

REX Visio2DXF

User Manual

Converting Visio drawings to AutoCAD DXF

Energy Conscious Design Limited

1. Introduction

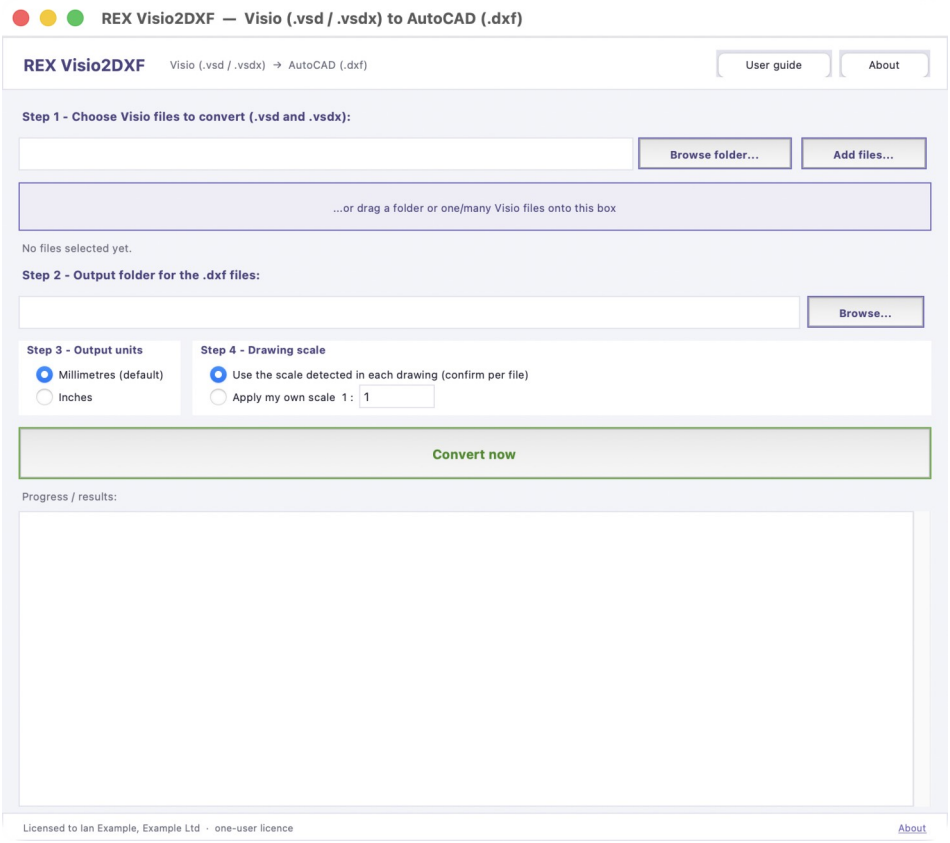
REX Visio2DXF converts Microsoft Visio drawings (.vsdx and legacy .vsd) into real, editable AutoCAD DXF geometry — not a flattened picture, but actual lines, arcs, circles, text, and embedded images that open and edit correctly in AutoCAD LT or any other DXF-compatible CAD package. Everything runs locally on your computer; your drawings are never uploaded anywhere.

Both modern .vsdx files and legacy binary .vsd files are supported. Legacy .vsd conversion uses a bundled copy of LibreOffice, installed automatically and silently the first time you install REX Visio2DXF — there is nothing extra to download or set up.

This edition of the manual (9 November 2026) matches the 8 November 2026 build, which runs on Windows 10/11 and macOS, has the reworked converter and the light REX look used by REX Paperworks and REX Accounts (a white header with plain buttons, the green Convert button, the 'Vd' product icon), and the corrections found in testing. The pictures in this edition were taken on the Mac version; the Windows version has the same layout with Windows-style buttons. Chapter 6 covers installing and activating.

2. The Main Window

REX Visio2DXF has a single window with four steps, run top to bottom.



