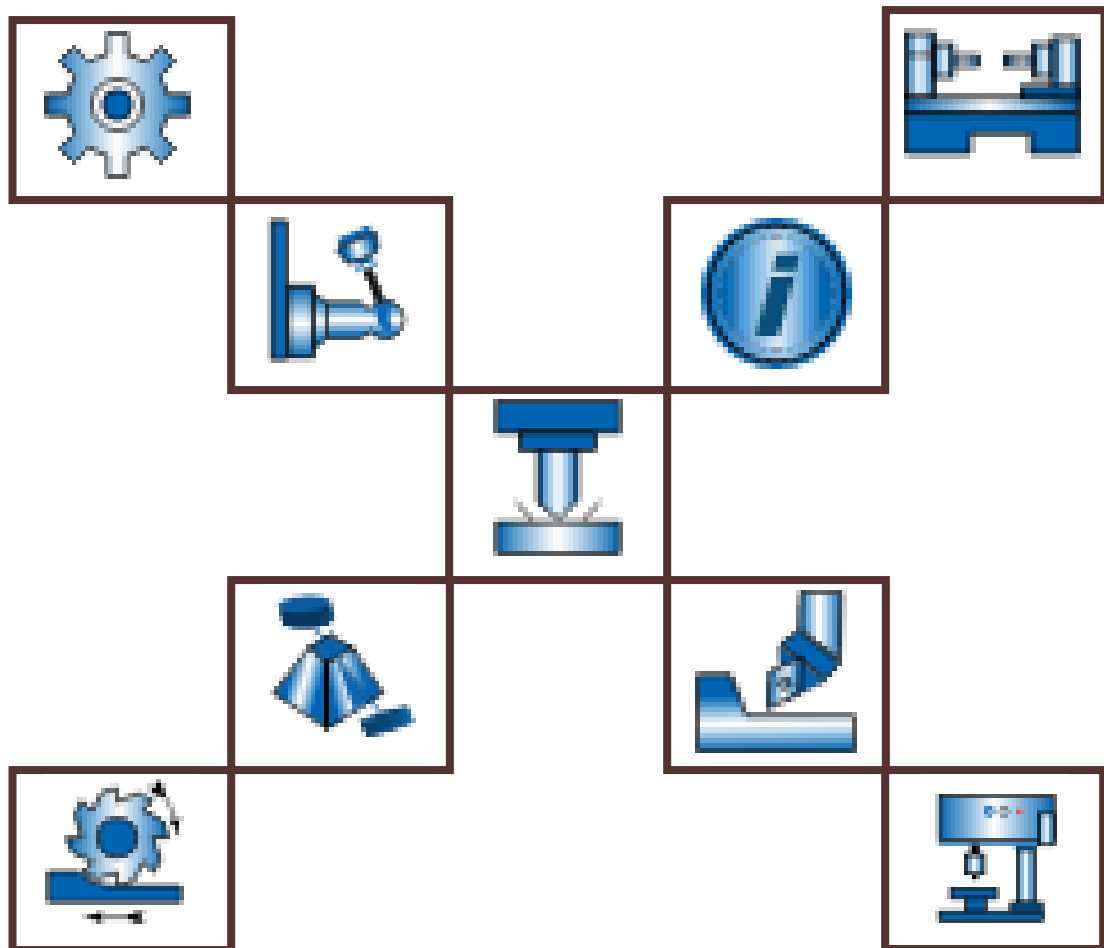


# TechDB Settings Guide



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The **3DEXPERIENCE**® Company

**Product Name: SOLIDWORKS CAM 2026**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>1. Technology Database Basics.....</b>	<b>5</b>
What is Technology Database (TechDB)? .....	5
Why are TechDB Settings important? .....	5
Launching the Technology Database.....	6
Nature of the Technology Database.....	6
Supported Languages for TechDB UI (viz. TechDB App).....	6
Database type on which TechDB is supported .....	6
Default Folder Location of TechDB.cwdb file at the time of installation .....	7
Default Language in which TechDB User Interface will be displayed .....	7
Viewing TechDB user interface in a language other than default language setting	7
Importing Customized TechDB Data on Upgrading SOLIDWORKS CAM.....	9
Importing Customized Data from MS Access based TechDB.....	9
Customizing information saved within the TechDB .....	9
Flowchart illustrating TechDB Settings when for first-time SOLIDWORKS CAM installation .....	11
Flowchart illustrating TechDB Settings on upgrading existing SOLIDWORKS CAM Installation .....	12
<b>2. TechDB Settings For a Single User License.....</b>	<b>13</b>
Default location of TechDB when single user license of SOLIDWORKS CAM is installed .....	13
Functioning of TechDB for a single user license of SOLIDWORKS CAM .....	13
Relocating the TechDB Repository to another location (Single User Installation) .....	14
Steps to relocate the TechDB Repository to another location .....	14
Importing customized TechDB data on upgrading SOLIDWORKS CAM (Single User License) .....	16
Steps to Import customized TechDB data on upgrading SOLIDWORKS CAM installation for a single-user license:.....	16
<b>3. TechDB Settings for a SOLIDWORKS Network License.....</b>	<b>20</b>
Default nature of the TechDB installation when multi-user license of SOLIDWORKS CAM is active .....	20
Need for creating a common TechDB repository for a SOLIDWORKS Network	21
Pre-requisite for creating a centralized TechDB repository for a SOLIDWORKS Network .....	21



When should one ideally create a centralized TechDB repository on a network drive? .....	21
Creating a centralized TechDB Repository for a SOLIDWORKS Network .....	21
Importing customized TechDB data on upgrading SOLIDWORKS CAM (Network license).....	23
Steps to Import customized TechDB data on upgrading SOLIDWORKS CAM installations on a SOLIDWORKS Network.....	24
<b>Appendix A: Importing Data from MS Access based TechDB into SQLite Based TechDB .....</b>	<b>28</b>
Pre-requisites for importing customized data from MS Access based TechDB ....	28
Steps to import customized data from MS Access based TechDB into SQLite based TechDB .....	28
<b>Appendix B: Nomenclature of Backed up TechDB Source Files .....</b>	<b>31</b>
Example illustrating when to use automatically or manually created Backed Up copies of TechDB .....	31
<b>Legal Notices .....</b>	<b>34</b>

# 1. TECHNOLOGY DATABASE BASICS

## What is Technology Database (TechDB)?

The **TechDB™** is the intelligence behind the machining automation in SOLIDWORKS CAM. The knowledge-based machining technology, tooling details, cutting conditions and operation defaults saved in the Technology Database are used to generate operations automatically.

The TechDB is shipped along with SOLIDWORKS CAM contains data that is considered generally applicable to most machining environments. In order to gain full advantage of SOLIDWORKS CAM, you need to customize this data as per your best practices and machine tool infrastructure available at your end. This information can then be used to generate toolpaths on various types of features. Such a repository ensures uniformity and quality in the generated toolpaths. The machining information in the database is divided into these categories:

- **Machine:** All the CNC machines in your facility and the associated controller and tool crib.
- **Tools:** The tool library can contain all the tools in your facility.
- **Cutting Parameters:** Information for calculating feed rates and spindle speeds, stock materials and tool materials.
- **Feature and Operations:** The machining sequence for different types of features.


## Why are TechDB Settings important?

To make the best use of the TechDB, you might have to change from default settings of TechDB to suit your requirements such as:

- [Creating centralized TechDB repository for a SOLIDWORKS Network](#) (Multi-user license)
- [Importing customized TechDB data after upgrading your existing SOLIDWORKS CAM installation](#)
- [Customizing the information stored within the TechDB](#)

## Launching the Technology Database

Use any one of the following two methods to launch the Technology Database after launching the SOLIDWORKS CAM application:

- Click on the *Technology Database* command button  on the *SOLIDWORKS CAM Command Manager*.
- Click on the *Tools* menu of *SOLIDWORKS* and select *SOLIDWORKS CAM>>Technology Database* from the cascading menu.

Executing any of the above-mentioned commands will launch the user interface of the Technology Database (viz. the *TechDB App*).

## Nature of the Technology Database

### Supported Languages for TechDB UI (viz. TechDB App)

The user interface for SOLIDWORKS CAM and its Technology Database (viz. *TechDB App*) are available in the following languages:

- |                       |                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| • Chinese Simplified  | • Japanese             |
| • Chinese Traditional | • Korean               |
| • Czech               | • Polish               |
| • English             | • Portuguese-Brazilian |
| • French              | • Russian              |
| • German              | • Spanish              |
| • Italian             | • Turkish              |

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**Note:** These language-specific language-based versions of the Technology Database user interface (viz. TechDB App) will be installed only if the options to install SOLIDWORKS CAM in those specific language versions are exercised at the time of SOLIDWORKS CAM installation.

