

8.00-02 [56355]

2015-09-10

+ New Features and Changes

Charts

- + Values with the type "percentage" are shown and labeled as percent values now (0..100 instead of 0..1). **(9368)**

Data Model

- + Pedestrian areas, ramps, obstacles and (network) sections have the new attribute "Size 2D" which contains the surface area of the 2D projection of the respective network object. Pedestrian areas, ramps and (network) sections have the new attribute "Size 2D (obstacle-free)" which contains the surface area of the 2D projection of the respective network object excluding the surface area which is covered by obstacle objects or implicit obstacles (for ramps). **(9192)**

Signal Control

- + New version 1.4.1.4 of the add-on module Econolite ASC/3. **(10045)**

User-Defined Attributes

- + New button "For" in the dialog for inserting a TableLookup call. **(9608)**

Vehicle Simulation

- + New driving behavior attribute "reaction time distribution". If this is not empty, a time value is drawn from this distribution for each waiting vehicle at a red signal. This value is the delay between the signal change to green (or red/amber if behavior at red/amber is defined as "Go (same as green)") and the start of acceleration of the vehicle. If the attribute is empty, the delay is zero. **(9696)**

✓ Fixed Bugs

COM Interface

- ✓ Vehicles which have a speed set by COM (or the driving simulator API), with the attribute ExtContr = ExtControlEVC_COM, were treated by conflict areas as always driving with their initial desired speed. This caused them to affect conflict areas inside an intersection even when they are waiting at a red signal head. This problem has been fixed. **(10010)**

Dynamic Assignment

- ✓ When a vehicle with the equipment "Route Guidance" (1 or 2) arrives at its destination parking lot, the uncalled-for error message "Simulationszeit w: Fahrzeug x (auf eigenem Zielführungsweg zum Parkplatz y) has left the network at the end of link z and not reached its destination parking lot." is not written anymore to the *.err file. **(9992)**

Graphics

- ✓ Background images are not shown with a wrong color for the leftmost and bottom pixels anymore. **(10058)**

Meso Simulation

- ✓ Meso nodes which contain cycles (e.g. roundabouts) don't cause an infinite loop anymore which fills the complete RAM and eventually causes a crash of Vissim when the meso graph is created. **(10035)**
- ✓ The simulation run doesn't crash anymore if a desired speed decision or a reduced speed area affects a vehicle with a vehicle type which is not part of any of the vehicle classes referenced by that network object. **(10032)**

- ✔ Vehicles that changed their path due to continuous path search while in a micro section are now handled correctly when crossing into a meso section. Route guidance works now correctly for vehicles that find a new route in a micro section (before: vehicles on a route guidance path vanish when trying to cross into a meso section). Route guidance does still not occur while vehicles are in meso sections. **(10037)**

Viswalk

- ✔ Animation replay with grid cell display for areas (which isn't yet available for animation replay) doesn't cause a crash anymore. **(9930)**
- ✔ The walkable ground of PT vehicles now connects all doors in a segment. This prevents alighting pedestrians from getting stuck. **(9948)**

8.00-01 [55888]

2015-08-19

+ New Features and Changes

Data Model

- + User-defined attributes (so far only formula attributes) for the Network Performance Evaluation. **(9669)**

Dynamic Assignment

- + It is now possible to cancel the path search at simulation start. This can be useful in large networks where path search can take considerable time. **(9876)**

Lists

- + New toolbar button and context menu item "Create User-defined Attribute". **(9913)**

Meso Simulation

- + Sections have the new calculated attribute "MesoUseForMicrosim" which states whether a section will be simulated microscopically during a Meso simulation. **(9740)**

Network Editor

- + New context menu item "Copy to Level..." which allows to copy a multiselection of objects with a level reference to (a) different level(s). The offset to be added to the level of each object copy must be selected in a dialog. **(9517)**

Presentation

- + Upon editing the camera position of a keyframe, the keyframe name is set to the name of this camera position if the keyframe name was empty or was set to the name of the previously assigned camera position. If the name of a camera position is changed, the names of all keyframes associated with this camera position and holding the same name are changed, too. **(8666)**

Vehicle Simulation

- + The driving behavior parameter "smooth closeup behavior" is now true by default for all predefined driving behaviors in the defaults.inpx. **(9932)**

