

Premium Update

2013



ViSoft 360 Panorama at the push of a button

ViSoft Sharing Portal Publish media and online sharing portal

ViSoft 360 iOS App Publish own 3D-objects on the intranet or web

Exact sanitary details Tracking shot around selected objects

New ViSoft database Easy placement of sanitary groups



MANY THANKS!



For what? you may ask. For your commitment and your vote, which made ViSoft Premium product of the year. Nearly 1500 readers of the professional magazine Fliesen&Platten have influenced a clear result with their profound practical experience. The first place makes us proud and encourages us to continue giving our best: in product development, sales, support and the market.

Fairs are market places and ViSoft is again participating this year with a lot of commitment: two booths at the BAU in Munich, at the ISH in Frankfurt and also in the USA. KBIS and Coverings are leading fairs and a barometer of the local state of business.

Technically a lot is going on as well: the new panorama function directly in Premium with interior and external light, which can be blended, allows full mobility in the real-time panorama. Saved with ViSoft 360 your clients are able to present this panorama on location with a smartphone, iPad or tablet: they are in a room and show wall by wall how exactly it is going to be in the future.

Place your panorama with all variants of light and furnishings on the ViSoft Sharing Portal. In this protected area only selected customers have access. Or you present your level of performance on the public platform on the web – the result could be a vivid and creative exchange of ideas, projects and experience. A platform from which everybody profits: planners, customers, creative workers, craftsman and private people looking for the bathroom of their dreams.

We give our best – I am convinced, so are you!
Good luck for the future wishes you

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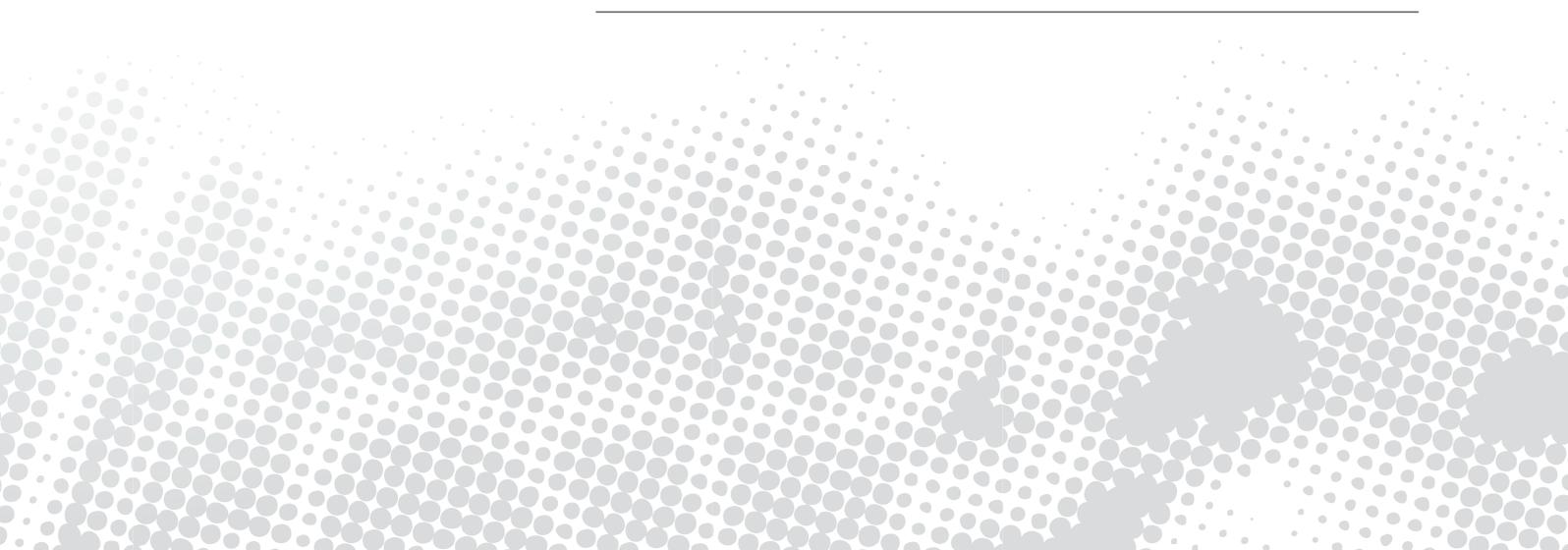
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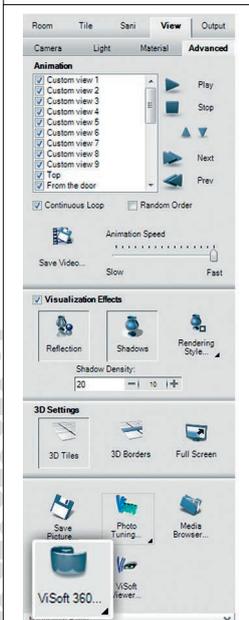
1 What's new

1.1 VISOFT 360: PANORAMA AT THE PUSH OF A BUTTON

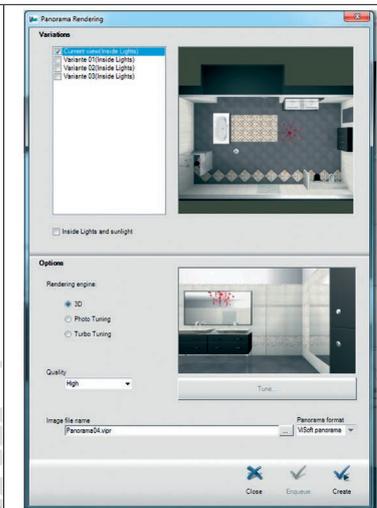
Present quickly and convincingly: the effective combination of panorama rendering, ViSoft 360 iOS App and the Web Portal makes it possible.



ViSoft 360: quickly a complete all-round visibility
Creating panoramas is now even faster and more effective. Without additional software. No further programs or induction necessary.



The new icon in the main menu **View > Advanced > ViSoft 360** takes you to the new and practical picture output. ViSoft assists you with the settings. For example: you select the icon from a random viewpoint other than the center view. ViSoft Premium gives you a hint that a centered camera position is ideal for successful panoramas.



It's that simple to work with the new presentation tool: Everything at a glance in the clearly structured window **Panorama rendering**.

1.2 ONE PANORAMA IS NOT LIKE ANOTHER

ViSoft 360, the professional and quick panorama format is capable of even more. The ViSoft panorama-tool takes variants into account and offers them for presenting – regardless of the position within the panorama you are currently in or if it's in an animation mode. Variants are changed in real-time without changing the perspective. The creative extra: now it's possible to load day- and night-time for every variant and therefore simulate a complete day in real-time with the slide control. An elegant tool for demonstrating the effect of different color combinations in your planning in various lighting situations. Your customers will be thrilled.

The menu-window has two segments: on the top right side you see the top view of the current project. On the left side you see the variants which are saved in the project.

You remember: In the menu View > Light the initial lighting situation for every project is set. This is done with the tabs Lights and Sun&Sky. Starting with the button Inside Lights a predominantly atmospheric interior lighting or a night-time situation is created and only light sources within the room are activated. Starting with the Sunlight setting turns all interior lights off in favor of the sun and the incident light from the windows.

Hint: Inside Lights and Sunlight are merely basic settings, they are not mutually exclusive. To combine both possibility start with the button Sunlight and simply activate additional lights on the tab Lights.

No problem: even without having created day- and night-versions in your variants, ViSoft 360 will do the work for you. The selection box **Inside Lights and Sunlight** automatically creates variants which equal the basic settings. Select the variant you want to render and move on to the bottom part of the window.

Here you will find two optional groups on the left side. The first one defines the technique for rendering the panorama.

- **3D** creates a panorama directly from the real-time planning. Depending on the type of graphics card and the ViSoft quality settings, you will receive very appealing panoramas within a few minutes.

You can choose between two ways of rendering:

- Photo Tuning or Turbo Tuning activate the button **Create**, where you can adjust the settings in detail in the usual picture-tuning dialogue.

For all three ways of rendering the selection box **Quality** distinguishes three different quality levels: **Low**, **Medium** and **High**. The selected level directly affects the resolution and therefore the visual result, as well as the anticipated rendering time.

A last check before transferring the rendering to the taskmanager: Take a final look at the current position and the selected lighting in the preview window on the right side. You control the preview with your mouse: keep the left mouse-button pressed on the preview to take a look around the room. You can zoom with the mouse-wheel, go into a detailed or total view. In the last input field you finally choose the path and filename. The ViSoft panorama format will automatically be assigned.

Just like in Photo Tuning you can transfer the panorama computation to a background task for picture generation with the button **Enqueue**. The button **Create** directly starts the panorama computation.