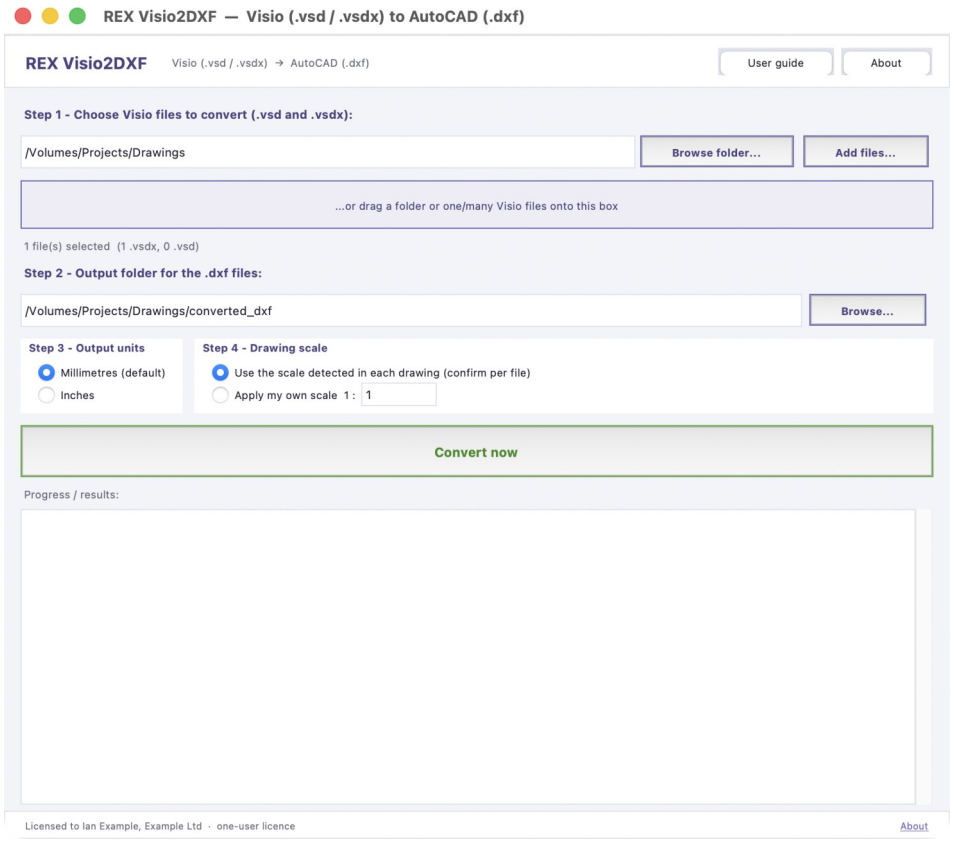
The main window when the program is first opened: the four steps run from top to bottom.

2.1 Step 1 — Choose Visio files

Add drawings to convert in any of three ways:

- "Browse folder…" — selects every .vsd/.vsdx file in a folder at once.
- "Add files…" — pick one or more individual files from a standard file-open dialog.
- Drag and drop — drag a folder, or one or many Visio files, straight onto the box in the middle of the window.

Once files are chosen, the bar above shows what was selected and the file count/type breakdown appears underneath (for example, "1 file(s) selected (1 .vsdx, 0 .vsd)").



A drawing chosen in Step 1 (here Plant room schematic.vsdx from a Drawings folder, a sample drawing at scale 1:50) and the output folder the program suggests in Step 2.

2.2 Step 2 — Output folder

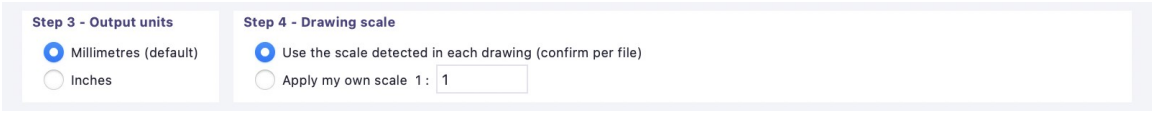
Choose where the converted .dxf files should be written. If left blank, REX Visio2DXF creates a "converted_dxf" folder next to your source files automatically.

2.3 Step 3 — Output units

Choose whether the DXF geometry is written in millimetres (the default) or inches.

2.4 Step 4 — Drawing scale

REX Visio2DXF reads the drawing scale Visio itself recorded for the page (for example 1:50) and offers to apply it automatically — or you can type in your own scale to apply to every file instead.

