Utility files used by the BoA software

In order to run, the BoA software uses various files. These files are created during the installation of the BoA application and during the use of the software. Here is a list of the files and folders used by BoA and a description of their utilisation.

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BoA preference folder

The BoA software stores the user preferences in a folder located in the user Preference folder of the computer.
The complete pathname of the preference folder is:
Users/UtilisateurName/Library/Preferences

Le dossier préférence contient deux éléments relatifs à BoA:
The preference folder contains two items concerning BoA:

- A file: fr.boa-research.application.plist
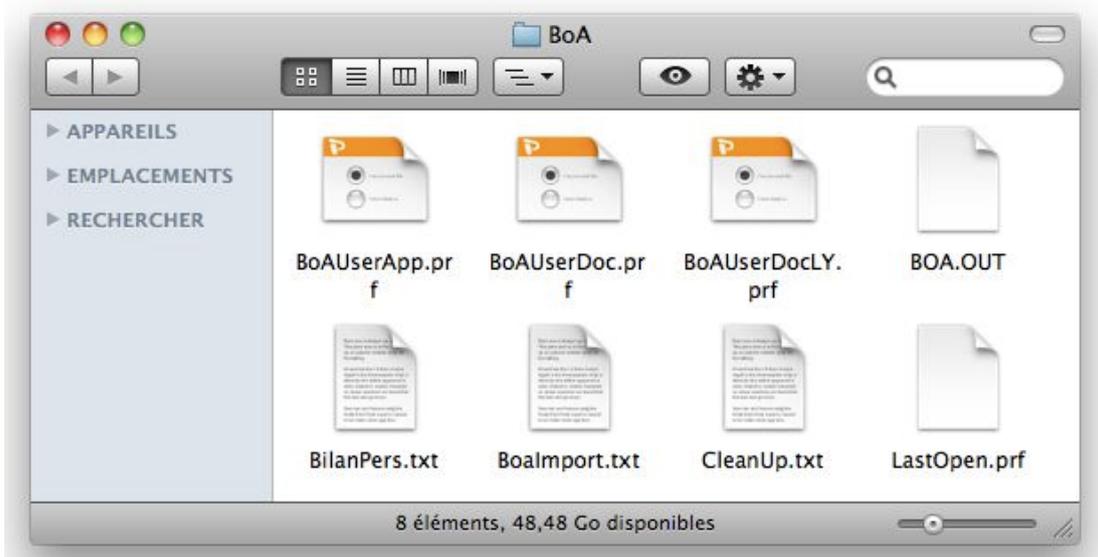- A folder: BoA

The file fr.boa-research.application.plist contains some informations which are defined when the BoA software is used in interaction with OS X.

The BoA folder contains some files created by the BoA application itself.

fr.boa–research. application.plist	File connected to the BoA application	This file is created when the BoA software interacts with OS X. It may hapens for instance when the software write a file on disk. If necessary, this file can be deleted without consequences.
BoA	BoA preferences folder	This folder is created during the first use of the BoA softwar. It contains the reference files of the application as well as several diagnostic and information fils. The folder can be deleted without other inconvenience that to lose the preferences informations and to replace them by the standard preferences of BoA.

BoA Folder

When the BoA folder is opened, the preferences files become visible.There are up to 8 files in this folder. Some of files are not always present because some of them are created of the first use of the software BOA, and some other ones are only created when some functions are called.

BilanPers.txt	Informations concerning to the last perspective having been calculated
BOA.OUT	Diagnostic of some functions recently implemented in the software
BoaImport.txt	Informations relative to the import of jpg file
CleanUp.txt	Diagnostic of the function "Update Old Versions"
LastOpen.prf	name of the last file opened by BoA
BoAUserApp.prf	General preferences of BoA
BoAUserDoc.prf	3D-2D files preferences
BoAUserDocLY.prf	Layout sheet files preferences

