

## Introduction to UpdateBIM

ApliCAD UpdateBIM is a platform designed to **improve the management, updating, and distribution of BIM content** in projects developed with Autodesk Revit. Through a **plugin integrated into Revit** and a complementary **web environment**, UpdateBIM allows users to **access, share, and keep BIM families up to date**, ensuring that all participants always work with the **most recent and validated information**.

One of the main challenges in collaborative BIM environments is ensuring that the objects used in projects — such as **Revit families, manufacturer catalogues, or corporate libraries** — are properly managed and kept up to date. UpdateBIM solves this problem through a **centralized cloud-based library**, which facilitates content distribution and makes it possible to **control the versions of the families** used by the different work teams.

The platform allows users to access **public manufacturer libraries, private company libraries, or catalogues shared between collaborators**. Thanks to this system, professionals can **search for, download, and insert BIM objects directly from Revit**, ensuring that **standardized and up-to-date elements** are used within the project.

In addition to library management, UpdateBIM includes **advanced project analysis tools**, which allow users to **review the inserted elements, locate objects within the model, and manage their reuse or updating**. These features help improve **BIM content control**, optimize workflows, and reduce errors resulting from the use of **outdated families**.

UpdateBIM is designed both for professionals in the **architecture, engineering, and construction (AEC) sector** and for **product manufacturers who wish to distribute their BIM catalogues**. In this way, the platform becomes a **point of connection between those who develop projects and those who provide the products incorporated into them**, ensuring that the information used in BIM models is **consistent, up to date, and easily accessible**.

This manual describes the main features of ApliCAD UpdateBIM, as well as the procedures required for its **installation, configuration, and use within Autodesk Revit**, enabling users to take full advantage of the platform's capabilities to **efficiently manage the BIM content of their projects**.

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## 1 User Types in UpdateBIM

The UpdateBIM platform defines different types of users according to their role and level of responsibility within the catalogues. This distinction enables efficient management of both content and access to information:

### 1.1 User

A user is considered to be **any person who registers in UpdateBIM using a valid email address.**

A user can:

- **Access the public catalogues** available on the platform.
- **Access private catalogues** to which they have been invited.
- **Download and use BIM families** through the free plugin compatible with **Autodesk Revit 2019 or later versions.**
- **Consult the documentation associated with the families.**

In this regard, the user acts as a **consumer of BIM content**, using the objects that have been published by the **catalogue owners or administrators.**

### 1.2 Owner

Each catalogue has a **single owner**, assigned at the time of its creation.

Its main characteristics are:

- It is **the only user that cannot be deleted.**
- The assignment of the owner and the catalogue name, which must be **unique on the platform**, are managed by **ApliCAD.**

In addition, the owner has **exclusive functions:**

- **Supervision of the catalogue's usage and costs** on the platform, being responsible for the payment of the services used.
- **Configuration of the languages** in which the catalogue will be available.
- **Definition of the search criteria**, with the ability to decide whether only the **shared parameters of the families** or **all available parameters** will be used.

In summary, the owner assumes **overall responsibility for the catalogue**, both at a **functional** and **economic** level.

### 1.3 Administrator

Each catalogue has **one or more administrators**, appointed by the catalogue owner.

The administrator plays a **key role in catalogue management**, with the ability to:

- **Invite and register new users.**
- **Appoint other administrators.**
- **Create, organize, and maintain the catalogue content.**
- **Modify families and their associated parameters.**

The administrator is therefore **directly responsible for the quality and updating of the information**, ensuring that the BIM families comply with the **defined standards**.

## 2 Preliminary Concepts

Before describing the different functionalities available in the UpdateBIM web interface, it is essential to understand the basic concepts that form the core of the platform.

The main elements that make it up are described below:

### 2.1 Family Catalogues

In UpdateBIM, when a client contracts a space on the platform, it is necessary to assign a **unique name** to the catalogue.

This name is defined jointly by the client and **ApliCAD**, with the aim of avoiding **duplications, confusion, or the use of names for which the client does not hold the necessary rights**.

Once defined, the family catalogue consists of a **set of families with no quantity limit**, whose **organization, creation, and maintenance** are the responsibility of the client. ApliCAD may provide advisory support in areas such as **classification definition, regulatory compliance, or content structuring**, with the aim of maximizing the **quality and usefulness of the catalogue**.

### 2.2 Private Cloud.

The **private cloud** allows a family catalogue to be used in a **restricted environment**.

In this case, access to the catalogue is limited exclusively to **UpdateBIM users who have been invited by its owner and/or administrator**.

### 2.3 Public Cloud for Manufacturers.

When a catalogue is created by a **manufacturer** or another entity with the aim of distributing its **BIM objects openly**, it can be configured as a **public catalogue**.

In this case, the client must request **ApliCAD** to activate this mode. Once enabled, ApliCAD may inform the user base about the **availability of the catalogue**.

Public catalogues are accessible to **any user registered in UpdateBIM without restrictions**, allowing their use even with the **free license**.

In return, the catalogue owner obtains **detailed information about the use of their families** — including **which users use them, when, and from where** — turning the catalogue into a **powerful specification tool for projects**.

### 2.4 Supported Revit Versions.

UpdateBIM is compatible with **Autodesk Revit 2019 and later versions**.

### 2.5 Concept of Family Subcatalogues.

Subcatalogues allow **families and their types** to be grouped within a catalogue, making it easier to **organize content** and **control access**.

Subcatalogues allow **families and their types** to be grouped within a catalogue, making it easier to **organize content** and **control access**.

These subcatalogues can be assigned to **specific users**, allowing administrators to restrict which content is available to each user.

In addition, the system allows not only **complete families** to be assigned, but also **specific types within a family** to different subcatalogues. For example, a family with five types can be divided into two different subcatalogues, so that a user only has access to **part of the available types**.

## 2.6 Shared Parameter Sets.

At catalogue level, UpdateBIM allows the **advanced management of shared parameters** associated with families and their types.

By default, the system defines a **main parameter set**, which contains the **mandatory parameters** that will always be present in the families. This set can be **modified**, but it cannot be deleted.

In addition, **complementary parameter sets** can be created, allowing families to be adapted to the **specific needs of each project or client**. In this way, it is possible to work with **“neutral” families** and enrich them dynamically according to the context.

It is also possible to remove additional parameter sets in order to **reduce the size of the families** during design phases in which certain information is not required.

These sets can be **added or removed at any time**.

## 2.7 Guest User Management

In private catalogues, access is **restricted to users invited by the catalogue administrator** through the tools available on the platform.

In the same way that access is granted, it can also be **revoked at any time**.

Regarding the licensing model, by default, the cost of using UpdateBIM for invited users is assumed by the person or entity that sends the invitation. However, it can be configured so that the cost is assumed by **the user themselves or by their company**.

This approach is especially useful in **collaborative environments**, such as joint ventures, where each company can assume the cost of its own users.

## 2.8 Parameter Modification

The shared parameters included in the different sets can be **modified directly from the UpdateBIM web interface**.

When a modification is made, the affected families become **available for updating** in the projects where they are being used.

The decision to apply these updates or not always belongs to the **Revit user**.

In addition to modifying values, the system allows parameters to be **added or removed centrally** in the catalogue families.

## 2.9 Usage Statistics

In both private and public cloud environments, the catalogue owner can access **detailed information about the use of their families: who uses them, when, and from where.**

This functionality is especially relevant in **public catalogues**, as it provides the manufacturer with **key information about the adoption and use of their BIM products in real projects.**

## 2.10 Price Calculation

The cost of using UpdateBIM is directly associated with the **distribution model of the family catalogues.**

### 2.10.1 Public Catalogues.

In this model, a manufacturer or public entity typically wants its **BIM objects to be available free of charge and without limitations** to all UpdateBIM users worldwide.

In this case, the catalogue owner pays a **monthly or annual fee**, which is determined according to the **number of family types available in the catalogue**, including those that are **unpublished or obsolete.**

The pricing structure is divided into three levels:

- **Up to 100 families/types**
- **Up to 500 families/types**
- **More than 500 families/types**

The total number corresponds to the **types**. Therefore, if a family internally contains **4 types**, the number to be considered is **4**.

### 2.10.2 Private Catalogues

Private catalogues are intended for **companies or organizations** that wish to share their BIM objects in a **controlled environment**, both with **internal users** and **external collaborators.**

In this model, the cost is variable and depends on two main factors:

- **The number of users with access to the catalogue**
- **The volume of data published on the platform**

To access a private catalogue, a user must have an **active license** and must have been **previously invited by the catalogue owner.**

In many cases, the inviting entity assumes the cost of the license, even when dealing with **external collaborators.** However, this behavior is configurable: if the invited user already has an **active license**, no additional cost will need to be assumed for that access.

## 3 Installation of ApliCAD UpdateBIM

The **latest version of UpdateBIM** can be downloaded from the following link: –  
[https://updatebim.aplicad.com/assets/downloads/ApliCAD\\_UpdateBIM.exe](https://updatebim.aplicad.com/assets/downloads/ApliCAD_UpdateBIM.exe)

Although the program interface is available in seven languages, the installation program is currently offered in **Spanish and English.**

# ApliCAD

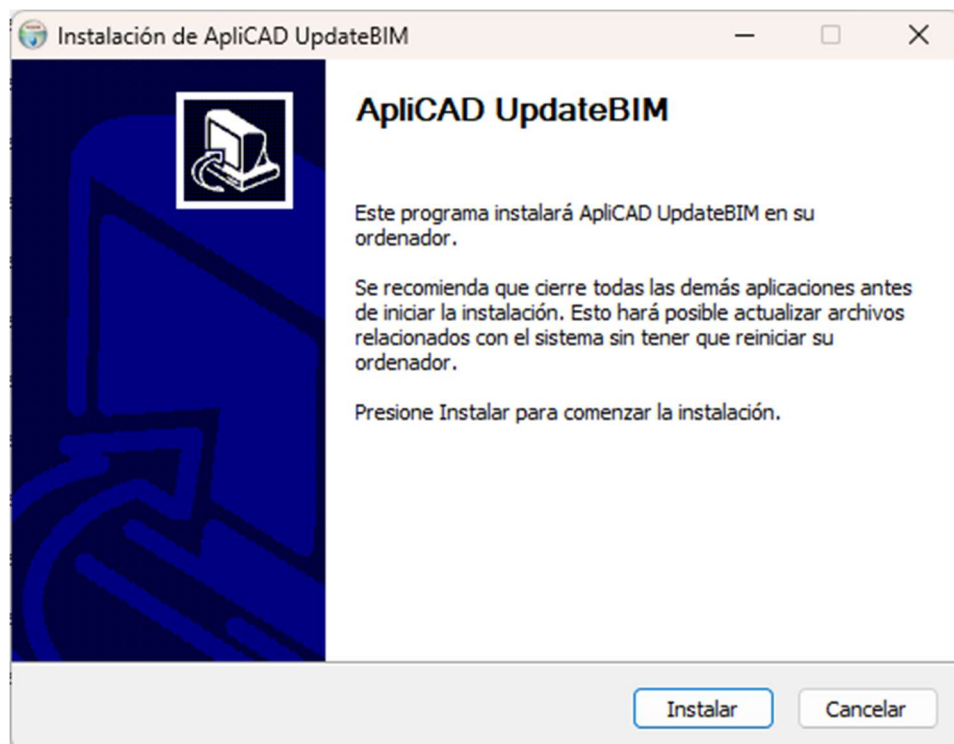
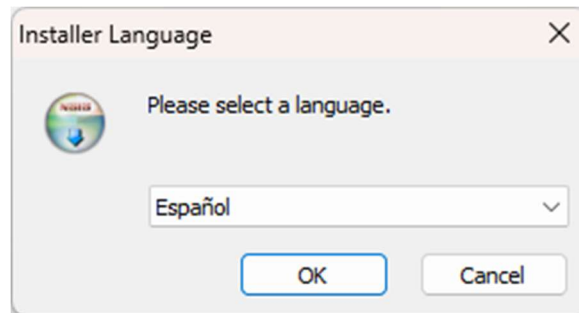
It is important to note that:

- **The language selected during installation does not determine the language in which UpdateBIM will later be used.**
- **The language in which Autodesk Revit is running also does not determine the program language.**

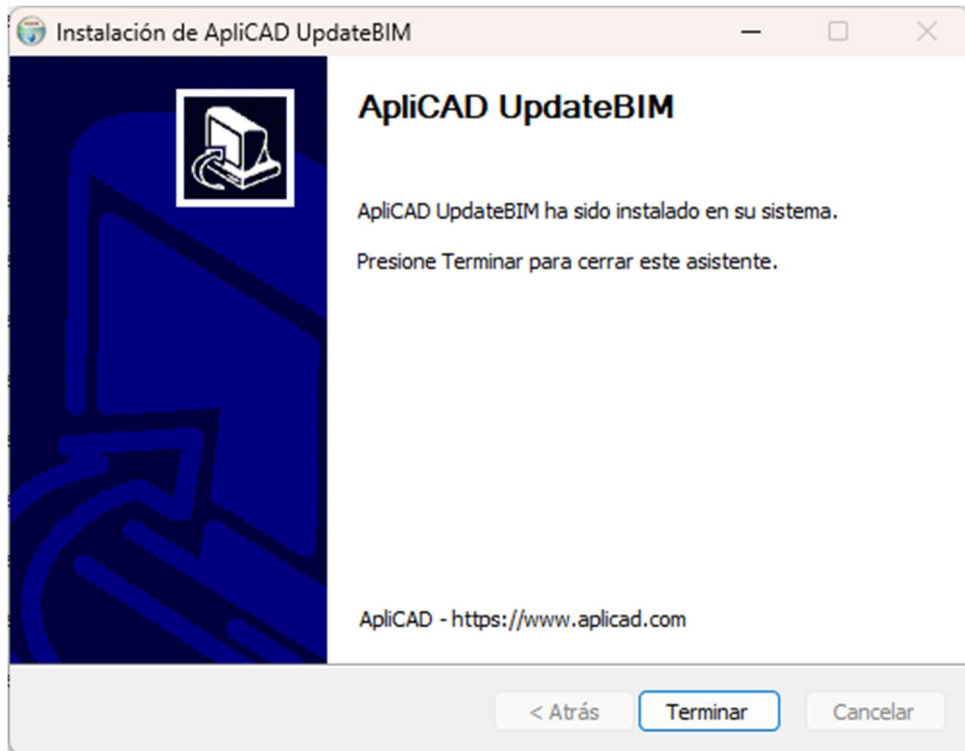
The UpdateBIM language can be configured later from the **application options**.

UpdateBIM is compatible with **Autodesk Revit 2019 or later versions**. During the installation process, the installer will **automatically detect the Revit versions available on the computer** and install the add-in for all of them.

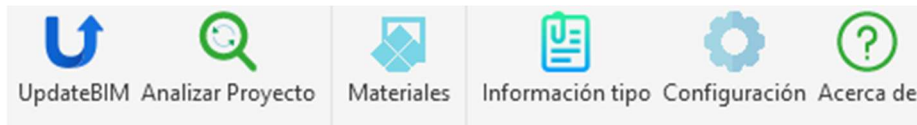
The installation process is **simple** and follows the usual steps of any Windows application.



# ApliCAD



Once the installation is complete, when Autodesk Revit is started, a new tab called UpdateBIM will appear in the program ribbon.



## 4 Access to UpdateBIM

UpdateBIM mainly consists of **two working environments**: a **web environment**, which can be accessed without needing Autodesk Revit, and an **environment integrated into Revit**, available directly from within the application.

Most catalogue administration tasks can be carried out from the **web environment**. However, actions that require **modifying or adding geometry**, as well as **adding new families to the platform**, must be performed from the **environment integrated into Revit**.

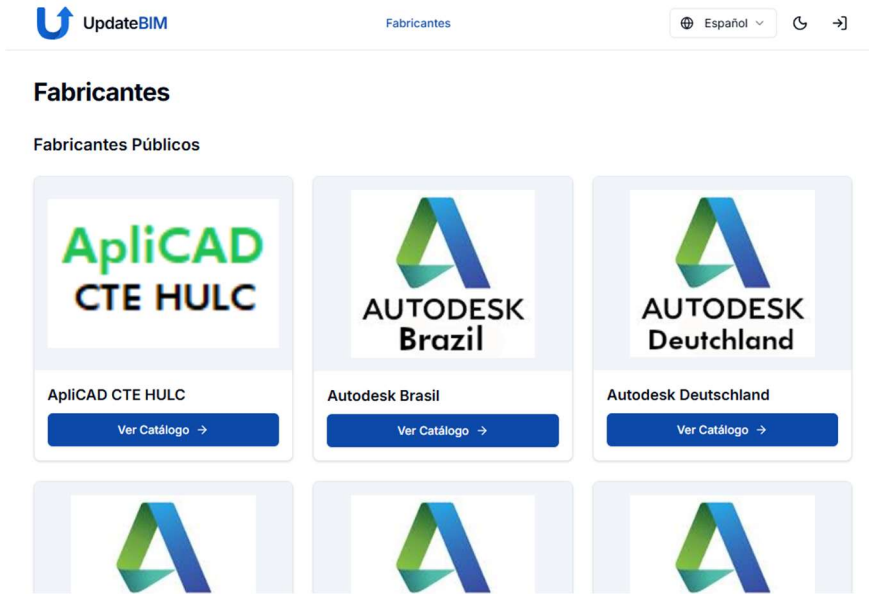
### 4.1 Using UpdateBIM for Consultation in the Web Environment

It is possible to access the platform in consultation mode outside Autodesk Revit.

Access to the UpdateBIM platform can be made using the following address:

<https://updatebim.aplicad.com>

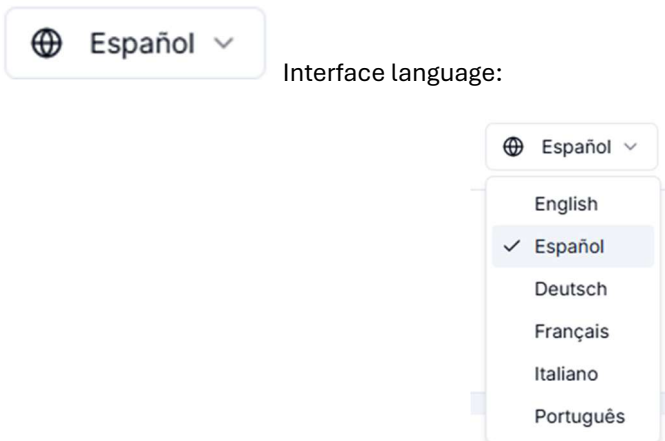
The following interface will appear, where the available public catalogues can be viewed and consulted.




At the top, several controls are available.

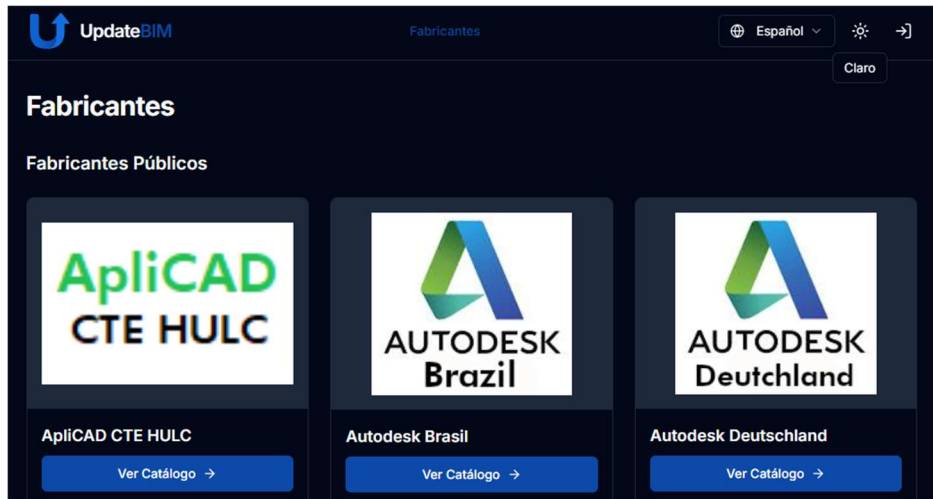


On the right, the following controls are available:



 **Light/Dark interface:** Allows the browser to be displayed in light or dark mode.

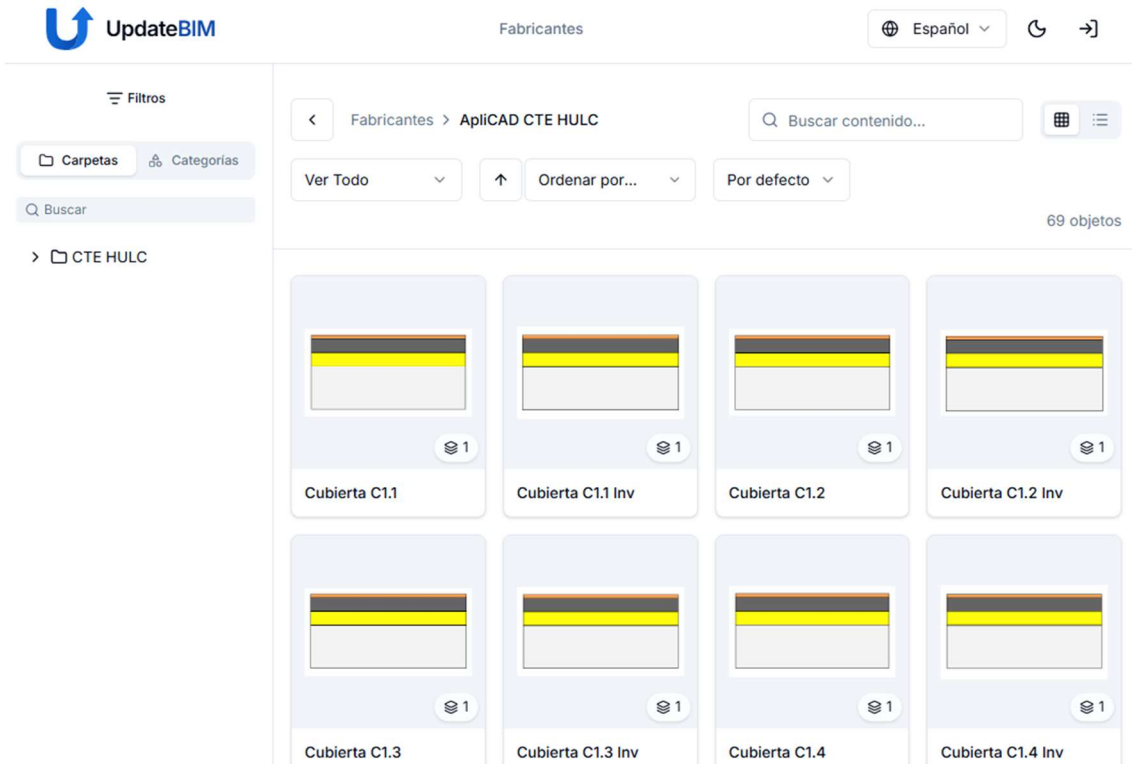
# ApliCAD



→] Log in / Log out button.



