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Benchmark Apps - Parametric Models





Benchmark Apps – Parametric Models User Manual

This manual is designed to assist users in the day-to-day use of the Parametric Models feature with Benchmark Estimating Software.

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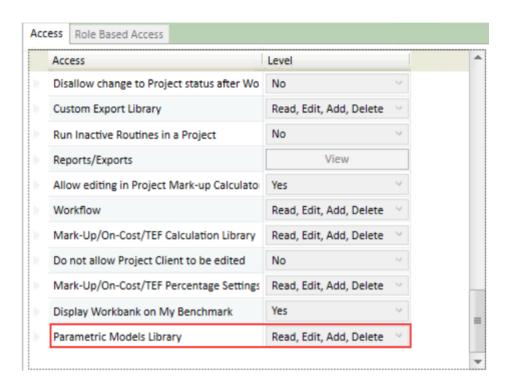
Benchmark Apps - Parametric Models Overview

Benchmark apps, built using Microsoft Power Apps, offer an intuitive, cloud-hosted solution for Parametric Models. Estimators can input details about the works to be undertaken in a sophisticated interface to produce the list of quantities. The pricing i.e., Bill of Quantity (BQ or BOQ) is then created back in Benchmark. Estimators can also view a summarised or full version of the BQ in the app.

Prerequisites

To use the Parametric Models feature in Benchmark, you must have:

- Access to Microsoft Power Apps in your organisation.
- Permission to use the Parametric Models app in Power Apps.
- PowerApps URL configured in Administration > Integration Settings > PowerApps.
 - Contact your system administrator for more information.
- Parametric Models Library role-based or individual access. An administrator can provide the relevant level of this access to the estimator from the Estimator Library or Role Based Access windows.





Accessing Parametric Models

You can access the Parametric Models feature from:

- > Benchmark
- LoadSpring Homepage

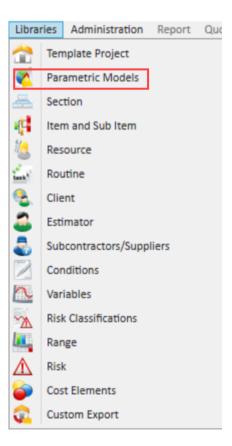


You can also manually type in the app URL in your web browser.

Accessing the App from Benchmark

From the main Benchmark menu:

- 1. In the My Benchmark window, select **Libraries**.
- 2. Select Parametric Models.



From Projects:

- 1. Open the relevant **Project Section** or **Composite Item/Composite Total**.
- 2. Select the **Parametric Model** icon in the toolbar. Alternatively, use the right-click menu option.

- 3. The following message displays:
 - "This will launch the Benchmark Parametric Models feature, in Microsoft Power Apps, in a web browser."
- 4. Check the **Do not show this message again** checkbox if you do not wish to see this notification again.
- 5. Select **OK**.
- 6. The app will open in your web browser.



You can continue working in Benchmark when the Parametric Models app is open.

Accessing the App from LoadSpring

- 1. Go to the LoadSpring homepage.
- From My Applications section, select Benchmark Apps Parametric Models.
 The app opens in your web browser.



Navigating the App

There are several model types available and in development for this feature. In this topic, we will look at the **Indirect Works** model.



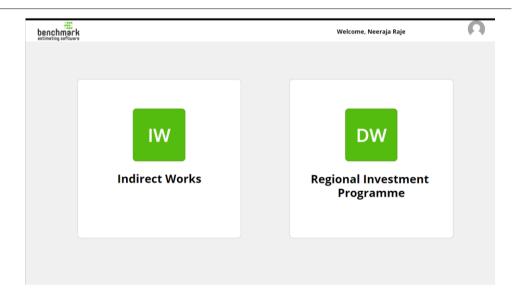
The **Indirect Works** model is also called the **Preliminary model** or **Prelims** model.

Landing Page

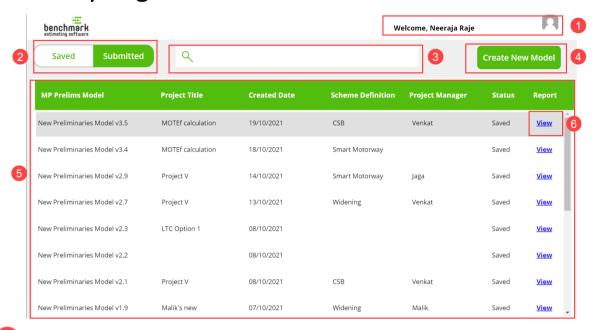
The app landing page allows you to select a model type to view the saved and submitted model instances or create a new one.



The Regional Investment Programme (RIP) model is in development.



Summary Page



- 1 Displays the name of the logged in user.
- 2 Use this toggle to view the list of Saved or Submitted model instances.
- 3 Search for model instances.
- 4 Create new model instances.
- 5 Displays key information for each of the model instances:
 - Model Name
 - Project Title
 - Date the instance was created
 - Scheme Definition
 - Name of the Project Manager
 - Status of the model instance Saved or Submitted
- 6- View all the details for the selected model instance.



