



Best Practices for ECAD Library Development

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Libraries are not just a starting point

Not many get to start from scratch

Companies merge

Technology requires more information

Maintain Legacy Design



Best Practices To Consider When Your Library Needs To Evolve

Best Practices: Library Extended Organization

Master Librarian

- Has **decision authority** over library design, specification, integrations

Librarian

- Adds component properties, builds symbols and cells
- Locates existing 3D models (M3DL, STEP) and adds to library



Involve in library specification team

Production Engineer

- Approves land patterns and padstacks based on manufacturing processes

Component Engineer

- Approves new part requests for company use, assigns company PN
- Modifies part lifecycle when necessary (e.g. obsolescence)

Mechanical Engineer

- Builds custom 3D models in mechanical tools when necessary

Simulation Engineer

- Builds and/or approves simulation models for use in the library
- Spice, IBIS, thermal, etc.

Data Management System Administrator

- Manages server hardware and software



Best Practices: What Needs Support?

Design Capability	Tools to be supported
System simulation	SystemVision
Library part creation	xDM Library Tools, PartQuest
Part selection & placement	xDM Library Client
PCB schematic capture	xDX Designer
PCB layout	xPCB Layout
Variant management	Variant Manager
Fabrication drawing	xPCB Layout, Drawing Editor
EMI analysis	Hyperlynx DRC
Manufacturing preparation	Valor NPI
Mechanical design	Siemens NX
Signal integrity analysis	HyperLynx SI
3D PCB layout	xPCB 3D
3D model library	M3DL, STEP
Power integrity analysis	HyperLynx PI
Thermal analysis	floTHERM

Library infrastructure should support the tools for each phase of design

Best Practices: Consider “Standards”

Part Model



Part Model

- Body shape and dimensions
- Lead form and dimensions
- Pin list and pin properties

Rules



Rules include (but are not limited to)

- Manufacturing Process definitions
- Process-specific land-pattern calculations (based on IPC 7351 standard)

Configurations
& Options



Tool Configurations include (but not limited to)

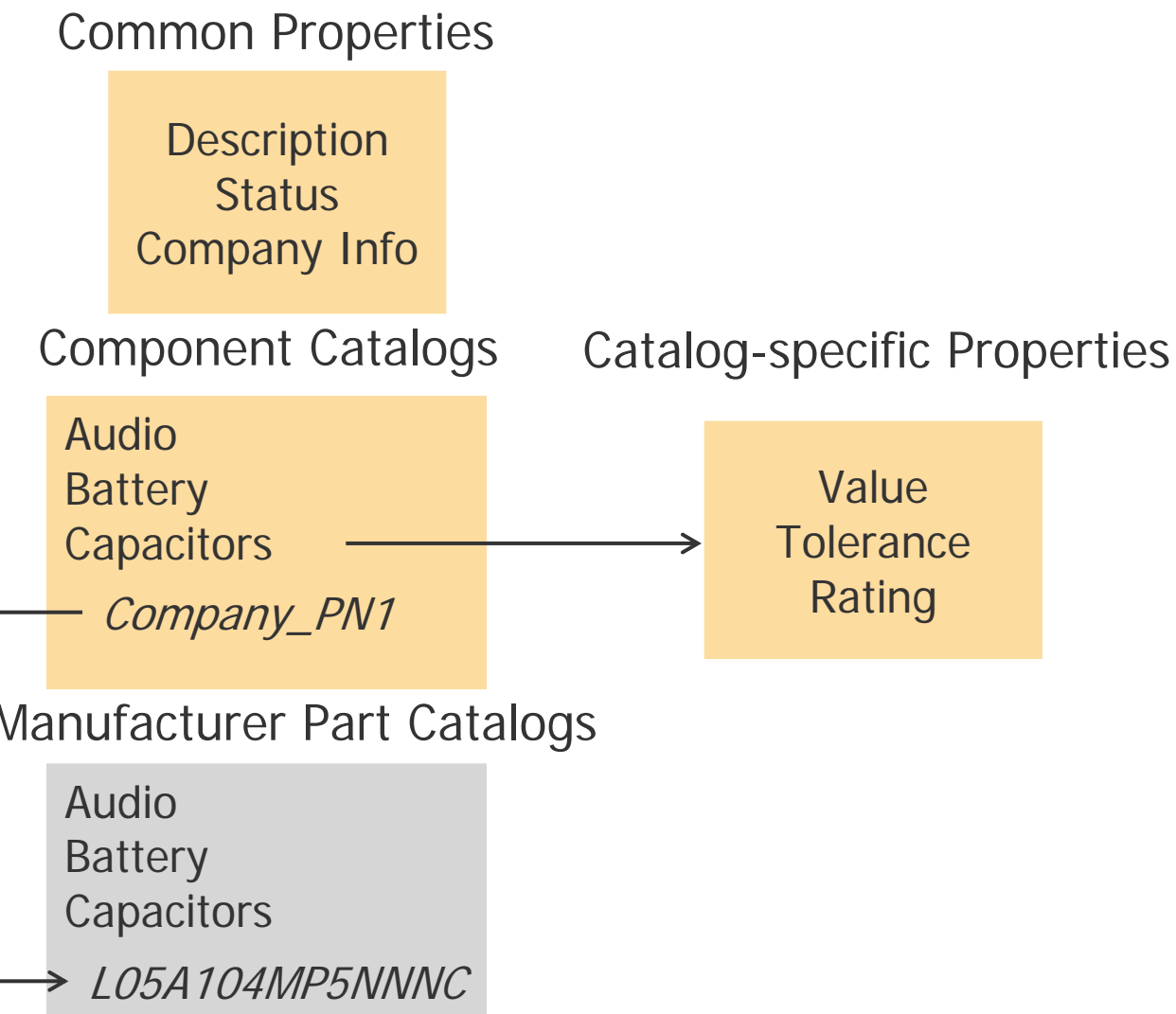
- Symbol pin spacing
- Symbol pin graphical indicators (clocks, inversion, etc.)
- Manufacturing Processes desired
- Design densities desired (min, nominal, max)

