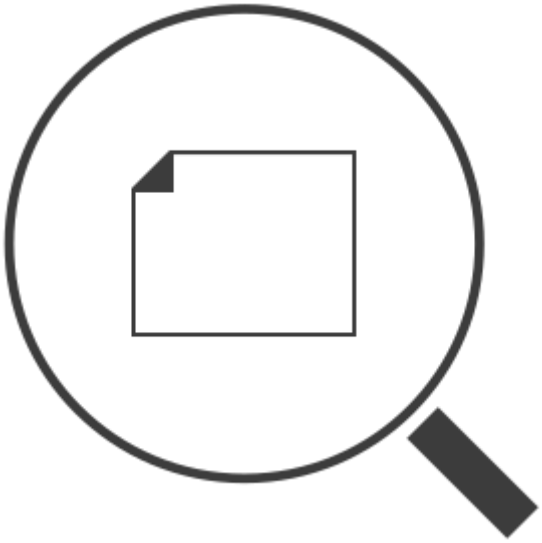
CT DrawingFinder

(version 1.0.1)



User Manual

Revision 2019/02/11

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ABOUT CT DRAWINGFINDER

Software is an add-in for *Autodesk® Inventor®* that scans the assembly to check if its individual elements have drawings.

HOW TO USE IT

The tool is available in the ribbon as *DrawingFinder* button in the panel (*CT Tools Tab*).

First, indicate the assembly that will be scanned. It can be done in three ways. If this has been done correctly, the path to the file should appear in the "source path" field. Then run the "Load" option (from the menu or through the toolbox).

The assembly will be scanned and program will return a list of files along with information if they have drawings. The list can be exported to one of three file formats.

INSTALLATION

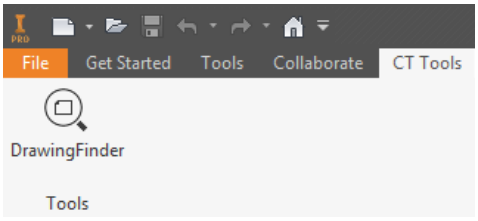
Double-clicking the installation file will start the program. *Windows®* will consider this a breach of security and will ask if you trust the software provider. If you want to use this extension, you will have to answer yes.

UNINSTALL

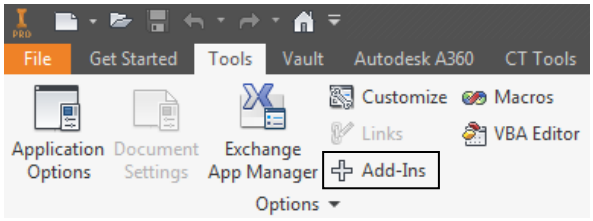
The uninstall procedure is the same as for other programs in *Windows®*. It depends on the version of operating system. However in most cases it is service "Programs and Features" in Control Panel.

HOW TO ACTIVATE THE ADD-IN

After installing the add-in, *Inventor®* should be re-opened. During opening *Inventor®* will ask if add-in should be block or not. Always there is possibility to block or unblock add-in manually. To do this simply go to the *Add-in Manager* in *Tools* Tab and check or uncheck *Load Behavior* .

