

# Accelerate Projects with Data-Centric Engineering

## Frequently Asked Questions

**Q: Can ABE manage multiple data cases? (e.g., values from Winter, Summer and Main Design cases)**

A: Yes. ABE provides the capability to manage multiple cases, each with its own set of data and conditions. ABE also allows to define a governing case based on multiple cases.

**Q: Can deliverables created in ABE combine values from multiple cases as Main Design Case?**

A: Yes, thanks to its integration with Excel for Datasheets and Equipment Lists, ABE allows users to select different sets of data when creating deliverables and combine them accordingly. This is also possible for PFDs.

**Q: If we have a standard unit design, can it be imported as a whole and integrated with new equipment?**

A: Yes, that is possible. The idea here is allow/enable data reuse as much as possible.

**Q: Does the integration between ABE and ACCE require any middle step or middle tools such as a spreadsheet?**

A: The data from ABE and ACCE is mapped using a dedicated tool called the cost mapper. There is no excel spreadsheet involved in the transfer.

**Q: Does ABE offer a dedicated tool to draw PFDs?**

A: Yes, ABE provides a dedicated environment to create PFDs called Drawing Editor.

**Q: What is the latest version available of ABE?**

A: The current latest version of ABE is V14.2.

**Q: In the webinar demo many different safety datasheets are shown. Is there a dedicated datasheet for every relief scenario?**

A: Yes, within the safety environment users can create multiple datasheets for a relief device, this includes creating a separate document for each emergency scenario if required.

**Q: What information is being obtained from a process simulation?**

A: ABE can import process and equipment data directly from AspenTech's simulation tools. While simulators use unit operations to model the process, these units are decomposed and mapped into individual equipment automatically. Since data is under revision control it helps track revisions. Should there be any change request for the project, the data on all deliverables will automatically be updated.

**Q: What information can be imported from a spreadsheet?**

A: Any type of proprietary calculation can be linked to equipment in ABE using the Bridge tool. In the demonstration it's shown how vessel sizes calculated in ABE were imported directly, but another example could be linking proprietary cost calculations done in Excel.

**Q: Do changes in the individual document feed back into the database?**

A: Yes. The change from individual documents is registered in the database. All deliverables are reflections of the underlying data, and the change propagates to all other documents.

**Q: Is there a way to import PFDs as a starting point?**

A: Only equipment and stream data can be imported from simulations. However, once a PFD has been created in ABE's drawing tool, it can be reused as a basis to create multiple additional drawings (e.g., MSDs or DPDTs).

**Q: Is the bridge limited to Excel and Word? Can we use XML or some other format to connect?**

A: The Bridge tool is meant to connect Excel and Word documents to the database. ABE does offer a way to connect and read other sources including XML via API development.

**Q: In the cost mapper demonstration, where do the costs generated by the system come from?**

A: The cost data is generated from Aspen Capital Cost Estimator™ (ACCE). ACCE receives cost updates every year to provide the most reliable cost estimates possible. ACCE also allows users to enter proprietary cost information to further refine estimates.

**Q: What part of projects does this tool accelerate? Was it developed to improve the design process or as a means of reviewing simulations of operational systems?**

A: ABE streamlines the generation of deliverables, such as Datasheets, Equipment Lists, Heat and Material Balances and Process Flow Diagrams. Scripts can be configured to ensure designs comply with desired standards. As ABE has a database, it will also ensure the quality of the deliverables as all data is shared and relies on a single source of truth.

**Q: Do you have approved consultants who can come in house for configuration, or upgrade to this type of data centric workflow?**

A: Yes. AspenTech can help with configuration or recommend a consultant who can deliver configuration services. We have a well-defined methodology.

**Q: Does ABE also provide the civil and structural details for the equipment?**

A: Yes. The data model is extensible. We provide Process, Mechanical and Instrumentation attributes mainly but can be extended to include more.

**Q: Does ABE have privileges control?**

A: Yes. ABE can create roles with different privileges each. Ensuring users only access or perform certain tasks.



## **About Aspen Technology**

Aspen Technology, Inc. (NASDAQ: AZPN) is a global software leader helping industries at the forefront of the world's dual challenge meet the increasing demand for resources from a rapidly growing population in a profitable and sustainable manner. AspenTech solutions address complex environments where it is critical to optimize the asset design, operation, and maintenance lifecycle. Through our unique combination of deep domain expertise and innovation, customers in capital-intensive industries can run their assets safer, greener, longer, and faster to improve their operational excellence.

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