

RAMM INTEGRATION

FUNCTIONALITY, POLICY AND
PRICING

VERSION 1.0



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1 Introduction

This document describes the current functionality within RAMM for the extraction, importation and integration of RAMM data with external systems. It also describes the policy for releasing and using this data along with pricing regimes where appropriate.

This document will be useful to those who wish to extract data from RAMM or import data into RAMM and want to know what functionality is available and where to access it. This is not a detailed document such that it does not explain how to use the RAMM suite of software to perform the tasks mentioned, it merely points the user in the direction of the functionality.

Parts of this document describe functionality which is available but access to it requires effort or advice from RAMM Software Ltd (RSL). If this functionality is of interest then please contact us by emailing support@ramm.co.nz which creates a support ticket attached to which will be all correspondence/discussion on the topic. If you are after a general discussion as to options, please ring our Freephone numbers; New Zealand: 0800 256 832 or Australia: 1800 196 213

1.1 Overview

There are a number of broad methods for interacting electronically with RAMM.

GIS Web Features Services

RSL has developed a system whereby RAMM data can be extracted in industry standard GIS format using Web Feature Services. This data can either be consumed immediately by GIS software clients or stored in a GIS repository.

Scheduled Automated Data Export

RSL has developed a system whereby SQL statements can be automatically run on a regular basis (typically in the early hours of the morning) to extract data from RAMM and place this on the Internet ready for download by the intended recipient. To use this:

- the SQL statement(s) must be supplied to RSL,
- a format must be selected, e.g. TAB delimited, pipe delimited, well known text, and
- a schedule must be agreed, e.g. daily, weekly, fortnightly, monthly.

RAMM Data Export Facilities

These are the various menu options within the RAMM suite of software which allow the user to extract data from RAMM for use in external software products such as Excel.

RAMM Data Import Facilities

These are the various menu options within the RAMM suite of software which allow the user to import data into RAMM.

RSL Assisted Data Import/Message

There may be occasions when you wish to import data into RAMM and there isn't a specific facility within the software to do so. For example:

RAMM Integration

- you have a large number of photos of your bridge network which you want to put in RAMM but using the software would mean attaching these one at a time. RSL may be able to assist (possibly at no cost) using batch import commands.
- you want to make a single change to a large amount of data and there is no means to do so within the RAMM software.

If you think that we may be able to assist by using some back-end facilities available only to RSL staff then please contact us.

RAMM Web Services

RSL has developed Web Services for specific tasks such as interfacing with a Customer Service Request system. Web Services are typically used when data needs to flow electronically between two disparate systems in a timely manner. For this to occur, both systems must send and receive the data in an agreed format.

Inter Database Transfer Facilities

These are the various menu options within the RAMM suite of software which allow the user to transfer settings or data between RAMM databases.

2 GIS Web Features Services

RSL has implemented a system whereby RAMM data can be extracted in industry standard GIS format using Web Feature Services (WFS). This data can either be consumed immediately by GIS software clients or stored in a GIS repository.

WFS is a 'discoverable' web service which means that the GIS client can, after successfully connecting to the WFS, discover the layers and contents of those layers at connection time rather than know about the content details beforehand.

The data delivered through this service may also contain attribute data in addition to geospatial data, e.g. for culverts, this could be such things as the construction material, diameter and date of construction.

Examples of use would be:

- Council staff currently use an in-house GIS system to display data from their internal systems such as cadastral, rates, dog licenses etc. and want to also display some RAMM data. This could be a single layer of say traffic volume, last seal date, and forward work programme or a number of layers such as culverts, street lights and signs.
- Council has a public facing website and wants to display the forward work programme (FWP) on this site. Given that the FWP doesn't change much and the volume of requests is potentially large, it may be that Council decides to use WFS to extract the data on a monthly basis, store it in its own GIS repository and serve it to the public from there. By the way, this could be achieved by extracting the FWP data from RAMM by hand or picking up a monthly dump of this data from the Schedule Automated Data Export facility described above.
- A contractor has its own GIS system and wants to display jobs from RAMM Contractor for the various contracts they have with multiple network owners.