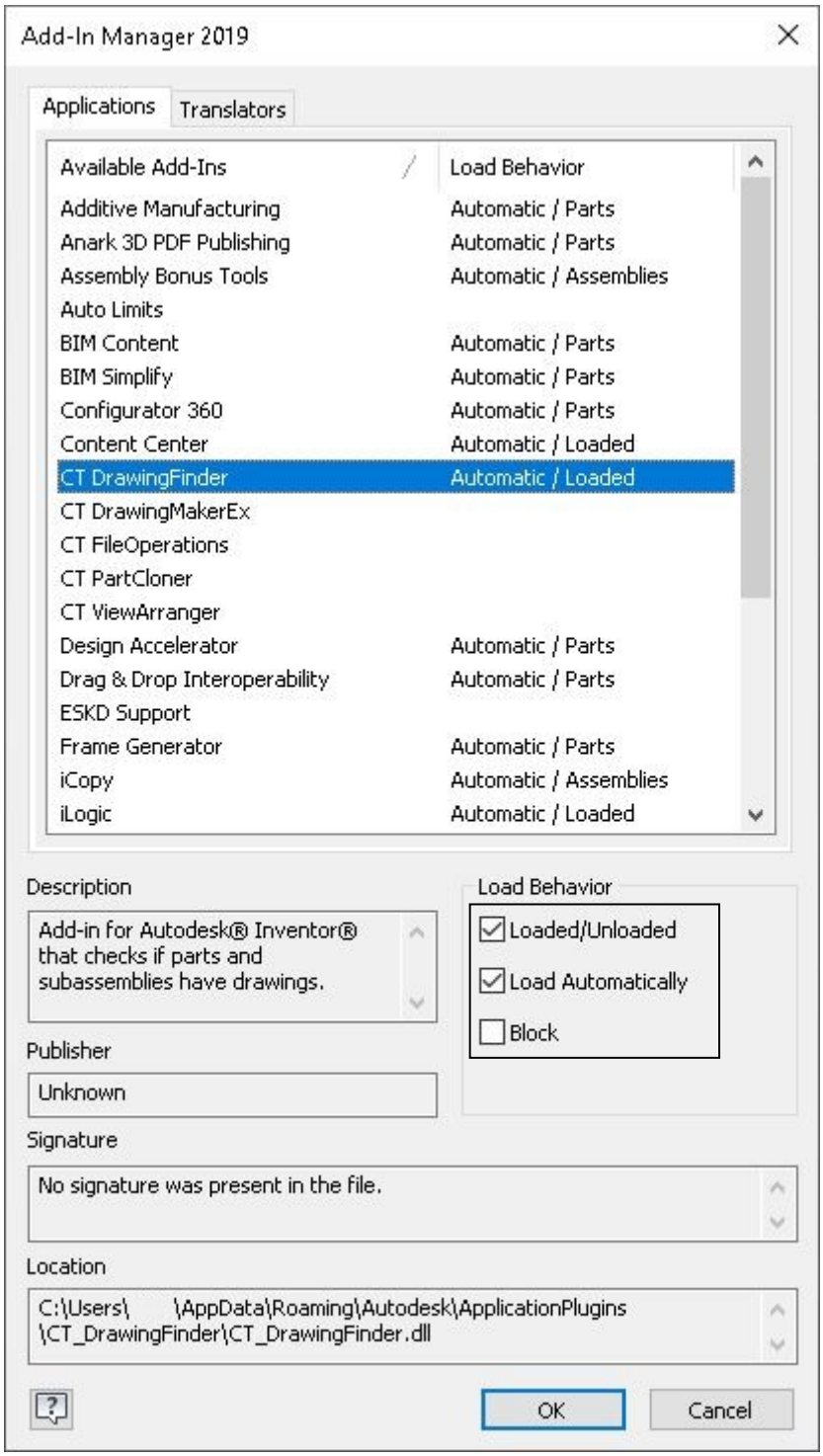


Correctly activated add-in.



