Installing Design Builder

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Installing Design Builder

- *Background/skills required: Basic understanding about buildings and computers*
- *Resources required: P-IV or above computer with at least 256MB RAM, internet connection (not for entire duration of use)*
- *Expected duration of tutorial: Half hour*
- *Outcome of tutorial: installation of DB, understanding its working*

Step-1: Go to Design Builder website

Design Builder evaluation is Free available for one month. It can be downloaded from www.designbuilder.co.uk

Illustration-0.1: opening Screen of Design Builder website

Step-2: Register yourself and download Design Builder:

To download Design Builder first one has to get registered online:

Illustration-0.2: Registration of user

Basic information input about the user is required while registering as user:

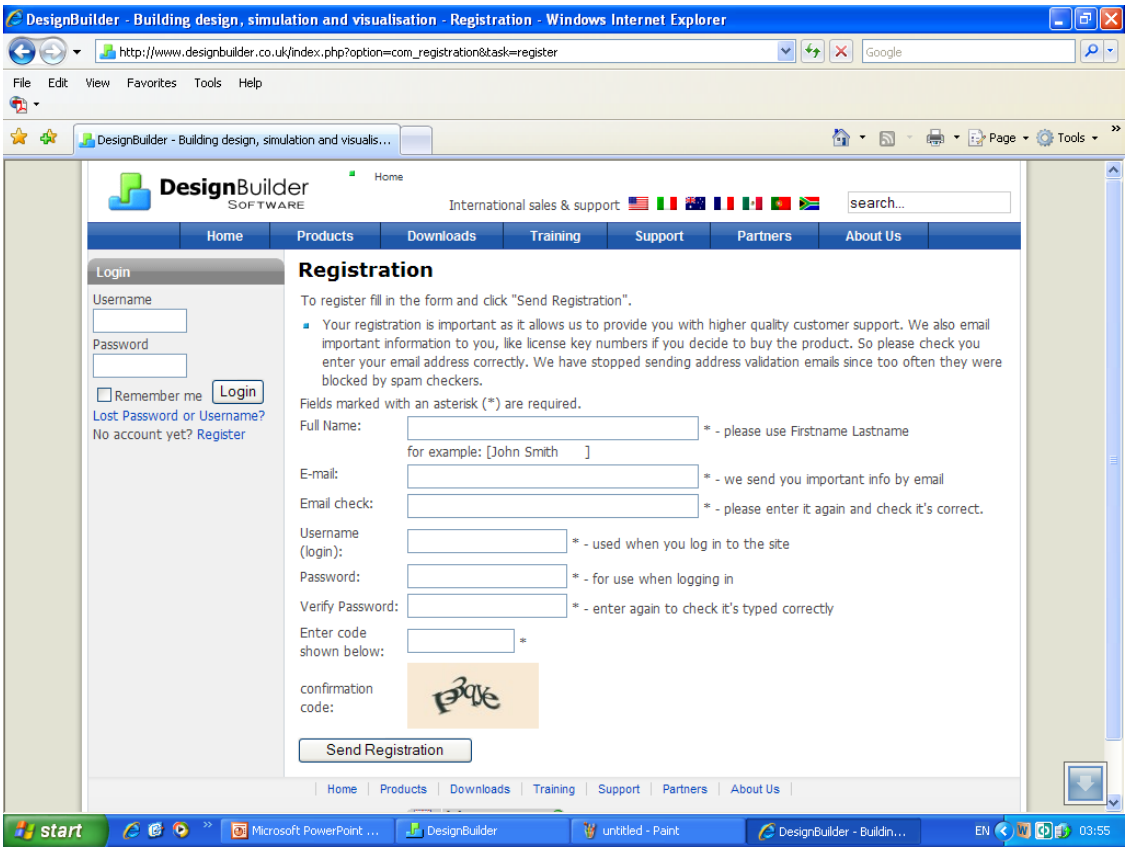

Illustration-0.3: User information required

One can check the version of Design Builder that is going to be downloaded, as shown in Illustration 0.4.

