appli-cad
Australia

AppliCad Roofing Software

Advanced Software for Roof Modelling and Estimating

Tutorial for Setting up Material Files
Including important notes on field sizes etc.

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Table of Contents

This document describes the number of characters each string field on the dialog boxes can contain, and a brief overview of setting up material data files.

IMPORTANT NOTES TO CREATING YOUR MATERIAL FILES

The AppliCad software uses a data field structure within the program that is constrained to certain field sizes or number of characters in a string field. Below we have summarised the number of characters that may be used in the respective fields on each dialogue box. It is important that you do not exceed these constraints as it has been shown to cause unreliable functionality.

You **must** also avoid using spaces in the product codes. For example, if you need a fastener code that looks like this FTSC- 25 x 17, remove the spaces entirely like this FTSC-25x17 or use an underscore instead of the space like this FTSC-_25_x_17. Spaces in product codes have been found to be the single most common source of unreliable function of the software.

Tiles, Shingles and Shakes

Manufacturer   25
Profile   25
Name   25
Material   25

Metal Panels

Manufacturer   25
Profile   25
Finish   25
Fastener   25
Product code   25

Flashings

Manufacturer 25
Finish 25
Fastener code 25
Description 25
Product code 25

Flashing accessories

Accessory name 25
Code 25
Finish 25
Fastener codes 25

Custom flashings

Fasteners

Insulation

Manufacturer   79
Name   79
Code   50 (actually 79, but this string is used for the sizes too)
Description   79

Membrane

Manufacturer   79
Name   79
Code   79
Description   79

Flashing detail

Name   79
Flashing label   100 (not user defined)
Database name   79
Figure name   79

Fixtures

Name	79
Manufacturer	79
Product code	79
Flashing code	25
Database name	79
Figure name	79

Downpipes

Manufacturer   25
Finish   25
Size   25

Define downpipe rec 0 of 28

Manufacturer	
Finish	
Size	

Style   Round
Thickness   0.00

	Item code	Length	Cost
Length 1		0.00	0.00
Length 2		0.00	0.00

Estimation method   per spout

	Item code	Item cost	Spacing	Report
Pop		0.00		Yes
Strap		0.00	0.00	Yes
Offset		0.00		Yes
Shoe		0.00		Yes
Elbow		0.00		Yes

Reduce downpipe length due to offset by   0.00

Select   Delete   Add

Cancel   Ok

Extras

Description   79

Define extras Page 1 of 5

Description	Qty	Cost	Type of item
Licence Fee	1.00	21.00	Material item
Bay Window (F&G)	1.00	10.00	Labour item
Bay Window (Roof)	1.00	11.00	Labour item
Boundary Flashing	1.00	12.00	Labour item
Bullnose - sq mtr	1.00	13.00	Labour item
Bullnose - per sheet	1.00	14.00	Labour item
Chimney	1.00	15.00	Labour item
Curved apron	1.00	16.00	Labour item
Curved barge	1.00	17.00	Labour item
Curved hips	1.00	18.00	Labour item

Cancel   Next-Page   Ok

Misc items

Manufacturer   79
Description   79

Areas

Label   79
Area name   79

Colours

Colour   79

Colours

Colour   79

Curving Charges

Product code   25

Tiles+

Manufacturer   40
Profile   40
Name   40
Material 40
Code   40
Batten   40
Fastener 40