Models

Models include (but are not limited to)

- IBIS, SPICE
- Thermal
- STEP, ProStep, EDX, IDF

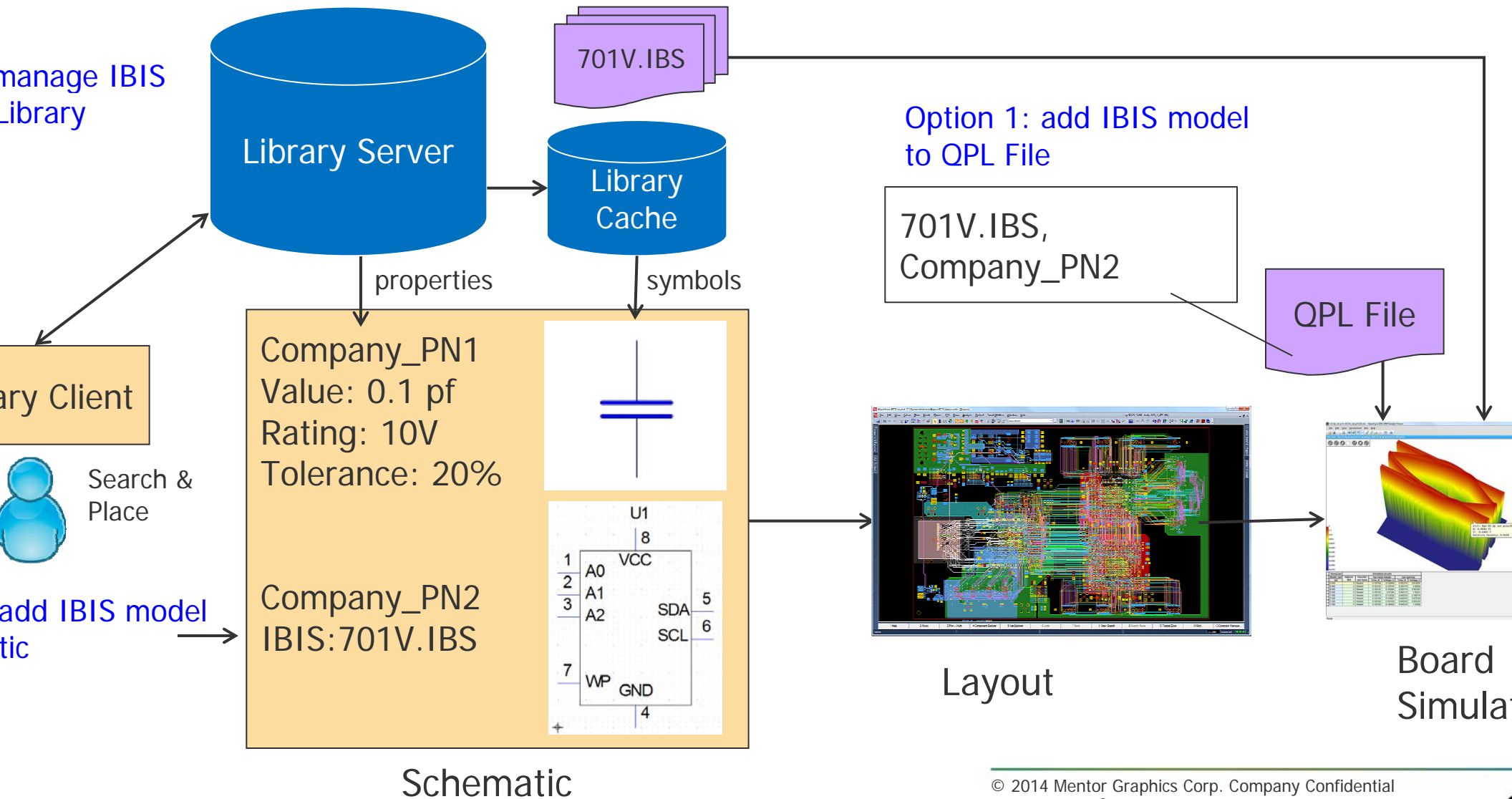
Best Practices: Component Taxonomy



