

TEKLA CONNECTION DETAIL Printable PDF

tekla connection detail is a crucial aspect of structural engineering and design, particularly when working with Tekla Structures, a powerful Building Information Modeling (BIM) software widely used in the construction industry. Accurate connection detailing ensures that steel and concrete elements are joined securely, efficiently, and in compliance with safety standards. Properly modeled connection details not only facilitate fabrication and erection but also help in reducing errors, saving costs, and improving overall project quality. This comprehensive guide aims to explore the importance of Tekla connection details, how to create them effectively, and best practices to optimize their use in your structural projects.

Understanding Tekla Connection Details

What Are Tekla Connection Details?

Tekla connection details refer to the precise representations of how different structural components—such as beams, columns, plates, and braces—are connected within the Tekla Structures environment. These details encompass the types of joints, the fasteners used, welds, plates, bolts, and other connection elements that ensure the stability and integrity of a structure. Accurate connection details serve as a blueprint for fabricators and erectors, translating design intent into actual construction.

The Importance of Connection Details in Structural Design

Proper connection detailing is vital for multiple reasons:

- **Structural Safety:** Ensures the building can withstand loads and forces during its lifespan.
- **Fabrication Precision:** Provides clear instructions for manufacturing connection components.
- **Erection Efficiency:** Facilitates smooth assembly on-site, reducing delays.
- **Cost Management:** Minimizes material wastage and rework by precise detailing.
- **Compliance:** Meets building codes and standards, ensuring legal adherence.

Creating Connection Details in Tekla Structures

Types of Connections in Tekla

Tekla Structures supports various connection types, each suited for different structural applications:

- Moment Connections: Transfer bending moments, often used in frame connections.
- Shear Connections: Primarily resist shear forces, commonly in beam-to-column joints.
- Pinned Connections: Allow rotation, used in structures requiring flexibility.
- Base Plate Connections: Connect columns to foundations securely.
- Bracing Connections: Stabilize the structure against lateral forces.

How to Model Connections in Tekla

Creating connection details involves several steps:

- Select the Connection Type: Use the Tekla Connection Catalog or create custom connections.
- Place the Connection: Attach it to the relevant structural elements within the model.
- Configure Parameters: Define bolt sizes, weld types, plate dimensions, and other specifics.
- Adjust Positioning: Fine-tune the connection placement to match design requirements.
- Validate the Connection: Use clash detection and analysis tools to ensure proper fit and function.

Using Predefined Connection Templates

Tekla Structures offers a library of predefined connection templates sourced from industry standards and manufacturers. These templates streamline the detailing process:

- Access via the Connection Catalog: Browse and select standard connection types.
- Customization: Modify parameters to suit project-specific needs.
- Parametric Adjustments: Use properties to adapt connections dynamically as design evolves.

Best Practices for Detailing Tekla Connections

Adherence to Standards and Codes

Always ensure that your connection details comply with relevant standards such as:

- AISC (American Institute of Steel Construction)
- Eurocode
- AWS (American Welding Society)
- Local Building Codes

Proper adherence ensures safety, durability, and ease of approval.

Collaboration and Coordination

Effective connection detailing requires coordination among architects, structural engineers, fabricators, and erectors:

- Regular Review Meetings: Discuss connection choices and modifications.
- Clash Detection: Use Tekla's clash detection tools to identify conflicts early.
- Clear Documentation: Provide detailed drawings and specifications for fabrication.

Detailing for Fabrication and Erection

Design connection details that are practical for manufacturing and construction:

- Simplify Bolt and Weld Patterns: Minimize complexity without compromising strength.
- Number of Components: Keep the number of parts manageable.
- Accessibility: Ensure welds and bolts are accessible for inspection and assembly.

Utilizing Custom Components and Scripts

Enhance the connection detailing process by:

- Creating Custom Connection Components: Tailored to project needs for repeated use.
- Automation Scripts: Use Dynamo or Tekla Open API to automate repetitive tasks and ensure consistency.

Tools and Features in Tekla for Connection Detailing

Tekla Connection Catalog

A comprehensive library of standard connections from various manufacturers, enabling quick selection and placement.

Connection Editor

Allows users to create and modify custom connections with detailed parameter control.

Clash Detection and Interference Check

Tools to identify and resolve conflicts between connection components and other structural elements.