Company

All 79 characters
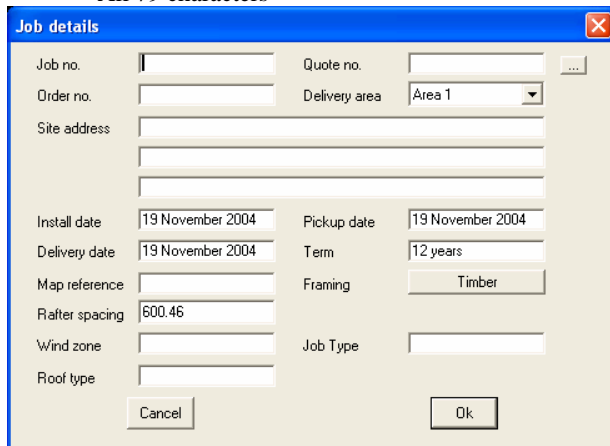
Job details

All 79 characters
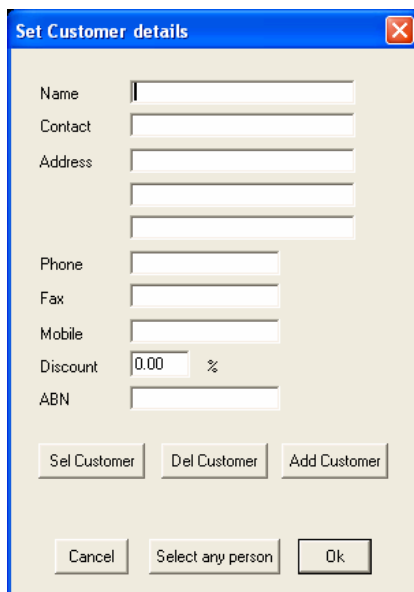
Customer (all people files)

Name   79
Contact 79
Address1   79
Address2   79
Address3   59 (see business number below)
Phone   20
Fax   20
Mobile   20
ABN   20 (saved in the address3 string)
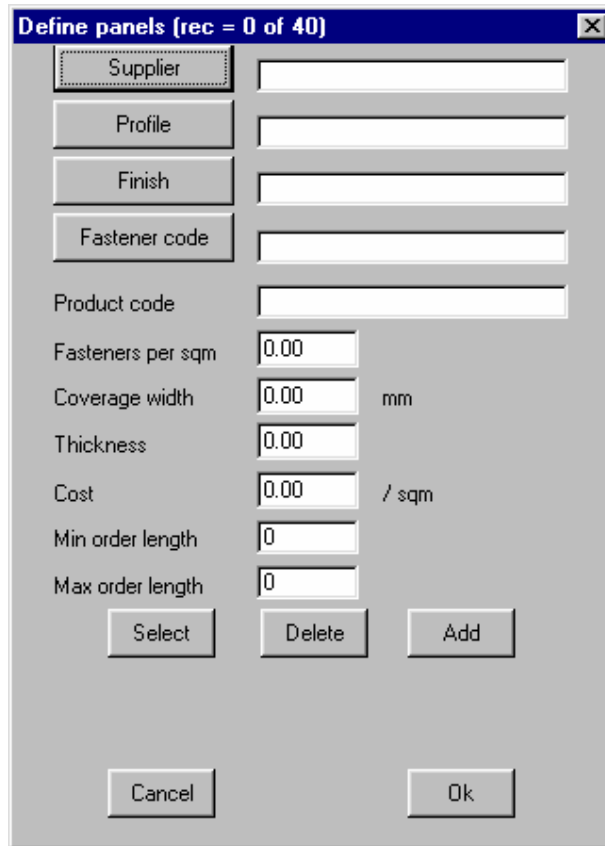
Defining Materials - Metal

Modifying a Profile

The first step when defining profiles is to select **Cover | Define Materials | Metal Panels** from the main menu. The dialog box below is displayed.

```
Define panels (rec = 0 of 40)                          ☒

        Supplier           [                              ]

         Profile           [                              ]

         Finish            [                              ]

      Fastener code        [                              ]

    Product code           [                              ]

    Fasteners per sqm      [0.00]

    Coverage width         [0.00]    mm

    Thickness              [0.00]

    Cost                   [0.00]    / sqm

    Min order length       [0]

    Max order length       [0]

         Select          Delete          Add



         Cancel                          Ok
```

With this dialogue box now open you have the choice to either update an existing profile definition (such as cost), or add a completely new profile. To modify an existing profile, click on **Select.** This will bring up the **Select New Roof Material** dialog box (next page).