Workspace

- + In the levels sidebar and in the backgrounds sidebar, there is the new item "Show List" in the context menu, to open the list window where the levels / backgrounds can be added, deleted and edited. (The sidebar is still only for toggling the visibility.) **(8038)**

✔ Fixed Bugs

ANM Import

- ✔ Improved handling of roundabout geometry. **(9867)**

Academic Version

- ✔ A background image which exceeds the network size limitation doesn't cause all vehicles to stand anymore. **(9777)**

DriverModel.DLL Interface

- ✔ If the DLL prevents a new lane change which has been suggested by Vissim in the mode SIMPLE_LANE_CHANGE (i.e. if the DLL sets *long_value to zero in DriverModelGetValue(DRIVER_DATA_ACTIVE_LANE_CHANGE)), the Vissim vehicle can leave its link laterally because the destination lane is not reset to zero (current lane) and neither is the lane angle. **(9915)**
- ✔ If the DLL started a lane change to the left in the very first time step of a vehicle in the network while not in the mode SIMPLE_LANE_CHANGE, an error message could be shown about an inconsistent lane angle and the simulation run was stopped. This problem has been fixed. **(9929)**

Dynamic Assignment

- ✔ Continuous paths search occasionally crashed if the convergence evaluation was switched on. This problem has been fixed. **(9960)**
- ✔ Path search and path selection actually use the vehicle class specific edge travel times now. **(9877)**
- ✔ Queue detection on edges works now even if vehicle class specific edge travel times are used. **(9894)**
- ✔ Route Guidance uses the edge travel times correctly now. (Previously, only the default value of 0.1 seconds was used.) **(9967)**
- ✔ The continuous path search does not reject the current path anymore if the decision is made right before the emergency stop position of the current path. **(9959)**
- ✔ The convergence options for edges (travel time or volumes) work now even if only one is selected. (Previously, both needed to be selected in order to work correctly.) **(9860)**
- ✔ The path file (*.weg) is not read automatically anymore if a layout with open path list is loaded or if the path list is opened manually. Through the context menu of the list, the path file can be read explicitly and this is done in a background thread, so Vissim stays reactive. **(9879)**

EmissionModel.DLL Interface

- ✔ Vissim doesn't ignore the selected file name anymore. (Previously, "EmissionModel.DLL" was always loaded.) **(9767)**

Evaluations

- ✔ The value for stopped delay in the node evaluation and in the delay evaluation cannot be negative anymore. (Previously, this could happen due to rounding problems, and the value could not be read in again from the database.) **(9921)**

Graphics

- ✔ Pedestrian links are visible now even if links are colored by a color scheme using a link segment attribute. As pedestrian links don't have link segments, the "undefined value color" is used. **(9855)**
- ✔ The option "3D Anti-Aliasing" affects network editor screenshots in 3D mode, too. **(9917)**

Installation

- ✔ The /silent setup works correctly now even with a component selection different from the default. **(9893)**
- ✔ The setup with the option /verysilent doesn't exclude the 3D models anymore. **(9933)**

Meso Simulation

- ✔ Node evaluation is much faster now because only vehicles in the micro sections are included. **(9890)**

Presentation

- ✔ For AVI recording, the start time of the first keyframe is not ignored anymore. (In version 7.00-11 only, the recording stated always at simulation time 0.) **(9831)**

Scenario Management

- ✔ Deleting a loaded scenario or modification which has been modified but not saved yet doesn't cause a crash anymore. **(9923)**

Simulation

- ✔ The initialization of signal controllers stops after the first error message from a controller (as in Vissim 7). **(9896)**

Vehicle Simulation

- ✓ The default value for the look ahead distance for overtaking in the opposing lane is now 500 meters. **(9856)**
- ✓ Vehicles overtaking in the opposing lane don't assume the maximum overtaking speed for the whole overtaking duration anymore, so they are less optimistic now to finish before a collision with oncoming traffic. **(9882)**

8.00-00 [55370]

2015-07-21

+ New Features and Changes

ANM Import

- + The controller type Epics/Balance-local can be used. **(9305)**

COM Interface

- + New Method `IDynamicAssignment.CreateGraph(<EdgeType>)`: Creates the abstract network graph for dynamic assignment (`<EdgeType> = 1 (EdgeTypeDynamicAssignment)`) or the node evaluation (`<EdgeType> = 2 (EdgeTypeEvaluation)`) or the meso simulation (`<EdgeType> = 3 (EdgeTypeMesoSimulation)`). **(9769)**
- + New Methods `ISignalControllerContainer.OptimizeAll()` and `ISignalController.Optimize()` to call the signal optimization for all stage based fixed time controllers respectively one such controller. **(8496)**
- + New option to keep an event-based script active during the whole simulation run and to call a user-defined function in that script whenever required by the run type (e.g. at the start of each time step). See "Vissim 8 - What's new.pdf" for details. **(9420)**