Access to Add-In Manager

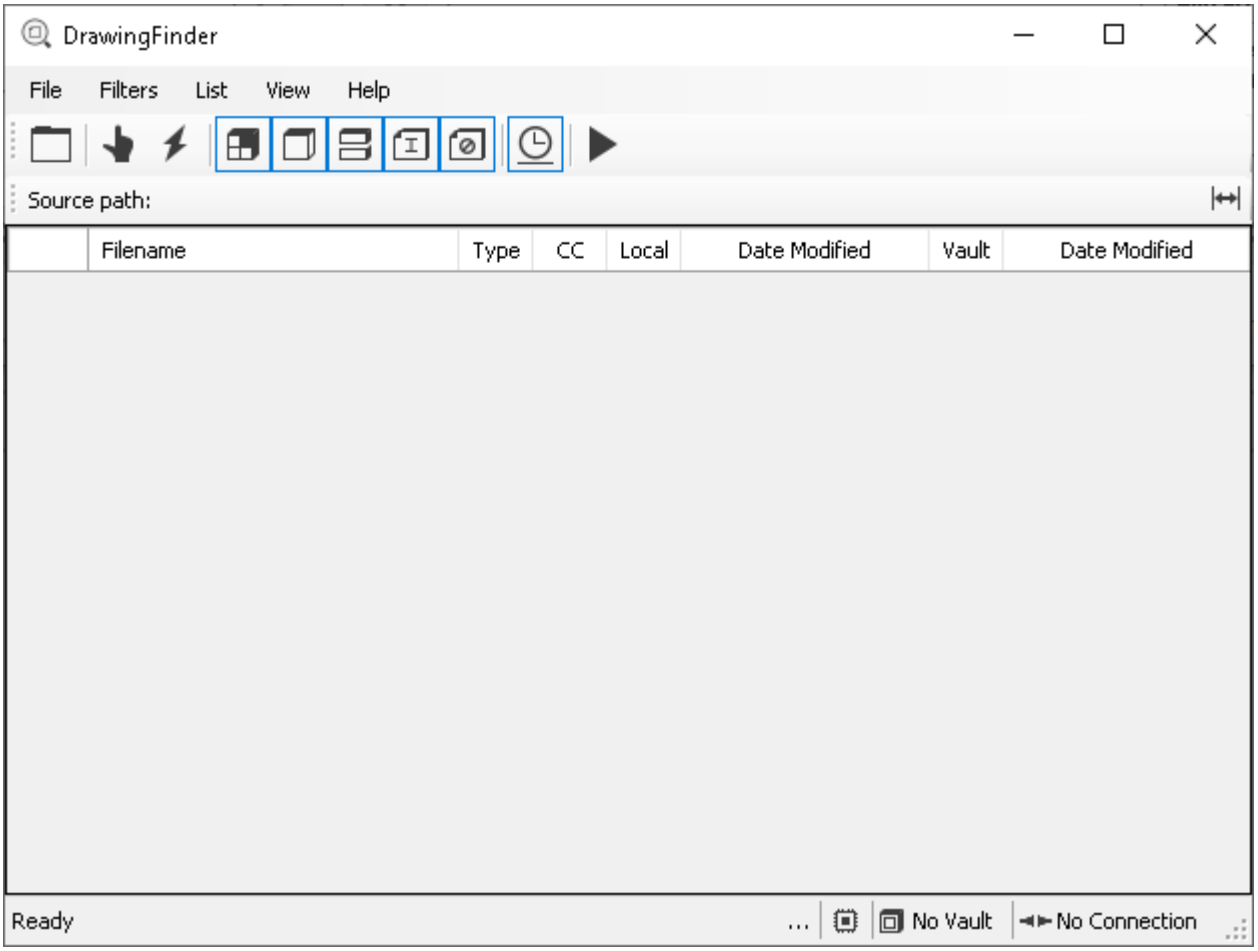
When add-in is active there should be a extra tab called *CT Tools* with new button *DrawingFinder*.


Add-In Manager 2019
Applications
Translators
Available Add-Ins
Load Behavior
Additive Manufacturing
Automatic / Parts
Anark 3D PDF Publishing
Automatic / Parts
Assembly Bonus Tools
Automatic / Assemblies
Auto Limits
BIM Content
Automatic / Parts
BIM Simplify
Automatic / Parts
Configurator 360
Automatic / Parts
Content Center
Automatic / Loaded
CT DrawingFinder
Automatic / Loaded
CT DrawingMakerEx
CT FileOperations
CT PartCloner
CT ViewArranger
Design Accelerator
Automatic / Parts
Drag & Drop Interoperability
Automatic / Parts
ESKD Support
Frame Generator
Automatic / Parts
iCopy
Automatic / Assemblies
iLogic
Automatic / Loaded
Description
Add-in for Autodesk® Inventor® that checks if parts and subassemblies have drawings.
Load Behavior
Loaded/Unloaded
Load Automatically
Block
Publisher
Unknown
Signature
No signature was present in the file.
Location
C:\Users\ \AppData\Roaming\Autodesk\ApplicationPlugins\CT_DrawingFinder\CT_DrawingFinder.dll
OK
Cancel

