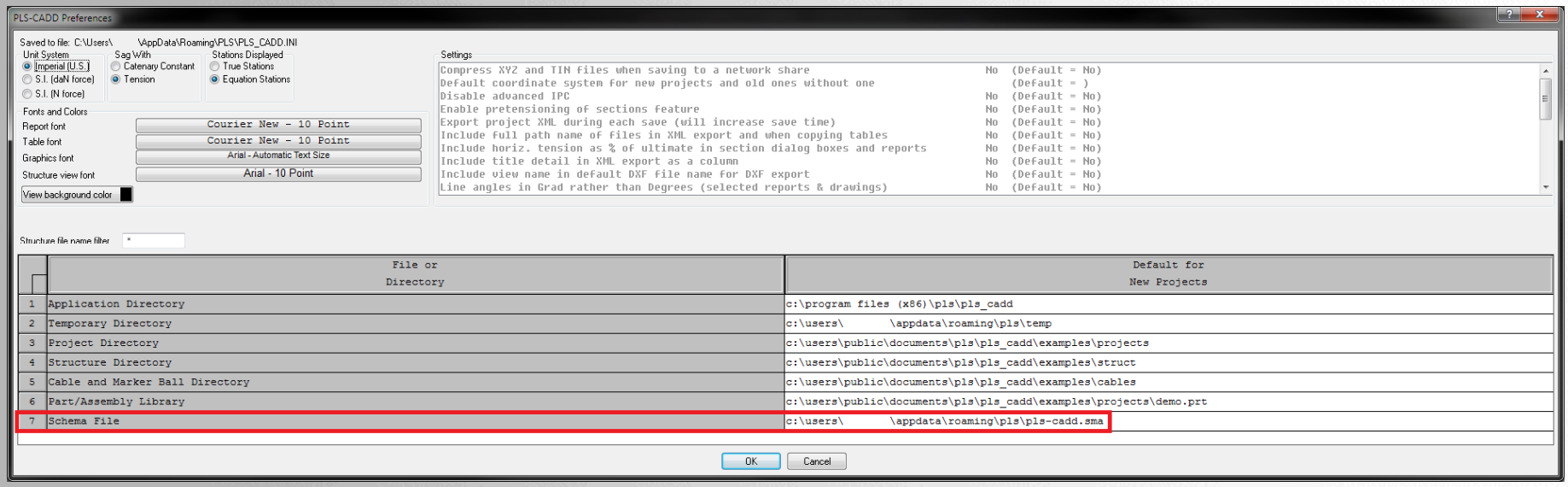
2013 PLS-CADD Advanced Training and User Group

Schema & Customizations

by
Jesse Kohler, P.E.
Power Line Systems, Inc.

What & Where is Schema

- The Schema file (.sma) has a location defined in File\Preferences…
- The Schema file stores a host of customizations within the software.



Tips for Storing Schema

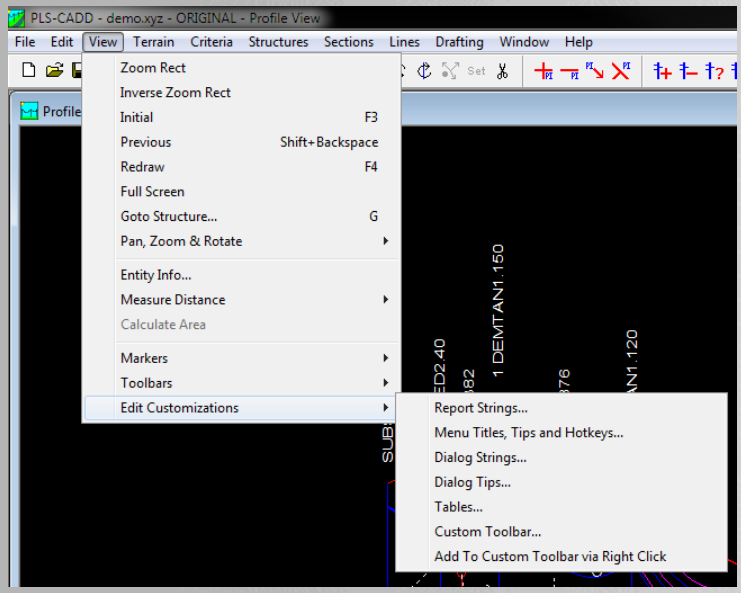
- Choose a name other than the default name pls-cadd.sma
  - Something like YourName.sma
- Store you .sma file someplace safe where only you have access to it
  - Something like a folder on your desktop
- Keep a backup copy someplace
  - On a USB flash drive for example
- Right click on the .sma file in Windows, select propterties, and under the general tab select Read-only so that no undesired changes can be made
- For custom toolbars you can copy/paste information into an Excel spreadsheet for safe keeping as well
- Be cautious of project specific .sma files
  - If used, customizations will only appear for that particular project