Rendering of Photo Tuning pictures – especially high resolution Photo Tuning panoramas – can take quite a while, because a separate picture of every wall, the ceiling and the floor is required. Multiply the average time you need for a Photo Tuning picture with a resolution of 2048x2048 by six, then you will know the estimated rendering time. The quality levels low and medium compute square pictures with a side length of 1024 pixel.

1.3 SHOWTIME ON THE VISOFT SHARING PORTAL

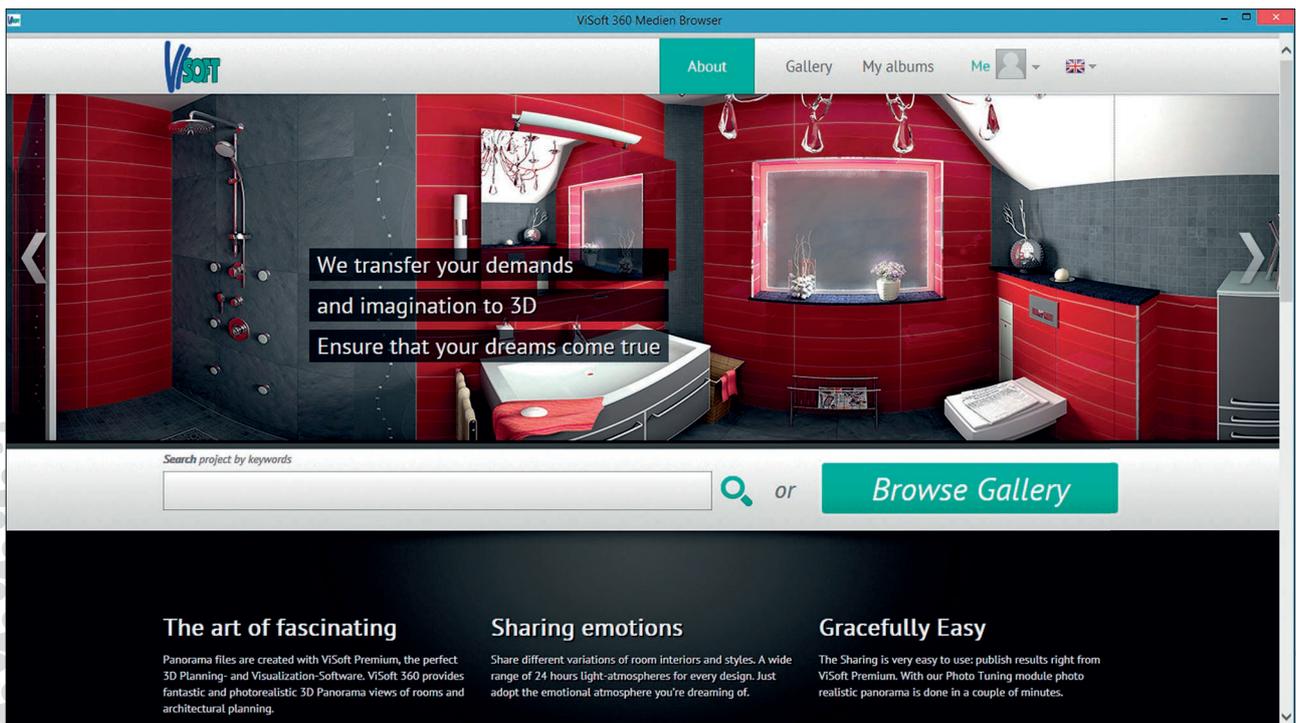
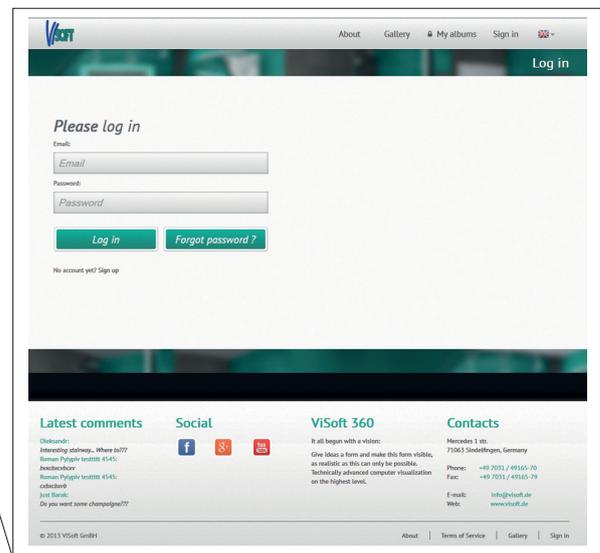
What's the use of the most beautiful panoramas if you can't show them? The ViSoft Sharing Portal is the stage for privately presenting customers your planning. Simply upload and view. Or, if you like, show your finished planning publically on the web.

In the current version ViSoft sets up a connection between your workspace with a protected area on the web – our very own platform: the ViSoft Sharing Portal. There are two ways of getting to the Sharing Portal: As a publisher you have direct access from ViSoft and can upload your data. You decide which customers have access to particular files on the website <http://www.visoft360.com> and therefore see the files you have approved.

This is how you publish files from ViSoft on the Sharing Portal: Register in the menu > **Help** ViSoft 360 Sharing Portal to get connected to the new platform.

Hereupon a login-window opens. Start setting up your access with the button **Register**. Mandatory fields are name, email and password. Other information is optional. After pushing **Register** you will receive an email to the indicated address with a link for activating your account. This ensures you have set up the access yourself and the information you have entered is correct.

And now you can log into the Sharing Portal with your new access data!



ViSoft has done everything to provide absolutely professional service with the Sharing Portal: own server in Cologne, Germany, in HOSTEUROPE's computing centers with multiple redundancy are fundamental. Backup and electrical power supply are supervised by an external service provider on location, which guarantees a flawless operation and highest safeguarding against failure. Every client receives adequate capacity for storing own panoramas and pictures permanently and safely. The internet is connected over central junctures, which allow high performance streaming.

What exactly is a Sharing Portal? An interactive website which is used as a platform by all ViSoft users to save, publish and spread information, panoramas and pictures etc.

Outsourcing a presentation on a webserver has many advantages. Multimedia-based files – panoramas, videos, pictures, brochures, etc. – can be viewed on every device with a connection to the internet, regardless of the system you use to connect to the portal – Windows, iOS or Android: The webserver recognizes your configuration and automatically plays the appropriate formats. This makes sure your customers are able to view the data you provide without technical limitations.

After successful registration the Sharing Portal opens in its own ViSoft browser window.

By clicking your name on the upper right side you enter the user area. Here you can see and administer your current profile settings, uploaded works as well as comments on your projects.

The tab **Gallery** lists all published files. You can sort them by rating, date and name and search the gallery by keywords.

Clicking on one of the panorama preview pictures loads the according panorama and automatically animates it. You control the panorama in the lower area. The control works the same way as in the associated ViSoft 360 App for the iPad.

The fan loads a selection of the current panorama's variants.



The highlight of the ViSoft panorama presentation is the possibility to interactively switch between day- and nighttime-lighting. The slider cross-fades these variants which are created by marking the checkbox **Inside Lights and Sunlight** in the ViSoft 360 Panorama Rendering window. This produces a very impressive effect similar to a sunrise or sunset.



Just click this icon to toggle between fullscreen-mode and window-mode.



On the iPad and iPhone this additional icon is available to activate motion control. The iPad will show you the part of the room which you turn to at the moment. By touching it again the application will change back to manual motion control.



1.4 VISOF 360 IOS APP

The practical App for all iPad-owners comes from the Apple iTunes Store for free.

Simply conduct an absolutely photo-realistical presentation on the construction site or at the customer location?

No problem: simply search for ViSoft 360 in the iTunes store or directly download the free app with the link:

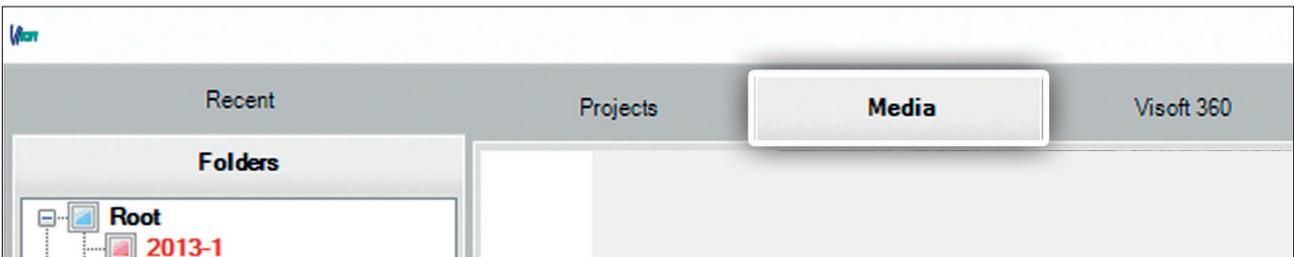
<https://itunes.apple.com/de/app/id576358202?mt=8&affid=1744357> and you'll be able to show your clients everything on location. The advantage: they are in a room and exactly see how it will be in the future – wall by wall. You will astonish.

