HiCAD

UNLIMITED CAD PERFORMANCE **DEVELOPED BY ISD**

HiCAD Steel Engineering

Version 2023

Railing Configurator

Date of issue: 22/05/2023

isdgroup.com

I·S·D

THE WORLD OF CAD AND PDM SOLUTIONS

TOC

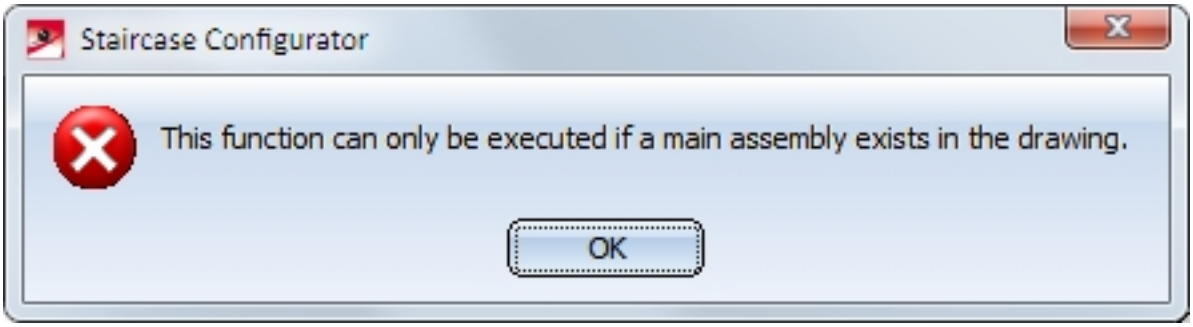
Railing Configurator - Important Notes

'Civil Engineering functions' docking window > Steel Engineering >Stairs + Railings > Railing> Railing Configurator (Railings along beams)

Please note the following when using the Railing Configurator, especially when creating workshop drawings for railings:

Requirements

- The drawing must contain a main assembly. If this is not the case, a corresponding message will be displayed. Extensive information on main assemblies can be found in the topics Assemblies, Main Parts and Sub-Parts, Part Drawing or Assembly Drawing and Edit Part/Assembly Structure. If no main assembly exists, the following message will be displayed.



  Click **OK** and create a new main assembly and call the function again.

- The beams along which the railing is to be placed must form one continuous "path". Possible are I-, U-, L- and C-beams.
- The axis of the active coordinate system is the direction axis for the posts, which means that the beams must not run parallel to the Z-axis of the active coordinate system. If you are not sure, select **Drawing > Others > World CS**  before calling the Railing Configurator.
- The beams must be straight.

Feature log

DEpending on the selected railing function, a feature log item called

Railing along beams or

Railing along edges, respectively,

will be entered into the feature log.

To process an already existing railing, identify one of the railing elements and double-click **Geländer entlang Kanten** or **Geländer entlang Profilen**in the feature log. The Railing Configurator will then be started.

Assembly

An assembly called **Railing** will be created for the railing. This assembly is made up of sub-assemblies called **Segment**, which in turn contain the railing elements of the individual beams. The **Segment** sub-assembly is subdivided into the following sub-assemblies:

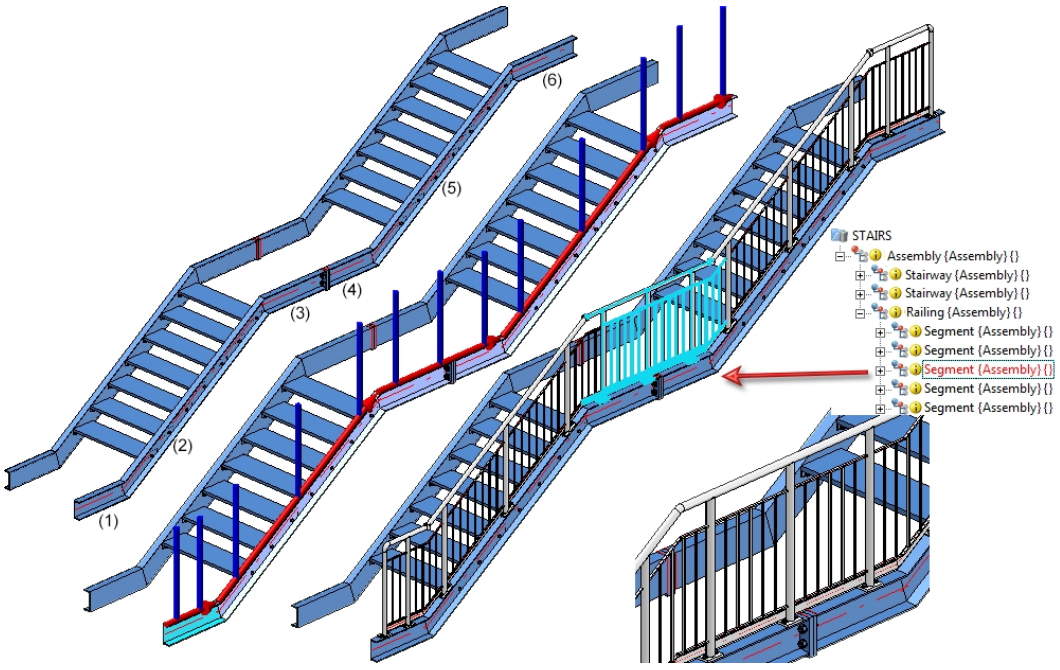
- Posts
  - Main part: Pipe (or similar)
  - Further parts
- Handrail
  - Main part: Pipe (or similar)
  - Further parts, e.g. elbows
- Skirting board
  - Main part: L-profile (or similar):
  - Further parts
- Infill
  - Filling parts (Boom, Vertical rods, Knee rail, …)

Important:

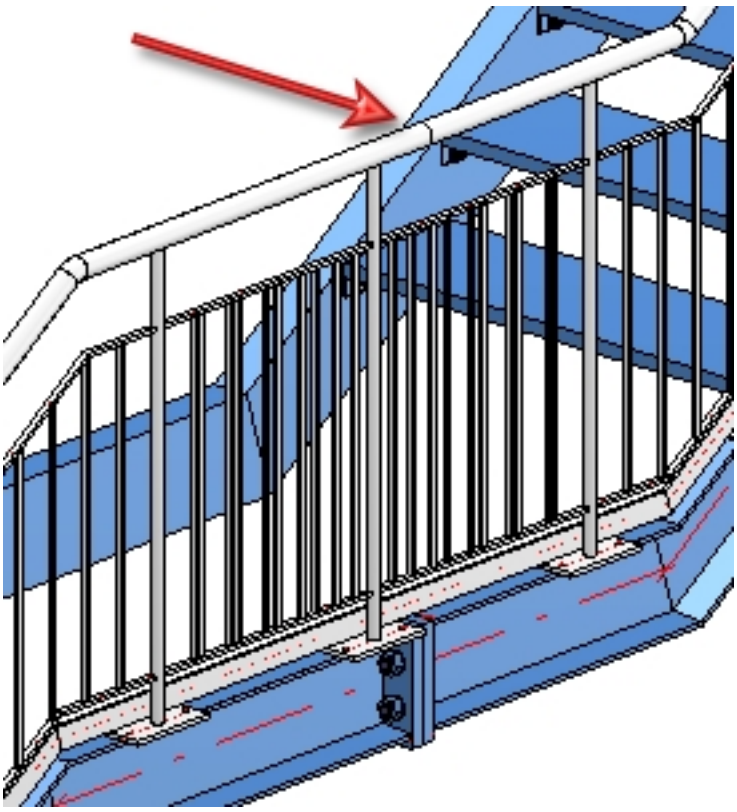
If there are several beams in succession that are aligned in the same direction, the railing elements of these beams will be combined into one segment assembly. As a result, continuous hand rails and knee rails will be formed on these beams. The updating and modification of existing railings (before Version 2016 SP2) will still be performed with separate segment assemblies and non-continuous hand rails and knee rails.

Example:

Let us assume that you want to place a railing on beams (1) - (6). The beams (3) and (4) are aligned in the same direction. In this case, the assembly "Railing" will consist of 5 "Segment" sub-assemblies. As a result, the railing elements of beams (3) and (4) have been combined into one railing segment, with continuous hand rails and knee rails.



Versions before HiCAD 2016 SP2 would have created 6 "Segment" assemblies, with two separate railing segments for the beams (3) and (4), i.e. one for beam (3) and one for beam (4).



BOM-relevance of assemblies

The BOM-relevance of the assemblies to be created by the Railing Configurator can be set in the Configuration Editor (isdconfigeditor.exe), at **Steel Engineering > Products > Railing**, separately for

- the railing assemblies,
- the segment assemblies, and
- the component assemblies.

The default setting is as follows:

Description	Value	Comment
BOM-relevance of railing assemblies	☑	Set BOM-relevance when creating assembly
BOM-relevance of segment assemblies	☑	Set BOM-relevance when creating assembly
BOM-relevance of component assemblies	☑	Set BOM-relevance when creating assembly

If you deactivate the BOM-relevance for the component assemblies, no assembly main parts will be defined by the Railing Configurator.

Assemblies, Usage, BOM-relevance and behaviour in case of drawing derivation

Assembly	Usage	BOM-relevant? *	CONFIGKEY	Utilized configuration *	Consider for drawing derivation?
Railing	Railing	Yes	RAILING	RAILING	No
Segment	Railing segment	Yes	RAILINGSEGMENT	RAILINGSEGMENT	Yes
Post	Post	No	POST	POST	No
Assembly main part	Post profile	Yes	POSTPROFILE	DEFAULT (Steel pipes)	Yes
Handrail	Handrail	No	HANDRAIL	STRINGER	No
Assembly main part	Handrail profile	Yes	RAILINGPROFILE	DEFAULT (Hollow profiles)	Yes
Infill	Infill	Yes		FILLING	No
Boom	Boom	Yes		STRINGER	No
Kneerail	Kneerail	Yes	KNEERAIL	STRINGER	No
Vertical rod	Vertical rod	Yes	WEBMEMBER	DEFAULT (Steel pipes)	Yes
Skirting board	Skirting board	Yes	SKIRTING	STRINGER	No
Assembly main part	Skirting board profile	Yes	SKIRTINGPROFILE	DEFAULT (Flat steel)	Yes

*: ISD default setting when using Steel Engineering configuration

The configurations for railings created via drawing derivation are stored in the Configuration Editor (isd-configeditor.exe) at **Automatic drawing derivation > Production drawing > Usage-dependent**. The dimensioning rules for the railing segments can be found at the respective **Set of dimensioning rules** entry, e.g. **Automatic drawing derivation > Production drawing > Usage-dependent > RAILING > Set of dimensioning rules**.

Coordinate systems of the assemblies

The assemblies Railing, Railing segment, Handrail, Post and Filling possess reliable coordinate systems which can be used for the determination of the views and the dimensioning of derived drawings.

At the time of assembly creation, the origin of the assembly coordinate systems is located in the origin of the world coordinate system.

- Railing
  The part coordinate system of the railing is selected in such a way that in the first segment is appropriately displayed in the front view of the workshop drawing (Z-axis = Z-axis of the world coordinate system; the X-axis is selected in such a way that the routing direction of the first segment will be in the XZ-plane)
- Railing segment
  The part coordinate system is selected in such a way that the segment will be located in the XZ-plane of the Segment assembly. X points in the routing direction.

- Infill
  The part coordinate systems of the Infill assemblies are identical with those of the segments.
- Handrail
  The part coordinate system of the Railing assembly is identical with that of the segment.
- Skirting board
  The part coordinate system of the Skirting board is identical with that of the segments.
- Post
  The Z-axis is that of the world coordinate system. The XZ-plane will be selected according to the construction direction of the segment.

Fitting position or Processing position

Railing segments can be displayed in fitting position or in processing position in workshop drawings. The fitting position makes sense for inclined railings, the processing position should be used for railings in X-direction, i.e. with horizontal handrail.

Designation of the vertical rods in the segment views of the workshop drawing

When assigning designations to the vertical rods in the Segment views, only one designation (Item number) will be generated for several identical parts, i.e. identical rods in one view will obtain one designation (item number), while the other parts of the railing will be designated individually.

Annotation tags of the Railing assembly

The main annotation tags of the Railing assembly are defined by the template file WSD_RailingAssembly.FTD. The file contains the Usage and Item number attributes. Sub-part tags are defined by the template PosNummerSTB_Nebenteile.FTD.

 Please note that the German or English names (not the key names) of the tree structure are used for references to the Configuration Management!

Railing Configurator - Railings along beams

General information

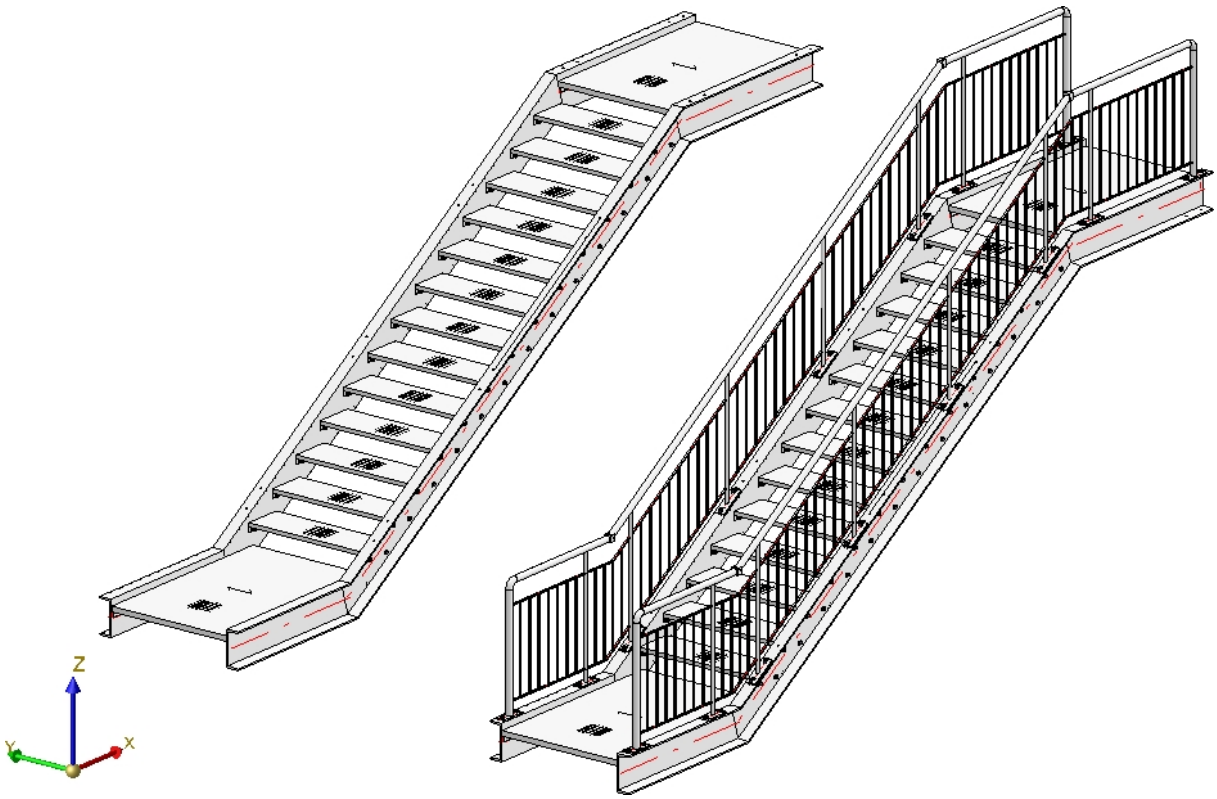
Civil Engineering functions docking window > Steel Engineering >Stairs + Railings > Railing > Railing Configurator (Railings along beams)

The Railing Configurator, which is part of the HiCAD Steel Engineering module, enables you to configure and insert individual railings along beams, e.g. for staircases created with the Staircase Configurator, or various platforms.

Before using the Railing Configurator, please read the information given in the Railing Configurator - Important Notes topic.

As this function is rather complex, the settings will initially be explained by means of a simple staircase example. How to proceed for multi-storey stairs and railings with equidistant railing posts is explained in a separate example.

First, a railing is to be added to the staircase that has been generated with the Railing Configurator (Stringers: U280 beams). Please note that in this example, the ISD default settings are used.



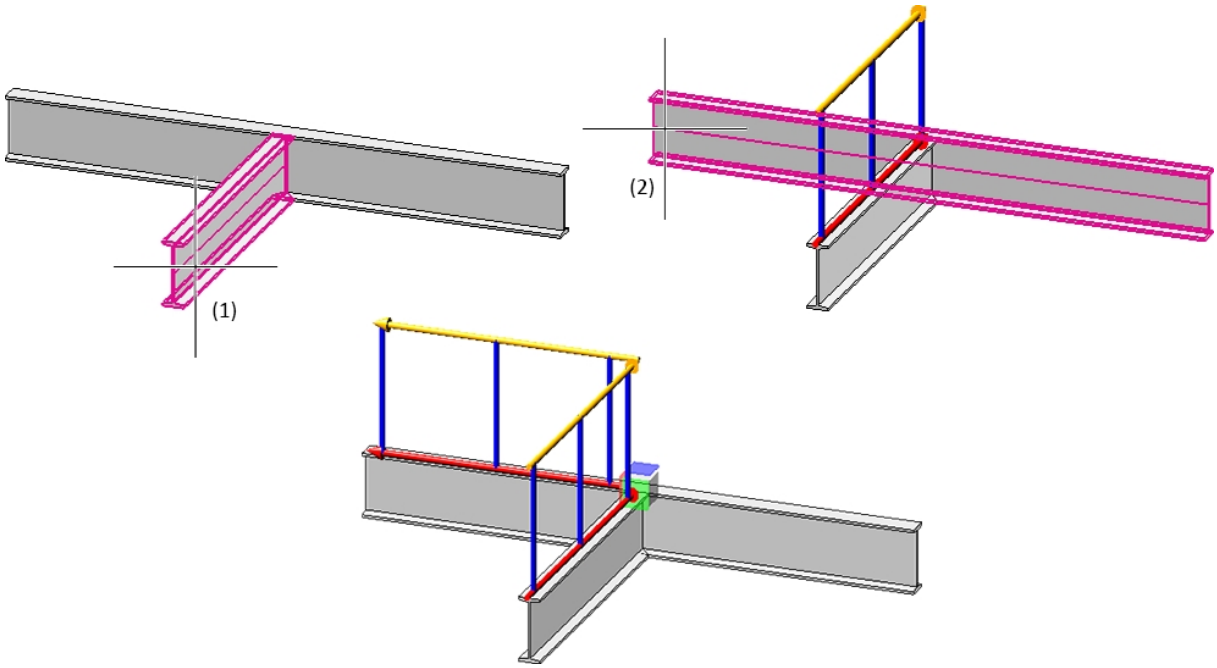
Simple staircase with railing

Before starting the Railing Configurator, please make sure that the coordinate system is aligned correctly. The Railing Configurator aligns the railings to the Z-axis. If you are not sure, select **Drawing > Others > World CS**  to activate the 3-D World CS (=default CS).

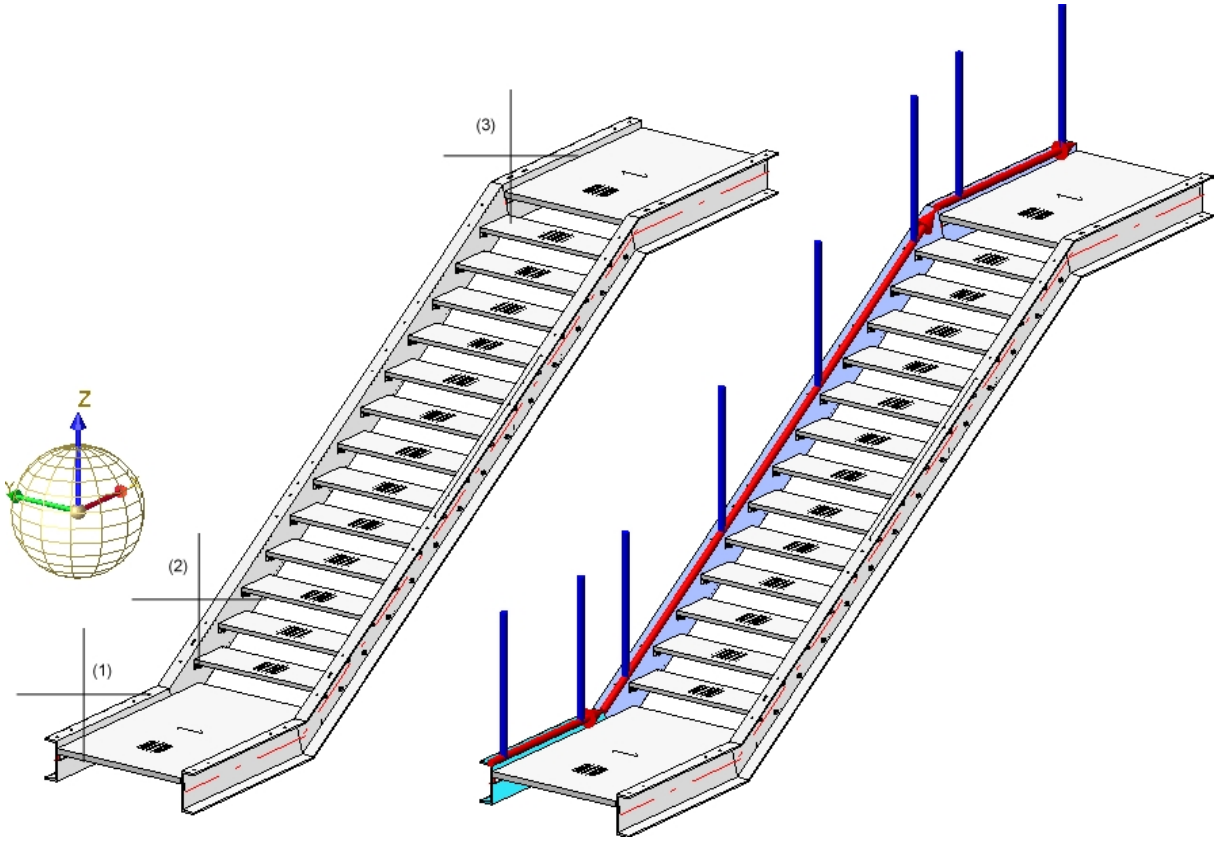
After calling the Railing Configurator you will be prompted to identify, one by one, the Steel Engineering beams onto which the railing is to be placed. The "path" that is formed by the beams will define a virtual composite edge that will serve as a guideline for the route of the railing. Posts, handrail, infill and knee rails will then be located on a composite edge running parallel to this guideline, the so-called walking line.

When selecting the beams, please note that the selection point for the first beam is the start point according to which the subsequent division of the railing is based (fixed distance with rest at the beginning or end). For example, in practice, designers follow the walking direction from bottom to top when designing stair railings. The selection point for the next beam determines the direction in which the railing is installed. If the order of the selected beams results in only one possible walking direction of the railing, the selection of the end of a beam is ignored

In the example shown below, the first beam is selected at point (1), the second beam at point (2). A shows the result before HiCAD 2022 SP1, B the result in HiCAD 2022 SP1.



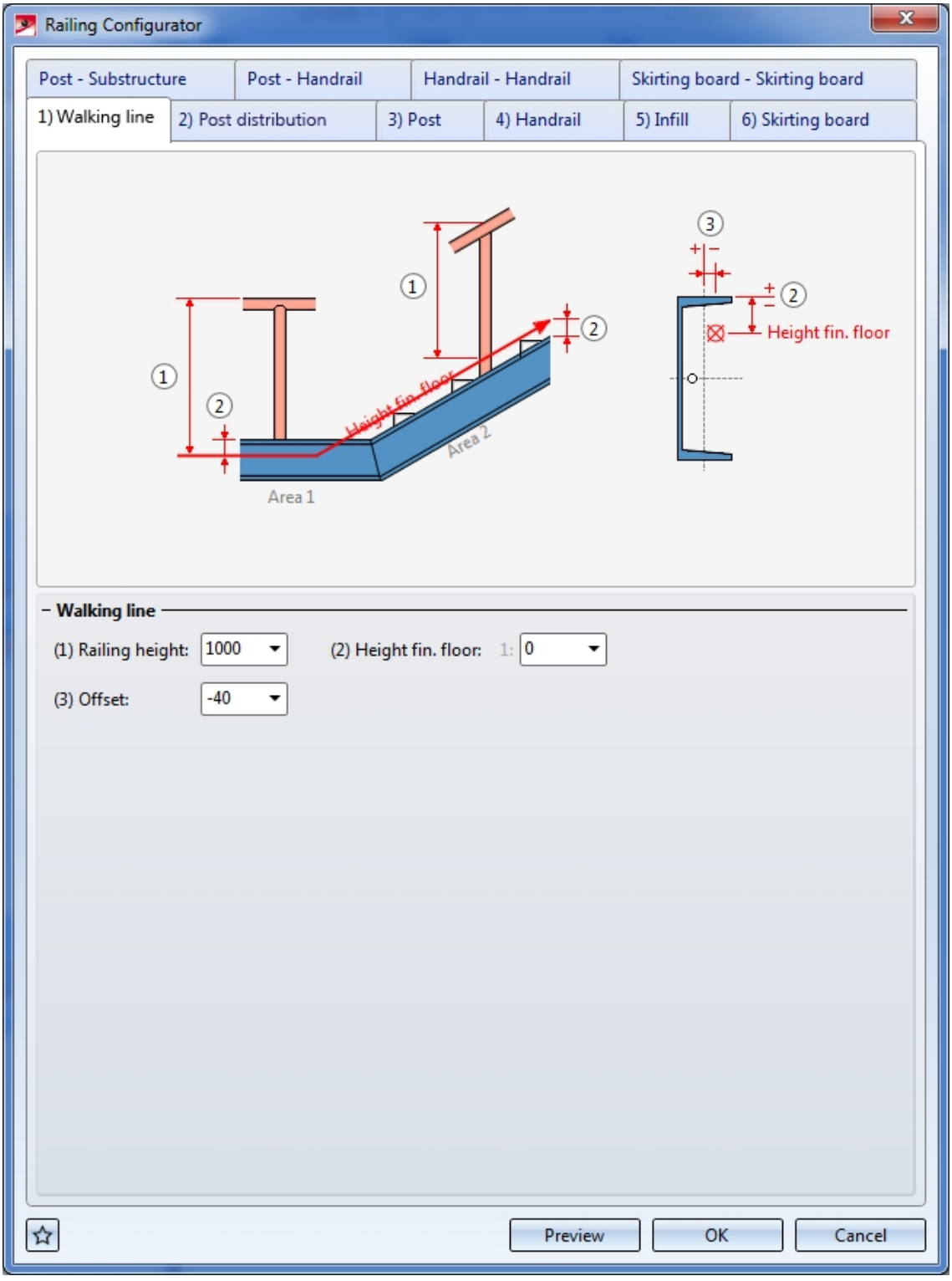
During selection of the beams, the walking line and walking direction will be visualized by means of a red arrow. This walking line determines the height and the fixing position of the railing. The distribution of posts, too, will be visualized according to the last selected settings. As soon as you change the settings in the dialogue window, the preview will be updated.


Z
(1)
(2)
(3)

Example, Step 1 - Selection of beams (1), (2) and (3) -> Walking line and direction will be visualized

You end the selection of beams by clicking the middle mouse button. This automatically opens the **Railing Configurator** dialogue window.

Railing Configurator (ISD defaults)



This dialogue window consists of the following tabs:

General parameters and component selection:

- 1) Walking line
- 2) Post distribution
- 3) Post
- 4) Handrail
- 5) Infill
- 6) Skirting board

Parameters for the definition of the railing components:

- Post - Substructure
- Post - Handrail
- Handrail - Handrail
- Skirting board - Skirting board

The settings can be saved as Favourites and reused at any time. At the bottom left of the dialogue window, click the  symbol to activate a menu with Favourites functions. More information about Favourites can be found in the **Manage Favourites** topic of the **HiCAD Basics** Help.

While the window is open, you can display a **Preview** of the railing generated with the current settings by clicking the same-named button. You can use the zoom functions to enlarge or downsize the object on the screen.

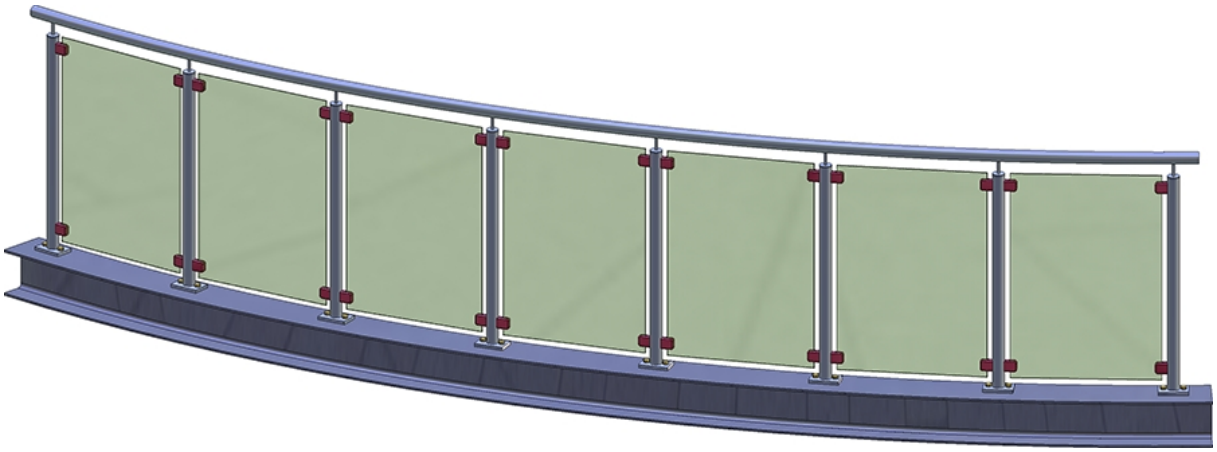
Click **OK** to start the generation of the railing. The progress of the generation will be indicated in a progress bar.

 Please note:

- All settings specified in the Railing Configurator dialogue window will be saved as defaults and will be shown when you call the Configurator again.
- An assembly called **Railing** will be created for the railing. This assembly in turn consists of sub-assemblies called **Segment**, which contain the railing elements on the individual beams.

  If there are several beams in succession that are aligned in the same direction, the railing elements of these beams will be combined into one segment assembly. As a result, continuous hand rails and knee rails will be formed on these beams. The updating and modification of existing railings (before V 2016 SP2) witch such areas will still be performed using individual segment assemblies and thus with non-continuous hand rails and knee rails.This also applies to curved beams with equal radius and mid point from HiCAD 2019 2019 SP2, Patch 1 onwards. The updating and modification of existing railings (before Version 2019 SP2, Patch 1) will still be performed with separate segment assemblies and thus with non-continuous hand rails and knee rails.
- A feature log entry called **Railing along beams** will be entered in the feature log.
- Various components and connections belong to a railing, which are all created via Design Variants. The ISD has supplied the corresponding Design Variants for this purpose. If desired, you can also create customized Design Variants for the components. If you have any questions about the procedure, contact our Consulting team.
- To select the variant for a component, just click on the corresponding tab. Select the desired variant from the list-box, click the  icon to directly choose the component from the HiCAD catalogue and specify all required set-tings.

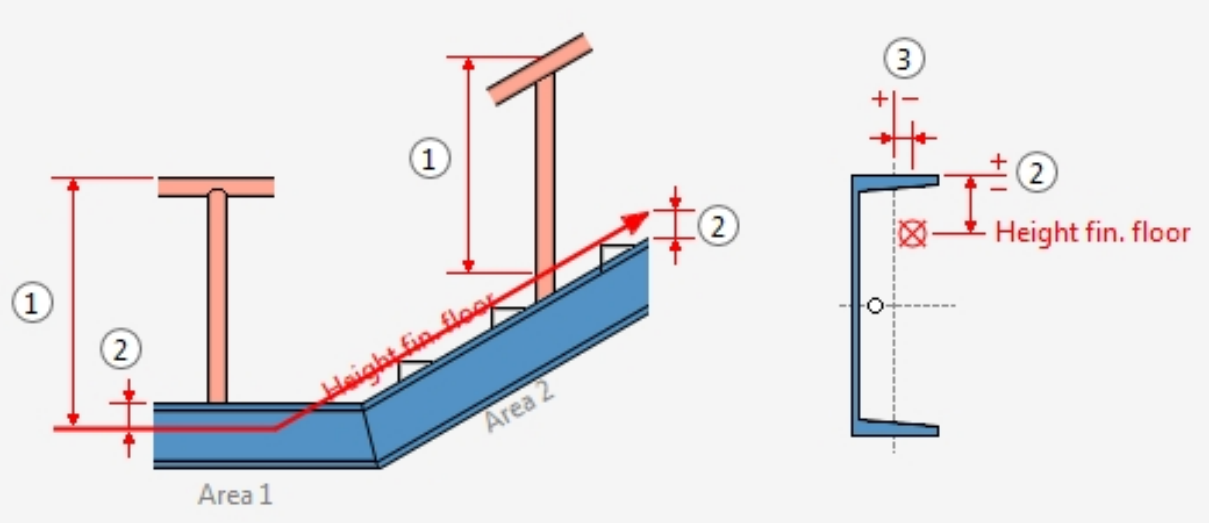
- In some tabs you can use and symbols to open and close input areas.
- The updating of stairs and railings with deleted parts has no longer been possible since HiCAD 2017. However, this only concerns the stairs and railings that have been created with HiCAD 2017 (Version 2200) or newer.
- Railings created with older versions of the Railing Generator (from Version 2101.0 onwards) can be updated or changed if you have subsequently deleted parts that were created by the corresponding variant. However, these deleted parts will be re-created upon updating if these are required due to the parameters and the geometrical situation.
- You can also create curved railings in one plane. However, this is not possible for beams that were placed along composite edges.



Curved railing, created along a curved beam

General parameters and railing component selection

1) Walking line



Railing height (1)

This value determines the railing height from the finished floor. This height always refers to the top step corner.

Height fin. floor (2)

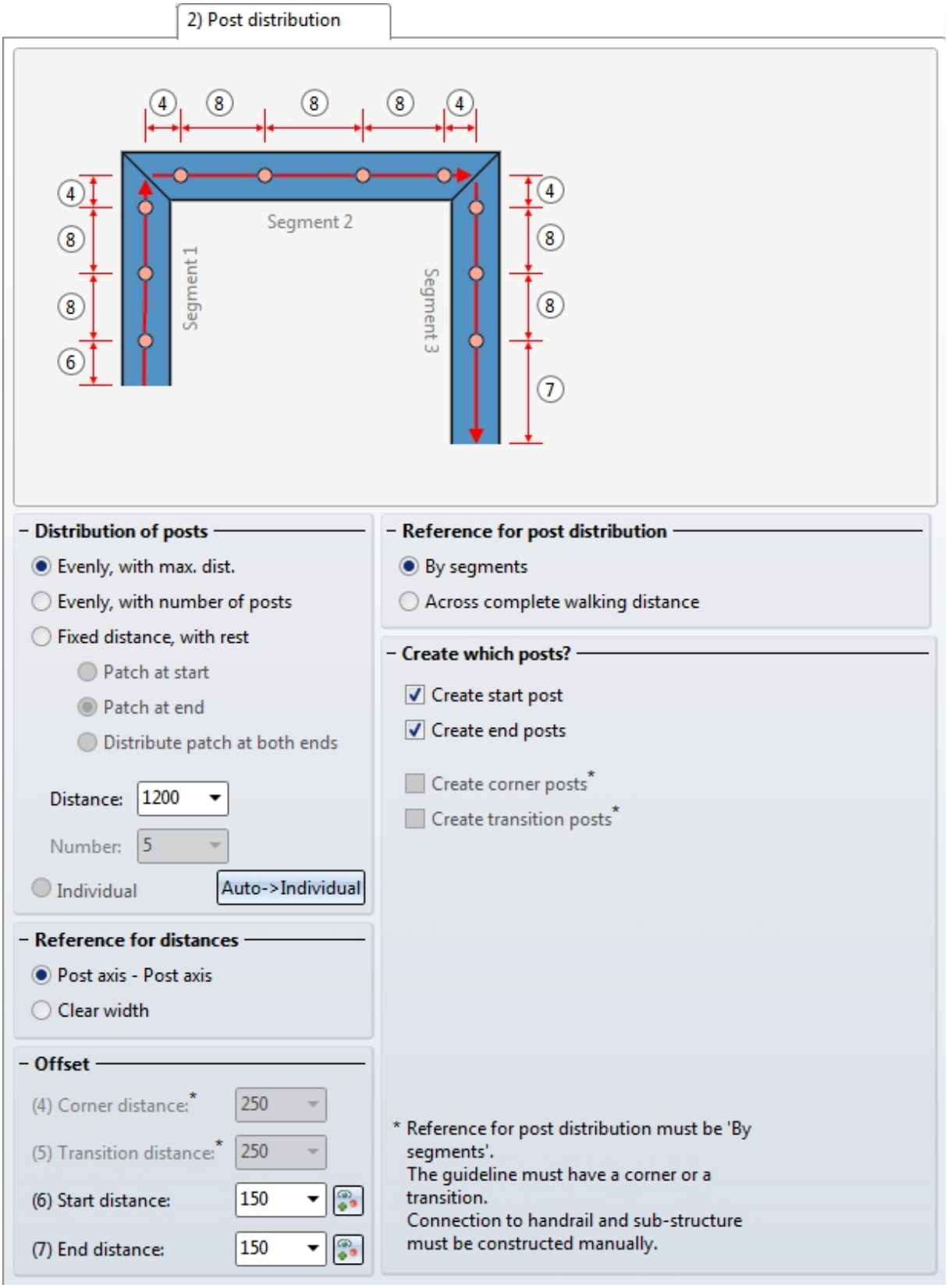
This value determines the distance between the upper beam side and the finished floor. If you enter a value greater than 0 or less that 0, the entire walking line will be moved upwards or downwards. Depending on the type of the selected beams you can also specify different heights for the finished floor. For this purpose, the selected beams are subdivided into areas. The first beam belongs to area 1. HiCAD will then check whether the next beam is located in the same plane. If this is the case, it also belongs to area 1. If not, area 2 starts with this beam etc. For each of these areas the value **Height fin. floor** can be specified separately.

Offset (3)

Here you specify the lateral distance to the beam axes - seen in positive direction to the left / negative direction to the right in walking direction (3). Please note that you can also take the values directly from the drawing by right-clicking the input field and selecting **Pick distance**.

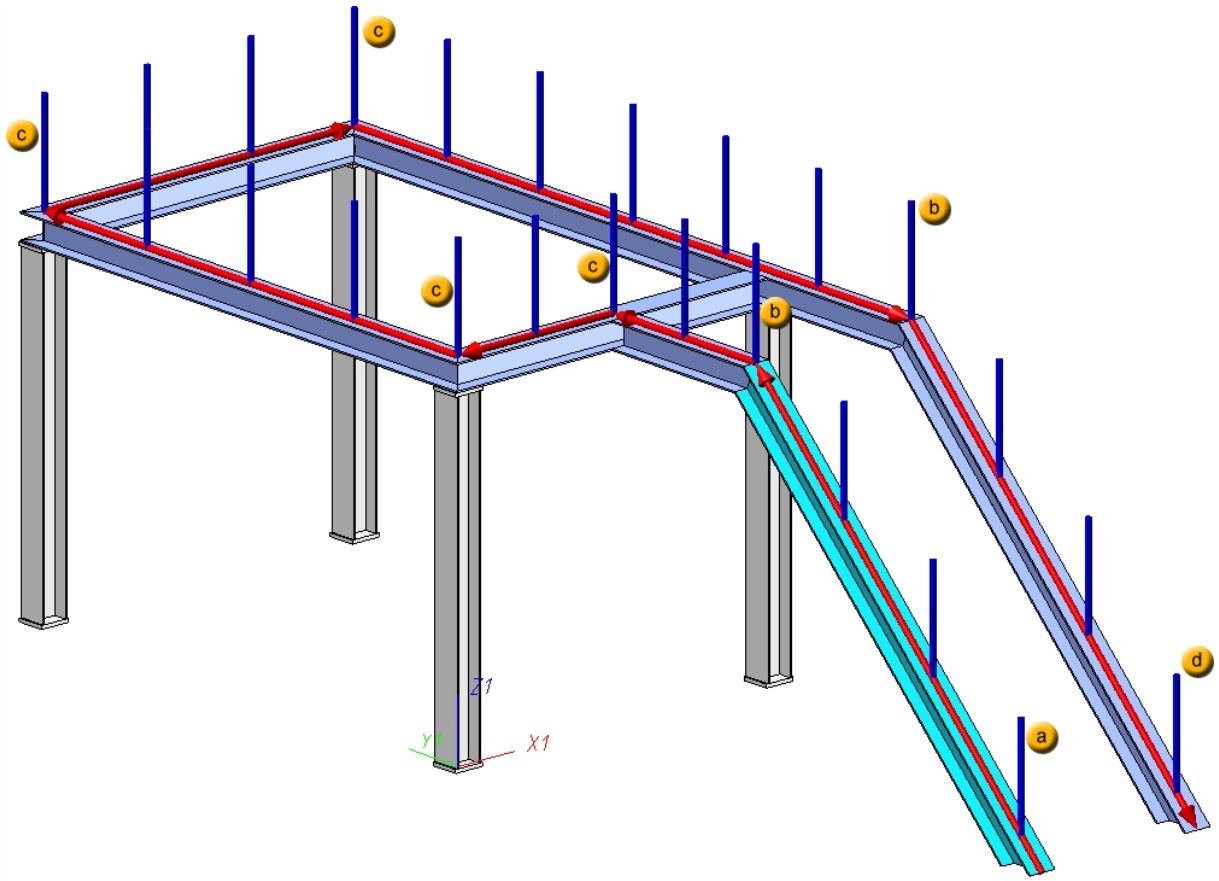
2) Post distribution

On this tab you specify which posts are to be created, and how the posts are to be distributed along the walking line. The post distribution can take place automatically or manually.



One distinguishes between start post, end post and transition post.

Example with start post (a), transition posts (b) and end posts (c)



Automatic post distribution

Reference for post distribution

The distribution of the posts can take place by segments or across the complete walking distance. A segment is the length between the virtual axes, i.e. the perpendiculars in the corner points or inflexion points of the red walking line.

The **By segments** setting makes sense for the creation of balcony railings. Here, the posts will be evenly distributed to the corners, and the corner fields are also filled evenly .

On the other hand, the **Across complete walking distance** setting can be useful for the creation on railings on staircases, e.g. for multi-storey staircases and railings with equal post distances.

A segment is the length between the virtual axes (i.e. the perpendiculars in the inflexion points of the red line, pls. see image below), e.g.:

- First segment: From the start of the red line, offset by Dimension 6 to the first axis (First inflexion point)
- Last segment: From the end of the red line, offset by Dimension 7 to the last inflexion point of the red line
- In the stair flight segment, HiCAD calculates the post distances according to the corresponding, specified options (equal post distances or evenly with number of posts), i.e. the "virtual axis" of the red lines - 2x Dimension 5.
- The post distances of Dimension 5 are considered here.

Distribution of posts

- Evenly, with max. distance

  If you select this option, the Start distance (Dimension 6) and the End distance (Dimension 7) will be subtracted from the total length of the walking line. The rest will be distributed in such a way that the distances between the posts will be equal and will not exceed the specified maximum distance. The Transition distance (Dimension 5) will not be considered.

- Evenly, with number of posts

  Here, the calculation length will be divided by the number of posts, with regard to the axis length. The value in the **Distance** field as well as the Transition distance (Dimension 5) will not be considered.

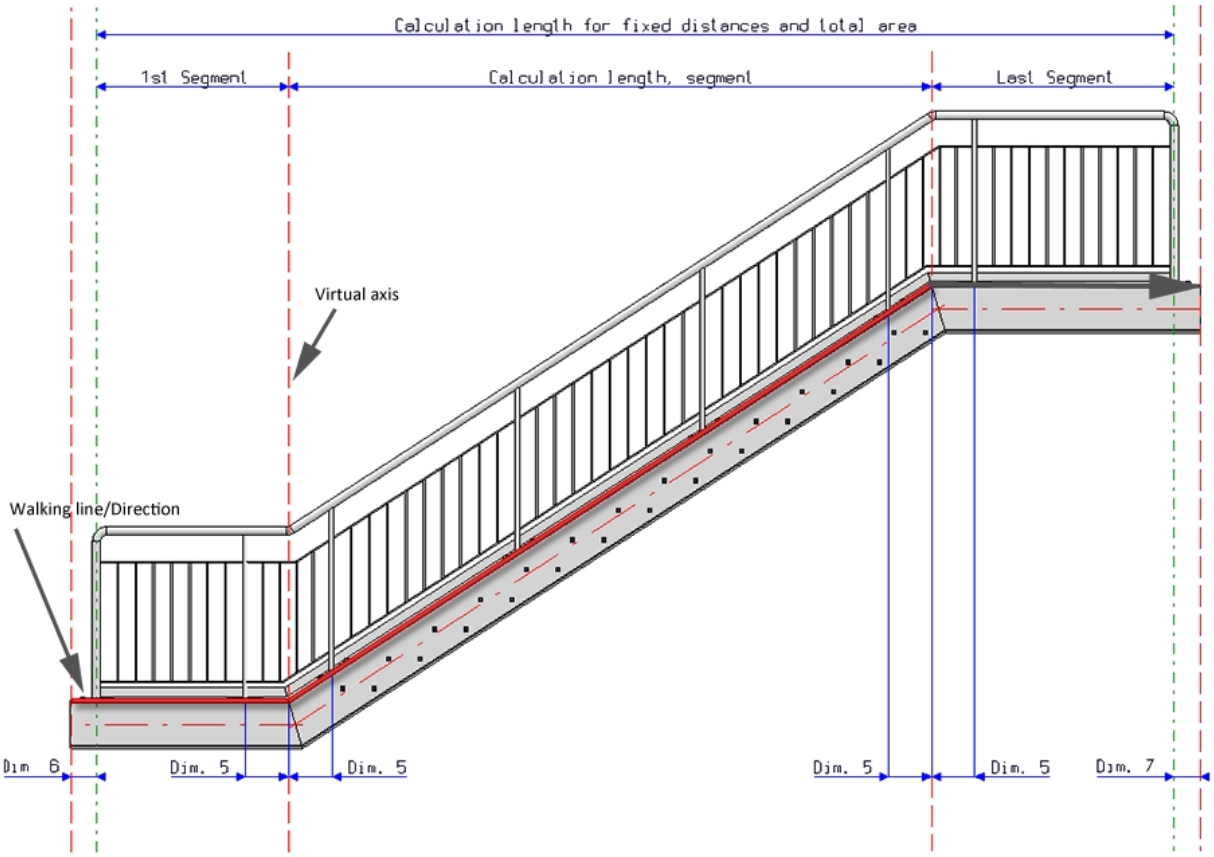
- Fixed distance, with rest

  If you select this option, you need to check whether the remaining rests (patches) are to be located at the start, at the end or on both sides. It is therefore recommended to use "virtual" vertical auxiliary lines during the construction process. For if the railing posts are to be located below one another after completion of the construction, this can be achieved easiest with this option. This means that the specified dimensions will only be used for the active flight of stairs (walking line). In the sketch you can see that the flight of stairs 1 places Dimension 6 at the bottom right (at the start), and Dimension 7 at the left. When you activate the flight of stairs 2, Dimension 6 will be located on the left, and Dimension 7 on the right. This should be taken into account to ensure that the correct distances will be entered. Dimension 5 will not be considered.
  When selecting the beams, please note that HiCAD interprets the first selected beam as the start, which the later partitioning of the railing will be based on (fixed distance with rest at the start or end). In practice, engineers mostly use an upstairs walking direction as an orientation.

