



TRIMECH
Manufacturing

The Mill and Drill
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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 for additional information.

NOTICES

Programming Services/DNC Services

Please keep in mind that TriMech Manufacturing offers programming services. Does your shop have a large backlog of programming that needs to be done? Or maybe you have a special project that requires some extra software capabilities. Whatever the case may be, we can help by doing the programming for you. Give us a call for more information.

TriMech also offers **Predator** as a DNC package to communicate programs to your CNC machines. Predator is loaded with lots of extras goodies. To mention one, Predator Editor has a back plot utility that will simulate a G-code program the exact same way FeatureCAM simulates in 3D. You just add stock size and tool size to the top of the G-code file and Predator Editor will simulate the code. This is useful for verification of programs as well as old old programs written from years ago. For more information, just email us.

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 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)	June 8,9 July 13,14
FeatureCAM Advanced Milling	June 16 June 21
FeatureCAM Turning	TBD

TIPS AND TRICKS

The Inventor 10 Translator is Available

If you want to start utilizing Inventor 10 files in FeatureCAM, you are going to need a patch in order to read the files. Go to www.featurecam.com, click on **Support**, and click on **Downloads**. The link for the translator, along with some instructions are located on the right side of the screen.

More Efficient Toolpath on Round Stock

When you are milling features on round stock, you can end up cutting a lot of air. However, FeatureCAM has a way to avoid this. Consider the following example: Let's say you are going to cut a boss on a round piece that is sitting in a vise.

To improve this, go to the **Strategy** tab and turn on **Individual Levels**. This will split your Rough operation into a separate operation for each pass. You can control all the attributes for each pass independently including tooling, speeds, feeds, stepovers, etc. Look how much more efficient the toolpath is...

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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