

DCF editor - Manual

1. Introduction

The DCF-Editor tool is designed to make working with EDS and DCF files easier. It simplifies tasks like comparing data, spotting mismatches, creating new DCFs, and filtering objects for easier manipulation. This guide will walk you through how to use the tool effectively.

Installation link: [Install DCF-Editor](#)

2. Why Use DCF-Editor

When working with large EDS (Electronic Data Sheets) and DCF (Device Configuration Files) files, the following issues arise:

- **Information Overload:** EDS contains extensive details, while DCF may have fewer.
- **Text File Challenges:** Text files are hard to compare and merge manually.
- **Multiple DCFs:** It's difficult to manage several partial DCFs.

The DCF-Editor solves these problems by helping users:

1. **Spot mismatches** between EDS and DCFs.
2. **Create new DCFs** by merging multiple DCFs or copying values from EDS.
3. **View only relevant objects** by filtering unnecessary information.

3. What the DCF-Editor Can Do

- **View Objects** from the entire EDS or specific parts using filters.
- **Compare Data** between EDS and up to two DCF files simultaneously.
- **Generate a Result DCF** with new values either entered manually or copied from existing data.
- **Export Results** by saving the newly created DCF, filtered to only include relevant objects.

Key Functions:

- **Compare** DCFs and EDS values.
- **Filter objects** by name, ID, or any specific criteria.
- **Assemble and export** a new DCF.
- **Change access levels** and reorder columns.

4. How to Use DCF-Editor

4.1 Overview

The tool consists of the following five components:

1. **Menu Bar**
Provides access to various commands and features through dropdown menus.
2. **Quick Access Toolbar**
A toolbar that offers quick access to frequently used functions.
3. **Search Bar**
Allows users to quickly search for specific object within the tool.
4. **Data Grid**
Displays the data in a tabular format, where users can view, edit, and interact with the data.
5. **Status Bar**
Located at the bottom of the window, it shows the current status of the tool, including information about selected items or operations in progress.

[Tool overview](#)  [Picture 1: Tool overview](#)

4.2. Opening Files

You can open files using the **Menu Bar** or simply drag and drop the file from File Explorer into the tool.

4.2.1. Using the **Menu bar**

- **Open EDS:** Use the main menu or drag and drop EDS files into the tool.

[Open EDS](#)  [Picture 2: Open EDS](#)

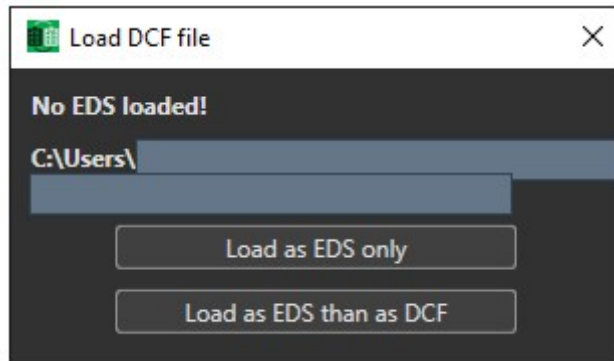
- **Open DCFs:** You can open up to two DCF files at a time, either from the main menu or by dragging and dropping them.

Open DCF 1 [Picture 3](#) Open DCF 1

Open DCF 2 [Picture 4](#) Open DCF 2

4.2.2. Using the **Drag and drop** version

You can drag and drop a .dcf file directly into the tool, which will open a popup window. You can choose whether to load it only as EDS or as both EDS and DCF. This will load the .dcf file into DCF1.



[Picture 5](#): Drag and drop popup window

4.3. Clear Workspace

If you want to clear the workspace, simply click on **Clear Workspace** in the Quick Access Toolbar. A confirmation prompt will appear to double-check if you really want to proceed.

[image.png](#) [Picture 6](#) Confirmation prompt

4.4. Creating and Applying Filters

4.2.1. Create Filters:

You can create filters to narrow down your view to objects of interest. These filters can be saved for later use.

To create a filter, click **Filters** on the Menu bar or **New Filter** on the Quick Access Toolbar. A new window will appear where you can select the property to use for the filter.

[Create Filter](#) [Picture 7](#) Create Filter

Filter Types:

- **Has Value:** The selected property has a value.

This is very useful for displaying only objects that have certain settings applied (or not applied), such as showing only objects from DCF1. Note: this serves as a shortcut for the Regex filter using a period (.) and can also be used in Matches Regular Expressions

- **Is Equal to Property:**

This is used for special checks where it compares two properties, for example: comparing DCF1 and ValueResult to see if they are the same.

