PCBC 6.8.3

Release Notes

Last Modified: 21 August 2019

PCBC and PCSLC Release Notes for 6.8.3

Contents

Overview

This is a broad overview of the updates in version 6.8.3. Several user notes or guides have also been updated.

- General updates apply to both block caving and sub-level caving toolsets.
    - These are broken into major (of interest to most users) and minor (for selected users)
- PCBC are specific to block caving
- PCSLC are specific to sub-level caving

The updates are related to development since 6.8.2

Highlights

Some of the more important updates in this release are as follows:

- New module for short term interval control (SIC) within Draw Order Tool.
- Complete rework of the way that grade elements are used within PCBC and PCSLC. Includes potential upgrade to a maximum of 300 grade elements.
- Further enhancements of export options to MineSched and Surpac
- Speed improvements to numerous Excel reports
- Updated menus
- Performance and import/export improvements to CA3D (Advanced Flow utility)
- TRIM rings to solids utility in PCSLC. Around 100 times faster than the previous workflow.
- Removal of several old / obsolete profile editors and menu options
- DTF import updated: Improved feedback, performance, and more.

General Updates

- Complete overhaul of Grade list management for PCBC and PCSLC. Significant update which affects many different tools. Some related tools which are affected
    - Display profiles for draw points and/or rings
    - View slice file data
    - Draw point/ring export attribute list
    - Slice file to bucket tool
    - Excel grade reports
    - Various mouse over and info windows
    - All core workflows relating to grade elements
- Updated menus. Various menus updated to remove obsolete menu options. Includes access to old format slice file (.SLF). Only .DSF format is now supported.
- Updated toolbars. Updated to reflect changes to profile editors
- Improved refresh of grade list if grade elements are changed. (Lists are updated, but data such as slice file or ring file would have same behavior as before)

CA3D

- Performance improvement to CA3D. Should be about 40% faster.
- Ability to use a block attribute for swell factor.
- Automatic saving of excel reports.
- Update to Defaults in the CA3D Advanced Profile.
    - Obsolete Mix parameters removed
    - SWELL_MODEL added
    - PERFIN_MODEL added (replaces setting previously in the general profile)
- Various other minor bugs and tweaks

SIMULIA Integration

- Ability to initialise, import, and manipulate block models using a command line parameter and a control file. (Useful when using ISIGHT and ABAQUS.)

PCBC Updates

- Removal of several old profile editors
    - General properties profile editor
    - Types profile editor
    - Production blocks profile editor
    - Mixing profile editor
- Avoidance of other GEMS profile editors. (It is possible that some of these might still be used in obscure cases, but not in typical new workflows or new projects)
    - Profile groups profile editor
    - Rock type profile editor
    - Economic profile editor
    - Grade elements. (Still may be required for GEMS related work)
- Update to Caving area set up.
    - Removal of access to above editors
    - Simplification of caving area
- Removal of CMS properties from Caving area
- Removal of Geological properties from Caving area
- New module for Short Interval Control (SIC)
    - Supplement to current DOT module. Simplified set up and operation
    - Access via SIC control panel

  - DTF support
  - Assays support
  - Constraints support
  - New SIC multi-field workspace
  - Basic reports
- AUTO mode for DOT to generate draw order from external triggers
- Refinements to Slusher Module for slusher type caving operation
- RESTART keyword added to scheduler to enable restart after TM run
- Footprint Finder. Added PREMIUM_OPTION keyword
- Footprint Finder. Added MODEL_HR and FILTER_HR keyword
- "Type" changed to "Cone Type" in various dialogs where the field now refers to the Cone instead of the draw point type
- Economic profile not shown the properties dialogs, and Advanced now refers to Setup
- Added Wet/Dry constraint type to PCBC Schedule optimization toolset
- Enable block selection in ID Block update tool
- New PCBC General Utilities Menu
- PCBC Scheduler : Improved Excel reporting (using array instead of individual cells) to PROD_SUM and related reports

Slice file related

- Option to update slice file using assays (custom)
- The summation of Ore and Waste (internally within the slice file generation tool) has changed. The order in which the "bits" of material is added has changed. Due to numerical rounding, this can result in a slice file with numerically different tons and grades. (These differences are likely only in the least significant digits, but will be noticeable)
- Option to get grades from Excel for TIN layers in Build slice file
- Update the View Slice File Dialog
- Option to allow TIN grades from Excel tin_input sheet instead of TIN workspace for slice file creation below surfaces. (TIN_INPUT keyword)
- Old slice file format (.SLF) no longer supported.

