# AERCalc V 1.2

### **User Guide**

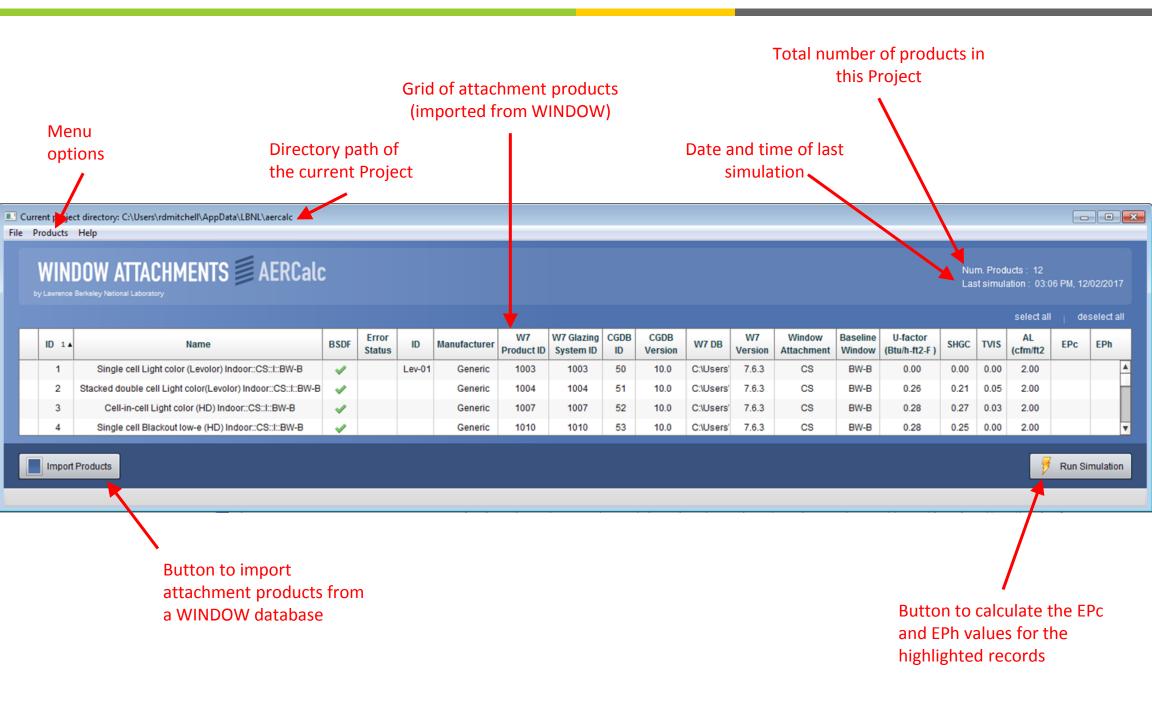
**Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory** 

**December 13, 2017** 

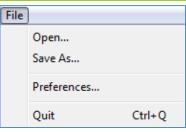
### **AERCalc Workflow**

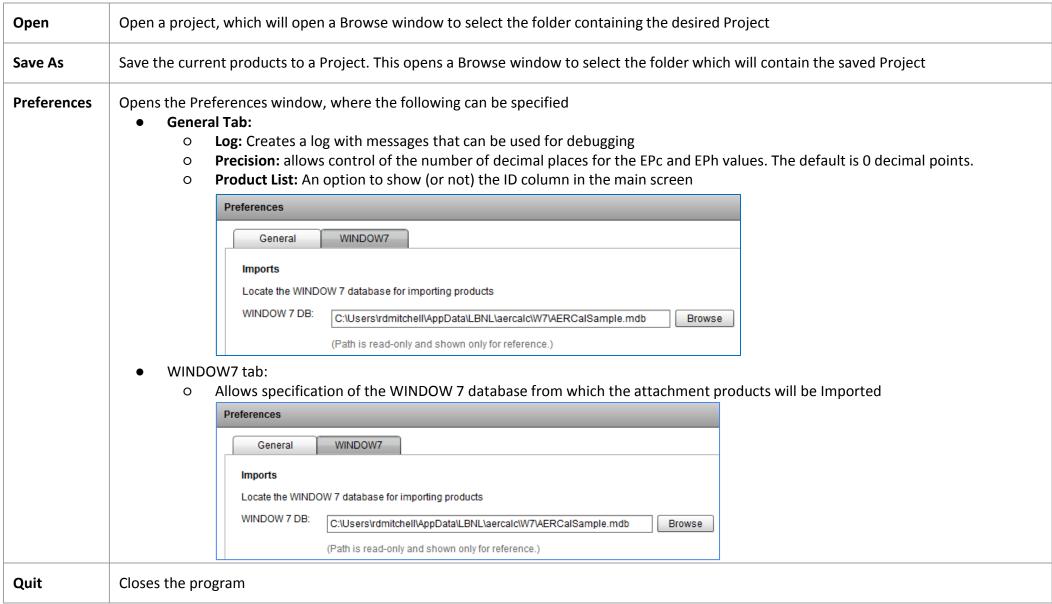
- Import the attachment products from the WINDOW Window Library
  - O When you first open AERCalc, there are no records in the main screen
- Save as a Project if desired
  - The default location is C:\Users\<usename>\AppData\LBNL\aercalc but a project can be saved to any directory
- Edit the record as needed
  - Adjust the AL value if needed
  - Add an AERC ID value if needed
  - o Edit the manufacturer value if needed
- Simulate the products (select the records and click the simulate button)
- Export the products (for the AERC CPD) and edit as needed
  - Edit the Manufacturer or Material Manufacturer if needed
  - o For Venetian blinds and vertical louvers, copy the **U-factor**, **SHGC** and **Tvis** values from the appropriate child record to the parent record