Charts

- + Zooming in a chart window is now possible using the mouse wheel to zoom in/out. The region of the chart which is currently displayed can now be dragged using the left mouse button. The new attribute "Automatic zoom" can be used to disable zooming. **(8442)**

Command Line Parameters

- + `-s (-simulate)` to start a simulation run and close Vissim after the run, `-q (-quickmode)` to activate the quickmode. **(9272)**

Data Model

- + New calculated signal group attribute "signal state run time" which contains the number of simulation seconds that the current signal state of the signal group has been active continuously. **(9358)**
- + New relation from a link to all PT lines using that link. **(9042)**
- + New relations from lanes to conflict markers, desired speed decisions, detectors, reduced speed areas, parking lots, priority rules, PT stops, signal heads, stop signs and vehicles. **(9263)**
- + New relations from links to conflict areas, parking lots, queue counters, routing decisions, travel time measurements and vehicle inputs. **(9052)**
- + New relations vehicle type -> vehicle classes, pedestrian type -> pedestrian classes, data collection point -> data collection measurements, vehicle travel time measurement -> delay measurements, section -> area measurements. **(7971)**
- + Relation from a node to the conflict areas inside that node. This relation can be shown in the coupled list Nodes / Conflict Areas. **(7333)**
- + Relations from vehicles to static routes, partial routes, managed lane routes, parking lot routes and partial PT routes. These are set if a vehicle is currently using such a route, else empty. **(9001)**
- + Rotating of backgrounds is possible for many file formats (*.emf, *.wmf, *.bmp, *.gif, *.jpeg, *.jpg, *.jpe, *.png, *.tiff, *.tif, *.icon, but not *.dwg, *.dxf, *.ecw, *.sid) through the new attribute "Angle". In the network editor, a selected background can be rotated by dragging the mouse pointer while the Alt key is pressed. The center of the rotation is the center of the surrounding rectangle of all selected objects. If the whole network is rotated through Edit / Rotate Network, all backgrounds of these formats are rotated, too. **(256)**
- + Sections have the new attribute "additional level". If this is not empty but different from the attribute "level", the section records only ramps between these two levels and connectors between links on these two levels, for animation recordings, vehicle and pedestrian record and for meso simulation. **(9335)**

- + The current driving state of a vehicle (which can be used for coloring in the network window through Ctrl-E) is shown in the new vehicle attribute "Driving state", too. This attribute is written to animation files, so it can be shown and used for coloring in animation replay as well. **(9126)**
- + The link attribute "Only overtake busses" ("OnlyOvtBus") has been renamed to "Overtake only public transport" ("OvtOnlyPT"). (The old attribute name can still be used by COM scripts.) **(9370)**
- + Two new simulation attributes at vehicles: "Destination parking space" and "Parking state". Both are set if the vehicle has been assigned a real parking space on a parking lot. "Destination parking space" contains the index of the parking space in the parking lot (starting at 1, increasing downstream), and "Parking state" contains "Parking" if a parking space has been assigned for immediate usage and "Waiting" if there is still another vehicle in that parking space. **(9498)**
- + User-defined attributes. See "Vissim 8 - What's new.pdf" for details. **(7899)**

Demo Version

- + The demo version doesn't have a license file anymore, so the expiration time is fixed to 30 days after the first start of the installed version (but not more than 180 days after the build of the version). The Vissim viewer still doesn't have any expiration date. **(8540)**

Dialogs

- + If the item "Move Network" (previously "Translate Network") is called from the "Edit" menu, a dialog is shown with 4 options:
 - Keep network coordinates and move location on background map (default)
 - Adapt coordinates and keep location on background map
 - Set network coordinates to (0, 0) at the center of the network and keep location on background map
 - Adapt network coordinates and move location on background map (Vissim 7 functionality).
 If the whole network is moved by more than 1000 meters by dragging in the network editor with active live map, a message dialog asks if the network coordinates are to be kept or if they are to be adapted to the new location on the background. **(8923)**
- + Sorting by a column is now possible in embedded lists in dialogs, too, through the context menu opened by a right-click on the column header. **(8880)**