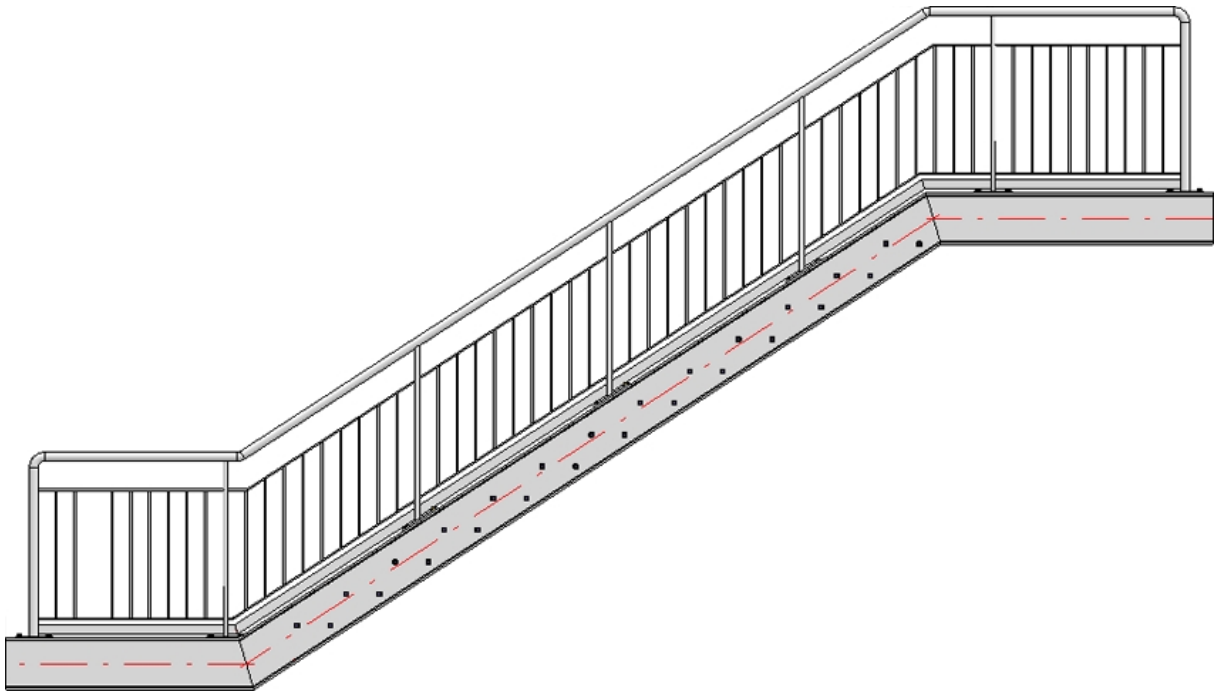
For the distribution of posts in the image this means:

- The first post will be offset by Dimension 6 with regard to the first axis
- The second post is located before the first inflexion point of the walking line at the distance of Dimension 5.
- The third post is offset by Dimension 5 with regard to the first inflexion point.
- In the stair flight segment, HiCAD calculates the post distances according to the corresponding, specified options (equal post distances or evenly with number of posts), i.e. the "virtual axis" of the red lines - 2x Dimension 5.
- The last but one post is offset by Dimension 5 with regard to the last inflexion point of the walking line.
- The last post has a distance of Dimension 7 from the end of the walking line.

Example: Distribution of posts by segments



Example: Distribution of posts across complete walking distance (different at transitions)



Reference for distances

The distance can either be interpreted as

- distance between the post axes, or
- as a so-called "clear width" i.e. the inner distance between the posts

Offset

- Corner distance (4)
  Distance of the post axes to the corner points of the walking line.
  This dimension is only applies if the posts are distributed by segments, and if the **Create corner posts** beneath **Create which posts?** has been deactivated.
- Transition distance (5)
  The distance of the first post to the beam start
  This dimension is only applies if the posts are distributed by segments, and if the **Create transition posts** beneath **Create which posts?** has been deactivated. Please note that the mid point of this dimension is always located on a corner point of the walking line.
- Start distance (6)
  Distance of the first post to the start of the first beam
- End distance (7)
  Distance of the last post to the end of the last beam

  If the start point and the end point are not equal, please check which beam you selected first. The start distance always refers to the first selected beam, the end distance to the last selected beam!

The start and end distance, that is, the position of the first and the last post, can also be specified via point determination. To do this, click the  icon and specify the position of the post.

Create which posts ?

Here you specify by activating the corresponding checkboxes which posts are to be created. The creation of corner and transition posts is only possible if the **By segments** option beneath **Reference for post distribution** is active and if the guideline has a corner or a transition.

 Example, Step 2 - Specify parameters on Walking line (1) and Post distribution (2) tabs

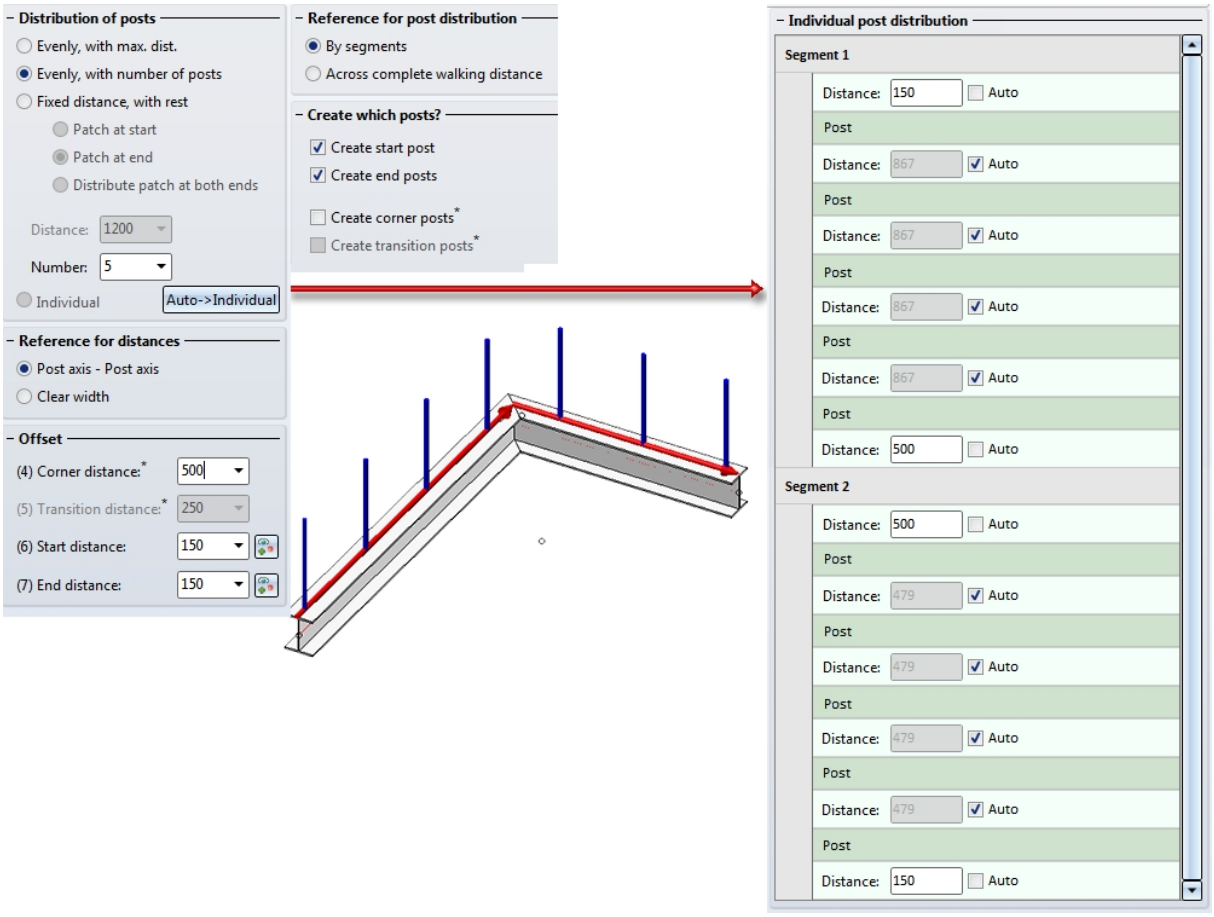
In our example the ISD default settings (with max. post distances, distribution of posts by segments) will be used, with the exception of the Offset value on the Walking line tab. The railing is to be placed in a centred position on the upper beam side. Therefore, select Offset = 0 here.

Individual post distribution

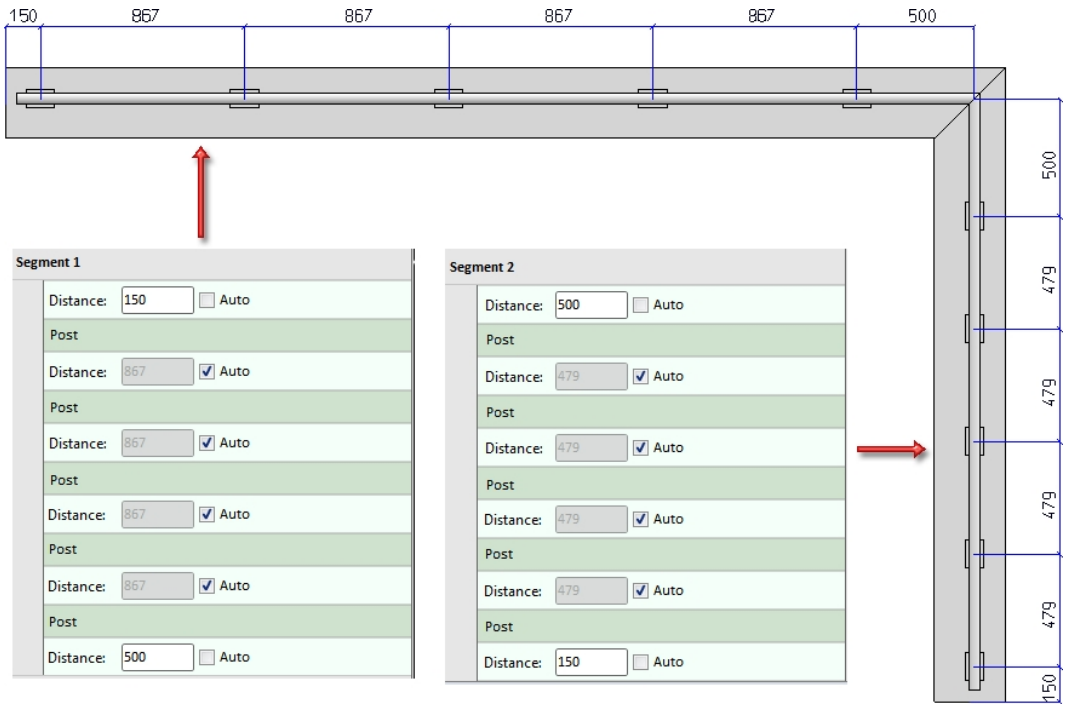
The post distribution can also take place manually, i.e. with different distances between the individual posts. For this you can use the  button and the **Auto** option.

When you click the button, the settings that were last specified on the **Post distribution** tab of the dialogue window will be displayed as defaults for individual post distribution. This includes the definition of the distances at the start and the end of the walking line, the corner distance and the transition distance with concrete values. Therefore, the **Individual** option is initially greyed out. The settings can then be modified as described below.

After a click on the  button the **Individual** option will be available. You can then (while the dialogue is open) switch between the other options beneath **Distribution of posts** and the individual distribution.

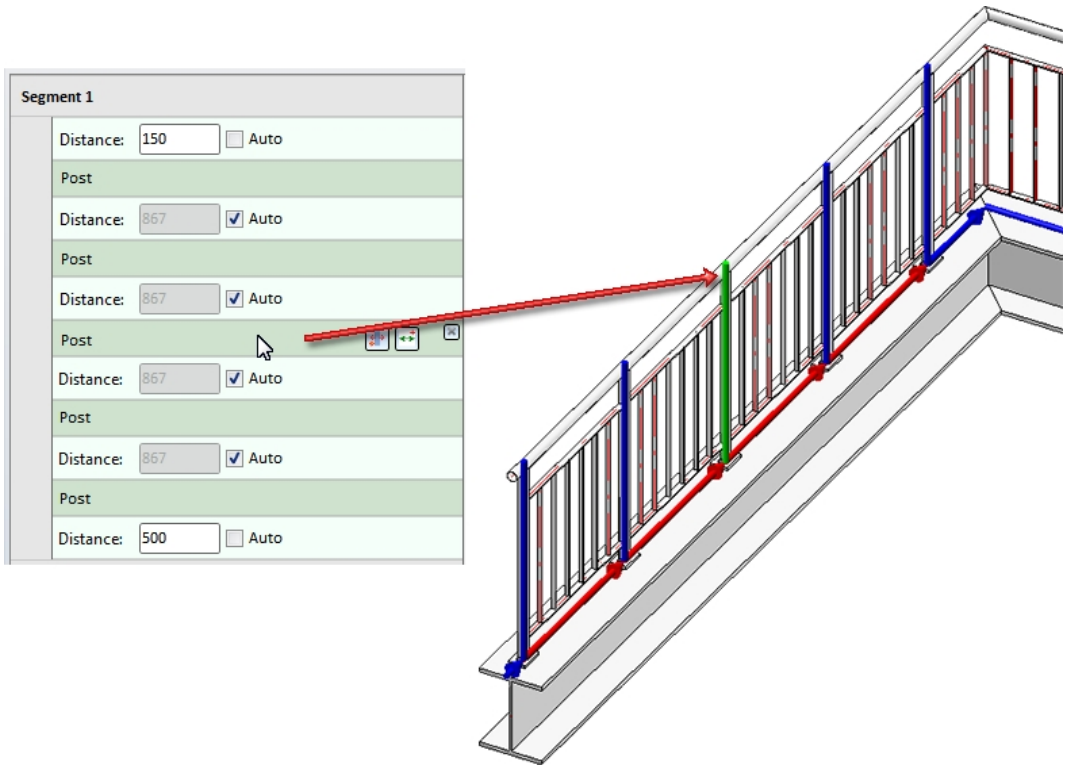


Left: Last settings; Right: Individual post distribution after clicking 

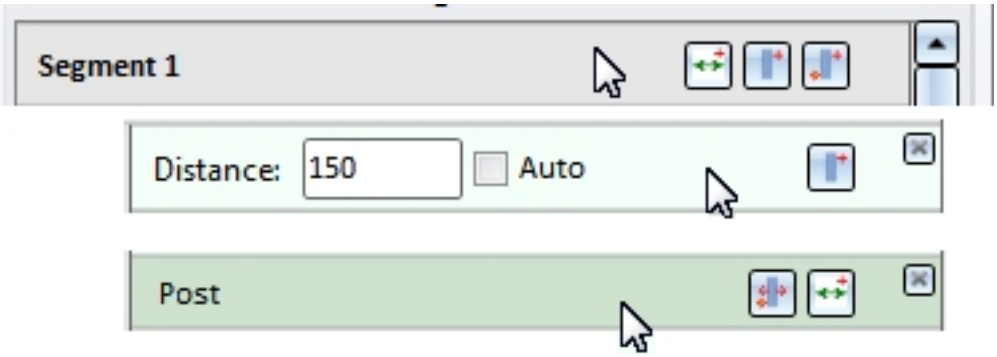


If you activate the **Auto** checkbox, all distances will be recalculated. If you want to define individual distances, deactivate the corresponding **Auto** checkbox and enter the required distance. All distances with an active checkbox will continue to be calculated automatically.

When you move the cursor over the entries for the posts, the corresponding post will be highlighted in green in the drawing. Distances between posts are highlighted in red, all other distances in blue.



In the post distribution list you can also add new posts and distances with the help of functions the icons of which become visible when you move the cursor over the **Segment**, **Distance** and **Post** rows.



The meaning of the symbols:

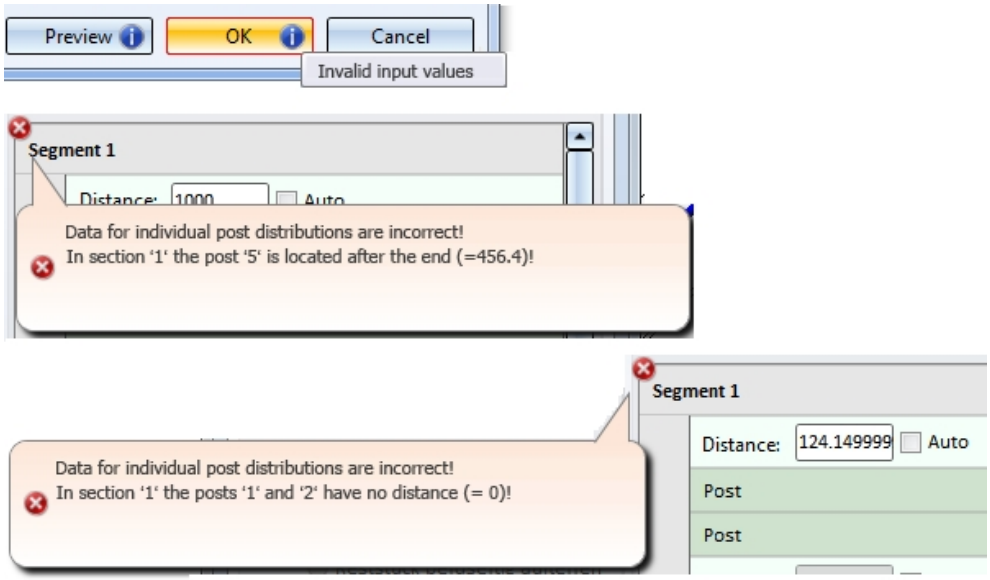
Segment	
	**New distance** at start of segment Adds a new auto-distance at the start of the segment. All other distances with active **Auto** checkbox will be recalculated.
	**New post** at start of segment Adds a new post at the start of the segment.
	**New post, via point** Allows the insertion of a new post at a defined point.
Distance	
	**New post** Adds a new post after the current distance.
	**Delete distance**
Post	
	**Move post, via point** Moves the current post to a defined point. Specify the point on the segment.
	**New distance** Inserts a new auto-distance after the current post. All other distances with active **Auto** checkbox will be recalculated.
	**Delete post**

The Distance and Post rows can be moved by Drag & Drop.

If the post distribution cannot be applied with the specified data, e.g.

- because no distance between 2 posts has been defined, or
- because a post would be located outside the segment due to the entered data,

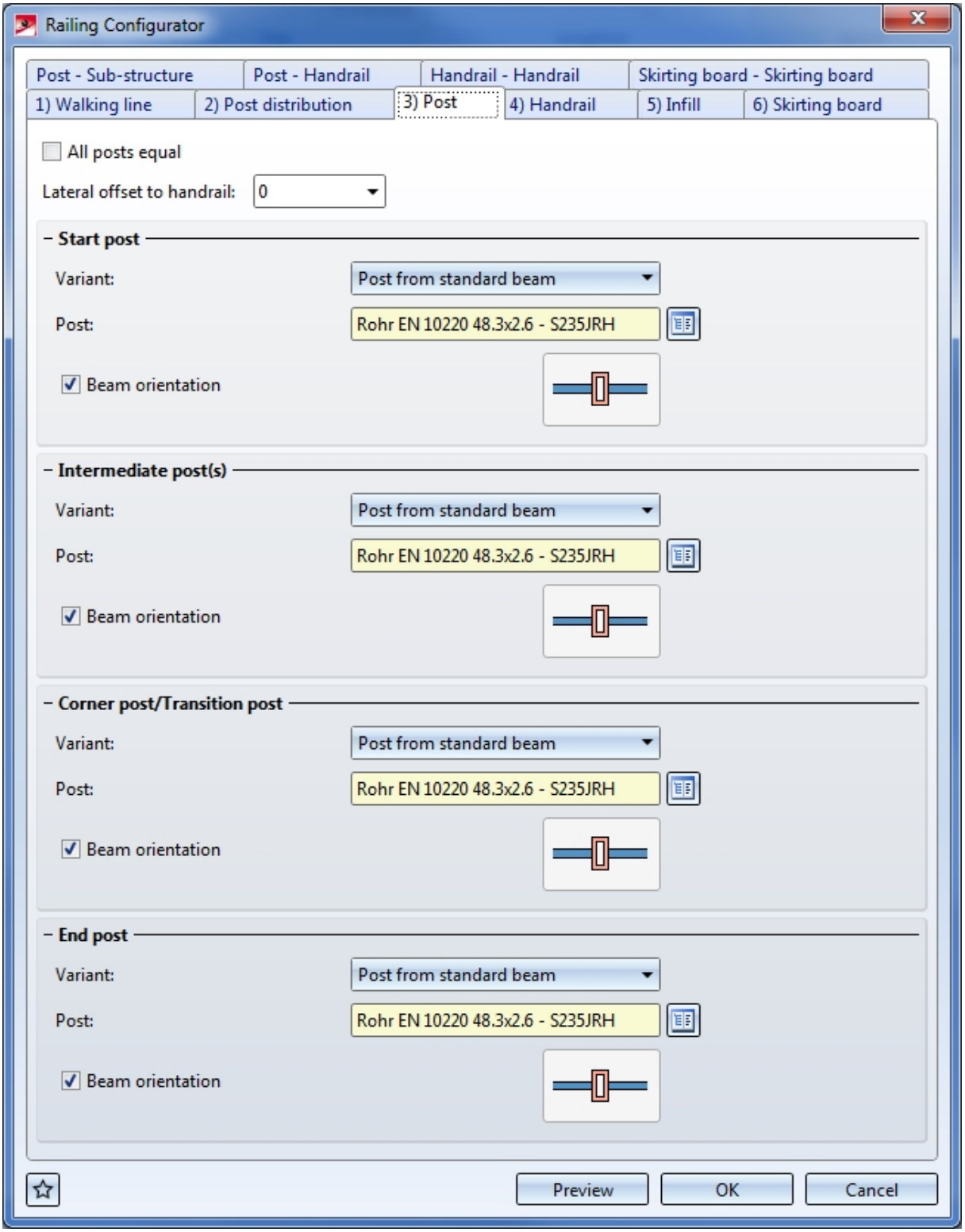
this will be indicated accordingly on the **OK** and **Preview** buttons by the  symbol, and in the post distribution section by the  symbol. If you move the cursor over the symbols, a short explanation of the error will be displayed, e.g.:



3) Post

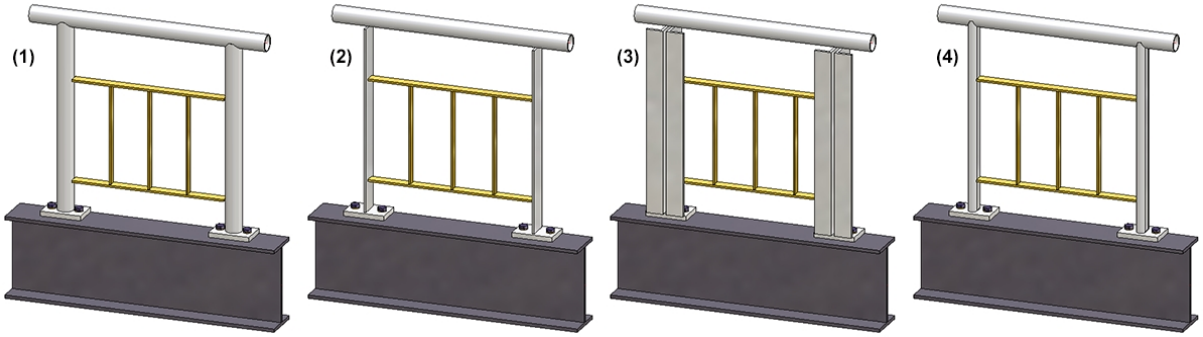
One distinguishes between Start posts, Intermediate posts, Corner/Transition posts and End posts.

Value inputs for posts



All profiles and factory profiles of the HiCAD Catalogue can be used as posts. You can also use plates, double profiles or sketch profiles as posts.

Post from standard beam	All profiles from the catalogues ■ Semi-finished products > Beams+Profiles > Flat steel ■ Semi-finished products > Beams+Profiles > Hollow profiles ■ Semi-finished products > Beams+Profiles > Steel pipes
Variant: Steel plate post	All plates from the catalogues ■ Semi-finished products > Plates > Plate
Variant: Post of double profiles	■ Factory standards > Railing > Railing profiles > ISD Examples - Double profiles
Variant: Sketch profile	■ Factory standards > Railing > Railing profiles



(1) Standard profiles, (2) Plate, (3) Double profiles, (4) Sketch profiles

For all posts you can specify a lateral offset to the handrail. By activating or deactivating the corresponding checkbox, you can also change the Beam orientation.

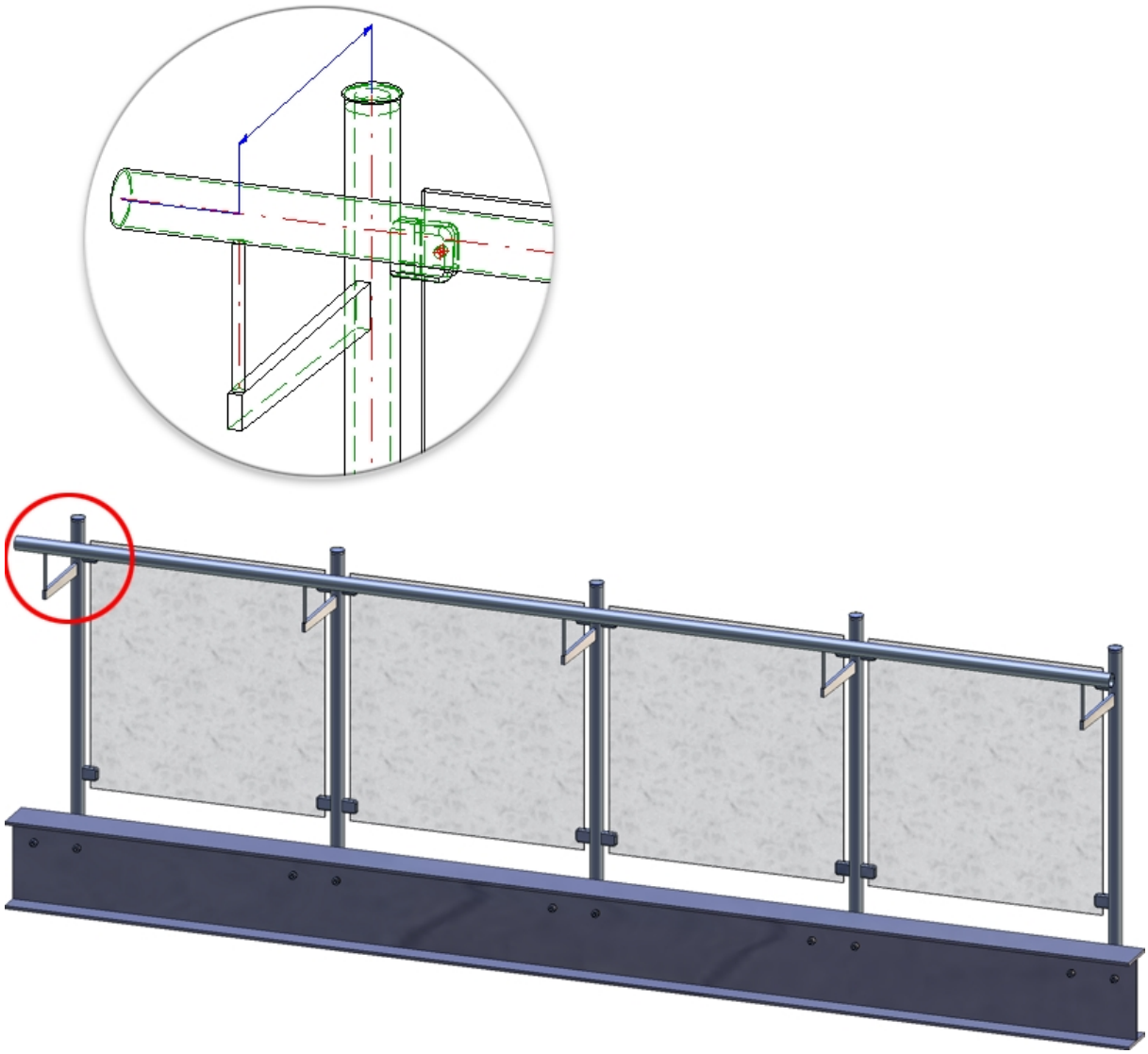
Please note that specifying an offset currently only makes sense if **Variant: Console** has been selected on the **Post-Handrail** tab.

If you want the beam height to be perpendicular the the railing plane, activate the Beam orientation checkbox.

Please note:
Even if you activate the **All posts equal** checkbox here, the settings on the tabs **Post - Substructure** and **Post - Handrail** will not be considered for corner posts and transition posts! The connections on corner posts and transition posts must therefore be reworked manually.

Offset - Example:

The image below shows the marked handrail and post in top view: (1) without offset; (2) with offset



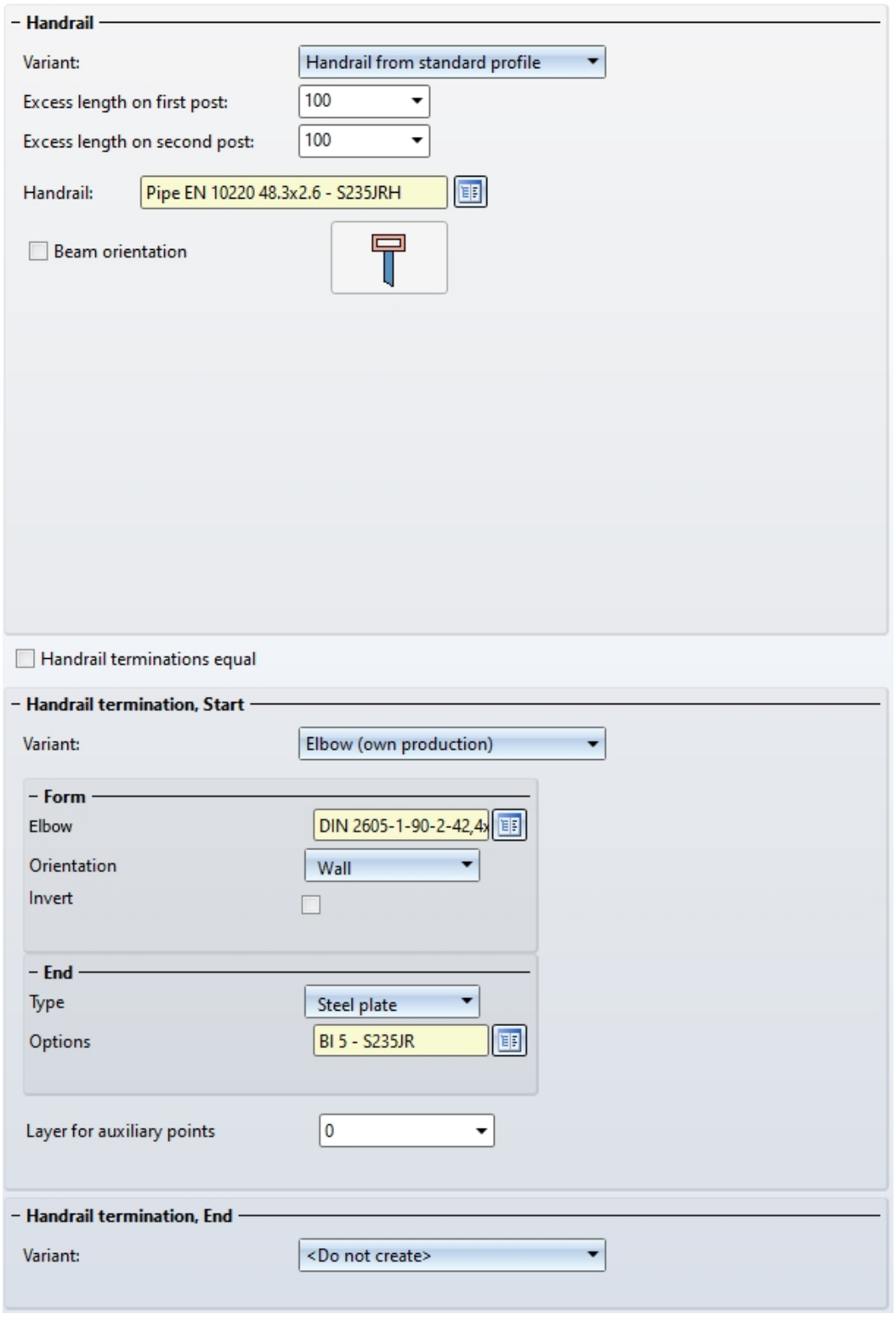
Please note:

Value inputs in the Corner post/Transition post area will only be possible if the **By segments** option has been selected beneath **Reference for post distribution** on the **Post distribution** tab, and if the guideline has corners or transitions.

4) Handrail

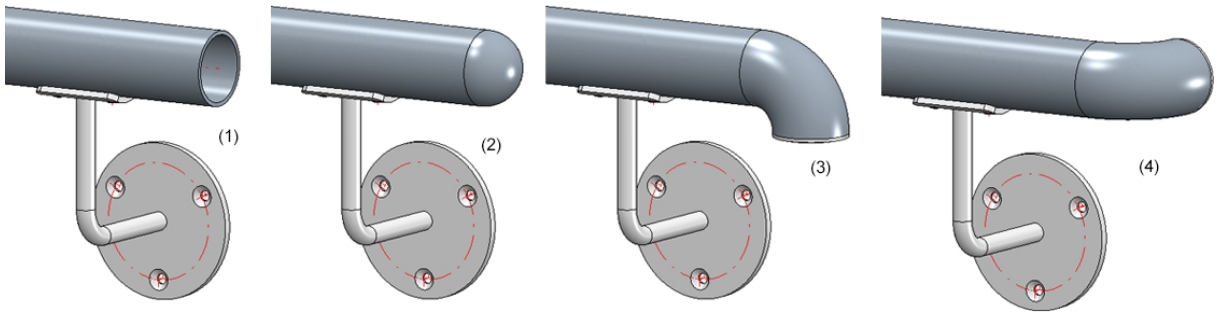
The variant supplied by the ISD allows an utilization of steel pipes as handrails. In addition, you can specify an excess length for the handrail at the start post and the end post. However, the excess length will only be evaluated if you have selected the variant **<do not create>, Trim pipes** or **Connection with mandrel** on the **Post - Handrail** tab.

Value inputs for handrail



In addition, you have the option here of specifying the termination at the beginning and end of the handrail. Available are end caps and ball caps as well as elbow with or without end cap or steel plate. Elbows can also be oriented towards walls or floors, or reversed by activating the corresponding checkbox.

If the auxiliary points for the selected standard parts are to be assigned to a special layer, enter the number of the layer here. The default setting is Layer 0.



(1) no end element, (2) with ball cap, (3) with elbow and end cap / oriented towards floor, (4) with elbow and end cap / oriented towards wall

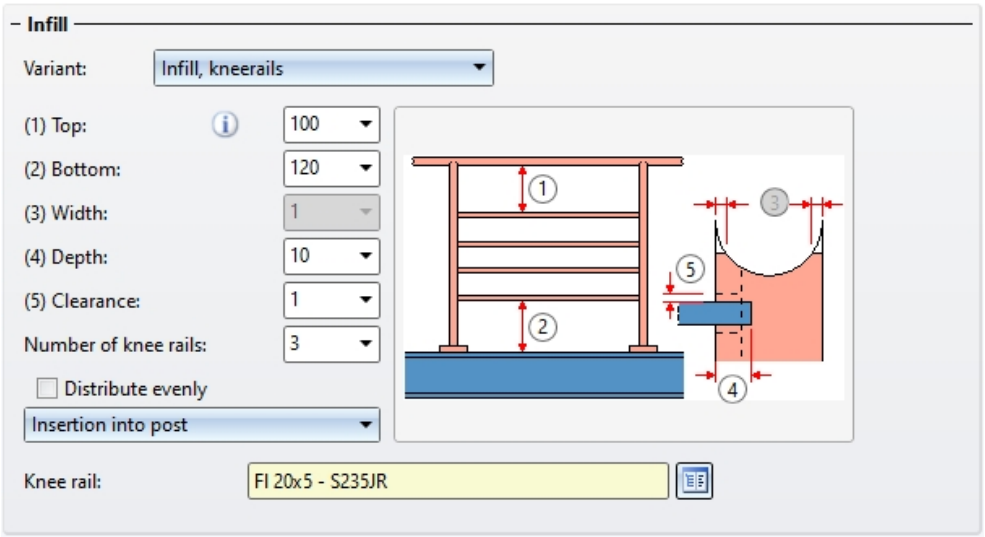
5) Infill

You can choose knee rails, glass elements, vertical rods with or without booms, vertical rods with bottom boom, or vertical rods with frame. The infill for corners and transitions (staircase/platform) can be defined separately. However, this is only possible if the guideline has corners and transitions and if the checkboxes for the creation of corner and transition posts have been deactivated on the **Post distribution** tab.

For corners or transitions, the same infills as specified in the **Infill** tab will be used by default. If you want to use individual infills here, activate the corresponding checkbox. Please note however that this will only be possible if no corner posts or transitions posts are used.

Knee rails

Value inputs for knee rails

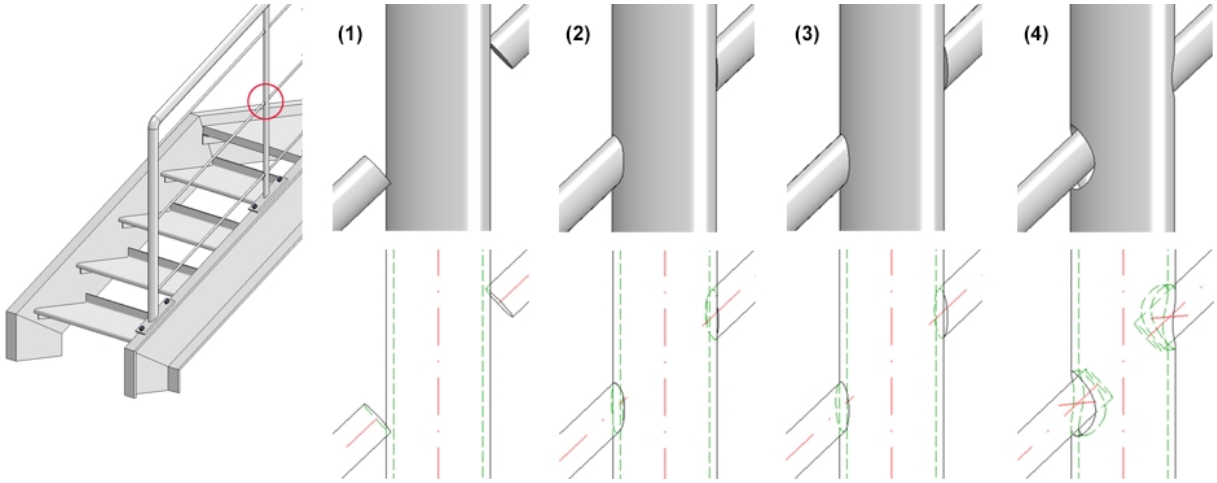


If you want the knee rails to be distributed evenly, activate the **Distribute evenly** checkbox.

For **Knee rails on posts** you can choose between the following options:

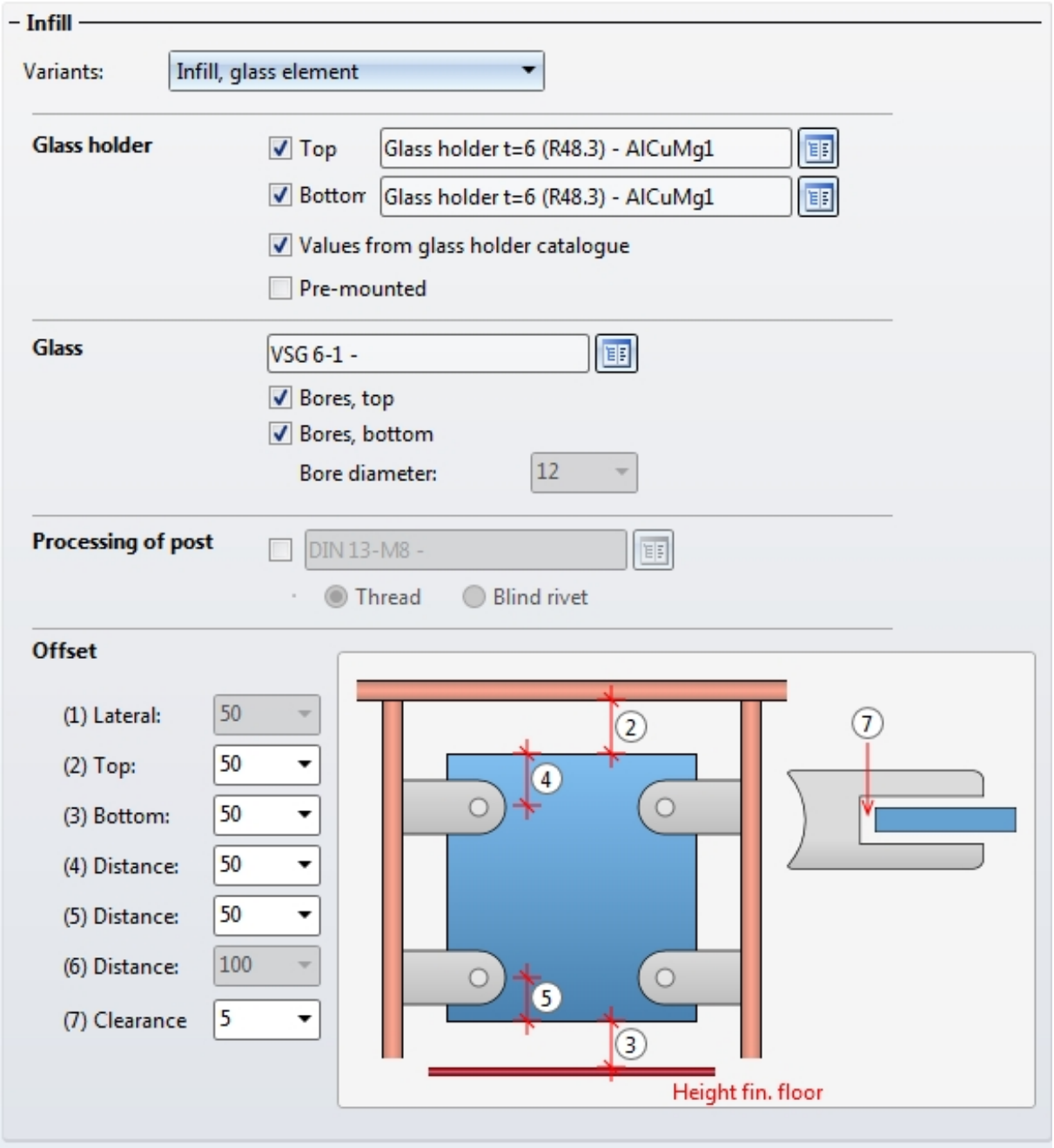
- **Do not trim** (1)
- **Trim to post** (2)

- Trim to front edge of post (3)
  corresponds to the function Trim, to outer edge
- Insertion into post
  Here the infill is inserted into the post, with a definable depth.



Glass elements

Value inputs for glass elements



Allowed glass elements (Material and glass structure) are the glass panes from the catalogue **Factory standards > Glass panes**, allowed glass holders can be found in the catalogue **Factory standards > Purchased/Factory standard parts**.

If you want to insert glass holders, activate the corresponding checkboxes and choose the desired glass holders from the catalogue. If the **Values from glass holder catalogue** checkbox has been activated, the values for the

- Lateral clear distance to post,
- Clear distance between the post and the bore centre of the glass holder, and
- the bore diameter

stored in the catalogue will be used. In this case the input fields **(1) Lateral**, **(6) Distance** and **Bore diameter** will be locked. Enter the values for the

- Clear distance to the lower edge of the handrail,
- Clear distance to the finished floor,
- Distance of the bore to the upper edge of the glass,
- Distance of the bore to the lower edge of the glass, and
- the clearance.

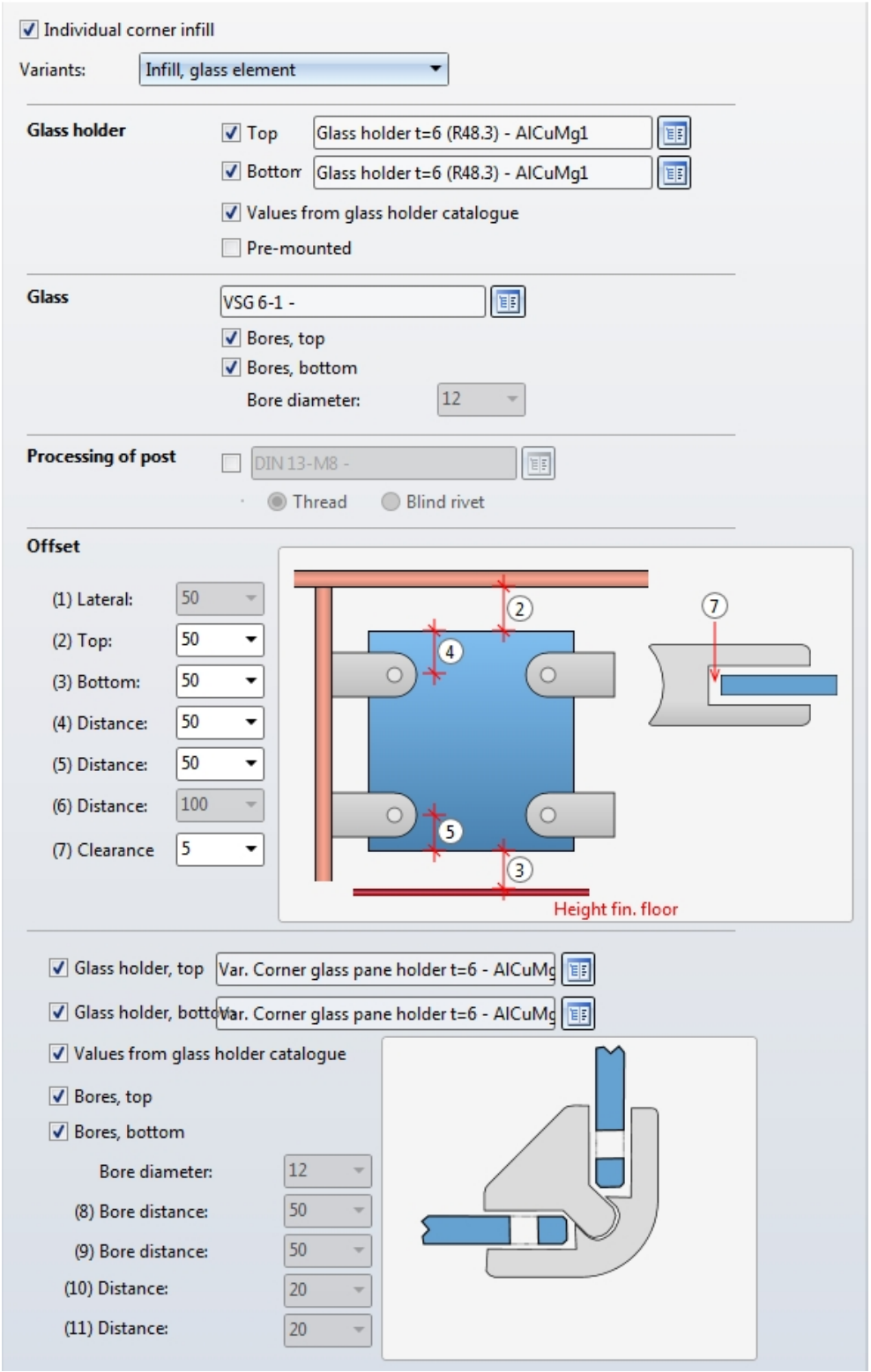
If the **Values from glass holder catalogue** checkbox has been deactivated, all input fields (with the exception of Clearance) will be available.

