

# Is your entire design team on the same page ?

Have you ever seen a costly design issue that could have been avoided by simply setting up the electronics design environment correctly?

PCB Design tools, like any high-powered enterprise-ready software system, require a number of configuration options, tool preferences, and style standards to be setup in order to have the system best fit the workflow and practices of a given organisation and user.

Failing to maintain a standard set of design styles and tool setups has an often overlooked impact on productivity. At the tip of the iceberg is time wasted revising and redrawing design documents in order to have them fit a company standard.

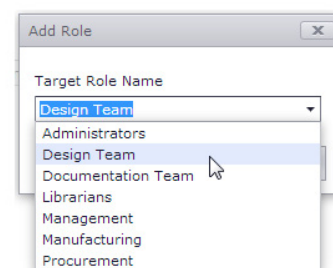
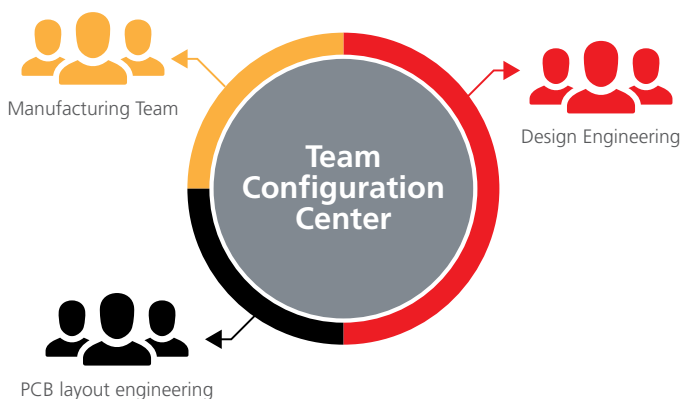
Deeper down, because the same circuit can be drawn in many different ways, time is wasted simply understanding how design intent is expressed, before the reviewing engineer can possibly start the important work of understanding the design itself. Small mistakes easily slip through the cracks.

Often hidden altogether is the cost of downtime caused by incompatible settings and tool preferences. Anything from sending manufacturing files in the wrong format to waiting on an email reply from IT on the design team's server address and login details.

The IT industry is no stranger to the costs of software configuration chaos; according to a report issued by Enterprise Management Associates, 60 percent of IT issues caused by configuration problems.

Design teams naturally look for ways to standardize their design tool configuration, usage, and output document format. This set-up effort, and teaching new members 'how we do things here' is a big time sink, but generally considered a necessary one.

IT based alternatives such as OS imaging, locking of .ini files, or server based endpoint management can ease the pain, but these solutions are complicated to deploy and lack any understanding of a design team's real requirements and so remain a blunt tool.



Eliminate unnecessary design re-spins by automatically distributing tool preferences, document style, and output file format settings that best suit the each team's requirements.

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Enterprise level design tool configuration management solutions need to go a step further than simply reducing design tool installation and setup time to almost zero.

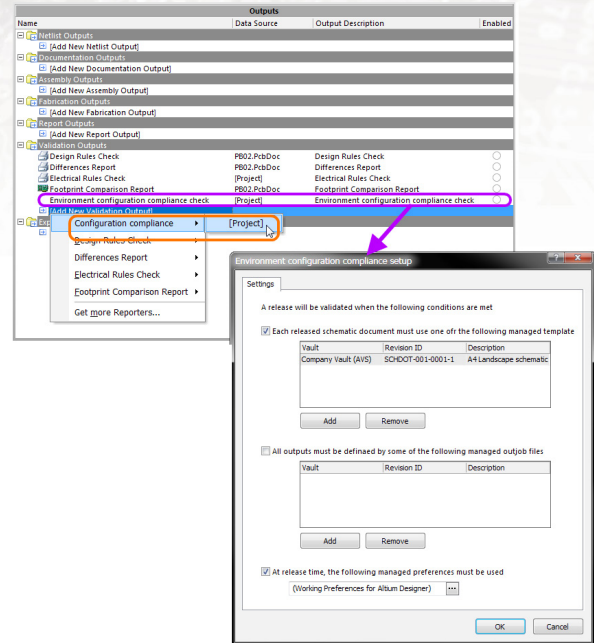
## What if you could also:

- Automatically have each and every design, from your team use the exact same company approved drafting standards, document templates and file formats ?
- Avoid costly production issues stemming from the use of non-approved, non-standard, CAD library components?
- Eliminate delays caused by designing in components that lack visible supply chain solutions?
- Prevent unnecessary changes, by ensuring all design handovers have passed company approved design rule, drafting standard and compliance tests?

Altium's Team Configuration Center manages design tool, document template and output file settings for an entire organization. Different roles within your team may assigned different configurations, from a completely defined and locked down environment to one that just ensures a few specific requirements and leaves the rest to the end user.

By combining the Team Configuration Center with an Altium Vault, engineering team leaders can be confident that their designers are:

- Working in a ready-to-go, reliable and company approved, design environment.
- Using CAD library components that are known to be good and have acceptable supply chain solutions.
- Handing off designs to manufacturing that have passed checking and in the correct format.



Remove all doubt, ensure designs are being handed over to manufacturing after they have passed rules and compliance checks.

Centralizing and managing design tool usage and configuration within an organization enjoys a number of time saving and risk reduction benefits.

Consider removing the stress of not having everyone in your team on the same page and ask us how Altium's Team Configuration Management Center can help today.

## About Altium

Altium Limited (ASX:ALU) creates electronics design software. Altium's unified electronics design environment links all aspects of electronics product design in a single application that is priced as affordable as possible. This enables electronics designers to innovate, harness the latest devices and technologies, manage their projects across broad design 'ecosystems', and create connected, intelligent designs.

Founded in 1985, Altium has offices in San Diego, Sydney, Karlsruhe, Shanghai, Tokyo, Kiev, with value added resellers worldwide. For more information, visit [www.altium.com](http://www.altium.com). You can also follow and engage with Altium via [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [YouTube](#).

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