Use the ViSoft 360 app to download panoramas provided onto your iPad and present them even without being connected to the internet. At present tablet PCs and Android-devices can only use this service on the internet – with the same functionality.

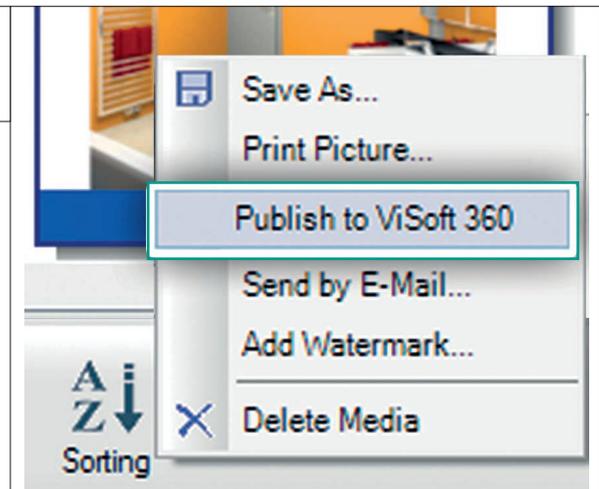
1.5 PUBLISH YOUR OWN WORKS

Making your work available and distributing it can comfortably be done with the Media Browser directly from ViSoft Premium.

The appropriate dialogues can be found in **File > Open**, as well as in **View > Advanced > Media Browser**. Your works are clearly displayed in the Media Browser. Activate the tab Media and select a superior project folder to start with, then one of the preview files in the lower scrollbar.



The right mouse button on one of the preview pictures or the icon **Publish to ViSoft 360** opens a dialogue with further settings for publishing.



Basic information

Name:

Company:

Collection:

Room type:

Description:

Keywords (used for search):

Your ViSoft 360 account

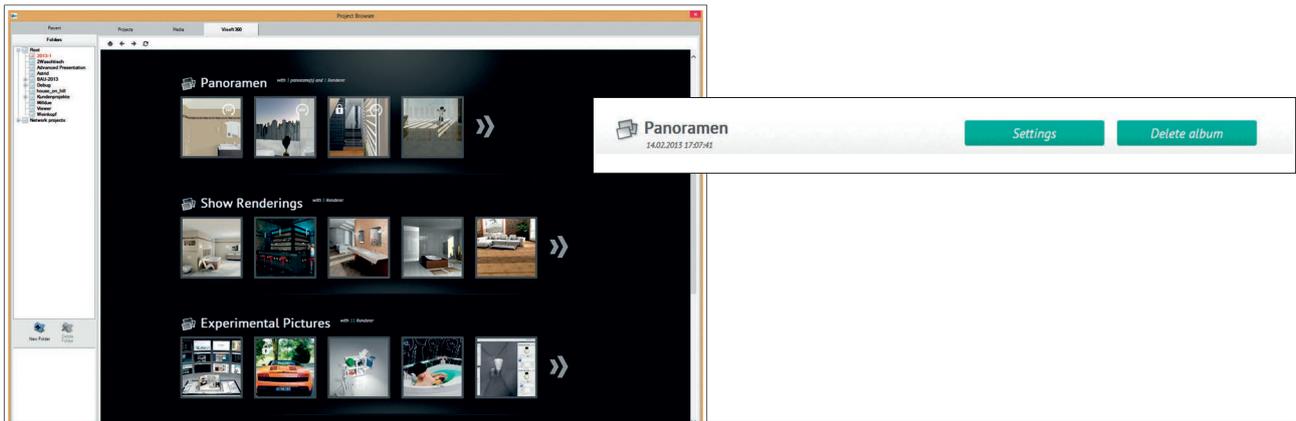
dino@visoft.de

Picture will be uploaded to your private album:

Make data available

In the dialogue **ViSoft 360 Publishing** you define the name which is visible to the public, the storage location and the desired keywords for finding the panorama, picture or project later on.

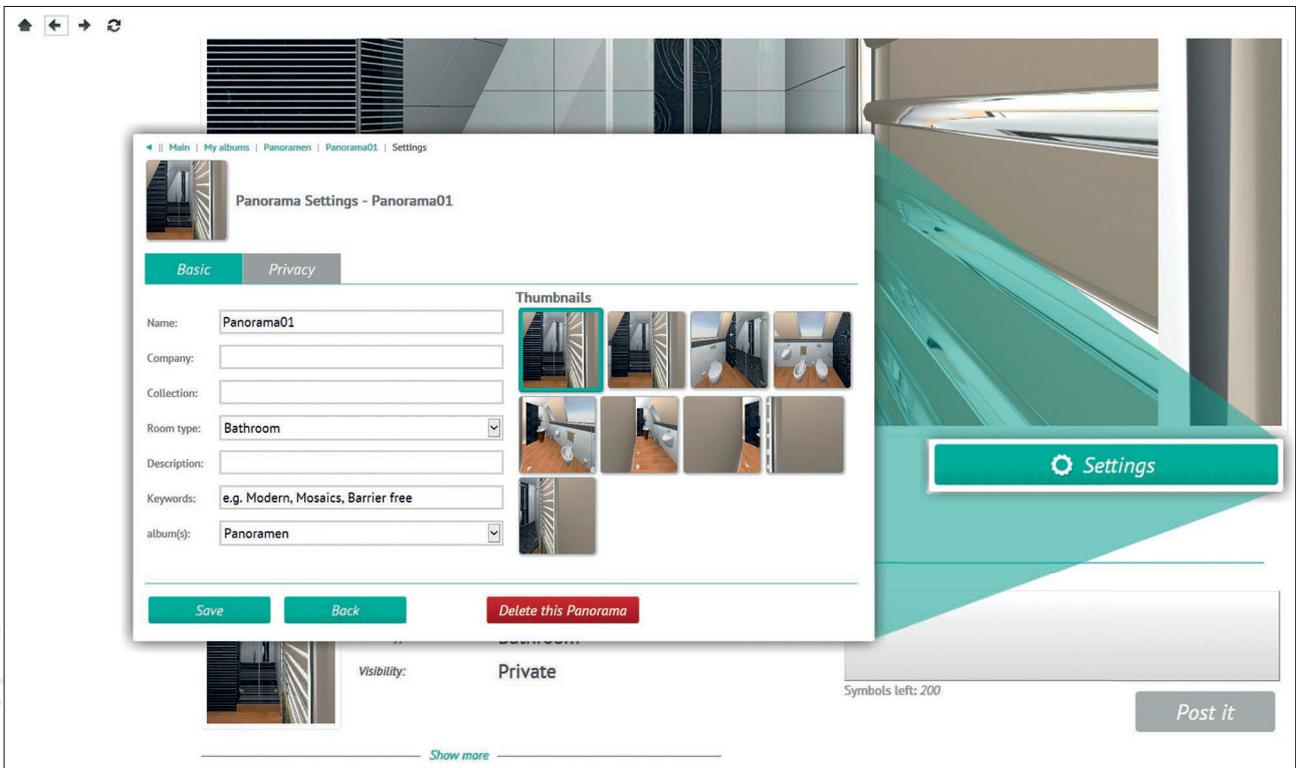
Don't worry: you can adjust your information on the portal at any time. Besides that your project will initially always be marked **Private**. As long as you don't change this status all files will be invisible to the public.



As soon as you have published first works they show on the portal as **private mediafiles** within your gallery. The tab **ViSoft 360** opens your online gallery in your own ViSoft browser. Here you have the possibility to set up new albums or manage existing ones. You can store mixed media in your albums, panoramas and rendering or photos and projects.

Adjust picture information

Simply click on one of the preview pictures to open the presentation mode. With the button **Settings** you can adjust the information about your works at any time and select an appropriate preview picture as well.



1.7 PUBLISH OWN 3D-OBJECTS

Show on the web or intranet what has been done – it's easy with the new export function: Right-click on **Custom Objects** in the Sanitary Browser, then select **Export** and the format **Website** (.html). The result: A folder in which your sanitary objects and a HTML-structure are stored.

Then simply transfer the data onto your company-server or webserver and enter the address in the browser.

