

# IEEE EMCS Distinguished Lectures

## “ Why Does My Product Fail EMC ?”

*And How To Fix it.*

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# Outline / Overview

- Thanks For The Invitation !
- EMC Process Overview & Fundamentals <brief>
- Illustrate the 4 Quadrants Through Case Studies
- Problem Solving Methods: Technical & Humanistic
- Measurements, Experiments, Theory Formation, Modeling, Solution Generation & Maintaining Progress
- Lessons-learned

# EMC Tech Overview

## *EMC Definition*

- The Beneficial Property of a Device / System :
- Not to Create Excessive E-M Energy
- Not to be Disturbed by Expected E-M Energy
- Practical Design Goals & Regulatory Limits
- & Within Constraints

# EMC Tech Overview

## *The 3 Players*

- Source
- Path / Coupling Mechanism
- Affected Device or System / Receptor
  - Choose the “Best” One(s) to Attack-
- Consider Constraints :  
Performance, \$, Time

# EMC Tech Overview

| <u>SOURCE</u>      | <u>PATH</u> | <u>RECEPTOR</u>  |
|--------------------|-------------|------------------|
| Radio/TV/Cell      | wires       | Radio:AM/FM/TV   |
| GPS Satellites     | cables      | Cell Hand-set    |
| BlueTooth          | earth       | GPS -TomTom      |
| High Voltage Lines | metal       | BluetoothHeadset |
| Car                | building    | Car              |
| iPOD               | person      | Pace-maker       |
| Cell Hand-set      | air         | Hearing Aid      |

# EMC Tech Overview

## *The EMC Matrix*

Conducted  
Immunity

Radiated  
Immunity

Conducted  
Emissions

Radiated  
Emissions

# EMC Tech Overview

*4 Mechanisms + Plus One*

Rank-order... Depends On Situation

- Conducted (mutual inductance)
- Magnetic Field
- Electric Field
- Electro-Magnetic Field (radio)  
**+ *Path of Least Impedance***

Re: Dr Tom VanDoren

# EMC Case Studies

- Narrative Illustrations of ..
- Physical Principles
- Analysis Approaches
- Problem Solving
- Making Progress
- Working Well With Others
- “Best Solutions” Within Constraints

# Process Words of Wisdom

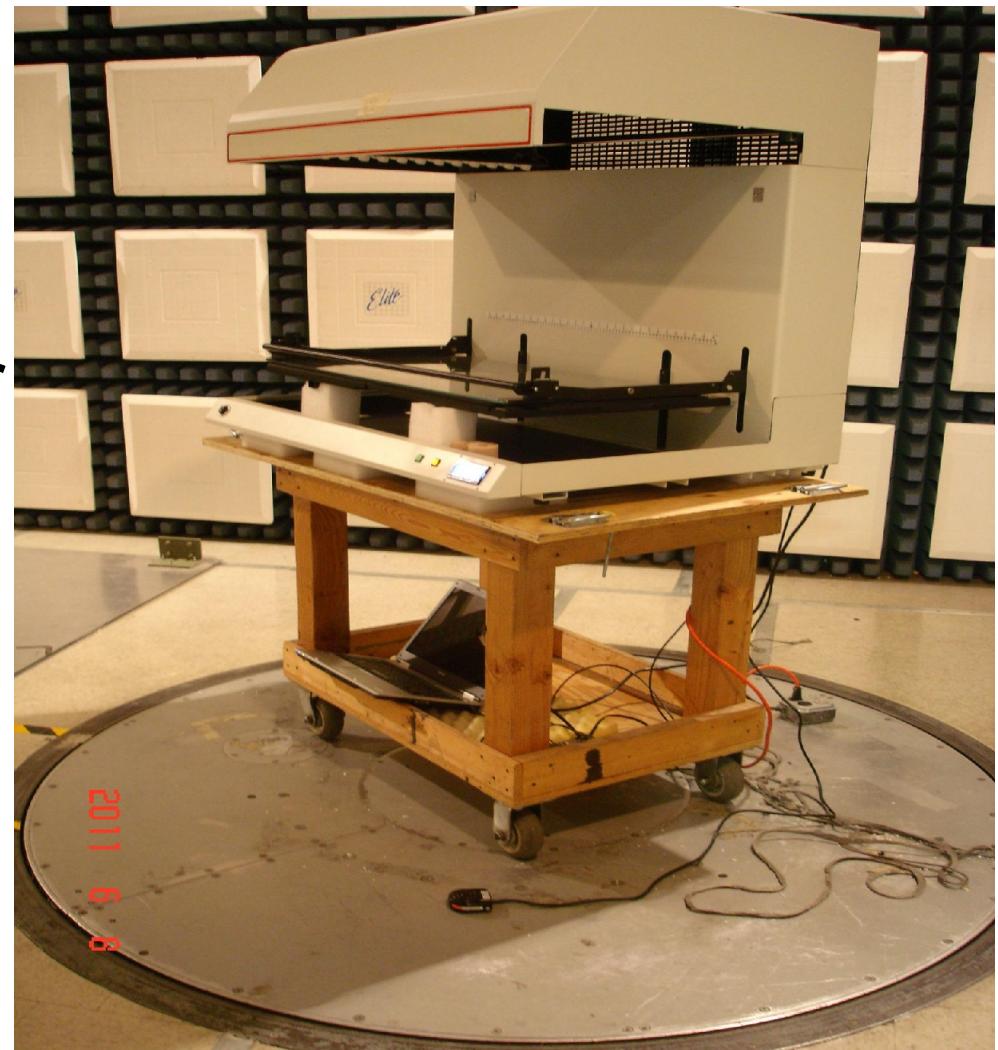
## Henry Ott's Big 4

1. Divide & Conquer : Structures, Freq's & Modes
2. Find The Dominant Mechanism : Pile On Fixes
3. Kill It Dead : Optimize Later
4. Implement Fixes : Best Possible Fashion

# CE Case 1 Scanner

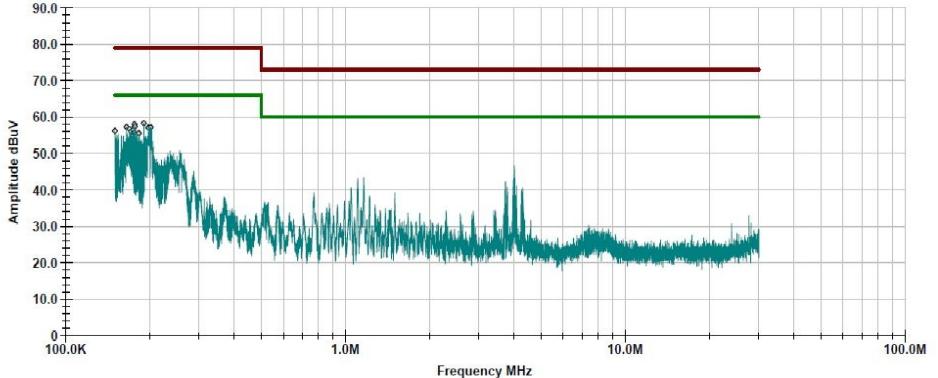
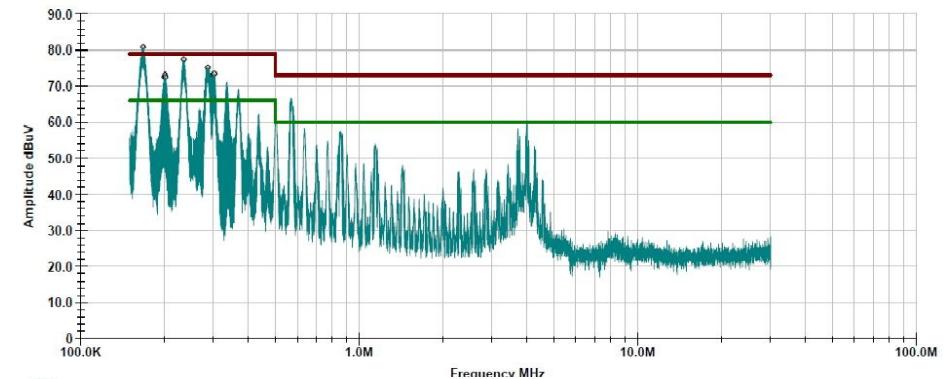
1

- The “Story”
- Large Table-top Commercial Document Scanner
- Goal : CE Mark
- Design Approach:  
PC-AT Supply  
CE-Marked



# CE Case 1 Scanner 2

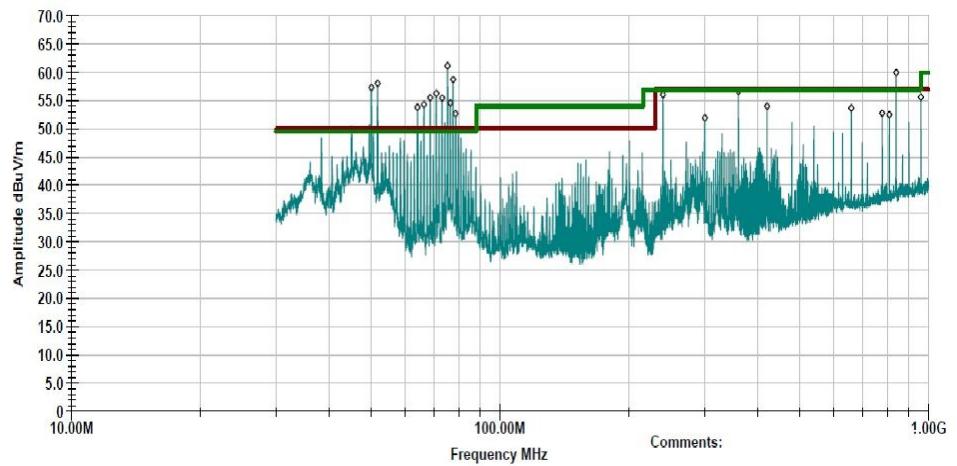
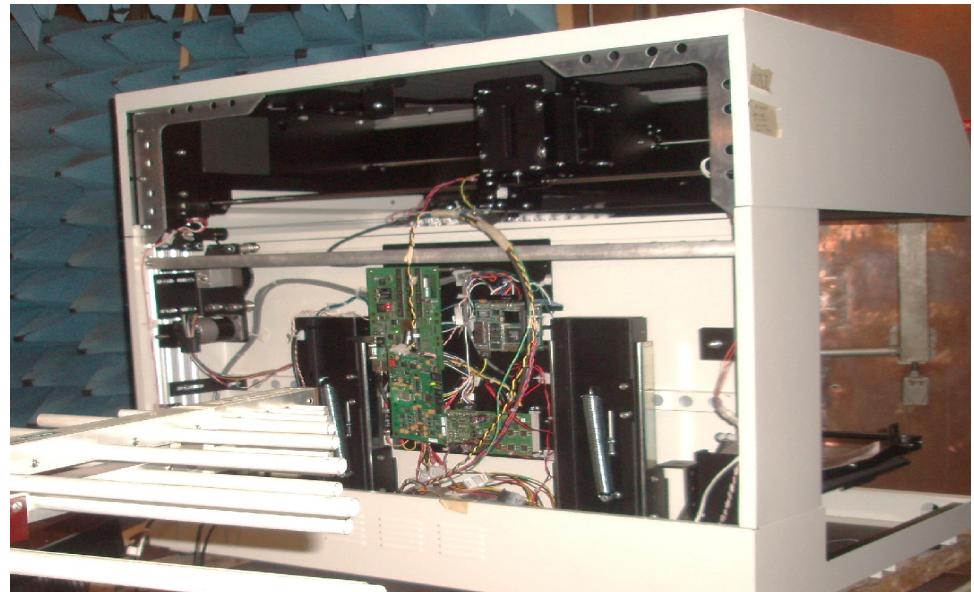
- Verification Test :  
Fails CE @ Low MHz
- Fix : Add “Can” Filter  
Pi+X/Y Caps
- So We're Done, Right ?  
Uh-Oh, Not so Fast !



