
AASHTOWare BrDR 7.6.1

Feature Tutorial

HLP1– Help Features

HLP1 - Help Features

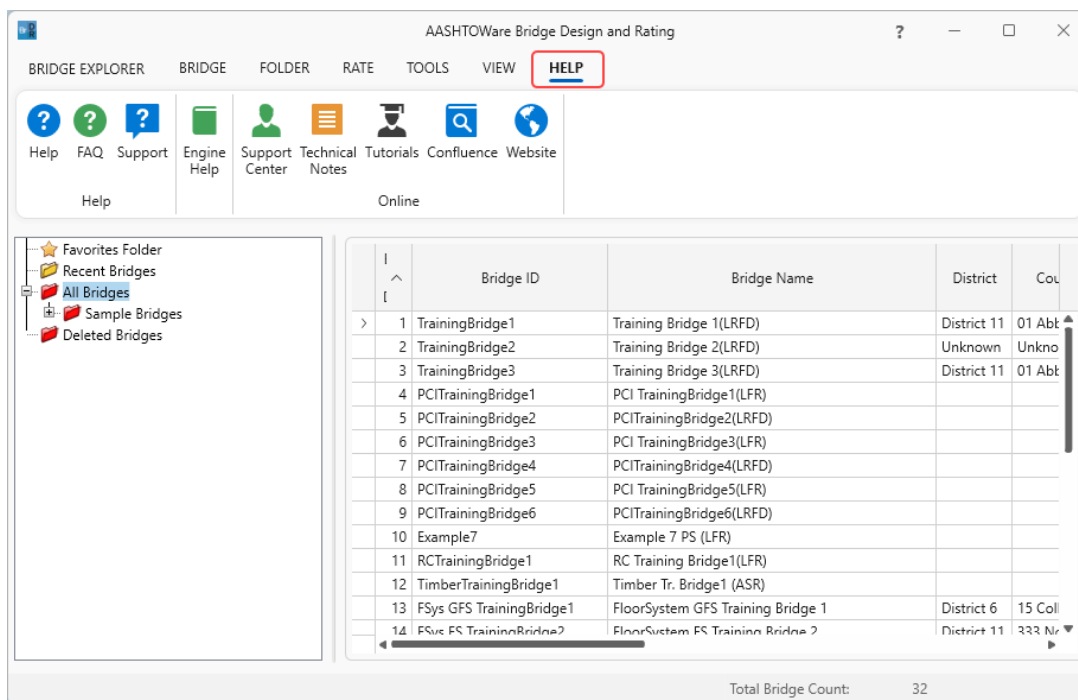
Topics Covered

This topic describes the various help features and training available in BrDR.

- Online Help
- Engine Related Help
- Limitations Help Topic
- Training Aids

Online Help

There are many different online help files available in BrDR. To access BrDR help, open BrDR, click on the **Help** tab from the **Bridge Explorer** tabs.



- Selecting **Help** from the menu opens the **AASHTOWare BrDR Help** file where the **Contents**, the **Index** and **Search** for specific words can be viewed and searched.
- Selecting **FAQ** from the menu opens the **AASHTOWare BrDR FAQ** Help file containing Basic, Technical and Non-Technical frequently asked questions about BrDR.
- Selecting **Support** from the menu opens the **Support** page of **AASHTOWare BrDR Help** with technical support information and license support options.
- Selecting **Engine Help** opens the **Engine Help** window, where the desired AASHTO engine can be chosen and detailed **Engine Related Help** and **Method of Solution** documentation can be accessed. This window also allows users to set the selected AASHTO engine as the main engine help.

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- Selecting **Support Center** opens the AASHTOWare Bridge Design and Rating support site, where users can access comprehensive support resources, submit support requests, and find solutions to technical issues related to BrDR.
- Selecting **Technical Notes** opens the technical notes site, where users can access detailed documentation and updates related to BrDR.
- Selecting **Tutorials** opens the BrDR Tutorials site, where users can find step-by-step guides and instructional materials to aid in effectively using BrDR features.
- Selecting **Confluence** opens the **Confluence** site, where users can access a wide range of Confluence articles related to Bridge Rating and Design.
- Selecting **Website** opens the official AASHTOWare Bridge Design and Rating website, where users can find comprehensive information, updates, and resources related to BrDR.