### **Main Screen: Overview**



#### Main Screen: File Menu



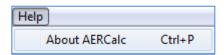


### **Main Screen: Products Menu**

Pro	ducts	
	Select All	Ctrl+A
	Deselect All	Ctrl+Shift+A
	Simulate	Ctrl+S
	Import	Ctrl+I
	Export as CSV	Ctrl+E
	Delete	Ctrl+D

Select All	Selects all products in the grid
Deselect All	Unselects all the products in the grid
Simulate	Starts the calculation of the EPc and EPh values for all the selected products. Equivalent to clicking the Simulate button
Import	Opens the Import dialog box, which allows selection of attachment products to be imported into AERCalc from the WINDOW database specified in the File/Preferences menu, WINDOW tab
Export as CSV	Exports all the records in the grid to a CSV file
Delete	Deletes any selected records

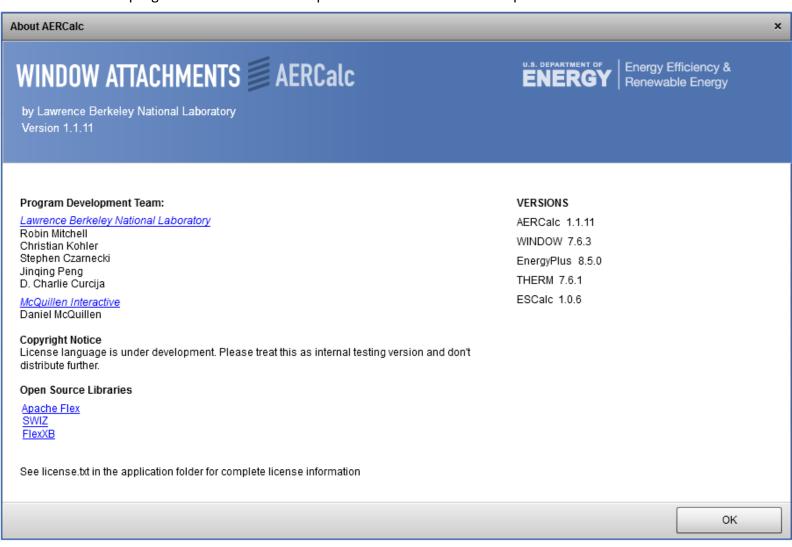
### Main Screen: Help Menu



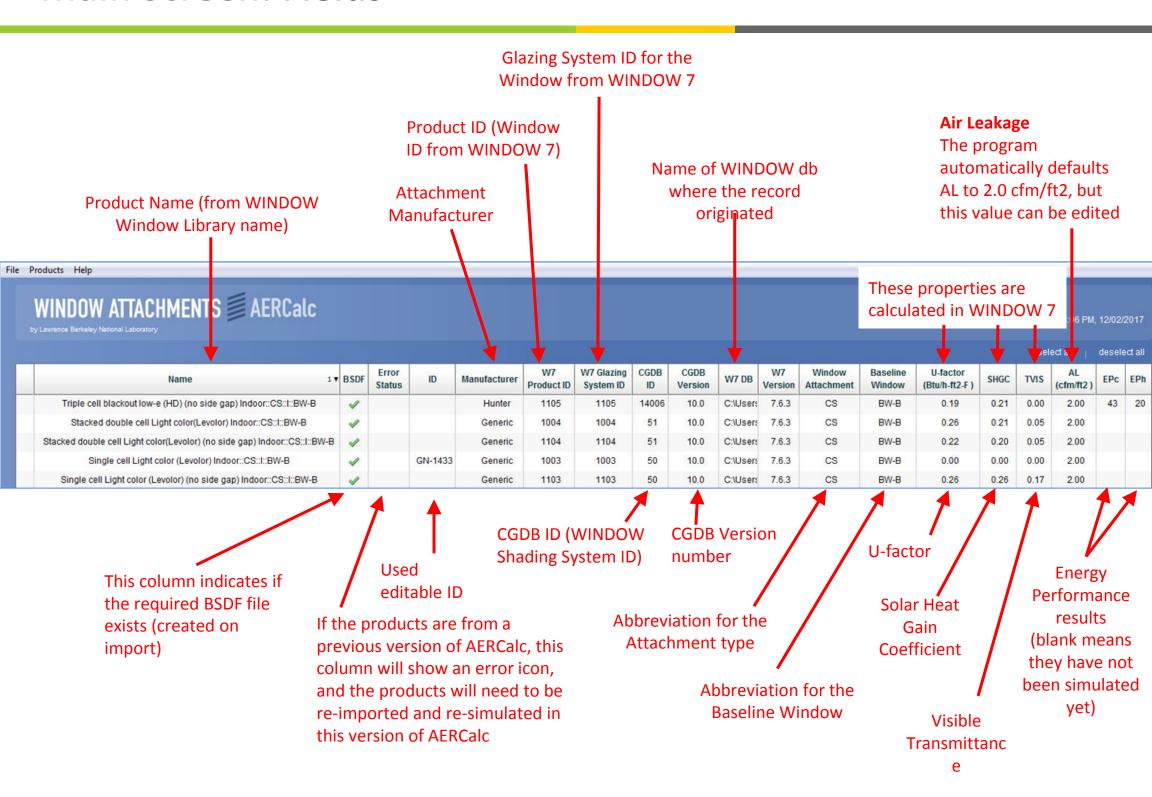
#### About AERCalc

Shows the About screen, which indicates the version numbers of AERCalc and associated components, as well as developers and license information.