Component Taxonomy is common to all parts regardless of Library Specification

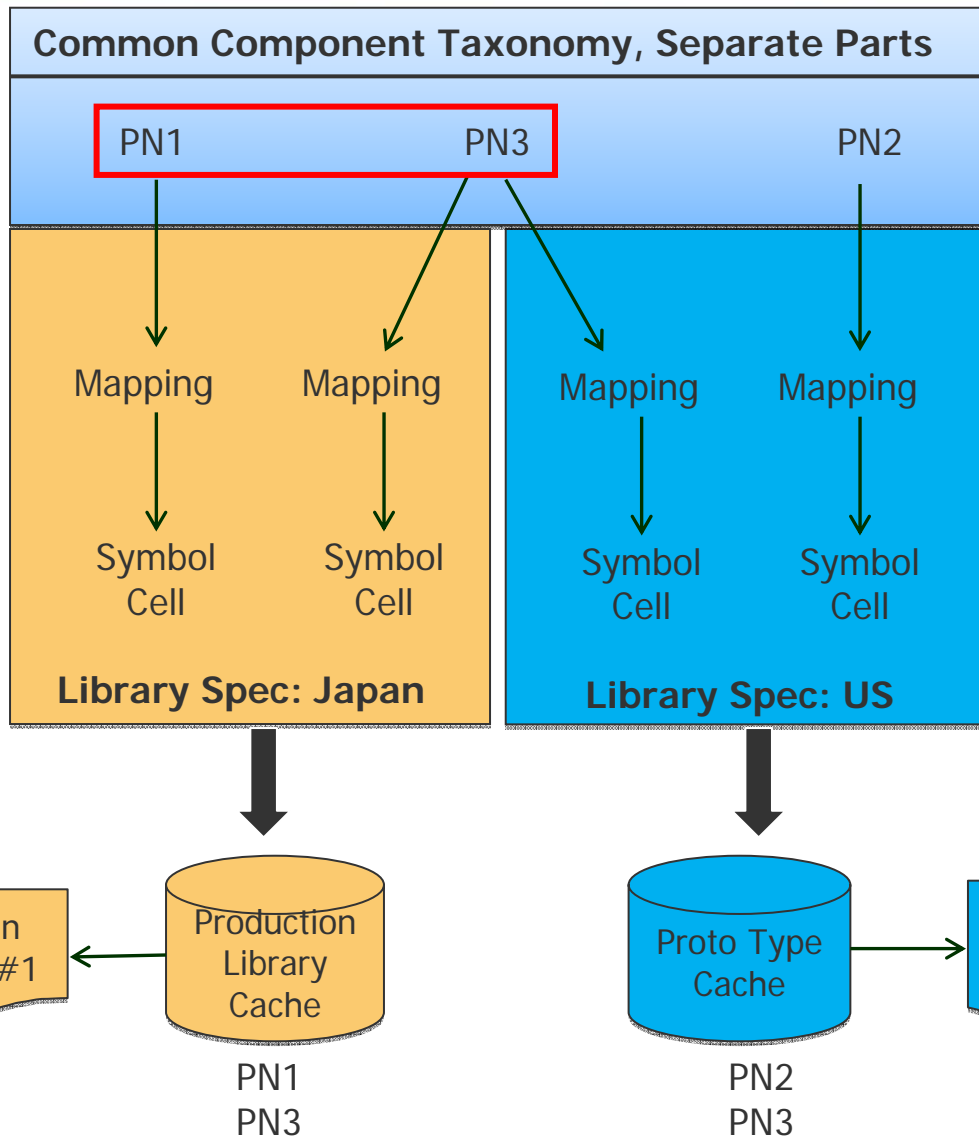
Defining the taxonomy should be the first task of the library specification team

