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For Use With Version: 2018

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SOLIDWORKS PDM Comparison Matrix

NOTE: Workgroup PDM has been retired as of 2018

Features	SOLIDWORKS PDM Standard	SOLIDWORKS PDM Professional
Recommended Users	1-5	5+
Database Limitations	10 Gb (SQL Express)	524 Pb (SQL Server)
RAM Limitations	1 GB	128 GB
SOLIDWORKS Compatibility ¹	Same Major Release Version	2 Previous Major Release Versions
SOLIDWORKS Add-in	√	√
eDrawings Preview	√	√
CAD Editor Client	√	√
Contributor Client	√	√
Viewer Client	√	√
Offline Mode	√	√
Version Free Variables ²	√	√
Number of Workflow States	10	Unlimited
Number of Revision Schemes	2	Unlimited
Enhanced Copy Capabilities ³	√	√
Number of Workflows	1	Unlimited
Transition Actions between States	Limited ⁴	√
Notifications- PDM Inbox (Database)	√	√
DraftSight Professional Add-in	√	√
Integrated Search Tool ⁵	√	√
Dedicated Search Tool ⁵		√
Automated Tasks	Limited ¹⁴	√
Branching and Merging ¹⁵		√
Serial Numbering		√
API (Macros)		√
Content Search (Indexing) ⁶		√
Web Client (Remote Access)		√
Feature Comparison between Versions		√
Notifications - Email (SMTP)		√
Multi-Site Replication		√
Enhanced Move Capabilities (Move Tree)		√
Search Favorites		√
External Viewer Integration ⁷		√

Features	SOLIDWORKS PDM Standard	SOLIDWORKS PDM Professional
Multi-Document Preview ⁸		√
File and Folder Templates		√
Parallel Approvals		√
Active Directory (Windows Domain) and LDAP Login		√
Report Generator		√
File Categories		√
Version Labels (Notes)		√
Central Card Lists ⁹		√
Named (Custom) Bill of Materials		√
Paste Shared Links ¹⁰		√
Menu and Toolbar Customization		√
Multi-CAD Support ¹¹		√
Office Add-in		√
PTC/Creo Add-in		√
Automated Data Import/Export		√
Custom Add-in Support		√
Dispatch ¹²		√
Item Support ¹³		√
Integration with SW Inspection		√

See Footnotes below for more details on specific features.

Footnotes:

- ¹ Related to the SOLIDWORKS Instance on the client machine. PDM Professional will work with earlier versions of SOLIDWORKS
- ² Variables can be updated without the file needing to be checked out
- ³ Refers to the 'Copy Tree' function found in both PDM Standard/Professional
- ⁴ Limitations include the inability to have 2 or more transitions to and from the same states and no parallel or automatic transitions (only 'Normal')
- ⁵ The Integrated Search Tool is integrated the PDM Standard/Professional Vault View Interface. The Dedicated Search tool is a separate utility program/window.
- ⁶ Ability to use Microsoft Windows Indexing for content searching
- ⁷ Ability to specify a program to view specific file types. For example, specify Nitro Reader instead of Acrobat Reader to view PDF Files
- ⁸ Ability to preview non SOLIDWORKS documents such as Microsoft Office documents, PDF files and 250 other common file formats through PDM preview tab
- ⁹ The ability to maintain and update list values for data card lists or selection boxes (i.e. pull-down lists) without having to modify the list values in each card individually
- ¹⁰ Ability to paste links (instead of copying the files) of files from one folder into another folder
- ¹¹ Ability to Access the PDM Add-in AutoCAD, Inventor, ProE and Solid Edge
- ¹² A tool that allows the automation of certain PDM tasks without the use of APIs or custom programming
- ¹³ A Item is a collection of metadata and live entirely in the PDM vault. They are treated like physical documents (i.e. check-in/out), but contain no actual files
- ¹⁴ PDM Standard now has the capability to auto produce PDF files via the workflow for SOLIDWORKS Drawing Files (slddrw) only
- ¹⁵ Functions used to handle various design change scenarios including multiple design improvement approaches (i.e. prototyping), engineering change requests, and working with external design consultants

Please do not hesitate to reach out if you have any questions or require further support:

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