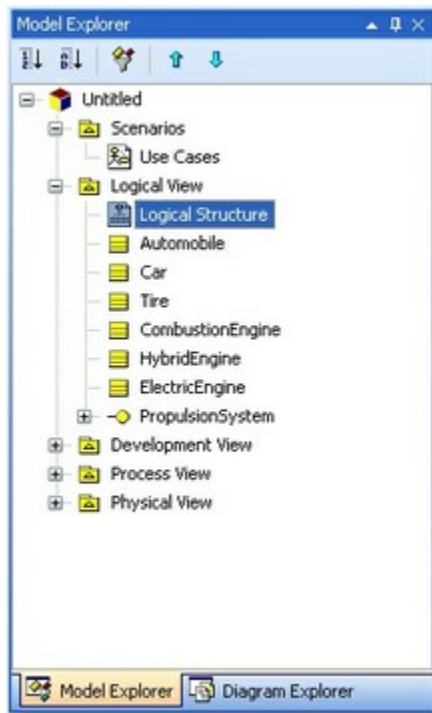# Basic Tasks with Diagrams

Creating Diagrams

You create a diagram within the context of an element. The element determines for example when and how a qualifying path is shown in the diagram. Structure diagrams can be placed in packages and models. To choose the element for a diagram think of the details you want to show in your diagram. Normally you would choose the package for which you want to show details, most of the elements you show in the diagram would be within the chosen package. Behavioral diagrams are related to the diagram or element for which behavioral detail is shown.

To create a diagram

1. In the **Model Explorer** or in the diagram, select the element for which you want to create a diagram.

2. On the **Model** menu, point to **Add Diagram**, and then click the diagram you want to create. The **Add Diagram** menu only shows the diagrams you can create for the selected element.

Opening Existing Diagrams

Once created, the diagram is shown in the **Model Explorer** and the **Diagram Explorer**. The Model Explorer shows the structure of the model and shows the diagram with the element for which the diagram was created. **Diagram Explorer** groups the different kinds of diagrams in folders and does not show elements. To open a diagram navigate to the diagram in either the **Model Explorer** or the **Diagram Explorer** and then double-click the diagram.

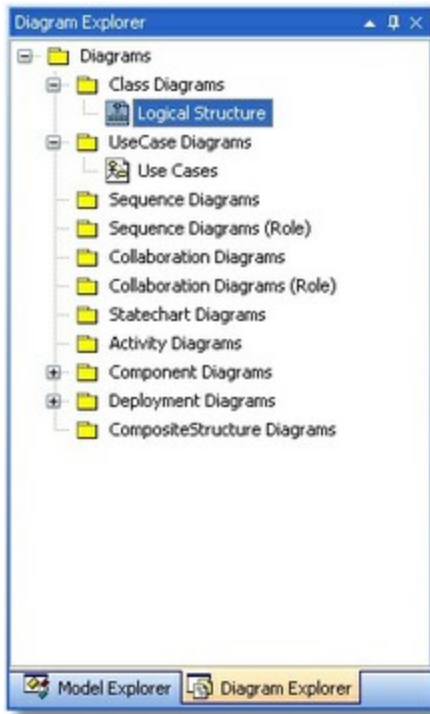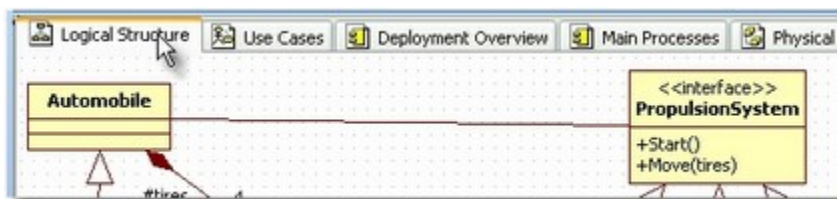**Model Explorer with Class Diagram Selected**
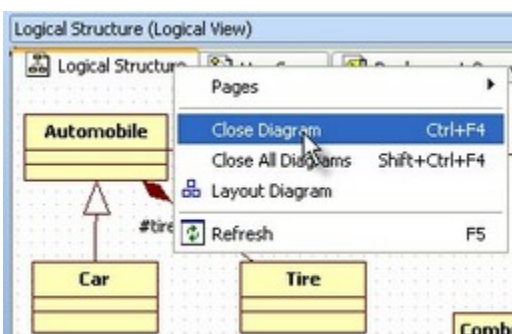
**Diagram Explorer with Class Diagram
Selected**

All open diagrams are available in the diagram area, only the active diagram is shown and can be edited. To activate a diagram, click the tab of the diagram at the top of the diagram area. When you double click an already open diagram in the **Model Explorer** or the **Diagram Explorer** the diagram will be activated too.

Activate the Class Diagram

Closing Diagrams

To close a diagram, activate the diagram, then on the **View** menu click **Close Diagram**. As an alternative, to close a diagram, activate the diagram, right click the diagram tab and then click **Close Diagram**.

Closing a Diagram

Deleting Diagrams

When you delete a diagram, you only delete the diagram, not the elements represented on the diagram.

However, if the diagram contains view elements specific for that diagram then the view elements are deleted with the diagram. For example, the objects shown in a sequence diagram will be deleted when you delete the diagram. However, the classifiers represented by the objects will not be deleted.

To delete a diagram, activate the diagram, then without selecting any element on the **Edit** menu click **Delete From Model**. As an alternative to delete a diagram, in the **Model Explorer** right click on the diagram and click **Delete From Model**.