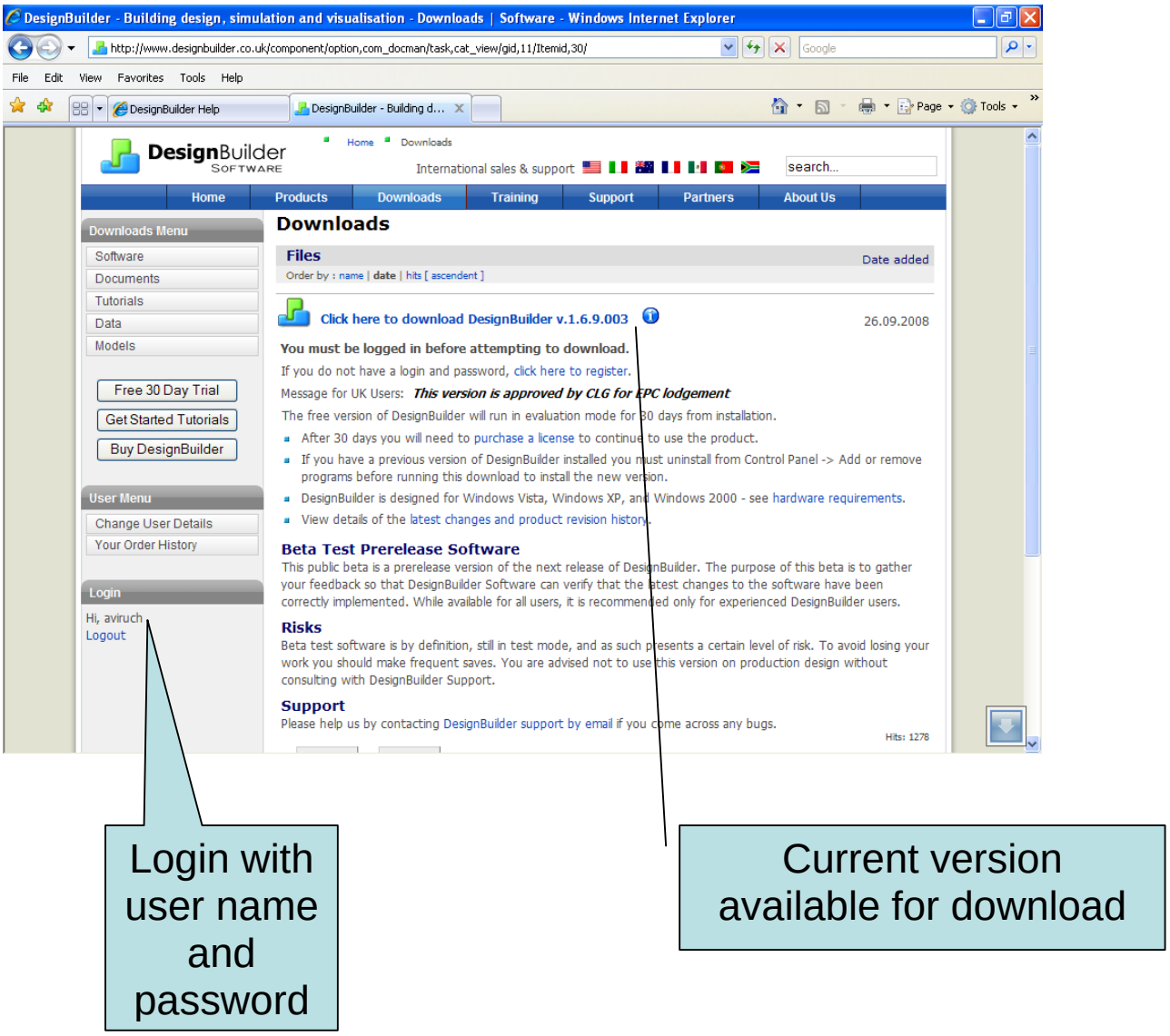

Illustration 0.4: Checking the version being downloaded

Pricing for different types of licences as shown in Illustration 0.5, can be seen by clicking the 'purchase a license' on the screen shown in Illustration 0.4.

