

Overriding the Component Tags

AutoCAD Electrical 2016

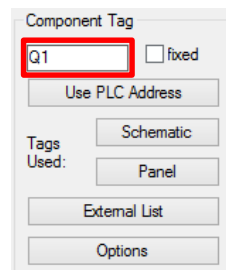
AutoCAD Electrical automatically numbers your component tags in line with the projects numbering system. The prefix for the type of components is defined by the library that is used.

[Which Electrical Symbols Library Shall I Use?](#)

There are several different methods on overriding the default number assigned to a component:

1. Manual Fix on an Individual Component

Right click over a component > Edit Component

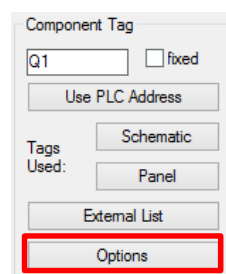


- a. You can manually type the value of the tag (highlighted red)
- b. You can freeze/fix a component tag by selecting *fixed*

2. Manual Override of an Individual Components Prefix

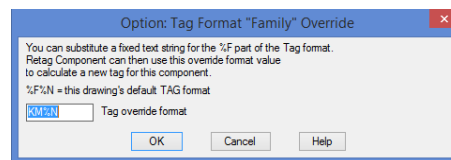
You can change the prefix of an individual component e.g. Q# to KM#

Right click over a component > Edit Component



Select Options

Instead of the default project numbering system, you can change the formula and/or the prefix for the individual component tag.



In this case %F%N becomes “KM%N”

Select to accept the changes

If the component is copied or moved, the override is copied and is maintained

3. Creating a WD_FAM.dat Override File

The WD_FAM.dat file can change the default family code for a component type.

- a. Create a blank file using Notepad text editor

Enter the family codes you want to map to different values using the format:

{old value},{new value}

You must have one line in the text file for each mapping change. For example:

T,TX
S,PB

Save the file as wd_fam.dat. Make sure that Windows hasn't maintained the .txt extension on the end.

Select a path based on whether it is for a specific project or to be used for all projects. The following search order is used:

- i. User subdirectory: C:\Users\{username}\AppData\Roaming\Autodesk\AutoCAD Electrical {version}\{release}\{country code}\Support\User\
- ii. Active project's .wdp file subdirectory
- iii. All paths defined under AutoCAD Options Files Support Files Search Path

4. Import/Export tags from Excel

You can edit the component tags from within Excel by first of all exporting the component tags and then importing the components tags once the necessary changes have been completed. The following blog details how to do this:

[Modifying AutoCAD Electrical from Microsoft Excel](#)

