Open Hardware at CERN in practice: electronics



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Welcome and introduction

Friday 9 May 2025 14:00 (10 minutes)

This quick presentation will provide an introduction to the event, whose main purpose is to take designers on a journey from design idea to commercial Open Source Hardware (OSHW) in the CERN context. We start with the importance of Free and Open-Source Software (FOSS) tools for Printed Circuit Board (PCB) design, and a presentation of KiCad, which now benefits from commercial support at CERN. We then move on to the support you can expect from CERN's electronics design office and from the IT department. Whether you design collaboratively or on your own, you can use the Open Hardware Repository to share your designs and related information with the world, either throughout the design process or at the end. The Knowledge Transfer (KT) group helps you maximise the impact of your designs outside CERN. In collaboration with the CERN Open Source Program Office (OSPO) they provide guidance including interaction with companies and recommendations for the use of the CERN Open Hardware Licence (OHL). Procurement is an essential part of the process. This is when you change hats, stop designing and start purchasing hardware. The CERN procurement service helps you in this important part of the journey. We will finish with two examples putting it all together: radiation-tolerant lighting and White Rabbit. Then we will have a bit of time for discussion in the meeting room. Those who want to continue are welcome to join us after the event in nearby restaurant #1 for more informal discussion, hopefully on the terrace if the weather is good!

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