If you want to use this service you will need to email support@ramm.co.nz to initiate discussions as to your requirements, potential solutions and likely costs. We ask that you use the email facility as this gets automatically logged into our call centre software and all work, emails and telephone discussions are then logged against this job.

2.1 Likely Costs

There is no cost to discuss your requirements with RSL staff so please contact us.

If you decide to use this service then we will charge for any time we spend setting the service up. This will include the creation of the SQLs to extract the data, testing the service and all communication with your IT staff regarding the use and provisioning of the service.

We do not intend to charge for the use of the service where that use is 'reasonable'. The reasonable test will be entirely our decision and we will discuss the costs with you beforehand so you can make a choice. We would certainly charge where the access is real-time and the server load of the service could impact our other users. This could be a factor of when the service is used (time of day), the number of requests made and/or the server load for each request (this is largely about the

complexity of the SQL as to the number of tables from which the information is extracted and the efficiency with which the database engine can peruse these tables).

We do not intend to charge for any maintenance of the service where that maintenance is 'reasonable'. The reasonable test will be entirely our decision and we will discuss costs with you beforehand so you can make a choice. We would certainly charge where you desire the service to meet certain uptime criteria or you want changes made to the service.

2.2 Limitations and Considerations

It is very important that you have the right (or have acquired the right) to download and use the WFS data. This is a matter between your organisation and the owner of that data. RSL have NO opinion as to who owns the data or what rights any party has to that data. We merely ask that you give this issue considerable thought before asking us for data you may not have the right to consume.

Most data in RAMM is not sensitive (e.g. a list of roads, culvert data, signs etc.) but some data is considered more sensitive than others. This is particularly true of the data held in RAMM Contractor such as jobs, schedule of rates, claims and estimates. If you are asking for this type of data please make sure you have the permission of all parties involved in the collection and maintenance of that data. RSL may refuse to run the SQL until all parties have informed us (email is preferable) that they consent or acknowledge the data will be extracted and used elsewhere.

The WFS service is implemented for RSL clients and RSL clients only. If you wish the WFS layers to be consumed by anyone else then this must be discussed with RSL beforehand. The WFS layers will have authentication requirements much like logging into the RAMM Hosting Service with a logname and password. Just as you are NOT allowed to give this logname and password information to anyone else you MAY NOT give the WFS URL or authentication data to anyone else. We will stop the service if we find that this has occurred without our knowledge and written acquiescence to this.

The data supplied will never be an exact image of a RAMM table as this is not the purpose of the RAMM WFS. We will not deliver data which a normal person would not consume through WFS. Examples of this would be any meta-data such as audit details, the road_id instead of the road name, the carr_way.urban_rual column instead of its code expansion of Urban or Rural. Some of this may seem confusing or unreasonably prescriptive. Please ring for a discussion if so.

3 Scheduled Automated Data Export

RSL has developed a system whereby SQL statements can be automatically run on a regular basis (typically in the early hours of the morning) to extract data from RAMM. This data is either emailed or placed on the Internet ready for download by the intended recipient.

To use this:

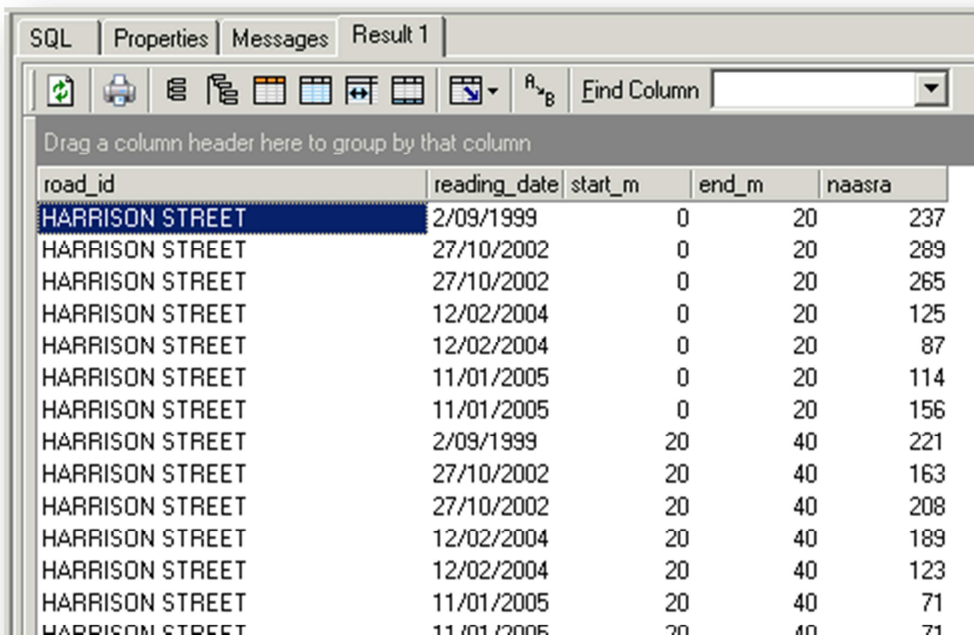
- the SQL statement(s) must be supplied to RSL
- a format must be selected, e.g. TAB delimited, pipe delimited, well known text, ZIP
- a schedule must be agreed, e.g. daily, weekly, fortnightly, monthly
- a delivery method must be selected, e.g. email, URL
- it must be run by a real hosting user who has permission to access the RAMM database.

3.1 SQL Statement

The SQL statement must be a complete statement which produces the data exactly as it is required. This means that any joins to tables must be explicitly defined within the SQL statement. This is mentioned because RAMM SQL is often used to develop these SQLs and it will join to the relevant tables as it understands the relationships between tables within RAMM. This export facility does not and therefore the statements must be more complete than they need be in RAMM SQL.


The following output is produced in RAMM SQL after running the statement:

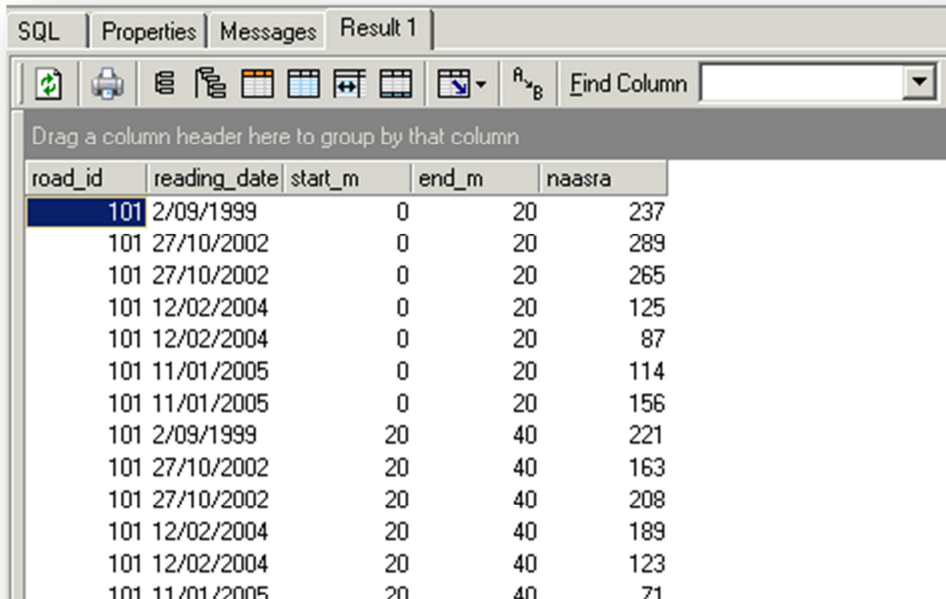
`"select road_id, reading_date, start_m, end_m, naasra from rough"`