	Preferences: BoAUserApp.prf	This file contains the general preferences of the BoA software. Most of the informations recorded in this file appear in the group of preference managers "Software preferences". These preference managers can be called from the item "Preferences…" of the BoA menu.
	Preferences: BoAUserDoc.prf	This file contains the using preferences of the 3D-2D files. Most of the informations recorded in this file appear in the group of preference managers "Utilities…" and " Utilities list… ". These preferenes managers can be called from the items "Utilities…" and " Utilities list… " of the Windows menu.
	Preferences: BoAUserDocLY.prf	This file contains the using preferences of the Layout Sheet files. Most of the informations recorded in this file appear in the group of preference managers "Utilities…" and " Utilities list… ". These preferenes managers can be called from the items "Utilities…" and " Utilities list… " of the Windows menu, when a Layout Sheet is opened.
	Informations: BilanPers.txt	This text file contains a diagnostic of the latest perspective having been calculated by the BoA software. Most of the time, the diagnostic doesn't indicate any error. However, some perspective calculations are not perfectly made. A list of the calculation defaults is then written in BilanPers.txt. These defaults can have several origins: insufficient memory, objects imported in BoA but not calculated by the perspective, problem of files recording on disk, etc.

CleanUp.txt	Informations: CleanUp.txt	The function "Update Old Versions" of the menu "Dependency" scan the current file, seeking for for some possible anomaly in the database. The anomalies can have various origins: imported objects not fully recognized by BoA, objects loaded from a BoA file written by an a previous version of BoA, small errors accumulated during the process of successive modifications of a geometrical objects, errors appearing in a test version of the software, etc. Every detected anomalies are listed in the file CleanUp.txt
BoaImport.txt	Informations: BoAImport.txt	This file contains some informations concerning the last DXF or DWG import. It indicates in particular if every objects of the imported file have been converted in BoA objects BOA or if some of them were not recognized.
LastOpen.prf	Preferences: LastOpen.prf	This file contains the name of the latest file opened by BOA.
BOA.OUT	Informations: BOA.OUT	This file appears normally only when a development version of BOA is used. Sometimes however, it appears also with the current version of BOA. In this case the file remain empty most of time. The file can contain some information about the most recently implemented functions. This file can be deleted without any inconvenience.

AuditReport.txt

Additionally to the files stored in the BoA preference folder, a file AuditReport.txt appears during a DXF or DWG export.
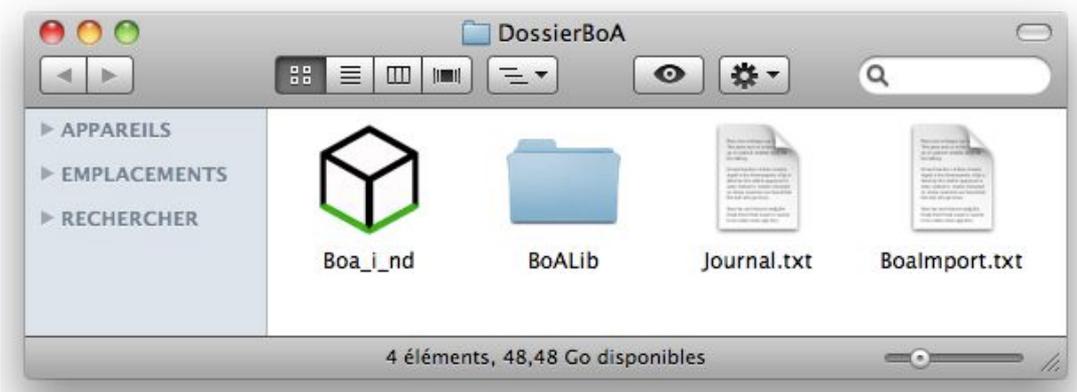This file contains some informations about the last DXF or DWG export.
The file appears during the export, it is visible near the DXF or DWG exported file. It is located in the same folder where the exported file is created.

AuditReport.txt	Informations: AuditRepport.txt	This file contains some informations about the last DXF or DWG export. It indicates in particular if every BoA objects have been correctly exported. Let us be careful that certain texts cannot be exported in a DXF or DWG file. Texts such as names of layer, names of text styles, etc., can be exported only if they are written with simple characters (A-Z, a-z, 0-9, - and _). If some other characters are used, an anomaly will appear during the export.

