The Auto – Interactive Design Environment

Announcing a new era in PCB layout

A PCB Design & layout suite of tools developed to meet the changing needs for PCB layout in the 21st century.

The first completely new, high level combined Schematics Capture & PCB layout product for many years, this exciting software tool has been developed from the ground up by PCB Design industry professionals using the very latest techniques in graphics and data handling.

Pulsonix has been designed based on key criteria:

- *Easy to use – by way of an intuitive user interface*
- *Designed for the casual user and the professional*
- *Imports design and library data from key EDA products*

Easy to learn and logical to use

Pulsonix has been developed with an easy to understand user interface using Microsoft standards, look and feel.

The menu structure is logical and intuitive moving from left to right as you progress through your design process. The toolbars and keyboard keys are fully configurable so that at all times you have shortcut keys and tools to hand, making the design process more efficient.

Training needs kept to a minimum

A key principle in the design of Pulsonix was to create a product where the need for structured user training could be minimised. This has been implemented and you will find that you are productive with Pulsonix in a very short time. Pulsonix is delivered with an informative Users Guide and up to date, context sensitive on-line HTML help.

Designed with the future in mind

Pulsonix is built on the latest concepts in software design, hence it has many years of development life and expansion ahead.

With the need for constant growth of a product through customer feedback and market demands, Pulsonix is well positioned to grow with any technology or trends that are being developed, and even some that are years ahead!
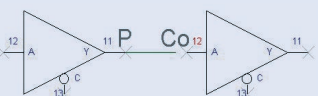
PULSONIX

Schematics Electrical Rules Checking (ERC)

On-line and batch checking setup using a table of ERC rules in Technology Includes user definable rules.

User Definable ERC Rules

<Undefined>	Bi-Directional
<Undefined> {Block Port}	Ground
Bi-Directional	Input {Block Port}
Ground	Open Collector
Input	Open Emitter
Input {Block Port}	Output
Open Collector	Output {Block Port}
Open Emitter	Passive
Or-Tieable	Power
Output	Terminator
Output {Block Port}	Tri-State
Passive	
Power	
Terminator	
Tri-State	

	Name
XB	Output
XB	Input
XB	Bi-Directional
B	Open Collector
B	Or-Tieable
B	Tri-State
B	Terminator
B	Power
B	Ground
B	Open Emitter
B	No Connect
B	Passive

Pin types can be user defined then selected in the component library definition. Permutations of pin type connections may then be selected in the Electrical Rules Checker to determine Error or Warning situations when adding connections to the design.

You can easily zoom straight to an ERC error. In this case 'P' denotes a single pin net error on the output and 'Co' a connection error, as the connection between components is broken.

Auto Dim

This powerful option enables items which are not selected during editing to be 'dimmed' or low lighted so they become unobtrusive while editing the area of concern.

This is especially useful when editing large multi-layer designs, which can be very confusing due to the volume of items being presented in the design window at any one time.

PULSONIX

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32 Bit Windows application supported on:

Windows® 2000 and XP

Easy to learn and use

Designed to be extremely easy to learn and use for both the casual user and PCB layout professional. New customers usually pick-up Pulsonix within a day or so of use.

Flat Sheet and Multi-level Hierachical Design

Pulsonix provides 'top down' design: breaking blocks into functional elements allowing you to define the detail of each element, and bottom-up' design: facilitating the re-use of commonly used circuit elements using pre-defined blocks to build a solution.
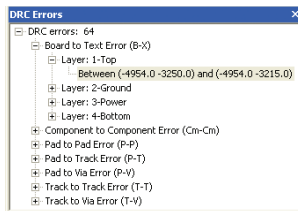
Support For Net Class Rules

Net Class rules can be defined in the Schematic design and automatically passed through to the PCB design editor. This means rule definitions are set further forward in the design process.

Windows Drag & Drop

Easy, pick, drag and drop operation, no additional 'modes' to click or enter before being able to move items.

ERC/DRC Error Viewer

Where design rule errors are produced, a browser displays the errors by layer and type for easy identification. By selecting the marker from the list, the design area moves to the element in error.

