New Features of GerbTool 15.2

ODB++ INTERFACE ENHANCEMENTS

This release adds support for version 8.0 ODB++ format specifications. Also new in this release is complete support for importing and exporting fully populated ODB++ panels. Importing the Panel step of an ODB++ file will now create a fully populated Advanced Panel design containing the entire image and tooling data available in the ODB++ database. Furthermore, Advanced panels created can now be exported to ODB++ without flattening the data first, keeping the editable nature of the advanced panel intact within the ODB++ architecture.

COMPOSITE VIEWING ENHANCEMENTS

WISE Software has always been committed to insuring the most user-friendly viewing experience for composite Gerber 274-X data. This led WISE to pioneer a method of displaying the composite data on a single layer in GerbTool version 12.0. We have now further enhanced this viewing capability giving our users the requested ability to see "through" the composite layers.

IMPROVED USER EXPERIENCE

WISE Software continues to deliver on the promise of a solid product that delivers top notch functionality in an easy to use package. Nearly 200 enhancements and corrections have been made, significantly improving the functionality and user experience. These changes were developed in conjunction with feedback from key accounts and individual contributors in an effort to provide users with a solid, reliable PCB tooling and analysis solution.

ADVANCED PANEL ENHANCEMENT

New in this release is full support for **flipping** and **mirroring** images within a panel.

IPC-D-356B SUPPORT

Demonstrating our resolution to support the latest standardized formats, WISE has integrated support for IPC-D-356B Netlist import and export. The most notable new feature in IPC-D-356B is support for true polygons, enabling more accurate and concise descriptions of the copper areas and in many cases reducing the file size and processing time.

MACRO LANGUAGE ENHANCEMENTS

This release brings important changes to our powerful Macro language. These core changes will open the door for substantially increased functionality and utility.

Highlights:

- Macro string variables no longer have a length restriction. Previously, string variables had a length restriction of 255 characters. This limitation has been lifted allowing virtually unlimited string lengths.

- Likewise, the previous restriction of 512 Macro variables has been lifted. The number of Macro variables allowed is now only limited by available memory.

OTHER ENHANCEMENTS AND FIXES

The following are several of the many general enhancements and fixes available in this release.

- Improved internal polygon processing engine for accuracy and robustness.
- Improved Gerber import when raster polys have only three points defined.
- Fixed all reported ODB++ import problems including the peculiarities of CR5000 produced files.
- ODB++ import now places reference designators on COMP_+_TOP, COMP_+_BOT layers.
- Addessed many DXF, DPF and PADS ASCII import issues.
- Implemented request for ability to translate imported ASCII netlist directly to IPC-D-356.
- Provided for single license checkout per node for floating licenses.
- Drill import now automatically maps 3 digit tool numbers to available tool numbers that are less than 99.
- Provided ability to run a Macro from a command line switch.
- Added EXITAPP Macro command.
- Active Layer is now properly drawn last when View Composites is enabled.
- Overlay display mode no longer cancels out composite viewing.