

About the Environment File

The AutoCAD Electrical environment file stores default paths and search criteria for AutoCAD Electrical operations. Many of these paths are also stored in the project file, but not all. The project file paths take precedence over the environment file paths.

The default location for the *wd.env* file is: `.../My Documents/Acade {version}/AeData`

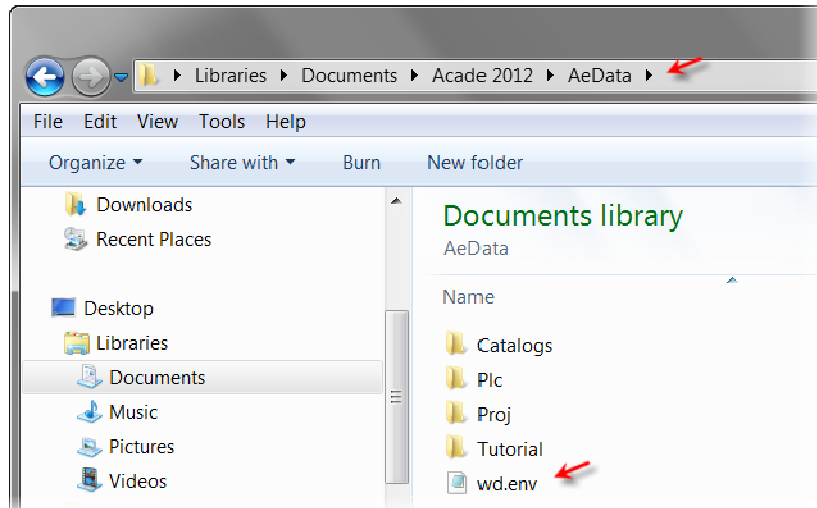
The environment file must be located in a path specified in the *wd_load.lsp* file. The *wd_load.lsp* file is stored in the `C:/Program Files/Autodesk/Acade {version}/Acade` folder. The *wd_load.lsp* file is only read upon the initial starting of ACE. Within the lisp file, the path to the environment file is stored in the **GBL_wd_DocSetWDBase** variable.

The default environment file installed with ACE is *wd.env*. This can be overwritten, or you can create an alternative environment file such as *new.env*. This file can be referenced by each project and stored within the project file settings.

If an alternative environment file is desired, it must be set for each project. If the “Template” project has the alternative file selected, all projects created by copying the “Template” project will also have the alternative file specified.

Note: No matter which environment file is used, default or alternative, all environment files **MUST** be stored in the folder as specified in the **GBL_wd_DocSetWDBase** variable.

If an existing project environment file reference is changed, the environment file must be reloaded, or the project must be closed and reopened, for the new environment file to be reread.

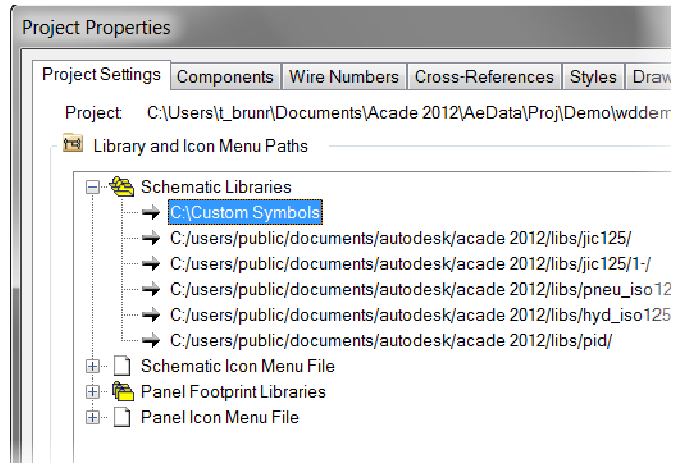


Menus and Symbol Libraries

The icon menus and symbol libraries used by a project are stored within the project file. These are not changed when the ENV file is changed. Existing project files may need to be edited to match the recommended standard paths.

The “Custom” folders should be placed at the top of all search paths as shown in the example. If a symbols is created to replace a standard AutoCAD Electrical symbol, it should have the same name as the symbol it is replacing. By being stored in the first search path, this custom symbol is the first one found.

New projects created using the “Template” project as the reference project will automatically have these settings included.



Recommendations

1. If the wd.env file is moved from the default location, use a custom *wd_load.lsp* file and copy into the *C:/Program Files/Autodesk/Acade {version}/Acade* folder, over-writing the standard one created during the AutoCAD Electrical install.
2. Use the standard *wd.env* file name. This will allow all projects to reference the custom environment file without any further changes.
 - a. **Note:** Any paths specified in the project file itself, such as library or icon menu folder paths take precedence of the settings of the environment file.