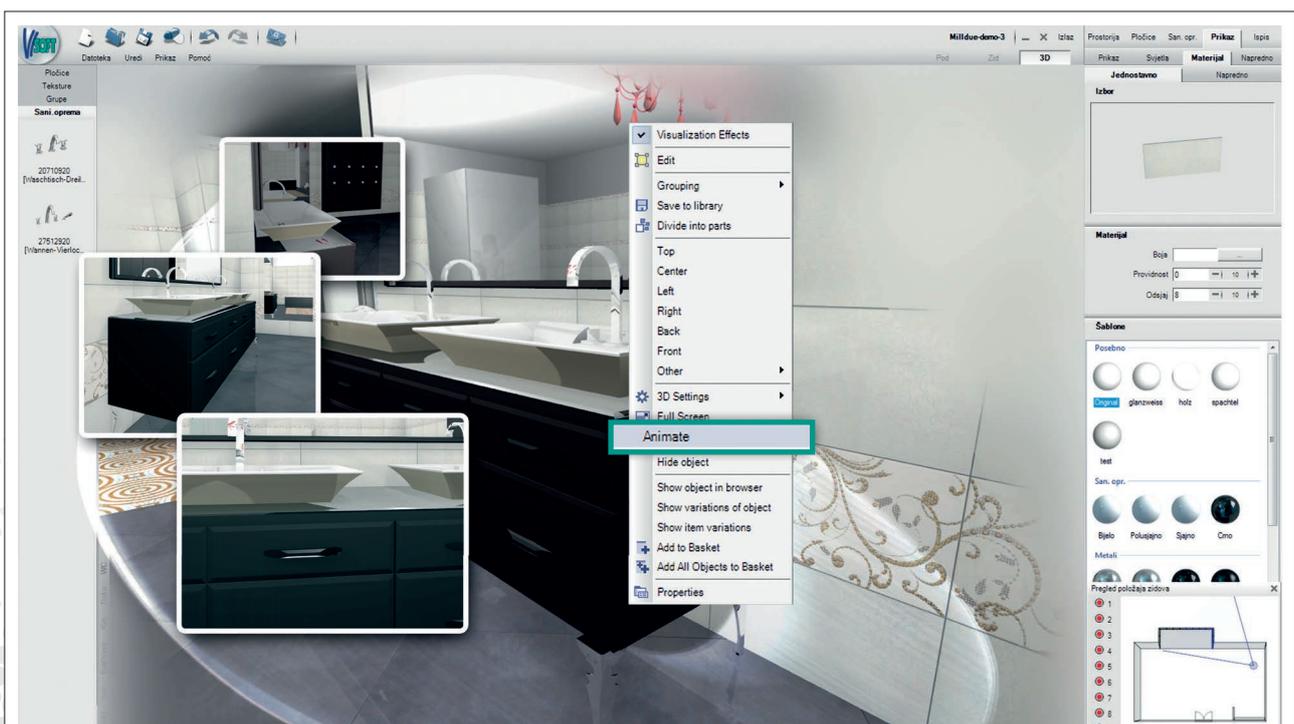
Alternatively you can release a folder on the intranet for other computers. Colleagues opening these published projects can directly add them with drag&drop to their database.

Attention! Only publish data, especially on the internet, if you have the copyrights. Concerning 3D-objects copyrights apply not only for the model itself but also for associated textures. This way you can avoid getting into trouble.

1.8 STAGE SELECTED OBJECTS

You want to emphasize the most important elements of your planning? Then the feature **Animate** – a tracking shot around selected objects – is the right thing for you.

Revolve either to emphasize or to show all facets: right-click on any object in your 3D planning and select **Animate** from the context menu. A tracking shot starts, which revolves concentrically around the object – slowly or swiftly. You set the speed of the tracking shot in **View > Advanced > Animation Speed**.

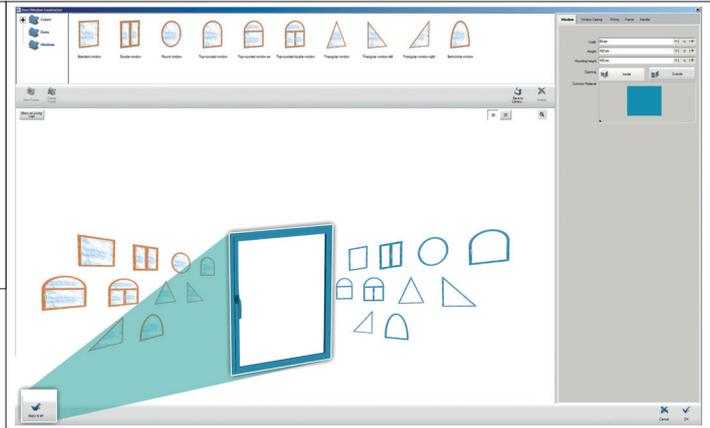


1.9 A COMPLETELY NEW DESIGN WITH ONE CLICK

Click to change your style: now you can simply apply materials to all doors and windows in a planning.

Change the ambience with the push of a button: the door- and window constructor makes it easy with its new and practical function, which enables you to generally apply materials on all doors or windows.

And this is how it works: Select the desired surface, texture or color and apply these settings with a click to all other related objects. Done!

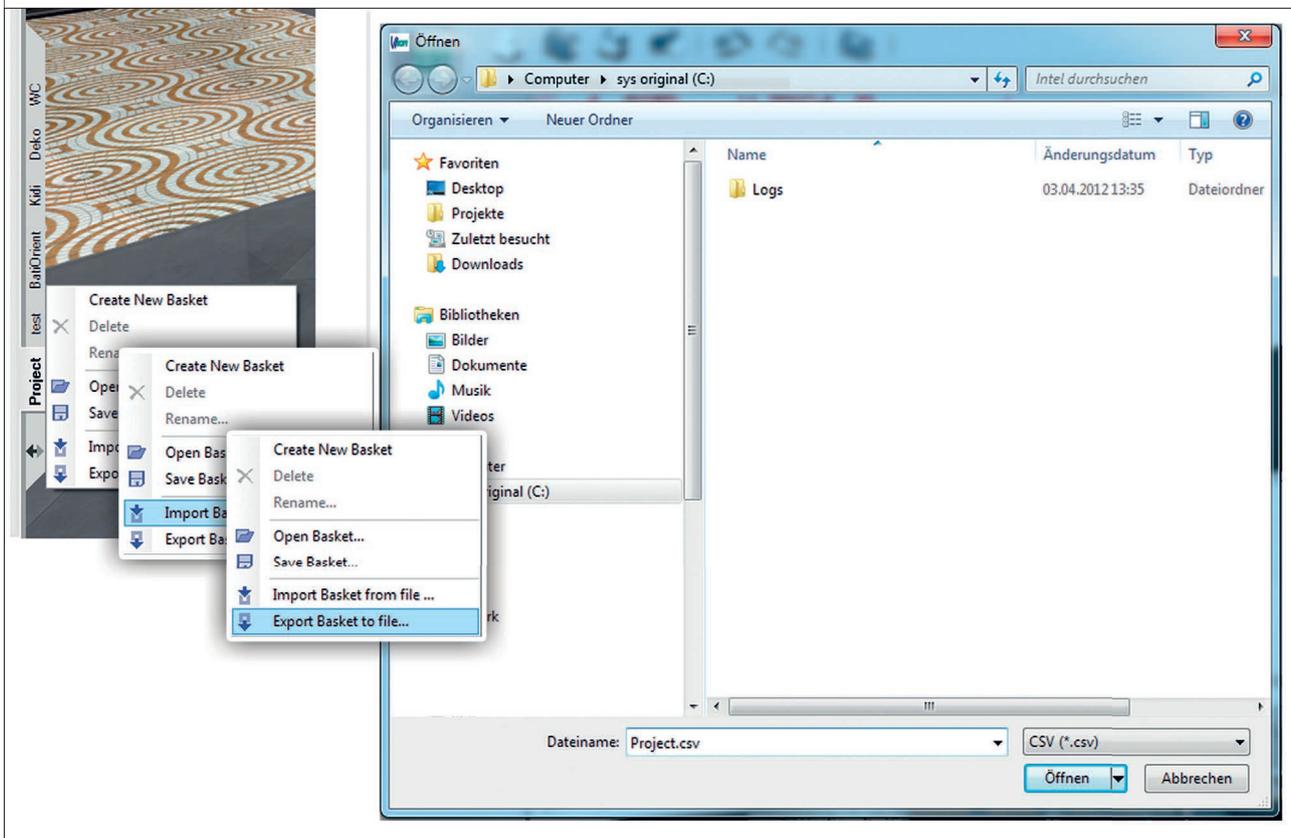


1.10 BASKET-HANDLING FOR MANY USERS

There are plenty of ViSoft users which already use multiple baskets and therefore save time searching the database. The result: some users want to set up more baskets than possible fit on the screen. Often different users work with varying PC preferences and requirements. Reason enough to re-organize, extend and simplify baskets. Right-click on a basket and you will be provided with four new functions: Open Basket, Save Basket, Import Basket from file, Export Basket to file.

