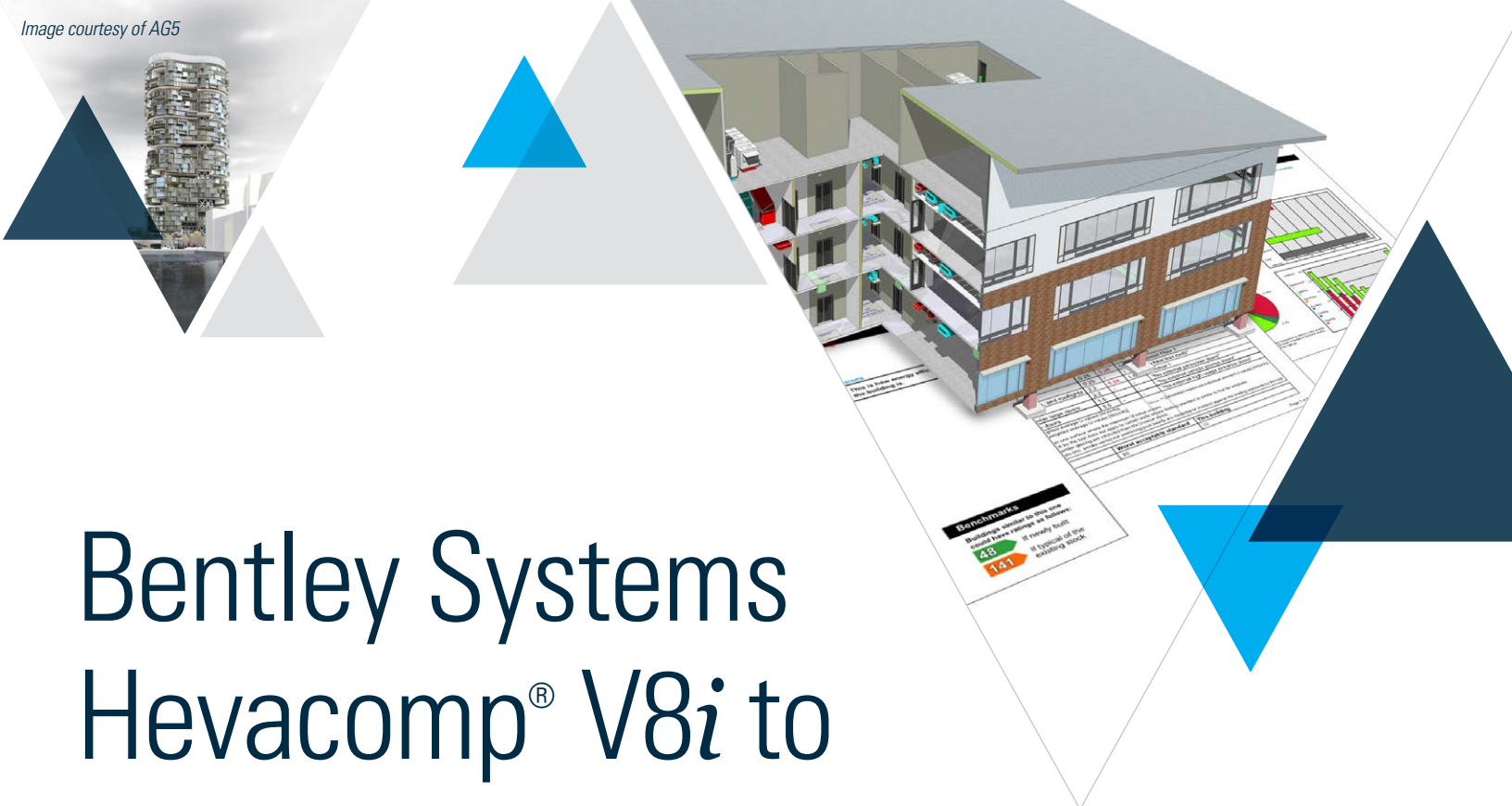


Image courtesy of AG5



# Bentley Systems Hevacomp<sup>®</sup> V8i to OpenBuildings<sup>™</sup> Designer CONNECT Edition

## Frequently Asked Questions



Image courtesy of Johnson Pilton Walker

**Bentley<sup>®</sup>**  
Advancing Infrastructure

# Hevacomp to OpenBuildings Designer: Frequently Asked Questions

## Overview

### Hevacomp V8i Users

Bentley Systems has initiated the process of transitioning capabilities from Hevacomp Mechanical Designer V8i and Dynamic Simulation V8i to OpenBuildings Energy Simulator. OpenBuildings Energy Simulator is a layered product that comes as a standard installation within OpenBuildings Designer.