ALERT: This is mostly used to compare properties like Min, Max, DEFAULTValue, DCF1, DCF2, and ValueResult. It works with other properties but is not as extensively tested. Attempting to create filters on other properties may result in failure.

- Show rows where DCFX is equal to DCFX, otherwise not equal.
- Show rows where DCFX is equal to DEFAULT, otherwise not equal.

- Default value
- DCF1 parameter value
- DCF2 parameter value
- Result DCF3 value

- **Is Equal to Any of These Values:** Enter a value to match the property value.

- **Is Between Numbers:**

This function only works with numbers and checks if they fall within a specified range. Users can omit any part of the range, which effectively makes it a regular greater than or equal to (\geq) or less than or equal to (\leq) operation.

For example: Setting DCF1 \geq 3.2 will match values in DCF1 that are equal to or greater than 3.2.

The function allows for one or two optional numeric operands:

- min \leq X \leq max (where either min or max can be omitted)

- **Matches Regular Expressions:**

This section explains the regular expression (regex) text search feature, which enables expanded text searches within the app. The search is case-insensitive, but regex can perform more complex checks, such as matching whole words.

Example Filters:

- **"DCF2 Regex .":** Matches any value in DCF2.
- **"DCF1 REGEX error" :** Finds all occurrences of "error" in any case, e.g., "noError", "erroR".
- **"error_[2-3][2468]" :** Matches strings like "error_26", "Error_22", "Error_38".
- **"^\d+\$" :** Matches any whole number.
- **"^\.d\d+\$" :** Matches any decimal number, but not whole number
- **"[0-9]?[0-9]:[0-9][0-9]" :** Matches times in formats like "8:26" or "12:08".

Regex is a powerful tool, though it can be complex. For guidance and common patterns, consider online resources and tutorials.

[Learn more about Regex](#)

[Top Commonly Used Regex Patterns](#)

Complete Guide to Regular Expressions (Regex)

Additionally, there is an option to invert the filter results.

You can also right-click within the column containing the data you want to filter and use the template to quickly create the filter.

Right_Click_Create_Filter.png

Picture 8: Right click to create filter

Once the filter is created, it appears next to the **Search Bar**. If the color is green, that indicates the filter is active. Clicking on the filter's text allows you to easily disable it, causing the green colour to disappear. You can add additional filters, which will be stacked on the same line. Each filter can be enabled or disabled as you please. There is also an edit and a delete button for each filter. Additionally if you have multiple filters you can enable them all with the button Filters On or disable them with the button Filters Off (Quick Access Toolbar).

Filter_created_and_active.png

Picture 9: Filter created and active

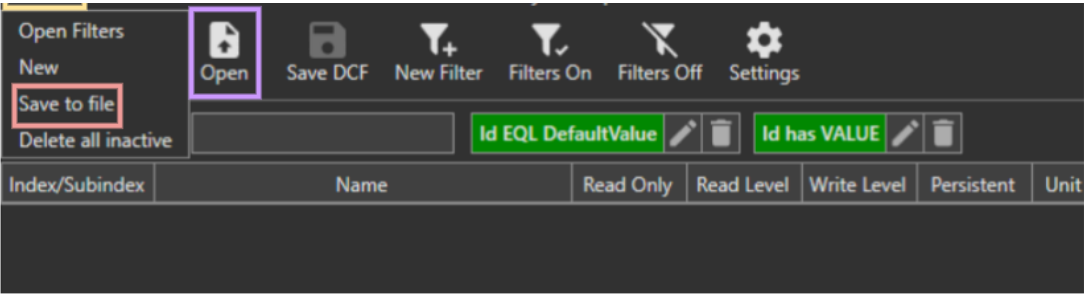
With using the filter functionality you can easily filter objects by name, differences between DCFs, access level, and more.

4.2.2. Saving Created Filters

When you have configured your desired filters you can save them to a file for future use. Click on Filters and Save to file.

Once you need the predefined filter you can easily import them with the Open button.

Only active filters will be saved!



Picture 10: Save

active filters

4.2.3. Comparing Values

Whether the value of an object differs from the value in red in the DCF column.

	Default	DCF 1	DCF 2	Result DCF	
67	0	0	0		Custom
67	0	0	0		Custom
6	0	0	0		
1	0	0	0		
95	1	1	1		
1	0	0	0		
00	0	0	0		
5	0	0	0		
55	0	0	0		
95	0	0	0		
95	0	16000	16000		
95	0	0	0		
11	4	4	4		
95	0	0	0		
95	0	16000	16000		
35	0	0	0		
55	0	255	255		
55	0	0	0		
55	0	0	0		
67	0	0	0		

Whether the value of an object differs from the value in red in the DCF column.