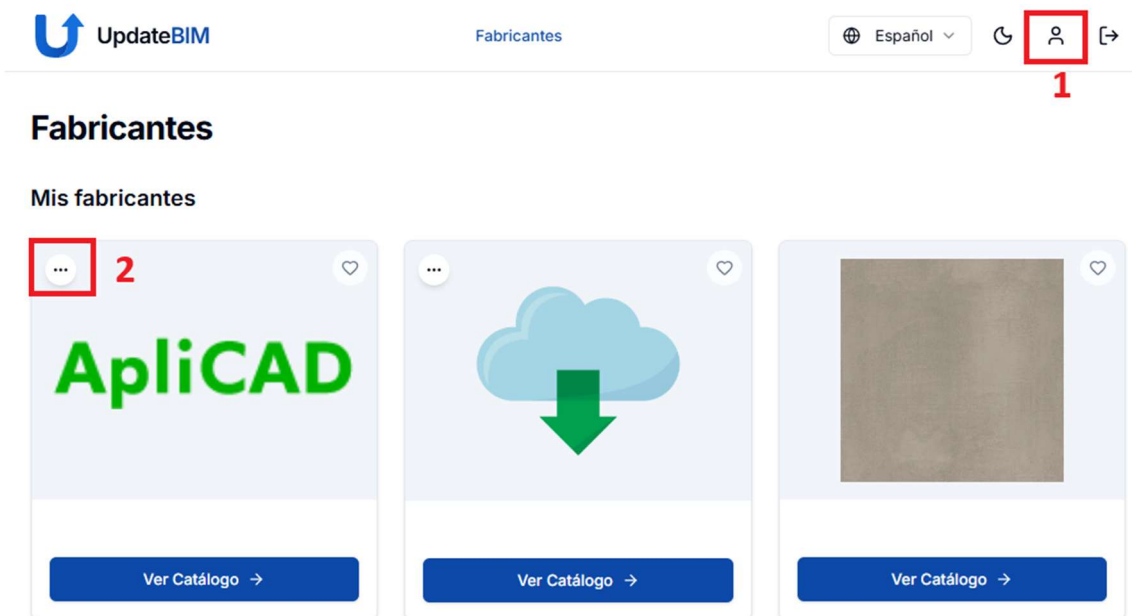
If, for example, we click on the public catalogue **ApliCAD CTE HULC**, the following information will appear:



In this way, any user, even without an UpdateBIM account, can consult the **public catalogues**, as well as the **documentation associated by the manufacturer or catalogue owner**.

## 4.2 Accessing UpdateBIM as a User

Once we have accessed the platform as registered users, all the private catalogues to which we have been invited or which we own are displayed first.



On this screen, using the button marked with number 1, we can access the **user profile**, where it is possible to manage some account options and features.

On the other hand, as can be seen in the previous image, some of the available catalogues may display an icon marked with number 2.

This icon indicates that we have **administrator permissions** for that catalogue.

If we hover over the administration icon, a set of icons will be displayed, providing access to the different **management tools** for each feature.



If we hover over each of the icons, a tooltip is displayed indicating its function.

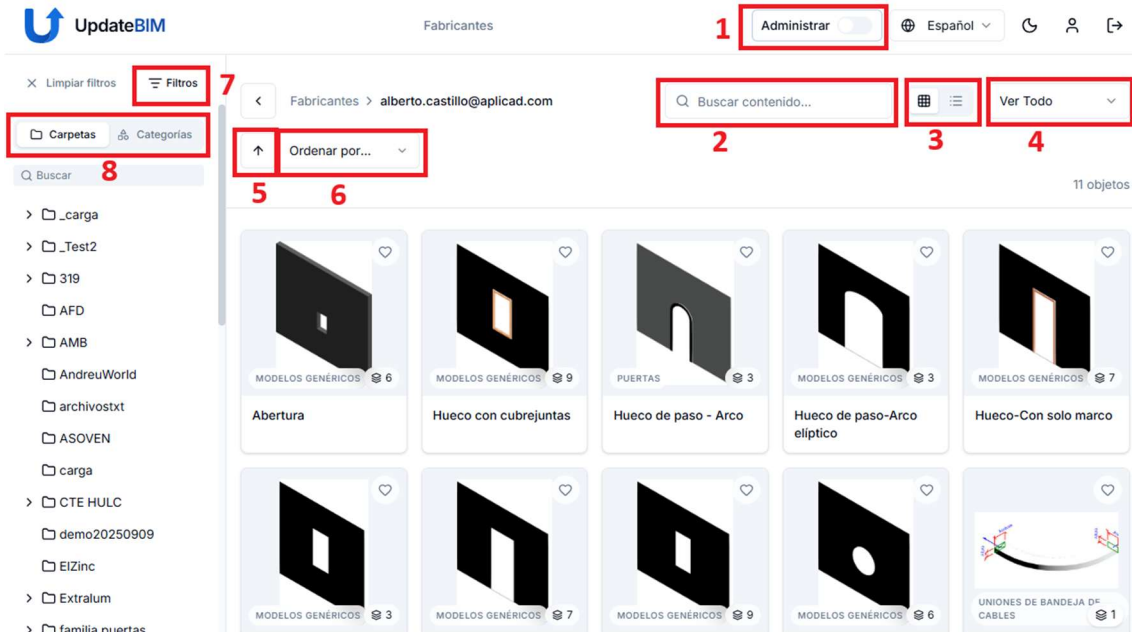
|  |  |
|--|--|
|  | Accesses the catalogue content                       |
|  | Accesses guest user management                       |
|  | Accesses catalogue tag management                    |
|  | Manages subcatalogues                                |
|  | Manages the parameters associated with the catalogue |
|  | Accesses usage statistics                            |

## 4.2.1 Accessing Content as a NON-Administrator User

Therefore, if we access each of the icons, we will be accessing the different parts that make up the catalogue as administrators. If, on the other hand, we access it using the link



We access all the information, as shown in the following image:



### 1 – Administrator mode

If the user has administrator permissions, the control marked as number 1 will be displayed. When activated, **administrator mode** will be enabled, showing **additional catalogue management options**.







### 2 – Content Search

Any text can be entered in the content search field. The search is performed both on the **family file name** and on the **additional name** that the administrator has defined to better identify the object.

For example, the first family is displayed with the name **“Opening”**, although the family file is called **“Hueco\_en\_Muro.rfa”**. Therefore, if the string **“Hueco Muro”** is entered, the system will display any object that contains both terms, even if they appear in a different order.

### 3 – Family View

This control allows the display of families within the directory to be switched between card view and list view. For example, in list format it would be displayed as follows:

|   |  | 11 objetos |
|---|--|------------|
|  | Hueco-Ejemplar.rfa   | 3          |
|  | Hueco-Puerta<br>Hueco-Puerta.rfa   | 7          |
|  | Hueco-Ventana-Cuadrado<br>Hueco-Ventana-Cuadrado.rfa                             | 9          |
|  | Hueco-Ventana-Redondo<br>Hueco-Ventana-Redondo.rfa                               | 6          |
|  | M_Codo horizontal de canal<br>M_Codo horizontal de canal.rfa                     | 1          |
|  | M_Codo vertical exterior de escalera<br>M_Codo vertical exterior de escalera.rfa | 1          |

#### 4 – Filter by Object Type

By default, the program displays all available families. However, it is possible to apply a filter according to the object type.

UpdateBIM manages three main groups of objects: **Families, Materials, and Groups**.



#### 5 y 6 – Object Sorting

The arrow-shaped button allows the list of objects to be sorted in **ascending or descending order**. The selector, on the other hand, allows the sorting criterion to be specified, which can be by **date** or by **name**.

The combination of both controls allows, for example, families to be sorted by **descending date**, so that the most recently created family is displayed first.

#### 7 – Filter Options

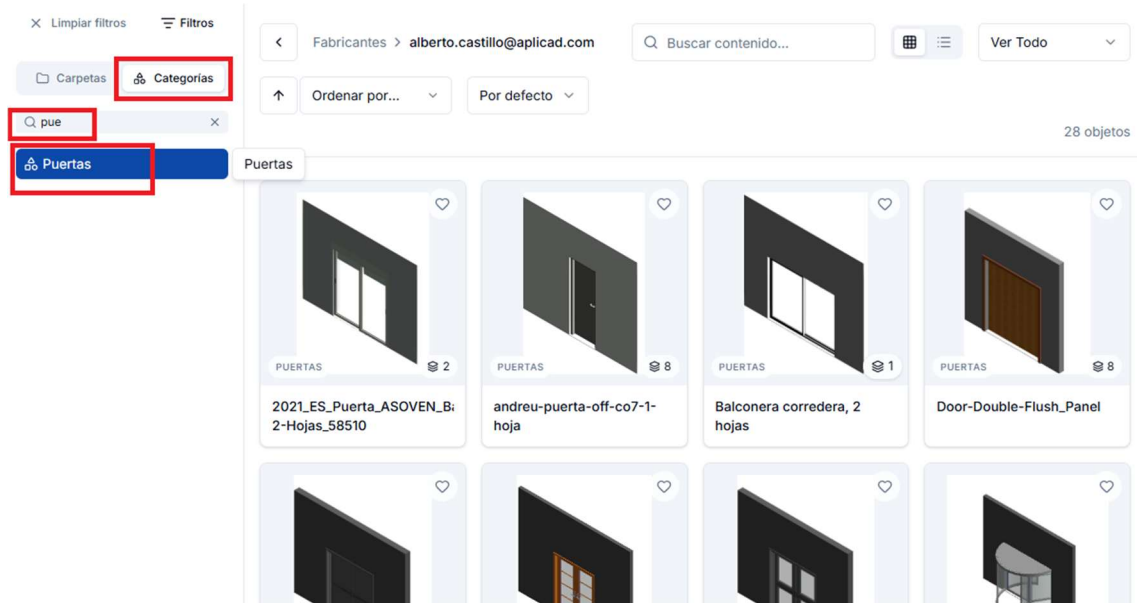
This button provides access to the available **filter options** for locating elements within the catalogue.

#### 8 – Show by Folders or Categories

This control allows the user to view families in two different ways: grouped according to the folder in which they are located within the catalogue, or organized by their Revit category.

The category view displays the list of categories available in Revit. The user can select the desired category to quickly locate a specific type of family, regardless of its location within the folder structure.

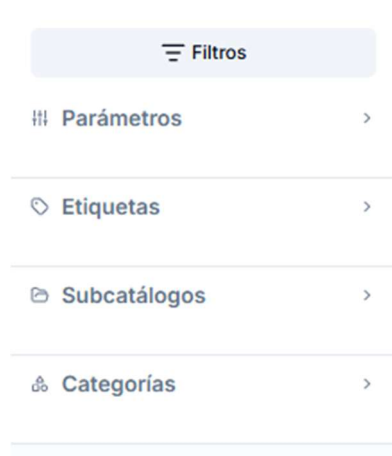
For example, if a door needs to be inserted and the user does not know which folder it is located in, or if doors are distributed across different folders according to another classification, it is enough to select the **“Doors”** category to display all the door families available in the catalogue.



## 4.2.2 Filters for Searching Families.

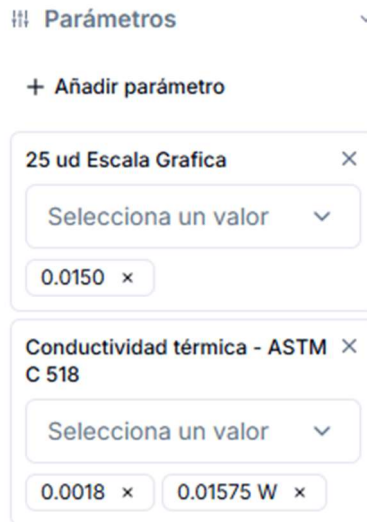
One of the common needs in this type of platform is to have **different ways to quickly locate the desired family**. To make this task easier, UpdateBIM includes several **filtering tools** that allow the user to refine the search in a **simple and precise** way.

In addition to being able to view families according to the folder in which they are located or according to Revit's internal classification, different filters are available on the **left-hand side of the UpdateBIM screen**.

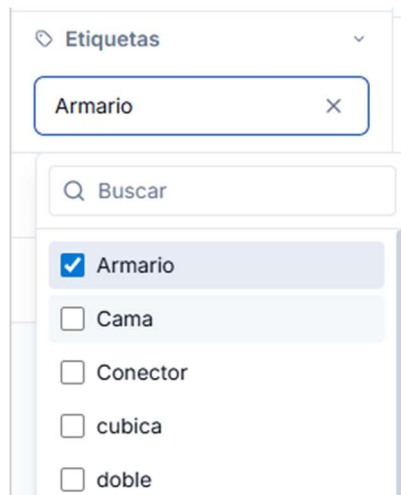


All filters are **cumulative**, although each of them has its own specific characteristics.

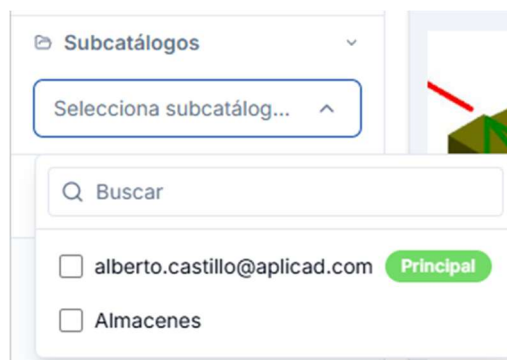
For example, in the case of family parameters, it is possible to **combine several parameters in the same search**, as shown in the image.



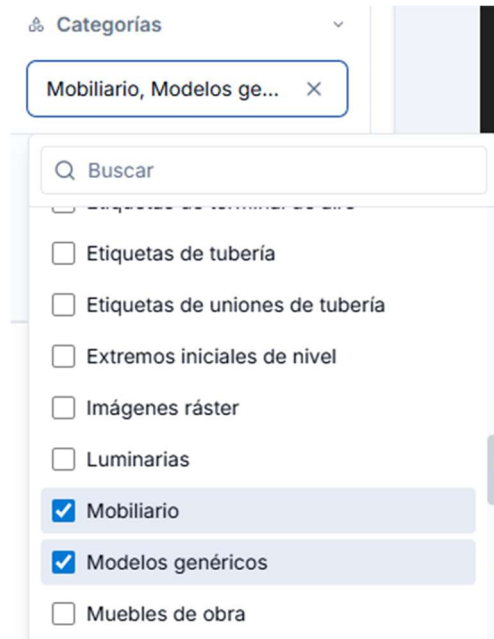
In the case of tags, the user can filter families according to the **tags previously defined by the catalogue administrator**.




In the case of subcatalogues, the filter allows the results to be limited to the families included in one or more specific subcatalogues.



In the case of Revit categories, the selection works in **OR mode**. In other words, all families that belong to **any of the selected categories** will be displayed.



## 4.3 Accessing UpdateBIM from Revit

When we are already logged in to UpdateBIM and click on the button  the same interface seen so far will be displayed.



### Fabricantes

Mis fabricantes



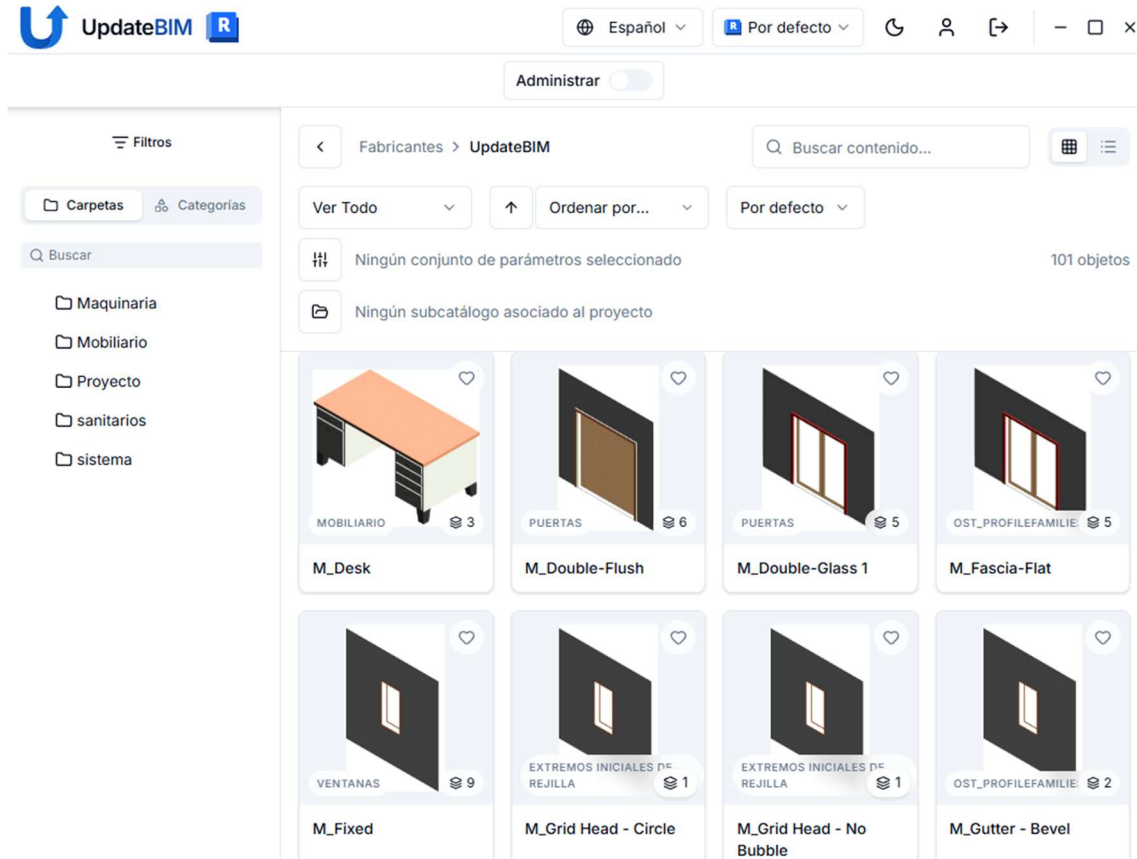
As shown in the upper left corner, the Revit icon appears, indicating that the web interface currently open is integrated with the current Autodesk Revit session.

## 4.4 Inserting Families in Revit

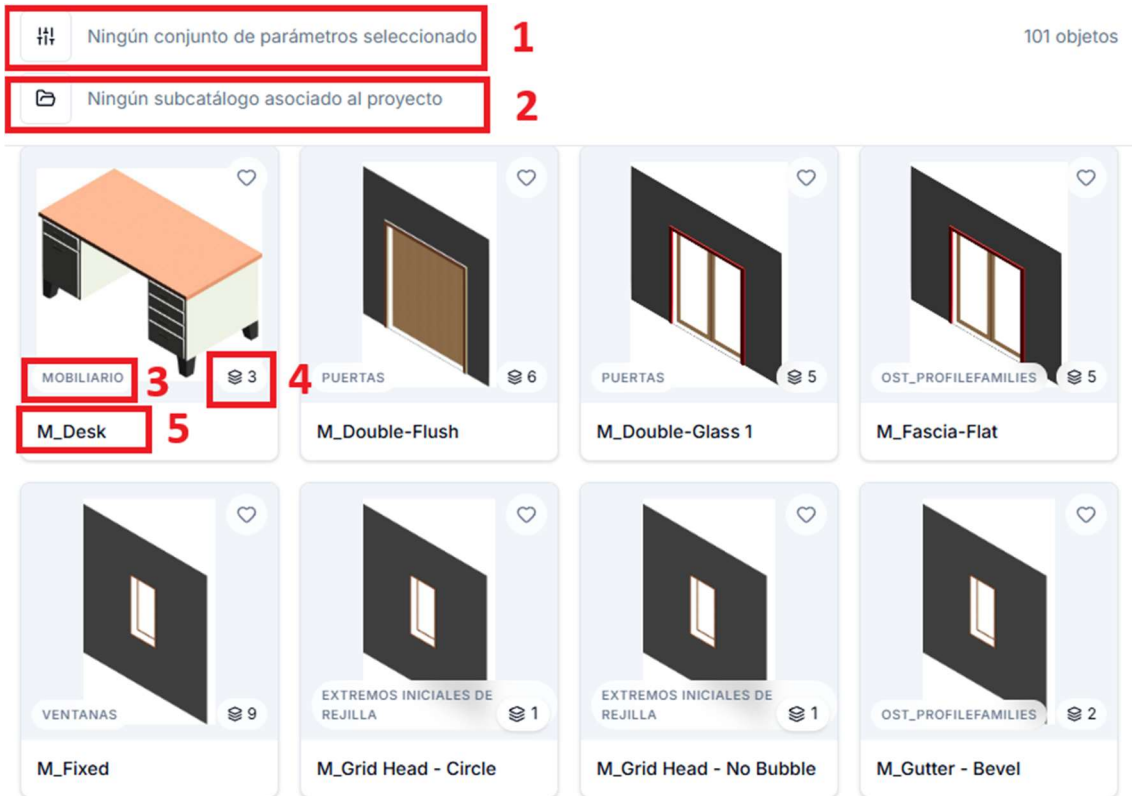
The objective of UpdateBIM is to **provide access to the latest available versions of BIM families** and help users **insert them easily into their projects**.

