

FlowMaster®



FlowPATH Software - Version 6.0



- 32-bit application requires Windows XP
- Imports industry standard DXF, DWG, IGS, CADKEY, CDL, and HPL files



- Easy to learn and use
 - User friendly, icon-based menu structure
 - Graphical programming environment, no "G-code" required
- Automatic tool path ordering, with automatic lead-in and lead-out and rapid traverse lines (manual tool path ordering also available)



- Large entity program capacity (limited by PC capability)
- Easy to use CAD drawing and editing tools
 - Drawing functions offer similar "look and feel" to AutoCAD™ and other professional CAD packages, minimizes learning curve



- 3D drawing capabilities in three planes: XY, XZ or YZ with the ability to pan and orbit a 3D model of parts including traverse and cutting parameters.
- Elevation commands to accommodate different material thickness for a single drawing
- Distinct operation for 2D and 3D modes depending on the needs of the operator
- Line, arc, rectangle, circle, ellipse, array, curve (spline), fillet, mirror, rotate, scale, etc.
- Text drawing function allows users to create text shapes from True Type fonts completely within FlowPATH
- Automatic drawing checker looks for problems such as gaps, overlapping entities and kerf offset discrepancies
- Purge function allows program to be automatically "cleaned" of any duplicated entities
- Part tabbing function that allows a user to choose the location, gap and length of entry and exit points for a part tab
- Drawing smoothing function to reduce the number of entities and generally smooth geometry
- Basic shape library, which provides a number of predetermined shapes (i.e. washer) with parameters that can be adjusted by the user (i.e. adjust the diameter of 2 concentric circles that make up the washer)
- Enhanced editing and part programming features to increase productivity such as select all traverse lines, select continuous contours, "rubber-banding" to select an entity and drag it into a new location and multiple step undo
- Advanced lead in lead-out functions that allow you to drag the leads on a contour to an optimal location for enhanced part quality

- Avoid previously cut parts, user can set the tool path in order to avoid traversing over previously cut areas and minimize the danger of cutting head collision and mixing tube breakage
- Dynamically switch between languages while running the program, allowing multiple users to work in the language of their choice without having to shut the program down
- Customizable colors for background, grid, selection and highlight
- Dynamically change size of toolbar buttons between large and small toolbars
- Context sensitive tool tips and integrated users guide in the Help section

FlowPATH with Integrated Raster to Vector Tools

FlowPATH has a unique integrated software module that contains easy to use Raster to Vector tools. FlowPATH Raster to Vector tools instantly converts your raster images to vector ones and then allows you to modify them with the built-in editing and drawing features of FlowPATH. The conversion capability easily allows you to convert an image in seconds and can be used to create cut programs of images as diverse as hand sketches, photographs and JPG files. The program imports color, gray, and black and white images.

Raster file types supported for conversion to .DXF include:

• TIF	• BMP	• JPG
• PCX	• PNG	• PICT

- 32-bit application requires Windows XP
- Exported DXF file is ready to edit and tool path in FlowPATH or other CAD program
- Graphical, easy to use user interface

With FlowPATH Raster to Vector tools there is no need to stop what you are doing, start a new program, open up the file to convert it, save it and open it up again in a CAD package to edit it, and then order the path in FlowPATH. All operation is seamless and quick, all from one dialog box.

Note: For users requiring highly advanced artwork and image editing/manipulation functions, or compatibility with file types not supported by FlowPATH Raster to Vector, please consider Cutting Shop raster-to-vector conversion software.



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What's New FlowPATH - Version 6.0



Easier-to-Use

- Dynamic Language Change – switch languages when running the program, multiple users can work in the language of their choice without having to shut the program down
- Dynamic Icon Size Change – switch between large and small toolbar buttons
- Context Sensitive Tooltips – every dialog has the '?' button to bring up information and tips for entering data or understanding the dialog
- FlowPATH Manual accessible through the Help menu
- Dialog Based vs. Command Line – option to work only in command line or dialog mode
- Changing Color for Background, Grid, Selection and Highlight – users can choose colors based on preference
- Changing Snap Sensitivity
- Distinct Modes for running in 2D and 3D



New Drawing Features

- Arc Preview – a live preview to aid the user during the creation of all arc commands
- Construction Planes – introducing 3D drawing, allows users to change the plane they are drawing in; Set plane to either XY, XZ, or YZ
- Construction Plane Offset – specify a set amount for a plane, example drawing at Z = 10 would offset the XY plane at 10 with all drawing automatically done at this plane.
- Snapping – enable more than one permanent snap command at a time and are persistent between documents and running the application
- Intersection Snap – snap to the intersection of 2 or more entities
- Orthogonal Snap Angle – define the angle for the orthogonal snap between 0 and 90 degrees
- Tape Measure – measure between two points, works with snap command for accurate measurements and dynamically updated at the mouse is moved

New Selection Features

- Hover – during the execution of a selection command, an entity will change color if the mouse moves over it, allowing easier selection
- Select All – will select both cutting and traverse lines
- Selection Menu – menu appears when clicking on more than one entity for easy selection of the available selections including 'All' or 'None'

New Modification Tools

- Find Intersection, Fillet – re-executed upon completion, fewer mouse clicks when breaking multiple entities and can start without making selection first
- Mirror – single mirror command replaces Mirror Vertically and Mirror Horizontally allowing for definition of the mirror plane and mirroring across any plane
- Move, Rotate – live preview of these commands are available
- Scale – now two scale commands
 - Scale in 5.1 renamed Scale By Factor
 - Scale command based on user defined reference points
- Elevation – now two elevation commands (thickness)
 - Elevate Relative elevates all selected entities by the specified amount relative to their current elevation
 - Elevate Absolute elevates all selected entities to the value specified
- Array Circular – enter the angle to fill, previously 5.1 filled the array using an angle of 360 degrees. 6.0 allows user defined angles and can be executed from the command line as well as dialog

New Pathing Tools

- Drag Leads – see a live preview of where the lead-in/lead-out pair is being dragged to in the path
- Auto Path Options – customize where Auto Path will place lead-in and lead out including raise traverse line height between contours to avoid fixtures
- No offset on Lead-ins and Lead-outs – option gives the lead-in and lead-out of the path an offset of zero with FlowPATH automatically identifying lead-in/lead-out entities
- Trim Length of Lead-in/Lead-out for Arcs – trim lead-in and lead-outs on arcs of a given radius
- Export PATH as 5.X – export .ord files in the 5.X format to use with older versions of FlowMaster

New View Features

- Isometric, Top, Front & Right Views – Isometric view changes the construction plane to XY; Top view changes the construction plane to XY; Front view changes the plane to XZ; and Right sets the construction plane to YZ
- Pan, Orbit, Previous & Next Views – pan with the mouse vs. scrollbars; Orbit allows rotation of the view using the mouse; Next and Previous view commands allow switching back between previous views
- Zoom Selection – command will zoom into the current selection



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