# RE Case 2 Scanner Reprised

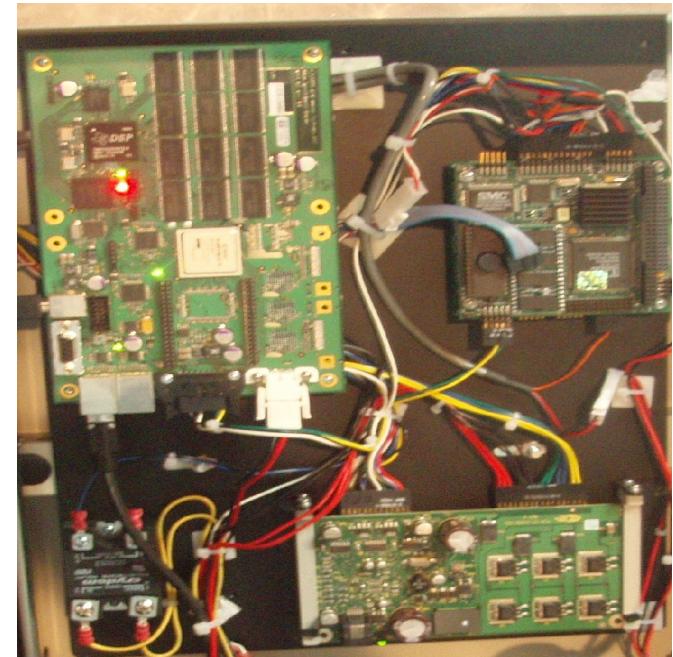
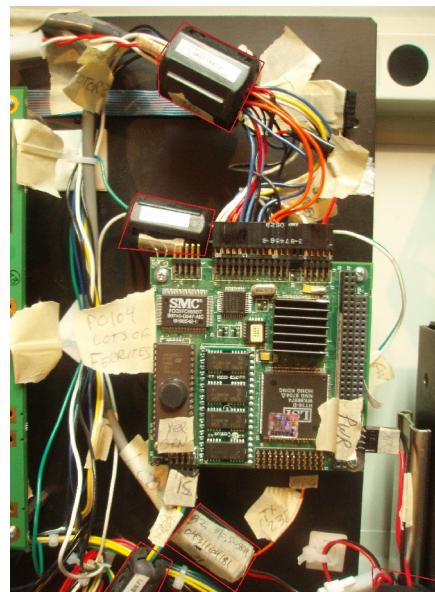
1

- Large Table-top Commercial Document Scanner
- The Plot Thickens Way Beyond CE
- Boards & Lotsa Wires
- Sources, Paths & Radiators
- Where 2 start ?



# RE Case 2 Scanner Reprised 2

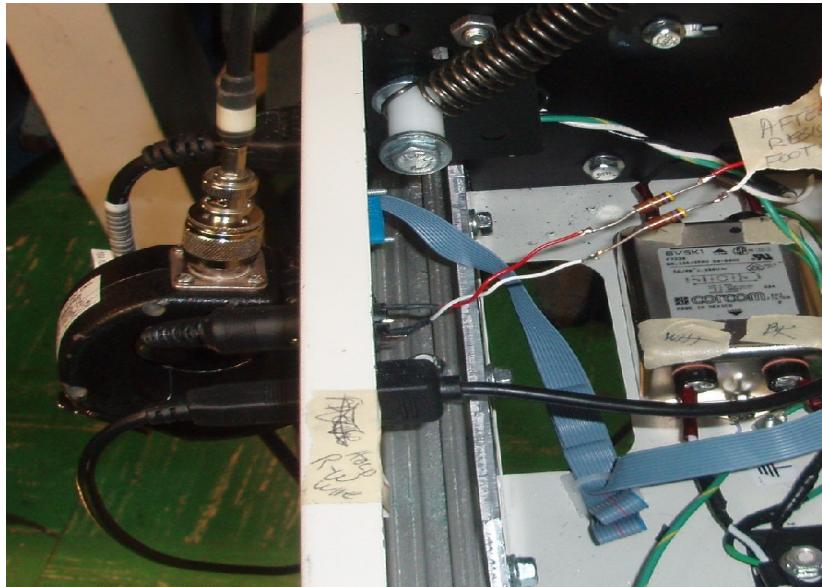
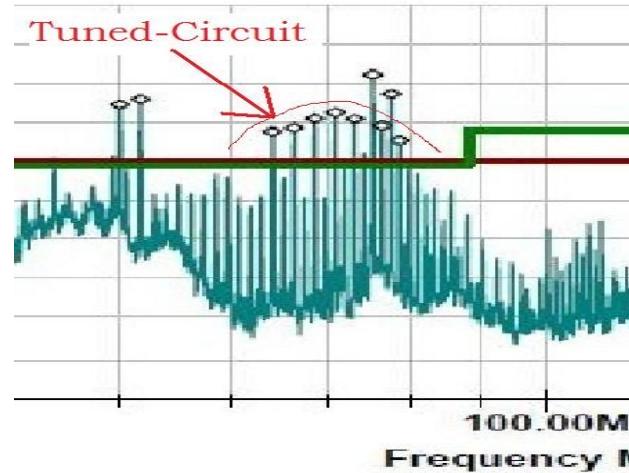
- Purist Find the Source & Stop It There
- Close-field Probe The “PC-104 Brains”
- Choke it Off 5X
- Not Enough !
- Keep Moving !



# RE Case 2 Scanner Reprised

3

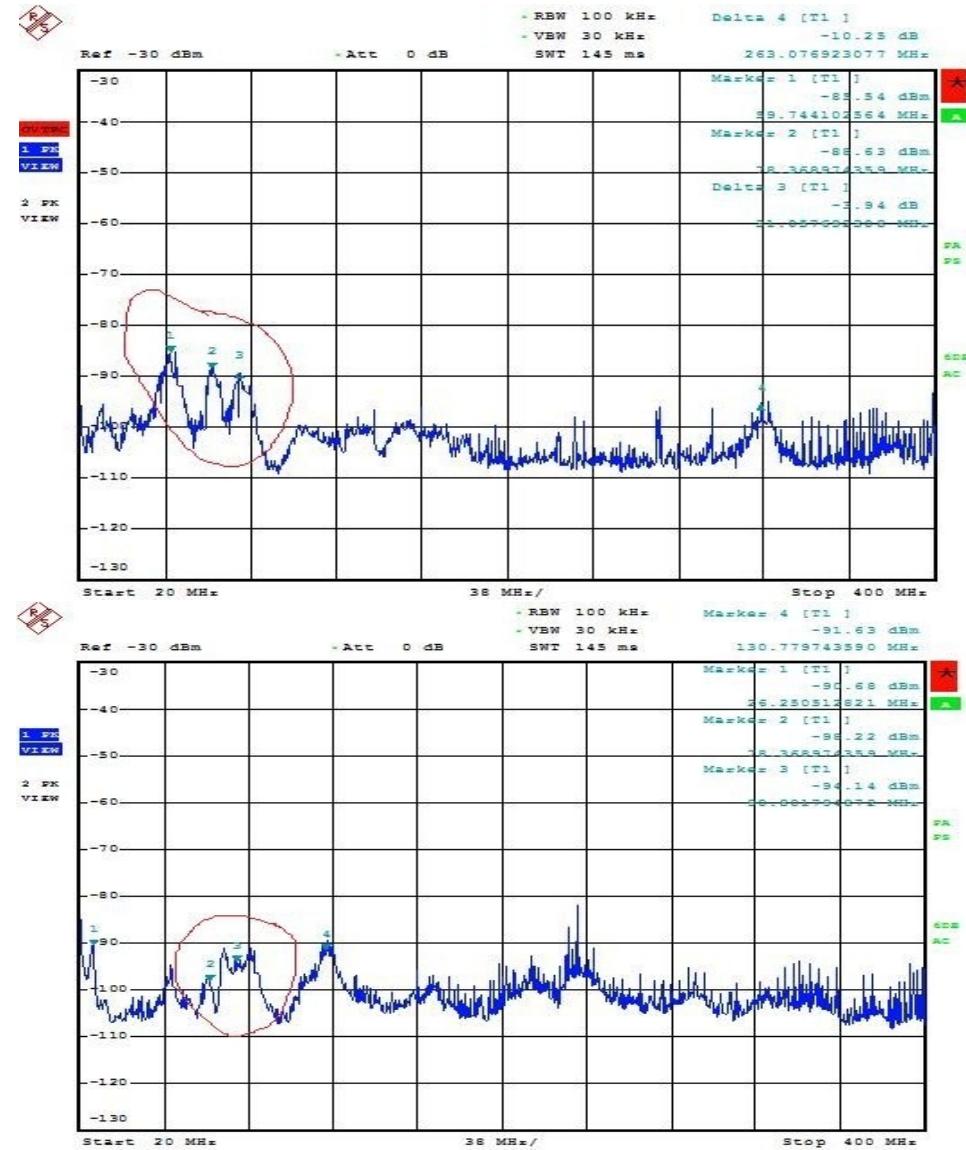
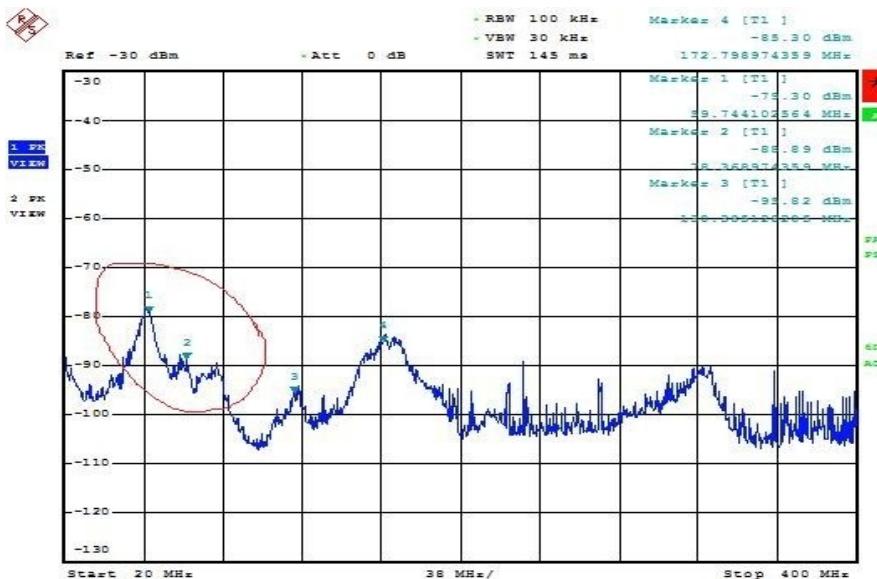
- I see 3 Antennas:  
USB, FootSwitch, AC
- Measure Currents as  
Lee Hill Advises