The version numbers for the program and associated components are included in the Export file



### **Main Screen: Fields**



## **Main Screen: Field Descriptions**

#### The table below lists all of the fields in the main screen.

Name	Name of the Attachment product, from the Window Library in WINDOW. It must have a prescribed format. A Window record without this name format can not be imported into AERCalc <name>::<shadetype><slat tilt="">::<attachment position="">::BW<basecase id="" window=""></basecase></attachment></slat></shadetype></name>						
BSDF	When importing a product from WINDOW, a BSDF file is generated (and stored in a subfolder called BSDF below where the AERCalc database is located). This must exist in order to calculate the EPc/EPh values. The program will show an icon indicating the existence (or not) of this file.  • A green checkmark means that the file exists and the product can be simulated  • A red X means that the file does not exist and the product must be re-imported into AERCalc from WINDOW  X						
Error Status	If the product was imported in a previous version product must be re-imported (and a new BSDF file		•	older vers	ion num	bers. In this case the	
ID	A user-editable field that can be used for any type	e of iden	tifying reference. It is blank by default.				
Manufacturer	The Manufacturer from WINDOW as follows:  • For CS, RS, VB, VL, PS, SS, it is the Manufacturer from the WINDOW Shading Layer Library  • For AP and WP, it is the Manufacturer from the WINDOW Glass Library						
W7 Product ID	The ID from the WINDOW Window Library (that was imported into AERCalc)  ID # 1003  Name Single cell Light color (Levolor)						
W7 Glazing System ID	The ID from the WINDOW Glazing System Library	used fo		ngle cell Lig	ht color (Le	evolor) Indoor::CS::I::BW-B	
CGDB ID	The ID from the WINDOW Shading Layer Library	Shading ID #: Name:	Layer Library  50  Cellular Shade. Single cell, light color				
CGDB Version	The CGDB Version number for the product, as shown in the WINDOW Shading Layer Library	ID	Name	Source	Version		
		50	Cellular Shade. Single cell, light color	CGDB	10.00		

## **Main Screen: Field Descriptions**

#### The table below lists all of the fields in the main screen.

W7 DB	The name (including complete directory path) of the WINDOW database the product was imported from.
	C:\Users\Public\LBNL\AERCalc 1-1-9 Sample DB\AERCalSample.mdb
W7 Version	The WINDOW 7 program version used when importing the product from WINDOW into AERCalc. This can be found in WINDOW in the Help/About menu option 7.6.3
Window Attachment	The abbreviation for the Attachment Product Type  SS: Solar Screen  CS: Cellular Shade  PS: Pleated Shade  RS: Roller Shade  AF: Applied Film  WP: Window Panel  VB: Venetian Blind  VL: Vertical Louver
Baseline Window	The abbreviation for the AERC baseline window. The initial window is BW-B, but in the future there will be windows BW-A through BW-G
U-factor (Btu/h-ft²-ºF)	U-factor of the product from the WINDOW Window Library. This is calculated by WINDOW. If this value is zero, recalculate it in WINDOW and reimport the product into AERCalc
SHGC	Solar Heat Gain Coefficient of the product from the WINDOW Window Library. This is calculated by WINDOW. If this value is zero, recalculate it in WINDOW and reimport the product into AERCalc
TVIS	Visible Transmittance of the product from the WINDOW Window Library. This is calculated by WINDOW. If this value is zero, recalculate it in WINDOW and reimport the product into AERCalc
AL (cfm/ft²)	Air Leakage of the product. The default value assigned on import is 2.0 cfm/ft2, but this field is user editable and can be changed as needed.
EPc	The Energy Performance value for cooling, calculated by highlighting records and clicking the Simulate button on the main AERCalc screen.
EPh	The Energy Performance value for heating, calculated by highlighting records and clicking the Simulate button on the main AERCalc screen.

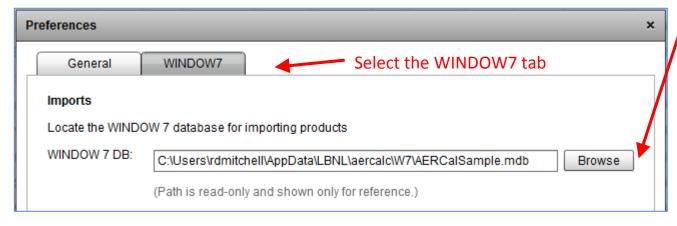
### **Import Products: Specify WINDOW 7 Database**

File / Preferences: Specify the WINDOW 7 database to import products from

The default WINDOW database in File/Preferences is located in the W7 subdirectory of the default AERCalc working directory:
 Go to the File/

C:\Users\<username>\AppData\LBNL\aercalc\W7

- To change to another database
  - O Click on the **File/Preferences** menu option
  - Select the WINDOW7 tab and use the Browse button to select another WINDOW 7 database
  - O The database specified here will be the database that EP Calc opens when the **Import** button is clicked



Use the Browse button to select another WINDOW 7 database, such as the default database in the WINDOW 7 working directory, or any other WINDOW 7 database. (The default database is called AERCalcSample.mdb and is located in: C:\Users\<username>\AppData\LBNL\aercalc\W7

File

Open... Save As..

Quit

Preferences.

Preferences menu option

Ctrl+Q

Make sure that all the needed XML, THMX, and other associated files (referenced by WINDOW) are in the correct folders for the selected database.

