

GENIUS TOOLS[®] 

GENIUS TOOLS Starter

Release 9.0.0.0

Release information

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1 Important information

New folder structure after update: No recovery of old version possible

In addition to Creo Parametric, configured projects can now be created with Creo Elements/Direct. The entire folder structure has been changed so that data can be included for other CAD systems in the future.

Warning: Due to these new features in GENIUS TOOLS Starter, the folder structure and the software are no longer backward compatible, i. e. after updating an operating environment to version 9.0.0.0 or newer, you cannot revert to an older version. Because of these changes the update process takes longer than usual.

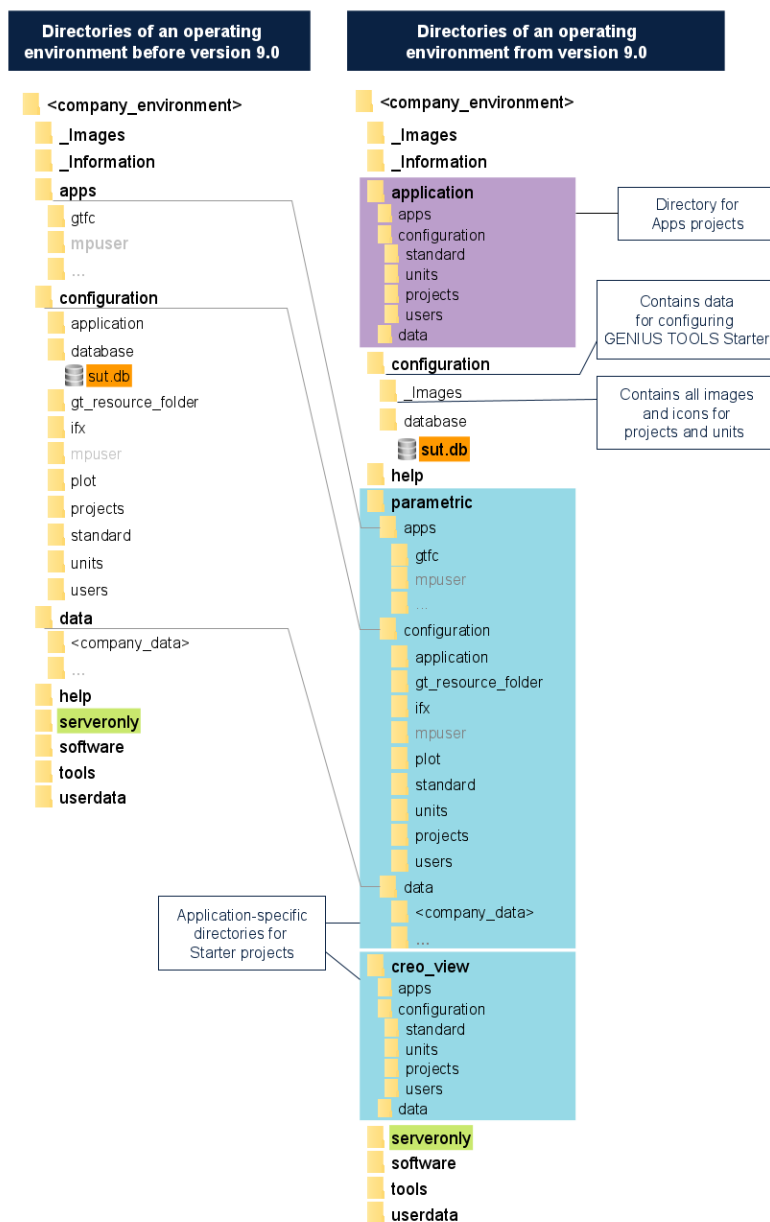
These changes affect all areas of the software, including the configuration, additional applications and the data needed in an operating environment. Directories as well as individual files have been moved to different locations and existing variables have been changed to new variables in all types of files (config*.pro, *.bat, protk*.dat, sut.db etc.).