Select new roof cover material

Sample	StandingSeam	Color	0.43
Stramit	Corrugated	Zincalume	0.42
Stramit	Corrugated	Zincalume	0.48
Stramit	Corrugated	Zincalume	0.55
Stramit	Corrugated	Colour	0.42
Stramit	Corrugated	Colour	0.48
Stramit	Corrugated	Z450 Galv	0.42
Stramit	Corrugated	Colour-XSE	0.42
Stramit	Translucent	1200gsm	0.00
Stramit	Translucent	1800gsm	0.00
Stramit	Translucent	2400gsm	0.00
Stramit	Polycarbonate		0.00
Stramit	Curve Quality	Zincalume	0.60
Stramit	Curve Quality	Colour	0.60
Stramit	Curve Quality	Galv	0.60
Stratco	Corrugated	Zincalume	0.47
Stratco	Corrugated	Colour	0.47

Sample	StandingSeam	Color	0.43

Cancel   OK

As shown in the above dialog box you can select the profile you want to modify and then click **Ok**. This will take you back to the previous dialog box but this time with the details of the profile selected is displayed in the fields.

Define panels (rec = 1 of 40)

Supplier	Sample
Profile	StandingSeam
Finish	Color
Fastener code	FP1265HT17
Product code	SS001
Fasteners per sqm	3.00
Coverage width	768.00 mm
Thickness	0.43
Cost	10.00 / sqm
Min order length	12800
Max order length	0

Select   Delete   Add

Update

Cancel   Ok

As shown above the dimensions and prices of the profiles are now filled out.

The **Fasteners per sqm** is how many fasteners will be inserted every square metre (or foot when in imperial).
Coverage width is the width of each panel.
Thickness is the thickness of the panel.
Cost is how much the selected material will cost per square meter(foot).
Min order length is the minimum length that can be supplied.
Max order length is the maximum length that can be supplied.

If you need to modify the selected material, make the modifications and then click **Update**. This will now update the materials details into the materials database.

Adding a New Profile

If you want to add a completely new profile, type in the details in the appropriate fields and select **Add**. This will add the new profile to the materials database. With the new or modified profile in the materials database click **Ok** to exit.

You may select an existing profile, modify its details and save as a new profile using **Add**, instead of **Update**. In this way you can add an entire product line in just a few minutes work. You only have to do this once to input the products that you use, or to change details, e.g. if your supplier drops their price for you.
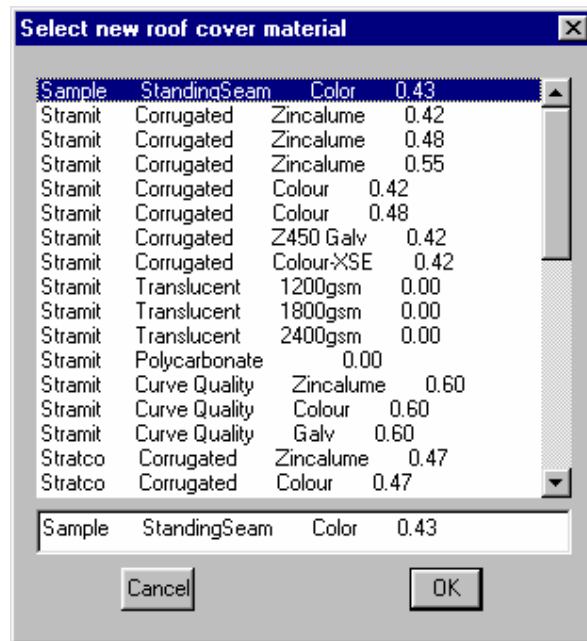
Defining Materials - Tiles