road_id	reading_date	start_m	end_m	naasra
HARRISON STREET	2/09/1999	0	20	237
HARRISON STREET	27/10/2002	0	20	289
HARRISON STREET	27/10/2002	0	20	265
HARRISON STREET	12/02/2004	0	20	125
HARRISON STREET	12/02/2004	0	20	87
HARRISON STREET	11/01/2005	0	20	114
HARRISON STREET	11/01/2005	0	20	156
HARRISON STREET	2/09/1999	20	40	221
HARRISON STREET	27/10/2002	20	40	163
HARRISON STREET	27/10/2002	20	40	208
HARRISON STREET	12/02/2004	20	40	189
HARRISON STREET	12/02/2004	20	40	123
HARRISON STREET	11/01/2005	20	40	71
HARRISON STREET	11/01/2005	20	40	71

Note how the column **Road ID** has HARRISON STREET in it. This is because the Auto Lookup/Expand

option  is turned on. If it is turned off then the output will be:



road_id	reading_date	start_m	end_m	naasra
101	2/09/1999	0	20	237
101	27/10/2002	0	20	289
101	27/10/2002	0	20	265
101	12/02/2004	0	20	125
101	12/02/2004	0	20	87
101	11/01/2005	0	20	114
101	11/01/2005	0	20	156
101	2/09/1999	20	40	221
101	27/10/2002	20	40	163
101	27/10/2002	20	40	208
101	12/02/2004	20	40	189
101	12/02/2004	20	40	123
101	11/01/2005	20	40	71

This screen is how the data will be delivered (i.e. road_id not expanded). If this is not what you want then the correct SQL should join to the roadnames table as follows:

```
"select road_name, reading_date start_m, end_m, naasra
  from rough, roadnames
 where rough.road_id = roadnames.road_id"
```

RSL staff are always willing to assist here so please ask. We may charge for this effort but we will let you know beforehand so you can make a choice.

By the way, you can also include the GIS information about an asset in Well Known Text format.

3.2 Data Formats

The format of the data can be:

- TAB delimited
- Pipe "|" delimited.

3.3 Automated Schedule

The SQL statements can be run on a regular basis such as Daily, Weekly, Monthly, Yearly and many other combinations if necessary.

Our strong preference is to run these between 10 pm and 4 am so as to minimise the impact on other users.

3.4 Data Delivery Mechanism

The data can be delivered by email or placed on our web server and collected from there. The data can be zipped into one file if necessary.

The SQL is run as a real hosting user and all emails about the SQL results are sent to this users email address. This includes a log containing such things as the SQL statement itself, any errors and the running log of the SQL statements.

An email is also sent containing either the data files (one file if zipped) or a URL to the location from which the data file(s) can be collected. This URL will typically be something like:

http://services.ramm.co.nz/rammstats/_private/download/89F6476CE44234A4D2246AD7E97531/zcc_drainage.123.txt

3.5 Likely Costs

There is no cost to discuss your requirements with RSL staff so please contact us.

There is almost never a cost for this service. However, we may charge (we will discuss this with you beforehand so you can make a choice) if:

- we have to put some effort to either write the SQL(s) or change the SQL(s).
- the SQL(s) take a long time to run, you want them run every night or want to run them during the day. The reason for this is that they are heavily consuming server resources for the length of time it takes to run and it may impact other tasks competing for the same resources.
- you want changes made to the SQL(s).
- there are large amounts of data to email or place on the web server.

3.6 Limitations and Considerations

It is very important that you have the right (or have acquired the right) to download the data your SQL is extracting. This is a matter between your organisation and the owner of that data. RSL have NO opinion as to who owns the data or what rights any party has to that data. We merely ask that you give this issue considerable thought before asking us for data you may not have the right to consume.