# RE Case 2 Scanner Reprised

4

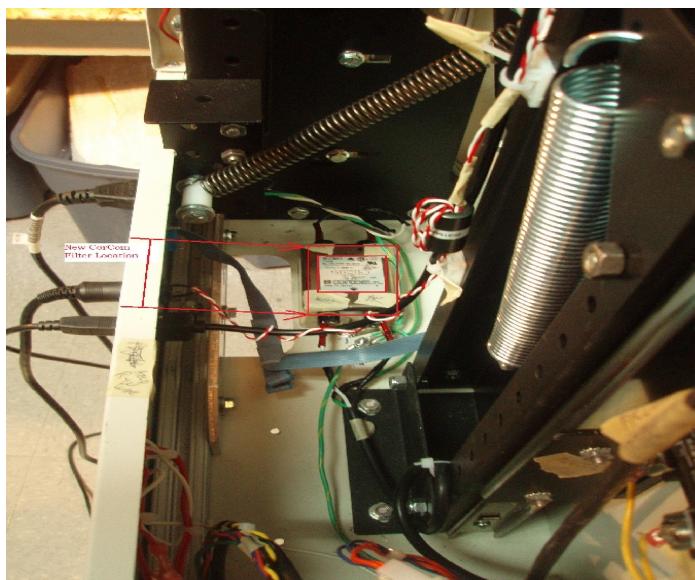
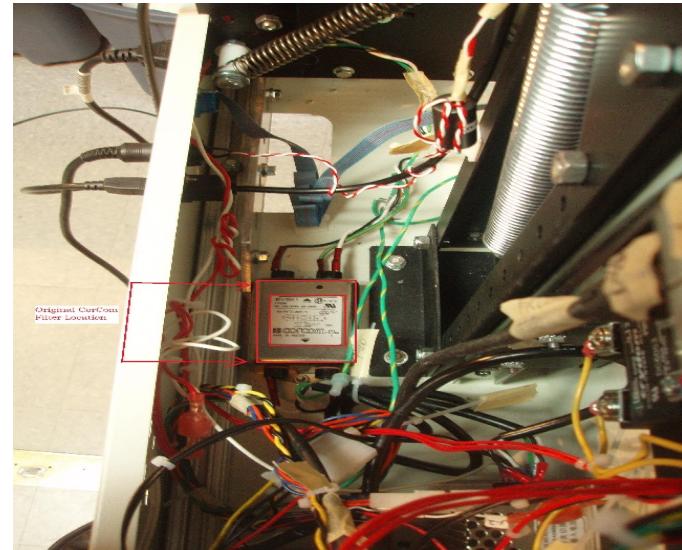
- Currents on 3 “Antennas”
- Same but different !



# RE Case 2 Scanner Reprised 5

What to do ? All Three !  
“Kill It Dead” H.Ott

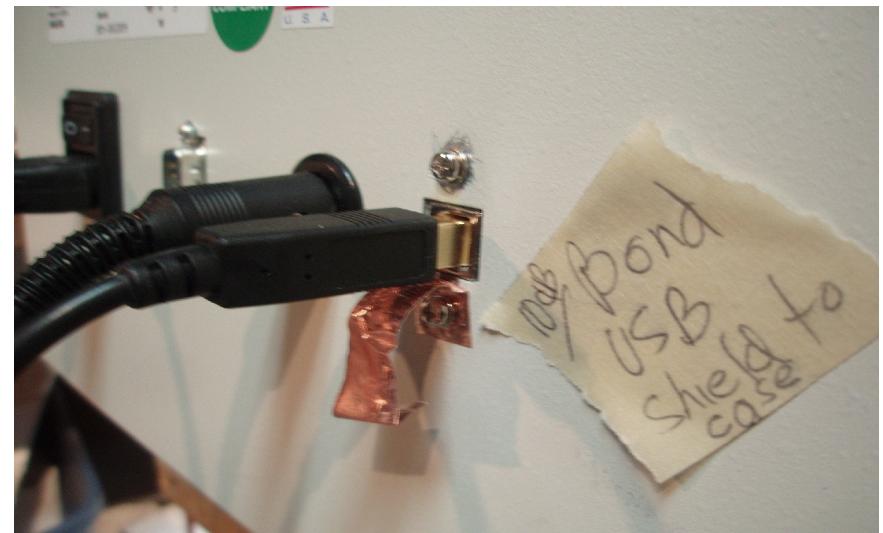
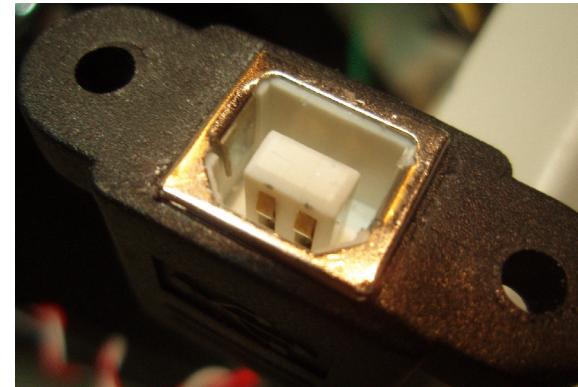
- Move AC Filter. Isolate & decouple wires
- Got a “Free” 2<sup>nd</sup> Use for Filter = TriZ principle
- Sounds easy now, but then?



# RE Case 2 Scanner *Reprised*

6

- USB Gnd Floats in Plastic
- USB GND bond demo
- Crude R/C filter in Foot Switch



# RE Case 2 Scanner Reprised 7

, Inc.

Industries Inc.

Fixes Ver1.1

## EMC Fix Summary

| #  | Name                                       | Corrective Action   | Impact    | Notes   | Follow-up  |
|----|--|---|-----------|---|--|
| 1  | USB Connector                              | Use Shield Grounding USB connector @ Rear Panel. Remove paint in contact area. Use star washers.  | 40-80 MHz | Demo: 3M brand copper tape w/ conductive adhesive folded into female opening                                | BOM : Specify New USB connector, starwashers, Drawing: Paint mask        |
| 2  | AC Mains Filter Location                   | Align Corcom filter's AC mains terminals adjacent to IEC power cable receptacle   | 40-80 MHz | Wire now 8" vs. 13" Corcom filter has 2 new mounting holes. Use star washers.                               | Drawing : Holes, BOM: Star washers                                       |
| 3  | Chassis "Hood" bonding                     | Bond across gap between hood sheetmetal and vertical side sheetmetal.   | 40-80 MHz | Demo: Copper tape across gap on rear outside surface both sides.  | NEED PRODUCTION METHOD   |
| 4  | Rear Panel Bonding                         | Remove rear panel paint under 3 screw fastener heads, use star washers  | 40-80 MHz | Assure black metal brackets have EMC bond to silver iridite girders , More star washers ?                   | BOM: star washers, Drawing: Paint masking                                |
| 5  | Footswitch DIN Connector Ground            | White ground wire from DIN connector short connection to rear chassis ground.   | 40-80 MHz | Use adjacent DB9 connector mounting screw with ring lug ,remove panel paint & add star lockwasher           | BOM : ring lug + wire , starwasher. Drawing : cable design               |
| 6  | Footswitch signal wire filter (Ver1.1)     | Add series 100 Ohm filter resistor in red wire at PC104 connector J4-P19  | 40-80 MHz | Lower \$ as/more effective as ferrite bead. Logic Low now 0.97 Volts (lower resistance to meet logic Volts) | BOM:resistor, Drawing:cable design. VERIFY LOGIC LEVEL NOISE IMMUNITY OK |
| 7  | LCD Cables Shield                          | Bond black metal sheetmetal "L" cover (over 3 gray cables under scan table) to silver imidite coated girder   | 40-80 MHz | Remove black paint around 2 hole's inside where star washer is adjacent to silver girder.                   | BOM: star washers, Drawing: Paint masking                                |
| 8  | LCD Panel as Shield                        | Bond LCD front sheetmetal panel to main chassis through 2 existing fasteners  | 40-80 MHz | Remove paint around screw holes in main sheetmetal & front panel, use starwashers                           | BOM: star washers, Drawing: Paint masking                                |
| 9  | Decouple / Isolate AC Mains Wiring         | Dress all non-AC mains wires min 4" from wiring between IEC receptacle & Corcom   | 40-80 MHz | Twist white & black wires between IEC receptacle & filter   | BOM: cable, Drawing: wire routes   |
| 10 | Decouple / Isolate DC supply output Wiring | Disconnect all 5 and 12 Volt wiring from PC-AT supply to its right side as they exit. Minimize volume of rats-nest, locate & secure against chassis sheetmetal. | 40-80 MHz | Route & secure wiring bundles from black PCB mounting plate toward right side of PC-AT supply               | Drawing: wire routes   |

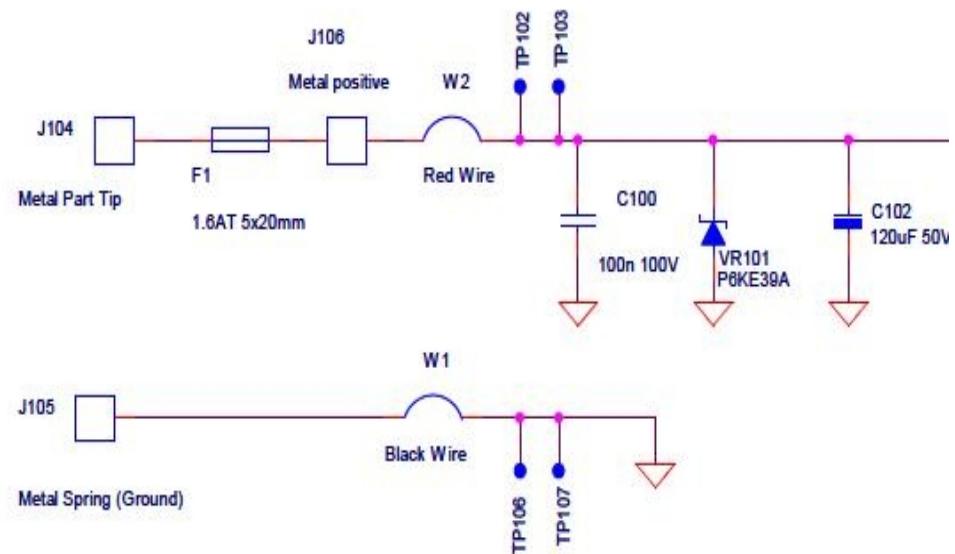
# RE Case 2 Scanner Lessons 8

- Do not have to always contain it @ Source PC104 cards: Just too many I/O & wires
- Thankfully found Dominant Effect (H-Ott)  
Cables = Antennas & K-I-D @ low \$
- Did not have to “predict” Pre-Compliance levels  
Relative improvement @ Current Probe Enough
- Problems were Frequency & Source  
independent / separable – Allowed independent  
fixes applied **w/o interactions** , whew :)