Dynamic Assignment

- + A new evaluation for OD zone pairs can be activated under "OD pairs" in the evaluation configuration, and the results are shown in the new OD pairs results list. See "Vissim 8 - what's new.pdf" for details. **(4122)**
- + Cost and path files are not written between runs of a multi-run series unless "Create archive files" is active. This saves a lot of time, especially in meso simulation. **(9738)**
- + During a simulation run, the parking space decisions created automatically for real parking spaces used by dynamic assignment are displayed in the network editor like normal parking space decisions. In the parking space decisions list, they can be distinguished by the attribute "generated by" which contains the value "Dynamic assignment" for automatic parking space decisions and "User" for static parking lot decisions. **(8057)**
- + Edge travel times and volumes can be collected for user-specified vehicle classes in addition to the values for $u^{\text{all vehicles}}$; See "Vissim 8 - What's new.pdf" for details. **(3605)**
- + If the path file is read outside of a simulation run (e.g. manually initiated from the paths list), paths which would not be used in the simulation because of the parameter "Limit number of paths" are not yet skipped (but only later when the path file is read again at the start of the simulation run). **(9343)**
- + Measured path travel times can be used for assignment (instead of the total of edge travel times). See "Vissim 8 - What's new.pdf" for details. **(2769)**
- + New COM interface method `Vissim.CalculateVisumAssignment()` to start an assignment in the included Visum converter and import the result back into Vissim. **(9066)**
- + New option for the selection of the reference time interval for edge travel times for the edge cost calculation: Instead of the same time interval from the previous run, the previous time interval of the current run can be used. See "Vissim 8 - What's new.pdf" for details. **(3604)**
- + Path travel times and volumes can be collected for user-specified vehicle classes in addition to the values for $u^{\text{all vehicles}}$; See "Vissim 8 - What's new.pdf" for details. **(4725)**
- + Paths with too high total cost are not deleted anymore upon reading the path file but they are still not used by any vehicles. Such a path is removed from the paths collection before writing the path file if that path had a too high cost for all vehicle types in all time intervals. **(9528)**
- + Speedup for the shortest path search. **(9715)**
- + The new option $u^{\text{Decide repeatedly}}$; for the attribute $u^{\text{Path selection type}}$; can be selected to make all vehicles find their path dynamically during their trip through the network. This can be used as one-shot assignment without iterations. See "Vissim 8 - What's new.pdf" for details. **(9306)**
- + The path file can now still be used much more often after changes in the network, such as splitting a link. **(3011)**

- + The travel time convergence of an individual path is shown in the new path attribute `u";Convergedu";`. Edges have the two new attributes `u";Converged (travel time)u";` and `u";Converged (volume)u";`. **(9084)**

File Handling

- + If the new network attribute "translateStrings" is set to true in the *.inx file (e.g. `<network version="200" vissimVersion="8.00 - 00* []" translateStrings="true">`), upon opening in Vissim the name attributes of objects are translated from English to the language currently selected in Vissim if these names also exist in the defaults.inpx delivered with Vissim. This prevents duplication of base objects which are identical except for the language of their name. This may happen easily upon reading additionally a template file (say, a standard intersection) which has been created in a language different from the current Vissim language. The attribute "translateStrings" is automatically removed as soon as the *.inx file is saved from within Vissim. **(9509)**
- + The Vissim version number (including service pack and build number) is written to the *.inx file and to the *.layx file, e.g. `<layout version="200" vissimVersion="8.00 - 00* [54905]">`. **(9296)**
- + While a network is read, a message box is shown only if this process needs to be aborted. Less critical messages are written to the messages window instead, and when the complete network has been read, there is only one message box referring to the messages window. **(8941)**