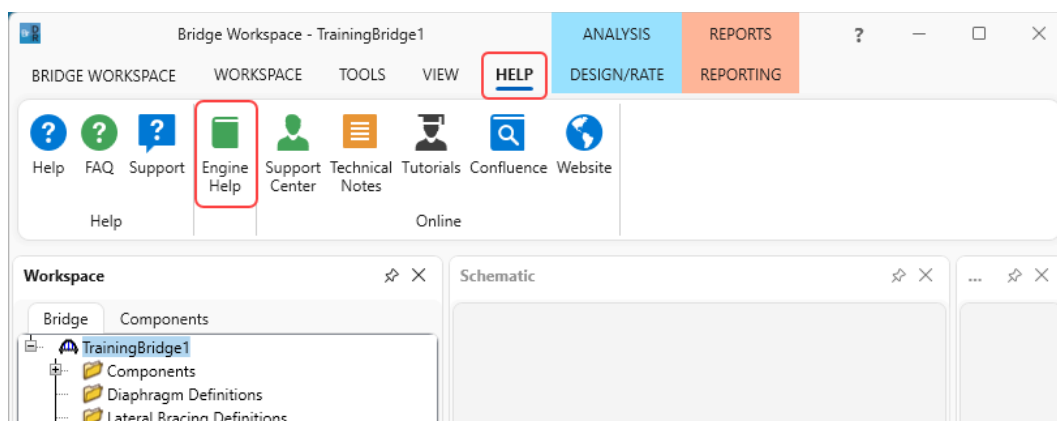
Online, context-sensitive help is available in each window of BrDR by clicking the F1 button while the window is open. This will open the BrDR help topic for that window.

Engine-Related Help

BrDR has been designed to enter data describing the physical characteristics of a bridge irrespective of the analysis engine that will be used to analyze the bridge. Therefore, there may be some data in BrDR that may not be used by a particular analysis engine. Each BrDR help topic contains a link to **Engine Related Help** that helps determine which data is not used by the configured engine.

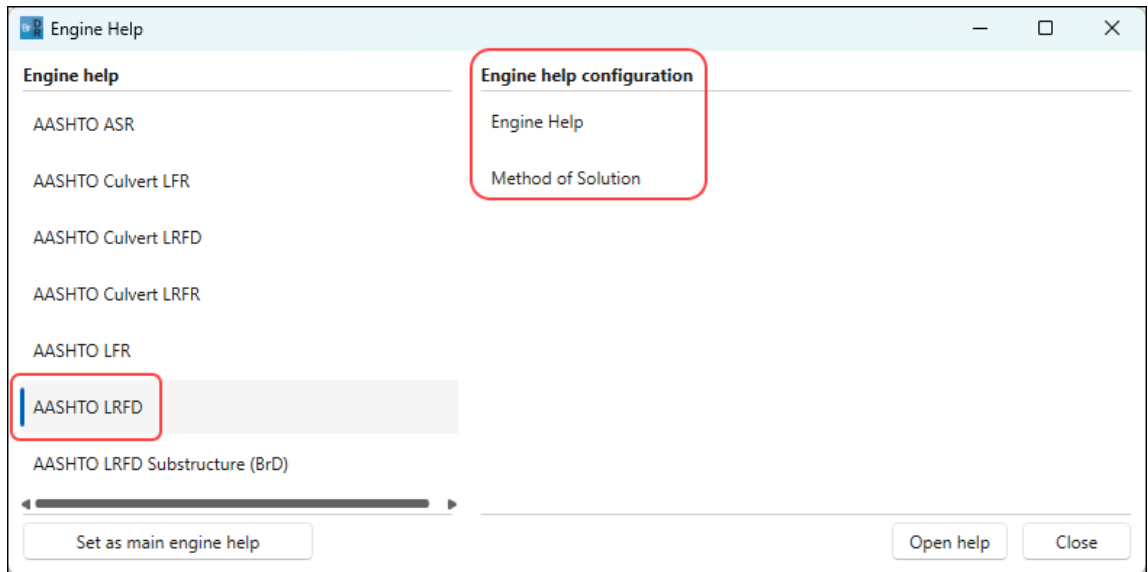
Engine Related help can be configured from the **Bridge Workspace** for a selected bridge. The steps to configure Engine related help are as follows:

