

FAB323116

Fabrication MEP DB Deployment - How All Those Folders Work

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Learning Objectives

- Learn about database folders and how they work
- Learn about local versus network versus hybrid deployments
- Learn how to insulate users from inadvertent changes
- Learn about supporting multiple locations

Description

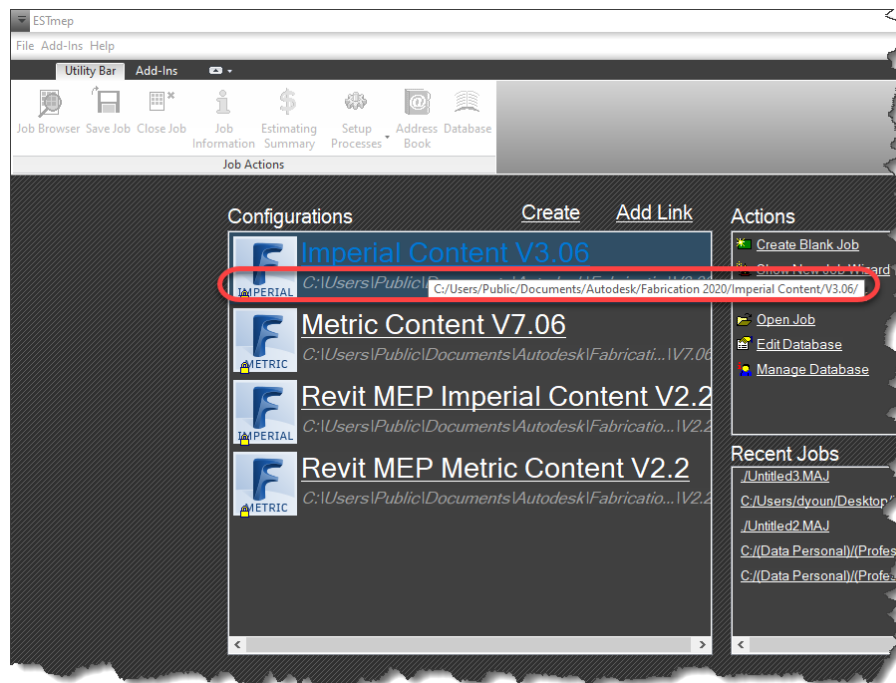
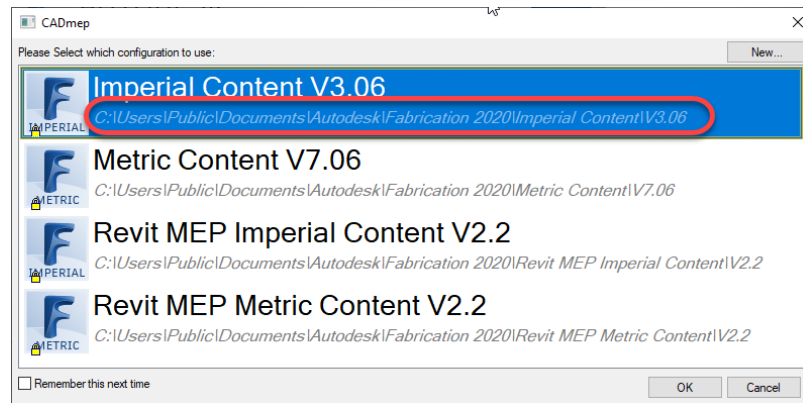
This class will go over all the folders associated with a fabrication database and how they work. We'll cover what they do, where they go, and different ways to deploy them. We'll also cover how to keep everyone using the same database even when they may be at other locations.

Speaker(s)

