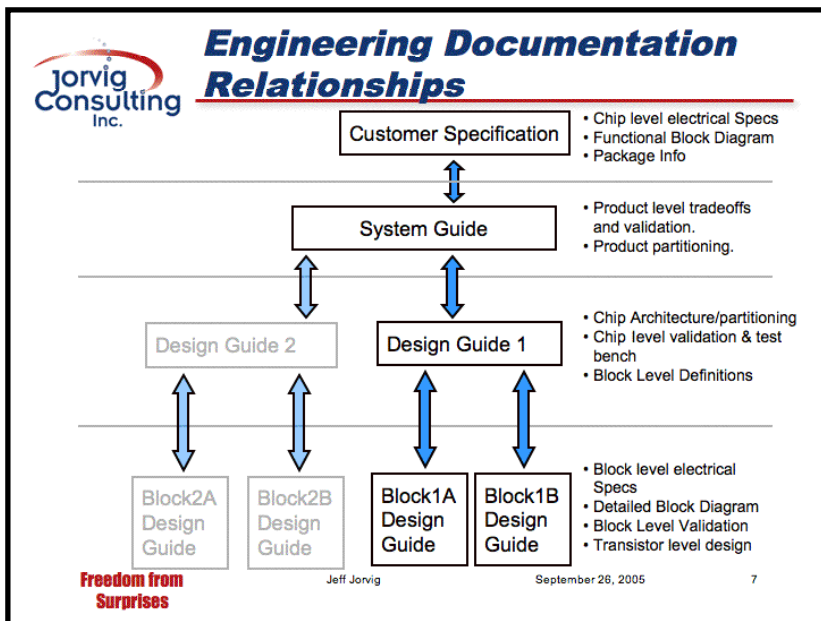


DESIGN GUIDES

The design guide is best described as the merging of the design specification, the design checklist, the design flow and the design process. Design guides are created in a template form to pilot your design process through the various phases from initial concept to production release. Any information or directives that define how the design team is to operate as the design work

progresses should be part of the design guide. The deliverables out of the design activities are also captured in the guide, creating an ideal single documentation package for the completed design work. The finalized guide is also suitable for marketing the design, when future reuse is also an objective. Each design would start with one of these guide templates and fill it out sequential sections as the design progresses. At the finish of the design work the completed design guide is used for the design review, since all of the key information and design strategies is contained within it.



block/module level activities of a project. The diagram to the left represents a typical hierarchy of design guides that would exist in a multi-chip system. Ideally, the goal is to refrain from having the same information in more than one guide, creating a true hierarchy of documentation. Information is referenced through the hierarchy instead of being duplicated.

KEY BENEFITS OF THE DESIGN GUIDE:

- Guides the design process tasks that have been predetermined as best practices.
- Hierarchical Information transfer from higher to lower levels of abstraction.
- Addresses architecture tradeoffs and partitioning and transfer of requirements to the lower level design activities.

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- Aligns design with the business product development process.
- Repository for key deliverables back to the project.
- Allows the crisp requirement transfer that is essential for projects that span multiple locations.
- Addresses information requirements beyond schematics, simulations and layout that are to be managed by design.
- Thorough enough to drive the design reviews for each level of abstraction.
- Enable reuse by covering all the necessary documentation requirements for a 3rd party. It will minimize the "fear" of reuse.