[Ver Catálogo →](#)

If we access through [Ver Catálogo →](#) to any catalogue, the following screen will be displayed:



If we focus on the central part of the UpdateBIM interface, we can identify the following areas:



## 1 – Parameter Sets

This button provides access to the parameter sets defined for the selected catalogue.

The functionality of parameter sets is explained in more detail in section 4.5 of this manual.

## 2 – Subcatalogues

If the catalogue has subcatalogues, this button provides access to those that are available to the user. From here, the user can select which subcatalogue they wish to use in the current project.

## 3 – Revit Category

Displays the name of the category in which Autodesk Revit has classified the family.

## 4 – Types number

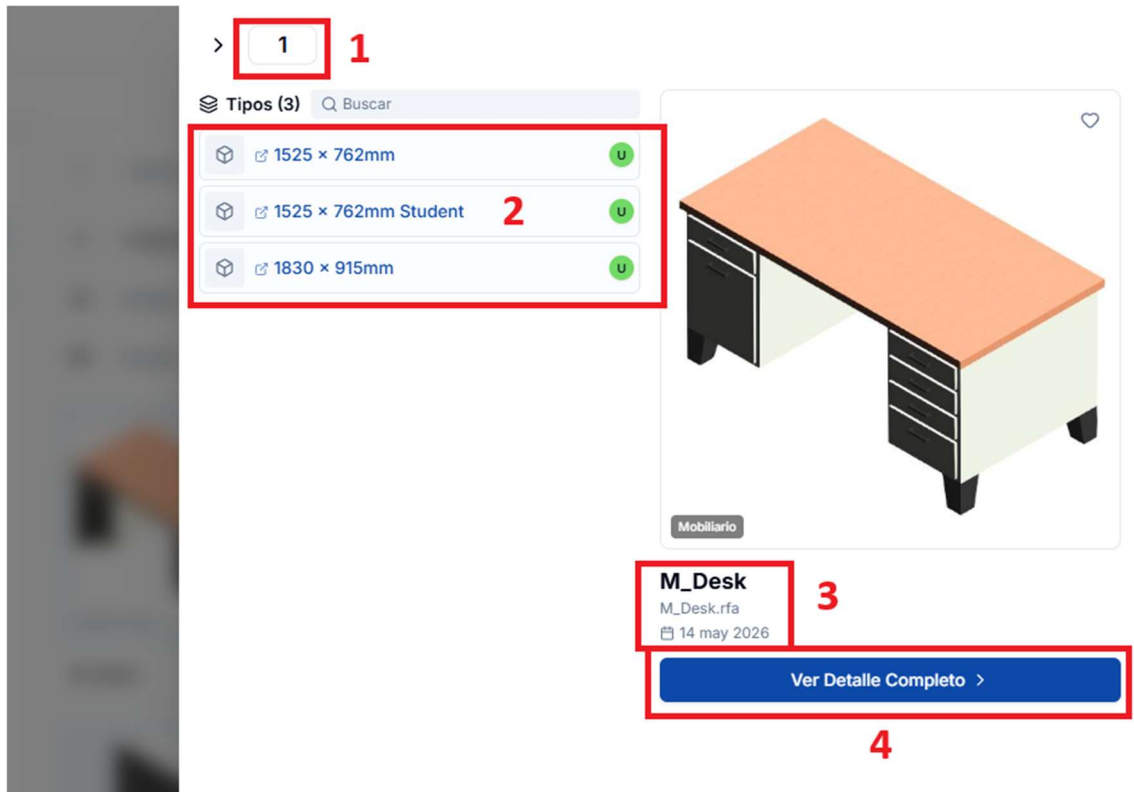
**Indicates the number of types included in the family.**

**When the family contains a single type**, this number becomes an **insertion button**, allowing the command to place the family in the current project to be launched directly.

## 5 – Family name

Displays the name of the family within UpdateBIM. This name does not necessarily have to match the name of the **.rfa** or **.rvt** family file.

If we click anywhere on the first image, and since it has **3 types**, the program will display a side panel showing additional information about the family, as follows:



The screen displays additional information and a series of complementary controls, among which the following are highlighted:

### 1 – Individual or Full Insertion Selector

This button is used when inserting loadable families (.rfa).

If it is configured as  , when one of the available types is selected, **only the selected type** will be inserted into the project, avoiding the loading of types that will not be used.

If, on the other hand, the option is selected  , when the selected type is inserted, **the remaining types of that family** will also be loaded into the project, making them available for later use.

### 2 – List of Available Types

Displays the available types for the selected family. When one of them is clicked, the program automatically starts the process of inserting the family and the selected type into the project.

The user only needs to specify the location of the element. In the case of system families, such as a wall, UpdateBIM will automatically launch the corresponding Revit command to draw walls with the selected type.

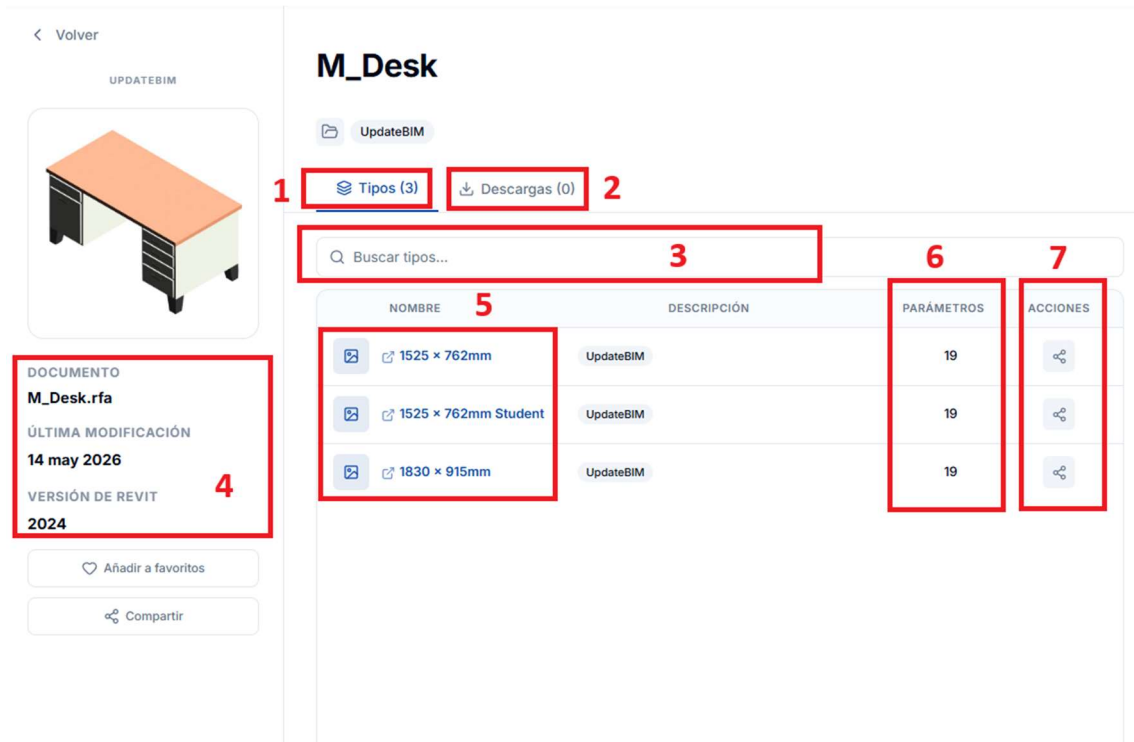
### 3 – File Information

Displays the name of the family file, as well as the date of its last modification..

### 4 – Complete Family Information

Provides access to an additional window with more detailed information about the family and advanced controls.

This additional window includes more controls:



Where:

### 1 – Available Types Tab

Displays the information related to the types available in the family.

### 2 – Associated Documents Tab

In this case, the value **(0)** is displayed, indicating that there are **no documents associated with this family**.

If the family had linked documents, their names would be displayed and it would be possible to access them for consultation.

### 3 – Type Filter

Allows the list of types to be filtered when the number of available items is high, making them easier to locate.

### 4 – Family Information

Displays general information about the family, such as the file name, the last modification date, and the Revit versions in which it is directly available.

### 5 – List of Types

Displays the available types. The user can click on any of them to insert it into the project..

### 6 – Number of Available Parameters

Indicates the number of parameters available in the family. When clicking on this number, detailed information is displayed showing the value of each parameter for each of the types.

Parámetros del tipo - 1525 × 762mm

PRINCIPAL Aedas RCEclass

Q Buscar...

| PARÁMETRO                | VALOR |
|--------------------------|-------|
| Body Material            |       |
| Código de montaje        |       |
| Comentarios de tipo      |       |
| Costo                    |       |
| Depth                    | 762.0 |
| Descripción              |       |
| Elevación por defecto    | 0.0   |
| Exportar tipo a IFC como |       |
| Fabricante               |       |
| Handle/Leg Material      |       |
| Height                   | 762.0 |
| Imagen de tipo           |       |

Mostrando 1-19 de 19 parámetros

Ocultar parámetros sin valor

Cerrar

## 7 – Type Information Link

Provides a direct link to the type information, which can be shared with other applications.

For example, this link can be included on an external web page so that the user can directly access the download or consultation of the type from that page.

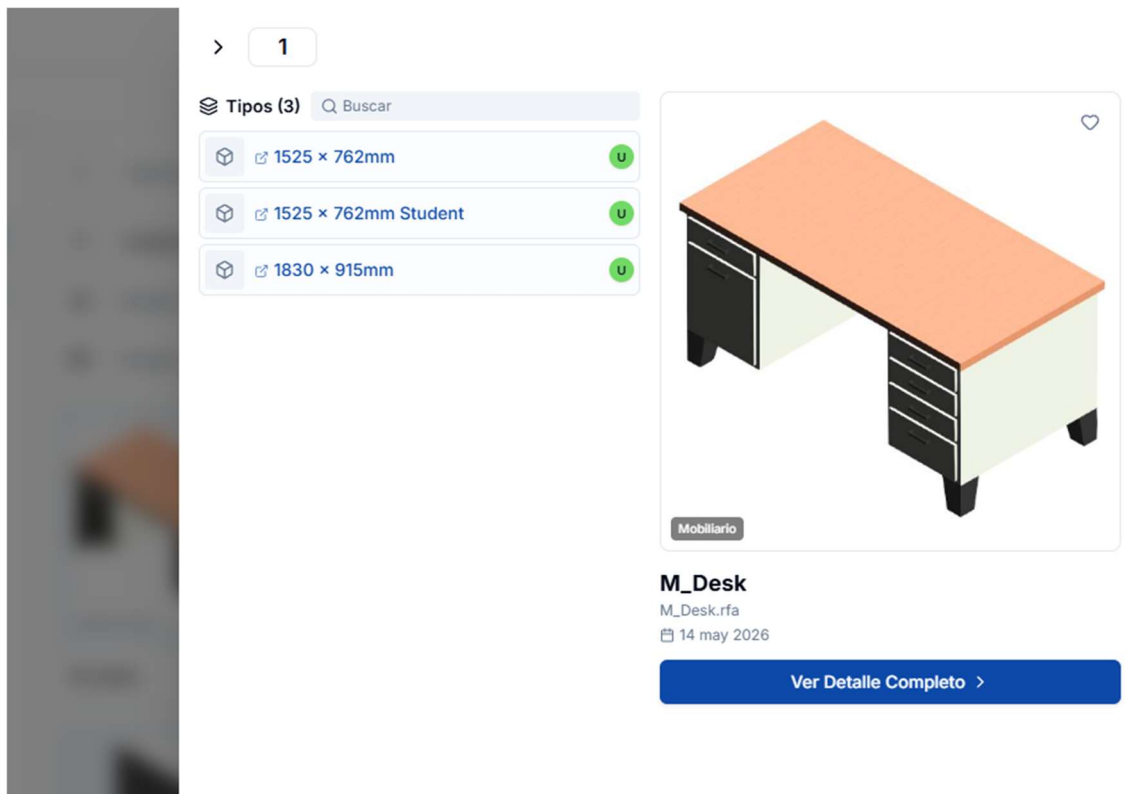
Compartir

Copia este enlace para compartir con usuarios de UpdateBIM

updatebim:id\_type/808b9ec8-a30a-47d4-8e63-9ce198641bdc



Therefore, to insert the desk, we can select the desired type in



And Revit will display the object so that it can be inserted at the desired point in the project.



Once the selected object has been placed, additional objects can continue to be placed, or the **ESC** key can be pressed to cancel the command and return to the UpdateBIM interface to continue with other elements.

## 4.5 Using Shared Parameter Sets

Starting with **UpdateBIM version 3.5.0**, a new functionality is included that allows **type shared parameters** to be used more efficiently in family catalogues managed through UpdateBIM.

### General Concept

In the development of BIM libraries, the aim is for families to use **standardized parameters**, so that they can be used consistently to analyse the information contained in the models.

However, in practice, it is common for different clients to use **custom parameter sets**, specifically designed for their own workflows.

This situation means that many companies working for several clients have to maintain **different versions of the same family**, differentiated only by the parameters required by each client. This generates:

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- **duplication of families,**
- **repetitive work,**
- **difficulties in managing BIM libraries.**

The technology developed by ApliCAD allows parameters to be **added, removed, or modified in families** without the need to edit the base family model in Revit.

Thanks to this functionality, it is possible to maintain **a single family with the geometric information**, and then apply different parameter sets according to the needs of each client or project.

## **Configuration by the Catalogue Administrator**

To use this functionality, the catalogue administrator must have the different **shared parameter files** corresponding to each client or set of requirements.

Technical information about:

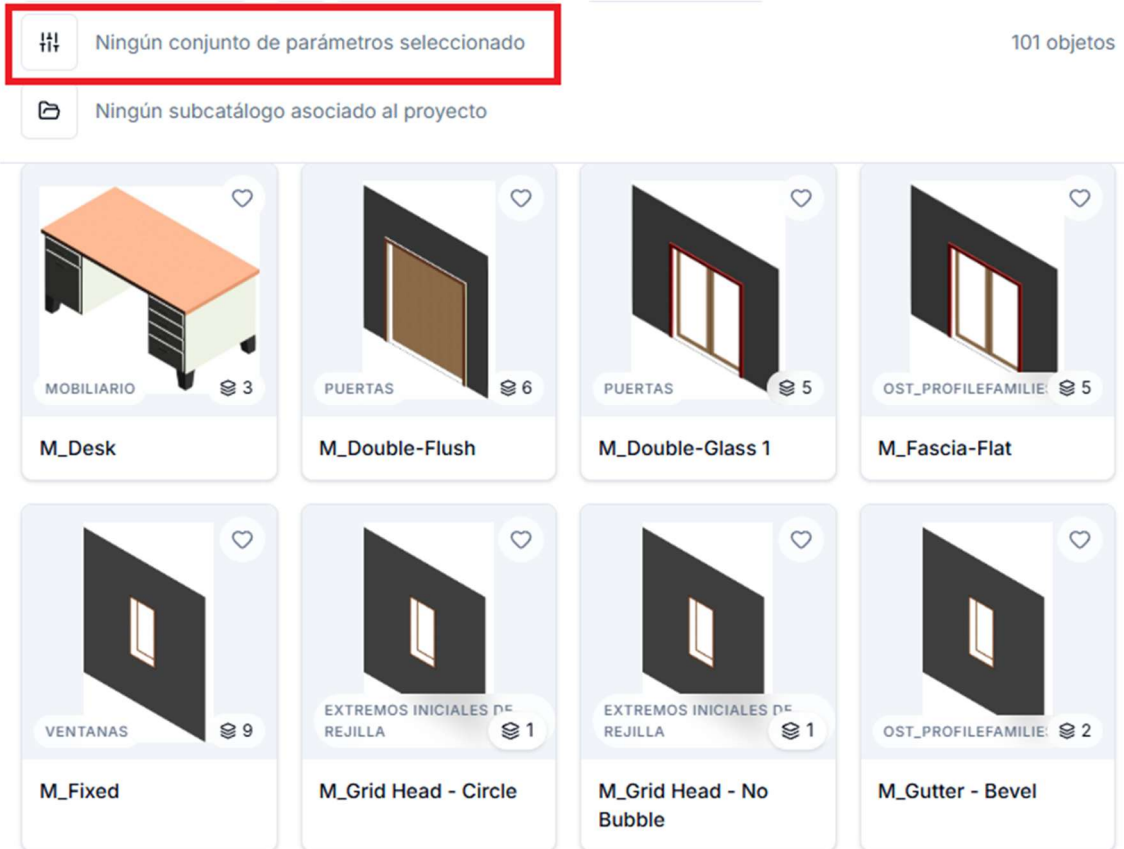
- how to generate these shared parameter files, and
- how to manage them efficiently,

is detailed in the **UpdateBIM Administrator Manual**.

## **Use from the User's Point of View**

From the point of view of the Revit user using UpdateBIM, this functionality is managed from the **UpdateBIM form**.

To access the parameter sets available for the active catalogue, click on the icon marked in the following image:

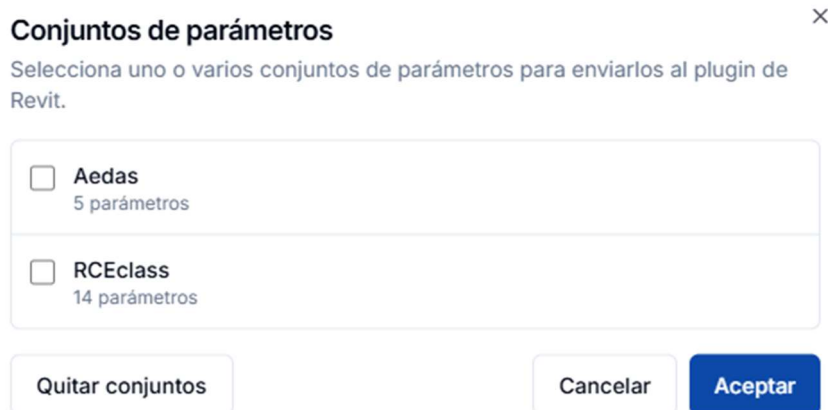


## Selecting Parameter Sets

The first time a catalogue with parameter sets is accessed within a project, the default status will be no set selected.

This means that no additional parameters will be added to the families, since this system allows parameters to be added or removed without modifying the base family. For this reason, it is recommended to activate only the sets that are necessary at any given time.

To associate one or more parameter sets with the selected catalogue, simply click on the corresponding icon. The system will then display a dialog box similar to the following:

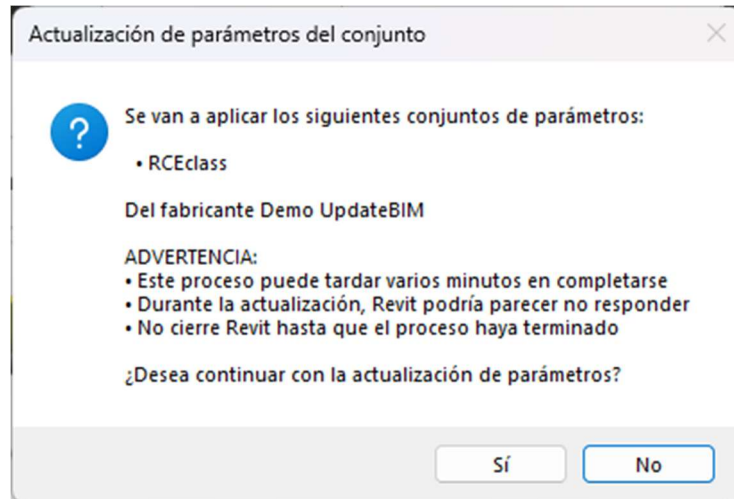


In the example shown, there are **two parameter sets available**, but the system allows as many sets as necessary to be defined.

For example, there may be a specific parameter set for **quantity take-offs**, which only needs to be activated when an **IFC export** or a calculation process requiring that information is going to be performed.

## Activating a Parameter Set

If a parameter set is selected, for example **RCEclass**, the program will display a warning message similar to the following:



If the user confirms the operation:

- **the new parameters and their values will be added** to the families that are already inserted in the project,
- and any new families inserted later from that catalogue will **automatically include those parameters**.

In this way, the system makes it possible to adapt families to the **requirements of each project or client**, while maintaining a **single base family** within the catalogue.

In the example shown, the **Chair – Simple** family has two parameters associated with it from the **RCEClass** parameter set, as shown in the following image:

| Datos                            |                                |
|----------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| RCE_CLA_01_Codigo_Funciones      | Silla - mobiliario             |
| RCE_CLA_01_Descripcion_Funciones | Para mesas de ayuda a clientes |
| MDN_MED_Necesidad                |                                |

If, at a given time, these parameters are no longer required, they can be removed using the **“Remove set”** button available in the form.

