

**From:** ccole@trimech.com

**Sent:** Friday, April 15, 2005 10:06 AM

**To:** jkanney@trimech.com

**Subject:** TriMech's "The Mill & Drill" FeatureCAM Newsletter



## *The Mill and Drill*

Vol 1, Issue 38 (Apr. 15, 2005)

### DEAR CUSTOMER

Welcome to your weekly installment of "*The Mill & Drill*", TriMech Mfg.'s Technical Newsletter for 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](http://www.trimech.com) for additional information.

### NOTICES

#### **Are you on FeatureCAM maintenance?**

If so, great! If not, you really should consider it. Here's what you get with an annual maintenance contract:

**Software updates** - You can get the latest and greatest updates from EGS including one major version upgrade.

**Post processors** - We will either customize what you have, or we will provide new posts for any additional machinery that you might purchase.

**Technical support** - Phone, fax, or e-mail us M-F from 8-5.

*Plus*, you won't feel left out in a couple months when we start raving about all the awesome new stuff in **FeatureCAM 2006!**

Prices vary depending on what modules you own and their current maintenance status, so give John Kanney a call for detailed pricing info.

#### **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](http://www.trimech.com)). Just hover over TriMech Manufacturing, Technical Support and you will see *The Mill & 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 any 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)   | May 4,5<br>June 8,9 |
| FeatureCAM Advanced Milling | May 12<br>June 16   |
| FeatureCAM Turning          | TBD                 |
|                             |                     |

## TIPS AND TRICKS

### Machining Configurations

Last week, we covered Machining Attributes. This is the area that holds all of the settings for a particular file. This week, we'll move on to Machining Configurations.

Whereas Machining Attributes affect an entire part, Machining Configurations can affect *all* new parts. Go to **Manufacturing > Machining Configurations**. Take a look at the bottom of that dialog box and see that one configuration (usually My Configuration) is the configuration for all new parts. When you open a new part, all of the settings are copied from that configuration into the Machining Attributes of the new part. Since this configuration is sort of a master, any modifications you make to that configuration are more global. If you want to *always* have cutter comp on, for example, turn it on in My Configuration.

Another way to make the most out of Manufacturing Configurations is to create custom configurations. For example, you could have different configs for different materials since they require different machining methods. Here's how you do it: Go to **Manufacturing Configurations** and hit **New**. You will be prompted to enter a name and select which config you want to copy (you have to start somewhere). Hit **OK**. Now go into your new config and customize it. Now that you have this custom configuration, you can use it by opening a part, going to **Manufacturing Configurations** and selecting **Copy**. You will be asked which config you want to copy. Select your custom config, and all of its settings will be transferred into the current part.

For you more advanced users, there is macro that will automatically select a Configuration based on the stock material. Give us a call if you are interested in learning more.

## QUESTIONS/COMMENTS?

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

[ccole@trimech.com](mailto:ccole@trimech.com)