Users can continue to use Hevacomp while the transition takes place knowing that the product will remain fully accredited for the current Part L regulations for the UK and the Republic of Ireland. Additionally, Bentley released a version of Hevacomp in July 2019 to meet the accreditation requirements for Part L, as well as a release late last year that incorporated the changes mandated in the 2018 18th Edition IET Wiring Regulations. Additional releases of Hevacomp products will not be forthcoming as stipulated in the [Desktop Applications Support Policy](#).

Bentley Systems is currently implementing the functionality that will allow OpenBuildings Designer to match user expectations and meet requirements for Part L accreditations in the UK and surrounding jurisdictions. There are many benefits to be gained by using OpenBuildings Designer. These include active defined updates and integration with a multidiscipline building information modeling (BIM) capability, as well as support for legacy Hevacomp projects. Bentley's focus on OpenBuildings Designer as a platform enables Bentley to better serve you and to commercialize product capabilities that are more robust and integrated.

We look forward to working with you and receiving your valuable input, which will make this transition smoother and improve the product. Below are details and a frequently asked questions section that should help to explain the process.

## Transition Details

### Transitioning the capabilities of Hevacomp Mechanical Designer V8i and Dynamic Simulation V8i to OpenBuildings Designer CONNECT Edition

- Part L (SBEM) accreditation is targeted for OpenBuildings Designer CONNECT Edition Update 7 (Q2, 2020). Full Part L accreditation, which includes the Dynamic Simulation Model (DSM), will follow in the next release.
- We are currently in contact with leading UK energy assessment schemes to plan for future assessments and any certification changes.
- A final release for accreditation of Hevacomp software for England, Wales, Scotland, and Ireland was released July 1, 2019 (Update 10). Northern Ireland accreditation is met through a previous release (Update 9).

## FAQ

### What is OpenBuildings Designer, and how is it different from Hevacomp V8i?

OpenBuildings Designer is a multidiscipline design software used to analyze, document, and visualize buildings of any size, form, and complexity. You can effectively communicate design intent and bridge barriers between building disciplines and geographically distributed teams. OpenBuildings Designer provides building information modeling (BIM) advancements so you can deliver buildings faster and with greater confidence in your design, workflow, capabilities, and deliverables.

- **Multidiscipline:** Increase collaboration among architects, mechanical, electrical, and structural engineers with a shared set of tools and workflows.
- **Interoperability:** Integrate information you have from multiple formats and easily work on projects of any size.
- **Information-rich deliverables:** Clearly communicate your design intent with reliable deliverables that you can easily customize.
- **Unrestrictive design environment:** Model anything with total freedom from buildings with simple to highly complex geometry and designs.
- **Building performance:** Simulate buildings and predict real-world performance of the asset quickly and with precision to explore various options for iterative refinement.

OpenBuildings Designer combines both the building design toolset as well as Energy Simulator in a single offering. The Energy Simulator application is a unique application for the immersive design, simulation, and analysis of building mechanical systems, environmental conditions, and energy performance. The application provides comprehensive simulation using the EnergyPlus engine for both quick and comparative evaluations, as well as for detailed engineering, allowing designers to timely assess design trade-offs in both new construction and retrofits.

Moving forward, OpenBuildings Designer will be accredited for advanced energy simulation and building load calculations in the UK and abroad.

### I am currently using Hevacomp Mechanical Designer V8i and Dynamic Simulation. What do I need to do to upgrade and use OpenBuildings Designer?

