

Ground Yourself with a Properly Implemented Electrical: Implementing Autodesk® AutoCAD® Electrical

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Class summary

Do you work collaboratively or independently in AutoCAD Electrical software? If you have more than one user at your company creating drawings with AutoCAD Electrical, this class helps you understand all the ways you can reference common, shared files effectively. The class covers how to install, configure, and organize those files so that drawings easily follow established standards and appear consistent from project to project and user to user. The class digs into some key ways AutoCAD Electrical promotes standardization and shows you an effective way to implement AutoCAD Electrical that allows users to work productively and consistently from a common set of files.

Key learning objectives

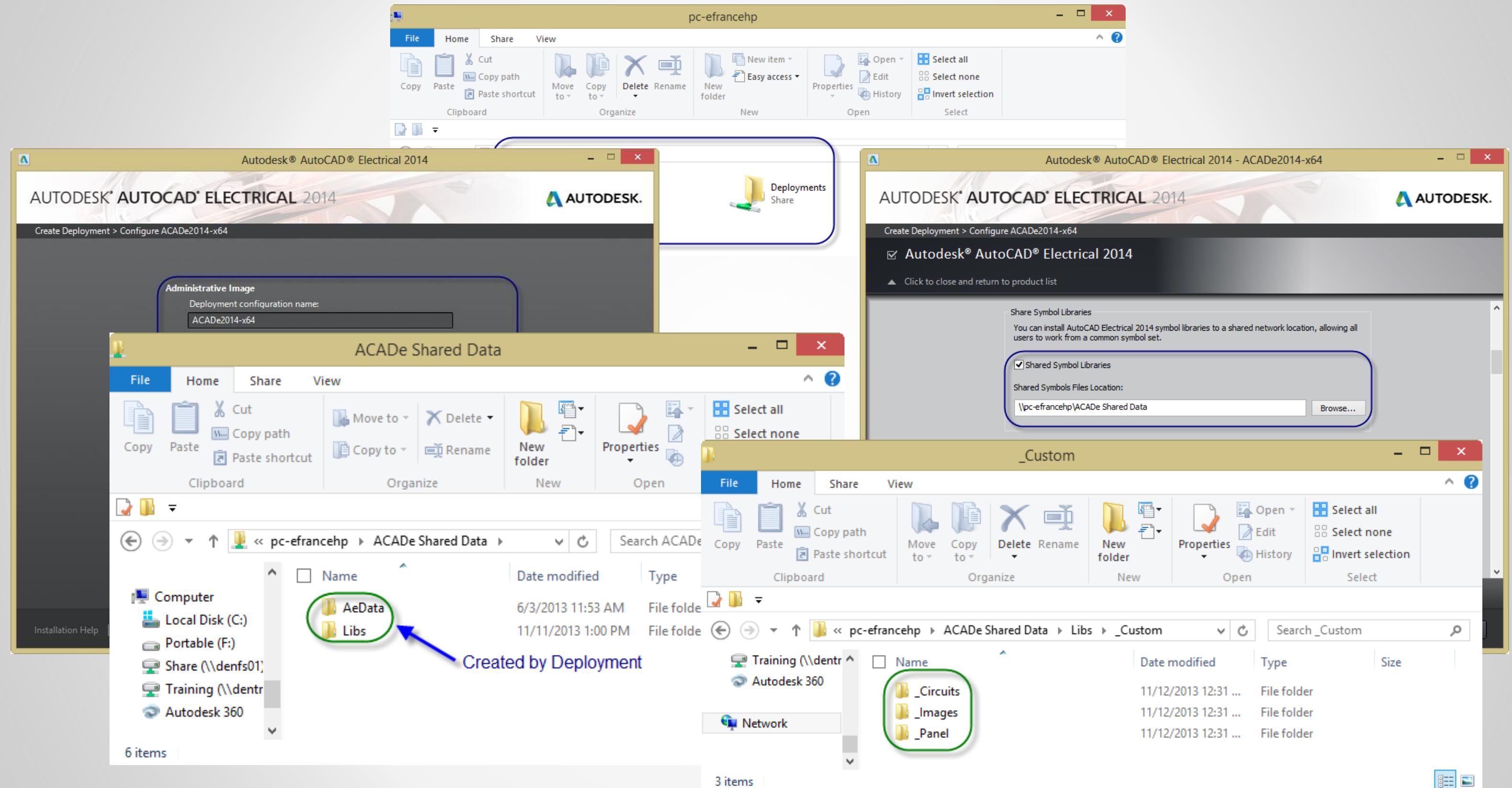
At the end of this class, you will be able to:

- Share common libraries, databases, and other reference files effectively
- Configure the environment file to access shared locations first
- Organize your shared locations for convenient access and maintenance
- Use standard reference files to share data among users and between projects

**Share common libraries, databases, and
other reference files effectively**

Establish Shared Locations

- By creating a Deployment, you can specify where on the network users will access shared databases and symbol libraries from by default.
- These folders will be populated during the creation of the deployment and help standardize what content all users work with in AutoCAD Electrical.
- This also reduces the duplication of content on multiple users machines.



Shared Locations Summary

- Create Network Shares
- Configure the Deployment
- Create the Deployment
- Add Company Library Folders

Configure the environment file to access shared locations first

Easily Direct Users

- The wd.env file is used by AutoCAD Electrical to identify which search paths it uses for many of the tools used to produce a Electrical drawing set.
- By adjusting the paths here, users are provided the correct location to find their company's standard content with minimal time spent searching for it.
- It also can be used to force AutoCAD Electrical to search company-specific content first as well.

AeData

File Home Share View

Clipboard Organize New Open Select all

Copy Paste Cut Copy path Move to Copy to Delete Rename New folder Easy access Properties Open History Invert selection

Computer Local Disk (C:) Portable (F:) Share (\\\denfs01) Training (\\\denfs01) en-US Proj Tutorial wd.env wd.env.orig

Name Date modified Type Size

6/3/2013 11:53 AM File folder
6/3/2013 11:53 AM File folder
6/3/2013 11:53 AM File folder

\\pc-efrancehp\\ACADE Shared Data\\AeData\\wd.env - Notepad++ [Administrator]

File Edit Search View Encoding Language Settings Macro Run Plugins Window ?

wd.env

```

1 * AutoCAD_Electrical - project environment settings.
2 * Format is: env code,setting,description (separated by commas) 2
3 * The setting value, if a path, can be fully hard-coded or can include one
4 * of the following aliases:
5 *
6 * %PF_DIR% = base executable install folder
7 *             (example: "C:\Program Files\Autodesk\AutoCAD 2014\Acade\")
8 * 1           (corresponds with global GBL_WD_BASEINSTALL)
9
10 * %DS_DIR% = base "Documents and Settings" folder
11 *             (example: "C:\Users\{username}\AppData\Roaming\Autodesk\AutoCAD
Electrical 2014\R19.1\enu\Support\")
12 *             (corresponds with global GBL_WD_DOCSETBASE)

13 * %WD_DIR% = base folder where "wd.env" is located
14 *             (example: "C:\Users\{username}\Documents\AcadE
2014\AeData\")
15 *             (corresponds with global GBL_WD_DOCSETWDBASE)

16 * %SL_DIR% = base folder for "Libs" symbol library subfolder
17 *             (example "C:\Users\Public\Documents\Autodesk\Acade 2014\Libs\")
18 * 3           (corresponds with global GBL_WD_BASELIBS)

49 ****
50 * Symbol Insertion and Library Paths
51 ****
52 WD_LIB,%SL_DIR%/_Custom;%SL_DIR%/nfpfa;%SL_DIR%/nfpfa/1-%SL_DIR%/pneu_iso125;%SL_DIR%/pid;%SL_DIR%/hyd
53 _iso125, schem, 1-line, and pneumatic/pid/hydraulic default paths
54 WD_PNL,%SL_DIR%/_Custom/_Panel;%SL_DIR%/panel, panel layout symbol library base folder
55 WD_CIRCBUILDER_FNAM,"ace_circuit_builder.xls",Circuit Builder spreadsheet file name
56 WD_INSCOMPDLG,%SL_DIR%/_Custom/,to override starting path for INS SCHEM COMP browse button
57 WD_INSFPDLG,%SL_DIR%/_Custom/_Panel,to override starting path for INS PNL COMP browse button
58 WD_INSCKTDLG,%SL_DIR%/_Custom/_Circuits/,to override starting path for INS CKT file selection dialog
59 WD_WBLOCKDLG,%SL_DIR%/_Custom/,to override starting subdir for Black Box Bldr WBlock option
60 *WD_PICKLIST,%WD_DIR%/%WD_LANG%/catalogs/wd_picklist.mdb,ins component from catalog list file
61 WD_USERCKTDIR,%SL_DIR%/_Custom/_Circuits/,default folder for "USER CKTS"
62 *PLC_ADDRESS_FORMAT,I:00%10%2;I:%1%2/00;--;O:00%10%2;O:%1%2/00;--,default PLC address formats for
"Quick pick"
63 * Catalog Parts Database Path
64 ****
65 WD_CAT,%WD_DIR%/%WD_LANG%/catalogs/,AE catalog file path
66 *WD_XCAT,x:/some path/wd_xcat.lsp,to override catalog look-up and call user's external routine
67
68 ****
69 * Project and drawing-related paths and settings

