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# DIGITAL ENGINEERING SUMMIT

16-17 June 2025

Rome Marriott Park Hotel, Italy

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EMULATE3D

by ROCKWELL AUTOMATION



Creating the Future of

# INDUSTRIAL OPERATIONS

# Rendering Updates



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Emulate3D Global Business Development

**Jordan Wilkie**

Emulate3D Senior Software Engineer





# | What is Unreal Engine?

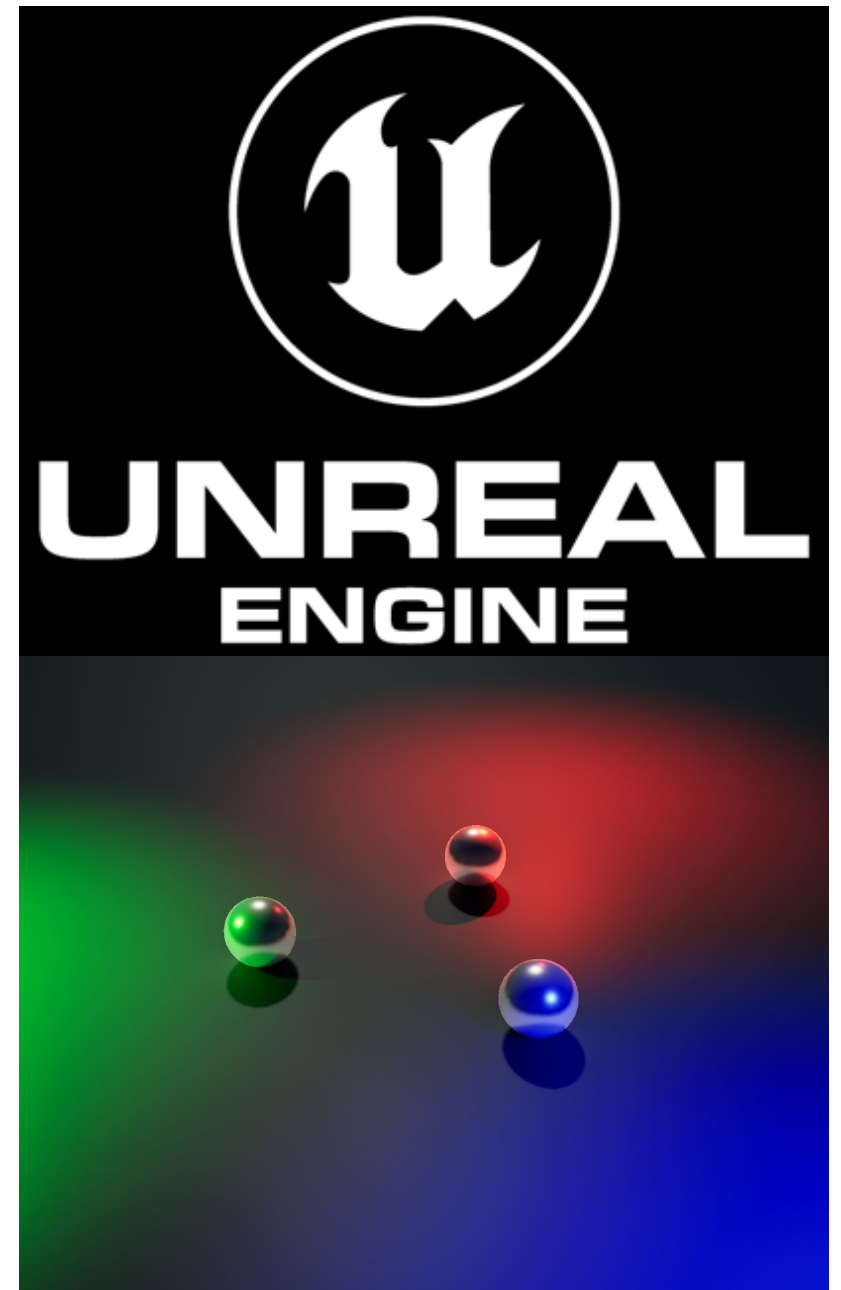
An advanced real-time 3D creation tool, commonly used as a game engine but with applications in many industries.

Offers major advantages:

- **Improved performance**
- **Higher quality rendering**
- **Well established, reliable solution**

Available for use as a Beta in Emulate3D 2024.

Now default rendering in Emulate3D 2025.





# Unreal Performance

Unreal Engine includes many optimisations out of the box, including:

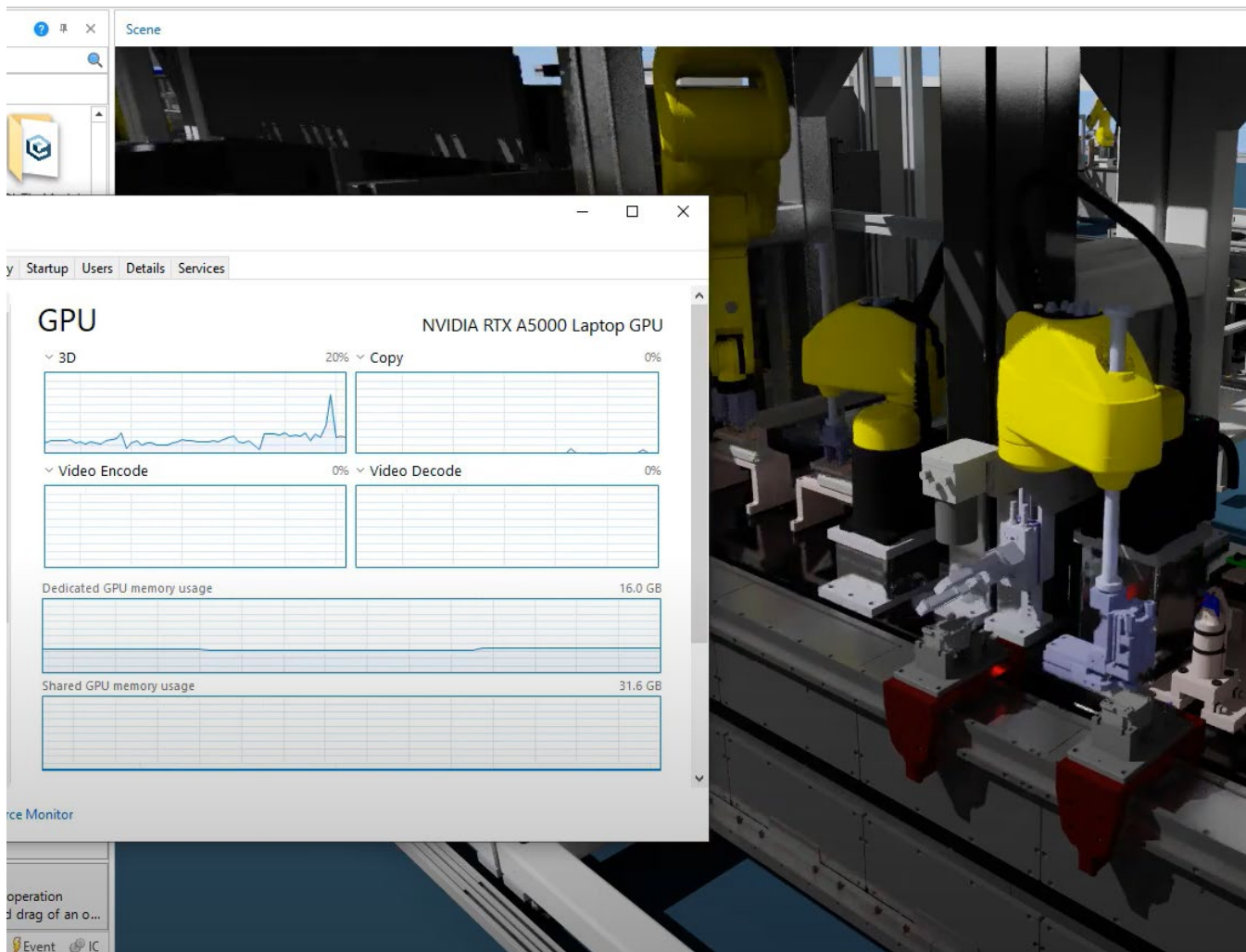
- Dynamic Mesh Instancing
- Automatic Draw Call Merging
- Mesh Draw Command Caching
- Better utilization of the GPU

Emulate3D has implemented Unreal rendering with **multithreading**.

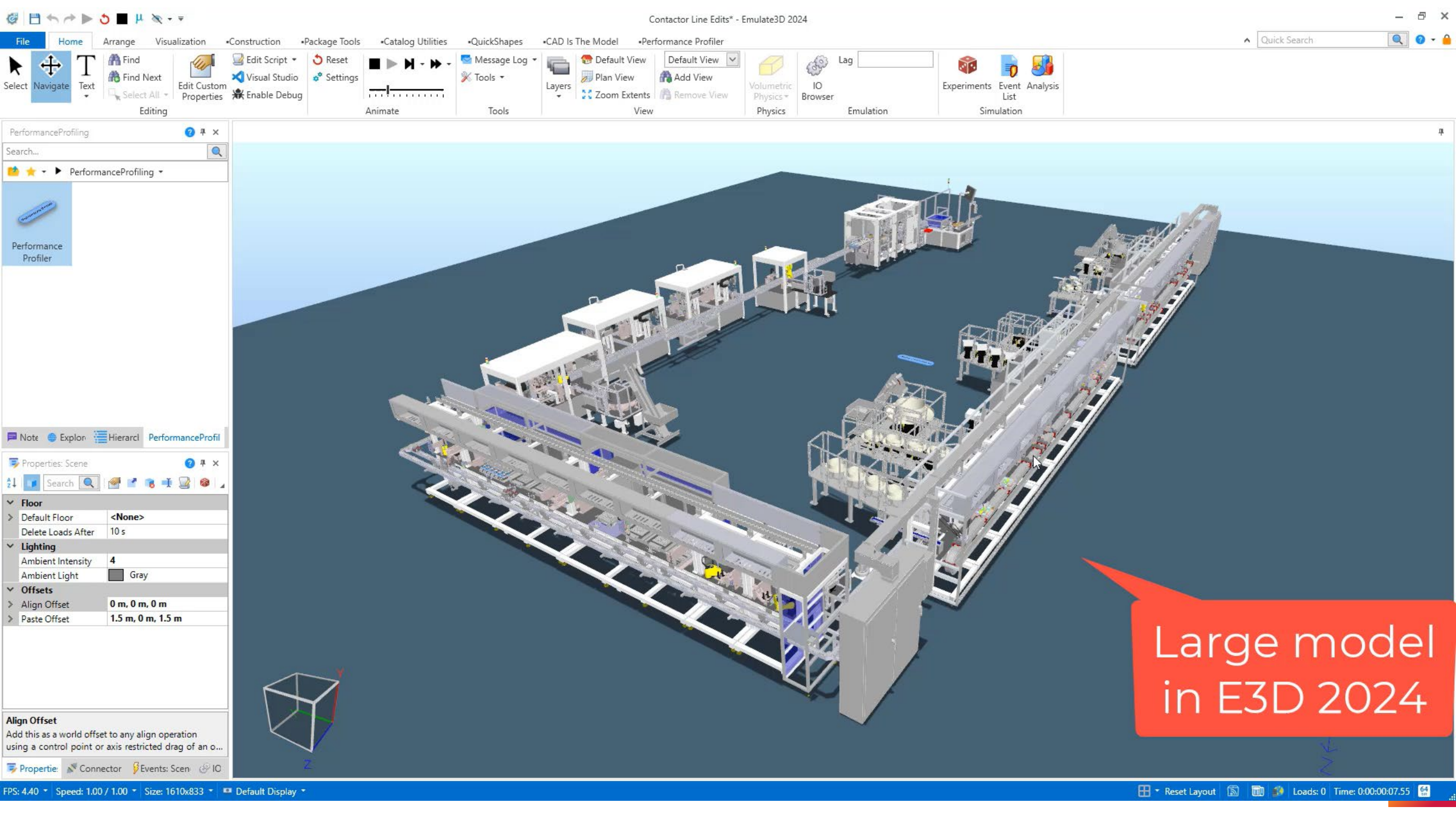
This significantly reduces the amount of time blocking the main thread.

This improves comms processing, UI interactions, and simulation performance.

