

Xpedition 3D Multi-board

Jerry Suiter Product Marketing Director and Architect Xpedition Layout

November 2014



System Design

Xpedition 3D allows a designer to model physical multiboard systems facilitating collaboration within the enterprise on complex physical systems. PCB designers can import solid models of other PCB designs allowing them to make placement adjustments to meet the mechanical constraints of these designs or collaborate with the other PCB designers on changes that need to be made within the referenced PCB designs.

In the future, as this technology is integrated into the system design sub-flow, the ability to collaborate and manage complex systems from concept, through electrical into physical will greatly improve the quality of the system design.



PCB Supported Model Formats

- PCB Designers have the ability to import other Xpedition Layout boards as solid models into their design
 - When Xpedition 3D is saved, a PCB Solid Model file is automatically created "...\Layout\3D\<PCB_design_filename>.xtda" in it's native format
 - Any *Xpedition 3D* PCB design can also be exported as a STEP or SAT Solid Model using the **3D** > **Export** command
 - Importing a PCB Solid Model can be done by using the
 3D > Import Mechanical Model command and selecting either a previously generated *.xtda file, STEP, *.iges or SAT Solid Model file



Defining a PCB Model Type

- Once a PCB Solid Model has been imported into the design, the Mechanical Model Properties dialog should be used to modify the model to a PCB Model Type
 - This designation allows users to manage the *PCB* solid model uniquely within the *Xpedition 3D* environment

Mechanical Model Properties	
Instance: Little_Nell 🗸 😽 🗙	Construction of the second sec
Filename:\U2U\HUG\ASPEN3D\PCB\mech\Little_Nell.asat	
Assembly ✓ Save with design	a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a a
Mov vent Absolute Delta	
Rotate X: 0 Y: 0 Z: 0	
Change to a the second	
DCB Type	
Allow interactive mechanical model movement (disable all other)	



PCB Model Specific Constraints

- By changing the Solid Model type to PCB, users can define constraints within the 3D Constraint Manager that are only specific between a PCB Assembly and Components and/or other Mechanical Assemblies
 - Provides the ability to define special clearances between objects of the edited design and imported PCB Solid Model of another board

3D Constraints									
Constraints -	Minimum XY (th)	-	Minimum Z (th)	Ŧ	Optimal XY (th) 🔹 💌	Optimal Z (th) 🔹 💌			
Any to Any	5		2.5		10	5			
Active Board to Assembly	0		0		0	0	1		
Component to Mechanical	5		0		10	5	1		
Component to PCB Assembly	25		25		25	25	1		
PCB Assembly to Assembly	5		2.5		10	5	1		
Add Constraint									



Board-to-Board Constraint Overrides

Per instance clearance overrides between the imported PCB Solid Model and the connector/assembly within the edited design can be defined

		Clearance	es		- 🗆 🗙
				Note: /	All units are in 'th'
Specify clearance	s between objects:	* 🗙			
From	То	Minimum XY	Minimum Z	Optimal XY	Optimal Z
Any	Any	5	2.5	10	5
Assembly	Board	0	0	0	0
Assembly	PCB	5	2.5	10	5
Mechanical	Component	5	0	10	5
Component	PCB	25	25	25	25
PCB:Little_Nell	Component:J23	0	0	0	0
PCB:Little_Nell	Assembly:Enclos	0	0	0	0
		OK	Cancel	Apply 🔌	
- 16					



Management of PCB Models

Features of an imported PCB Solid Model can not be modified in the PCB design environment being edited





Saving PCB Model Configurations

- The *Mechanical Model Properties* dialog provides users the following save options:
 - ✓ Save with design: this option allows the model to be reloaded automatically into the design and location every time the *3D View* is opened
 - ☑ Include with board export: this option controls whether the imported PCB model is a persistent part of the design when a 3D Model (SAT or SATA) export is performed

The 3D > Import / Export Assembly File commands can be used to save all imported mechanical solid model locations allowing these to be loaded on demand for different mechanical variations







www.mentor.com/pcb