Most data in RAMM is not sensitive (e.g. a list of roads, culvert data, signs etc.) but some data is considered more sensitive than others. This is particularly true of the data held in RAMM Contractor such as jobs, schedule of rates, claims and estimates. If you are asking for this type of data please make sure you have the permission of all parties involved in the collection and maintenance of that data. RSL may refuse to run the SQL until all parties have informed us (email is preferable) that they consent or acknowledge the data will be extracted and used elsewhere.

This facility is meant to be a way by which certain data from your RAMM database can be automatically delivered for consumption by another system. It is not:

- a mechanism for backing up your data. We do this as part of the RAMM Hosting Service!
- a mechanism for extracting RAMM data just in case you may want to access it at some stage during your working day. This puts unnecessary load on our servers when the data is not necessarily going to be used.

If you no longer have a need for the data or wish to decrease the regularity with which the data is extracted then please let us know. This will minimise unnecessary load on our servers.

4 RAMM Data Export Facilities

The RAMM software suite comes with many methods for extracting data in an electronic format. These methods are generally available to give users the ability to extract data for use in external programs such as Excel, Access, Word etc.

4.1 RAMM Manager

File > File Export: In RAMM Manager use this menu to extract an entire RAMM table. Not all RAMM tables are on offer here due to data sensitivity issues and data ownership issues.

Projects > MRWA > Export to IRIS: This menu option is only available to WALGA clients as it is used for specifically for exporting certain RAMM data for use within the corporate system used by Main Roads Western Australia.

Reports: There are a number of reports available under the report menu in RAMM Manager. All of these have facilities to export the report data into various formats as well as print the report. Not all formats are available for each report due to the software component used in development. Some of the formats available are: Excel, CSV, delimited text and PDF. There may be others so check the options available in the report you are using.

4.2 RAMM for Windows

RAMM Grids: In the main RAMM application within each asset/condition data grid is the menu item, **Grid > Export**. This allows the contents of the grid to be exported in a wide range of formats including Excel, HTML and PDF. The contents of the grid can also be placed into Clipboard for use in other applications.

Map screen: Within the Map screen there is an option **Export layer**. This is an icon in the Layers Panel. The export facility allows the selected layer (this must have been created by the user and cannot be a system layer such as Rivers, LA Boundaries etc.) to be exported in one of the following formats:

- ESRI Shapefile
- MapInfo .TAB
- MapInfo Interchange format .MIF
- Text

4.3 RAMM Contractor

File > Export: This is the same as the File Export menu item in RAMM Manager but it only allows the exporting of certain RAMM Contractor files. The other difference is that it will only offer data from contracts for which you have the correct permissions and will only export data for one contract at a time.

RAMM Contractor Grids: There are a number of grids within the RAMM Contractor application which allow data within the grid to be exported to various formats. Use this facility by right-clicking on the grid and choosing **Export**. This allows the contents of the grid to be exported in a wide range of formats including Excel, HTML and PDF. The contents of the grid can also be placed into Clipboard for use in other applications.

Grids that offer this **Export** option are:

- Dispatches
- Dispatches > Maintenance Notes
- Dispatches > Progress Notes
- Dispatches > Claims
- Dispatches > Reports
- Claims > Claim Lines
- Patrols > Reports
- Estimate Review Tool
- Claim Review Tool
- Maintenance > Contract Details > Schedule Items
- Reporting
- Assessments

4.4 RAMM SQL

All output produced by RAMM SQL is placed in grids. Within each grid the contents can be exported in a wide range of formats including Excel, HTML and PDF. The contents of the grid can also be placed into Clipboard for use in other applications.

4.5 Works Selection

dTIMS Export: To export RAMM data to dTIMS use the Export to dTIMS option within Works Selection. This export is mainly in use for the Western Australian RAMM clients but can also be used by any other RAMM user.

There are other export functions within the Works Selection application. These are found in the various grids using the **Export** button (formats available include HTML, Text and Clipboard) and the various graphs using the **Export** button (formats available include CSV, Clipboard and Image).