**What's Planned – further optimizations!**







Large model  
in E3D 2024



# Tips & Tricks – Unreal and GPUs

Unreal rendering is more reliant upon your GPU. If you see poor performance, consider:

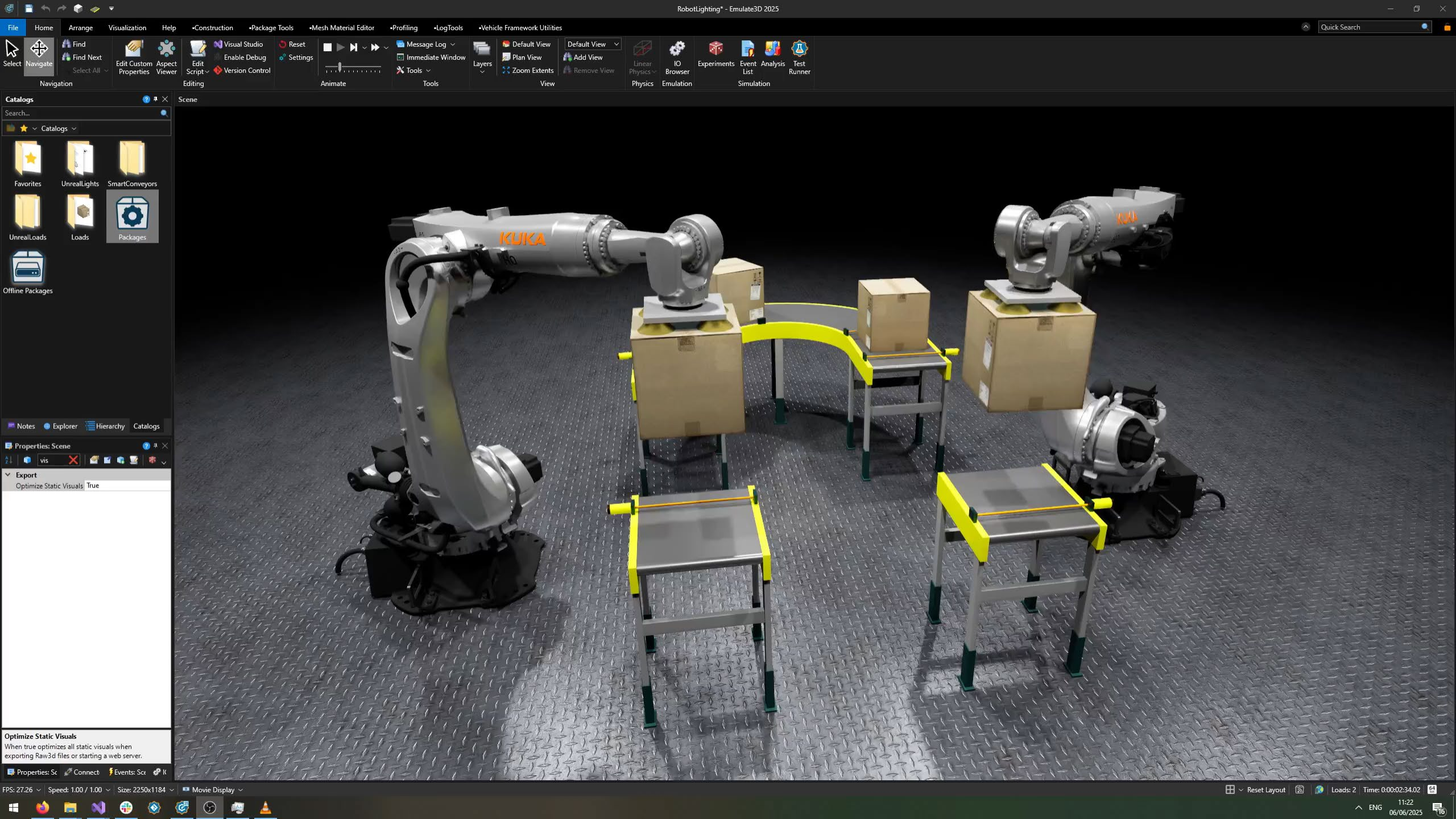
- Does Performance Profiler say rendering is the issue?
- Is your graphics card underpowered?
- Are you running on a VM? Is GPU passthrough set up?
- Are graphics drivers up to date?
- Is E3D incorrectly using your integrated graphics?
- Are you using battery and in power saving mode?

If the answer is yes, then you could try:

- Use the High Performance display mode
- Merging sections of CAD with many static children. Very high visual counts can be a CPU bottleneck!
- Try using v18.0.1+ if encountering VM rendering issues