Best Practices: Where Best to Assign?



Best Practices: How used?

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Usecase: Common Component Taxonomy, Different Part Numbers, Different CAD Data
(i.e. Production and ProtoType)

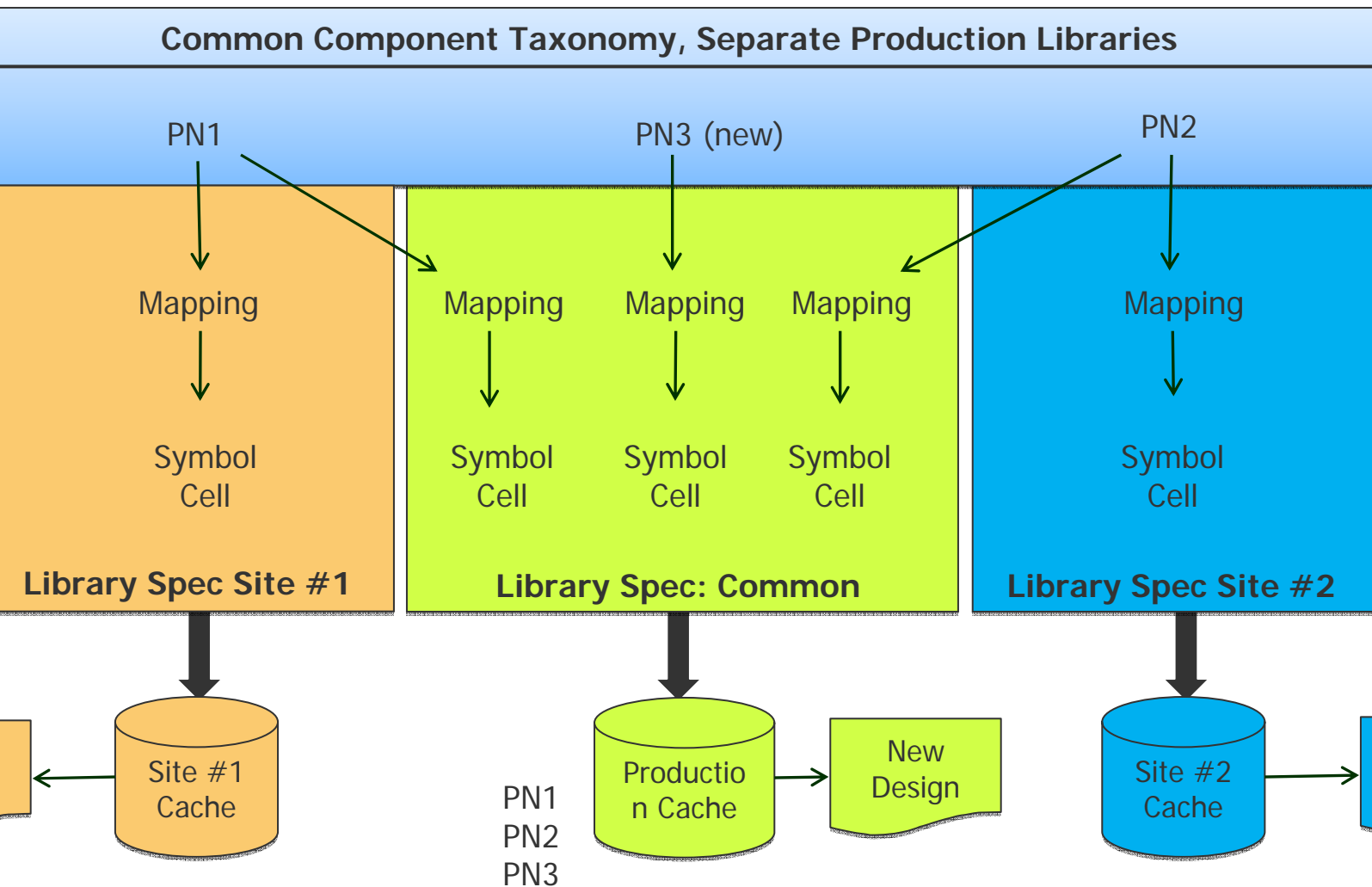
Taxonomy : a set of component catalog groups and production numbers associated with each group. All components in the library share the same taxonomy.