# CI Case 3 Load-Dump

1

- Vehicle Power Socket Charger
- 24 V “Design”
- 600 Watt 39 V TVS
- Passed 12 Volt “Load Dump”
- Verify 24 V Dump  
110 ~ 170 Volts  
200mS , 2~ 4 Ohm



# CI Case 3 Load-Dump 2

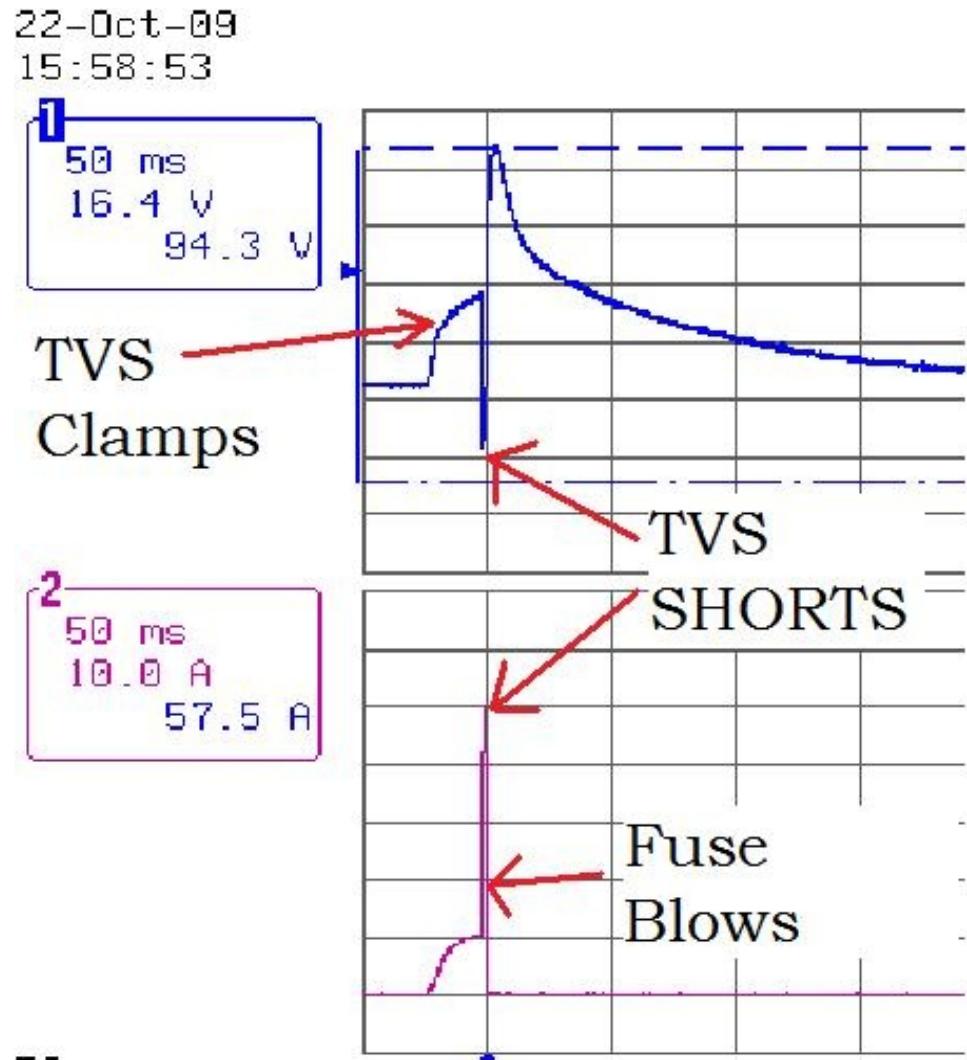
- Monitor I & V
- Ramp Up Stress Volts
- 1.6 A slo-blow  $I_2t=6.4$



# CI Case 3 Load-Dump

3

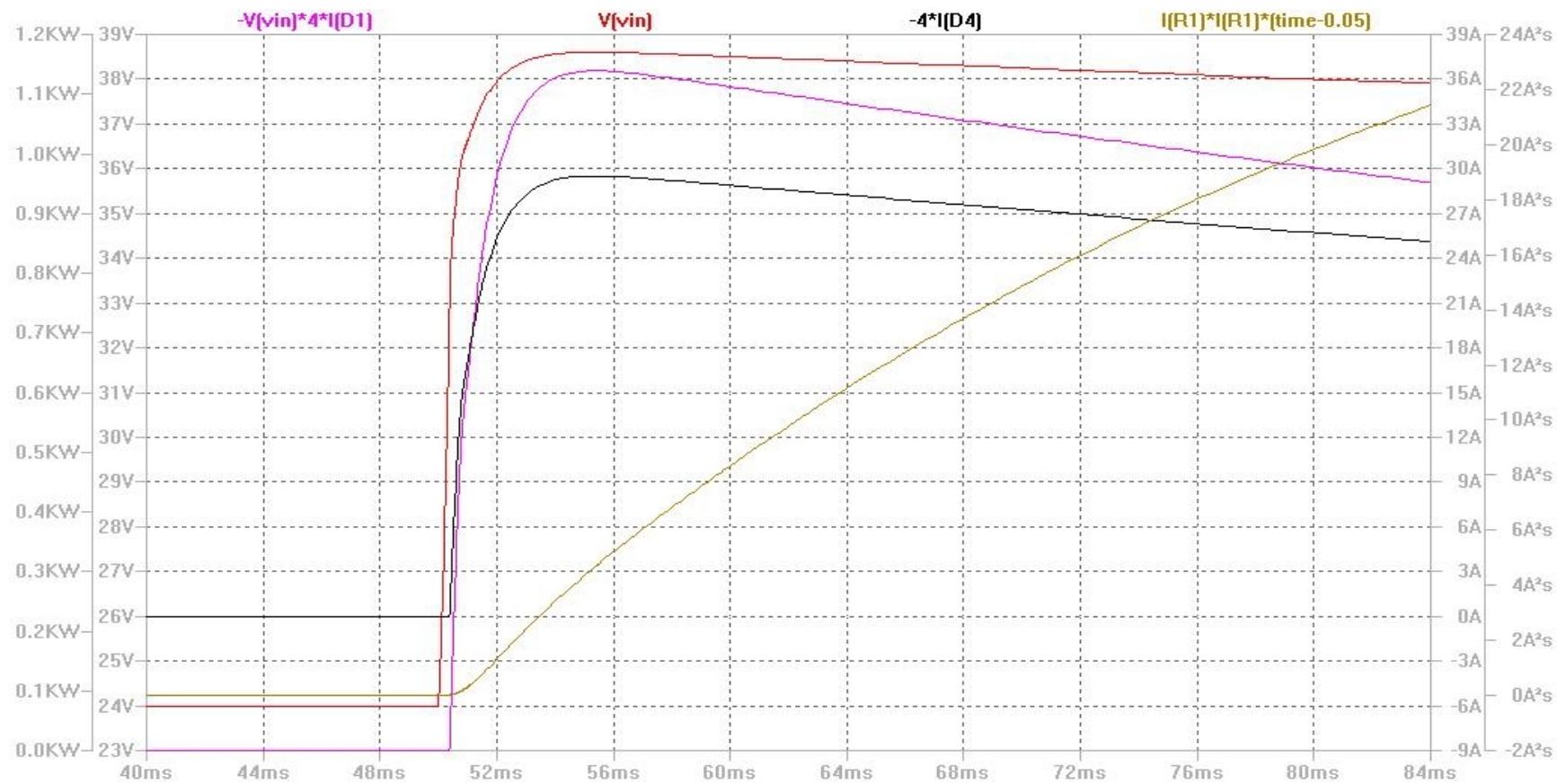
- 600 Watt TVS
- Clamps “soft”
- TVS Overheats to SHORT
- Blows Fuse
- NOT Acceptable



# CI Case 3 Load-Dump

4

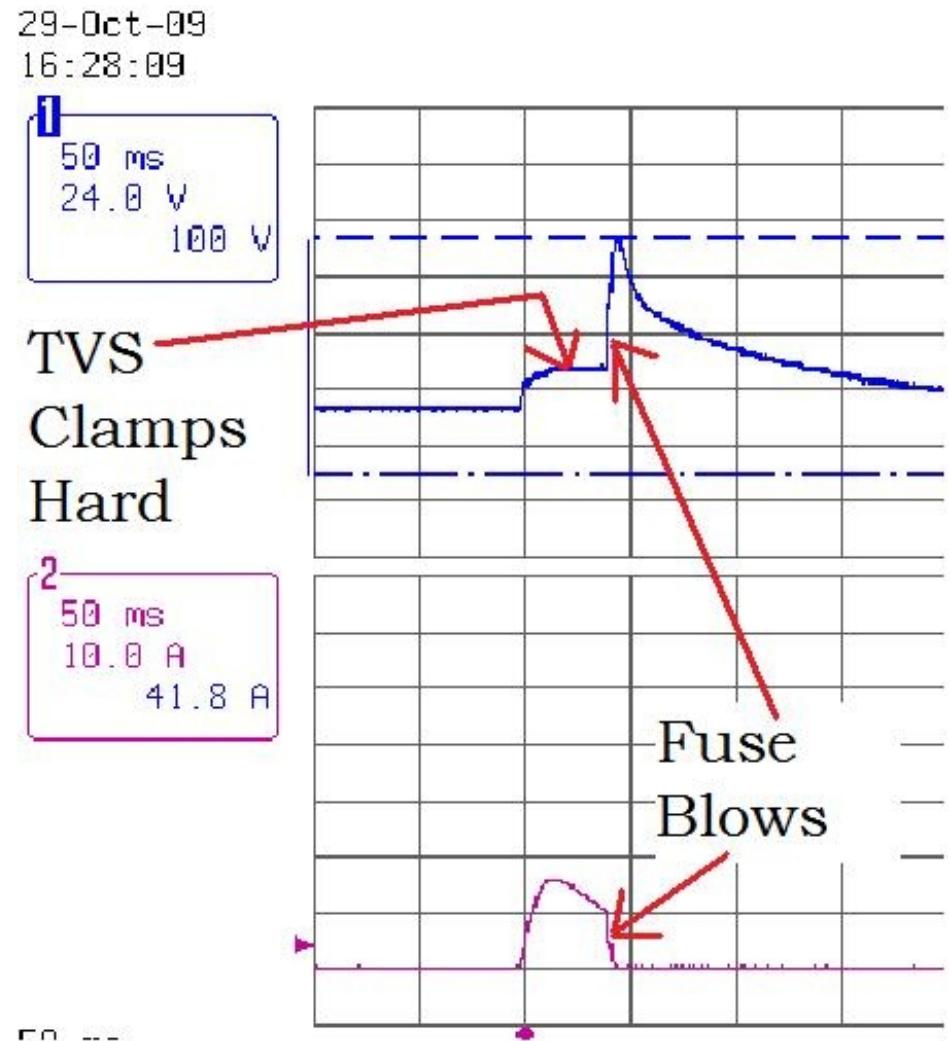
- SPICE for Insights – kW ,  $I^{^2}t$



# CI Case 3 Load-Dump

5

- 5 kW TVS
- Clamps at Voltage
- Holds Voltage
- Clears Fuse, Slow I<sub>2</sub>t
- TVS Survives
- Change the Fuse OK



