



**TRIMECH**  
Manufacturing

*The Mill and  
Drill*

Vol II, Issue 1  
(July 1, 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**

**Volume II !**

Today marks the first anniversary for *The Mill and Drill*. We hope that it has been a useful and enjoyable resource for you and your company, and we plan on keeping it rolling with one significant change. Starting today, *The Mill and Drill* will be sent out every *two* weeks in order to provide our readers more information and fewer "repeats" per newsletter. Here's what we will continue to feature in Volume II:

**Notices** - News and notes about TriMech and FeatureCAM along with announcements about events, shows, products, and maybe even a contest or two.

**Training Schedules** - Class offerings at our Fishersville office.

Remember, in addition to the regularly scheduled classes you can make special arrangements for classes at your site or at any of our 6 TriMech offices.

**Tips and Tricks** - Hints for how to get the most out of your seat of

Delcam USA will be releasing FeatureCAM 2006 any day now. There are some really nice enhancements to the software along with some exciting *NEW* functionality (machine simulation, multi-axis turning...) We are still awaiting final details of the release, so we will fill you in on what's new, what's included, and what will be offered as new modules as soon as possible. Stay tuned...

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

With all this news about the next major release of FeatureCAM, please remember that if you are not on maintenance, you won't receive FeatureCAM 2006. Also remember that in addition to software updates, you receive technical support and post processor support with your maintenance contract. It's a fantastic value, so contact John Kanney at 540-949-7703 to sign up.

### **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.

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## **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.

<b>Fishersville, VA</b>	
FeatureCAM Basic (2 days)	July 13,14 August 3,4
FeatureCAM Advanced Milling	July 21 August 11
FeatureCAM Turning	TBD

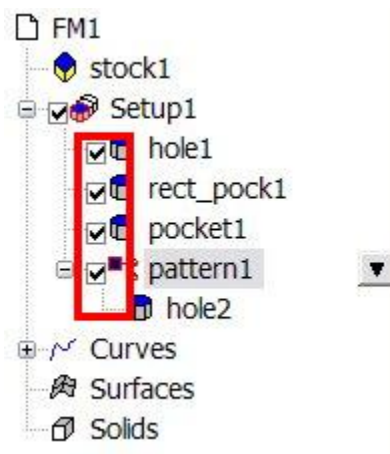
## TIPS AND TRICKS

### NEW in FeaturCAM2006

Cutter Comp on rough passes!! Finally! Many of you have been requesting this, and Delcam USA has made it happen. You can now use cutter comp on roughing tools whenever you are using a spiral toolpath. (Zig-zag path will not have cutter comp available, because it would be constantly going back and forth between climb milling and conventional milling.)

### Part View

Here's some handy functionality in the **Part View** mode of your **Toolbox** Window. Do you see those checkboxes beside the feature names?



They allow you to turn features on and off. If the feature box is unchecked, it is as if the feature doesn't exist; it will not simulate, and no NC code will be written for that feature. This is useful if you want to simulate some features without having to wait through the simulation of others. Another use would be if you have one part that has holes, for example, and another part without holes. Turn the holes on, simulate, and save NC. Turn the holes off, simulate again, and save NC in a different file. Now you have two "configurations" of the same part in one FM file.

<b>QUESTIONS/COMMENTS?</b>
Please send any tips/tricks, feedback (regarding this newsletter) or requests to be added/removed from our distribution list to... <a href="mailto:ccole@trimech.com">ccole@trimech.com</a>