Schematic Symbol Wizard

Takes you through creation of the symbol in a step-by-step sequence to easily produce regular symbols. The pin sizes, positions and numbering is selected to make symbol creation so simple and error free.

Workbook Mode

The Workbook tabs allow you to quickly identify open designs and libraries by name. Clicking on the tabs enables quick switching between any open window.

Status Bar

Gives you an instant Property status on any selected item in the design without the need to use a Query or Properties dialog.

Modal Cursors

With the modal cursor option on, you are given an indication of any available modes by a symbol appearing with the cursor. This provides you with instant feedback of the option available during key operations.

Import/Export DXF and IDF Data Formats

Import and Export of both DXF and IDF formats are available, this enables you to communicate intelligently with your mechanical CAD system.

Import Bitmap

Bitmap images may be imported into your designs. These may be your company logo or other bitmaps and symbols required to annotate the design. The design can also be exported to bitmap and WMF formats for documentation purposes.

Fully Customisable Toolbars and Shortcut keys

Using standard Windows technology, you may relocate icons from one toolbar to another. New icons with tools of your choice may be added to the toolbars. All existing shortcut keys may be changed and new ones added at will.

Component Push Mode

An outstanding feature of Pulsonix is the placement 'push' mode. This enables Component placement by 'pushing' other Components out of the way as it is dragged.

Design Variants

Using the Variant Manager, any number of variants may be defined at either the Schematic or the PCB design stage. If using the Schematic as the master, the variant information will be automatically transfered to the PCB design.

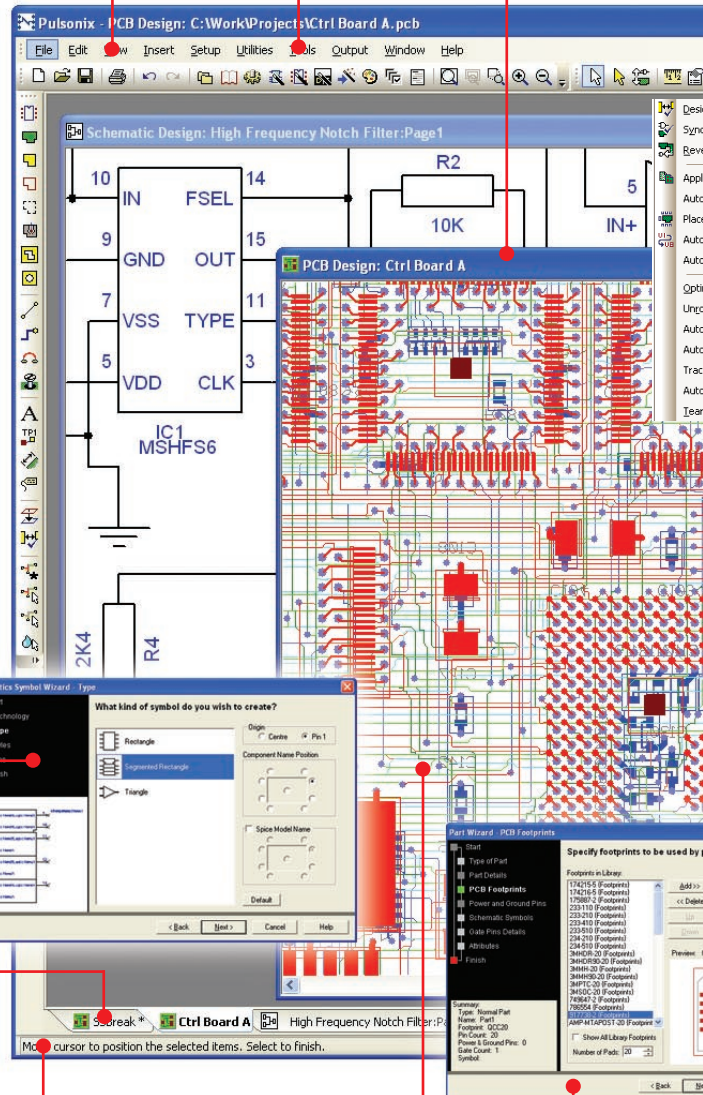### Intuitive Graphical User Interface

Pulsonix has an immediately familiar feel similar to that of your existing Office products. This means you'll be productive in a much shorter space of time.

