USER GUIDE | UG:601

Power System Designer User Guide



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Power Supply Think Engineers Excellent Tool Straight Forward Modules Solutions Parameters Simple Selecting Great Tool Impressive Useful Tool Outout Design Intuitive Good Tool Average Product Complete Nice Idea Interface Resource User Friendly Understand Application

Introduction

Vicor has developed a proven approach for timely, low-resource, low-risk and high-performance power system design tool unlike any other tool available today. This approach is called the Power Component Design Methodology (PCDM). This methodology provides the means to stitch together Vicor power components to meet the exacting demands for a power system design.

The difference with this methodology is that it covers all of the components needed to build a highperformance power system from the Power Source (AC and high-power DC) to the point-of-load. This methodology uses proven power components that are engineered to interface with each other, thus reducing the complexities of power system design.

The Power System Designer is a web-based tool for generating power systems fast – up to 75% faster than traditional methods. The Power System Designer is the embodiment of the power component design methodology.

Power System Designer Tool

The design engineer enters their design specifications into the tool and the tool provides recommended designs based on key figures of merit:

- System efficiency
- Power footprint
- Cost
- Component count
- Recommended best fit

This is much more than a product selection tool. The PSD provides a design environment that enables the designer to evaluate the complete power system designed (source to Pol), then modify it.

This tool saves time by taking the place of sifting through data sheets, performing hundreds of calculations on the overall system performance and pulls together thousands of data points that draws a block diagram of the recommended power system in a matter of seconds (optimized around 5 critical figures of merit). In addition, it provides a drawn-to-scale representation of the system along with a bill of materials.

How to use the Power System Designer

Your approach to using the tool is the same as it would be to use any other web-based tool. You answer a few questions and the tool provides recommended solutions.

To get started, you need to know:

- 1. for use <u>only</u> in the following browsers:
- 2. your power source (AC or DC),
- 3. the voltage levels of your input (either a nominal value or a min and max),
- 4. number of outputs and
- 5. for each output you will need to know:
 - a. current / power,
 - b. regulation requirements and
 - c. isolation requirements.

Once determined, you enter them on the website:

http://sapps.vicorpower.com/SolutionSelector/web/psdlnit.do

The system will then recommend up to five designs based on:

- 1. component count,
- 2. price,
- 3. smallest footprint,
- 4. highest efficiency and
- 5. recommended best fit.

See Figure 4 on Page 7.

Help Tool

If you need any assistance while using the Power System Designer, please click on the help tool located on the left side of the screen.



The Results

The results, otherwise known as the Hub, is where the user views the design parameters of their power design. The Hub delivers:

- 1. up to five solutions based on figures of merit,
- 2. a view of the design,
- 3. analysis for each output of the power chain and
- 4. a bill of materials.

The user may explore each design to better understand the best fit for their design along with evaluating each element of the power chain. After analyzing each power chain, the user may select a solution and open a "White Board" for further evaluation and design. A final step is the creation of a bill of materials for easy ordering of the design.

About the Whiteboard Tool

The whiteboard tool provides a workspace to architect and analyze the power efficiency of your design requirements. The Vicor whiteboard is a web based design tool that allows users to architect and analyze power system designs which are built using Vicor high-density, high-efficiency power components. Users can set the operating conditions for each component of the power design to match the intended application and perform efficiency and loss analysis of individual components, as well as the full power system.

Supported Components

The following component families are supporting using the Power System Designer:

- **1.** PFM: Isolated AC-DC Converter with PFC
- 2. AIM: AC Input Front-end
- 3. ZVS Isolated DC-DC Converter
- 4. DCM: DC-DC Converter Module
- 5. BCM: Bus Converter Module
- 6. IBC: Intermediate Bus Converter
- 7. VTM: Current Multiplier
- 8. PRM: Buck-Boost Regulator
- 9. ZVS Buck Step-Down Regulator
- 10. ZVS Buck-Boost Regulator
- 11. NBM: Non-Isolated, Fixed-Ratio Converter Module

Details about each of these products can either be found on the whiteboard or on the website.

Customer References

"I like the system overall. It is a handy tool to use in system design." Dragon Products

"It's a good tool for your product. A great way to get the ball rolling." Northrop Grumman

"Makes life easier, especially for a systems engineer who does not have time to delve into details." Honeybee Robotics

"The power system designer tool allowed me, a chemical engineer, to configure a mil-spec DC-DC converter in less than five minutes. Amazing!" Solid State Cooling Systems

"Very nice interface. Easy to use. Overall, a good tool to use for quick design." General Atomics Aeronautical

Example Implementation

Note: Recommended browsers for the Vicor PSD & whiteboard applications are Chrome and Internet Explorer (version 9 and up).

Follow these step by step instructions:

We are going to design a power system that takes 120 Volts AC and delivers four outputs of 12V/9A, 5V/10W, 3.3V/4.0A and 1V/15W.