The update is performed automatically with GENIUS TOOLS Environment Administrator 9.0.

Important steps for the update

1. Before updating the software, create a backup:
 - of all operating environments that are to be converted
 - of the Installdepot, especially the folders *gtsa-latest* and *gts-service-latest*
2. If you use Apps projects:
 - The update function GENIUS TOOLS Environment Administrator tries to copy all directories or files from the original *.\apps* or *.\data* directories to: *\application\apps* and *\application\data*
 - The original data is located under *.\parametric\apps* and *.\parametric\data* after an update and must be removed manually from these directories. Check carefully before removing them!
3. Be sure to run the update in a test environment first and check the configurations.
4. Take note that the update process takes longer than usual.
5. Check all Apps projects carefully after the update!

Overview of the changes in the folder structure



Modified and newly created environment variables

1. The variable GTS_DATA has been changed to find the selected application-specific data package directory. The path has been changed from

`<Caddepot>\<operatingenvironment>\data\<company-data>`

to

`<Caddepot>\<operatingenvironment>\parametric\data\<company-data>`

2. The GTS_PROJECT_DIR variable has been changed to always find the selected application-specific project directory. The new path is

`<Caddepot>\<operatingenvironment>\parametric\configuration\projects\<projectname>`

The previous value (the name of the project directory) is now contained in the new variable GTS_PROJECT_DIR_NAME.

3. There are two new variables:

GTS_CONFIGURATION_DIR points to the selected application-specific configuration directory.

GTS_APPS_DIR points to the selected, application-specific add-on application directory.

During an update, GENIUS TOOLS Environment Administrator 9.0 automatically converts the existing variables to the new variables in all files.

Auto projects only available with subscription license

An auto project (e.g. Keyshot) can now be configured in the levels standard, unit, project and user. There is a new directory structure for each auto project as well as one project directory. Due to this extended functionality, auto projects are only available with a subscription license.

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 will only be available with a subscription license.

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

Release	Subscription function / module	Description
6.0.1.0	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.

Release	Subscription function / module	Description
		<p>⇒ Easier configuration for companies with many sites and/ or units</p> <p>⇒ Allows for a reduction of projects</p>
6.0.1.0	Access to directory "users"	<p>Adds a group element ("users") that can easily reflect complex configurations for many users.</p> <p>⇒ Less maintenance work</p>
7.0.0.0	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>
7.0.1.0	Operating satellites in GENIUS TOOLS Starter Service	<p>Enables the connection of satellite servers to a main server and their automatic synchronization.</p> <p>⇒ Faster connection of user computers to a synchronized satellite server</p> <p>⇒ Reducing queries from network to main server</p>
7.0.1.0	Edit and compare config.pro blocks	<p>Release-dependent config.pro editor and graphic comparison tool</p> <p>⇒ Quick overview, comparison and editing of project-related config.pro blocks (config_*.pro files)</p>
7.0.2.0	Company-specific project collections	<p>Start projects can be put together in defined project groups by the administrator.</p>

Release	Subscription function / module	Description
		⇒ In many projects, these can be structured according to your own requirements.
8.0.0.0	Selectable project options	Projects can be started with multiple, individually defined config.pro blocks, e. g. for license extensions or additional programs.
8.0.1.0	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>
8.0.2.0	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>
9.0.0.0	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	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.

Release	Subscription function / module	Description
		⇒ Projects for an additional application

