

# MAXONFORM FOR ARCHICAD TUTORIAL

## 1. INTRODUCTION

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  - MaxonForm and ArchiCAD
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### WELCOME TO THE MAXONFORM FOR ARCHICAD TUTORIAL

The *MaxonForm for ArchiCAD Tutorial* is designed as a ten-lesson course for ArchiCAD users. It is available only via the internet and does not exist as a printed booklet.

This course is intended to introduce architects to the most important features of MaxonForm for ArchiCAD. It provides an understanding of MaxonForm concepts, tools, techniques and how ArchiCAD and MaxonForm work together.

### THE CONCEPT OF THE TUTORIAL

The *Tutorial* first guides you through the Working Environment and the basic editing features of MaxonForm and introduces the workflow process between ArchiCAD and MaxonForm.

After this introduction, the Tutorial leads you through the steps of creating three projects. The first is an extension of a building, the second is a new building in a given environment and the third involves designing furniture. The intention of the *Tutorial* is to offer a consistent and organized process for learning MaxonForm for ArchiCAD based on the above mentioned projects. Each lesson guides you through the concept or technique to be learned, giving the information necessary to build the free-form model, and how to accomplish the exercises within each step. The steps contain diagrams and dialogs that provide quick references to tools and concepts used within the exercise. Each lesson begins with a summary of its content and ends with a review of the material.

In the *Tutorial* course, we will use a project designed by PAASTUDIO, an architectural office in Santa Monica, California. The project, known as NHS OFFICE COMPLEX, is located in Los Angeles.



*Royal Theater of Copenhagen (Denmark)*  
*Architects: Auralab + Thomas Billard and Raed Skhiri*

### MAXONFORM AND ARCHICAD

Organic structures and buildings are one of the most visible trends in contemporary architecture. MaxonForm for ArchiCAD is the first organic modeler integrated into a Virtual Building environment. While ArchiCAD users are familiar with the option to model organic forms in ArchiCAD using GDL commands, a true free-form modeller application provides a much higher level of flexibility, design freedom and effectivity in this field. MaxonForm for ArchiCAD is based on MAXON Computer's CINEMA 4D, one of the world's leading free-form modeling softwares. MaxonForm for ArchiCAD was precisely tailored to meet the needs of architects, especially of

those using the Virtual Building. Deformers and shape generators support the creative process within the context of the project and in the framework of ArchiCAD and the Virtual Building environment – so the 3D model will be updated with the new geometry. The integration of ArchiCAD with MaxonForm has been achieved by Graphisoft R&D Rt. and MAXON Computer GmbH.

While working in ArchiCAD, users often need elements which are hard to create with standard ArchiCAD Tools or Library Parts. In such cases, as part of the normal workflow in ArchiCAD, MaxonForm can be started from within ArchiCAD by using the commands in the Tools menu. The finished element can be saved in MaxonForm as a Cinema 4D element or sent back directly to ArchiCAD as a Library Part with GDL structure, where it is either placed automatically or available for immediate use, just like library parts created the traditional way.

This one-click bidirectional connectivity between ArchiCAD and MaxonForm allows for smooth workflow and real-time evaluation of the design.

MaxonForm means creative and flexible modeling while supporting its users in accurate design of building structures and environmental elements.



*Parc des Expositions a Angouleme (France)*  
*Architects: SCAU - Macary/Delamain*