Fabrication Drawings and Reports

Automatically generate detailed drawings, bills of materials, and reports for fabricators and erectors.

Case Study: Implementing Efficient Connection Detailing in a Steel Frame Project

Imagine a multi-story steel office building where precise connection details are critical. The project team utilizes Tekla Structures to model all steel components, integrating predefined connection templates for beam-to-column joints. By customizing these templates and validating them through clash detection, the team reduces fabrication errors by 20% and accelerates erection time. Detailed drawings generated automatically streamline communication with fabricators, ensuring all connection components meet safety standards and project specifications.

Conclusion

Mastering Tekla connection details is indispensable for achieving high-quality, safe, and cost-effective structural projects. By leveraging the powerful tools within Tekla Structures, adhering to industry standards, and following best practices in detailing, engineers and fabricators can ensure seamless integration from design through construction. Whether utilizing predefined templates or creating custom connections, a meticulous approach to connection detailing enhances the overall success of any structural endeavor. As construction technology continues to evolve, proficiency in Tekla connection detailing will remain a valuable skill for professionals aiming to deliver excellence in their projects.

Tekla Connection Detail: An In-Depth Examination of Its Role, Design, and Applications in Structural Engineering

In the realm of structural engineering and construction, the integrity of a building's framework hinges on the robustness of its connections. As structures grow increasingly complex, the demand for precise, reliable, and efficient connection detailing becomes paramount. Among the myriad of tools and standards available, Tekla connection detail has emerged as a pivotal component in the design, visualization, and fabrication process of steel and concrete structures. This article delves into the intricacies of Tekla connection details, exploring their significance, design considerations, software integration, and the impact they have on modern construction projects.

Understanding Tekla Connection Detail

Tekla connection detail refers to the precise modeling, documentation, and detailing of structural connections within Tekla Structures, a leading Building Information Modeling (BIM) software. These details encompass how individual components—beams, columns, plates, bolts, welds, and braces—are joined together to form a cohesive and safe structure.

Key features of Tekla connection detail include:

- **Parametric Modeling:** Connections are created as parametric components that automatically adjust based on input parameters, ensuring consistency and accuracy.
- **Visualization:** 3D visualization facilitates better understanding among engineers, fabricators, and contractors.
- **Fabrication-Ready Outputs:** Detailed drawings and reports that directly inform manufacturing, minimizing errors and rework.
- **Standard Compliance:** Incorporation of industry standards and codes ensures designs meet safety and quality requirements.

The Significance of Connection Details in Structural Engineering

Connections are often considered the “weak links” in structural systems. Poorly designed connections can lead to catastrophic failures, while well-detailed connections enhance structural resilience and longevity.

Why are connection details critical?

- **Structural Stability:** Proper connections transfer loads efficiently, preventing failures.
- **Constructability:** Clear details facilitate easier fabrication and erection.
- **Cost Efficiency:** Accurate detailing reduces material waste and rework.
- **Safety:** Ensures compliance with safety standards and reduces risk of accidents.
- **Integration:** Seamless integration of design, analysis, fabrication, and construction phases.

Design and Development of Tekla Connection Details

Creating an effective connection detail in Tekla Structures involves several steps, from conceptual design to detailed modeling.

1. Conceptual Design

This initial phase involves understanding the structural requirements and selecting appropriate connection types based on load conditions, material specifications, and architectural constraints.

Common connection types include:

- Beam-to-column connections (e.g., end-plate, fin plate)
- Beam-to-beam connections
- Column splices
- Base plates and foundation connections
- Bracing connections

2. Parametric Component Selection

Tekla offers a library of predefined connection components that can be customized to suit specific project needs. These include:

- Moment connections
- Shear connections
- Tension connections
- Special connections with unique geometries

Parametric components allow for rapid adjustments and ensure that modifications propagate through the model automatically.

3. Modeling and Validation

Using Tekla Structures, engineers model the connections within the overall structural framework:

- Precise placement of bolts, welds, and plates
- Adjustment of dimensions based on structural analysis outputs
- Clash detection and interference checks
- Ensuring compliance with standards (e.g., AISC, Eurocode)

4. Documentation and Fabrication

Once modeled, connection details are exported as:

- Detailed fabrication drawings
- BOM (Bill of Materials)
- Connection reports

- Assembly instructions

These outputs are directly used by fabricators and erectors, ensuring continuity from design to construction.