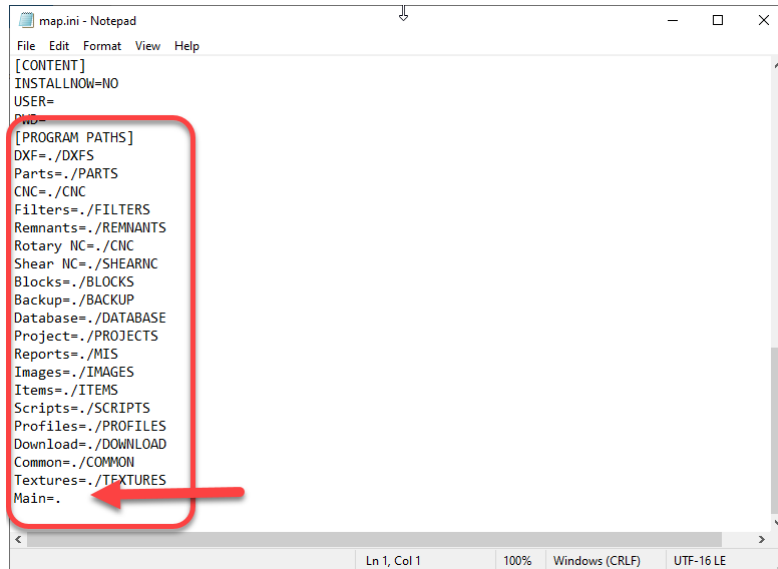
Based in Washington state, Darren Young has been a veteran Autodesk University speaker for well over a decade. His unique ability to leverage multiple everyday technologies in interesting ways to solve complicated and laborious tasks has been valued by users around the world. Down to earth and approachable, he's always willing to help his peers anytime of the year even outside of Autodesk University. Darren's background includes a wide variety of disciplines such as Construction, Engineering, Manufacturing, LEAN, Information Technology, Computer Programming, Author and Technical Editor. His lectures and labs are not just a training opportunity for others but a venue which connects him personally with users helping him learn as well.

Database Configuration Folders

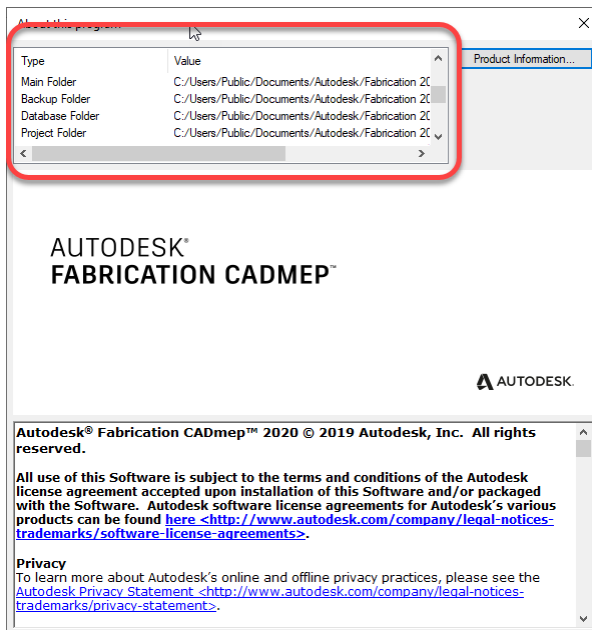
Your fabrication database is in several folders. Those folders are configured in a file named MAP.INI. The MAP.INI for each configuration can be found by looking in the folders listed by the configurations in your Fabrication software.



Within the MAP.INI file is where all the database configuration folders are configured.



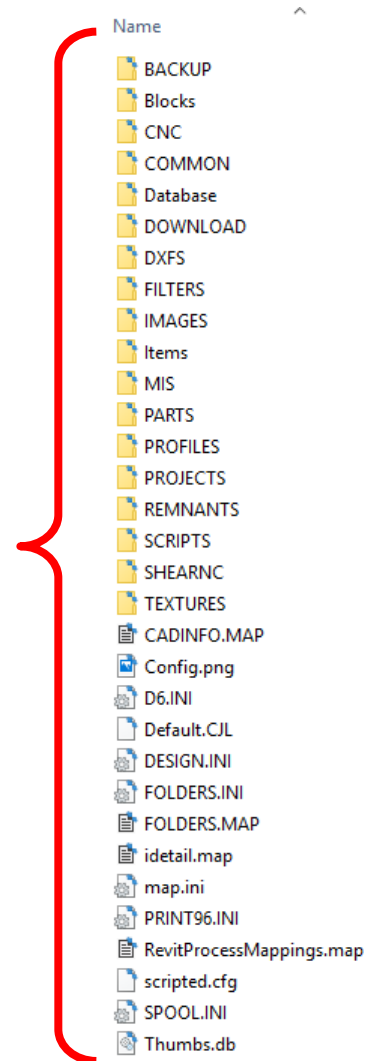
You can also type “APPINFO” in CADmep or select “Help -> About” in ESTmep or CAMduct to see where these folders are.