Modifying a tile

The first step when defining materials is to select **Coverage | Define Materials | Tiles** from the main menu. The dialog box below is displayed.
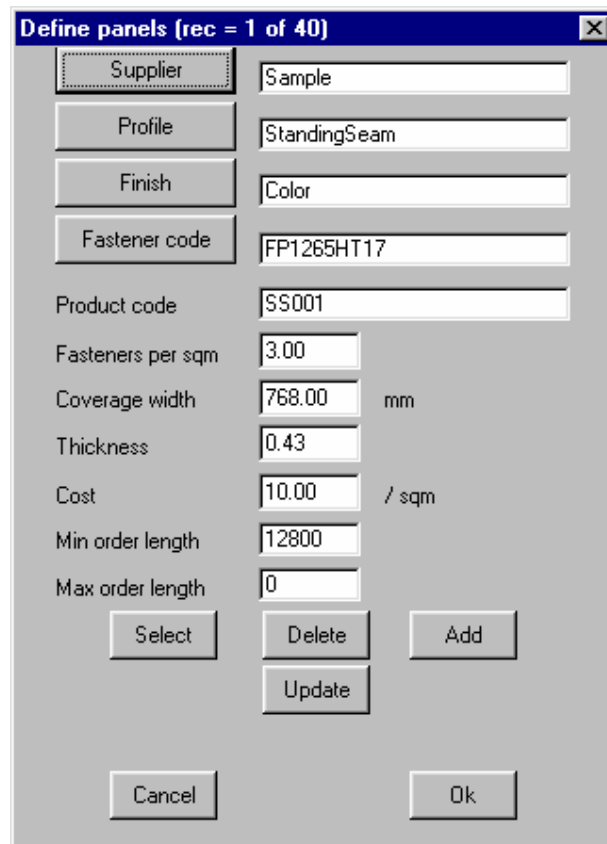

With this dialog box now open you have the choice to either update an old tile definition (such as cost), or add a completely new tile. To modify an old tile, click on **Select.** This will bring up the tile select dialogue box.
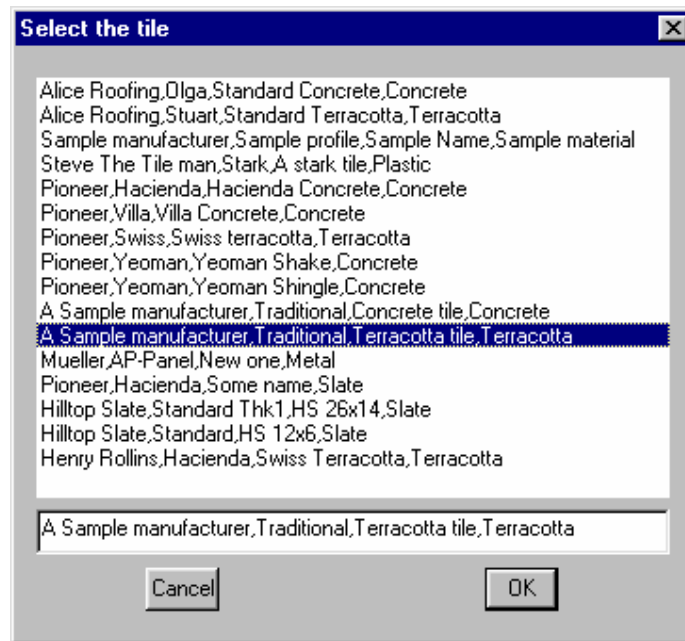
As shown in the above dialog box you select the appropriate tile and then select **Ok**. This will take you back to the previous dialog box but this time with the details of the tile selected displayed in the fields.

As shown above the dimensions of the tiles are now filled out.

The **Roof tile coverage area** is how many tiles will fit in a square metre/foot.
Max roof tile coverage length is the maximum length of the tile.
Min roof tile coverage length is the minimum length of the tile.
Roof tile coverage width is the width of the tile.
Ridge and hip tile length is the length of the tiles that cover the ridges and hips.
Barge ridge tile length is the length of the tiles that cover barge line.