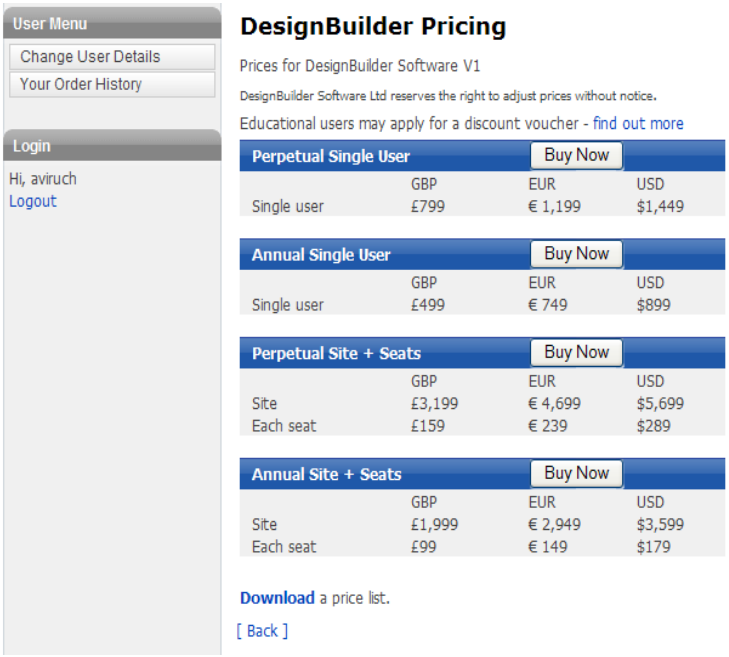

Illustration 0.5: Pricing screen

Besides this getting started guide, there are several other options of getting support for using the software as shown in Illustration 0.6.

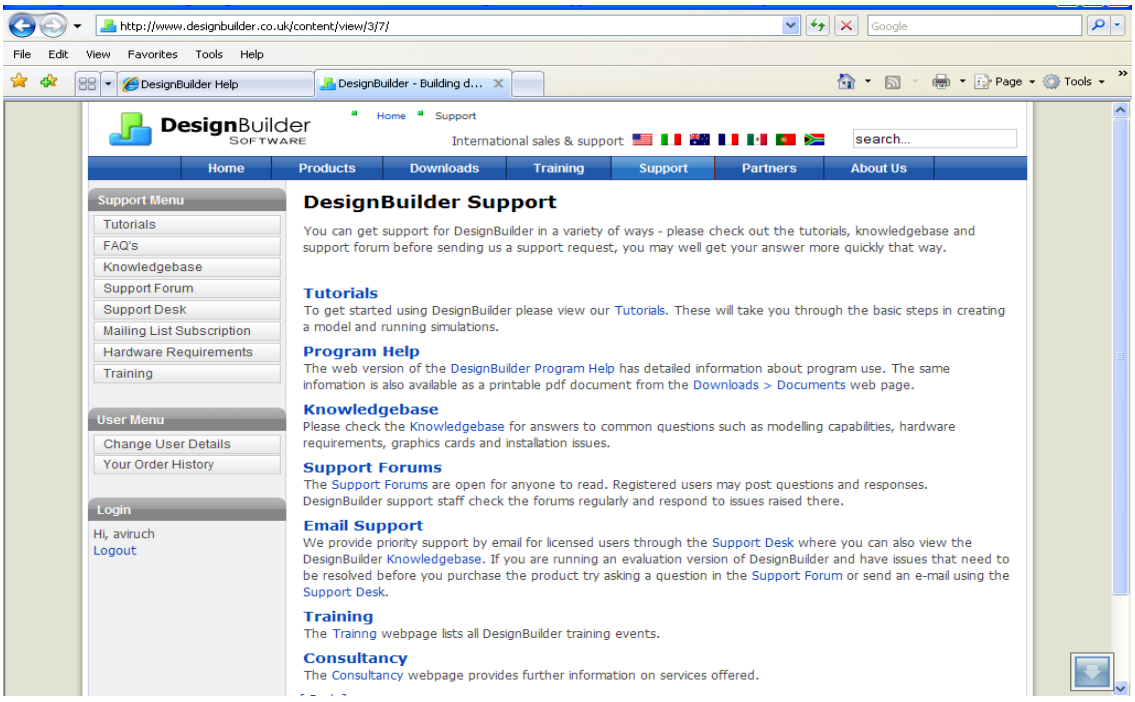

Illustration 0.6: Design Builder Support Options

Step-3: Installing Design Builder

Once the Design Builder setup file is downloaded, on double clicking it, the software gets installed. The user should let it get installed in default manner.
On installation, there would be an icon of the desktop as short cut.

Double click on the icon or initiatiate the software by locating it through the start menu.
Every time the Design Builder is started, it shows the screen shown in Illustration 0.6 containing information about version, and expiry date.

