup* file, select:

- under *Config.pro*: *Yes, extract all*
- and
- under *Config.sup*: *Yes*.


Starter: Revised user interface design (11.0.0.0)

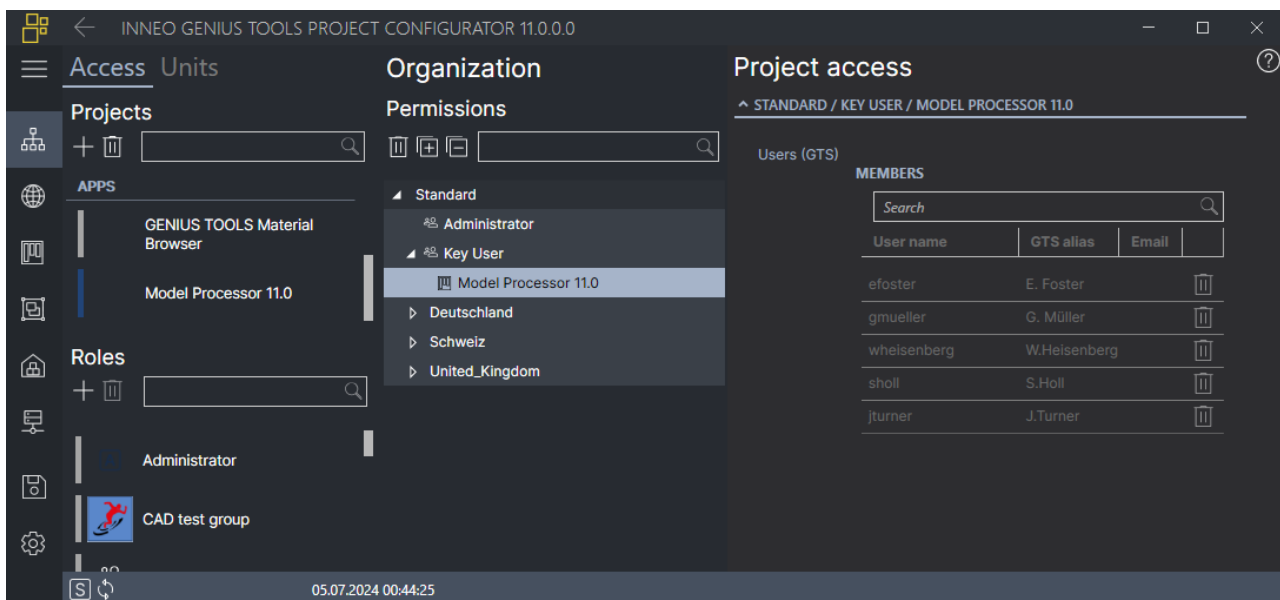
The design of GENIUS TOOLS Starter App and GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator has been revised.

GENIUS TOOLS Starter App offers users new options for saving selected project options (Custom projects) and creating Favorites ★.



GENIUS TOOLS Starter App in bright color theme


In GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator, access rights for projects and functions are no longer assigned in the menu item *Resources*, but under *Organization*  in the new tab *Access*, where project access can now be restricted to both a role and a unit (unit-specific visibility of projects).



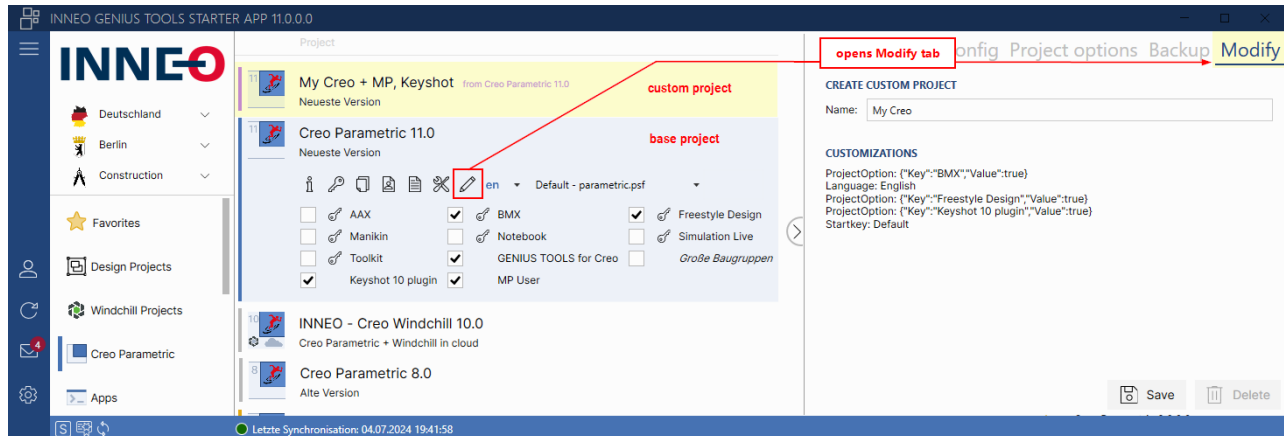
GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator in dark color theme