- **Download:** OpenBuildings Designer can be downloaded from [Bentley Software Downloads](#). It will list all dependencies required to run the product.
- **Install:** First, install all dependencies required for OpenBuildings Designer. Then install OpenBuildings Designer.
- **Launch:** OpenBuildings Energy Simulator can be opened by clicking the product icon. This will be in the Windows Start menu on the Desktop or both depending on your install decision. OpenBuildings Energy Simulator is where you can create the building model as you would using Hevacomp V8i. Alternatively, OpenBuildings Energy Simulator can also be started by opening OpenBuildings Designer and then promoting to an energy model using the Analytical Space Model function.
- **Learn:** [Learning Center Training](#)

### I am using Hevacomp Electrical Designer V8i. Do I also need to transition to OpenBuildings Designer?

Currently, the transition of the Hevacomp product lines only includes Hevacomp Mechanical Designer V8i and Dynamic Simulation V8i. Users of Hevacomp Electrical Designer V8i will be allowed continued use of the product with the understanding that it is listed on the [Desktop Applications Support Policy](#) for Expiring Support as of January 1, 2021 and Support Discontinued as of January 1, 2022. Bentley Systems is currently formulating plans going forward to support our electrical applications user base.

## Will my SELECT® Agreement change?

- Yes, OpenBuildings Designer will become your primary licensed product with an entitlement to run Hevacomp Mechanical Designer V8i and Dynamic Simulation V8i products.
- The license upgrade to OpenBuildings Designer will be provided at no cost.
- OpenBuildings Designer will be added as non-billable after the release of Update 7, with no annual SELECT fee until the time of your company's SELECT Agreement renewal date.
- After January 1, 2021, and on the anniversary of the SELECT Agreement renewal date, SELECT will be invoiced at the OpenBuildings Designer SELECT value.

## Will I have to pay when I upgrade to OpenBuildings Designer?

- For each owned license of Hevacomp Mechanical Designer V8i covered under a SELECT Agreement you will receive a license of OpenBuildings Designer at no cost.
- On the SELECT Agreement renewal date, the OpenBuildings Designer annual SELECT fee will become billable, and the Hevacomp V8i Edition will be changed to an entitlement with no annual SELECT fee.
- The annual SELECT fee for OpenBuildings Designer is less than Hevacomp Mechanical Designer plus Dynamic Simulation V8i annual SELECT fees combined.

## What is Bentley's Desktop Application Support Policy for Hevacomp V8i?

Hevacomp Mechanical Designer V8i and Dynamic Simulation are listed on the [Desktop Applications Support Policy](#) for Expiring Support as of July 1, 2019 and Support Discontinued as of July 1, 2020.

## I have upgraded to OpenBuildings Designer and my current project contract requires that I use Hevacomp Mechanical Designer V8i and Dynamic Simulation. Can I continue to use the V8i product, and what will it cost me?

After upgrading to OpenBuildings Designer you will continue to have an entitlement to Hevacomp V8i products. As there will be no further Hevacomp updates upon release of the next SBEM update, OpenBuildings Designer with Energy Simulator should be used for all Part L requirements. Existing Hevacomp Design Database projects can be directly imported into Energy Simulator to ensure consistency of results.

## OpenBuildings Designer uses Subscription Entitlement Service. How does this work?

Subscription Entitlement Service is Bentley's new process for product activation, enhancing our users' digital workflows and improving our licensing capabilities with features such as:

- License alert notifications when you are approaching a custom usage threshold.
- Replacing site activation keys with user validation, which enhances security around your Bentley licenses and subscriptions.

Traditionally, product activation has been completed through an activation key that an organization distributes to all users. With Subscription Entitlement Service, product activation is managed by user sign in through the CONNECTION Client, which is installed on each machine that uses Bentley applications. User sign in provides a more secure and manageable system as it offers usage alerts, notifying your users when they are about to reach a certain usage limit set by the administrator.

Please reference the [Bentley Communities Licensing and Activation Wiki](#) for the most current information on Subscription Entitlement Service.

## Who do I call to purchase a product, and what are the costs?

No matter what your organization's role in project delivery or operating infrastructure, you will benefit from innovative subscription programs that will help you get the most out of your Bentley software and services. To get details on local pricing and subscription details, please get in touch via <https://www.bentley.com/en/about-us/contact-us/sales-contact-request-openbuildings-hevacomp>.

## Useful links for more information, getting started training, and videos.

- [Introduction Videos](#)
- [Learning Center Training](#)
- [Bentley Wikis](#)
- [Bentley Communities](#)
- Additional questions? Please reach out with a [service request](#)