## Conjuntos de parámetros ×

Selecciona uno o varios conjuntos de parámetros para enviarlos al plugin de Revit.

**Aedas**  
5 parámetros

**RCEclass**  
14 parámetros

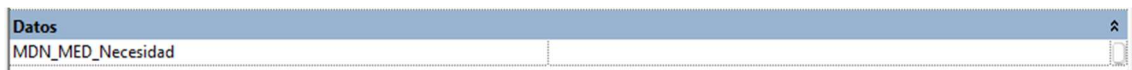
Quitar conjuntos

Cancelar

Aceptar

Once the operation has been confirmed, the parameters will be **removed from the corresponding families** in the project.

The result will be as follows:



The parameters have disappeared.

### Partial Use of Parameters from a Set

An important aspect to bear in mind is that a parameter set may contain **multiple parameters**, but not all of them necessarily have to be used in each family.

For example, the **RCEClass** parameter set contains a total of **14 parameters**. However, in the case of the **Chair – Simple** family, only **two of them** are used.

This means that the catalogue administrator has decided to associate **only those two parameters** with this family, even though the set includes more available parameters.

This configuration can be modified at any time from the **administration environment**, allowing the administrator to:

- **add new parameters from the set to the family,**
- **remove existing parameters,**
- or **modify the parameter values** as required.

In this way, the system makes it possible to manage parameters in a **flexible way**, adapted to the needs of each family and each project.

## 4.6 Using Subcatalogues in UpdateBIM

Starting with **UpdateBIM version 3.5.0**, a new functionality called **Subcatalogues** is included.

This concept allows the catalogue administrator to create **subdivisions within the main catalogue**, grouping specific families into defined sets.

Subcatalogues provide a new organization mechanism, different from:

- **folders**, which organize families hierarchically, and
- **tags**, which allow families to be classified using flexible criteria.

The purpose of subcatalogues is to **control user access to specific groups of families**, especially when working with **UpdateBIM private clouds**.

## Access Control through Subcatalogues

Once created, subcatalogues can be assigned to invited users on the platform. In this way, each user will have access only to the families included in the subcatalogues to which they have been invited.

This system allows catalogue content to be shared **selectively**, avoiding the need to provide access to all available families.

## Example of Use

To better understand this concept, we can consider the following example.

Suppose an engineering company, with both internal and external users, forms a joint venture with another company to develop a specific project. In this case, they decide to use UpdateBIM as the platform to manage the BIM families for the project.

By using subcatalogues, the catalogue administrator can:

1. **Create a subcatalogue** containing only the families required for that project.
2. **Invite the joint venture users** to use only that subcatalogue.

In this way, the project participants will have access only to the families required for the joint work, without needing to share the entire catalogue.

## Relationships between Families, Subcatalogues, and Users

The subcatalogue system offers a high level of flexibility, as it allows different combinations:

- **A family can belong to several subcatalogues.**
- **A user can have access to several subcatalogues.**

This makes it possible to create access configurations adapted to different projects, clients, or work teams.

## Subcatalogues at Type Level

In addition to associating complete families with a subcatalogue, UpdateBIM allows subcatalogues to be managed at **family type level**.

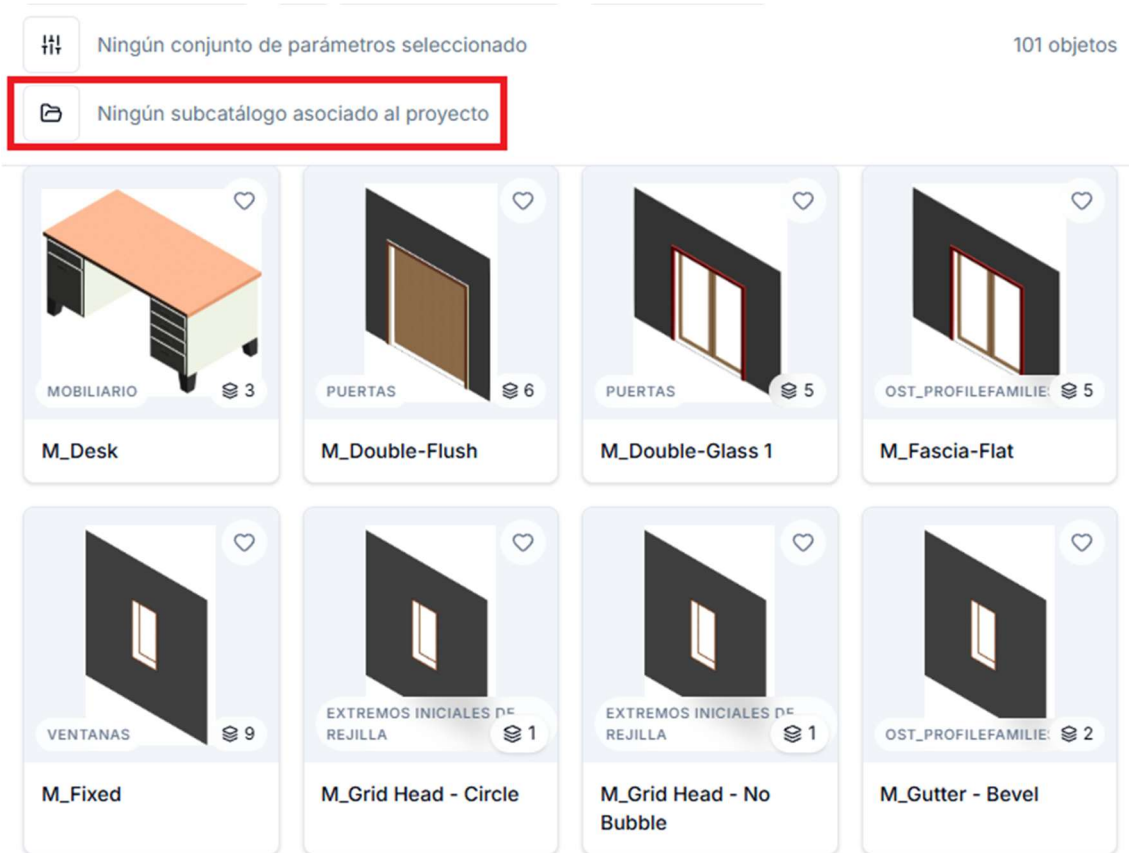
For example, if a family has five types, the administrator can decide that only some of those types are available in a specific subcatalogue.

In that case, users invited to that subcatalogue will only be able to use the types associated with it, while the remaining types will remain hidden.

This functionality allows more precise control over **which objects can be used in each project or by each group of users**.

## Subcatalogue Selector in Cloud Access

In this version of UpdateBIM, a new **subcatalogue selector** has been added to the UpdateBIM form.



## Example of Use

Suppose the catalogue administrator creates a subcatalogue called **“Windows”** and includes within it only the window families shown in the image.

In this case, the administrator can invite certain users to use **only that subcatalogue**.

When a user with restricted access enters the catalogue, they must select the **“Windows”** subcatalogue in the corresponding selector.

From that moment on, and within the project they are working on, they will only have access to the families included in that subcatalogue.

In this way, the system makes it possible to **limit access to specific objects in the catalogue**, making it easier to control **which families can be used in each project or by each group of users**.

## 4.7 Managing BIM Families in Multiple Languages

UpdateBIM allows the information of BIM families to be managed in multiple languages within the same catalogue. This functionality makes it easier to use BIM objects in international projects or in environments where teams from different countries are involved.

In catalogues that support multiple languages, the values of family parameters can be defined in several languages. This means that the same BIM family can display its technical information in different languages depending on the configuration selected by the user.

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The language displayed in the families does not depend on the language of Autodesk Revit or on the language of the UpdateBIM interface, but on the language selected for the catalogue using the corresponding control.

## Advantages of the Multilingual System

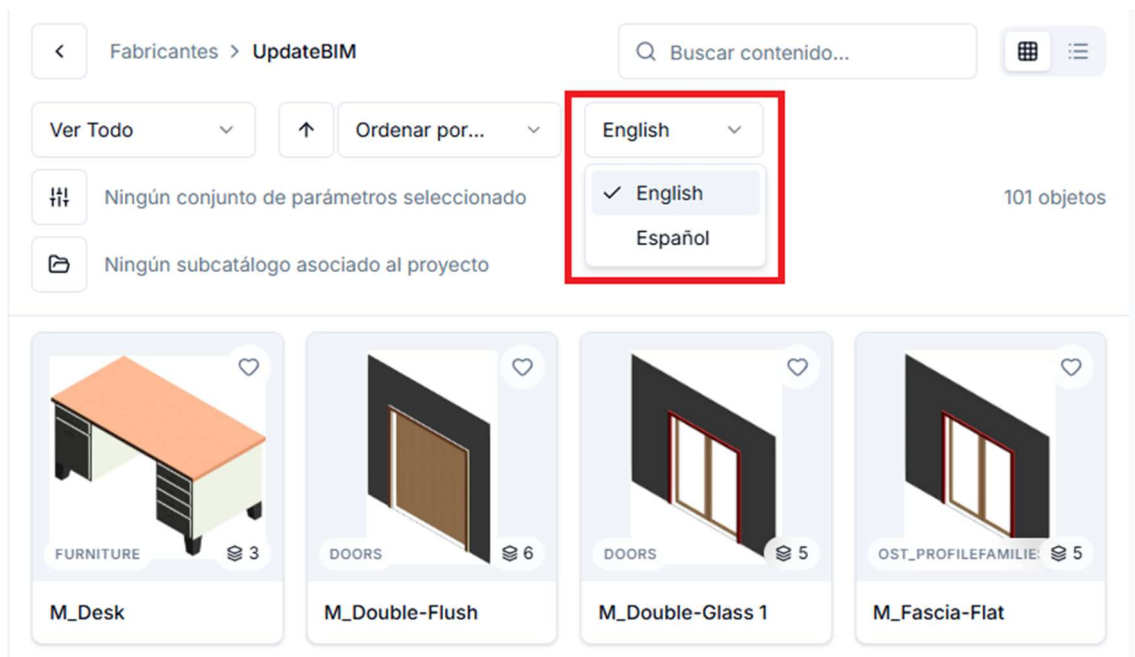
The use of BIM families with multilingual support offers several advantages:

- It allows project information to be adapted to the language required by the client or by the country where the project is being developed.
- It facilitates work in international teams, where different users may need to consult the information in different languages.
- It avoids the need to maintain duplicate versions of the families for each language.
- It allows the language of the project information to be changed quickly and easily.

## Changing the Catalogue Language

When a catalogue has several languages available, the user can select the language they wish to use using the catalogue language selection button.

The catalogue language selector is located in



The available languages are defined by the catalogue owner using the administration tool.

When the language is changed:

- the values of the family parameters are displayed in the selected language,
- the information associated with the BIM objects is updated automatically.

This system allows the project content to be adapted to different languages without having to manually modify the families.

## Application in International Projects

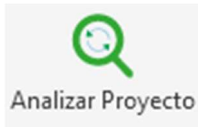
This functionality is especially useful in international projects. For example, a design team may usually work in Spanish, but develop a project for a client in another country. In that case, the

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catalogue can be configured to display the family information in the language required by the project.

In this way, the documentation generated from the BIM model can use the appropriate terminology in the client's or project's language, while maintaining a single version of the BIM families.

## 5 Project Analysis



This tool analyses all the elements present in the Revit project and displays them in an ordered list within the corresponding form.

The screenshot shows the 'Analizar Proyecto' application window. At the top, there are navigation icons (home, back) and two dropdown menus: 'Vista' set to 'Todos' and 'Todos los fabricantes'. The 'ApliCAD' logo is in the top right corner. Below the navigation is a table with the following data:

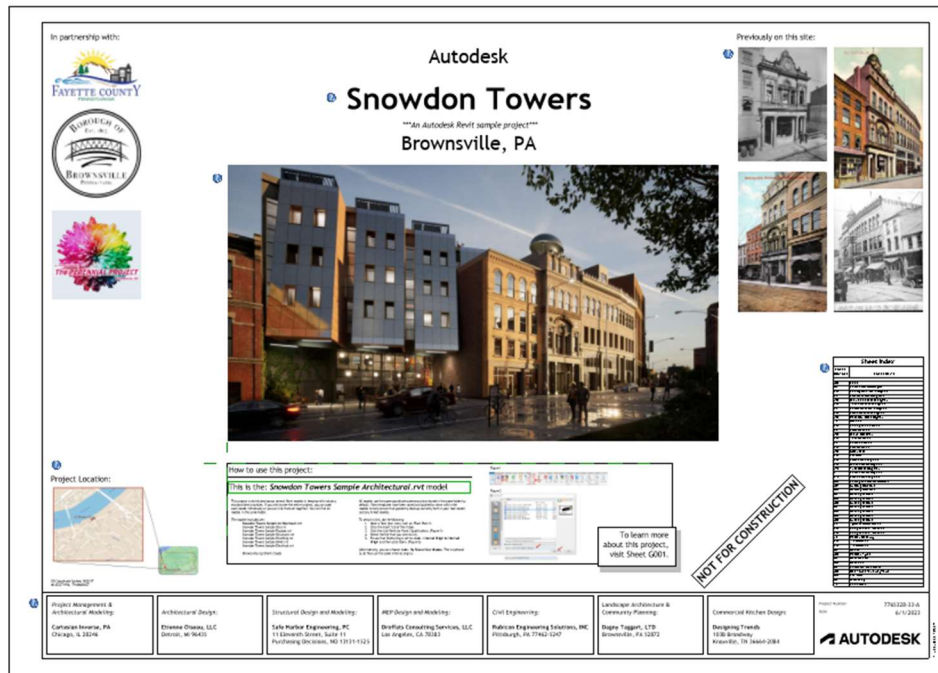
| Imagen | Familia      | Tipo          | Cantidad | Fabricar            |
|--------|--------------|---------------|----------|---------------------|
|        | Muros        | F1.1          | 1        | ApliCAD<br>CTE HULC |
|        | Ventana_Fijo | 0915 x 1830mm | 1        | ApliCAD<br>CTE HULC |

In the example shown, the project contains only **one wall** and **one window**, so these are the elements that appear in the list.

As with the UpdateBIM form, the Analysis form includes different controls that are activated according to the actions performed by the user, allowing interaction with the project objects and access to additional information about them.

It is important to highlight that this analyser is **not limited to objects inserted from UpdateBIM catalogues**. The tool analyses **all elements present in the project**, regardless of their origin.

For example, if we open a Revit sample project containing different types of elements:



# Architectural

The Analysis form will display the corresponding information for all objects detected in the model:

Analizar Proyecto - Snowdon Towers Sample Architectural.rvt

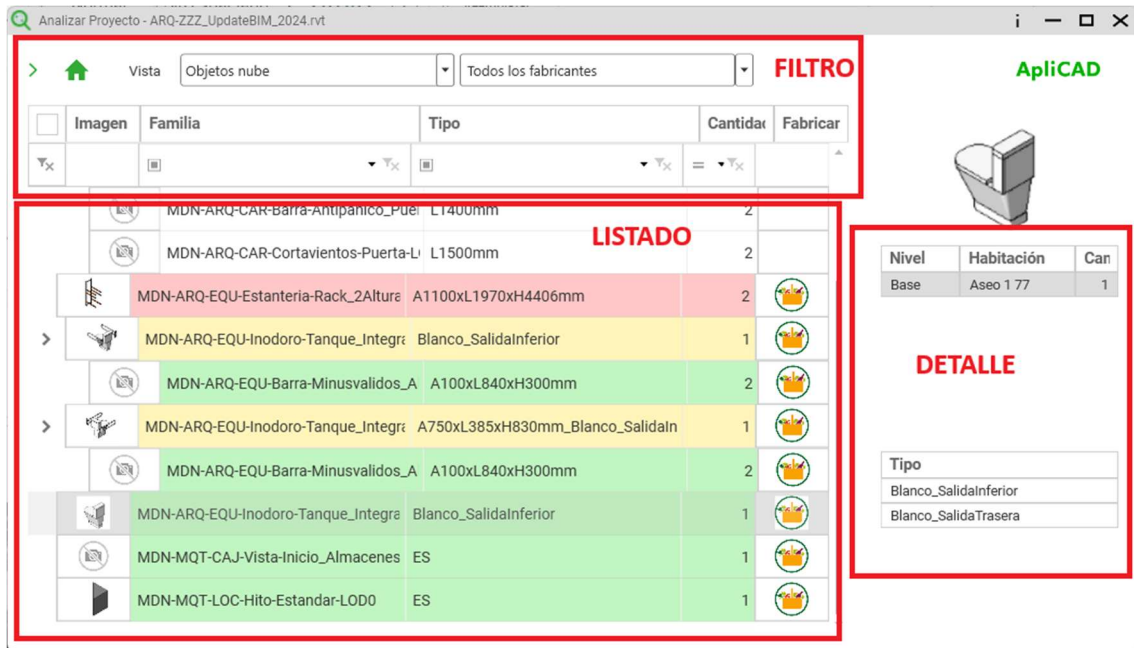
Vista: Todos | Todos los fabricantes

| Imagen | Familia                             | Tipo                 | Cantidad | Fabrican |
|--------|-------------------------------------|----------------------|----------|----------|
|        | Upper Cabinet-Double Door-Short-W   | 27"W x 28"H          | 2        |          |
|        | Vanity Counter Top w Round Sink Hol | 24" Depth            | 1        |          |
|        | Sink Vanity-Round                   | 19" x 19"            | 1        |          |
|        | Door-Passage-Single-Flush           | 36" x 84" (Cores)    | 1        |          |
|        | Shower Stall - Rectangular          | 36"x36" - Private    | 1        |          |
|        | Toilet-Domestic-3D                  | Toilet-Domestic-3D   | 1        |          |
|        | Washer_Dryer_Combo                  | 24"                  | 1        |          |
|        | Closet Shelf and Pole               | 18" Deep             | 1        |          |
|        | Kitchenette - Medium                | Kitchenette - Medium | 1        |          |
|        | Tall Cabinet-Double Door w Glass    | 30"                  | 1        |          |

In this way, the analyser becomes a useful tool for reviewing and consulting the information of any Revit project, regardless of whether the objects have been inserted through UpdateBIM or not.

## 5.1.1 What Can Be Done with the Analysis Tool

We will divide the form into several parts:



## Display Filter

At the top of the form is the View filter, which allows project elements to be displayed according to their status within UpdateBIM.

The available filters are as follows:

- **All**

This is the default value. It displays all objects present in the project, sorted alphabetically by Family and Type.

- **Cloud Objects**

Includes all objects that have information associated with UpdateBIM, that is, those that belong to a catalogue managed through the platform.

- **Outdated Objects**

These are objects that belong to an UpdateBIM catalogue but whose version in the project is older than the most recent version available in the catalogue.

These elements are pending update and are identified in the list in yellow.

- **Objects with Outdated Parameters**

These are objects whose geometry has not changed, but whose parameters have been modified in the catalogue.

This may be due to:

- changes in parameter values,
- the addition of new parameters,
- the removal of existing parameters.

These objects are identified in the list in blue.

- **Obsolete Objects**

These are objects that the catalogue owner has marked as obsolete, indicating that they should no longer be used in new projects.

These elements are identified in the list in red.

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## • Non-Cloud Objects

Includes objects that do not belong to any UpdateBIM catalogue.  
These elements appear in the list without any identifying colour.

## Catalogue Filter

In addition to the status filter, there is an additional filter on the right-hand side of the form that allows the user to select the catalogue to which the objects belong.

This control displays the list of catalogues used in the project.

By default, the selected value is “All manufacturers”, which means that objects from any catalogue will be displayed.

This filter complements the status filter, allowing more specific queries to be performed. For example, it is possible to:

- display only objects pending update,
- belonging to a specific catalogue.

In this way, the user can quickly identify which elements require attention within the project.

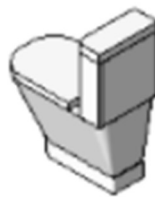
In addition, the header of the project object list allows filters to be applied and the displayed information to be sorted. It is possible to filter by the content of fields such as the family name, type, or quantity, as well as sort the elements according to these criteria.

## Project Object List

The List area of the form displays all objects detected in the project. For each element, the following is shown:

- a representative image of the object, and
- the logo of the catalogue to which it belongs, if the object comes from an UpdateBIM catalogue.

This list makes it possible to quickly identify the elements used in the project and their origin.



| Nivel | Habitación | Can |
|-------|------------|-----|
| Base  | Aseo 1 77  | 1   |

## Available Family Types

The lower part of the panel displays the list of types available within the selected family.

| Tipo                  |
|-----------------------|
| Blanco_SalidaInferior |
| Blanco_SalidaTrasera  |

This list allows the different available types to be consulted and makes it easier to insert new elements into the project.

## 5.1.2 Using the Analysis Form to Insert Objects.

One of the advantages of using the **Analysis tool** is that it helps maintain the **standardization of the objects used in the project**, especially in large projects involving several users.

As indicated above, this tool displays a **complete list of the objects existing in the project**. This makes it possible, among other things, to quickly identify which families are already being used.

For example, if a toilet model needs to be inserted and the catalogue contains five different models, it may be useful to check whether any of those models are already being used in the project. In this way, the same object type can be reused, avoiding the inclusion of different models of the same element in the project, which could affect the **consistency of the model**.

For this purpose, the Analysis form includes different ways of inserting elements that are already present in the project.