Windows Style Interface

Similar to Microsoft Office applications, you immediately know where to find common Windows menu items.

Cross-Probing between the Schematic and PCB design editors

Instant selection of parts & connections in Schematics with the highlighting of corresponding tracks and footprints in PCB and vice-versa.

Part Creation Wizard

The Part Wizard is used to create all kinds of parts within Pulsonix. This useful tool takes you through the process of part creation step-by-step, thereby avoiding the potential for any errors and automating this process.

Reverse Engineer

Where a PCB design exists but the Schematic doesn't, use the Reverse Engineer feature to rebuild the Schematic. Using part-based symbols, the design can be rebuilt to the Component Bin ready for placement, or it can be fully placed and routed. This feature will save you many hours of work.

Single-Shot Postprocessing

Manufacturing output is simplicity itself with the latest in technology single-shot post design processing. Just set up the plotting parameters once and from then on it's a single click to produce all your plots. Pulsonix produces professional results using standard manufacturing outputs.

Synchronise Designs

Provides an instant report of differences between the Schematic and PCB designs to check design integrity. Automatic updating to the PCB is run on completion of the operation. Component and Net renames are back annotated to the Schematic.

Integrated Automatic Placement

Initial automatic placement is driven through a single dialog with no previous set up required. Placement rules driven off this dialog make the option easy to use. Placement can be made to/from groups, around the board outline and using areas. Automatic Gate and Pin Swapping is available to assist placement and optimise the overall connection lengths.

Integrated Autorouter

Pulsonix is available with a fully integrated Auto Router using artificial intelligence and rip-up and retry techniques. A powerful product addition to enhance your PCB design system.

Powerful Interactive Routing Features

Selectable track styles

Angled   Mitered   Curved   Orthogonal   Free Angle
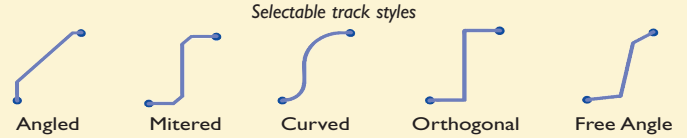
In the knowledge that the layout engineer usually devotes a great deal of effort on interactive editing, Pulsonix has been designed to be a pleasure to use. Extensive use of context sensitive, right hand mouse menus gives you instant control on track types, styles, layers and grids.
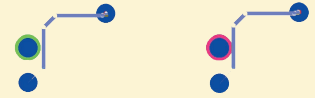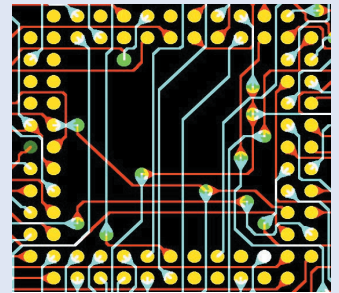
A graphical warning is given of the nearest point the track may be placed passing an unconnected pad.

If the track is placed closer to the obstacle the colour changes to red, showing a violation.

On-line Design Rule Checking

Real-time spacing rules checking with instant feedback of warnings before the error occurs. 'On-Line DRC' may be set to completely prevent errors occuring during the edit process.

Design Browser

The design browser provides design management of all open designs and blocks.

World View

Gives a complete display of the view showing the area of zoom. This window can be used interactively with the mouse for precise zoom selection.

Component Preview

Displays selected components from the Component Bin to ensure selection errors are not made.

Component Bin

Provides a convenient 'off-design' location for Schematic and PCB Components during the design process.

Manufacturing output to ODB++ format

Pulsonix is a registered member of the Valour partner program and exports manufacturing data in ODB++ format. This is fast emerging as the defacto standard for PCB CAD manufacturing output and is accepted by most leading manufacturers.