Production Library : a set of part numbers to be exported to a cache for a specific set of users. Each Production Library is associated with a single Library Specification.

Library Specification : a sub-container of ECAD data (mapping, symbol, footprint). Typically parts with different library specifications and built to different standards should not be mixed in a cache.

Cache : a set of CAD data (parts, symbols, footprints, production numbers) to be used by a group of designers.

Best Practices: How Used?



Usecase: Common Library for New Designs, Legacy Libraries Still Maintained

(i.e. merge of design teams)

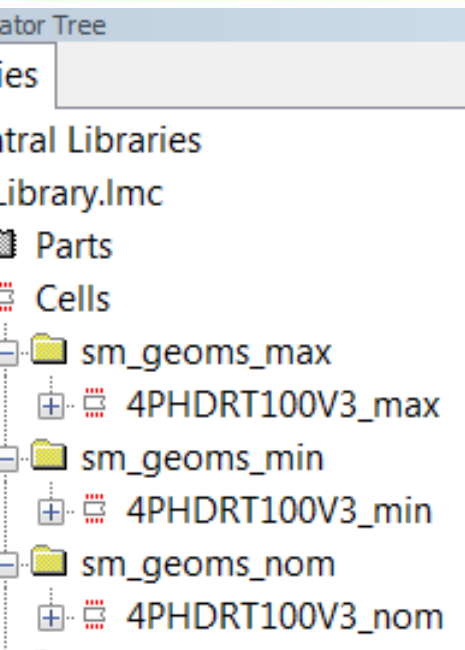
The Common Library Specification has only CAD data matching common standard.

Existing part numbers can be associated to different CAD data in legacy library and in Common Library.