### 5.1.2.1 Insertion by Double-Clicking

A quick way to insert an object is to **double-click** an element in the list.

When doing so, the program will automatically launch the command to insert a new unit of the selected element.

This behaviour is equivalent to Revit's "**Create Similar**" command, but with an additional advantage: it is **not necessary to previously select the object in the model**. This is especially useful when the element is not visible in the level or view in which the user is working.

### 5.1.2.2 Insertion Using the Type List

Another way to insert elements is to use the **list of available types** displayed in the detail panel. If the user selects a type that already exists in the project, the program will allow it to be inserted directly.

If the selected type is **not loaded in the project**, UpdateBIM will **import it automatically**, allowing it to be inserted immediately.

If the element corresponds to a system family, the list will display all the types currently available in the project.

## 5.2 Family Update

One of the main objectives of UpdateBIM is to ensure that projects use the most recent versions of BIM families.

This applies both:

- when inserting a family into the project, and
- throughout the project life cycle, allowing users to check whether updates are available for families already in use.

In this way, UpdateBIM makes it possible to keep the model updated with the latest versions published in the catalogues

## 5.2.1 Update Decision

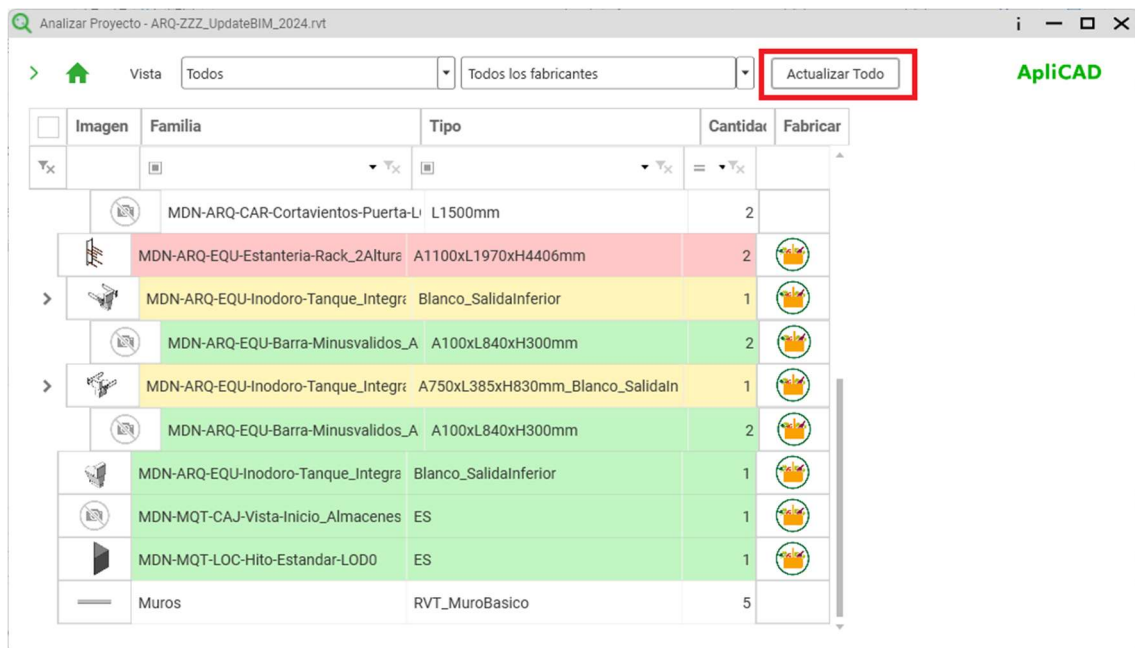
**IMPORTANT – The decision to update a family always belongs to the user.**

This is especially relevant in projects that have already been completed. For example, if a project is opened some time after it has been closed, some of the families used may have been modified in the catalogue. In these cases, UpdateBIM does **not** perform updates automatically, as they could alter the content of the project.

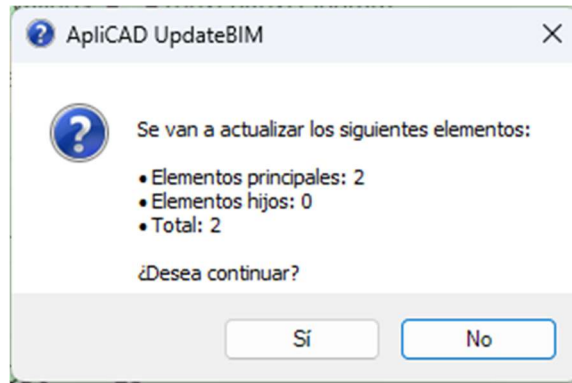
For this reason, the user must decide whether or not to apply the available updates.

## 5.2.2 Updating All Families

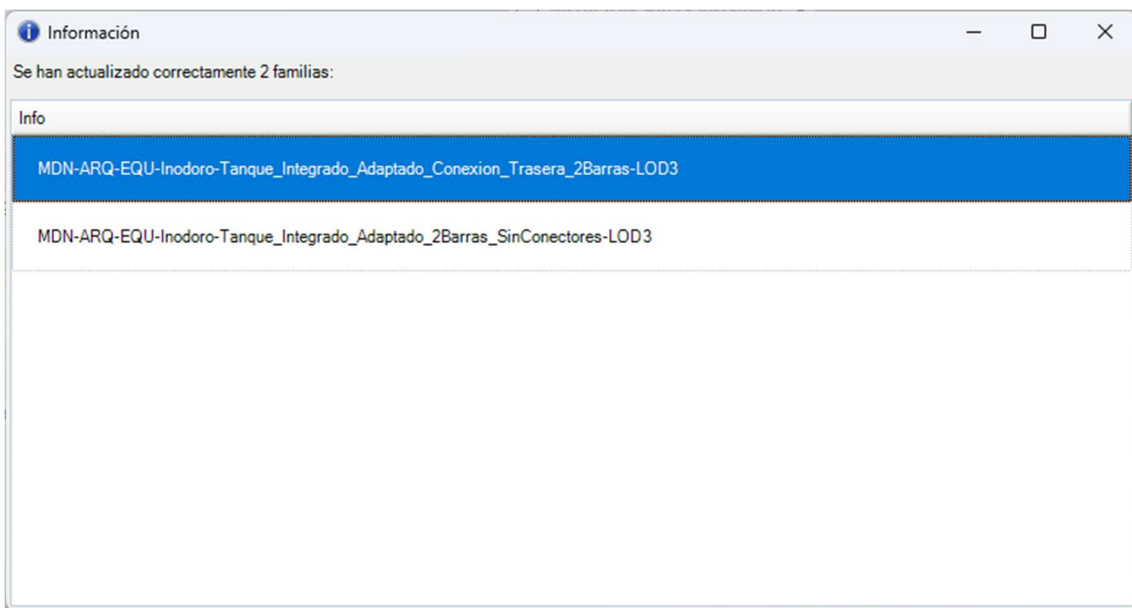
When the system detects that there are families pending update in the project, the **“Update All”** button will appear at the top of the Analysis form, as shown in the following image.



When this button is clicked, the program will display a message indicating the number of families that are going to be updated.



If the user selects **Yes**, UpdateBIM will update the corresponding families. Once the process has been completed, the system will display a message indicating which families have been updated.

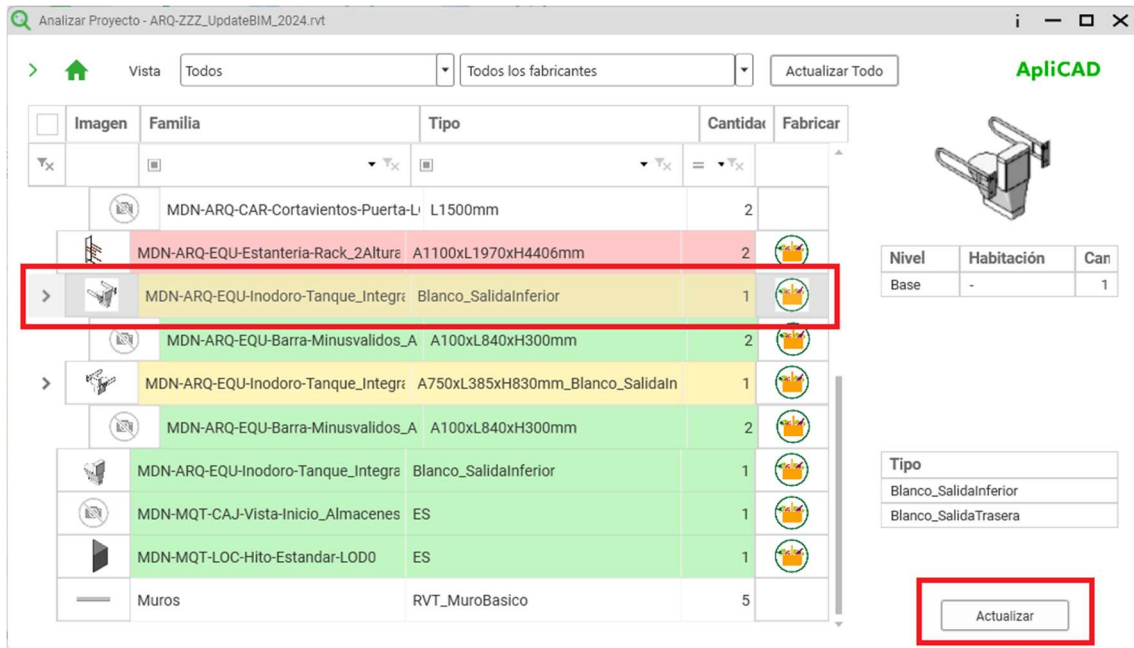


After the update, the Analysis form will reflect the new status of the objects. Families that were previously marked in yellow as **outdated** will now be displayed in green, indicating that they are **up to date**.

### 5.2.3 Updating a Specific Family

If the user does not wish to update all the families in the project, it is possible to update only a **specific family**.

To do this, simply select the desired family from the list. At that moment, the **“Update”** button will appear in the lower right-hand corner, allowing the process to be carried out only for the selected element



In this case, the program will perform the update directly on the selected family, without requesting any additional confirmation.

## 5.2.4 Update Limitations

**IMPORTANT – In some situations, there may be objects in the project pending update, but the update buttons may not be available.**

This occurs when the elements belong to **private UpdateBIM catalogues** for which the user does **not** have access permissions.

In these cases:

- the user will be able to use the elements that already exist in the project,
- but they will **not be able to update the families**, because they do not have access to the corresponding catalogue.

## 5.2.5 Updating Parameters without Modifying the Family

One of the functionalities included in the latest versions of UpdateBIM is the possibility of **updating the parameter values of families without needing to generate a new version of the family**.

Thanks to this system, the family maintenance process is **considerably simplified**, since the catalogue administrator can modify certain aspects of the families without having to edit the family file in Revit.

With this new system, the catalogue administrator can make changes to parameters from the **web-based content administration environment**, without physically modifying the family.

Among the actions allowed by this system are:

- **Adding new type shared parameters** to a family from the administrator's web environment.
- **Assigning values to parameters** for the different types of a family.
- **Removing parameters** that had previously been added.

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The tools and workflow associated with this functionality are described in more detail in the **Parameter Administration** section, which appears later in this manual.

## 5.2.6 Impact on the Project User

From the point of view of the user working with the Revit project, it is important to understand **how these changes are reflected in the model**.

As explained above in the section on the Analysis tool, there is a specific status for identifying families whose **parameters have been modified**.

When a family has parameters pending update, the corresponding elements are displayed in the list marked in **blue**.

As with geometry updates, the parameter update must be **initiated by the user**.

---

## 5.2.7 Parameter Update Example

In the following example, when analysing the project, a family appears marked in **blue**, indicating that there are **parameters pending update**.

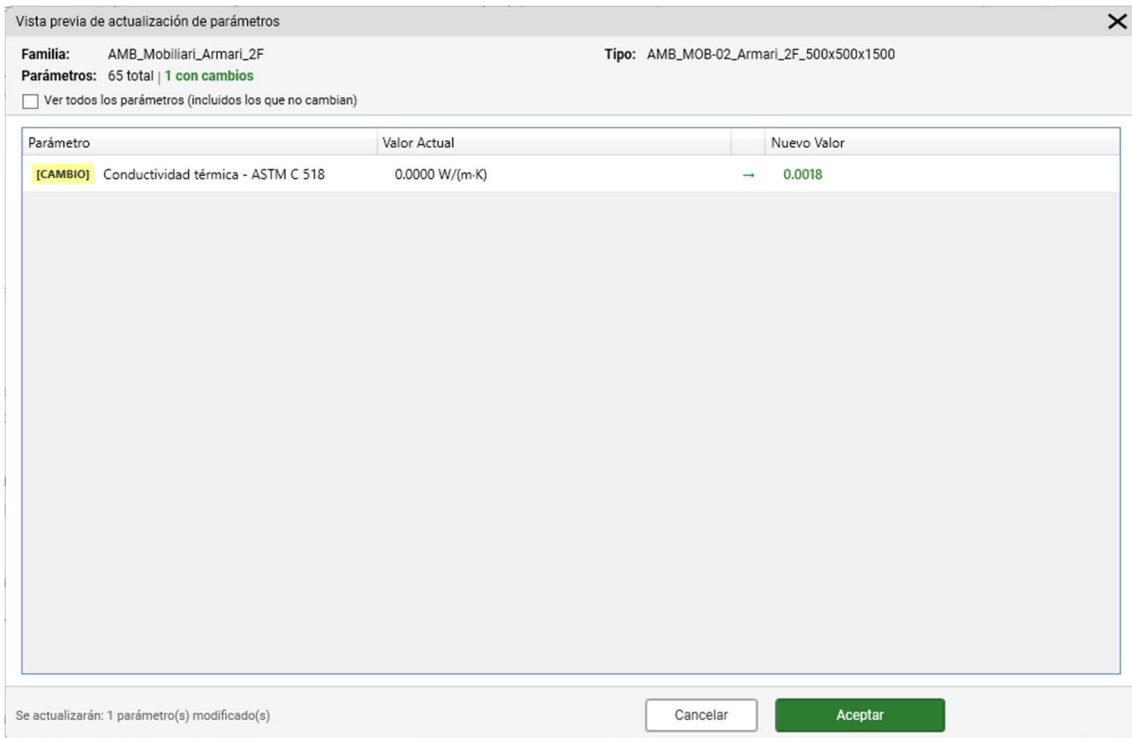
| Imagen | Familia                   | Tipo                               | Cantidad | Fabricar |
|--------|---------------------------|------------------------------------|----------|----------|
|        | AMB_Mobiliari_Armani_2F   | AMB_MOB-02_Armani_2F_500x500x150   | 1        | ApliCAD  |
|        | Andreu World Closed Table | ME-6105 (1800x700x750) Oak         | 1        | ApliCAD  |
|        | Elementos de detalle      | Región rellenada de detalle        | 1        |          |
|        | Elementos de detalle      | Región rellenada de detalle        | 1        |          |
|        | Escaleras                 | MDN-ARQ-PAV-Escalera-Peldano-LOD2- | 1        |          |
|        | Escaleras                 | MDN-ARQ-PAV-Peldano-Ceramico_Alfa  | 1        |          |
|        | Escaleras                 | MDN-ARQ-PAV-Peldano-Ceramico_SvD   | 1        |          |
|        | Escaleras                 | MDN-ARQ-PAV-Peldano-Ceramico_SvD   | 3        |          |
|        | Barandillas               | MDN-ARQ-CER-Albardilla-Encuentro_F | 4        |          |
|        | Escaleras                 | MDN-ARQ-PAV-Peldano-Granito-LOD2-E | 1        |          |

| Nivel | Habitación | Can |
|-------|------------|-----|
| Base  | -          | 1   |

Tipo  
AMB\_MOB-02\_Armani\_2F\_500x500x

Actualizar

If the **Update** button is clicked, the system will display a message indicating which changes will be applied.

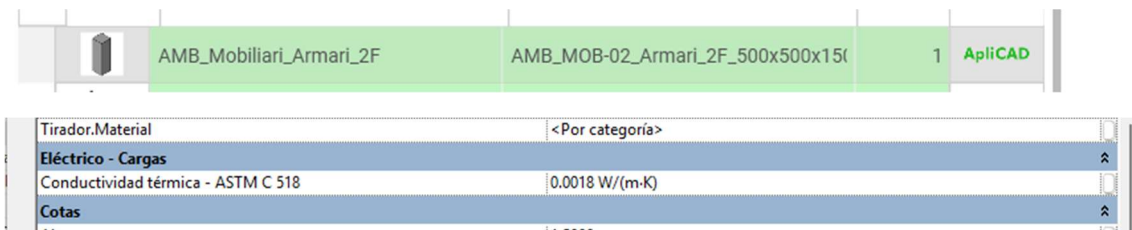


In this case, the system indicates that a **parameter value will be modified**, because it has been updated by the catalogue administrator through the **web administration interface**.

If the user clicks **Accept**, the new parameter value will be automatically applied to **all instances of that family type** present in the project.

After completing the update:

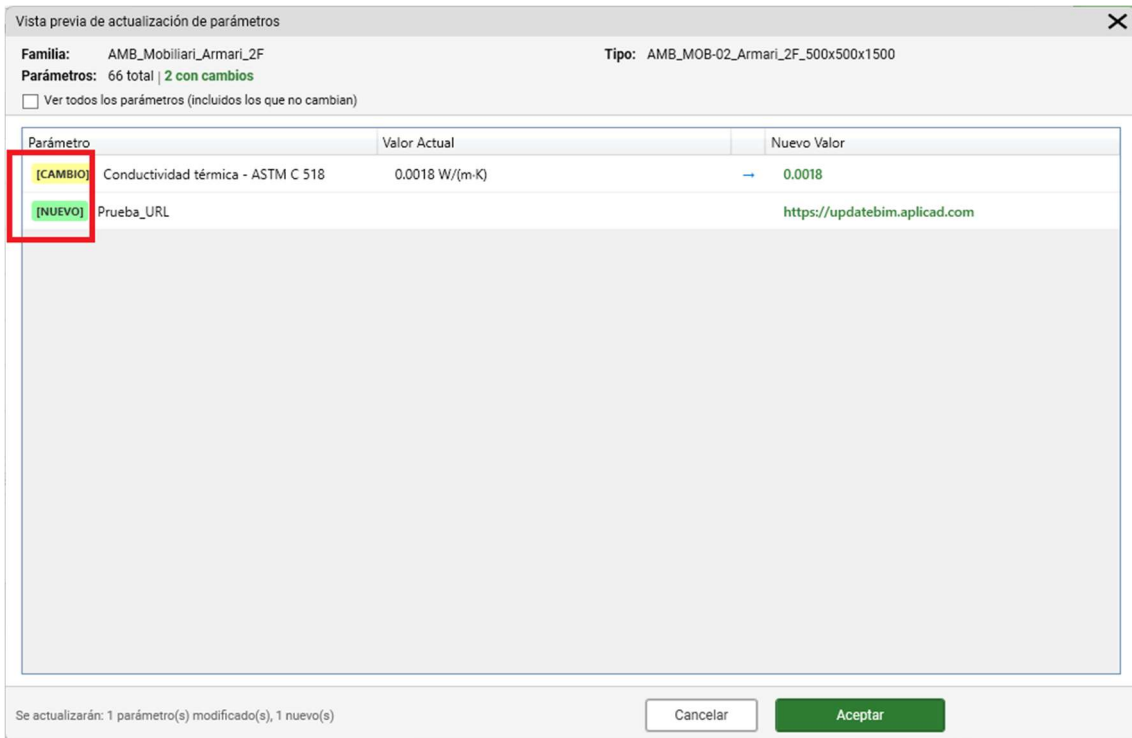
- the family will be displayed in **green**, indicating that it is **up to date**,
- and the parameter value in the family will reflect the **new value defined in the catalogue**.



## 5.2.8 Adding New Parameters

In some cases, the catalogue administrator may decide to **add a new parameter** to an existing family.

When this occurs, the message displayed during the update will clearly indicate that it is a **new parameter**.



In the information displayed, it is clearly distinguished:

- whether it is a **change in the value of an existing parameter**, or
- whether it is the **addition of a new parameter**.

|                                    |                               |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Conductividad térmica - ASTM C 518 | 0.0018 W/(m·K)                |
| Prueba_URL                         | https://updatebim.aplicad.com |

Similarly, the system also allows parameters that had previously been added to be **removed**.

When the corresponding update is applied, those parameters will be **automatically removed from the family within the project**.

## 5.2.9 Updating Geometry and Parameters

In certain situations, the catalogue administrator may have made changes to a family that is already present in the project, affecting both:

- the **geometry of the family**, and
- the **parameters associated with it**.

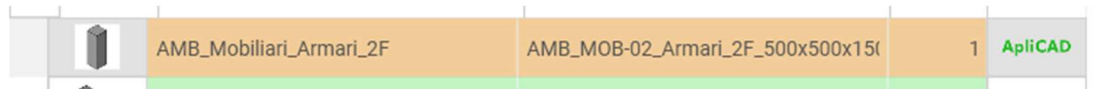
In these cases, the user may not wish to apply the **geometry changes**, but may still need to **update the parameters**.

To identify these situations, the UpdateBIM analyzer uses a new visual status, represented by the color **orange**.

This color indicates that the family type has **two types of pending changes** to be applied:

- changes to the **family geometry**, and
- changes to the **parameters**.

