

Important Upgrade Information

ProTOp Versions **6.1/2/3** to ProTOp Version **6.4**

An upgrade of ProTOp versions **6.1**, **6.2**, or **6.3** (denoted here as **6.x**) to the newer version **6.4** will affect existing ProTOp projects done with the previous versions 6.x. Please consider carefully the following issues after the version 6.4 is installed:

Opening an existing 6.x project

- When opening an existing 6.x project, ProTOp will display a message box to notify the user that a project upgrade is needed.
- If the upgrade is confirmed, the relevant model files of the current session are converted to the new format; the other sessions of the same project are upgraded automatically on the fly when they are activated.
- A project upgrade should **not affect** the **project formulation** and **current designs** computed in individual sessions; however, the **response files** (computed **displacements**, **stresses**, ...) will be **deleted**.

Important notes

- The version 6.4 does not support neither quadratic tetrahedral nor hexahedral finite elements; after the project upgrade, only linear tetrahedrons will be present in the model.
- The source model (FNF, INP, ...) may still contain quadratic tetrahedral or the hexahedral elements, but these elements will be automatically converted to linear tetrahedrons at model import.

Recommendations and hints

- Although the project upgrade to the 6.4 format should run smoothly and without problems, it is still recommended to make a backup copy of the project before the upgrade.
- To keep the ProTOp 6.3 alongside with 6.4, do the following **before installing** 6.4:
 - (a) In **File Explorer** navigate the ProTOp installation directory; default is **C:\Program Files\Caess**
 - (b) Copy the whole **ProTOpX** folder to, for example, **ProTOpX_63** folder in the same directory
 - (c) To run 6.3 after installing 6.4, just run **C:\Program Files\Caess\ProTOpX_63\ProTOp.exe**