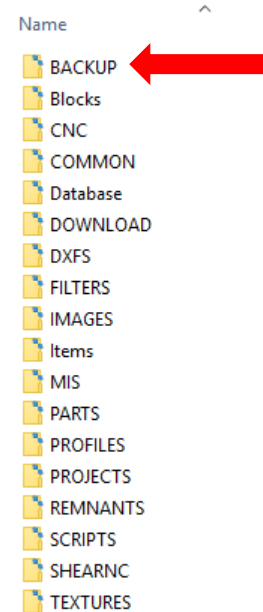
Root of Database Folders

While you can redirect your configuration folders to different locations, the out of the box installation from Autodesk as well as most user configurations are located all together with perhaps a few exceptions.

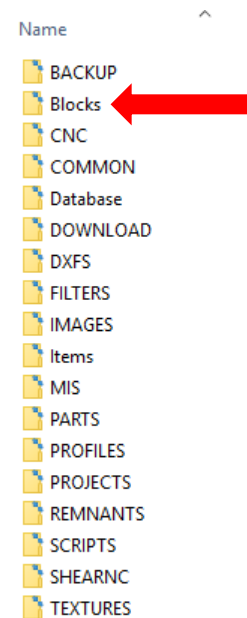
The root folder is where all the other database folders reside unless directed elsewhere.



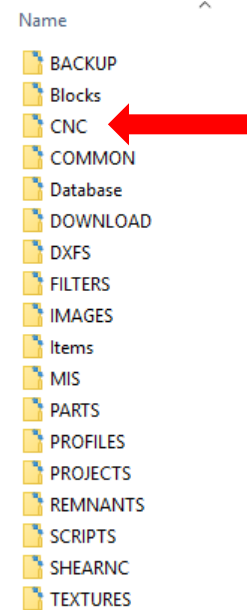
- Location for automatic backup files (MAJ/ESJ) created my CAMduct and ESTmep.
- Recommended to change to another location.
- Job data should not be stored in your database configuration.



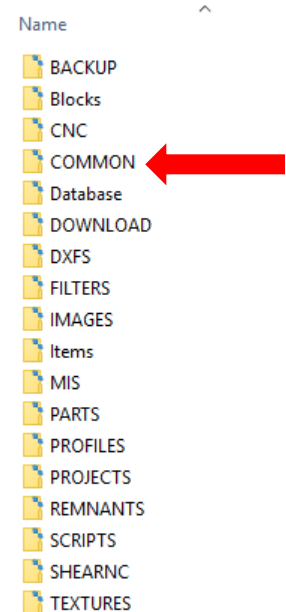
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- Default location where Fabrication looks for CAD Blocks.
 - Place CADBlocks here (or within the same folder of the ITM) to keep from having PATH information stored with the CAD Block reference.



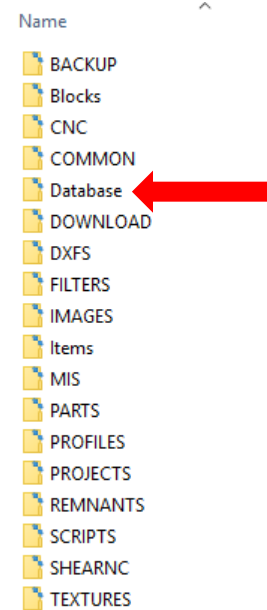
- Default location where CAMduct will store NC files for Plasma, Waterjet, Laser and Router machine types.
- Decoiler files (*.DEC) files for Coil Lines also default to this location unless specifically configured to save elsewhere in the Decoiler configurations.
- NC files (unlike DEC files) are all stored in the same folder and can't be configured to point to alternate locations in the machine configuration.



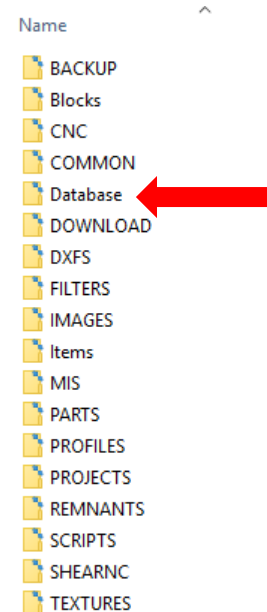
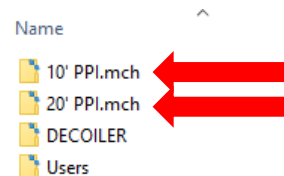
-
- Alternate location where *some* of the database files can be moved and have the software still find them.
 - Test carefully and use with caution.