The easiest way to check this is to calculate (in WINDOW) the Windows that you want to import. If they calculate in WINDOW, AERCalc will be able to simulate them

### **Import Products: Calculate Products in WINDOW**

### In WINDOW: Make sure to calculate the products in WINDOW before importing them

ID			Name		Туре	Width	Height	Ufactor	SHGC	Tvis				
						mm	mm	W/m2-K						
1003	Single	cell Light color (L	.evolor) Indoor::CS	::I::BW-B	Fixed (picture)	1200	1500	?	?	?				
1004	Stacke	ed double cell Lig	ht color(Levolor) Ir	ndoor::CS::I::BV	V-B Fixed (picture)	1200	1500	1.494	0.214	0.046	\	If the pro		
1007	Cell-in-	cell Light color (H	ID) Indoor::CS::I::B	W-B	Fixed (picture)	1200	1500	1.564	0.270	0.029		been calc		
1010	Single	cell Blackout low	-е (HD) Indoor::С9	Stitt:BW-B	Fixed (picture)	1200	1500	1.584	0.249	0.000		WINDOW		
1011	Single	cell Light Color S	heer (HD) Indoor::	CS::I::BW-B	Fixed (picture)	1200	1500	1.944	0.434	0.420	\	program	imports	them
			sers\rdmitchell\A <sub> </sub>	opData\LBNL\a	ercalc\W7\AERCalSample.	.mdb								
WIND		ducts List	sers\rdmitchell\Aj	ppData\LBNL\a	ercalc\W7\AERCalSample.	.mdb								
WIND	OW7 Pro	ducts List		opData\LBNL\a	ercalc\W7\AERCalSample. Window Name	.mdb		Man	ufacturer	Windo	w Attachmen	t SHGC	TVis	U-fac
WIND	OW7 Pro	ducts List	lable for Import				or::CS::I::B				<b>w Attachmen</b> ar Shade	t SHGC	TVis 0.00	<b>U-fac</b>
WIND	OW7 Pro able to I	ducts List mport Unavai W7 GlzSys ID	lable for Import W7 Shd Sys ID	CGDB Ver.	Window Name	volor) Indo		W-B Gen	eric	Cellula				
WIND	OW7 Pro able to II W7 ID 1003	ducts List  mport Unavai  W7 GlzSys ID  1003	lable for Import  W7 Shd Sys ID  50	CGDB Ver.	Window Name Single cell Light color (Le	volor) Indo color(Levo	olor) Indoor	W-B Gen	eric eric	Cellul	ar Shade	0.00	0.00	0.00

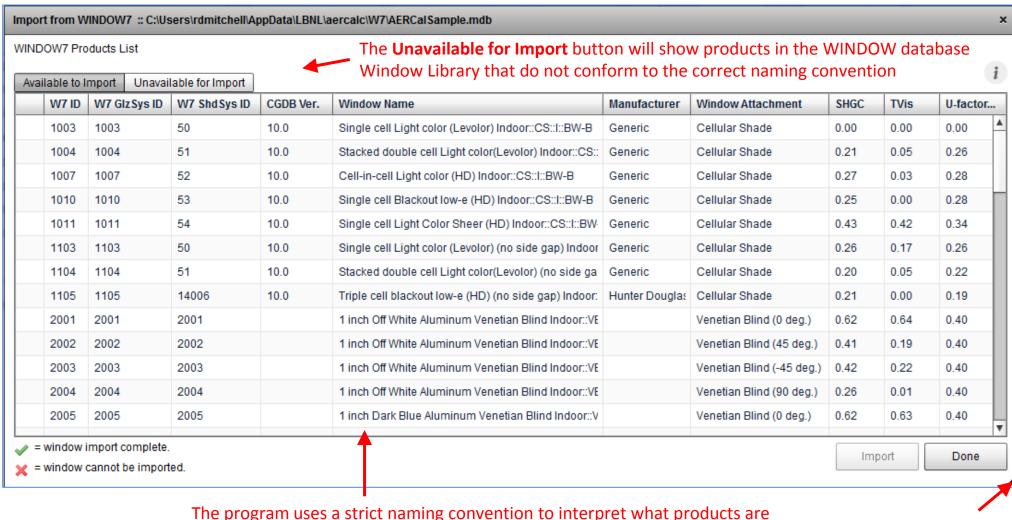
## **Import Products: Import from WINDOW database**

Click the Import Products button on the main screen to open the import window



Click the **Import Products** button on the main screen to see the list of products from a WINDOW database

The products modeled in WINDOW will be displayed (AERCalc reads the WINDOW database)

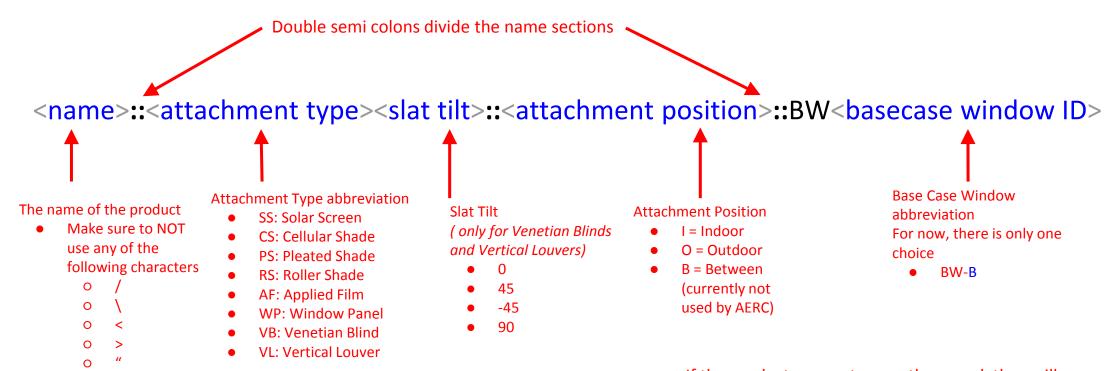


The program uses a strict naming convention to interpret what products are represented, so it is important to get the naming convention right. (See the next page)

