

Success Story

OPEN MIND Brings Investment to Fruition at FMS

Supplying World Class manufacturing companies and building a reputation for delivery and quality requires an ability to stay abreast of modern technology. This is something that Flexible Machining Systems Limited (FMS) of Horsham...

...has demonstrated with its recent acquisition of two seats of *hyperMILL*® CAM software from OPEN MIND.

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Dedicated to precision manufacturing for the aerospace, medical and blue chip industry sectors, FMS has invested heavily in machine tools with 10 Mazak turning & machining centres being installed within the last six years. It is the latest addition, a 5-axis VariAxis 730 vertical machining centre that prompted the acquisition of *hyperMILL*®. Bought for the increasing complexity of components, the 5-axis VariAxis has proven to be a major investment for FMS and with productivity and collision avoidance a necessity, the company immediately turned to *hyperMILL*®.

The latest generation of *hyperMILL*® is now compatible with SOLIDWORKS and for customers like FMS Ltd, this means that its current drawings and files can be immediately and effortlessly transferred by *hyperMILL*® without the laborious task of manually converting each file. “The SOLIDWORKS compatibility was an immediate attraction to us as it will save us a lot of time and prevents reworking as we move to the latest generation of CAM software. Not only is it compatible with SOLIDWORKS but it also works with our Vericut verification system,” continues Mr Smith.

About FMS Ltd.

Flexible Machining Systems is a manufacturing company that specialises in CNC machining and assembly. FMS are often perceived as an extension of our customer's own business due to our ability to adapt and modify our systems to suit their changing demands.

> www.fmsltd.co.uk

The best fit solution

Technical Support Manager at FMS Ltd Peter Smith comments: “We were machining complex 5-axis parts by using 4-axis machine setups and then re-fixturing the jobs. It was time consuming and our current CAM system was having difficulty coping with the work. We literally exhausted the CAM system as two of us are programming for anything up to 10 hours a day.”

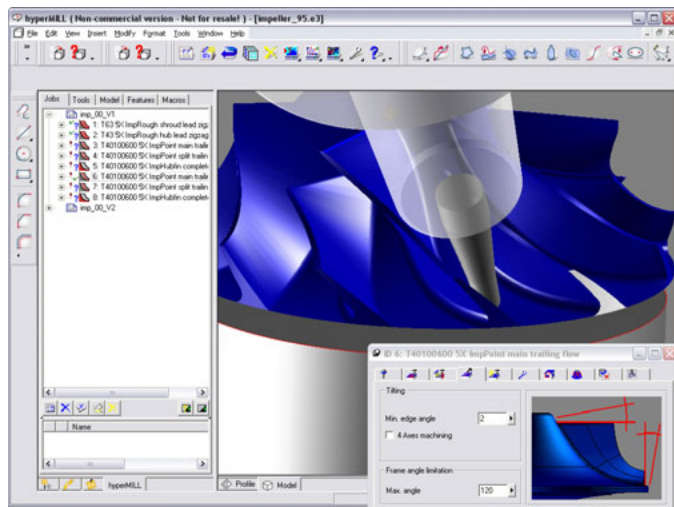
“We strenuously reviewed 3 or 4 market leading packages and the *hyperMILL*® package

From 2-axis to 5-axis

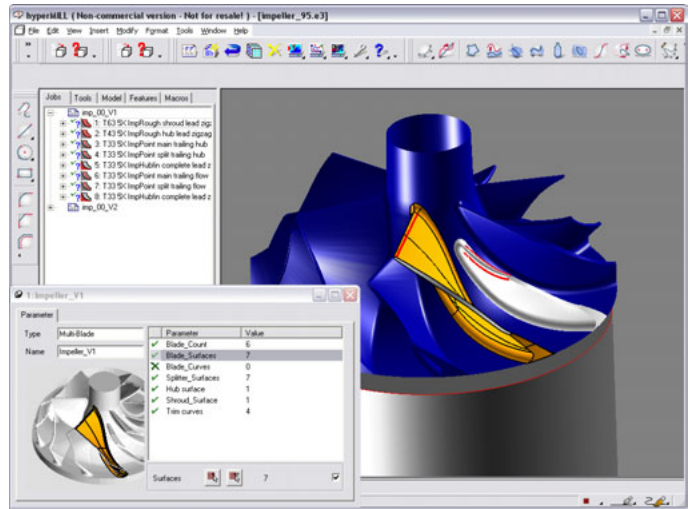
The 30 employee company produces components from one off to small batches for world leading manufacturers in the some of the most demanding industry sectors. With this in mind, time is of the essence for FMS Ltd and transferring and reworking its CAD programs to suit a new CAM system was a daunting prospect for the ISO: 9001 registered company. The *hyperMILL*® package is dedicated to 5-axis machining and is immediately set to improve the functionality from 2-axis to 5-axis for FMS Ltd.

"We have found limitations to our CAM software and transferring to *hyperMILL*® will considerably improve our productivity as well as reduce our programming times. The *hyperMILL*® has exceptional collision avoidance and this is a necessity with our sizable investment in machine tools. In essence, *hyperMILL*® is destined to be one of the most exciting investments the company has made in improving our 5-axis operations," continues Mr Smith.

"What immediately struck us with *hyperMILL*® is the ease of use. As a company that has only recently moved to dedicated 5-axis machining with our new VariAxis machining centre, the changeover has been extremely straight forward. This transition period has been made very comfortable by the engineers at Mazak and OPEN MIND."



"We have a very high level of confidence in OPEN MIND, the *hyperMILL*® system and the UK support team. OPEN MIND convinced us that they had the right package and with their professional attitude and ability to cater to our exacting needs, we knew we found the right package for our needs. We are very comfortable with the *hyperMILL*® package and have little doubt about the package we have purchased," concludes Mr Smith. ■



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About OPEN MIND Technologies AG

OPEN MIND is one of the world's most sought-after developers of powerful CAM solutions for machine and controller-independent programming.

OPEN MIND designs optimized CAM solutions that include a high number of innovative features not available elsewhere to deliver significantly higher performance in both programming and machining. Strategies such as 2D, 3D as well as 5axis milling/mill turning, and machining operations like HSC and HPC are efficiently built into the *hyperMILL*® CAM system. *hyperMILL*® provides the maximum possible benefits to customers thanks to its full compatibility with all current CAD solutions and extensive programming automation.

OPEN MIND strives to be the best and most innovative CAM/CAD manufacturer in the world, helping it become one of the top five in the CAM/CAD industry according to the NC Market Analysis Report 2015 compiled by CIMdata. The CAM/CAD solutions of OPEN MIND fulfil the highest demands in the automotive, tool and mould manufacturing, production machining, medical, job shops, energy and aerospace industries. OPEN MIND is represented in all key markets in Asia, Europe and America, and is a Mensch und Maschine company.



We push machining to the limit

www.openmind-tech.com