Extensive Batch DRC

Extensive design rules checking means that all aspects of the design can be checked. This rule set includes spacing rules, on/off grid items, keep-in/out items, single pin nets, unconnected pins, plus manufacturability checks of the design.
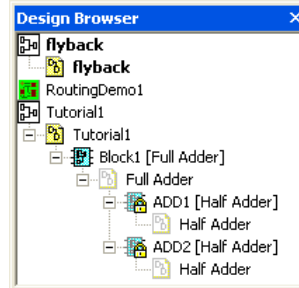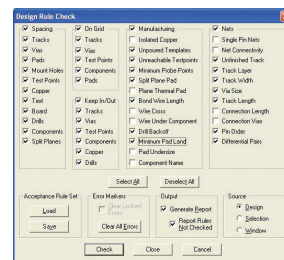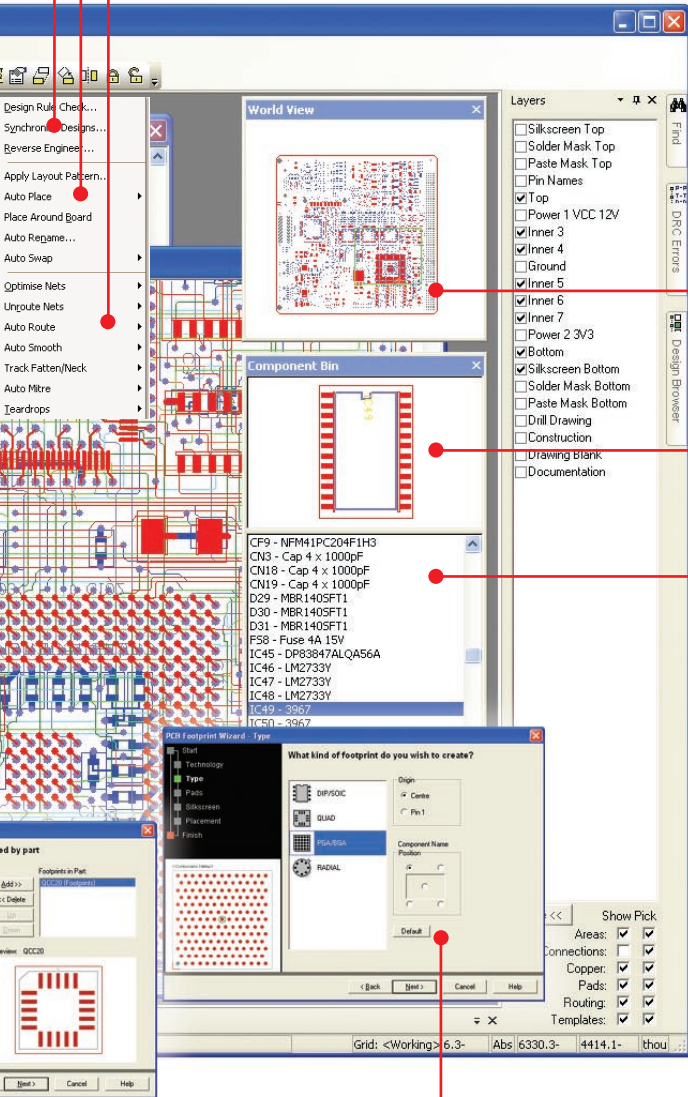
Pulsonix Autorouter Features:

- Adaptive routing strategy
- Gridless routing up to 256 layers
- Totally integrated into Pulsonix PCB
- Spacing rules by design/net class/net
- Route using net class pair rules
- Via rules by design/net class/net
- Vias under SMD pads
- 'No Via' routing control
- SMD escape fanout control
- Routes SMDs on both sides of the board
- Automatic breakout pattern usage
- Stub routing length control
- Memory routing pass
- Auto-mitre option
- Support for blind/buried vias
- Full and split Plane/Ground Planes support
- User defined cost factors and routing rules
- Ability to lock critical pre-routing
- Post-route cleanup optimisation
- Route by Net/Net Class
- Route Selected Nets