For example, this situation occurs in the following case:



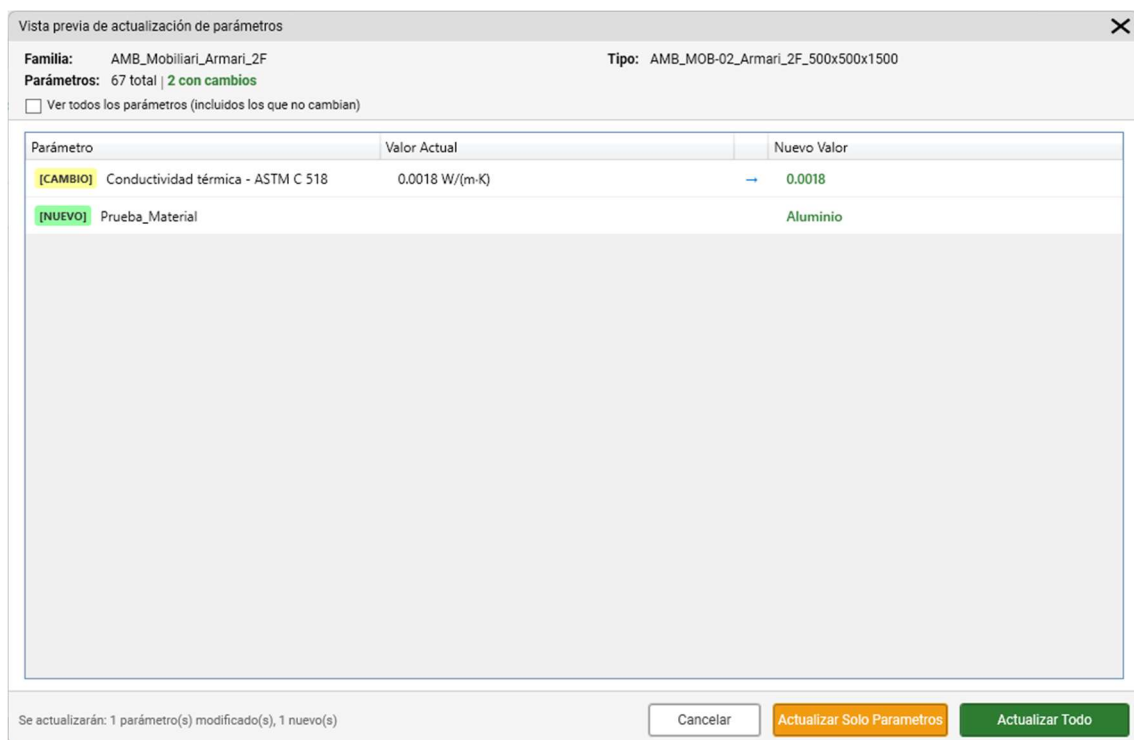
The family appears in the analyzer marked in **orange**, indicating that there are pending changes in both the **geometry** and the **parameters**.

## Full Update

If the user uses the **“Update All”** button, the program will perform a **full update** of the family, applying both the **geometry changes** and the **parameter changes**, without distinguishing between them.

## Partial Update — Parameters Only

However, if the user selects the family and uses the **“Update”** button, the system will display a window with detailed information about the available modifications:



In this window, the **“Update parameters only”** button appears at the bottom.

This option allows only the **parameter changes** to be applied, while keeping the **current geometry of the family** in the project unchanged.

This functionality is especially useful when:

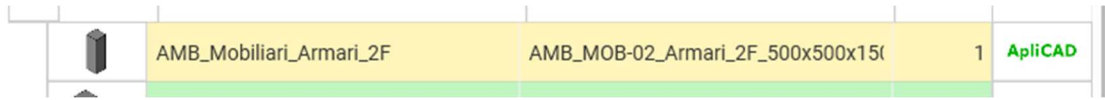
- the geometry modification could affect the **project design**, or
- the user wishes to keep the **current version of the object**, while updating only the information associated with its parameters.

## Result of the Partial Update

If the user selects the **“Update parameters only”** option, the parameter values will be updated in the project, while the geometry will remain unchanged.

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After performing this operation, the analyser will display the family in **yellow**, indicating that only the **geometry changes** remain pending to be applied.



## 6 Material Management



UpdateBIM includes specific functionalities for **material management** in Revit projects, especially aimed at system families such as:

- **walls,**
- **floors,**
- **roofs,**
- and other similar construction elements.

The generation of suitable materials is an important aspect of BIM models, as they must meet two main objectives:

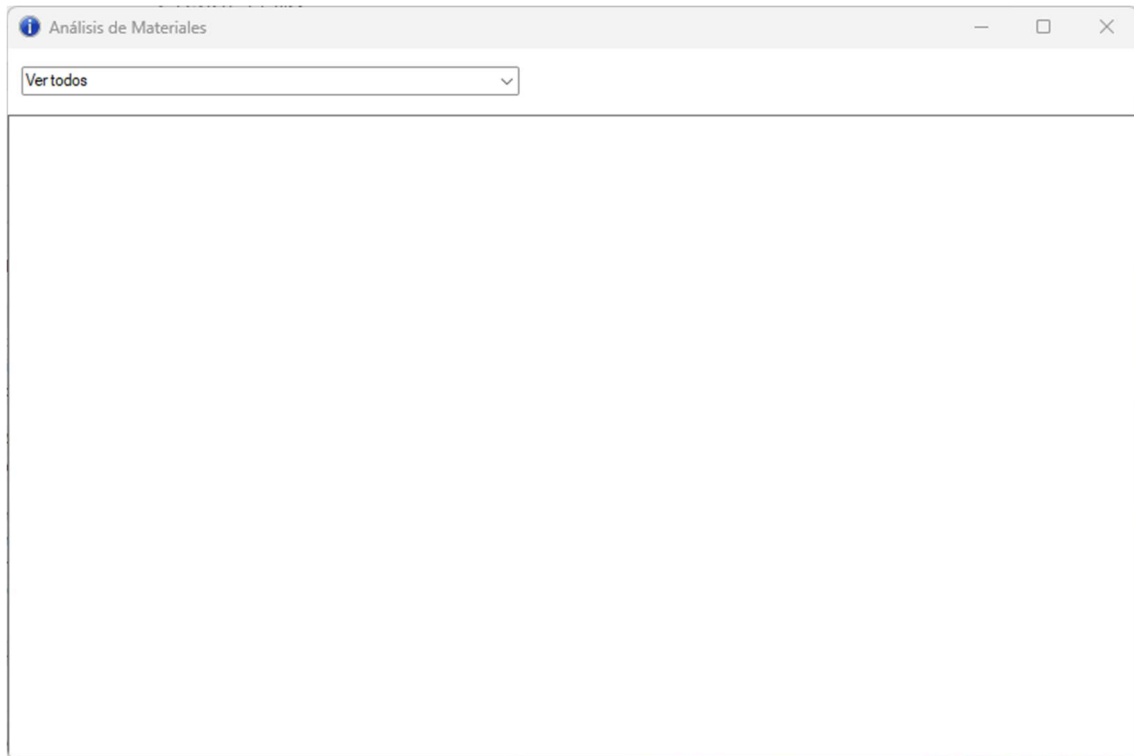
- provide a **realistic visual representation** of the element, and
- allow their use in **technical calculations**, such as quantity take-offs or energy analyses.

For this reason, UpdateBIM includes tools aimed at managing materials from **manufacturer catalogues**, especially in sectors such as:

- **ceramic materials,**
- **wall and floor coverings,**
- **marble and natural stone,**
- other **finishing materials.**

### Using the Materials Button

If the project does not have any catalogue configured as a materials catalogue, using this button will display an empty list, as shown in the following image.



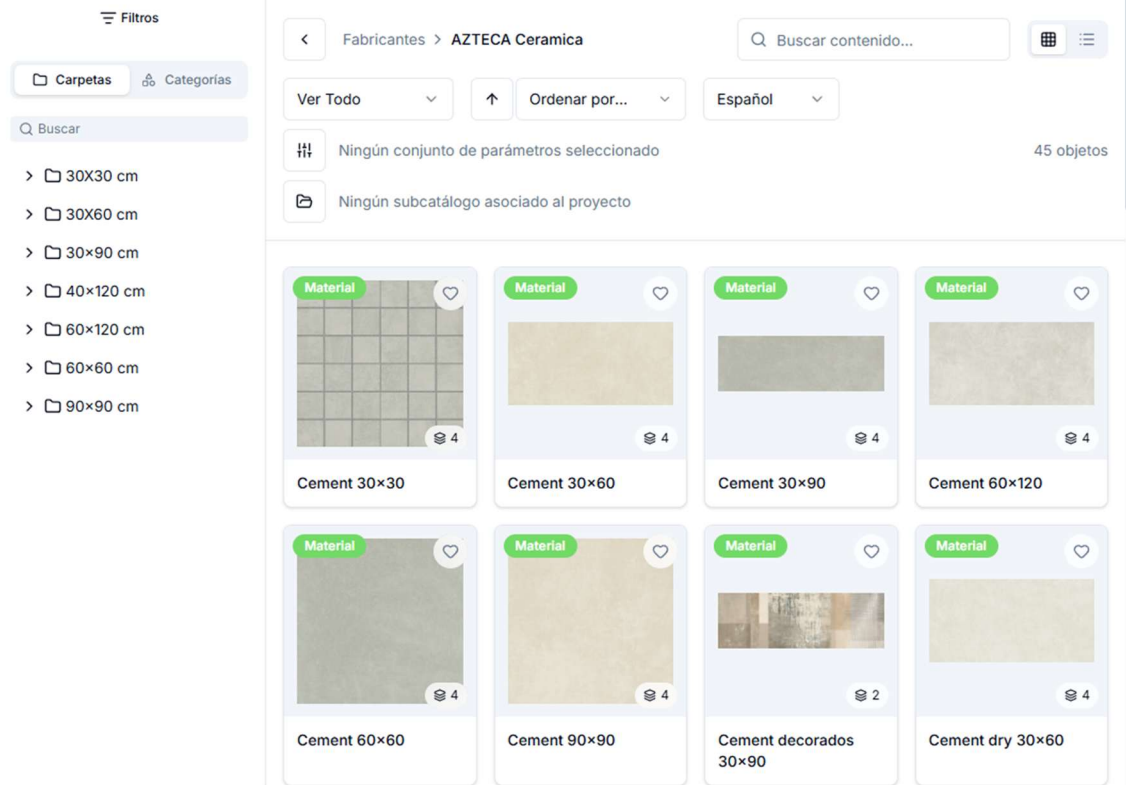
To use this functionality, it is necessary to have catalogues specifically defined for **materials**.

The following sections describe:

- **how to use material catalogues,**
- **what operations can be performed with them within UpdateBIM,**
- **and how to apply these materials to project elements.**

## 6.1 Using Material Catalogues

Within the public catalogues of material manufacturers, different series from the manufacturer **Azteca Cerámica** are available, as shown in the following image.



In the case of material catalogues, the system works differently from BIM families. Once the desired finish has been selected, UpdateBIM will ask the user to select a project element to which the material will be applied.

The valid elements for applying these materials are **system families**, such as:

- **walls**
- **floors**
- **roofs**

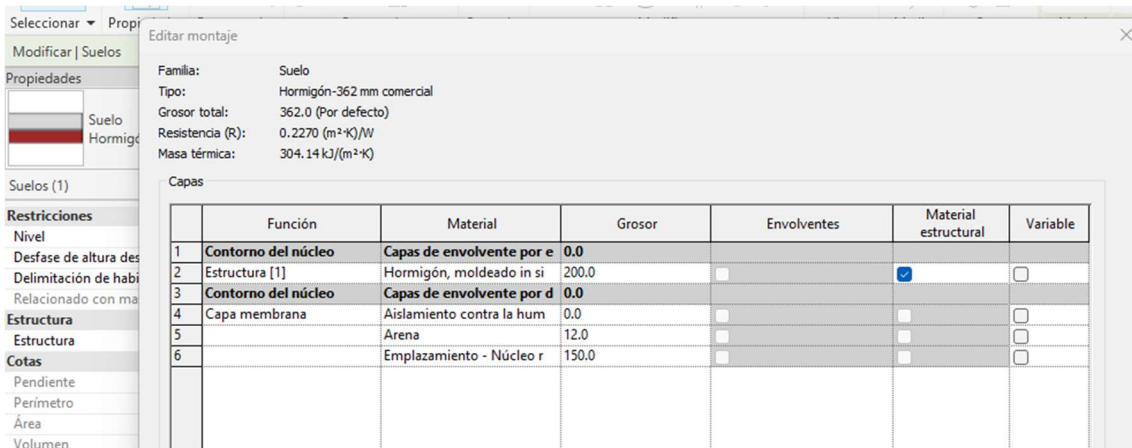
The process consists of the program automatically creating a **new cladding material layer** on the selected element.

This new layer will have:

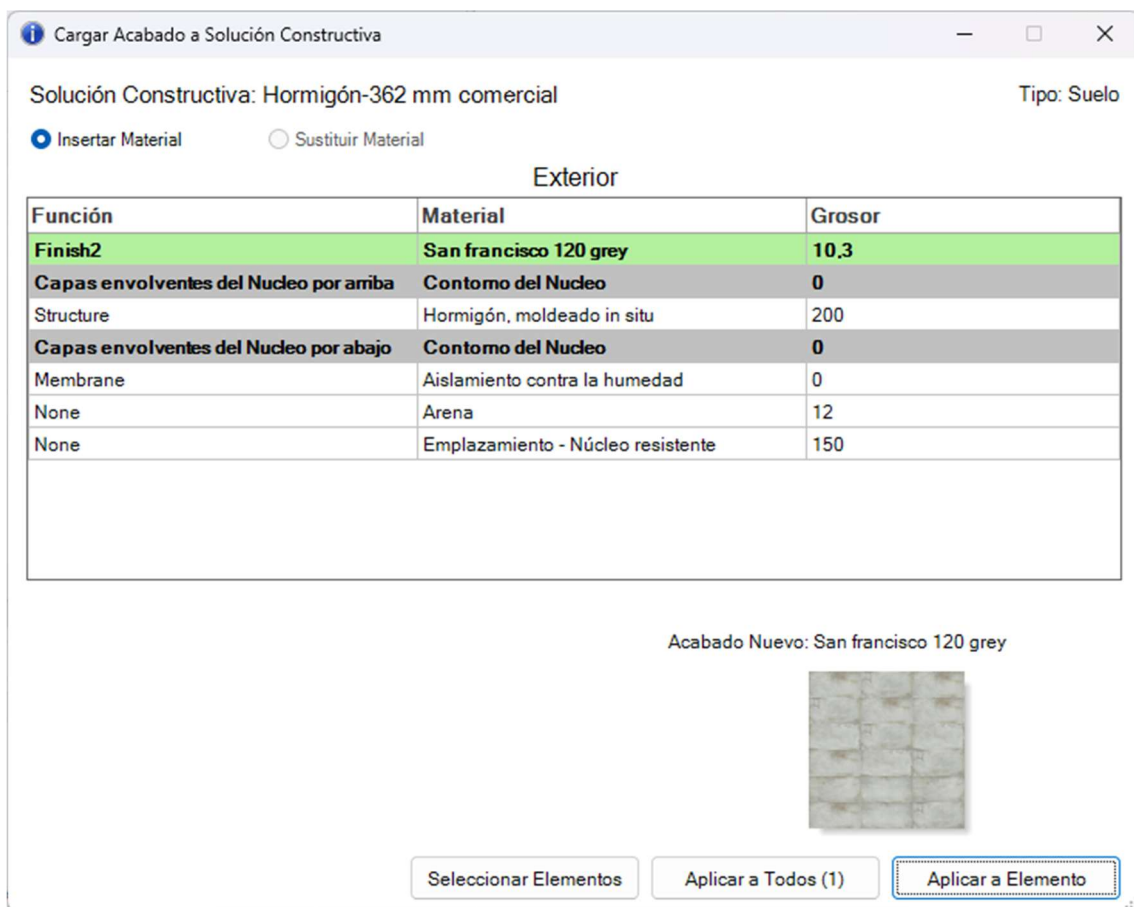
- the **thickness defined by the material manufacturer**, and
- the **texture corresponding to the selected material**.

In this way, the material is correctly integrated into the **construction composition** of the element.

Suppose that the project contains a rectangular floor, with its structure as shown in the following image:

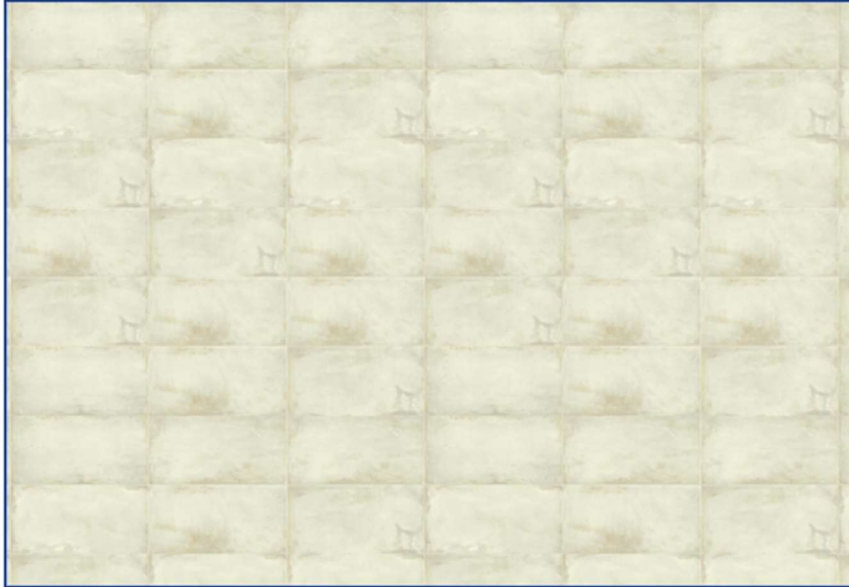


If we select a material from the manufacturer **Azteca Cerámica**, during the insertion process the program will ask us to indicate which element of the model the material should be applied to.



In this example, since it is a **floor**, the program proposes adding a **new layer** to the floor composition, located at the top of the existing structure, in order to include the selected material.


Once the material has been applied, the result can be viewed by activating Revit's **realistic view**, where the texture corresponding to the selected material will be displayed.




In addition, if we use the UpdateBIM **Materials** tool at this point, the system will display the list of materials applied in the project.

Análisis de Materiales

Ver todos

| Material               | Imagen  | Fabricante      | Nº Entidades | Area m2 |
|------------------------|---|-----------------|--------------|---------|
| San francisco 120 grey |  | AZTECA Ceramica | 1            | 37,74   |

| Solución Constructiva     | Imagen  | Tipo  | Nº Entidades | Area m2 |
|---------------------------|---|-------|--------------|---------|
| Hormigón-362 mm comercial |  | Suelo | 1            | 37,74   |

## 6.2 Support for Material Manufacturers

UpdateBIM allows manufacturers to define their materials so that they can be used directly in BIM projects.

If you need assistance in designing and preparing materials compatible with UpdateBIM, you can contact us for support in the creation and publication of these materials within the platform.

## 7 Documentation Associated with Families



### Información tipo

One of the features that differentiates UpdateBIM from other similar solutions is the ability to **associate documentation with the different types of BIM families**.

The catalogue administrator can **add or remove documents** associated with any family type managed within the catalogue.

### Consulting Documentation from the Project

From the user's point of view, when an object from UpdateBIM is selected in the project, the system displays its main information in the Revit panel activated through the **Type Information** option.

For example, if we select an element from UpdateBIM in the model, the panel will display information similar to the following:

| File Name                | Size   |
|--------------------------|--------|
| product-sheet-BU1412.pdf | 171 KB |

This panel displays relevant information about the selected family, including the **documents associated with the family type**.

If documentation is available, it will be listed in the panel. To open a document, simply **double-click on its name**.

The program will then open the corresponding file, which may be, for example:

- a **product technical datasheet**,
- **manufacturer documentation**,
- **certificates or regulatory documentation**.

In the example shown, when the document is opened, the **product sheet provided by the manufacturer** will be displayed.

### Updating Documentation from the Catalogue

One of the advantages of this system is that the documents associated with families can be managed from the **catalogue administration web environment**.

The catalogue administrator can:

- **add new documents,**
- **modify existing documentation,**
- **remove documents** associated with a family or a specific type.

Once any modification has been made, the updated documentation is **immediately available to all users** who use that family, regardless of where they are working from.

In this way, projects can always have access to the **most up-to-date documentation** associated with the elements used in the model.

## 7.1 Language Management in Associated Documentation

Throughout the entire UpdateBIM system, special attention is paid to **language management**, with the aim of offering the best possible experience to users working with manufacturer catalogues in different markets.

This consideration also applies to the **documents associated with BIM families**.

As explained above, a family catalogue available in UpdateBIM can be defined in **one or more languages**, depending on the catalogue owner's decision.

Each user can select the language they wish to use for each catalogue independently. This means that:

- a manufacturer may offer its catalogue in **Spanish, English, and French,**
- while another catalogue used in the same project may be available **only in English**.

The user is not required to use a single language for all catalogues, but can configure the language of each one according to their needs.

### Association of Documents by Type and Language

The system for managing documents associated with families works as follows.

By default, when a document is added to a family from the administration environment:

- the document is associated with **all types of the family**, and
- it is available for **all catalogue languages**.

However, the catalogue administrator can modify this behaviour and define more precisely how each document is applied.

Specifically, the administrator can:

- associate the document only with **specific types of a family**, and
- define in which **languages** the document should be available.

This allows, for example, a technical datasheet to be available **only in English**, while other documents may be offered in several languages.

Thanks to this system, UpdateBIM makes it possible to manage documentation in a **flexible way**, adapted to **international catalogues**, ensuring that each user has access to the appropriate information according to the selected language.