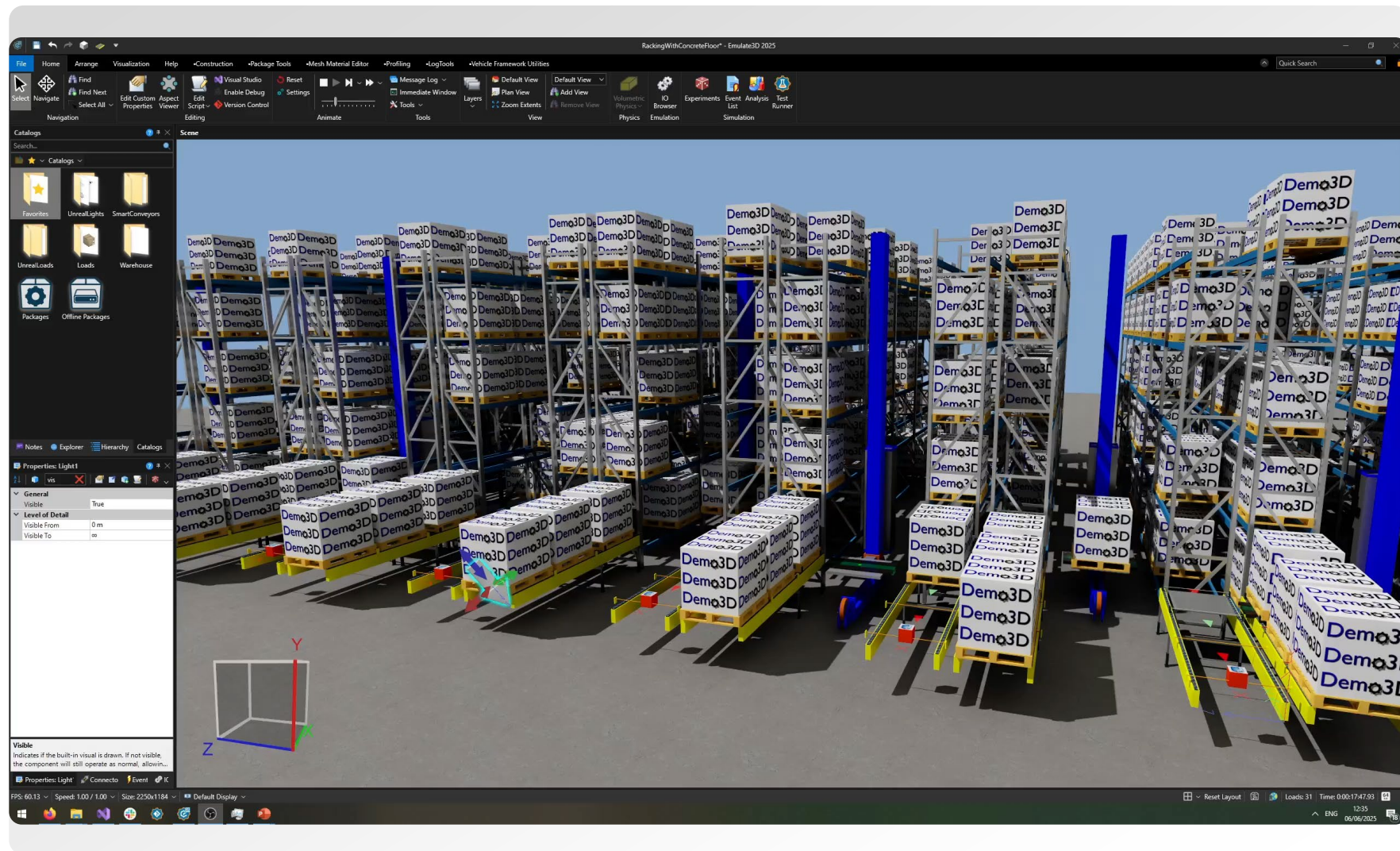


# Unreal – Ray Tracing and Global Illumination

Real time ray tracing

Dynamic global illumination

Lighting adapts to changes to light sources and geometry







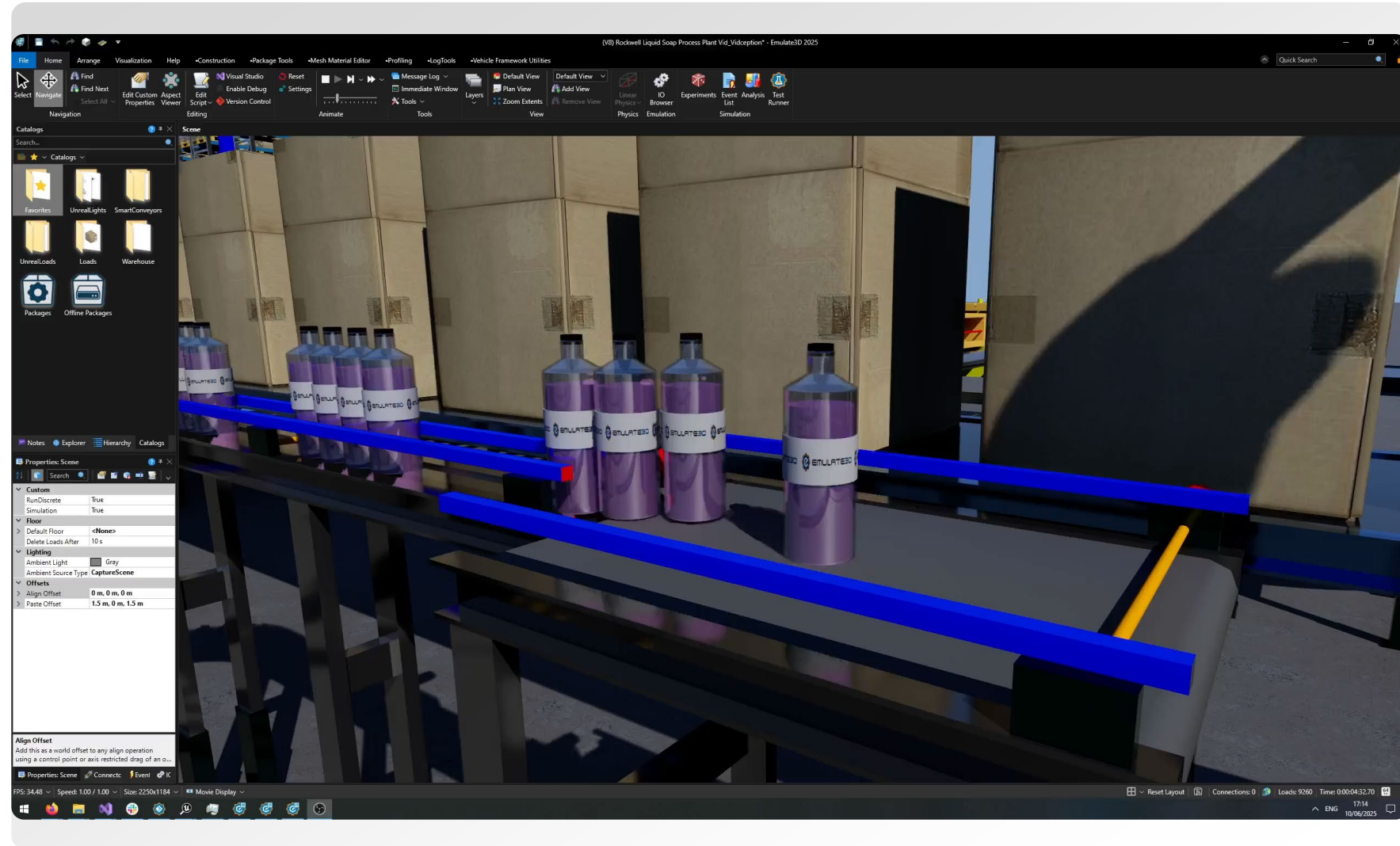
# Unreal – Reflections

Reflections update  
in real time

Screen space  
reflections

Ray traced  
reflections\*

\* Coming in v18.0.2

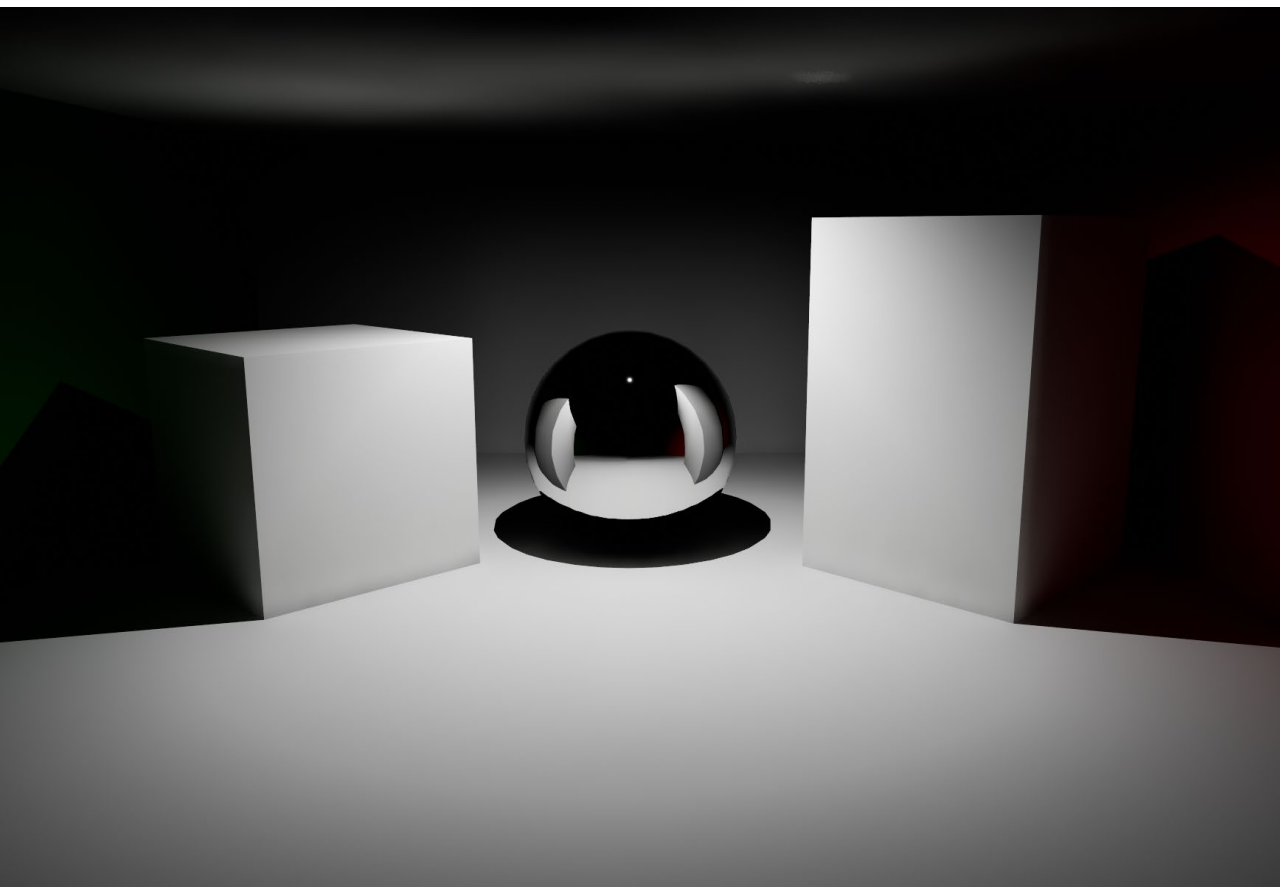




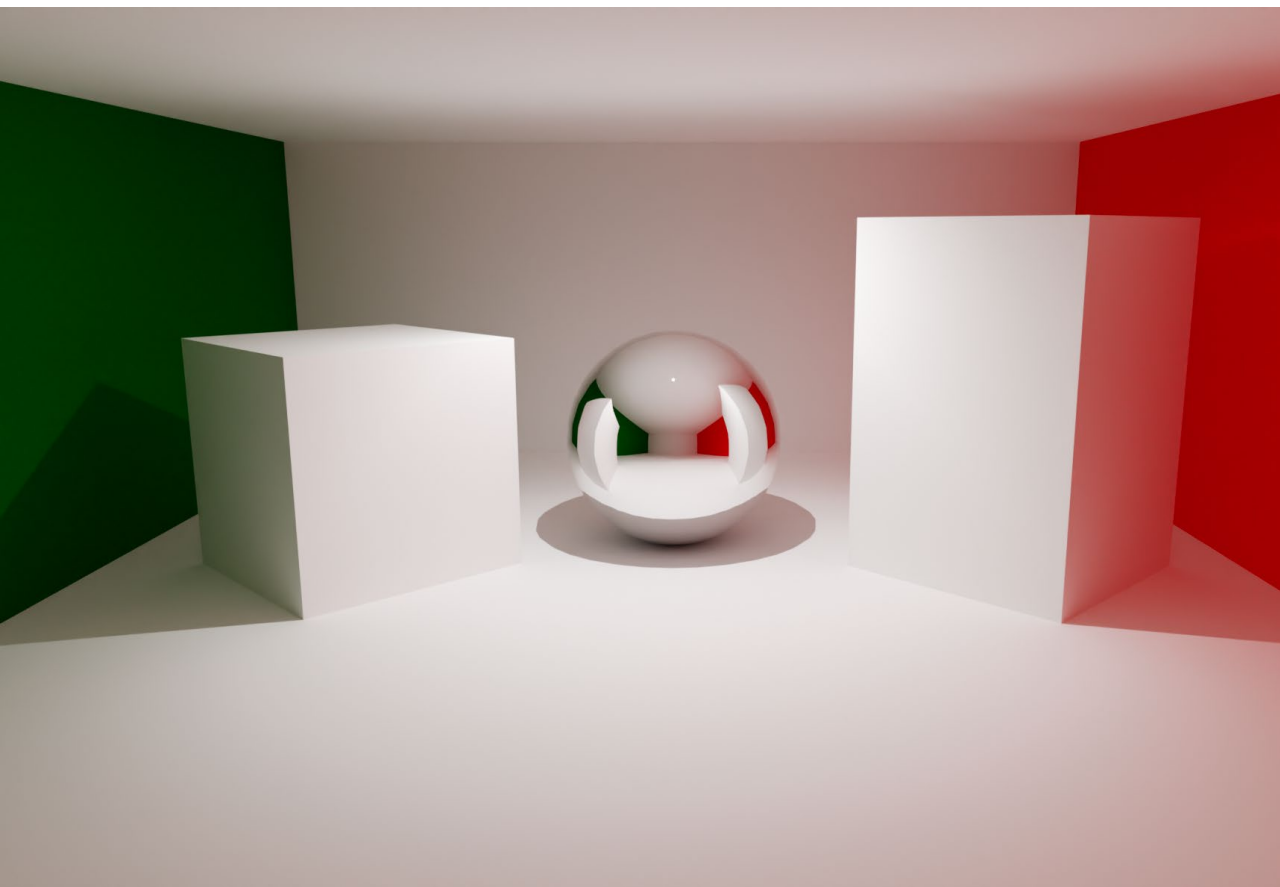
# | What's Planned - Path Tracing

Create photorealistic renders and videos from within Emulate3D!  
Frames take ~seconds to settle. Think Omniverse or Pov Ray!

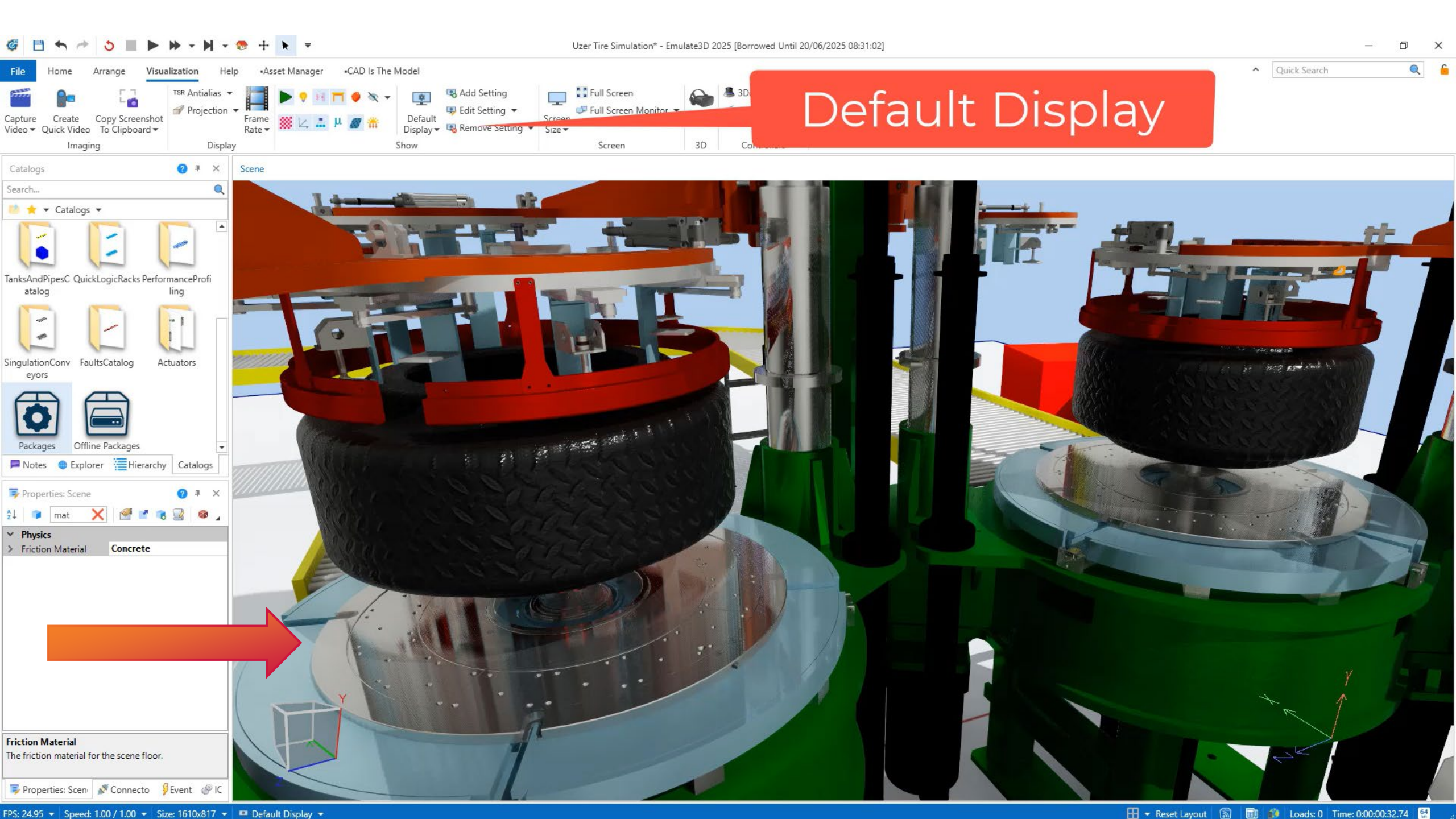
Without Path Tracing



With Path Tracing Preview







Default Display

Catalogs

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Catalogs

TanksAndPipesC QuickLogicRacks PerformanceProfiling

SingulationConveyors FaultsCatalog Actuators

Packages Offline Packages

Notes Explorer Hierarchy Catalogs

Properties: Scene

mat

Physics

Friction Material Concrete

Friction Material

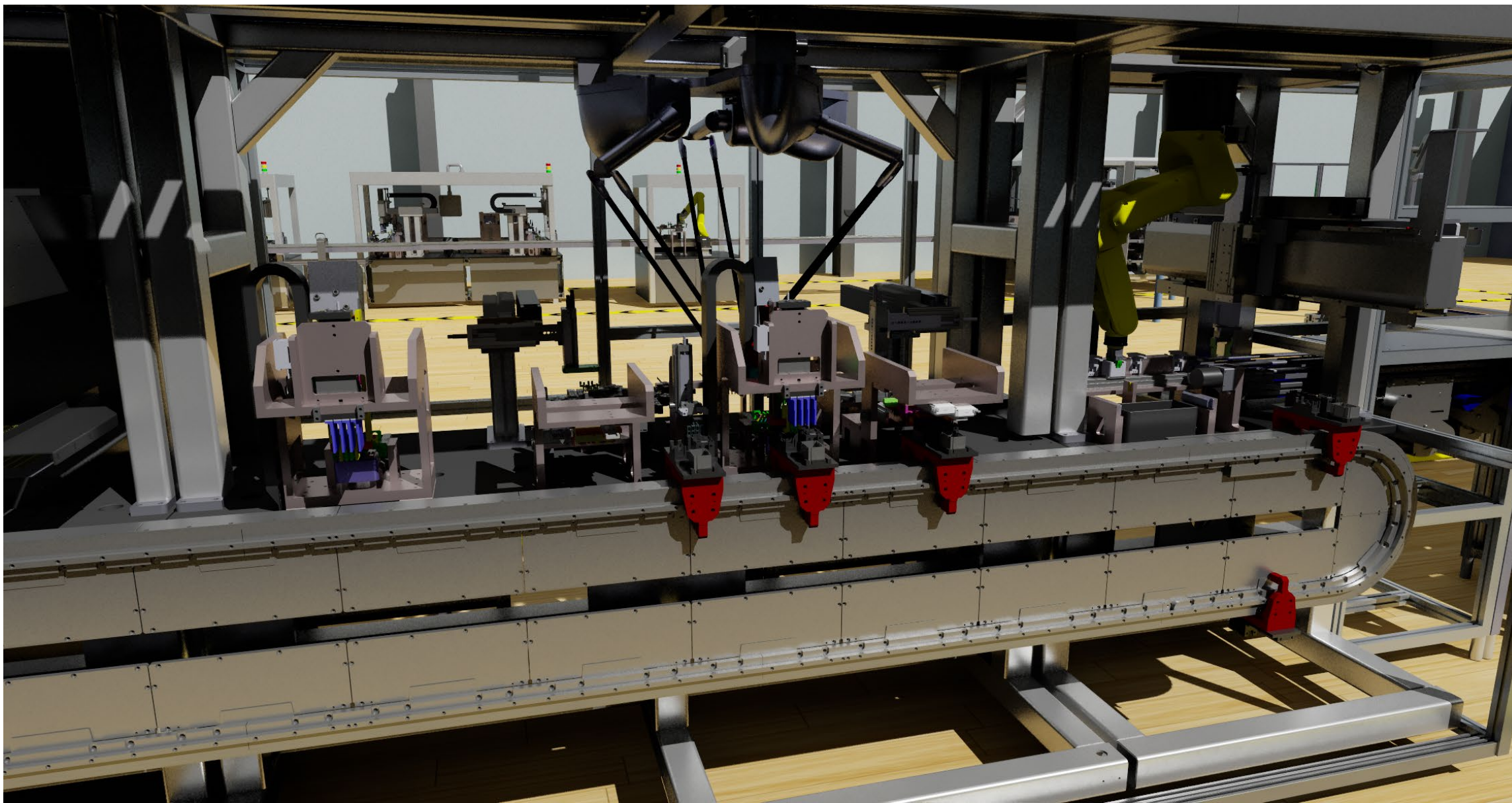
The friction material for the scene floor.