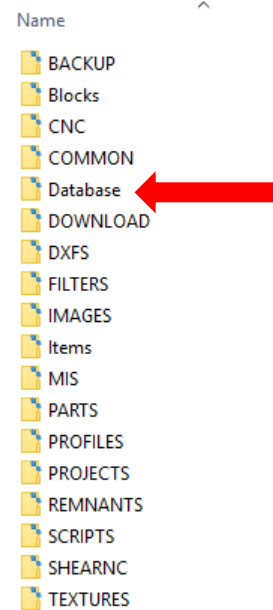
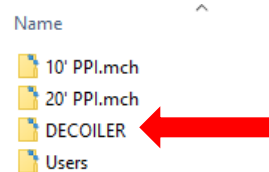
- Storage location for most of the Fabrication Database files.



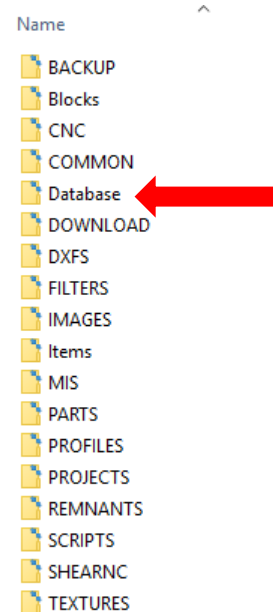
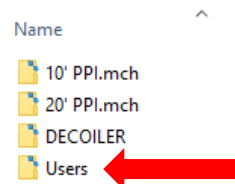
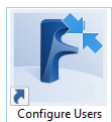
- *.mch folders hold configuration information for all machines (Plasma, OxyFuel, Lazer, Waterjet, Router, Lathe, etc) except Coil Lines.
- Folders are named the same as the machine configuration.
- Each machine configuration will have it's own folder.



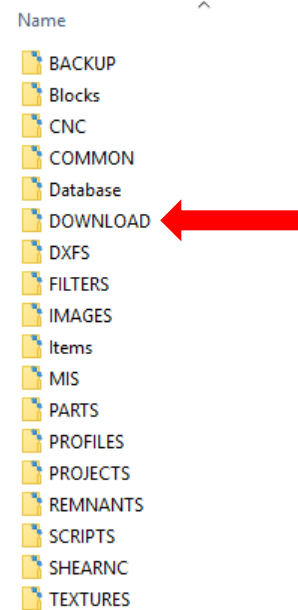
- **DECOILER** without an extension store the configuration data for Coil Lines.
- Folder contains separate ***.MAP** files for each Decoiler configured.
- Decoiler files are named per the Decoiler configuration in CAMduct.



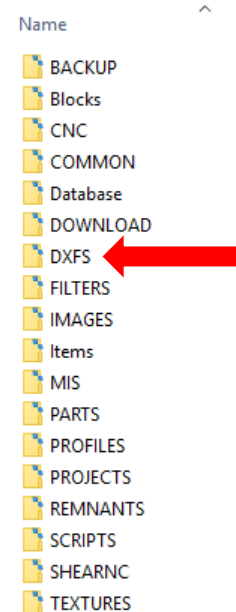
- Database login User accounts are located here.
- Use the “Configure Users” application to configure users.



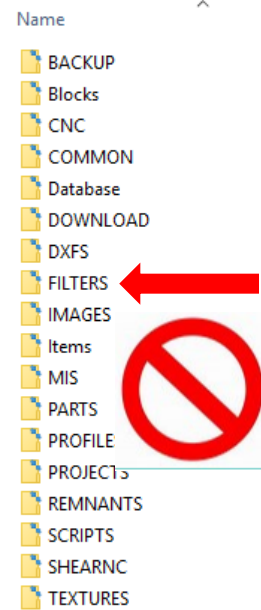
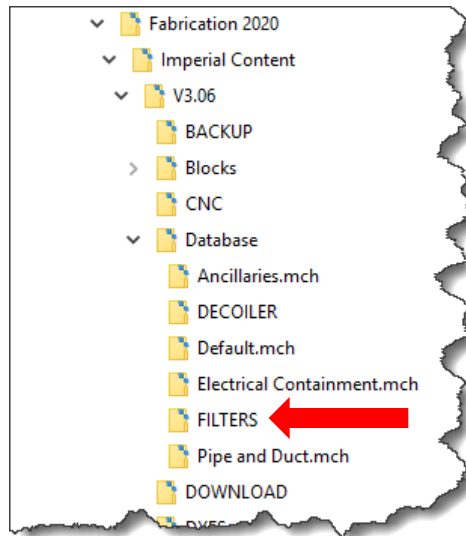
- Temporary download location for content downloaded from...
<http://www.building3dcontent.com>
- Also used for BuildingData content if you subscribe to their content service.
<https://building-data.net/>
- Use **DownloadContent** command.