```

Normal text file length: 7646 lines: 114 Ln: 67 Col: 1 Sel: 0|0 Dos\Windows ANSI as UTF-8 INS

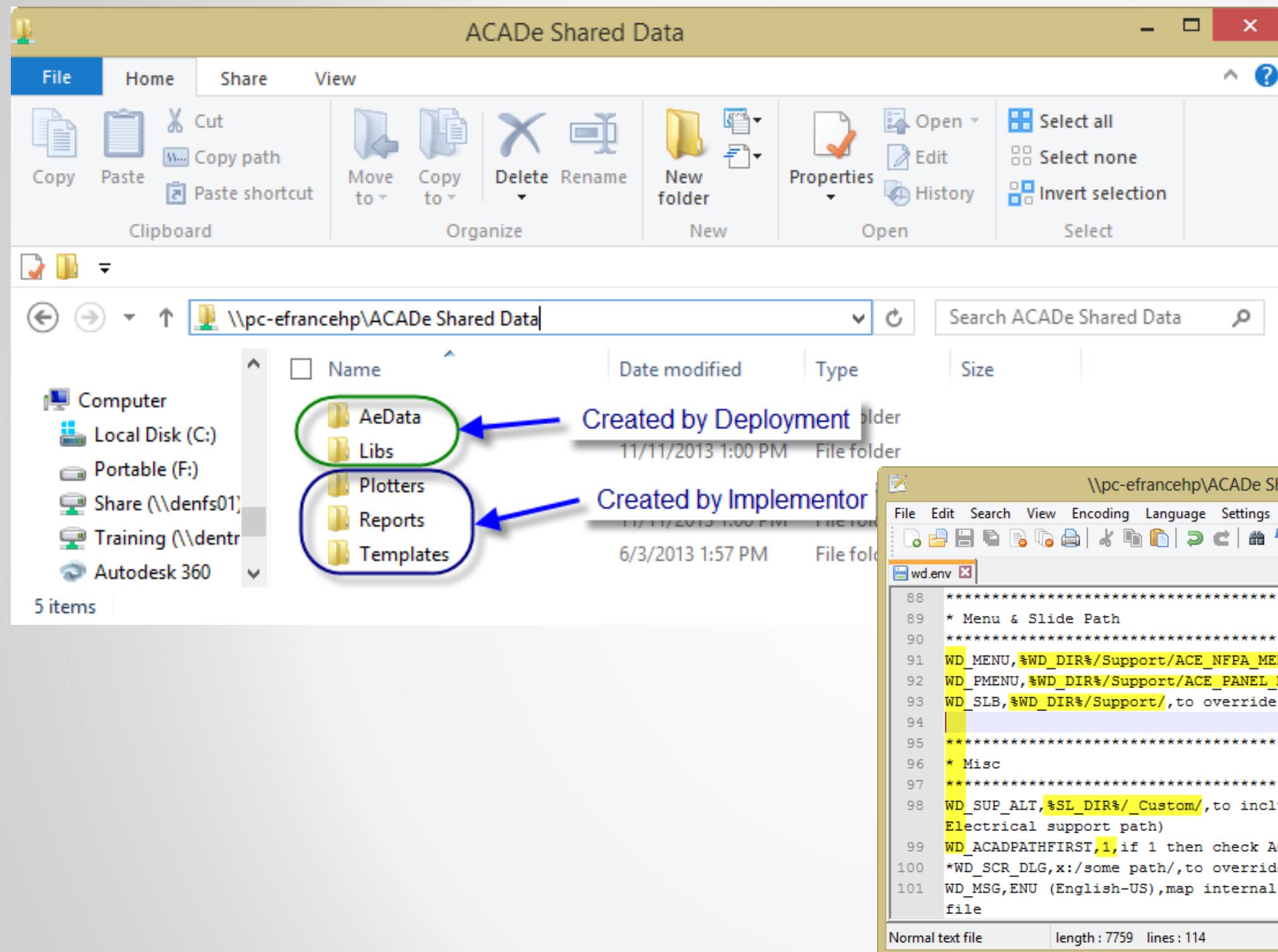
Configure Environment File Summary

- Configure the wd.env File
- Configure Library Paths

Organize your shared locations for
convenient access and maintenance

Share Standard Content

- Using the locations established in the deployment as a basis, additional folders can be created to store other standard content.