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 9

Configuration hierarchy introduced for all projects

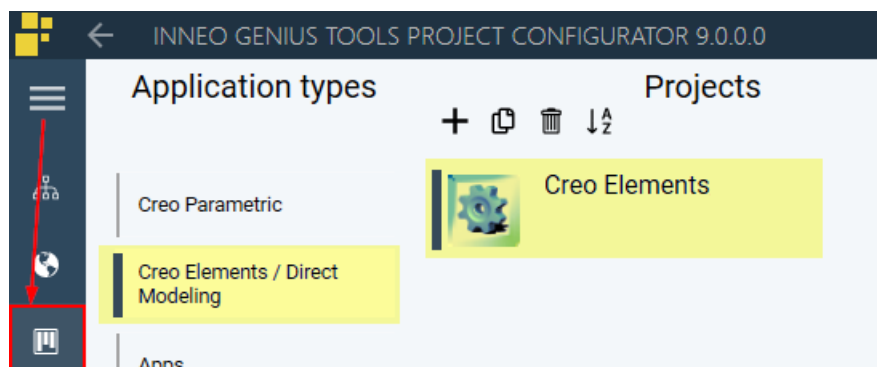
Auto projects and Apps projects can now be configured, like Creo Parametric projects, for various levels, i. e. for system-wide settings (standard) as well as for units, projects and users.

Migrating operating environment from Creo Elements/Direct Modeling

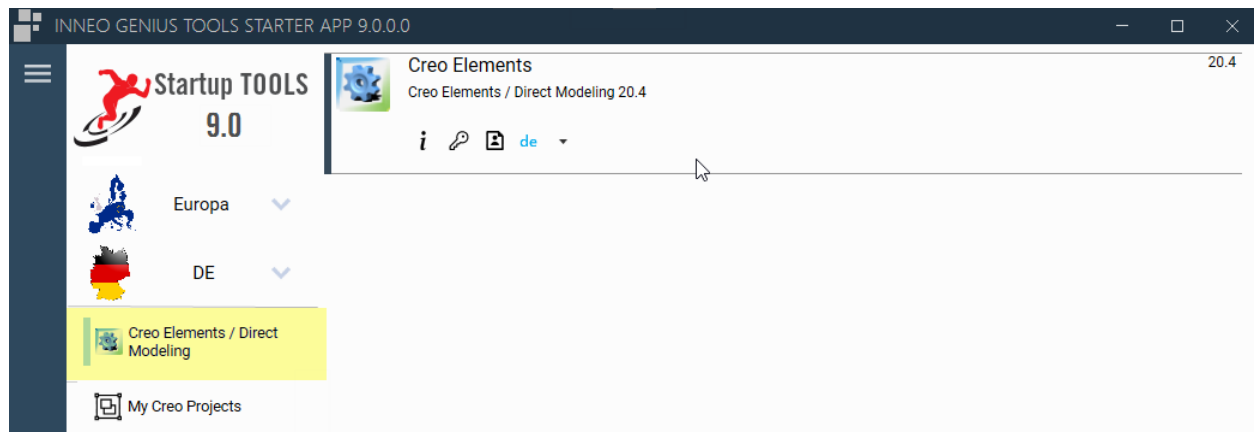
You can transfer environments for Creo Elements/Direct Modeling projects that were configured with the Power Extensions add-on application to an existing GENIUS TOOLS Starter operating environment. This allows you to configure these projects in the same way as Creo Parametric projects, that is, to define settings for different levels (standard, units, projects and users).

The migration is executed by using GENIUS TOOLS Environment Administrator, which creates a directory named *elements_direct* in the existing operating environment, as well as the subdirectories *apps*, *configuration* and *data*. Existing configuration and data packages are transferred to this directory structure.

During migration, you can create a project that will be created under *elements_direct/configuration/projects* and will thus be visible:



in GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator under Projects >
Application types > Projects



in GENIUS TOOLS Starter App

New environment variables

GENIUS TOOLS Starter supports the following new variables:

GTS_EXECUTION_DIR

Points to the directory which contains the executed file (*.exe, *.bat, *.pdf).

GTS_WORKING_DIR

Points to the working directory.

GTS_TEMP

Points to the temp directory.