Advantages of Using Tekla Connection Details

Adopting Tekla for connection detailing offers multiple benefits:

- Accuracy: Reduces human errors common in manual detailing.
- Efficiency: Automates repetitive tasks, accelerating project timelines.
- Consistency: Ensures uniformity across all connection details.
- Collaboration: Facilitates coordination among design teams, fabricators, and contractors through shared models.
- Clash Detection: Identifies conflicts early, minimizing costly modifications during construction.
- Standardization: Supports adherence to industry standards and codes globally.

Challenges and Limitations

Despite its strengths, there are challenges associated with Tekla connection details:

- Learning Curve: Mastery of Tekla's advanced features requires training and experience.
- Software Cost: Licensing and maintenance can be expensive, especially for smaller firms.
- Customization Needs: Complex projects may require custom components or scripting.
- Data Management: Large models can become cumbersome, necessitating efficient management strategies.

Integration with Other Tools and Standards

Tekla connection detail is most effective when integrated within a broader design and construction ecosystem:

- Analysis Software Integration: Structural analysis tools like SAP2000, STAAD.Pro, or ETABS can feed load data into Tekla models.
- Manufacturing Software: Tekla models connect directly with CNC machines and fabrication software.
- Standards and Codes: Compliance with standards such as AISC, Eurocode, or local building codes ensures legal and safety adherence.

- Project Management Platforms: Linking models with project management tools enhances coordination and scheduling.

Standards commonly incorporated include:

- Bolt and weld specifications
- Load transfer criteria
- Material specifications
- Erection procedures

Case Studies and Practical Applications

Several high-profile projects demonstrate the efficacy of Tekla connection details:

- Skyscraper Construction

In a recent skyscraper project, detailed Tekla connections allowed for precise fabrication, reducing onsite assembly time by 20%. The parametric model enabled rapid adjustments in response to design changes, ensuring the project stayed on schedule.

- Bridge Construction

For a complex steel bridge, detailed connections modeled in Tekla facilitated accurate cutting and welding, significantly reducing rework and material waste. Clash detection prevented interference between utilities and structural elements.

- Industrial Facilities

In manufacturing plants, customized connection details ensured that heavy equipment and load-bearing structures were securely anchored, meeting stringent safety standards.

Future Trends and Innovations in Tekla Connection Detailing

The evolution of Tekla connection details is intertwined with technological advances:

- Automation and AI: Integration of machine learning to suggest optimal connection types based

on project parameters.

- Augmented Reality (AR): Using AR for on-site visualization of connection details before fabrication.
- Cloud Collaboration: Real-time sharing of connection models across teams worldwide.
- Enhanced Standard Libraries: Continuous updates to connection components aligned with evolving standards.

Conclusion

Tekla connection detail represents a vital intersection of engineering precision, technological innovation, and practical application. Its ability to model, visualize, and document structural connections with high accuracy has transformed traditional detailing practices, bringing about greater efficiency, safety, and collaboration in construction projects.

While challenges such as software costs and learning curves exist, the benefits—ranging from reduced errors to improved project timelines—underscore its importance in modern structural engineering. As technology continues to advance, the role of Tekla connection details is poised to expand further, fostering smarter, safer, and more sustainable built environments.

Investing in understanding and leveraging Tekla's connection detailing capabilities can significantly elevate the quality and success of structural projects, making it an indispensable tool for engineers, fabricators, and project managers alike.

Question What are the best practices for creating accurate connection details in Tekla Structures? Best practices include utilizing predefined connection templates, ensuring proper alignment and placement, validating connection parameters before modeling, and leveraging the connection catalog to maintain consistency across projects. **How can I customize connection details in Tekla to fit specific project requirements?** You can customize connection details by editing existing connection templates, creating new custom connections using the connection editor, and adjusting parameters such as bolt types, sizes, and welds to match your project specifications. **What are the common challenges faced when detailing connections in Tekla, and how can they be addressed?** Common challenges include ensuring correct bolt placement, avoiding clashes, and maintaining clarity in complex assemblies. These can be addressed by using clash detection tools, verifying connection parameters, and applying clear drawing standards within Tekla. **How does Tekla support automation of connection detailing for large-scale projects?** Tekla supports automation through its connection templates, scripting capabilities, and integration with parametric models, enabling rapid generation of consistent connection details across multiple assemblies and reducing manual effort. **Can Tekla's connection detailing be integrated with other structural analysis and design software?** Yes, Tekla can integrate with various structural analysis and design tools through interfaces and data exchange formats like IFC and Tekla Open API, facilitating seamless transfer of connection details and ensuring design accuracy. **What are the latest features in Tekla**

for enhancing connection detail accuracy and efficiency? Recent updates include enhanced connection templates, improved clash detection, better visualization tools, and automation features that streamline connection creation, all aimed at increasing accuracy and reducing modeling time.