1. Click the **Engine Help** button under the **Help** tab in the **Bridge Workspace** ribbon.

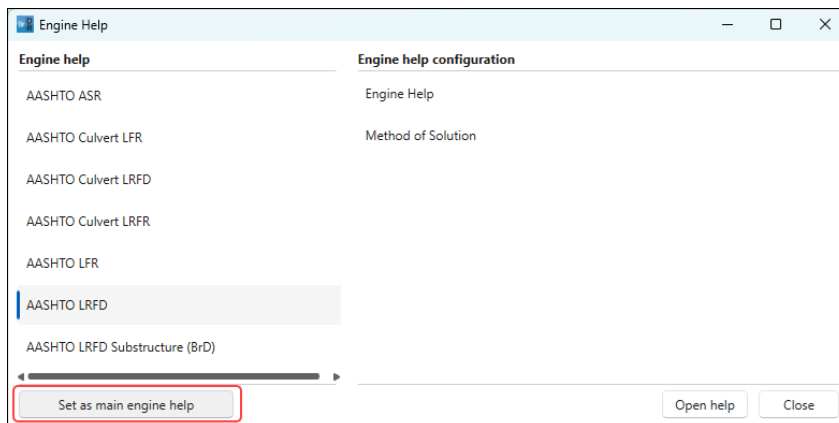


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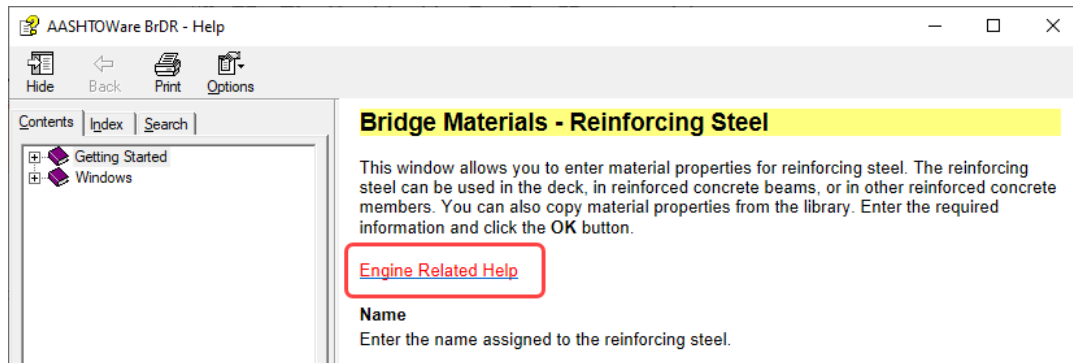
- For this bridge, select the relevant engine help to access during this session from the **Engine Help** menu. The selected **Engine Help** and its **Method of Solution** populate on the **Engine Help Configuration** menu on the right side, as shown below:



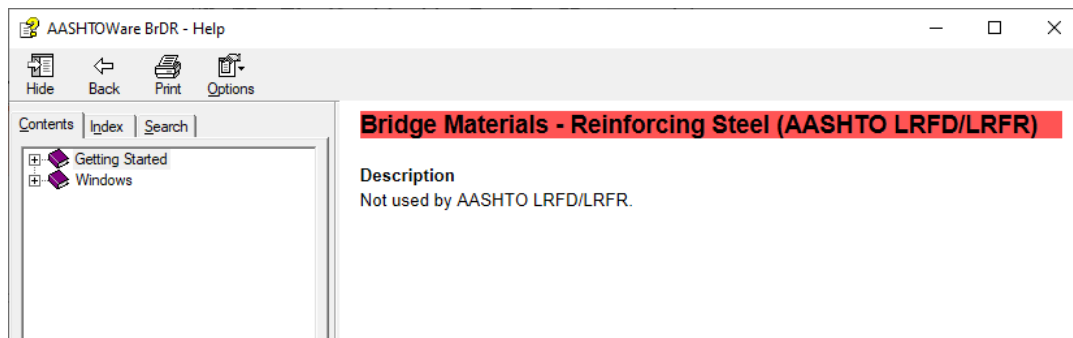
- Click on the **Set As Main Engine Help** button to set the above selected engine help as the **Default Engine Help** as shown below:



- The engine help has been configured and can be accessed from any help topic that contains an **Engine Related Help** link. For example, the BrDR help for **Bridge Materials – Reinforcing Steel** contains a link to its respective **Engine Related Help** as shown below:



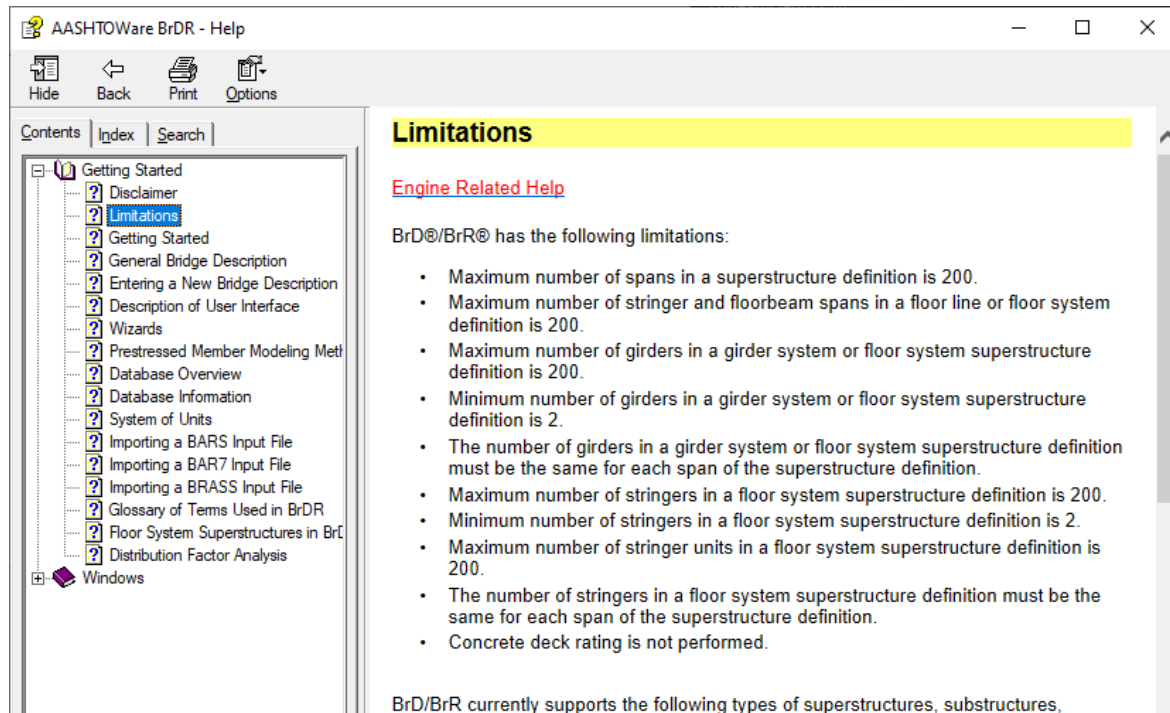
- Clicking on the **Engine Related Help** link redirects to the **AASHTO LRFD Engine help for Bridge Materials – Reinforcing Steel** as shown below:



Limitations Help Topic

The **Limitations** help topic, available in **BrDR Help**, merits special attention. This topic should be reviewed to determine if BrDR supports a particular type of bridge. An **Engine Related Help** link is also available to describe any analysis engine limitations.

A portion of the BrDR **Limitations** help topic is shown below:



Training Aids

The BrDR Technical Support website contains example problems that can be used as self-study guides for new users. The BrDR Technical Support website address is

<https://aashtowarebrdr.org/bridge-rating-and-design/support/>

The **Training** section of this website

<https://aashtowarebrdr.org/bridge-rating-and-design/training/>

contains approximately 150 example problems for various activities such as entering different bridge and girder types, importing/exporting, rating, etc.