Release Notes GC-PowerStation v10.4

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New Features

Stackup Module

A new module has been added to GC-PowerStation and GC-PrevuePlus allowing the creation of build information alongside the layer information of the GWK file. The module allows the build of the board to be designed directly from the Gerber data with thickness calculations utilizing the actual copper image for more accurate thickness predictions. Each user has access to a materials database that is unique to them and can contain as many or as few materials as required.
The complete set of stackup information is then stored within the GraphiCode GWK format and can be shared with other stakeholders to provide a cost effective tool for collaboration and communication.

Access to the material database is granted with a current Annual Support Plan and users have full access to add or modify their specific material requirements. The Stack information can also be viewed in GC-Prevue (GraphiCode's free viewer) or transferred to a layer within the GWK file and then exported in Gerber, DXF or another format.

Microcraft .emm files with Step and Repeat.

GC-PowerStation now has the ability to output panelized images. Board images require step and repeating in Layers Panelize mode. Offsets, mirroring and flipping are handled.
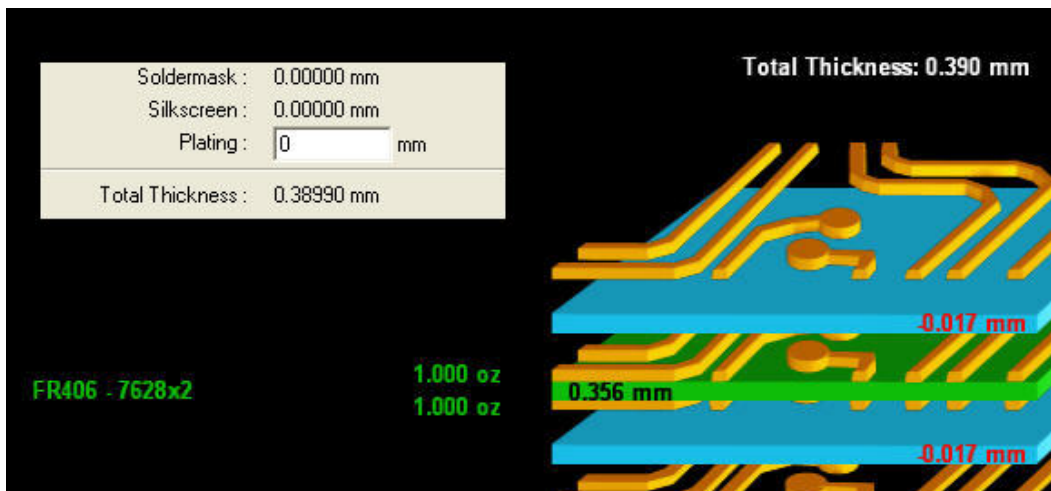
Configurations and Templates can be created to allow re-use of builds and materials can be added to the database directly from an Excel file making database population quick and easy.

New GCSendKeys replaces SendKeys in GC-Basic

In order to provide compatibility with Windows7 and its security settings, the old GC-Basic method of SendKeys has been replace with GCSendKeys that allows GC-Basic to send keystrokes to the application.

Items fixed since v10.3.2

This list is customer reported issues fixed for this release.

#4485   Fixed issue where the act of Querying an entity within the Query List changed the aperture or tool number. The new tool had all the attributes of the original and so did not affect images in any way.

#4484   Filter Selection of non-zero Fiducial group numbers did not work. This issue has been corrected.

#4481   Cleaned up the Import results to remove the reporting of a critical error that did not exist. Issue was caused by poor clearing of variables when importing the next layer.

#4480   Fixed an issue that caused a crash when running No Pad for Via on Power / Ground layers. Function was expecting both outer and inner layer variables.

#4479   Netlist Browsing shifted the net number reported when net zero was present by one so that the net number and netname from the ODB++ file were on incorrect lines in the list.

#4475   Updated the original GC-Basic SendKeys function to GCSendKeys to provide compatibility with Windows7.

#4474   Now drawing Octagon apertures that are used to draw a trace as a round aperture. The modification is then reported in the Import Results tab.

#4473   Fixed bug that triggered the conversion of a custom aperture to a rounded rectangle.

#4470   DFM Soldermask check now identifies Pad Gaskets that are exactly the same size as the copper. Previously a size for size pad slipped through the check.

#4467   Step and Repeat information added for MicroCraft EMMA tester output.

#4466   Updates to the AutoCAD® method of describing mirrored and rotated text caused interpretation problems upon import. This issue is now resolved.