5 RAMM Data Import Facilities

5.1 RAMM Manager

There are a number of import facilities within the RAMM Manager module.

File > File Import: This menu option allows the user to import new data for insertion into the RAMM database. This is a wizard whereby you select:

- the RAMM Table into which the data is inserted,
- the file from which contains the new data,
- the format of the data within that file,
- the matching of data in that file to the columns within the RAMM Table.

The software then checks the data to ensure business rules (e.g. the traffic count date is not a future date) are met.

Projects > Maintenance Cost > Load: This menu item allows for maintenance cost data from an external contract management system to be loaded into the Maintenance Cost section of RAMM. If you are using RAMM Contractor then the transfer process is within the RAMM Contractor module.

Projects > Crash Data > Import: This is only available to NZ RAMM users as it specifically relates to the importing of Crash data from NZTA's CAS system. The data must first be downloaded from the RAMM web page <http://www.ramm.co.nz/index.php?section=61>

Projects > MRWA > Import from IRIS: This menu item is only available to WALGA users as it relates specifically to the loading of data from Main Roads Western Australia into the RAMM system.

5.2 RAMM Contractor

Dispatches > File > File Import: This menu item allows new dispatches to be added into RAMM Contractor. It is expected that this will be enhanced to enable claims and estimates to be imported as well.

5.3 RAMM for Windows

Within the Map screen there is an option **Import layer**. This is an icon in the Layers Panel. The import facility allows layers created by other GIS applications to be displayed within the RAMM mapping screen. Supported import formats are:

- ESRI Shapefile
- MapInfo .TAB
- MapInfo Interchange format .MIF

5.4 Works Selection

dTIMS Import: To import dTIMS data into RAMM use the Import from dTIMS option within Works Selection. This export is mainly in use for the Western Australian RAMM clients but can also be used by any other RAMM user.

Please note that this facility imports the dTIMS data into Work Selection NOT the Forward Work Programme (aka NOMAD) module.

5.5 RAMM GIS

There are currently two methods for displaying external data within RAMM GIS.

Import Shape Files: This facility allows the user to browse their PC or network for ESRI shape files which will be imported into RAMM GIS and displayed.

Add a new layer: This option is available in the **Add/Remove Layers** screen and allows the user to define new layers from external data sources such as:

- TMS Web Services
 - WMS Web Services
 - WMTS Web Services
 - WFS Web Services
 - ESRI Tiled Web Service
 - ESRI Dynamic Web Service
 - ESRI Feature Services.
-

5.6 MetroCount Import

This allows MetroCount data to be imported into RAMM's traffic and loading module.

6 RSL Assisted Data Import/Message

There may be some bulk import or data update tasks that you think may be quicker and therefore cheaper for RSL to undertake. Please ring us if you think this may be the case to discuss your requirements. This costs nothing and we will advise you on the best method.

An excellent example of this is the loading of asset photos into your RAMM database. You can use the software to import each photo one at a time or you can send the photos to RSL and we will load these in bulk. To avail yourself of this service, please send us a CD/DVD with the photos in one folder and an Excel spreadsheet containing enough information for us to load the photos automatically.

The information in the spreadsheet should contain at least the following:

Filename	Bridge ID	Description	Date Taken
PM00654.JPG	123	South approach	14-02-2012
PM00655.JPG	123	North approach	14-02-2012
PM00656.JPG	123	Upstream underside	14-02-2012
PM00657.JPG	116	East approach	14-02-2012
PM00661.JPG	134	South approach	04-03-2012

Another example may be the updating of a large set of information in RAMM which cannot be done within the RAMM suite of software. RSL staff may be able to do this on your behalf so please ring to discuss options. Typically we would want explicit instructions as to what data to change and this is best done by email to support@ramm.co.nz.

6.1 Likely Costs

There is no cost to discuss your requirements with RSL staff so please contact us.