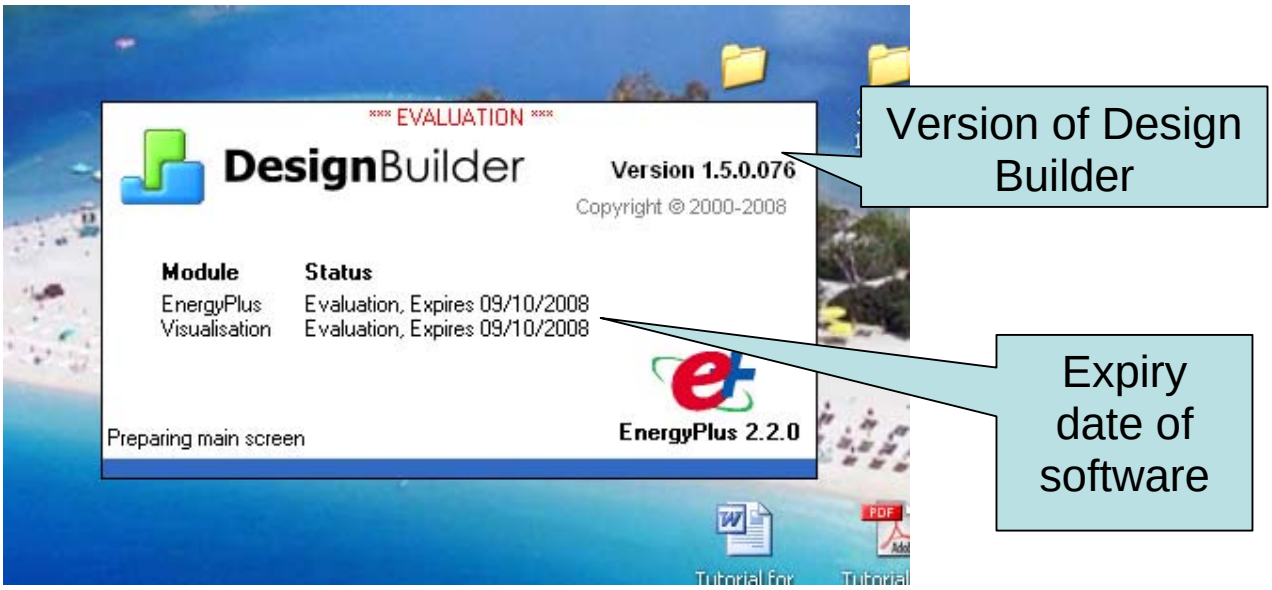

Illustration 0.6: Initialising screen

While installing Design Builder an evaluation license key is generated for each module. These evaluation licences are to be entered in the screen shown in Illustration 0.7.

Evaluation key is valid for 30 days from the date of installation.

If Design Builder needs to be purchased, an e-mail containing a serial number, license keys and information on when the licences expire would be received, which has to be entered in screen for license.

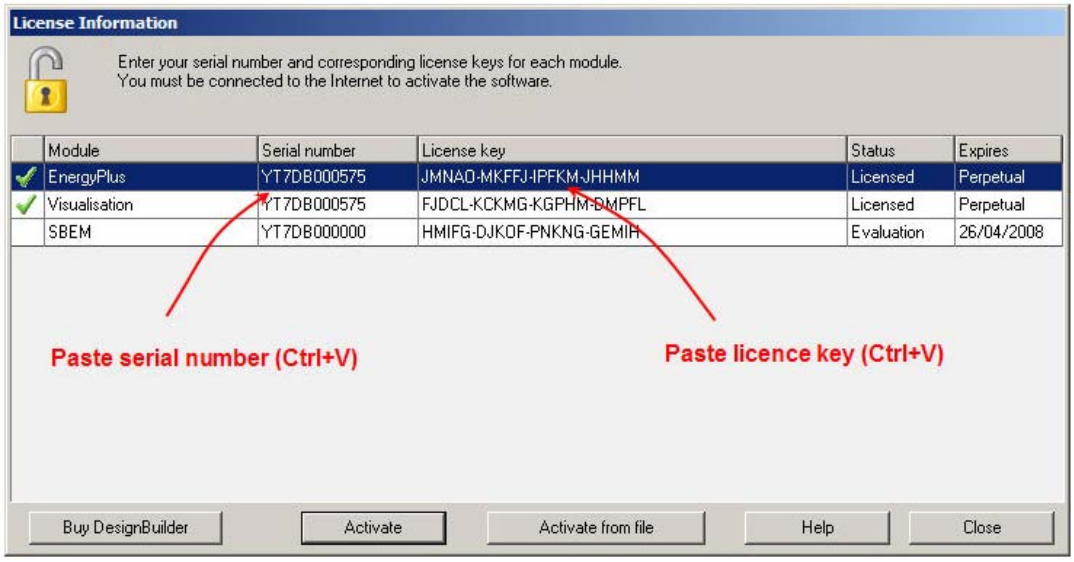

Illustration 0.7: Entering license information

Step-4: Checking proper working of Design Builder

Once the license keys are provided, on opening the Design Builder software, the starting screen of Design Builder comes as shown in Illustration 0.8, which contains available files and templates. On subsequent running, it also includes the listing of recently used files.

