



Different packaging produced with Techno-Tool Tools.



Cups are typical thermoformed products.



By Henrik Bogelund]

CATIA V5 Tools the Future



Hans Lauridsen

Techno-Tool started in the early nineties with the design and production of Thermoforming Moulds and has grown to be the leading supplier in Denmark. CATIA V5 has been a key factor behind this growth.

Fully automated thermoforming mold for production of lids.

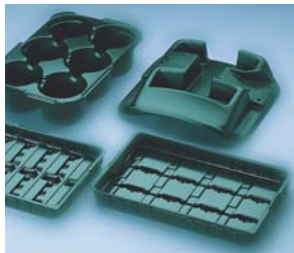


AUTOMATED DESIGN AND MANUFACTURING OF VACUUM TOOLS

Techno-Tool A/S uses CATIA V5 to automate the design and production of thermoforming moulds. "With constantly increasing competition from countries with low cost labour, it is important for us to maintain our leading position on the market by using the best tools and machines available, and to automate our processes from design and tool construction to tool manufacturing", says Hans Lauridsen, CEO at Techno-Tool A/S. With 80% of a given tool now designed automatically according to our standards and better utilization of our milling machines, CATIA V5 really helped us reduce our design and manufacturing costs. "We chose CATIA V5 for its extensive capabilities in advanced design and the fact that it is easy to learn and use. We have now capitalized on these initial improvements and have shifted into a higher gear", says Lauridsen.

During the last 8 months, Techno-Tool carried out an automation project together with Idé-Pro Engineering & Software aiming at even further automating processes with CATIA and CATIA Machining. Although the initial ROI was estimated as 15 months Techno-Tool has already passed the break-even point.

"During the project we benefited from our partner's consultants and their in-depth knowledge of their own design and manufacturing processes in their mother company", says Lauridsen. "In our daily work, the digital mock-up of every tool helps us detect any misunderstandings at an early stage. This, together with an automated production process, has reduced the error rate by 80%". With the automation capabilities of CATIA V5, NC programming time for simple parts has been reduced by 90%. "Since all NC programming is done off-line and simulated extensively out of the shop floor, we have been able to expand the number of milling", says Lauridsen.



FUTURE PLANS

We get many requests from our customers to visualize their final packaged products as early as during the design phase. We plan to enhance our installation with this functionality," concludes Lauridsen.

For more information:
hb@ipes.dk

More about Techno-Tool A/S

Techno-Tool was established in 1990 in Esbjerg and is dedicated to the design and manufacturing of thermoform moulds and punching tools for plastic manufacturing of packaging and technical products. Their 65 employees in Denmark and Malaysia produce an annual turnover of more than 7 million Euros.

www.techno-tool.dk

More about Idé-Pro Engineering & Software

Idé-Pro Engineering & Software A/S is the leading supplier of solutions and services based on Dassault Systèmes PLM products (CATIA, ENOVIA SmarTeam and DELMIA) in Denmark.

www.ipes.dk