PCSLC updates

- Add extra fields to FFSLC Bit_results report (both insitu and mined tons and grades)
- New shape bucket functionality for detailed ring shapes of longitudinal SLC layouts
- Cleanup of obsolete PCSLC features
- Update to workspace group created for SLC (shape bucket workspace added)
- Update to TRIM utility
- Updated "Export Ring SDMs for MineSched" to use the new SDM v2
  - Keyword SDM_VERSION in the SETUP advanced profile can be used to export to previous version if required.

TM3D

- Add Volume to TM3D_residual.csv report so that density calculations can be done (and for ID tool)
- Add TM3D_insitu.csv report in TM3D. Useful for metal recovery calculations

TTL

- Improved Excel reporting (using array instead of individual cells) to period reports
  - PROD_SUM and related reports in production scheduler
- TTL : PAST tons mining option added for reporting

- Enable zero tons to be mined in a period in TTL without terminating program.
- Improved input checking for Sector_input sheet.

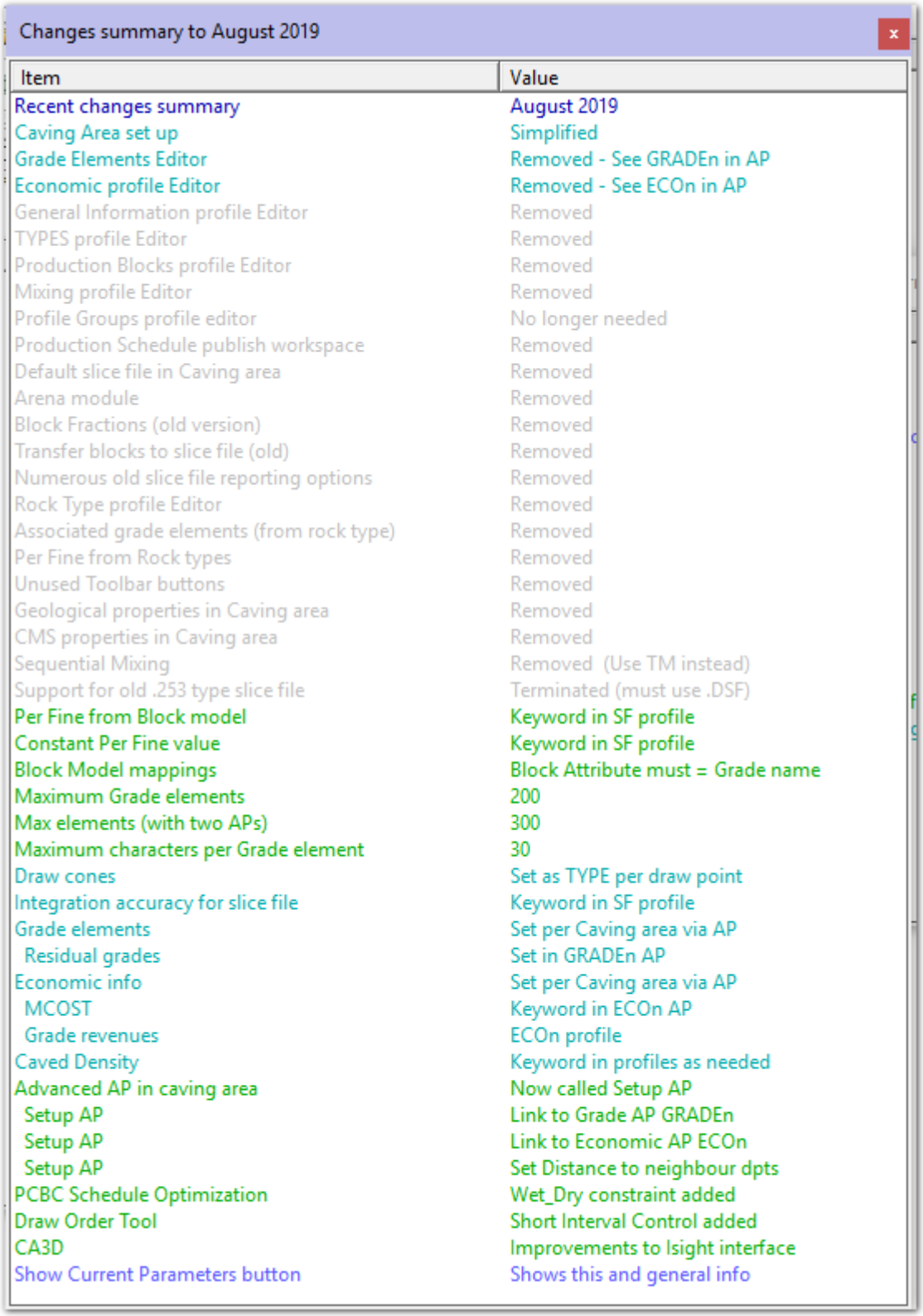
Other utilities

- PCSLC -> System Tools -> Test functions -> Test 2
    - Select Rings Inside any Active Solid *or* Select Rings Outside all Active solids

General bug fixes

- Negative value rounding in color Profile tree corrected.
- Fixed bug with Constraint name usage for Constraints in DOT and TTL
- TM3D. Fixed bug relating to use of multiple External bins
- TM3D. Allow “future” links to boundary using a negative Boundary field value
- TTL tool. Change plots for Draw point opening. Previously opened draw points are now plotted in Grey (and new in Red).
- TTL Tool. Added PAST method for mid-run restart
- Various other minor bugs and tweaks
- Various SLC workflows now refer to the Ring Volumetrics Tool instead of create grades.
- Improved workflow of the Edit Draw Point (PCBC) and Edit Rings (PCSLC) dialog.
- Many Menu and Tool Bar Updates.
- SLC Planning Tool check box Fix to sync with info window
- BHOD. Totals for draw points corrected on some reports
- Slice file report to excel slice_info sheet. Multiple draw points should be correctly positioned
- Fix for display of rings with invalid shapes. PCSLC Rings with invalid shapes will not be displayed instead of shutting down GEMS.
- Fix bug in Solids to allow support of longer solid names.