Change the screen size with this resize handle

### **Import Products: Naming Convention**

Here is the naming convention to use in WINDOW when creating products



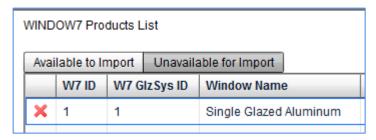
#### **Examples:**

Sample Solar Screen Outside::SS::O::BW-B

For Venetian blinds, all four slat angles must be defined

- White Venetian Blind Outside::VB0::O::BW-B
- White Venetian Blind Outside::VB45::O::BW-B
- White Venetian Blind Outside::VB-45::O::BW-B
- White Venetian Blind Outside::VB90::O::BW-B

If the products are not correctly named, they will appear in the **Unavailable for Import** tab



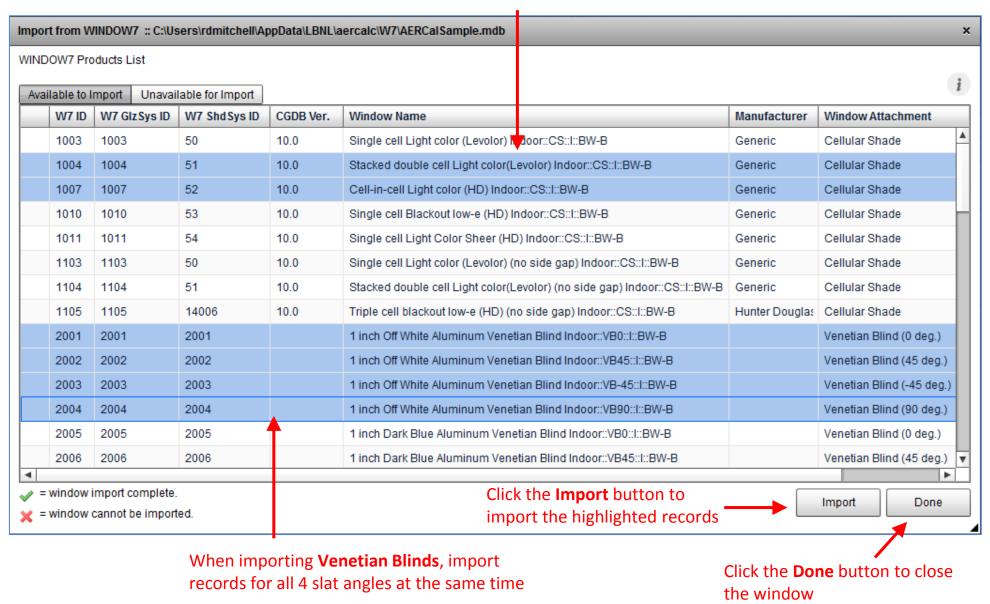
For Venetian Blinds, make sure that all the names are IDENTICAL except for the slat tilt -- the program will not be able to import them if they are not identical

### **Import Products: Select Products to Import**

#### Highlight the products to import and click the Import button

Highlight the products you want to import

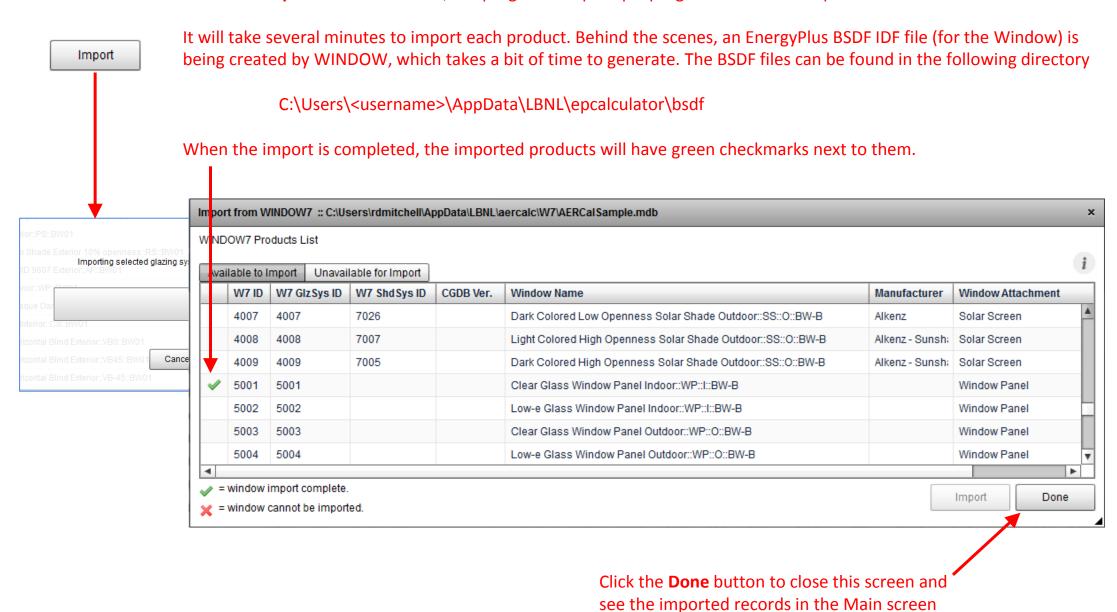
- Holding the **Shift** key down will allow selecting multiple **consecutive** records
- Holding the Ctrl key down will allow selecting multiple non-consecutive records



### **Import Products: Select Products to Import**

#### Importing products takes a while

When the **Import** button is clicked, the program will put up a progress bar for the import