Graphics

- + A compass showing the North direction can be displayed inside the network editor window. The North direction can be set under Base Data / Network settings / Display. See "Vissim 8 - what's new.pdf" for details. **(8599)**
- + A digital simulation time clock can be displayed inside the network editor window. See "Vissim 8 - what's new.pdf" for details. **(2721)**
- + A separate color scheme can be defined for labels. **(7901)**
- + A user-defined logo from a graphics file can be optionally shown in a corner of the network editor window. Filename, location and horizontal and vertical offset from the window border can be set in the graphic parameters of the network window (colored wrench icon). **(7038)**
- + Display types have the new attributes "Border Style", "Border Color" and "Fill Style". "Color" has been renamed to "Fill Color". If display types are selected to be used for the display, the respective graphic parameters have no effect. **(8498)**
- + During a simulation run, the "Simple Network Display" state overrides the insert mode, so if the insert mode is active for one of the hatched lines in the Network Objects sidebar, these objects are invisible anyway. **(7625)**
- + Each lane of a link can have optionally its own display type assigned. **(7617)**
- + Lane markings are automatically hidden if 1 pixel is larger than 1 meter. **(9489)**
- + Link bars can be optionally displayed, together with links or instead of links. See "Vissim 8 - What's new.pdf" for details. **(8845)**
- + Link segments of a segment node are marked in the network editor if they are selected in a synchronized list (child list "Link segments" of the nodes list). **(9640)**
- + New graphics parameter "Shape2D" for vehicles with the values "rounded" (default) and "rectangular" (new) for 2D visualization. **(9351)**
- + Node movements are marked in the network editor if they are selected in a synchronized list (child list "Movements" of the nodes list). **(7938)**
- + SketchUp files can be used for static 3D models now in the 64 bit edition, too. **(8927)**
- + The 3D model file "Bike - Cycle Man 01.v3d" has been upgraded to 21 states, so the legs of the rider move now. Additionally there is "Bike - Cycle Man 02.v3d" which supports not only one but 4 color distributions and is used as the new default 3D model for vehicle type "Bike". **(7905)**
- + The previously separate graphic parameters "Use display types" and "Use color schemes" can be set as values in the new attribute "Drawing Mode" now. The third possible value is "Use constant colors". **(8653)**
- + The vehicle routing decision graphic parameter checkbox "Force showing from distance" has been removed. **(8951)**

License Handling

- + There is no license file anymore. All details of the license are stored on the dongle. If multiple licenses are available on the network, one of them can be selected to be used. See "Vissim 8 - What's new.pdf" for details. **(8992)**

Lists

- + A double click on a cell which is not editable (or outside of a checkbox) opens the edit dialog for the object if there is one (exactly as a double click on the row header). **(9127)**
- + If a lane is selected in a synchronized lane list (coupled list links/lanes), that lane is marked in the network editor. **(9063)**
- + New item in the context menu of the delay measurements list: "Generate all (1:1)". This creates one delay measurement per travel time measurement. **(9332)**

- + New items in the context menu of the signal controller list: Show Signal Times Table, Show SC/Detector Record and Zoom (to the surrounding rectangle of all signal heads and detectors of that controller). **(7590)**
- + The column title can show the long name or the short name of the attribute, to be selected in the user preferences. **(9032)**
- + Toolbar buttons for Add, Edit, Delete and Duplicate (enabled when applicable). **(9586)**

Mesosopic Simulation

- + New add-on module for much faster simulation. See "Vissim 8 - What's new.pdf" for details. **(8211)**

Network Editor

- + A newly created link has the same attribute and lane attribute values as the most recently created link. If no link has been created since the network was loaded or if the most recently created link has been deleted in the meantime, default values are used. For a connector, only the number of spline points is used from the most recently created connector. (Other attribute values are copied from the destination link, as before.) **(6544)**
- + New context menu item "Create Nodes per Level" for segment nodes. This creates one node per level used by the segments of the original node which is deleted. **(8954)**

Scenario Management

- + Functionality for comfortable editing and managing of multiple variants (e.g. network, demand, signal control, ...) in one project. See "Vissim 8 - What's new.pdf" for details. **(8780)**

Signal Control

- + Faster communication with the controller DLL by reducing the passed data to the required minimum. This is used only by Fixed Time / VISSIG so far. **(9765)**

Simulation Parameters

- + The default value for "number of cores" is now "use all cores" for new networks (i.e. in defaults.inpx). **(9378)**

Vehicle Simulation

- + If multiple available parking spaces have the same attraction value, one of them is selected randomly now. **(2915)**
- + Overtaking in the opposing lane. See "Vissim 8 - What's new.pdf" for details. **(8779)**
- + The attribute "Full occupancy behavior" of a parking lot route decision defines the behavior of a vehicle which passes the decision when all parking spaces are occupied. The default value "drive on" makes the vehicle ignore the decision (as in previous versions) but the value "wait" makes the vehicle wait close to the parking space which will become vacant next. **(2578)**
- + The lower and upper limit of the specific power of HGV vehicles can be defined in the network settings. (HGV vehicles out of this range use the lower/upper limit of the maximum acceleration function.) **(2842)**