---

### Database type on which TechDB is supported

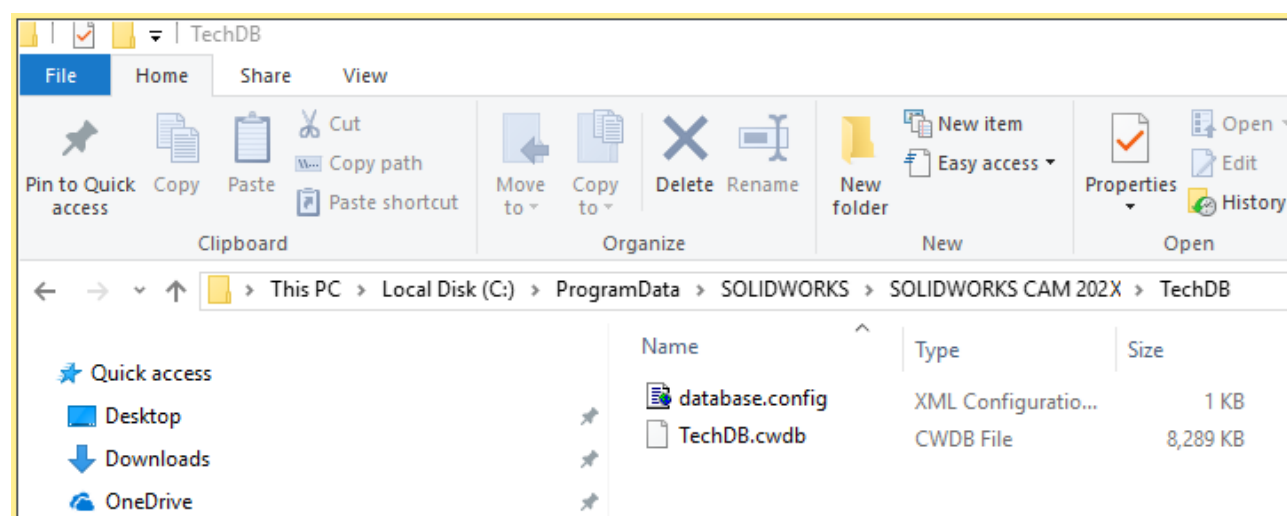
The Technology Database associated with SOLIDWORKS CAM is supported only on SQLite. The name of the associated Technology Database data file name is *TechDB.cwdb*. This common TechDB repository (*TechDB.cwdb*) exists for all the [languages in which the TechDB is supported](#). Such a common TechDB repository shared by all supported languages ensures that any changes saved

to the TechDB will be applicable even when the TechDB user interface is launched in another supported language.

## Default Folder Location of TechDB.cwdb file at the time of installation

C:\ProgramData\SOLIDWORKS\SOLIDWORKS CAM 202X\TechDB\TechDB.cwdb

**Note: The SQLite based TechDB.cwdb is not dependent on any third-party application.**



**TechDB files located in the Program Data\SOLIDWORKS\SOLIDWORKS CAM 202X\TechDB**

## Default Language in which TechDB User Interface will be displayed

When the TechDB user interface is launched, by default, it will always be displayed in the same language in which the SOLIDWORKS user interface is currently displayed.

## Viewing TechDB user interface in a language other than default language setting

After the TechDB is launched, if you wish to view the TechDB user interface in any one of the supported languages other than the default language setting, then following are the steps:

1. [Launch the Technology Database.](#)
2. In the Technology Database window, click on the *Settings* menu option



on the left hand side.

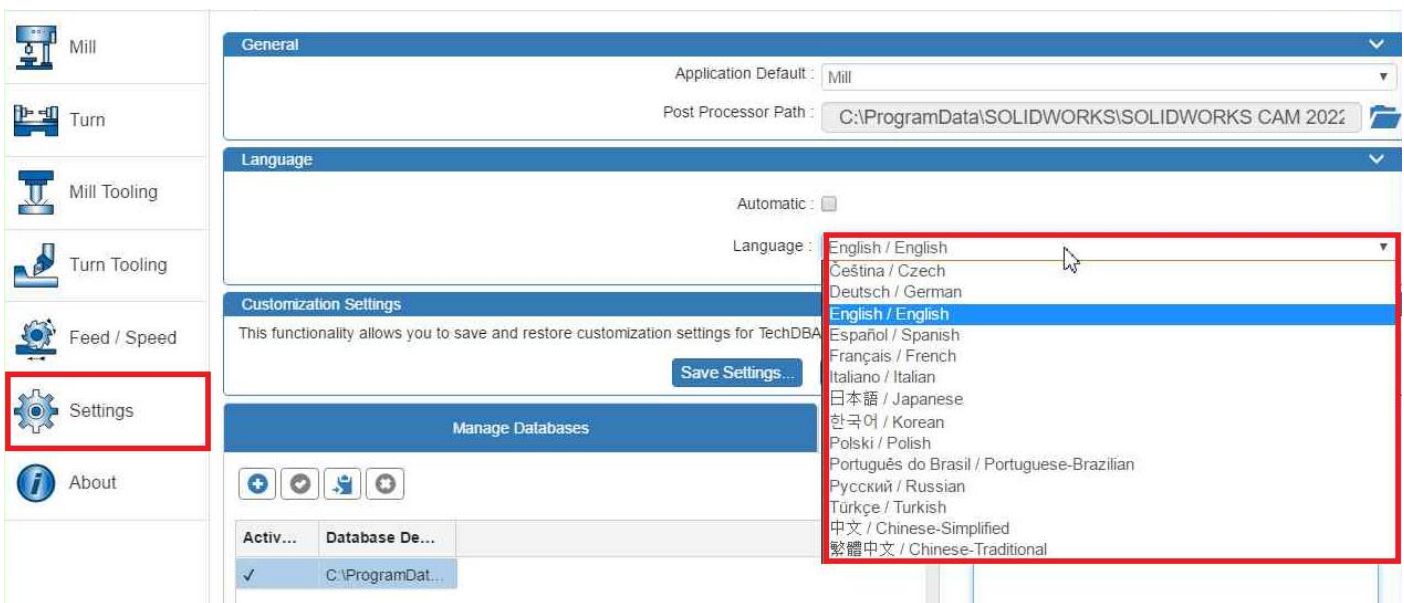
3. Ensure that the second group box from the top i.e. the **Language** group box is in an expanded state.
4. Uncheck the checkbox labeled **Automatic**. (This is the setting that maps the language of the TechDB user interface to the language of the SOLIDWORKS CAM user interface.)
5. Unchecking the checkbox labeled **Automatic** activates the **Language** dropdown list. Click on the **Language** dropdown list.
6. From the displayed list of languages, select the language in which you wish to view the TechDB user interface.

---

**Note:** The language options displayed in the Language dropdown list depends on the languages selected at the time of installation of SOLIDWORKS CAM.

---

7. Once the desired language is selected, the TechDB user interface will immediately reload and be displayed in the selected language.



Language Settings in 'Settings' menu of TechDB User Interface

---

**Note:** If you wish to revert to linking the language of the TechDB user interface to that of the SOLIDWORKS CAM user interface, then place a check in the checkbox labeled **Automatic** option under the **Language** group box of Settings menu.

---



## Importing Customized TechDB Data on Upgrading SOLIDWORKS CAM

Every time the *SOLIDWORKS CAM* installation is upgraded to a newer version, the data structures and data associated with its Technology Database too undergo upgrades. If you have customized data within the Technology Database associated with your existing *SOLIDWORKS CAM* installation, it is imperative that you create its back up copy and then import the customized TechDB data from the backed up copy into the newly installed Technology Database.

- If you have a single user license, then refer: [Importing customized TechDB data on upgrading SOLIDWORKS CAM \(Single user license\)](#) in [Chapter 2](#) of this document.
- If you have a multi-user license, then refer: [Importing customized TechDB data on upgrading SOLIDWORKS CAM \(Network License\)](#) in [Chapter 3](#) of this document.

### Importing Customized Data from MS Access based TechDB

The TechDB (*TechDB.cwdb*) shipped with *SOLIDWORKS CAM* is based on the SQLite database format.

The TechDB available on certain other software platforms is additionally available in the MS Access database format. If you are in possession of such an MS Access based TechDB containing customized data and wish to import customized data into your SQLite based TechDB, you can do so at any point of time by using the **Import Database** functionality available within the TechDB.

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**Note:** The importing of customized data from an MS Access based TechDB source file into the SQLite based TechDB repository (*TechDB.cwdb*) is supported.

