

# Customer Spotlight

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## Long-time Customer Gives High Praise to Mastercam X

President Larry "Tony G" Garibaldi of CNCme makes his living keeping manufacturing alive in the United States.

As an Engineering consultant for product support, CNC machine programming, and product improvement, he uses various levels of Mastercam CAD/CAM software to help companies become more competitive by increasing their productivity, upgrading processes, and by just making manufacturing more streamlined.

Tony says, "I have many shops in the Northeast US area that I deal with for software training and support. Basically I'm like an extension of what Mastercam does. I do my work more at the machine tool level while they do it on a software level. I'm kind of somewhere in between as I try to bridge the gap between the machine and the software."

Tony adds, "I train people so they can write programs that are more efficient. I try to get rid of a lot of the wasted movement in their machine tool's cycle times. As I watch their machines run, I can see that they're not always optimized to the highest level of productivity. Most companies say 'We have always done it this way.' I find companies that want to improve, and I visit them and show them techniques on how to improve their processes to make parts better.

Garibaldi has been in the trade for over 30 years. He worked at a tech school as an instructor for 10 years. He has been using Mastercam products since 1986. Now he shares all his manufacturing knowledge, whether it's setting-up machine tools or writing programs.

Tony is a Beta customer, testing Mastercam X on his mills and lathes along with multi-axis mills and mill/turning centers. When asked about Mastercam X Tony replies, "Mastercam X has opened itself to a whole new world, which makes it a lot more flexible and faster. There are many more modules and they have been enhanced to the point where it becomes very easy to program. There are many features that help me draw and make toolpaths, along with interfacing with windows.



Larry "Tony G" Garibaldi, President, CNCme

Garibaldi notes, "Mastercam X Solids designing package has stepped closer to Pro-E, UG, and SolidWorks than ever before. They have a robust file converter that can handle the latest files from most CAD/CAM systems."

"I like just about everything about the new program. It gives me more flexibility with the right-click button on the mouse because it is fully customizable. I can configure the right-click menus and build my own toolbars. I can also configure the interface to how I want it to look. The right-click can be also built as a floating toolbar. I've built mine to about twenty different applications. It comes with about six or eight items and you can add as many as you want. It saves a lot of time searching for things, saving a lot of mouse clicks," he adds.

Tony also mentions that he likes Mastercam's Preview feature, remarking, "In Version 9 I had to select a function and do it, and then once I executed the function, it was gone. Basically I had to undo them, and then go back." Now most functions have a dialogue box. The new "ribbon bar" is like a universal streamlined dialog that helps transfer information.

"When I create features, I can use the ribbon bar to adjust the features length, size, and start points, and instantly see the results. I can still edit the features and the results before the module closes. I can actually preview what I've done before I exit the module," Tony comments.

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"With the program's Live Entities feature, I click on something and it stays there, and I'm allowed to change depth, width, height, and color. All the attributes can be changed before the module is closed, which saves a lot of time. It keeps the drawing entities "alive" until I'm done manipulating them. Mastercam X is virtual CAD/CAM."

"As to the new Window's based format, Tony adds, "At first, because I was such a long time user, it took me awhile to get used to it. I've only really scratched the surface myself, because this version is so powerful."

"I really like the new post builder, which allows me to edit the posts a lot easier now. I used to have to go into the program and edit the post. Now it's manipulated within a type of post-builder program where I can use dialogues and parameter fields to change some of the post features. I don't have to know how to edit a post. I can actually do it from outside the program.

In closing, Tony says, "I know Mastercam X will change the face of manufacturing for years to come!" **X**