- Placing Company Templates, Plotter Configurations, Report Formats and Groups, and common Support files here helps standardize drawing sets as well.
- This becomes the “go-to” place for everything AutoCAD Electrical and is easily archived as a backup.



Organizing Shared Locations Summary

- Add Company Content Folders
- Combine Support Folders
- Configure Support File Usage

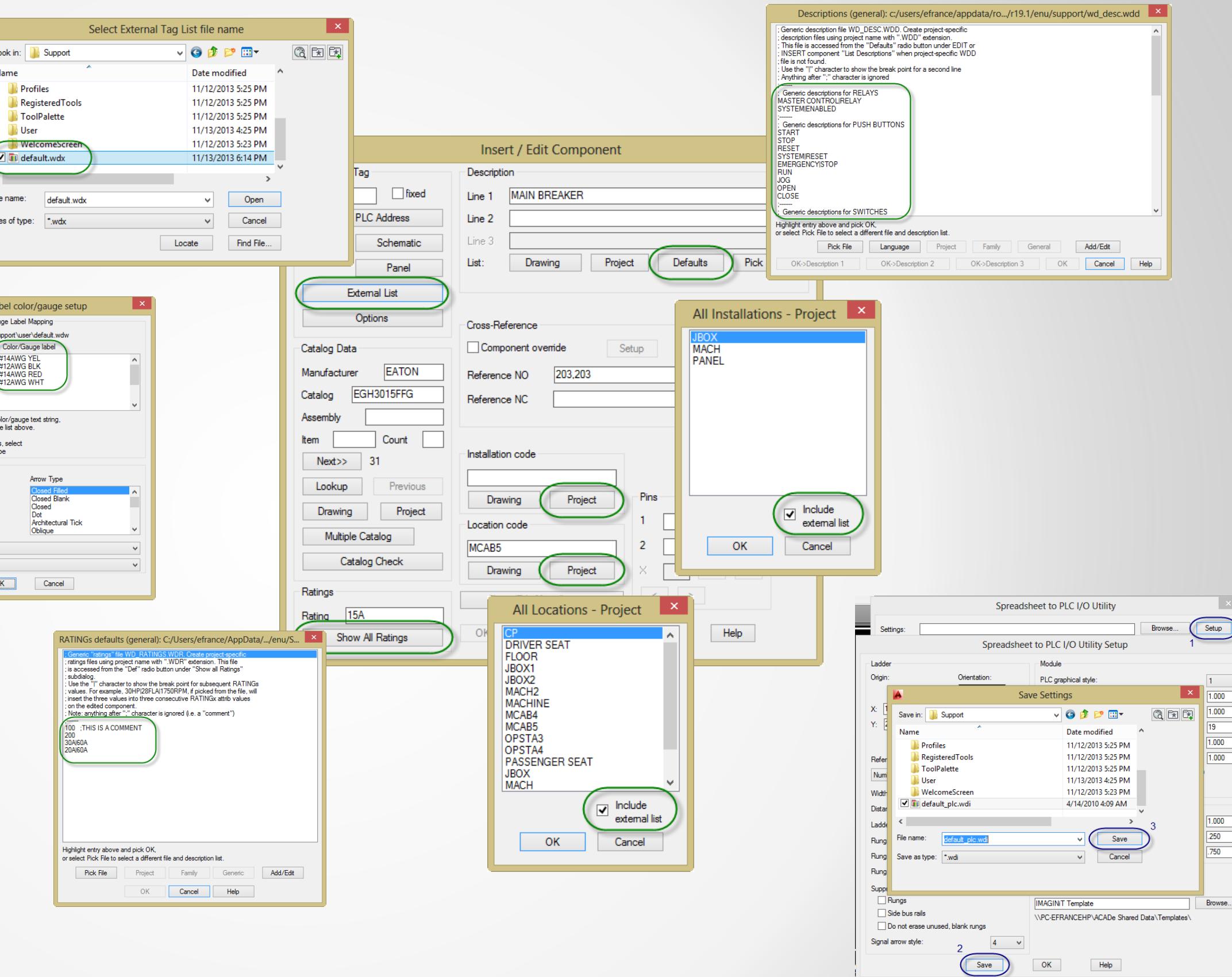
Use standard reference files to share data among users and between projects