Starter App: Saving projects with user settings (11.0.0.0)

Users can save a project with all selected project options as a custom project.

To do this, select the desired project options (language, Creo start key, checkboxes with configuration settings) and click the  icon under the project name. The new Modify tab

opens. Enter a name for the custom project there. After saving, the custom project appears in the project list with the specified name and a purple label indicating the original project from which it was created.

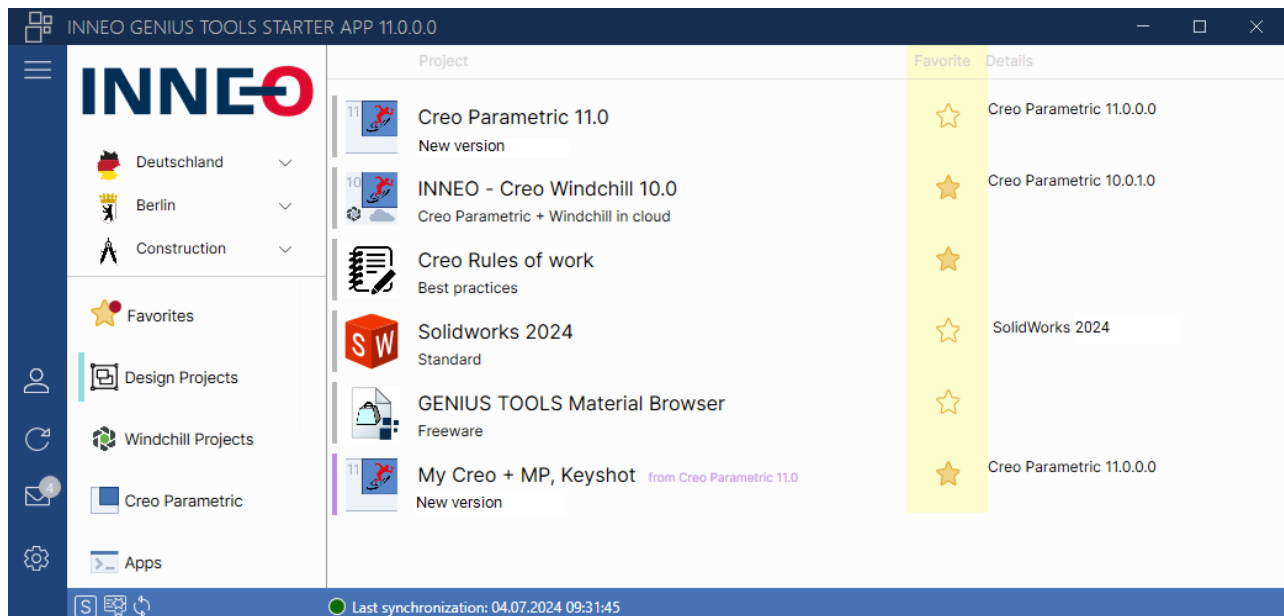


Modify tab for saving a custom project

Starter App: Creating a collection of favorite projects (11.0.0.0)

In GENIUS TOOLS Starter App users can mark individual projects as "Favorites" by clicking the new star symbol ☆. A red balloon appears in the button when a project becomes a favorite project.

If the first project is marked as a favorite, the Favorites button appears on the left of the GENIUS TOOLS Starter App. User can thus create a project collection by themselves.



GENIUS TOOLS Starter App with new column for favorite projects

Project Configurator: Groups become units (11.0.0.0)

User and computer groups have been abolished in their previous form and are now available as units.