# CI Case 3 Load-Dump Lessons 6

- Go / No-Go Testing Insufficient
- Gather “Real” Data While Verifying
- Understand the Physics .. Fuse I<sub>2t</sub>
- Simulate to Communicate
- Knowledge Makes it Easier to Sell Solutions
- Do Not Fear Going For The Max : 5kW

# RI Case 4 - Big PCB

1

- So I Get an e-mail
- Commercial Vehicle Control System
- Fails 3V/m @ 3 Labs  
Copper Tape the Box
- Can I Fix It ?
- Client Visit - Overload
- Just Say Yes



## ***Assessment***

- ~15 cables (antennas)
- Plastic Box
- Huge PCB : Area & Thickness
- Multiple uP's & Analogue - Loosely Populated
- Minimal Failure Data – Something Resets
- “I'm the Expert” – Make *Recommendations*

# RI Case 4 - Big PCB

3

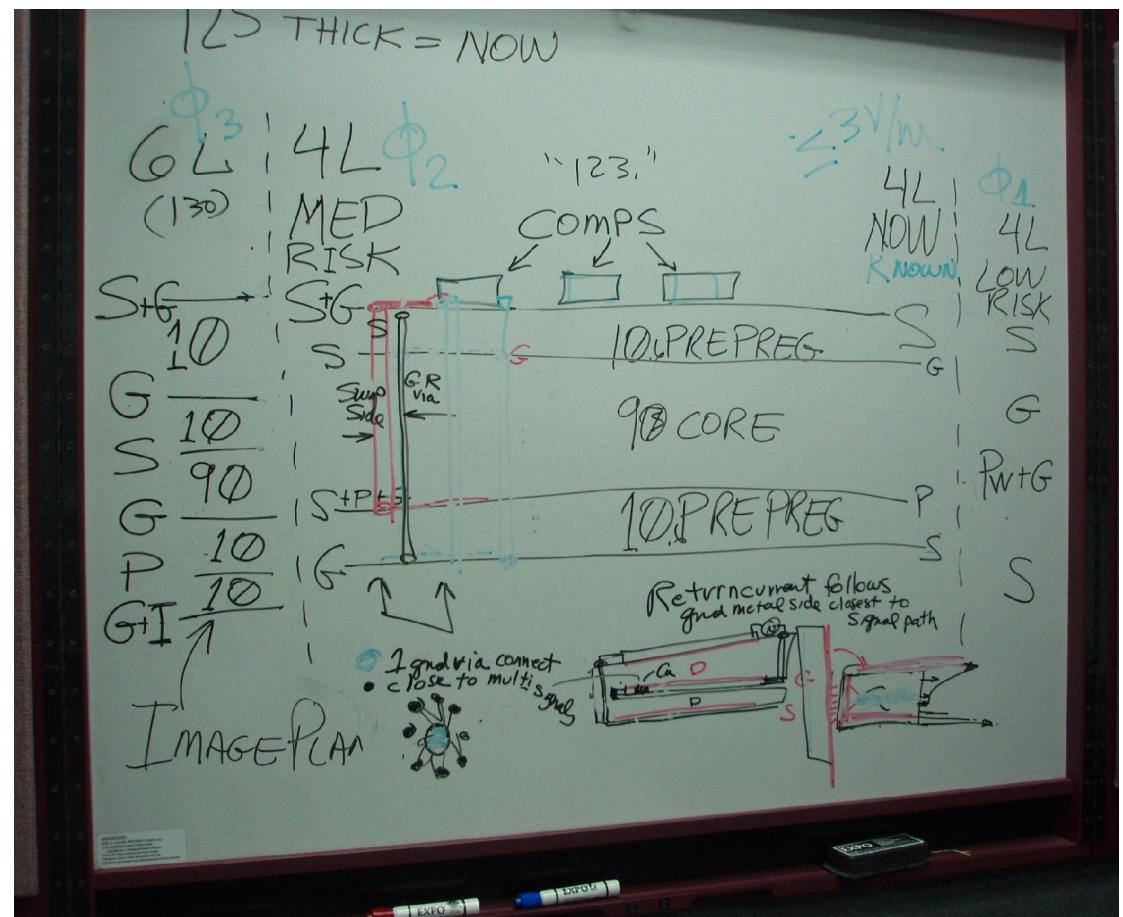
## *How To Approach ?*

- Study Schematic & Layout
- List of Best Design Practices & Why
- Pictures of PCB modifications
- Alternate PCB Stackups & Why: H Ott's Book
- Expectations Set : 3 Iterations
- Constraints : “If it took a little more \$ to solve it for The Holidays I'd be good with that ”

# RI Case 4 - Big PCB

4

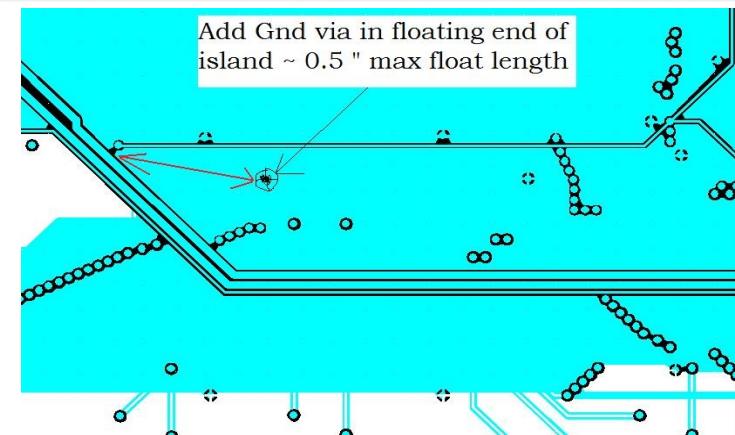
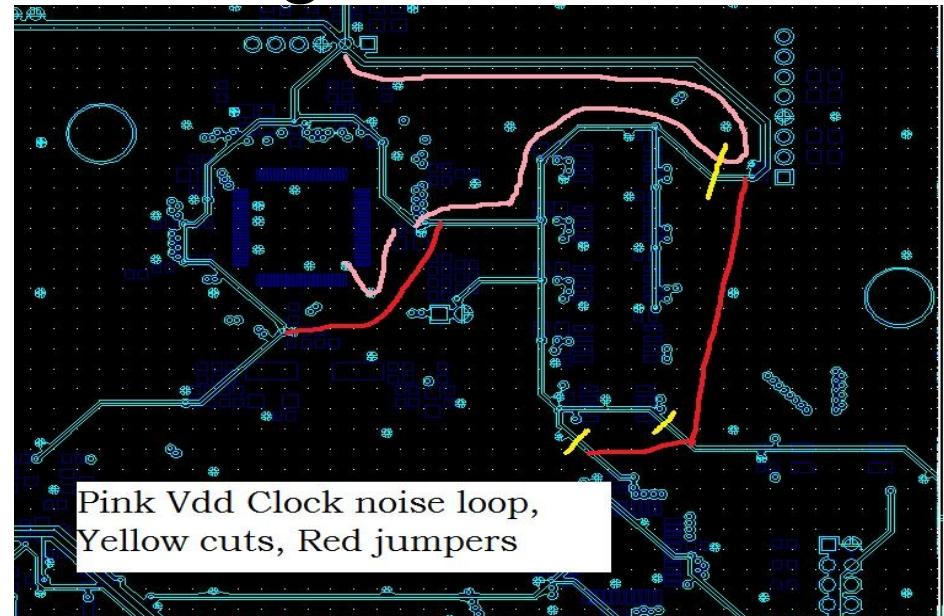
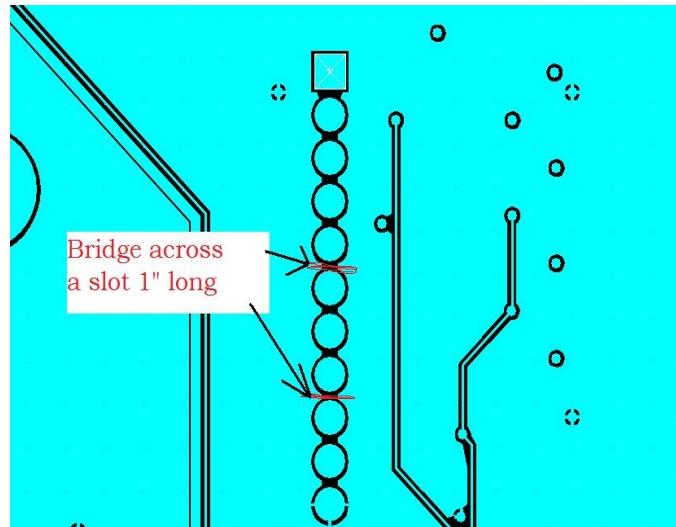
- PCB Stackup 4 layers
- 0.125" thick
- Signals Outers
- Power/Gnd Inners
- No Gnd Fills
- The Opportunity !



