

## Systematic PCB Verification Approach:

### 1. Parts Completion Check:

- a. All major components included?
  - Microcontroller/FPGA/SoC/Microprocessor/CPLD?
  - Power supply? Regulation? Battery Management?
  - Sensors?
  - User interface elements? (LCDs, buttons, switches, etc.)
  - Actuator drivers and control? (Motor control? LED driver circuitry? Audio filters and amplifiers? Etc. etc. etc.)
- b. All support components included?
  - Microcontroller system guidelines and/or minimum connection requirements followed?
  - Application circuits and/or relevant app notes for all major components followed?
  - Support components proper package as well as value? (Power circuit support components designed to handle necessary voltages and currents?)
- c. Other components included?
  - Programming header?
  - Reset circuit?
  - Power connector(s)?
  - Mounting holes?
  - Power indicator(s)?
  - Heartbeat LED?
  - Oscillator/clocking circuitry?
  - Debugging LEDs or interfaces?

### 2. PCB Footprint Verification Check:

- a. All parts fit on 1:1 scale printout of PCB

### 3. Parts Placement Check:

- a. Oscillator close to microcontroller?
- b. Decoupling caps close to/under related ICs?
- c. Connectors on board edges?
- d. Parts grouped by system and/or in reasonable way that minimizes routing?

### 4. Mechanical/Space Conflict Check:

- a. Has x- and y- footprint space around electrical pins and pads of all parts been accounted for?
- b. Has z-height of all parts been accounted for?
- c. Has clearance been provided for the bolt heads of all mounting holes?
- d. Have connectors been placed on the outer edges of boards where appropriate? Are they overhanging edges of boards where appropriate? Are they oriented in the correct direction?
- e. Are all mounting and mechanical support holes free of traces and other electrical items?

### 5. Routing Completion Check:

- a. All traces routed? (In Eagle, the ratsnest command will say “nothing to do”)
- b. Oscillator traces clear of interfering signals?
- c. Traces of appropriate widths to handle current being passed? (Including power traces)
- d. Traces entering pads at 90-degree angles (or 45 degree angles, where appropriate)?

### 6. Routing Minimization Check:

- a. Trace lengths have been minimized where possible?
- b. Octagonal (45-degree constrained) layout mode has been utilized, where possible?
- c. Right angles have been removed, except where necessary?
- d. Acute angles have been eliminated from all board routing?

**7. Via Minimization Check:**

- a. Vias have been eliminated to extent reasonable?
- b. Signal planes on opposite sides of boards are connected by vias at reasonable intervals?

**8. Signal Plane Check:**

- a. Signal planes have been included, where reasonable?
- b. Analog ground (AGND), has been separated from the main ground net in accordance with microcontroller datasheets?
- c. Isolation on all signal planes has been set to at least 12 mils?

**9. Silkscreen check**

- a. Silkscreen labels have been provided for all component IDs and connector signal names?
- b. Silkscreen labels have been appropriately placed near components, but not on top of pads or pins?
- c. Pin 1 of all ICs and other polarity-sensitive components (such as diodes) is clearly marked?
- d. Board silkscreen layer includes course and team number (ECE477 Group <x>)?
- e. Board silkscreen layer includes names of all team members, if possible?
- f. Board silkscreen layer includes a descriptive name to identify the board?
- g. Board silkscreen layer includes a revision number and/or last modified date?

**10. Gerber Check**

- a. Gerber files have been inspected by a gerber viewer program (e.g. gerbv) to check for any last-minute software CAM-processing defects