Picture 11: DCF1 and DC2 object value

differs from EDS default

4.2.4. Setting Result Values

You can create a new DCF using the loaded DCF files as templates. This is reflected in the Result DCF column. There are multiple ways to do this:

- Directly type in the Result DCF column.
- Right-click on a value in either DCF1 or DCF2 and select 'Copy selected to result.'
- Double-click on a value in either DCF1 or DCF2.
- Select from Min, Max, Default, DCF1, or DCF2.

highlighted in green, as shown in

Picture 12: The value in the Result

DCF column is highlighted in green

4.2.5. Exporting Results

- **Save New DCF:** Once you have completed your comparisons and changes, save the new DCF. Only visible objects will be included in the export.

5. Advanced Features

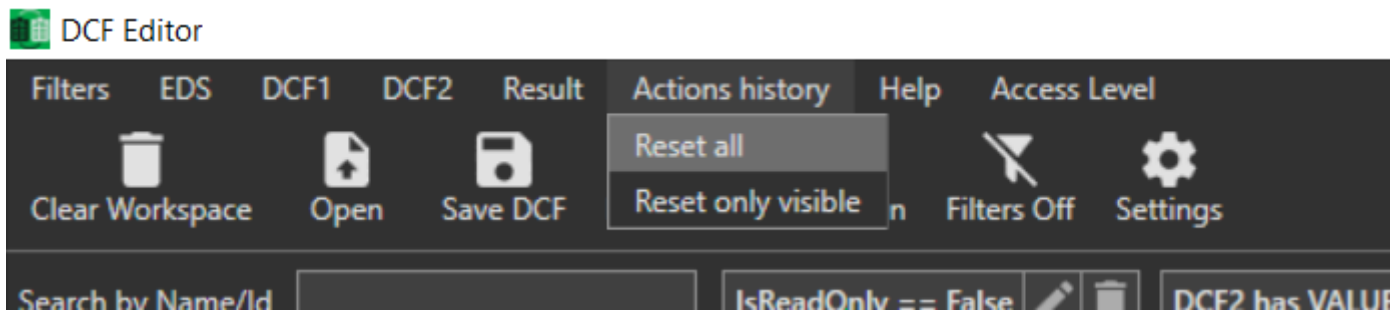
- **Column Manipulation:** Change the order of columns by clicking and dragging. You can also hide columns going under Settings (see Chapter: Additional Information and Help).
- **Sorting:** Sort data by clicking on column headers (alphabetical, numerical, etc.).

6. Colour Indicators

Current Colour Indicators

- **Red Text:** Indicates a mismatch between a DCF value and the default value.
- **Green Background:** Highlights user-modified values, helping to track changes.

You can also clear the green highlights in the Result DCF after confirming the values are correct and want to focus only on new changes. To do this, click on "Action History" and select "Reset All."



Picture 13: Clearing the green colour indicator.

Example:

0	0		
966	966		
541392992	541392992		
69123	69123	69123	
0	0		
1537	1537		
1409	1409		
500	500		

Picture 14: Before

resetting

• After resetting:

966	966		
541392992	541392992		
69123	69123	69123	
0	0		
1537	1537		

Picture 15: After resetting

- You can then copy new values to the Result DCF, and only those will be highlighted in green:

	541392992	541392992		
	69123	69123	69123	
0	0	0		
0	1537	1537	1537	
0	1409	1409		
00	500	500		Defin
	3759608851	3759608851		

Picture 16: Copying new

values, which are highlighted

7. Selecting Cells and Copying Values

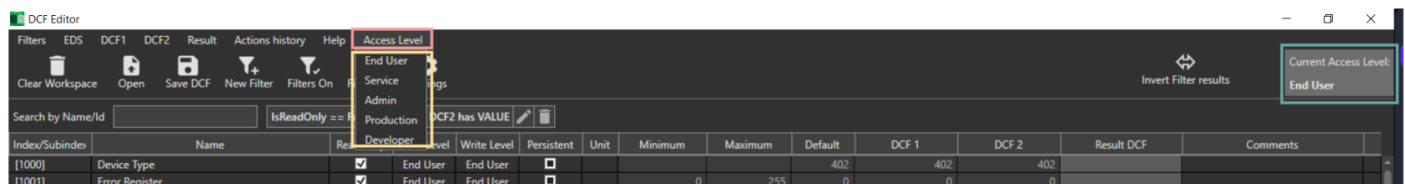
To select and copy values:

- **Single Cell:** Click to select one cell.
- **Multiple Cells:** Hold CTRL and click to select or deselect cells.
- **Range Selection:** Click, hold, and drag to select a range of cells.
- **Copying Values:** Once selected, right-click to copy values from Min, Max, Default, DCF1, or DCF2.