### **Import Products: Imported Products in Main Screen**

#### The imported products are now shown in the Main Screen

The "X" in the BSDF field means that for some reason the BSDF file needed for the simulation does not exist. The record must be reimported

	ID 1 A	Name	BSDF	Error Status	ID	Manufacturer	W7 Product ID	W7 Glazing System ID	CGDB	CGDB Version	W7 DB	W7 Version	Window Attachment	Baseline Window	U-factor (Btu/h-ft2-F)	SHGC	TVIS	AL (cfm/ft2)	EPc	EPh
	1	Single cell Light color (Levolor) Indoor::CS::I::BW-B	4		Lev-01	Generic	1003	1003	50	10.0	C:\Us	7.6.3	cs	BW-B	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00		
	2	Stacked double cell Light color(Levolor) Indoor::CS::l::BW-B	4			Generic	1004	1004	51	10.0	C:\Us	7.6.3	cs	BW-B	0.26	0.21	0.05	2.00		
	3	Cell-in-cell Light color (HD) Indoor::CS::I::BW-B	1			Generic	1007	1007	52	10.0	C:\Us	7.6.3	cs	BW-B	0.28	0.27	0.03	2.00		
	4	Single cell Blackout low-e (HD) Indoor::CS::I::BW-B	1			Generic	1010	1010	53	10.0	C:\Us	7.6.3	cs	BW-B	0.28	0.25	0.00	2.00		
	5	Single cell Light Color Sheer (HD) Indoor::CS::I::BW-B	1			Generic	1011	1011	54	10.0	C:\Us	7.6.3	CS	BW-B	0.34	0.43	0.42	2.00		
	6	Single cell Light color (Levolor) (no side gap) Indoor::CS::I::BW-B	1			Generic	1103	1103	50	10.0	C:\Us	7.6.3	cs	BW-B	0.26	0.26	0.17	2.00		
	7	Stacked double cell Light color(Levolor) (no side gap) Indoor::CS::I::BW-B	1			Generic	1104	1104	51	10.0	C:\Us	7.6.3	CS	BW-B	0.22	0.20	0.05	2.00		
	8	Triple cell blackout low-e (HD) (no side gap) Indoor::CS::I::BW-B	×			Hunter Douglas	1105	1105	14006	10.0	C:\Us	7.6.3	cs	BW-B	0.19	0.21	0.00	2.00	43	20
	29	Light Colored Low Openness Roller Shade Indoor::RS::I::BW-B	4			Alkenz - Sunshadow	3001	3001	7015		C:\Us	7.6.3	RS	BW-B	0.35	0.19	0.10	2.00		
	30	Dark Colored Low Openness Roller Shade Indoor::RS::I::BW-B	~			Alkenz	3002	3002	7026		C:\Us	7.6.3	RS	BW-B	0.35	0.49	0.00	2.00		
<b>▼</b> ≣	31	1 inch Dark Blue Aluminum Venetian Blind Indoor																	15	5
7	32	1 inch Dark Blue Aluminum Venetian Blind Indoor::VB0::I::BW-B	4				2005	2005	2005		C:\Us	7.6.3	VB0	BW-B	0.40	0.62	0.63	2.00		
	33	1 inch Dark Blue Aluminum Venetian Blind Indoor::VB45::I::BW-B	4				2006	2006	2006		C:\Us	7.6.3	VB45	BW-B	0.40	0.52	0.08	2.00		
	34	1 inch Dark Blue Aluminum Venetian Blind Indoor::VB-45::I:BW-8	1				2007	2007	2007		C:\Us	7.6.3	VB-45	BW-B	0.40	0.52	0.08	2.00		
	35	1 inch Dark Blue Aluminum Venetian Blind Indoor::VB90::I;:BWA	1				2008	2008	2008		C:\Us	7.6.3	VB90	BW-B	0.40	0.48	0.00	2.00		
	86	Light Colored Low Openness Roller Shade Outdoor::RS::O::BN B	ar			Alkenz - Sunshadow	3006	3006	7015		C:\Us	7.6.3	RS	BW-B	0.33	0.11	0.09	2.00		
	37	Clear Glass Window Panel Indoor::WP::l::BW-B					5001	5001			C:\Us	7.6.3	WP	BW-B	0.30	0.57	0.62	2.00		

Parent Venetian Blind Product
Click the arrow icon to expand the records to show the associated "child" records or collapse the records to just show the "parent" record

**Child** Venetian Blind Product records, one for each slat angle

### **Simulating Products**

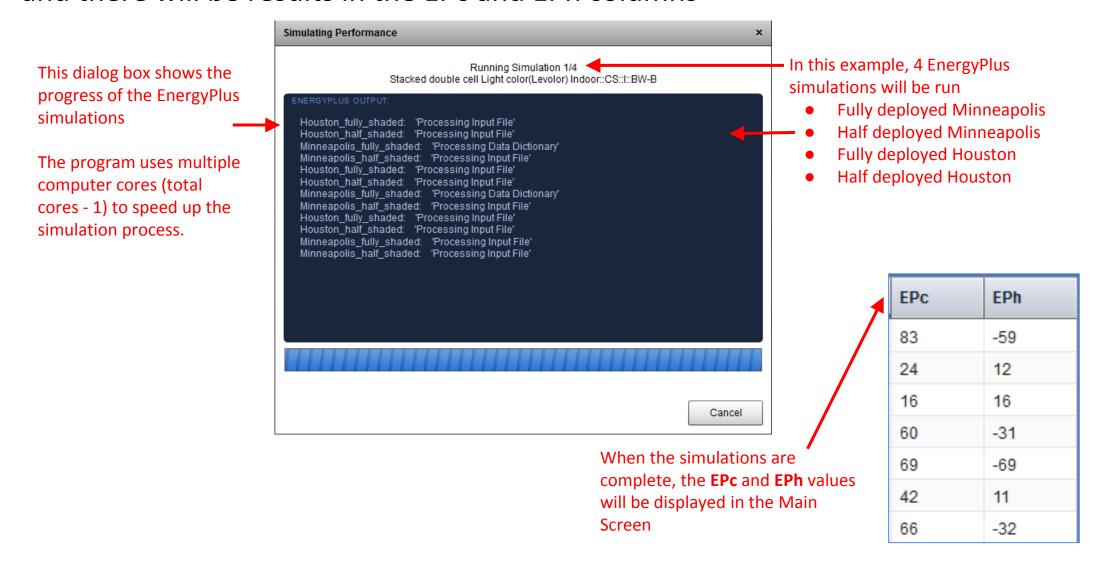
#### Select the products to be simulated and click the Run Simulation button