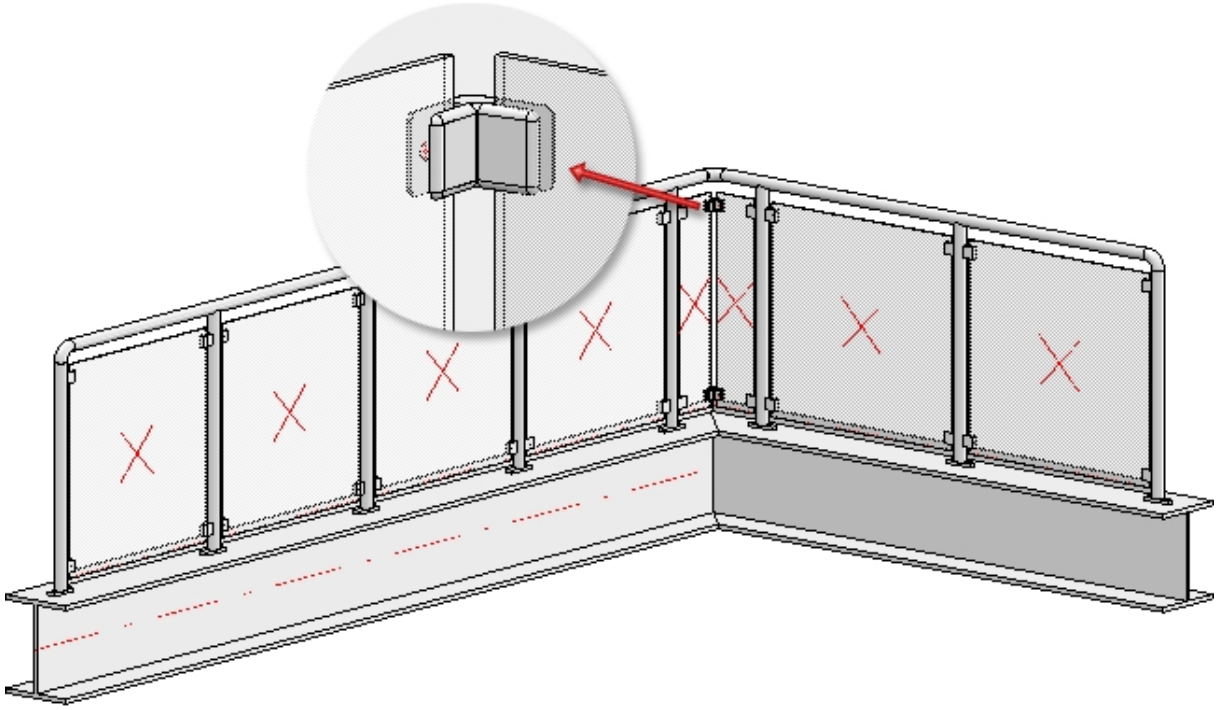
You use the **Pre-mounted** checkbox to determine to which assembly the glass holders are to be assigned. If the checkbox has been activated, the glass holders of the assembly will be assigned to the assembly of the relevant post; otherwise, they will be assigned to the assembly of the infill.

The glass element can be inserted with or without bores, by activating or deactivating the relevant checkboxes.

If you do not want the glass holders to be welded on, you can choose a different type of fixing (Thread or Blind rivet) in the **Processing of post** section.

Settings for individual corner infill



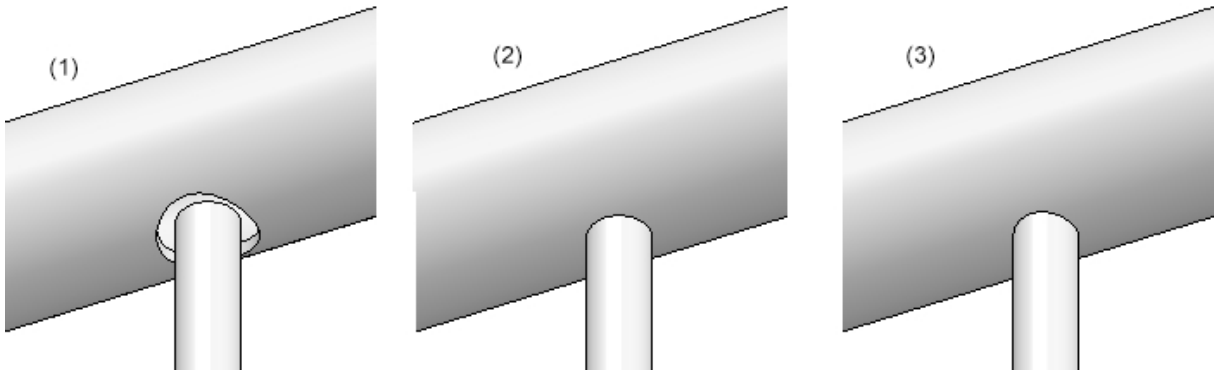


Example of a glass railing with individual corner infill

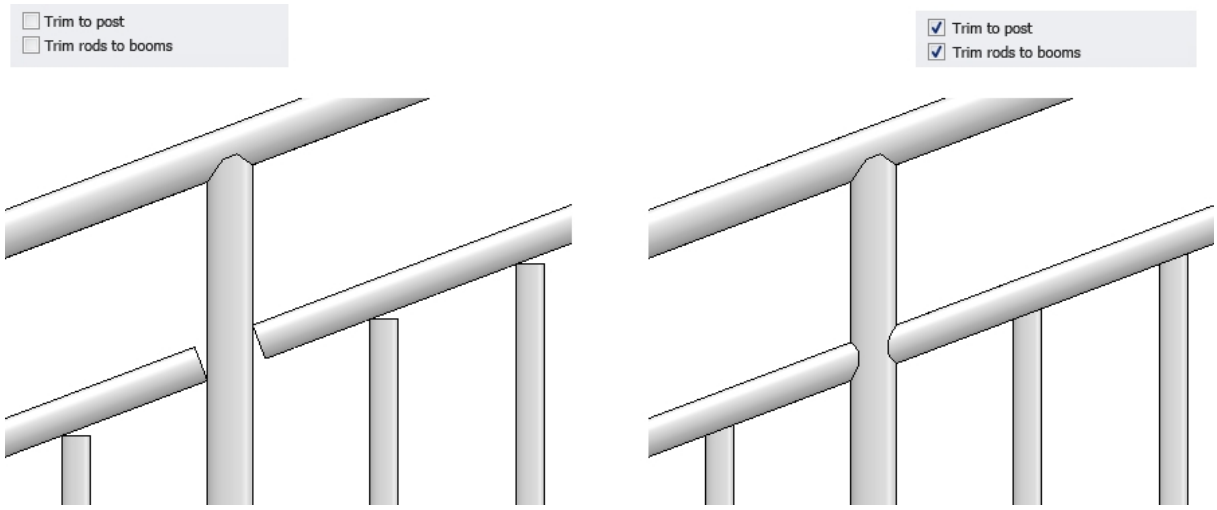
No usage is assigned to glass panes. This enables you to use the DEFAULT(GLASSCHEIBEN) configuration for the workshop drawing.

Vertical rods

Here you can define vertical rods which can be rotated, in addition to the knee rails. Depending on the type of the chosen variant the connections will be with the beam, with the handrail, the post or the boom. For example: the vertical rods can be inserted in the handrails or can be trimmed at the handrails, with or without contour. Furthermore, you can specify whether the booms on the posts and the filling rods on the booms are to be trimmed.

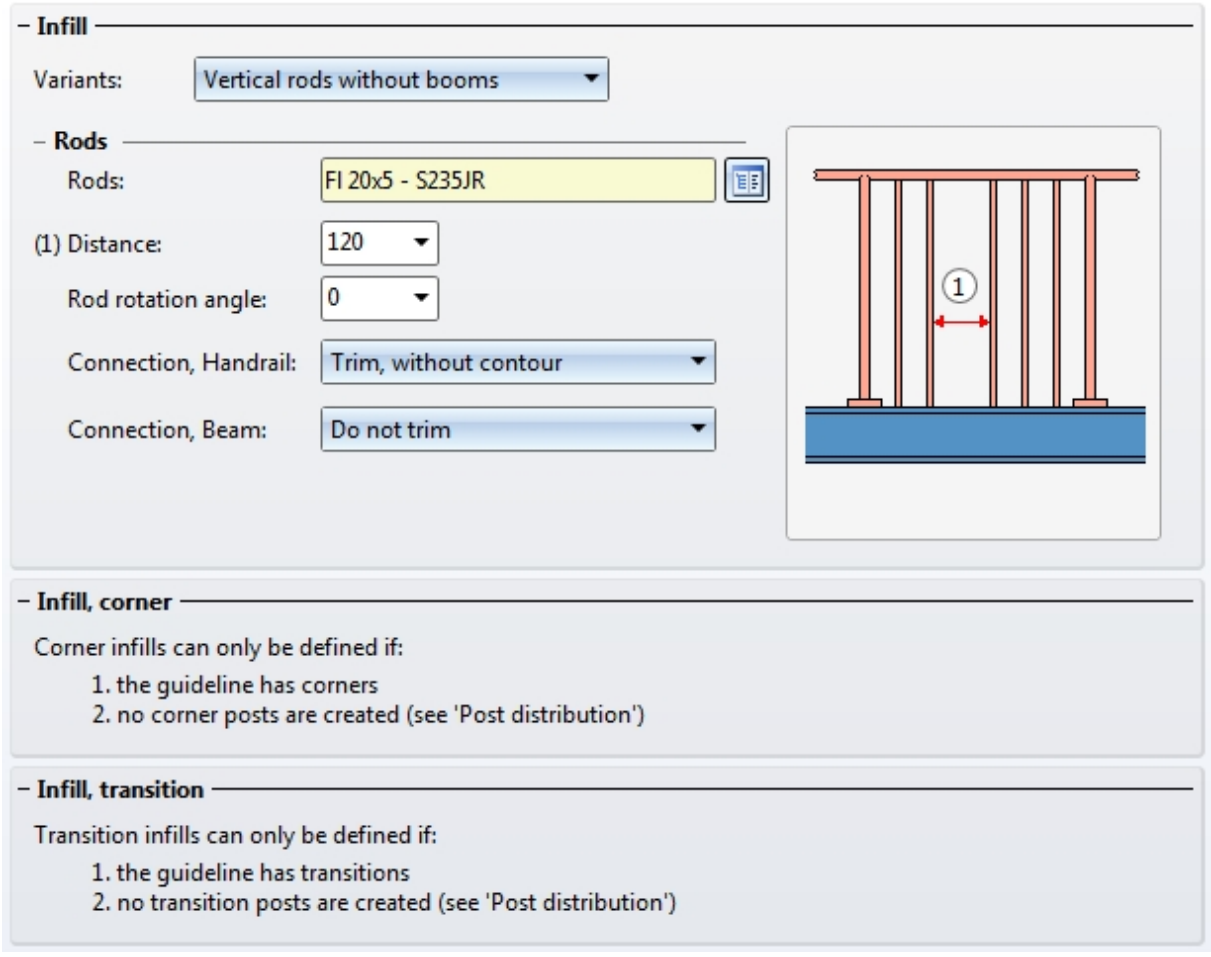


(1) Inserted in the handrails with gap, (2) without trim, (3) trim with contour



Vertical rods with booms - untrimmed (left) and trimmed (right)

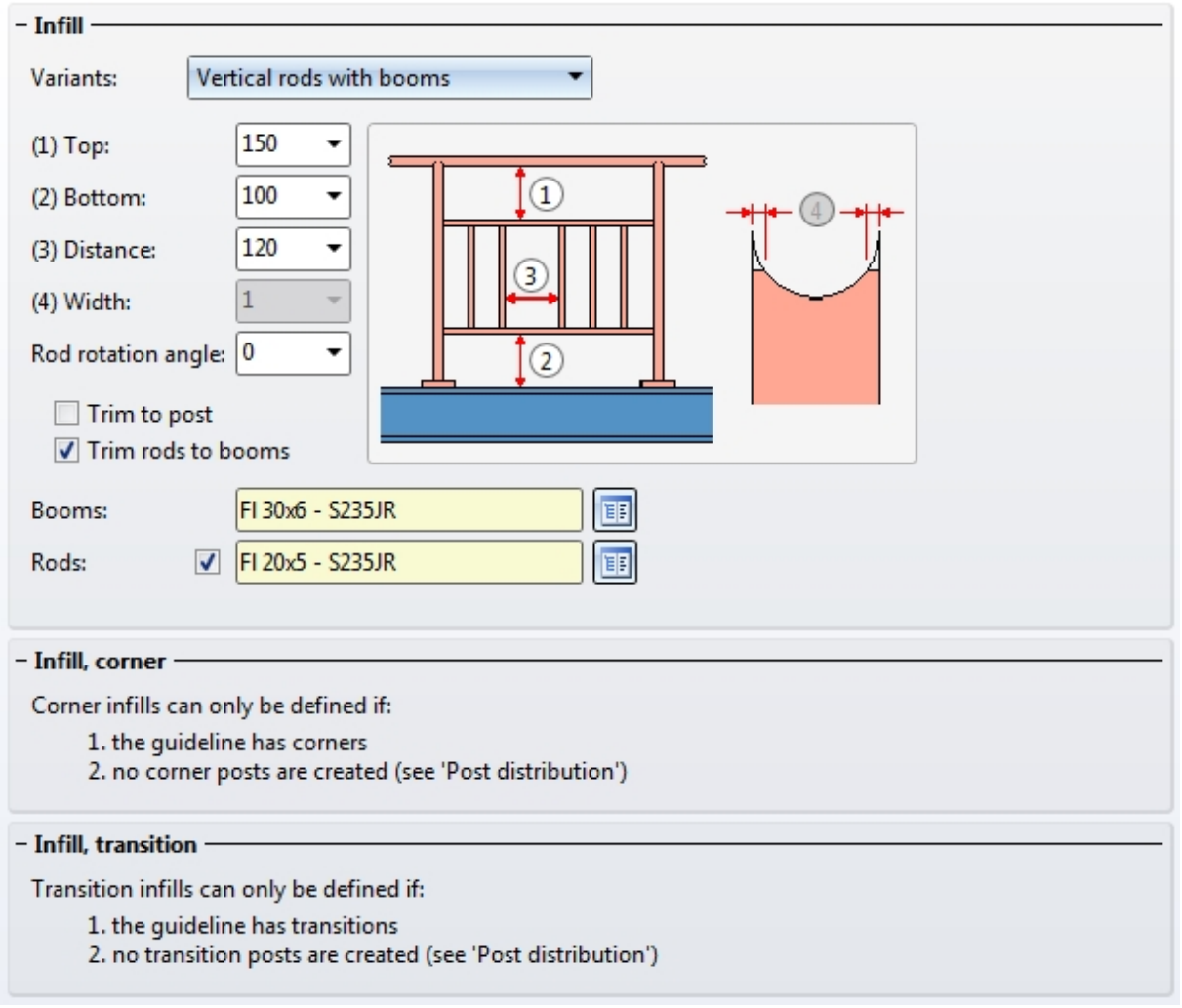
Value inputs for vertical rods without booms



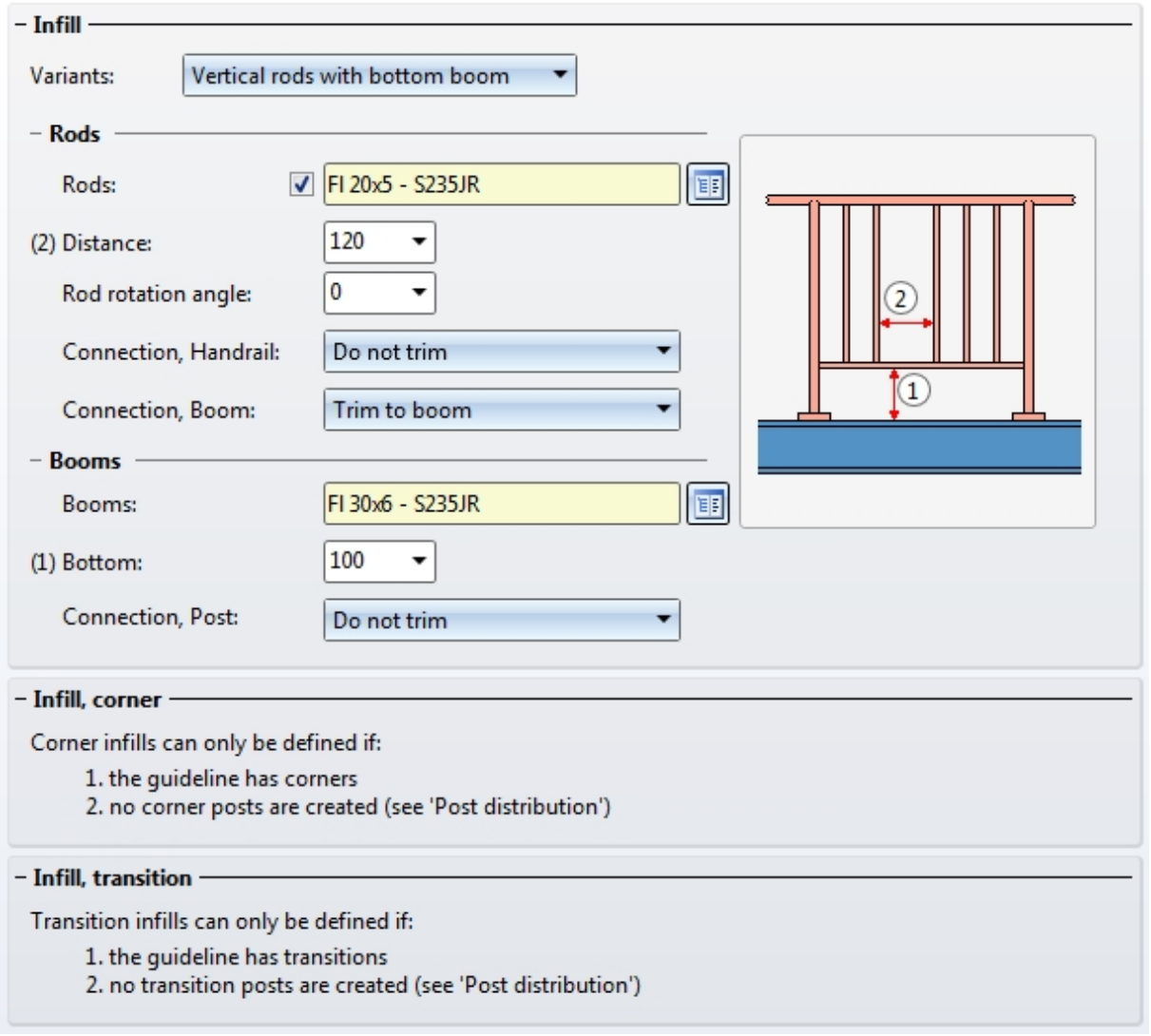
For vertical rods with booms, bottom boom or frame, you select the booms, the bottom boom or frame, complete with rods and spacers from the catalogue.

For round to round connections you can also specify the parameter **Width**, referring to the width of the obtuse end.

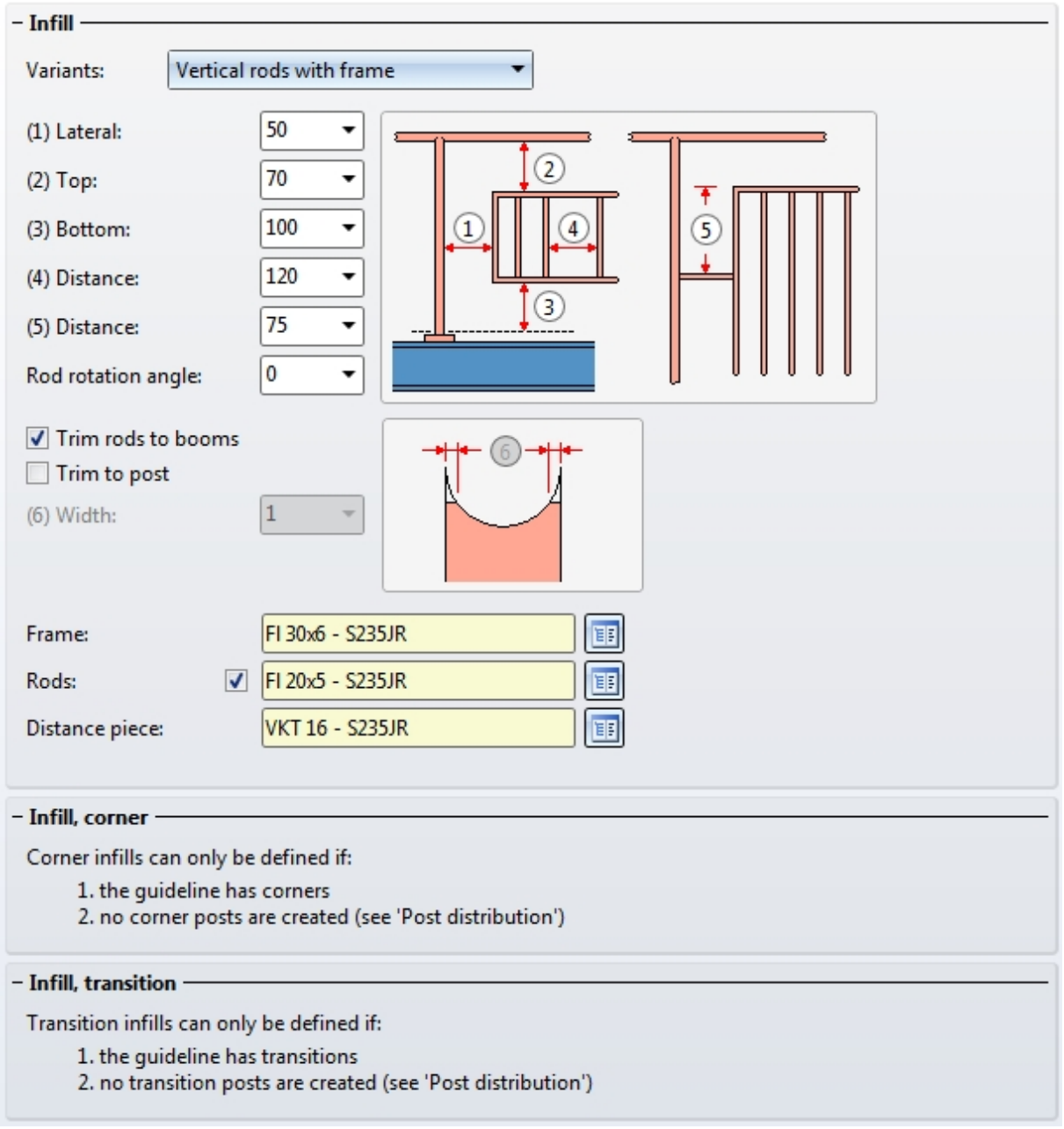
Value inputs for vertical rods with booms



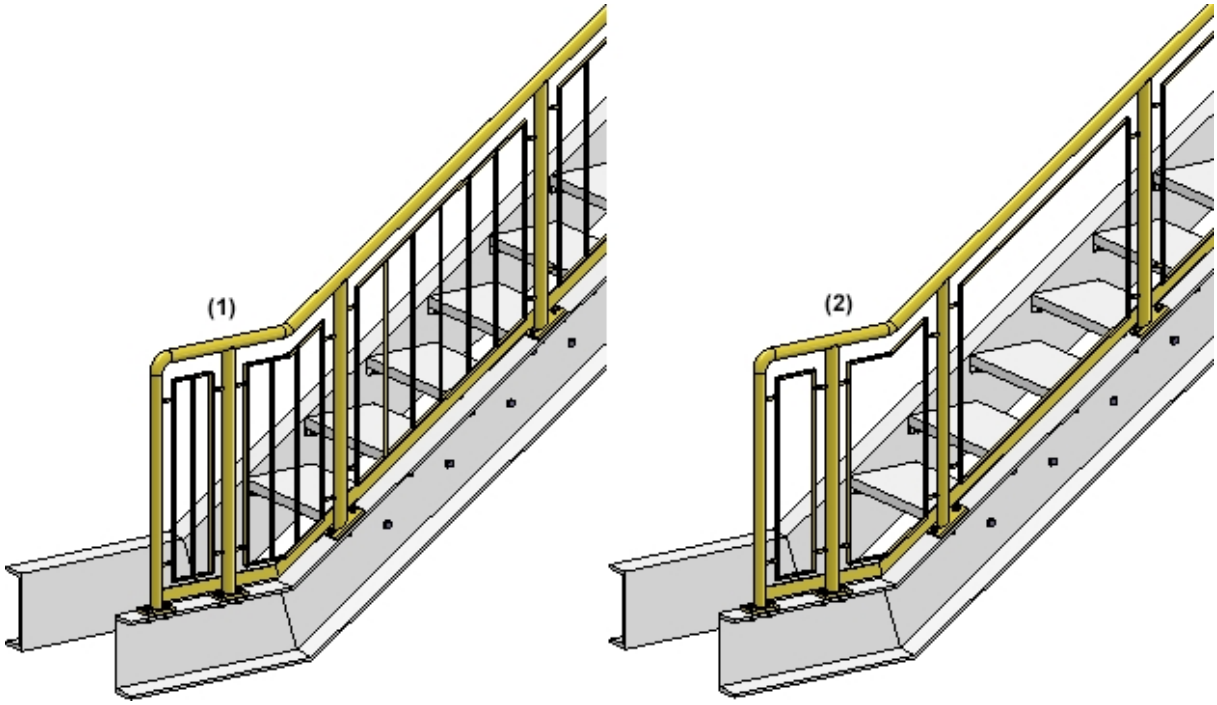
Value inputs for vertical rods with bottom boom



Value inputs for vertical rods with frame



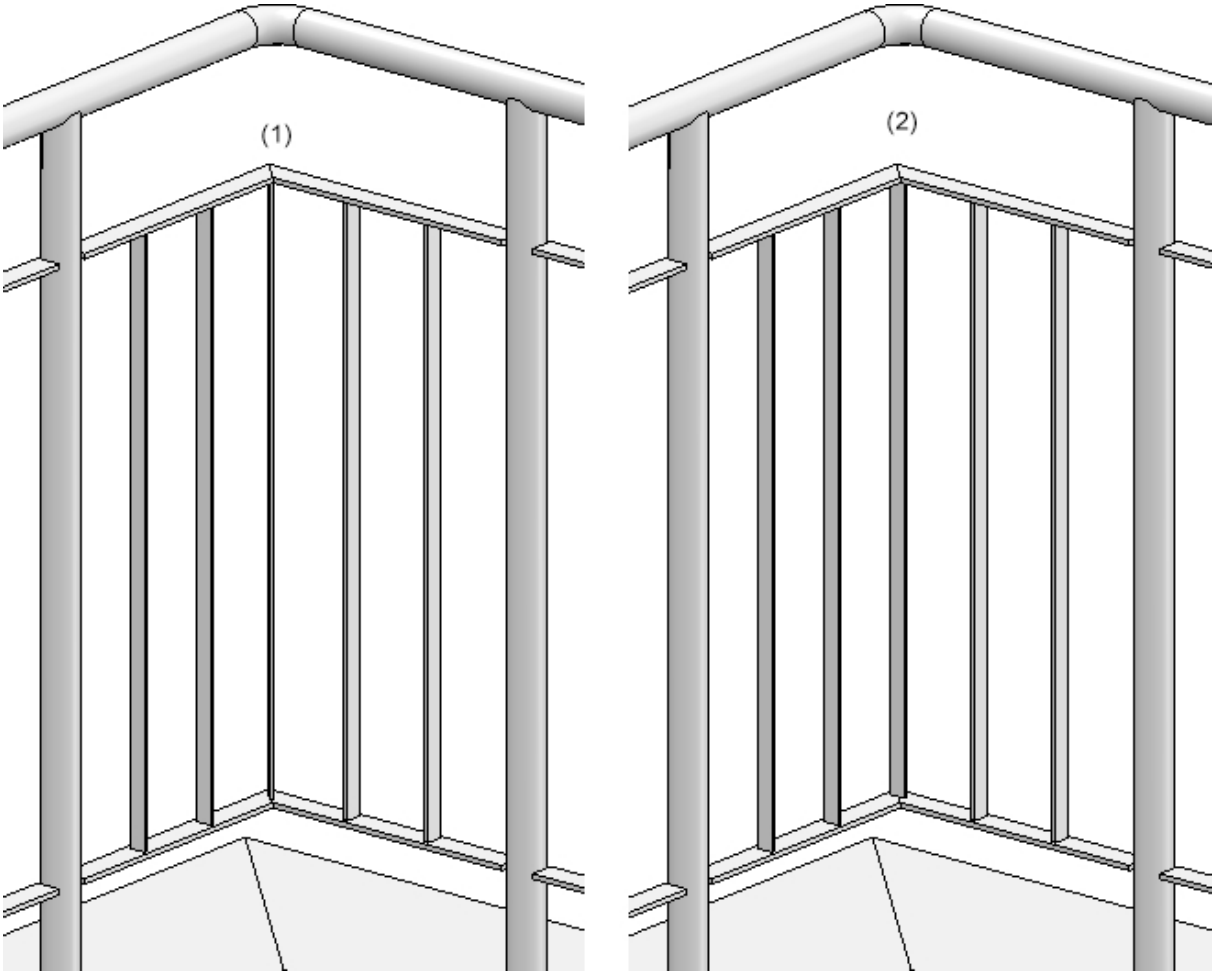
By deactivating the **Rods** checkbox you can also create railings that have only frames, but no rods.



(1) Frame with rods; (2) Only frame

If you want to place rods in corners of beam frameworks, activate the **Corner rod** checkbox. For transition infills, use the **Individual transition infill** checkbox. If this checkbox has been activated, one rod will always be placed exactly into the corner or in the transition area. If the corner rod should be aligned to the angle bisector, please activate the **Align angle bisector** checkbox.

Please note that corner or transition rods can only be placed if no corner or transition posts have been set.

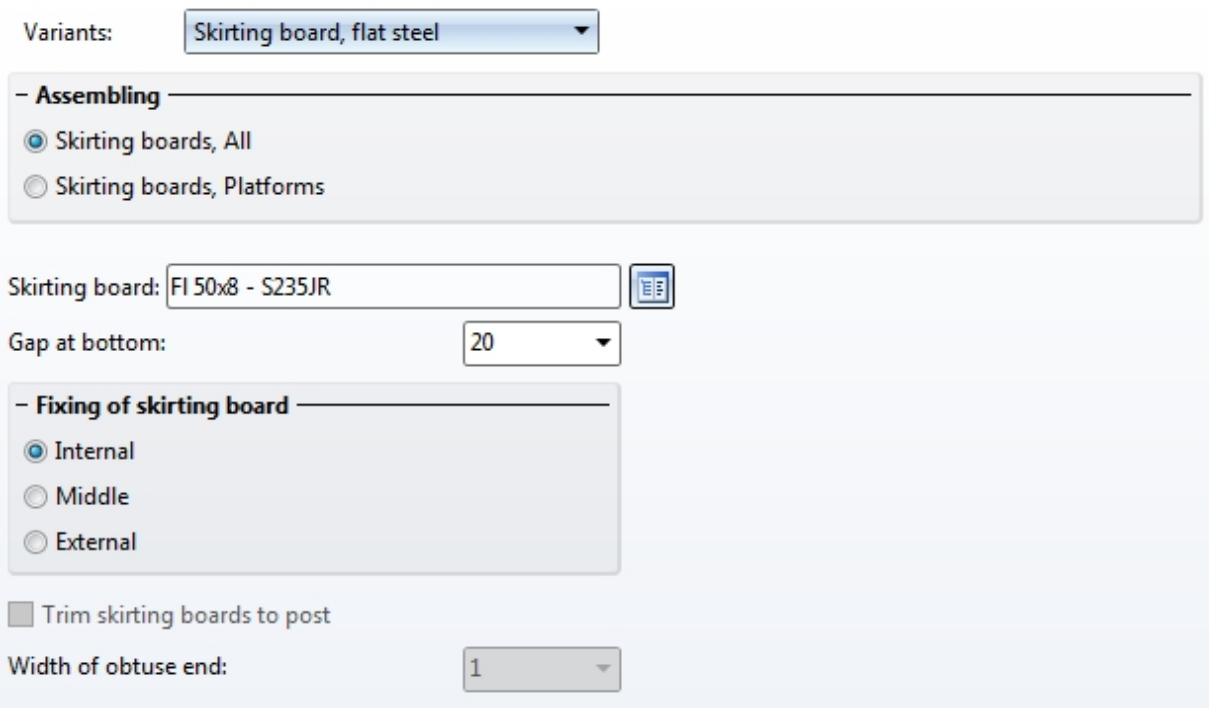


Example of a corner infill: (1) corner rod, bisecting alignment, (2) corner rod, no bisecting alignment

6) Skirting board

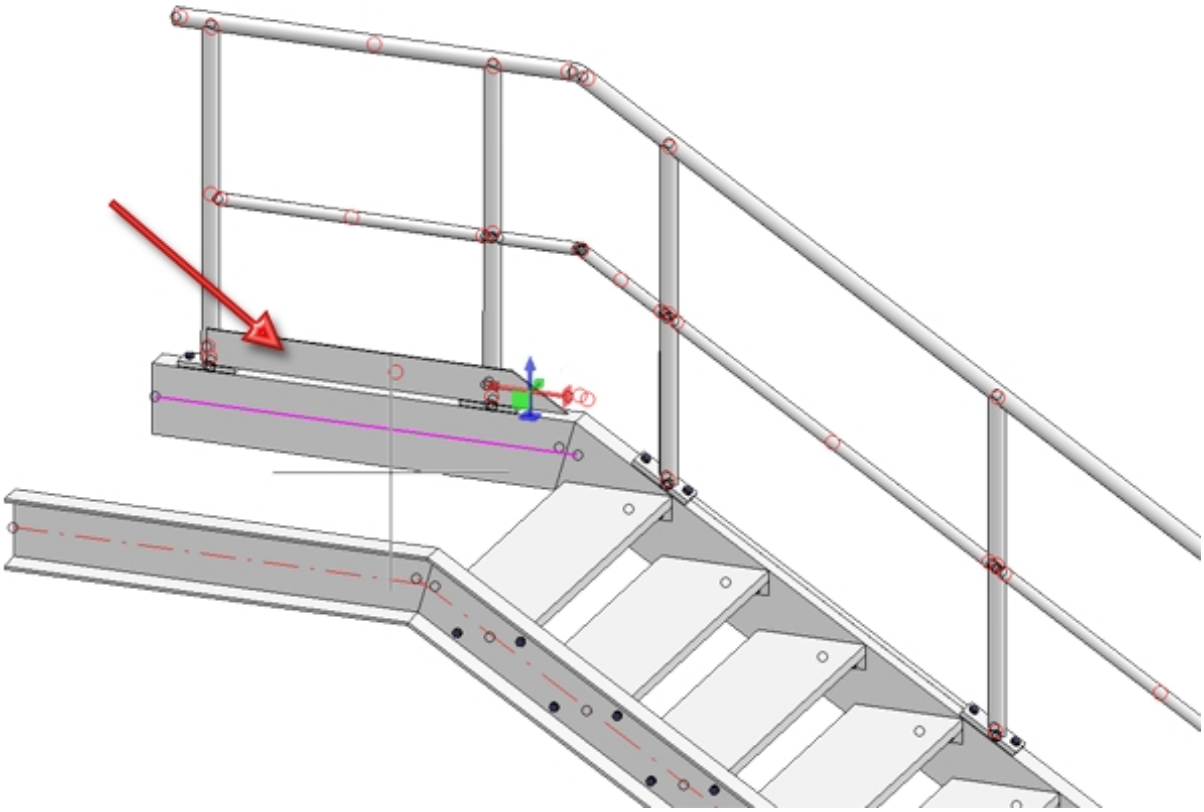
Available are skirting boards of flat steel.

Value inputs for skirting boards

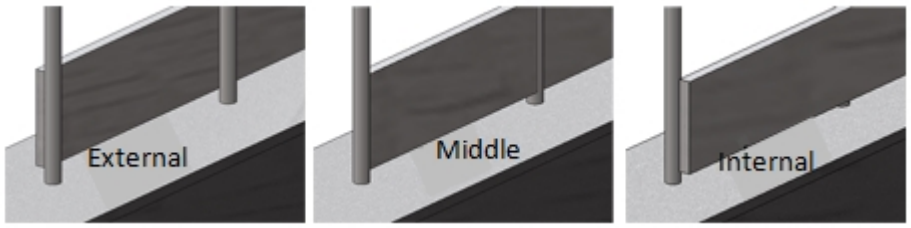


Beneath **Assembling** you can specify by activating the corresponding option whether the skirting boards are to be used everywhere, or only on platforms, i.e. only in the horizontal area, with oblique trimmings (see image below).

Skirting board on platform



Enter the distance between skirting board and upper beam side in the **Gap at bottom** input field, and specify the fixing of the skirting board.



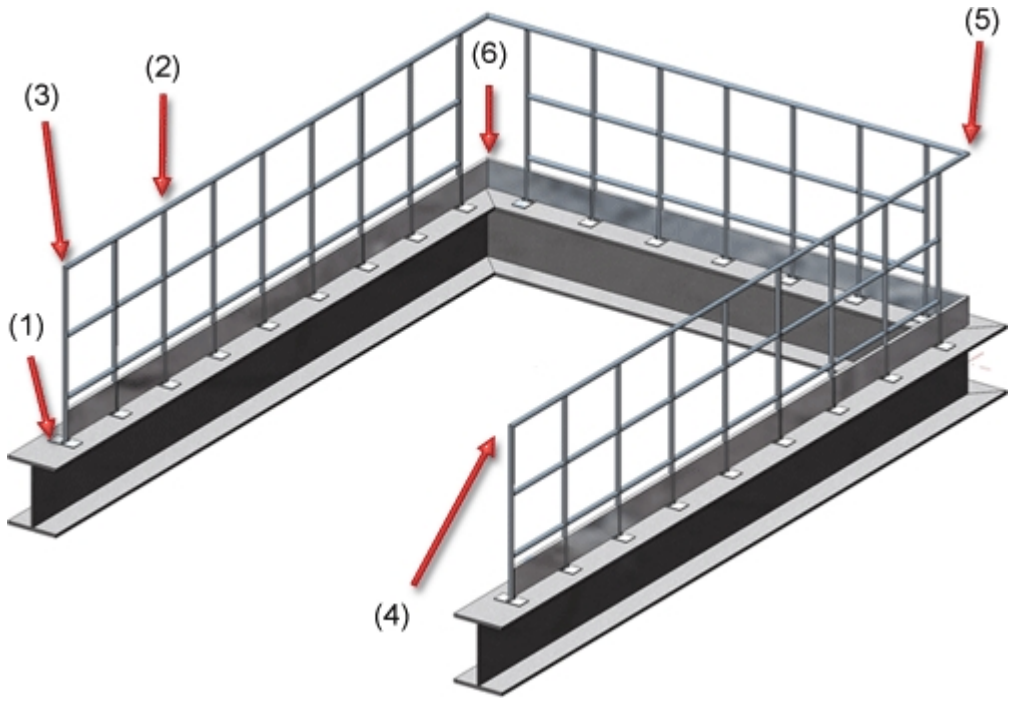
Example - Step 3 - Component selection

In our example we will apply the ISD settings - with one exception - the railing is to be created without skirting boards.

Connecting the railing components

Besides the components, you can create the following connections via the same-named tabs:

- Post - Substructure (1)
- Post - Handrail (2 - 4)
- Handrail - Handrail (5)
- Skirting board - Skirting board (6)



If you do not want to create a connection, select the **<do not create>** option in the corresponding selection box.

Post - Substructure

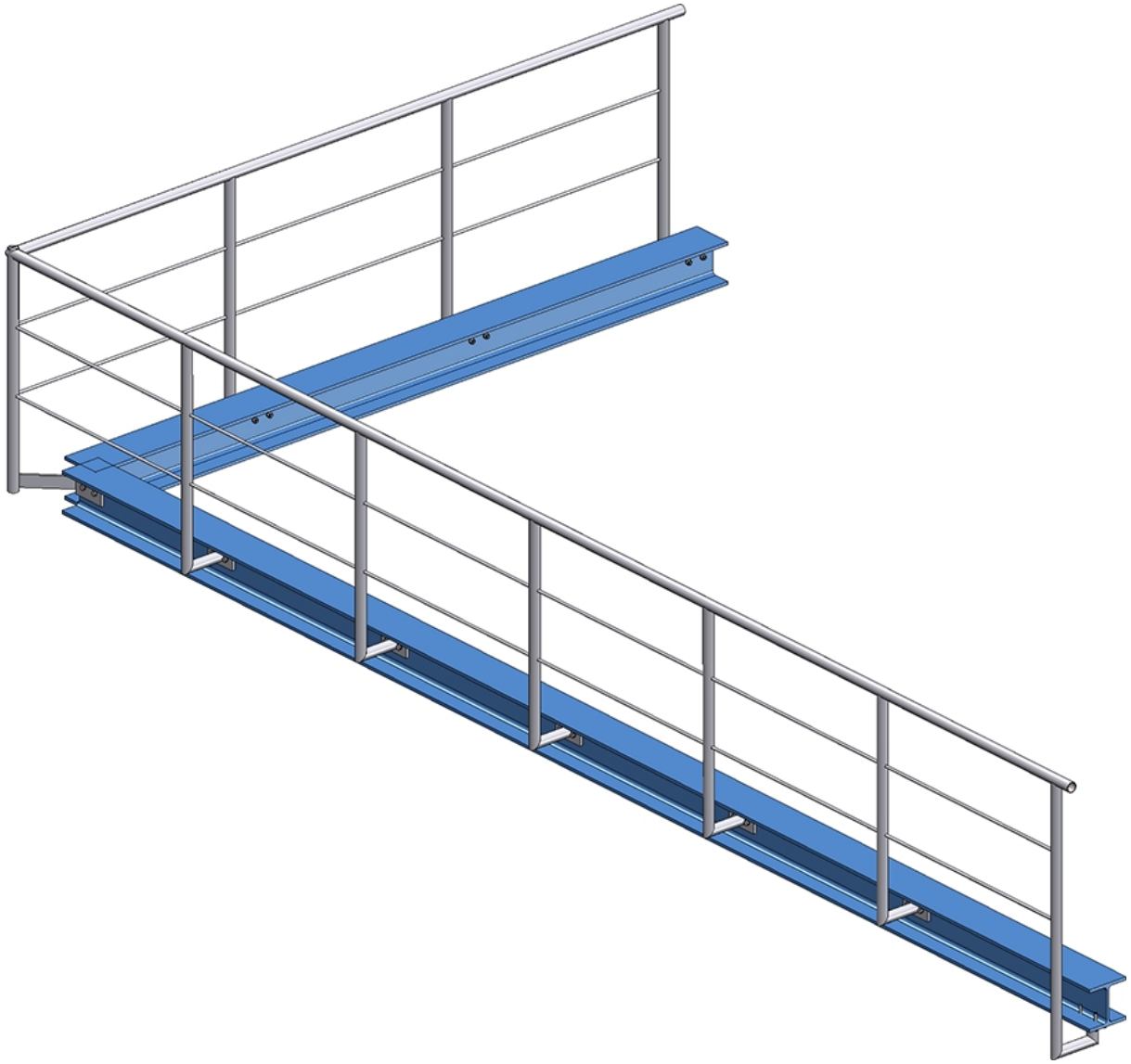
Here you specify the fixing of the posts to the beams The posts can be mounted either on the top, side, bottom, or bottom with flat steels to the beam - with or without stiffeners. A bore grid for the base plate can also be selected - possible options are:

- No bores,
- 2 bores or
- 4 bores.

The post connection for the substructure can now be determined separately for

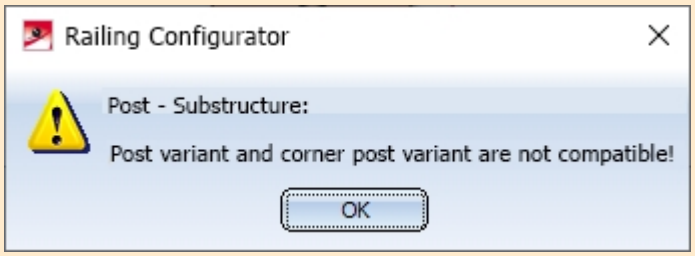
- start, intermediate and end posts and
- corner posts.

Start and end posts can also be determined individually, i.e. independently of the intermediate posts. To do this, you must activate the corresponding checkbox at the top of the dialogue window.



