



OpenComms™ Designer Fact Sheet

SELECT Users

Applications

OpenComms Designer is a new application for communication design that replaces the capabilities of the following applications into a single offering:

- Bentley Fiber
- Bentley Coax
- Bentley Inside Plant
- Expert Designer for Communications
- MicroStation®

What are the capabilities of OpenComms Designer?

OpenComms Designer is the successor to Bentley's industry-leading communication engineering fiber and coax products and provides a comprehensive integrated application that supports full work order engineering for your outside and inside plant engineers.

OpenComms Designer blends traditional engineering workflows for planning, engineering, construction, and maintenance under one GIS system that includes the accuracy of the CAD deliverables you've grown to expect from Bentley.

OpenComms Designer supports all aspects of a detailed design including fiber/coax overhead underground details, splicing, powering, loss analysis, optical system assignment, customer circuit tracking, and workorder bills of materials. The incorporation of reality meshes, imagery, point cloud, and other geocoordinate data sources can provide the continuous context of real-world conditions throughout the planning, design, and construction lifecycle phases.

OpenComms Designer completes the convergence of Bentley Fiber, Bentley Coax, Bentley Inside Plant, and Expert Designer for Communications. It also adds many powerful new innovations, including:

- **64-bit Computing:** Users can utilize the new 64-bit computing technologies on both desktop and application server deployments.
- **Connection Client:** The new Connection Client provides project collaboration across the enterprise.
- **Comprehensive Design:** All detailed design can now take place in OpenComms Designer, and users can utilize the inside plant capabilities when modeling remote edge computing and other communication architectures.
- **iModel® View Access:** OpenComms Designer includes capabilities that enable iModel attachment, thus extending the data access across Bentley products and third party iModel platforms.
- **Detailed Functional Overview:** This is available online on the OpenComms Designer web page.

When will OpenComms Designer be available?

Early beta access will begin in May 2020 and is open to all beta approved Bentley subscribers. General availability is anticipated in November 2020.

What if I have one or more of the applications being replaced by OpenComms Designer?

To facilitate the migration of the above listed applications to OpenComms Designer, Bentley will perform a maximum license count swap for Bentley Fiber, Bentley Coax, or Bentley Inside Plant. The maximum license count for these three products will be replaced with the same count of OpenComms Designer licenses at the next subscription renewal. This entitlement will let you take advantage of lower license usage associated with any of the other two products. For example, if you have six Bentley Fiber, four Bentley Coax, one Bentley Inside Plant, and eight Expert Designer for Communications licenses, these will be swapped for six OpenComms Designer licenses. The two remaining Expert Designer licenses can be converted to Work Flow Manager licenses as needed.

How do I get OpenComms Designer SELECT® coverage?

OpenComms Designer CONNECT Edition SELECT coverage will be required for a new purchase of any application that is being replaced. For subscriptions on existing licenses of these applications, your SELECT coverage for these applications will require OpenComms Designer CONNECT Edition coverage at your contract renewal date.

What changes should I expect with my SELECT renewal?

Each license of any individual application to be migrated to OpenComms Designer will be replaced by an OpenComms Designer license per the maximum swap approach.

OpenComms Designer has a SELECT subscription price, which will apply to all your OpenComms Designer licenses. If you find that your covered licenses are more than you need, your SELECT benefits include the flexibility to portfolio balance your subscription at renewal. You can exchange the value of these licenses, or other owned licenses, for the use of other application titles available under SELECT.

How can I plan a successful migration to OpenComms Designer?

A successful transition relies on three key steps:

1. An accurate assessment of your current processes and configuration
2. A thorough understanding of the benefits that OpenComms Designer delivers to your organization or project
3. A well-planned migration strategy

Bentley is ready to help you with all these steps as well as to make recommendations on how you can improve your design efficiency and project delivery processes by employing the new capabilities of OpenComms Designer.

What assistance is available for me to make a successful migration to OpenComms Designer?

There are several ways that we can help your organization in your migration. We recommend that you begin the process by speaking with your Account Manager or User Advancement Advocate so that you can gain a complete understanding of the help that is available to you, including:

- Licensing and contract assistance (Bentley Account Management and Subscription Renewals Team)
- Workflow studies, implementation planning, and migration services (Bentley Technical Support)
- Training programs (Bentley Services)

What online assistance is available for me to make a successful migration to OpenComms Designer?

Product documentation to assist you in the planning of your migration is available online and in the Bentley Communities on the OpenComms Designer web page.

Will I still be able to purchase licenses of the applications that are being replaced by OpenComms Designer?

Licenses of all applications being replaced with OpenComms Designer may continue to be purchased until general availability of OpenComms Designer is open.

Will MicroStation be delivered with OpenComms Designer?

No. OpenComms Designer is a single application that replaces the applications and the MicroStation prerequisite license. It is built on the same foundation as MicroStation, so there is no need to purchase a license of MicroStation with OpenComms Designer.

Will my current workspace work with OpenComms Designer?

Yes; however, your current workspaces will need to be migrated to the CONNECT format via a provided upgrade tool.

What are the hardware requirements for OpenComms Designer?

OpenComms Designer is a native 64-bit application that will operate on Windows 7 and higher. Hardware requirements are provided in the table below:

Processor	Intel or AMD processor 1.0 GHz or greater. OpenComms Designer is not supported on a CPU that does not support SSE2.
Memory	8 GB minimum, 16 GB recommended. More memory almost always improves performance, particularly when working with larger models.
Hard Disk	9 GB free disk space (which includes the 5.6 GB install footprint for a complete installation)
Video	See the graphics card manufacturer for latest information on DirectX drivers. 1024 MB of video RAM or higher is recommended. If insufficient video RAM or no graphics card supported by DirectX can be found, OpenComms Designer attempts to use software emulation. For optimal performance, graphics display color depth should be set to 24-bit or higher. When using a color depth setting of 16-bit, some inconsistencies will be noted.
Resolution	1600 x 1200 or higher

Will my data be preserved?

Yes, for our V8i users, the DGN and Oracle remain the core formats.

Am I able to run previous versions of Bentley Fiber, Bentley Coax, Bentley Inside Plant, or Expert Designer for Communications on the same machine?

No. The OpenComms Designer upgrade process requires you to uninstall previous version(s).

Will all my legacy Expert Designer functionality still be available in OpenComms Designer?

Yes, OpenComms Designer is a new application and we have replaced Expert Designer with an included Work Flow Manager that will enhance your productivity and user experience. There will be no loss of workflow capability.

Do I need any special training or migration plans to use OpenComms Designer?

No, the new Graphical User Interface ribbon follows the same work flows as the previous product. No migration is required since OpenComms Designer is compatible with your existing V8i MR2 database. For those users that require support where previous features are located in the new system, Bentley will provide an online “where is this function now?” document to support these user interface questions.

What should I do if I have additional questions on OpenComms Designer capabilities, training, and migration plans?

Please contact your Account Manager, or Customer Support: www.bentley.com/en/support.

What should I do if I have additional questions on OpenComms Designer subscription renewal?

Please contact your account manager or your subscription renewals representative.

For more information visit www.bentley.com/OpenComms.

