

2013

Innovation in Manufacture | Winner: JETCAM

CrossTrack - a composite manufacturing software suite that tracks material, material life, plies, kits, parts, nests and orders - all in real time

Overview

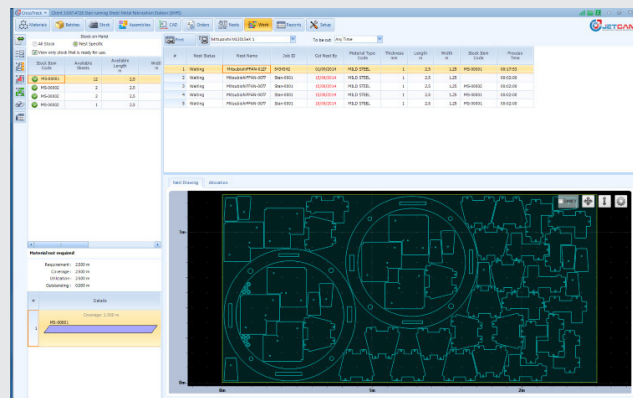
CrossTrack is a composite manufacturing software suite that tracks material, material life, plies, kits, parts, nests and orders - all in real time. It provides complete traceability from the finished part right back to the roll or rolls, and also delivers full material life traceability.

CrossTrack can be used by all staff involved in the composite manufacturing process from material handling through to layup.

Material is booked in quickly using technologies such as barcode scanners or RFID. Once material is on the system staff can immediately see the life of all stock, and the correct (shortest life) roll is immediately selected when orders are ready for nesting. Staff can create lists of required parts, which in turn generates a list of required plies for nesting, and machine operators are then presented with their cutting schedule. Through tight integration to JETCAM Expert CAM/nesting software it automates and simplifies the process of programming CNC composite knife cutters to the point that MRP systems provide CrossTrack with a list of parts. These are then automatically broken down into a list of required plies, component files dynamically created with cutting information applied automatically, highly optimised nests created and full status reporting at all times - all without the operator having to use the CAM software. Operations are kept extremely simple to ensure that staff spend the minimal time entering information but that full traceability is maintained with errors eradicated.

Partners & collaborators

Bombardier Aerospace Northern Ireland
Testing and feedback in development stage



"Winning the award solidified the product as one that had the respect of its peers as well as the trust of its users."

Martin Bailey, General Manager, JETCAM

The Composites UK Industry Awards are presented at the black-tie dinner on the first Wednesday in November. The event is aligned with the Composites Engineering Show in Birmingham.

Keep an eye out for our annual nomination process each May for your chance to apply.