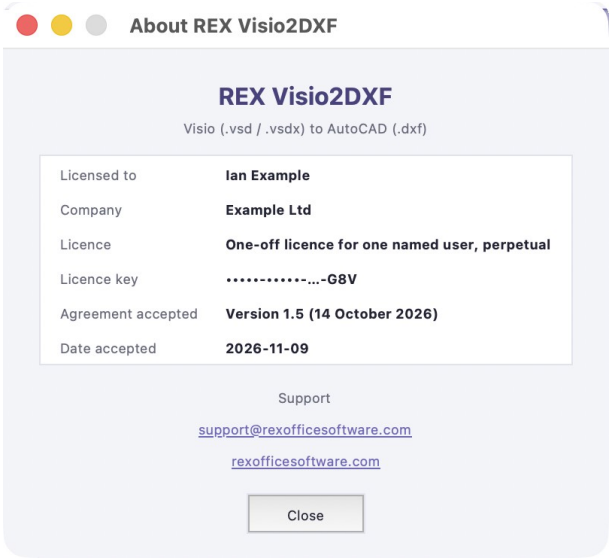


Steps 3 and 4: output units, and whether to use the scale found in each drawing or your own.

2.5 The licence bar and the About window

A slim bar at the very bottom of the window always shows who the program is licensed to, for example "Licensed to Jane Citizen, Example Ltd". Click About (the About button next to User guide in the header bar) to open the About window. It shows the licensed name, the company, the type of licence (one-off, one named user, perpetual), the licence key with all but its last group hidden, the version of the licence agreement you accepted and the date, and how to contact support.

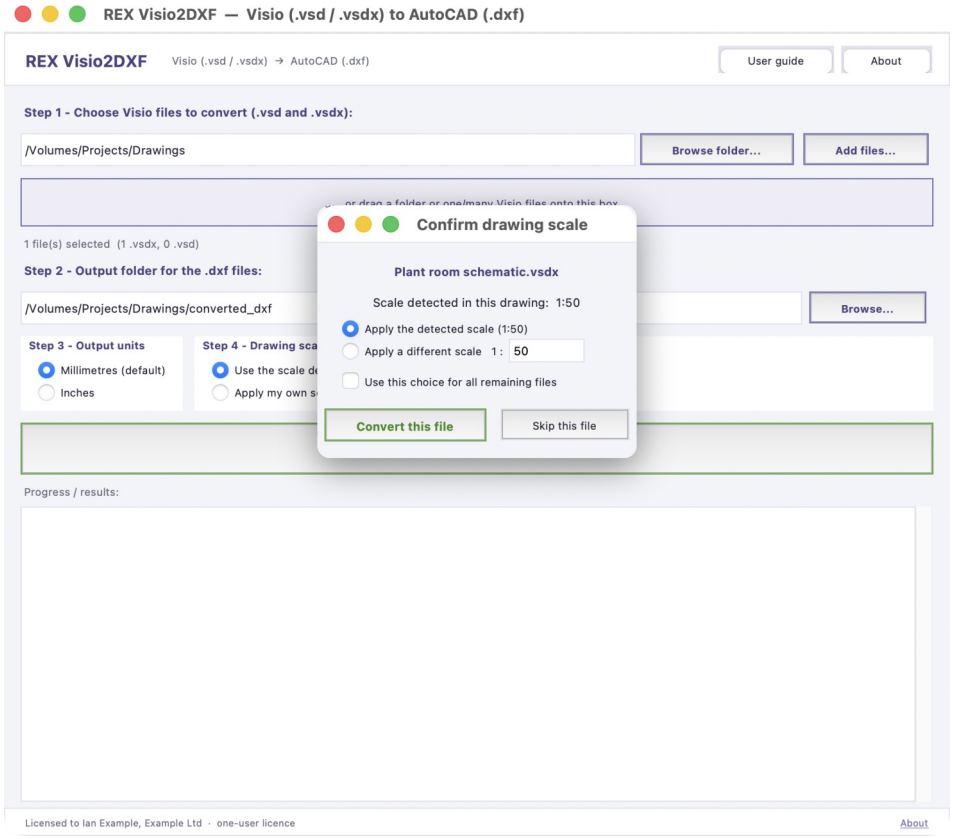
The licence bar at the bottom of the main window, with the About link on its right.