Saving creates files with the format .basket. Load these files as needed in other ViSoft Premium installations by **right-clicking > Open Basket**.

Exporting however creates CSV files, which can be read by all database applications.



1.11 RENDER SELECTION IN PHOTO TUNING

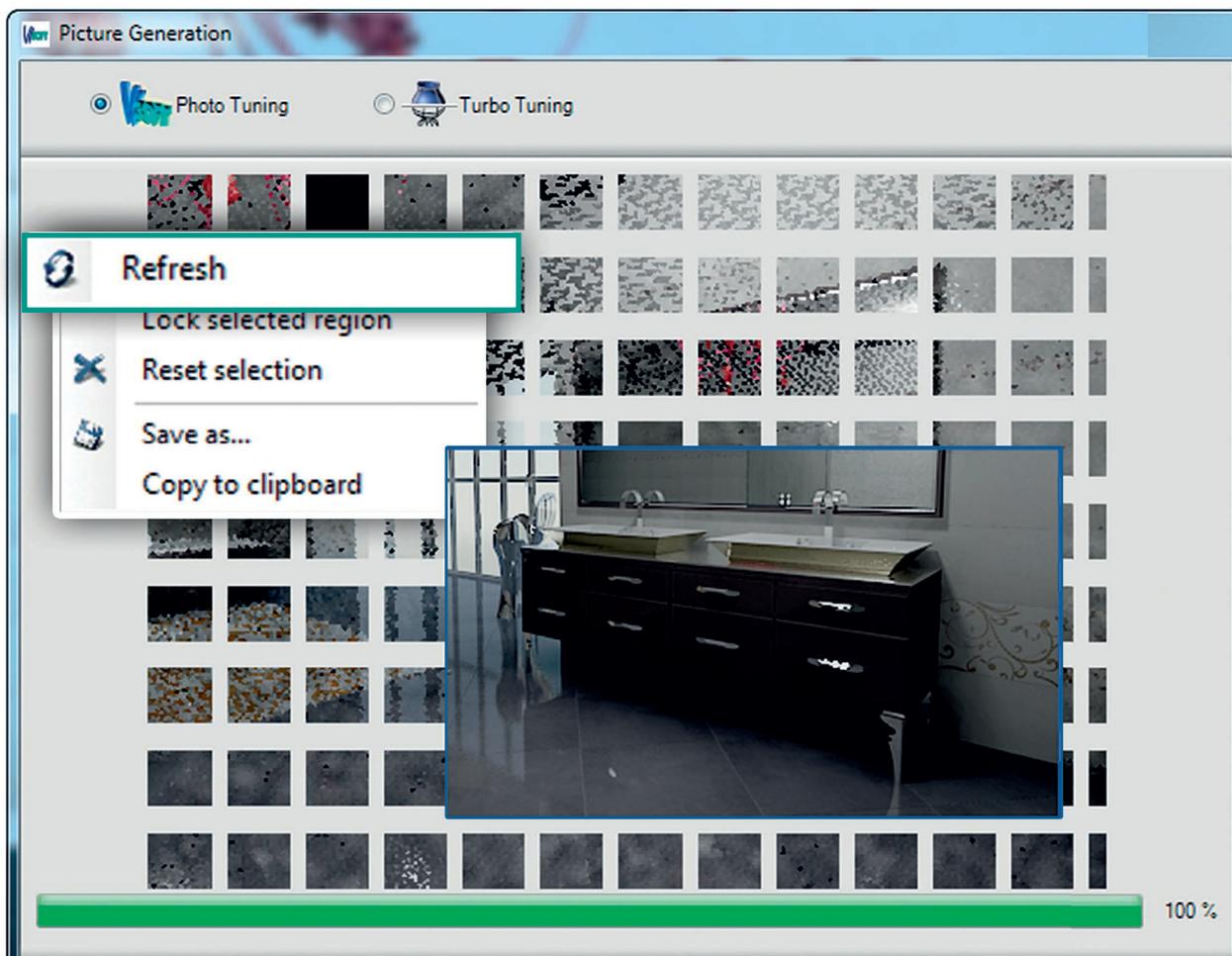
A new Photo Tuning function speeds up working out details considerably: marking-up a selected region in the preview window creates a detail rendering which is computed faster within the preview.

This saves a lot of time since the region outside your selection is only rendered in the first run.

Besides that the preview's context menu is extended by several commands which show when right-clicking.

Here you can choose from the following commands:

- **Refresh** renders the selected region again
- **Lock selected region** prevents accidentally changing the region
- **Reset selection** abandons the region
- **Save as** opens the file browser

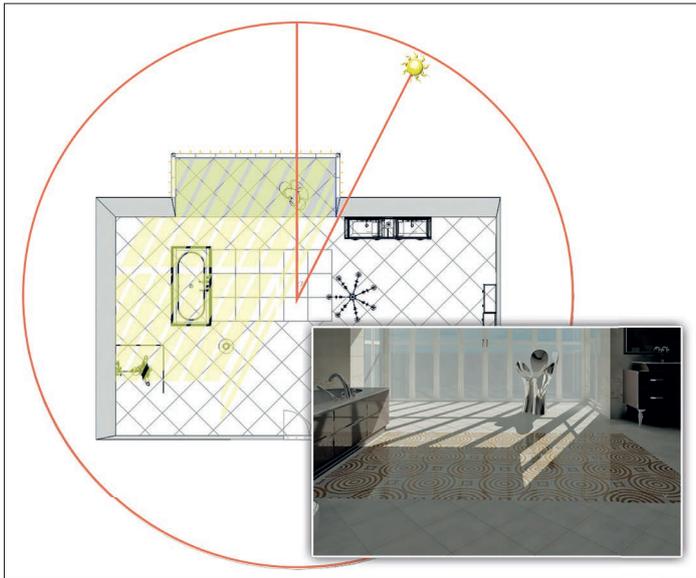




2 Now even better

2.1 PLAN VIEW WITH INCIDENCE OF LIGHT

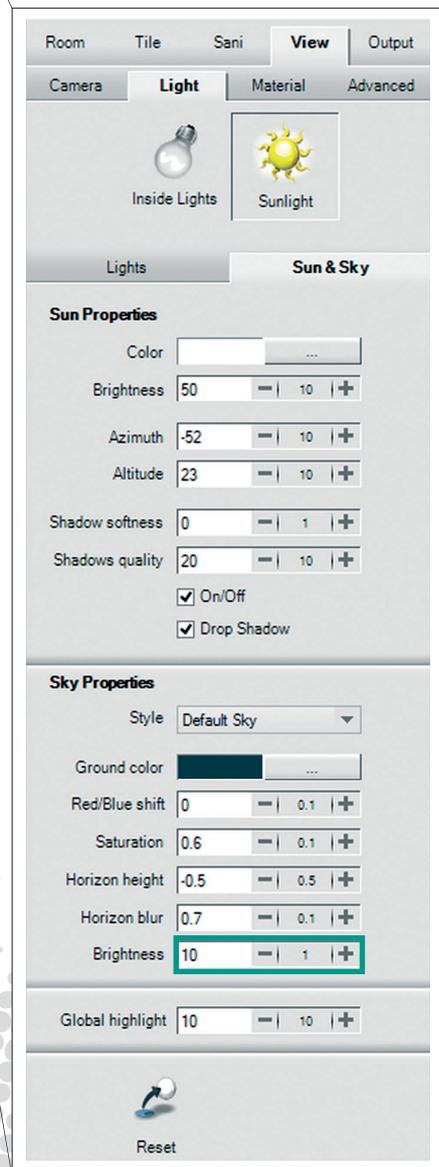
Now you can see how incident sunlight is going to shine in even in the 2D-floor view. This makes positioning of the sun as a lightsource much easier. A symbol in the 2D-wall view also shows the position of the sun.



The menu **View > Light > Sun & Sky** has splendidly evolved:

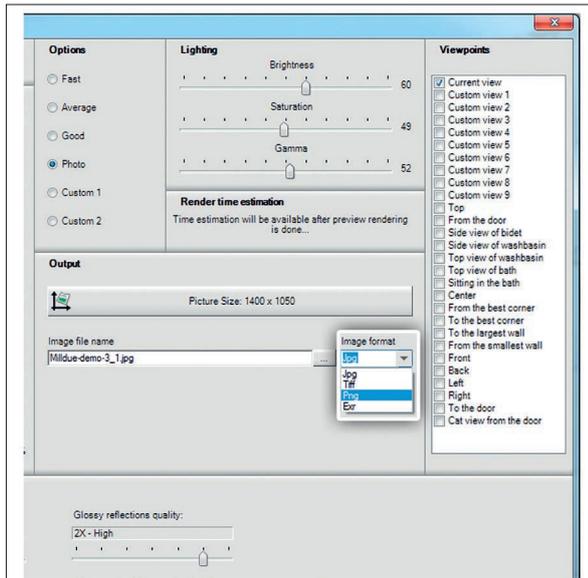
The controller for the surrounding light intensity is new and can be found in **Sun & Sky > Sky Properties > Brightness**. The result: the maximum value is equal to the sun 300. With this controller you can easily adjust the light intensity of the outside world from bright white to deepest black.