Existing user and computer groups are automatically converted into units when updating to version 11.0.0.0 and later:

- After the update, the former groups appear as the last subunit in the organization tree, i. e. they are inserted under each last unit.
- Group settings (Menu item *Configuration*) will be transferred to the new unit(s).
- Configuration blocks that were created for user or computer groups (*UG_<nameofusergroup>_config.pro* or *CG_<nameofcomputergroup>_config.pro*), will be migrated into a new unit directory of the same name.

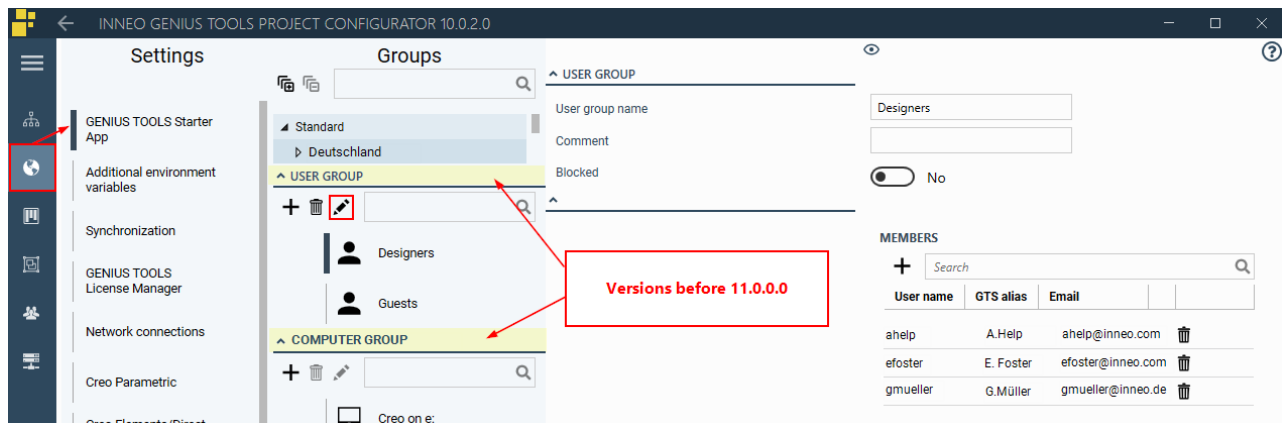
Please note: After the update, users with permanent licenses can work with units and subunits of a further level. A subscription license is required for unrestricted working with units.

Since the assignment of access rights is defined via roles and roles can only be linked to units, but not to groups, it makes more sense to work with units.

The advantages of units over computer and user groups are:

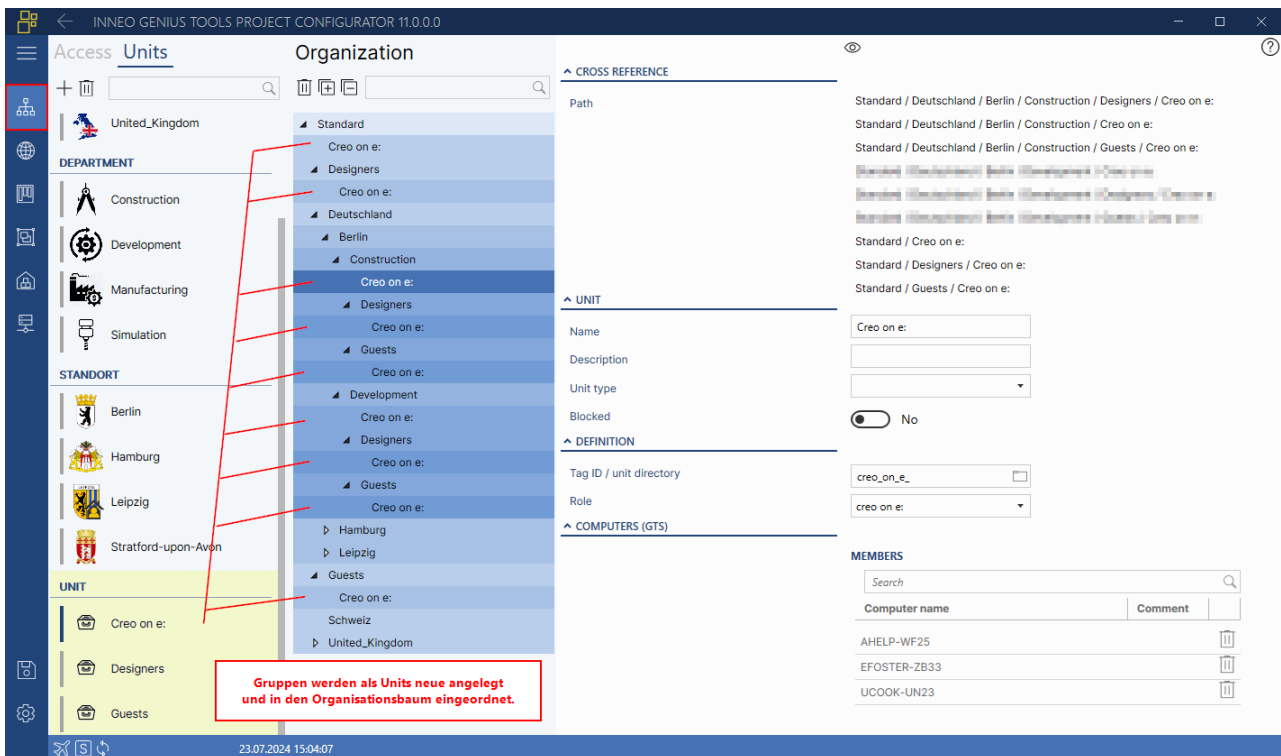
1. Units can contain sub-units and therefore better reflect the organizational structure of a company.
2. A user can be assigned to several units.
3. The affiliation to a unit does not have to be maintained manually.