New user interface

GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator

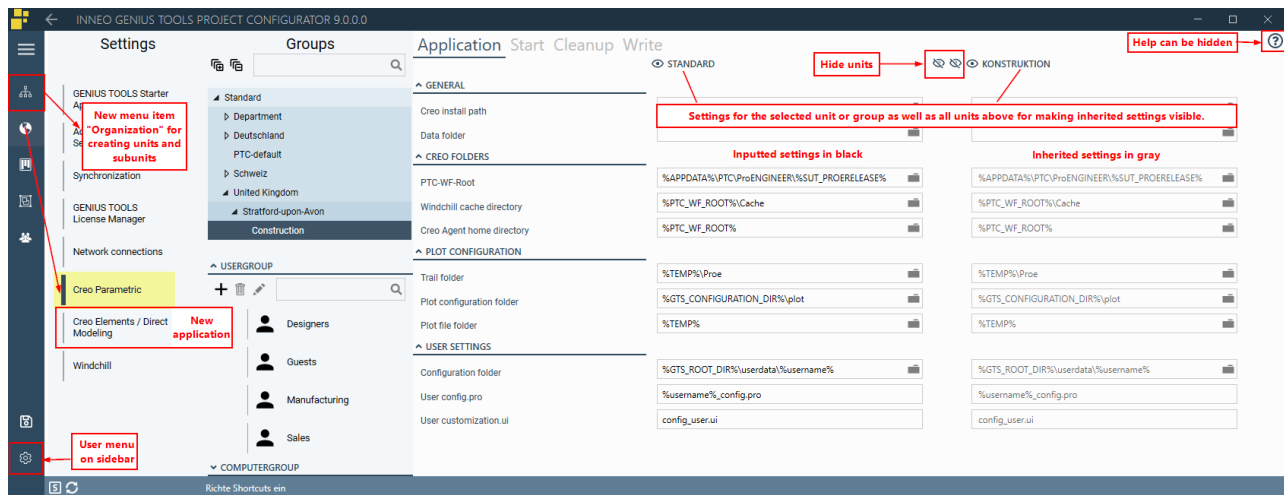
In the main menu Configuration under Settings you can now not only view the settings for a chosen unit or group but also for the configuration levels above, according to the hierarchy for configuration settings (standard, unit, project, user).

The Project page includes a button for the newly available application Creo Elements/Direct Modeling.

Units are created in the new main menu item Organization. The menu item Access Rights is omitted, as these rights are now entered directly in a role.

GENIUS TOOLS Starter App / GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator

The user menu has moved from the top to the left side of the dialog window.



GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator: Read-only mode

To avoid that several users can make changes to the database of GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator the application can now only be used by one person. All others receive a note about the user who has accessed GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator and can open the application in read-only mode.

When opening GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator, a lock file is written to the database directory (*Caddepot\<operatingenvironment name>\configuration\database*), which is deleted again when closing the application.

Please note: Make sure to close GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator with the exit function to delete the lock file.


GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator: Project and function access groups omitted

The user rights for functions in GENIUS TOOLS Starter App ("Function Access") as well as for restrictions to projects ("Project Access"), which were previously defined in function access and project groups, are now directly specified in a role in the newly created tabs Function and Project Access. The two type of groups as well as the main menu item *Access Rights* thus no longer exist. Settings from existing project and access rights groups are automatically transferred to the role that was assigned to the group.

GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator: New access rights

Users can be granted these two access rights in the *Function Access* tab of a role:


1. Ability to open Config.pro files with a double click in the Config tab of the GENIUS TOOLS Starter App.

2. Place private Config.pro file in the userdata directory on the server. (The paths are specified in the User Settings dialog box of the Creo Parametric settings). If a file exists, the icon  appears in the section Private Config.pros.

GENIUS TOOLS Project Configurator: License server specifications for units and groups

Specifications for license servers can be made on group and unit level. Go to the GENIUS TOOLS License Manager settings in the Configuration page. Changes are applied at runtime.

GENIUS TOOLS Config Editor: Compare configuration option of two versions (9.0.0.0)

In the new menu item *Compare versions*  you can view the configuration options whose default values have changed from one version to another as well as the configuration options that were added and deleted.