The About window: licensed name, company, type of licence, licence key (partly hidden), agreement accepted and support details.

3. Converting

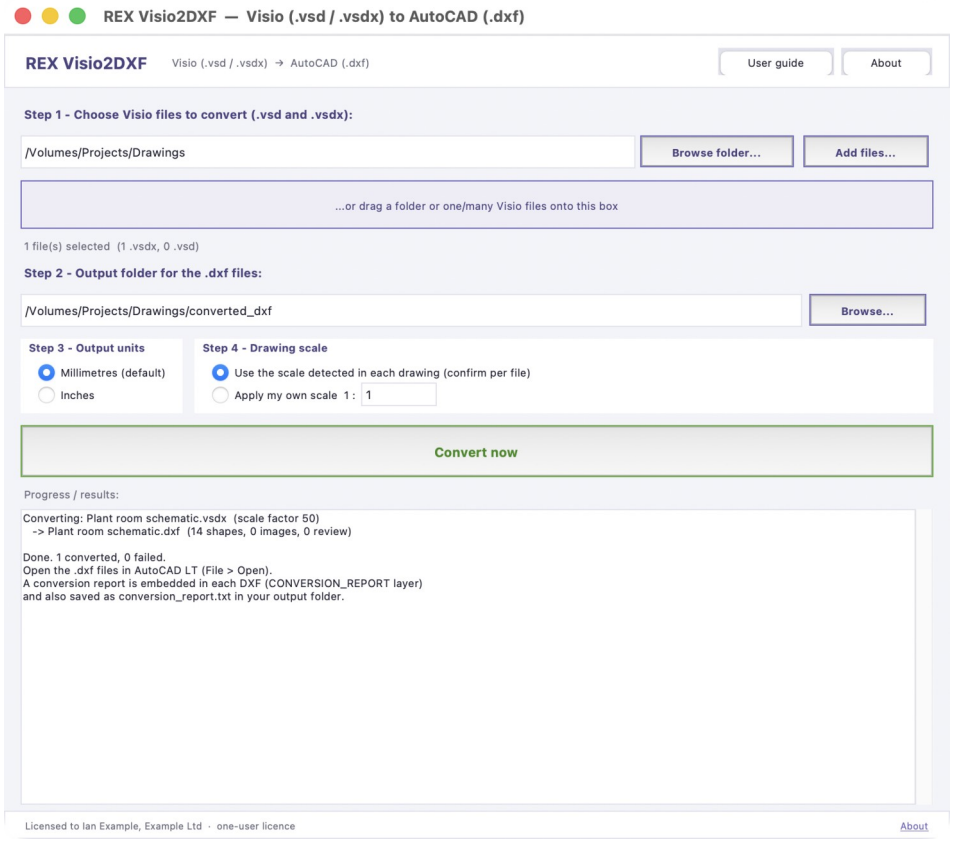
Click “Convert now” to start. If a file’s scale needs confirming, a small dialog appears for that file showing the scale REX Visio2DXF detected:



The scale confirmation that appears for each drawing, here showing the detected scale of 1:50 over the main window.

