

OrCAD Component Information Portal

On-demand component data

OrCAD® Component Information Portal (CIP) is a comprehensive OrCAD CIS database management and online component research environment. Together with OrCAD CaptureCIS, the portal enables design teams to quickly and cost-effectively realize the full benefits of a shared component database and effective component management process.

Overview

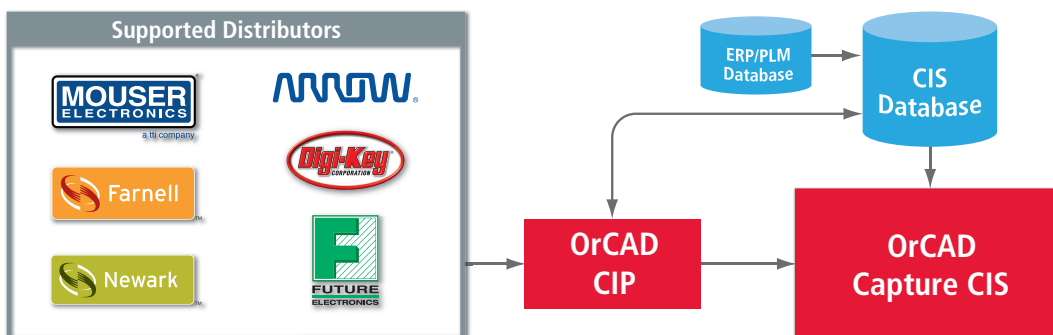
OrCAD CIP is a powerful component data management environment that enhances and extends OrCAD CaptureCIS. It provides an intuitive, integrated interface to directly add or maintain component information for a CIS database as well as integrated online distributor access that facilitates component research on downloadable component content for millions of orderable parts.

All PCB designs, whether large or small, simple or complex, have components – resistors, capacitors, active devices, etc. As such, any company designing PCBs has to deal with component and component data management in one form or another. In its simplest form, a list of component names, part numbers, package types, and suppliers might be documented on a piece of paper or compiled in a spreadsheet having been derived from manual component research on various manufacturer or vendor websites.

Highlights

- Ability to easily add and maintain components and parametric data in the CIS database versus manual, external methods / programs, saving time and resources
- Integrated access to component parametric data from suppliers and vendors to speed up component research
- Temporary part creation process that allows designs to keep moving forward while a new part is approved and introduced
- Ability for procurement professionals, librarians, and other non-engineering individuals to use the portal's web interface to search and select distributor part data using one common tool

A non-centralized, manual process such as this contains numerous inefficiencies and a substantial level of risk throughout the entire design flow, procurement process, and assembly. Aside from the inability to efficiently and intelligently share information within an engineering team, inevitable errors, such as one person making changes without letting everyone else know and the possibility of different people having conflicting versions



of the component information, could lead to procurement problems, schedule delays, budget impacts, or design / assembly failures.

The benefits of an intelligent, integrated, and shared component and component data management system can be realized by providing access to any and all necessary component-related information that permeates every aspect of a board's design and development flow. Everyone who needs the information would have access to all the appropriate component data where and when it's needed. Any changes could only be made by approved team members and would get communicated to ensure changes do not go unnoticed.

OrCAD CIP facilitates this process by providing enhanced access to a centralized CIS database, along with intuitive component database management. The portal comes complete with a 5,000-part starter library and database to eliminate the work associated with populating a CIS database from scratch. Once implemented, the shared CIS database or the solution's six integrated, online part distributors can be searched for parts that meet the designs' exact requirements. Component data from the online part distributors can be downloaded (including cost, quantity on-hand information, etc.) directly into the CIS database for use in the current design and for future designs.

CIS Database Setup and Management

For any component database to be effective, it needs a lot of parametric content. Populating hundreds of fields of parametric information for electronic components using a manual process is expensive, tedious, and error prone. OrCAD CIP includes a starter database of over 5,000 components. The database comes complete with symbols and footprints, and can serve as a foundation for a successful CIS implementation. The database also provides a predefined database schema to help encourage consistent practices and an automated methodology for ongoing maintenance that includes complete part data.

OrCAD CIP also provides an intuitive interface within OrCAD CaptureCIS to directly add or maintain component information for a CIS database. It allows performance of basic tasks, such as creating, editing, deleting, and searching for parts, as well as advanced tasks such as storing component data from distributors' databases, setting up approval processes, and defining custom company database fields.

Streamline Component Research

The online distributor integration within OrCAD CIP allows access to downloadable component content for millions of orderable parts into the CIS database. The integration is supported by several large distributors, including Arrow Electronics, Mouser Electronics, Farnell, Newark, Future Electronics, and DigiKey. This integration provides a wealth of content, from electrical parameters to compliance status to costs and availability. Access to the full breadth of component information allows trade-offs and selection refinements to be made to minimize delays and optimize costs.

New Part Introduction

OrCAD CIP facilitates a process for temporary parts to be created, which can be used as a placeholder within a design as it moves forward. Temporary parts have to go through an extensive internal review process by purchasing, manufacturing, and documentation groups before it can be approved for use. This often requires significant overhead to complete the part, verify it, and add it to the system. The new part process reduces this overhead, ensuring new parts added will be complete, purchasable, and compliant.

User Roles and Data Access

OrCAD CIP supports user privileges and roles to define access rights to component data. Such support ensures data integrity and gives users access to only the information they need. Notifications can be enabled to inform stakeholders of changes as they happen, keeping everyone in sync.

The portal also includes a web-based interface that enables non-OrCAD CaptureCIS users, like those in documentation, library development, and purchasing, to have access to the parts database without using the OrCAD design software. This saves time in communication and helps cut costs by allowing purchasing to encourage the use of cost-effective parts.

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