Getting started

1. What is an "Application Landscape"?

An Application Landscape is the structure and set of all important information systems. It consists of services, business objects, modules, functionalities, building blocks, applications, components, interfaces and databases and their platforms and technologies. It is a visualization of an application structure. This structure shows a set of views, of all applications and their related entities in an organization.

2. Benefits of using a modeling tool for application landscapes.

There are many benefits of using a modelling tool for application landscapes. First, applications can be visualized in a traceable way, which is really useful for demonstration purposes for non-technical experienced groups or individuals. These visualizations can also be used for information purposes.

Since you have the option to export your applications or your data objects, raw file data can easily be shared.

Some features of our application landscape include:

- a quick and uncomplicated setup
- a minimalistic and user-friendly application design
- functions which check the release and shutdown date of the application
- the fact that no modelling language is required to create application landscape models.

3. How to use the „Application Landscape – App" program

Great!

Now that you are aware of the benefits of the application and have successfully installed it, we will guide you on how to use our modelling tool so that you can make the most of it to effectively design software and manage projects.
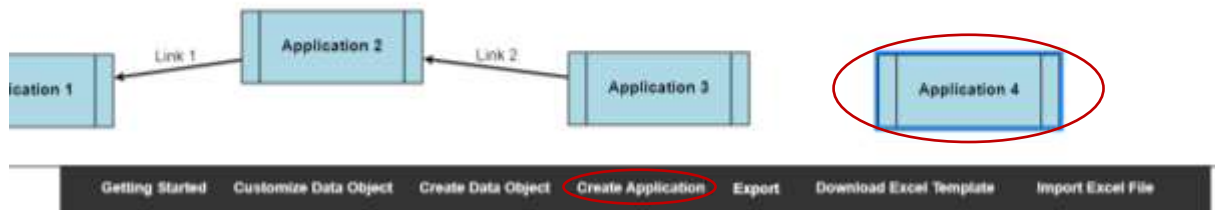
Once you have mastered the main concept of the application, its usage is going to be straightforward from then on!

3.1 Create, update and delete applications

<u>Create application</u>

To create an application just click on "create application" in the navigation bar. A new application block will be added to the landscape.

To move an application, simply select it by click on it and drag it to your desired location within the outlined window.

The properties of a newly created application can be edited by selecting it with a left mouse-click. An inspector will appear which enables the user to input the relevant data.

Note:

- ***Key****: Every key can be distributed once.*

- ***Name****: You can name the application; the name will be displayed on the application modelling block.*

- ***Version****: Enter the current version of the software.*

- ***COTS****: Stands for "commercial off-the-shelf".*
  If the software has been purchased off third-party, select "COTS"
  If the software is developed internally, select "proprietary"
  If its origin is unknown, select "unknown"
  You can always update your selection at any time.

- ***Dates****: Enter a release and shutdown date for the application*

- ***Description****: Enter a description to provide additional information on what the application does*

Once you have entered all the relevant data, click on "update application" to save your input. The inspector can be closed afterwards.

To count every application on the Modelling Landscape, right-click and select the option "count applications". A pop-up message will occur and display the total amount of applications.

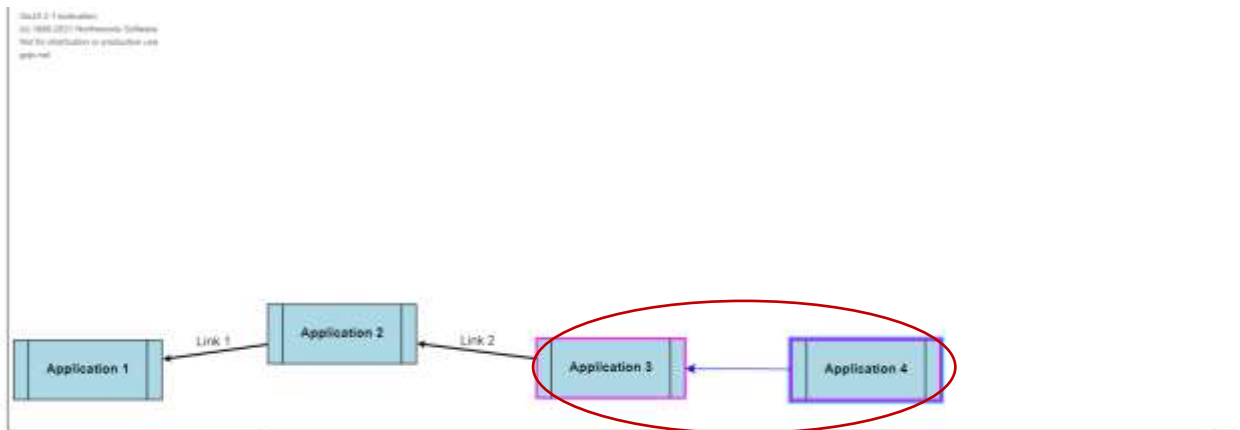In addition, the applications can have 3 different colors which represent different stages:

- **Light blue:** The application is currently active.
- **Red:** The shutdown date was in the past.
- **Yellow:** The application will be released in the future.

Congratulations! You have created your first application model!

3.2 Create, update and delete data objects

<u>Connect two applications with a data object link</u>

If you want to connect two applications with a data object. In order to do that, click on the edge of an application and drag the data object arrow from the application you created to the corresponding application.

<u>Create a data object</u>

To create a data object, click on the "create data object" button on the navigation bar. An inspector will open, similar to the applications. Here you can create a new data object. Let's try to create our own data object.
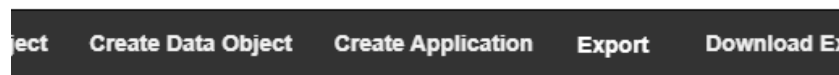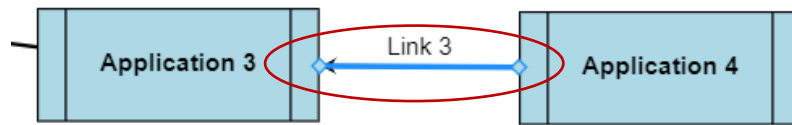

Enter the name of the data object which will also be displayed as a text above the arrow. After that, check the personal data button if required and enter a description. Once you are finished, click on "create data object" and then close the inspector by clicking on "close".

Now you have successfully created a data object which can be used as often as required.

<u>Select a data object</u>

To select a data object, simply click on a data object arrow. An inspector will appear and display its properties automatically. You can also select a different data object from the dropdown list. After selecting one, just click on "select data object" and close the inspector. You can also select a data object and remove the arrow between two applications by clicking on the "remove" button.

<u>Customize a data object</u>

Have You entered a wrong description or forgot to check the personal data box? No problem!

You can easily adjust that by clicking on the corresponding data object and then selecting "customize data object" in the navigation bar.

The data object will be loaded and you can then adjust make your desired adjustments to the fields. To save it click on "change data object" and close the inspector.
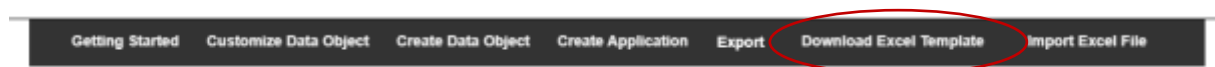
4. Data persistency

Another neat feature of our program is data persistency. That means your data will be saved automatically and you can close the program without having to save the project separately beforehand. The next time you open the program, your input is going to appear the way you left it.

5. Data import and export

Nevertheless, it could be important to exchange the data collected in the application landscape tool with other application or to import existing applications. Which is why the software provides you the option to import and export files in CSV-file format.
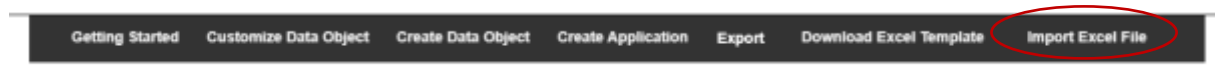
Our software also includes an option to download an Excel Template where the correct structure can be seen to make adjustments to an excel file in order to import it correctly.

To download the Template, simply click on "Download Excel Template" on the navigation bar.

5.1 Import applications from Excel (.XLSX/.CSV)

You can import an existing file which contains application and equivalent data by clicking on the "import Excel file" Button on the navigation bar. It is required that the file which you want to import corresponds to the same format of the application.

5.2 Export applications and data objects as CSV-file.

You two options to export data. You can either export all your applications as a CSV-file by clicking on "export" and then "export applications". The same goes for the data objects by selecting "export data objects".