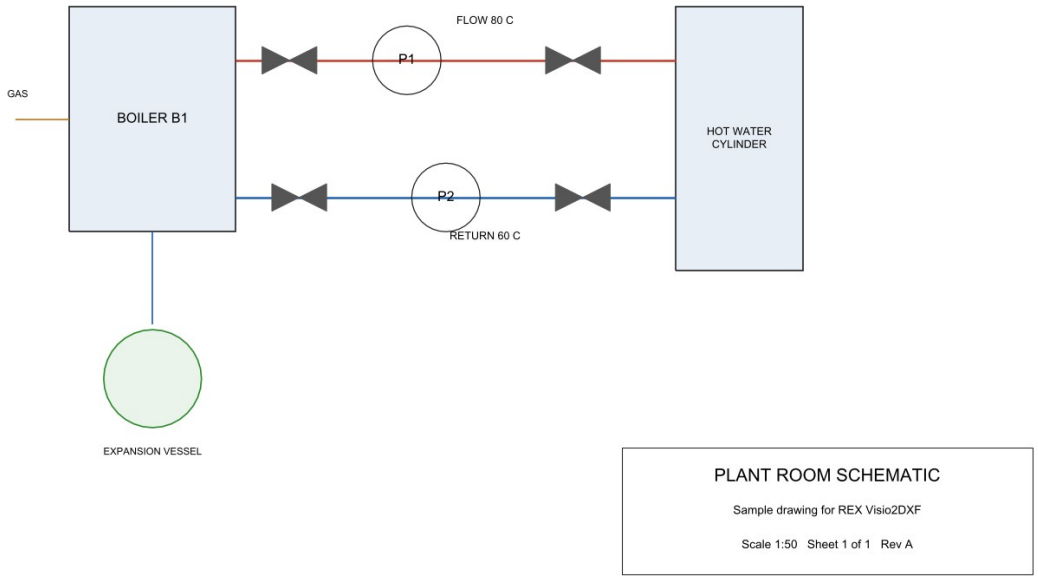
Choose “Apply the detected scale” (recommended in almost all cases) or type a different ratio, tick “Use this choice for all remaining files” to avoid being asked again in a batch, then click “Convert this file”. “Skip this file” leaves that one drawing out of the batch without cancelling the rest.

When conversion finishes, the Progress/results box lists every file converted, how many shapes were converted cleanly, how many embedded images were placed, and how many shapes were flagged for manual review:



A completed conversion: the results log shows each drawing, how many shapes were converted cleanly and how many need a manual look.

Each DXF also embeds its own conversion report on a CONVERSION_REPORT layer, and a plain-text copy is saved as conversion_report.txt in the output folder — useful if a drawing needs a closer look after opening it in AutoCAD.



The converted drawing from the DXF file, drawn as real lines, circles and text rather than a picture. It is shown here rendered from the DXF; in AutoCAD LT it is opened with File > Open.

The report block embedded in each DXF sits entirely above the top edge of the drawing on its own CONVERSION_REPORT layer, so it never overlaps your geometry; move or delete it in AutoCAD as you wish.

4. Legacy .vsd files

Older binary .vsd drawings are converted via a bundled copy of LibreOffice rather than being read directly (Visio's old binary format needs a real Visio-compatible engine to parse reliably). This happens automatically and silently in the background — there is no extra step for a .vsd file compared to a .vsdx file.

If LibreOffice is not present on the computer (for example when REX Visio2DXF was copied rather than installed), a .vsd conversion stops with a clear message; install LibreOffice (free) or save the drawing as .vsdx from Visio. .vsdx files never need LibreOffice.

5. A note on accuracy

REX Visio2DXF aims for the most faithful conversion possible: real arcs and circles (not approximations), correct line colours and weights, embedded images placed at the correct position and rotation, and Visio layers carried through as DXF layers. Any shape that could not be converted with full confidence is placed on a separate REVIEW layer and listed in the results log and conversion report, so it is easy to find and check by hand.

6. Installing and activating

6.1 Windows

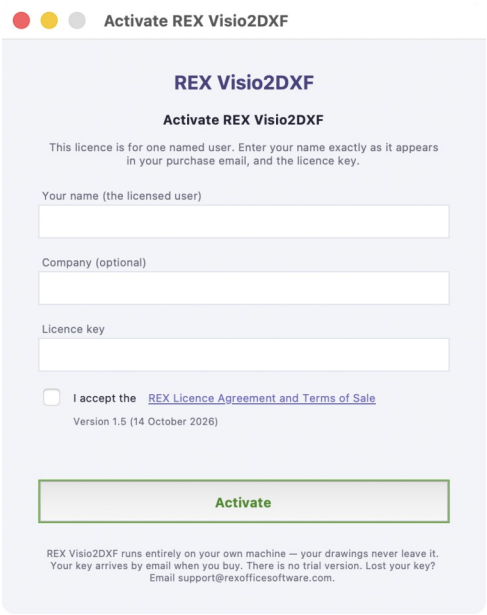
Download REX-Visio2DXF-Setup.exe from rexofficesoftware.com/downloads.html and double-click it. If Windows shows "Windows protected your PC", click More info, then Run anyway. The installer is per-user, adds a Start-menu entry and a desktop shortcut, and installs LibreOffice silently for legacy .vsd conversion (this is what makes the installer large). The portable zip works without installing, but .vsd files then need LibreOffice installed separately.