If you decide to use this service then we will only charge for our time if it takes more than one hour to process. This time includes any discussion about spreadsheet format, the type of information to supply, the time to load and any time spent fixing errors in the data, e.g. the filename does not exist, Asset ID does not exist, the date is incorrect.

We will discuss likely costs with you in advance so as to give you a choice whether or not to proceed.

6.2 Limitations and Considerations

We have a 'reasonable use' policy on the size of the photos and/or the number. Please discuss both of these points with us before delivering the data to us. The reasonable test will be entirely our decision.

You may wish to consider using Pocket RAMM to capture these photos as the linking of photos to an asset is automatic and the loading of the photos into the RAMM database is done during the synchronisation process. Please note that the number and size of the photos may mean that additional mobile data costs are incurred so using WiFi is probably best.

7 RAMM Web Services

RSL has developed specific Web Services to enable certain functionality within the RAMM software to be accessed and maintained by external applications. As required we will continue to develop these so please check with us if you want one of your applications to maintain data within RAMM.

A Web Service allows RSL to expose methods within its software so that external applications can use these methods to manage data within a RAMM database as though it was being managed through the normal RAMM interface.

7.1 Likely Costs

There is no cost to discuss your requirements with RSL staff so please contact us.

If you decide to use this service then we will charge for any time we spend setting the service up or making changes to the service.

We do not intend to charge for the use of the service where that use is 'reasonable'. The reasonable test will be entirely our decision and we will discuss with you the costs beforehand so you can make a choice. We would certainly charge where the server load of the service could impact our other users or you need this service to meet certain uptime or performance measures.

We do not intend to charge for any maintenance of the service where that maintenance is 'reasonable'. The reasonable test will be entirely our decision and we will discuss costs with you beforehand so you can make a choice.

7.2 Limitations and Considerations

The functionality of the available Web Services is what it is! If you want us to make changes to meet your specific requirements or to add new features then this takes time from our Business Analysts, Software Developers and Testing staff. We will charge for this time but give you an estimate beforehand so you can make a choice about proceeding or not.

8 Inter Database Transfer Facilities

The RAMM software suite comes with many methods for copying data and user settings from one RAMM database to another.

8.1 RAMM Manager

Projects > Forward Work > Unload: This allows the Forward Work Programme (aka NOMAD) to be exported in a format that can be imported into another RAMM database. This was written for NZTA so their network consultants could produce the FWP on their copy of the RAMM database then email it to NZTA Wellington for importing into the main NZTA RAMM database.

Projects > Asset Valuation > Configuration > Export: This allows all of the applicable asset valuation settings to be exported so they can be imported and used in another RAMM database. This is particularly useful if you are a consultant performing asset valuation for a number of clients.

Projects > Assessment > Transferring Between Databases > Export: This allows the RAMM Assessment settings for a particular asset to be exported so it can be imported into another RAMM database.

Projects > Maintenance Cost > Unload: This allows the maintenance cost data to be exported from this database and imported into another RAMM database. It assumes that this database was originally a copy of the database the data will be imported into as the network (roads and displacements) must be the same. Consider using the RAMM Network Manager session export from the originating database and applying that session onto the Copy before running this menu item.

Maintenance > Staff > File > Export Permissions: This is useful for exporting staff permissions from one RAMM database to another. There are a number of options here as to which staff to export and also when importing.

8.2 Work Selection

Work Selection Scripts > Export: In the Work Selection application there is an export and import option which allows the transfer between RAMM databases of a work selection script. This is useful if you have written a script which you want to use in another RAMM database.

8.3 Dynamic Segmentation

Administration > Scripts > Export: In the Dynamic Segmentation application there is an export and import option which allows the transfer between RAMM databases of a dynamic segmentation script. This is useful if you have written a script which you want to use in another RAMM database.

8.4 RAMM Network Manager

Actions > Export Sessions: This menu item is used to apply network changes in a Primary RAMM database to a Copy of the same RAMM database. It is important to note that network changes should only be made (by hand) to the Primary database then applied to the Copy through this menu option.