### **Simulating Products**

During the simulations, the program displays the progress
The simulations for each product will take quite a while, many minutes each

When all the simulations are complete, the Main Screen will again have focus and there will be results in the EPc and EPh columns



### **Simulating Products: Venetian Blind Simulation Results**

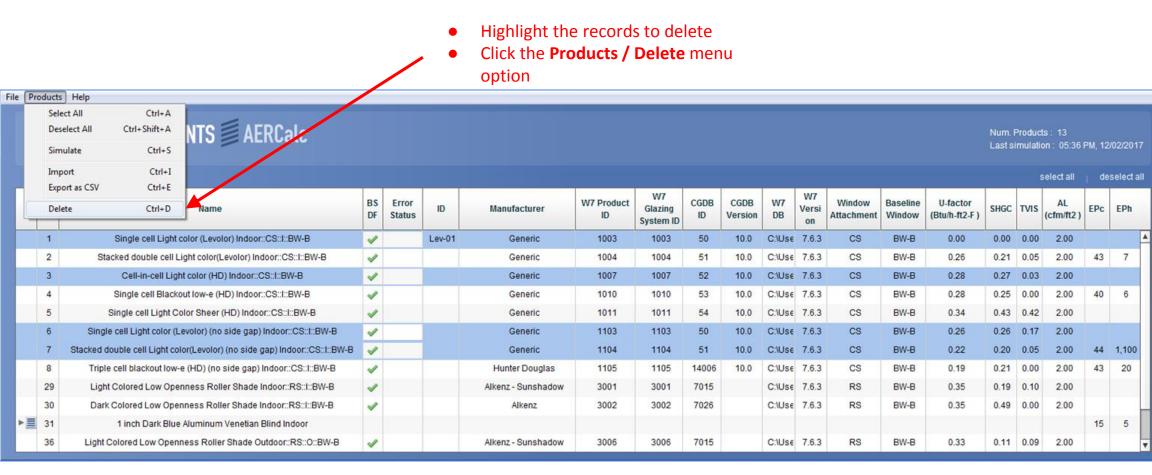
### The main screen after the Venetian Blinds have finished calculating

	I . 1 ▲	Name	BS DF	Error Status	ID	Manufacturer	W7 Product ID	W7 Glazing System ID	CGDB ID	CGDB Version	W7 DB	W7 Versi on	Window Attachment	Baseline Window	U-factor (Btu/h-ft2-F)	SHGC	TVIS	AL (cfm/ft2)	EPc	EPh	
	30	Dark Colored Low Openness Roller Shade Indoor::RS::I::BW-B	<b>4</b>			Alkenz	3002	3002	7026		C:\Use	7.6.3	RS	BW-B	0.35	0.49	0.00	2.00			A
VĒ	31	1 inch Dark Blue Aluminum Venetian Blind Indoor																	15	5	
	32	1 inch Dark Blue Aluminum Venetian Blind Indoor::VB0::I::BW-B	<b>4</b>				2005	2005	2005		C:\Use	7.6.3	VB0	BW-B	0.40	0.62	0.63	2.00	4	1	
	33	1 inch Dark Blue Aluminum Venetian Blind Indoor::VB45::I::BW-B	<b>4</b>				2006	2006	2006		C:\Use	7.6.3	VB45	BW-B	0.40	0.52	0.08	2.00	/	/	
	34	1 inch Dark Blue Aluminum Venetian Blind Indoor::VB-45::I::BW-B	<b>✓</b>				2007	2007	2007		C:\Use	7.6.3	VB-45	BW-B	0.40	0.52	0.08	2.00			
	35	1 inch Dark Blue Aluminum Venetian Blind Indoor::VB90::I::BW-B	<b>4</b>				2008	2008	2008		C:\Use	7.6.3	VB90	BW-B	0.40	0.48	0.00	2.00			
	36	Light Colored Low Openness Roller Shade Outdoor::RS::O::BW-B	<b>4</b>			Alkenz - Sunshadow	3006	3006	7015		C:\Use	7.6.3	RS	BW-B	0.33	0.11	0.09	2.00			
	37	Clear Glass Window Panel Indoor::WP::I::BW-B	4				5001	5001			C:\Use	7.6.3	WP	BW-B	0.30	0.57	0.62	2.00			
																					٧

The results for **EPc** and **EPh** are shown only for the master **Venetian Blind** record

