

Press Release

Innovative Features of EasyBlank – New Software Release

Zurich, Switzerland, October 22, 2007: AutoForm Engineering GmbH, the leading supplier of software solutions for sheet metal forming industry, has announced a new release of EasyBlank. The new release of EasyBlank includes new innovative features that provide the industry's most cost-effective nesting layout solution, designed to minimize material usage.

EasyBlank can now easily and quickly optimize even more material usage by controlling and adjusting blank shape overlap. The expansion of the developed part – defined in order to take the addendum into account – can be significantly optimized by intentionally allowing local nesting overlaps, in order to minimize material costs. The impact of the optimized nesting can immediately be viewed (in 2D and 3D) and is fully validated.

Simulation set-up and calculations are accomplished in just minutes, allowing the user to carry out and assess several alternative nestings. Based on these assessments, the user can estimate if material usage optimization influences the main functionality of the part.

In addition, the blank outline data (the IGES file) is now calculated maintaining the original part position. It allows the users to continue to work in their environment starting again directly from the original part position, reducing further engineering time and costs.

Dr. Markus Thomma, AutoForm's Director of Marketing stated: "We are carefully following the latest industry challenges and requirements of our customers. Cost reduction is an imperative, at every stage of product development. This release of EasyBlank, with its new innovative features, further enhances the industry's most cost-effective nesting layout software solution."

***EasyBlank** is free downloadable software, which enables online purchasing of reports. EasyBlank rapidly calculates the developed blank outline from CAD part geometry, using the well known AutoForm-OneStep simulation technology. In addition, EasyBlank is specialized for determining the optimal nesting layout. All the existing features make the software attractive for tool and die shops as well as for stamping companies. Users can purchase online the reports that contain detailed information on material consumption, thinning distribution of the part, blank outline and optimal nesting layout. The benefits of such a report are early cost analysis, minimization of material costs and material usage and finally minimized scrap.*

About AutoForm Engineering GmbH

AutoForm Engineering develops and markets specialized die face design and simulation software for the automotive and sheet metal forming industries. With all of the Top 20 automobile producers and customers, AutoForm is recognized as the number one provider of software for product formability, die face design and virtual tryouts to the global automotive industry. AutoForm offices are located in Switzerland, Germany, The Netherlands, France, Spain, Italy, USA, Mexico, India, China, Japan and Korea. The company also serves the needs of its customers through agents and distributors in more than 15 other countries (Turkey, Brazil, etc.). Since May 2007 AutoForm serves the specific needs of small and mid-sized enterprises worldwide through its e-commerce platform EasyStamping.com.

For detailed information visit www.autoform.com and www.easystamping.com.

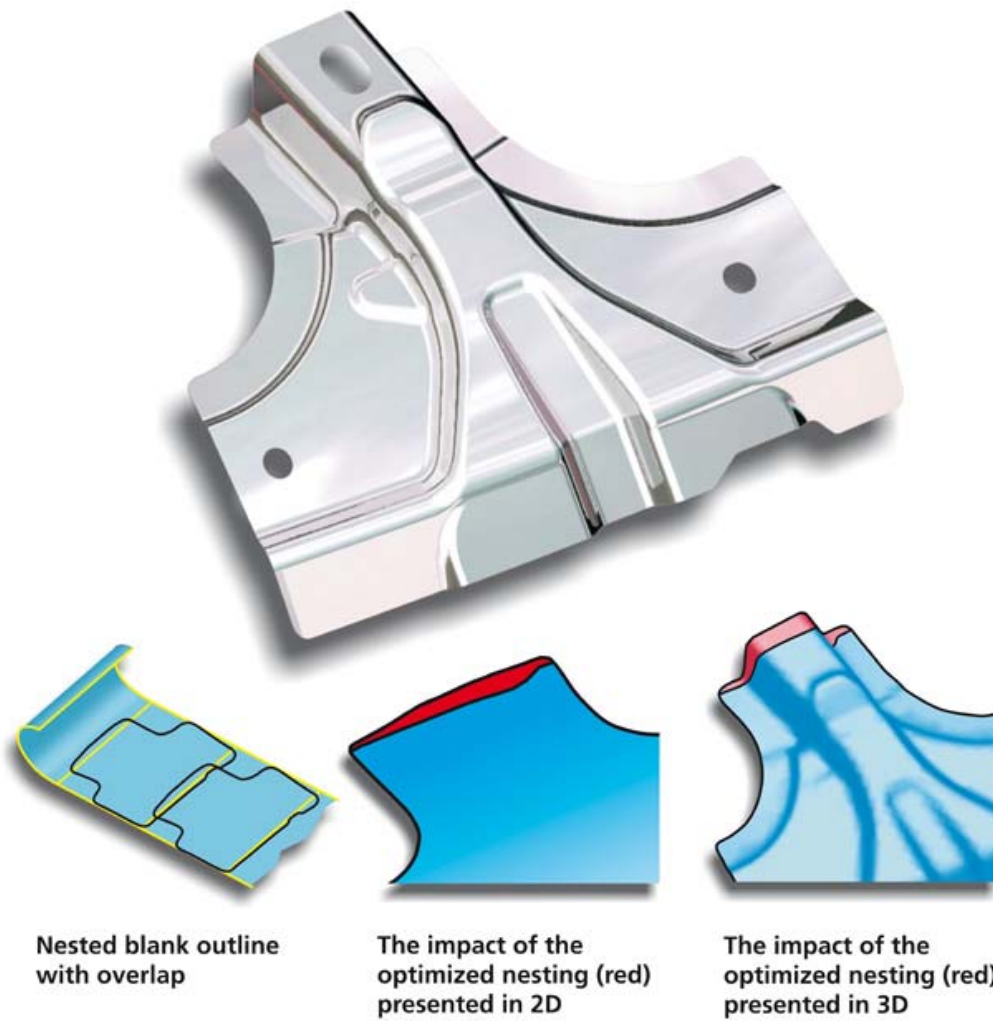
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Optimization of material usage by adjusting blank shape overlap

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