Around BoA

During the set up of the BoA software BOA it is recommended, and even strongly recommended, to create a folder "DossierBoA" in the "Applications" location of your computer. This folder will contain the BoA application itself and the BoALib folder, these two items are available on the instalation CD of BoA. They can also be downloaded from the www.boa-research.fr Web site.
After BoA was used, two additional files appear in the folder: Journal.txt and BoAImport.txt

Only one thing is needed to install BoA: dragg the BoA icon from the Installation CD and drop it on the hard disk of your computer.
BoA will work wherever it will be located.

However there is a "right way" to install BOA:
- Create a folder "DossierBoA" in the "Applications" location of the computer (preferable because it is the standard location for the applications)
- Move the BoA icon from the installation CD towards this folder
- Move the BoALib folder in near the BoA application, in the same folder (preferable, in order to make more easier the exchanges of files with other BoA users or with the BoA technical support)
- Create a folder in BoALib to store the personalized items of the user. The name of this file need to be personalized. The name can be the one of the user. For example "BiBViolletLeDuc" for the architect Viollet the Duc.

There are also some particular situations where a different organization is used: it can happend when a computer contains simultaneously several different versions of BoA, several versions which can be alternately used. For example for the BoA technical support, for the BoA developers, for the beta testers. In these particular situations, there is no typical installation / organization of the various versions of BoA and libraries. Every situation is a particular case

The "DossierBoA" folder contains:

Boa_i_nd	The BoA application
BoALib	BoA predefined items library
Journal.txt	BoA projects openings log
BoAImport.txt	Informations about files recently imported by BoA

	Application: BoA_i_nd	The BoA application. The location of the application is fixed but its name can be modified if needed. The application can be replaced by one of the various versions of the software: version 3 or version 4, PowerMac version or MacIntel version, complete version or demo version, multilingual version or localized versions, etc. If needed, it's also possible to locate several different versions simultaneously in the same folder. Attention however in that case, one of the versions will be used preferentially when a BoA file will be opened.
	Folder: BoALib	BoA predefined items library. This folder contains the standard elements delivered with the BoA software. Personalized libraries can be added, one or several by user. Each personalized library have to be localized inside the BoALib folder.

Journal.txt	Informations: Journal.txt	Openings log This file contains an history of the use of the BoA application. Journal.txt is a text file in which are registered: - A line when BoA start up - A line when a BoA file is opened - A line when a BoA file is saved - A line when BoA quit
BoaImport.txt	Informations: BoaImport.txt	This file contains the list of the last files imported by BOA. The files of type DXF, DWG, PDF, JPG and Architrion are indicated in this list. Is considered as imported: either a file opened by BoA, or a file referenced in a crop frame, an accessory or a frame. The files of type BoA, even if they result from a previous version of BoA, are not considered as imported files.

Summary table

File	Use	Location
fr.boa-research.application.plist	OS X preferences for BoA	User preference folder
BOA	Contains the BoA preferences files	User preference folder
BoAUserApp.prf	General preferences of BoA	BoA folder
BoAUserDoc.prf	2D-3D files preferences	BoA folder
BoAUserDocLY.prf	Layout Sheet files preferences	BoA folder
BilanPers.txt	Information about the last perspective calculation	BoA folder
CleanUp.txt	Informations about the last call of the function "Update old version"	BoA folder
BoAImport.txt	Informations about the last jpg imported file	BoA folder
LastOpen.prf	Last file opened by BoA	BoA folder
BOA.OUT	Technical informations for developers	BoA folder
AuditRepport.txt	Informations about the last DXF or DWG export	Folder containing the last DXF/DWG exported file
BoA_i_nd	The BoA application	Folder containing the BoA application
BoALib	BoA predefined items library	Folder containing the BoA application
Journal.txt	BoA application and BoA files openings log	Folder containing the BoA application
BoaImport.txt	Informations about the last imported files	Folder containing the BoA application