PROKON Support Portal

Unable to interchange IFC files between Sumo and Revit

Johan - 2020-05-21 - 0 Comments - in D04: Prodesk Suiite Revit Extension

The Industry Foundation Classes (IFC) format, is an open file format used by various Building Information Modelling (BIM) software. The format is used to describe, exchange and share information typically used within the building and facility engineering sector. The model typically contains information relating to the building, including spatial elements, materials, and shapes. The IFC specification is developed and maintained by buildingSMART International (bSI).

No software implements the whole IFC specification. IFC data exchange is achieved with subsets, called views, of the whole IFC specification. Each view is designed to satisfy one or several data exchange scenarios. Current view definitions using the IFC4 specification include:

- Coordination View – the IFC subset for coordination between the architectural, structural engineering, and building services disciplines during the design phase of a construction project.
- Structural Analysis View – the IFC subset to exchange the structural analysis model from a structural modelling to a structural analysis application.
- Quantity Take-Off View – the IFC subset to hand over the quantities of a building information model to cost estimation and calculation.
- FM HandOver View – the IFC subset to handover the facility management relevant information of spaces, furniture, fixture and equipment to Computer-Aided Facility Management (CAFM) software.

Sumo reads/writes IFC files in the **Structural Analysis View**, while Revit reads/writes IFC files in the **Coordination View**. This means that the user will witness an empty modelling space when importing/exporting IFC files between Sumo and Revit.

Prokon has developed Prodesk to bridge this gap. Prodesk allows the user to interchange models between Revit and Sumo as well as Frame Analysis, bypassing the IFC file format.