Press Release

Würth Elektronik Circuit Board Technology enables circuit board developers to save time when creating layouts

www.we-online.com/pcb

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Import layer structures at the click of a button

Higher efficiency, better quality, more security through standards: Würth Elektronik Circuit Board Technology provides digital layer structures – also called stackups – for circuit boards. This allows them to be imported "at the click of a button" into most common EDA software programs.

"We prepare standard layer structures so our customers can avoid errors and increase productivity", explains Andreas Schilpp, Technical Marketing Manager of Würth Elektronik Circuit Board Technology. "Up to now, it's been a lot of work to transfer these into the circuit board designer's work tool. On top of this, there was the incidence of errors, such as incorrect interpretations or because of distraction at the workplace."

Being up to date is key

No wonder, the complicated manufacturing process of a circuit board involves a lot of individual steps. Flex-rigid circuits, for example: These require more than 100 steps as, alongside IPC standards and manufacturer-specific design rules, there is also a huge range of variation options that need to be taken into account when combining rigid and flexible materials. Thanks to the digital layer structures, these and similar data are now available straight away in the respectively latest version – and no longer need to be entered in the Layer Stack Manager. "Importing standard stackups makes it possible to avoid typical sources of errors in process steps like this", Schilpp is pleased to report.

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Different types of layer structures available

The first standard stackups for Altium and Cadence EDA tools can now be called up on the Würth Elektronik website and imported. In addition, they are available in IPC-2581 format for all EDA tools that are not directly supported in the specific format. Standard stackups can be loaded via an import interface. In addition to the layer structure, all material data is also provided. Layer structures for other technologies and EDA tools – such as Mentor and Eagle – are in planning or will be available soon.

Digitalisation in several steps

The stackups are a part of the digital standards, which Würth Elektronik will be gradually introducing in 2021. They are comprised of layer structures, material databases, design rules and documentation. The corresponding standards have previously only been available in paper/PDF format. Thanks to improved data quality of the PCB manufacturing data, the digital versions should minimise the need for further enquiries during engineering – and thus increase the efficiency of circuit board production. This will save valuable time and enable the finished circuit boards to be delivered to the customer sooner. The layer structures are already available for the following software and technologies at www.we-online.com/digital-stackups:

EDA software / format	Basic (Multilayer)	Flex-rigid	HDI	SLIM.flex
Altium Designer	✓	✓	✓	✓
Cadence	✓	✓	Coming soon	Coming soon
IPC-2581 format	✓	✓	Coming soon	Coming soon

Table 1: Overview of the available digital standard stackups (Source: Würth Elektronik Circuit Board Technology)

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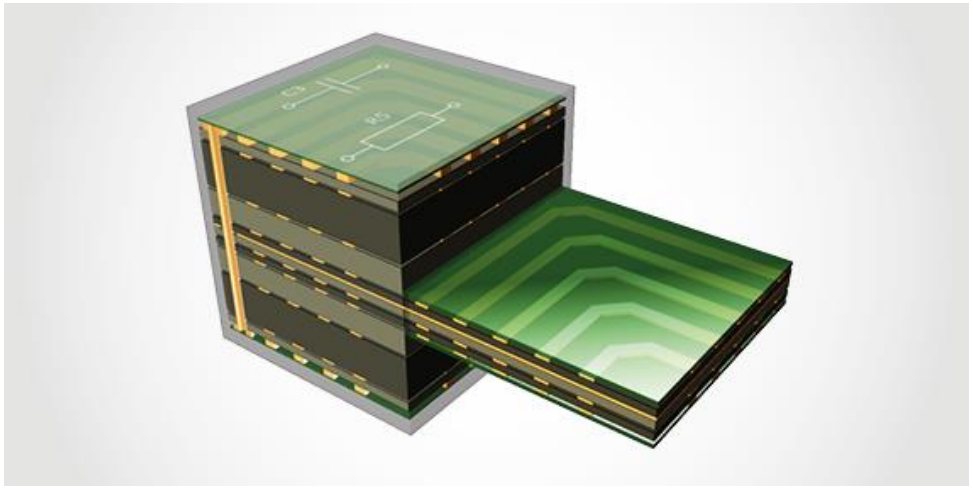

Figure 1: In the future, PCB layer structures will be able to be created faster and without errors in the EDA tools – here a 3Ri-4F-3Ri flex-rigid layout in Altium Designer 20. (Source: Würth Elektronik Circuit Board Technology)

Figure 2: Key Visual Digital Standards (Source: Würth Elektronik CBT)

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About Würth Elektronik Circuit Board Technology

Founded in 1971, Würth Elektronik Circuit Board Technology is today Europe's leading PCB manufacturer, with national and international sales teams, 1,000 employees, 4,000 customers and an annual turnover in the triple digit million range. Production takes place at three German plants as well as with qualified partners in Asia. Whether basic or high-end technologies, customer-specific requirements are met from prototypes and samples to medium and large series. With the development of innovative product technologies, the company qualifies as a pioneer in the market.

Experts from the most diverse divisions provide intensive consultation and support, from the initial idea to the finished product and beyond. Würth Elektronik Circuit Board Technology sees itself as a reliable partner for both individual entrepreneurs and large corporations. The comprehensive portfolio is rounded off by an online shop, where PCBs can be ordered around the clock.

Würth Elektronik. More than you expect!

For more information, visit www.we-online.com/pcb

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