DRAWINGFINDER INTERFACE DESCRIPTION

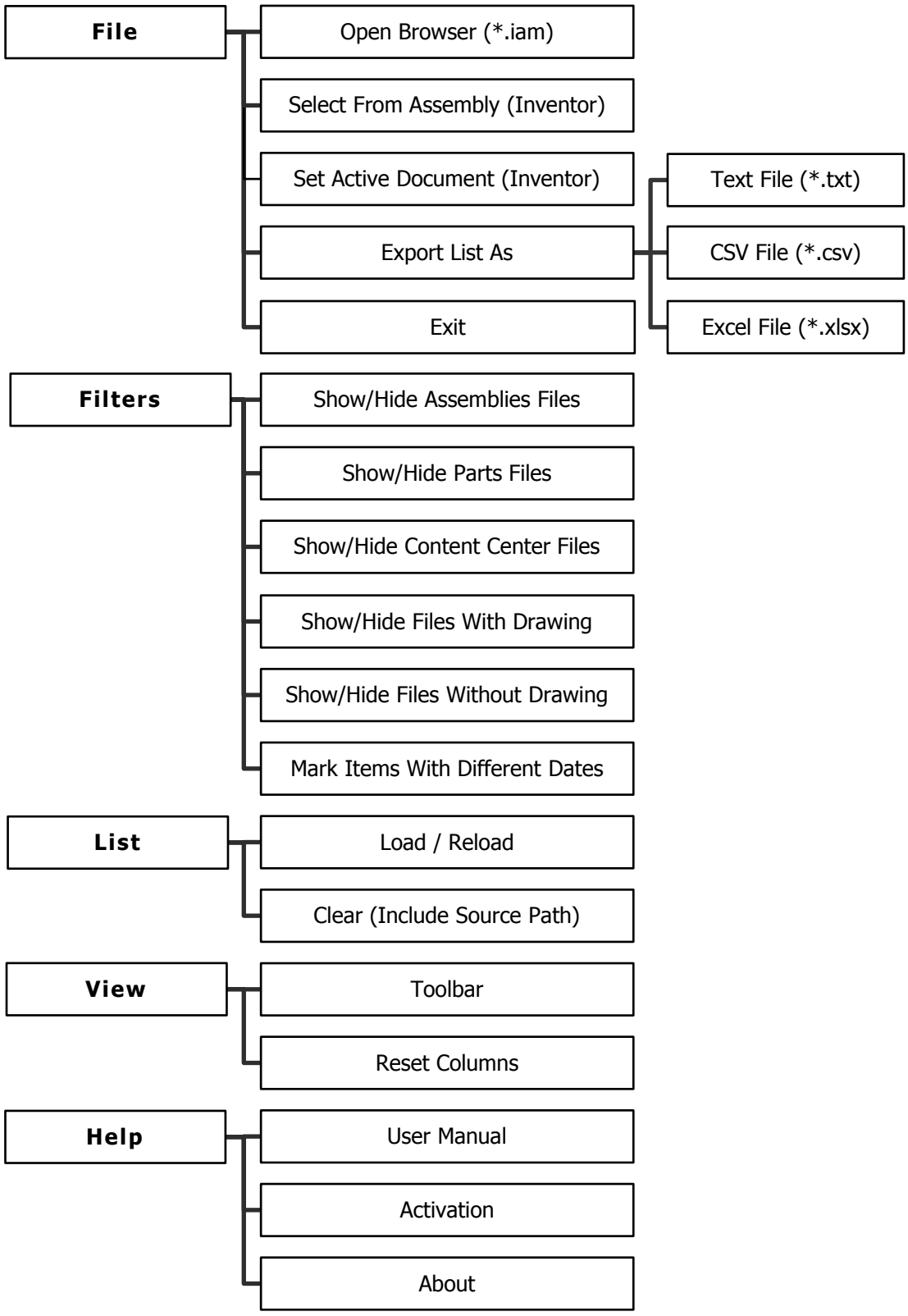
To access the form use appropriate icon in the ribbon interface.

MAIN FORM



1. **Menu -** Contains all commands to manage the tool.
2. **Toolbox -** Command shortcuts in the graphical form.
3. **Source path -** Full local path with name to the assembly file.
4. **List -** List of all elements along with additional information such as: file name, type etc.
5. **Status bar -** Additional information about status of progress, connection etc.

MENU MAP


File
Open Browser (*.iam)
Select From Assembly (Inventor)
Set Active Document (Inventor)
Export List As
Exit
Text File (*.txt)
CSV File (*.csv)
Excel File (*.xlsx)
Filters
Show/Hide Assemblies Files
Show/Hide Parts Files
Show/Hide Content Center Files
Show/Hide Files With Drawing
Show/Hide Files Without Drawing
Mark Items With Different Dates
List
Load / Reload
Clear (Include Source Path)
View
Toolbar
Reset Columns
Help
User Manual
Activation
About

TOOLBAR

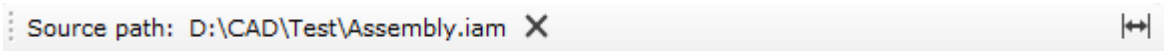
The toolbar provides quick access to commands. It can be turned on or off in the menu (View tab).

