Solution Settings and Tools Reference

Access configuration tools for solutions.

Reference Solution Designer Workspace | Settings | Data Explorer

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Solution Settings & Tools (Reference): The Solution module provides centralized configuration for solution-wide settings and tools for managing solution components.

Related Topics:

- Solution Settings (Concept) - Understanding solution configuration
- Managing Solutions (Guide) - Step-by-step procedures
- Plugins and Templates - Reusable components

Navigation Pages
Key Concepts
Typical Workflow
Common Tasks
Data Storage
Integration Points
Best Practices Checklist
Troubleshooting

Navigation Pages

Page	Type	Purpose
Settings	Configuration	Global solution parameters
Categories	Configuration	Organization labels
Import Tags	Tool	Tag import wizards
Import Plugin	Tool	Plugin integration
Export	Tool	Backup and plugin creation
History	Tool	Event tracking and audit

Key Concepts

Target Platform

Defines the operating system and framework:

Platform	Framework	Use Case
Windows Only	.NET Framework 4.8	Windows-specific features
Multiplatform	.NET 8	Linux and cross-platform

Product Family and Model

Licensing configuration for production:

Aspect	Purpose	Impact
Product Family	License type	Feature availability
Product Model	Point limits	Tag count restrictions

Categories

Metadata labels for organizing applications:

- Applied across all configuration tables
- Used for filtering and grouping
- Associated with default symbols

Plugins

Self-contained solution components:

- Reusable across solutions
- Include tags, displays, scripts
- Version controlled
- Update managed

Typical Workflow

Initial Setup

1. **Verify Settings** - Check Target Platform and Product Model
2. **Define Categories** - Create organizational structure
3. **Import Tags** - Bring in existing definitions
4. **Add Plugins** - Include reusable components

Development

1. **Use Categories** - Apply to new objects
2. **Export Regularly** - Create backups
3. **Track History** - Monitor changes
4. **Update Plugins** - Keep components current

Deployment

1. **Validate Settings** - Confirm production configuration
2. **Export Solution** - Create deployment package
3. **Review History** - Check recent changes

Common Tasks

Task	Location	Purpose
Change platform	Settings	Switch Windows/Linux
Set license	Settings	Configure Product Model
Organize objects	Categories	Apply labels
Import from CSV	Import Tags	Bulk tag creation
Add components	Import Plugin	Reuse standards
Backup solution	Export	Save complete copy
Create plugin	Export	Make reusable parts
Review changes	History	Audit trail

Data Storage

Configuration Location

All settings stored in .dbsln file:

Setting	Table	Encrypted
Settings	SolutionSettings	Yes
Categories	Categories	Yes
Plugin Info	PluginRegistry	Yes
History	SolutionHistory	Yes

Temporary Folders

```
Solution-Data/
??? Designer/     # UI settings
??? Runtime/      # Execution cache
??? Git/          # Export files
??? Backup/       # Build backups
```

Integration Points

With Other Modules

Module	Integration	Purpose
UNS	Tag import	Define data model
Devices	Import wizards	Configure channels
All modules	Categories	Organization
All modules	Export/Plugin	Packaging

External Systems

System	Via	Purpose
CSV Files	Import Tags	Bulk configuration
ControlLogix	Import wizard	PLC integration
Git	Export	Version control
Other solutions	Plugins	Reuse

Best Practices Checklist

Settings Management

- Set Target Platform early
- Match Product Model to license
- Configure Python path if needed
- Set Culture Info for localization

Category Usage

- Define before creating objects
- Use consistent naming
- Apply to all object types
- Associate with symbols

Plugin Management

- Version control plugins
- Document plugin contents
- Test before updating
- Keep update history

Export Strategy

- Regular full backups
- Export before major changes
- Create plugins for standards
- Use Git integration

Troubleshooting

Common Issues

Problem	Cause	Solution
Can't import tags	Wrong format	Check CSV headers
Plugin fails	Version mismatch	Update plugin
Export too large	Many images	Exclude images
History missing	Not enabled	Enable in settings

Validation

Check	Method	Expected
Platform correct	Settings page	Matches target
License valid	Settings page	Matches production
Categories defined	Categories page	All needed labels
Plugins current	History page	No updates pending

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