6.2 Mac

Download the macOS zip, unzip it and drag REX Visio2DXF.app into Applications. The app is signed but not yet notarised with Apple, so the first start is refused with "Apple could not verify … is free of malware". On macOS 15 and later: close that message, open System Settings > Privacy & Security, scroll down to Security, click Open Anyway next to REX Visio2DXF, confirm with your password, then Open; it opens normally from then on. On older macOS: right-click the app, choose Open, then Open again. In Terminal the same is: xattr -dr com.apple.quarantine "/Applications/REX Visio2DXF.app". Modern .vsdx drawings convert straight away. For legacy .vsd drawings install the free LibreOffice from libreoffice.org into Applications; REX Visio2DXF finds it there automatically.

6.3 Licence, activation and support

Before you activate, tick "I accept the REX Licence Agreement and Terms of Sale" on the activation window (the link opens the agreement in your browser). The Windows installer also shows the agreement and asks you to accept it. The version accepted and the date are recorded with your licence.



The activation window: it asks for your name, an optional company and the licence key, and for your acceptance of the licence agreement.

- **The licence.** A licence is issued to one named user. The key carries your name, not a computer, so you can use the program on the computers you use yourself, but nobody else may use it: each person needs their own licence. The key is checked offline; nothing is sent anywhere. REX Visio2DXF has no free trial.
- Your key is emailed to you at once when you buy. The first time the program runs, the activation window asks for your name (exactly as it appears in that email; capitals and spaces do not matter), your company (optional, shown on screen only) and the key. Tick that you accept the licence agreement and click Activate. Afterwards the program shows "Licensed to <your name>, <your company>" in a slim bar at the bottom of its window, and the About window (the About button next to User guide in the header bar) shows the same details. Keep the purchase email: you need the same name and key to reinstall.
- **A new computer or a new user.** To use the program on a new computer of your own, install it there and enter the same name and key; nothing needs approval. If you change your name, or the licence must pass to another person in your business (for example when an employee leaves), email support@rexofficesoftware.com and we will tell you what we can do or issue a key for the new user. If the program says "Key does not match this user name", type your name exactly as it appears in the key email.

- **Support.** support@rexofficesoftware.com, included, subject to the fair-use policy at rexofficesoftware.com/support.html. Say which product, what you did, what you expected and what happened.

6.4 Updating

Install the new version over the old one. Your licence is kept.

7. What changed in this edition

- Screenshots (9 November 2026): every picture retaken on the current program (Mac version) with the Plant room schematic sample; the converted-drawing picture comes from the reworked converter.
- Look (8 November 2026): a white header bar with plain buttons, like REX Paperworks and REX Accounts; the brand colour is kept for outlines, headings and the active choice.
- Converter (8 November 2026): grouped and stencil shapes land where Visio draws them; fills, dash patterns, line colours, text sizes and text colours are kept; shapes left outside the page go to a hidden VISIO_OFFPAGE layer; drawings with a recorded scale come out in real-world millimetres (or inches); legacy .vsd files keep their structure through the LibreOffice import.
- Runs on macOS (Apple silicon) as well as Windows 10/11.
- Engine fix found by the Mac test suite: text height in inch output was 25.4 times too big, and the legibility floor now scales with the drawing scale.
- Licensing (14 October 2026): REX Visio2DXF is licensed to one named user and the key is no longer tied to a computer. The activation window asks for your name, an optional company and the key; the program shows "Licensed to" your name (and company) in a bar at the bottom of its window and in a new About window; there is still no free trial. Keys made for one computer on 13 October 2026 are replaced free on request.
- Screenshots (14 October 2026): all pictures were retaken from the current program on a generic sample drawing, and the converted drawing and the activation window were added.
- This edition of the manual is dated 9 November 2026.