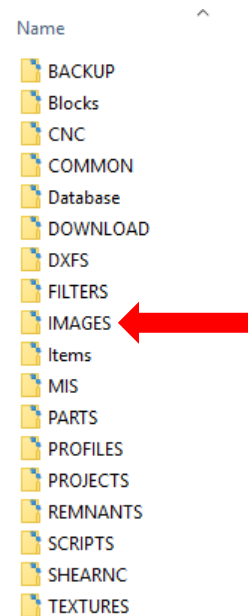
-
- Default location for part DXF Import/Exports



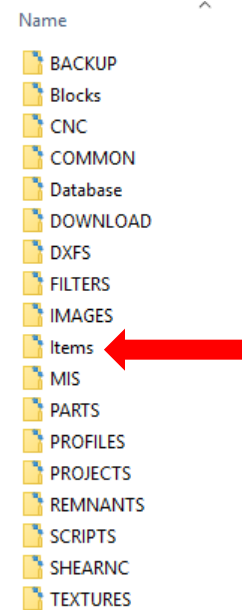
- Does not appear to work/honor the settings in MAP.INI.
- Filters in CAMduct appear in the “FILTERS” folder under “Database”.
- Filters are used to import Steel shapes into CAMduct for processing.



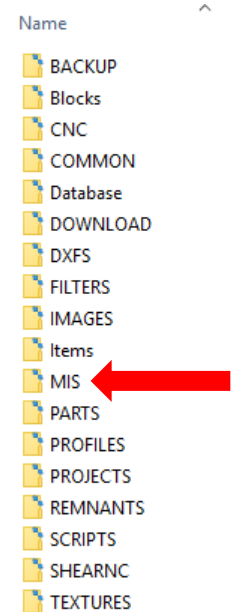
- Default location for ITM images.
- Most commonly used if you want a common image used across ITM's.
- Images placed here will allow ITM's to display an alternate (not default) image without storing the images path.
- *This folder does NOT work for Report images.*



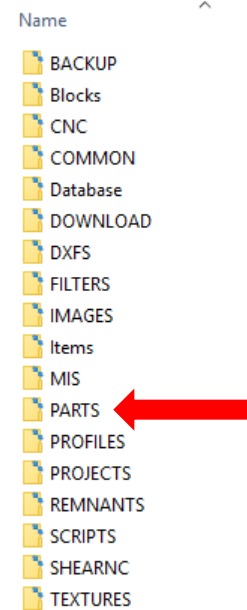
- Root location for ITM content.
- Folders outside this area may be added via Folders Window.



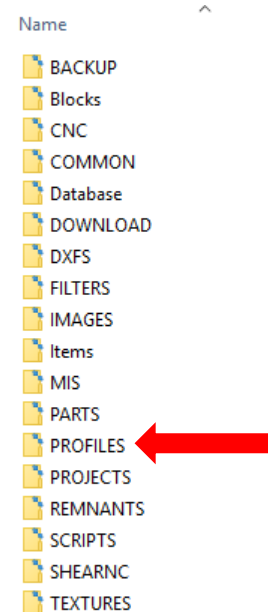
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- Root location for Fabrication Reports.
 - Subfolders under this folder are specific to the software being used.
e.g. CAD subfolder stores reports used by CAD.
 - In very old installations, may be named “Reports” instead of “MIS”



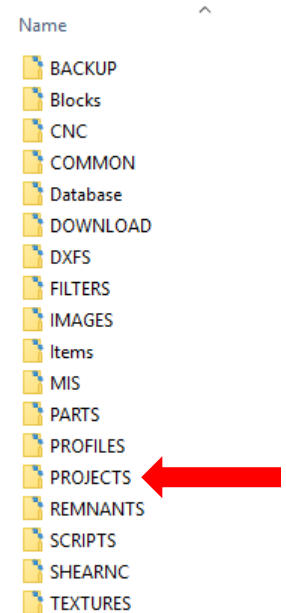
- Parts folder. Unknown purpose. May not be present in your system.
- Appears to have shown up in 2017/Imperial Configuration only.
- Likely not used. If you know, drop me a note.