The final five fields allow you to set item for **tile, ridge, shell end, apex** and **barge ridge**. If you need to modify the selected tile, make the modifications and then select **Update**. This will now update the tile details into the tile database.

Note: This process is the same for slate, shingles, shakes or metal 'tile' panels

Adding a new tile

If you want to add a completely new tile, type in the details in the appropriate fields and select **Add**. This will add the new tile to the tile database. With the new or modified tile in the tile database click **Ok** to exit. The following dialog box will then appear telling you the tile database has been updated.
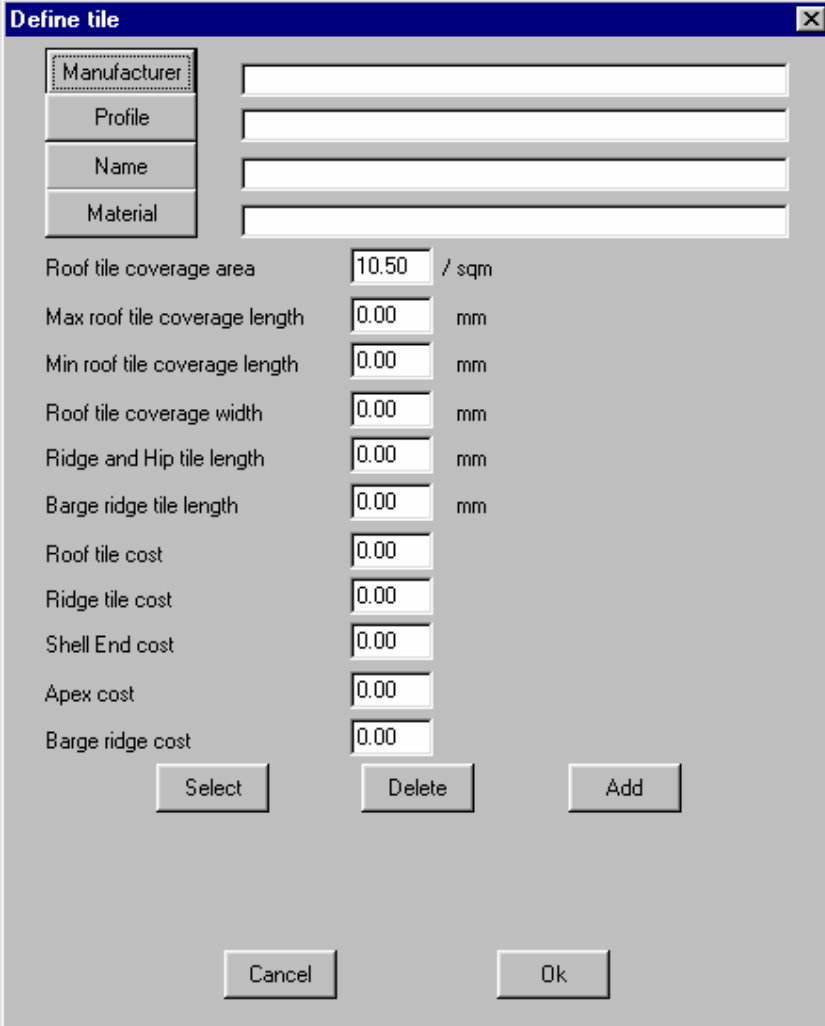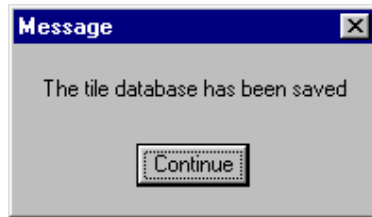
You may select an existing tile, modify its details and save as a new tile using **Add**, instead of **Update**. In this way you can add an entire product line in just a few minutes work. You only have to do this once to input the products that you use, or to change details, e.g. if your supplier drops their price for you.