Properties: Scene Connecto Event IC





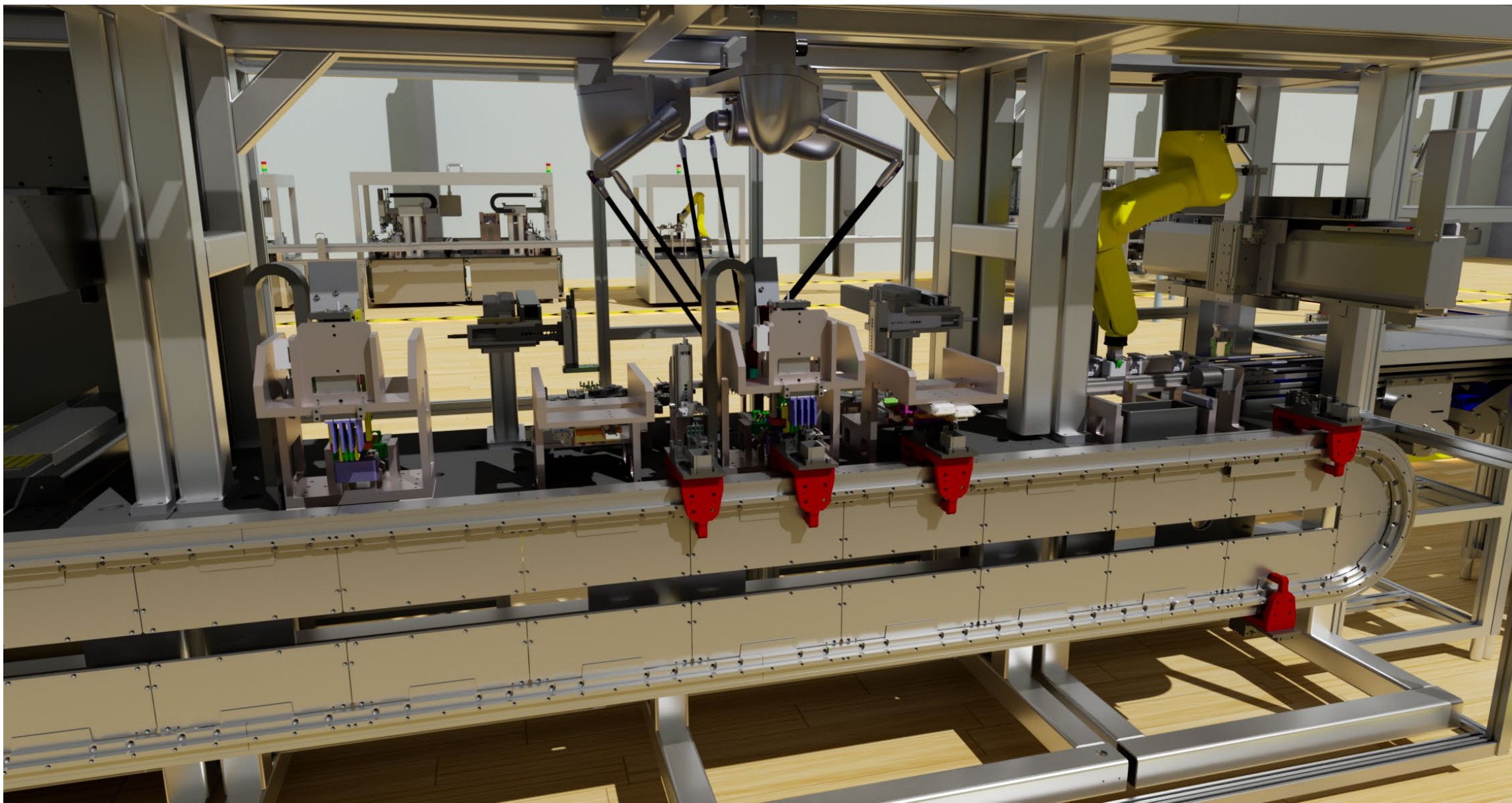
# Path Tracing Off







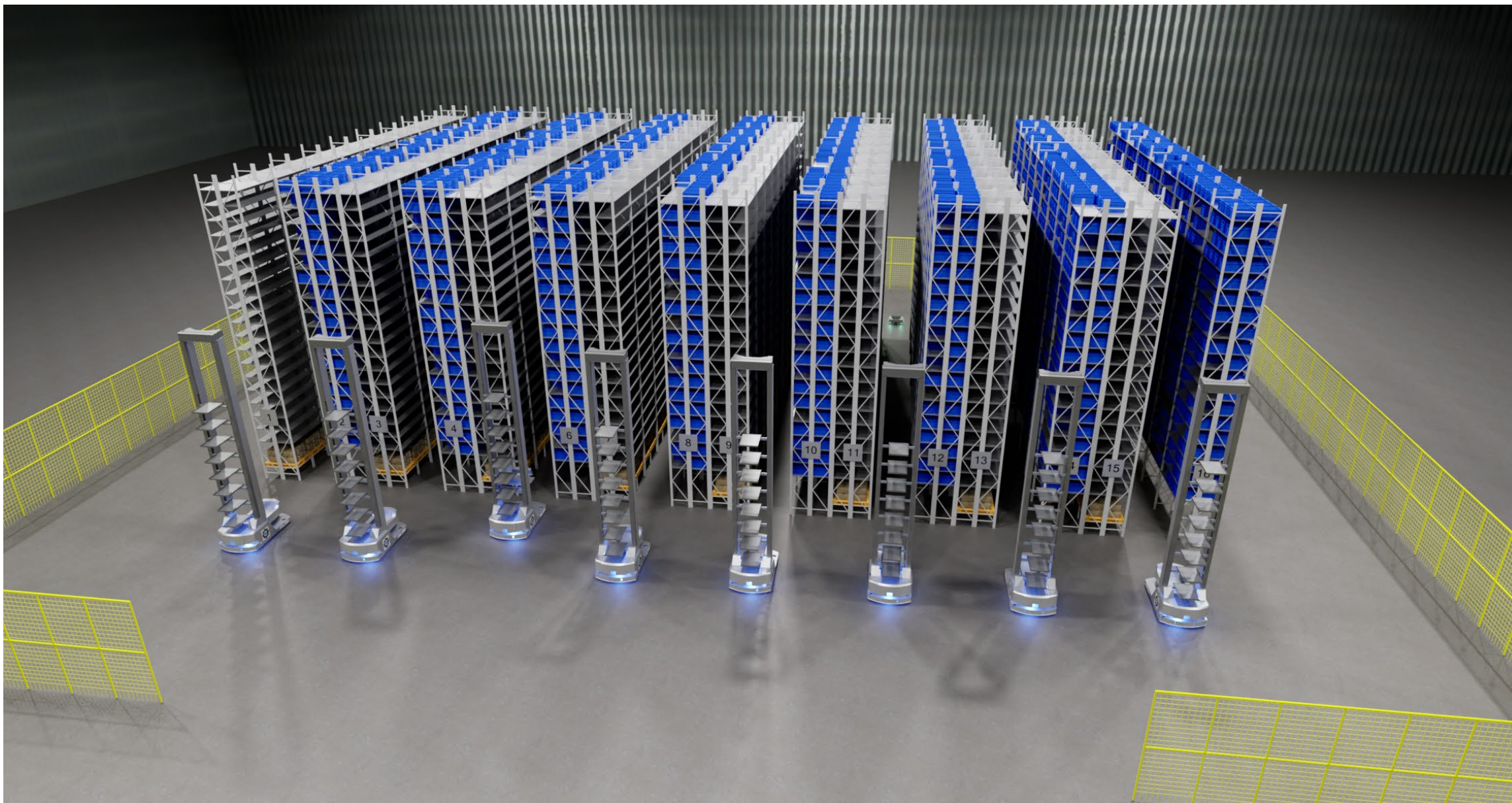
# Path Tracing On







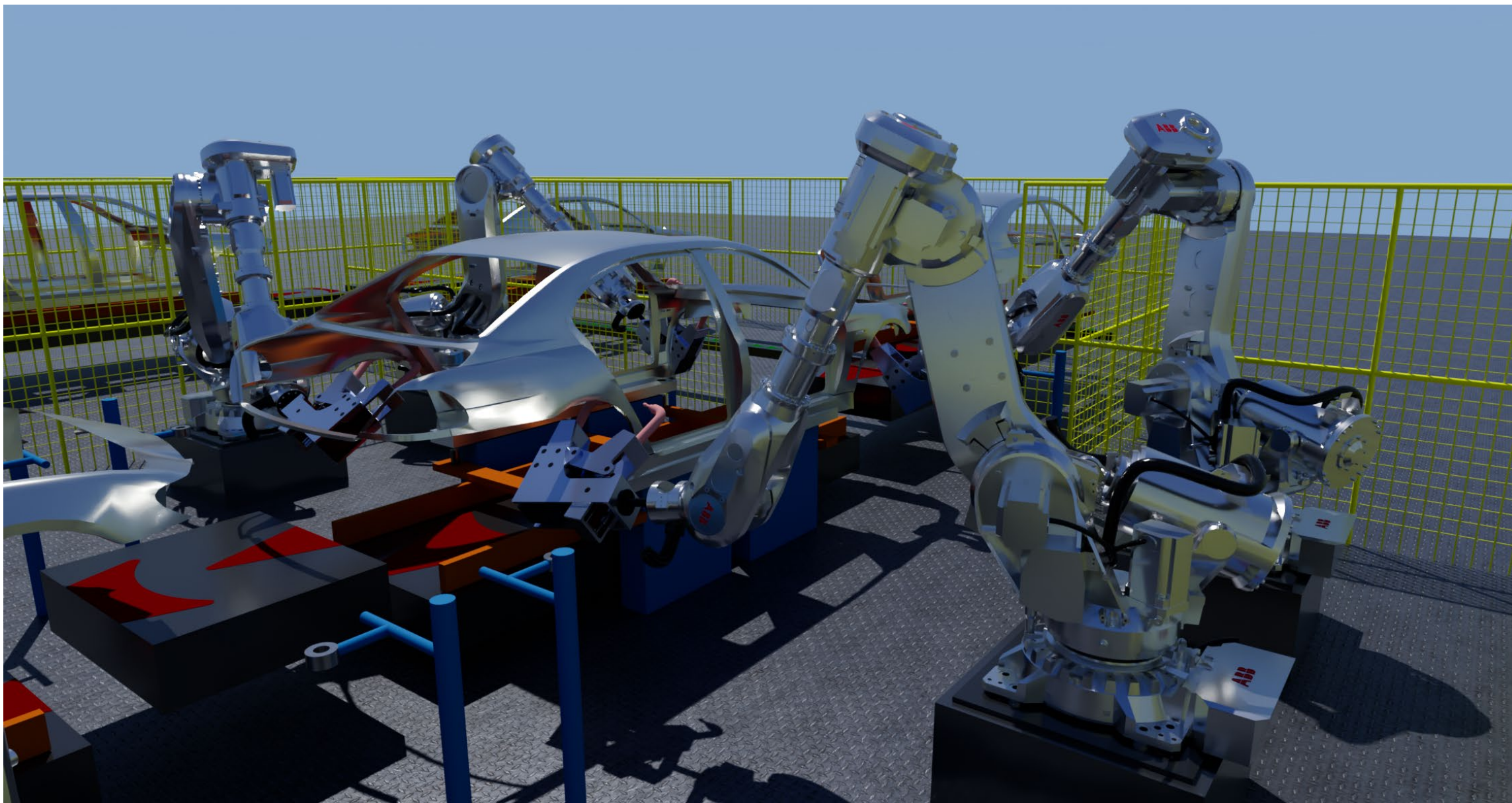
# Path Tracing On







# Path Tracing On







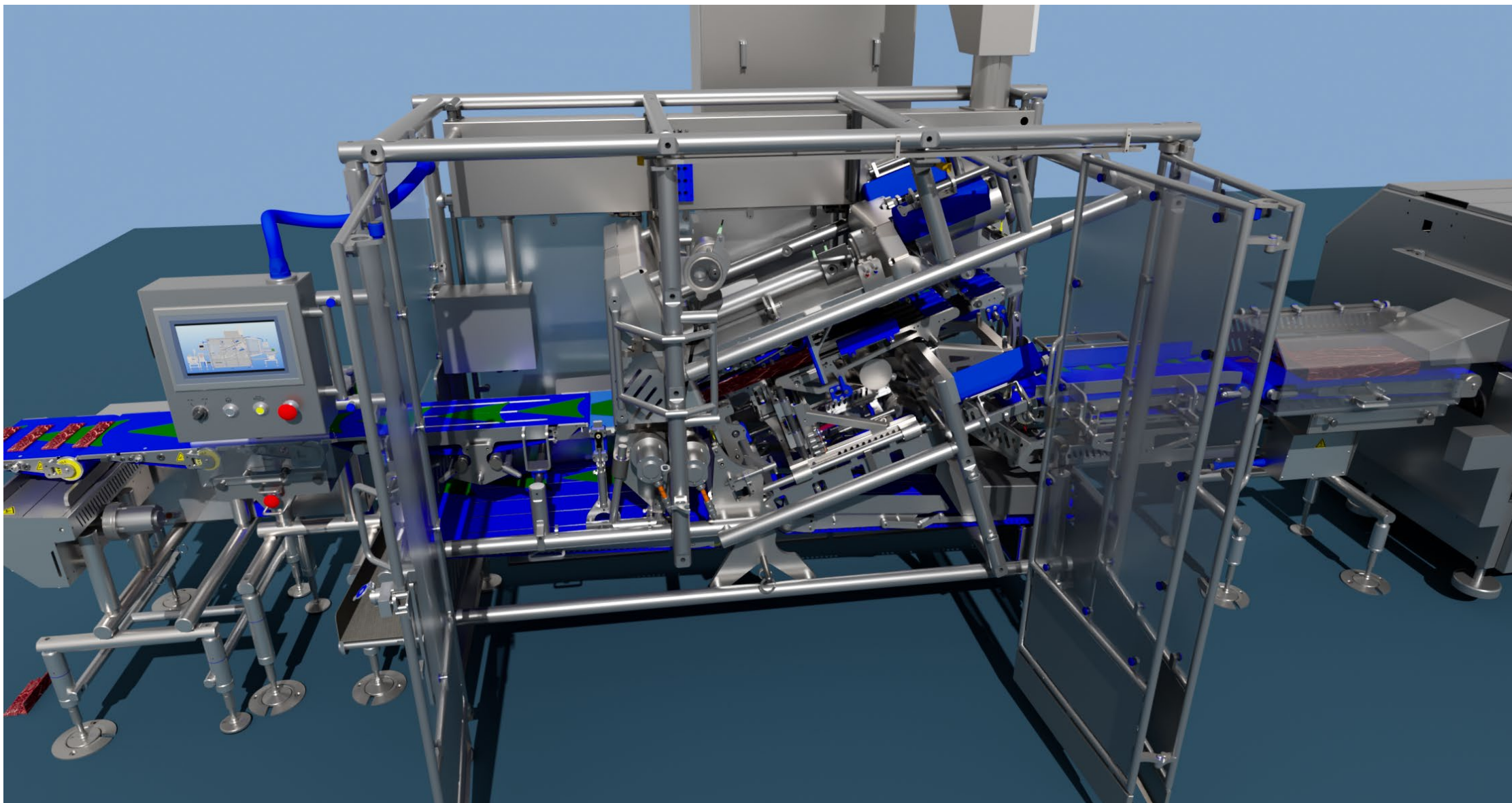
# Path Tracing On







# Path Tracing On



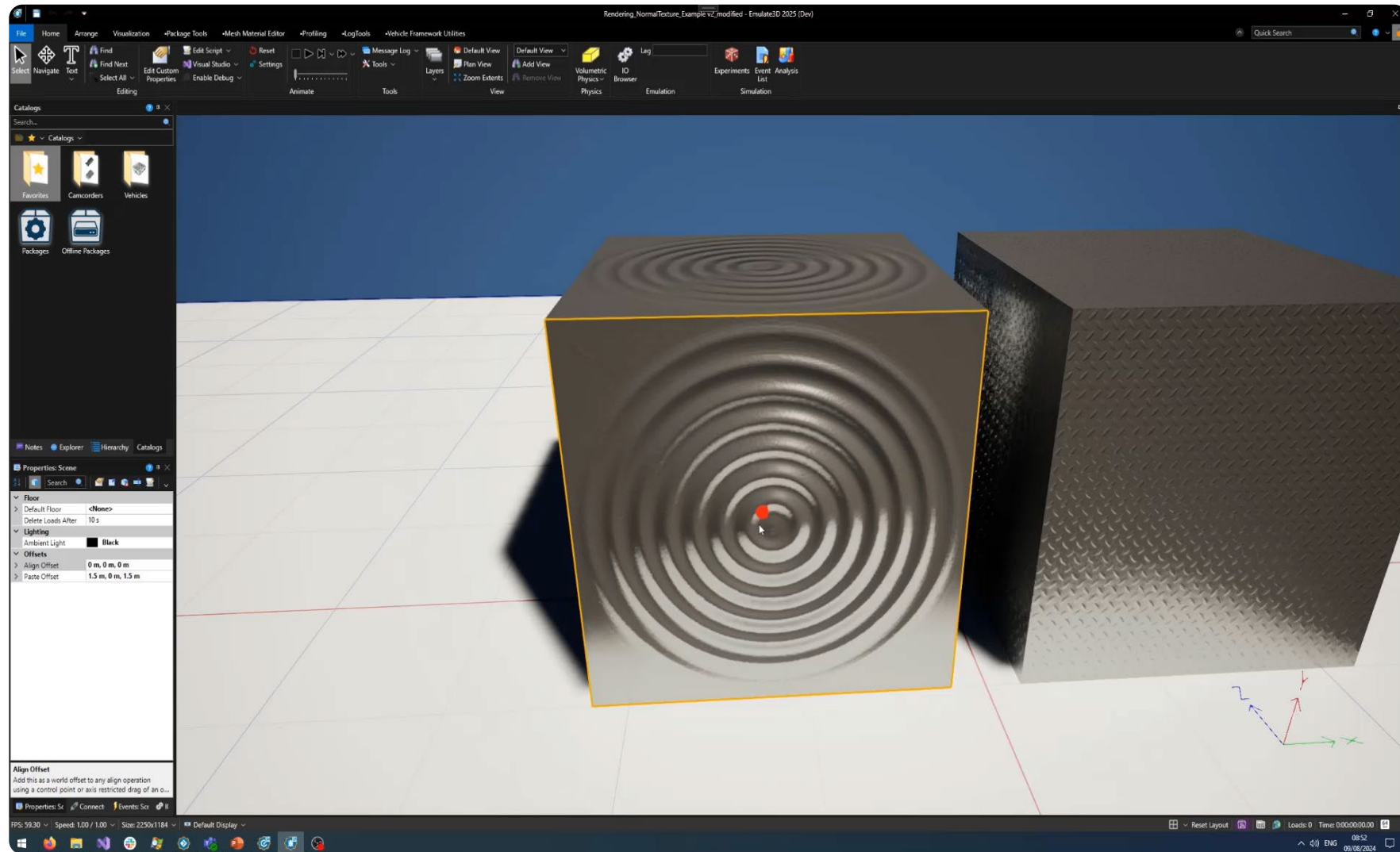


# Unreal – Material Options

Advanced shading models using Physically Based Rendering.

Control over how materials interact with light, including Normal Textures, and Ambient Occlusion.

Minimal performance cost!





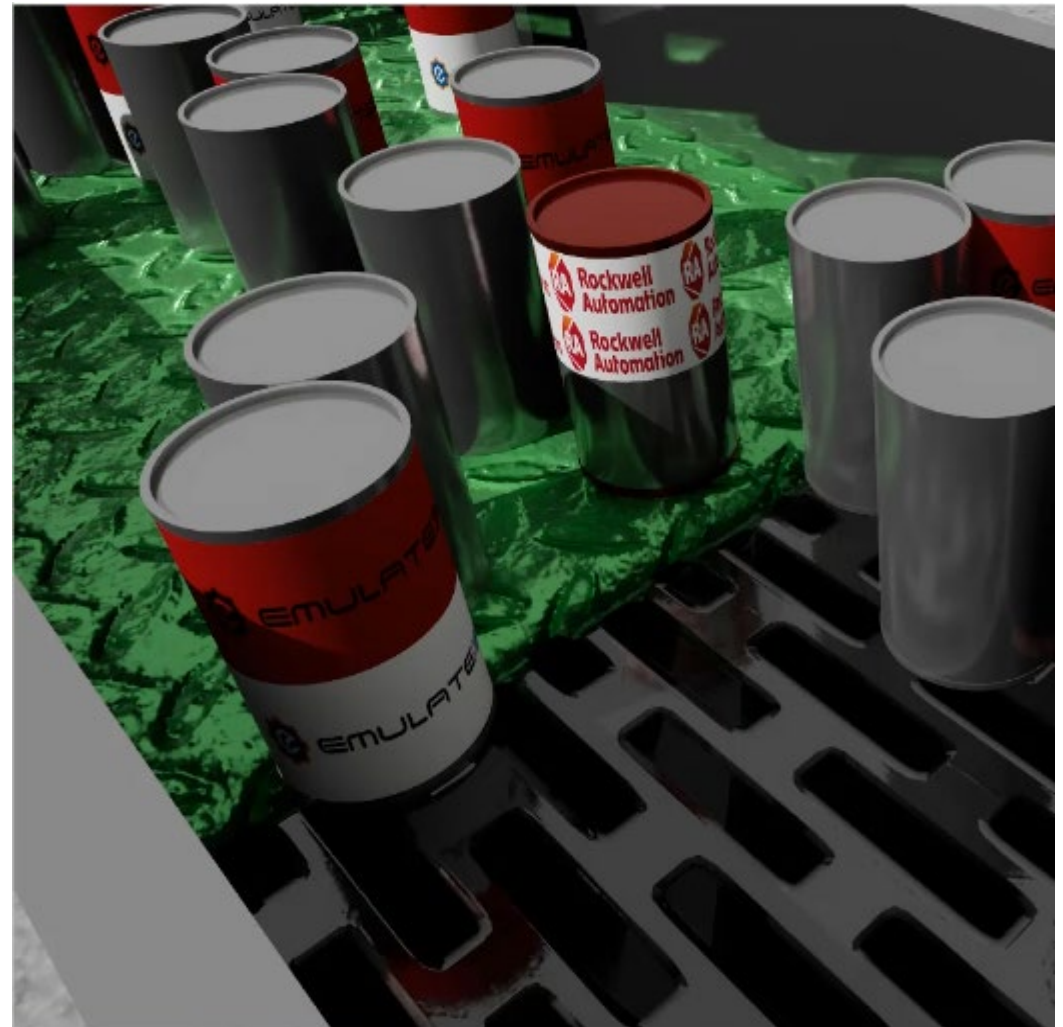
# | Tips & Tricks – Material Properties

The Materials contains properties which were used for POV Ray only. These affect Unreal rendering!

- Set a Reflectivity. You could even use a script to make all grey metallic colours slightly reflective.
- Set a Luminosity to make a visual glow.
- Set a Normal Texture to give a visual bumpiness.
