



How to export scan files to EdgeWise from Autodesk ReCap

The basic workflow for exporting scan files from ReCap to EdgeWise is to export E57 files, convert them to PTX files using the E57 to PTX tool in EdgeWise, and process the .ptx files with Process scans.

The Import Process

Certain filetypes are not compatible with the ReCap to EdgeWise workflow. **.PTS**, **.XYZ**, and **.LAS** filetypes by default do **NOT** contain Row and Column Information (RCI), which is necessary for automatic processing inside of EdgeWise. It is highly recommended that .PTS, XYZ, and LAS files are **NEVER** used in an EdgeWise workflow.

In addition **.PTX** files, which normally contain RCI, will **LOSE** their RCI data upon import to ReCap. Importing a .PTX file to ReCap will ultimately end in the same result as a .PTS, .XYZ or .LAS import, as EdgeWise will not be able to process the E57 file created in ReCap from any of those files.

Important Notes

- **Never save the ReCap Project as a Unified RCP or Unified RCS project in the Export Option**
 - **Unifying a project will delete the row and column information that EdgeWise requires**

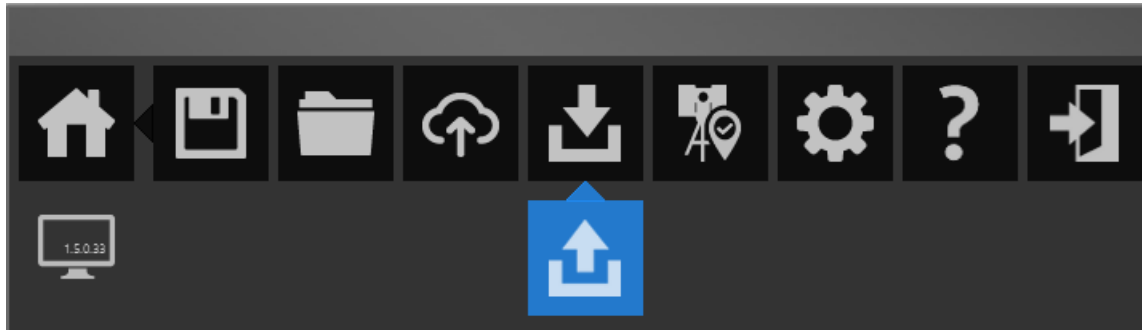
If you unify the project, EdgeWise **cannot perform automated processing** because the scan positions which EdgeWise needs to do *any* automated processing were deleted inside of ReCap.

- **If you have already unified your project and you don't have a backup of the original non-unified project, it is possible to export a PTS which EdgeWise can use for manual processing.**

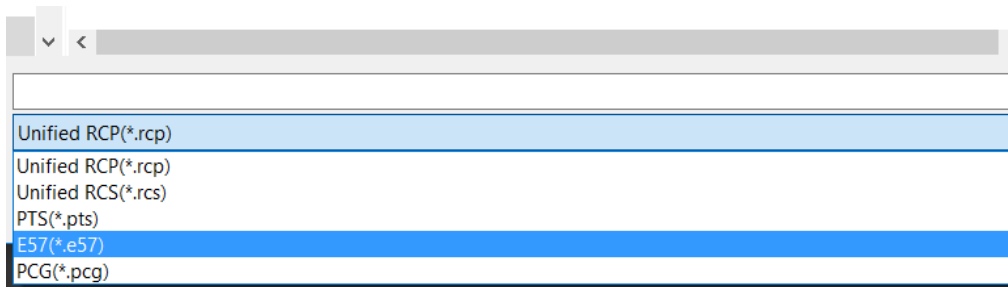


The Export Process

Import your scan files, register and index them inside of ReCap. Once they are brought in, you can begin the export process. **No edits to the point cloud will transfer to EdgeWise.**



Select the Export option in the menu. You can export at any time as long as the project has not been unified.