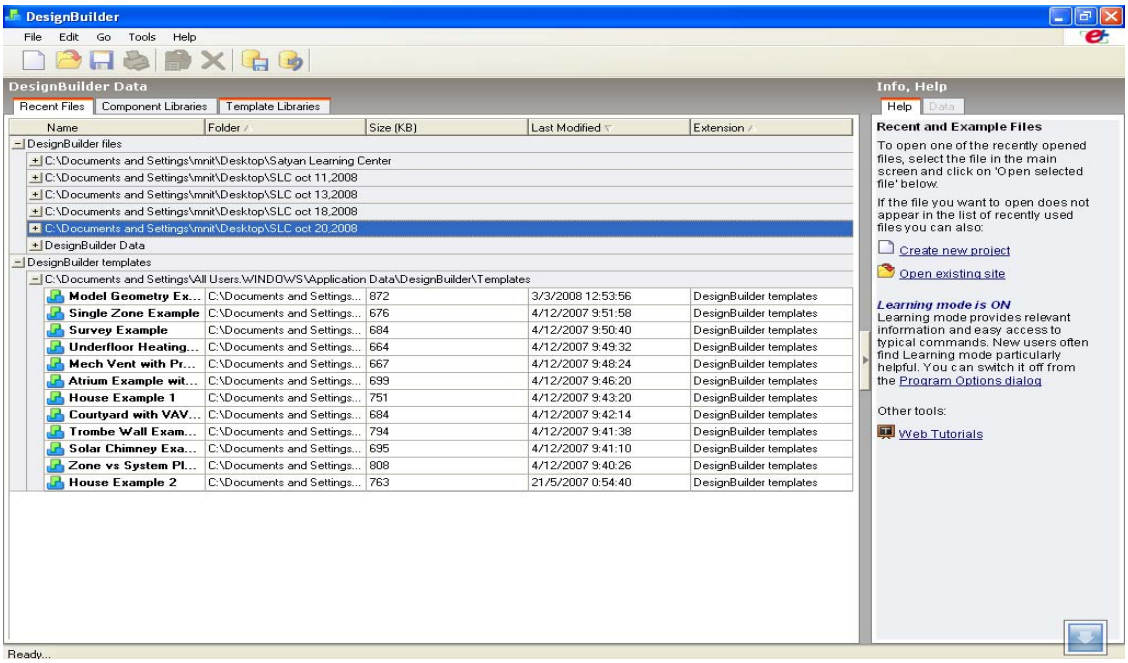

Illustration 0.8: Opening screen of Design Builder

Double click any file out of the list of existing files (lets say: “single zone example”). After thisanother screen would pop up as shown in Illustration 0.9.

In this default weather file would be London/UK. For the purpose of checking proper installation of software, it is advised not to change the weather file.Now select ‘OK’, at the bottom of this screen.

Availability of internet at this point is essential since the weather file is downloaded automatically from DB server.