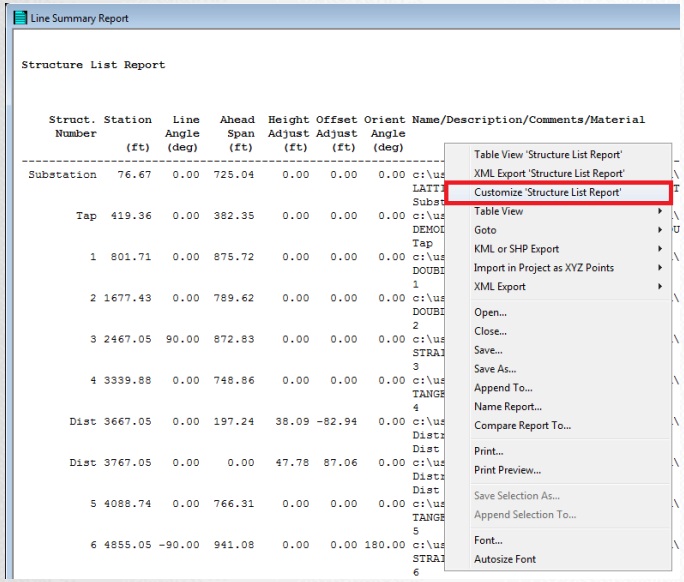
Uses for Schema

- Tailor reports to have format and data to yours or your client's needs
- Create schema files to remove or disable menu items and commands, i.e. drafter.sma or surveyor.sma
- Create schema files to label menu items and commands with your own name or language
- Create hotkey shortcuts for favorite commands
- Create up to 4 custom toolbars with user-defined text or icons for many popular commands.
- Control XML output and inclusion of sub-section reports