- Use the Normal Depth to increase bumpiness effect, or invert depending on the file format used!
- Use free (CC0 licensed) texture packs which contain both textures and normal textures.

## What's Planned – Material Overhaul!

Use a set of texture maps for even higher quality lighting and reflections (e.g. PBR).



# RA | Unreal – Light Sources

Multiple light sources with a range of light casting types

- Directional
- Spot
- Point
- Sky

Fully dynamic!

Ray traced shadows

Hard or Soft shadows







# | Display Modes

Quickly toggle between Unreal Rendering settings to get the best result

Unreal Rendering is highly configurable. We've created four Display Modes to suit different needs:

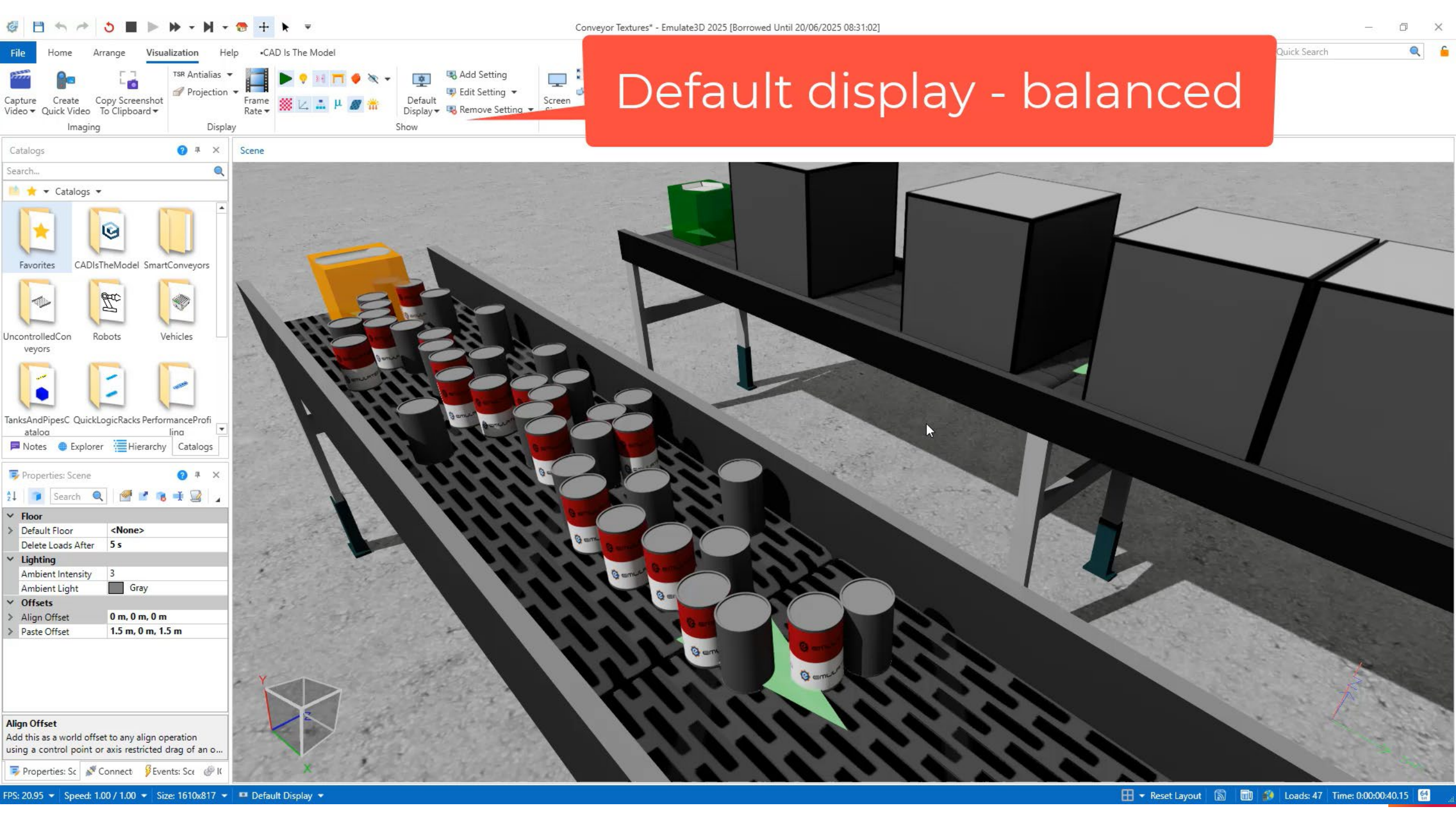
Use **Build** display mode for a clear visualisation which is most similar to the 2024 rendering

Use **Movie** display mode for high quality images and videos

Use **High Performance** to run Unreal as lean and fast as possible

And **Default** display model is a great compromise for general use!