# RI Case 4 - Big PCB

5

## Marked-up PCB changes



# RI Case 4 - Big PCB 6

- Found Allies : PCB Design Engineer & Ott Book
- Chapter 16 “The Rosetta Stone” of Stackups
- Bury Signals In Between Ground Planes
- Back-fill / Gnd-pour Open Signal Layer Areas
- Via-Stitch all Gnds Together Densely
- Bypass / Choke Every Cable (Antenna) Wire

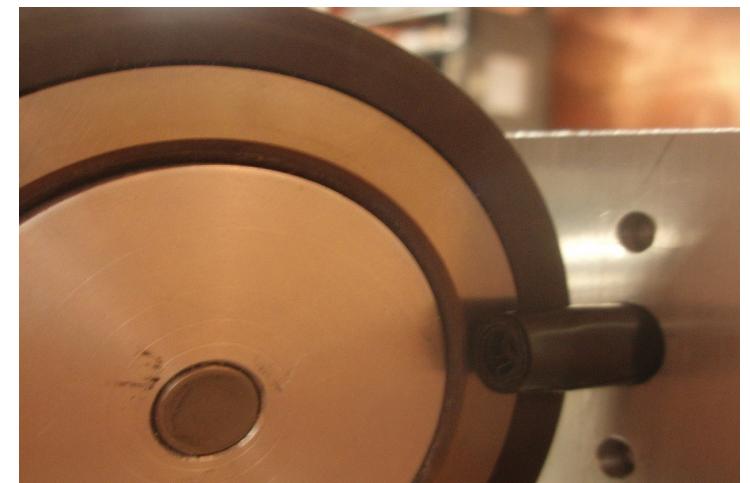
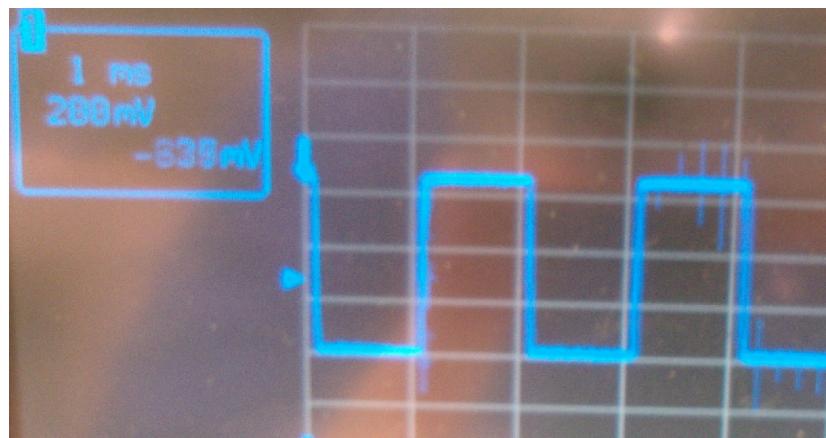
# RI Case 4 - Big PCB LESSONS

7

- Being There & Establishing Trust
- Just Say Yes .. Someone Else Would Too
- Find The Ally Within
- Use Common Language / Framework
- Ask For Everything & Early
- Communicate Frequently (Over Distance)
- Set Expectations & Limitations – Best Efforts
- Best Practices in Circuit & PCB, Work ...It Depends...

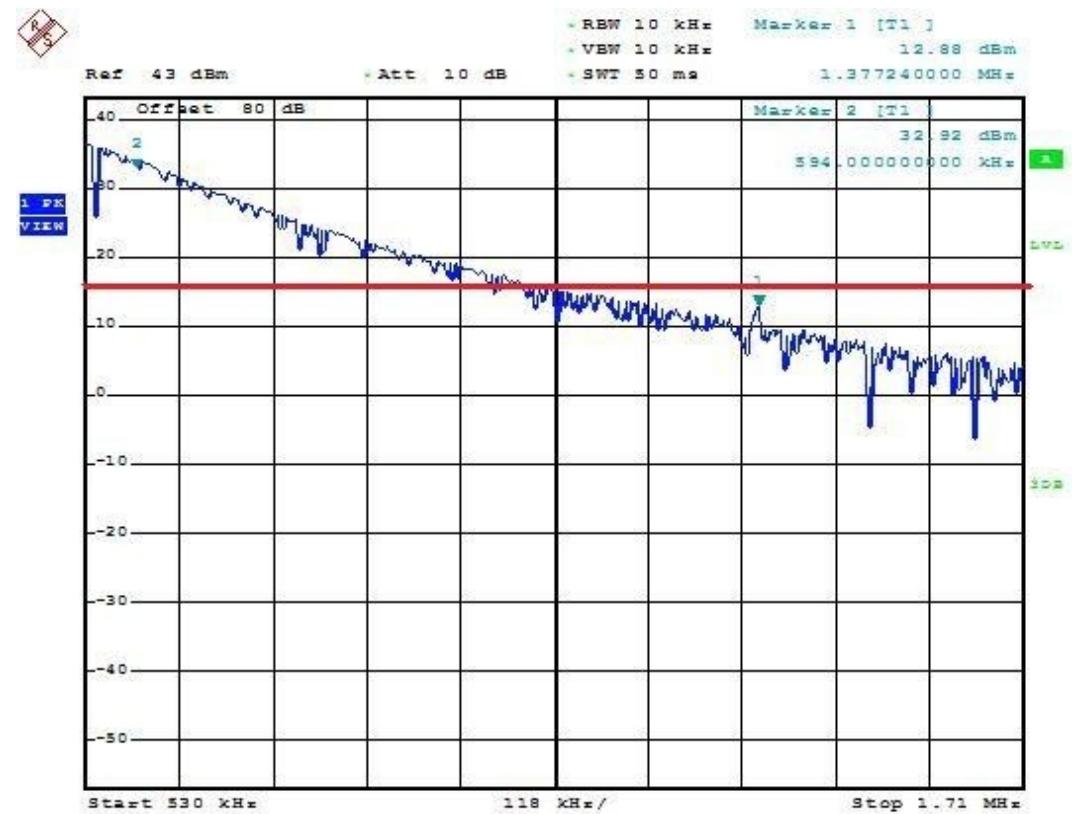
# CE Case 5 – Hall Sensor 1

- Good IC RePackaged
- 2 terminals – simple !
- 500 Hz Pulses  
Wheel Speed



# CE Case 5 – Hall Sensor 2

- Just Measure CE in AM Radio Band
- What The %#@&! Over the Line ?
- OK 10nF Shunt Cap Can Fix This
- & Need Cap for ESD “2 for 1 Sale”



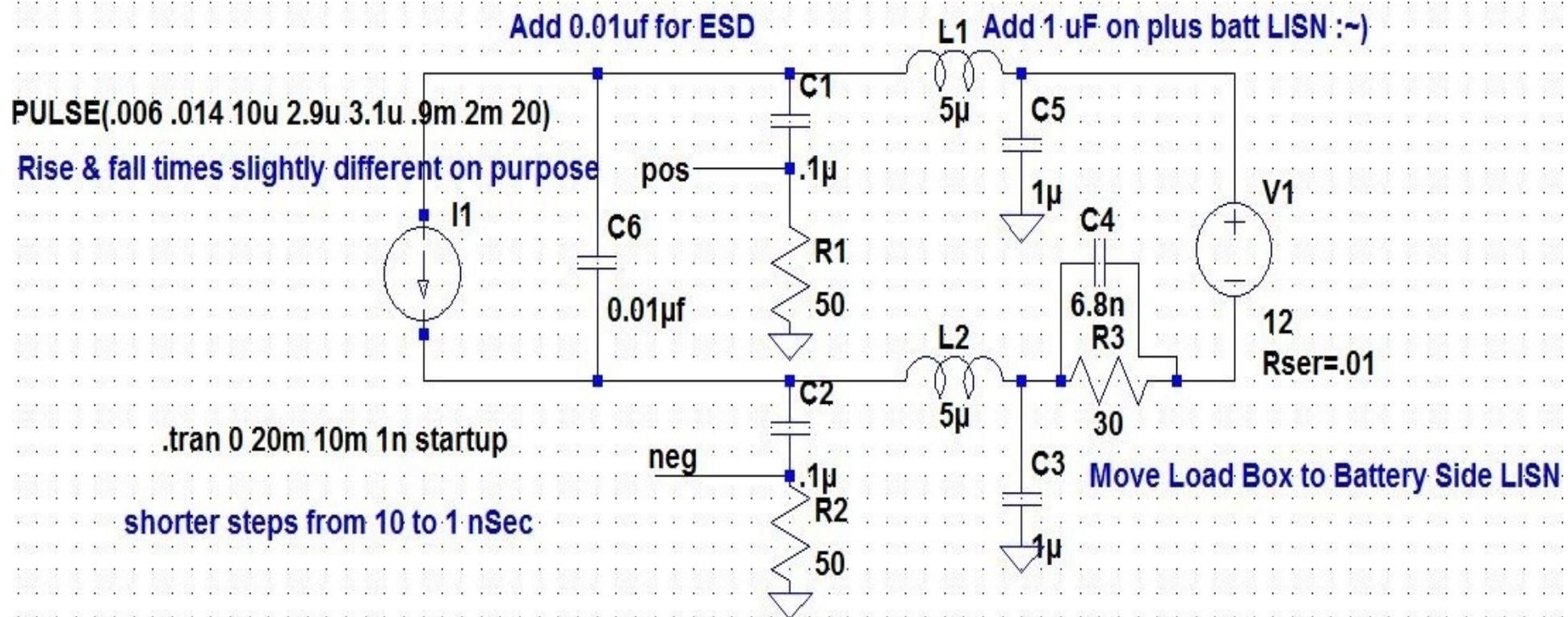
# CE Case 5 – Hall Sensor 3

- Almost Better ...
- What's That Peak ?
- Find the Hidden Resonant Circuit



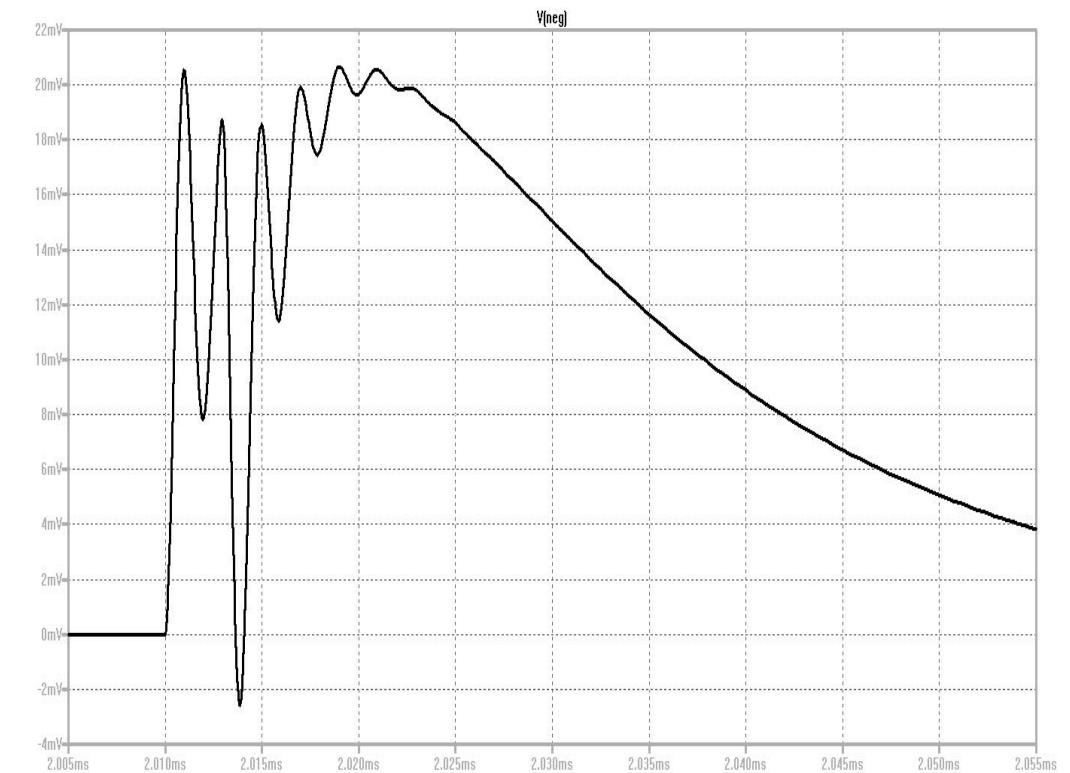
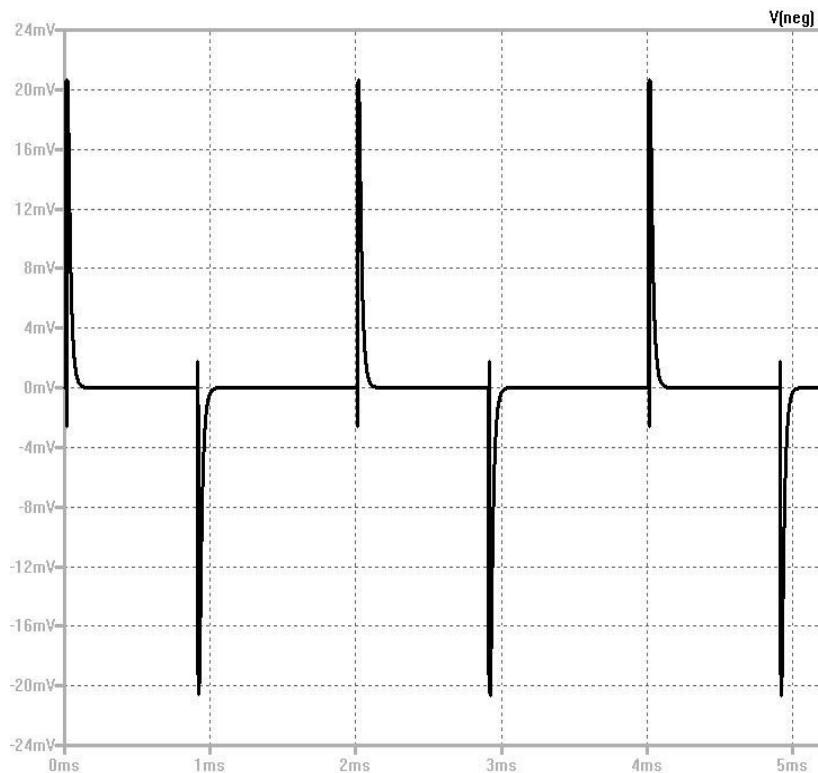
# CE Case 5 – Hall Sensor 4