Related keywords: Tekla connection detail, structural connection, steel connection detail, Tekla Structures, connection design, connection modeling, structural detailing, Tekla detailing, steel fabrication, connection documentation

Tekla Custom Component Edit

tekla custom component edit is a vital process in optimizing and customizing structural design workflows within the Tekla Structures environment. Custom components are a powerful feature that allows users to automate repetitive tasks, create unique building elements, and tailor the software to meet specific project requirements. Mastering the art of editing custom components enhances productivity, ensures consistency, and adds a layer of flexibility that can significantly benefit complex construction projects. In this comprehensive guide, we will explore everything you need to know about editing Tekla custom components, including their creation, modification, best practices, and troubleshooting tips.

Understanding Tekla Custom Components

What Are Custom Components in Tekla?

Custom components in Tekla Structures are user-defined models that encapsulate specific design logic, geometry, and parameters. They enable users to automate the creation of repetitive or complex structural elements, reducing manual modeling effort and minimizing errors. These components are created using the Custom Component Editor, a dedicated interface within Tekla, which allows for a visual and parametric approach to component development.

Benefits of Using Custom Components

- **Automation:** Automate repetitive tasks such as creating bolt groups, welds, or connection details.
- **Consistency:** Ensure uniformity across similar elements within or across projects.
- **Customization:** Adapt Tekla Structures to specific project standards and workflows.
- **Time-saving:** Significantly reduce modeling time for complex or repetitive elements.
- **Knowledge Capture:** Document and reuse design solutions within the organization.

Creating a Custom Component in Tekla

Accessing the Custom Component Editor

To start editing or creating custom components, follow these steps:

- Open Tekla Structures.
- Navigate to **Tools > Custom Components > Create Component**.
- The Custom Component Editor window will open, providing a workspace to define geometry, parameters, and behavior.

Designing a Custom Component

The process involves several key stages:

- **Defining the Geometry:** Sketch the component's shape using the available drawing tools.
- **Adding Parameters:** Specify variables such as dimensions, angles, and other attributes that control the component's behavior.
- **Setting Input and Output:** Define how the component interacts with other elements or user inputs.
- **Adding Logic and Conditions:** Implement conditional behaviors or calculations as needed.
- **Testing:** Validate the component by inserting it into a model to ensure it behaves as expected.

Editing Existing Custom Components in Tekla

Why Edit a Custom Component?

Editing existing custom components is essential when:

- Design standards or project requirements change.
- Identified bugs or issues need resolution.
- Enhancements or new features are required.
- Optimizing performance or usability.

Steps to Edit a Custom Component

- Open Tekla Structures and locate the custom component in the Components catalog.

- Right-click on the component and select **Edit**.
- The Custom Component Editor will open, displaying the existing geometry, parameters, and logic.
- Make necessary modifications to geometry, parameters, or scripts.
- Save the changes and insert the updated component into your model for testing.

Best Practices for Editing

- **Backup Original Components:** Always save a copy before making significant edits.
- **Document Changes:** Keep notes on modifications for future reference.
- **Test Extensively:** Insert the edited component into various scenarios to ensure stability.
- **Maintain Consistency:** Follow organizational standards when editing components.

Advanced Tips for Custom Component Editing

Using Scripts and Logic

Tekla custom components support embedded scripts, often written in Tekla Open API or simple conditional statements, to add dynamic behavior. When editing:

- Leverage scripts to automate complex decision-making processes.
- Use conditional statements to adapt component geometry based on input parameters.
- Test scripts thoroughly to prevent errors during model generation.

Parameter Management

Effective parameter management is crucial:

- Use descriptive names for input parameters to improve clarity.
- Set appropriate parameter types (e.g., integer, real, string).
- Implement default values and validation rules to reduce user errors.