8. Set Objects by Access level

There are two ways to display objects based on the Access level:

- Select "Access Level" in the menu bar and choose the appropriate level.

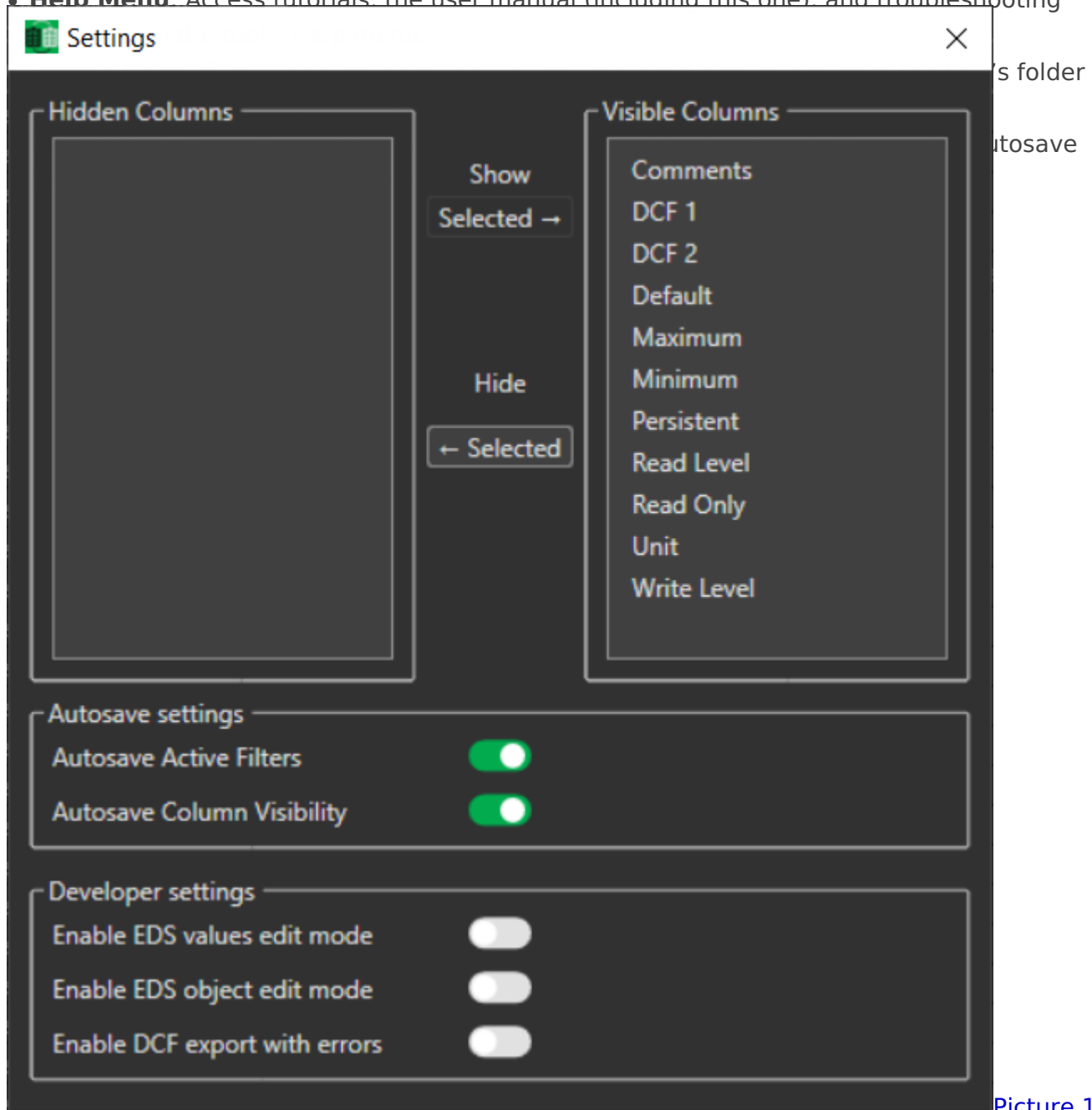


Picture 17: Access level

- Create a ReadLevel or WriteLevel filter (see Chapter: 4.4. Creating and Applying Filters).