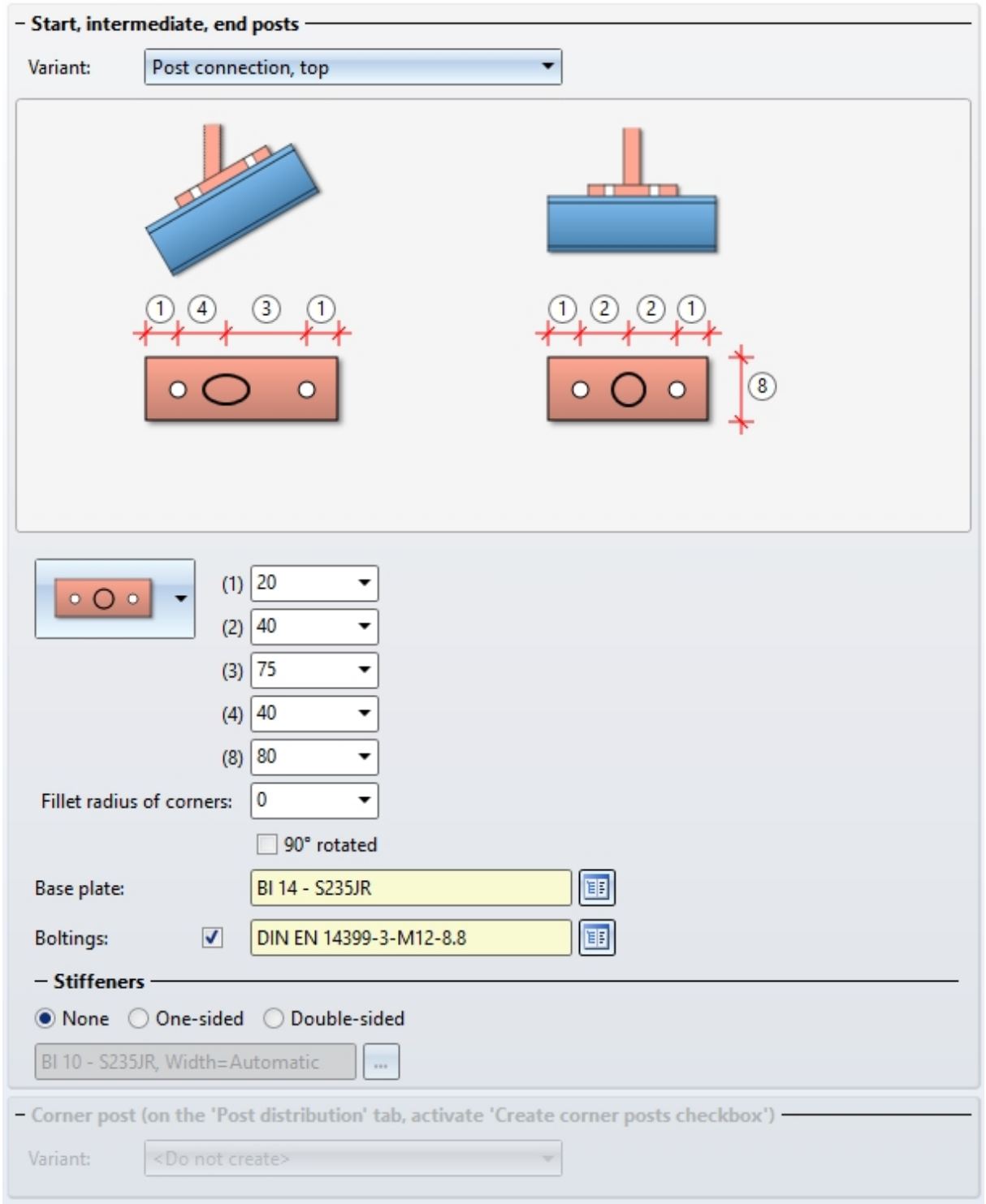
Railing with lateral connection of the start, corner and intermediate posts and connection from bottom for the end post

Please note the following when selecting the post connections: It is only possible to combine the variants **Post connection, lateral** and **Post connection, bottom**. If, for example, you have selected the variant **Post connection, lateral** for a corner or intermediate post and the variant **Post connection, top** for the start or end post, then the installation is not possible and a corresponding error message appears, e.g.

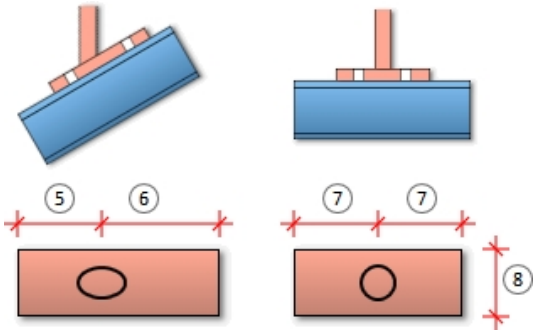
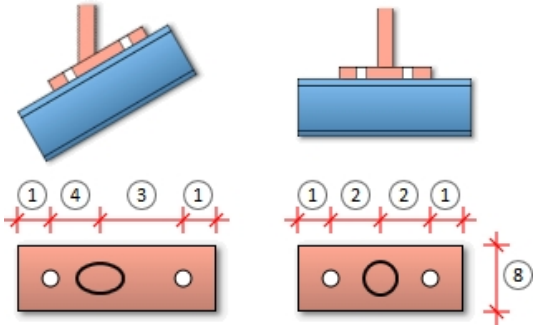


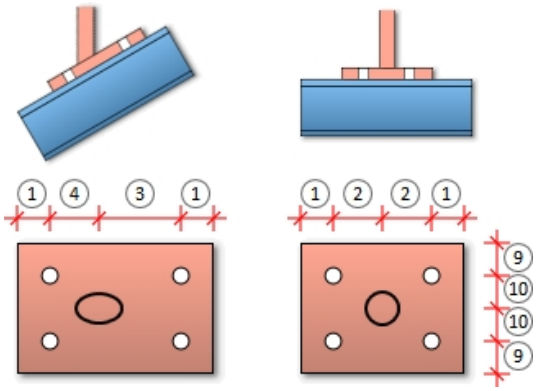
Post connection, top

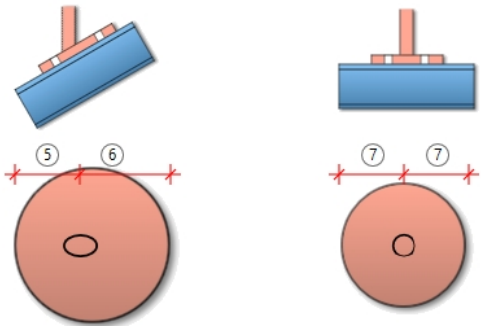
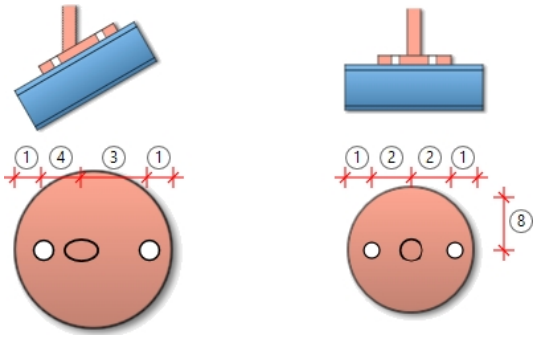
Value inputs for Post connection, top

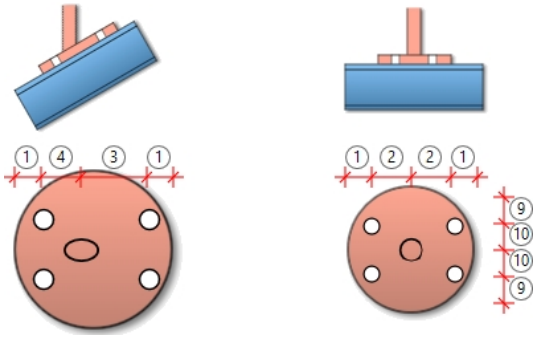


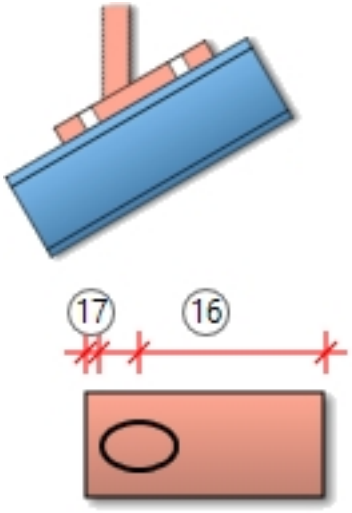
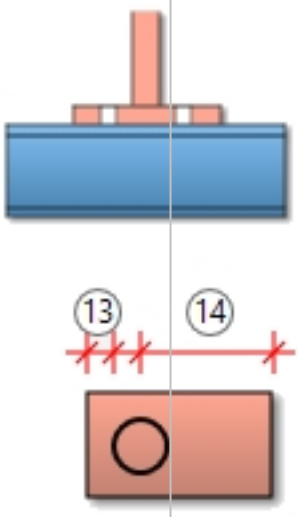
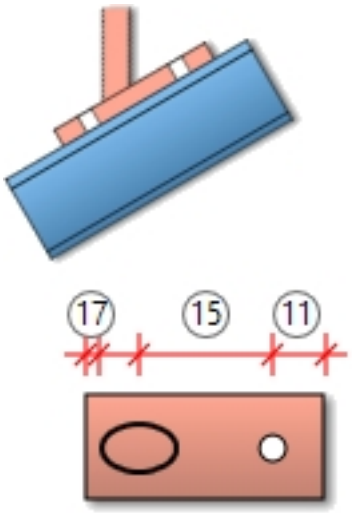
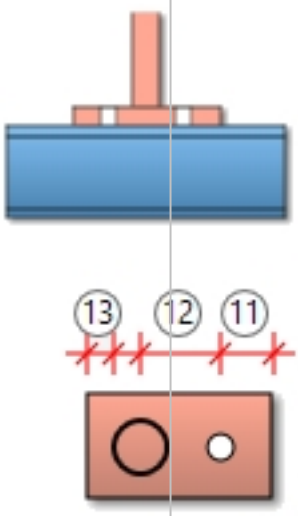
Depending on the selected bore grid, the possible options are:

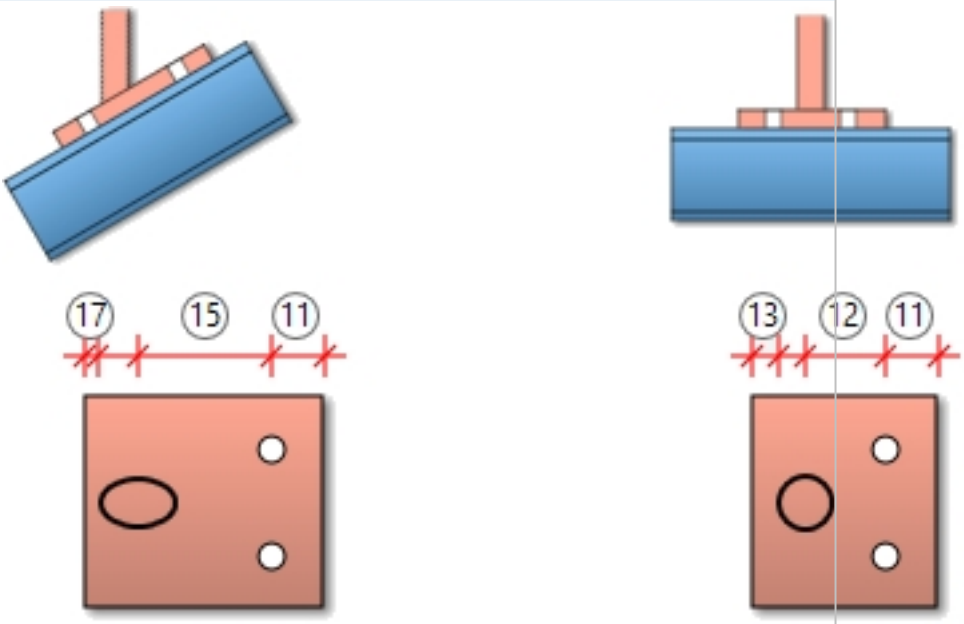
Bore grid	Input values	
Rect-angular, no bore	■ Half the length of base plate (7) ■ Width of base plate (8) ■ Distances of post (axis) to plate edge (5) and (6) - only for sloping areas ■ Selection of base plate ■ Fillet radius of the corners ■ Selection of stiffeners	
Rect-angular, 2 bores	■ Distance of bore to plate edge in walk-ing direction (1), ■ Bore dis-tances, i.e. dis-tances of bore centres to post centre (3) and (4) - for sloping areas ■ Distance of post (axis) to centre of bore (2) - for level areas ■ Selection of base plate ■ Selection of bolting ■ Fillet radius of the corners ■ Rotated 90° yes/no ■ Selection of stiffeners	

Bore grid	Input values	
Rect-angular, 4 bores	■ Distance of bore to plate edge in walk-ing direction (1) ■ Distance of bore centre to post axis in walking dir-ection (2) - for level areas ■ Distances of post (axis) to bore centres (3) and (4) - only for slop-ing areas ■ Distance of plate edge to bore per-pendicular to walking dir-ection (9) ■ Distance of bore centre to post axis-perpendicular to walking dir-ection (10) ■ Selection of base plate ■ Selection of bolting ■ Fillet radius of the corners ■ Selection of stiffeners	

Bore grid	Input values	
Round, no bore	■ Distances of post (axis) to plate edge (5) and (6) - only for sloping areas ■ Radius of the plate (7) - only for level areas ■ Selection of base plate ■ Selection of stiffeners	
Round, 2 bores	■ Distance of bore to plate edge in walking direction (1), ■ Bore distances, i.e. distances of bore centres to post axis (3) and (4) - for sloping areas ■ Distances of post (axis) to the centre of bore (2) - for level areas ■ Selection of base plate ■ Selection of bolting ■ Selection of stiffeners	

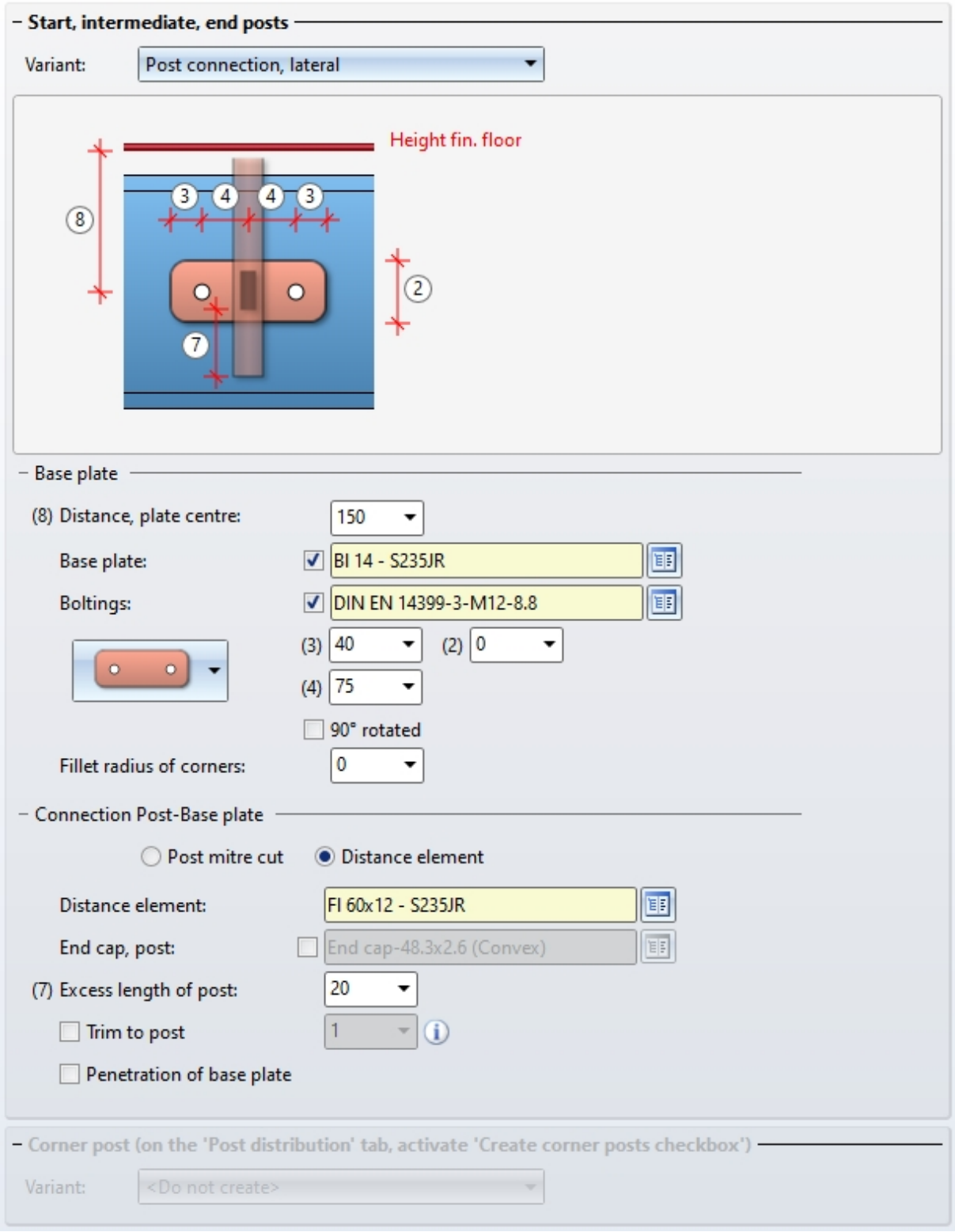
Bore grid	Input values	
Round, 4 bores	■ Distance of bores to plate edge in walking direction (1), ■ Distance of bore centre to post centre in walking direction (2) - for level areas, ■ Distances of post (centre) to bore centres (3) and (4) - only for sloping areas ■ Distance of bore to plate edge perpendicular to walking direction (9) ■ Distance of bore centre to post centre perpendicular to walking direction (10) ■ Selection of base plate ■ Selection of bolting ■ Selection of stiffeners	

Bore grid	Input values	
One-sided, no bore	■ Distance of post from plate edge (17), (13) ■ Distance of post axis to plate edge (16), (14) ■ Width of base plate (8) ■ Fillet radius of corners ■ Selection of base plate ■ Selection of stiffeners	 
One-sided, 1 bore	■ Distance of post from plate edge (17), (13) ■ Distance of post axis to bore centre (15), (12) ■ Distance of bore (centre) to plate edge ■ Width of base plate (8) ■ Fillet radius of corners ■ Selection of base plate ■ Selection of stiffeners	 

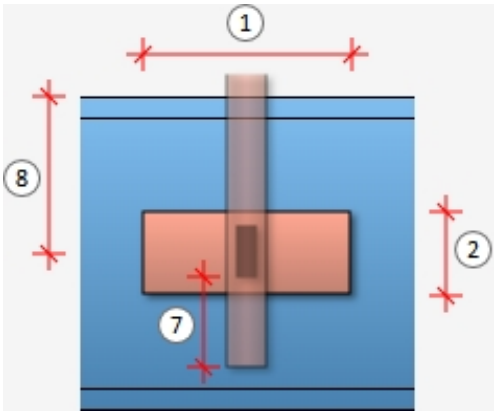
Bore grid	Input values	
One-sided, 2 bores in transverse direction	■ Distance of post from plate edge (17), (13) ■ Distance of post axis to bore centre (15), (12) ■ Distance of bore (centre) to plate edge (11) ■ Width of base plate (8) ■ Distance of bore centre to plate edge (9) ■ Distance of bore centre to post axis (10) ■ Fillet radius of corners ■ Selection of base plate ■ Selection of stiffeners	

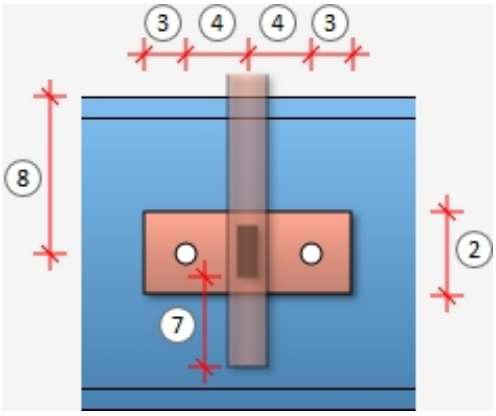
Post connection, lateral

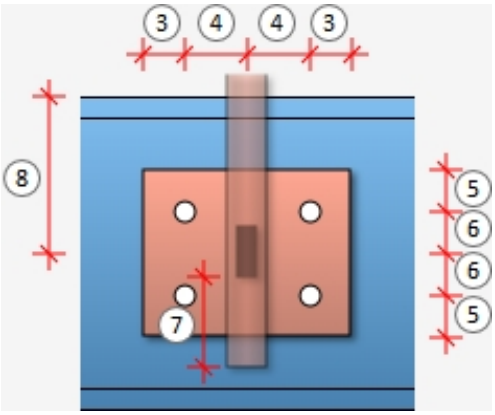
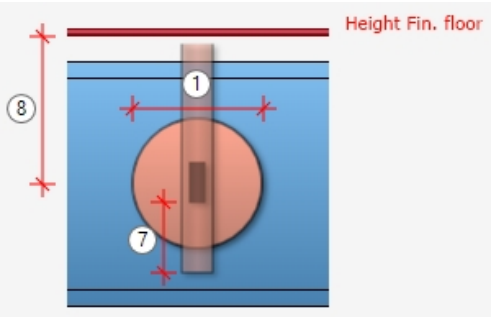
Value inputs for Post connection, lateral

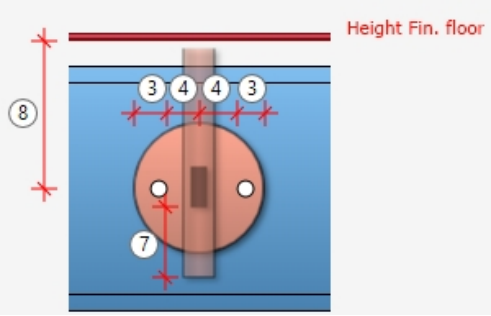


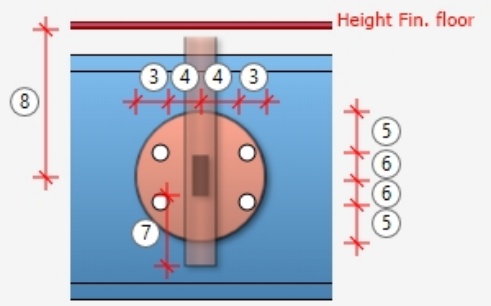
Depending on the selected bore grid, the possible options are:

Bore grid	Input values	
Rectangular, no bore	■ Length of base plate (1) ■ Width of base plate (2) ■ Excess length of post (7) ■ Distance of plate centre to base plate (8) ■ Selection of base plate ■ Fillet radius of corners ■ Definition of Post - Base plate connection: Post with mitre cut or distance element ■ In case of distance element: • with/without end cap, • Excess length of post (7) • Selection of distance element • Trim to post yes/no • Penetration of base plate yes/no	

Bore grid	Input values	
Rectangular, 2 bores	■ Length of base plate (1) ■ Width of base plate (2) ■ Distance of bore to plate edge in walking direction (3), ■ Bore distance, i.e. distance of bore centre to the centre of the post (4) ■ Distance of plate centre to beam (8) ■ Selection of base plate ■ Selection of distance plate ■ Selection of bolting ■ Fillet radius of corners ■ 90° rotated yes/no ■ Definition of Post - Base plate connection: Post with mitre cut or distance element ■ In case of distance element: • with/without end cap, • Excess length of post (7) • Selection of distance element • Trim to post yes/no • Penetration of base plate yes/no	

Bore grid	Input values	
Rectangular, 4 bores	■ Distance of bore to plate edge in walking direction (3), ■ Bore distance, i.e. distance of bore centre to the centre of the post (4) ■ Distance of the bore centre to the centre of the post transverse to the walking direction (5) ■ Distance of bore centre to plate centre (6) ■ Distance of plate centre to beam (8) ■ Selection of base plate ■ Selection of bolting ■ Fillet radius of corners ■ Definition of Post - Base plate connection: Post with mitre cut or distance element ■ In case of distance element: • with/without end cap, • Excess length of post (7) • Selection of distance element • Trim to post yes/no • Penetration of base plate yes/no	
Round, no bore	■ Diameter of base plate (1) ■ Selection of base plate ■ Distance of plate centre to beam (8) ■ Definition of Post - Base plate connection: Post with mitre cut or distance element ■ In case of distance element: • with/without end cap, • Excess length of post (7) • Selection of distance element • Trim to post yes/no • Penetration of base plate yes/no	

Bore grid	Input values	
Round, 2 bores	■ Excess length of post (7) ■ Distance of bore to plate edge in walking direction (3) ■ Bore distance, i.e. distance of bore centre to the centre of the post (4) ■ Distance of plate centre to beam (8) ■ Selection of base plate ■ Selection of distance element ■ Selection of boltings ■ Definition of Post - Base plate connection: Post with mitre cut or distance element ■ In case of distance element: • with/without end cap, • Excess length of post (7) • Selection of distance element • Trim to post yes/no • Penetration of base plate yes/no	

Bore grid	Input values	
Round, 4 bores	■ Distance of bore to plate edge in walking direction (3) ■ Bore distance, i.e. distance of bore centre to the centre of the post (4) ■ Distance of the bore centre to the centre of the post transverse to the walking direction (5) ■ Distance of bore centre to plate centre (6) ■ Distance of plate centre to beam (8) ■ Selection of base plate ■ Selection of bolting ■ Definition of Post - Base plate connection: Post with mitre cut or distance element ■ In case of distance element: • with/without end cap, • Excess length of post (7) • Selection of distance element • Trim to post yes/no • Penetration of base plate yes/no	

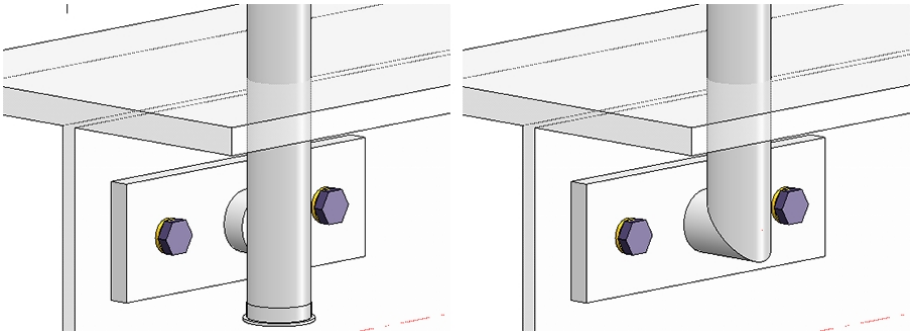
Depending on the kind of the selected beams they will be divided into different sections. The first beam belongs to section 1. HiCAD checks whether the next beam lies on the same plane. If so, it also belongs to section 1. If it does not lie on the same plane, section 2 will start with this beam and so forth. For the lateral post connection the **Distance, plate centre** can be set individually for each section. If the distance should be the same for all areas, activate the **All same** checkbox.

There are two new possibilities available for connecting posts and base plates:

- **Post mitre cut**

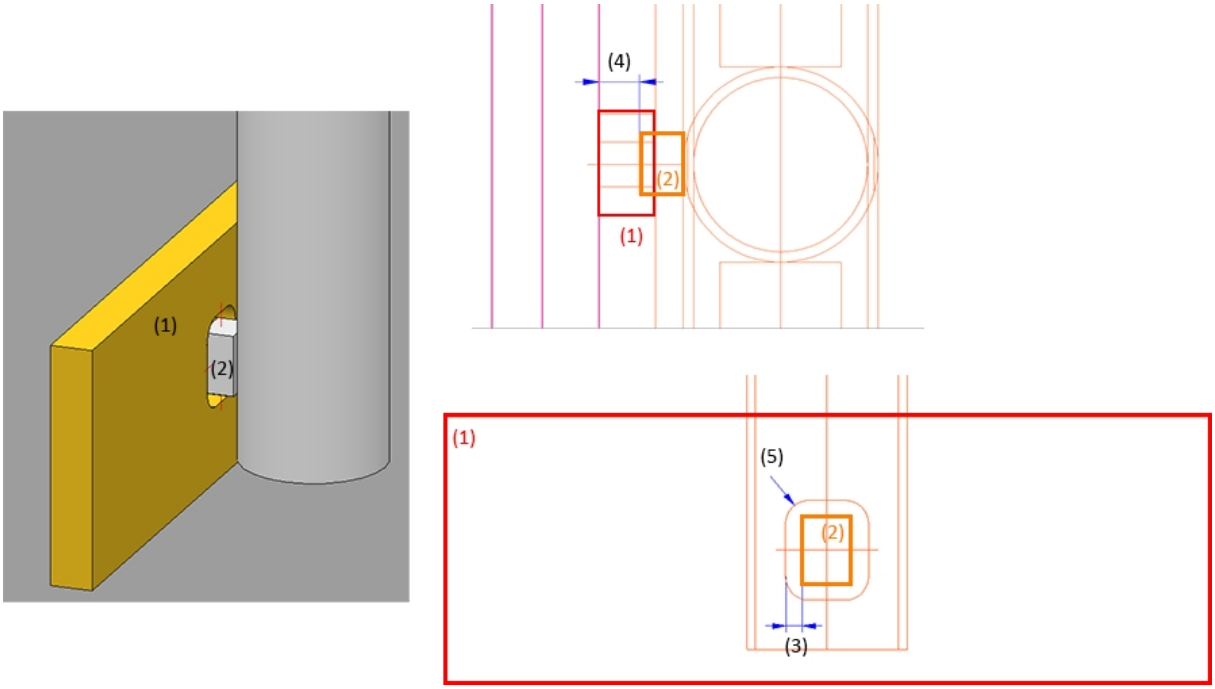
  Instead of a distance plate, the same beam as for the post will be generated and a mitre cut will be applied to the newly created beam and the post beam.
- **Distance element**

  A distance element for the post beam and - if desired - an end cap will be installed. The excess length of the post can be determined. If the distance element should be trimmed to the post, the respective checkbox has to be activated and the width of the obtuse end has to be entered.



Left: with distance element (trimmed) and end cap, right: post mitre cut

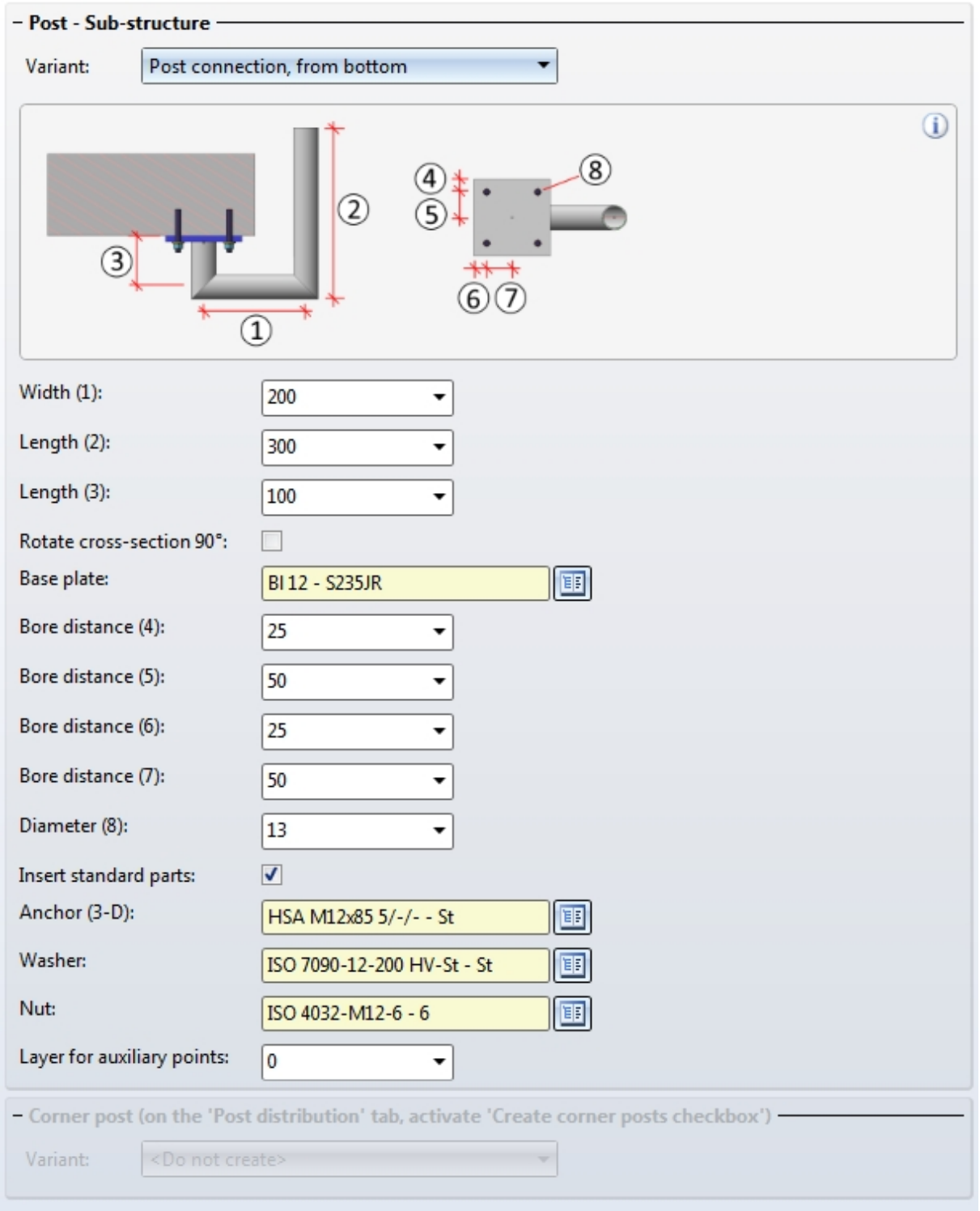
If the connection is made with a distance element, there is a possibility that the distance element penetrates the base plate when connecting laterally. To do this, activate the checkbox **Penetration of base plate** and specify the **Clearance**, the **Corner radius** and the **Shortening of distance element**.



(1) Base plate, (2) Distance element, (3) Clearance, (4) Offset, (5) Corner radius

Connection from bottom

Inputs for Post connection, from bottom

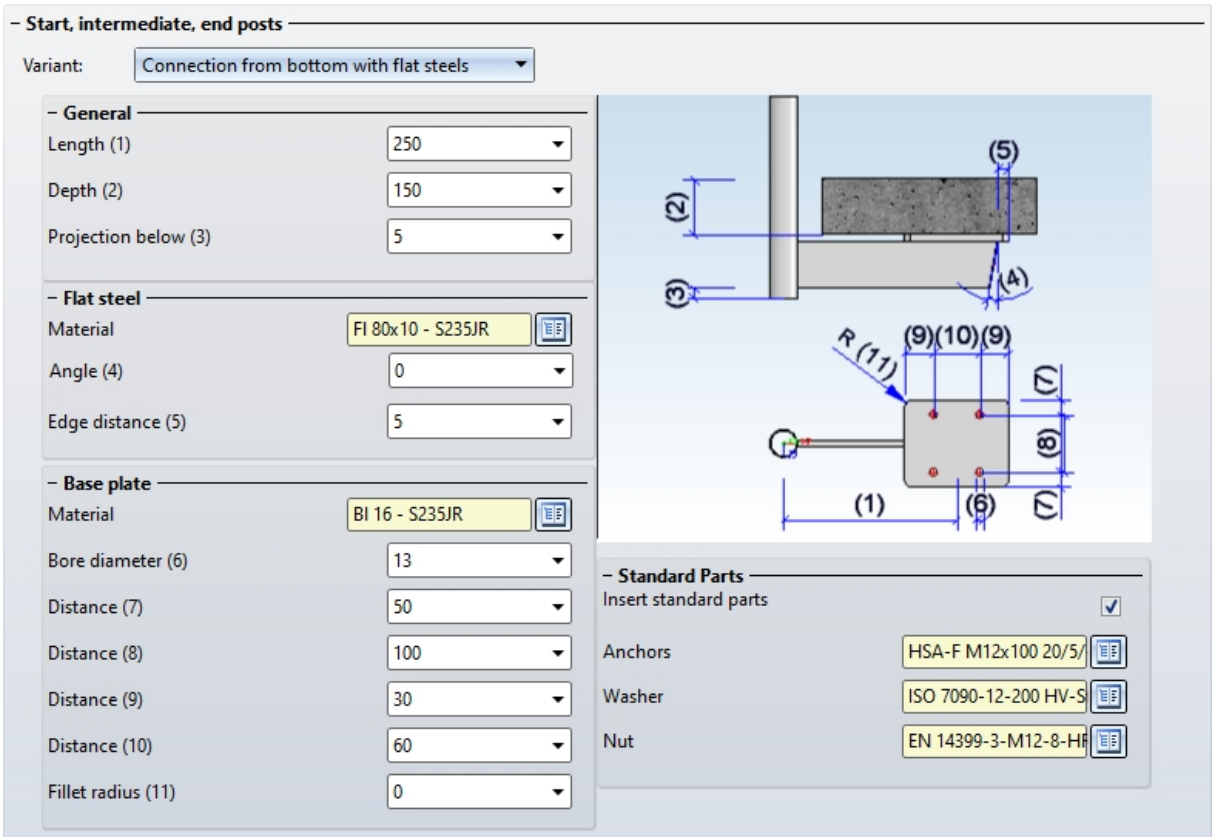


Specify the following values:

Inputs
■ Widths and lengths of the connection (1) to (3) ■ Rotate cross-section 90° yes/no ■ Selection of base plate ■ Bore distances (4) - (7) ■ Diameter of bore (8) ■ Insert standard parts yes/no; if you choose **yes**, select the standard parts ■ Layer for auxiliary points If you want to assign the auxiliary points for the standard parts to a particular layer, you can specify the number of the layer here. The default setting is Layer 0.

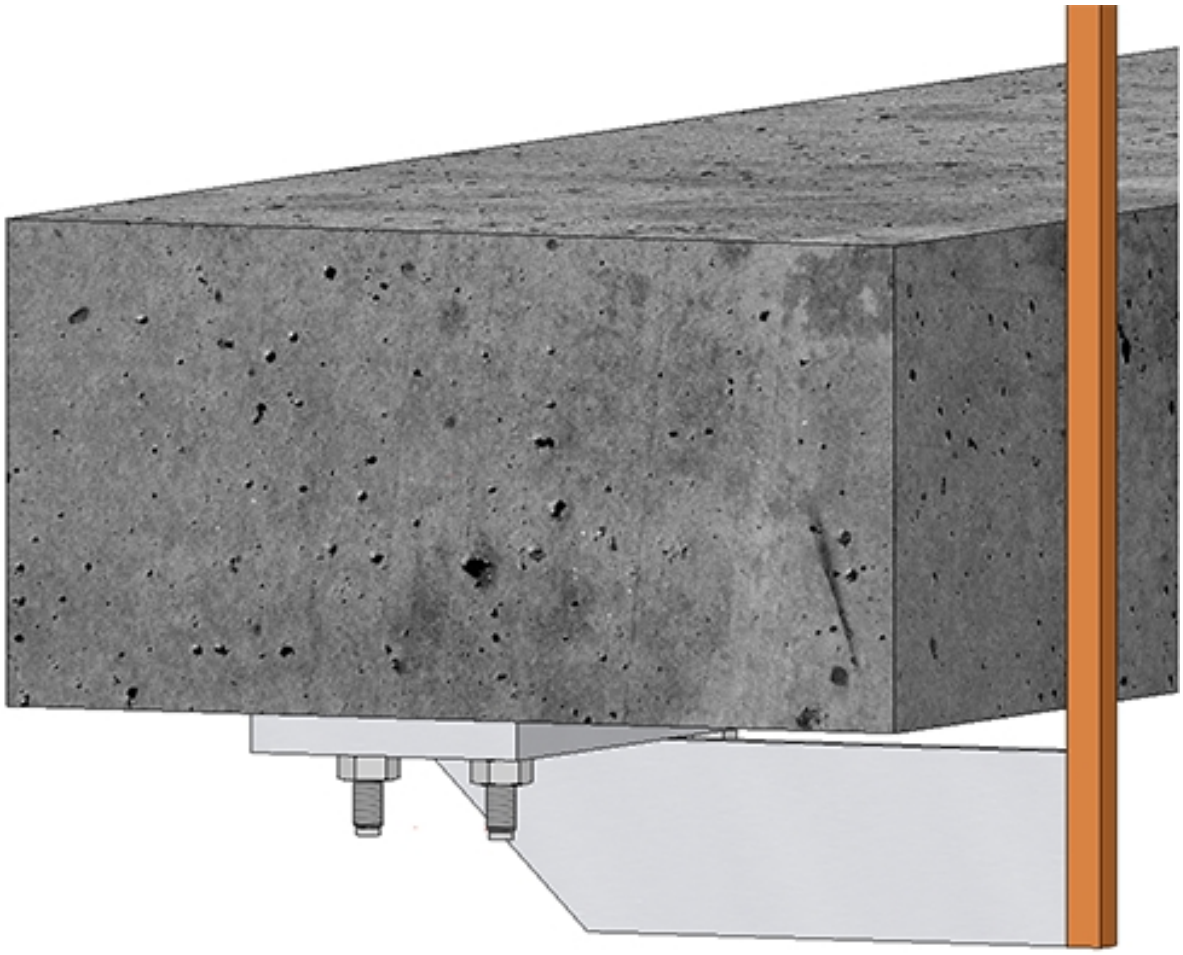
Connection from bottom with flat steels

Inputs for connection from bottom with flat steels



Specify the following values:

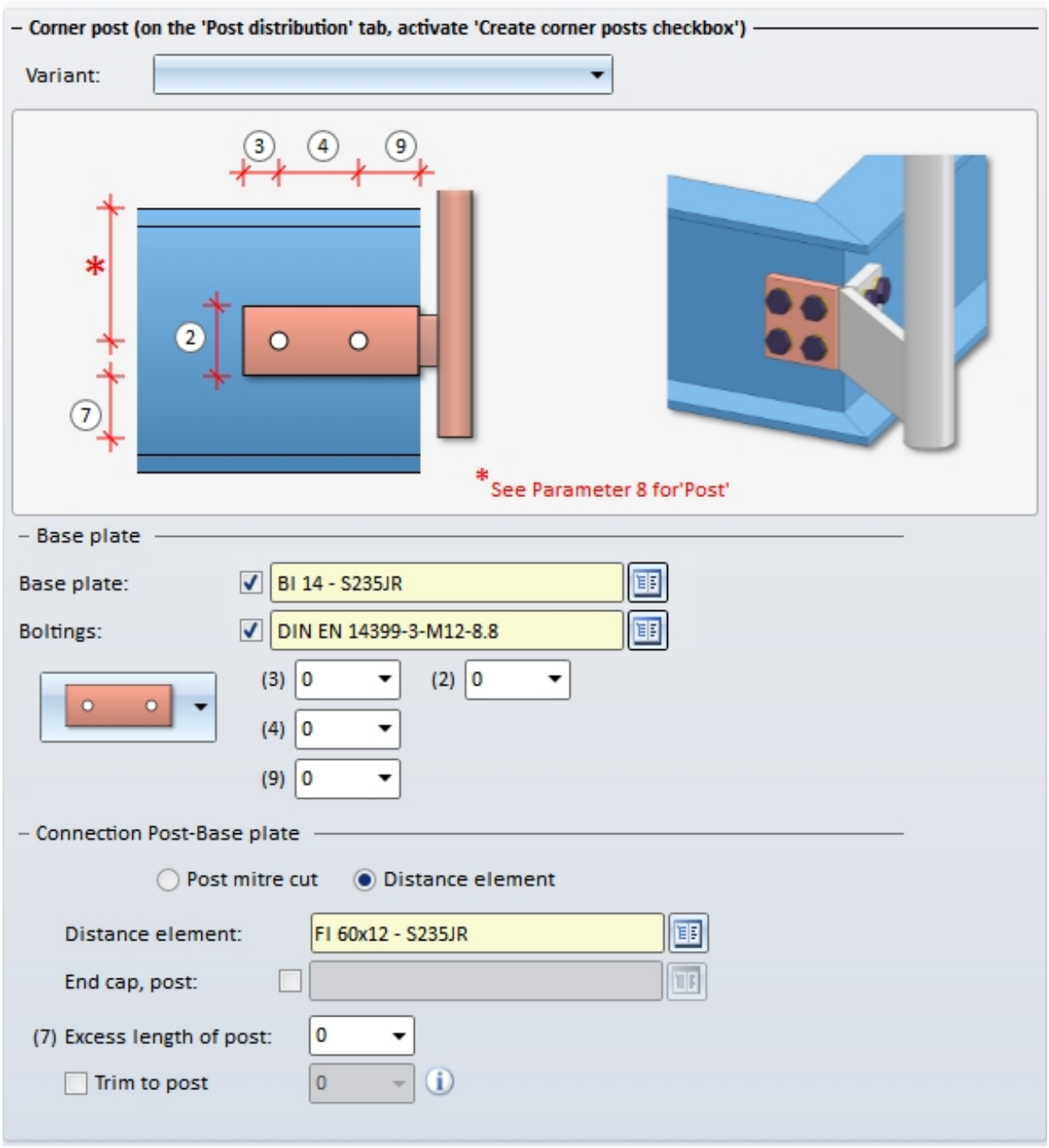
Inputs
■ Length (1) and Depth (2) of the connection ■ Projection below (3) ■ Selection of flat steel ■ Angle (4) and Edge distance (5) ■ Selection of base plate ■ Distances between bores (7) - (10) ■ Bore diameter (8) ■ Fillet readius (11) ■ Insert standard parts yes/no; if you choose **yes**, select the standard parts



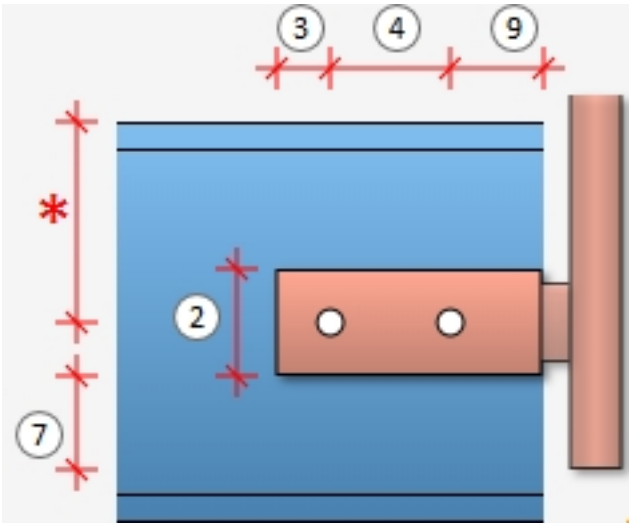
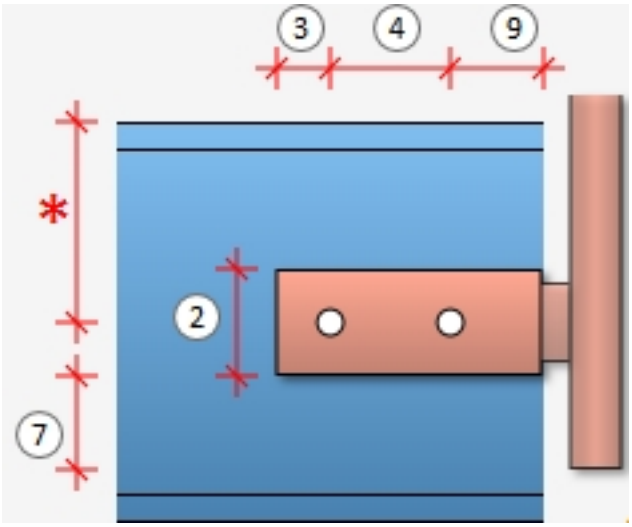
If you have activated the **Create corner posts** checkbox on the **Post distribution** tab, you can specify the corner post connections here. The following variants are possible:

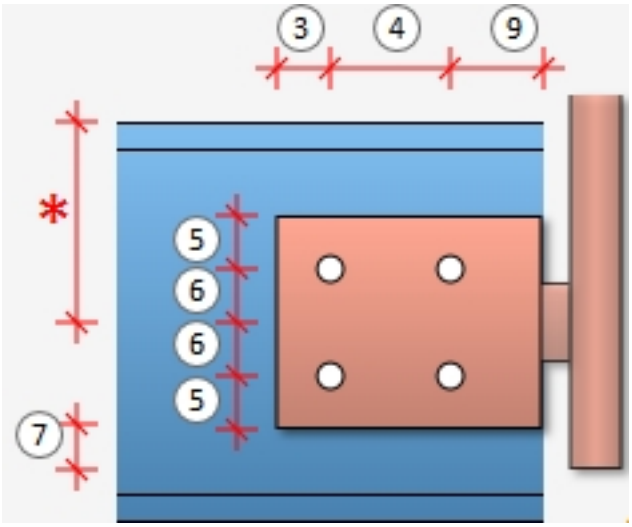
- Do not create
- Corner post connection, lateral

Value inputs for Corner post connection, lateral



Depending on the selected bore grid, the possible options are:

Bore grid	Input values	
No bore	■ Length of base plate (1) ■ Width of base plate (2) ■ Excess length of post (7) ■ Selection of base plate ■ Definition of Post - Base plate connection	
2 bores	■ Width of base plate (2) ■ Distance of 1st bore (centre) to left edge of base plate (3), ■ Distance between the bores (4) ■ Distance of 1st bore (centre) to right edge of base plate (9) ■ Excess length of post (7) ■ Selection of base plate ■ Selection of bolting ■ Definition of Post - Base plate connection	

Bore grid	Input values	
4 bores	■ Distance of 1st bore (centre) from left edge of base plate (3), ■ Distance between the bores (4) ■ Distance of 2nd bore (centre) to right edge of base plate (9) ■ Distance of bore to upper-/lower plate edge (5) ■ Distance of bore centre to plate centre (6) ■ Excess length of post (7) ■ Selection of base plate ■ Selection of bolting ■ Definition of Post - Base plate connection	

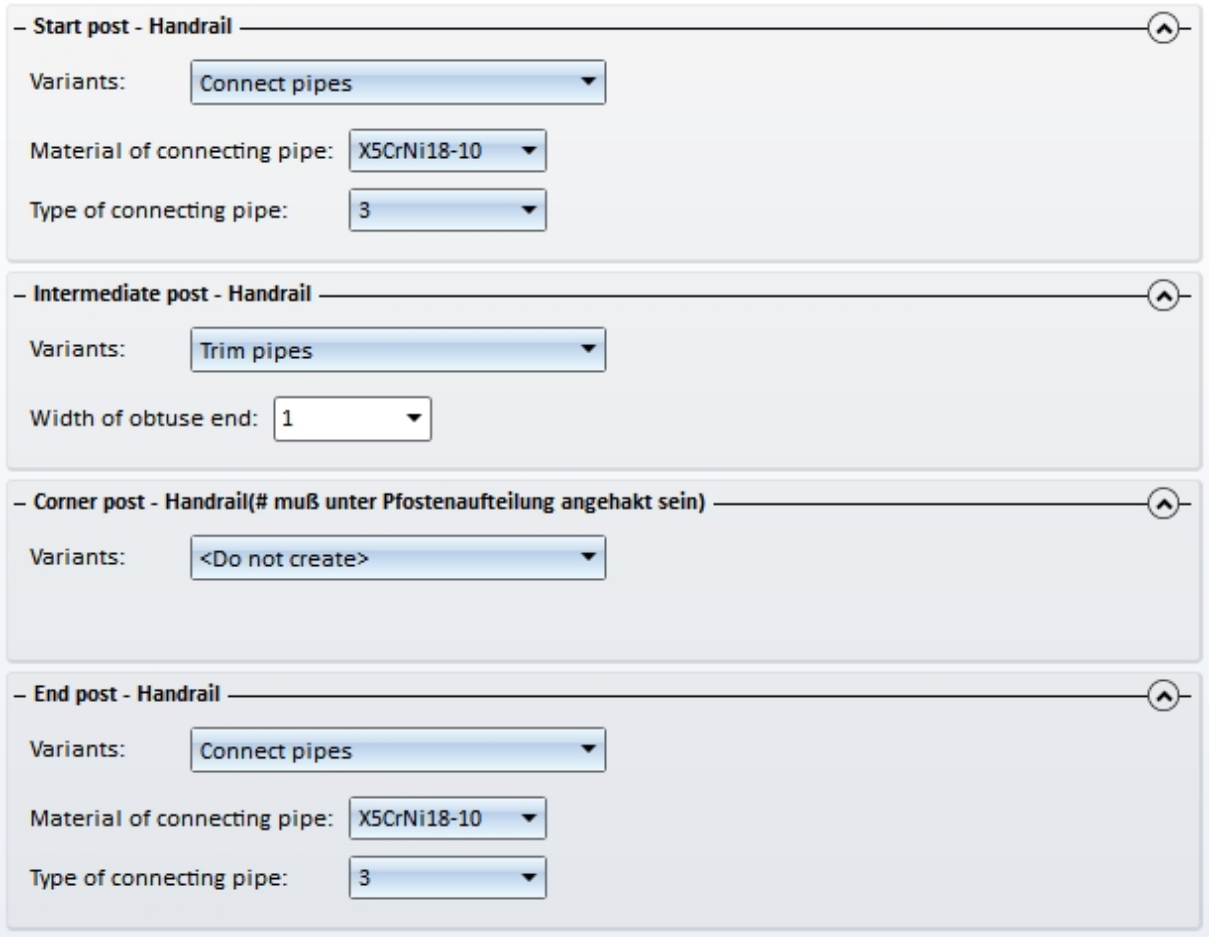
For the connection of posts and base plates the same options are available as for "normal" post connections.

