



**Creo Elements/Direct  
Drafting DWF Translator**  
Creo Elements/Direct Drafting 20.3.3.0

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## About this Manual

This manual discusses the operation of the DWF Translator on systems running Microsoft Windows.

## About the DWF Translator

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The DWF Translator enables you to translate MI version 2.8 (or earlier) files to DWF (Drawing Web Format) 4.0 files.

The DWF Translator is supported on the Microsoft Windows platforms.

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## DWF Translator Fileset

The DWF Translator is automatically installed when you install Creo Elements/Direct Drafting. No separate installation procedure is required. When you install Creo Elements/Direct Drafting, the following DWF Translator files are installed in the dwf subdirectory of the Creo Elements/Direct Drafting installation directory:

<code>dwf.exe</code>	Executable code for the translator
<code>dwf.con</code>	Configuration file
<code>dwf.ms</code>	Message file for the translator

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## Using the DWF Translator

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The DWF Translator converts MI files to DWF files in either single-file or batch mode.

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## Conversion Rules

- The default source and destination directory is your current directory.
- The default source and destination directories can be changed by editing the configuration file. Refer to [Translation Parameters on page 11](#) for more information.
- You also can specify the path for the source, destination and log files. In this case the default directories are ignored, and the absolute path is used for both the destination and log files.

## Before You Translate

1. Convert splines to lines and arcs before you translate the MI file.
2. Make sure the files to be translated and the DWF Translator are on the same system.
3. During translation, several minor warnings may appear. You can suppress these warnings with the `TRANSLATOR_WARNING` function. See `TRANSLATOR_WARNING` in the Programming Reference Guide for details.
4. Make sure the parameters in the appropriate configuration file are set correctly for your translation. Refer to [Configuration File on page 11](#) for information on setting the parameters. If you need to edit a file, use an editor that saves files in ASCII format.
5. To translate in batch mode, you must first create the required batch file. Refer to [Creating a Batch File on page 10](#) for guidance.

## Running the DWF Translator

To run the Translator:

1. You must have already started your Windows operating system before you can start the DWF Translator.
2. Click: Start, Programs, PTC, Creo Elements Direct Drafting [version], Creo Elements Direct Drafting DWF Translator [version].
3. The DWF Translator start-up screen is displayed. Press `[Enter]` to display the DWF translator menu.

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## Selecting Options from the DWF Translator Menu

To choose an option from the DWF Translator menu, enter the corresponding number via the keyboard, press [Enter], and follow the prompt. If you inadvertently select the wrong option, simply keep pressing [Enter] until the DWF Translator menu reappears.

### Exit Program (0)

This option terminates the program.

### Translate MI to DWF (1)

This option translates a single MI file to DWF format. Proceed as follows:

1. In the DWF Translator menu, select option # 1.
2. Enter the name of the source file and press [Enter].
3. Optionally, enter the name of the destination file. If you press [Enter] to use the default, the destination filename will be the name of the source file followed by the .dwt suffix.
4. Optionally, enter the name of the log file. If you press [Enter] to use the default, the logfile name will be the name of the source file followed by the .log suffix.
5. When you have entered the appropriate filename(s), press [Enter] again to perform the translation.

### Batch Translate MI to DWF (2)

This option translates multiple MI files to DWF format. Proceed as follows:

1. In the DWF Translator menu, select option # 2.
2. Enter the name of the batch file for MI to DWF conversion. Each line in the batch file must be a valid response to the Enter source [dest [log] file name (s) prompt that appears in the Translate MI to DWF screen. Refer to [Creating a Batch File on page 10](#) for instructions on creating the batch file.
3. Press the [Enter] key. The Translator produces a destination (output) file in DWF format and a log file for each file specified in the batch file.
4. Check the batch log file for the result of the translation.

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## Creating a Batch File

Create your batch file by means of any text editor. Each line of the batch file must contain a source filename, and optionally, destination and log filenames. Specify the names as follows (filenames in brackets are optional):

```
source_filename [destination_filename] [log_filename]
```

You cannot specify the log filename unless you first specify the destination filename.

The format of the entries in your batch file is the same as the format used to respond to the prompt that comes up when you select the appropriate option from the DWF Translator's menu. Read these sections for further explanation of the format used to enter filenames.

An example of the contents of an MI to DWF batch translation file is shown below.

```
cylh1.mi cylh1.dwf cylh1.log  
cylh2.mi headg.dwf head.log  
motor_br.mi  
jibmount.mi cranel45.dwf jib.log
```

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## Introduction

The configuration file `dwf.con` controls the translation process and the mapping of configurable entities in the DWF Translator. The configuration file comes with default settings which you can edit as required.

## Translation Parameters

### Source directory path

This parameter specifies a directory path name from which the input file for the translation is read. The specified path name is prefixed to the input filename unless an absolute path name is specified.

The default directory name is [ `.`  ] which means the current directory.

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#### Note

Do not forget to include the terminating backslash in the directory name.

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### Destination directory path

This parameter specifies a directory path name to which the output file from the translation is written. The specified path name is prefixed to all output filenames unless an absolute path name is specified.

The default directory name is [ `.`  ] which means the current directory.

---

#### Note

Do not forget to include the terminating backslash in the directory name.

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### Verbose

This parameter specifies whether the warning messages generated during translation are to be printed into the log file. ON means warning messages are printed: OFF means they are not. The default is ON.

---

## Error limit

This parameter specifies the number of errors tolerated before the MI to DWF translation process is aborted. The default is 0, implying that the DWF translator will not generate a DWF file if errors are encountered.

## OverWrite

This parameter specifies whether or not an existing file with the same name as the output file is to be overwritten by the output file. ON means overwriting is allowed: OFF means no overwriting. The default is OFF.

## Strip suffix

This parameter specifies whether or not the .mi suffix will be removed automatically. For example, if your MI file is named `myfile.mi` and this parameter is set to OFF, the resulting output file would be named `myfile.mi.dwf`. The default is ON, implying that the mi suffix is stripped before the dwf or log suffix is appended. This setting is mandatory for DOS.

## MI suffix

This parameter specifies the suffix for the MI filename. The DWF translator expects to find this filename suffix when translating an MI file. The default is `.mi`.

## DWF suffix

This parameter specifies the suffix for the DWF filename. This suffix will be appended to the DWF output filename. The default is `.dwf`.

## Log suffix

This parameter specifies the suffix to the translation log filename. The default is `.log`.

## Kanji translation

This parameter specifies whether or not the translation of Kanji characters will be enabled. ON means Kanji characters will be translated. OFF means Kanji characters will not be translated. The default is OFF.

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## **Accuracy**

This parameter specifies the accuracy of the DWF translation as an integer. The default is 32 bits of accuracy.

## **Border**

This parameter specifies whether or not a border will be drawn around the DWF output. The default is ON, implying that a border is added.

## **Creo Elements/Direct Drafting Path**

This parameter specifies the Creo Elements/Direct Drafting installation path.

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