## SPICE Model For Insights



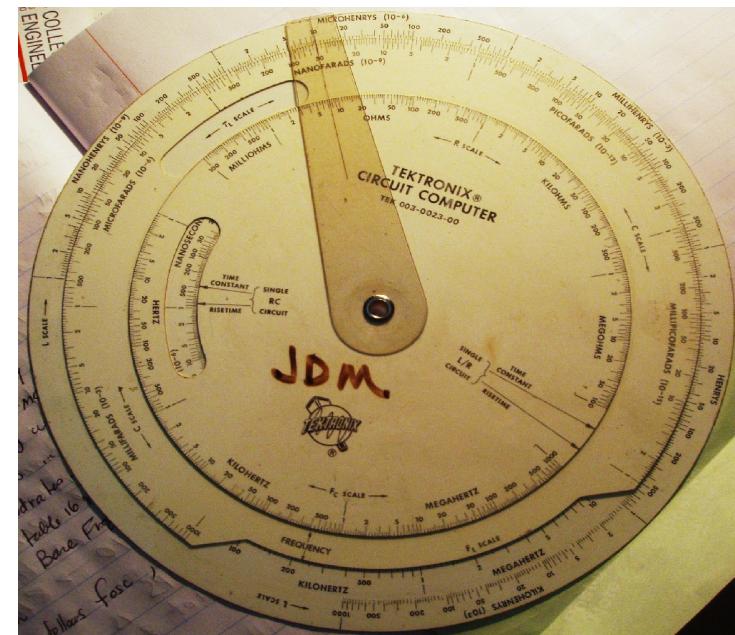
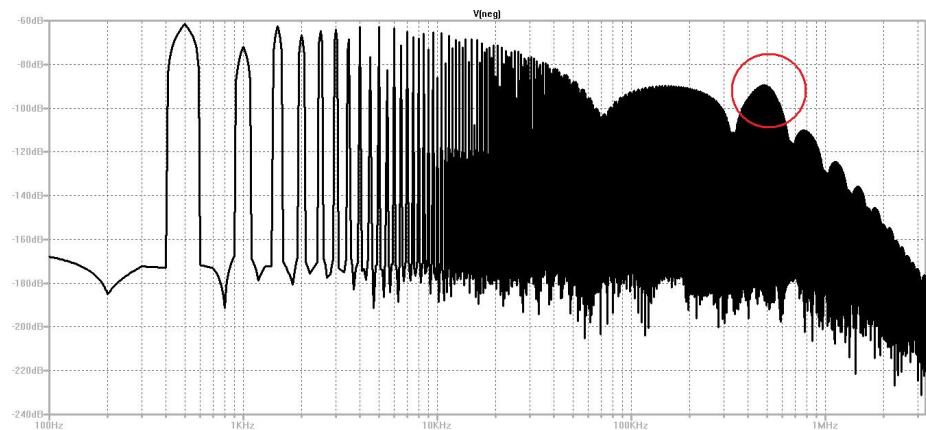
# CE Case 5 – Hall Sensor 5

- LISN Gets Pulsed & Rung Out By SPICE



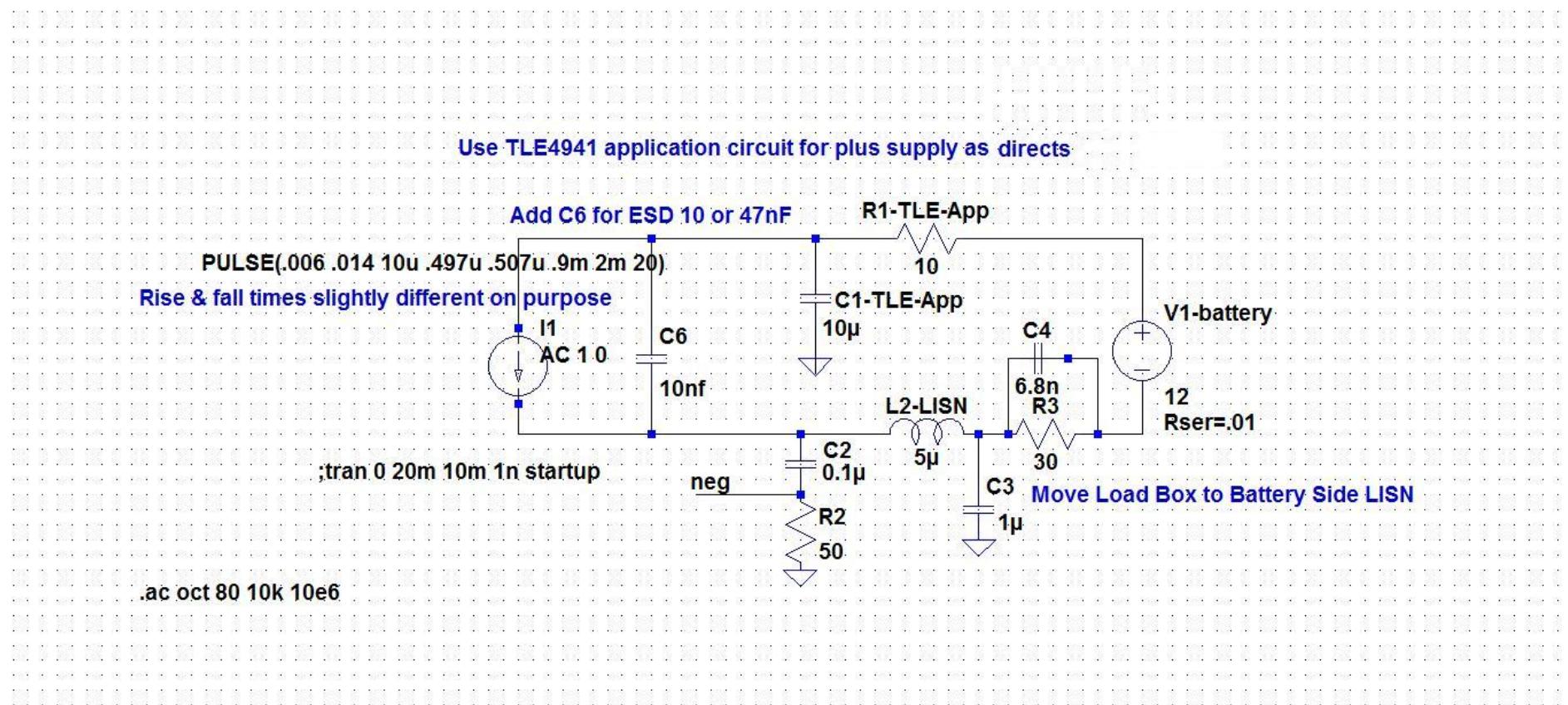
# CE Case 5 – Hall Sensor 6

- FFT Peak ~500 kHz
- L-IS-N
- Impedance Stabilization?
- LISN Coils Resonance !
- 10nF & 10uH do the math
- ~500 kHz



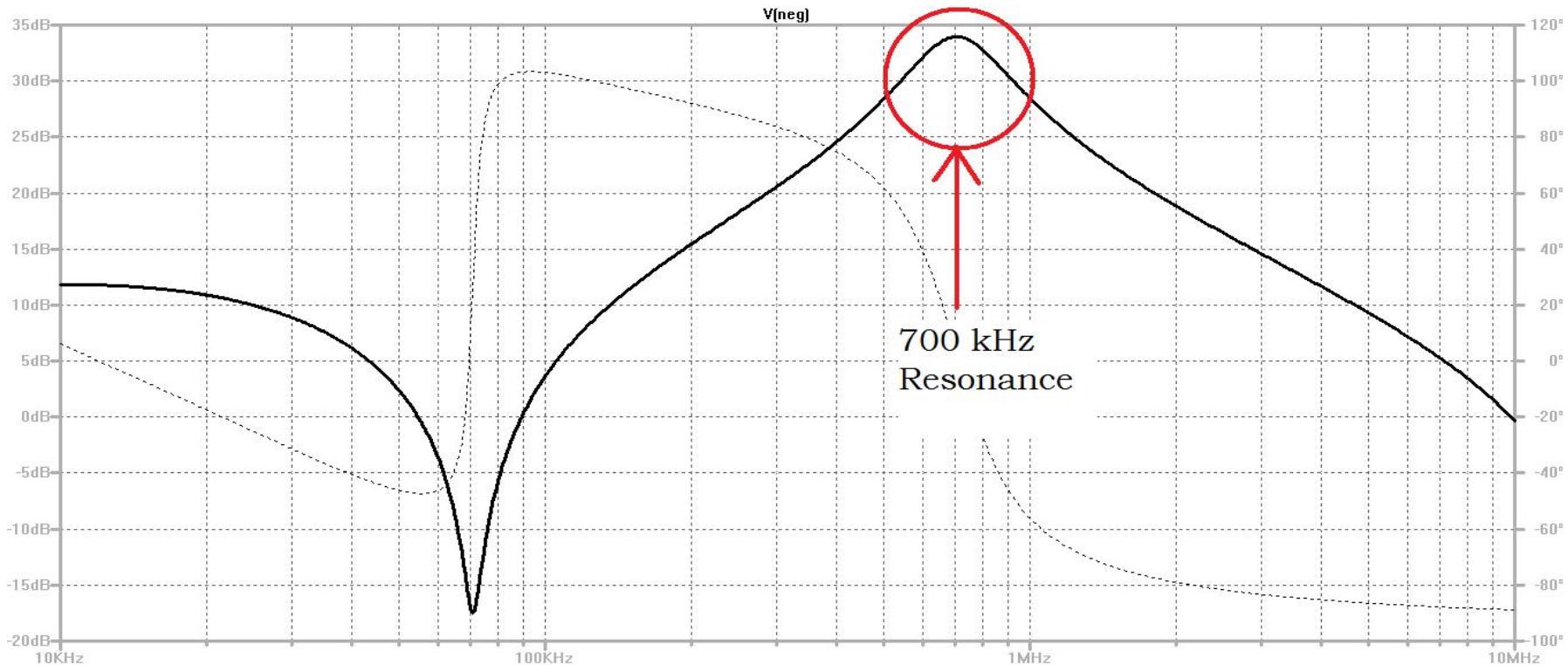
# CE Case 5 – Hall Sensor 7

- A Better Idea ? Use IC Application Circuit
- Do AC Analysis This Time



# CE Case 5 – Hall Sensor 8

- Now  $10 \text{ nF} & 5 \mu\text{H} = 700 \text{ kHz}$  By SPICE AC
- Do The Math, It Will Not Be Better