Regardless of this and contrary to natural lighting conditions the intensity of the lightsource sun remains the same. Simply let the sun shine into your project and vary the brightness of the outside world at the same time.



2.2 RENDER PICTURES WITH TRANSPARENCY

Photo Tuning is now capable of creating a new output format: PNG (Portable Network Graphics). This format, which is important for image processing, is already used by the tile database and the module assistant. All tiles labeled as HQ were generated from PNG files.



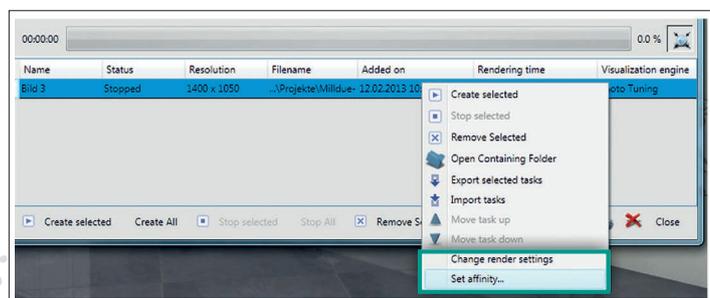
Especially appealing when working with PNG-files is their capability of saving transparency in an alpha-channel, besides the RGB channels. This way even polygonal tiles can be saved and applied without disturbing background.

PNG-files created with Photo Tuning simplify cutting out the background of a planning when further processing the picture, because the background and the actual project are saved in separate channels. This shows predominantly in the views from the outside and top.

2.3 IMPROVED TASK MANAGEMENT

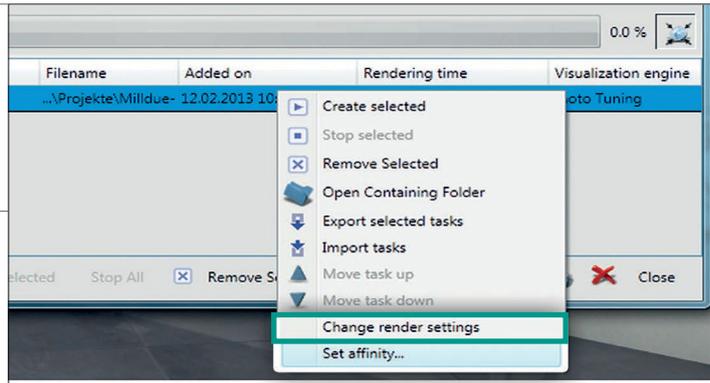
With this update the Photo Tuning queue has become even more user friendly. Right-clicking on any of the prepared tasks, besides all the commands in the context menu, these two will show:

- Change render settings
- Set affinity

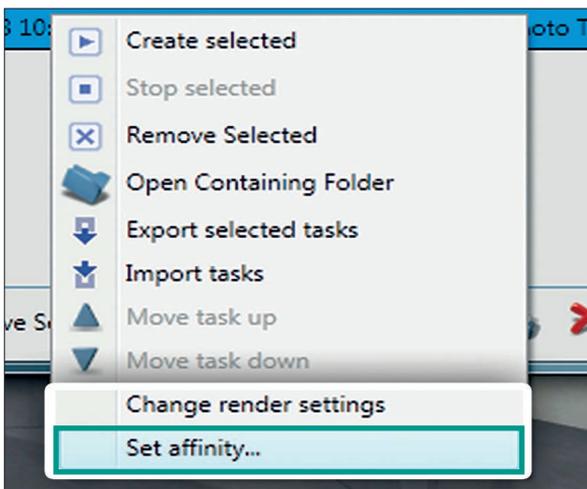


Subsequent Tuning

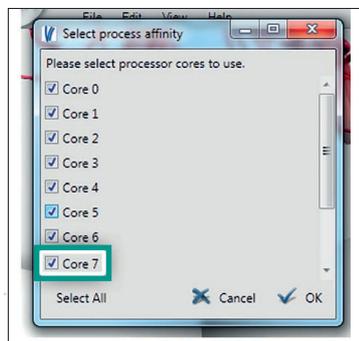
Render setting can subsequently be changed at this point. This saves quite a few clicks. Because now you don't have to delete your task and start it all over, you simply adjust the settings in the tasklist. Please consider that the picture has to be rendered again nevertheless.



Regulating the processor load



Even better: It was described in section 2.17 in the last **News in Update** how the processor load during Photo Tuning can be reduced. Instead of the long way using the Taskmanager, the ViSoft developers now have created a shortcut. The command **Set affinity** directly leads you to the selection of kernels which are used for the selected process.



Hint: If your computer slows down too much during rendering for continuously working with ViSoft, deactivate at least one kernel used for processing.

2.4 VISOFIT EXPANDS THE SANITARY DATABASE

The ViSoft database is quite busy: Besides being storage location for all 3D-objects, which are used in your plannings, it contains many additional extensions which are combined in the format ViSoft 3D.



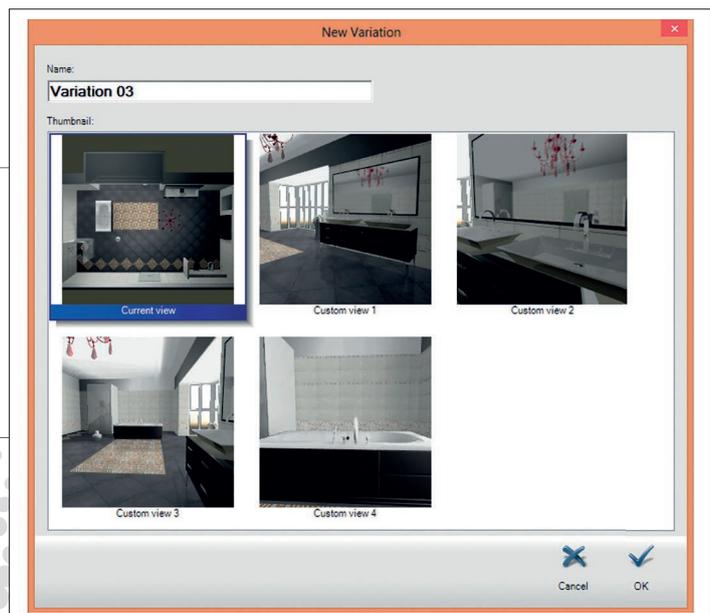
Objects from external sources and such copied from other parts of the database into Custom objects are converted into the ViSoft database format. This format lets you profit from a particularly high-performance view in real-time.

Of course this format still entirely supports all physically correct materials stored in the Photo Tuning render library and are applicable on any object.

Apply additional attributes to your stored objects, such as light element, object light, mounting height, changes in geometry, even material variation can be added manually. Also non-proportional changes in size of element parts, as well as animation, video and sound will be supported in the future.

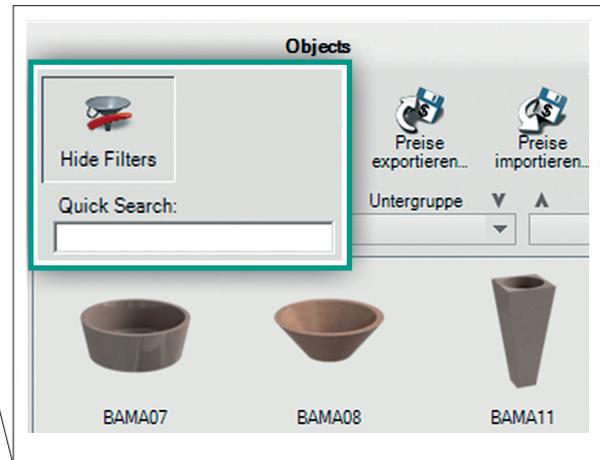
2.5 BETTER OVERVIEW WHEN CREATING VARIANTS

Variants are popular with a lot of users and are often put into effect – ultimately the customer has a solid basis for decision-making this way. Variants also play a prominent role for ViSoft 360. Reason enough to improve creation of new variants. From now on after starting this function an overview opens with several preview pictures appropriately characterizing all variants.



2.6 QUICK SEARCH IN THE SANITARY BROWSER

Already included in the program since the last version, but now even better: on the left side, next to the filter settings in the sanitary browser, you will find an input field for the **Quick Search**. Activated with a click it searches through all objects of the currently selected manufacturer or respectively the active series and in no time displays a group of all the objects with the entered characters. If you already know what object you are looking for, this is absolutely the fastest way.