Powerful Cost Options

- Spice based mixed mode A/D simulator
- High Speed design option
- Chip Packaging Toolkit option
- PCB Thermal Analysis option
- Embedded Component option
- Library/SAP/MRP integration toolkit option

Measure Tool

An interactive option to measure the gap between any two design items. Select the first item, then a target item, the Measure tool dialog displays the distance between the two items. This is the real distance between the points as would be calculated through the DRC option and is measured against the closest point of each item selected. Other useful information about the selected items is also displayed.
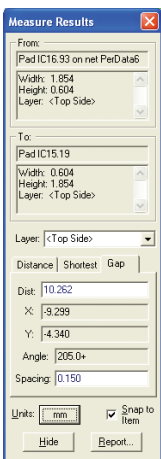
Footprint Wizard

The easy to use Footprint Wizard breaks down the process of creating a new footprint into a series of logical steps. It enables auto-production of DIP, SOIC, PGA, BGA, Quad and Radial devices using a clear graphical user interface.

Report Generation

As well as an extensive set of design reports supplied for use during the design process, a powerful user definable Report Maker option is also available. This highly configurable option allows you to output all entities of the design in your own customisable format.
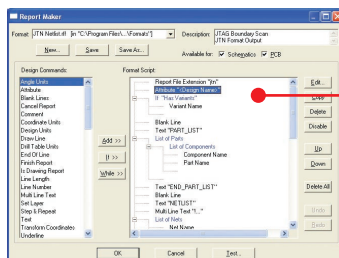
PULSONIX

General Features

- 32 bit Windows application
- Ultra-fast bitmap graphics
- Supported under Windows 2000/XP
- Database resolution to 0.1 micron
- Object Oriented Architecture
- Connective data structure (not net-list driven)
- Rotation to 1/100th degree
- Standard interface for Schematic/PCB
- Integrated Schematic, PCB, Simulator, Autorouter
- Workbook Mode
- Component Bin with preview
- World View of design
- Design status bar
- Customisable Toolbars/Shortcuts
- Dockable and Floating Toolbars
- Technology files for fast start-up
- Comprehensive Parts library
- Integrated library editors
- Dynamic Pan, Zoom In/out
- Right mouse shortcut menus
- Drag and Drop methodology
- Intelligent copy, paste & duplicate
- Output to bitmap for documentation
- Update/edit parts on-the-fly
- Multi-level Undo and Redo
- Transient and Persistant Groups
- Full and flexible report generation
- Star or Delta point support for multiple signals
- Comprehensive item property reporting
- Modal cursors
- Powerful Measure tool
- Design assembly variants
- Support for Windows graphics driver library
- Support for Windows printers
- Import Schematic, PCB Design and library data from:

  > PADS PowerView/PowerPCB
  > OrCAD Capture/Layout
  > P-CAD 2000/2001/2004
  > Accel
  > Cadstar For Windows
  > Altium/Protel DXP, SE, SE99
  > UltiCAP/Ultiboard
  > Eagle
  > EdWin
  > Integra
  > Visula CADIF (PCB only)

Schematic Capture

- Design in Imperial or Metric
- True connectivity during all operations
- Fully customisable interface
- Save and Load Technology files
- Symbol creation wizard
- Graphical symbol and Part editors
- Support for multi-gate logic and irregular devices, such as relays
- Save and Load Drawing profiles
- Uses common Parts libraries with PCB editor for smooth transition from SCM to PCB
- Flat sheet or Multi-level hierarchy