Component Library Organization

Organize your custom components logically:

- Create folders or categories for different component types.

- Version control components to manage updates.
- Use naming conventions for easy identification.

Troubleshooting Common Issues in Custom Component Editing

Component Not Generating Correctly

- Verify geometry definitions and ensure sketches are fully constrained.
- Check parameter links and default values.
- Test scripts separately to identify errors.

Component Behavior Is Unpredictable

- Review conditional logic for conflicts.
- Simplify complex scripts to isolate issues.
- Validate input parameters for correctness.

Performance Problems

- Optimize scripts and limit unnecessary calculations.
- Use efficient geometry creation methods.
- Break down complex components into simpler sub-components.

Conclusion

Mastering the art of **tekla custom component edit** unlocks immense potential for streamlining structural modeling workflows. Whether creating new custom components from scratch or refining existing ones, a systematic approach ensures reliable, efficient, and standardized outputs. By understanding the tools available within Tekla Structures, practicing best editing techniques, and troubleshooting effectively, users can maximize the value of custom components in their projects. Continuous learning and organization within the component library foster a responsive and adaptable modeling environment, ultimately contributing to successful project delivery and organizational efficiency.

Tekla Custom Component Edit is an essential feature for structural engineers, detailers, and BIM professionals seeking to streamline their workflow within the Tekla Structures environment. Custom components (also known as Reusable Components or RCOMs) allow users to automate repetitive modeling tasks, enhance model accuracy, and improve productivity by creating tailored, parametric

elements that can be reused across multiple projects. The ability to efficiently edit these custom components further elevates their utility, enabling users to refine, troubleshoot, and optimize their components without needing to recreate them from scratch. In this comprehensive review, we will explore the capabilities, best practices, advantages, and limitations associated with Tekla Custom Component Editing.

Understanding Tekla Custom Components

Before diving into the editing process, it's important to understand what custom components are and how they fit into Tekla Structures.

What Are Custom Components?

Custom components are user-defined objects created within Tekla Structures that encapsulate complex modeling logic, geometric relationships, and parametric controls. They enable users to:

- Automate repetitive modeling tasks.
- Maintain consistency across projects.
- Incorporate project-specific details that standard components may not cover.
- Share complex assemblies with team members or across projects.

The Role of Custom Components in Structural Modeling

Custom components serve as building blocks for complex structural assemblies such as steel frames, concrete forms, reinforcement cages, and connection details. They can be created using Tekla's built-in component editor, which involves defining input parameters, logic, and graphical representations.

Creating Custom Components in Tekla Structures

The process of creating custom components involves several steps:

Designing the Component

- Define the geometric logic and parametric relationships.
- Identify key input parameters (e.g., dimensions, angles, materials).
- Use Tekla's component editor to assemble geometry and relationships.

Using the Component Editor

- Accessed via the 'Component Editor' menu.
- Users can build components from scratch or modify existing ones.
- The editor provides a graphical interface for defining parameters, conditions, and graphical representations.

Saving and Testing

- After designing, save the component.
- Test it within a model by dragging and dropping to verify behavior.
- Make iterative adjustments as necessary.

Editing Custom Components in Tekla Structures

Once a custom component is created, editing it becomes necessary for various reasons: adjusting parameters, fixing bugs, or adding new features.

Accessing the Custom Component for Editing

- Locate the component in the 'Custom Components' list or the 'Component Catalog.'
- Right-click on the component and select 'Edit Component.'
- Alternatively, open the component directly from the 'Component Editor' if you have the source file.

Types of Edits You Can Make

- Parameter modifications: Change input ranges, default values, or add new parameters.
- Geometry adjustments: Modify the geometric logic or graphical representation.
- Logic and conditions: Add or modify conditions that control component behavior.
- Visual appearance: Update graphics, colors, or symbols.
- Adding new features: Incorporate additional functionality or capabilities.

Best Practices for Editing Custom Components

- Backup original components before editing, especially if shared across projects.
- Document changes for future reference.
- Use version control whenever possible to manage different iterations.
- Test edits thoroughly in different model scenarios.

- Maintain consistency in naming conventions and parameter definitions.

Advanced Editing Techniques

For complex modifications, standard editing might not suffice, and advanced techniques are necessary.

