Moving from SOLIDWORKS to SOLIDWORKS Connected

SOLIDWORKS Connected is a full version of SOLIDWORKS that installs on your computer from the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform and gives you access to all the platform capabilities granted by your **3D**EXPERIENCE roles. In most ways, SOLIDWORKS Connected behaves like SOLIDWORKS, but there are important differences that you need to understand.

Below shows the major differences between SOLIDWORKS and SOLIDWORKS Connected. Additional differences are documented in specific topics as noted.

> Documentation for the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform and the available apps and services is available at a separate online location from this help. For information on how to get started with the platform and use its many data management, collaboration, and design features, see **Dassault Systemes User Assistance**.
>
> Access to Dassault Systemes User Assistance requires **3D**EXPERIENCE credentials.

Major Functionality Differences

The following table summarizes the differences between SOLIDWORKS and SOLIDWORKS Connected for major, commonly used SOLIDWORKS functionality.

Functionality	Differences in SOLIDWORKS Connected
Assemblies	- Assembly features must **propagate features to parts**. - All files are in a **Collaborative Space**, so file paths in the Component Properties dialog box are not required. **Forming a new subassembly** saves the new subassembly directly in the FeatureManager design tree. **Make Independent** creates the new instance directly in the FeatureManager design tree. **3DPlay** does not show textures and decals for assembly appearances.

Functionality	Differences in SOLIDWORKS Connected
Configurations	• **Configurations** appear as physical products and representations on the CAD Family / PLM tab. A physical product is a configuration with a part number that you can order on a bill of materials. A representation is a child configuration of a physical product that represents a state of the physical product. • Only one level of **derived configurations** is supported • To **create a custom PropertyManager** using Configuration Publisher, the assembly must have two or more configurations • Alternate position views appear as a representation on the **CAD Family / PLM tab**. • Each physical product can have only one **display state**.
Export	Two export options are available: • **Export SOLIDWORKS Files** exports SOLIDWORKS files from the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform. • **Export As** exports SOLIDWORKS data as non-SOLIDWORKS file formats from the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform.

Functionality	Differences in SOLIDWORKS Connected
Installation and Licensing	• The **3D**EXPERIENCE platform uses **named user licensing**. A license is assigned when an administrator grants a role to you. A role determines the **3D**EXPERIENCE services and apps that you are entitled to use. You can use your license on any device. Your license does not issue a serial number. The license is not tied to a particular machine. There is no need to activate, deactivate, or show licenses. Licensing is managed by DS License Server. • SOLIDWORKS Connected automatically installs from the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform and is always up-to-date. • When you install SOLIDWORKS Connected for the first time, the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform prompts you to download and install the **3D**EXPERIENCE Launcher. • Only your local language and English are installed. • The Compass lists the apps and roles to which you have a license. • Products are available according to role license management through the CAD Admin Dashboard on the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform.
Opening files	Each file that you open is compliant with the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform. Two tools are available for opening files: • **Open** uses 3DSearch to find models stored in any collaborative space on the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform that you can access. • **Open from** opens models (SOLIDWORKS files and other supported file types) external to the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform.

Functionality	Differences in SOLIDWORKS Connected
Parts	• You can control all configuration properties concurrently. • You can add library features but you cannot link to external library features. • You can use equations but you cannot link to text files. • You can use forming tools but you cannot maintain a link to forming tools. Forming tools use `.SLDFTP` files only. You do not have to specify forming tools folders. • **Link to file**, and weldments and structural systems, are not supported.
Saving files	Three save tools are available: • **Save** saves files to any collaborative space in 3DSpace that you can access. • **Save with Options** saves with additional PLM options. • **Save Locally** saves a local copy of a file that is already saved on the 3DEXPERIENCE platform. Files that you can save locally include blocks, templates for drawings and BOMs, and dimension styles.