## 8 Configuration Screen



From the configuration screen, it is possible to manage different aspects related to the use of UpdateBIM.

The available options include:

- **Logging in or out of the application.**
- **Changing the language of the program interface.**

Currently, the UpdateBIM interface is available in the following languages:

- **Spanish**
- **English**
- **French**
- **German**
- **Italian**
- **Portuguese**

The selected language affects only the **program interface**, and does not determine the language of the catalogues or the language of Autodesk Revit.

## 9 UpdateBIM Administration

The user with **Administrator permissions** has control over catalogue management.

The system developed by **ApliCAD** allows practically the **same interface** to be used in all cases, with the difference that, when the administration functions are activated, **additional controls** are displayed over the existing ones.

In this way, the administrator user can easily check, from a **single interface**, what information is being made available to users.

### 9.1 Activating Administrator Mode

When accessing UpdateBIM, either from the environment integrated into Revit or from the website [updatebim.aplicad.com](http://updatebim.aplicad.com), all catalogues to which the user has access are displayed. These catalogues may be those to which the user has been invited, those for which they have administration permissions, or the public catalogues available on the platform.

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In the catalogues where the symbol identified in the following image appears, it means that the user has administrator permissions.

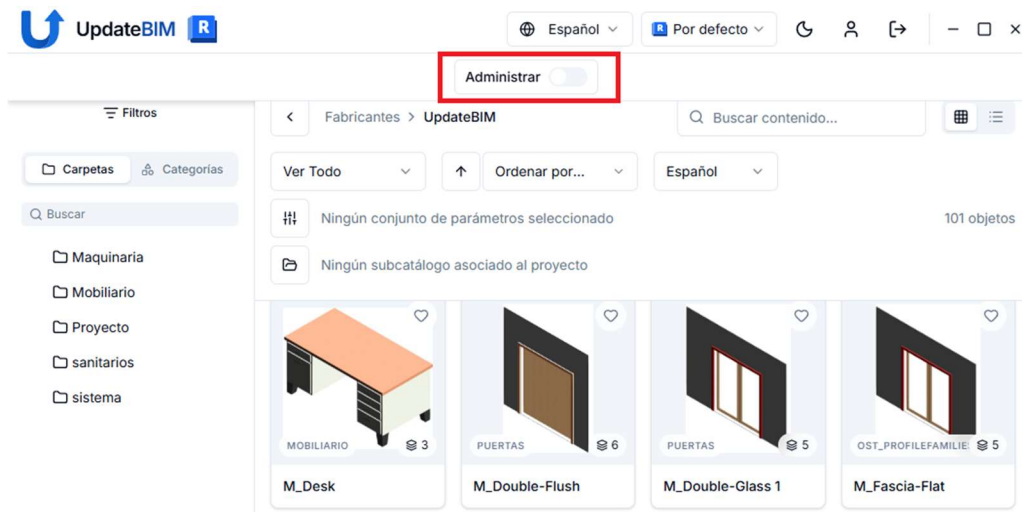


## Fabricantes

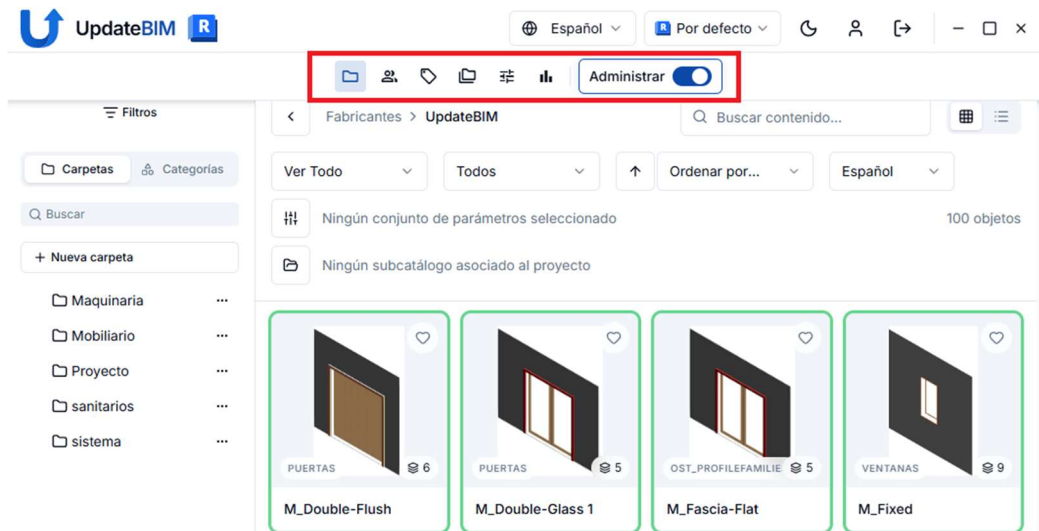
### Mis fabricantes



On the other hand, if we access using the button , and the following appears on the screen:

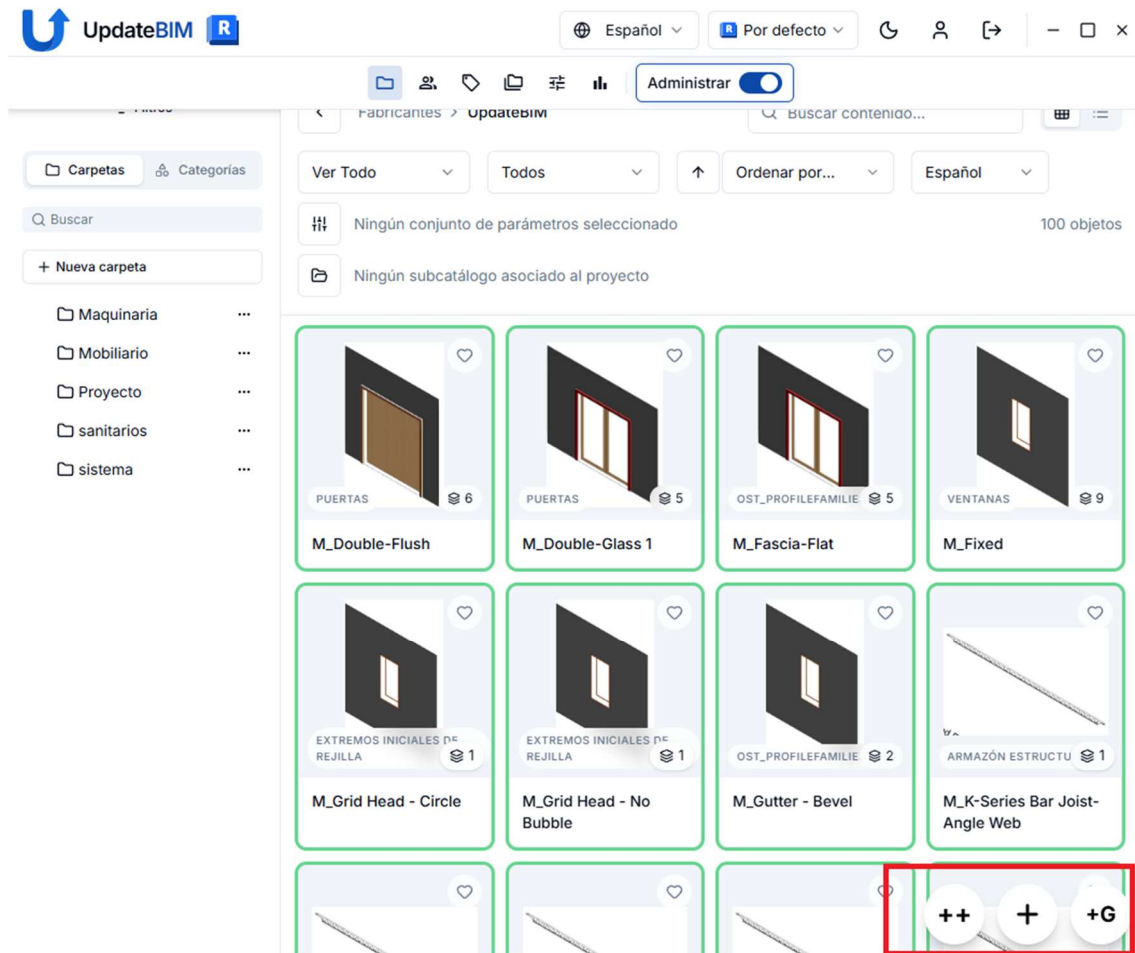


If we activate the **Manage** control, we will observe some changes.



New icons appear, as shown in the image, along with other changes in the interface.

## 9.2 Content Administration



In the lower right-hand corner, when we are in **Content Administration** mode, a series of icons appear that allow different actions to be performed on the catalogue.

## 9.2.1 Adding a New Family

To add a new family to UpdateBIM, we must first go to the folder where we want to add it and click the corresponding button.

The program will then ask us to select the family file we want to add. This file can be a **system family in .rvt format** or a **loadable family in .rfa format**.


For example, we are going to add a **bathroom washbasin** to the **Sanitary Fixtures** folder.

Once the file has been selected, the program will display the following information:

### Nueva familia ×

Revisa los datos y selecciona la carpeta destino.

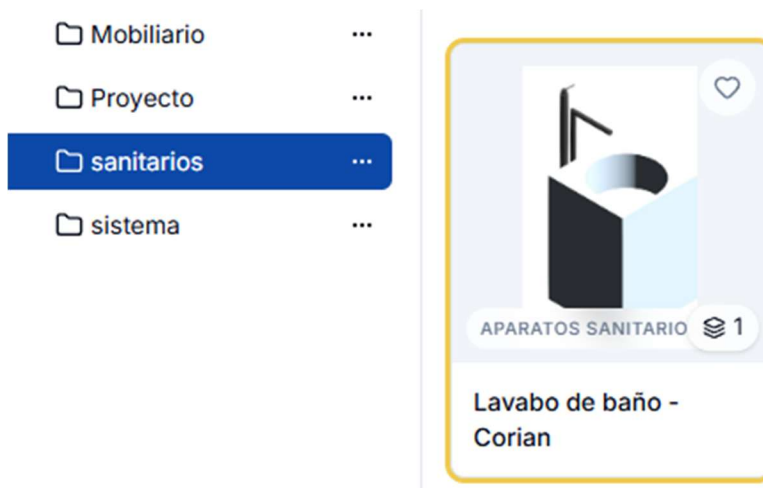
Nombre de la familia

**Lavabo de baño - Corian.rfa**  
Revit 2024  
1 tipo(s) encontrado(s)

Tipos

At the end of the family import process, the program will display the result.



As can be seen in the image, the new family appears surrounded by a **yellow frame**. This indicates that the family is in **Pending Publication** status and, therefore, is not yet available to users who have access to this catalogue.

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In this status, two new controls can be seen:

## 1 – Family selection.

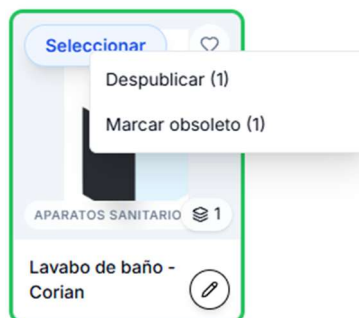
This control allows the family to be selected. When selected, additional information will be displayed at the bottom of the screen:



If we click the **Publish** button marked with number 1, the family will become published and will be displayed with a **green border** instead of a yellow one.



There are other ways to modify the status of a family. For example, if we place the cursor over the selection button and right-click, the options available at that moment will be displayed, depending on the current status of the family. In this case, options similar to the following will appear:



On the other hand, if we need to make changes to a family that affect its **geometry**, we can use the **Edit Family** button. When clicked, the following dialog box will be displayed:


### Editar familia ×

Modifica el nombre o reemplaza el archivo de la familia.

**Reemplazar archivo**

Nombre de la familia

Lavabo de baño - Corian

 Lavabo de baño - Corian.rfa  
1 tipo(s)

Tipos

560 × 560 × 800 mm

Cancelar **Guardar cambios**

From this dialog box, we will use the **Replace File** button to select the new family file that will replace the current one.

It is important to note that, when a family is edited, its status automatically changes to **Pending Publication**.

Families that are pending publication are only accessible to **administrator users**, and only when they have **administrator mode** enabled.

If we add another family that has more than one type, the program will display the list of types that are going to be added, for example:

### Nueva familia ×

Revisa los datos y selecciona la carpeta destino.

Nombre de la familia

M\_Lavabo - Rectangular

 M\_Lavabo - Rectangular.rfa  
Revit 2024  
4 tipo(s) encontrado(s)

Tipos

|                           |
|---------------------------|
| 560 mm x 560 mm - Público |
| 380 mm x 380 mm - Público |
| 560 mm x 560 mm - Privado |

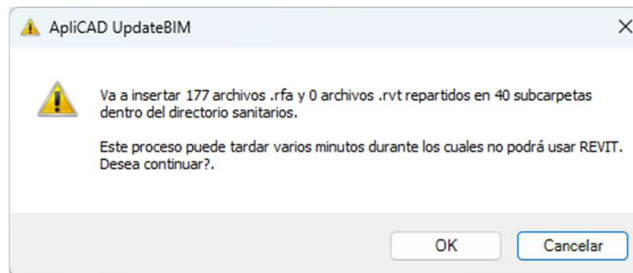
Cancelar **Añadir familia**

## 9.2.2 Bulk Family Upload

If the administrator user already has a directory, with its corresponding subdirectories, containing different families, they can use the Bulk Upload button to add all the families in a single operation.

As in the previous case, before running this option it is necessary to select the catalogue folder from which the families will be added.

For example, if we select a folder and click the Bulk Upload button, the program will display the following message:

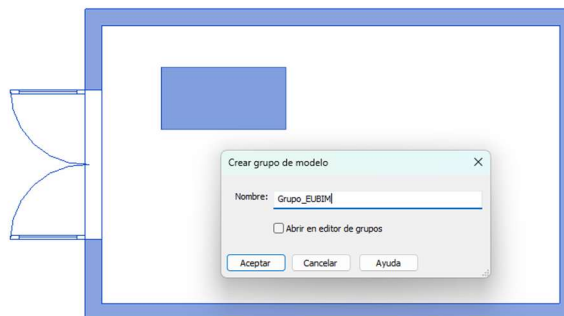


## 9.2.3 Adding a Group to UpdateBIM

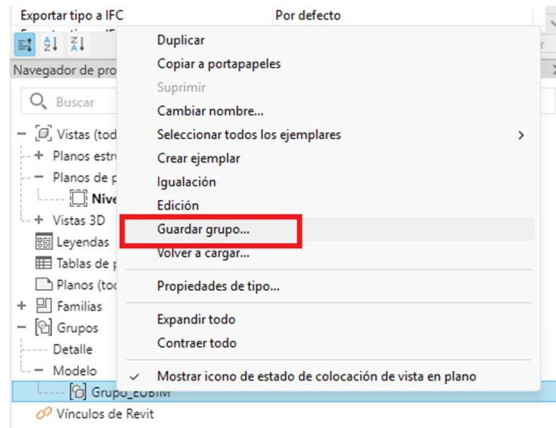
In UpdateBIM, it is possible to store **groups of entities generated in Revit**. These groups may consist of both **families belonging to UpdateBIM** and other elements that are not part of the platform.

To create the group, the process is carried out within **Revit**, using Revit's own tools or the functions available in UpdateBIM. The objective is to prepare in advance all the elements that we want to include in the group.

Once these elements have been selected or generated, we must use Revit's **Create Group** option, as shown in the image.

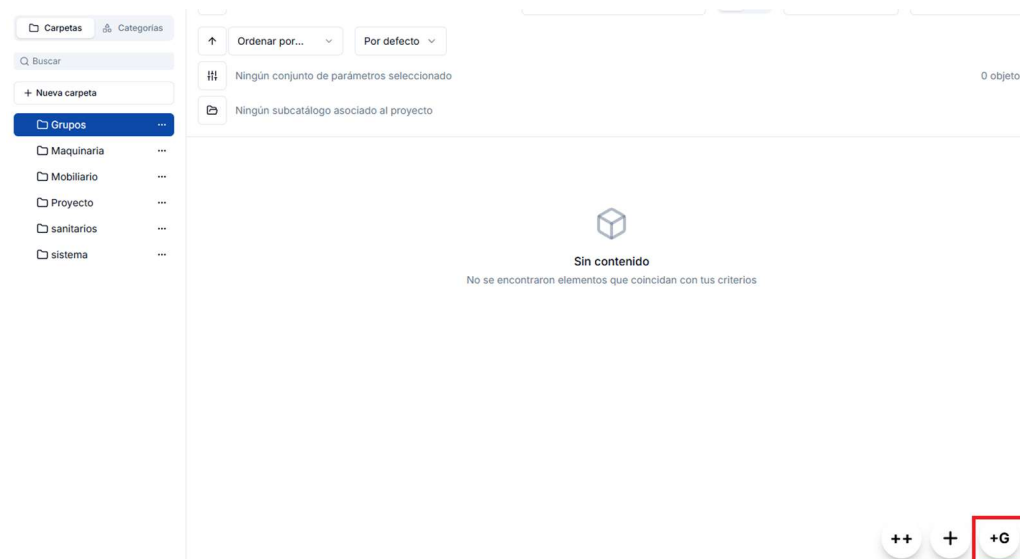


Next, we will use the **Save Group** function, available in the Revit menu.



It is recommended to use the same group name when saving the corresponding **.RVT** file.

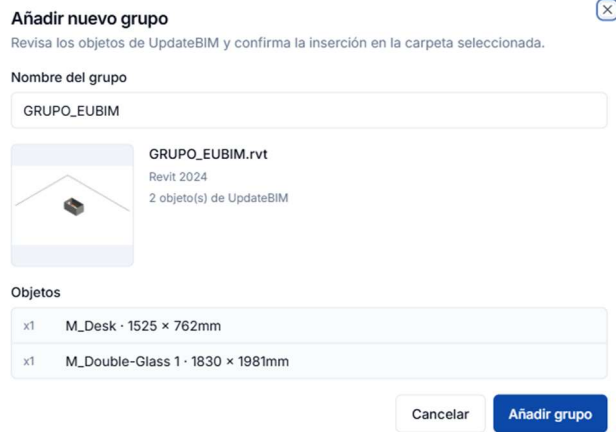
Once the group has been created, in UpdateBIM we must select the folder where we want to add it. Next, we will use the **Group** button, located in the lower right-hand corner of the UpdateBIM interface.



When this button is clicked, the program will ask us to indicate which group we want to add.

It will then display the selected group together with the list of **UpdateBIM elements** it contains.

As indicated above, the group may also include elements that do **not** belong to UpdateBIM. These elements are also included in the group, although they do not appear in that list.

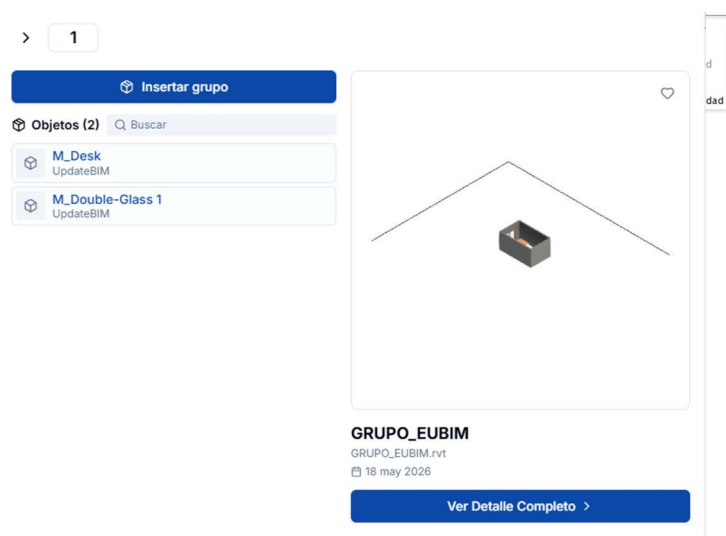


If the information displayed is correct, we will click **Add Group**. From that moment on, the group will appear in UpdateBIM with **Pending Publication** status.



Group insertion is performed in a similar way to inserting any family, although with some specific differences.

As can be seen in the image, the **Insert Group** button is the one that must be used to add the group to the project.



In addition, if we select any of the parts that make up the group, the program opens the specific screen for that family. In this way, it is easier to consult its information and, where appropriate, the option to insert that element individually is also provided.

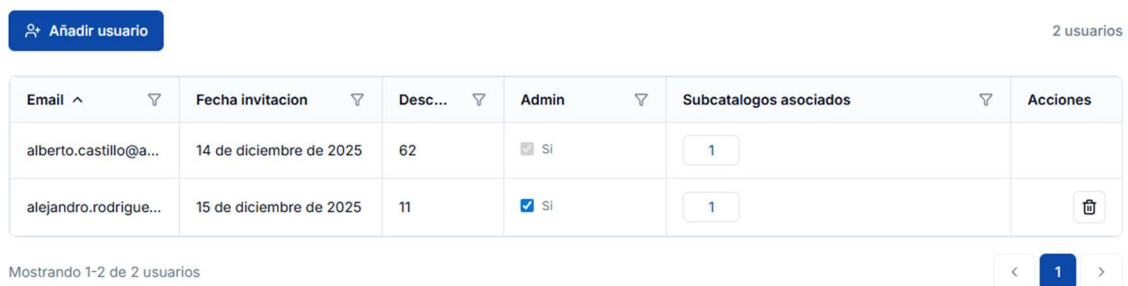
## 9.3 User Administration

In the case of **private catalogues**, the administrator can invite any user to access the catalogue using only their **email address**.

To carry out this management, it is necessary to access the **Users** screen using the following icon, located in the administration controls area.