- Opens the file browser to select source file
- Allows to select source file from Assembly
- Gets the active document (Assembly) from Inventor® and assigns it as a source file
- Show/Hide Assemblies Files
- Show/Hide Parts Files
- Show/Hide Content Center Files
- Show/Hide Files With Drawing
- Show/Hide Files Without Drawing
- Mark Items With Different Dates
- Load / Reload List

Note: Filters are the conditions for the output list. It means that after turning off all of them, no files in the list will appear.

SOURCE PATH

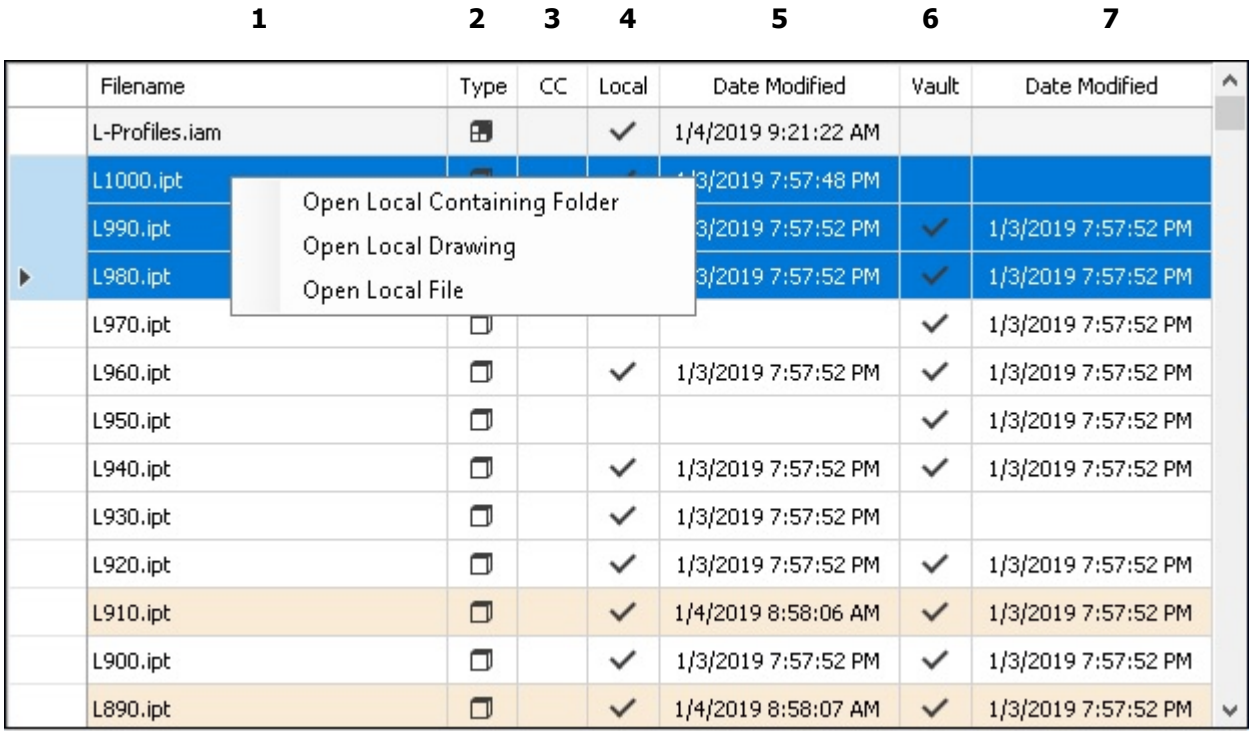
The bar shows the path to the local file when the assembly is selected



- Clears the source path to the file and the output list (works the same as Menu > List > Clear (Include Source Path))
- Restores the default column widths

OUTPUT LIST

It's the main results list that contains information about each item in the assembly.