Please note:
Even if you activate the **All posts equal** checkbox on the **Post** tab, the settings on the tabs **Post - Substructure** and **Post - Handrail** will not be considered for corner posts and transition posts! The connections on corner posts and transition posts must therefore be reworked manually.

Post - Handrail

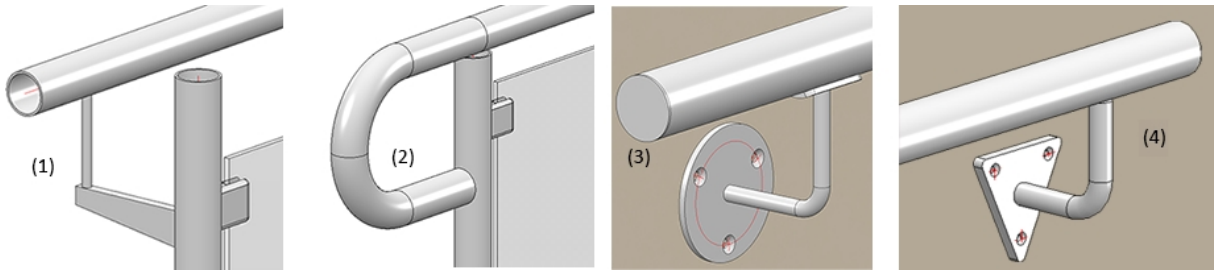
Here you specify the connection of post and handrail.

Value inputs for the connection of post and handrail



If you want to use the same variant for all posts, please activate the **All posts equal** checkbox.

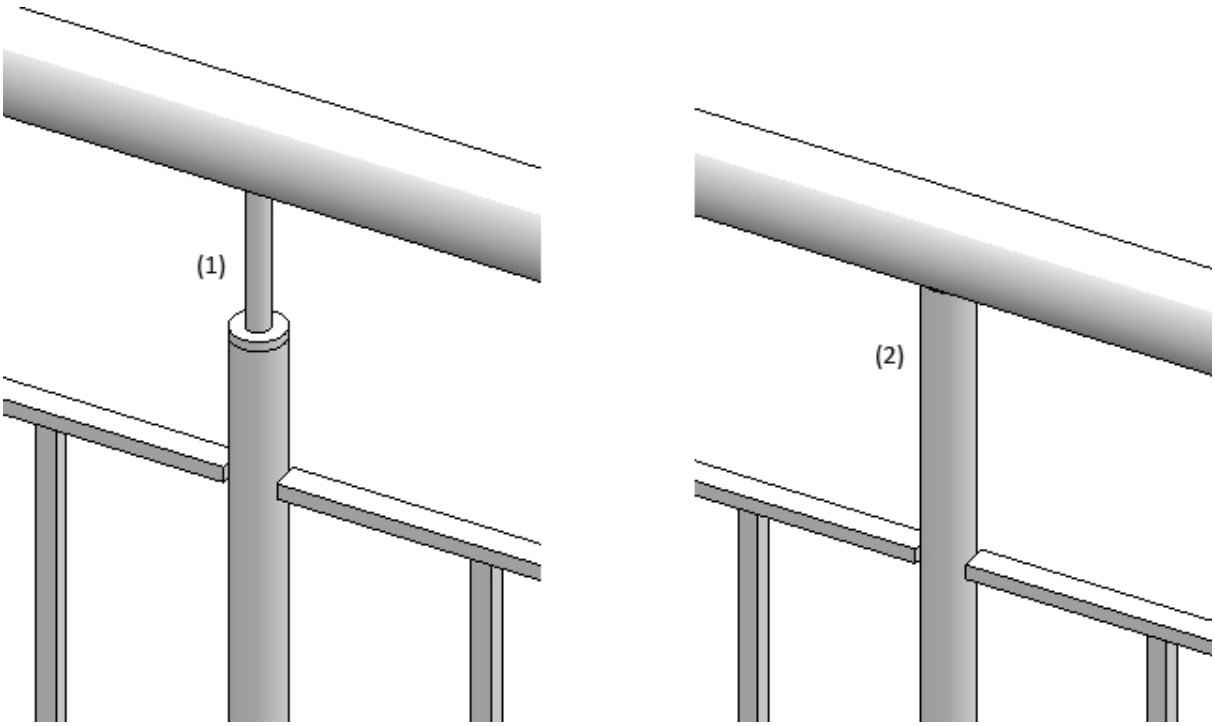
Allowed connections			
Start post - Handrail (3)	Intermediate post - Handrail (2)	Corner post - Handrail (2)	End post - Handrail (4)
■ Mitre cut ■ Trim pipes ■ Connect pipes ■ Connection with mandrel ■ Start arc ■ End arc ■ Console ■ Wall console (Own production) ■ Wall console (Pre-fabricated part)	■ Trim pipes ■ Connection with mandrel ■ Start arc ■ End arc ■ Console ■ Wall console (Own production) ■ Wall console (Pre-fabricated part)	■ Trim pipes ■ Connection with mandrel ■ Start arc ■ End arc ■ Console ■ Wall console (Own production) ■ Wall console (Pre-fabricated part)	■ Mitre cut ■ Trim pipes ■ Connect pipes ■ Connection with mandrel ■ Start arc ■ End arc ■ Console ■ Wall console (Own production) ■ Wall console (Pre-fabricated part)



To create the wall console you must set the

- Posts,
- Infills and
- Post - Substructure constructions

to **Do not create / Do not insert**. In addition, a lateral offset to the handrail must be entered on the **Post** tab.



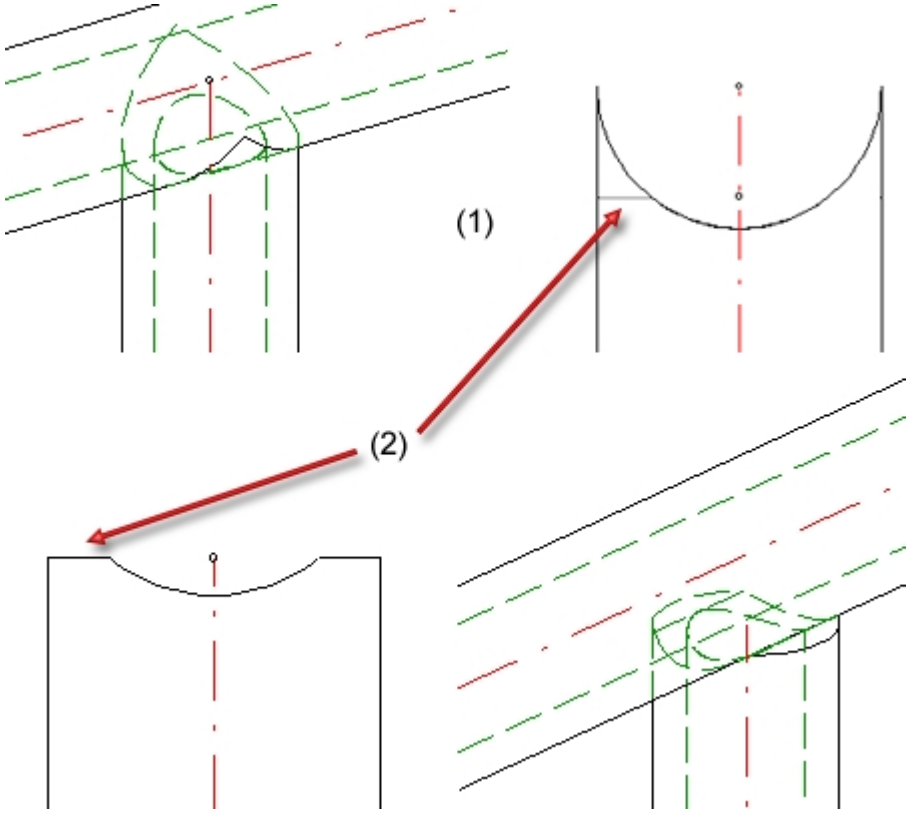
Example of a connection Intermediate post - Handrail: 1) Connection with mandrel, (2) Trim pipes

For the **Connect pipes** variant you need to choose the material for the connecting pipe and then its type. The latter determines the bend radius:

- 2 (Bend radius approx. 1,0 x Outer diameter)
- 3 (Bend radius approx. 1,5 x Outer diameter)
- 5 (Bend radius approx. 2,5 x Outer diameter)
- 10 (Bend radius approx. 5 x Outer diameter)
- 20 (Bend radius approx. 10 x Outer diameter)

For round to round connections the parameter **Width of obtuse end** can be specified if the **Trim pipes** option has been selected. Normally, a pointed end (1) is created on the pipe after the trimming. Use the **Width of obtuse end** (2) parameter to specify how the pointed end on the post is to be cut off.

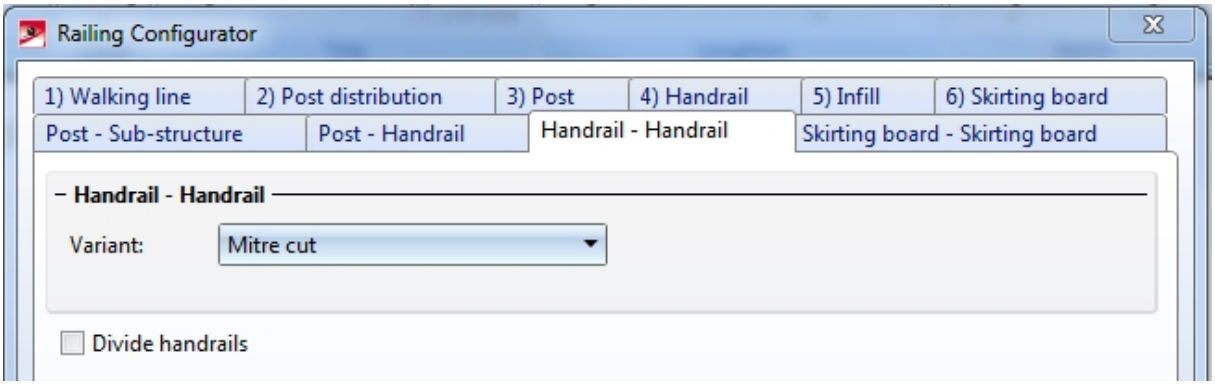
With of obtuse end



Please note that a connection of corner posts and handrails is only possible if the **Create corner posts** check-box has been activated on the **Post distribution** tab.

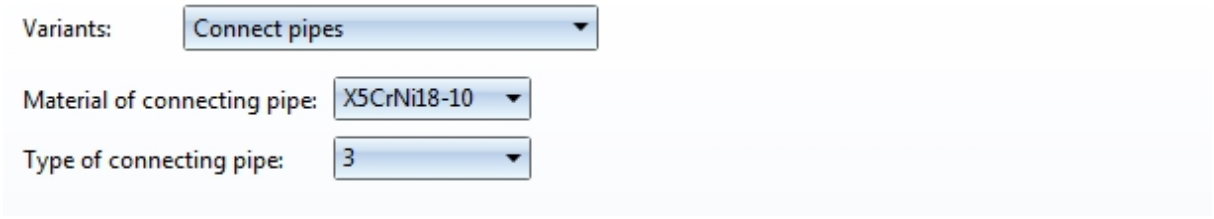
Handrail - Handrail

Here you define the connection of the handrails.



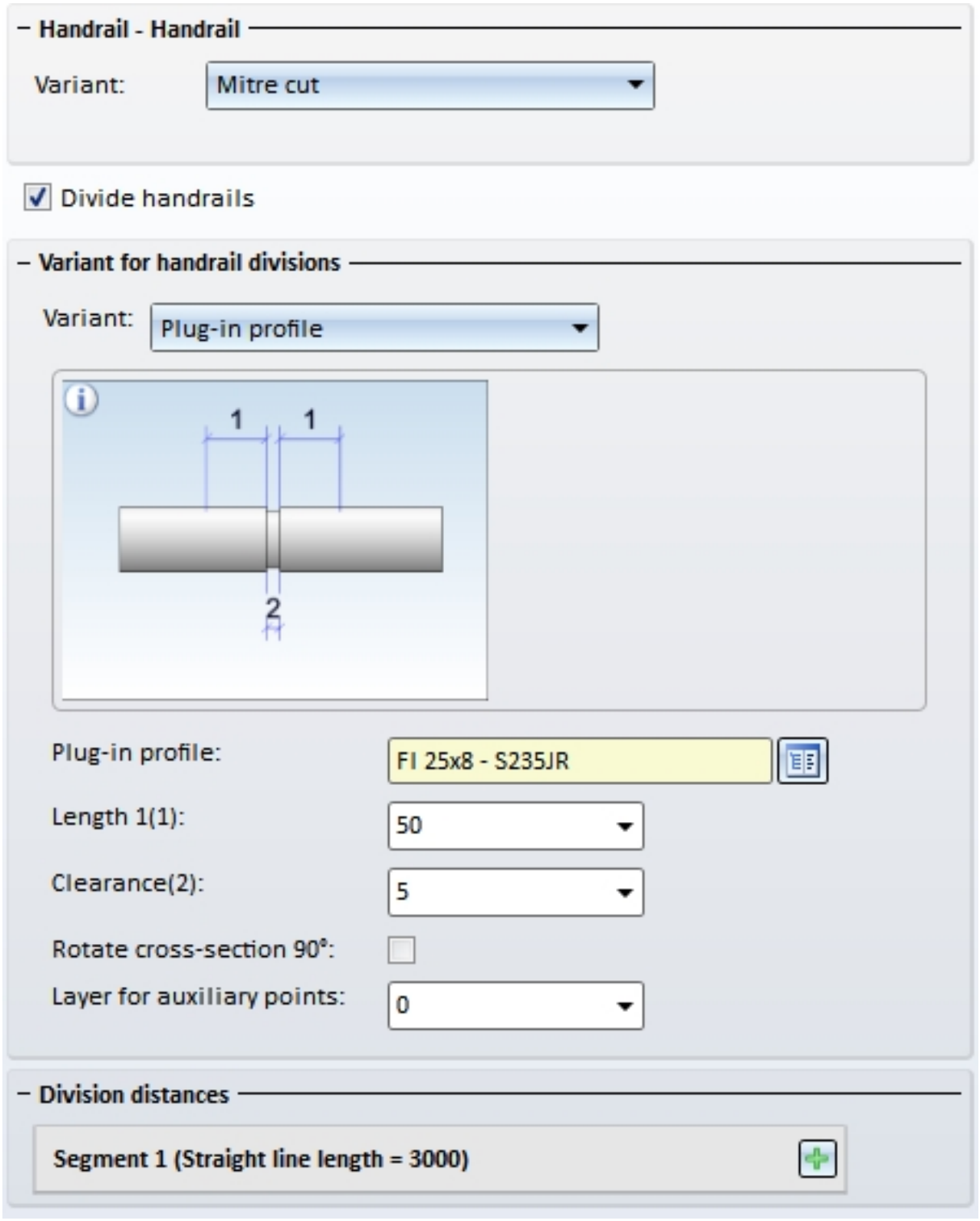
Allowed connections are:

- Mitre cut,
- Connect pipes.

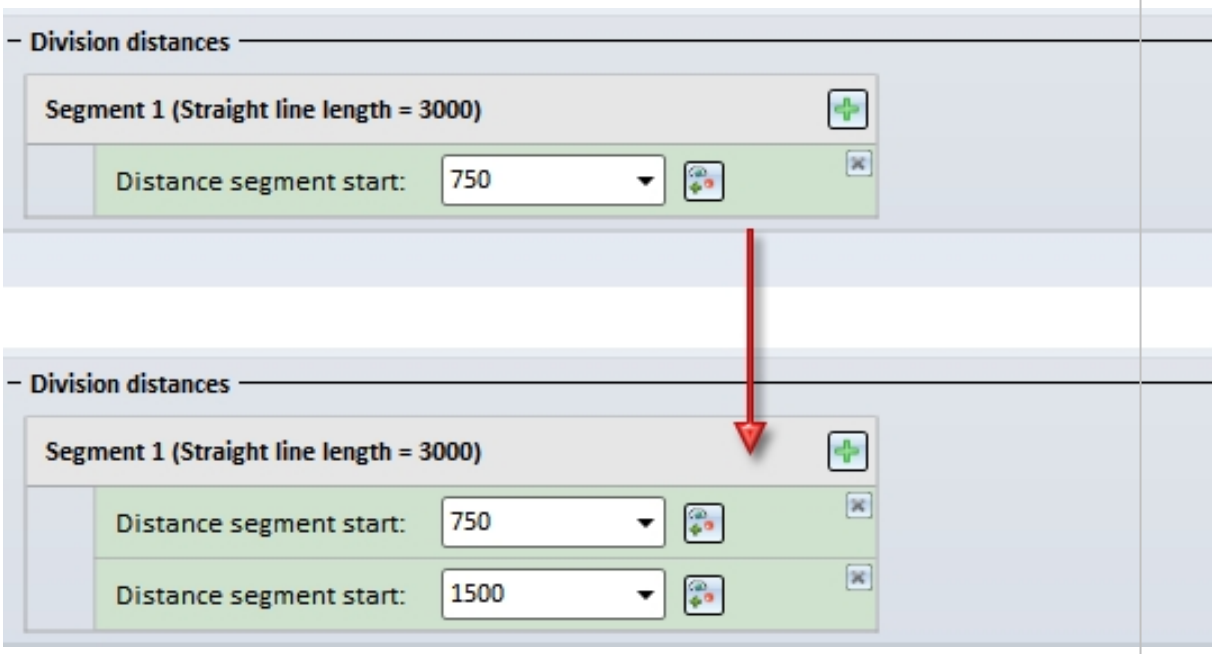


Handrails can also be divided, e.g. in order to insert plug-in profiles or flat steel joints for long railings. Just activate the required checkbox.

If the checkbox is active, the variant for handrail division and the division of the handrail can be specified by segments.



The divisions can be defined either by specifying the distance from the segment start, or by specifying a division point.

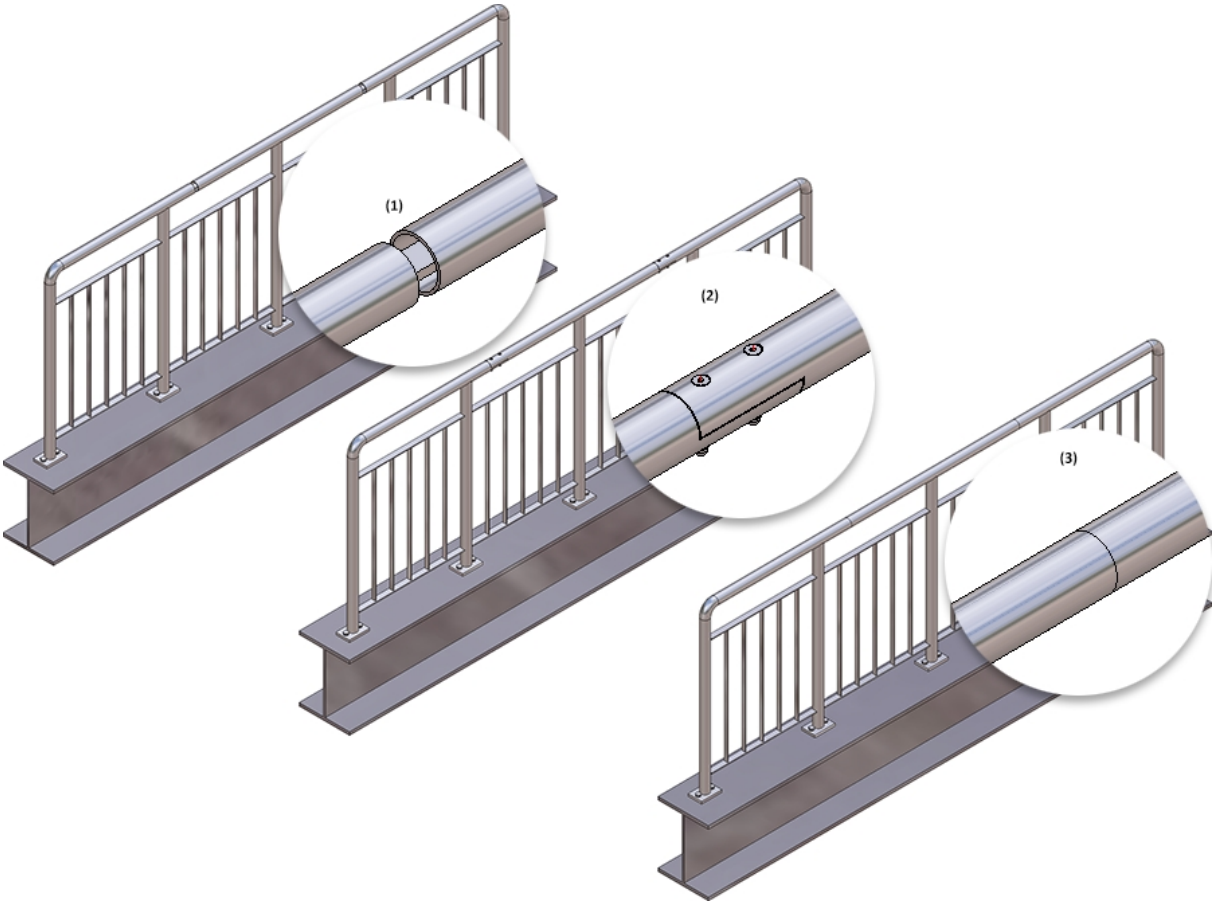
	**New division** Click on this symbol to add a new division, e.g.:  Enter the distance of the division from the segment start in the input field.
	**New division at selected point** Click on this symbol do define the division by specifying a division point.

Divisions can be deleted at any time by clicking on the  symbol at the top right next to a division.

The following variants for handrail division have been predefined:

- Straight cut,
- Plug-in profile and
- Flat steel joint.

The image below shows a railing with divided handrails.



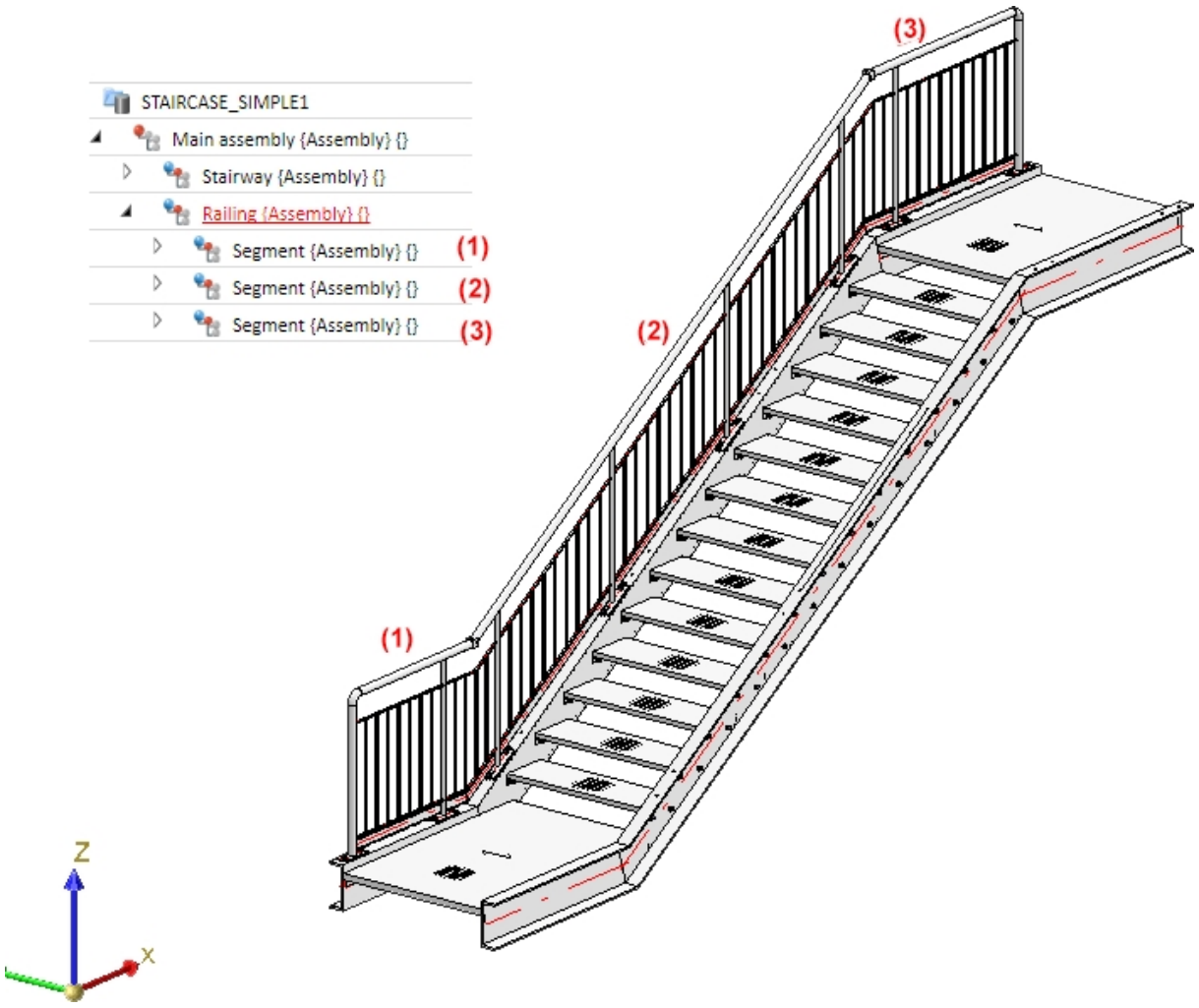
(1) Variant: Plug-in profile, (2) Variant: Flat steel joint, (3) Variant: Straight cut

Skirting board - Skirting board

Here you define the connection of the skirting boards. Here, mitre cuts are possible.

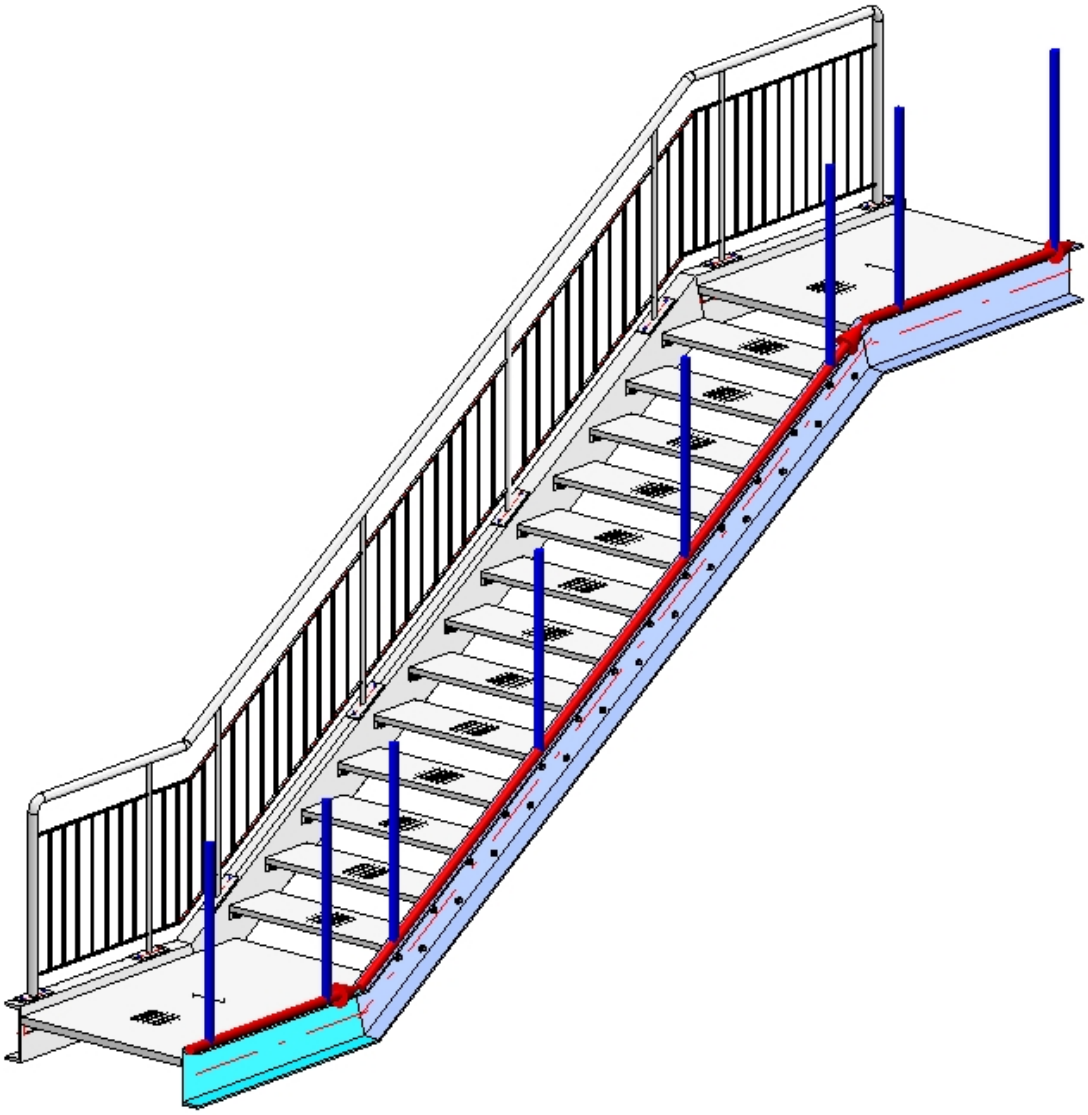
Example, Step 4 - Selection of connections

Use the ISD default settings and close the dialogue window with **OK**. The first railing will be inserted.

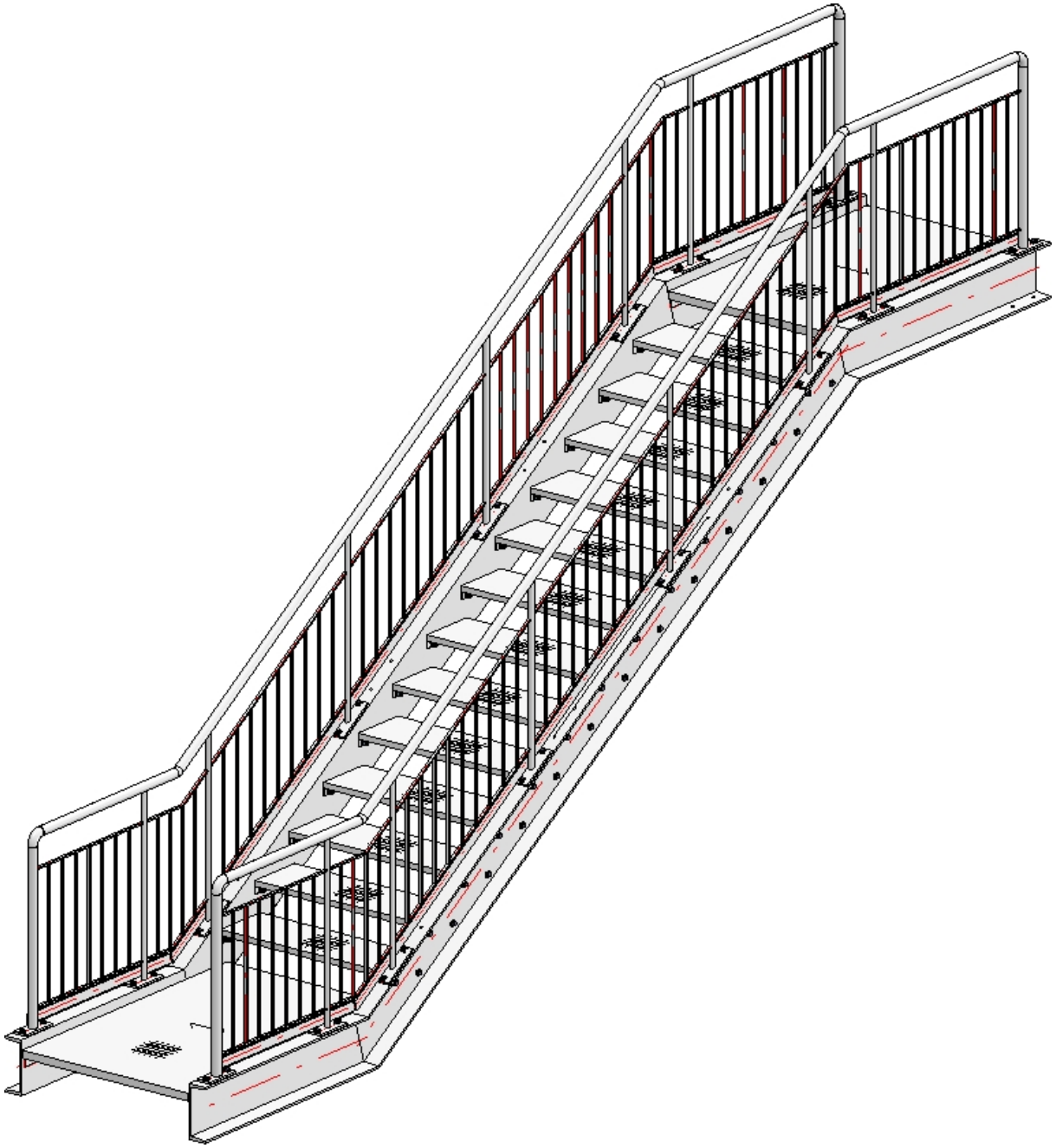


Example, Step 5 - Repeat Step 1 to Step 4 for the right stair stringer

Complete the example by repeating Steps 1 to 4 for the right stair stringer. Call the railing Configurator again and identify the right stringer beams (1) and (2).



The last chosen parameters will be shown in the Railing Configurator dialogue window. With the exception of the Offset, which needs to be entered in negative Y-direction here, apply all of those settings by clicking **OK**. The railing will then be generated.



Finished railing

An example and tips for the placing of railings with equal post distances on multi-storey staircases can be found here.

Railing Configurator - Process Railing

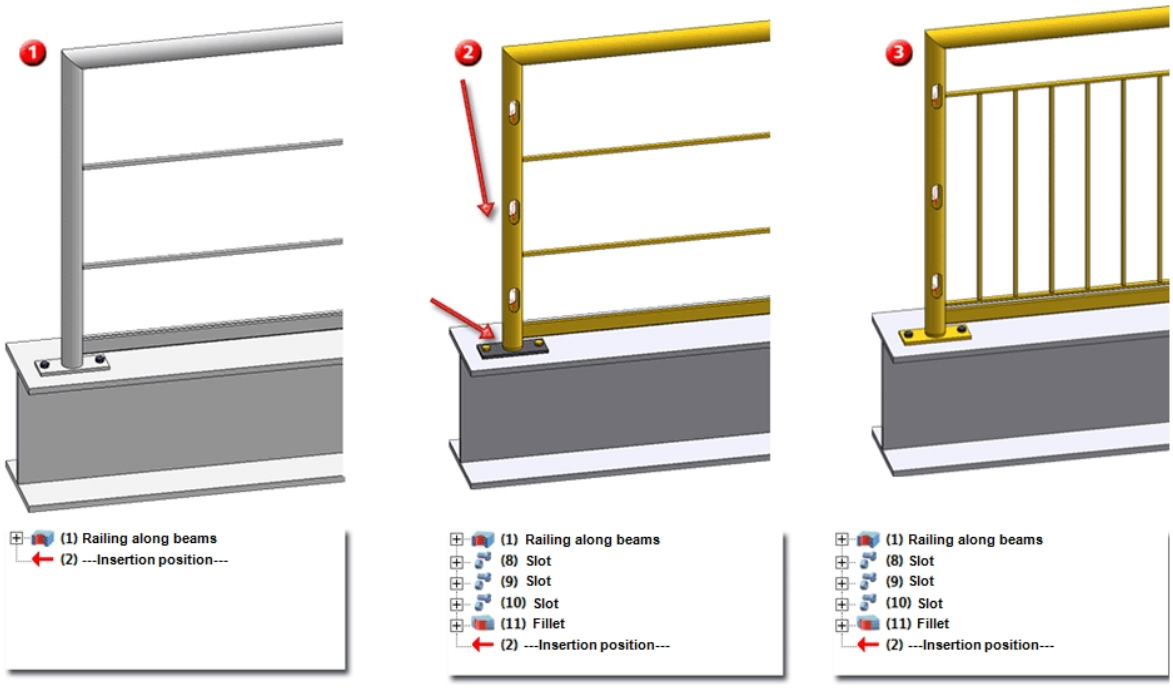
'Civil Engineering functions' docking window > Steel Engineering >Stairs + Railings > Railing> Railing Configurator

To process an already existing railing, identify one of the railing elements and double-click the **Railing along edges** or the **Railing along beams** item in the feature log. The Railing Configurator will be displayed.

If you apply manual changes which are based on features to the elements of a railing, e.g. insert a bore or a material subtraction in a steel beam, or fillet the corners of a square profile, HiCAD will try to preserve these manual changes when the railing is updated or modified, provided that they still make sense.

Example:

The image below shows the detail of railing that has been created with the Railing Configurator (1). Manual changes were then applied to this railing (2): Slots were inserted in the post and the post end was filleted. The railing was then processed further with the Railing Configurator, where a different infill was selected (3). The manually applied changes were preserved in the process.



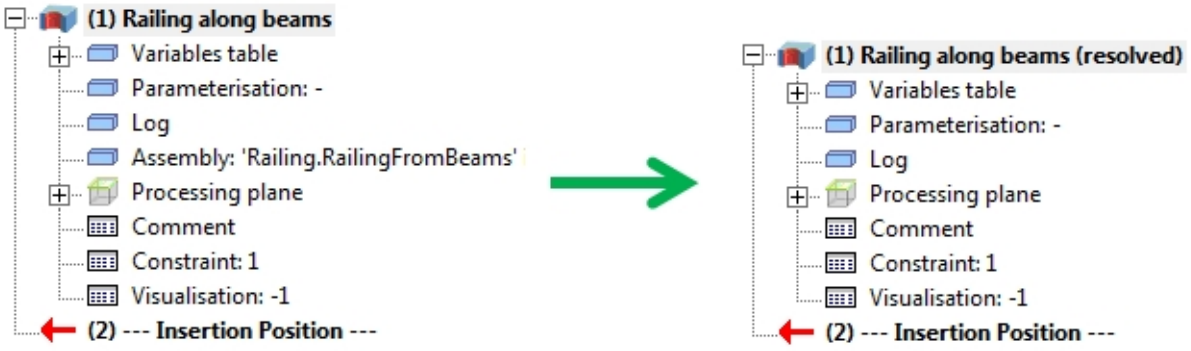
If the beams on which the railing was placed are modified (lengthened, exchanged etc.) after the generation of the railing, you can update the railing by right-clicking the corresponding feature log entry and selecting **Update** in the context menu. The railing will then be adjusted accordingly. The same applies to railings along edges. Here, the same conventions as for the selection of edges apply (the same edges must form, in the same order, a continuous path with intersections points at the junctions).

To delete a railing, either delete the feature **Railing along edges** or **Railing along beams**, or use the Delete connection function (**Steel Engineering > Variants**).

Please note:

Variants created with the Railing Configurator can now be broken up (resolved). This makes sense if manual adjustments are required after the automatic creation of a railing. You can then use the Steel Engineering functions for this purpose.

To break up the variant, right-click the name of the **Railing...** variant in the feature log and select **Break up variant**. The successful breaking up of the variant is indicated in the feature log by means of the additional feature text **(resolved)**. The breaking up automatically switches off the bolting feature **Assembly...** . This allows you to process the boltings by means of the "normal" 3-D bolting functions. If you require the bolting feature again later, e.g. in order to continue working with HCM constraints, it can be switched on again at any time.