Go to www.vicorpower.com

- 1. Enter the following parameters onto the PowerBench widget on the website:
 - a. Supply: AC
 - **b.** Nom : 120VAC
 - c. Regulated Checked
 - **d.** Nom : 12V
 - e. Amps Checked
 - **f.** 9
 - g. Output Return –OUT1
 - h. Click Add Output
 - i. Regulated Checked
 - j. Nom: 5
 - k. Amps Checked
 - **I.** 10

Figure 2 PSD Tool (1a – 1l)



VICOR PowerBench

m. Select "Add Output" (this takes you to a new page)

Vicor's Powe	r System Desig	ner provid	es system	designers unpreced	lented flexibility to	o architect and d	optimize end-to-e	end power subsyst	tems.
Choose to fin	d a solution fo	or a single o	utput or i	multiple outputs. Vi	cor's Power System	n Designer can d	lo both.		
 Search f 	or a single ou	tput solutio	n						
Search f	or a multiple	output solu	tion						
Enter Power Re	quirements ations	1							
Supply	Min (Vac)	Nom (Vac)	Ma (Va	ix c)					
O AC DC	120	120	120	2					
Multiple Outp	ut Specification	;							
Output(s)	Min (V)	Nom (V)	Max (V)	Power/Current	Regulation	Isolation From Source	Output Return	D Output Name	
Output 1		12		O Watts 9 Amps	Regulated Fixed Ratio	Required	-OUT1		Dele
Output 2		5		Watts 10	Regulated Fixed Ratio	✓ Required	-OUT1		Dele
Output 3		3.3		O Watts 4	Regulated Fixed Ratio	Required	-OUT1		Dele
Output 4		1		Watts	Regulated	Required	-OUT1 3		Dele

- n. Enter the last two output values:
 - i. Nom(V): 3.3
 - ii. Amps Checked
 - **iii.** 4
 - iv. Regulated Checked
 - v. Output Return –OUT1
 - vi. Select "Add Output"
 - vii. Nom(V): 1
 - ix. Watts Checked
 - **x.** 15
 - xi. Regulated Checked
 - xii. Output Return OUT1
- 2. Click "Search for a System" in the lower right corner.

3. You will be presented with 3 options:

Figure 4 PSD Tool (3 - 4)

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Solution 1	51	44	7	83.7	90.1	94.4	\$455.80	\$331.80	7	Lowest Price Recommended Best Fit Smallest Footprint
Solution 2	57	44	13	80.5	90.2	90.6	\$814.80	\$581.80	6	Lowest Component Count

4. Select "Solution 1"

5. Review your options and trade offs:

Figure 5 PSD Tool (5 - 6)

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 Select "Analyze" to view the Vicor whiteboard. (A new page will open with the whiteboard. If you have pop-up blocker on, please turn it off for www.vicorpower.com). 7. Review the recommended power design:



8. Select "Mechanical" view to look at the layout:



9. Go back to the Hub page: (select the window on your browser that contains the Hub page)

Reference													_
Your Ente	ered Por	wer Requ	irements										
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AC	12	0.0	120.0	120.0									
Output(s)	Min (V) Nom ()) Max (V) Power	r/Current	Regulation	Isolation From Source	Output	Return				
Output 1	12.0	12.0	12.0	9	0.0 A	Regulated	Y	-0UT1					
Output 2	5.0	5.0	5.0	10	0.0 A	Regulated	Y	-OUT1					
Output 3 Output 4	1.0	1.0	1.0	15	5.0 W	Regulated	Y	-0011					
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O Solution	1	51	44	7	83.7	90,1	94,4	\$455.80	\$331.80	7	Lowest Recomm Smalles	Price mended Best at Footprint	Fit
O Solution	2	57	44	13	80.5	90,2	90.6	\$814.80	\$581.80	6	Lowest	Component	Count
O Solution	3	53	44	8	83.8	90.0	94.5	\$465.00	\$341.00	8	Highest	Efficiency	
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10. Looking further on this page, review the bill of materials for either design. Note that Solution 2 shows one less component, but a higher BOM than Solution 1. Also note that this page includes documentation, specifications and sample / volume pricing. Please verify because results can change as you modify inputs and/or preferences.

VICOR PowerBench

11. From there, a user can select their part(s) by clicking "**Purchase Selected Parts**" and then purchase the design through the Vicor E-Commerce System.

Purchase Product	s			Vicor Store		MAdd All Parts to Vicor Cart	Di	gi-Key	м	ouser	Future	ilectronic
Quantity	Part Number	Product Description	Production Lead Time	Prototype Lead Time	in Stock	Bey from Vicer	in Stock	Buy from Digi-Key	In Stock	Buy from Mouser	In Stock	Buy from Future
1	PFM4914886M24D	ICA8 VPFM 4914 175V 24V/400W C LNL	12 Week(s)	12 Week(s)	D	Add to Cart >	0	Buy >	0	Buy >	0	Buy >
2	P13305-00-LGIZ	Cool-Power ZVS Buck Regulator	6 Week(s)	6 Week(s)	O	Add to Cart >	172	Buy >	83	Buy >	0	Buy >
2	PI3302-00-LGIZ	Cool-Power ZVS Buck Regulator	6 Weak(s)	6 Week(s)	0	Add to Cart >	4,501	Buy >	589	Buy >	o	Buy >
1	PI3311-01-LGIZ	Cool-Power ZVS Buck Regulator	6 Week(n)	6 Week(s)	0	Add to Cart >	126	Buy >	83	Buy >	0	Buy >

- **12.** At this point you are good to add this design to the cart or export the design to an excel file that can be mailed to your purchasing department to order.
- **13.** Congratulations, you've finished your power system design.

Conclusion

The PSD embodies the Power Component Design Methodology and the innovative approach to power that Vicor is known for.

The Power System Designer expedites and optimizes the creation of high-performance power designs, dramatically reducing time to market for customers. If you have any questions using the tool or this guide, please email technical support: apps@vicorpower.com.

Addendum

Single Product Search Using the "Solution Selector Tool"

"Search for Solutions" delivers a single product search results and is the first radial button to the tool. The Vicor version provides a coupling of products that meet your custom needs. Here, the user may filter by "Form Factor", "Mounting Style" and "Temperature". It enables an engineer to see all the options for those who like seeing every possible option for a power system design.

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