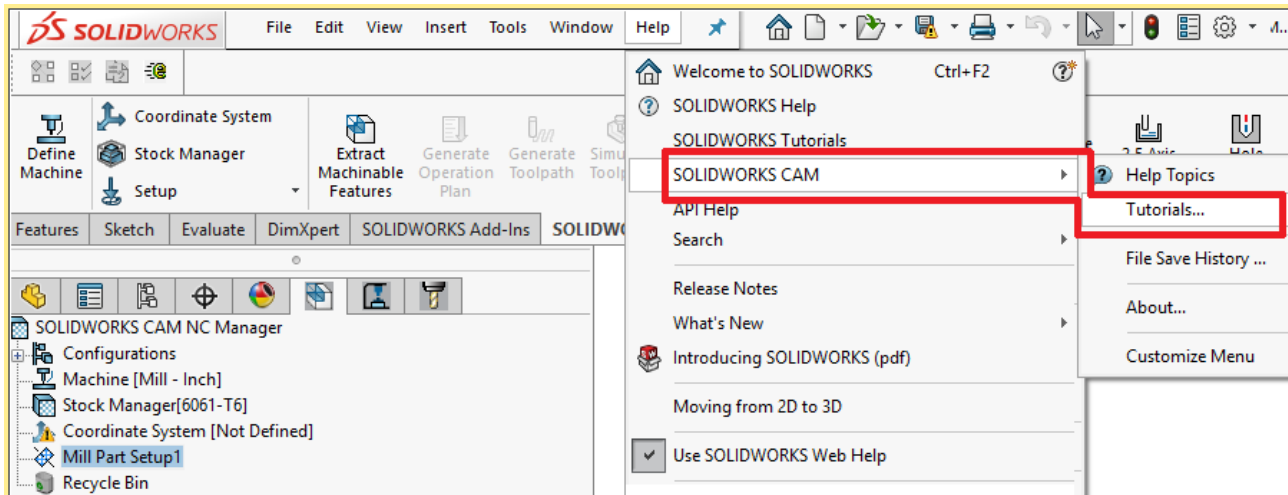
---

For detailed steps on how to import customized data from the MS Access based TechDB into your current SQLite based TechDB source file, refer the **Appendix** section of this document: [Appendix A: Importing Data from MS Access based TechDB into SQLite based TechDB](#).

## Customizing information saved within the TechDB

After opening TechDB, you can view/edit/customize it to suit your facility's requirements. To learn how to customize the Technology Database to suit your facility's requirements, we recommend that you refer the manual named **Technology Database Tutorial** (*Technology\_Database\_Tutorial.pdf*). After launching

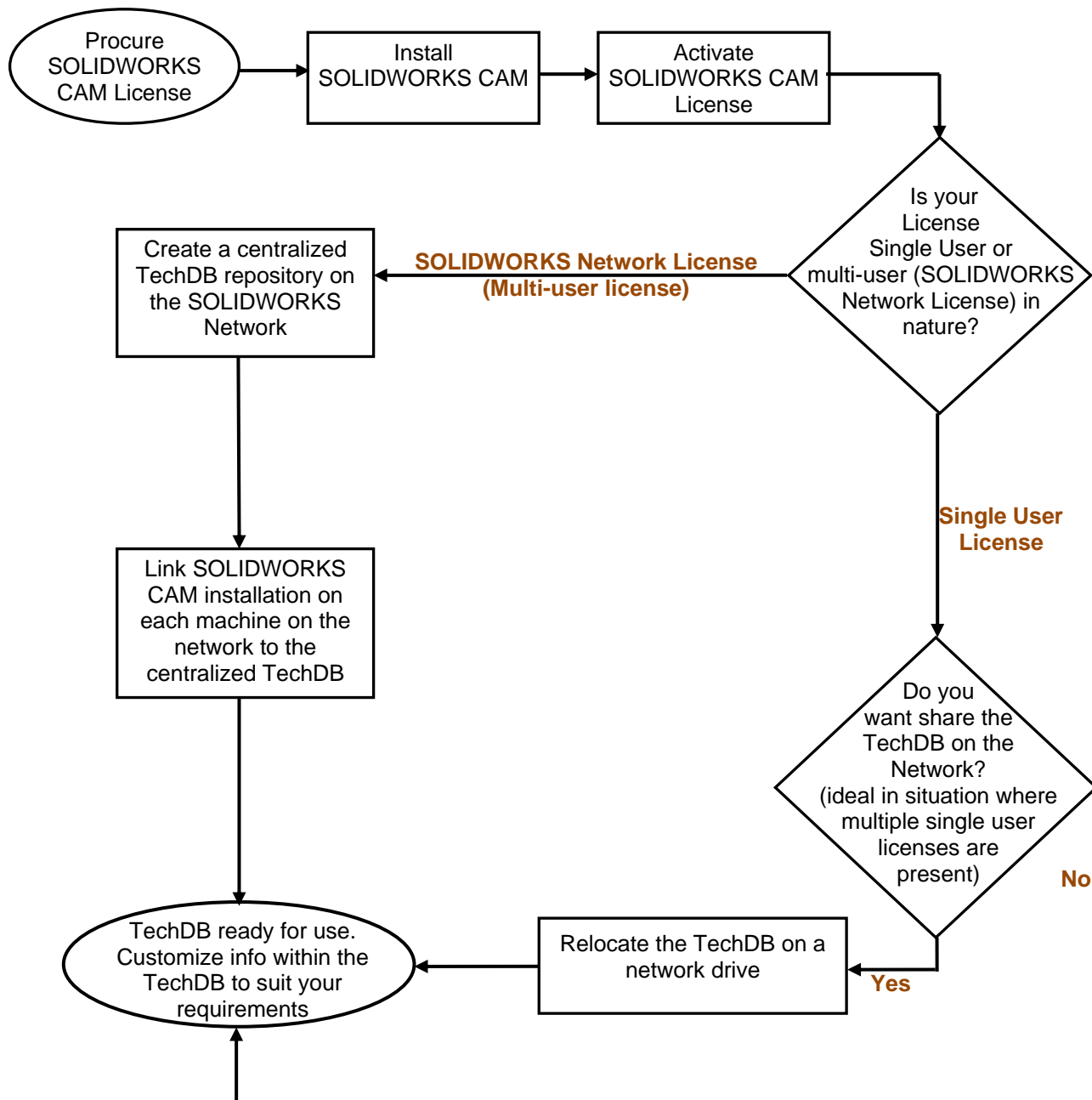
SOLIDWORKS, this manual can be accessed from the *Help* menu by selecting *SOLIDWORKS CAM>>Tutorials*.



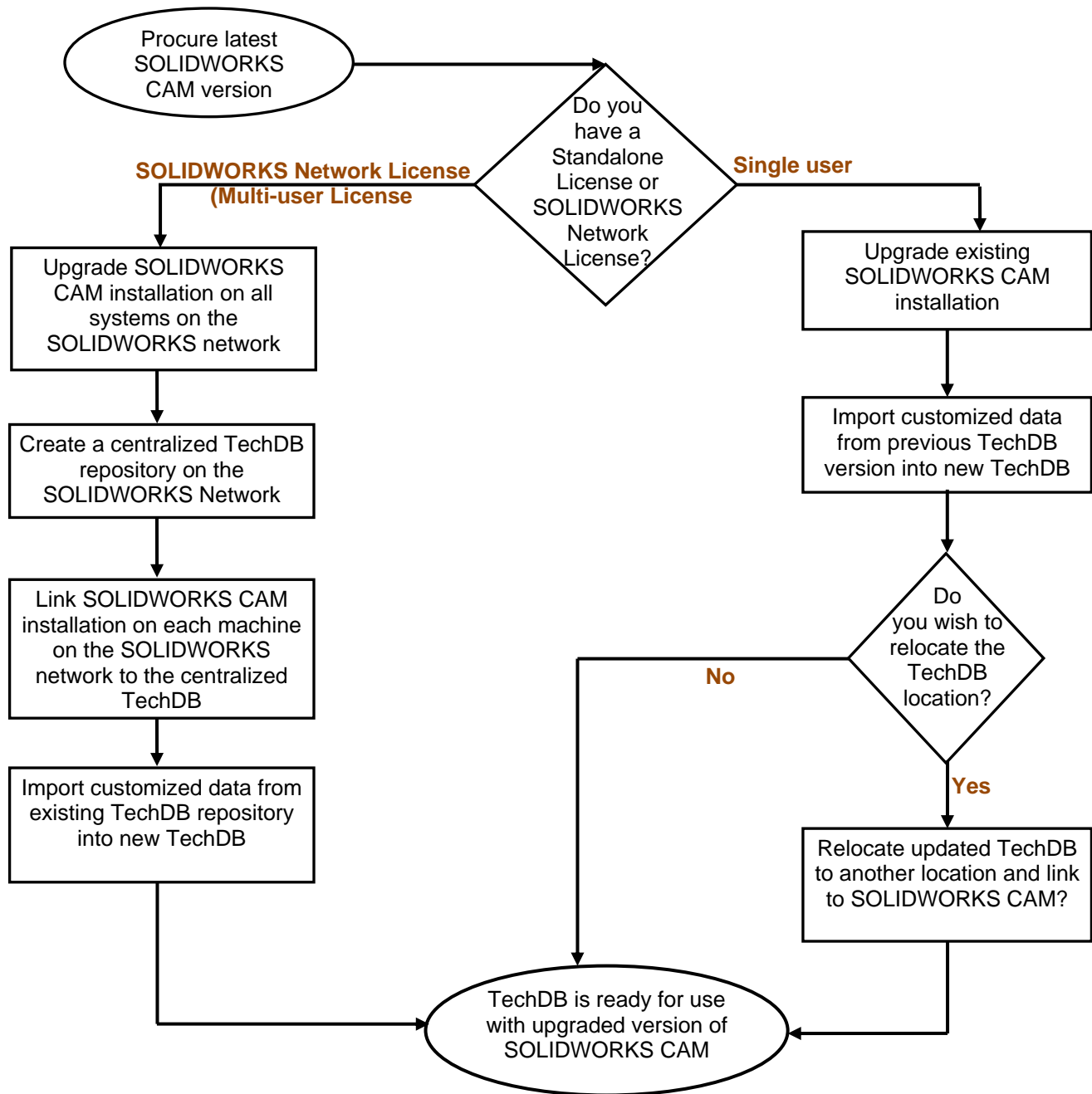
**Command to launch the Tutorial documents from SOLIDWORKS CAM**

