

# Running XACTstep™ v5.2.1 in a

XACTstep™ version 6.0.x (the Windows tools) was compiled and tested for Windows 3.x. It was not compiled for Windows NT. Unlike Windows 95, there

is no work-around to enable the Windows tools to work. This release does NOT support Windows NT.

However, we have had some success using XACTstep v5.2.1 (the DOS tools) within a DOS session under Windows NT. There are a few things that must be done to set

up the environment, as described below.

Please note that the next full release of Xilinx software will support Windows NT 4.0. The solution described here should be considered a tactical work-around for Windows NT 3.51 and a temporary work-around for Windows NT 4.0.

All of the instructions apply to both Windows NT versions 3.51 and 4.0, unless otherwise noted.

## Windows Setup

**Windows NT 3.51:** Make sure that your Windows NT 3.51 is up-to-date with the latest set of patches and bug fixes, known as Service Pack 4. To check the status of your system, open the Administrative Tools program group and double-click on the Windows NT Diagnostics icon. Select the OS Version button and check the number next to Service Pack. If it is less than 4, you will need to upgrade. This free upgrade can be found at Microsoft's Web site: [www.microsoft.com/kb/softlib/winnt.htm](http://www.microsoft.com/kb/softlib/winnt.htm). Select "Service Packs" then "Windows NT 3.51 Service Pack 4 for Intel (x86)" to download. Place

this self-extracting file in a temporary directory and run it in DOS. It will expand lots of files into this directory. Then, within Windows NT 3.51, choose File ➡ Run Update.exe from within this temporary directory and the update install program will run.

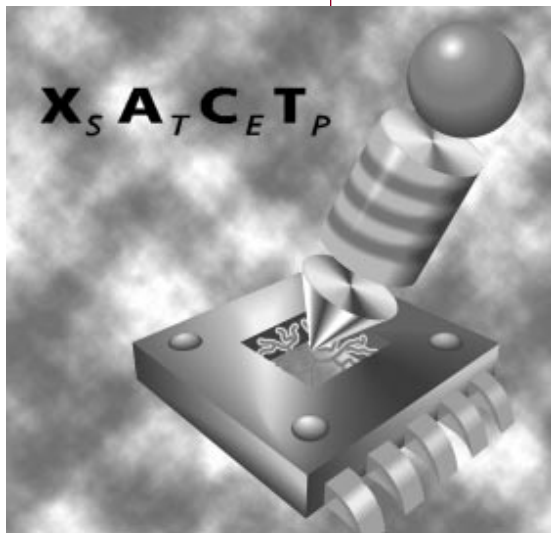
**Windows NT 4.0:** You will need to download two items from the Rainbow Technologies Web site. (Rainbow Technologies is the manufacturer of the hardware key.) At their site, [www.rnbo.com/tech/drivers/drivers.htm](http://www.rnbo.com/tech/drivers/drivers.htm), download "Patch for Windows NT 4.0" and "Rainport Driver for Windows NT". The former is a single executable, NTVDM.EXE. Replace the existing version in your C:\WINNT\SYSTEM32 directory and reboot. This file will be included in Windows NT 4.0 Service Pack 1 when it is built. The latter is the Rainport driver that is explained in the Drivers section.

## Installation

The first thing that must be done is the Xilinx install; simply perform a Windows install. Assuming that D:\ is your CD drive, just select File ➡ Run (or Start ➡ Run) and type D:\Wn1\Install\Wininstall.exe at the prompt. If you are using Viewlogic tools that support Windows NT, (Workview Office, NOT PROseries), choose the DS-VL-STD-PC1 product (not the Stand-alone) from a Custom install. Select the products you would like to install, but keep in mind that you will be using the DOS tools, so programs like the Floorplanner should be de-selected. Change the target path so the interface tools are copied to C:\WVOFFICE instead of C:\PROSER.

Next, copy the kernel32.dll file from D:\PROSER to both C:\XACT and C:\WVOFFICE.

Then, install the patched version of XNFPREP. This file is located on our FTP



# Windows NT Environment

site at <ftp://ftp.xilinx.com/pub/swhelp/xact-pc> and on our BBS (408-559-9327) in the Software Help ➡ XACT-PC area. The name of the file is PREP\_NT.ZIP. After unzipping this file, place the XNFPREP.EXE file in C:\XACT, overwriting the existing XNFPREP.EXE. This new version, 5.2.1c, fixes a bug where the .PRP file would not be written.

## Setting the Environment

Next, you must modify the environment variables. Keep in mind that you must have administrator privileges to modify existing system environment variables and to add drivers.

In the Main program group, double-click on Control Panel and then System (NT 3.51) or right click on My Computer (NT 4.0). In the System Environment Variables area, select Path. In the Value field at the bottom of the screen, add

```
C:\XACT;C:\WVOFFICE;
```

before the existing path, so it looks like

```
C:\XACT;C:\WVOFFICE;<rest_of_path>.
```

Hit the Set button, then create a new variable; the Variable is XACT and the Value is

```
C:\XACT;C:\WVOFFICE
```

Then bring C:\WINNT\SYSTEM32\AUTOEXEC.NT into a text editor. Add this line at the end:

```
SET XACT=C:\XACT;C:\WVOFFICE
```

You can verify that these settings have been applied (after rebooting Windows NT) by typing SET in the DOS window. Leave all the C:\WVOFFICE statements out if you are not using the Workview Office tools.

## Drivers

Next, you must install the Rainport driver, which is also located on our FTP site at <ftp://ftp.xilinx.com/pub/swhelp/xact-pc> and on our BBS in the Software Help ➡ XACT-PC area. The file is called RAINPORT.EXE. This driver is required to enable Windows NT to recognize the

hardware key. The RAINPORT.EXE contains a readme about how to install the driver. This driver can also be found in the SENTINEL directory on the Workview Office 7.2 CD. Choose Control Panels ➡ Drivers ➡ Add to install this. This version is only for use with Windows NT 3.51.

Windows NT 4.0 users will install the newer version of Rainport mentioned in the Windows Setup section. A readme within the ZIP file explains how to install this driver.

## Running the tools

You will be running the tools in an MS-DOS session. Take a look at the Reference Guide Volumes 1, 2 and 3 for specific information about using these tools in a DOS environment.

You will see that some of the Windows tools will work. Besides the Simulation Utility and the Memory Generator, you can create a new icon for the Timing Analyzer. The Command Line for this tool is c:\xact\timingan.exe and the Working Directory is c:\xact. There have been cases where these Windows tools have had problems, and the workaround is to use the DOS equivalent. Tools that will not work are the Design Manager, Flow Engine, and Floorplanner.

If you have any problems using the Adobe Acrobat reader, you can download a copy of Acrobat 2.1 for Windows 95/NT from their Web site, [www.adobe.com/acrobat/windows.html](http://www.adobe.com/acrobat/windows.html).

Hopefully, these hints will get you up and running within your Windows NT environment. There are some differences with different installations of Windows NT, so results may certainly vary. Please keep in mind that these tools were never intended to run in Windows NT, but if you do run into problems, please contact Xilinx Technical Support for assistance. ♦