9. Additional Information and Help

- **Tool Installation:** Install the tool from the following link: [Install DCF-Editor](#)
- **Help Menu:** Access tutorials, the user manual (including this one), and troubleshooting



Picture 18:

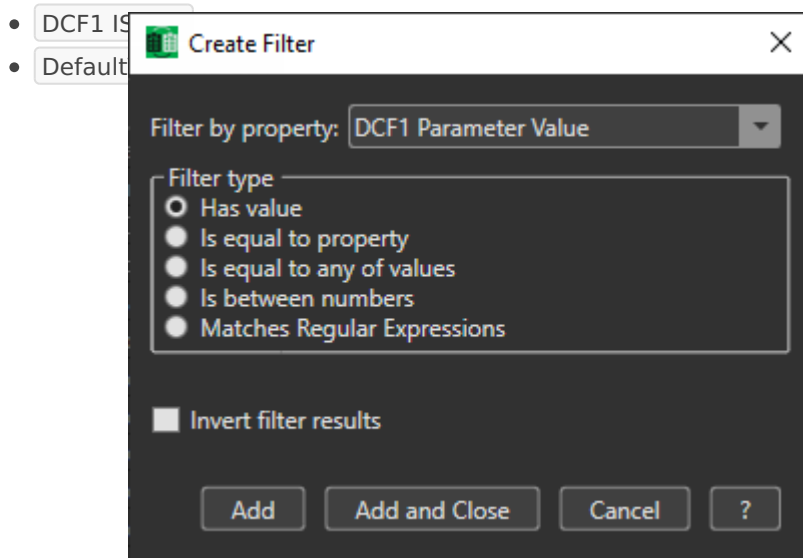
Settings pop up window

10. Filter Examples

10.1. Has value

This filter allows you to match all properties that have any value assigned.

Example of a filter:



Picture 19: Filter "Has value"

Note:

This filter may not work for all properties.

To check if a property has no value, use the **Invert Filter** checkbox.

Tip:

If you need to search for a specific value, use the **REGEX Filter** instead.

Technical Note:

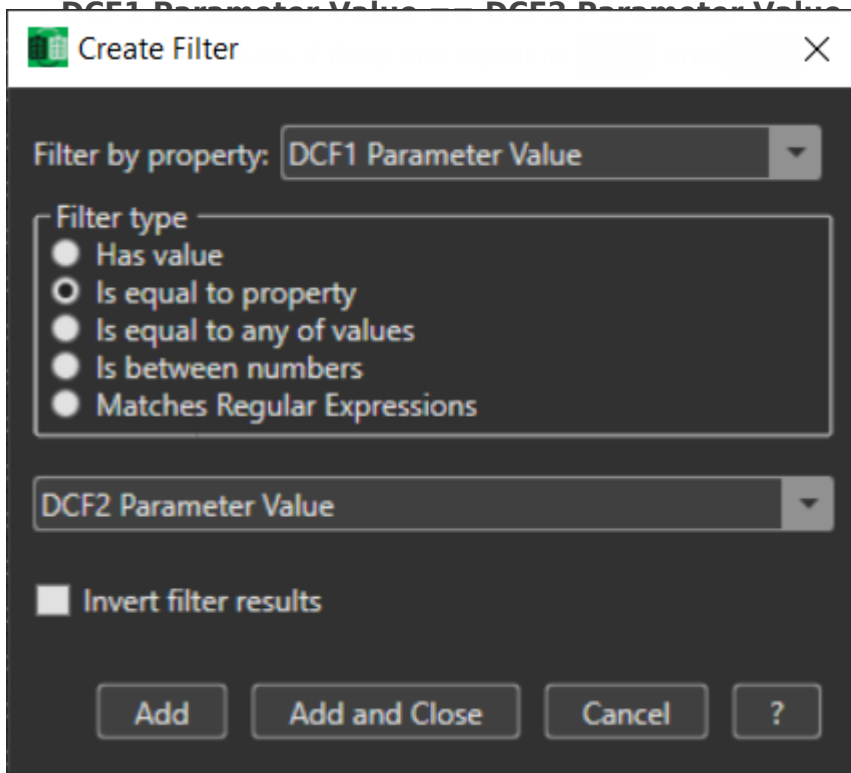
This is a shortcut for a REGEX filter.

The equivalent filter is: `DCF1 REGEX .`

10.2. Is Equal to Property

This filter matches all cases where a property has the same value as another property.

Example of a filter:



Picture 20: DCF1 Parameter value ==

DCF2 Parameter value

Note:

The user interface may have fewer options for the second property, so sometimes you'll need to reverse the order. For example, use `ValueMinimum == DefaultValue` instead of `DefaultValue == ValueMinimum`.