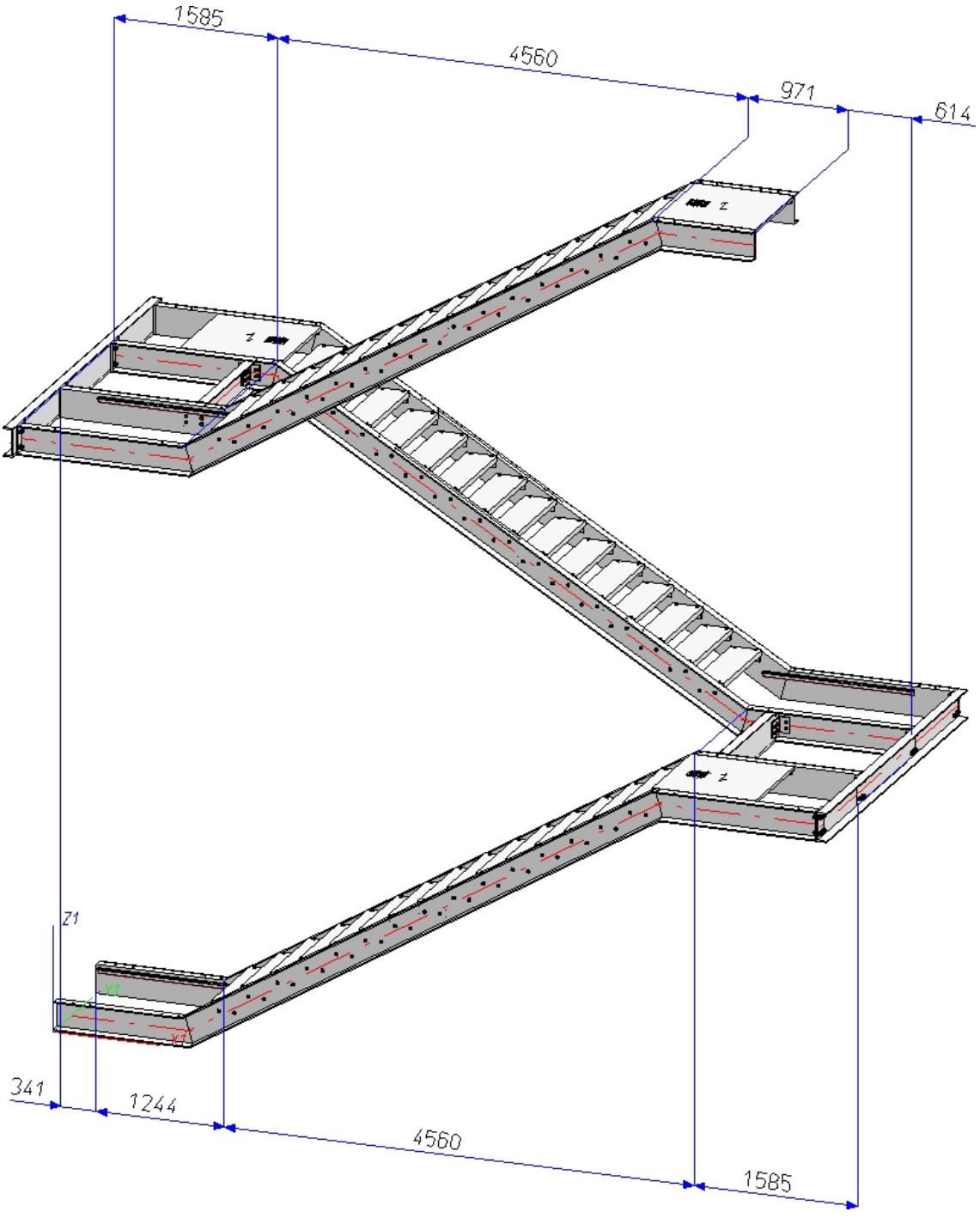


Multi-Storey Stairs + Railings with Equidistant Posts

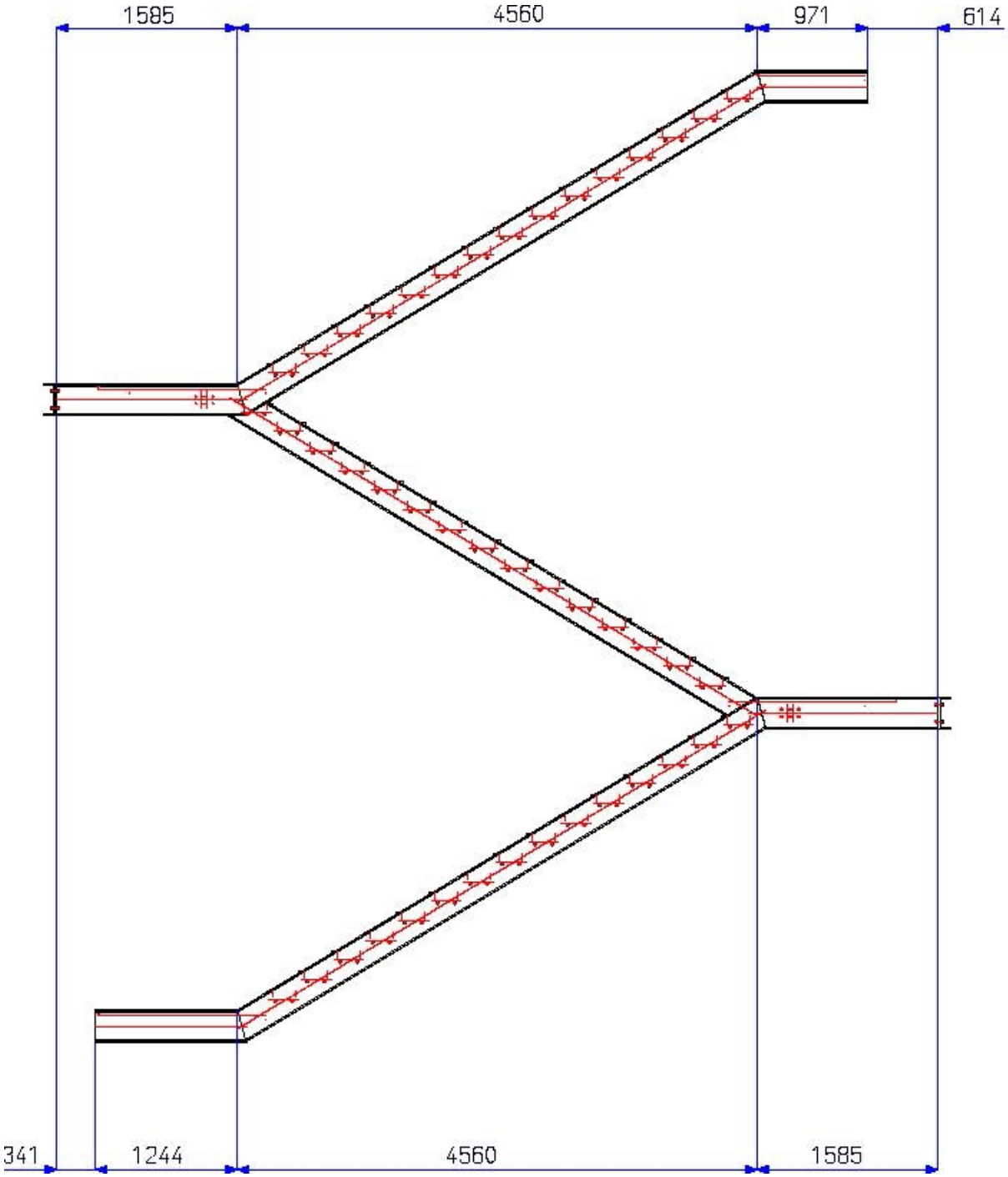
Civil Engineering functions docking window > Steel Engineering >Stairs + Railings > Railing > Railing Configurator (Railings along beams)

A frequent case in practice is the placing of railings onto multi-storey staircases with equidistant posts. All posts are to be located below one another (with regard to the storey), and parallel to one another (with regard to the staircase sections), respectively. Here, the post configuration in the **Railing Configuration)** dialogue window will play an important role.

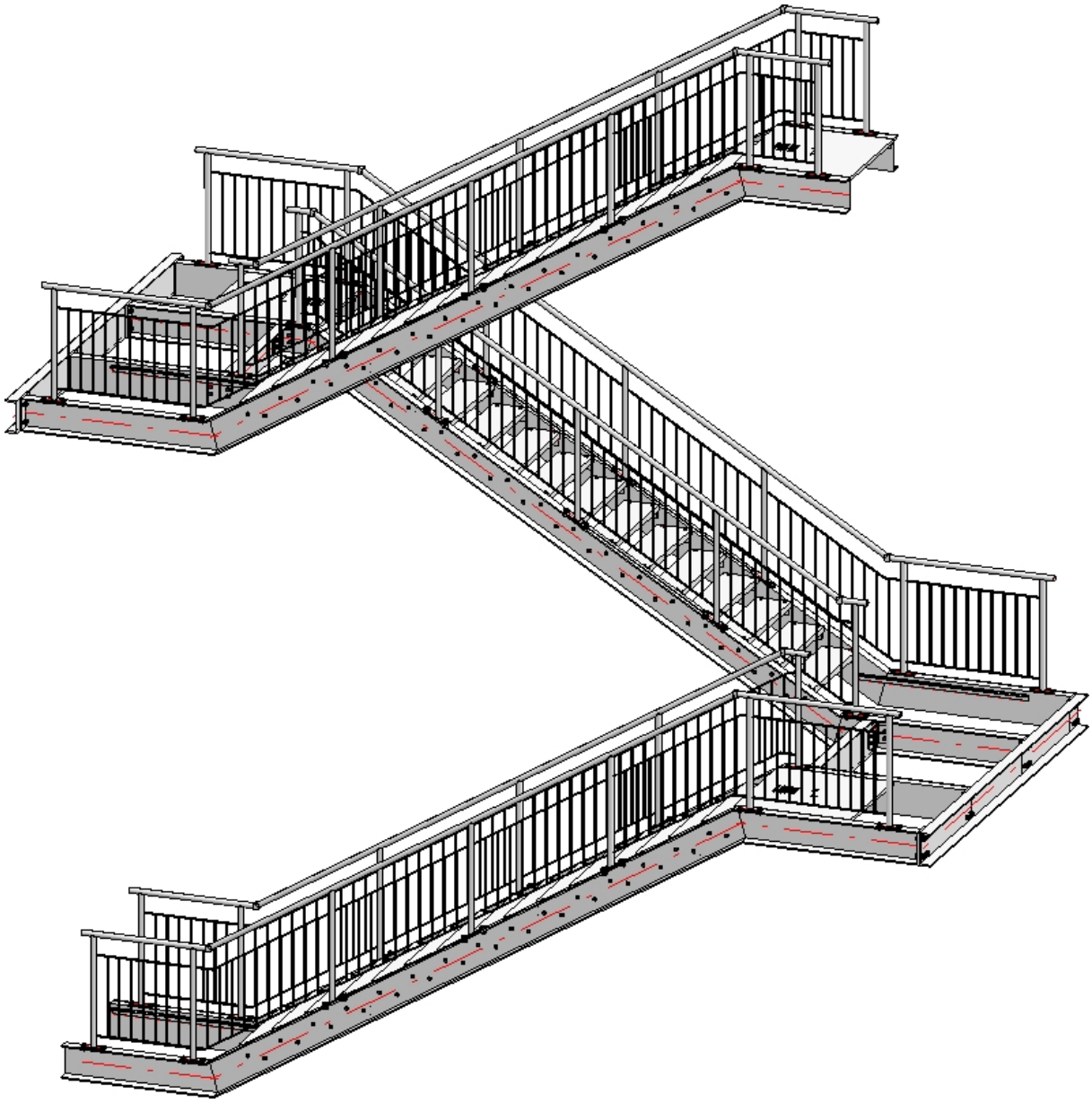
This will be illustrated by means of the following example of a multi-storey staircase.



Staircase with dimensioning, front view

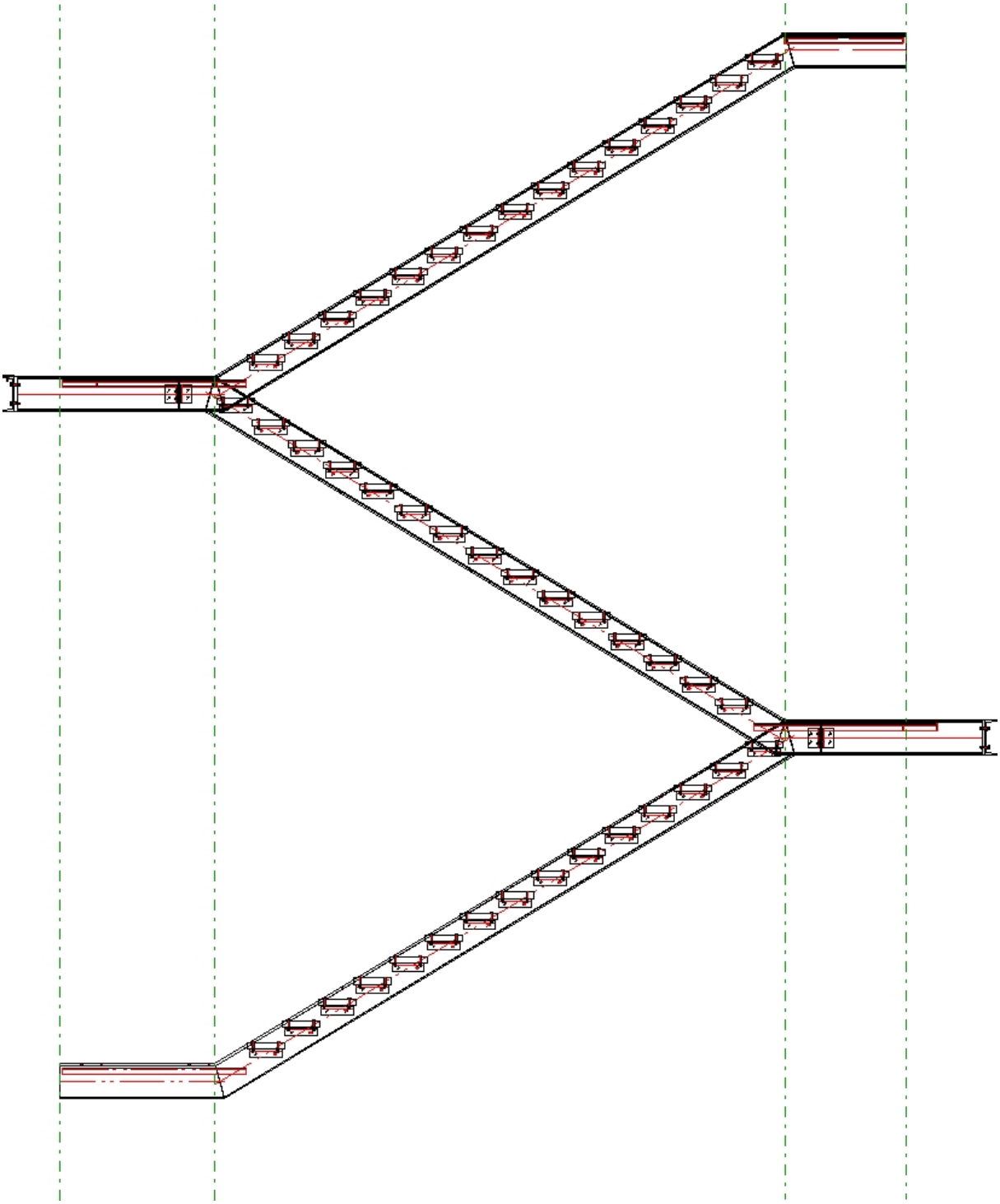


A railing is to be mounted to this staircase as shown below:

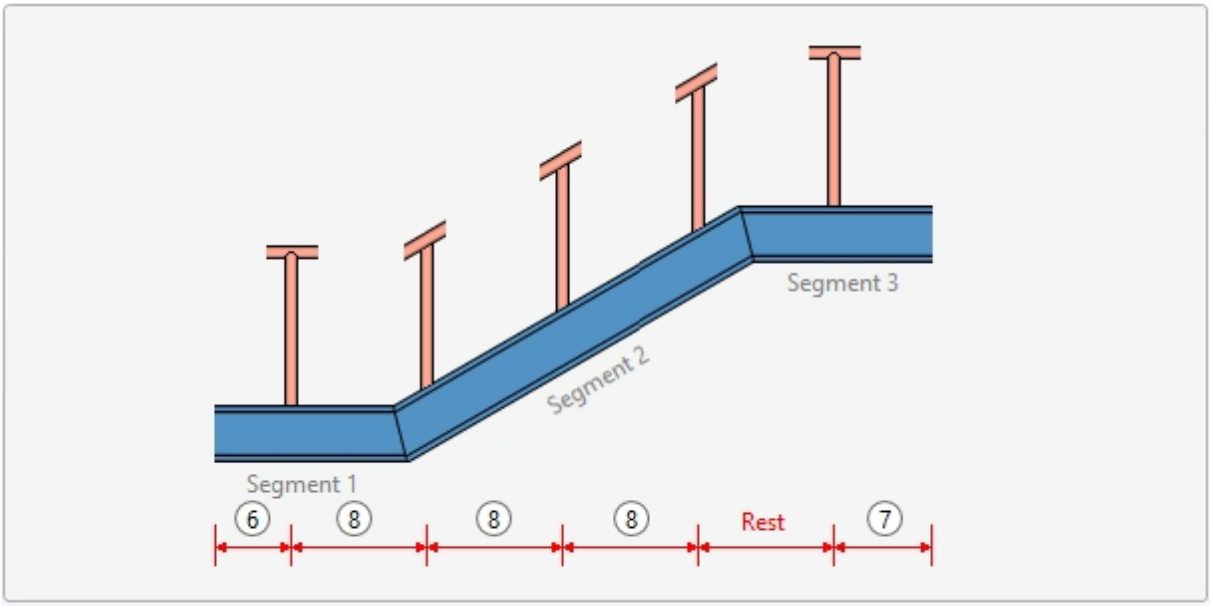


Important:

During configuration of the staircase you already need to have a rough idea of what the railing will look like. If the posts of the railing are to be located perpendicular below one another, the transitions (inflexion points) of the walking lines of the staircase must be located one above another.



For this example, the settings on the **Post distribution** tab of the Railing Configurator dialogue window playa crucial role. For the easiest handling you should not work with maximum post distances, but use the other options instead. Furthermore, the distribution of posts should not take place by segments, but across the entire area. The Dimensions 4 and 5 (Corner distance and Transition distance) will therefore not be evaluated in this example.



– Distribution of posts

- ○ Evenly, with max. dist.
- ○ Evenly, with number of posts
- ◉ Fixed distance, with rest
  - ○ Patch at start
  - ◉ Patch at end
  - ○ Distribute patch at both ends

Distance: 1200

Number: 5

○ Individual

– Create which posts?

- ☑ Create start post
- ☑ Create end posts
- ☐ Create corner posts
- ☐ Create transition posts

– Reference for post distribution

- ○ By segments
- ◉ Across complete walking distance

– Reference for distances

- ◉ Post axis - Post axis
- ○ Clear width

– Offset

(4) Corner distance:* 250

(5) Transition distance:* 250

(6) Start distance: 150

(7) End distance: 150

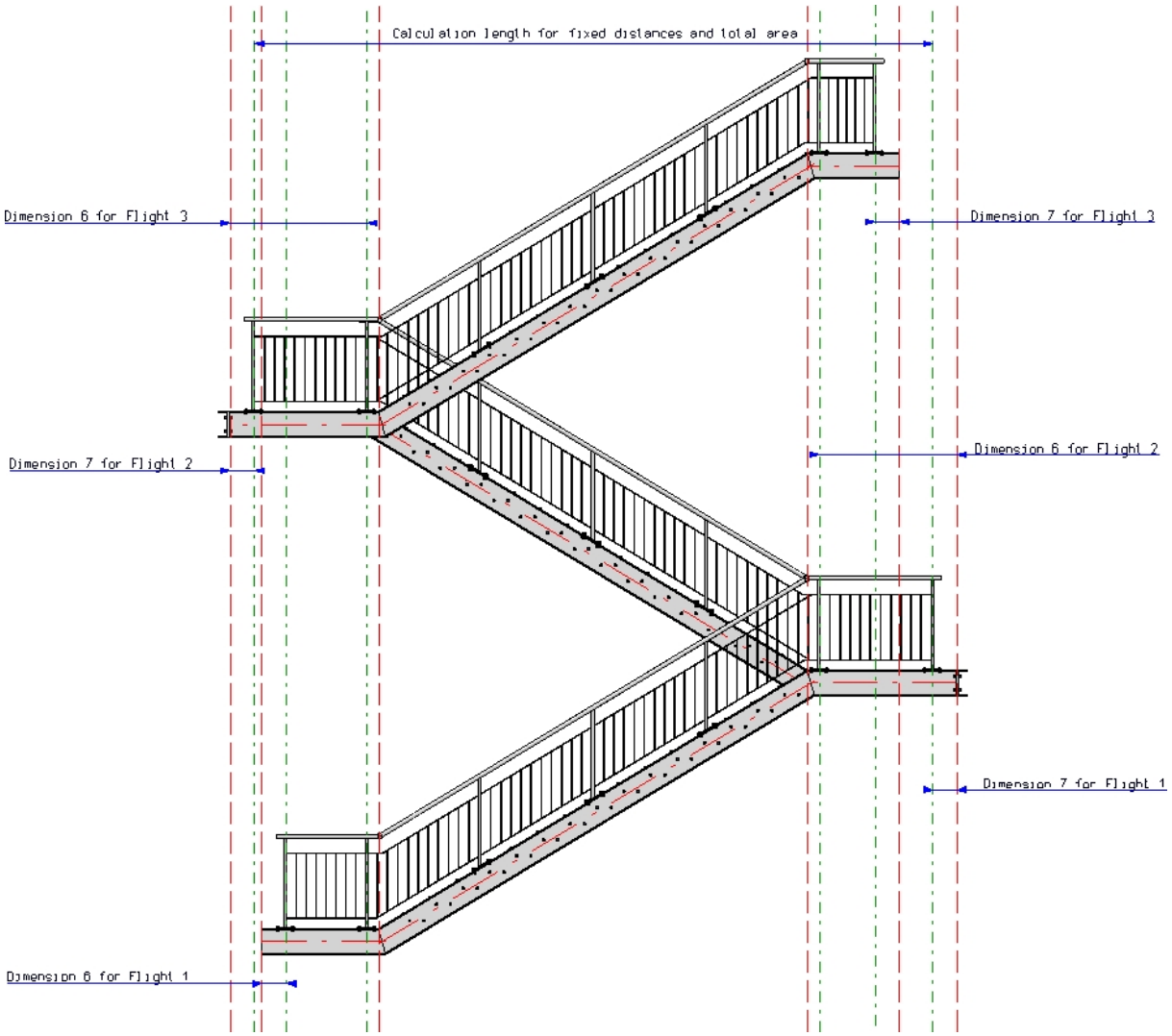
Evenly, with number of posts

Here, the calculation length will be divided by the number of posts, with regard to the axis. The value in the **Distance** field as well as the Transition distance (Dimension 5) will not be considered.

Fixed distance, with rest / Position of patches

If you select this option, you need to check whether the remaining rests (patches) are to be located at the start, at the end or on both sides. It is therefore recommended to use "virtual" vertical auxiliary lines during the construction process. For if the railing posts are to be located below one another after completion of the construction, this can be achieved easiest with this option. This means that the specified dimensions will only be used for the active flight of stairs (walking line). In the sketch you can see that the flight of stairs 1 places Dimension 6 at the bottom right (at the start), and Dimension 7 at the left. When you activate the flight of stairs 2, Dimension 6 will be located on the left, and Dimension 7 on the right. This should be taken into account to ensure that the correct distances will be entered. Dimension 5 will not be considered.

When selecting the beams, please note that HiCAD interprets the first selected beam as the start, which the later partitioning of the railing will be based on (fixed distance with rest at the start or end). In practice, engineers mostly use an upstairs walking direction as an orientation.

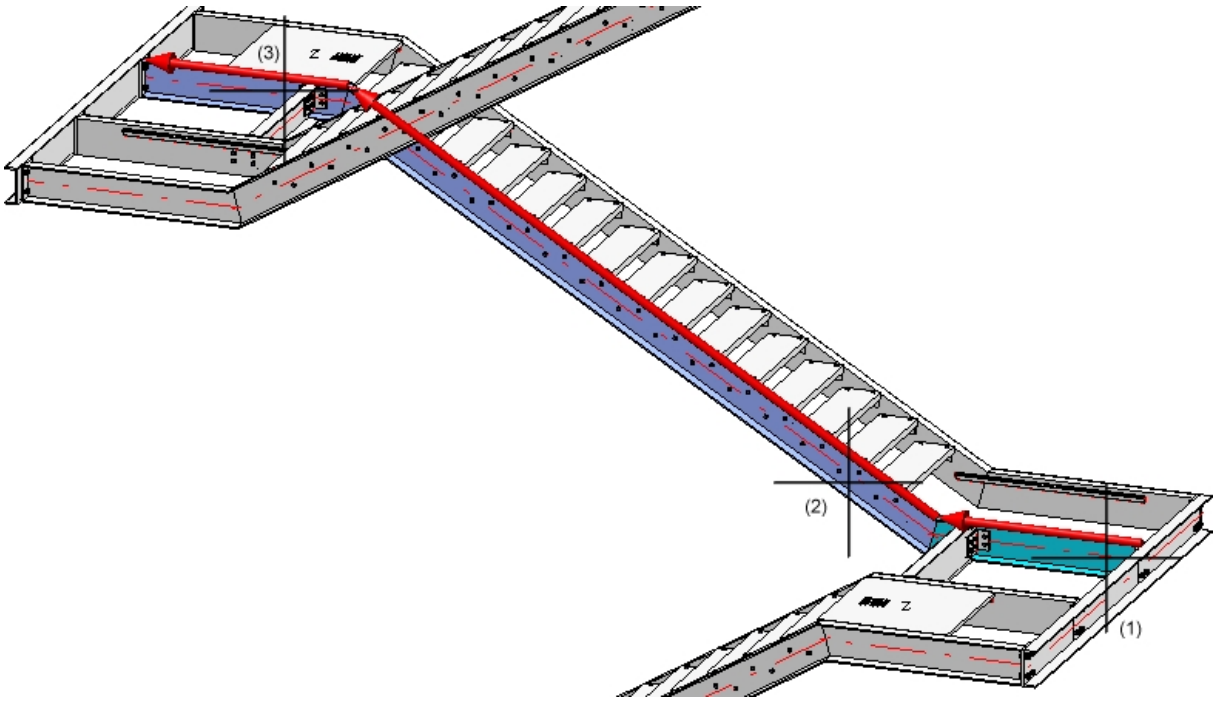


The present example consists of 3 staircase sections (Flight1 to 3). For each flight, the railing will be created separately for the right and for the left stair stringer. This means that railing creation in this example will consist of 6 steps.

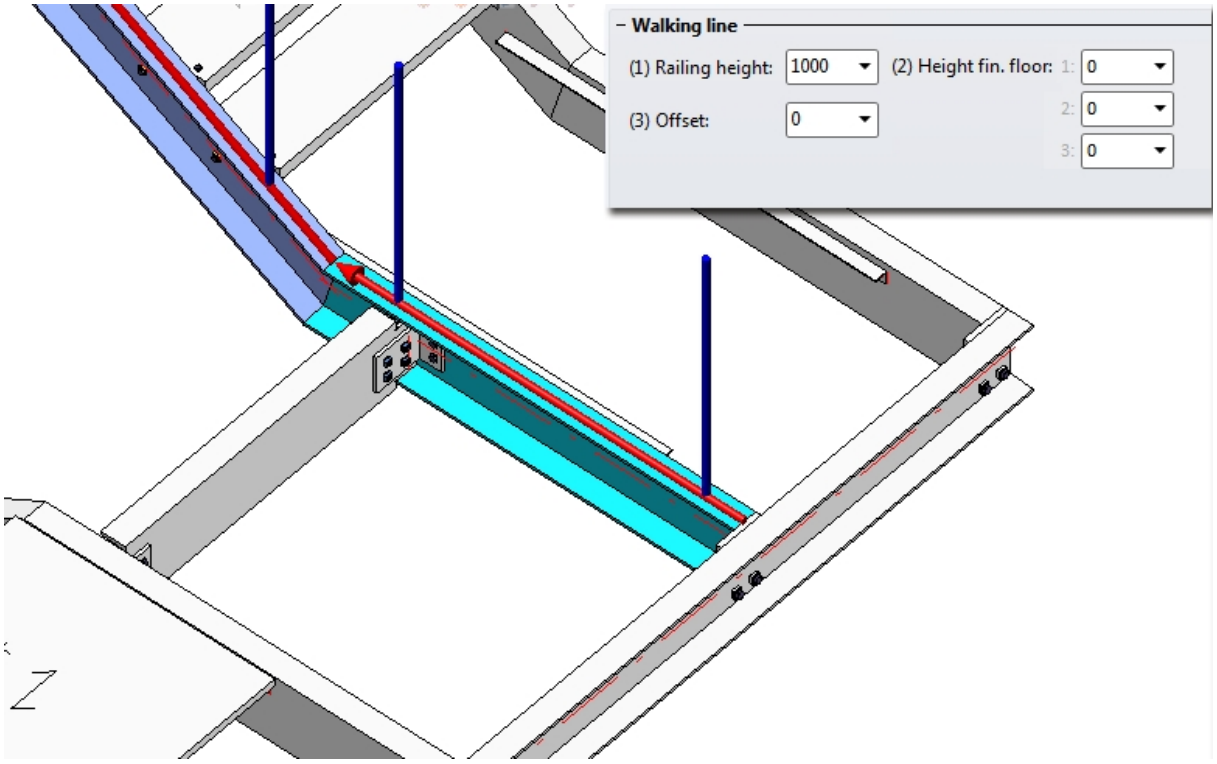
The railing creation begins on the left stringer of the 2nd staircase, which is the staircase with the shortest flight. The post distances of the corresponding railing are to be used for all other railings. After creation of the first railing, all other railings can be derived very easily from its data.

Step 1: Railing for Staircase 2, left stringer

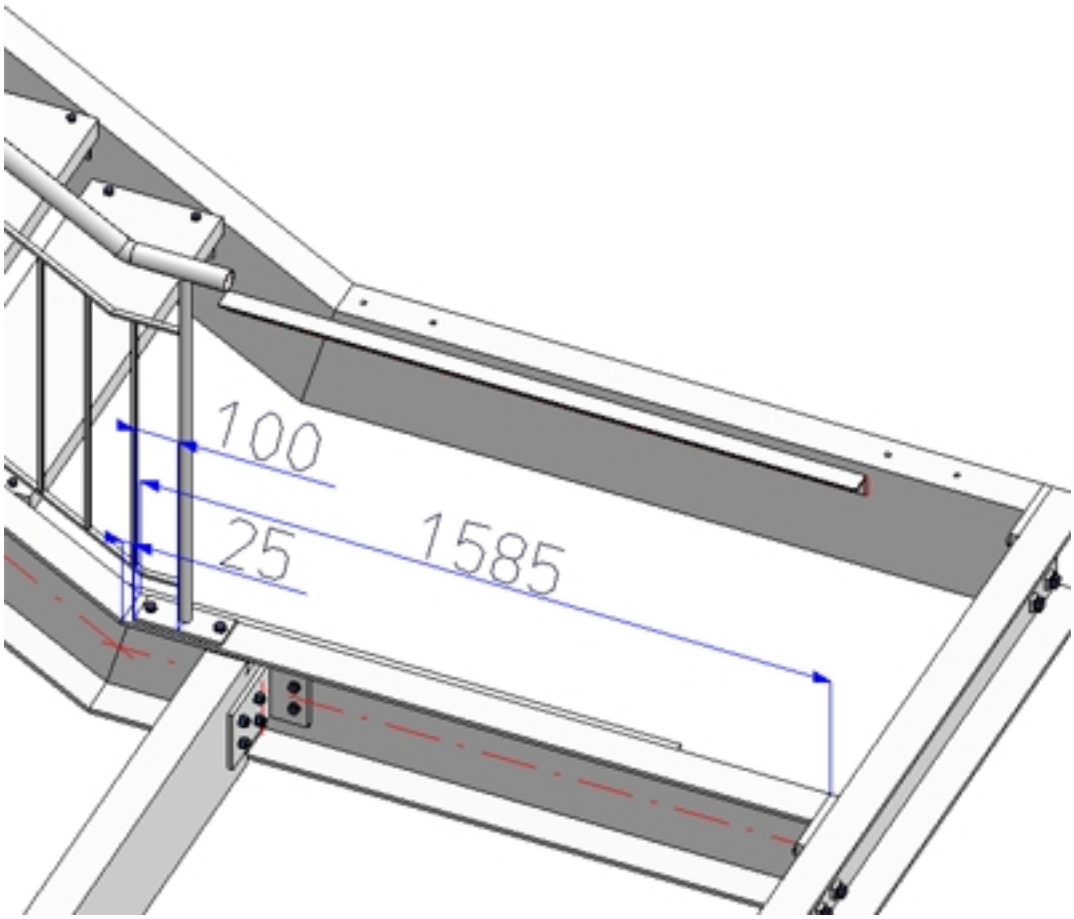
1. Call the Railing Configurator. Select beams (1) to (3), so that the walking line will be displayed as shown below. End the selection by pressing the middle mouse button.



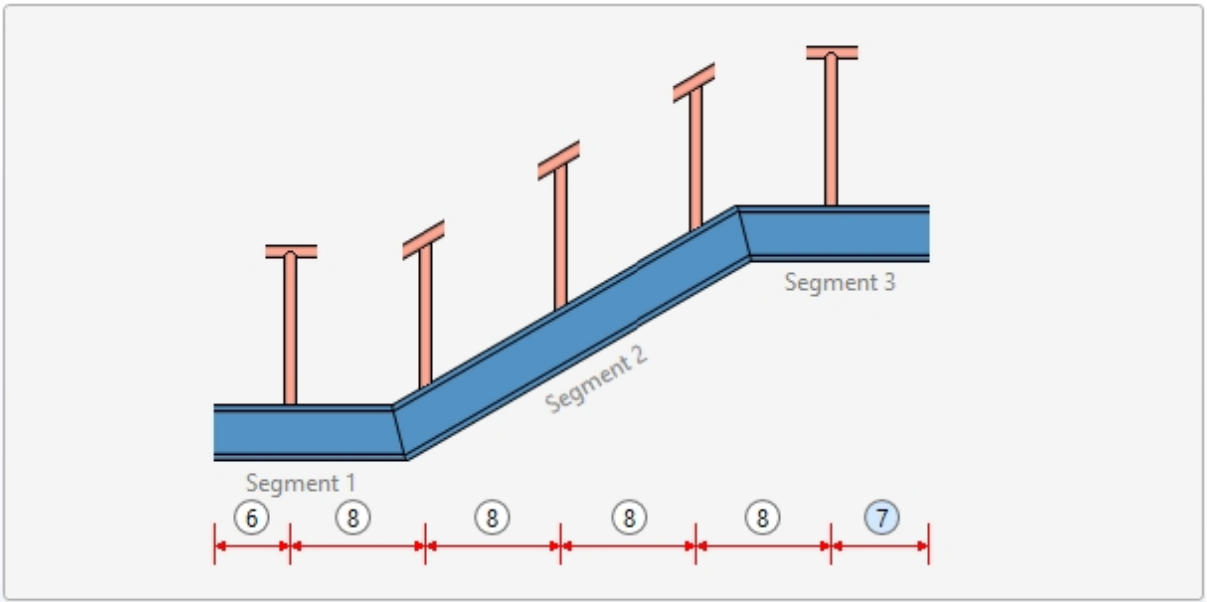
2. As the ISD default settings with the exception of the post configuration will be used in this example, load these settings via the Favourites management  .
3. Now change the parameters as follows:
   - Offset
     The railing is to be placed in a centred position onto the stringer, i.e.the walking line must be displaced. For this to happen, open the **Walking line** tab ad enter the value 0 in the **Offset** input field. In the preview you can see that the walking line is now located in the centre of the upper baem side.



- Start distance (6) and End distance (7)
  In this example, the start distance and the end distance are to be equal. Select 1460. The reason for this value is as follows: The length of the beam is 1585; for the mounting of the posts to the substructure you use the ISD default settings, i.e. a base plate with a length of 200 on which the post stands with a centred position (i.e. the distance of the post axis to the edge of the base plate is 100). To achieve a proper fixing of the plate, a distance of the base plate to the beam end of 25 must be taken into account. The final result is a start/end distance of 1585 - 100 - 25 = 1460.


100
25
1585

- **Post distribution**
  Apply the following settings:



Distribution of posts

- ○ Evenly, with max. dist.
- ◉ Evenly, with number of posts
- ○ Fixed distance, with rest
  - ○ Patch at start
  - ◉ Patch at end
  - ○ Distribute patch at both ends

Distance: 1200

Number: 5

○ Individual

Create which posts?

- ☑ Create start post
- ☑ Create end posts
- ☐ Create corner posts
- ☐ Create transition posts

Reference for post distribution

- ○ By segments
- ◉ Across complete walking distance

Reference for distances

- ◉ Post axis - Post axis
- ○ Clear width

Offset

(4) Corner distance:* 250

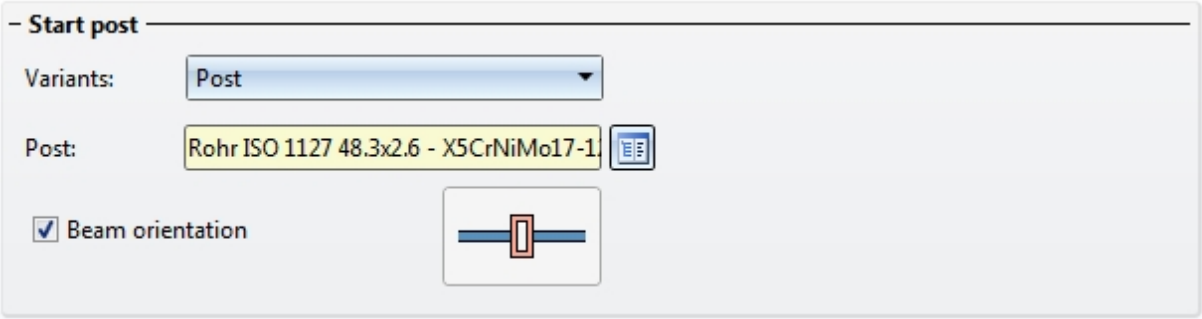
(5) Transition distance:* 250

(6) Start distance: 1460

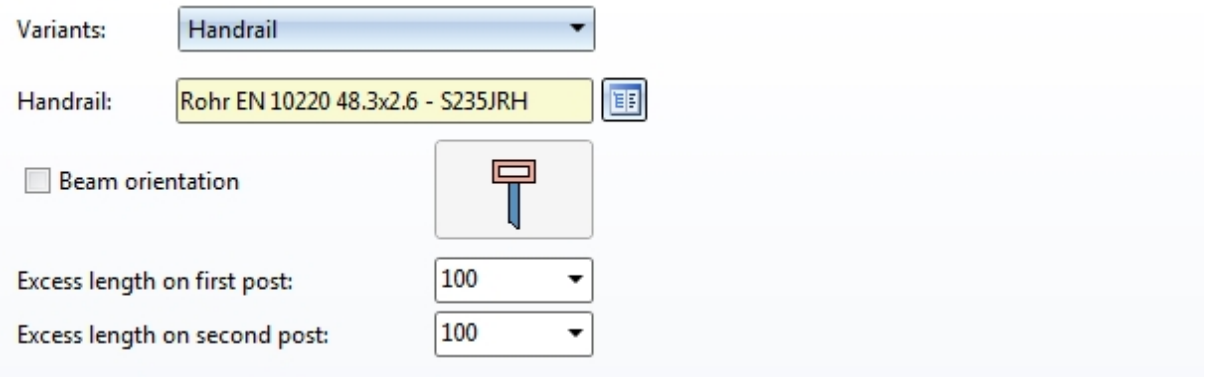
(7) End distance: 1460

4. Specify the components and connections.

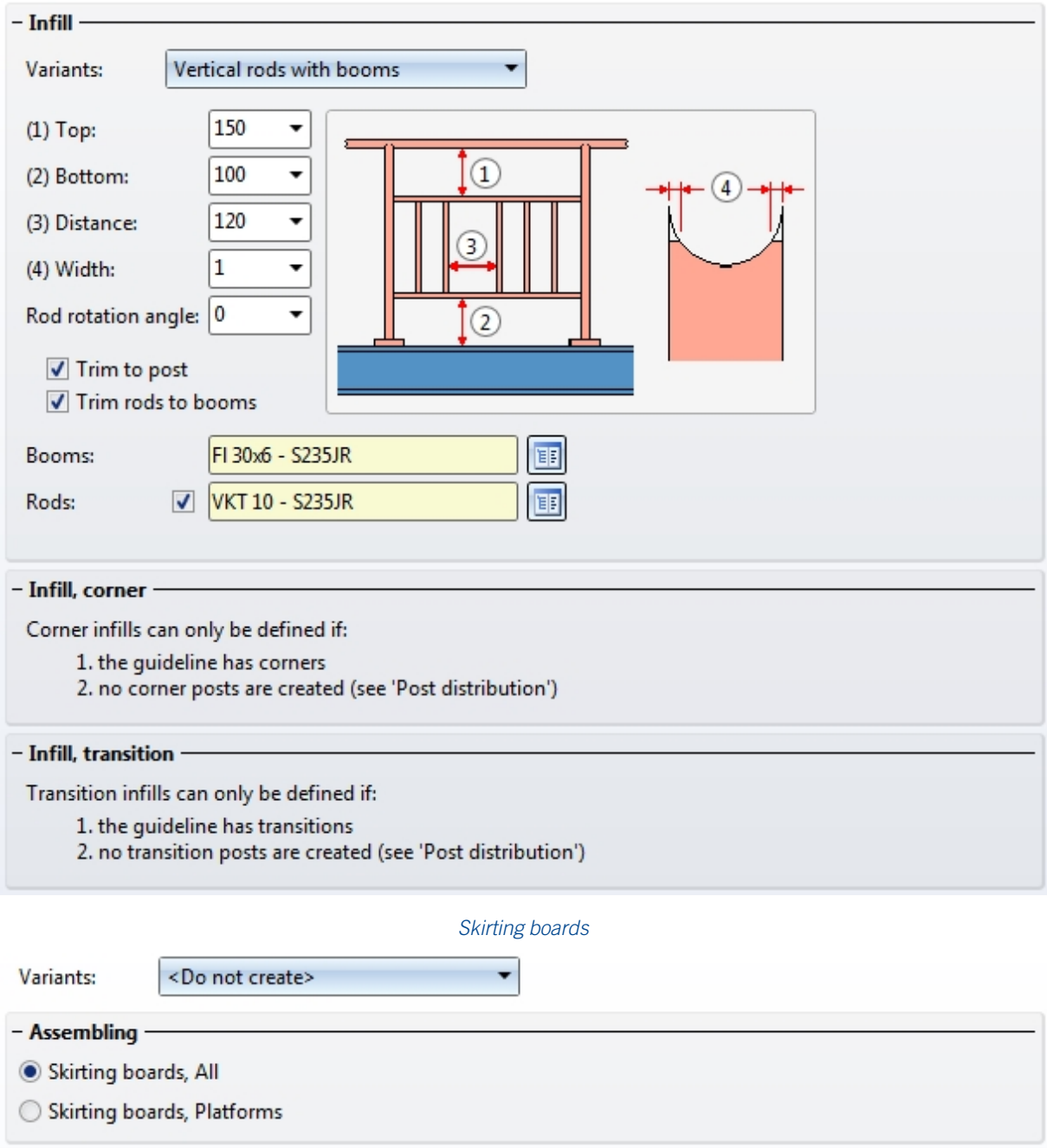
Start posts, Intermediate posts, End posts



Handrail

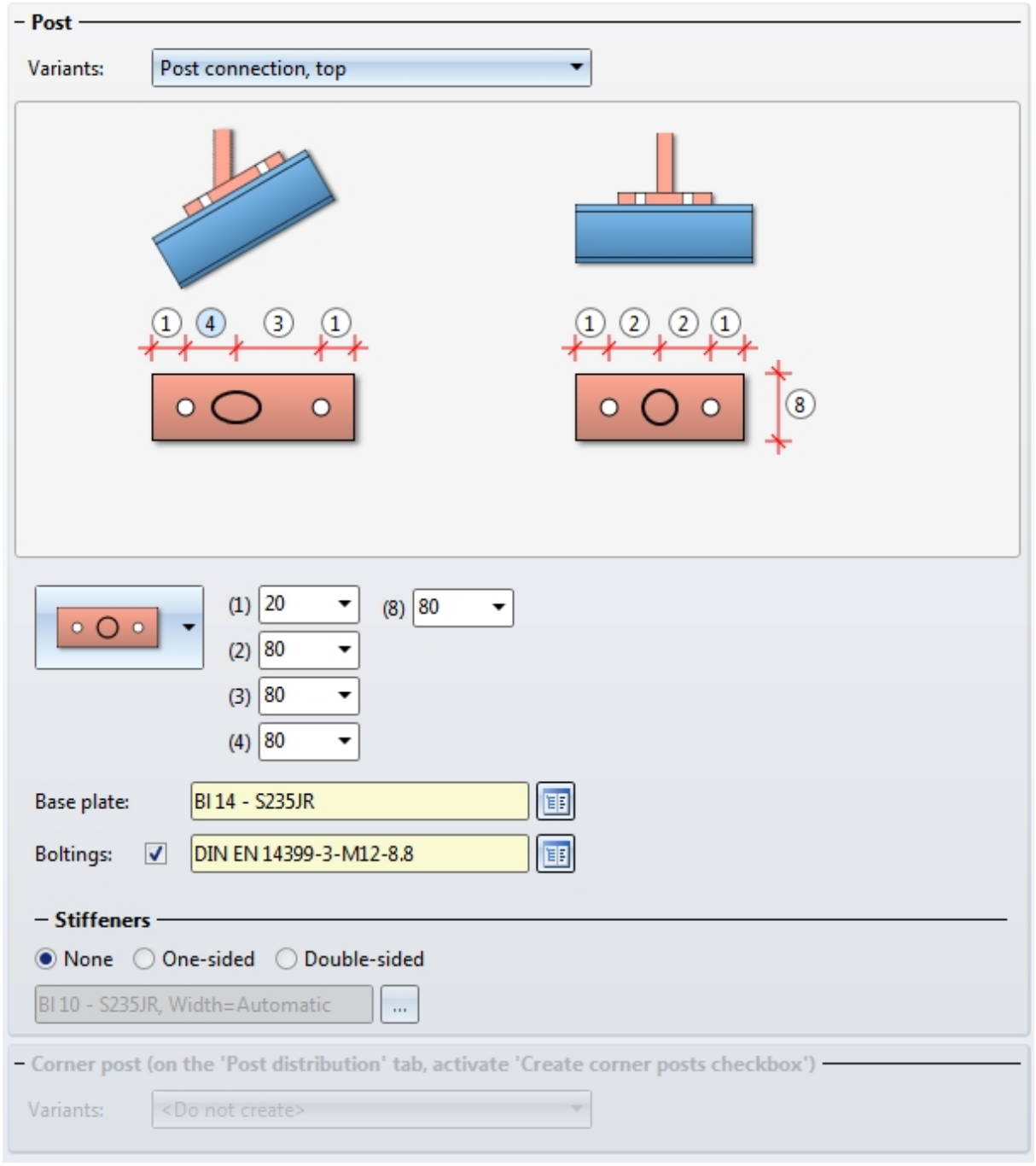


Infill

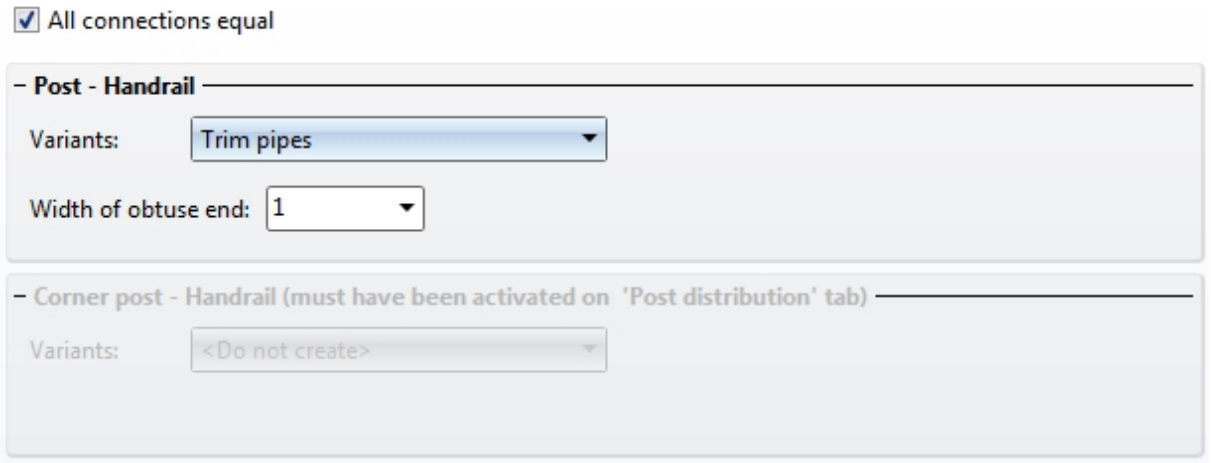


Skirting boards

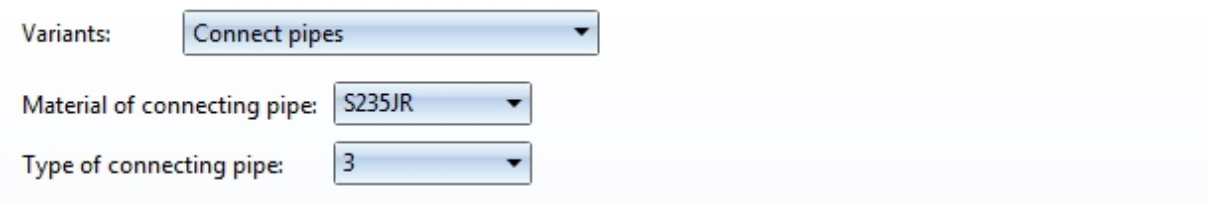
Post - Substructure



Post - Handrail



Handrail - Handrail

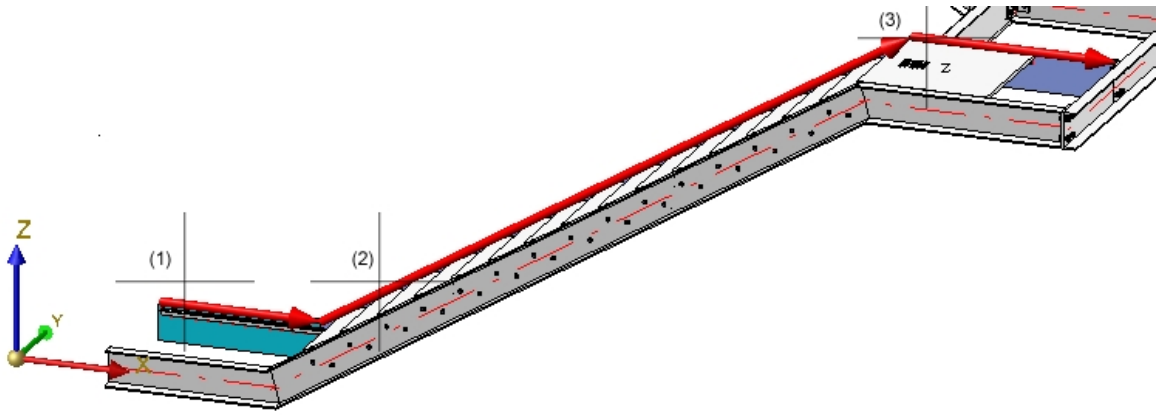


5. Confirm with **OK**.

All other railings can now be easily derived from the railing created in Step 1.