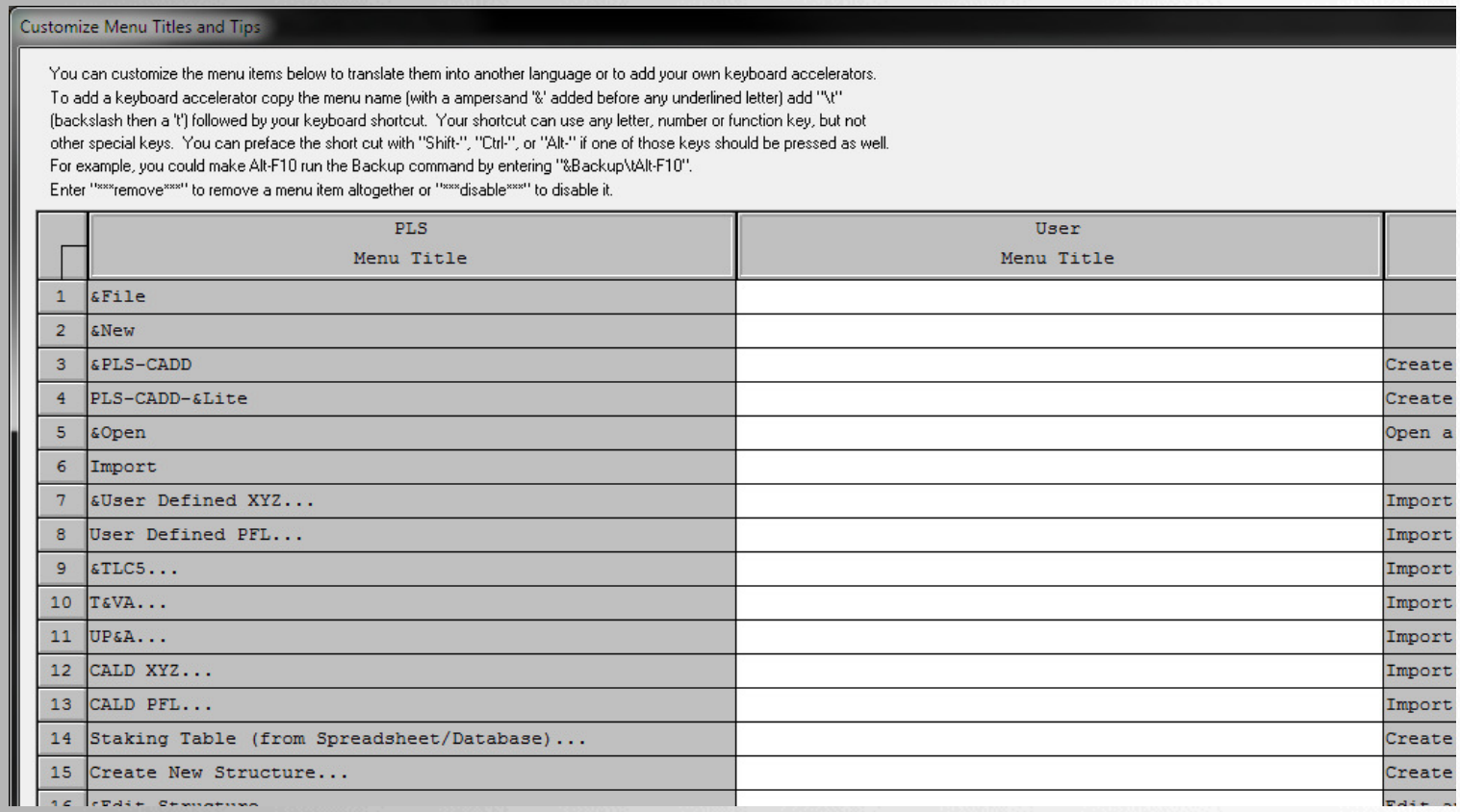
Accessing Customizations

- All customizations can be found under View\Edit Customizations\
- Almost all reports can be customized by right clicking inside a report and selecting customize





