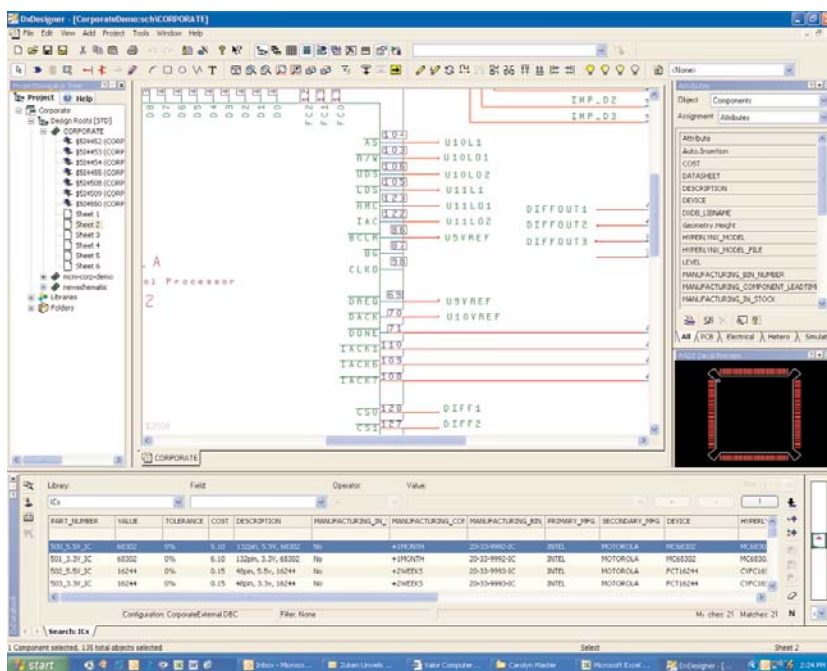


DxDesigner



DxDesigner™, the Complete Solution for Design Definition.

Major product benefits:

- Complete, customizable engineering design definition environment
- Intelligent hierarchical support for true design reuse
- Powerful search/edit capability through hierarchy
- Constraint editor for physical and electrical constraint assignment
- Integrated library browser for intuitive part management
- Integrated variant management for simplified design variant support
- Integrated data management enables team design through file locking and version updating
- Integrated digital, analog, and mixed signal simulation support
- Support for most popular PCB layout packages

DxDesigner — A Complete Solution

Creating competitive products is about more than capturing a schematic and passing the design to layout. Libraries must be managed so that the optimal parts with the lowest cost and shortest lead-time are used in the design. Sections of designs must be reused to reduce development time and improve reliability. Simulation and signal integrity analysis must be performed to ensure that the design will function properly and can be manufactured. Constraints must be applied early in the process so that fewer design iterations are required. Finally, the design data must be distributed and integrated with the purchasing and manufacturing operations so that a complete product can be produced with the fewest errors in the least amount of time.

The DxDesigner tool provides a complete solution for design creation, definition, and reuse. It provides everything needed for circuit design and simulation, component selection, library management, signal integrity planning, project management and team-based design.

Design Reuse

Design reuse is a powerful methodology for reducing development cost and time while increasing product functionality and reliability. DxDesigner has many features that were created with design reuse in mind. For instance, the library browser can be used to search for IP reuse blocks that may be available from other design projects. Sophisticated hierarchy support allows for multiple instantiations of a reuse block, and supports the ability to import the instance-specific data to a new top-level design. A complete cross-referencing tool can cross reference nets across hierarchical blocks, and can even identify the sheet number in the drawing package where a particular block is defined. Specialized attributes can identify a block for reuse, limiting the repackaging of components and adding a unique prefix to all the components in the block. An intuitive design navigator simplifies the search for parts and nets in a hierarchical design, making this design methodology practical and effective.

Design variants can also be defined in DxDesigner. A component (or block) can be uninstalled or substituted for another component while maintaining the integrity of a user-specified characteristic such as the PCB footprint. This flexibility allows multiple variants to be produced from a single-base design. If changes are made, all the variants inherit the changes, thus reducing the required rework and maintenance of design data.

Finally, reusable design data can be stored in a repository where it is managed and available to other designers. A user can check a design out from the repository over the Internet, then use that design as-is or modify it (the original design stored in the repository remains intact for future designers). All of these features combine to make design reuse accessible to any project team.

Integration with the Enterprise

In order to optimize a product development cycle, design data must be integrated with the rest of the corporate enterprise. DxDesigner has the ability to publish schematics, library data and other design data through a web server, so any user with the appropriate permissions can gain access to this information using a web browser. DxDesigner can be integrated with other corporate operations, such as PLM systems, through a customizable bill-of-materials, searchable PDF schematics, and archives of design data. It also supports a centralized, Internet-based library so that only one version of the corporate library needs to be maintained.

Constraint-Based Design

In order to build successful products the first time, designs must be constrained early in the design process. This prevents the production of designs using parts that cannot be sourced or are cost-prohibitive, or the production of boards that do not meet speed or manufacturing requirements. DxDesigner provides designers with the status of all component data so that they can choose the right part. It can also verify an entire design against the corporate database to ensure that all data is consistent and correct. The DxDesigner integrated constraint

editor specifies physical and electrical constraints that can be read directly by Mentor Graphics signal integrity tools. Once analysis is complete, these constraints are automatically passed to the target layout system.

Powerful Features for High Productivity

DxDesigner includes many additional features that lead to higher design productivity. Specialized pins for block input and output, power and ground, and on and off sheet connectors are automatically added. Borders with user-customizable annotations are also automatically added to new schematics. Tool tips provide users with design information without requiring them to zoom, pan or open dialogs. Finally, an open object model provides complete access to DxDesigner data and commands through standard VBScript or JScript languages, allowing for extensive customization.

DxDesigner Components

DxDesigner can be configured several ways to support your specific design needs. Additional components include DxDataBook™ for centralized library access, DxPDF™ for creating a PDF schematic, DxVariantManager™ for variant design definition, DxDataManager™ for design file management, DxViewOnly™ for viewing schematics through a Web plug-in, and PCB interfaces to support a specific PCB layout system.

Minimum Hardware Requirements

- 750 MHz Processor
- 512 MB RAM

Minimum OS Requirements

- Microsoft Windows 2000 or Windows XP Professional
- Sun Solaris 2.8 or 2.9
- Redhat Linux Workstation 3.0

To learn more about how DxDesigner can help improve your system design process, call Mentor Graphics to schedule a complete product demonstration, or visit our web site at www.mentor.com/pcb for the latest product news.

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