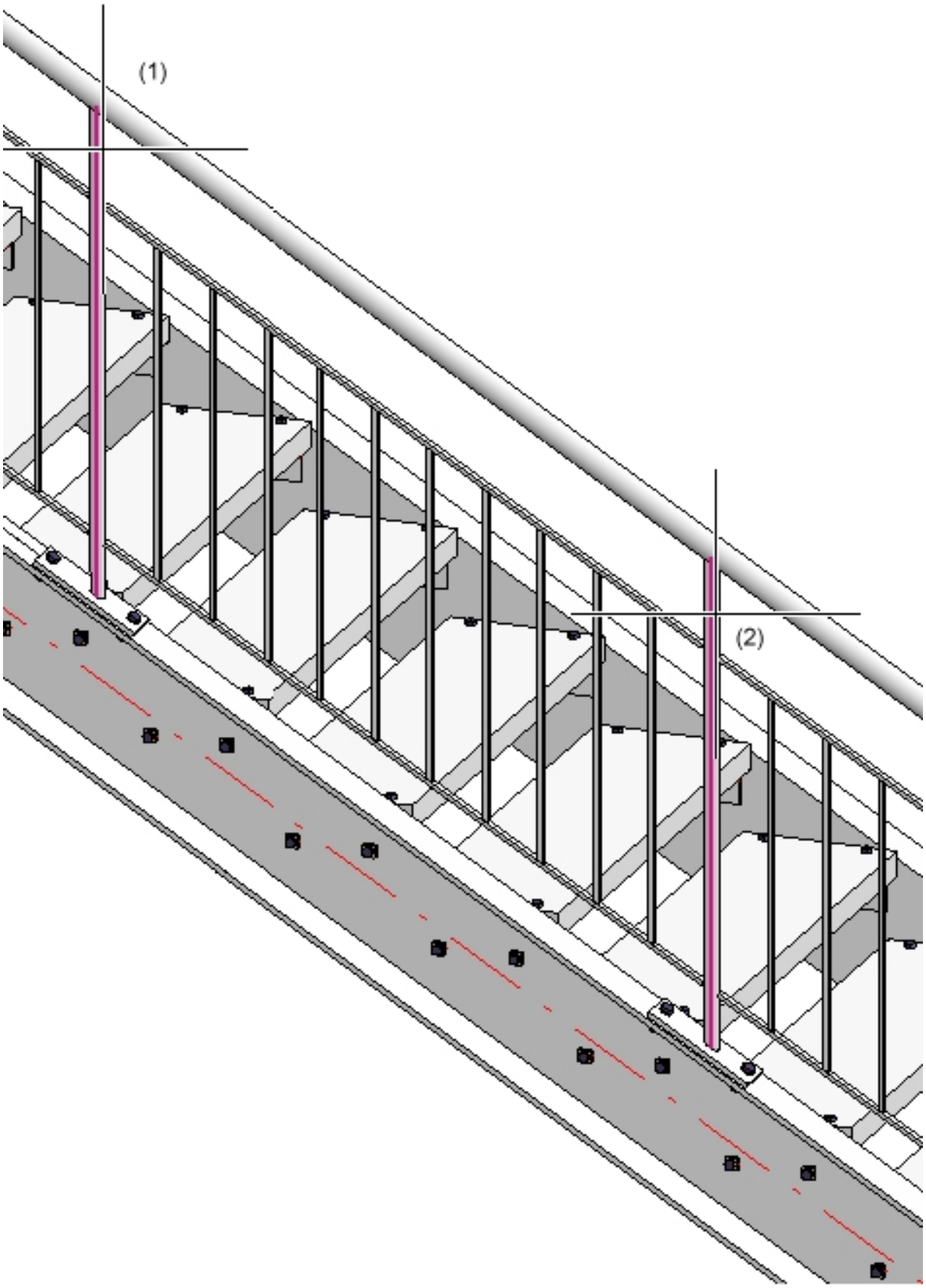
Step 2 - Staircase 1, left stringer

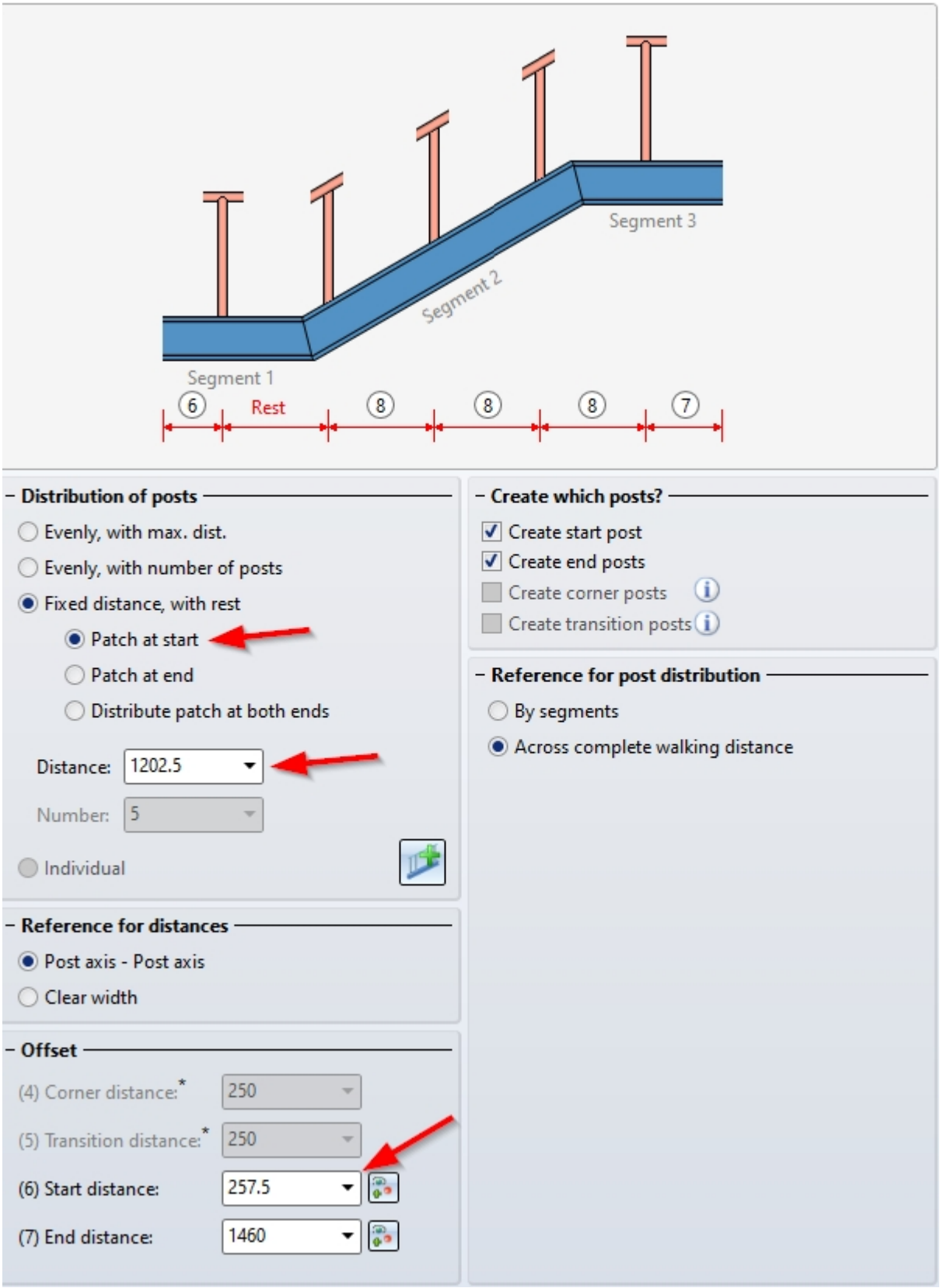
1. Call the Railing Configurator. Select the beams in such a way that the walking line will be displayed as shown below. End the selection by pressing the middle mouse button.



2. The railing parameters set during Step 1 still apply. As the beam types of all staircases are the same, you only need to change the start distance to 257,5. The End distance (Dimension 7) is identical to the Start distance (Dimension 6) of the railing created in step 1, i.e. 1460.

The post distances of the railing is to be the same as the one for the railing created in Step 1, i.e. a fixed post distance must be selected. Click the ··· symbol to open the **Configure post distances** dialogue window. There, select the **Fixed distance, with rest** option. To apply the post distances of the first railing, right-click the **Distance** field, select **Pick distance**, and then select the **Distance between 2 edges**  option in the menu. Then, identify two neighbouring posts of the first railing in the drawing (1202,5).

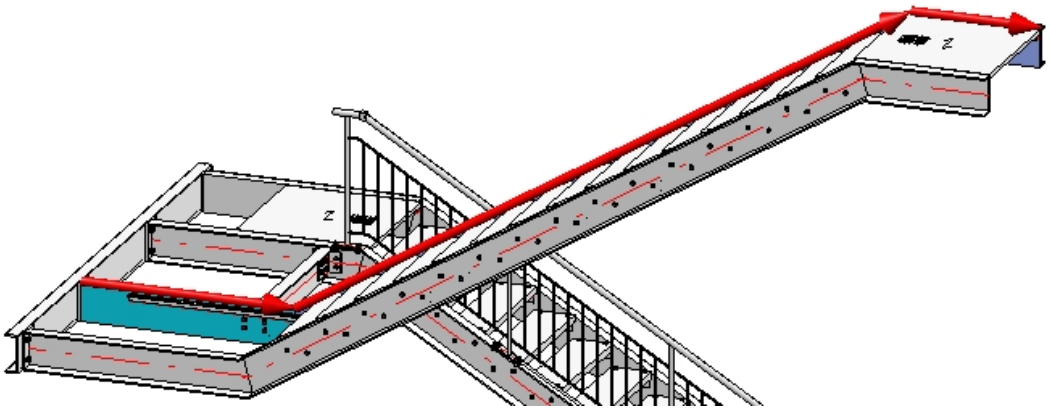

(1)
(2)



3. Close the dialogue window with **OK**. Then, close the Railing Configurator with **OK**.

Step 3: Staircase 3, left stringer

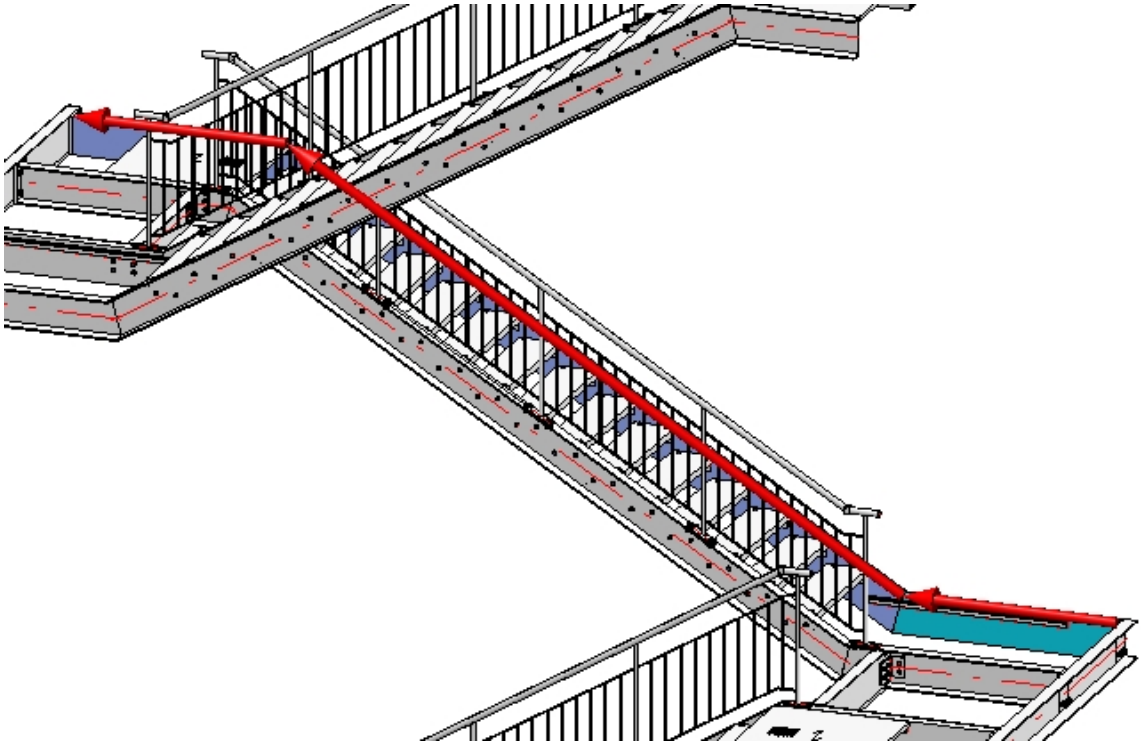
1. Call the Railing Configurator again. Select the beams in such a way that the walking line will be displayed as shown below. End the selection by pressing the middle mouse button.



2. The railing parameters set during Step 2 still apply. Now we need to change the settings on the **Post distribution** tab.
3. The start of this railing is to be located at the same height as the end of the railing created in Step 1. This means that here, the start distance is identical to the end distance from Step 1, i.e. 1460.
4. The end distance is identical to the end distance of the railing created in Step 2, i.e. 257.5.
2. As the posts are to be positioned perpendicular above one another, the rest piece ("patch") need to be placed at the end here. Therefore, select the **Patch at end** option.
3. Close the dialogue window with **OK**. Then, close the Railing Configurator with **OK**.

Step 4: Staircase 2, right stringer

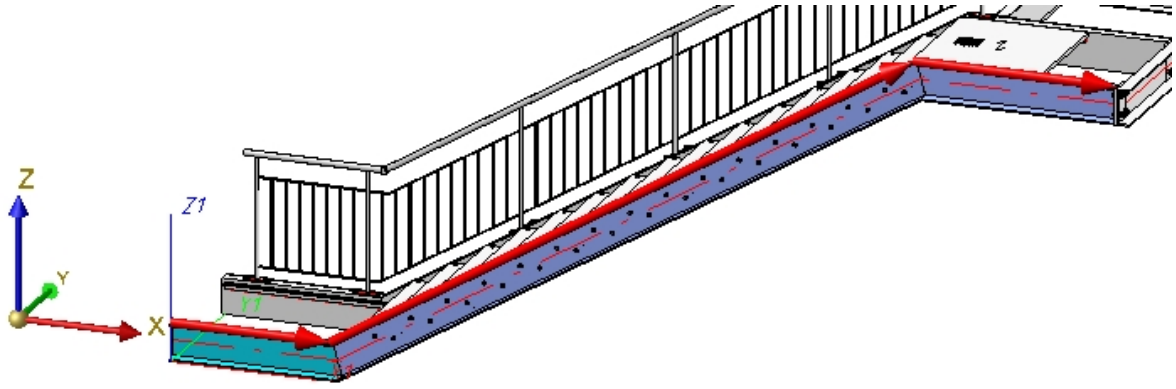
1. Call the Railing Configurator again. Select the beams in such a way that the walking line will be displayed as shown below. End the selection by pressing the middle mouse button.



2. The railing parameters set during Step 3 still apply.
3. On the **Post distribution** tab, set the **Start distance** and the **End distance** to 257.5.
4. The displayed walking line is located on the inner side of the beam. However, the railing is to be placed in centred position.
5. As the posts are to be positioned perpendicular above one another, the rest piece ("patch") needs to be placed at the end here. This option is still active from the previous step.
2. Close the Railing Configurator with **OK**.

Step 5: Staircase 1, right stringer

1. Call the Railing Configurator again. Select the beams in such a way that the walking line will be displayed as shown below. End the selection by pressing the middle mouse button.

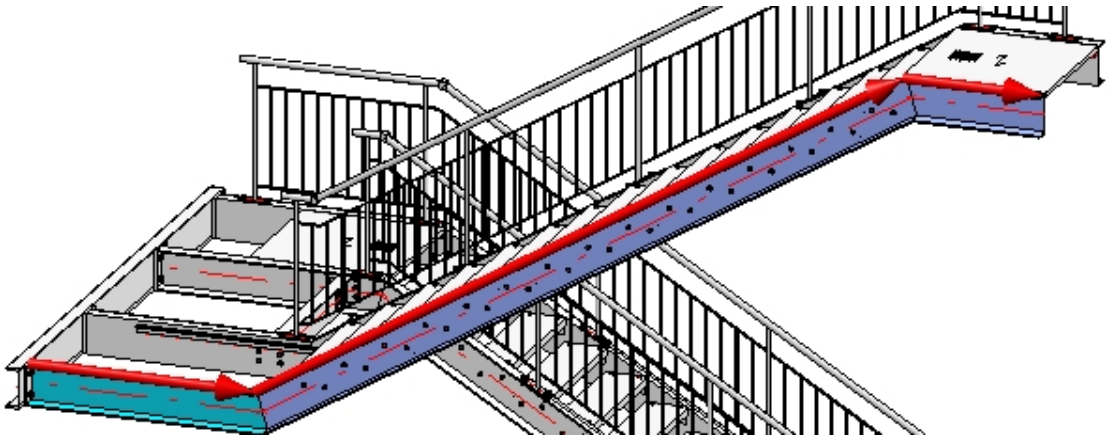


1. The railing parameters set during Step 4 still apply. Open the **Post distribution** tab.

2. The start distance is identical to that of the railing on the left stringer. The end distance is identical to that of the railing created in Step 4, i.e. in both cases 257,5 (value is still set). As the posts are all positioned perpendicular above one another, the rest piece ("patch") needs to be placed at the start here (as with the left stringer from Step 2). Therefore, select the **Patch at start**option.
3. Close the dialogue window with **OK**. Then, close the Railing Configurator with **OK**.

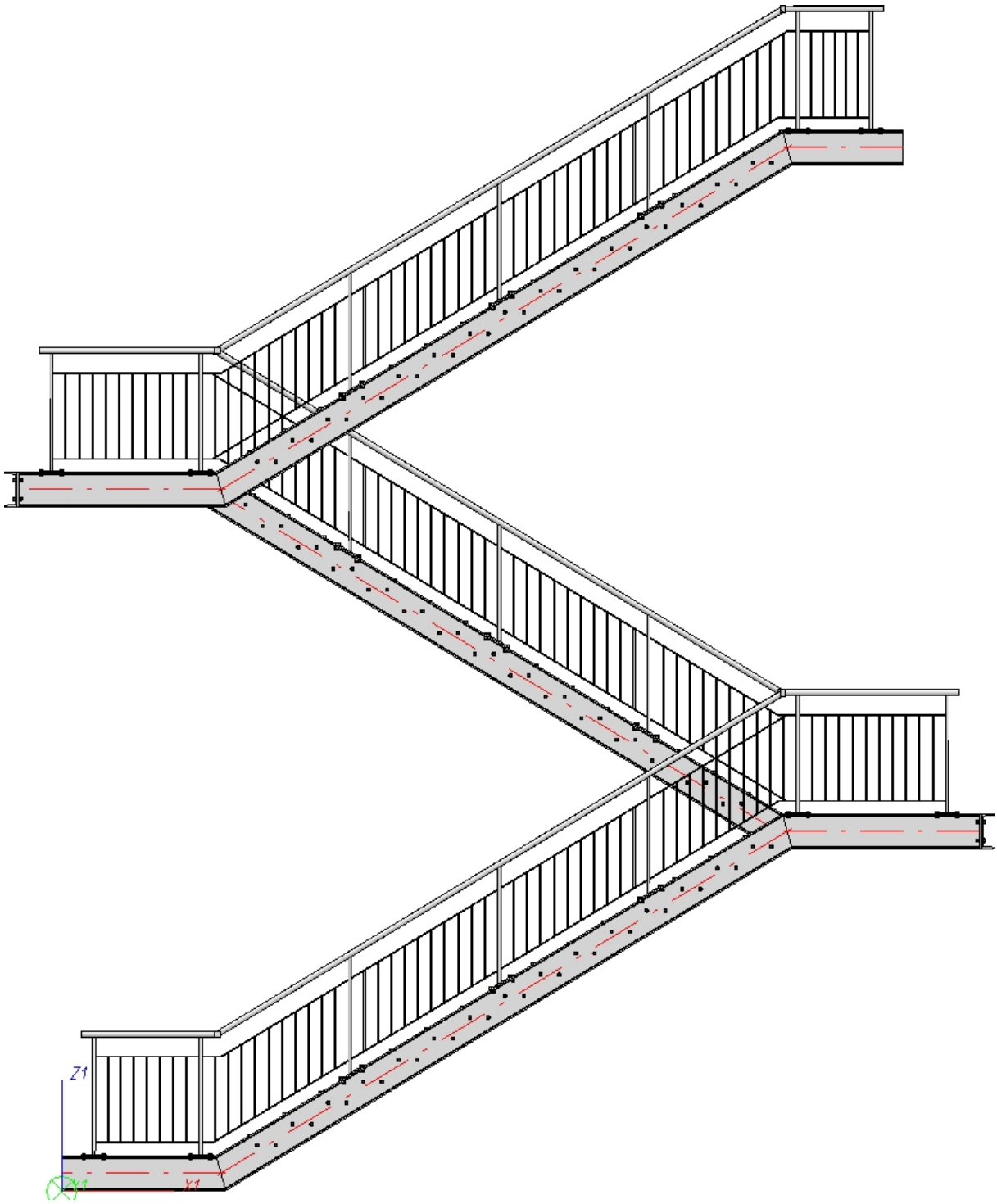
Step 6: Staircase 3, right stringer

1. Call the Railing Configurator again. Select the beams in such a way that the walking line will be displayed as shown below. End the selection by pressing the middle mouse button.



2. The railing parameters set during Step 5 still apply. Open the **Post distribution** tab.
3. The start distance is identical to the end distance of the railing created in Step 4, the end distance is identical to the end distance of the railing created in Step 3, i.e. in both cases 257,5 (value is still set). As the posts are all positioned perpendicular above one another, the rest piece ("patch") needs to be placed at the end here. Therefore, select the **Patch at start**option.
4. Close the dialogue window with **OK**. Then, close the Railing Configurator with **OK**.

Result, side view



Railing Configurator - Railings along Edges

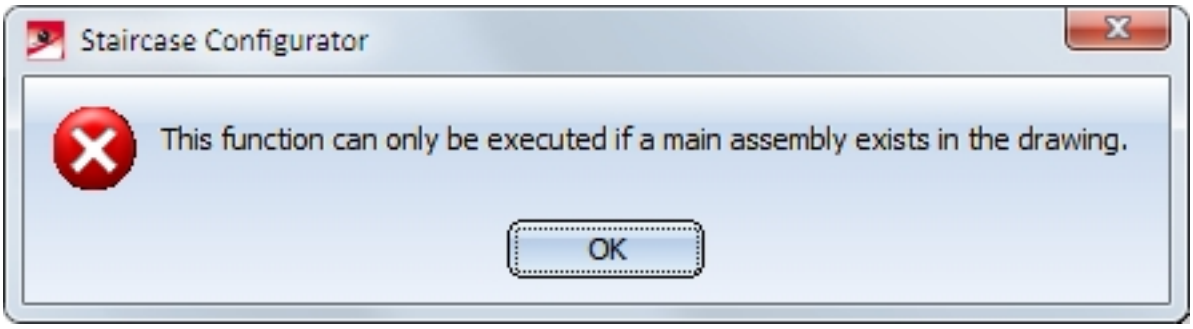
'Civil Engineering functions' docking window > Steel Engineering >Stairs + Railings > Railing > Railing Configurator (Railings along edges)

The **Railing Configurator** enables you to create individual railings along edges - for example, railings on balcony platforms (solid) or concrete stairs.

You can select edges of solids (body edges), of sketches or of 3-D sketches (part with free edges), or a combination of these edge types.

Important:

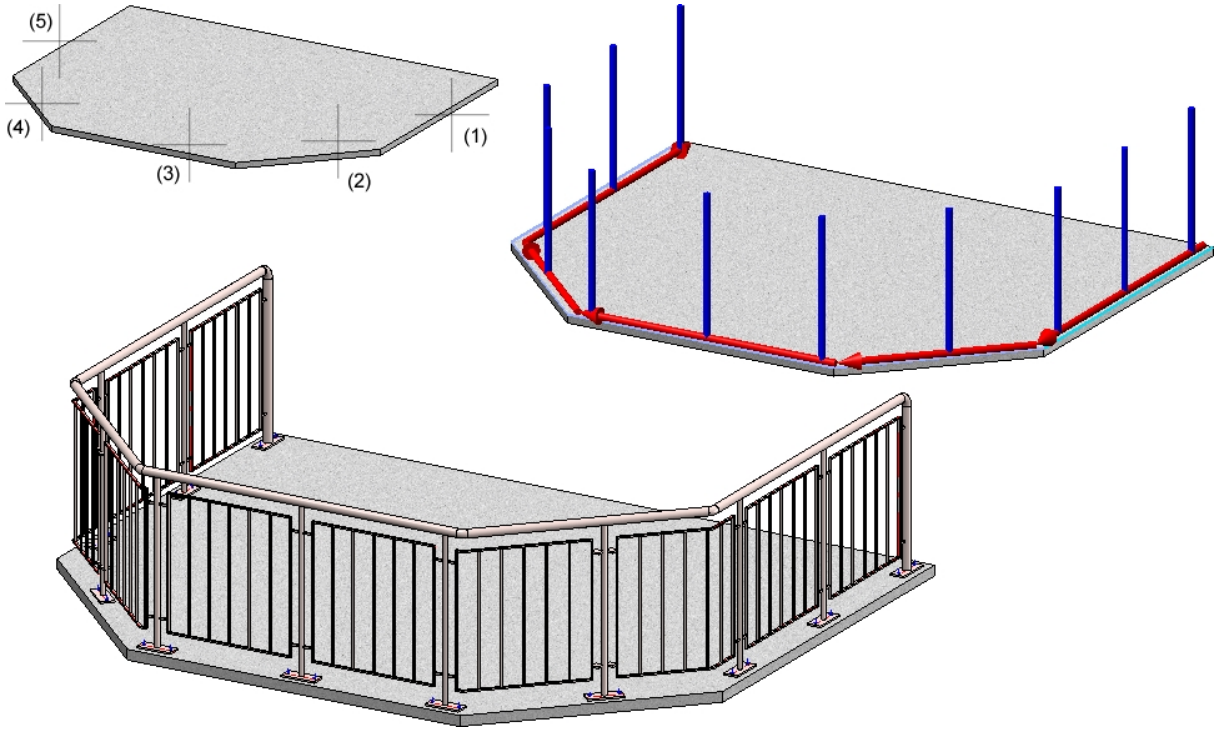
- The drawing must contain a main assembly. If this is not the case, a corresponding message will be displayed. Extensive information on main assemblies can be found in the topics Assemblies, Main Parts and Sub-Parts, Part Drawing or Assembly Drawing and Edit Part/Assembly Structure. If no main assembly exists, the following message will be displayed.



  Select **Yes** if you want to create a new main assembly. In this way, railings along edges can be directly inserted.
- The edges along which the railing is to be placed must form one continuous "path", i.e. two successive edges must have an intersection point. Two successive edges must not run parallel to each other. The path of the edges must not form a loop.
- The Z-axis of the active coordinate system is the direction axis for the posts, which means that the beams must not run parallel to the Z-axis of the active coordinate system.
- The edges must be straight.

When you start the Railing Configurator, HiCAD will prompt you to identify, one after the other, the edges along which the railing is to be placed. The "path" that is defined by these beams is the "virtual guideline" determining the route of the railing. Posts, handrail, infill and knee rail of the railing will be located on c-edges running parallel to this guideline (the so-called "walking line"). When selecting the edges, please note that the first selected edge will for HiCAD be the start to which the later subdivision of the railing will refer (Fixed distance, with Patch at start or Patch at end).

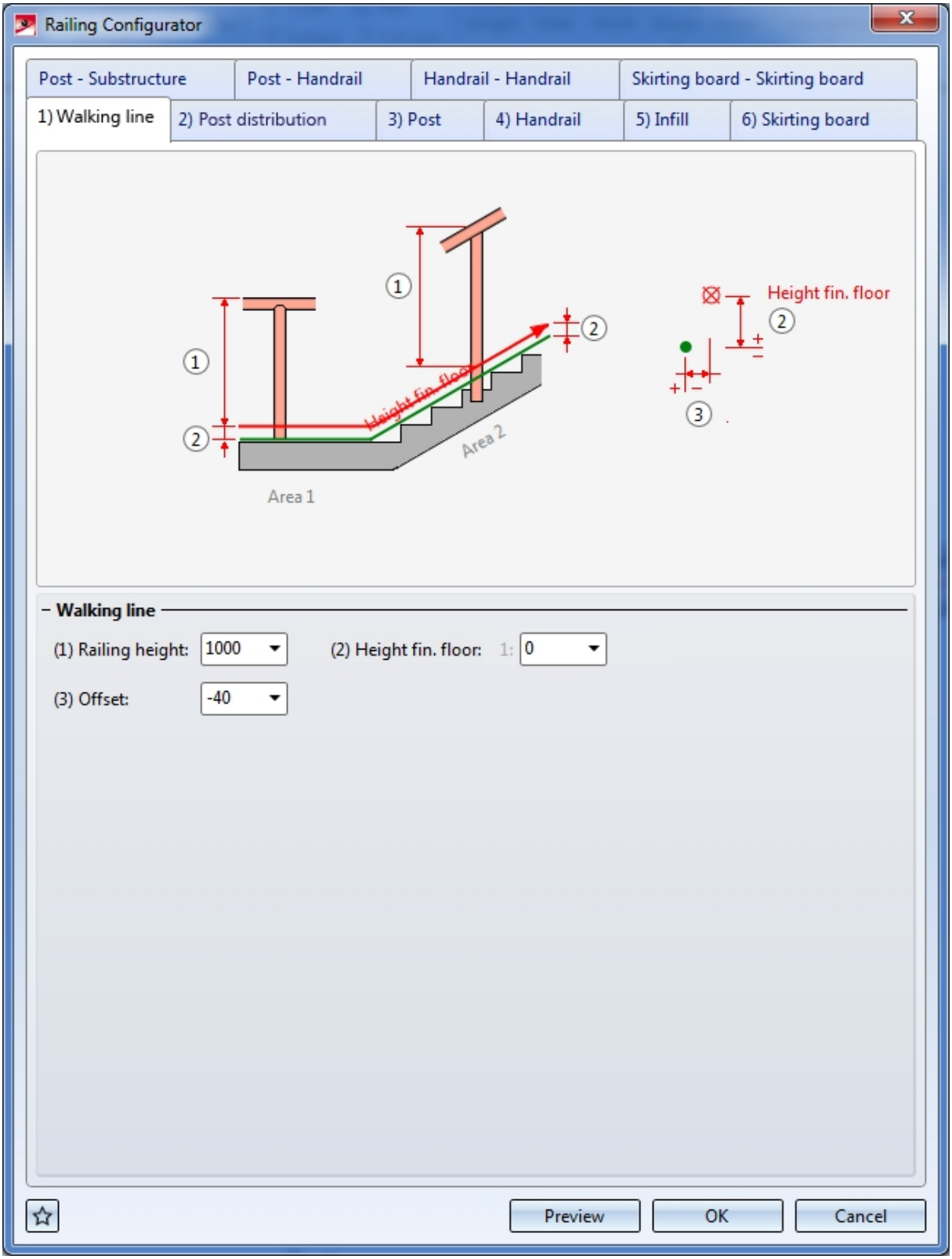
The walking line and the walking direction are indicated by a red arrow. The height of the railing and also the fixing position refer to this walking line. The distribution of posts, too, will be visualized on the basis of the last selected settings. As soon as you change the settings in the Railing Configurator dialogue window, the preview will be updated.



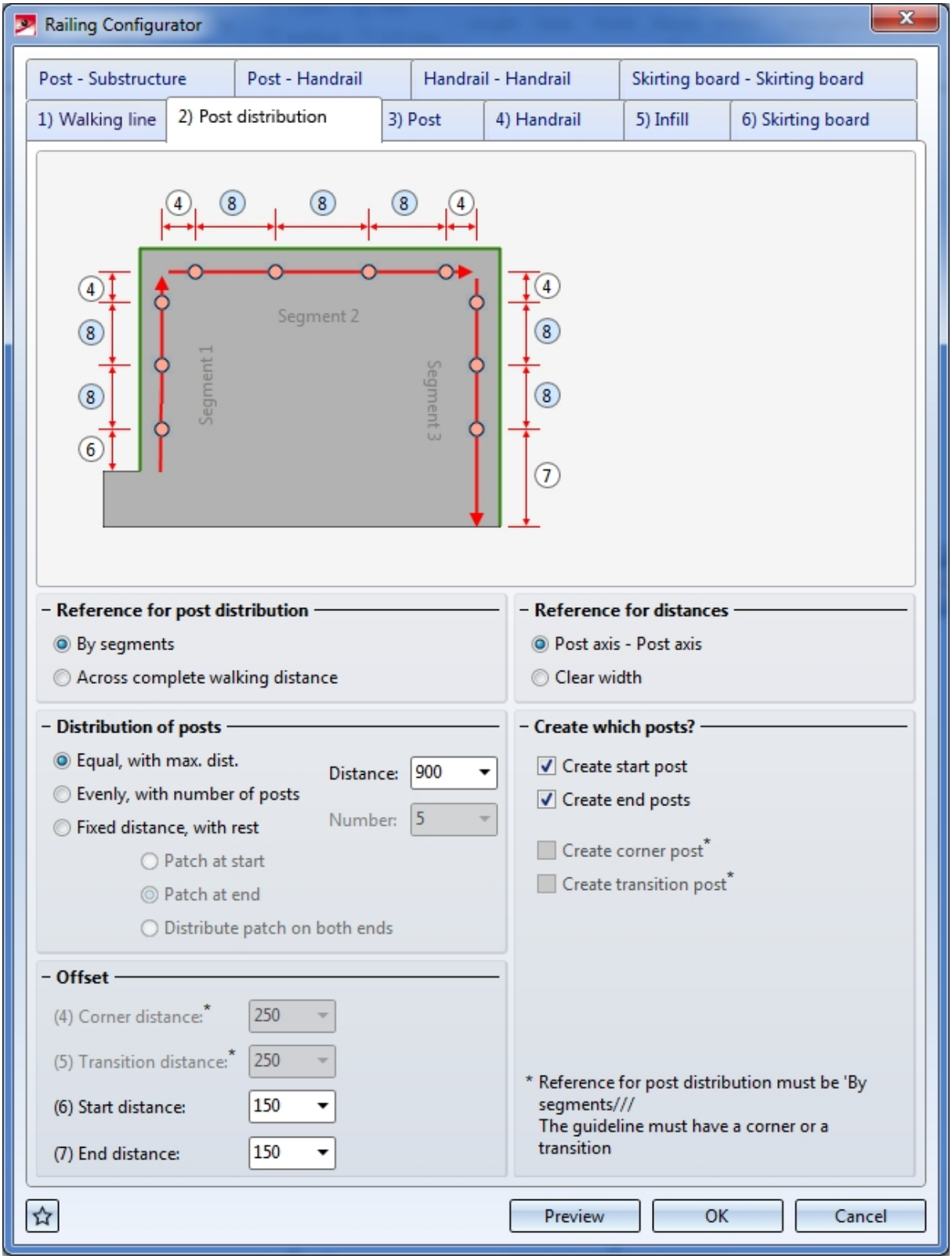
Top: Solid with selected edges; Bottom: Example of a railing

Press the middle mouse button to end identification of beams, which automatically opens the **Railing Configurator** dialogue window. The operation of the dialogue window is largely identical to that of the Railing Configurator (along beams) function, the only difference being the explanatory graphics in the **Walking line** and the **Post distribution** tab.

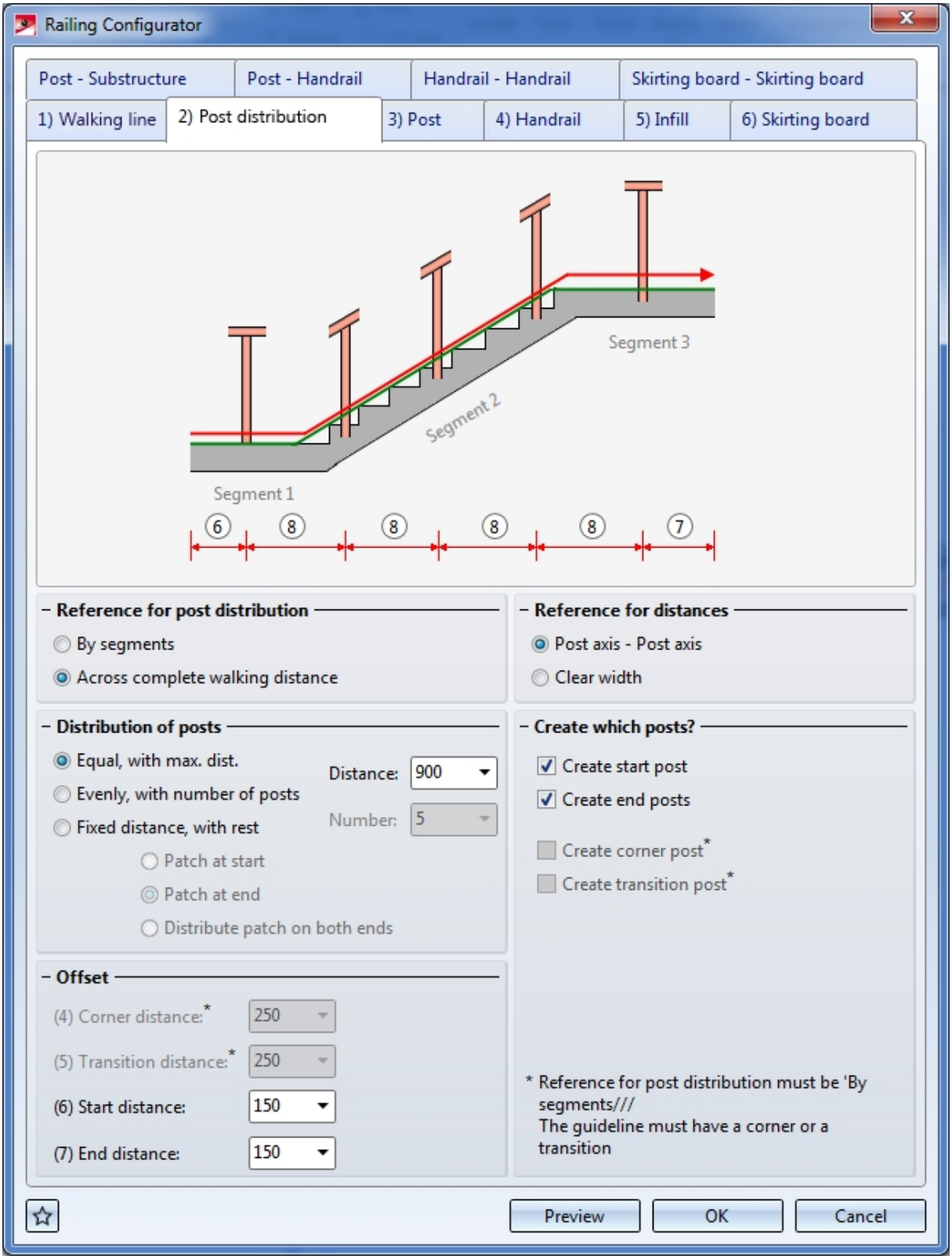
Railing Configurator (along edges) *dialogue window,* **Walking line** *tab*



Railing Configurator (along edges) *dialogue window - **Post distribution** tab, **By segments** option*



Railing Configurator (along edges) *dialogue window - **Post distribution** tab, **Across complete walking distance** option*



The dialogue window is identical to that of the **Railing Configurator - along beams** function, with the exception that the options and input fields for beam processing are not relevant here.

Click **OK** to start the generation of the railing. The status of the railing generation will be indicated by a progress bar. HiCAD creates a corresponding feature entry, **Railing along edges**.

HiCAD will create an assembly called **Railing**. This assembly is subdivided into further assemblies called **Segment**, which contain the railing elements of the individual beams.

The settings can be saved as Favourites and reused at any time. At the bottom left of the dialogue window, click the  symbol to activate a menu with Favourites functions. More information about Favourites can be found in the **Manage Favourites** topic of the **HiCAD Basics** Help.

While the window is open, you can display a **Preview** of the railing generated with the current settings by clicking the same-named button. You can use the zoom functions to enlarge or downsize the object on the screen.

Click **OK** to start the generation of the railing. The progress of the generation will be indicated in a progress bar.

Please note:

- It is also possible to create customer-specific Design Variants for the components. If you require further information, please contact our Consulting department.
- All settings made in the Railing Configurator dialogue window will be the new default settings when the configurator is called again.
- Please also read the information given in the topic Railing Configurator - Important Notes (3-D SE).
- For concrete stairs, it makes sense to use only one lateral anchor for each post.
- You can also create curved railings in one plane, i.e. the composite edge may also contain arcs.

Curved railing, created on the basis of arcs

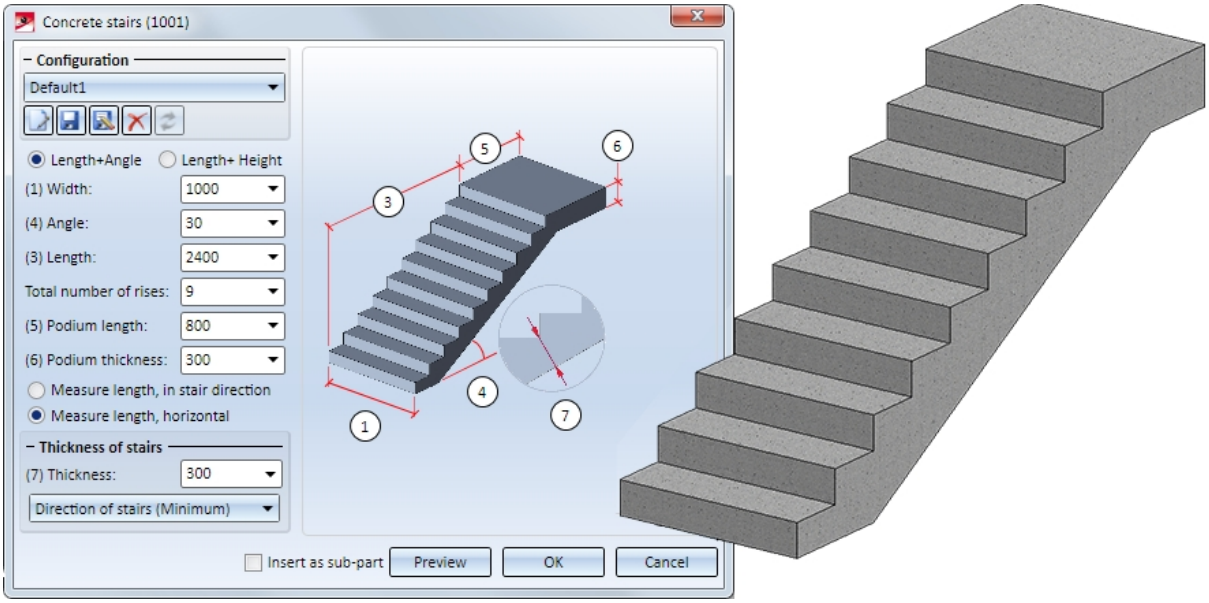
Please note:
Even if you activate the **All posts equal** checkbox on the **Post** tab, the settings on the tabs **Post - Substructure** and **Post - Handrail** will not be considered for corner posts and transition posts! The connections on corner posts and transition posts must therefore be reworked manually.