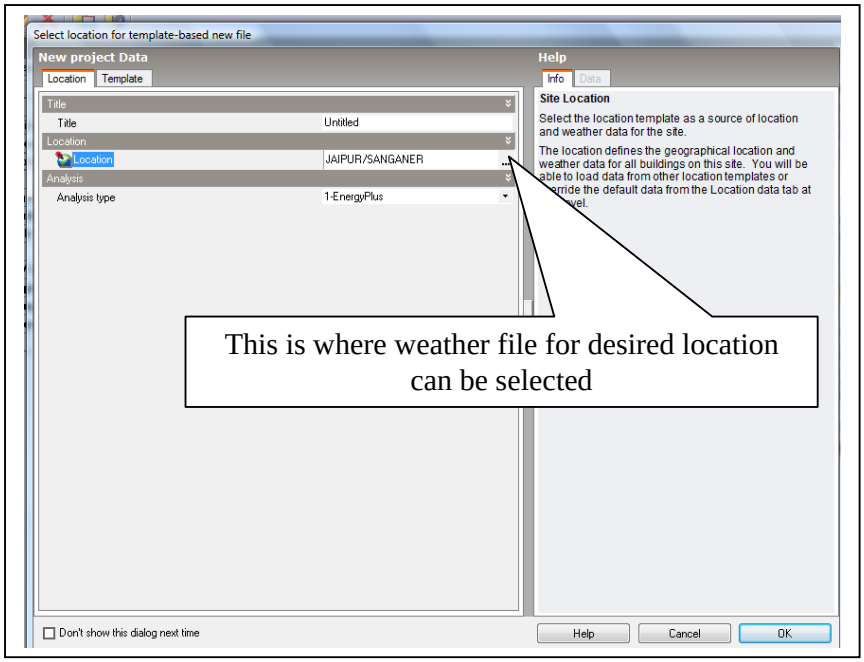

Illustration 0.9: New project Data Screen

If ‘single zone example’ was selected in previous step, the screen would show geometry of a building as shown in Illustration 0.10.

The key for starting simulation is shown at the bottom of this illustration as shown in Illustration 0.9..

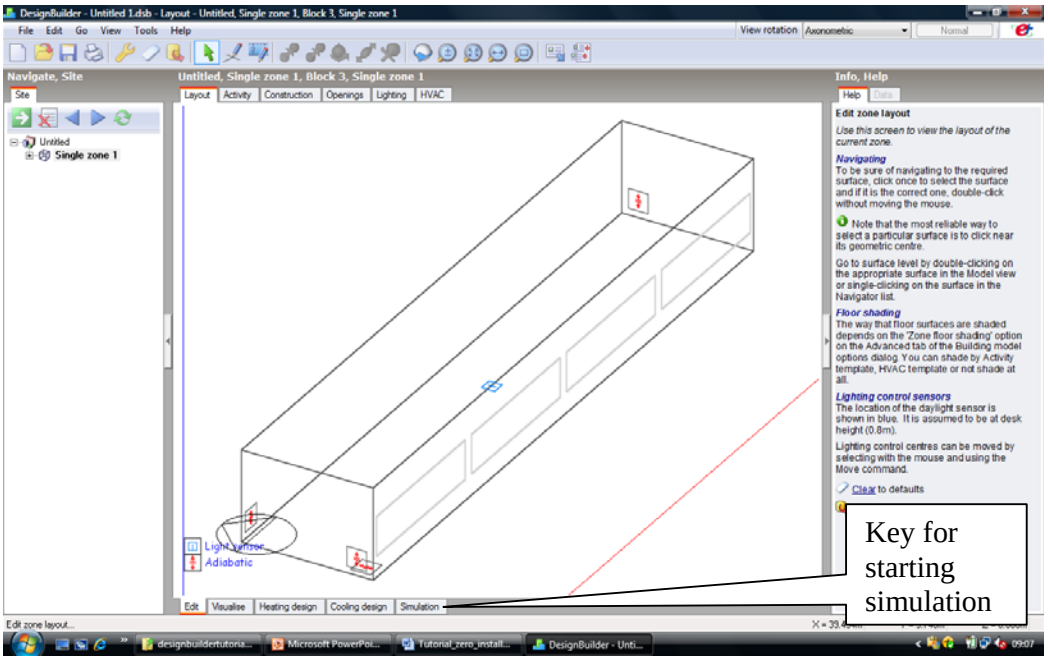

Illustration 0.10: Display of building geometry

On selecting the 'simulation' key, screen shown in Illustration 0.11, a pop up would appear which controls the 'calculation details'. For this time being it is advised to select 'OK' while keeping the default values.

