

New Features/Enhancements in GerbTool 16.0

NEW ADVANCED PANEL OPTIMIZATION

New in this release is a powerful panel layout optimizer. Efficient optimization is fast and easy. Set a few layout constraints, click optimize, and then choose the layout you like best. Very simple to do "what if" layouts.

NEW POLYGON OVER/UNDERSIZE COMMAND

New for version 16 is a new command to accurately perform over/undersize operations on your raster polygon data. This new command allows flexible methods for you to control how the sizing takes place.

NEW STENCIL TOOLS FEATURES

WISE Software has always been committed to insuring the most user-friendly tools, while providing the latest features being requested by our users and industry demands. This led WISE to a sweeping update of the Stencil Tools including new shapes, analysis information, and the ability to choose single pads for modification as well as keeping all of the home plating that our users have grown accustomed to.

- Added support for Snubnose, Dogbone, and Window Pane.
- Checks for min and max area reduction with reporting.
- Added ability to select single pad for new shapes supported.
- Modify basic size without changing the shape.

DRC/ANALYSIS ENHANCEMENTS

New in version 16 includes a new Stacked Blind/Buried Data info check and a new option to the Drill Annulus DRC check to ignore isolated drill hits. We also substantially improved our care and handling of blind/buried technology designs.

NEW HOLE CHART DOCUMENTATION FEATURES

This command was given a complete make-over. The dialog associated with this command now allows you to add/remove columns, change column ordering, rename columns, manually enter data in columns, use graphic symbols as hole legends, create your own graphic hole legends, and more.

NEW NC MILL/DRILL FEATURES

This release has several new features added to our NC support. Starting with a new variable size Break Tab, this new type allows interactive placement and sizing of break tabs. Another enhancement to Break Tabs is the new ability to add them to milled circles. We've made it easier to control tool compensation including setting preferred defaults and adding a new interactive command to change compensation of existing mill paths.

EXPORT BITMAP ENHANCEMENTS

We've enhanced the way we handle memory during a Bitmap export that allows you to select much larger DPI values. DPI settings as high as 10,000 are now possible. The data window used is now selectable between the old current window method and a new method based on the actual data extents. This allows your exported bitmaps to be concise with no wasted empty areas. We've also added a Batch mode that allows you to export each layer as a separate file in one go.

IMPROVED USER EXPERIENCE

Several more essential dialogs are now re-sizable including the Import Wizard and DRC Analysis dialogs. Stretch them out as big as you want, adjust the list columns, click OK and they will stay that way. Folder selection dialogs are also now bigger and re-sizable. Other commonly used dialogs like Layer Setup, the Navigator, and others include enhancements like multi-selection edits, info tips, and more. Zooming is easier now with new support for your mouse wheel. More toolbar buttons have been added with improved organizing. The Navigator can now be set to auto-hide by clicking on it's pushpin icon; in this mode it will normally be hidden with just a vertical button on the side. Hovering over the vertical button will cause it to slide out for you to use. Added Help menu command to check the WISE web site for software updates. The Copy and Move commands now offer a convenient "In Place" option to minimize keystrokes and data entry.

NEW MACRO LANGUAGE COMMANDS

This release brings more new commands to our powerful Macro language. In no particular order they include:

- MILLPATHCOMPENSATION
- SETUPBREAKTABS
- ADDBREAKTAB
- DELETEBREAKTAB
- DELETENCTOOLTABLE
- DELETEUNUSEDNCTOOLTABLES
- EXPORTIPCD356TESTPOINTS
- FLATTENCUSTOM
- FLATTENDCODE
- POLYOVERUNDERSIZE

WINDOWS 7 OPERATING SYSTEM COMPATIBILITY

WISE Software has always been committed to insuring the highest level of compatibility with the Windows™ operating system. For this release we have made the necessary changes to our installation process to ensure that GerbTool is being placed properly within the Windows 7 environment. This includes making sure that all necessary drivers, for components like hardware keys and FlexLM™, have been updated and tested for compatibility.

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.
- IPC-D-356 Blind/Buried (307) feature 027 continuation records now read.
- Export IPC-D-356 macro now supports type.
- \$\$TIME macro variable now updates more consistently.
- ODB++ Misc/Info file now optionally created.
- Netlist generate now auto adjusts to job spacing technology.
- Improved operation of auto Stencil conversion layer setup.
- Now includes hole sizes in Analysis report from hole information checks.
- Using the Navigator to rename a net now correctly finds all occurrences of the old net name.
- Drawing layer read-only items no longer pollute the aperture list.
- Added toolbar icon and menu entry for View Negative command (N hot key).
- Dialogs and other UI elements now use a more consistent set of fonts.
- Analysis/Layer compare command now offers a window mode.
- Request to be able to copy text from Properties dialog to windows clipboard.
- Added File/Properties command to provide basic info about the current design.
- Added "Information Pane" to Advanced Panel dialog.
- Added DXF export option to export visible layers to a single DXF file.

- Added ability to License Activation Wizard to easily setup a network license client node and to request an EVAL license
- Hole Charts can now be "frozen" to prevent automatic updates.
- Improved UI for moving mill path plunge points.
- NC Display setup now offers more control over how mill paths are rendered.
- The macro command 'GETSTRING' no longer has an 80 character limit.
- DRC Stub detection is now substantially more accurate.
- Added group delete functions to Analysis tree.
- Improved handling of warnings during item level polarity on export.
- IPC D356 exports now contain Part/Pin info after ARE has been completed.
- Undo is now seen as a change to the database after a save operation.
- Automatic Drawn Pad conversion can now operate on paste and mask layers.
- Hotkey/Right click menu setup now shows all hotkey commands available.
- Import wizard now allow you to open unknown file types in text editor.
- Hovering over the layer type symbol in the Navigator now pop ups text with the layer type.
- Improved DRC Dialog pass selection .vs enabled handling.
- Netlists from intelligent formats are now optionally accepted as valid by user.
- License request and activation processes simplified.
- Moved Analysis tree to its own tab in Navigator.
- Edit Join now works on arcs and polylines.
- Now able to specify special line width for DXF text.
- Added expand all option in Navigator.