**Please refer the flowcharts given on the next two pages to gain an understanding of the various Technology Database (TechDB) settings.**

## Flowchart illustrating TechDB Settings when for first-time SOLIDWORKS CAM installation



## Flowchart illustrating TechDB Settings on upgrading existing SOLIDWORKS CAM Installation



## 2. TECHDB SETTINGS FOR A SINGLE USER LICENSE

This chapter deals with the various Technology Database settings you might have to change from time to time depending on your requirements when you have a single-user (Standalone) license of SOLIDWORKS CAM.

The following topics with respect to TechDB settings are covered in this chapter:

- [Default location of TechDB when single user license of SOLIDWORKS CAM is installed](#)
- [Functioning of TechDB for a single user license of SOLIDWORKS CAM](#)
- [Relocating the TechDB Repository to another location](#)
- [Importing customized TechDB data on upgrading SOLIDWORKS CAM](#)

### Default location of TechDB when single user license of SOLIDWORKS CAM is installed

On every Windows system on which the *SOLIDWORKS CAM* application is installed, the default Technology Database shipped along with SOLIDWORKS CAM too will be installed. The *SOLIDWORKS CAM* application will be linked to this default TechDB up on fresh installation/upgradation.

#### Default Location of SQLite based TechDB

The default TechDB shipped along with *SOLIDWORKS CAM* and linked to the *SOLIDWORKS CAM* application by default is in SQLite format. Post installation, this TechDB source file will be available at the following location:

**C:\ProgramData\SOLIDWORKS\SOLIDWORKS CAM 202X\TechDB\TechDB.cwdb**

For more details, refer: [Default location of TechDB source file](#)

### Functioning of TechDB for a single user license of SOLIDWORKS CAM

If you have purchased a single-user license of SOLIDWORKS CAM, then by default, the Technology Database will reside on the same machine on which

the SOLIDWORKS CAM application is installed. You can customize the data within the TechDB to represent your facility's capabilities.




## Relocating the TechDB Repository to another location (Single User Installation)




If you customize the data within the Technology database repository and wish to safeguard your customized TechDB repository by moving it from its [default location](#) to a secure location on the network or another folder on your Windows machine, you can choose to do so.

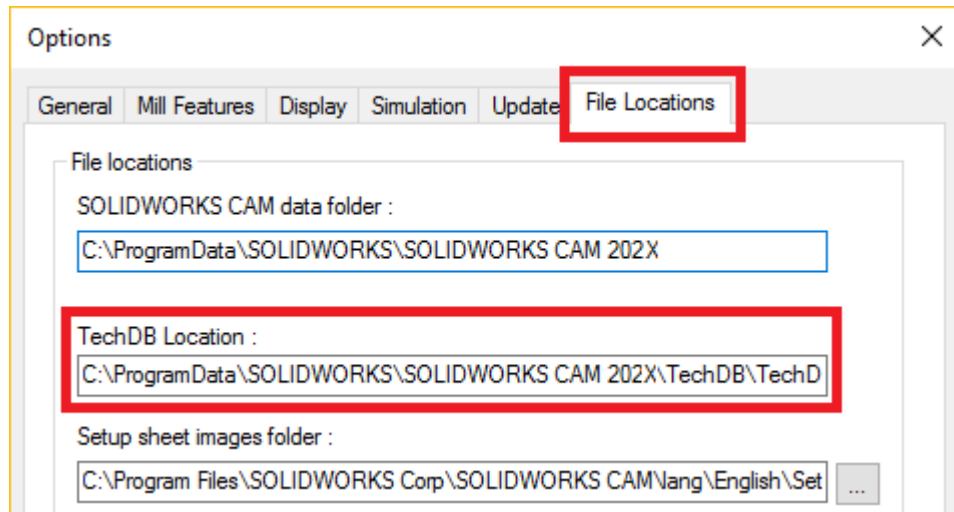
The steps to relocate the TechDB repository depend on whether you have a standalone (single user) license or SOLIDWORKS network license (multi-user license) of SOLIDWORKS CAM application.

- If you have a SOLIDWORKS network license or multiple single user licenses, then refer: [Creating a centralized TechDB repository for a SOLIDWORKS Network](#).
- If you have a standalone (single user) license of SOLIDWORKS CAM, then the steps for the relocation process are given below.

### Steps to relocate the TechDB Repository to another location

1. On the Windows system on which SOLIDWORKS CAM has been installed, browse to the [default location](#) where the TechDB file (*TechDB.cwdb*) is installed within the SOLIDWORKS CAM data folder. A typical path would be:  
**C:\ProgramData\SOLIDWORKS\SOLIDWORKS CAM 202X\TechDB\TechDB.cwdb**
2. From this default folder location, move the TechDB data source file (*TechDB.cwdb*) to a shared folder location on the network or any other desired location. (Ensure that the folder in which the file is relocated has read-write permissions.)
3. Launch SOLIDWORKS.
4. On the *SOLIDWORKS CAM Command Manager*, click on the *Technology Database* button .
5. The *User Interface* for accessing the Technology Database will be displayed in a separate window. Close the SOLIDWORKS application.
6. In the Technology Database window, click on the *Settings* menu option  on the left hand side.
7. Scroll down to the Manage Databases tab. Ensure that this tab is active.
8. Click on the **Add** command button  under the *Manage Databases* tab. A pop-up window will be displayed.

8. Indicate the format of the database to be added by clicking on the applicable option at the top of the window.
  - If you intend to use an SQLite based TechDB (\*.cddb), then click on the *SQLite* button option located at the top left of the pop-up window.
9. Click on the **Browse** button within this window.
10. The *Windows File Explorer* will open. Use this dialog box to navigate to the folder location containing the target TechDB source file. Select the desired file (\*.cddb) and click on the *Open* button of the Windows File Explorer.
11. The *Windows File Explorer* will close, and the user interface will revert to the pop-up window. The path to the newly selected database file will be displayed adjacent to the *Browse* button within the pop-up window.
12. To assign this newly added database as the active database linked to the SOLIDWORKS CAM application, place a check in the **Set as active** checkbox at the bottom of the pop-up window.
13. Click on the **OK** button  to confirm the selection. (If you click the **Cancel** button , then the selected TechDB file will not be added and linked.)
14. After the OK button is clicked, the pop-up window will close, and the user interface will revert to the *Manage Databases* tab under *Settings* user interface. Observe that the newly added TechDB is listed within the list of available Technology Databases. (The check mark adjacent to the name of this TechDB entry indicates that it is the currently active database linked to the SOLIDWORKS CAM application.)
15. Close the TechDB App.
16. Launch SOLIDWORKS again. On the SOLIDWORKS CAM Command Manager, click on the SOLIDWORKS CAM Options button . The *Options* dialog box will be displayed.
17. The *File Locations* tab of this dialog box indicates the new location of the TechDB. The TechDB currently linked to the application is visually indicated by a check in the corresponding *Active* checkbox for that TechDB entry.



Verifying location of TechDB Source file linked to SOLIDWORKS CAM in File Locations tab

**Note:** If the folder path displayed for the relocated TechDB file is correct, then it indicates successful relocation of the centralized Technology Database source file to a shared folder on the network.

## Importing customized TechDB data on upgrading SOLIDWORKS CAM (Single User License)

Every time the *SOLIDWORKS CAM* installation is upgraded to a newer version, the data structures and data associated with its Technology Database too undergo upgrades. If you have customized data within the Technology Database associated with your existing *SOLIDWORKS CAM* installation, it is imperative that you create its backup copy and then import the customized TechDB data from the backed up copy into the newly installed Technology Database.