Defining Flashings

Modifying a Flashing

The first step when defining flashings is to select **Cover | Define Materials | Flashing** from the main menu. The dialog box below is displayed.

With this dialog box now open you have the choice to either update an old flashing

definition (such as cost), or add a completely new flashing. To modify an old flashing, first select the type of flashing that you want to modify.

To choose your flashing click on **Select**. This will bring up the Select a User Material dialog box.
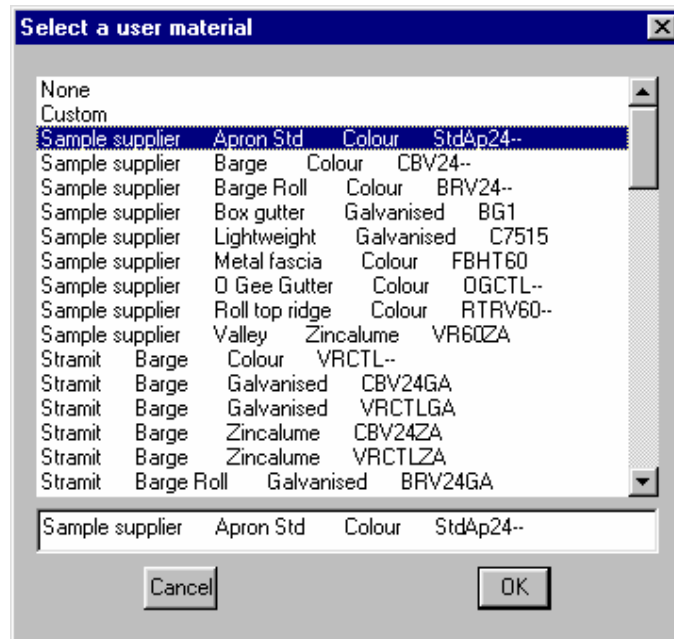
As shown in the above dialog box you select the appropriate material and then select **Ok**. This will take you back to the previous dialog box but this time with the details of the material selected displayed in the fields.

As shown above the dimensions of the flashing are now filled out.

The **Fasteners per m** is how many fasteners will be inserted every square metre/foot.
Maximum length is the maximum length that the flashing is supplied to by the manufacturer. (Only needed if your estimation method is by max length).
Costing Method is how the flashings are costed, either per meter/foot, or per length.
Cost Per Unit is how much the selected material cost per costing method.
Estimation Method Is how you want to calculate how you want the flashing lengths to be measured. (Shown in the following dialog box).

As you can see in the above dialog box there are 5 different ways of estimating the flashings.

Split each run up to the maximum length: This means that each run is split up into any length up to and including the maximum length.

Split each run into maximum length pieces: This means that each run of flashing is cut up into maximum length pieces.

Split total run length into maximum length pieces: This means to take the total flashing length around the roof, and calculate the number of maximum length runs that it will need.

Split each run into stock length pieces: This will split each individual run only into the stock length pieces defined in the "Stock-Lengths" section (select button at bottom of dialog).

Split total run length into stock length pieces: This will add up all runs around the whole job (each different flashing type separately) and divide it into the stock length pieces.

Selecting **Stock Lengths** will bring up the following dialog box.

This is the dialog box that you use to set your stock lengths. To enter a stock length click on a length field and type in the appropriate length, and then double click on the corresponding Cost field and enter the cost of the length.

If you need to modify the selected flashing, make the modifications and then select **Update**. This will now update the materials details into the materials database.

Adding a new flashing

If you want to add a completely new flashing, type in the details in the appropriate fields and select **Add**. This will add the new flashing to the flashings database. With the new or modified flashing in the flashings database click **Ok** to exit.

You may select an existing falshing, modify its details and save as a new flashing using **Add**, instead of **Update**. In this way you can add an entire product line in just a few minutes work. You only have to do this once to input the products that you use, or to change details, e.g. if your supplier drops their price for you.