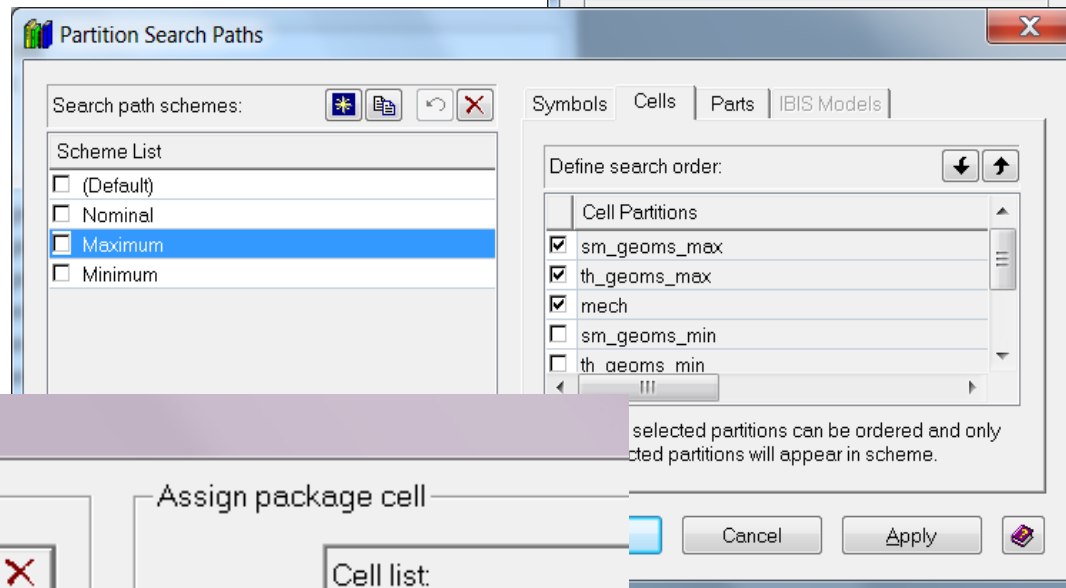
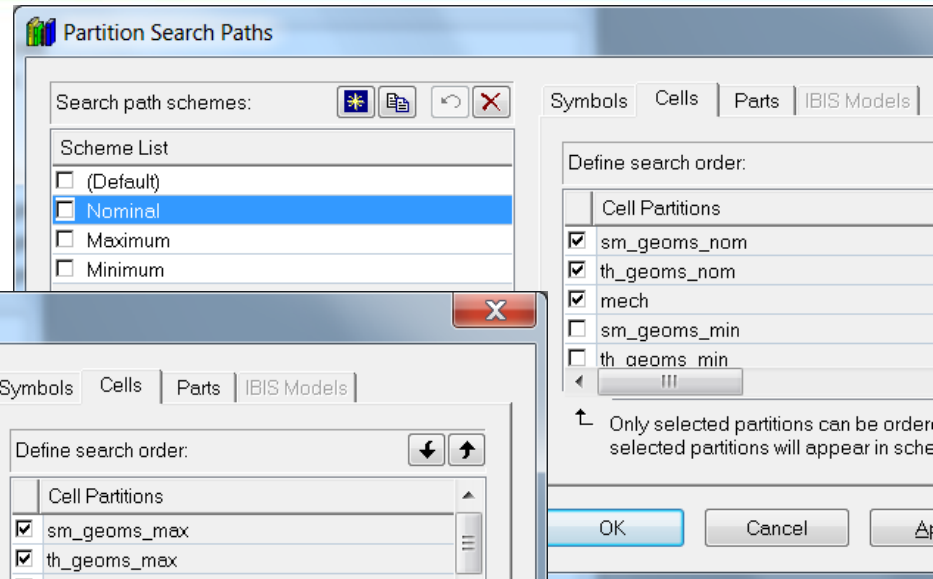
Caches for each site are still unique Production Library packages.

If the company standardizes part numbers, there could be just one common Production Library.

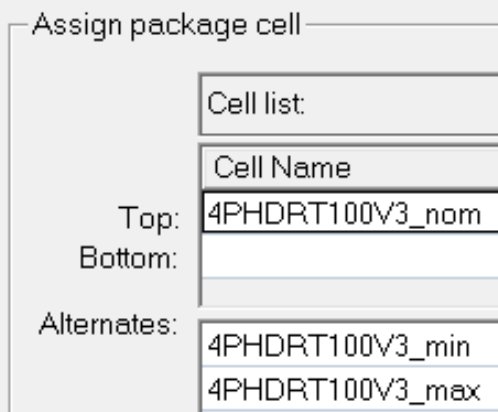
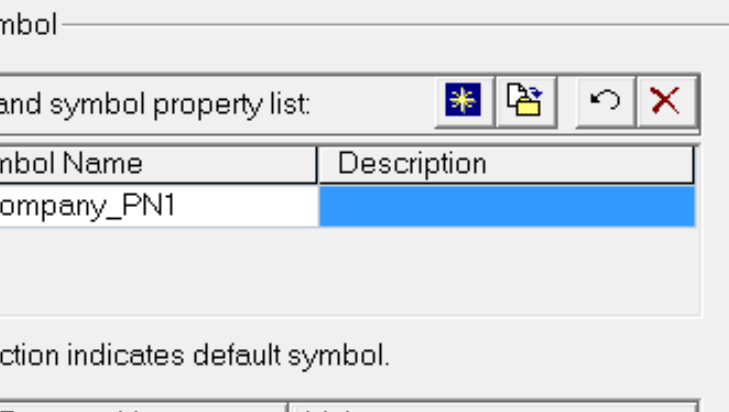
Best Practices: Managing Alternates



Catalog by parts or footprints.
A Part can reference multiple
footprint names.



ing - Company_PN1 : New :



Catalogs can determine
for the user which
footprints can be used
in design
(i.e. Class 2 vs Class 1
approved designs)