### Steps to Import customized TechDB data on upgrading SOLIDWORKS CAM installation for a single-user license:

1. Before you upgrade your existing *SOLIDWORKS CAM* installation on your Windows system, browse to the folder location where the existing Technology Database data source file (*TechDB.cwdb*) containing customized data is located. If you had [relocated the TechDB data source file](#) from its [default location](#) to another location, then browse to that folder location. **Default Paths**

The default SQLite based TechDB shipped with the *SOLIDWORKS CAM* application is located at:



**C:\ProgramData\SOLIDWORKS\SOLIDWORKS CAM 202X\TechDB\TechDB.cwdb**

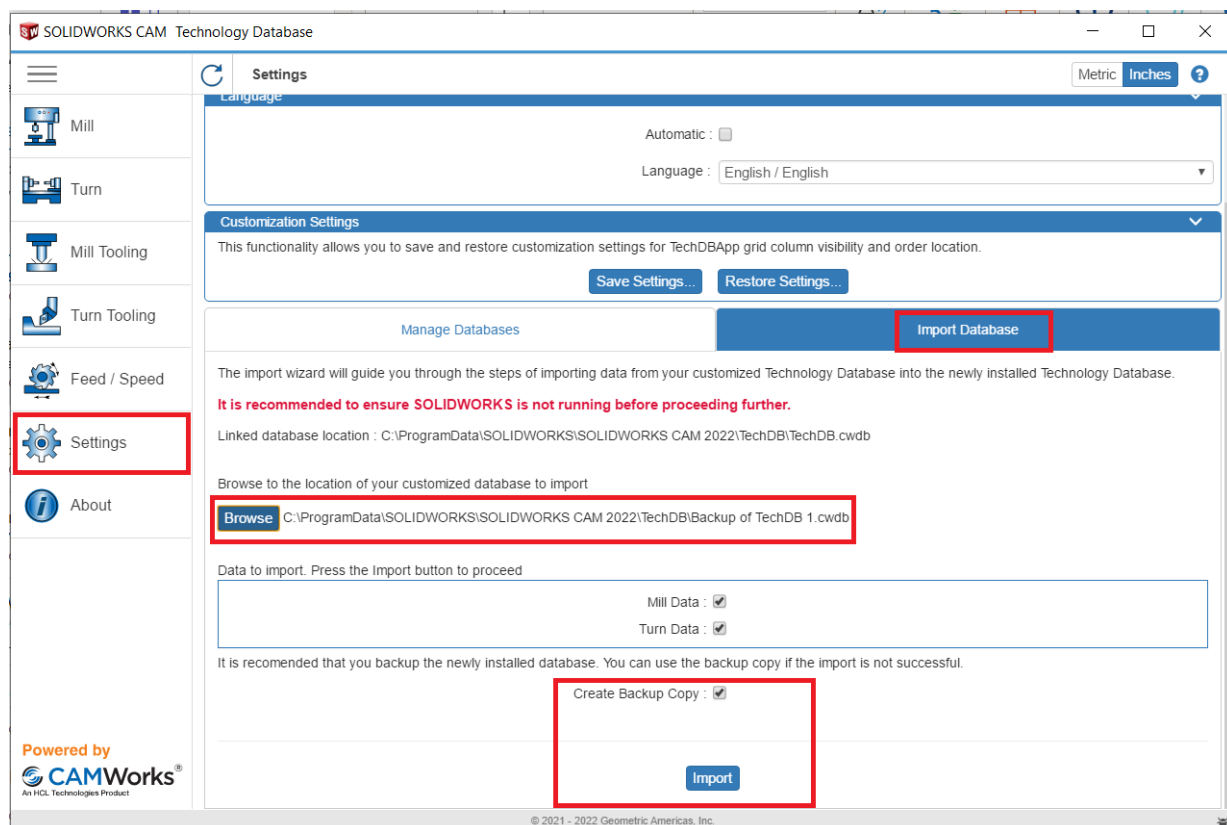
1. Create a backup copy in the same folder or another folder/machine. Make a note of this name and folder location of this backed up copy.  
(For illustrative purposes, assume that the name of the SQLite based TechDB backed up copy are named *TechDB\_Customized.cwdb*.)
2. Upgrade your existing *SOLIDWORKS CAM* installation to a newer version.
3. Launch *SOLIDWORKS*.
4. On the *SOLIDWORKS CAM Command Manager*, click on the *Technology Database* button .
5. The user interface for the *Technology Database* will be displayed in a separate window. Close the *SOLIDWORKS* application.
6. In the *Technology Database* window, click on the *Settings* menu option  on the left-hand side.
7. The *Settings* user interface will be displayed. Scroll down this interface and ensure that the **Manage Databases** tab is active.
8. The [default path](#) to the TechDB repository associated with the newly installed/upgraded *SOLIDWORKS CAM* will be displayed within the list of available TechDB under the **Manage Databases** tab. Make a note of this folder location.
9. Click on the *Import Database* tab.
  - If the customized data is to be imported from an SQLite based TechDB file, then click on the *SQLite* button under this tab.  
The file path to the linked TechDB will be displayed under the button. (This is the TechDB into which the customized data will be imported.)
10. Click on the *Browse* button within this tab.
11. The *File Open* dialog box will be displayed. Use this dialog box to browse to the folder location containing the backup copy of the TechDB repository (as was indicated in [step number 2](#)).
12. Select this backed up TechDB repository file and click on the *Open* button in the *File Open* dialog box.
13. The *File Open* dialog box will close and the user interface will revert to the **Import Database tab**. In the *Import database* tab, the folder path to the backed up TechDB repository file containing customized data will be displayed adjacent to the *Browse* button.
14. In the **Data Import Options** group box, select the data to be imported. By default, the checkboxes for all the data import options will be checked. In

case, your customized data pertains to only to specific data sets, you can uncheck the other data import options.

15. The *Create Backup Copy* checkbox option in the *Import Database* tab will be checked by default. It is recommended that you retain the tick in this checkbox option before importing. This ensures that a backup copy of the newly installed TechDB containing the imported customized data is created in the same folder. (The name of the backed-up copy will be "*Backup of TechDB*". This backed up copy can be used the next time you need to import customized TechDB data after upgrading your SOLIDWORKS CAM installation.

For details on the nomenclature of backed up TechDB source files, refer [Nomenclature of backed up TechDB Source Files](#).

**Note:** If you add additional customized data to your Technology Database after the backup copy has been created, you will need to create and use a separate backup copy of your TechDB for importing customized data when you upgrade your SOLIDWORKS CAM installation the next time to a newer version.



### Importing customized TechDB Data into latest TechDB using Import Database Settings



16. Click on the *Import button*. The importing process will begin.

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**Note:** The process of importing data takes a few minutes to complete. Do not close the Technology Database main window while the importing process is in progress.

---

17. Once the importing process is completed, a pop-up message indicating successful completion of data migration will be displayed. Close the TechDB main window.
18. If your previous TechDB containing customized data was placed in a secure location on the network, then relocate the newly installed TechDB containing the imported customized data to the same location. [For steps to complete this procedure, refer: [Relocating the TechDB Repository to another location](#).]

Your upgraded SOLIDWORKS CAM installation is now ready for use.

### **3. TECHDB SETTINGS FOR A SOLIDWORKS NETWORK LICENSE**

This chapter deals with the various Technology Database settings you might have to change from time to time depending on your requirements when you have a SOLIDWORKS Network License (multi-user license).

The following topics with respect to TechDB settings are covered in this chapter:

- [Default nature of the TechDB installation when multi-user license of SOLIDWORKS CAM is active](#)
- [Need for creating a common TechDB repository for SOLIDWORKS Network License](#)
- [Creating a centralized TechDB repository for a SOLIDWORKS Network](#)
- [Importing customized TechDB data on upgrading SOLIDWORKS CAM](#)

#### **Default nature of the TechDB installation when multi-user license of SOLIDWORKS CAM is active**

On every Windows system on which the SOLIDWORKS CAM application is installed, the default SQLite based *Technology Database* shipped along with SOLIDWORKS CAM too will be installed on the same machine at the following location:

**C:\ProgramData\SOLIDWORKS\SOLIDWORKS CAM 202X\TechDB\TechDB.cwdb**

If you have a SOLIDWORKS Network License (i.e. multi-user license), then by default, a copy of the Technology Database repository (i.e. the SQLite based *TechDB.cwdb*) will reside on every Windows machine on which the SOLIDWORKS CAM application is installed. Post installation and license activation, every user will have access to the TechDB repository installed on their individual machines. Any customization saved into one instance the TechDB residing on a particular Windows machine will therefore not be saved in the copies of the TechDB residing on other machines.