When accessed, the following screen will be displayed:



The screenshot shows a user management interface. At the top left is a blue button labeled 'Añadir usuario'. At the top right, it says '2 usuarios'. Below this is a table with the following columns: 'Email', 'Fecha invitacion', 'Desc...', 'Admin', 'Subcatalogos asociados', and 'Acciones'. The table contains two rows of user data. Below the table, it says 'Mostrando 1-2 de 2 usuarios' and there is a pagination control showing '1'.

| Email ^               | Fecha invitacion        | Desc... | Admin                                  | Subcatalogos asociados | Acciones |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------|--|------------------------|----------|
| alberto.castillo@a... | 14 de diciembre de 2025 | 62      | <input type="checkbox"/> Si            | 1                      |          |
| alejandro.rodrigue... | 15 de diciembre de 2025 | 11      | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Si | 1                      |          |

The list of invited users displays the following information:

- **Invitation date:** indicates when the user invitation was sent.
- **Number of downloads:** shows how many family downloads from the catalogue each user has made.
- **Administrator:** indicates whether the user has administration permissions for the catalogue.
- **Associated subcatalogues:** shows the number of subcatalogues assigned to each user. By default, all users will have at least one associated subcatalogue, corresponding to the main catalogue.
- **Delete invitation:** allows the user invitation to be removed. In the case of the catalogue owner, this option will not be available, since the owner cannot be deleted.

If we click the button , the following form will be displayed:

### Invitar usuarios

Invita un usuario por email o importa un archivo CSV.

Email

El email es obligatorio.

Subcatálogos para la invitación

Selecciona los subcatálogos para los usuarios nuevos. El principal siempre queda seleccionado.

|                                     |           |           |
|-------------------------------------|-----------|-----------|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> | UpdateBIM | Principal |
| <input type="checkbox"/>            | Ute       |           |

If we want to invite a single user, it is enough to enter their **email address**. The system will automatically send an invitation email to the specified account.

If we need to add several users, we can use a **.csv file** containing the email addresses we want to invite.

### Plantilla CSV

Descarga una plantilla de ejemplo o adjunta un CSV para importar usuarios.

To make this task easier, the administrator can download a sample **.csv file** and use it as a template.

### 9.3.1 Associating User Costs with the Catalogue Owner.

By default, when a user is invited to a **private catalogue**, the cost of that user's licence is assumed by the person or entity sending the invitation.

If the intention is for the **user themselves** or **their company** to assume the cost of the licence, an email must be sent to **ApliCAD** indicating the name of the user who should assume that cost.

This assignment will be carried out by **ApliCAD**.

### 9.3.2 Managing Public Catalogue Users

The philosophy of a **public catalogue** is to allow any UpdateBIM user to access, directly and free of charge, the catalogues that manufacturers make available to their **customers, collaborators, or specifiers**. In this way, manufacturers can promote their products and facilitate their incorporation into BIM projects.

The invitation system can also be used in public catalogues. For example, the manufacturer can prepare a **.csv file** with its customer database, and the platform will send a **personalized invitation** to each of them.

From the point of view of statistics, invited users appear directly in this section, making it possible to monitor their activity within the catalogue more accurately.

In addition, if the catalogue has subcatalogues organized by **regions, markets, or customer types**, each invited user can be assigned one or more subcatalogues. In this way, the user will only have access to the parts of the catalogue that have been assigned to them.

## 9.4 Tag Administration.

The tags that can be associated with a catalogue are an additional way to classify and organize the families available in UpdateBIM.

To access tag management, we must use the following icon:



When accessing the tags form, a screen similar to the following will be displayed:

| Nombre ^  | Usos | Acciones |
|-----------|------|----------|
| Furniture | 0    |          |

This form displays the following information:

- **Tags defined in the catalogue.**
- **Number of uses of each tag.** In the example shown, the value is **0**.
- **Available actions**, such as editing or deleting the tag.

It is important to note that the **delete option** will only be available when there is **no family associated with that tag**.

Another relevant aspect is that tags are **multilingual**. This means that the text of each tag can be defined in the different languages available in the catalogue. In this way, when the user uses tag-based classification, the texts will be displayed in the language they have selected.

To modify the texts associated with each language, the **edit button** must be used.

**Editar etiqueta: Furniture** ×

Edita el valor de la etiqueta por idioma del fabricante.

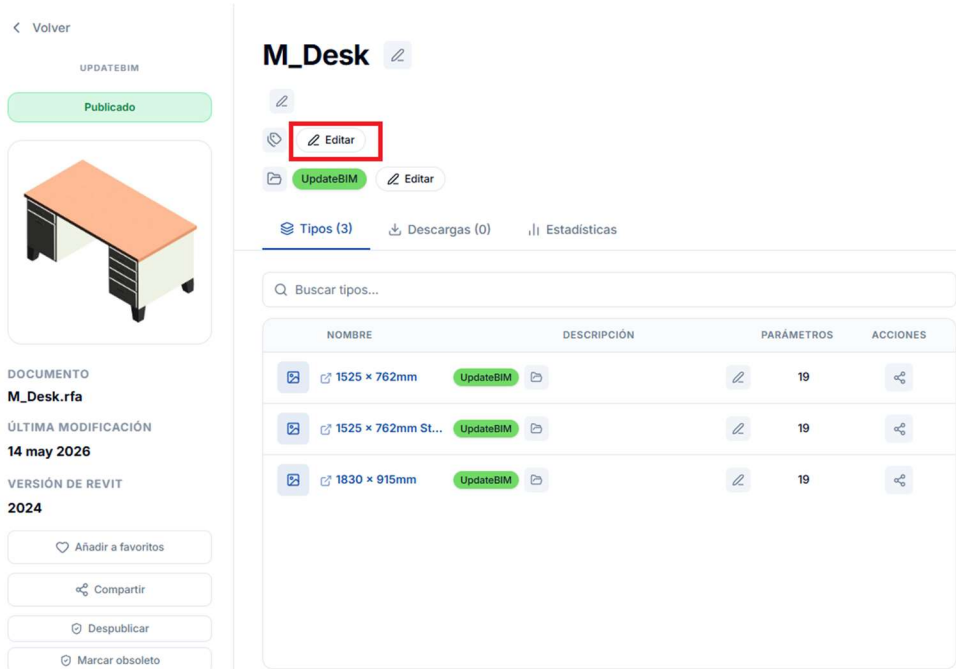
Español (por defecto)

English

Cancelar Guardar

### 9.4.1 Associating Tags with Families.

In the previous example, it would be advisable to **edit the tag text** in order to complete its information in the corresponding languages:



It is important to highlight that a family can have **one tag, several tags, or none at all**. The assignment of tags is left to the discretion of the **catalogue administrator**.

As seen above, UpdateBIM offers different ways to **organize and classify information**: folders, Revit categories, subcatalogues, parameters, and tags.

The addition of tags provides an **extra level of classification**, which can be used according to **technical, commercial, pricing, usage, manufacturer-related criteria**, or any other characteristic that may be useful for users working with the published families.

## 9.5 Subcatalogue Administration

Subcatalogues allow **sets of families or types** to be created within a catalogue, so that they are available only to the users designated by the administrator.

One of the main objectives of this functionality is to **facilitate collaboration between companies on specific projects**. For example, a company can use UpdateBIM as a common platform to share families with a collaborating company, but without giving it access to the entire catalogue. In this case, the administrator can create a subcatalogue with the families required for that project and assign it only to the corresponding users.

In this way, it is possible to define subcatalogues containing **complete families** or even **specific types within the same family**. These subcatalogues can then be associated with one or more users, limiting their access only to the set of families and types they need to use.

Access to subcatalogue administration is performed using the following button:



When accessed, a form similar to the following will be displayed:



| Nombre ^                           | Usos | Usuarios asociados | Color | Acciones  |
|------------------------------------|------|--------------------|-------|---|
| UpdateBIM <small>Principal</small> | 290  | 1                  | ●     |   |
| Ute                                | 1    | 1                  | ●     |   |

This form displays the following information:

- **Subcatalogue name:** indicates the name assigned to the subcatalogue. There is always a **main subcatalogue**, which cannot be deleted.
- **Number of uses:** shows the number of families or types associated with that subcatalogue.
- **Number of users:** indicates how many users have been assigned the subcatalogue.
- **Colour:** allows a colour to be assigned to the subcatalogue. This option is useful when there are several subcatalogues, as it makes it easier to visually identify which elements are associated with each one.
- **Actions:** allows the subcatalogue name to be edited or deleted, whenever possible.

To create a new subcatalogue, simply enter its name in the **Subcatalogue name** field and click the **Add subcatalogue** button. The system will generate it automatically.

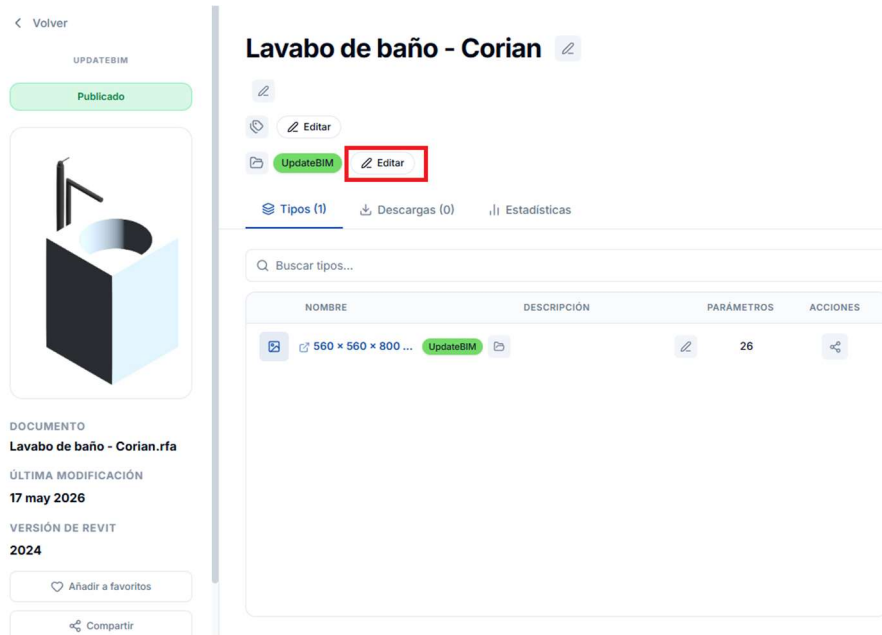
It is important to note that the selection of the **active subcatalogue** is made at **project level**. This information is stored in the **.rvt file itself**, so it remains linked to the project.

If the project is opened by a user who does **not** have access to the corresponding subcatalogue, they will be able to view the elements already existing in the model, but they will **not be able to insert new elements** from that subcatalogue unless it has been assigned to them.

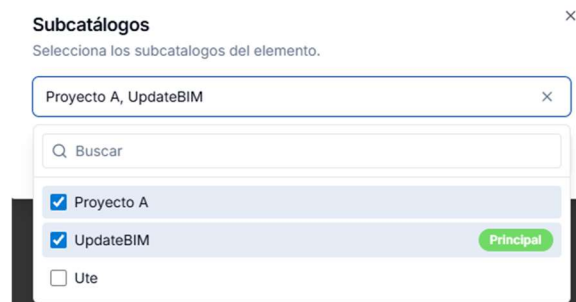
## 9.5.1 Associating Families with Subcatalogues.

To associate families with subcatalogues, this must be done from the **content manager**.

For example, if we want to associate a subcatalogue with a specific family, we must access the **detail screen** of that family with **catalogue administrator permissions**

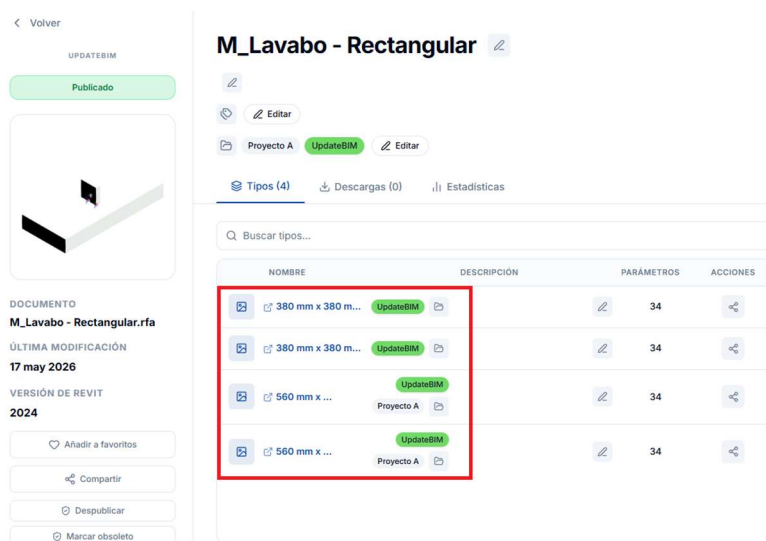


The system will display the **available subcatalogues**, allowing us to select those we want to associate with that family.



As can be seen, the same family can be associated with **more than one subcatalogue**.

In the case of families with **several types**, the assignment can be made at **type level**. This allows a family to be made **partially available**, restricting certain types to users who have been assigned a specific subcatalogue.

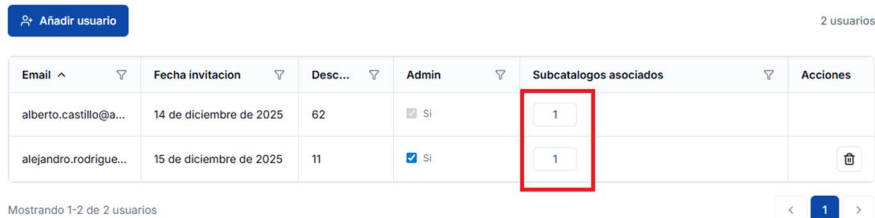


In the example shown, the first two types are **not available** in the **Project A** subcatalogue.

Therefore, users who do **not** have access to the main catalogue and are only associated with the **Project A** subcatalogue will **not be able to use those first two types**

## 9.5.2 Associating Users with Subcatalogues

To control which users can access each subcatalogue, we must access **user management**:



The screenshot shows a user management interface with a table of users. The table has columns for Email, Fecha invitacion, Desc..., Admin, Subcatalogos asociados, and Acciones. Two users are listed: alberto.castillo@a... and alejandro.rodrigue... The 'Subcatalogos asociados' column for both users shows a button with the number '1', which is highlighted with a red box. A blue button 'Añadir usuario' is at the top left, and '2 usuarios' is at the top right. At the bottom, it says 'Mostrando 1-2 de 2 usuarios' and there are navigation arrows.

| Email                 | Fecha invitacion        | Desc... | Admin | Subcatalogos asociados | Acciones |
|-----------------------|-------------------------|---------|-------|------------------------|----------|
| alberto.castillo@a... | 14 de diciembre de 2025 | 62      | Si    | 1                      |          |
| alejandro.rodrigue... | 15 de diciembre de 2025 | 11      | Si    | 1                      |          |

In the user form, the number indicating the subcatalogues associated with each user works as a **button**. When clicked, we can modify which subcatalogues are assigned to that user.

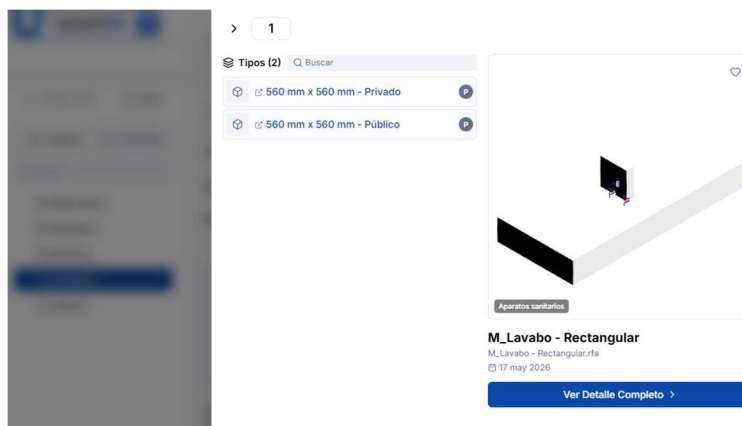
For example, if we want to restrict the first user's access only to the **Project A** subcatalogue, we must access this option and select only that subcatalogue:



The screenshot shows a modal window titled 'Subcatalogos asociados' for user 'alberto.castillo@aplicad.com'. It has a search bar 'Buscar' and a 'Marcar todo' button. Below are three subcatalogue options: 'UpdateBIM' (unchecked), 'Proyecto A' (checked), and 'Ute' (unchecked). The 'UpdateBIM' option has a green 'Principal' label. At the bottom are 'Cancelar' and 'Aceptar' buttons.

Once this assignment has been made, if we exit administrator mode and log in with the user who only has access to the **Project A** subcatalogue, the view of available families and types will be filtered according to that restriction.

In the case of the object whose types were previously limited, the user will see only the types available for the assigned subcatalogue



## 9.6 Parameter Administration.

One of the features that sets UpdateBIM apart from other similar systems is its **advanced management of shared parameters**.

UpdateBIM allows new **type parameters** to be associated with any family in the catalogue, **without needing to directly edit the family in Autodesk Revit**. In addition to adding new parameters, the system also allows their values to be **modified** or parameters that are no longer required to be **removed**.

This entire process is carried out from a **web interface**, so it is **not necessary to have Revit available** in order to manage these features.

To access parameter administration, we must use the following button:



This button will display the following form:

[Subir nuevo fichero de parámetros](#)
[+ Agregar conjunto de parámetros](#)
[+ Agregar nuevo parametro](#)
381 parámetros [Descargar fichero de parámetros](#)

| Nombre                          | Descripci... | Categori... | Tipo d...     | Grupo           | V... | Mo... | Co... | P...                     | Grupo de propiedades | U. | A |
|---------------------------------|--------------|-------------|---------------|-----------------|------|-------|-------|--------------------------|----------------------|----|---|
| 2nd to 3rd                      |              |             | Autodesk R... | Autodesk Rev... | Sí   | No    | No    | <input type="checkbox"/> | Eléctrico - Cargas   | 1  |   |
| 3rd to Roof                     |              |             | Autodesk R... | Autodesk Rev... | Sí   | No    | No    | <input type="checkbox"/> | Eléctrico - Cargas   | 1  |   |
| 6*db/2                          |              |             | Autodesk R... | Autodesk Rev... | Sí   | No    | No    | <input type="checkbox"/> | Eléctrico - Cargas   | 7  |   |
| 6*db/2 + db                     |              |             | Autodesk R... | Autodesk Rev... | Sí   | No    | No    | <input type="checkbox"/> | Eléctrico - Cargas   | 7  |   |
| A                               |              |             | Autodesk R... | Autodesk Rev... | Sí   | No    | No    | <input type="checkbox"/> | Eléctrico - Cargas   | 5  |   |
| Absortancia                     |              |             | Autodesk R... | Autodesk Rev... | Sí   | No    | No    | <input type="checkbox"/> | Eléctrico - Cargas   | 4  |   |
| Ajustar para tamaño de monta... |              |             | Autodesk R... | Autodesk Rev... | Sí   | No    | No    | <input type="checkbox"/> | Eléctrico - Cargas   | 1  |   |

## 9.7 Usage Statistics Administration

Usage statistics are generally the most important tool for manufacturers who rely on UpdateBIM as the platform to promote their products among both current and future customers.

To access this information, the following button must be used

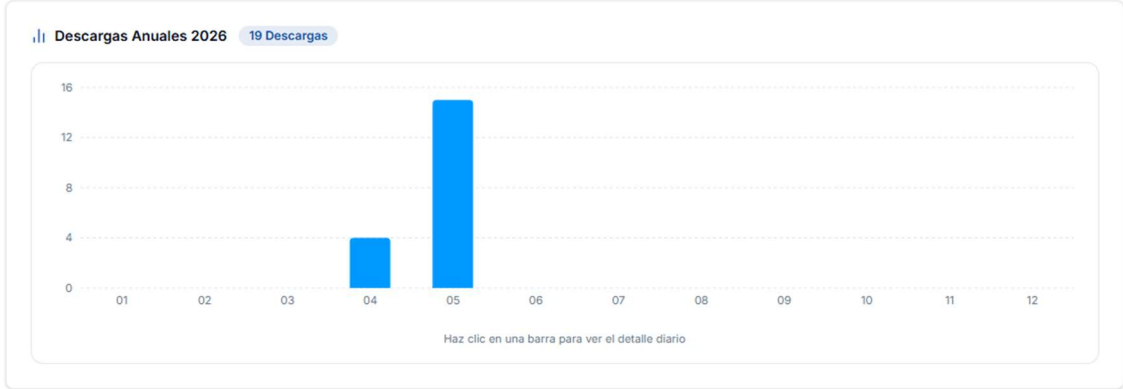


This button provides access to the following screen, which shows information about the use of the different families in the catalogue:

|                             |                              |   |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|---|
| Total Objetos<br><b>103</b> | Usuarios Activos<br><b>1</b> | Almacenamiento Usado<br><b>50 MB</b><br>/ 20 MB |
|-----------------------------|------------------------------|---|

Estadísticas — UpdateBIM

Año: 2026



Objetos Más Descargados (2026) Ver todos

|                            |                             |                    |                         |                               |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|
| 1<br>M_Chair-Breuer<br>↓ 5 | 2<br>Mesa de Trabajo<br>↓ 4 | 3<br>M_Desk<br>↓ 3 | 4<br>Chair-Viper<br>↓ 2 | 5<br>Table-Night Stand<br>↓ 2 |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------------|