



The Mill and Drill
Vol 1, Issue 28 (Feb. 4, 2005)

DEAR CUSTOMER

Welcome to your weekly installment of "*The Mill & Drill*", TriMech Mfg.'s Technical Newsletter FeatureCAM. This newsletter is intended to keep you, the hip TriMech FeatureCAM User, on the cutting edge of your FeatureCAM seat. Don't forget to visit www.trimech.com for additional information.

NOTICES

FeatureCAM is adding Machine Simulation.

Even as you enjoy the power and ease-of-use of FeatureCAM 2005, EGS is working hard on the next version of FeatureCAM. **Machine Simulation** is an exciting enhancement that is on the way. You will actually be able to see your *entire machine* during simulation, and the simulation will detect collisions. We will provide more details as they come available, but in the meantime you can read the press release at www.featurecam.com.

Did you miss a newsletter?

Don't worry, the newsletters are posted, every issue, in PDF format on the TriMech Web Site (www.trimech.com). Just hover over TriMech Manufacturing, Technical Support and you will see *The Drill* letters to the right side.

Is there anybody else at your company who would like to receive the newsletter?

Send us their name and e-mail address, and we'll add them to the list.

FeatureCAM TRAINING SCHEDULE

Note: Our main training facility is in Fishersville, VA, but we can make special arrangements for classes at some of our other TriMech offices (Columbia, MD; Pittsburgh, PA; Richmond, VA; Durham, NC; and Charlotte, NC). We also provide on-site training. Call (540) 949-7703 for rates and details.

Fishersville, VA	
FeatureCAM Basic (2 days)	Feb. 9,10 Mar. 9,10
FeatureCAM Advanced Milling	Feb. 17 Mar. 17
FeatureCAM Turning	TBD
TIPS AND TRICKS	

Online Manuals

Did you know that you have reference materials built right in to FeatureCAM? They are in PDF format

are located under **Help**. The **Getting Started Guide** walks you through the very basics of creating part milling and turning. It's a good starting point for brand-new users. The **User's Guide** is more of a reference book. It covers all of FeatureCAM's functionality in greater detail. The **Post Processing Guide** is a reference book that deals with editing and creating posts. All of these manuals are valuable resources for beginning advanced users alike .

If you absolutely *must* have hard copies of these documents, you can print them in-house, or you can send PDF files to a local print shop like Kinko's. A word of caution, though...these manuals range from 53 to 100 pages, so having them printed can get *expensive*.

What version is this file?

Here's a quick way to see what version of FeatureCAM was used to create an FM file. Open Windows Explorer and browse to the desired folder. Hover your cursor over the filename, and a tooltip will appear. The date, size and version number will appear.

Line Angle Options

The **Point/Angle** line tool has some power that most of our users don't utilize. It has options to create vertical or horizontal lines. It lets you create lines that are at a designated angle from vertical or horizontal. It also lets you create lines that are at designated angles *from other lines*. (This is the part that most people don't know about.)



It's a two-step process: 1) Enter the angle and the point of intersection. 2) Pick the line that you want to use as a reference.

QUESTIONS/COMMENTS?

Please send any tips/tricks, feedback (regarding this newsletter) or requests to be added/removed from our distribution list to...

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