

Case Study: Wilhelm Bott GmbH & Co. KG



Software: JETCAM Expert Premium with MRP and Rectangular Automatic Nesting

Machines: Trumpf Trumatic 6000L with SheetMaster
Trumpf Trumatic 5000R with SheetMaster
Finn-Power F5-25FBV Punch Press

Installed: 1989

At a glance:

- ✘ Running all functions of the new Trumpf punch and punch/laser machines, along with existing Finn-Power machine
- ✘ 100% accurate NC code output, which was customised to allow complete FMS integration
- ✘ 20,000+ parts were immediately available on new machine due to tooling being stored in geometry file
- ✘ Revision control providing traceability of component versions within nests, which are automatically updated
- ✘ Only two days required for training and customisation
- ✘ Maintenance delivering continual software benefits
- ✘ Excellent local dealer support

Wilhelm Bott GmbH & Co. KG, founded in 1930, is a leading Europe-wide manufacturer of factory and service car racking systems. The company, based in Gaildorf, near Stuttgart, Germany has used CNC controlled machines for their production since the mid 1990's. Bott updated their factory equipment to be one of the most modern production lines in Europe, after purchasing a Trumpf 6000L punch/laser combination in 2002 and a 5000R punch in 2006. Both machines are linked into Bott's material handling system.

Mr Franz Maltan, Production Manager, said; *"We had a situation in the 1990's where we had two CAM systems driving several different machines. When we found out that development on one system had stopped for some time, in 2002 we decided to standardise on the other, which was JETCAM."*

After the decision was made in 2006 to purchase the new Trumpf punch and to add SheetMaster support to the 6000L, Bott decided to focus on streamlining their production processes. Material was provided to the two SheetMasters by way of a 50m Stopa stock system, with scrap skeletons removed on both machines by the TrumaGrip, and then destroyed by the Scrap Shear. For smaller, urgent jobs the standalone Finn-Power punch press completed the production line. *"When looking for programming solutions we looked at alternative products but we found nothing that was even near to the user-friendliness of JETCAM. At the beginning of the evaluation process we had concerns that the software would not be able to drive all of the advanced features of the Trumpf machines, but JETCAM has always generated 100% reliable code."*

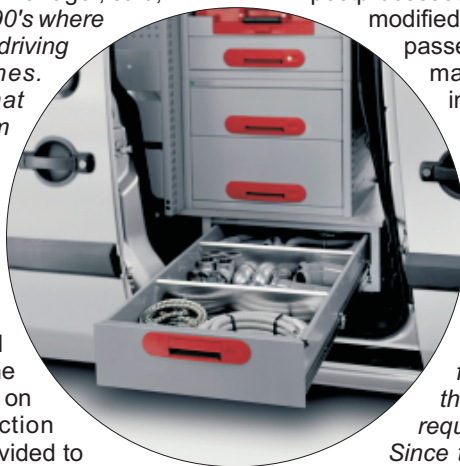
After the purchase of the new 5000R punch machine Bott realised that they had over 20,000 parts with may have needed to run on it. Due to all cutting

technologies being stored on a single geometry file within JETCAM all parts could be automatically retooled within seconds for the new machine. In many cases jobs that were nested for the previous punching machines or for punch-only jobs programmed for the combination machine were immediately available for reuse without renesting. Revision control ensured that changes on components were automatically applied to all relevant nests for all machines.

Bott had a further requirement after components were unloaded by the SheetMasters, where information needed to be passed to the bending centre. The postprocessed NC code generated by JETCAM was modified to provide part positions. This was passed from the punch or laser to the stock management system, which in turn instructed the bending cell of the parts location.

Programmer Eduard Reisenbuechler added; *"Over the years we have programmed our machine tools very successfully with JETCAM, but the control of the new machines' functions along with regular update of software has been a huge step forward for us. Full training and modifications to the new post processors to match our requirements were made in only two days. Since that day our entire facility has run with zero interruptions."*

Mr. Reisenbuechler concluded: *"With updates that we have seen under maintenance to both the core software and the postprocessors, the control of many feature has been enhanced. Additional functions such as SheetMaster and Grip work very well and are easy to adopt and apply to existing nests. We have an extended number of options for programming the unloading chutes. With special tools such as wheels, multitool and multishear we only have to enter the relevant parameters once – the rest is done by the software. Where we were aiming to achieve complex levels of automation and needed assistance blechwelt were able to connect to us remotely, and we were always able to solve it together."*



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