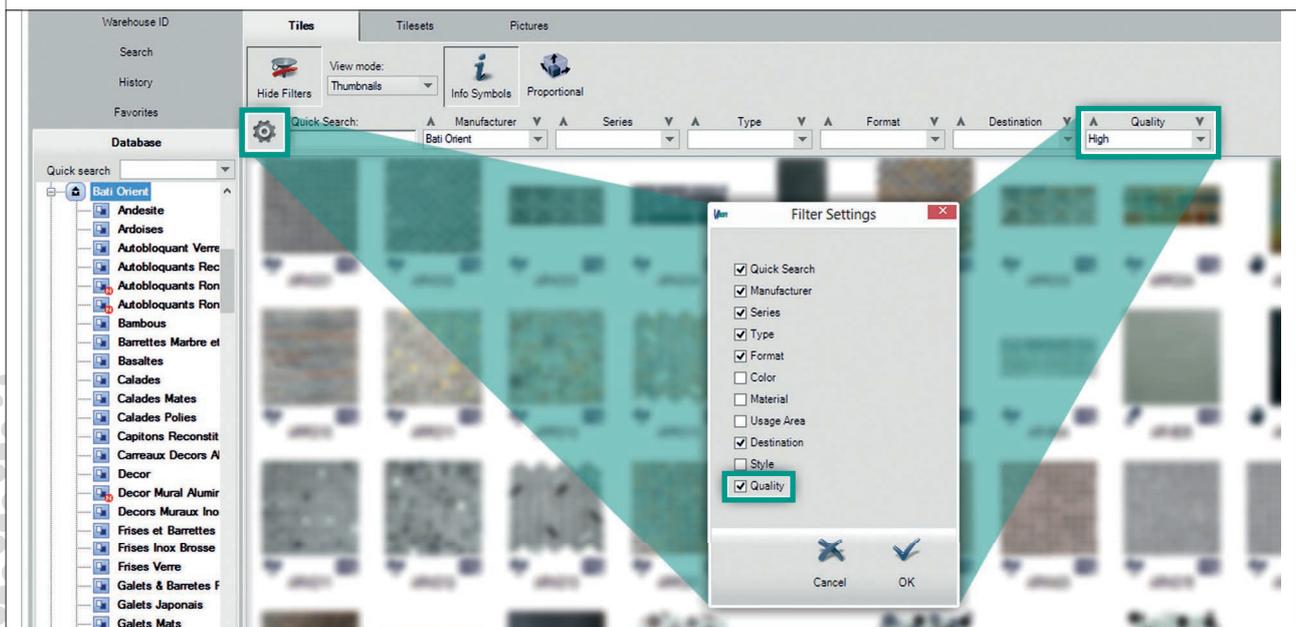


2.7 SEARCHING FOR HIGH-QUALITY TILES

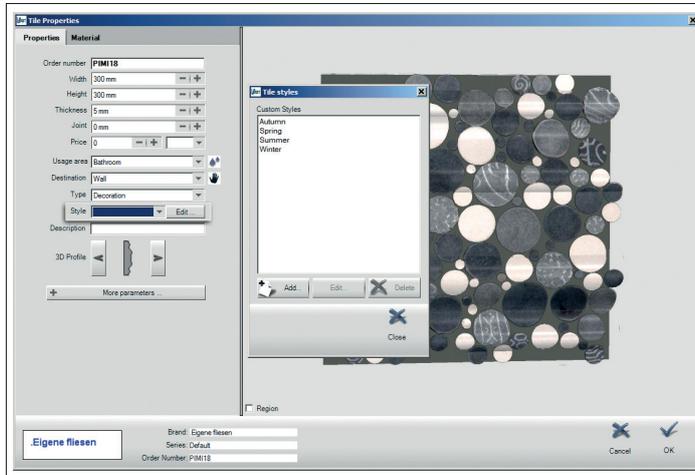
The tile browser contains one more search function: by activating the filter **Quality** it detects all tile pictures with either the symbol **HQ** (High) or **MT** (Multi tiles).

HQ-pictures are based on PNG-files and contain additional bump- and reflection-maps. Additionally multiple-picture-files are marked with the HQ-label. They contain several pictures for every tile.

Multi-picture-data contains several pictures for each tile. This way the placed tile is displayed very realistically, especially with different burnt colors, cement- and lappato surfaces. The result: a very divers and true picture.



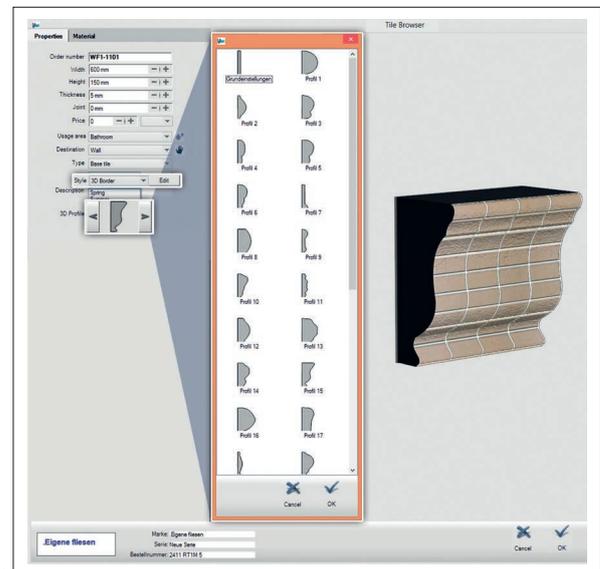
2.8 GIVE TILES A STYLE



Styling in ViSoft Premium: Apply styles defined by you to single tiles in your database **Custom tiles**. Then you are prepared in case customers are asking during a presentation for different styles in your planning. Also a perfect preparation for Living Wall presentations.

2.9 3D-PROFILES FOR TILE PICTURES

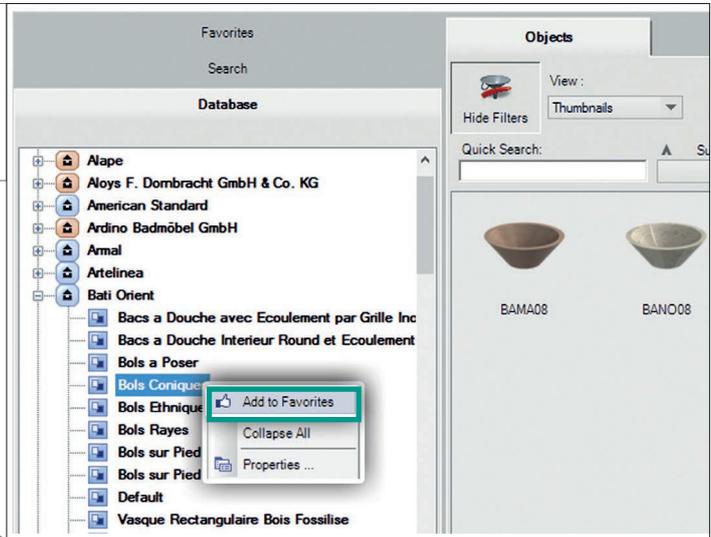
Build your own end-, wall- and stucco-profiles from textures in your database **Custom tiles**. This function is a bit hidden within the properties of the tiles in the database **Custom tiles**. Select a tile and push the back- or forth button in the properties to show the profiled texture. A click in the center shows all 36 stored 3D-profiles at once.



Hint: Have you ever thought of placing an end-profile on a wall along the tile edges? This is now possible with this function, which allows you to create your own end-profiles. To do so select a texture of your choice, enter the measurements and form it into a semicircular profile. Then place your selfmade end-profile as a bordure on the wall over the tile's edges. Finally select the bordure in View > Material > Simple and apply the material of your choice: chrome, steel, copper, or ...

2.10 FAVORITE SANITARY SERIES

Besides storing selected objects in the sanitary browser's favorites it's now possible to save entire series.
Right-click on the selected series and choose **Add to Favorites** to replenish your personal collection.