Existing groups will no longer be found in under the menu item *Configuration*.



User group *Designers* and *Guests* and computer group *Creo on e:* in menu item "Configuration" (up to version 10.0.2.0)

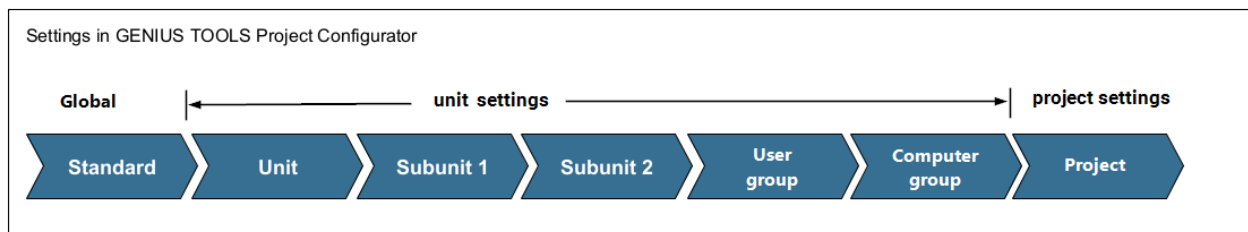
When updating, existing groups will be inserted as last unit under each unit in the organization tree (menu item *Organisation*).



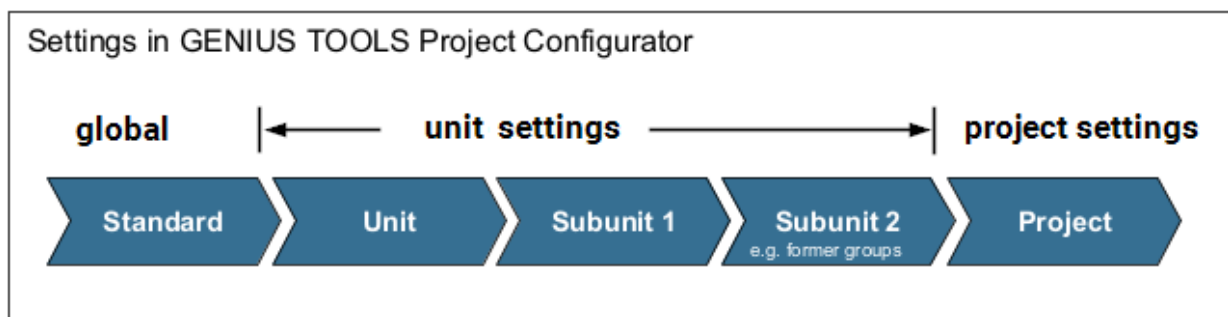
User group *Designers* and *Guests* and computer group *Creo on e:* as new units in organization tree (after update)

The insertion of groups corresponds to the call sequence of settings:

Call sequence of settings in GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator up to version 10.0.2.0:



Call sequence of settings in GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator up to version 11.0.0.0:



Project Configurator: Changed workflow for roles (11.0.0.0)

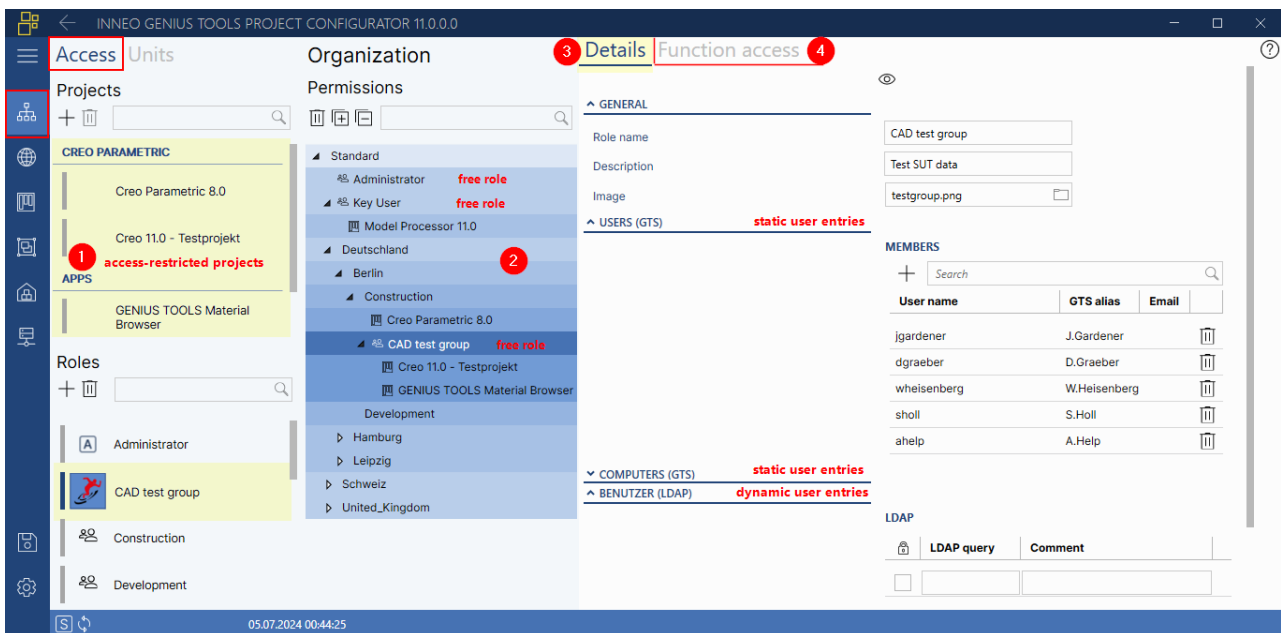
Roles are created and managed in the main menu item *Organization* in the new tab

Access. The section *Roles* in the menu item *Resources* is no longer available.

Access restrictions for projects (1) are defined by inserting them into the new tree for permissions (2). The permissions tree can include both units and free roles, i. e. from version 11.0.0.0, project access can be restricted to both a role and a unit, see unit-specific visibility of projects. The workflow has been modified to enable this new feature.

As usual, users are assigned to a role as static or dynamic entries in the tab *Details* (3).

User rights for GENIUS TOOLS Starter App are defined in the tab *Function access* (4), which appears when a role is selected.