## Need for creating a common TechDB repository for a SOLIDWORKS Network

If you have SOLIDWORKS Network License, then having individual instances of the Technology Database on each Windows machine on which SOLIDWORKS CAM application is installed is not ideal as it prevents the users from accessing a common and shared TechDB repository which contains customized data that represents your facility's machining capabilities. This situation can be easily overcome by sharing the Technology Database file on a network and then changing the folder path to the source database on individual machines on which SOLIDWORKS CAM application is installed.

### Pre-requisite for creating a centralized TechDB repository for a SOLIDWORKS Network

Ensure that every Windows system on which the SOLIDWORKS CAM application is installed has read-write access to the shared folder on the network drive where the centralized Technology Database repository will be relocated.

### When should one ideally create a centralized TechDB repository on a network drive?

If you have purchased a multi-user license (i.e. a network license) of *SOLIDWORKS* and have installed *SOLIDWORKS CAM* on multiple Windows systems connected to a network, you need to move the TechDB to a shared folder. Such a common and shared TechDB repository can then be accessed by all the Windows machines (on which *SOLIDWORKS CAM* application is installed) via the network.

## Creating a centralized TechDB Repository for a SOLIDWORKS Network






Following are the steps to relocate the TechDB to a shared location on a network drive and create a common and shared TechDB repository accessible to multiple users of SOLIDWORKS CAM on the network:

1. Ensure that the [pre-requisites for creating a centralized TechDB repository](#) are met.
2. If you upgraded your *SOLIDWORKS CAM* installation, then you need to first import your customized TechDB data into the new TechDB source file associated with the upgraded *SOLIDWORKS CAM* installation. The TechDB


source file containing the customized TechDB data is then to be shared over the network.

Identify the Windows system that has the TechDB source file containing customized TechDB data. In case no customized TechDB data has yet been generated, then select any Windows machine on which the SOLIDWORKS CAM application has been installed.

**C:\ProgramData\SOLIDWORKS\SOLIDWORKS CAM 202X\TechDB\TechDB.cwdb**

3. From this folder location, move the file *TechDB.cwdb* to a shared folder location on the network.
4. After completing the above step, the following steps need to be performed on every individual Windows machine on which SOLIDWORKS CAM is installed so that it can successfully access the centralized and shared Technology Database repository on the network:
  - i. Launch SOLIDWORKS.
  - ii. On the *SOLIDWORKS CAM Command Manager*, click on the Technology Database button .
  - iii. The user interface for accessing the Technology Database will be displayed in a separate window. Close the SOLIDWORKS application.
  - iv. In the Technology Database window, click on the *Settings* menu option  on the left hand side.
  - v. Scroll down to the *Manage Databases* tab. Ensure that this tab is active.
  - vi. Click on the *Add* button  within the *Manage Databases* tab. A pop-up window will be displayed.
  - vii. Click on the *Browse* button within this window. The *Windows File Explorer* will open. Use this dialog box to navigate to the folder location containing the target TechDB source file. Select the desired file (\*.cwdb) and click on the *Open* button of the *Windows File Explorer*.
  - viii. The *Windows File Explorer* will close, and the user interface will revert to the pop-up window. The path to the newly selected database file will be displayed adjacent to the *Browse* button.
  - ix. To assign this newly added database as the active database linked to the SOLIDWORKS CAM application, place a check in the *Set as active* checkbox at the bottom of the pop-up window.
  - x. Click on the *OK*  button to confirm the selection. (If you click the *Cancel*  button, then the selected TechDB file will not be added and linked.) the *OK* button is clicked, the pop-up window will close, and the user interface will revert to the *Manage Databases* tab of the *Settings* user interface. Observe that the newly added TechDB is listed within the list of

available Technology Databases. (The check mark adjacent to the name of this TechDB entry indicates that it is the currently active database linked to the *SOLIDWORKS CAM* application.)

- xi. Close the TechDB window.
- xii. Launch *SOLIDWORKS* once again. On the *SOLIDWORKS CAM Command Manager*, click on the *SOLIDWORKS CAM Options* button . The *Options* dialog box will be displayed.
- xiii. The *File Locations* tab of this dialog box indicates the new location of the TechDB. Verify that this path is correct.

---

**Note:** If the folder path displayed for the shared TechDB file is correct, then it indicates successful relocation of the centralized Technology Database repository to a shared folder on the network.

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If the folder path displayed to the shared folder is correct, then it indicates successful relocation of the centralized Technology Database repository to a shared folder on the network.

- 5. Once the above steps from i. to xii. are completed for each Windows machine on which *SOLIDWORKS CAM* has been installed, your *SOLIDWORKS CAM* application is then ready for use.



## Importing customized TechDB data on upgrading *SOLIDWORKS CAM* (Network license)

Every time the *SOLIDWORKS CAM* application installed on a Windows machine is upgraded to a newer version, the data structures and data associated with its Technology Database too will be upgraded. If you have a *SOLIDWORKS* network installation (i.e. multi-user license of *SOLIDWORKS CAM*) with a [centralized TechDB repository containing customized data shared over a network](#), then it is imperative that you create its back up copy and then import the customized TechDB data from the backed up copy into the newly installed Technology Database.

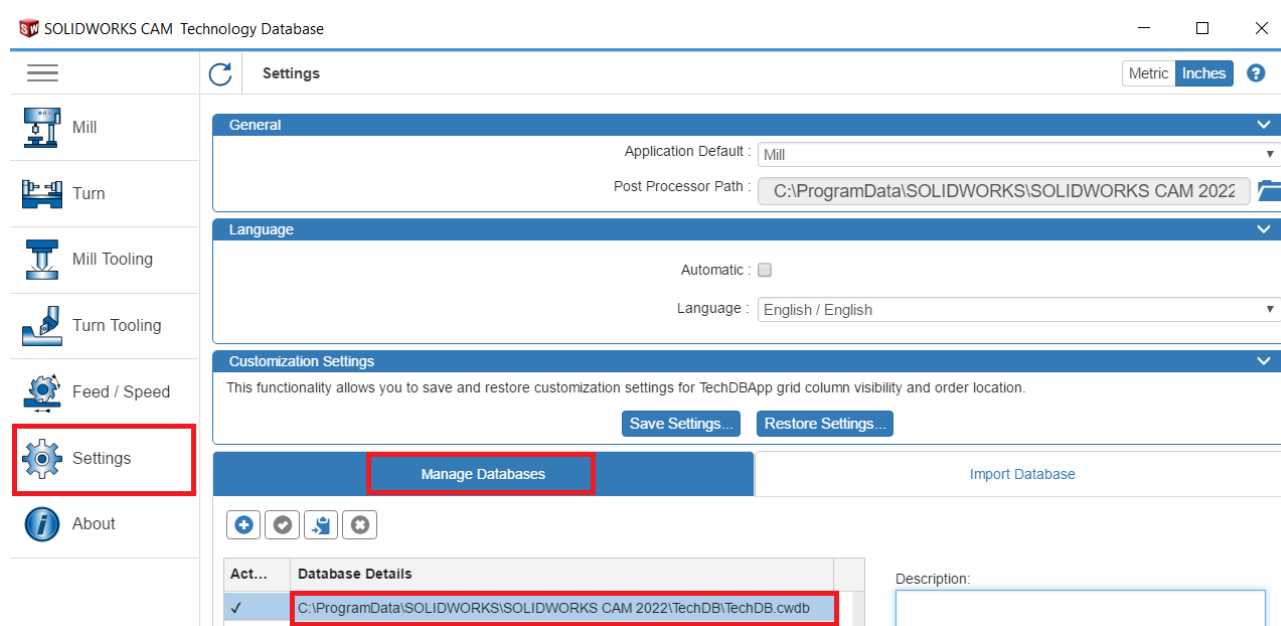
Every time the *SOLIDWORKS CAM* installation is upgraded to a newer version, the data structures and data associated with its Technology Database too undergo upgrades. If you have customized data within the Technology Database associated with your existing *SOLIDWORKS CAM* installation, it is imperative that you import the customized TechDB data into the newly installed Technology Database.



## Steps to Import customized TechDB data on upgrading SOLIDWORKS CAM installations on a SOLIDWORKS Network

1. Before you upgrade your existing *SOLIDWORKS CAM* installation on your Windows system, browse to the folder where the Technology Database source file (*TechDB.cwdb*) containing customized data is located. For a *SOLIDWORKS Network* license, then the folder path will be to the shared folder on the network where the [centralized TechDB source file is located](#).
2. Create a backup copy of the TechDB repository file in the same or another folder/machine. Make a note of this name and folder location of this backed up copy.
3. Upgrade all the Windows machines on which the *SOLIDWORKS CAM* application is installed.
4. Relocate the newly installed TechDB to a shared location on a network drive in order to create a common and shared TechDB repository accessible to multiple users of *SOLIDWORKS CAM* on the network. [For steps to complete this procedure, refer: [Creating a centralized TechDB Repository for a SOLIDWORKS Network](#).]
5. Launch *SOLIDWORKS* on any one of the Windows machines on the *SOLIDWORKS Network*.
6. On the *SOLIDWORKS CAM Command Manager*, click on the *Technology Database* button .
7. The user interface for the Technology Database will be displayed in a separate window. Close the *SOLIDWORKS* application.
8. In the Technology Database window, click on the *Settings* menu option  on the left hand side.
9. The *Settings* user interface will be displayed. Scroll down this interface and ensure that the *Manage Databases* tab is active.
10. The [default path](#) to the TechDB repository associated with the newly installed/upgraded *SOLIDWORKS CAM* will be displayed in the list of available Technology Databases under the *Manage Databases* tab. Make a note of this folder location.