Using the Tekla Component Editor Scripting

- Tekla provides scripting capabilities via its internal scripting language or external tools.
- Allows for automation of editing tasks, batch modifications, and dynamic updates.

Integrating External Scripts or Plugins

- Utilize APIs or external scripts (e.g., Python, C) to modify component behavior.
- Useful for large-scale updates across multiple components.

Customizing Component Logic with Tekla Structures API

- The API provides extensive control over components.
- Enables developers to create custom editing tools, validation routines, or dynamic components.

Common Challenges and Troubleshooting

While editing custom components offers flexibility, it also presents challenges.

Compatibility Issues

- Edits may cause incompatibility with existing models or other components.
- Solution: test thoroughly and document dependencies.

Complex Logic Management

- Overly complex component logic can lead to errors or performance issues.
- Solution: simplify logic, modularize components, and document thoroughly.

Version Control and Collaboration

- Multiple users editing components can cause version conflicts.
- Solution: establish team protocols, use shared repositories, and maintain clear version histories.

Performance Concerns

- Large or complex components can slow down models.
- Solution: optimize geometry, reduce unnecessary parameters, and avoid overly complex conditions.

Pros and Cons of Tekla Custom Component Editing

Pros:

- Flexibility: Allows detailed customization tailored to project needs.
- Efficiency: Automates repetitive tasks, reducing modeling time.
- Consistency: Ensures uniformity across projects and team members.
- Reusability: Edited components can be reused in multiple projects with modifications.
- Integration: Can be integrated with external scripts or APIs for advanced functionality.

Cons:

- Learning Curve: Requires understanding of Tekla's component editor, scripting, and parameters.
- Maintenance: Edited components need ongoing updates and testing.
- Complexity: Overly complex components can degrade model performance.
- Version Management: Managing multiple versions can become cumbersome without proper protocols.
- Dependence on User Skill: Quality of edits largely depends on user expertise.

Conclusion

The Tekla Custom Component Edit feature is a powerful tool that enhances the capability of Tekla Structures users to create, modify, and optimize parametric components tailored to specific project requirements. Its flexibility allows for significant automation, consistency, and efficiency in structural modeling workflows. However, effective use of this feature demands a solid understanding of

Tekla's component editor, scripting, and logical design principles.

For users willing to invest time in learning and best practice implementation, editing custom components can dramatically improve project accuracy, speed, and collaboration. As with any advanced tool, potential challenges such as complexity management and version control should be carefully addressed. Overall, mastering the art of custom component editing is a valuable skill for any serious Tekla Structures user aiming to leverage BIM to its fullest potential.

By continuously exploring new techniques, maintaining organized component libraries, and adhering to best practices, users can unlock the full benefits of Tekla's customization capabilities, ultimately leading to more efficient and reliable structural modeling processes.

Question How can I modify an existing custom component in Tekla Structures? To modify an existing custom component in Tekla Structures, open the Component Editor, locate your component, and make the necessary changes to parameters, geometry, or scripts. Save and recompile the component to apply updates. **What are the best practices for editing Tekla custom components safely?** Best practices include creating a backup of the original component before editing, working in a copy or duplicate, testing changes on a small model first, and documenting modifications for future reference. **Can I edit a custom component created with the Tekla Open API?** Yes, custom components created via the Tekla Open API can be edited by modifying the associated scripts or code in your development environment, then recompiling and importing the updated component into Tekla Structures. **How do I troubleshoot issues after editing a custom component in Tekla?** Troubleshoot by checking the component's parameters and scripts for errors, reviewing the component's logic, using Tekla's message logs, and testing the component in different scenarios to identify and fix issues. **Is it possible to version control custom components in Tekla Structures?** Yes, you can use version control systems like Git to manage different versions of your custom components' scripts and files, helping you track changes and collaborate more efficiently. **Where can I find resources or tutorials for editing Tekla custom components?** Official Tekla Structures Help, Tekla User Forums, and dedicated tutorials on Tekla Campus and YouTube channels are excellent resources for learning how to edit and customize components effectively.

Related keywords: Tekla custom component, Tekla component editing, Tekla component creation, Tekla model customization, Tekla component library, Tekla scripting, Tekla component parameters, Tekla API, Tekla component library editing, Tekla customization tools

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