

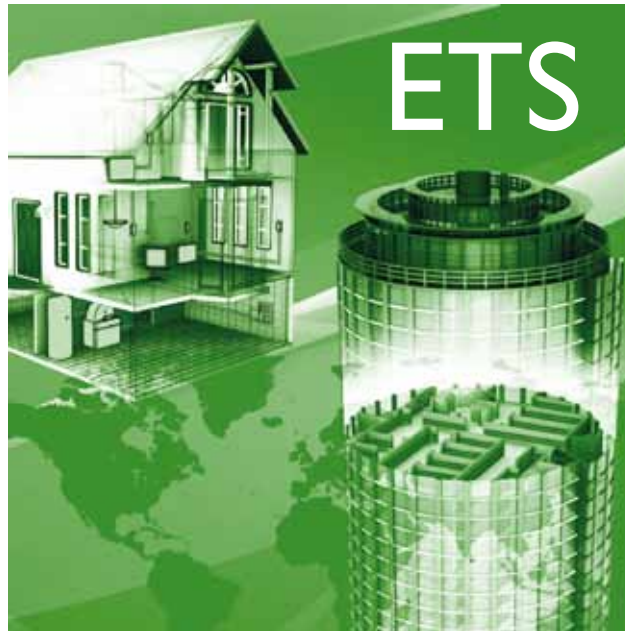


ETS5: one tool for ALL media

Embedded | Smart | Wireless

Shanghai, Sydney, Buenos Aires, Los Angeles, London, Berlin – all over the world, building control engineers use the product and manufacturer-independent Engineering Tool Software to increase the energy efficiency of buildings. This standardised tool is currently available in 17 languages and can be used for the installation of more than 7,000 KNX-certified devices from 300 different manufacturers. In order to satisfy the latest technical, economic and global demands, the KNX Association has now completely redesigned its Engineering Tool Software (ETS) and added numerous functions. For example, for the first time in version 5, ETS allows quick and simple integration of wireless KNX components. Moreover, the database management was considerably simplified, and its new dongle allows greater flexibility in handling projects.

The new ETS5 is the KNX Association's answer to the demand for greater user-friendliness, more powerful technology, and bigger cost savings. The popularity of applications based on bus technology has increased many times over. KNX installations are now more extensive, and functions in commercial as well as intelligent residential buildings have become more diverse. KNX solutions should be able to handle major current challenges such as the need to make buildings as energy-efficient as possible. Electricians and system integrators who design, parameterise and



5ETS

oversee KNX systems need to display more and more technical and money-saving expertise. The new version of the tool offers numerous features for the convenient, cost-effective integration of KNX systems.



ETS5 test workshop

Its top improvements include:

- Integration of KNX radio frequency (KNX RF) components from different manufacturers
- USB dongle for easier handling with 4 GB of storage for user data
- No database, hence faster data imports and exports
- Improved user interface with more room for key functions
- For increased performance, usage as a 64-bit application
- Parallel usage of ETS5 and the older versions ETS4 and ETS3 on the same computer

Wireless components now easier to integrate

With the new ETS5 it is now possible for the first time to work with ALL media without exception: not just wired media (TP, Powerline and Ethernet/IP) as before, but now also wireless radio frequency (KNX RF). Wireless solutions were always possible with KNX, but previously they could only be integrated into the KNX system using manufacturer-specific tools. With ETS5, KNX RF devices from different manufacturers can now communicate with the programming tool in a uniform way. Hence, it is therefore possible to use ETS to parameterise and set up KNX RF devices in exactly the same way as KNX TP,

PL and IP devices. This is among other things thanks to the newly specified TP/RF Media Coupler. Thus, ETS5 allows KNX professionals to automate existing buildings with even more competence than before.

Faster importing and exporting

Numerous improvements have also been made to the IT system environment, simplifying installation and making ETS work faster. One key change in this respect in ETS5 is the absence of a database. In the new version of the tool, the database that was previously needed for import and export is no longer necessary. ETS5 accesses folders containing imported products and projects directly, streamlining workflows and so improving project handling performance. This speeds up the import and export of the data.