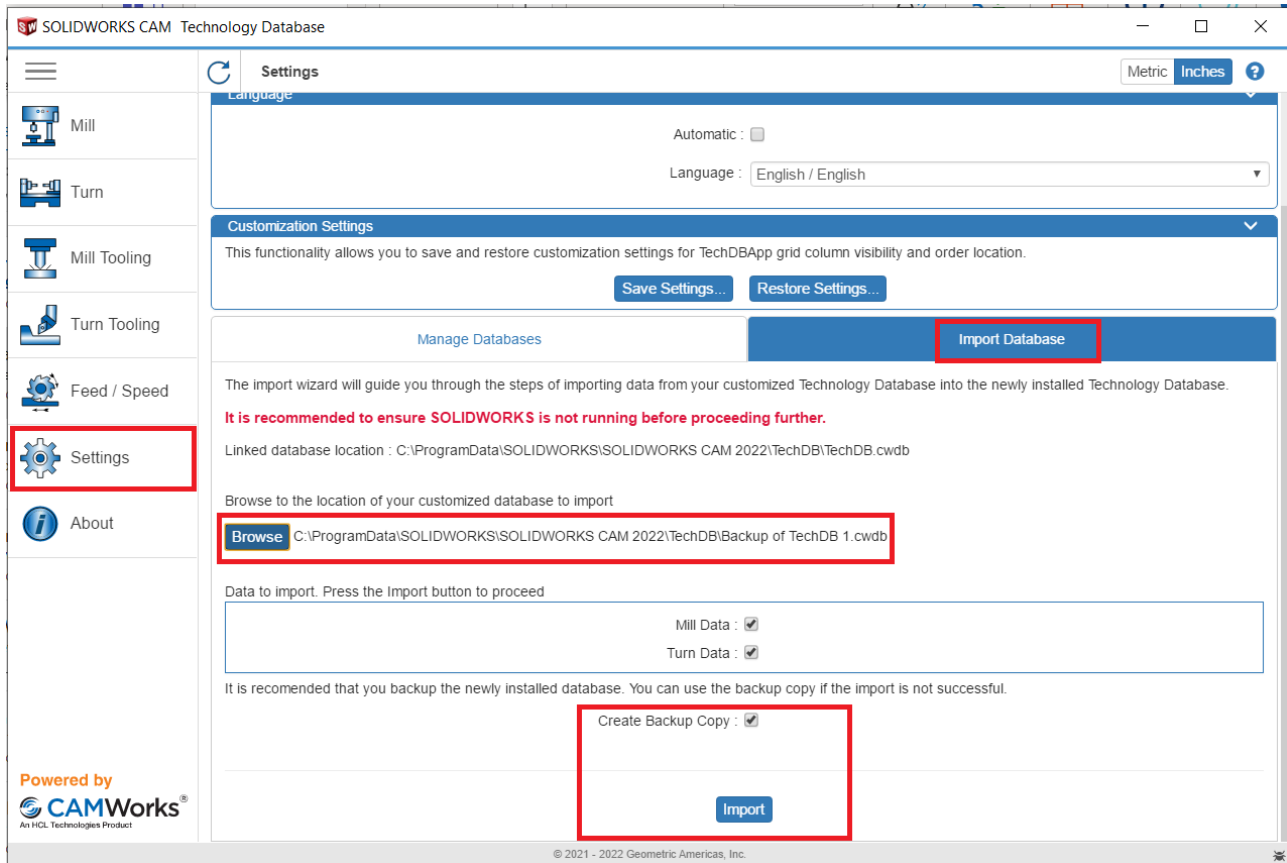




**Default path of TechDB source file indicated next to Browse button under Manage Databases tab**

11. Click on the *Import button*. The importing process will begin.
  - If the customized data is to be imported from an SQLite based TechDB file, then click on the SQLite tab.
12. Click on the *Browse* button within this tab.
13. The **File Open** dialog box will be displayed. Use this dialog box to browse to the folder location containing the backup copy of the TechDB source file (as was indicated in [step number 2](#)). Select the source file and click the *Open* button. The *File Open* dialog box will close and the user interface will revert to the **Import Database** tab.
14. Under the *Import Database* tab, the folder path to the backed up TechDB repository file containing customized data will be displayed adjacent to the *Browse* button.
15. Within the *Import Data Options* group box, select the data to be imported. By default, the checkboxes for all the data import options will be checked. In case, your customized data pertains to only to specific data sets, you can uncheck the other data import options.
16. The *Create Backup Copy* checkbox option in the *Import Database* tab will be checked by default. It is recommended that you retain the tick in this checkbox option before importing. This ensures that a backup copy of the newly installed TechDB containing the imported customized data is created in the same folder. (The name of the backed up copy will be "*Backup of TechDB*". For details, refer: [Nomenclature of backed up TechDB Source Files](#).) This backed up copy can be used the next time you need to import

customized TechDB data after upgrading your SOLIDWORKS CAM installation.



### Importing customized TechDB Data into latest TechDB using Import Database Settings

**Note:** If you add additional customized data to your Technology Database after the backup copy has been created, you will need to create and use a separate backup copy of your TechDB for importing customized data when you upgrade your SOLIDWORKS CAM installation the next time to a newer version. For details, refer the topic [Example illustrating when to use automatically or manually created Backed Up copies of TechDB in Appendix B](#) of this document.

17. Click on the *Import button*. The importing process will begin.

**Note:** The process of importing data takes some time to complete. Do not close the Technology Database main window while the importing process is in progress.

18. Once the importing process is completed, a pop-up message indicating successful completion of data migration will be displayed.
19. Your customized TechDB data is now present in the TechDB source file linked to the upgraded *SOLIDWORKS CAM* installation. (This is the TechDB source file listed in the list of available Technology Databases under the *Manage Databases* tab of *Settings* user interface.)
20. Relocate this newly installed TechDB containing customized TechDB data to a shared location on a network drive. This is necessary to create a common and shared TechDB repository accessible to multiple users of *SOLIDWORKS CAM* on the network.
21. Your upgraded *SOLIDWORKS CAM* installation is now ready for use on all Windows machines on which it is installed.

## **APPENDIX A: IMPORTING DATA FROM MS ACCESS BASED TECHDB INTO SQLITE BASED TECHDB**

The TechDB (*TechDB.cwdb*) shipped with *SOLIDWORKS CAM* is based on the SQLite database format.

The TechDB available on certain other software platforms is additionally available in the MS Access database format.

If you are in possession of such an MS Access based TechDB containing customized data and wish to import customized data into your SQLite based TechDB, you can do so at any point of time by using the **Import Database** function available within the TechDB.

Given in this appendix are the pre-requisites and detailed steps for importing customized data from the MS Access based TechDB (*TechDB.mdb*) into the SQLite based TechDB source file (*TechDB.cwdb*).

### **Pre-requisites for importing customized data from MS Access based TechDB**





On the Windows system PC on which the SQLite Technology Database is located, ensure that you have one of the following supported MS Access (Full or Runtime) version installed:

- MS Access 2010 SP2 (32-bit and 64-bit versions)
- MS Access 2013 SP1 (32-bit and 64-bit versions)
- MS Office 365 with Office 2013 (32-bit and 64-bit versions)
- MS Access 2016 SP1 (32-bit and 64-bit versions)
- MS Office 365 with Office 2016 (32-bit and 64-bit versions)

If the supported version of MS Access is not found installed, then an error message will be displayed if a supported version of MS Access is not found installed when you attempt to import the customized data from the MS Access based TechDB into the SQLite based TechDB.

### **Steps to import customized data from MS Access based TechDB into SQLite based TechDB**

1. Run *SOLIDWORKS* with Administrator rights and then [launch the Technology Database](#).
2. The main window of the *Technology Database* will be displayed. Close the ***SOLIDWORKS*** application.