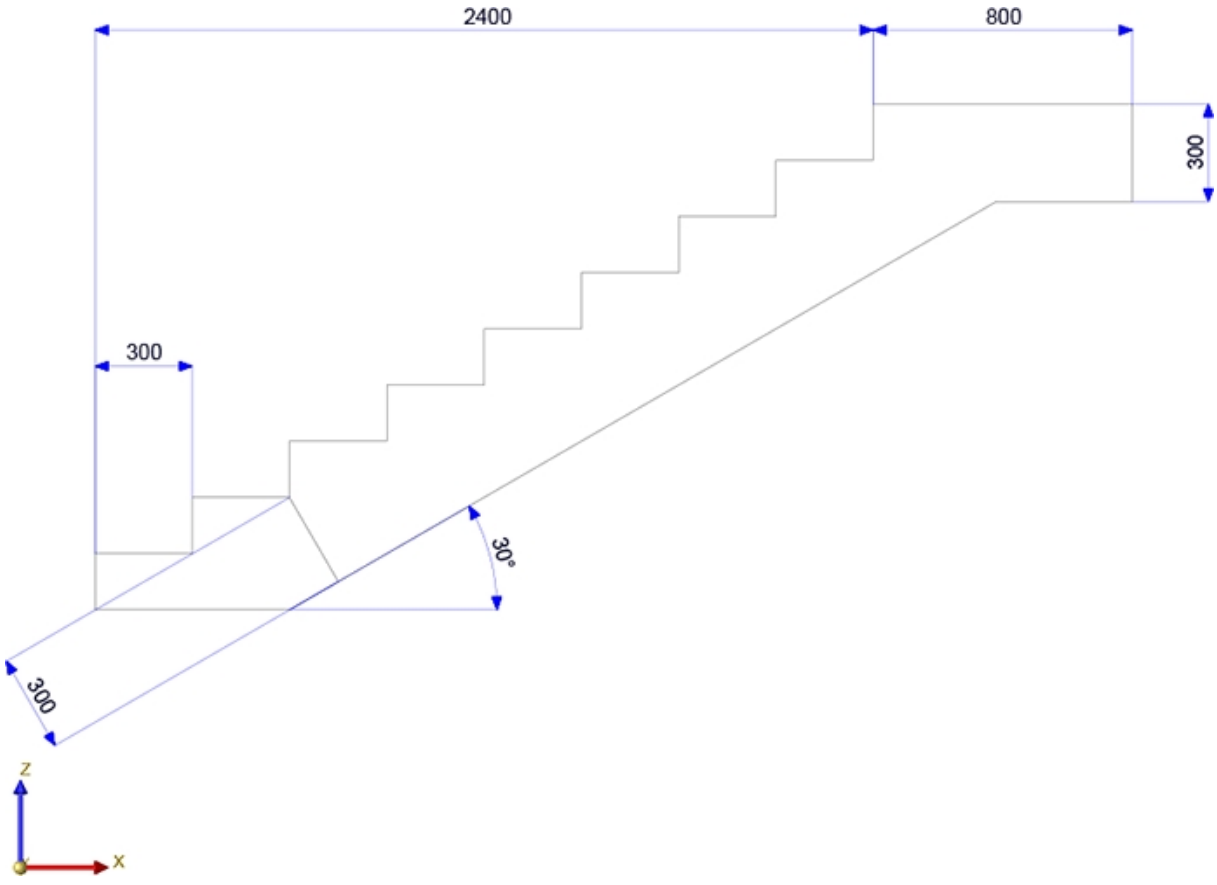
Example - Railing with Individual Post Distribution

Civil Engineering functions docking window > Steel Engineering > Stairs + Railings > Railing > Railing Configurator (Railings along edges)

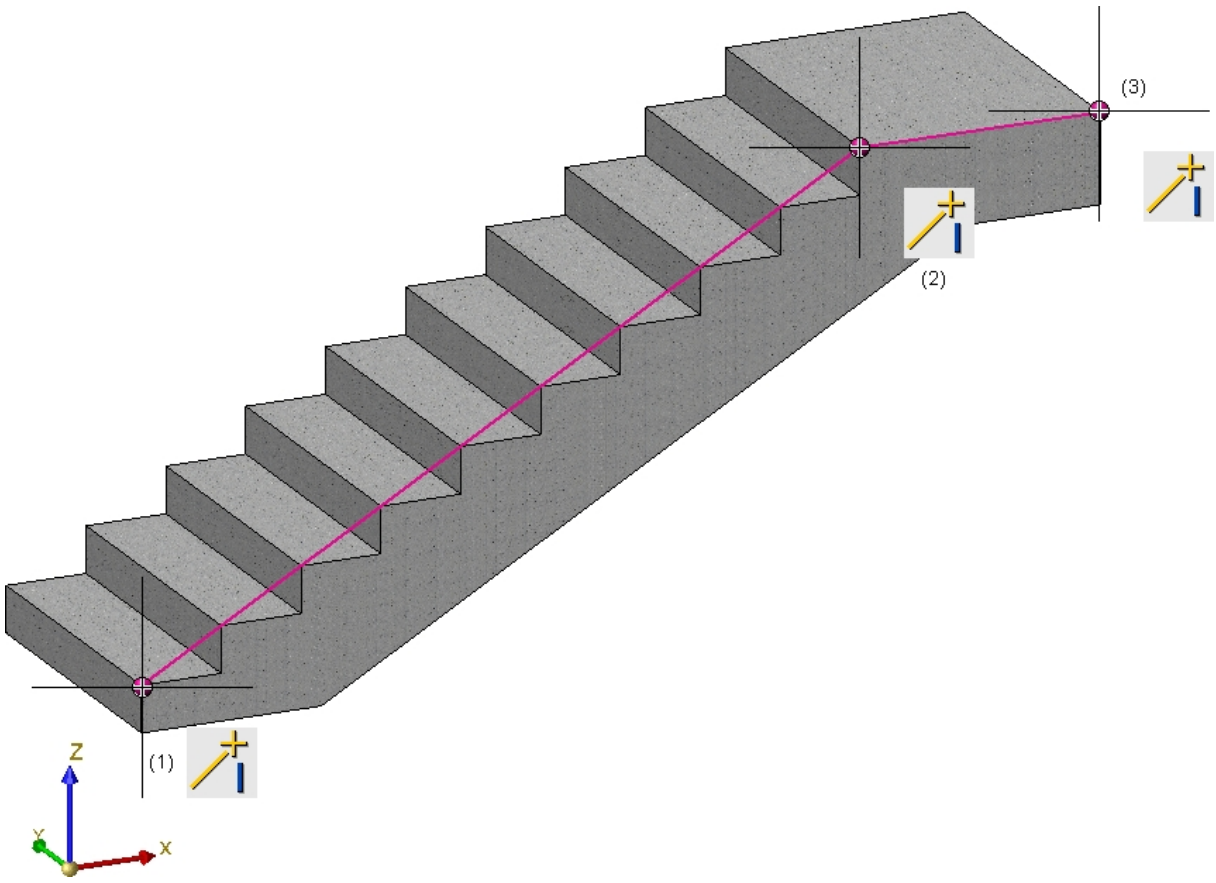
In this example the post distribution for the railing on a concrete staircase is to be customized.

The concrete staircase show below is to be used as the basis for the following steps.



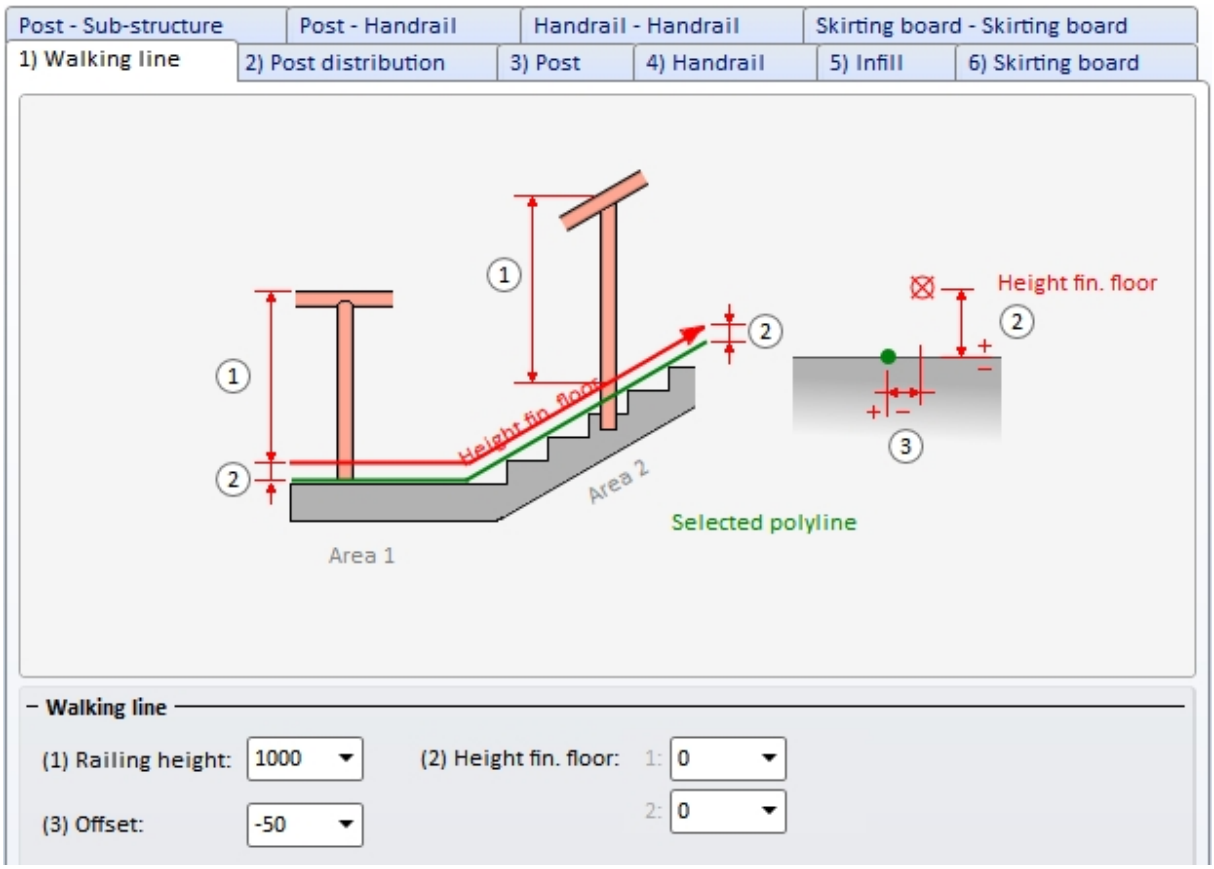


The railing is to be routed along the composite edge shown below (3-D sketch) that is defined via the points (1), (2) and (3):

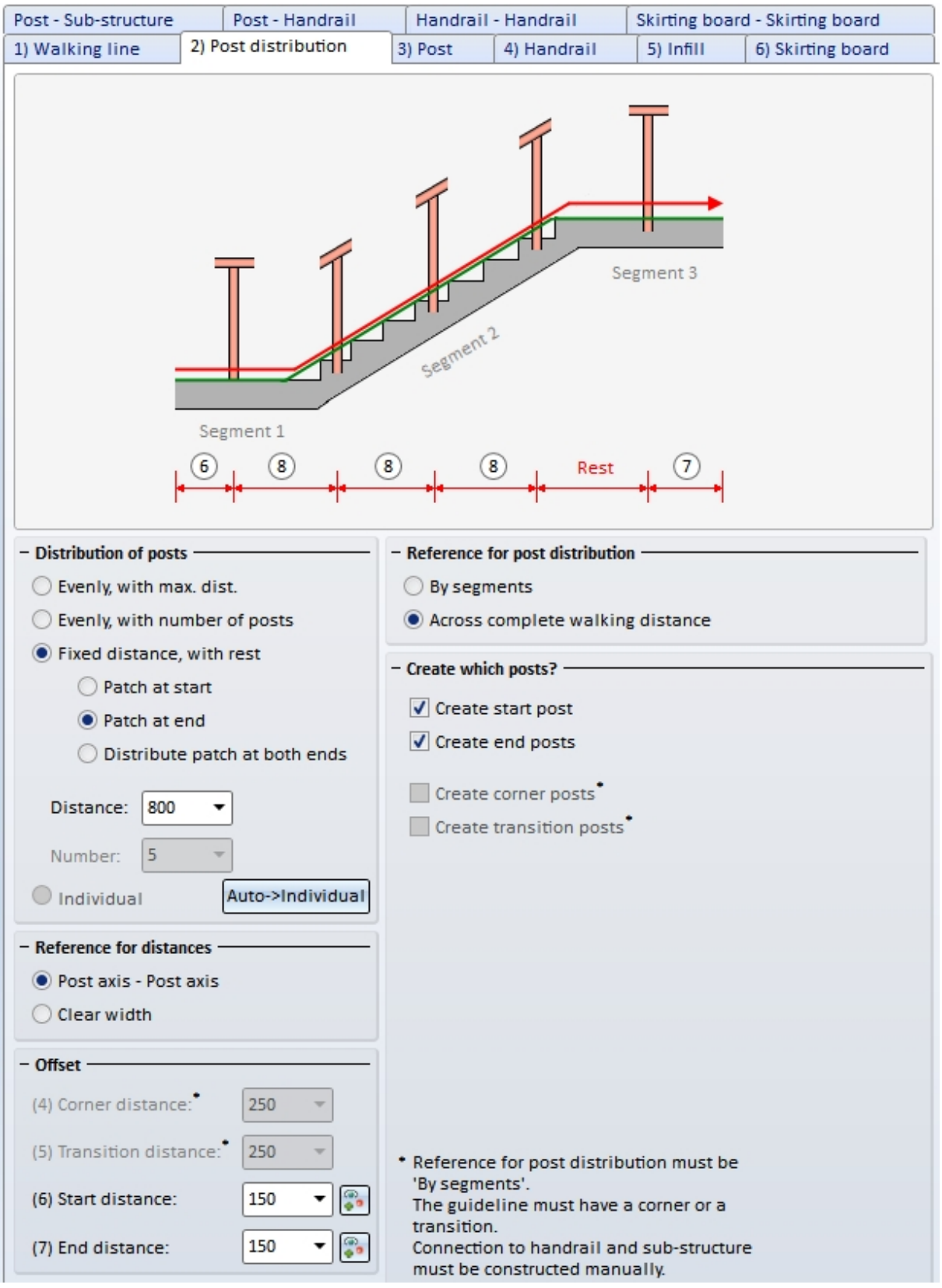


After calling the Railing Configurator (Railing along edges), identify both edges of the 3-D sketch. Then, press the middle mouse button to start the Railing Configurator. In this example we will use the ISD default settings, except for the Walking line, Post distribution, Infill and Post - Sub-structure tabs the settings of which are to be modified as shown below.

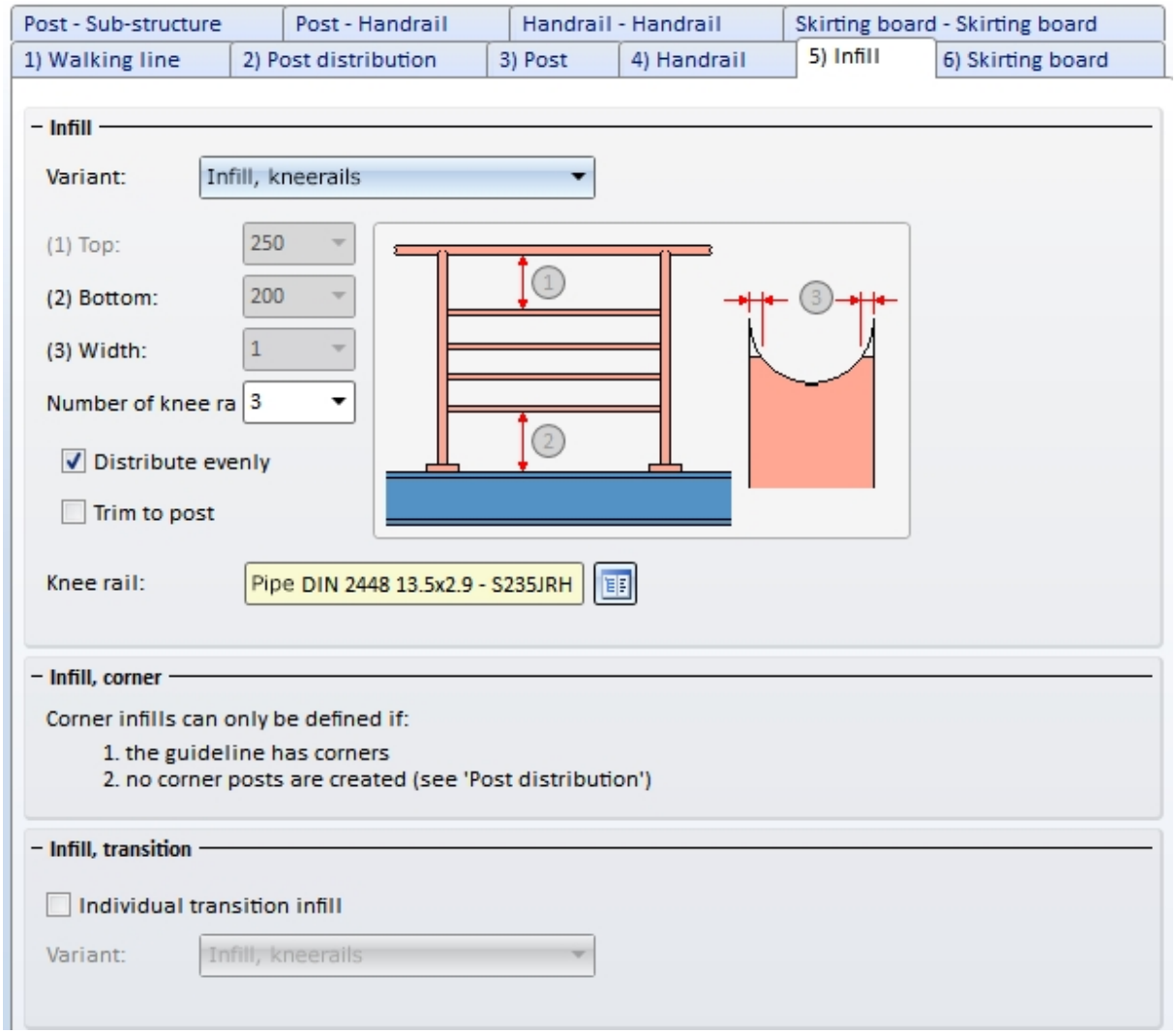
Walking line



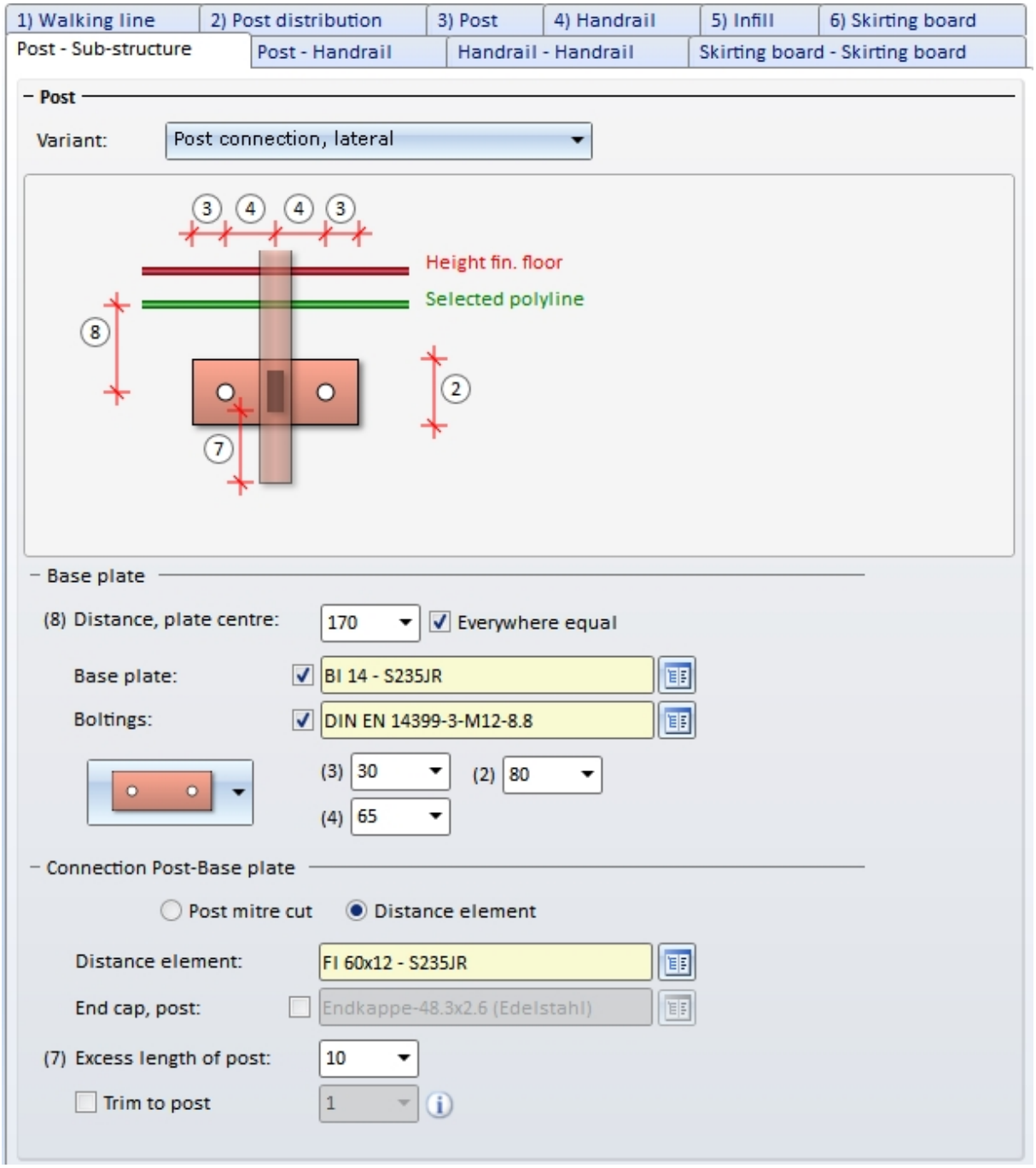
Post distribution



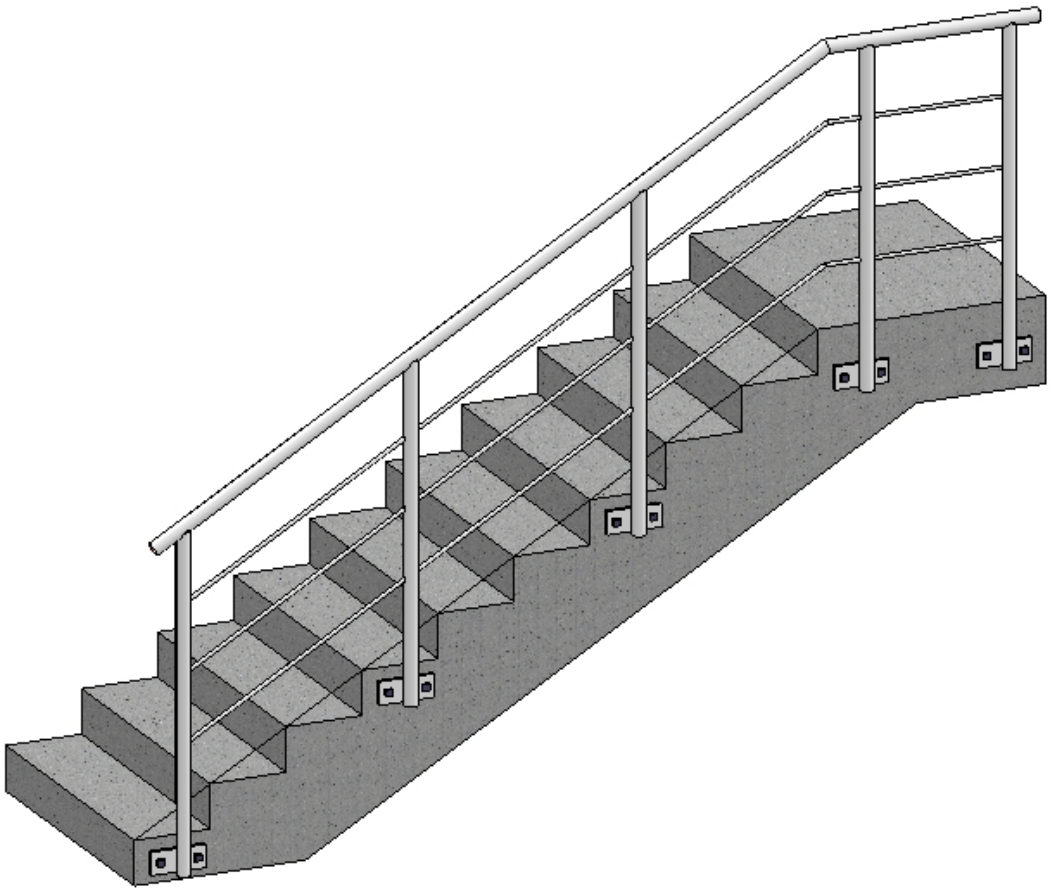
Infill


Post - Sub-structure
Post - Handrail
Handrail - Handrail
Skirting board - Skirting board
1) Walking line
2) Post distribution
3) Post
4) Handrail
5) Infill
6) Skirting board
Infill
Variant:
Infill, kneerails
(1) Top:
250
(2) Bottom:
200
(3) Width:
1
Number of knee ra
3
Distribute evenly
Trim to post
Knee rail:
Pipe DIN 2448 13.5x2.9 - S235JRH
Infill, corner
Corner infills can only be defined if:
1. the guideline has corners
2. no corner posts are created (see 'Post distribution')
Infill, transition
Individual transition infill
Variant:
Infill, kneerails

Post - Sub-structure

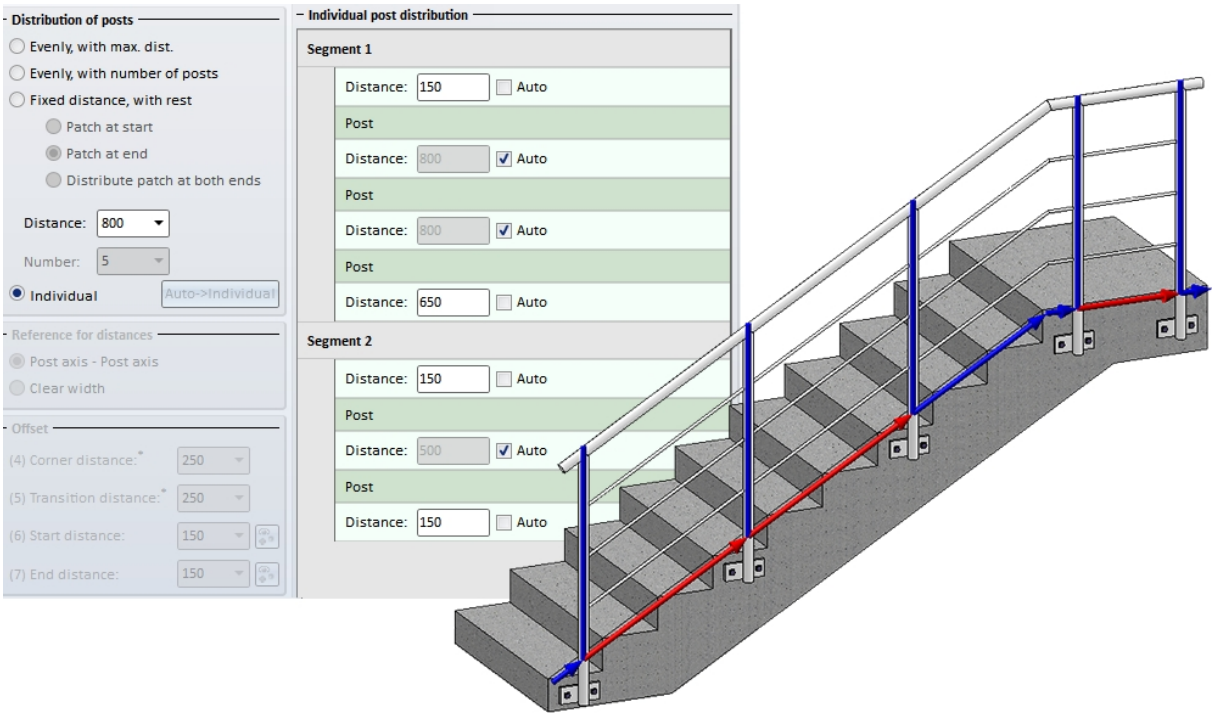


After exiting the Railing Configurator the railing will be generated.

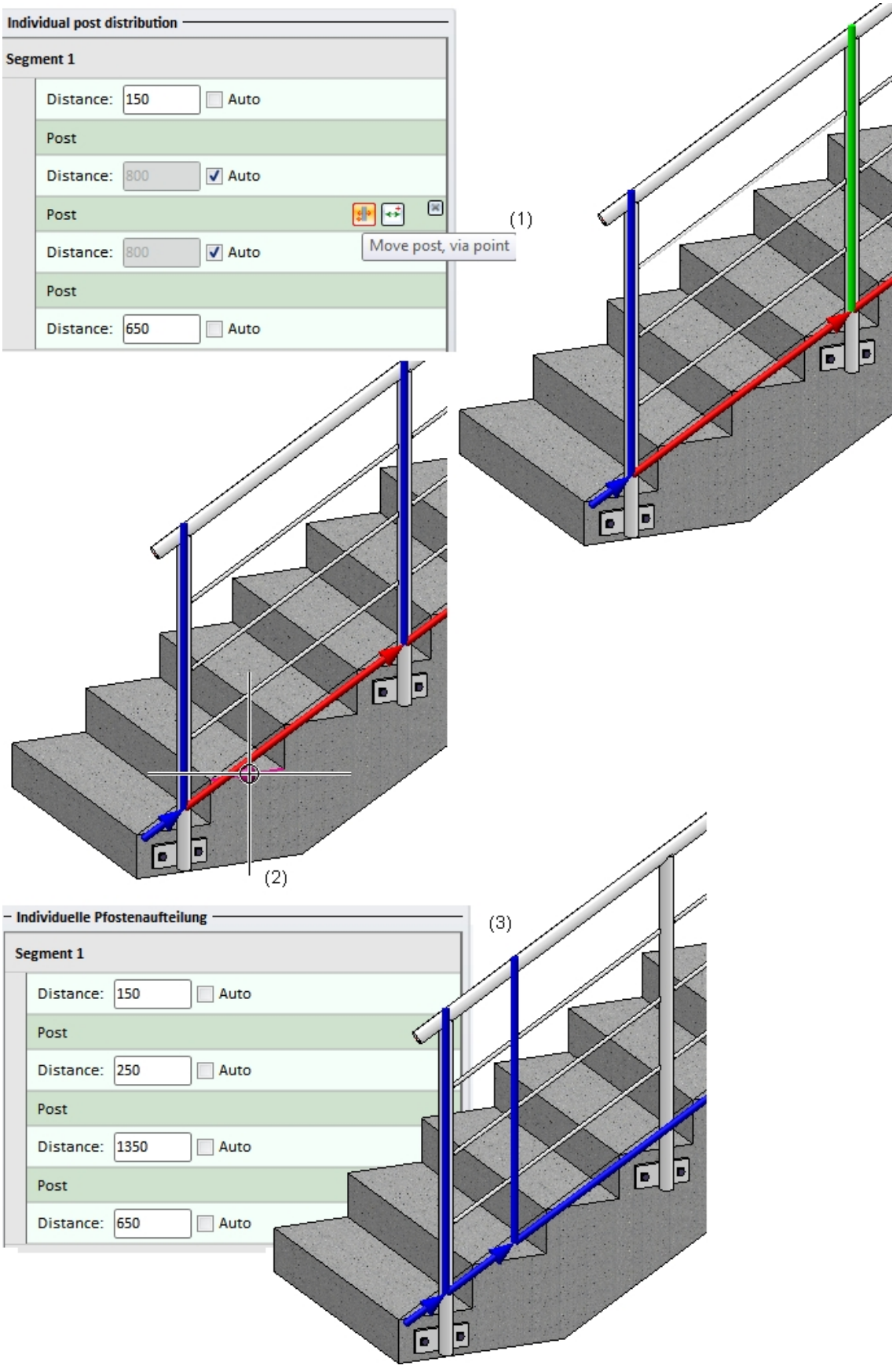


Now, the railing is to be processed and an individual post distribution is to be used. Start the Railing Configurator with a double-click on the corresponding Feature entry in the ICN.

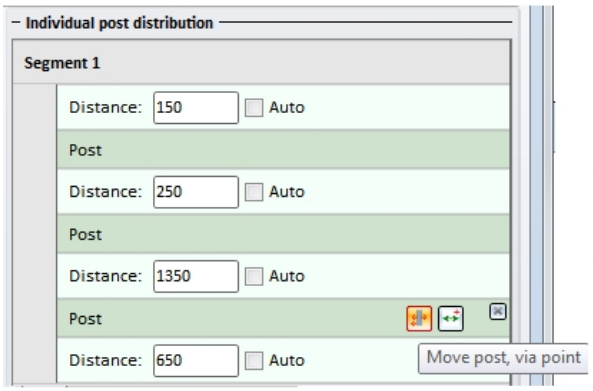
After a click on the **Auto -> Individual** button on the **Post distribution** tab, the current posts and their distances will be shown on the right hand side of the window.



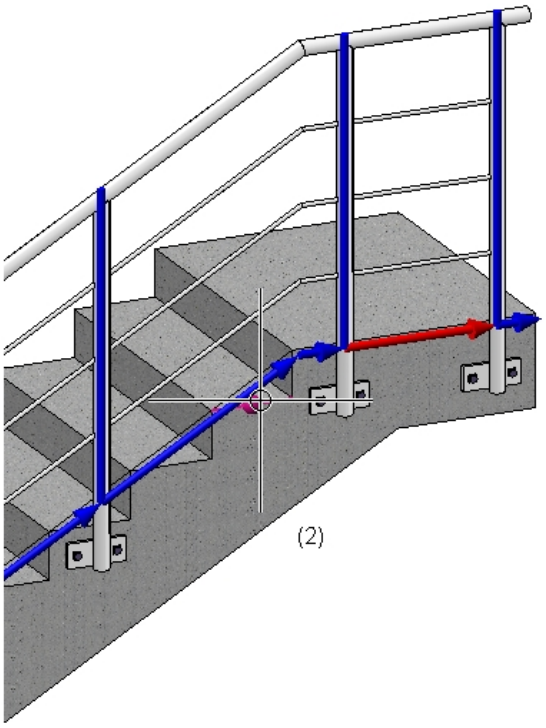
Now, the second Post of Segment 1 is to be moved via a point. To do this, click on the corresponding Post entry, then click on the **Move post, via point** button (1) and specify the point to which the post is to be moved (2). The preview (3) will then be updated.


Individual post distribution
Segment 1
Distance: 150 Auto
Post
Distance: 800 Auto
Post
Distance: 800 Auto
Post
Distance: 650 Auto
Move post, via point
(1)
(2)
Individuelle Pfostenaufteilung
Segment 1
Distance: 150 Auto
Post
Distance: 250 Auto
Post
Distance: 1350 Auto
Post
Distance: 650 Auto
(3)

Proceed likewise to move the third Post of Segment 1. To do this, click on the corresponding Post entry again, then click on the **Move post, via point** button (1) and specify the point to which the post is to be moved (2). The preview (3) will then be updated.

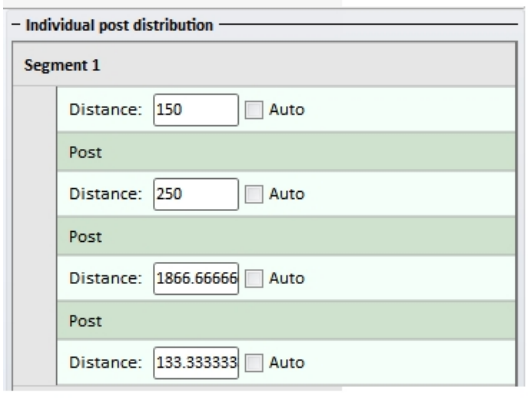


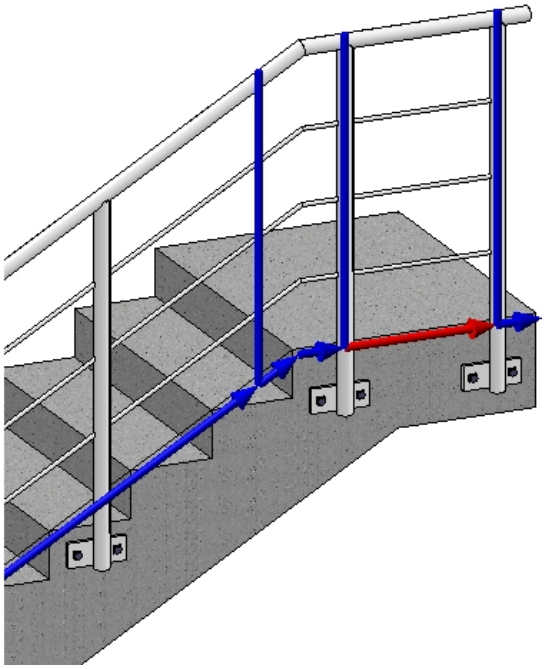
(1)



(2)

(3)

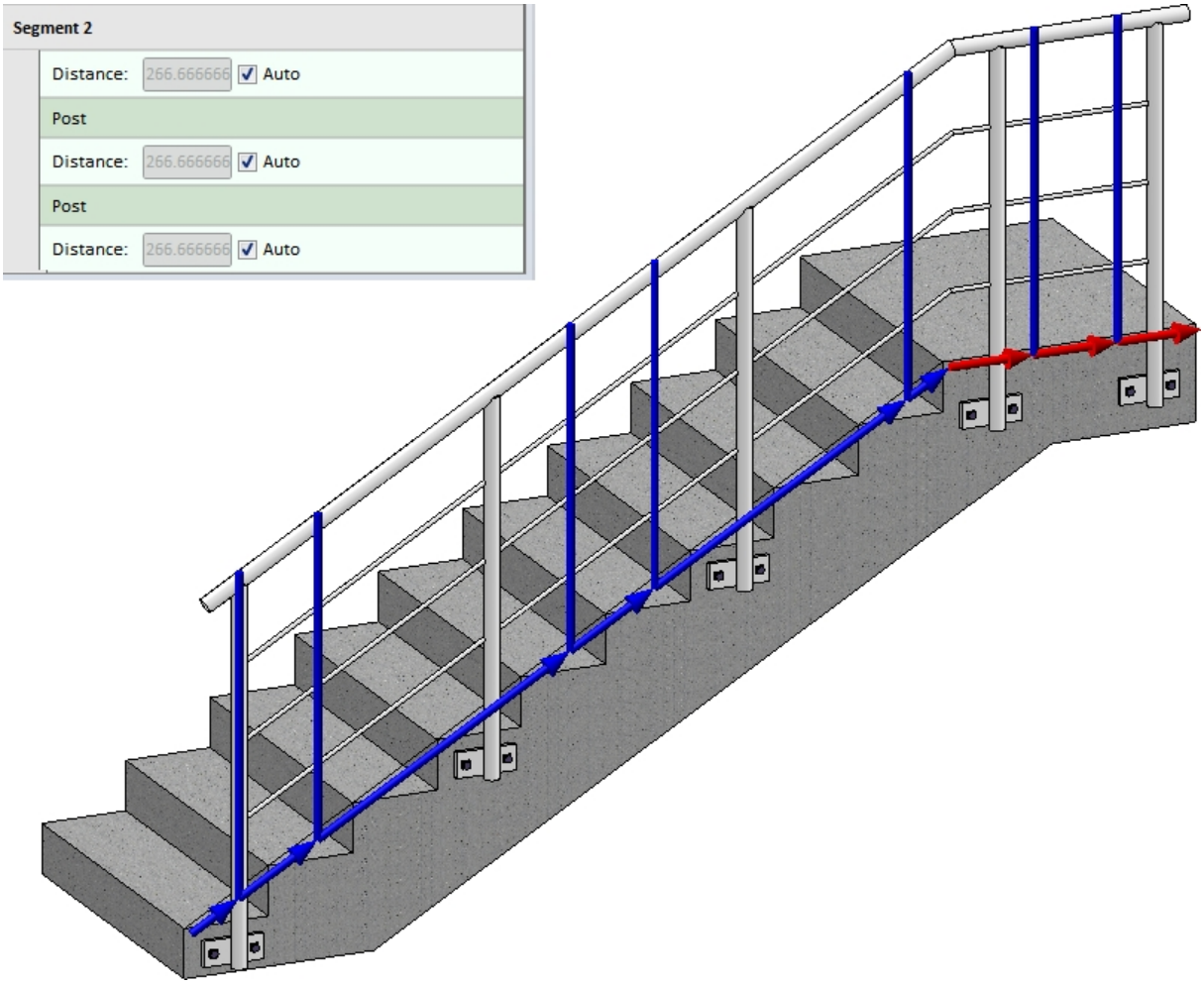




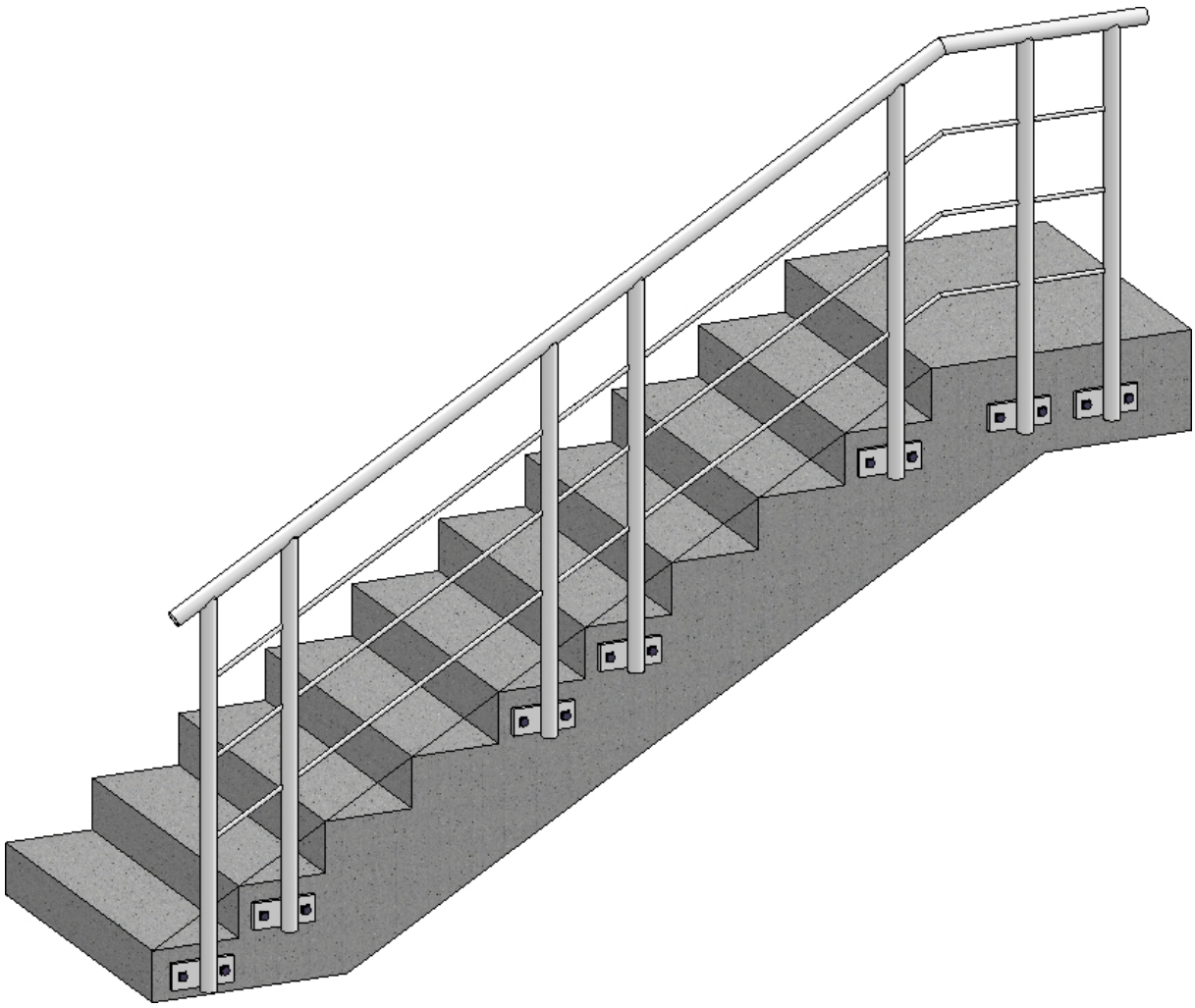
Now, two new posts are to be inserted in Segment 1. To to this, click on the **New post, via point** button and specify the desired new point for the new post.

The **New post, via point** function remains active, allowing you to directly specify the position of the second new post.

Now, an even distribution of the posts in Segment 2 is to be determined: Activate the **Auto** checkboxes there.



Click **OK**. HiCAD will then generate the modified railing.



HiCAD

UNLIMITED CAD PERFORMANCE **DEVELOPED BY ISD**

Germany

Headquarter Dortmund
ISD Software und Systeme GmbH
Hauert 4
D-44227 Dortmund
Tel. +49 231 9793-0
info@isdgroup.de

Sales office Berlin
ISD Software und Systeme GmbH
Paradiesstraße 208a
D-12526 Berlin
Tel. +49 30 634178-0
berlin@isdgroup.de

Sales office Hamburg
ISD Software und Systeme GmbH
Strawinskystraße 2
D-25337 Elmshorn
Tel. +49 4121 740980
hamburg@isdgroup.de

Sales office Hanover
ISD Software und Systeme GmbH
Hamburger Allee 24
D-30161 Hanover
Tel. +49 511 616803-40
hannover@isdgroup.de

Sales office Nuremberg
ISD Software und Systeme GmbH
Nordostpark 7
D-90411 Nuremberg
Tel. +49 911 95173-0
nuernberg@isdgroup.de

Sales office Ulm
ISD Software und Systeme GmbH
Wilhelmstraße 25
D-89073 Ulm
Tel. +49 731 96855-0
ulm@isdgroup.de

International

ISD Austria
ISD Software und Systeme GmbH
Hafenstraße 47-51
A-4020 Linz
Tel. +43 732 21 04 22-0
info@isdgroup.at

ISD Benelux - Hertogenbosch
ISD Benelux B.V.
Het Zuiderkruis 33
NL-5215 MV ‘s-Hertogenbosch
Tel. +31 73 6153-888
info@isdgroup.nl

ISD Benelux - Zwolle
ISD Benelux B.V.
Grote Voort 293A
NL-8041 BL Zwolle
Tel. +31 73 6153-888
info@isdgroup.nl

ISD France
ISD Group France SAS
10 -12 Boulevard Vivier Merle
F-69393 Lyon
Tel. +33 6 73 72 04 67
info@isdgroup.fr

ISD Switzerland
ISD Software und Systeme AG
Rosenweg 2
CH-4500 Solothurn
Tel. +41 32 624 13-40
info@isdgroup.ch

ISD Switzerland
ISD Software und Systeme AG
Rte du Jura 37 A, 4. Étage
CH-1700 Fribourg
Tel. +41 79 803 51 51
info@isdgroup.ch

ISD USA - North Carolina
ISD Group USA Inc.
20808 N Main Street, Suite 101
USA-Cornelius NC 28031
Tel. +1 770 349 6321
info@isdgroup.us

ISD USA - Georgia
ISD Group USA Inc.
5126 South Royal Atlanta Drive
USA-Tucker GA 30084
Tel. +1 770 349 6321
info@isdgroup.us

www.isdgroup.com

HiCAD_2802

This document is generated automatically.