Computervision enhances circuit design software

Computervision Corporation has enhanced its CADDS 2/VLSI integrated circuit design software with several features designed to increase productivity, the company says. A new design rules checking language can create DRC files. According to the company, these files are flexible, simple to create and modify, and easy to use. Commands can be entered interactively.

With the design rules checking pseudo-layers function, the designer can move an entity to a special layer of the cell created by DRC. For example, the designer could specify that all entities beyond a certain width be moved to a particular layer of a cell.

Computervision's list of properties can be expanded, defined, organized into files, and used to aid the design process.

A nested editing function edits a subcell within the top-level cell, making all changes relative to the top-level cell and also to the library copy of the subcell.

The new STATUS command allows the display of information about CADDS 2/VLSI parameters, in a format selected by the designer.

Shape validation prevents the insertion of convoluted or self-overlapping shapes. If created by editing commands, such shapes will be fixed on output and caught before DRC or pattern generation.

A further enhancement can display a full cell on the entire screen of the workstation, without changing the parameters of the current cell. These enhancements are free of charge to established CADDS 2/VLSI customers.

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Software provides local graphing capabilities

Local Easy Graphing is a new Tektronix package designed to support the recently-introduced 4110 series of intelligent computer display terminals. The software runs without host connection to generate line, bar, and pie charts for presentations and reports. According to the company, its English-language command structure is easy to learn and use. With on-line help files the user can reference proper command formats quickly.

Local Easy Graphing produces special symbols, legends, titles, grids, dynamic placement and movement of annotation, calendar axes, and log axes. These functions are supported in color for the 4113 terminal, and the software maintains local plotter control for single- or eight-pan models including the Tektronix 4662 Option 31.

The package allows the user to move and automatically scale entire graphs and annotation to give room on the same page for additional graphs, explanatory texts, and data. A "define" function allows mathematical modification and manipulation of curve data without host communications.

For tasks requiring host communications, Local Easy Graphing contains an interface module. The package is compatible with Telextronix Plot 10 Easy Graphing, so that previously written programs can be downloaded and run in the local terminal environment.

Local Easy Graphing is priced at $1700.

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Technical center supports CAD/CAM software service

Gerber Systems Technology, Inc., is offering a personalized system of software service to users of the IDS-80 CAD/CAM system. Under the system, GST will assign a senior software professional to each customer account to monitor productivity and to ensure responsive software services.

In support of this service, GST has created a technical assistance center at its headquarters in South Windsor, Connecticut. This will become the communications center for worldwide GST software services, the company says. It includes a toll-free telephone service, telex, and facsimile facilities.

GST has also expanded its program for control of software releases and bulletins designed to inform GST customers about current CAD/CAM technology.

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