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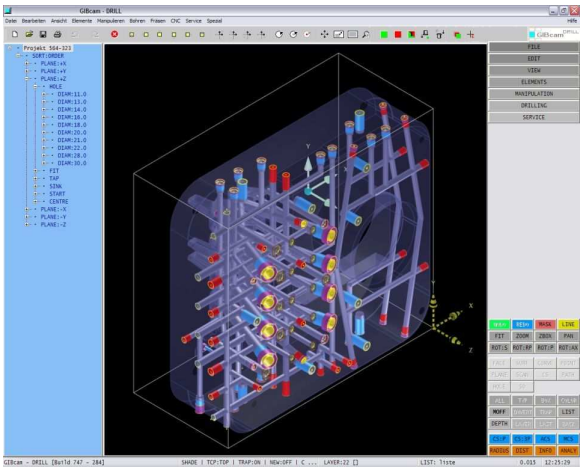
The recovery of machining features, a determining element, in customers' decision of German editor GIB

Company GIB (http://www.gibcam.de) was created in 1990 in Dresden in Germany. At its very beginning, it provides CAD modelling and NC programming services while carrying out a reflexion on the development of a new CAM solution, dedicated to the molds and tools making fields. Before launching its own software on the market, it accumulates experience and mastering in the use of both CAD and CAM software. At this time, it designed many models and generated the dedicated tool paths. The first marketable solution was presented in Hanover at the European machine-tools exhibition EMO 1993. In 1997, the software was 100% Windows. The next great step could be done in 2000 when the company introduced a new software version including a 5 axes module and machining strategies. The product portfolio has still grown rich at the end of 2002 with the introduction of a solution to mill the particularly deep holes.

The company works with many distributors.Most of them are located in majority, in Germany and to a lesser extent in Japan and Korea. Users use to come from small and medium sized firms of tool & die making or mock-up. GIB CAD&CAM is appreciated to define tool paths, to realize electrodes and edit workshop documents. The software is considered, particularly effective to programm highly complex shapes usualy machined with 3 or 5 simulatneous axes milling machines.The software integrates functionalities dedicated to the hard metal machining, offers control of collisions also in 5 axes and a broad choice of post-processors easily personalized.



M. Frank ADAM, Manager of company GIB, specifies his point of view for the market trends: "we are persuaded that the request will go towards a strong personalization of the customers' processes and an optimization of the current functionalities. In addition, the users require, to profit much more from links between softwares. This request does not relate only to the geometrical data but also to strategic management information and tends to be strongly accentuated. We are also very sensitive to our customers and partners' expectations as far as direct relationship with our company and our reactivity are concerned".

For years, company GIB has decided to integrate a broad panel of interfaces into his software.

Last year, a contract of partnership between Datakit and GIB was concluded and led to the implementation of the Datakit translators within GIB CAD&CAM solutions. M. Frank ADAM specifies: "the availability of fast and reliable data exchanges solutions was compulsory to meet our customers requirements. As of the first contacts with Datakit, we appreciated the type of effective and convivial relationships. The answers to our questions are clear and fast. It is as important for us, as for our customers. The two teams worked well together to propose simple solutions which allowed from any workstation to translate CatiaV4/ V5, Pro.E, UG or DWG files ".
Recently, company GIB was strongly interested in the recovery of machining features proposed by Datakit. . F ADAM notes: "the orientation of Datakit regarding the machining features is very exiting. According to us, the request will evolve clearly in this direction. Our goal always remains the same : - to decrease the loss of available technological information. This new functionality, in a short time, became a determining factor in the choice of our customers ".

The software of GIB are worlwide recognized in the tools and molds fields. They are well known for their capacity to carry out complex shapes in milling as in drilling. Complementary solutions including specific strategies to each field are also proposed by the company.
For these very customised applications, the transfer of machining features, also presents a real interest.