User Interface	• **Quick Access Tools** are available in the Menu Bar, or in the CommandManager.
	• Uses tagging scheme on the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform.
	• The following tabs are no longer available on the **Task Pane**:
	   • SOLIDWORKS Resources
	   • File Explorer
	   • Custom Properties
	   • Search
	   You cannot **hide the Task Pane**.
	• Uses **3DSpace** and 3DSearch to browse and search for documents instead of File Explorer.
	• The file menus, **Save All**, **Publish to eDrawings**, **Send To**, **Reload**, **Find References** are unavailable.

Other Functionality Differences

Functionality	Differences in SOLIDWORKS Connected
3D Interconnect	• **3D Interconnect** functionality is always turned on. • While **importing neutral CAD files in SOLIDWORKS**, the 3D Interconnect references for assemblies are dissolved and corresponding SOLIDWORKS assembly and part files are created for each component reference. The SOLIDWORKS part files contain the 3D Interconnect feature link to the neutral CAD part file. • Inserting a third-party native CAD file in SOLIDWORKS is not supported.
Access to 3D models from component suppliers and individuals	Use PartSupply. (3D ContentCentral is not available.)
Design Library	**Design Library** does not include SOLIDWORKS .SLDPRT, .SLDASM, or *.SLDDRW files. It does contain items such as annotations, blocks, and forming tools.
File Storage	You can use **Remove Local Files** to manage your local cache.
Monitoring users' SOLIDWORKS settings	Use the Platform Administrator. (CAD Admin Dashboard is not available.)
Publish	You can use **Publish** to save SOLIDWORKS templates, sheet formats, library feature parts, and forming tools Publish supports: `.PRTDOT`, `.SLDFTP`, `.SLDLFP`, `.ASMDOT`, `.DRWDOT`, `.SLDDRT`.

Functionality	Differences in SOLIDWORKS Connected

Routing	• To open the Routing Library Manager you first need to open SOLIDWORKS Connected.
	• You add components from the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform using **Insert Component** instead of the Design Library.
	• Template files are kept locally, not on the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform.
	• The following Routing functionality is not supported:
	  • Highlight Search
	  • P&ID
	  • Reuse routes
	  • Route Properties
	  • Tag Scheme Manager
	  • In Routing Library Manager, Route Properties, Piping and Tubing Database, and Tag Scheme Manager

SOLIDWORKS Customer Experience Improvement Program	Users are automatically signed up for this program.
Summary Information dialog box	The Summary and Custom tabs are replaced with **Configuration Specific and Properties** tabs. Custom properties are available as configuration-specific properties.
eDrawings	Use **3DPlay**. The free eDrawings Viewer is not available.

Unsupported Features, Add-ins, and Products

Functionality	SOLIDWORKS Desktop	SOLIDWORKS Connected
Administrative Image Option Editor		
Browse Recent Folders	Browse for a file in a folder.	Unsupported.
CircuitWorks	Available in SOLIDWORKS Professional and SOLIDWORKS Premium.	Unsupported.

Functionality	SOLIDWORKS Desktop	SOLIDWORKS Connected
Drawings	Click **Open Drawing** to open existing drawings associated with the active part or assembly document.	**Open Drawing** is unsupported.
Envelopes		Unsupported.
Flexible Components and Flexible Subassemblies		Unsupported.
Icon Color Selection		Unsupported. All icons use the same color scheme.
Inserting Files		Unable to insert files that are not available from the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform.
Interoperability	Supports version interoperability between consecutive releases.	
Login	Required when installing.	Uses **3D**EXPERIENCE ID.
Make Part from Block.	Creates parts from blocks in layout sketches.	Unsupported.
Pack and Go	Available in SOLIDWORKS and Microsoft File Explorer using SOLIDWORKS File Utilities.	Available in Microsoft File Explorer except the **Open** context menu. In SOLIDWORKS, **Export SOLIDWORKS Files** replaced **Pack and Go**.
Partner add-ins	Available based on partner requirements.	Unsupported.
SOLIDWORKS PDM	Uses SOLIDWORKS PDM Standard and SOLIDWORKS PDM Professional.	Uses PLM concepts such as collaborative space, reserve, and revisions.
PhotoView 360	Included in SOLIDWORKS Professional and SOLIDWORKS Premium. Also includes Motion manager.	Uses SOLIDWORKS Visualize. Motion manager is unsupported.
Property Tab Builder		Unsupported.
Reload	Reloads documents.	Unsupported.