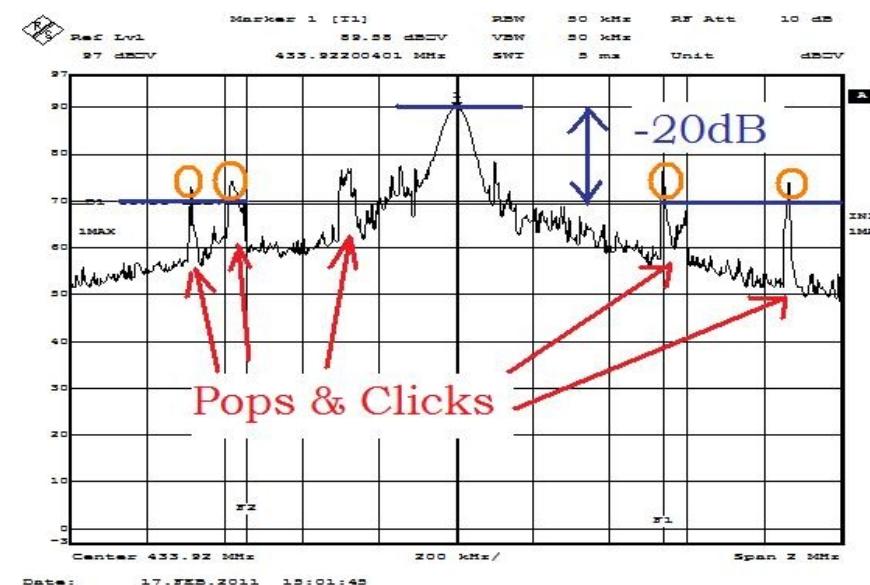


# CE Case 5 – Hall Sensor LESSONS 9

- Beware of Fix's Unintended Interactions
- Industry Standard Fixtures Have Limitations
- Model All the Important Parts in SPICE
- As Simple As Possible But No Simpler (Einstein)
- Analyze By Inspection & Insight (resonance)
- Seek Corroboration : Analysis & Measures  
“3's A Charm”
- Model When You Cannot Get In the Lab

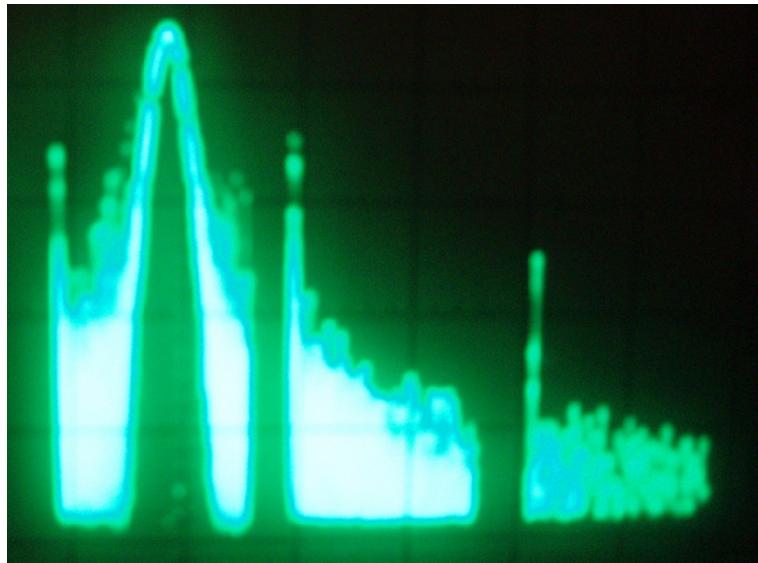
# RE Case 6 – Data RF Transmitter 1

- 433 MHz ISM Band
- Battery Op'
- 1 Chip Tx (PLL)
- uP : Tx Control, Data
- -20 dBc @1 MHz BW
- Official Measure  
“Strange”  
Non-compliant



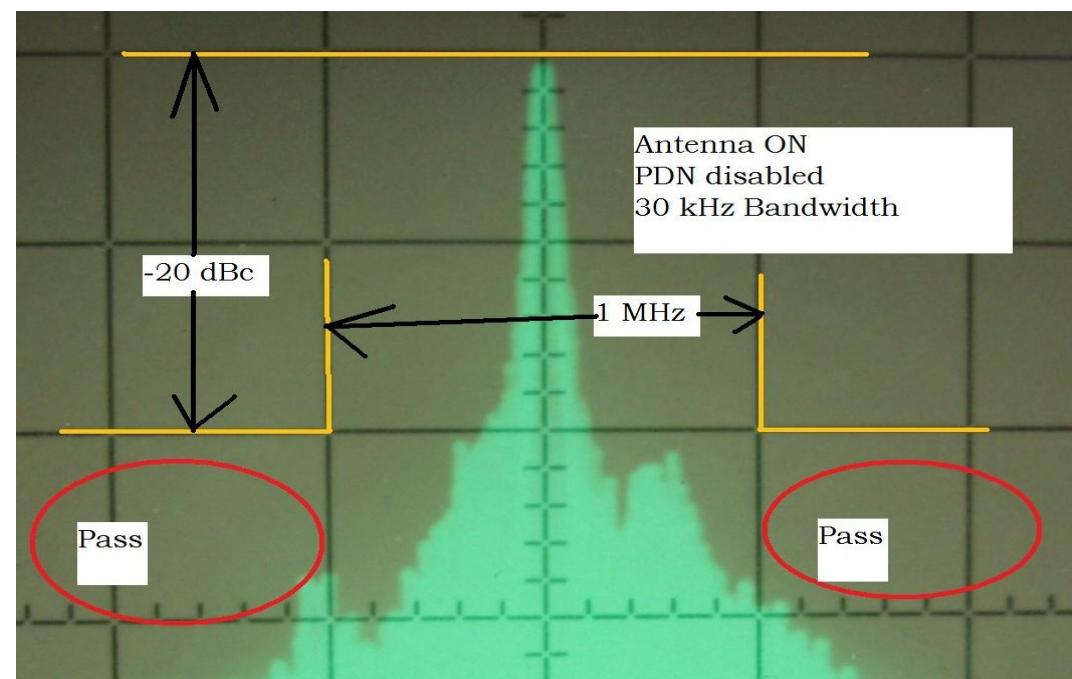
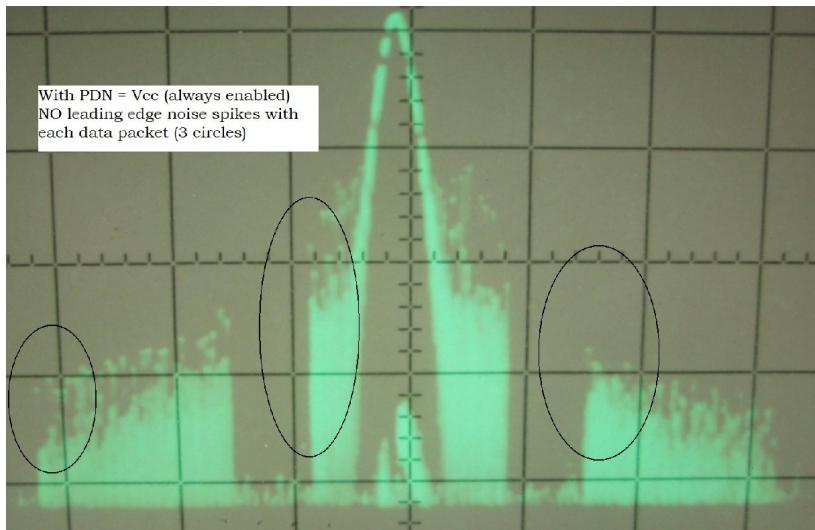
# RE Case 6 – Data RF Transmitter 2

- Measure Real-Time
- Late 1900's Tech ;-)
- Key-on Clicks & Pops  
a'la HAM Radio



# RE Case 6 – Data RF Transmitter 3

- Suspect Tx Enable Time Delay < 1 mS
- Force Tx On Always
- Crude But Effective



# RE Case 6 – Data Tx LESSONS 4

- Official Data Often Hides Causal Evidence
- Use Real-time Detection Equipment
- Read Component Spec's
- List Many Ideas & Dispatch Rapidly
- Do Quick 'n Dirty / Is-IsNot Experiments
- Software Was the Fix, For Once
- Experience Can Make It Look Easy

# Summary of Summaries

- Just 3 Things: Source, Path, Affected
- 4 Problem classes RE, RI, CE, CI
- 4 Coupling modes - Tom V'
- 4 Tactics: Divide, Dominant, Dead, Implement- Ott
- Understand Limitations
- Model Appropriately
- Best Practices Work – Up To a Point
- Human Factors as Important As Tech

# Summary of Summaries , more

- Observe in Real-Time & Parametric Sweeps
- Look For Interactions & Independences
- Precompliance Relative Measures Work
- See The Antennas
- Make / Take Time to Organize & Communicate
- Just One More Thing ? (Colombo)
- Keep On Learning



# Thanks For Giving Me A Hand !

- Mentor: Yale Saffro, Bill Schilb, Gary Fierstein, Dick Bell
- Trainer: Ralph Mitchell, Michel Mardiguian, Henry Ott, Tom VanDoren, Lee Hill
- Modeler: Nick Buris, Colin Brench, David Johns, Roy Leventhal
- Consultant: Nick Feagler, Daryl Gerke, Ken Wyatt, Patrick Andre'
- Business: Neil Hagglund, Jack Black, Tom Braxton
- Tech-Colleagues: Keith Hardin, Doug Smith
- EMCS: Bruce Archambeault, Kimball Williams