Viswalk

- + 3D signal heads are treated as obstacles automatically. **(4259)**
- + BIM Converter for creating an *.inpx file from an *.ifc file. See "Vissim 8 - What's new.pdf" for details. **(8760)**
- + Grid based LOS display in 3D, too. **(5381)**
- + If a public transport stop gets a waiting area or a platform edge assigned, a default entry in the boarding passenger list of the stop is created if that list was empty before. **(8918)**
- + New relations from pedestrians to static routes and partial routes. If a pedestrian is currently using such a route, the relation is set, else empty (e.g. when boarding a PT vehicle). **(9218)**
- + Pedestrian areas have direct attributes for PT usage and PT stops now, so these can be set in the area list, too. The indirect area attributes of a PT stop cannot be changed anymore at the PT stop itself. In the COM Interface, Area->PTStops has replaced PTStop->Areas. **(8505)**
- + Pedestrians have the new attribute "Experienced Density" which uses only the number of other pedestrians in a certain distance from the subject pedestrian. The radius of this circle can be set in the network settings. "Experienced Density" is available in the area evaluation, measurement area evaluation and grid cell LOS display, too. **(9235)**

- ⊕ The attribute "Speed" (average pedestrian speed) at areas, ramps, measurement areas and grid cells is calculated as harmonic mean now, exactly as for vehicles. This is defined as the total distance walked by the pedestrians on the subject object in the respective time interval divided by the total time spent by the pedestrians on the subject object in that time interval. The same objects have the new attribute "Velocity variance" which contains the variance of the vectorial pedestrian speeds from all time steps. Pedestrians have the new attribute "Experienced velocity variance" which is calculated from the differences of the vectorial speeds of all other pedestrians inside the radius of experience (can be set in the network settings) to the subject pedestrian speed. **(9365)**
- ⊕ The link attribute "Vehicle record active" applies to pedestrian links for the pedestrian record as well now. **(7569)**
- ⊕ The network setting parameter "Never walk backwards" has been removed. It is ignored if read from old network files. **(9083)**
- ⊕ There are two new result attributes for area measurements which are the counterparts for the result attributes "Walk-out count" and "Destination count":
 "Walk-in count" counts the pedestrians who enter the section(s) of the area measurement from outside. Pedestrian who are created at a pedestrian input or alight from a PT vehicle are excluded.
 "Origin count" counts the pedestrian that are created at a pedestrian input or alight from a PT vehicle inside the section(s) of the area measurement. **(8205)**

Workspace

- ⊕ "Camera" button in the network editor toolbar for writing a screenshot of the currently displayed part of the network to a graphics file. **(2777)**
- ⊕ A fallback language can be defined in the user preferences. If a label in the GUI or a text in an output file doesn't have a translation in the selected main language yet, the fallback language is used instead. If there is no translation, the English translation is used. If there is no English translation either, the original phrase is used (usually German). **(9523)**
- ⊕ Drop-down box in the main toolbar for quick access to all open windows (excluding sidebars). **(9796)**
- ⊕ Global update interval for the display of dynamic data: Through a slider in the main toolbar, the update interval for all network windows and list windows can be set from "each time step" to "every 1000th time step". Fewer updates allow higher simulation speed. **(7414)**
- ⊕ In quick mode, the simulation speed from the simulation parameters is ignored and the simulation runs always at maximum speed. **(9602)**
- ⊕ In the Edit menu, there is a new submenu for Undo, allowing to undo several editing steps at once. **(8274)**
- ⊕ Keyboard shortcut Ctrl-B ("Background") to toggle visibility on/off for all background images. This has the same effect as clicking on the "eye" icon in the row "All backgrounds" in the Backgrounds sidebar, so it has no immediately visible effect if visibility of backgrounds is switched off in the Network Objects sidebar. **(9434)**
- ⊕ The COM help can now be opened from a separate menu item. There is a new menu item to open the Vissim manual as PDF document. Under "Examples" there is a new menu item to open the first steps tutorial as PDF document. **(9731)**
- ⊕ The Vissim Help window and the COM Help window are independent from the Vissim main window now. They stay open if the Vissim main window is minimized or closed. **(9641)**