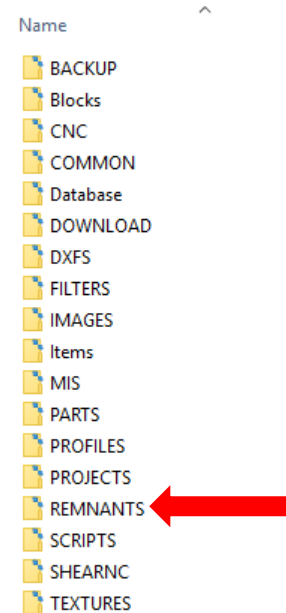
-
- If using “Profiles” is your database configuration, profiles specific data is stored here.
 - Basically, a partial “database within a database”.



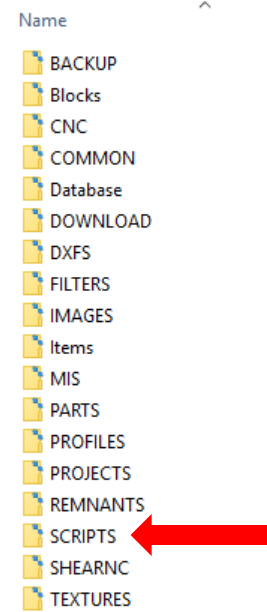
- Default storage location for MAJ/ESJ files.
- Recommended to change to another location.
- Job data should not be stored in your database configuration.



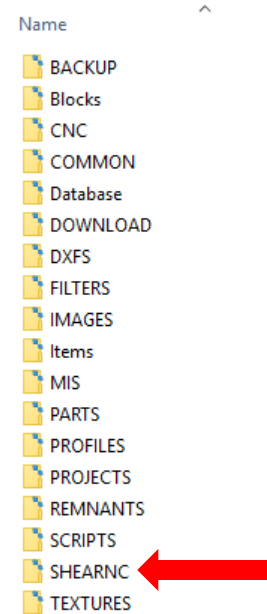
-
- Storage for CAMduct's Sheet Management.
 - Remnants are for nesting parts on left over (remaining) sheet material.



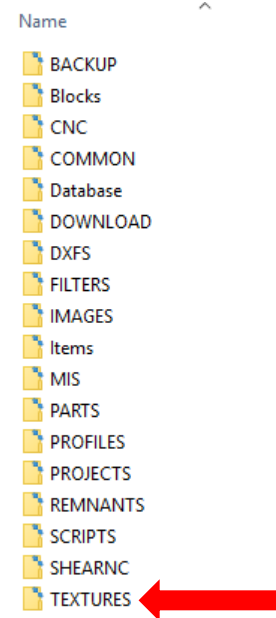
- Default location for Fabrication Scripts (*.COD files)



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- Default location for CAMduct's Sheared NC files.

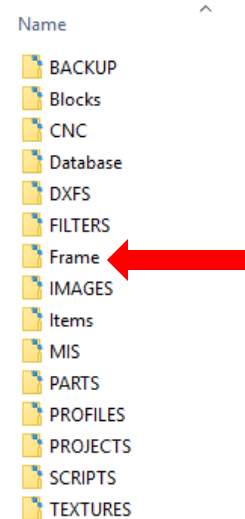


- Default location for fabrication's Texture files applied via Facings.

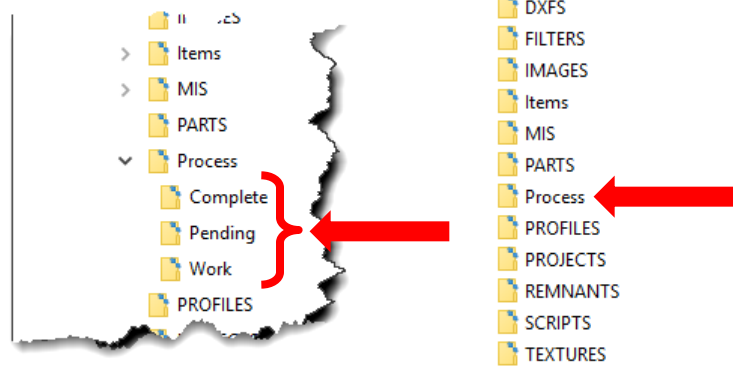


Miscellaneous Folders

- Location for fabrication's Frames/Frame Layouts used for Multi-Service DesignLine.
- Does NOT need to be this folder. Can reside anywhere. This is just where Autodesk chose to place them in some of their configurations.