This filter may not work for all properties or combinations (e.g., `Id == DCF2`).

Tip:

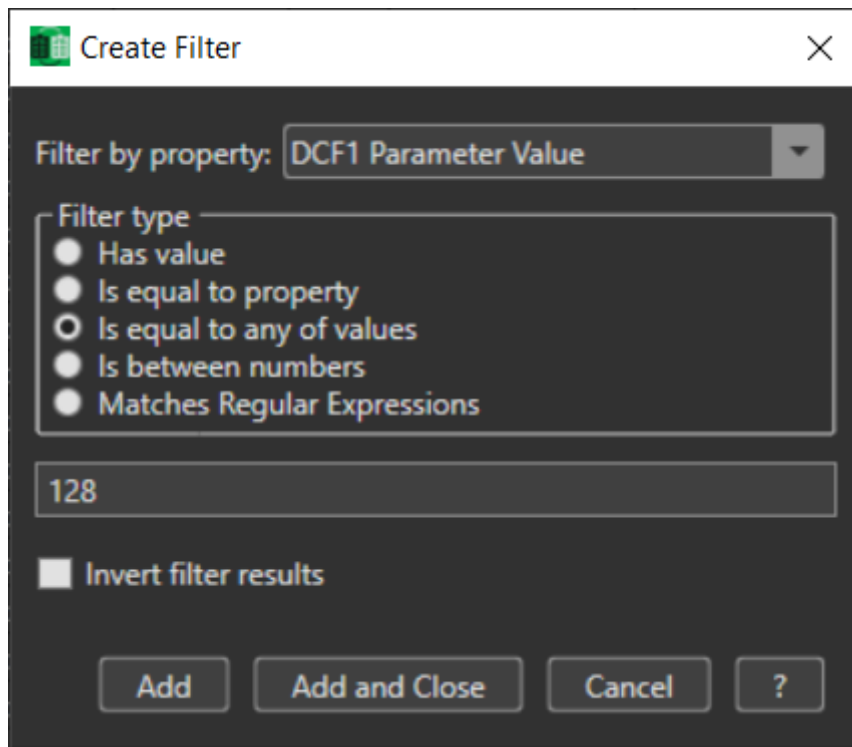
- To see if a property has **any value**, use the **IS SET** filter (or **REGEX**).
- To check if values differ, use the **Invert Filter** checkbox.
- To filter for a **specific value**, use the **IS** filter.

10.3. Is Equal to any of values

This filter checks if a property has any of the values provided, with values separated by commas.

Example of filter:

- `DCF1 == 128`



Picture 21: DCF1 Parameter vaule == 128

- `ReadLevel == 2,4`
This will show all objects where `ReadLevel` is 2 or 4.
- `DefaultValue == 0,100,1000`
This will display objects where `DefaultValue` is 0, 100, or 1000.
- `DCF1 == error,Error`
This will show objects where `DCF1` is either "error" or "Error".

Note:

To check if a property has **any value**, use the **REGEX** filter instead.
For numbers and larger ranges, use the **BETWEEN** filter.
For advanced text searches, **Regex** is a better option.

10.4. Is Between numbers

This filter type allows you to filter numeric values within a range.

Example of filter:

- `ReadLevel <= 4`
- `ReadLevel >= 2`
- `2 <= ReadLevel <= 4`

Picture 22: Filter is between numbers

The format follows:

min ≤ X ≤ max

Where "min" and "max" define the range, and X is the value being checked.

Filter Type: "Is BETWEEN numbers"

Operator: ≤ (less than or equal to)

Details:

- The filter can have one or two optional numeric operands. Either the "min" or "max" value can be empty.
- This filter is for **numeric values only**. Decimal numbers use a dot (.) as the separator (e.g., `0.5 ≤ DCF1 ≤ 1.4`).
- Hexadecimal numbers are indicated with `0x` (e.g., `0x100A ≤ Id ≤ 0x1A00`).

