

CONTRAM 8.3b Release Notes

Improvements

Gap function calculation

CONTRAM can now calculate the gap convergence parameter as required by the UK Design Manual for Roads and Bridges (DMRB). This is controlled via the 'gap calculation' parameter in the Run>Criteria>Assignment template. See the manual or help file for further details.

Improved run times

Run times for very large networks are now much reduced, particularly for the final iteration.

Multi-part link names

Link names can now be defined in three parts, with each part separated by a delimiter, e.g. Part1#Part2#Part3. Some, all or none of the name parts can be displayed graphically. Connected to this, link names can now be up to 256 characters long.

Windows Vista

Vista users are now able to install and run CONTRAM. There is one minor problem in that Vista no longer officially supports the help file format used in CONTRAM. You can download the program required to view the help file from <http://go.microsoft.com/fwlink/?LinkID=82148>

Write access to program files directory no longer needed

CONTRAM used to require that users had write access to the program files directory where CONTRAM was installed. This is no longer necessary and users with limited permissions should now not encounter any problems running CONTRAM.

Link shaping

Right clicking on a link now includes the option to shape the link.

Improved object selection

Selection of network objects is much more accurate and less likely to pick up the wrong object.

Bug fixes

Signal phase queue calculation

A bug in previous versions meant that phase queues and delays at signals were not calculated correctly. In some cases this may have a significant effect on results. For backwards compatibility it is possible to revert to the earlier calculation. This is the default for all existing networks. This can be changed via the 'use 8.3a phase queue calculation' parameter under Build>Defaults>Signals

Abandoning data output

In very large models output of the TRAFFIC table and route data was sometimes abandoned. This would have affected matrix exporting, cordoning, matrix estimation and route analysis. This will no longer happen.

Matrix estimation

A couple of minor bugs have been fixed:

- Maximum length of path/file name for net_file in .mes file has been increased
- If counts in the .mec file are -1 (i.e. 'unknown') in the first time period then the time period numbers in the output .mer file were incorrect.

Route analysis matrix extraction

In 8.3a .dem matrices exported from Route Analysis had incorrect origin and destination numbers.

A bug has been fixed whereby the matrix extraction would crash if two objects had been selected.

Cordoning

The output cordoned matrix can now handle 7-digit zone numbers correctly.

It is now possible to create cordons regardless of the zoom level of the displayed network (previously it wouldn't work if you were zoomed in too far).

A bug has been fixed which meant that repeatedly saving the cordoned demand file would result in too many trips in the matrix.

Bandwidth display

The bandwidth thickness is now limited to the maximum value for the colour ranges. Screen and print outputs are now consistent.

Font display and selection

Font display and selection did not work properly if more than 300 fonts were installed.

Models past midnight

Some problems arose in models which had time slices past midnight. This has been fixed.

Issued: December 2008