

Case Study

Kind AG



Highlights

- [Kind A.G. now rely on a single programming system, as opposed to the three different ones used previously
- [Jobs can not only be moved between machines, but can now even be exchanged between sites
- [When the decision was being made to purchase a new machine, Kind A.G. were not tied to one or only a few vendors because of the programming systems
- [Programming time has been cut by 75%. Very complex jobs that used to take a whole day now take just 1-2 hours
- [More automation within the system removes most of the tedious workload from the programmer
- [It is easy to train substitute staff in the event of staff holidays or sickness

Kind AG, based in Gummersbach, near Cologne in Germany were experiencing performance bottlenecks with their previous method of producing programs, and targeted this area for improvement. Across their two sites, three different CAM systems were in operation. None of the operators each knew all of the CAM systems, causing problems when staff were away. Also, if a machine broke down, major work would be required to re-program a job for another machine.

The previous CAM systems themselves were inefficient, with jobs generally taking one day to program. Kind AG also knew that they would want to purchase new machines, and therefore did not wish to invest in a system that would tie them to a particular machine manufacturer. They chose JETCAM.

JETCAM supplied a single license each of Expert 1 and Expert Premium. Expert 1 was dedicated to the Amada Vipros, and Expert Premium was to allow full interaction between all machines. The first immediate benefit was realized after the initial training. Not only was the engineer able to use the system to normal business levels after the two-day session, but was at an extremely

high technical level after only two weeks. Said Ralf Haase, Programmer, "After two weeks I was deep into the technology. JETCAM is so logical that the system programs parts in the way that I think."

With the new system in place, all operators of all machines are now familiar with a single interface, meaning that covering absenteeism is no longer a problem.

The single most important cost saving, however, is in programming time. Commented Ralf Haase, "*Time of programming has been reduced by 75%. Jobs that took a day now take less than two hours. Functions such as Auto Tool Placement take a great deal of work away from the programmer.*"

Kind AG can now accurately manage workloads on the shopfloor, as jobs can be moved between all of the companies machines, regardless of site location. All programmers are fluent with the system and the company is confident that whenever they wish to replace or add to their machine network, JETCAM will support and make the best of the new technology.

Software: JETCAM Expert Premium
High Performance Nesting
JETCAM Orders Controller
2 x JET-Term

Machines: Zund L-2500 Knife Cutter
Zund L-1200CV Knife Cutter

Installed: November 2008