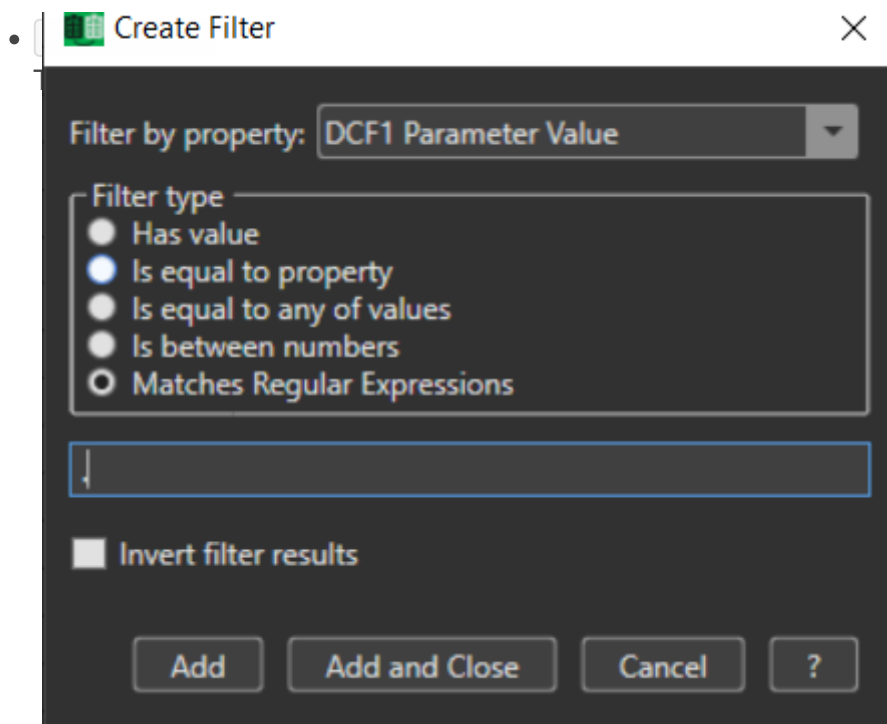
Important Note:

This filter may work on other values but not always as expected. For example, it could match both **True** and **False** for the property `IsReadOnly`.

10.5. Matches Regular Expressions

This filter checks whether a property's value matches a case-insensitive regular expression (regex).

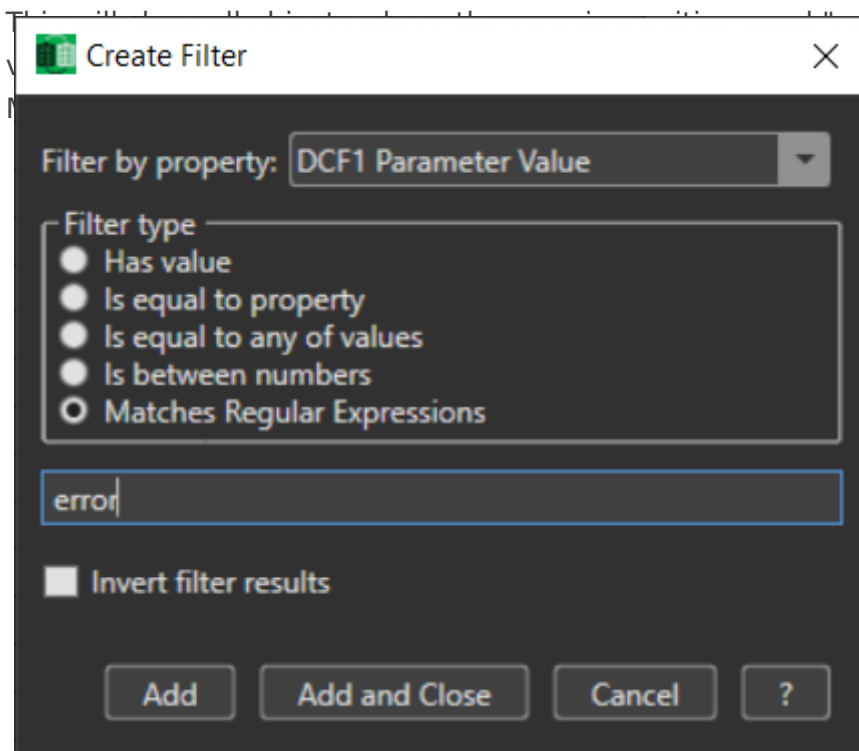
Example 1:



Picture 23: Regex Example 1

Example 2:

- DCF1 REGEX error



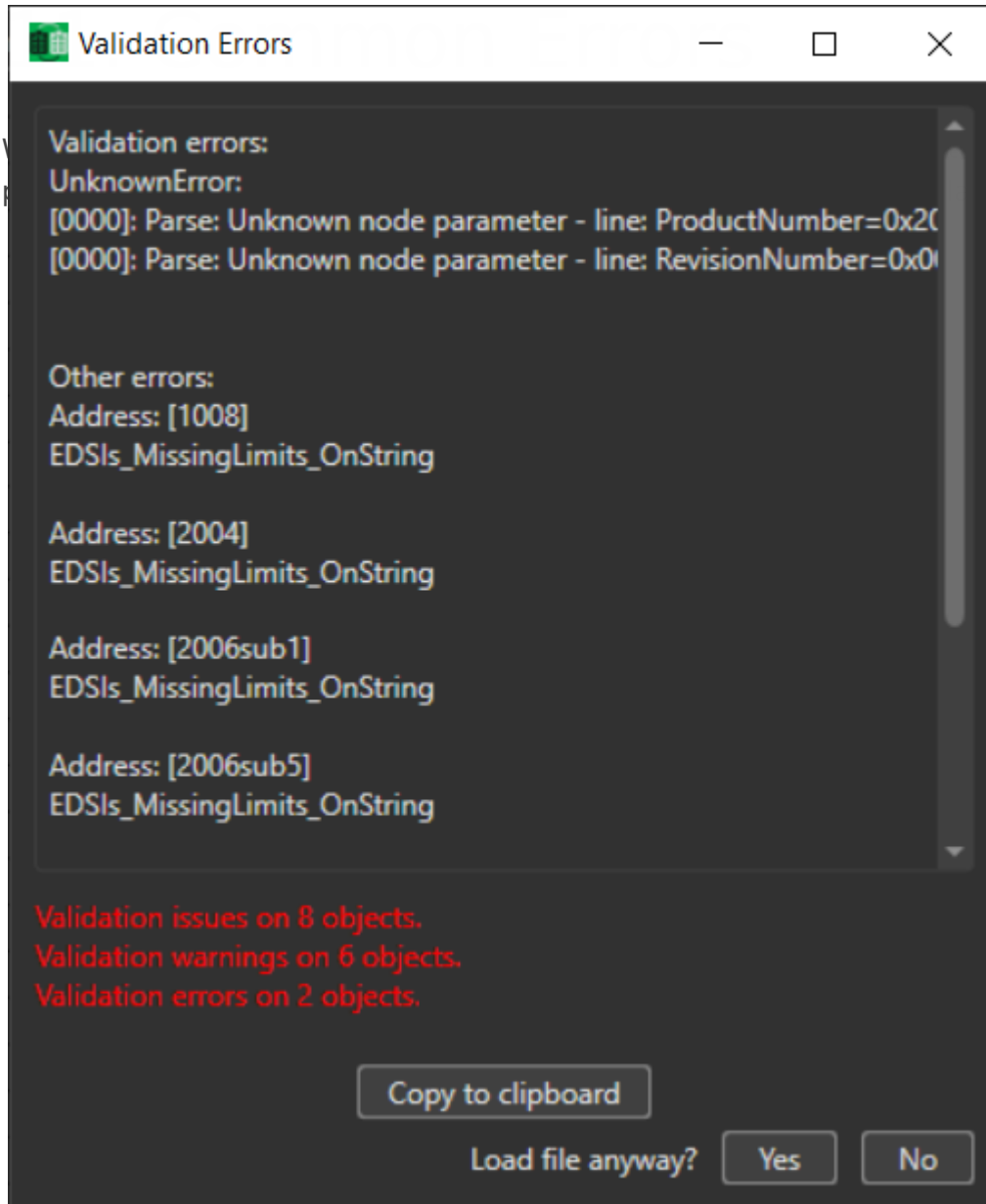
or" appears anywhere in the

Picture 24: Regex Example 2

Note:

Regex is a powerful tool but can be difficult to master.

There are many ready-to-use regex examples available online (see Chapter: 4.4. Creating and Applying Filters).



be addressed before
tion:

Picture 25: Validation Error

Example

Error Details:

- **Validation issues on 8 objects:** There are 8 objects with general issues identified during validation.
- **Validation warnings on 6 objects:** These are potential issues that may not prevent loading but could cause problems.
- **Validation errors on 2 objects:** Critical errors found on 2 objects must be resolved to proceed.

Actions:

- **Copy to Clipboard:** Users can copy the error list to the clipboard to save or share it.
- **Load file anyway?:**
 - **Yes:** Allows you to load the file despite the errors, but be aware that the mentioned objects will not be loaded
 - **No:** Cancels the loading process, allowing you to fix the issues before attempting again.

12. Tool Updates and Future Improvements

- **Automatic Updates:** The tool will automatically update with new features and bug fixes based on user feedback.
- **Future Enhancements:** Planned improvements include better integration with other tools and the ability to add persistent column data.

Revision #2

Created 24 February 2025 09:28:30 by Matic Jehart

Updated 24 February 2025 11:07:25 by Matic Jehart