

ProNest[®] Waterjet Programming Helps Creative Edge Master Shop Lay the Groundwork for Success



Company Profile

Creative Edge Master Shop, based in Iowa USA is a pioneer in the application of waterjet technology, specializing in concept flooring applications such as terrazzo, stone medallions, architectural metals and signage, and artistry in resilient design. Founded in 1984, Creative Edge introduced the great potential of the waterjet process to design professionals throughout the USA. Over the years, Creative Edge has grown in capacity, creativity, and experience. Today, they are recognized as one of the nation's leading provider of waterjet services and products.



Waterjet Cutting
Photo courtesy of Flow International, Corp.

Programming Challenge

Harri Aalto, Partner and Vice President, guides the company's creative direction. Once completed, his elaborate designs are then passed to the CAD/CAM department to turn his vision into reality. After transferring all the artistic detail into CAD drawing format, the next step in the process is to import these complex CAD files, with every detail, to a programming system. There it is converted to CNC code and sent to the shop floor where the waterjet cutting process can begin.



Photo courtesy of Creative Edge Mastershop Inc.

Always seeking ways to improve their working processes as demand grew for their work, Creative Edge realized it was taking too long for them to process the CAD files into CNC code. The programming system they used was tedious and very time consuming and soon it was decided that a solution to this bottleneck was needed. Creative Edge began the search for a programming software solution that would decrease programming time and maximize efficiency.

Did You Know . . .

MTC Software can provide one nesting program that will work with most cutting machines and CNC controls; new and old alike.

Interesting Facts . . .

- ▶ Our employees understand the cutting processes you work with

 - ▶ Our ProNest software works seamlessly with all leading brands of waterjet machines, including Flow, Omax, Jet Edge, and many others

 - ▶ Our products are so easy to learn we can install the software and train a new customer online, the same day
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Problem Solved

After researching CAD/CAM nesting software extensively, the Creative Edge team decided that ProNest advanced nesting software was the best choice to provide the programming power and technology needed to maximize their efficiency.

Plant Manager, Shep Brown commented "After reviewing several other nesting software packages, MTC's ProNest® software was clearly the right choice for Creative Edge. The package is simple to use, easy to learn, MTC's technical support staff is knowledgeable and willing to adapt to our specific needs, plus the total investment in the software was far less than other packages with similar functionality. ProNest software can open an artistic CAD file and automatically section off each tile to be processed on the waterjet in a matter of minutes, an operation that used to take hours to perform. ProNest processes jobs that used to take from 30 minutes to as much as 8 hours to program on our old software have been reduced to no more than 5 to 10 minutes using ProNest. An entire stone medallion can be opened in ProNest and each tile type will automatically be batch nested in one master program."

Waterjet technology at Creative Edge Master Shop has greatly benefited from the use of ProNest software. Building off the successful CAD/CAM implementation of ProNest, Creative Edge is planning even more innovative programming techniques to help utilize ProNest to its full potential in the future. **Power Made Simple!**



Photo courtesy of Creative Edge Master Shop Inc.

Plant Manager, Creative Edge Master Shop

TECHNICAL BRIEF

For More Information

Learn about MTC Software programming solutions that can help your company improve productivity and part quality, plus increase profitability.

Visit our website at www.mtc-software.com or call your local office.



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ProNest® Advantage

Here are just a few examples of the benefits you can achieve when using ProNest to program your waterjet machine:

- Use the **Quality** designation as a means to assign different feedrates to the entities of a part, and control the resulting surface quality
- Use **Dynamic Piercing** to maximize piercing efficiency on thick plate by rapidly moving the nozzle in a cyclical motion so that jet "rebound" does not get in the way of the incoming water stream
- Use **Variable Feedrate, Nozzle Dwell and Pierce Pressure Parameters** to maximize productivity and part quality
- Use **Advanced Common-Line Cutting** to automatically or interactively nest and common-line cut an unlimited amount of parts together on the same nest; resulting in a reduction in pierce cycles and cutting time
- Use **Nest Background Image** to avoid producing scrap parts where the work material has surface defects; simply import a digital picture of the material and superimpose it onto the ProNest work area allowing manual nesting to occur around any blemishes
- Use **Collision Avoidance** to eliminate the chance of nozzle collisions and significantly reduce production time through a combination of moving lead in/out positions, developing avoidance paths around possible tip-up situations, and by using partial or full head raises