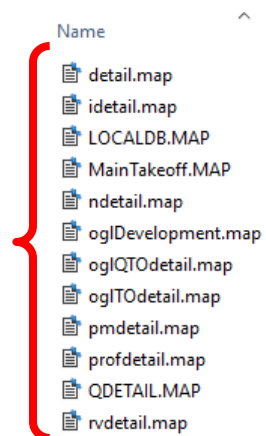
- CAMduct automatic processing of *.BIF (Batch Import Format) files.
- Data placed here (e.g. from an ERP)
- Will be automatically processed by CAMduct.
- Search HELP for “BIF Import Format”



Program Folders & Files

Area 1:

- `C:\Users\<user>\AppData\Local\Autodesk\Fabrication <year>\<program>`
- Customized program settings specific to each version, product and windows user. (e.g. takeoff columns, view configuration, etc.)
- Generally unable to be redirected elsewhere.
- Files vary by product, settings used, etc.
- Files will vary based on program used and features accessed.

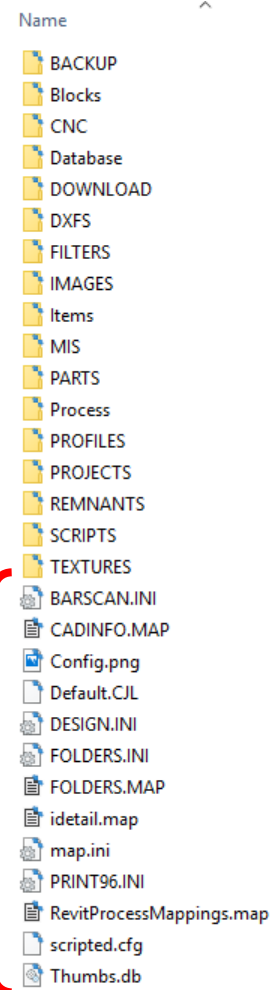


Area 2:

- Configuration Files. Home of the MAP.INI file which is where the fabrications you pick in the software point to.
- Can be located on a network server or locally in your system.
- Settings located in the same folder as MAP.INI can be duplicated by making multiple Configuration Files folders but point to the same database folders.

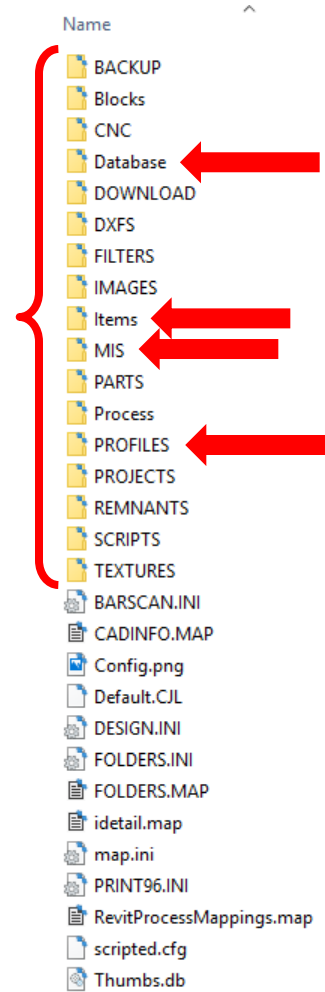
e.g. Imperial/Metric versions of the same database

e.g. Different annotation settings between Piping/Sheetmetal



Area 3:

- Main Database Files/Folders.
- Can be located on a network or locally on your system.
- Can be located if a different location than the Configuration Files (previous page)
- Not all folders required. Key/Critical Folders noted.



Files & Locations

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	Path										
2	..\<database root>\Database\Decoiler										
3	..\<database root>\Database\<machine>.mch										
4	..\<database root>\Database										
5	C:\Users\<username>\AppData\Local\Autodesk\Fabrication XXXX\FABreview										
6	C:\Users\<username>\AppData\Local\Autodesk\Fabrication XXXX\FABmep										
7	C:\Users\<username>\AppData\Local\Autodesk\Fabrication XXXX\ESTmep										
8	C:\Users\<username>\AppData\Local\Autodesk\Fabrication XXXX\CAMduct										
9	C:\Users\<username>\AppData\Local\Autodesk\Fabrication XXXX\CADmep										
10	MAP.INI folder location										
11	File	Description									
12	Airturn.map	Airturns database entries							X		
13	ancillary.map	Ancillaries database entries							X		
14	CADDetail.map						X	X			
15	CADTakeoff.map	Holds default "Customize Item Takeoff" information	X	X	X	X					
16	cadtools.map						X				
17	cadview.map		X								
18	cdetail.map	"List Setup" configuration	X								
19	clayout.map						X				
20	colours.map								X		
21	connectr.map	Connector database entries							X		
22	Cost.map								X		
23	CT2.map	Defines Machine Cutting Tools								X	
24	Cutouts.map								X		
25	DAMPER.map	Damper database entries							X		
26	Default.map	Decoiler configuration									X
27	detail.map	Column Configuration (Job Contents)		X	X						
28	Diameter.map	Effective Diameters							X		
29	dwgdb.map								X		
30	esttools.map					X					
31	etimes.map	Install (erection) time tables							X		
32	facings.map								X		
33	FTimes.map	Fabrication time tables							X		
34	flayout.map		X								
35	fldetail.map					X					
36	HSspecs.map								X		
37	idetail.map			X							