Functionality	SOLIDWORKS Desktop	SOLIDWORKS Connected
Render Tools	Included.	Unsupported.
Search for files, models, commands, help, and MySolidWorks	Search for files and models in SOLIDWORKS.	Unsupported.
Send To	Sends the current SOLIDWORKS document to another system using your electronic mail application.	Unsupported.
Settings Administrator tool		Unsupported.
Show in Folder	Displays the file in the folder.	Unsupported.
SOLIDWORKS API	Available as a COM programming interface to the SOLIDWORKS software.	Unsupported.
SOLIDWORKS Composer	Available as a separately purchased product.	.You cannot install SOLIDWORKS Composer along with SOLIDWORKS Connected. However, if SOLIDWORKS Composer is available as a separately purchased product, you can export SOLIDWORKS files as SMG files.
SOLIDWORKS Costing	Available in SOLIDWORKS Professional and SOLIDWORKS Premium.	Supported.
SOLIDWORKS Electrical 3D/Schematics	Available as a separately purchased product.	Unsupported.
SOLIDWORKS Flow Simulation	Supported.	Unsupported.
SOLIDWORKS Inspection	Available as a separately purchased product.	Unsupported.
SOLIDWORKS Manage	Available in SOLIDWORKS PDM Professional.	Unsupported.
SOLIDWORKS MBD	Available as a separately purchased product.	Unsupported. Tools on the MBD Dimension toolbar are supported.

Functionality	SOLIDWORKS Desktop	SOLIDWORKS Connected
SOLIDWORKS Motion	Available as SOLIDWORKS Simulation Standard, SOLIDWORKS Simulation Professional, and SOLIDWORKS Simulation Premium.	You can load the SOLIDWORKS Simulation add-in if you have **3D**EXPERIENCE SOLIDWORKS Premium and **3D**EXPERIENCE SOLIDWORKS Simulation Designer roles.
SOLIDWORKS PCB	Available as a separately purchased product.	Unsupported.
SOLIDWORKS Plastics	Available as SOLIDWORKS Plastics Standard, SOLIDWORKS Plastics Professional, and SOLIDWORKS Plastics Premium.	Unsupported.
SOLIDWORKS Resources	Available on the Task Pane.	Unsupported. Use SOLIDWORKS Rx.
SOLIDWORKS Simulation	Available as SOLIDWORKS Simulation Standard, SOLIDWORKS Simulation Professional, and SOLIDWORKS Simulation Premium.	You can load the SOLIDWORKS Simulation add-in if you have **3D**EXPERIENCE SOLIDWORKS Premium and **3D**EXPERIENCE SOLIDWORKS Simulation Designer roles.
SOLIDWORKS Sustainability	Available in SOLIDWORKS Premium.	Unsupported.
SOLIDWORKS Toolbox	Available in SOLIDWORKS Professional and SOLIDWORKS Premium.	Unsupported.
SOLIDWORKS Visualize	• Add-in. Available as a separately purchased product. • PDM. Integrated with SOLIDWORKS PDM. • Boost. Available with SOLIDWORKS Visualize Professional.	The Professional and Premium role includes the Visualize Connected app for Visualize Professional. You can manage Visualize projects on the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform. Boost is unsupported.
Task Scheduler	Lets you set up tasks to perform at a future time.	Unsupported.

Functionality	SOLIDWORKS Desktop	SOLIDWORKS Connected
Treehouse		Unsupported. You can use the 3D Product Architect role for similar functionality.
Virtual Components		Unsupported. On the **3D**EXPERIENCE platform, you can open and edit a legacy assembly that contains virtual components. If you save the assembly to the platform, the virtual components are converted to actual components. To preserve the components as virtual, save the assembly external to the platform.
Xpress products	Includes products such as FloXpress, DFMXpress, and SustainabilityXpress.	Unsupported.