1. **Filename –** The name of the file with the extension.
2. **Type –** The type of document: -Assembly; -Part
3. **CC –** Indicates whether the file is from the Content Center database ( ) or not (empty).
4. **Local –** Indicates whether the file has local drawing ( ) or not (empty).
5. **Date Modified –** If there is a local drawing, it shows the date of its last modification.
6. **Vault –** Indicates whether the file has drawing in Vault ( ) or not (empty).
7. **Date Modified –** If there is a drawing in Vault, it shows the date of its last modification.

After right-click on selected items there is a context menu where 3 commands are available:
Open Local Containing Folder
Open Local Drawing
Open Local File

STATUS BAR

The Status Bar contains additional status information: loading files, items in the list, Vault and connection to the Vault Server. An additional button is also available to free memory by closing all open files in Inventor with one click.

1. **Status information**
2. **Items in the list**
3. **Free memory:**

The function is used to free memory of Inventor. It works by closing all open files. This is important when opening assemblies through the browser because in that case the files are loaded into memory as invisible. Using this method you can easily remove unused resources.

4. **Status of Vault:** Vault | No Vault

"No Vault" will appear when Vault is not installed on the computer. This happens when *Inventor Vault* add-in cannot be found.

5. **Status of Connection**: Connection | No connection

In order to establish a connection several conditions should be met. The main ones are:

- Vault should be installed
- Version of Vault should be compatible with *DrawingFinder*
- User should be logged in to Vault inside the Inventor (for quick login you can simply click on the icon of the connection)

Important: The minimum version of Vault for *DrawingFinder* is 2019. Otherwise works only with local files.

EXPORTING LIST

The list can be exported if it contains any record. To do this, go to the menu: File > Export List As.

Three formats are available:

Text File (txt) – standard plain text file. In order to separate the value, a tabulator is used.

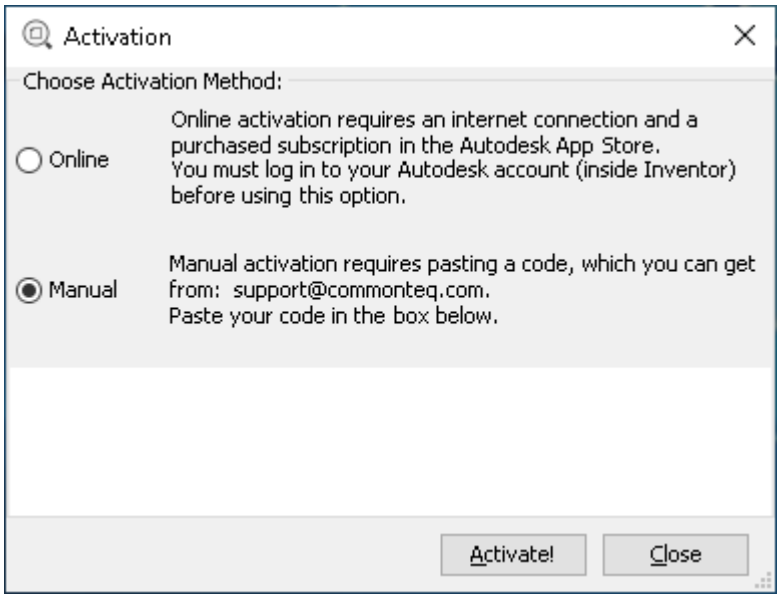
CSV File (csv) – Comma-separated values file. In order to separate the value, list separator is used which is defined by regional settings in operating system.

Excel File (xlsx) - Office Open XML Workbook file. A Standard Excel file (used since version 2007).

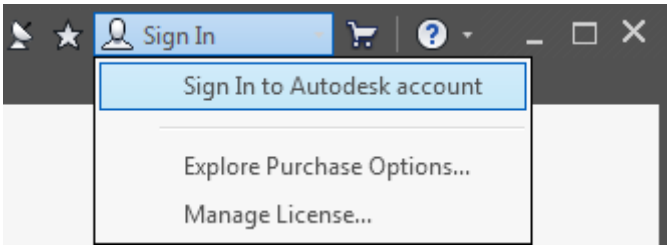
REACTIVATION OF THE ADD-IN

When the subscription expires, you can restore it in the activation form. There are two methods:

Online activation is recommended.



Online - requires an internet connection and user must be logged in to Autodesk account.



When the user is logged in, just click the activation button. If the subscription is purchased, the activation will proceed automatically.

Manual - it is an alternative method that requires a special key. Paste the key into the text window and press the activation button. This method does not need internet access.