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2.1 Design Processing Component

2.1.1 Introduction

Chapter 2 introduced the concept of integrating design standards and non-standard design solutions. Existing structural design packages are mainly concerned with the processing of standard designs (SAND). Little or no provision is made to aid the processing of non-standard designs. The terms standard and non-standard designs are defined in section 2.1.1. Non-standard designs are often produced to meet special requirements for design, weight and volume with irregularly shaped cross sections. Due to the tremendous number of possible non-standard design scenarios, it is difficult to fully automate the processing of non-standard designs effectively.

Furthermore, many existing design packages are outdated. The user is completely ignorant of the procedures used to produce the processed output. Consequently, user

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