Searching Model Instances

You can search the model instances by the following search criteria:

- Model name
- Project title
- Creation date
- Scheme definition
- Project manager

In the example below, we will search the model instances by project title:

- 1. Open the Parametric Models app.
- 2. Select the relevant model type.

For example, Indirect Works.

3. In the Search bar, enter the search term.

For example, Highway.

4. This displays the list of model instances containing the search term.



Clear the search term to view the unfiltered list of model instances again.

Input Mapping

Forms in the app user interface map to their corresponding Parametric Model worksheets (MP Model v51.5).

Indirect Works

Primary Input



TTM Input

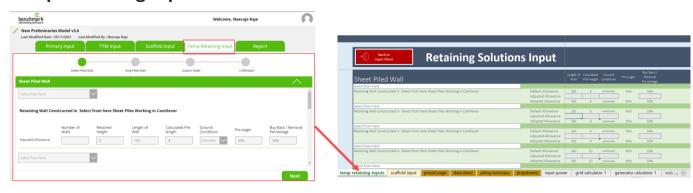


Scaffold Input





Temp Retaining Input



Creating New Model Instances

Indirect Works

- 1. Open the Parametric Models app.
- 2. Select Indirect Works.
- 3. Select Create New Model.
- 4. Select the Edit icon to change the model instance name and then select to save the new name.



5. In the Primary Input tab, select the Project / Estimate Title and Section Name.

These are mandatory fields.

If you have accessed the app from a **Project Section**, these fields will automatically populate the **Project Title** and **Section Description**, respectively from Benchmark.



6. Use the up and down arrows on the accordions to expand or collapse panels in the screen.





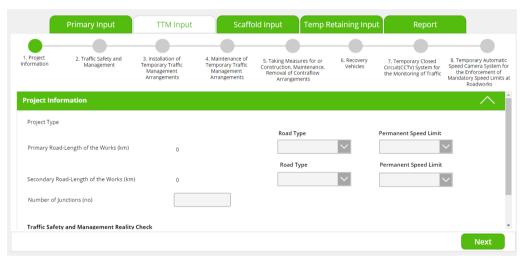
- 7. Enter / select details for all the relevant fields in each of the panels in the screen.
- 8. Select Next to continue proceeding to the next screens.

Each completed screen is denoted by a tick within a green circle in the progress line.

Active screens are denoted by a green circle. Screens pending completion are denoted by grey circles.



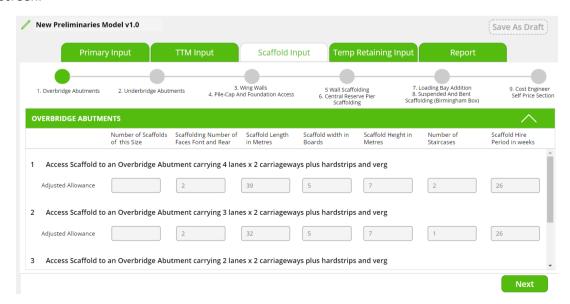
9. Enter / select details for all the relevant fields in each of the panels in the TTM Input screen.



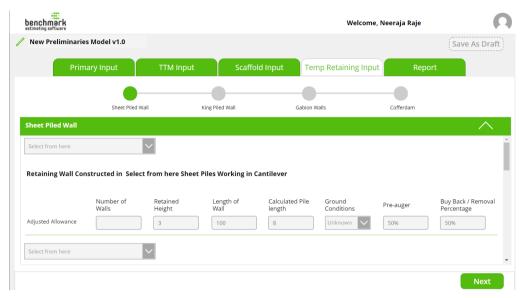
10. Select Next to continue proceeding to the next screens.

You can select Back to return to the previous screen and make changes.

11. Enter / select details for all the relevant fields in each of the panels in the Scaffold Input screen.

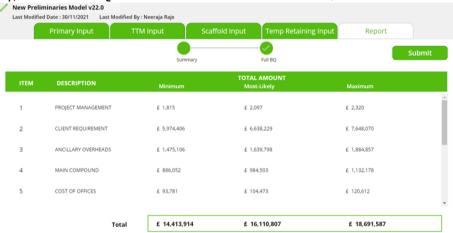


- 12. Select Next to continue proceeding to the next screens.
- 13. Enter / select details for all the relevant fields in each of the panels in the Temp Retaining Input screen.



- 14. Select Next to continue proceeding to the next screens.
- 15. In the Report screen, review the summary of the BQ.

Alternatively, select Full BQ to view all the details of the Bill of Quantities.



16. Select Submit.



Viewing the BQ

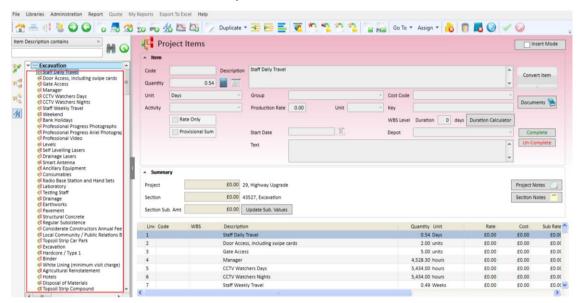
When you submit a model instance from the Parametric Models app:

- A BQ is created back in Benchmark.
- BQ line items are created as part of a section or composite item.
- **BQ** line items with quantity and units are created as normal items.
- BQ line items without quantity and units are created as text items.
- > BQ line items with 0 quantity are not created.