3. In the Technology Database window, click on the **Settings** menu option  on the left hand side.
4. The *Settings* user interface will be displayed. Scroll down this interface and click on the *Manage Databases* tab.
5. Click on the *Add* command  button within the *Manage Databases* tab.
6. A pop-up window will be displayed. Indicate the format of the database to be added by clicking on the applicable option at the top of the window. As you intend to add and link an SQLite based TechDB, click on the *SQLite* button located at the top of the pop-up window.
7. Click on the **Browse** button within this window.
8. The *Windows File Explorer* will open. Use this dialog box to navigate to the folder location containing the SQLite based database file.  
(C:\ProgramData\SOLIDWORKS\SOLIDWORKS CAM 202X\TechDB\TechDB.cwdb)
9. Select the desired SQLite (\*.cwdb) file and click on the *Open* button of the *Windows File Explorer*.
10. The *Windows File Explorer* will close, and the user interface will revert to the pop-up window. The path to the selected SQLite based database file will be displayed adjacent to the *Browse* button.
11. If you want to assign this newly added database as the active database linked to the *CAMWorks* application, then place a check in the *Set as active* checkbox at the bottom of the pop-up window.
12. Click on the *OK* button  to confirm the selection. (If you click the *Cancel* button , then the selected database file will not be added to the list of available Technology Databases.)
13. After the *OK* button is clicked, the pop-up window will close, and the user interface will revert to the *Manage Databases* tab present in the *Settings* user interface. Observe that the newly selected database is listed in the list of available Technology Databases. (If the *Set as active* checkbox was checked within the pop-up window, then the new database will have a check mark adjacent to its name within the list of available databases. This check mark indicates the currently active database linked to the *CAMWorks* application.)
14. Click on the *Import Database* tab. Click on the *MS Access* tab.
15. Click on the *Browse* button within this tab.
16. The *File Open* dialog box will be displayed. Use this dialog box to browse to the folder location containing the MS Access based TechDB repository (*TechDB.mdb*) containing customized data. Select this file and click on the

Open button in the *File Open* dialog box. The *File Open* dialog box will close, and the user interface will revert to the *Import Database* tab.

17. In the *Import Database* tab, the folder path to the selected *TechDB.mdb* file that contains customized data will be displayed adjacent to the *Browse* button.
18. Select the data to be imported. By default, the checkboxes for all the data import options will be checked. In case, your customized data pertains to only to specific data sets, you can uncheck the data import options that do not contain customized data.
19. The **Create Backup Copy** checkbox option in the *Import Database* tab will be checked by default. It is recommended that you retain the tick in this checkbox option before importing. This ensures that a backup copy of the *TechDB.cwdb* file containing the imported customized data is created in the same folder. (The name of the backed-up copy will be "Backup of TechDB n". For nomenclature syntax of automatically created backed up copies using this checkbox option, refer the topic: **Appendix D: Nomenclature of Backed up TechDB Source Files.**) This backed up copy can be used the next time you need to import customized TechDB data after upgrading your CAMWorks installation.
20. Click on the **Import** button. The importing process will begin.

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**Note:** The process of importing data takes a few minutes to complete. Do not close the Technology Database main window while the importing process is in progress.

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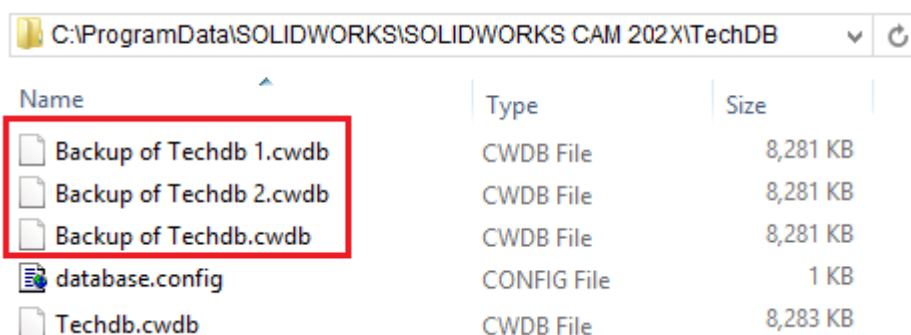
21. Once the importing process is completed, a pop-up message indicating successful completion of data migration will be displayed.
22. Your *SOLIDWORKS CAM* installation is now linked to the SQLite based TechDB. You can optionally perform the following steps:
  - i. If you wish to relocate the SQLite based **TechDB.cwdb** file containing customized data to a secure location on the network.
  - ii. If you have a floating network license or multiple single user licenses and need to share the SQLite based *TechDB.cwdb* file on the network to create a centralized TechDB source.

## APPENDIX B: NOMENCLATURE OF BACKED UP TECHDB SOURCE FILES

Every time the **Create Backup Copy** option is exercised in the **Import Database** tab of **Settings** user interface while importing customized TechDB data, a backup copy of the updated TechDB will be created within the same folder where the TechDB source file resides. The first time a backup copy is created, it will be assigned the name **“Backup of TechDB”**. For all successive backup copies that are created, the names assigned to the backup copies will have the following syntax:

**“Backup of TechDB” + <space> + <n+1>**

Where  $n+1$  is the number indicating the number of times the customized TechDB data was imported into the current TechDB with the **Create Backup Copy** option exercised.



Name	Type	Size
Backup of Techdb 1.cwdb	CWDB File	8,281 KB
Backup of Techdb 2.cwdb	CWDB File	8,281 KB
Backup of Techdb.cwdb	CWDB File	8,281 KB
database.config	CONFIG File	1 KB
Techdb.cwdb	CWDB File	8,283 KB

**Multiple Backup copies of the TechDB Source file created every time the ‘Create Backup Copy’ option is exercised**

### **Example illustrating when to use automatically or manually created Backed Up copies of TechDB**

The following example illustrates whether automatically or manually created Backup copies of the TechDB source file are to be used for importing customized TechDB data when the SOLIDWORKS CAM version is upgraded from SP0 through SP4 version.

#### **Upgrading from SP0 version to SP1 version**

##### **Scenario:**

After installing the SP0 version of SOLIDWORKS CAM, customized data has been added to its associated TechDB.cwdb. This SP0 version is now to be updated to the SP1 version.

##### **How to use Backup copy in this case:**



Before upgrading, a backup copy of the original TechDB.cwdb that contains the customized data needs to be manually created. On upgrading, the original TechDB.cwdb of SP0 version will get replaced with the new TechDB.cwdb of SP1 version. Using the Import Database functionality, use the backed up copy of the SP0 version to import the customized data into the newly installed TechDB.cwdb. While importing, the Create Backup Copy option must be exercised. Exercising this option creates a backup copy named "Backup of TechDB.cwdb" which will be placed in the same folder as the newly updated TechDB.cwdb.

### Upgrading from SP1 version to SP2 version

#### **Scenario:**

The SP1 version is now to be updated to the SP2 version. In the interim period between the upgrade from SP0 to SP1, no customized data was added to the TechDB.

#### **How to use Backup copy in this case:**

On upgrading SOLIDWORKS CAM, the TechDB.cwdb of SP1 version will be replaced with the new TechDB.cwdb of SP2 version. Using the Import Database functionality, the back copy named "Backup of TechDB.cwdb" already residing in the same folder as the TechDB.cwdb should be used to import the customized data into the new TechDB.cwdb. While importing, the Create Backup Copy option must be exercised. Exercising this option creates a backup copy named "Backup of TechDB 1.cwdb" which will be placed in the same folder as the newly updated TechDB.cwdb.

### Upgrading from SP2 version to SP3 version

#### **Scenario:**

The SP2 version was then updated to SP3 version. In the interim period between the upgrade, no customized data was added to the TechDB.

#### **How to use Backup copy in this case:**

On upgrading SOLIDWORKS CAM, the TechDB.cwdb of SP2 version will be replaced with the new TechDB.cwdb of SP3 version. Using the *Import Database* functionality, the back copy named "Backup of TechDB 1.cwdb" already residing in the same folder as the TechDB.cwdb will be used to import the customized data into the new TechDB.cwdb. While importing, the Create Backup Copy option must be exercised. Exercising this option creates a backup copy named "Backup of TechDB 2.cwdb" which will be placed in the same folder as the newly updated TechDB.cwdb.

### Upgrading from SP3 version to SP4 version



**Scenario:**

The SP3 version was then updated to SP4 version. In the interim period between the upgrade, additional customized data was added to the TechDB.

**How to use Backup copy in this case:**

Since additional customized data was added, the previous backed up copy (viz. "Backup of TechDB 2.cwdb") doesn't cover the entire scope of customized data. Hence, before upgrading, a new backup copy of the TechDB.cwdb must be manually created. On upgrading SOLIDWORKS CAM, the TechDB.cwdb of SP3 version will be replaced with the new *TechDB.cwdb* of SP4 version. Using the Import Database functionality, the manually created backed copy should be used to import the customized data into the newly installed TechDB.cwdb. While importing, the Create Backup Copy option must be exercised. Exercising this option creates a backup copy named "Backup of TechDB 3.cwdb" which will be placed in the same folder as the newly updated *TechDB.cwdb*.



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