
Maximizing Your Productivity

This application note will detail several of the "user friendly" aspects of MMICAD that can improve the effectiveness of your "CAD time" with your personal computer.

Desktop Publishing

All graphics generated by MMICAD may be saved into user definable HPGL files. These files are directly compatible with all desktop publishing software packages and several of the word processing software packages (e.g. Ventura Publisher and WordPerfect).

In addition, if you do not have access to these software packages, MMICAD incorporates a module that allows the user to layout a page incorporating several HPGL files.

On-Line Help

In the MMICAD editor, on-line help is available on any keyword by simply highlighting the keyword and typing SHIFT-F1. (Context sensitive help is available at any time by typing F1.)

DOS Services

DOS can be quite intimidating to many people. To "ease the pain" MMICAD incorporates a comprehensive file manipulation utility ("QuickDOS") that is fast and easy to learn.

Defaults

Every aspect of the operation of MMICAD is user configurable from the logic of the menu system to internal limits on the number of optimization variables. Even the screen colours can be customized.

External Software

MMICAD can be configured to directly access another software package freeing all DOS memory for use by the external application. A single keystroke (ALT-E) can be used to start the application. When the application is finished, MMICAD is restored to memory.

Editing

MMICAD incorporates a comprehensive editor which includes cut and paste, search and replace, line drawing, file merging, and support for user defined models. However, the designer may also configure MMICAD to use any other external text editor, which can greatly reduce the learning curve with MMICAD.

Composing Circuit Files

A great part of the tedium in using microwave CAE software is trying to remember all the parameters of a model as well as the correct sequence to enter them into the software. Not so with MMICAD. Just type the model name and select "Edit with defaults" to have the parameters automatically added to your circuit file. Parameter order is also not important in MMICAD.

In addition, you can configure up to 10 circuit file templates to be used when starting a new circuit file.

The MMICAD Calculator

MMICAD incorporates a powerful complex arithmetic calculator that can be accessed within the editor. In addition, the values of circuit variables may be viewed or used in calculations. This feature is particularly useful to determine "where to go next" in the design process.