Storing the latest project data in a dongle

ETS5 uses a licence dongle that enables it to be used on different computers. This allows projects to be worked on in a very flexible way. A new kind of USB dongle is being launched at the same time as ETS5 that is smaller than the previous dongles, no longer requires a driver and contains an extra 4 GB of storage for user data. This will simplify handling and speed up workflows. One particularly convenient feature is that the user can store his current project directly on the dongle. These project data are then directly available the next time the dongle is used, even if that is on another computer. Because dongle

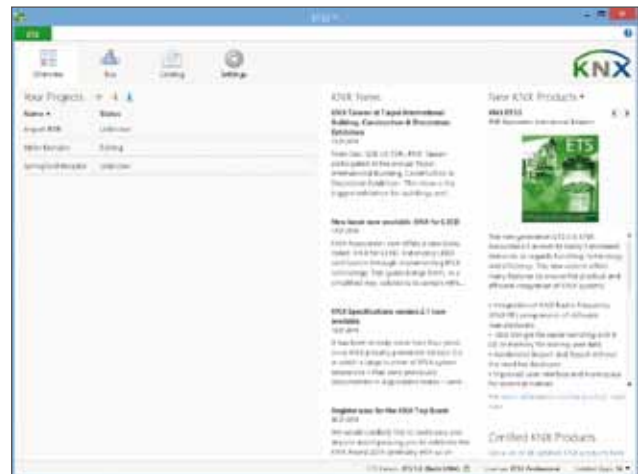
licences are generally more popular than computer-specific (host ID-specific) licences, ETS5 no longer supports the computer-specific variety.

More room for images and documents

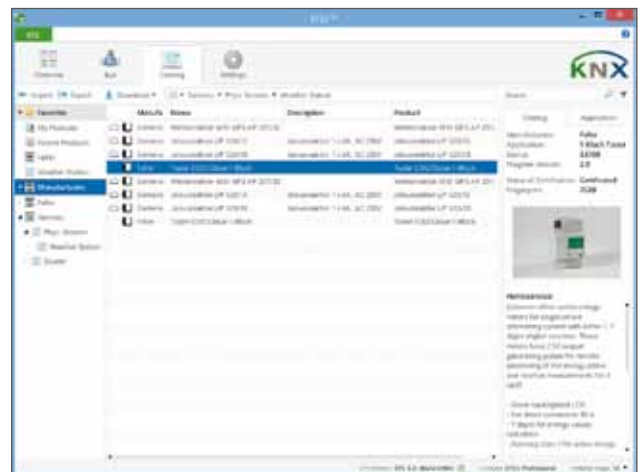
Users will appreciate the positive changes to the new user interface. The frames are narrower and the work areas larger, giving it a contemporary look similar to that of Windows 8. Its clarity will make work more intuitive for the user and facilitate the rapid parameterisation of KNX projects. For example, the quick-access, database and projects tab have been removed from the start menu, as this has been judged to be of lesser importance. The selection panels where the user can call up projects or read KNX news and other information, on the other hand, are now more prominent, taking up more space than before. Also the building view has been tidied up. Existing Group Addresses can now be linked directly within a single window. Also more space has been given to the Online Catalog. The larger format allows not just product information, but also complementary images, operating instructions and documents to be displayed more clearly in the new ETS.

64-bit technology makes big projects small

Like ETS4, ETS5 naturally supports the latest Microsoft operating systems such as Windows 7 and 8, and even the latest Server 2012 versions. What is completely new in ETS5 is that it no longer runs only in 32-bit mode, but it can also function as a 64-bit



ETS5 start screen, improved overview with new designed and optimized view



ETS5 product data file, additional manufacturer information within Online Catalog make product selection easier

application. This means it offers full 64-bit power using all available system resources, plus increased speed and more efficient project handling. This is particularly beneficial in case of large projects, provided that the installed system components are also 64-bit-enabled.

