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DP CAM software suits three/five-axis machining

A DP Technology product story

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DP Technology has announced that Esprit 2010 CAM software is available and is particularly suitable for for three- and five-axis programming.

It runs on Microsoft Windows XP, Windows Vista and Windows 7 operating systems.

A tree-style graphical user interface (GUI) is used to define machining parameters used for cutting parts in milling, turning and wire EDM programming.

Using the GUI, cutting parameters are entered and immediately validated for the given workpiece.

The GUI also adapts to display only questions pertinent to the given cutting environment and uses a small portion of the screen, providing the programmer with a clear, unobstructed view of the workpiece at all times.

Due to a multi-threaded stock automation engine, customers can instantly start the part program simulation at any time and at any point in the program.

This feature eliminates the need to simulate all operations from the beginning or to save the results from previous simulations.

Esprit customers can start a simulation with the stock that results from the completion of all previous operations without first waiting for the simulation of the previous operation.

The use of multi-threading technology means that stock calculations are done in the background.

The upgraded, advanced feature recognition automatically recognises machining pockets with any combination of open and closed walls, fillets, chamfers and tapered walls.

Undercut areas that can't be reached with the given tooling are automatically excluded.

These pocket features may also be based on native CAD features, resulting in the features in Esprit being associative with the original CAD model.

As a result, if the CAD model changes, the user is notified and can choose whether to automatically update the Esprit feature and its associated machining to match the CAD model.

This association is maintained from the CAD model to the finished toolpath.

Support for the Latest CNC Machine Tools Esprit 2010 offers improvements in the support of integrated multitasking, mill-turn machine tools.

All Esprit milling and turning machining capability, from two-axis turning to five-axis milling, is available for any type of mill-turn machine tool, including lathes that perform milling, mills that perform turning, Swiss-style machines and other integrated mill-turn machining centres.

In the 2010 release, support for these multitasking machine tools has been enhanced through increased flexibility in cutting-tool configurations and orientations, enabling the support of a variety of machines.

Support for three or more rotary axes allows the Esprit customer to completely program and simulate complex machine tools.

For the Esprit wire-EDM customer, the 2010 version includes support for EDM machines with rotary axes.

This allows EDM programmers to perform wire-EDM cutting in five and six axes using turn-and-burn (indexing the rotary table) and turn-while-burn full five-axis simultaneous cutting with a rotary table.

This version also provides EDM programming with a four-axis pocketing, no-core cutting machining cycle.

Esprit 2010 includes 13 Freeform three- and five-axis machining cycles that are available for milling, mill-turn and Swiss-turn machine tools.

These high-speed, multi-axis machining cycles offer a variety of choices and capabilities for Esprit customers performing 3D machining.

Additions for three axes include a roughing cycle that can also be used for rest machining, seven finishing

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cycles and three specialised cycles: 3D contouring, pencil tracing and corner machining.

Two specialised five-axis machining cycles are also included within this release: swarf machining and impeller machining.

All machining cycles will be provided to existing Esprit Freeform customers as part of their Esprit software maintenance contract (SMC).

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