Best Practices: Make Use of Industry Providers

The screenshot shows the PARTQUEST website interface. At the top, there is a search bar and navigation links. Below the search bar, there are filters for 'ReHS Compliant', 'Symbol/Footprint', 'Lead Free', and 'In Stock'. The main content area displays a list of parts with columns for Manufacturer Part Number, Manufacturer, Description, Digi-Key Part Number, Quantity Available, and Unit Price. A callout box highlights the 'Item Actions' menu, which includes options like 'Choose Symbol', 'Choose Footprint', 'Favorite', 'Add to Project', and 'Datasheet'. A text box overlaid on the screenshot reads: 'Download component symbols, footprints and manufacturer data for use in Mentor Graphics applications'. The footer contains links for 'About', 'Help', 'Terms of Use', 'Privacy Policy', and 'Downloads', along with the Mentor Graphics logo and contact information.

Manufacturer Part Number	Manufacturer	Description	Digi-Key Part Number	Quantity Available	Unit Price
T491A106K010AT	Kemet	CAP TANT 10UF 10V 10% 1206	399-3684-2-ND	384,000	\$0.063
T491A106K006AT7280	Kemet	CAP TANT 10UF 6.3V 10% 1206	399-10116-2-ND	18,000	\$0.064
T491A335K016AT7280	Kemet	CAP TANT 3.3UF 16V 10% 1206	399-10124-2-ND	18,000	\$0.064

Download component symbols, footprints and manufacturer data for use in Mentor Graphics applications

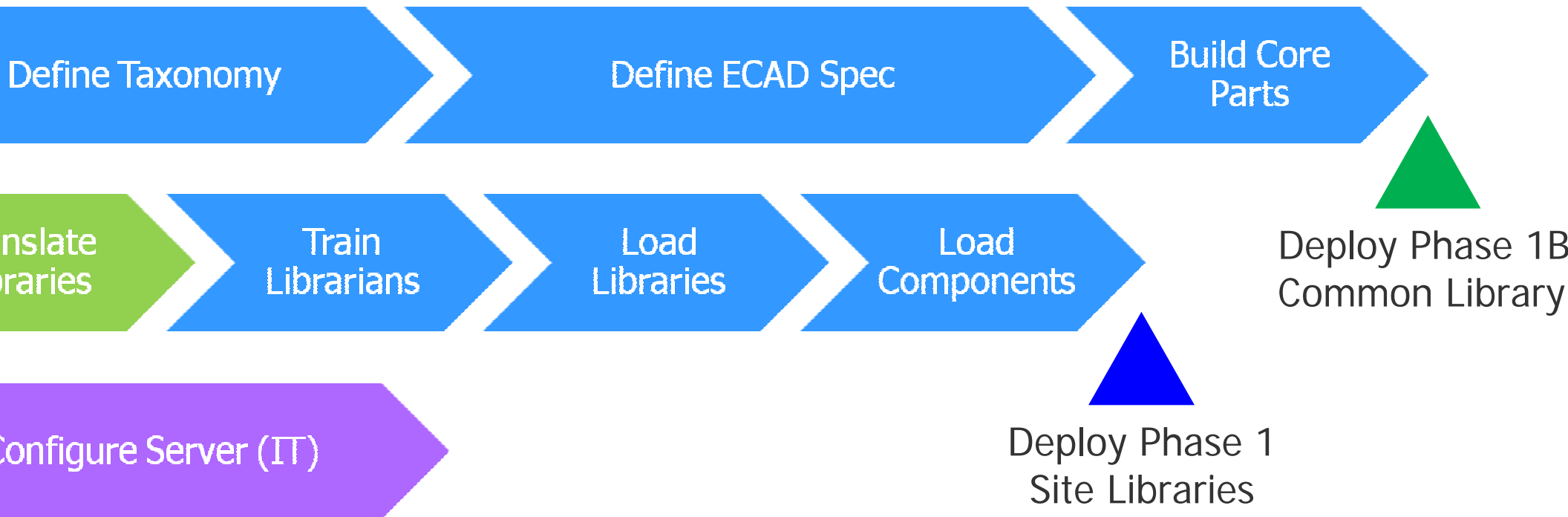
Downloads includes manufacturer part number, properties, and CAD data.
Rename downloaded components to company part numbers in Production Library.

Best Practices: High Level Project Tasks

Best Practice

Start with the basics and add library capability as the design process evolves

Continuously Improve



Deploy Phase 1
Site Libraries

Deploy Phase 1B
Common Library

rap Up



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