Setting	Description	Performance	Build	Default	Movie
Antialias	Smooth pixelated edges	Off	Low (FXAA)	High (TSR)	High (TSR)
Shadows	How the shadows are displayed	Off	Vertical	Ray Traced	Translucent
Textures	If material textures are displayed		✓	✓	✓
Lighting	How lights are displayed	Off	Downlight	Custom	Custom
Reflections	Mirror effect if material reflectivity set			✓	✓
Global Illumination	Transfer colour from nearby objects			✓	✓
Ambient Occlusion	Shadows in closed off spaces			✓	✓
Tonemapper	Better display differences in brightness			✓	✓
Utilities	Axes, direction arrows, references	✓	✓	✓	



Default display - balanced

Catalogs

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★ Catalogs

Favorites CADIsTheModel SmartConveyors

UncontrolledConveyors Robots Vehicles

TanksAndPipesC QuickLogicRacks PerformanceProfile

ataloo

Notes Explorer Hierarchy Catalogs

Properties: Scene

Search

▼ Floor

Default Floor <None>

Delete Loads After 5 s

▼ Lighting

Ambient Intensity 3

Ambient Light Gray

▼ Offsets

Align Offset 0 m, 0 m, 0 m

Paste Offset 1.5 m, 0 m, 1.5 m

Align Offset

Add this as a world offset to any align operation using a control point or axis restricted drag of an o...

Properties: Sc Connect Events: Sc

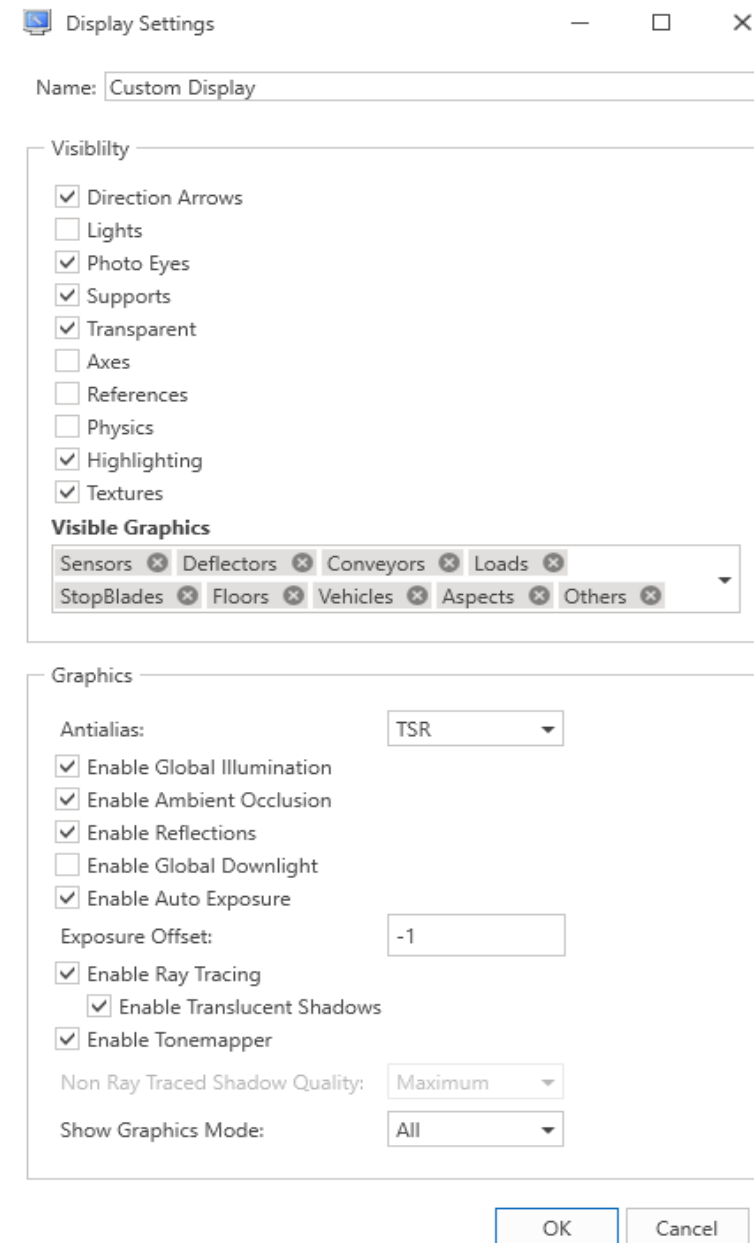
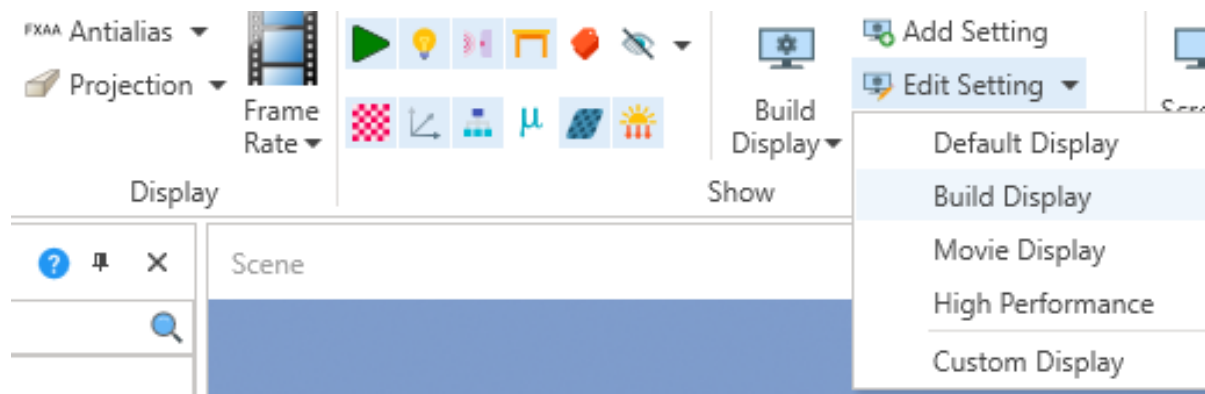


# RA | Tips & Tricks – Custom Display Modes

Create custom display modes according to your needs:

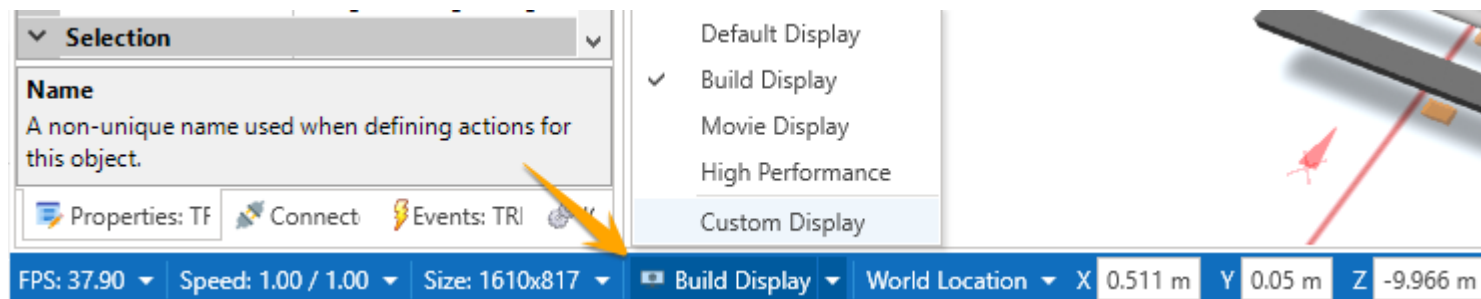
- Show or hide utilities like direction arrows on conveyors, reference orbs, and axes in the corner of the view window.
- Turn on physics view, or hide certain physics collision groups.
- Fine tune graphics settings according to preference, such as exposure and tonemapping.

Or customize the default display modes!



# RA | Tips & Tricks – Custom Display Modes

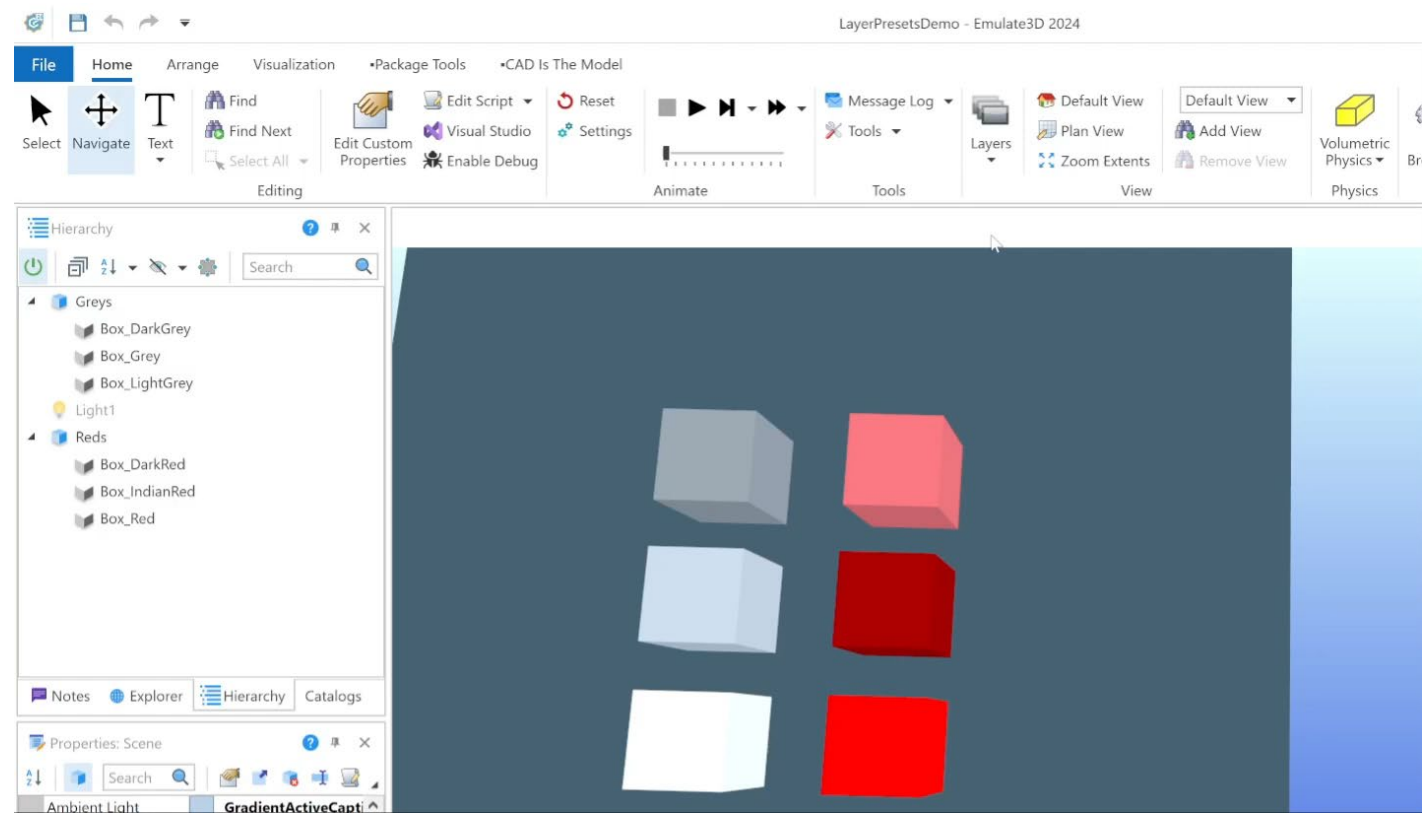
Quickly swap between views using the bottom toolbar:



Combine with other tools such:

- Saved views
- The new Layer Presets

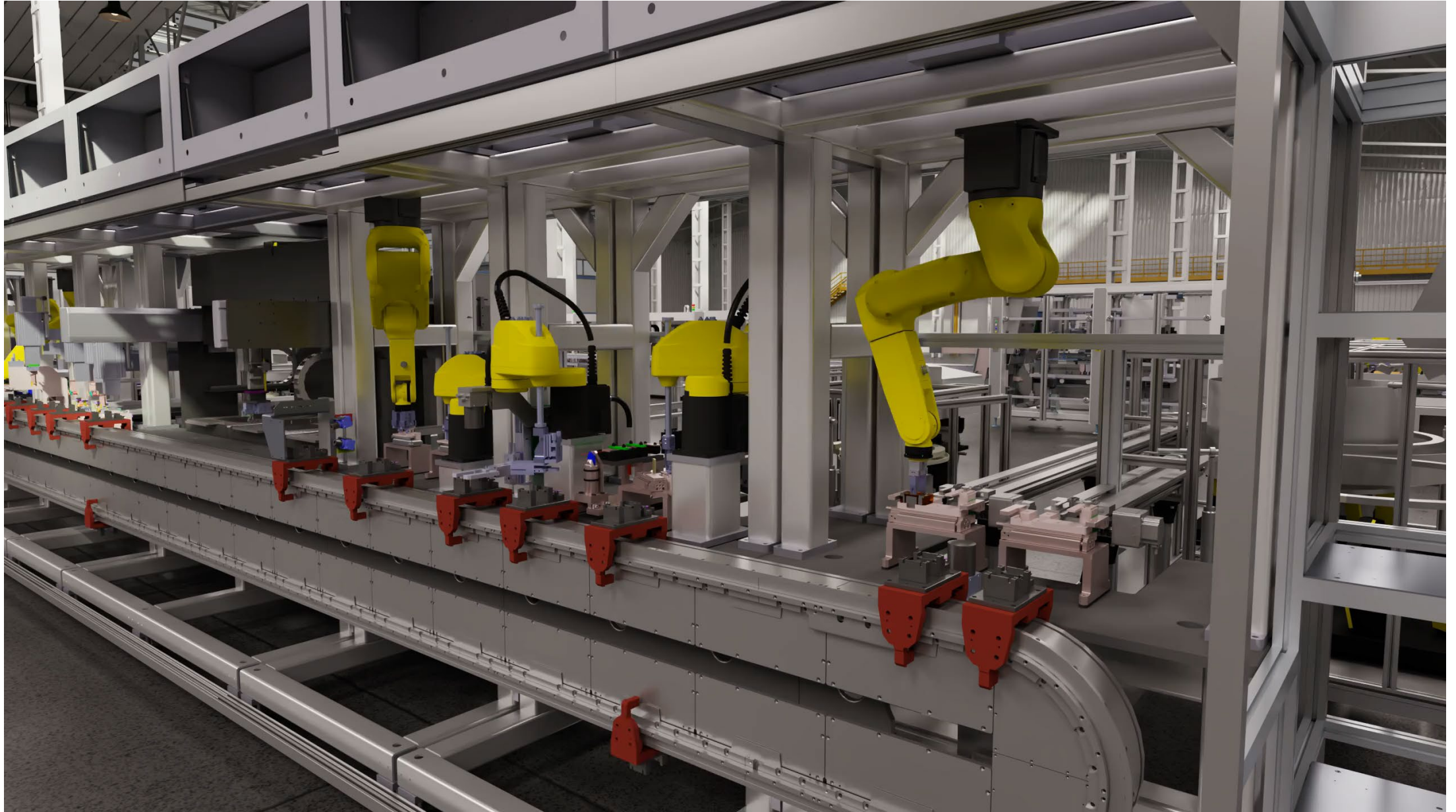
To quickly swap between a “Build” environment, a “Test” environment, and a “Movie” environment