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	Path										
2	..\<database root>\Database\Decoiler										
3	..\<database root>\Database\<machine>.mch										
4	..\<database root>\Database										
5	C:\Users\<username>\AppData\Local\Autodesk\Fabrication XXXX\FABreview										
6	C:\Users\<username>\AppData\Local\Autodesk\Fabrication XXXX\FABmep										
7	C:\Users\<username>\AppData\Local\Autodesk\Fabrication XXXX\ESTmep										
8	C:\Users\<username>\AppData\Local\Autodesk\Fabrication XXXX\CAMduct										
9	C:\Users\<username>\AppData\Local\Autodesk\Fabrication XXXX\CADmep										
10	MAP.INI folder location										
11	File	Description									
38	ISpecs.map									X	
39	JDetails.map		X								
40	jobb.map			X	X	X	X				
41	jobinfo.map	Custom CAM job info form (legacy)	X								
42	jtots.map		X								
43	layers.map	CAMduct Tool Layers								X	
44	leads.map									X	
45	localdb.map		X	X							
46	machine.map	Machine control configuration									X
47	MainTakeoff.map	Tab Order (Job/Dwg ITM Edit Tab Order) / Item Tab Contents			X						
48	Material.map	Material definition database								X	
49	mcgroups.map	Machine "Groups"								X	
50	MFilter.map		X								
51	ndetail.map		X	X							
52	NESTING.map									X	
53	Notches.map	Notches/Notching database entries								X	
54	Notes.map									X	
55	NT0.map										X
56	odetail.map		X								
57	oglCADTODetail.map		X			X					
58	ogldetail.map		X	X							
59	oglDevelopment.map		X								
60	oglQTODetail.map		X	X	X						
61	oglTODetail.map		X	X							
62	opengl.map		X								
63	Partname.map									X	

	A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K
1	Path										
2	..\<database root>\Database\Decoiler										
3	..\<database root>\Database\<machine>.mch										
4	..\<database root>\Database										
5	C:\Users\<username>\AppData\Local\Autodesk\Fabrication XXXX\FABreview										
6	C:\Users\<username>\AppData\Local\Autodesk\Fabrication XXXX\FABmep										
7	C:\Users\<username>\AppData\Local\Autodesk\Fabrication XXXX\ESTmep										
8	C:\Users\<username>\AppData\Local\Autodesk\Fabrication XXXX\CAMduct										
9	C:\Users\<username>\AppData\Local\Autodesk\Fabrication XXXX\CADmep										
10	MAP.INI folder location										
11	File	Description									
64	pmdetail.map		X	X							
65	Prodinfo*.map	Product list information								X	
66	profdetail.map		X	X							
67	qdetail.map		X	X	X						
68	Resistance.map									X	
69	Resistlink.map									X	
70	Seam.map	Seam database entries								X	
71	Sections.map	Section database entries								X	
72	Service.map	Service database entries								X	
73	Setup.map	"Default" Machine setting, DB Configuration/Config section								X	
74	Silencer.map									X	
75	Specs.map	Specification database entries								X	
76	Splitter.map	Splitter database entries								X	
77	Stiffner.map	Stiffener database entries								X	
78	stressLd.map									X	
79	Supplier.map	Pricing Groups, Price Lists, Price Tables								X	
80	Support.map	Supports database entries								X	
81	Takeoff.map									X	
82	Textatts.map									X	
83	Tooldflt.map									X	
84	vlayout.map								X		
85	rvdetail.map				X						
86	useropt.map	User/owner data filter setting "Configuration:User Interface"			X	X					
87	DBCONFIG.INI	Stores which Connectors Groups are expanded upon open		X	X	X	X				
88											