

CUSTOMER SUCCESS STORY

LEADING NETWORK MANAGEMENT SOLUTIONS PROVIDER CORNET TECHNOLOGY USES ALTIUM DESIGNER TO CREATE ADVANCED DATA AND COMMUNICATION ROUTING PRODUCTS FOR THE WORLD MARKET.



The Need

Founded in 1989, Cornet Technology specializes in the development and implementation of video, voice, and data network technology solutions for both government and private corporations. As a leading supplier of physical layer switching products for networks systems worldwide, Cornet develops its range of matrix and fiber switches, video distribution units and cable management systems at its advanced manufacturing facility in Springfield, Virginia.

To maintain Cornet's industry-leading position as a provider of advanced, ultra-reliable network switching systems for critical applications such as military communications, transport monitoring and surveillance installations, the company uses a range of sophisticated engineering tools to design and manufacture its products. Integral to the company's success is the use of the unified electronic product development system – Altium Designer – for its schematic capture and board-level design needs.

“ I continue to use Altium software because the company not only has a product that surpasses its competitors, but also a design package that continually makes significant improvements with each upgrade. Altium Designer enables me to complete high-quality designs more quickly than other more expensive design products. ”

Don Starsiak Senior PCB Design Engineer, Cornet Technology Inc.

The Challenge

Board-level design for Cornet Technology's extensive array of data switching and processing products demands a high level of expertise from both Cornet's engineers and the development tools they use. Designed from the ground up, typical boards are large, involve 12 layers, and pack in around 2000 components with controlled impedance requirements

and a high degree of circuit area duplication. Design times are in the order of only two to three weeks, yet the final performance and reliability of the product - and therefore the PCB - must be first rate. Cornet's extensible designs demand a high degree of flexibility from the development software, which must also be capable of producing concept-to reality board designs within the short production times required to fulfill key contracts and meet market demands.

The Solution

Cornet Technology uses the Altium Designer unified electronic development system to meet its need for powerful yet flexible board-level design. Altium Designer's intelligent copy and paste functions plus advanced 'placement room' capabilities allow Cornet engineers to quickly create complex multilayer boards with large sections of duplicated circuitry that are typically required by high-capacity network switching products. This, coupled with Altium Designer's powerful design rule checking, advanced layout features and intuitive user interface, creates an accurate, productive design environment to keep Cornet's products on schedule and within performance targets.



The Results

Since joining Cornet Technology in 1999, senior PCB design engineer Don Starsiak has become a strong advocate of design software from Altium and the benefits it brings to the company's PCB design and production. As a past user of

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alternative, competing software, Don finds Altium Designer far easier to use, more productive and ultimately a much more effective development tool. While typical projects in the past would take him around a month to finish, equivalent designs can now be completed in half the time using Altium Designer. From a company perspective, Don also notes that Altium Designer's intuitive operation and interface allows Cornet engineers become productive very quickly, without the need for formal training or specialized services. In addition he points out that Altium Designer is far more cost-effective than competing products - even those that offer significantly less features - which along with the productivity gains, yields a direct cost of ownership benefit for Cornet.



Product Information

Cornet Technology designs and manufactures a diverse range of video, voice, and data switch technology for a variety of applications including corporate, carrier, CLEC, ISP, military, civil engineering, SCADA, mobile transports, space/satellite ground stations, plus video in the areas of intelligent transportation infrastructure, security, and CCTV. Cornet Technology's solutions support a broad range of the interfaces and speeds, including all traditional serial interfaces, carrier interfaces, broadband interfaces, analog and digital video, plus Twinax and Coax.

About Cornet Technology Inc.

Cornet Technology, Inc. (CTI) is a manufacturing and professional services company consisting of three divisions: Video Convergence manufacturers video products and provides comprehensive integration services to the Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS) market; Cornet Technology designs and manufactures data network solutions for the federal government and private corporations; and Anami Communications develops and integrates video conferencing solutions and provides information technology services to federal, state and local governments, and corporations worldwide. CTI is headquartered near Washington, D.C. in Springfield, Virginia, and has offices in the United States and the United Kingdom with subsidiaries in Germany, Japan, and India.

For more information, visit www.cornet.com

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. You can also follow and engage with Altium via Facebook, Twitter and YouTube.