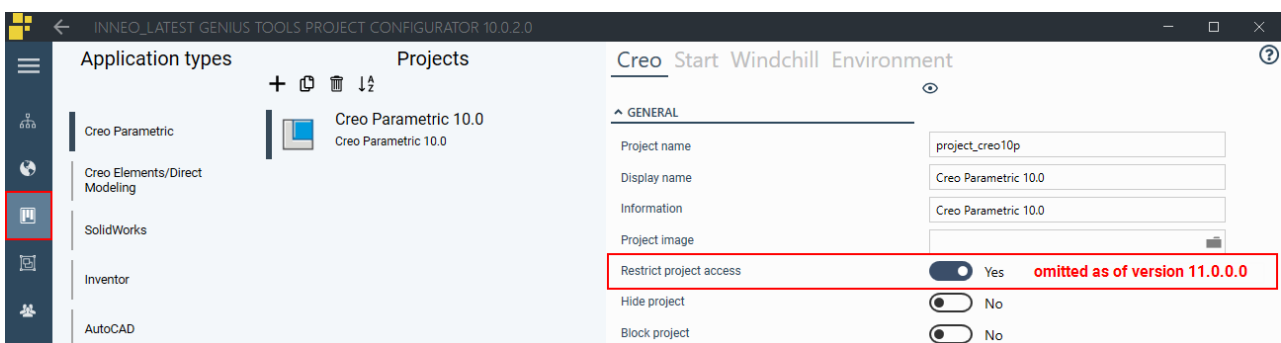


Managing roles in the new Access tab

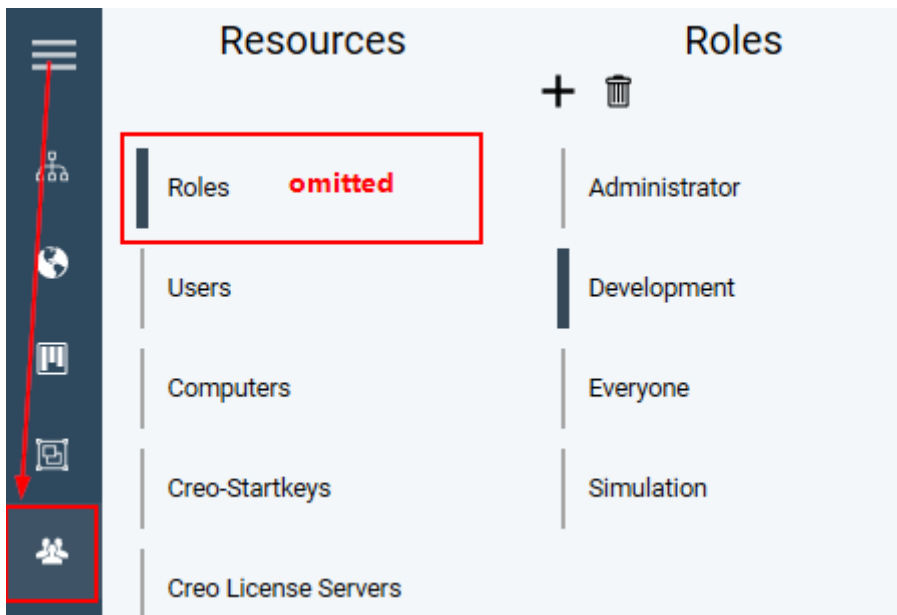
The tree for permissions shows – like the tree for units – all units and subunits. These can restrict the access of a project. In addition, you can also use free roles for defining project access in the permissions tree.

You can automatically migrate existing access-restricted projects when updating to version 11.0.0.0 and later, see Environment Administrator: Migrate access-restricted projects.

The button *Restrict project access* in *Projects > Application types > Creo* has been removed.



The section *Roles* in the menu item *Resources* has been removed.



Project Configurator: Unit-specific visibility of projects (11.0.0.0)