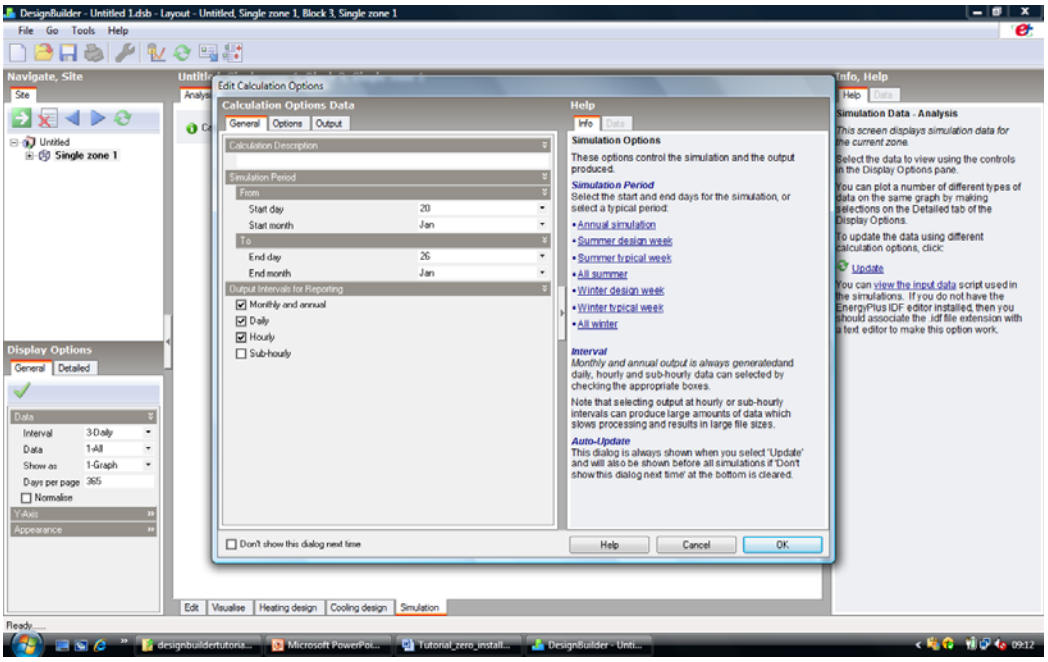

Illustration 0.11: Calculation details screen

On selecting 'OK', another screen similar to the screen shown in Illustration 0.7 containing the license details would come up. On selecting 'continue' in this screen, the screen shows a progress bar indicating that some calculations are going on.

After few seconds, the screen shown in Illustration 0.12 appears on the screen.

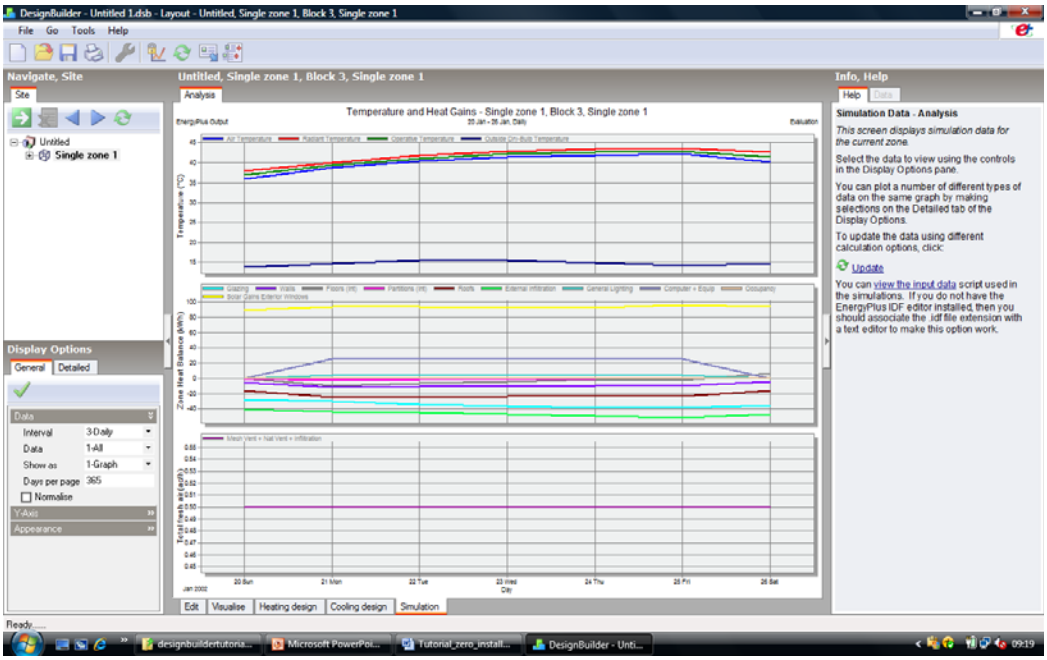

Illustration 0.12: Result screen

By following the above steps, if one has obtained this screen, it can be concluded that the software has been installed correctly and example files are running well.