

Re: advice on selecting new PCB design package

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I've looked at gEDA as well, and compared to PCAD, which I use, it is near unusable. I'd love to get rid of annual maintenance fees like everyone else, but switching to GEDA will definitely be a step backwards in productivity for me.

OTOH anyone who uses one of these packages for commercial work should not really be concerned about up front cost and maintenance fees and such, IMHO. It's a business expense like anything else, and you amortize the initial purchase cost over a few contracts, and maintenance should really be covered by one medium sized job.

Even a low cost EDA package like Cadsoft's Eagle pretty much blows gEDA out of the water. Their professional package at US\$1200 seems to be a vary fair deal. One design job takes care of that..... They don't seem to list maintenance fees, so I can't comment on that, but even at say US\$300/year, that cost can easily be covered by one small design job per year.....

That does not mean that I'll never consider switching, but gEDA has a loong ways to go before it'll be mature enough to be considered as a serious contender.

I DO like the concept of course, and wish the developers all the best in their endeavors.

Lukas

I said "well known companies".....

And gEDA ain't gaining "traction" in the commercial world. OK, tell me some points about gEDA that would attract me to use it instead of one of the standard paid-for products..... And don't tell me it's free. The fact that it's free is paradoxically a deterrent to a serious user.

Prescott

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