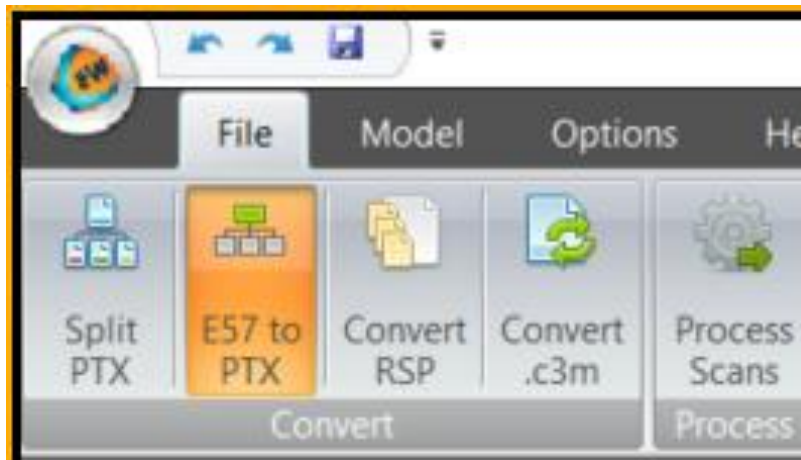


Select the E57(*.e57) option in the drop down and save.

Note that the Unified RCP and Unified RCS are the export options that will delete the required information.



A single .e57 file will be created. This is what you will bring into EdgeWise and use the e57 to PTX tool to convert the e57 file to individual PTX files that can then be processed.



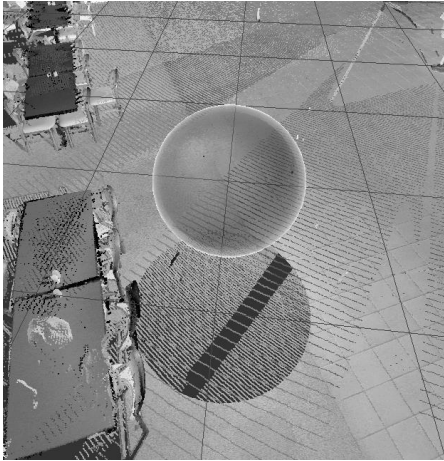
The tool is located in Edgewise, in the File tab.

Currently, the progress bar for the convert tool does NOT accurately represent the level of completion of this process in *any* way. To view the progress of the E57 to PTX tool, open up Windows Explorer and inspect the file sizes of the .PTX files created. These files should be located in the same directory as the original .e57 file, and there should be one file created for each scan position in the dataset.

Test.e57	3/31/2016 11:13 AM	E57 File	1,386,858 KB
Test_0	3/31/2016 11:18 AM	PTX File	915,786 KB
Test_1	3/31/2016 11:19 AM	PTX File	4,225 KB
Test_1.ptx.c3ooc.0	3/31/2016 11:18 AM	0 File	0 KB

Indicators that the project has been unified.

- There are no scanner position orbs in ReCap. If these are missing, the project has already been unified.



- If you get this error when you try to use the E57 to PTX tool it means that the e57 file has already has its Row and Column stripped.

EdgeWise

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No Row or Column Information in E57 File.

Row and Column Information (RCI) is unique to each scan in a dataset and is necessary for EdgeWise automated extraction, as well as the splitting of an E57 file to PTX. Because RCI is optional, some E57 files may have it, while others do not. The inclusion of RCI in an E57 file is based on the presence of RCI in the original scan files and on the processes used in creating the E57 file.

There are several points in a data processing workflow where RCI may be lost, such as:

- Unifying a data set in ReCap at any point will lose RCI, since unification removes scanner specific Row and Column data. This is the most common reason for the absence of RCI in an E57 file. Try turning off the unified option when exporting E57 files from ReCap.

- Conversion to PTX files. PTX is an ASCII format which contains RCI. When PTX files are brought in to ReCap, however, the RCI is lost. If you have them available, try using the original scan files (such as .PTG or .FLS) in ReCap instead.

- Conversion to PTS files. PTS is a "simple" ASCII format which does NOT contain RCI. EdgeWise can create a Point Database from these files, but cannot do any Auto Extraction; you will need to use a semi-automated workflow within EdgeWise when working with PTS data. As with PTX files, you should try using original scan files instead of PTS in ReCap. If you are unable to maintain the RCI from a set of scans then exporting your scans from ReCap in PTS (as opposed to E57) format should allow you to process your scans in EdgeWise.

If your E57 file does not have Row and Column Information and does not fall under any of the problem categories or is not fixed by any of the solutions above, please contact Support.

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