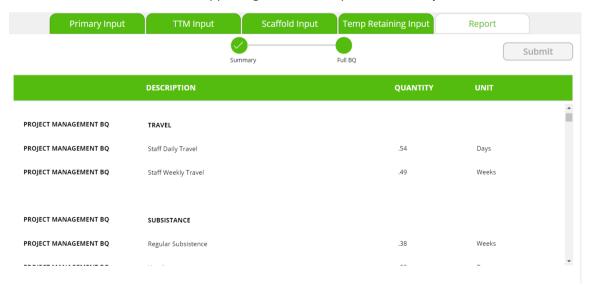
To view the BQ created in Benchmark:

- 1. Open the Project for which you created the BQ.
- 2. Select the relevant Section.

All the BQ line items are created as Project Items.



You can also view these items in the app using the **Full BQ** option in the Report screen:

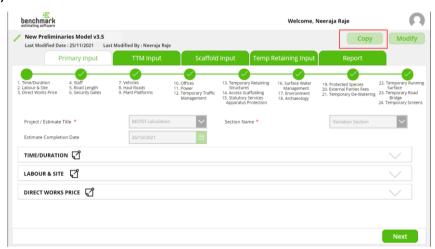


Copying Model Instances

This functionality facilitates easy reuse of model instances between estimates.

To copy a model instance:

- From the list of saved/submitted model instances, select View to open the model instance you
 want to copy.
- 2. Select Copy.



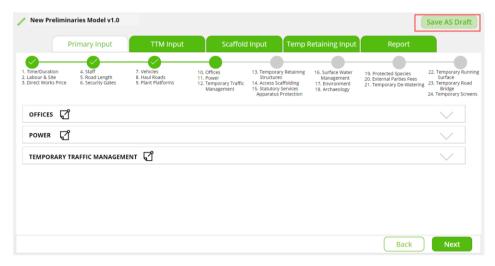
- 3. This creates a copy of the selected model instance.
- 4. Select the new Estimate Title and Section Name.
- 5. Enter/select details for the new model instance using standard functionality.



Saving Model Instances

When working on a model instance, you can choose to save the details and submit it later.

1. Select Save As Draft to save the entered details.



- 2. These drafts display with a status of **Saved** in the list of model instances.
- 3. Select **View** to open the draft.
- 4. Select **Modify** to continue working on the model instance.



Errors

A red circle denotes errors in the section. Select the circle, open the relevant section and rectify the error.

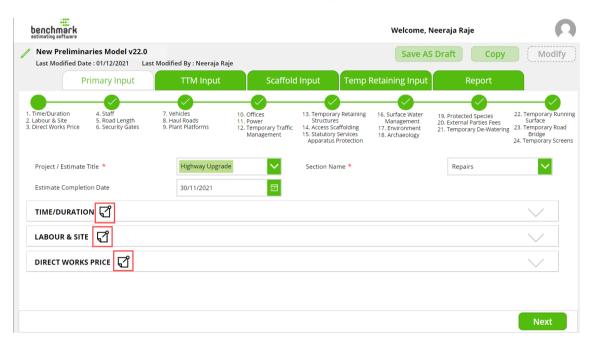


Adding Comments

You can add comments to all sections of the model instance, when creating it or modifying a saved draft.

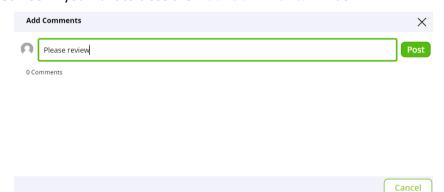
To add comments:

1. Select the Comment icon for the section where you want to add a comment.

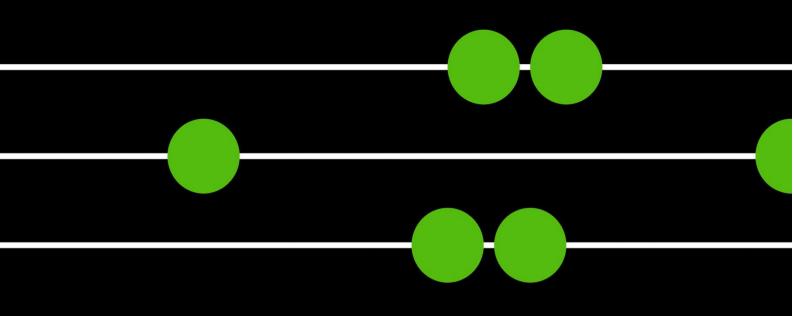


2. Enter the comment and select Post.

Select Cancel if you want to close the Add Comments window.



- 3. Once posted, select the same Comment icon on the panel to view the comments.
- 4. Select ✓ to edit the comment or ¹/₁ to delete it.



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