# Omniverse Rendering

Omniverse still offers the highest quality renders, alongside amalgamation of multiple USD sources



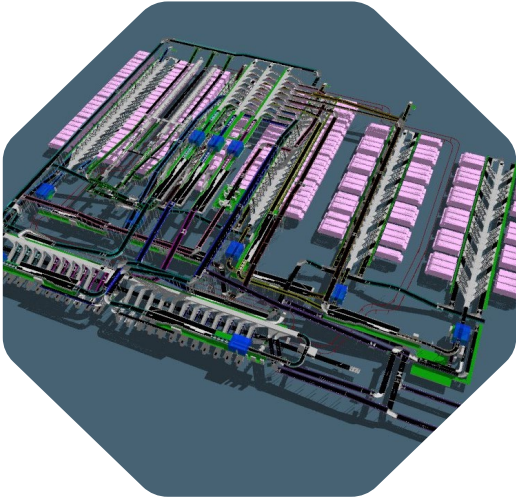
# Enterprise Customers Need their Digital Twins to Scale

However...

## Factories can be huge

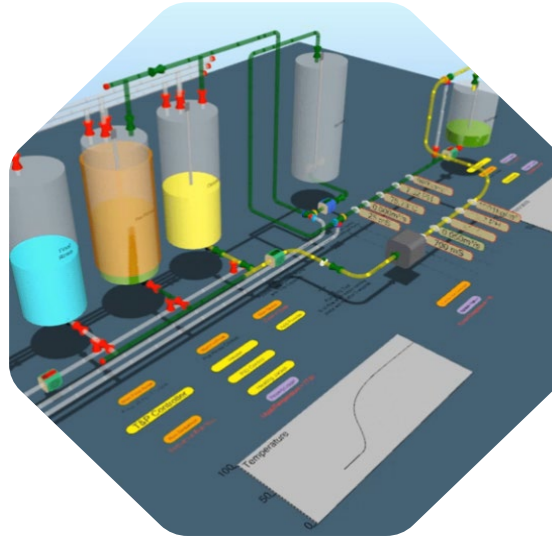
High fidelity physics, thousands of moving product, high speed machinery...

That's too much for one computer to model without compromising on detail.



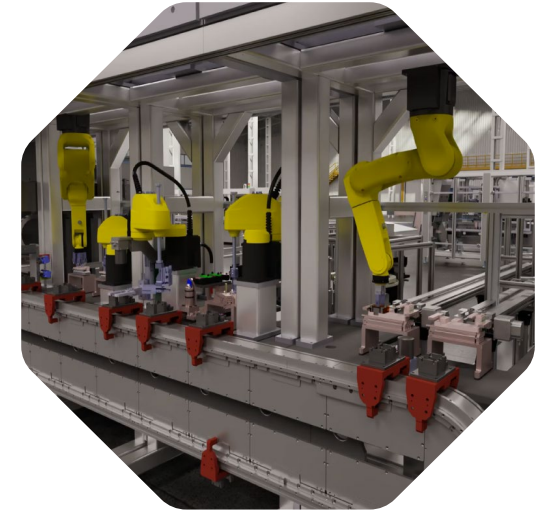
## Processes are specialized

Mechanical, Electrical, Controls  
Process, Robotics, Device Behaviour ...  
That's too much for a single engineer to fully understand and model.



## Collaboration is critical

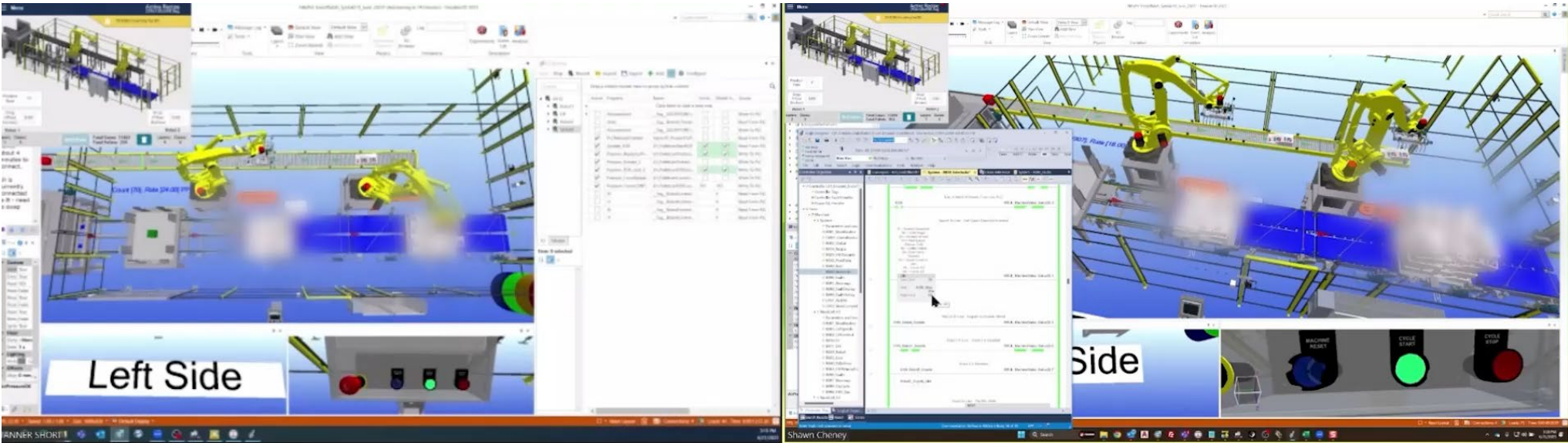
Whether its different teams, or  
suppliers from different companies...  
Engineers must combine their areas of  
responsibility together, for system  
tests



**Solution – Create section models which are verified by domain experts.  
Combine these models for Factory Scale Simulation and Emulation.**

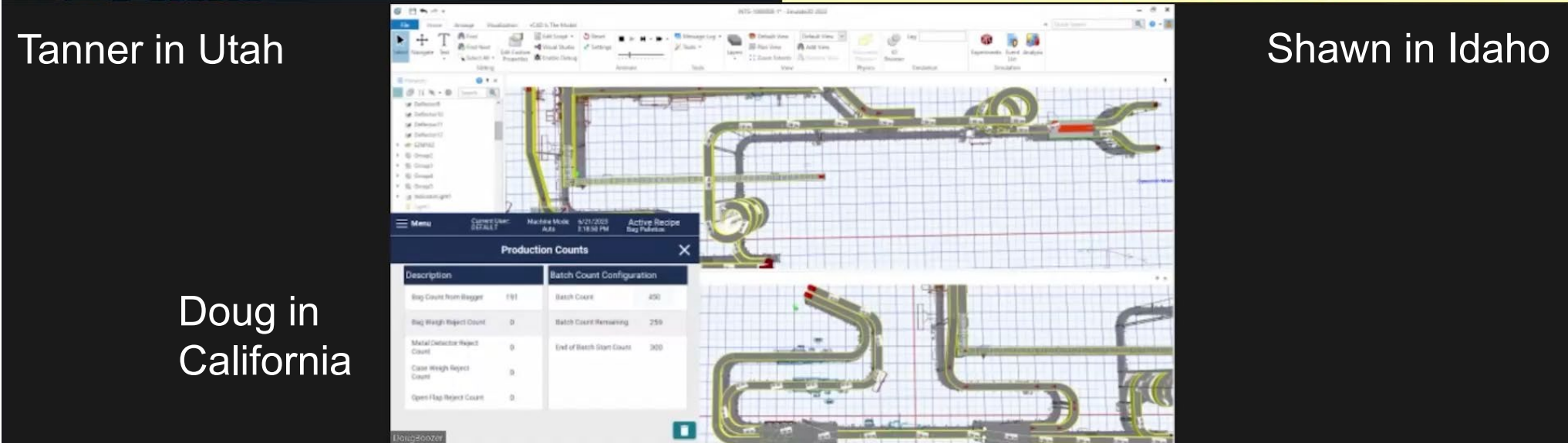


# Enhancing Controls Engineering Workflow with Emulate3D



Tanner in Utah

Shawn in Idaho



Doug in California

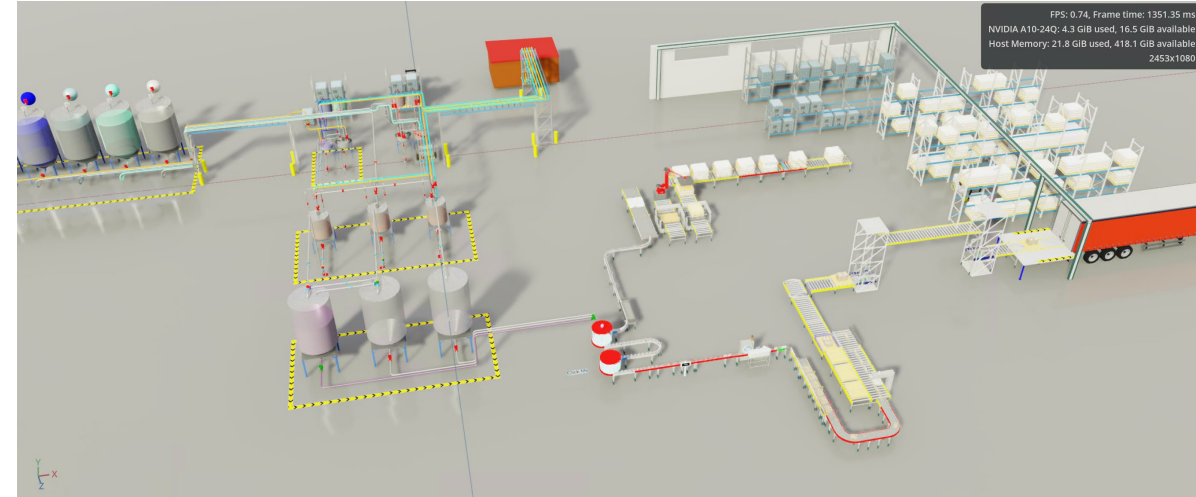
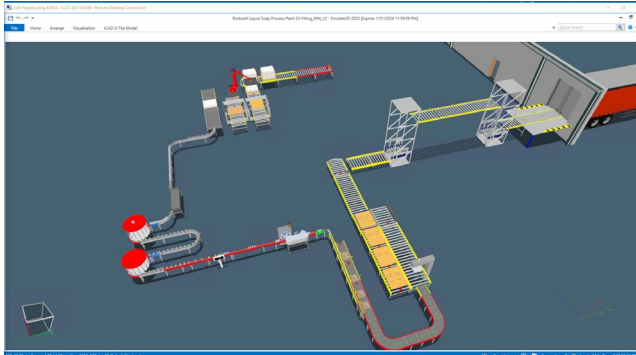




