



# FAQ PowerDraft for MicroStation

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# PowerDraft for MicroStation®

## WHY IS BENTLEY DISCONTINUING SUPPORT FOR POWERDRAFT?

Infrastructure design and project requirements are evolving. MicroStation and Bentley's Open Modeling Environment provide the capabilities needed to win business and drive better project outcomes (e.g., 3D modeling, BIM deliverables, and photorealistic visualizations). PowerDraft does not. While 2D workflows remain crucial, more and more they must be optimized and automated to meet the increasing requirements for efficiencies in infrastructure projects.

MicroStation has stood the test of time and is now used by 90% of the ENR top 250 engineering firms. Its DGN file format is the gold standard for infrastructure design, now trusted by leading infrastructure owner-operators. Users of MicroStation are well-positioned to capitalize on modern infrastructure projects. They transition easily between it, BIM open modeling applications, and digital twins to support evolving project requirements with common user interfaces and seamless file interoperability. To better serve this changing environment, our CAD team is focusing resources on advancing the capabilities of MicroStation, the CAD application for infrastructure.

## ONCE I'VE CONVERTED MY ENTITLEMENTS FROM POWERDRAFT TO MICROSTATION, WHAT DO I NEED TO DO TO UPGRADE A MACHINE?

1. Download MicroStation from [Bentley Software Downloads](#).
2. Uninstall PowerDraft using your organization's software deployment process.
3. Install MicroStation using your organization's software deployment process.

If you have questions about the installation process, our User Success and Support teams can assist you. Submit a [service request](#) and reference PowerDraft.

## CAN I USE MICROSTATION ON DGN FILES CREATED/EDITED WITH POWERDRAFT?

Yes, due to the nature of the stable DGN file format, you will have complete business continuity across your body of work originating from PowerDraft.

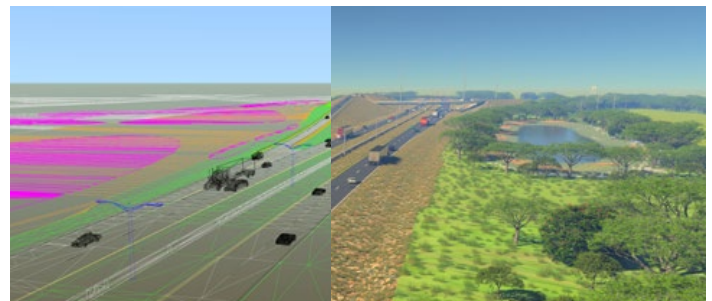
## DO I NEED TO TRAIN POWERDRAFT USERS TO PERFORM 2D WORKFLOWS IN MICROSTATION?

No, users of PowerDraft will be perfectly at home with MicroStation and will experience no user interface challenges.

## WHAT ARE SOME CAPABILITIES OF MICROSTATION I CAN LEVERAGE TO GROW MY BUSINESS?

MicroStation users can transition easily to BIM OpenModeling applications and digital twins to support evolving project requirements with common user interfaces and seamless file interoperability, unlike the competition. To better serve this changing environment, our CAD team is focusing resources on advancing the capabilities of MicroStation, the CAD application for infrastructure. Some of the things you can do with MicroStation are:

- Generate photorealistic visualizations to engage stakeholders with just a few clicks directly within MicroStation.
- Design in 3D to meet evolving customer deliverable requirements.
- Build parametric objects with predefined variants to find and manage components more easily.
- Automate data conversions utilizing batch processing data from multiple formats.
- Personalize and customize your workflows by developing applications utilizing .NET and C++.



MicroStation in-built photorealistic visualization rendering engine

## WILL POWERDRAFT BE SUPPORTED?

PowerDraft will move **effective immediately** to Full Support from Continuous Support as defined in the [Bentley Desktop Application Support Policy](#). It will move to Expiring Support status beginning **December 31, 2022** and then to Support Discontinued status beginning **December 31, 2023**.

## WILL THERE BE FUTURE UPDATES TO POWERDRAFT?

All new enhancements and fixes to 2D infrastructure drawing capabilities will be implemented within MicroStation. From time to time, while in Full Support, security and non-security maintenance updates may be released.

## IF I OPT-OUT OF TRANSITIONING TO MICROSTATION, CAN I CONTINUE TO RUN POWERDRAFT?

Yes; however, see the question regarding support. Once PowerDraft has transitioned to Support Discontinued status, PowerDraft will record usage as MicroStation.

## WHEN I TRANSITION MY LICENSES FROM POWERDRAFT TO MICROSTATION AND STILL USE POWERDRAFT, WILL I BE CHARGED FOR A TERM LICENSE?

During the quarter you transition and the subsequent quarter, term licenses for both PowerDraft and MicroStation will be suppressed. This means during that time period, you would not be charged a term license. After this period, yes, a PowerDraft term license will be generated.

## HOW DO I MANAGE THE TRANSITION AND UNDERSTAND COSTS?

Your next Renewal Advice Summary will reflect the new pricing for the switch from PowerDraft to MicroStation. Your renewal representative will talk you through the process and answer any questions. If you wish to review this sooner, please contact [selectrenewal@bentley.com](mailto:selectrenewal@bentley.com).

## HOW DO I INITIATE TRANSITION BEFORE MY RENEWAL?

Contact [selectrenewal@bentley.com](mailto:selectrenewal@bentley.com).