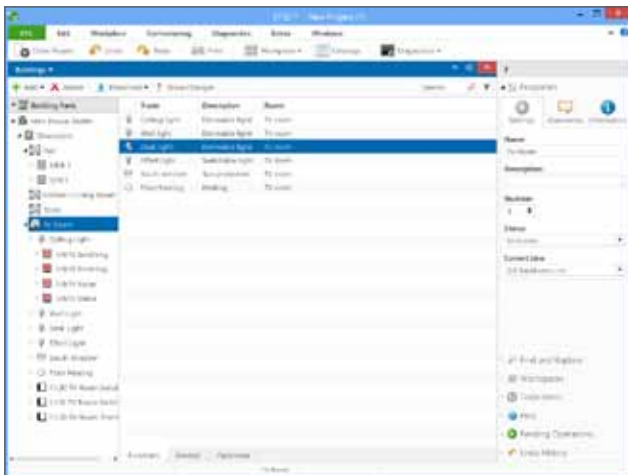
Multiple installations no problem

Realistically, someone licensing ETS5 is not immediately going to convert all of his projects to the new version. So when working on projects it may be convenient to have the old

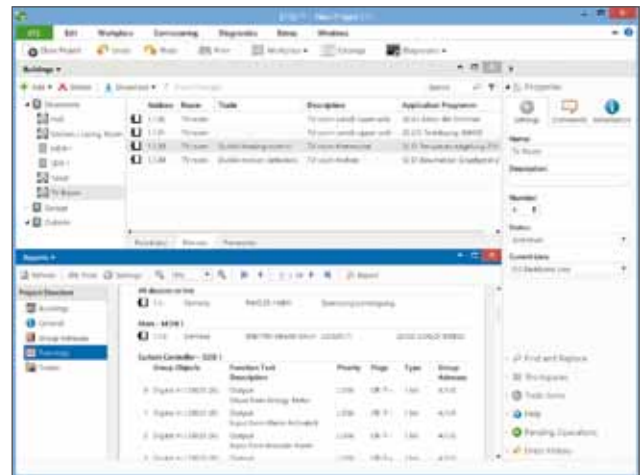
ETS installed as well. ETS5 can be installed on a computer together with the previous versions, ETS4 and/or ETS3. All three versions function independently of one another, which is particularly useful for electricians who want to continue working on old projects with their old ETS.

And all kinds of other benefits

Obviously, electricians and system integrators are interested in being able to work on ETS projects in a quick, simple and reliable way. ETS5 has been



ETS5 building view, buildings, devices and Group Addresses, all at a look for optimized workflows



ETS5 workplace, embedded functions (here reports) improves the overview and make work easier to do

improved in numerous ways to help them achieve this.

Here are just a few examples:

- Because ETS5 does not use a database anymore, KNX products that have been imported into the software once immediately become available for use in each new project. With the old ETS2/3/4, products needed to be imported again and again for each database. This is no longer necessary, which saves considerable amounts of time.
- ETS5 supports long frame format, which substantially reduces the time to download the corresponding components.
- Thanks to the use of dynamic folders, users can configure views according to their individual requirements.

With this very commonly-used function, from ETS5 onwards it will be possible to filter on the basis of Group Objects.

- The parameter change function and the overview of devices that have been selected several times – both already supported in ETS4 – have been improved once again: identical parameters now also display their true value. This gives users a quicker overview of changes simultaneously performed on a large number of devices.

Complete interoperability

ETS5 comes in three different versions:

- ETS5 Demo, the free version for mini-projects

- ETS5 Lite, the version for small and medium-sized projects

- ETS5 Professional, for projects of all sizes

Existing ETS Apps can still be used with ETS5. Naturally it is possible to import projects created in ETS4, ETS3 and ETS2 into ETS5.

Conclusion

The new ETS5 considerably lowers the entry barriers into the world of KNX. It is more than just a new version of the world's most successful bus system for buildings; it is also a state-of-the-art tool available in the system integrator's own language that he can use to enhance his success in selling home and building control solutions.

Highlights at a glance:

- Designed to meet the new, tougher requirements placed on building automation solutions
- Integration of KNX radio frequency (KNX RF) components from a wide range of different manufacturers
- USB dongle for easier handling with 4 GB of storage for user data
- No database, hence faster data imports and exports
- Improved user interface with more room for key functions
- Even more performance when used as a 64-bit application
- ETS5 and the older versions ETS4 and ETS3 can be installed together on the same computer

5^{DEMO}ETS

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