Menu Commands & Hotkeys

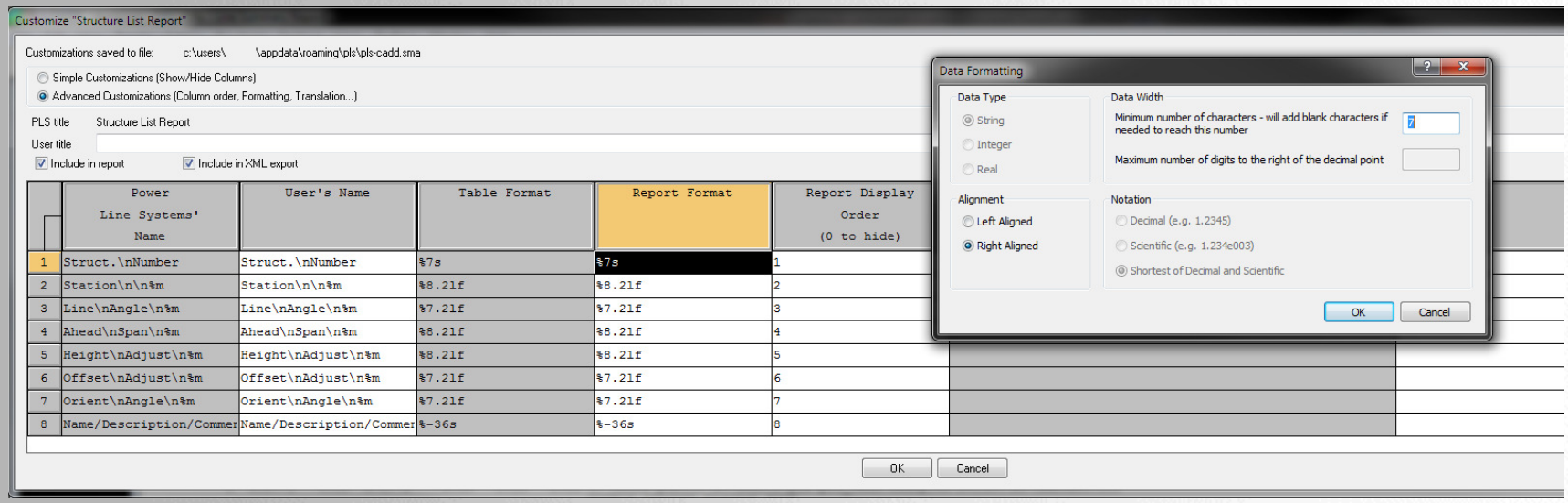


Customize Menu Titles and Tips

You can customize the menu items below to translate them into another language or to add your own keyboard accelerators.
To add a keyboard accelerator copy the menu name (with a ampersand '&' added before any underlined letter) add "\t"
(backslash then a 't') followed by your keyboard shortcut. Your shortcut can use any letter, number or function key, but not
other special keys. You can preface the short cut with "Shift-", "Ctrl-", or "Alt-" if one of those keys should be pressed as well.
For example, you could make Alt-F10 run the Backup command by entering "&Backup\tAlt-F10".
Enter "***remove***" to remove a menu item altogether or "***disable***" to disable it.

	PLS Menu Title	User Menu Title	
1	&File		
2	&New		
3	&PLS-CADD		Create
4	PLS-CADD-&Lite		Create
5	&Open		Open a
6	Import		
7	&User Defined XYZ...		Import
8	User Defined PFL...		Import
9	&TLC5...		Import
10	T&VA...		Import
11	UP&A...		Import
12	CALD XYZ...		Import
13	CALD PFL...		Import
14	Staking Table (from Spreadsheet/Database)...		Create
15	Create New Structure...		Create
16	&Edit Structure		Edit a

