FrontDesigner 3.0

Times have changed and there is no need to keep your elaborate electronic project in an old cigar packet any longer. Today specialised dealers offer cases for almost all electronic applications you may think of. But still self-made devices often look quite incomplete, because of a missing front panel design. A simple inscription like ON/OFF made with a water-proof felt pen may be sufficient in some cases, but a logarithmic scale for a potentiometer seems to be an insoluble problem.

This is what FrontDesigner is there for. Use FrontDesigner to design good-looking front panels for your self-made devices and take advantage of the following features:

- Exactly fitting symbols and text labels
- Versatile functions allow fast changes to design and function
- Predefined and editable symbols give a professional outfit
- A scale assistant creates scales for switches, potentiometers and instruments
- Measures simplify the workout of the enclosure.
- A mirrored printout to transparent film produces a durable and scratch-resistant front panel layout.

For best results consider the following:

- Think about all controls that have to be mounted to the front panel (or rear panel)
- Select suitable controls, like switches, potentiometers, display, etc.
- Find a case that is big enough to seat all components
- Work out the front panel design

Make sure that all controls fit to their positions. Try to arrange controls in a way that they are easy to handle. Think also about fastening the controls. Assign inscriptions or symbols to all controls. Add shapes, logos or other creative elements, as you like. If necessary add measures for drillings, millings, etc.

There a several possible ways to manufacture a front panel. Please take a short look on some of them:

- Front panels with self-adhesive films
- Front panels with laminates
- Front panels with millings, drillings and engravings

But you may also find FrontDesigner useful for other applications, than for front panel design. Import symbols with other themes using metafiles or bitmaps from the Internet. Some of the new print options are also very helpful for printing stickers or labels.

We are hopeful that you realise a lot of successful projects with FrontDesigner. Feel free to send suggestions or other comments to fax (+49) 4222 946671 or email abacom.del@t-online.de. News and information is available from www.abacom-online.de/uk.