

09 - Running a Post from GENER Shortcut

Welcome to this series of *CAM-POST FOUNDATION* video tutorials. In this video, we will demonstrate the execution of an existing post-processor directly from the operating system.

In a previous video (Video #3), we have configured a 3-axes milling post for a **Haas VF-1** machine. Let us now run this post-processor on an existing Cutter Location Data file...

Click the **GENER** shortcut, which was created on the desktop during the *CAM-POST FOUNDATION* installation...

This opens up the “**CAM-POST GENER**” launch panel... Here, we can select the Cutter Location file to process... Let us select a Mastercam-generated **NCI** file... and press “**Open**”.

We can also specify the *CAM-POST FOUNDATION* database to use... and select the post.

The CAM button allows us to specify the CAM system that generated the Cutter Location file... In this case, we will use the “**Automatic**” option, which tells *CAM-POST FOUNDATION* to automatically recognize the format of the CL file and use the appropriate CAM interface...

“**Exit**” the *CAM Interface* dialog...

We can select the “**Progress**” option, or launch the process with a full verbose interface... Let’s use the *Progress* bar... and press **OK**.

The GENER progress bar appears... At any time, we can select “**More Info**” to access the full GENER interface.

Let us rewind the process and run it once again...

The GENER interface has several different panels, in which we can click to execute just one step at a time...

...Here in the **Input** window, we see the CL records that the software has converted from the NCI file... We can see motion data like GOTO points or CIRCLES...

...In the **Output** window, we can step through the NC blocks that are currently generated by the post-processor...

...There is also a **Console** window, in which warnings and errors are displayed when found...

...We can resume the continuous process and pause it again as needed...

All of these windows are interconnected, and can be synchronized by right-clicking an item in a window and picking **Synchronize**... The corresponding item in the other window is underlined...

We can select a line in the CL Data file... and synchronize it with the resulting NC block... We can then *step-in* to the next line... and the next... and trace the output one-step-at-a-time.

We can do this the opposite way, by picking a *block* in the NC output and synchronizing it with the CL command that generated it.

Let us now select the **View Listing** button, which allows us to verify the *Post Verification Listing* file. This file can be optionally output in HTML format, in which case we'll have some links that allow us to quickly access the beginning of each tool change...

...and verify, on every block, the current XYZ position.

We can also go directly to the summaries section... we'll have a **tooling summary**... a **travel summary**... the **diagnostics**... As you can see no diagnostics were found during this process...

Finally, let us take a look at the actual *NC program* that was generated. Let's click **View Tape File**... and scroll down in the editor to quickly verify the file...

This concludes our presentation on running a *CAM-POST FOUNDATION* post directly from the shortcut on the operating system.

Thank you for watching.