Share Standard Content

- Finally, AutoCAD Electrical has around two dozen reference files that are available for use and standardization of information contained in your drawing sets. Leveraging files that contain standard descriptions, location codes, line labels, and rating values saves time and delivers a consistent product.
- Why type the same values over and over again (or incorrectly), when you can simply pick it from a list?

<u>Database Description</u>	<u>Filename</u>	<u>Access From...</u>
Catalog Lookup Database	default_cat.mdb	Lookup button in Insert/Edit Component dialog
Footprint Lookup Database	footprint_lookup.mdb	Panel tab > Other Tools panel (expanded)
Schematic Lookup Database	schematic_lookup.mdb	Schematic tab > Other Tools panel (expanded)
PLC Database	ace_plc.mdb	Schematic tab > Other Tools panel (expanded)
Pin List Database	default_cat.mdb	Schematic tab > Other Tools panel (expanded)
Terminal Properties Database	default_cat.mdb	Schematic tab > Other Tools panel (expanded)
Electrical Standards Database	ace_electrical_standards.mdb	Schematic tab > Other Tools panel (expanded)
Language Conversion Database	wd_lang1.mdb	Project tab > Other Tools panel

<u>Content File Description</u>	<u>Filename</u>	<u>Access From...</u>
Default Descriptions	wd_desc.wdd	"Defaults" button on Insert / Edit Component dialog
Default Ratings	wd_ratings.wdr	From "Show All Ratings" button > "Defaults" button in View/Edit Rating dialog
Default Location Codes	default.loc	From Location code "Project" button, check the "Include external list" checkbox
Default Installation Codes	default.inst	From Installation code "Project" button, check the "Include external list" checkbox
Default Component Tags	default.wdx	From Component Tag > "External List" button
Source/Destination Arrow Default Descriptions	wdsrcdst.wdd	"Defaults" button in Source or Destination Arrow dialogs
Generic Wire Color/ID Abbreviations	cblcolor.dat	"Generic" button on Insert / Edit Cable Marker dialog
Default Wire Color/Gauge Labels	default.wdw	"Setup" button on Insert Wire Color/Gauge Labels dialog
Default Terminal Number Audit Filter	default.wdn	Lists Terminal Numbers to be ignored in an Electrical Audit
User-Defined Attribute List	default.wda	Used by report tools to determine which additional attributes are listed in reports



Standard Content Summary

- Reference Company Databases
- Manage Project Information
- Reference Standard Component Content
- Reference Standard Settings

Class Summary

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