

# waveform roughing

## Maximum Material Removal

Waveform roughing strategy is a high speed machining technique that maintains a constant tool cutting load by ensuring the tool engagement into the material is consistent. The tool path moves in a smooth path to avoid sharp changes in direction which maintains the machine tool's velocity.

**Benefits include :**  
Reduces cycle time

Tool life maximised

Full flute of tool utilised

Minimum tool vibration

Constant chip load

Intelligent toolpath linking

Cuts deeper and faster

### Constant Engagement

Although the Concentric pattern looks much simpler at the first glance the problem is that the tool "digs" into each corner causing the tool to overload, leading to reduced tool life or tool breakage. In reality the machine tool operator may have to reduce the cycle feed rate to compensate and thus, increase manufacturing time.

As Waveform maintains a constant engagement with the material, the feed rate can remain at the optimal value throughout the cycle. This will improve the tool life and greatly reduce the risk of tool breakage - it is very simple to switch from traditional roughing to Waveform to see the toolpath pattern.

### The Waveform Pattern

To maintain a constant chip load the cycle uses the philosophy that we machine from "Stock to part". This reduces the amount of intermittent cuts, particularly on external regions, which means the tool is engaged with the material for longer without lifting clear. Traditionally, cycles generally offset the component until they meet the stock. This can lead to the generation of sharp corners and discontinuous tool paths.

For pocket regions the tool will helical in to depth at the centre and open the pocket up so that it can create a continuous spiral cut until the edge of the pocket is reached. Any remaining corners are then removed. Waveform automatically detects open areas and uses them for tool entry, rather than cutting an open region like a closed region.

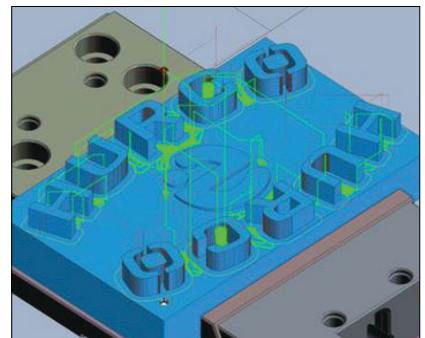
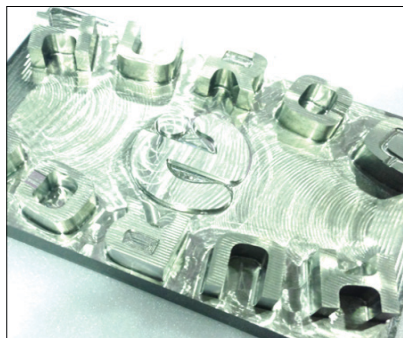
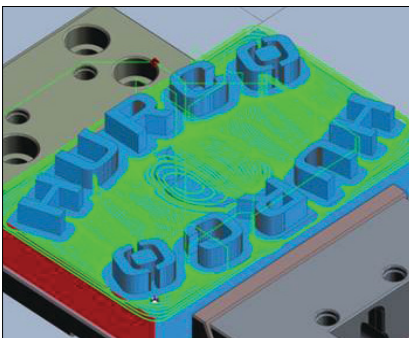
### Adjusted Tool Engagement

To maintain the tool engagement and the chip load the tool path is automatically adjusted to compensate. When cutting into a concave area tool engagement is increased. The cycle adjusts the step over between the passes to compensate and maintain the desired engagement.

When cutting a convex area the opposite affect occurs. As the material falls away the tool path step over is increased to maintain the desired engagement.

### Intelligent Linking

To improve cycle efficiency, Waveform provides the ability to stay at depth whilst moving between milling areas or go up and over and stepping off the component.



# • waveform

Waveform Roughing greatly improves standard roughing cycles by removing a constant volume of material.

Cutting along as much of the flute length as possible distributes wear evenly along the entire flute length, rather than just the tip, massively reducing tool vibration. The radial cut depth is also reduced to ensure a consistent cutting force, allowing cut material to escape from the flutes. Tool life is further extended as most of the heat is removed in the chip.



- Variable pitch combined with an odd number of flutes suppresses chatter and produces better surface finishes
- Rigid construction minimizes deflection and increases part accuracy
- Optimized tool geometry allows for improved shearing and decreased loads



CAM Software	Edgecam-Waveform	
Operation	Roughing	Roughing
Tool Details	V Carb 12mm R1.0 5 Flute 42681	V Carb 8mm R1.0 5 Flute 42668
Machine	Hurco VM10i	
Coolant	Air Blast	
Material	EN3B	
Speed (RPM)	10,000	10,000
Feed (mm/min)	4,000	4,000
Ap (mm)	15	15
Ae (mm)	1.8	1.2
Entry Strategy	Side	Side / Helical Ramp
MRR (cm³)	108	72

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