#### **Delete Products**

Delete products by highlighting them, then using the Products/Delete menu



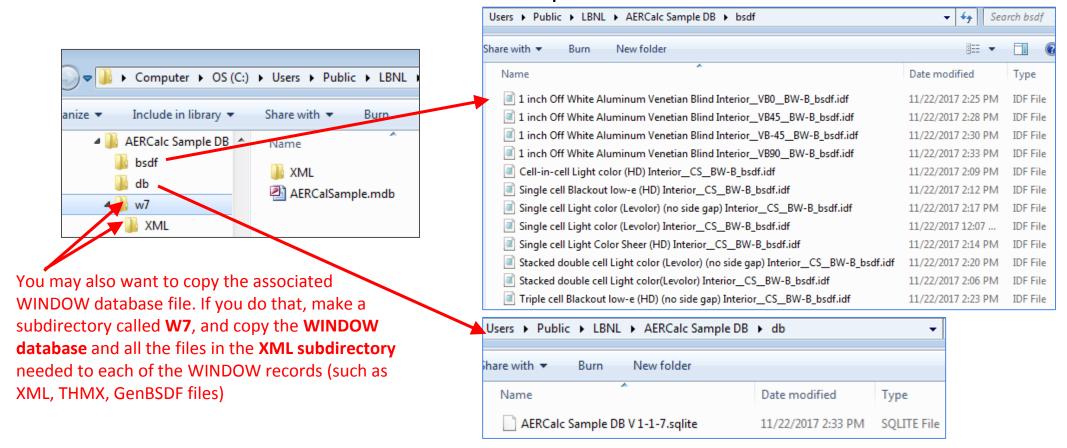


### **Projects**

#### AERCalc is organized around a concept of Projects

A Project is defined as a folder which contains the minimum set of files needed by AERCalc. These folders are

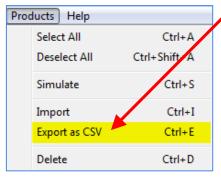
- o **bsdf:** a folder containing the Energy Plus BSDF IDF files (generated by WINDOW when records are imported into AERCalc) needed for the simulations that are used to calculate EPc and EPh. There should be one BSDF IDF file for every product in the AERCalc main screen
- o **db:** a folder that contains the AERCalc sqlite database



### **Export**

#### Export a CSV file of all the Products in the Main Screen

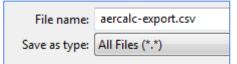




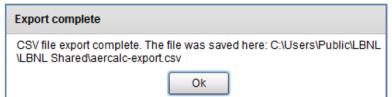


The program allows you to save the file to any

folder and with any name (keep the CSV extension)



#### The program confirms the filename and location



#### Open the file to view the exported results



### **Export: Venetian Blinds and Vertical Louvers**

For Venetian Blinds and Vertical Louvers, the Parent record in the export file will not have values for

U-factor SHCG Tvis

These values are associated with the Child records for each of the four slat angle cases.

For the file to be uploaded to the CPD, the values for those field from the appropriate Child record must be copied into the Parent record.

# **Export: Fields**

The table below lists all of the fields in the AERCalc export file.

AERCalc Record ID	Auto-incrementing ID given to each record that is imported from WINDOW into AERCalc. It can be turned on and off in File/Preferences
Parent ID	For Venetian blinds and vertical slats that have Parent and child records, this is the ID of the parent record
Parent/Child	For Venetian blinds and vertical slate that have Parent and child records, this indicates which is the Parent (P) and the child (C)
CGDB Version	The CGDB version number for the shading layer
Simulated Product Name	Name of Window (product) as defined in the Window Library, that the record was imported from (from the WINDOW database)
W7 ID	Window ID from the Window Library (from the WINDOW database)
W7 Glz Sys ID	Glazing System ID used in the Window (from the WINDOW database)
CGDB ID	The Shading System ID used in the Glazing System in the Window (from the WINDOW database)
Shading System Type	Abbreviation for Shading system
AERC Baseline Window Type	Abbreviation for the AERC Baseline Window Type
U-factor (Btu/h-ft²-ºF)	U-factor of the AERC Baseline Window with the shading system (from the WINDOW database)
SHGC	Solar Heat Gain Coefficient of the AERC Baseline Window with the shading system (from the WINDOW database)
VT	Visible Transmittance of the AERC Baseline Window with the shading system (from the WINDOW database)
TvT	
AL (cfm/ft²)	Air Leakage of the AERC Baseline Window with the shading system
EPc Ratio	Energy Performance ratio for cooling
EPh Ratio	Energy Performance ratio for heating
EPc	EPc Ratio multiplied by 100
EPh	EPh Ratio multiplied by 100

## **Export: Fields**

### The table below lists all of the fields in the main screen.

WINDOW Origin DB Filepath	WINDOW database name including full path
THERM Files	THERM files used to define the frames for the product being modeled
Manufacturer	Manufacturer of the product, from the Manufacturer field in the Shading Layer Library (WINDOW database)
Material Manufacturer	Material Manufacturer of the product, from the Shade Material Library reference in the Shading Layer Library (WINDOW database)
AERCalc Version	Version of AERCalc used to calculate the EPh and EPc results
WINDOW Version	Version of WINDOW used to import the products from the WINDOW database
EnergyPlus Version	Version of EnergyPlus used to simulate the models used to calculate the EPh and EPc values
ESCalc Version	Version of the internal AERCalc calculation module called "ESCalc", which calculates EPh and EPc from the EnergyPlus results
BSDF	The status of the EnergyPlus BSDF IDF file generated by WINDOW when a record is imported
Status	Indication of a record having been calculated with a previous version of AERCalc, EnergyPlus, WINDOW or ESCalc
AERC ID	An ID input by the user
Emissivity Front	Emissivity of the front side (Outside) of the product
Emissivity Back	Emissivity of the back side (Inside) of the product
Tsol	Solar transmittance of the product
Attachment Position	Position of the attachment in the glazing system, either Indoor or Outdoor.