

Changed in release 2.29 (24th March 2020)

CNC drill outputs and Gerber artwork output alignment improvements:

XLDesigner's Gerber output facility presents the user with a preview window displaying a white media area

whose size represents the media dimensions configured in the 'Output device setup->Properties' dialog.

The bottom left hand corner of the media area is represented by the location $X=0/Y=0$ in the generated

Gerber file. Because of this, the coordinates of features in the generated Gerber data will not correspond

with the coordinates of those features in the artwork editor or in generated drill output data.

However, the Gerber outputs have always operated in this way as in the past, customers needed to be able

to exercise complete control over the photoplotting of their artworks and the positioning of the plot on

the output media, which was normally film.

To fit in better with modern workflows, the default behaviour in XLDesigner is to now ensure that the

coordinates in CNC drill data and Gerber artwork data are aligned, with the user being able to specify the

location of the $X=0/Y=0$ common datum point for the drill & gerber outputs.

The artwork and profile editors now display the CNC/Gerber output common datum location as a small white

square with an X inside. The default position of this datum is at the system $X0,Y0$ location, and may be

changed using the 'Tools->Set CNC Datum' command. The CNC Datum mark may be hidden using the View menu.

Other changes:

General system :

- o BUGFIX: When opening a design created with XLDesigner version 2.21 or earlier, any CNC router paths

- that had been defined are automatically converted into 'slot' features.

However, the slots should have

- been assigned to the 'DS2 Non-Plated' CNC dataset, but were being wrongly allocated to the DS1 Plated

- dataset. Also, when such a conversion is performed at design open, then slot visibility is forced on

- in the artwork editor so that the imported router paths can be seen.

- o BUGFIX: The 'File->System Setup' dialog was allowing the same key to be assigned to more than one special

- function key action. This would result in unexpected results.

- o BUGFIX: The 'Move part' special function key never worked regardless of which keyboard key was assigned

to it. It will now activate artwork part move mode, schematic symbol move or schematic split part subsymbol move depending on which type of editor window it is invoked from.

Artwork editor:

- o The 'Parts->Set Datum' command (which changed the X/Y display origin and the origin when querying part locations) has been replaced by the 'Tools->Set XY Datum' command.

- o BUGFIX: The angle checker was incorrectly placing error flags on the dotted, unrouted section at the start/end of a partially routed trace.

- o BUGFIX: If the angle checker found errors, it did not switch on the display of the error flags if they were switched off.

- o BUGFIX: In certain situations, the software became unresponsive when entering the split powerplane edit mode.

- o BUGFIX: In the silk screen generator dialog, it was possible to type 'V,T or B' into the control that selects

 - the destination layer for generated component outline or label features.

 - If silk screen data was generated with such settings, then the V,T or B layer had its reserved layer

 - type changed from Copper to Silk Screen, which resulted subsequent failure of many other facilities

 - throughout the software. Also, after the reserved layer type had been changed, there was no way for the

 - user to return the layer type to the correct setting.

 - It is still possible to type in V,T or B as a target layer, but the situation will now be trapped and no

 - data generated or layer assignments disturbed.

Profile editor:

- o The 'Profile->Set X/Y Display Datum' command has been replaced by the 'Tools->Set XY Datum' command.

Profile & Artwork editor common changes:

- o When the X/Y display datum has been moved away from the system origin, a *Datum moved* warning will always be shown to the right of the displayed X/Y coordinate.

- o When the X/Y display datum is at the system origin, the yellow datum mark will no longer be displayed.

Schematic editor:

- o BUGFIX: When 'Symbol->Power Place' is selected, an automatic check for duplicate part identities is performed

 - before the part power symbol selection dialog is displayed. The log file

for displaying errors detected by
this test was not being initialised correctly, so if you tried to place
power symbols for a design having
duplicate part identities, the software would crash.

Design/Masters Configuration section:

- o A new 'Gerber / CNC Output Options' category has been added. This new configuration dialog currently contains just one setting, 'Lock CNC drill & Gerber outputs to CNC datum'. If this option is unticked, then the Tools->Set CNC Datum command will be greyed out, and the CNC drill and Gerber outputs will revert to their previous modes for choice of datum point.

CNC drill outputs:

- o BUGFIX: An invalid Y coordinate was sometimes being output for drill holes associated with used defined via holes.

Drill sheet generator:

- o User defined via holes had a symbol listed in the drill table, but the location of the user via holes was not being indicated on the drilling sheet.