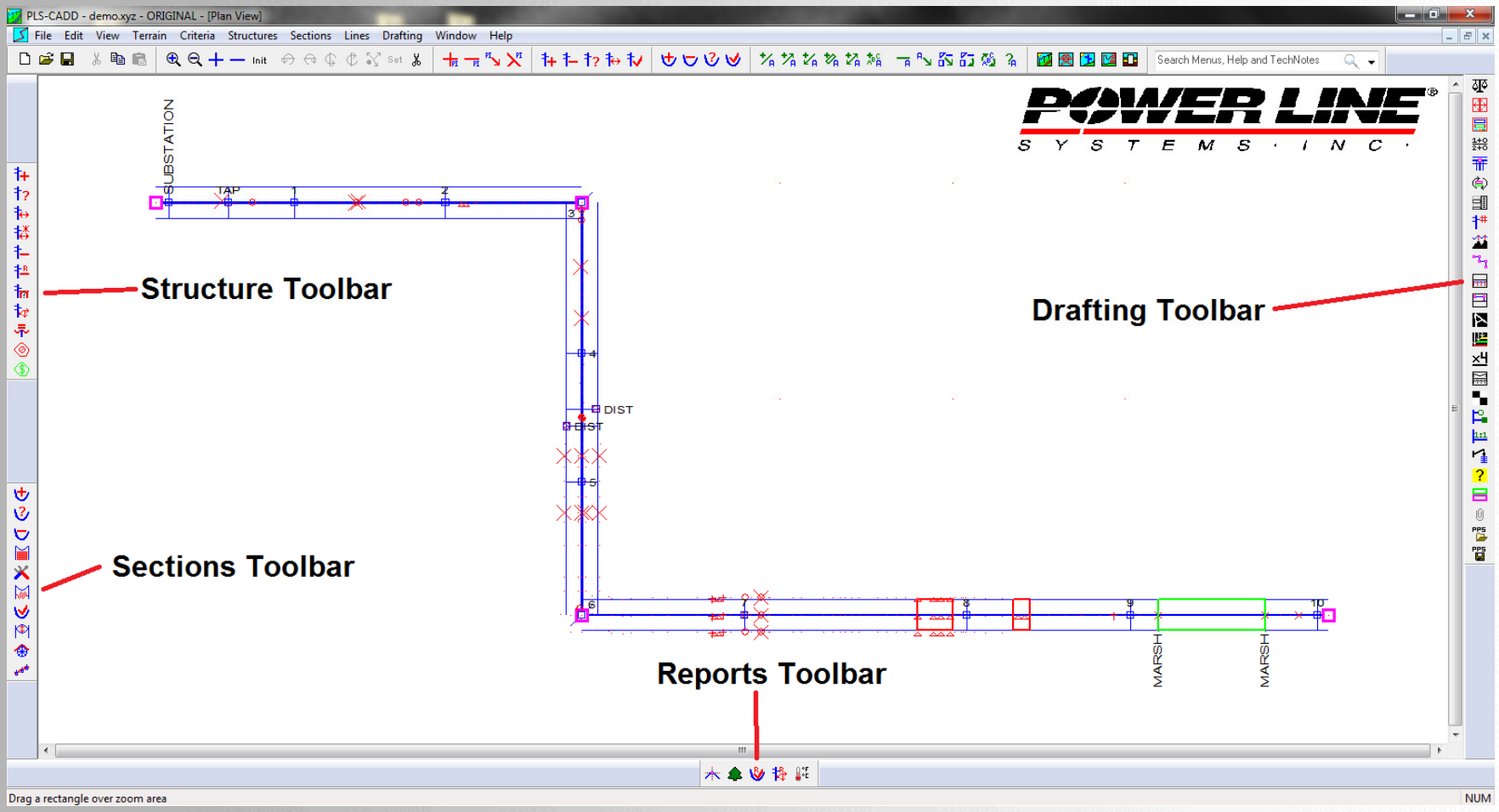
New Report Format Interface



New Custom Toolbars

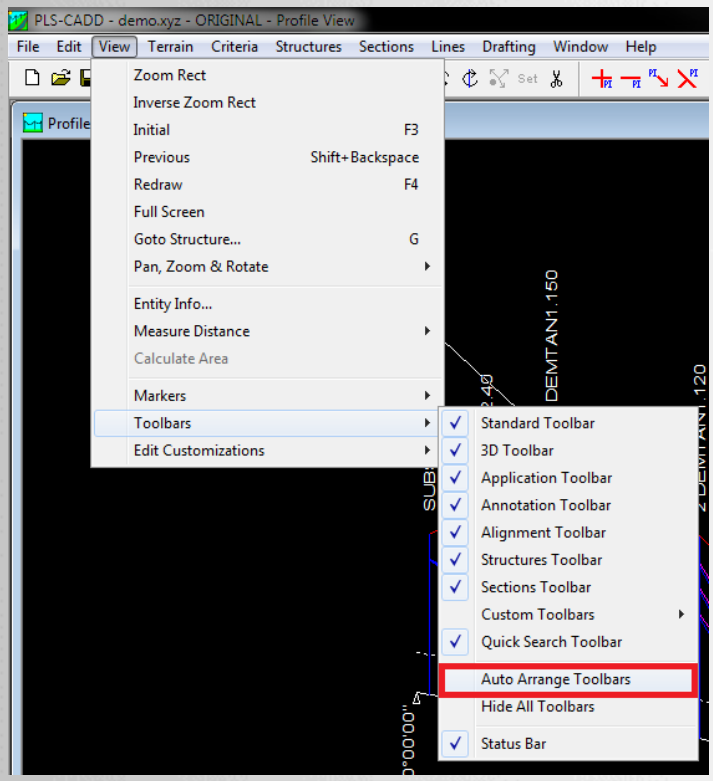
- Now configure up to 4 custom toolbars
- Toolbars can be renamed
- Icons can be utilized for buttons in custom toolbars
  - Over 150 icons created for commands in PLS-CADD, TOWER, & PLS-POLE
  - Text can still be utilized if icon isn't desired
- Icons have been created for existing toolbars as well
  - i.e. you can create your own structure toolbar and have a command for adding a structure
- Toolbar commands can be added via a right click interface
  - When enabled in this mode you can right click on any command desired and it will be added to a custom toolbar of your choice

Custom Toolbar Example



Toolbars Not Staying Where They Should?

- Disable the auto-arrange toolbars feature



Programmable Mouse

- Corsair Vengeance M95
  - 13 programmable buttons plus left and right click
    - Programmability includes simple one key keyboard commands to full blown macros
  - 6 different possible profiles, with the last saved one stored on the mouse itself
    - A good example would be for creating 1 profile in PLS-CADD and others for PLS-POLE or TOWER
  - Can be used to control various commands and operations in PLS software.
  - Can be combined with schema and hotkeys to make programming easier.
  - On the fly DPI adjustments
  - Programmable keyboards are also available

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POWER LINE® SYSTEMS · INC ·
Madison, Wisconsin 53705, USA
Phone: 608- 238-2171 Fax: 608-238-9241
info@powline.com www.powline.com