

Press Release

October 31, 2007

Imports Fixture Models Easily from IMAO CAD/CAF Fixture Design Support System to MAPPSⅢ! Mori Seiki and Imao Corporation Jointly Develop a New System.

Includes fixture models to check for interference in 3D more easily and precisely.

Mori Seiki Co., Ltd. and Imao Corporation have jointly developed a system which allows 3D models of fixtures generated by the IMAO CAD/CAF fixture model support system to be imported into MAPPSⅢ and used for the 3D interference checking function.

The 3D interference checking function which is installed in MAPPSⅢ performs a simulation during actual machining, checking for interference using registered models of the spindles, tools, workpieces and fixtures. The machine stops immediately if interference is detected, in both automatic and manual modes, allowing safe operation from setup right through to actual machining.

With earlier 3D interference checking functions, entering the fixture model settings was difficult and took a very long time. With IMAO CAD/CAF, this setting is done automatically, and fixture models generated from it can be imported easily using this new system. This offers both a reduction in the time for setting fixture models and a more precise 3D interference check which includes the fixtures.

Also, Mori Seiki uses kitset fixtures made by Imao Corporation in our production plants. Since these kitset fixtures are supplied as "standard parts," they have the advantage that fixtures can be made quickly. And by using IMAO CAD/CAF, the time for fixture design has been cut in half. Making the most of these benefits dramatically reduces machining lead time.

This new system will be on display at the Winter Productivity Show 2007 at Mori Seiki's Chiba Campus from November 14 (Weds.)~17 (Sat.). Please come and see for yourself how easy it is to use.

[About Imao Corporation]

President & COO: Shigeru Imao
Number of employees: 215
Foundation: 1935
Home page: <http://www.imao.co.jp/>

After starting as a cast iron manufacturer, they developed their own brand of handles, levers, knobs, etc for industrial machines, and now supply a wide range of superior products throughout the industry. Also, they customized their CAD/CAM/CAE to meet their own needs for the development, design and manufacturing process, and developed a system which is easier to use.

[About IMAO CAD/CAF]

IMAO CAD/CAF is a fixture design support system developed by Imao Corporation.

IMAO CAD adds the "hole" attributes when modeling workpieces (e.g., the prepared hole diameter, pitch etc for tapping). During the next CAM process tools can be allocated automatically to match this extra information by using it together with IMAO CAM, reducing the number of man-hours.

IMAO CAF means Computer Aided Fixturing, a term invented by Imao Corporation. IMAO CAF allows the complicated operations of fixture design to be done automatically, shortening the time taken for design. The fixture models from their data library and specialized fixture allocation commands are used for layout designs. Thanks to this, fixture design only takes 1/2~1/3 as long as it used to. Fixtures which are standardized by the customer can also be registered in the data library.