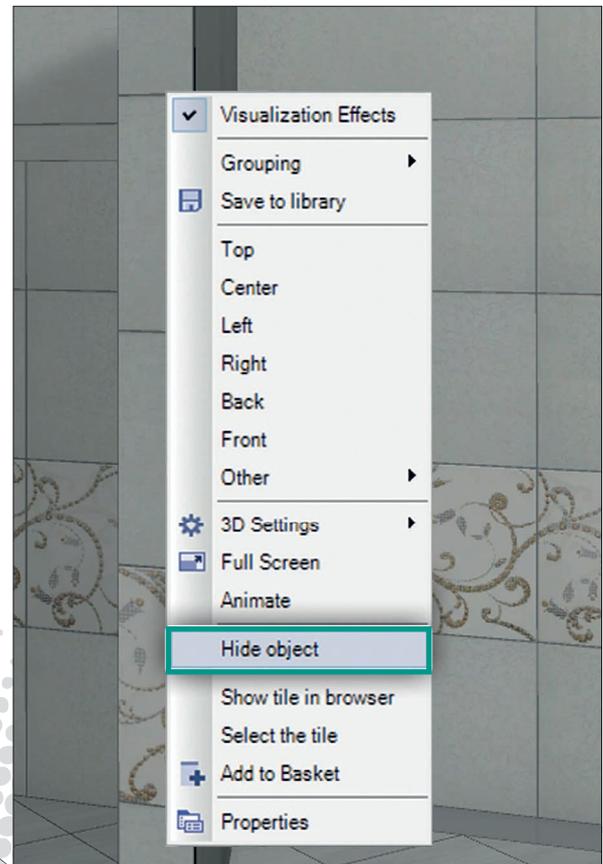


2.11 HIDE DISTURBING MURALS

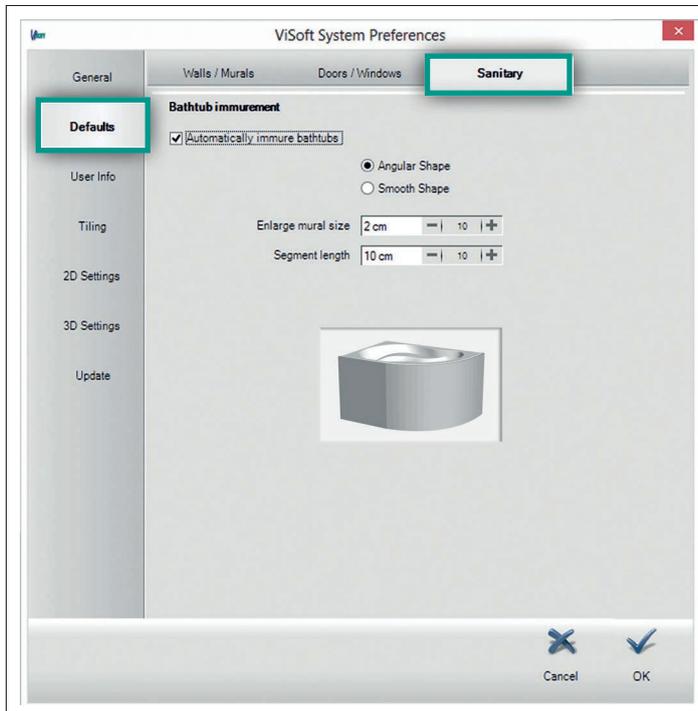
The 3D-context menu has also more to offer: besides 3D-objects now single murals can be hidden by **right-clicking > hide object**.

Save this status as usual in a viewpoint to elegantly build situations which show own variations by simply changing the viewpoint.

A professional presentation is guaranteed!



2.12 AUTOMATICALLY IMMURE BATHTUBS

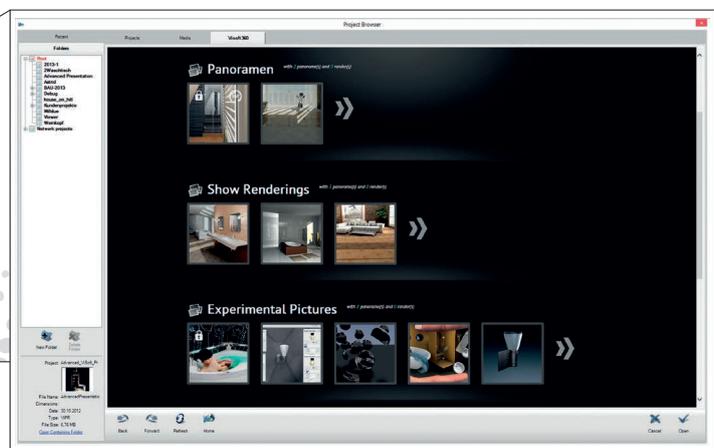


Now its even easier to immerse tubs. ViSoft Premium automatically provides a mural around it and places it as a group in the planning. The presets can be found in the menu **File > Preferences > Defaults > Sanitary**.

To subsequently change the immersion it's no longer necessary to start the immersion all over. Simply click on **Sanitary > Sanitary > Sanitary Immurement** and adjust the values for height and length.

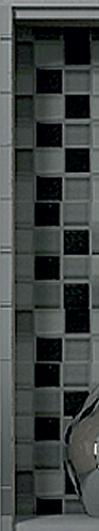
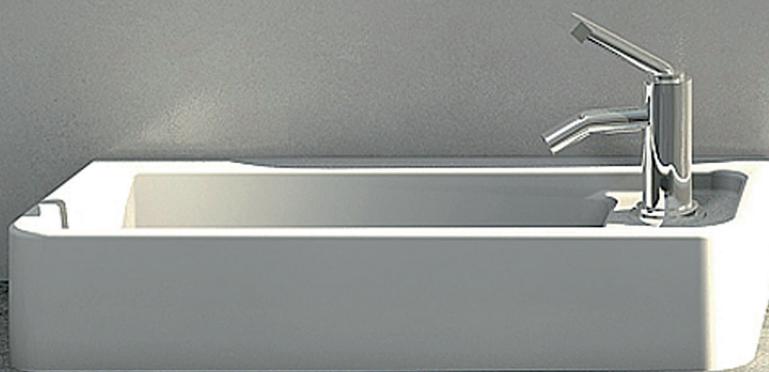
Hint: Tubs which already are delivered with a skirt or panelling have to be manually immersed before tiling. The minimum thickness is 1-3 mm. This will display the tiles perfectly even with uneven surfaces.

2.13 NEW TAB IN THE MEDIA BROWSER



ViSoft 360 is the new tab in the Media Browser. It is the access to projects you have published so far.

**VISOFT PREMIUM.
BECOME OBSESSED WITH THE DETAILS.**





IT WAS WORTH PARTICIPATING

Great joy for Michael Koch, Heizung und Badräume GmbH, in Langenfeld: participating in the readers award for product of the year by the professional magazine Fliesen&Platten has made him a winner. And the prize is impressive: a ViSoft Premium, the 3D-planning and visualization software which was elected product of the year by the readers. Up for election was the product considered to be best in practice and usability by experienced professionals. „The prize consists of a Premium license and one-year software-support“, Rainer Nissler CEO of ViSoft explains. „The winner should be able to always plan and present with the up-to-date version and sanitary data, as well as continuously integrated new tile data.“ All in all worth over 4700 Euro.

Michael Koch is happy about the unexpected enrichment. „I can definitely use the professional 3D-planning and visualisation software, since I am amongst others responsible for bathroom-planning in the local exhibitions for the newly established Badteam 2011. And the customers who come to the wholesale exhibition of the company Collin will be thrilled to see pictures of their projects.“ Of course Michael Koch uses ViSoft in his own exhibition as well: „We completely offer planning and renovation of bathrooms from one source.“ Now we can do that with a software that lets a planning appear to be a photograph from the future.



Official handover at the ISH in Frankfurt: ViSoft CEO Rainer Nissler (left) presents the ViSoft Premium, the 3D-planning and visualisation software, to Michael Koch, the winner of the Fliesen&Platten readers award for product of the year. Congratulations!

VISOFT PREMIUM IS PRODUCT OF THE YEAR 2012!

Now it's virtually official: the professional 3D-software for creative bathroom-planners and designer is top of the class! The proof: readers of the professional magazine Fliesen&Platten have elected ViSoft Premium 2012 in first place. More than 1500 readers have voted for their personal favorites in six different categories, for those products which in every day use have proven to be the most effective and help the company to advance. ViSoft Premium received the most votes in the category software and is therefore product of the year 2012.

„It's a great feeling to receive such a tremendous confirmation by industry experts and professional users“, CEO Rainer Nissler is happy to say. And is already looking forward: „At the same time this prize is the incentive to continue advancing our program at a high level!“

At the official award show, on the occasion of the Fliesen&Platten forum in Cologne, the statement on the question what makes ViSoft explicitly stand out was clear and simple: ViSoft is an innovative product, which is technically always up-to-date and generates photo-realistical pictures in real-time and 3D. And besides that it contains the world's largest tile database.

„I know a lot of you have also voted for ViSoft – I would like to formally thank you for that!“ Rainer Nissler says. „Thank you for your support, your participation in the election and your commitment.“

The entire ViSoft Team wishes that you continue to enjoy working with this excellent product of the year!

FLIESEN & PLATTEN
Readers Award
Product of the year 2012
1. Place

A good deal of joy after the award ceremony at the Fliesen&Platten forum on 28th February 2013 in Cologne.



Do you have questions?

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The art of fascinating