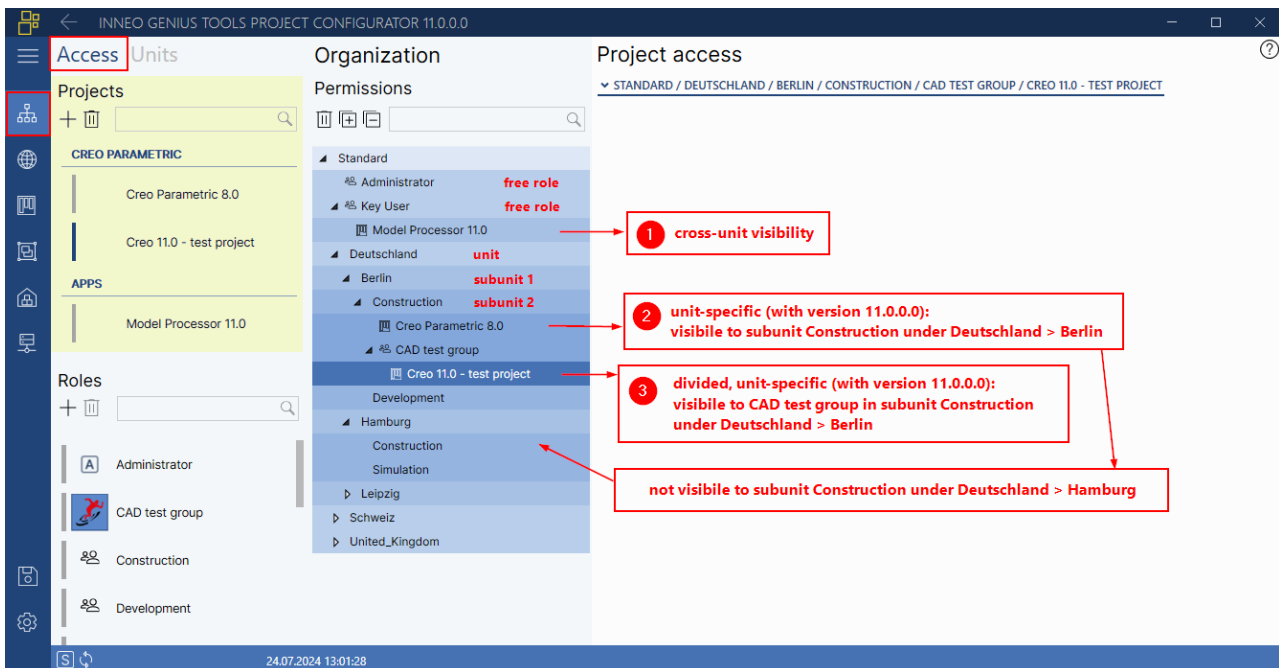
Access to a project can be restricted to a specific unit - in addition to the existing access restriction defined by a role. This is useful if users belong to several units, but a project should only be visible to a specific unit selected in the GENIUS TOOLS Starter App.

In the main menu item *Organization*, the new tab *Access* contains a permissions tree that defines project access. Roles that do not define a unit can be added to the permissions tree. These so-called "free roles" could previously be used, for example, to restrict access to a project to a group of key users without creating a unit for this group.

With the new option to restrict a project to a unit, free roles can now be used to restrict a project within a unit to a subset of the unit's members, e. g. a group within a unit can be given access to a test project.

Please note: Project access rights are always defined for members of a role. The role can be assigned to a unit or be used as a free role in the permissions tree.

To restrict access to a project, use the Plus symbol to select a previously created project. Then drag and drop the project under the unit or the free role for whose members the project is to be restricted.



Methods to define project access in the permissions tree

Thus, there are the following options for restricting project access. The examples below are described in the GENIUS TOOLS Starter Manual in the chapter *GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator > Restricting project access* with step-by-step instructions.

1. Cross-unit visibility (with free roles)

All members of this role see the projects in GENIUS TOOLS Starter App that are assigned to the role. If a user is assigned to more than one role, he will see the restricted projects in GENIUS TOOLS Starter App, regardless of which unit he selects.

Example: The company ABC would like to limit access to the data revision program GENIUS TOOLS Model Processor to a small group of designers who have been trained to use this software. There should not be an extra unit for this group of key users. The key users, who are members of several units, should be able to open the program out of all units.

2. NEW: Unit-specific visibility (with assigned roles)

If a user is assigned to several roles, the visibility of a project can be restricted to the selection of a specific unit.

Example: The company ABC wants Creo Parametric version 8.0 to be used only by designers in Berlin, as this version is needed for a specific customer project. Designers who are also members of other units / roles will only see the project when selecting the unit *Berlin* and subunit *Construction* in GENIUS TOOLS Starter App.

3. NEW: Divided unit-specific visibility (with free roles)

A project can be restricted to members of a free role within a unit.

Example: A test group is to be given access to a test project within the unit *Construction*.

Environment Administrator: Migrate access-restricted projects (11.0.0.0)

Existing access restrictions for projects will be integrated automatically into the new Access tab in the Organization menu item in the permissions tree when you update to version 11.0.0.0 and later, if you leave the default migration setting in GENIUS TOOLS Environment Administrator set to *Migrate*.

After the update, access-restricted projects appear under the role to which the restriction applies. All roles are categorized under the unit Standard, as all projects have so far been visible across all units. After the update, you can restrict the visibility of projects on a unit-specific basis.

If you want to reassign the access rights for projects, you can deactivate the migration process in GENIUS TOOLS Environment Administrator. The access restrictions for projects will then be lost.