EMULATE3D

by ROCKWELL AUTOMATION

## Hyper-Scaling Architecture



Model A



Model B



Model C

### LEGEND

→ Multi-Model

→ Stream to  
Omniverse  
Powered  
View

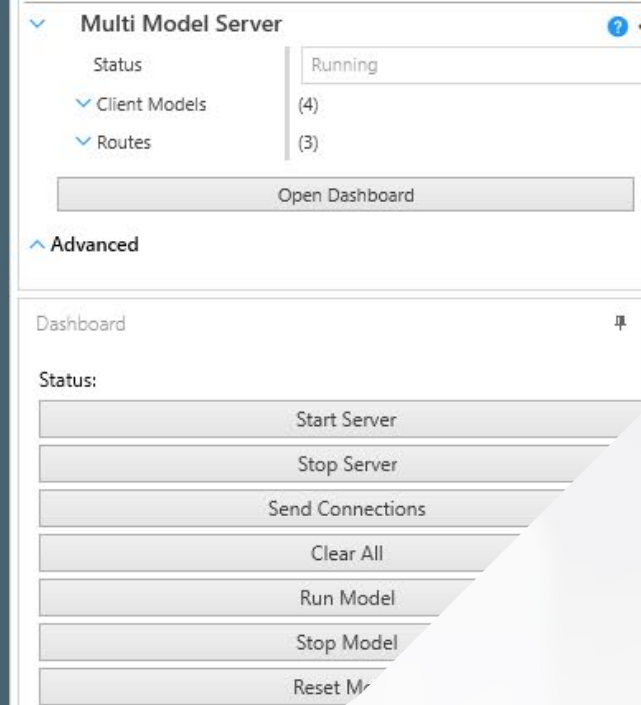
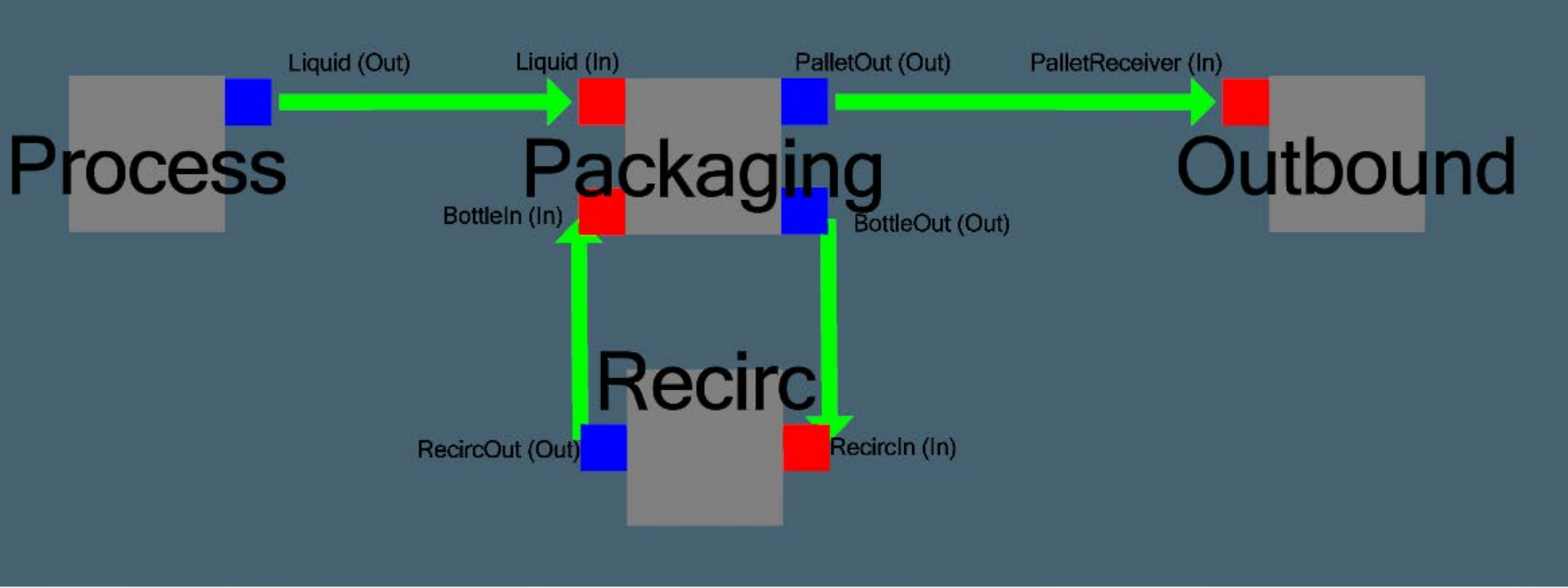


Complete  
Factory View

NVIDIA  
OMNIVERSE™







# Liquid Soap Manufacturing

Four Engineering Disciplines  
 Four Emulate3D Sections

- Process Section**  
 FT Batch, PlantPAX, Emulate3D Tanks and Pipes fluid modelling
- Fill and Pack Section**  
 FANUC ROBOGUIDE, Logix Echo, PhysX Physics
- Recirculation Table**  
 SOLIDWORKS CAD, AGX Physics
- Outbound Material Handling Section**  
 OTTO Fleet Manager, PLEX ERP, Discrete Event Physics



# Process Section Model in Emulate3D

2024-11-14 Inbound and process\_Recovered\* - Emulate3D 2024

File Home Arrange Visualization Construction Package Tools Catalog Utilities CAD Is The Model

Select Navigate Text Find Find Next Select All Edit Custom Properties Edit Script Visual Studio Reset Settings Message Log Tools Layers Plan View Add View Remove View Zoom Extents Default View Default View Lag Experiments Event List Analysis Simulation

Editing Animate Tools View Physics Emulation Simulation

TanksAndPipesCatalog

Search...

TanksAndPipesCatalog

Tanks Pumps Valves Monitoring Pipework PlantPAx Process Controller Liquid Black Box Function Plot

Not Explore Hierarc TanksAndPipesCa

Properties: Scene

Custom

RunDiscrete	True
Simulation	True

Floor

Default Floor	<None>
Delete Loads After	10 s

Lighting

Ambient Light	Gray
---------------	------

Offsets

Align Offset	0 m, 0 m, 0 m
Paste Offset	1.5 m, 0 m, 1.5 m

Align Offset

Add this as a world offset to any align operation using a control point or axis restricted drag of an o...

Property: Connector Events: Scen IO

FPS: 25.01 Speed: 10.00 / 10.00 Size: 1610x833 Default Display

Reset Layout Connections: 0 Loads: 33 Time: 0:00:10:56.78

# Fill and Pack Model in Emulate3D

2024-11-15 Packaging (1)\* - Emulate3D 2025 (Dev)

File Home Arrange Visualization Help •Construction •Asset Manager •CAD Is The Model

Select Navigate Text Find Find Next Select All Edit Custom Properties Edit Script Visual Studio Enable Debug Reset Settings Message Log Tools Layers Default View Plan View Zoom Extents Add View Remove View Lag IO Browser Experiments Event Analysis List Test Runner

Scene

Bots

Search...

Catalogs AMRs Bots

AMR E3D Generic AMR E3D Pallet Conveyor AMR E3D Pallet Lifter OTTO 100

Notes Explorer Hierarchy Bots

Properties: RotarySystem1

Active	False
Capper	RotarySystem2
Failures	
MTBF	Normal [3000,30]
MTTR	Loglogistic [30,60,6]
General	
Name	RotarySystem1
Materials	
Color	Gray
Position	
World Location	9.0692 m, 1.8392 m, -24.
Rotary Components	
MeteringSensor	PE1
StarWheel	StarWheel7

Name

A non-unique name used when defining actions for this object.

Properties: Rc Connect Events: Ro It

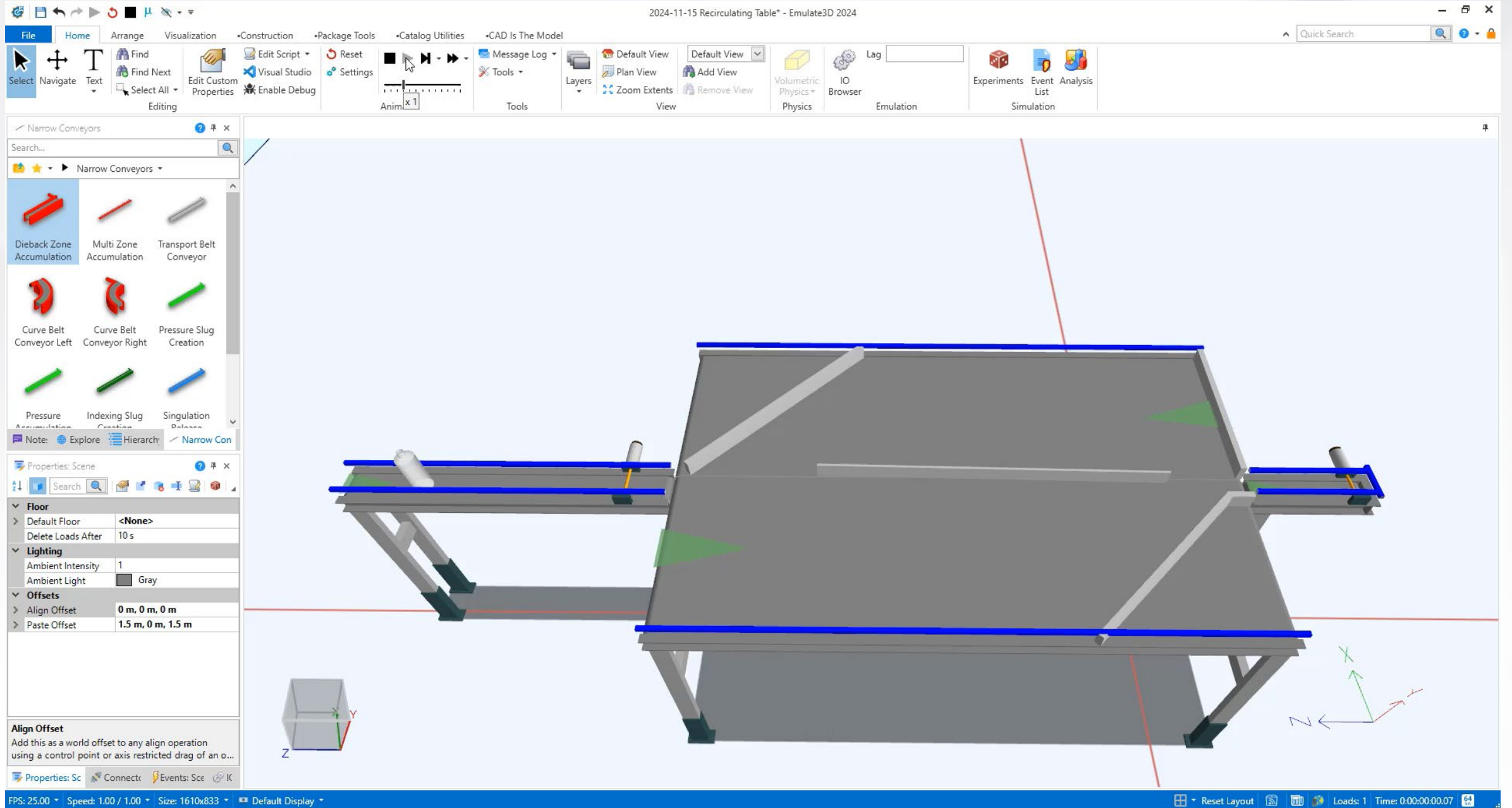
MessageLog

FPS: 4.40 Speed: 1.00 / 1.00 Size: 1610x775 Default Display World Location X: 9.0692 m Y: 1.8392 m Z: -24.456 m

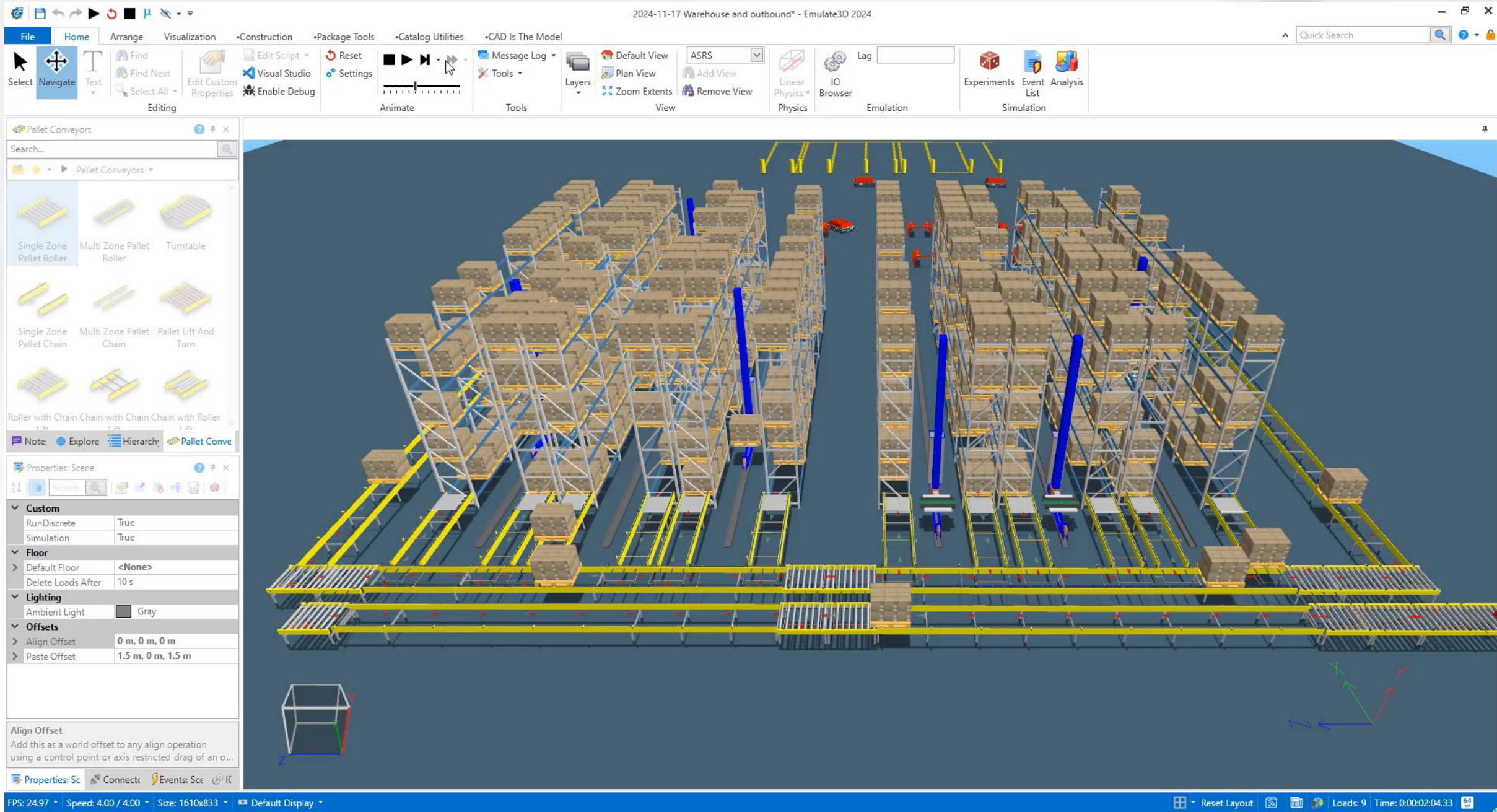
Reset Layout Loads: 3440 Time: 0:00:07:11.32



# Recirculation Table Model in Emulate3D



# Warehouse and Outbound Model in Emulate3D









# Thank you

[www.rockwellautomation.com](http://www.rockwellautomation.com)