- Fix BHOD bugs in number of draw points reports
- Fix grade element names in FF CSV report
- Fix MaxSectors Active option in TTL tool.
- Fix for editing multiline Memo buckets (like the shape bucket):
- Fix ID block update tool for SLC cases using TM3D_residual.csv file. New keyword SLC_FILE
- Fix to enable PCBC production scheduler to run even if Status field is not set up correctly
- New Menu Item: PCBC > User Tools > Other Utilities

Other



Item	Value
Recent changes summary	August 2019
Caving Area set up	Simplified
Grade Elements Editor	Removed - See GRADEn in AP
Economic profile Editor	Removed - See ECOn in AP
General Information profile Editor	Removed
TYPES profile Editor	Removed
Production Blocks profile Editor	Removed
Mixing profile Editor	Removed
Profile Groups profile editor	No longer needed
Production Schedule publish workspace	Removed
Default slice file in Caving area	Removed
Arena module	Removed
Block Fractions (old version)	Removed
Transfer blocks to slice file (old)	Removed
Numerous old slice file reporting options	Removed
Rock Type profile Editor	Removed
Associated grade elements (from rock type)	Removed
Per Fine from Rock types	Removed
Unused Toolbar buttons	Removed
Geological properties in Caving area	Removed
CMS properties in Caving area	Removed
Sequential Mixing	Removed (Use TM instead)
Support for old .253 type slice file	Terminated (must use .DSF)
Per Fine from Block model	Keyword in SF profile
Constant Per Fine value	Keyword in SF profile
Block Model mappings	Block Attribute must = Grade name
Maximum Grade elements	200
Max elements (with two APs)	300
Maximum characters per Grade element	30
Draw cones	Set as TYPE per draw point
Integration accuracy for slice file	Keyword in SF profile
Grade elements	Set per Caving area via AP
Residual grades	Set in GRADEn AP
Economic info	Set per Caving area via AP
MCOST	Keyword in ECOn AP
Grade revenues	ECOn profile
Caved Density	Keyword in profiles as needed
Advanced AP in caving area	Now called Setup AP
Setup AP	Link to Grade AP GRADEn
Setup AP	Link to Economic AP ECOn
Setup AP	Set Distance to neighbour dpts
PCBC Schedule Optimization	Wet_Dry constraint added
Draw Order Tool	Short Interval Control added
CA3D	Improvements to Isight interface
Show Current Parameters button	Shows this and general info