

Importing a RISA-3D Engineering Model into SDS/2

1. Start a new job in SDS/2.
2. Open the **DesignLINK** Import module either from SDS/2's **Main Menu** or from the **Interface** pulldown menu inside the **Modeling** window.
3. Once **DesignLINK** is open, browse to the file you wish to import. **DesignLINK** will automatically detect the file type. For RISA-3D, it will be a CIS/2 file with an .stp extension.
4. Options will appear on the **Import** screen, allowing users more control over the import.
5. If there are unrecognized section sizes or materials, you will be prompted for a replacement size/material. To help avoid this, you can check **Avoid miscellaneous members** in the **Import** screen. Most conflicts are a difference in naming convention between the two software products.
6. You may choose to **Verify and Fix** before processing in SDS/2—this can correct any discrepancies that may come through on the transfer.
7. Opening the **Modeling** area in SDS/2, users will find the model has imported, along with the views created in RISA-3D.
8. Running **Process and Create Solids** will give you a solids model with connections designed as a part of the process. All connections will come in as Auto Standard connections, meaning they are determined by set up and framing conditions. If member end loads are present in the CIS/2 file, SDS/2 will import the end reactions and design connections with consideration for end reactions. RISA-3D does not currently transfer this information—in the absence of member end loads, SDS/2 defaults to set up options that base loading from a percentage of Uniform Allowable Load or Maximum Web Shear.
9. Due to the nature of analysis models working from the centroidal axis of the member versus manufacturing models working from top of steel, a shift must be performed. Some of this is done automatically with beams and columns during the import. Vertical braces require a manual shift post-import. SDS/2 has a tool to automate this action, found under **Edit > Change Options > Set Vertical Brace Workpoints to ½ Nominal Depth of Supporting Beam** (shown in video). This will correct all vertical brace workpoints and must be performed after the job has been processed.
10. On occasion, member types may need to be changed for SDS/2 to carry them through manufacturing. For example, an engineer may call filler beams out as joist. In SDS/2, joist refers to bar joist member types rather than rolled steel beams. It is simple to correct this by selecting members you would like to change, and using the **Model** pulldown in SDS/2, select the **Members** menu, then select **Change Type**, switching it to your preferred member type for manufacturing.

