

## LS Fabrications Ltd



### Highlights

- ✓ The best use of the wide range of machines is made available through the ability to move jobs quickly between machines and technologies
- ✓ Amendments to complete nests now take seconds as opposed to 20-30 minutes as only the component is changed
- ✓ LS now train their own staff
- ✓ Significant material cost savings due to less purchasing of cut blanks
- ✓ Material stock control improved as most material is now standard size
- ✓ Benefiting from new enhancement because of maintenance updates

LS Fabrications Ltd, a family run business in Hertfordshire has a variety of machines using both punch and laser technology. When their original CAD/CAM system was no longer supported from the UK agent they had to obtain support from the American manufacturer, which proved difficult and expensive. The 3D element of the software was also difficult to learn and use, and if a job had to be moved from one machine to another it, and all the associated nests had to be rebuilt. LS decided to replace the software with a system that could support all of their machines, be easy to learn and provided the 3D functionality they needed. After researching the market they chose JETCAM Expert and JETCAM 3D Expert.

JETCAM supplied two seats each of JETCAM Expert Premium and JETCAM 3D Expert, which allows full advantage to be taken of the right angle shear through dynamic rectangular nesting. Two advantages were immediately apparent - flexibility to move jobs between machines, and the speed of creating and unfolding jobs in 3D. Said Art Onstenk, Managing Director, *"The main benefit was getting the jobs*

*entered and unfolded quickly in the 3D front end. We used to find our previous system slow and complicated - you needed a degree to get it working properly."* His son, Matthew Onstenk added, *"It's quick and easy to change a job. To perform a task such as amending a hole used to take 10 times as long but now we just amend the one file and all nests are updated."*



Issue control has been greatly simplified as JETCAM nesting files are simply an arrangement of the *current* component files, meaning that when a component file is amended all nests are immediately correct. And recent updates in the software, which LS receive as part of their regular free updates under their maintenance contract have allowed them to go straight to component editing from nests.



**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

An additional advantage, which can be attributed to JETCAM's efficient nesting is the reduction in the need for cut blanks. LS now generally purchases standard material sizes, which not only cuts down on stock control, but the material goes further due to less wastage.



With many of their jobs being small runs and, as a small business using a wide variety of machining technologies, LS Fabrications needed a CAD/CAM system which was easy to learn and use, and could drive all of their machines. Commented Art, *"JETCAM massively improves the production time for our typical small batch runs, and scored over other brands because it was so easy to use. We were impressed when it was installed, but since then we've taken advantage of several enhancements in maintenance updates."*