

Inset Views from Linked CSV Files

Inset views provide a flexible and customizable way to present data, diagrams, and reports in Sheet Views. PLS-CADD, PLS-POLE and TOWER offer options for conveniently creating [Inset Report Views](#) and [Inset Structure Views](#) using context menu commands. Prior to Version 21.08 of these programs however, generating inset report views from data sources created outside of the software was a manual process, with all cell data requiring user input. The resulting inset report views were also static; although commands such as **Drafting/Inset Views/Table Edit/Inset Annotations...** could be used to edit existing inset view data, making many updates could be a time-consuming effort.

Drafting/Inset Views/Build Inset Report View/Link CSV File... offers a new way to quickly create simple inset views in PLS-CADD, PLS-POLE and TOWER. This command allows users to select a reference CSV file containing data which can be used to automatically generate an inset view. The resulting inset view is linked to the original CSV file, and will update as changes are made to the CSV file.

Note that the software command for manually creating inset views can still be accessed at **Drafting/Inset Views/Build Inset Report View/Build Manually**.

Creating an Inset View using a CSV File

The following example walks through creating an inset view from a linked CSV file in PLS-CADD. Customizations such as merged cells, borders, text formatting options such as italicization, and justification used in the CSV file will not be present once the data is used to create an inset view in PLS-CADD. The **Link CSV File** command is best used with simple, text-based arrays of data. Pictures or other files which have been embedded in the CSV file are also not supported in PLS-CADD. For example, the screenshot of the CSV file shown below would be a good candidate for use with this feature:

Start Str	End Str	Ruling Span (ft)	Wire Type	Voltage (kV)	Wires Per Phase	Design Tension (lbs)	Sagging Condition	Sagging Temp. (deg F)
Substation	Str 1	647	Drake ACSR	138	1	4000	Initial RS	60
Str 1	Str 2	326	Drake ACSR	138	1	4000	Initial RS	60
Str 2	Tap	685	Drake ACSR	138	1	4000	Initial RS	60
Tap	Str 3	947	Drake ACSR	138	1	4000	Initial RS	60
Str 3	Str 3A	637	Drake ACSR	138	1	4000	Initial RS	60
Str 3A	Str 4	720	Drake ACSR	138	1	4000	Initial RS	60
Str 4	Str 5	654	Drake ACSR	138	1	4000	Initial RS	60
Str 5	Str 6	676	Drake ACSR	138	1	4000	Initial RS	60

Figure 1: Sample data in a CSV file

Simply navigate to **Drafting/Inset Views/Build Inset Report View/Link CSV File...** and you will be prompted to select a CSV file. Once a CSV file has been selected, you can name the resulting inset report view using the “CSV Linked Inset Report” dialog shown in Figure 2.

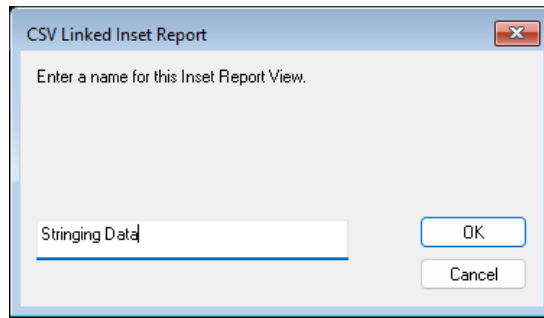


Figure 2: CSV Linked Inset Report dialog

After clicking *OK*, the standard “Add Inset Report View” dialog appears which allows for customizing the size, appearance, and location of the new inset view. The various options of this dialog are discussed in Section 13.6.1 of the PLS-CADD manual.

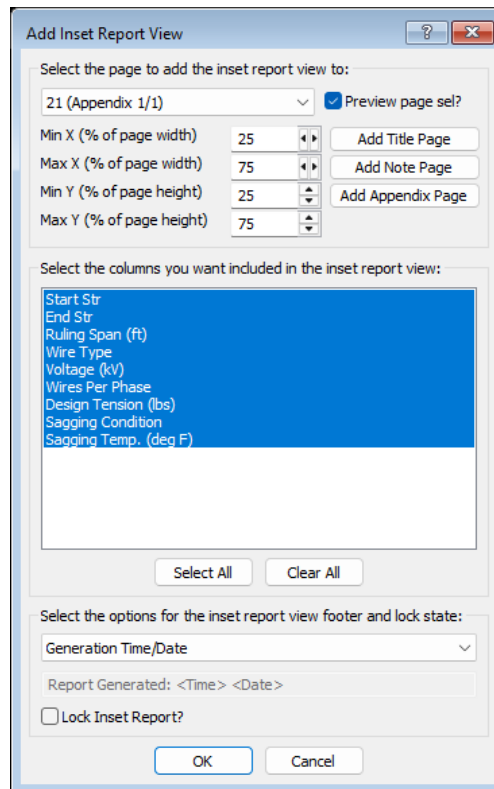


Figure 3: Add Inset Report View dialog

Pressing *OK* will add the newly-created inset view to the selected page, using the settings defined in the dialog. Inset views created using linked CSV files can be modified and customized like any other inset report view using commands such as ***Drafting/Inset Views/Move Inset View***, ***Drafting/Inset Views/Resize Inset View*** and ***Drafting/Inset Views/Autoscale Inset View***.

Note the differences in the formatting of the text and data between Figures 1 and 4. The text formatting options available for inset report views in PLS-CADD can be found at ***Drafting/Inset Views/Table Edit/Inset Annotations***.

														Plymouth to Sheboygan 138 kV Transmission Line				PROJECT	DRAWING NUMBER	REV
A 07/27/91 Updated Project to illustrate WMS Impingement Conditions										OIL PLS-CADD D/L 07/27/91				Modeled using PLS-CADD Demonstration Model				53705	53705-21	A
B 04/24 REVISIONS AND RECORD OF 1994																		10-24		
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