- Single or multi-instance of the design block
- Save block to library
- Automatic security copy and backup of designs
- Intelligent Open and Closed Busses
- Reuse of designs using blocks or copy/paste
- Dynamic drag & drop move, rotate and mirror Parts or groups
- Dangle Component in mid-air and autoweld functions
- Item Align function
- Predefined and user defined attribute fields for custom title blocks and auto-updated detail
- Automatic/manual Component & Net rename
- Electrical Design Rules checking including: preset and user definable rules design integrity rules
- On-line Electrical Rules Checking (ERC)
- Electrical rules error browser
- Design browser showing all sheet levels including hierarchical blocks
- Net Class rules definition passed through to PCB design editor
- Save Load Colour files
- Truetype fonts support for display and printing
- Cross sheet references
- Power and ground labels
- Insert shapes
- Optimise gates
- Testpoint Part and notation insertion
- Forward annotation of changes to the PCB
- Synchronise design at any time to check design integrity between SCM and PCB designs
- Back annotation changes from PCB
- Windows and pen plotter outputs
- DXF Import and Export
- Export Netlists to:

  PADS, Viewlogic, Cadstar, Accel EDA, PCAD 2000/2001/2004, or OrCAD PCB
- User definable Parts and Netlist output
- Predefined drawing profiles supplied
- Built-in integrated Spice based A/D mixed mode simulator (optional)

PCB Layout

- Design area up to 2.0 m by 2.0 m (78" by 78")
- Design in Imperial or Metric
- Unlimited number of Layers
- User defined layer types
- Supports SMT, through-hole and mixed technologies
- Supports embedded component technology
- SMDs both sides of the board
- Angles in degrees or radians
- Integrated Schematics & PCB
- Dynamic drag and drop
- Wizards for:
  Data Transfer
  Footprint creation
  Parts creation
  Plotting and printing
- Track/Via breakouts on footprints
- Wire jumpers/jumper parts
- Manual Placement 'push' and 'return' mode
- Integrated Autoplace (with Autorouter package)
- Keep in/out areas use in Autoplacement

- Placement areas defined in Footprint
- On-line and Batch Design Rules Checking (DRC)
- On-line Display Clearances
- Design rule error browser
- Manual Routing angle modes Free angled, 45 degree, Orthogonal and Curved
- Manual Routing modes:
  Auto Corner, Auto Mitre
- Single track Auto Router
- Integrated Auto Router (optional)
- Keep In/Out areas on Autorouting
- Support for Teardrops on pads and vias
- Testpoint support by side/type
- Blind and buried via support
- Reverse Engineer, rebuild SCM design from PCB
- Net Find, Highlight and select browser
- Relative and Absolute coordinate system
- Dynamic Net Optimisation
- Many Report outputs including Parts list & BOM
- User definable report writer
- Integrated Copper Pour with Hatching
- Automatic component rename
- Automatic Gate and Pin Swapping
- Dimensioning with Horizontal, Vertical, Free, Radial, Angular dimensions
- Change Components on-the-fly
- Single Shot Postprocessing
- Gerber Photo-plotter to RS-274-D and RS-274-X (extended aperture format)
- ODB++ Format exporter
- Automatic generation of power plane plots
- Supports true split Power Planes
- IPC 356 test format output
- Output to GENCam format
- Windows printer outputs
- Plotting to HPGL plotters
- Excellon NC Drill output and drill drawings
- Plotting of solder masks, resist and other manufacturing plots
- Integrated LPKF Interface
- DXF Mechanical Design Input/Output
- IDF Mechanical Design Input/Output
- Import Schematic Netlists using: EDIF 2.0.0, OrCAD, Viewdraw, EWB and other vendors
- Links to external autorouters available
- High Speed routing (optional)
- Library generator toolkit (optional)
- Chip-on-board (COB) design suite (optional)

  Die and Bond pad support

  Independently floating bond pads on components

  Bond Wire support

  Insulated and Cross-over rules for bond wires

  Min/Max bond wire length rules

  Design rules checking for COB rules

  Wire report output

  Report maker output of COB entities

- Embedded Component Suite (optional):
  Allows 'normal' components to be embedded onto inner layers.
  Contains additional inner layer build data.
  Used for embedded and flexi-rigid designs.
  Allows component types for printed resistors/capacitors, planar transformers and spiral inductors.

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Recommended Hardware and O/S

- Pentium Processor 1.0 Ghz or faster
- 256MB Ram
- 180MB free space on disc
- Microsoft XP
- Mouse with wheel