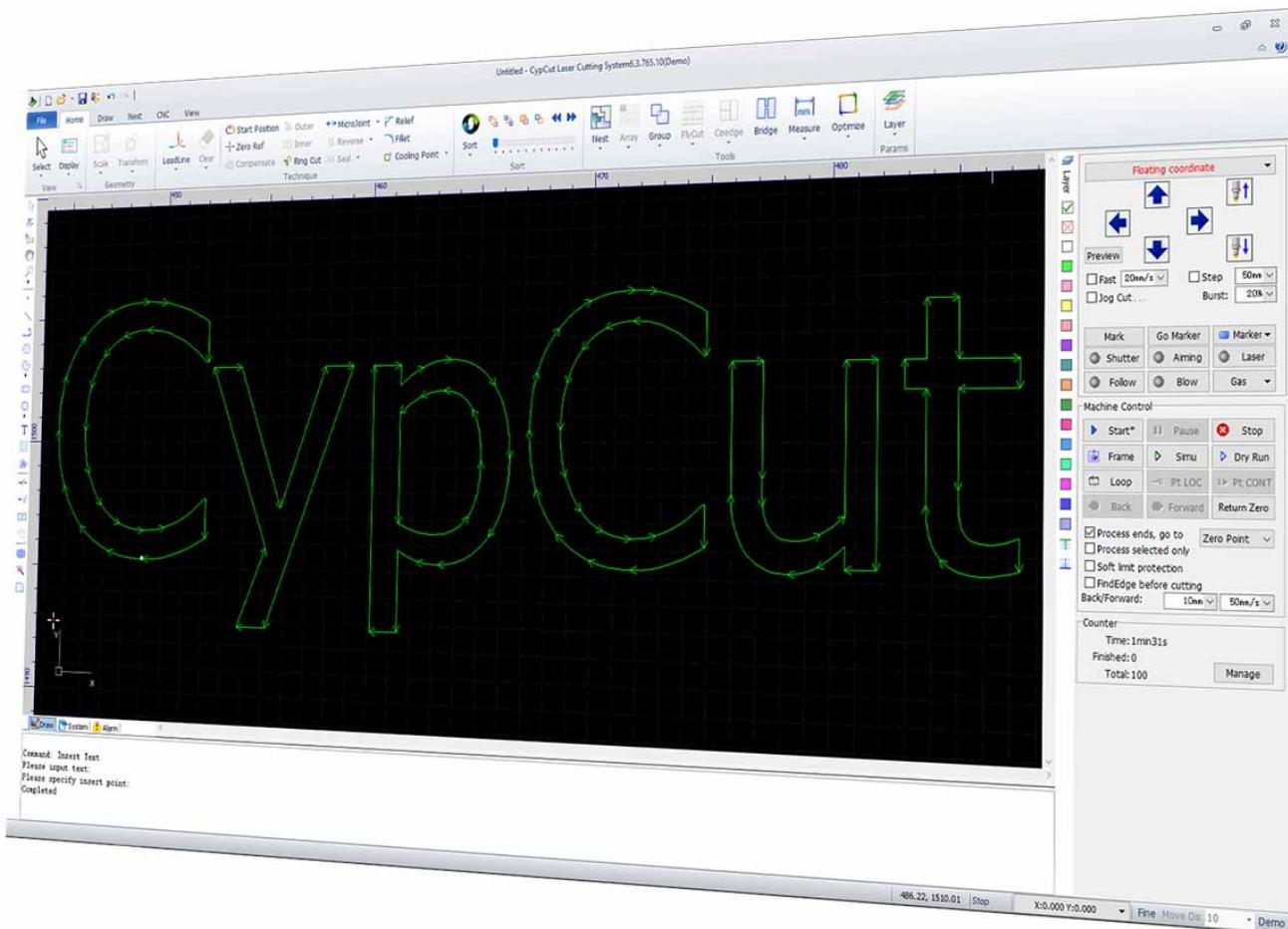


# CypCut CAD/CAM Family

## User's Manual



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# Table of Contents

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## Introduction

- How to Use This User's Manual
- Notes Used in This Manual

## Safety

- Laser Safety

## Parts in CypCut

- Operation
- Hints for Programming Parts
- Import Parts
- Construct Parts
- Part Library
- Nest Parts

## Technology in CypCut

- Hints for Setting Technology
- Cutting Parameters
- Lead Lines
- Kerf Compensation
- Micro Joints
- Technologies for Getting Good Corners
- Automatically Applied Technologies When Nesting
- Auxiliary Technologies
- Check Technology

If any details in this manual is unclear or if you need additional assistance setting up your machine, please feel free to call us at [+1 \(626\) 671-4014](tel:+16266714014) or email at [service@gueagle.com](mailto:service@gueagle.com).

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# Introduction

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## How to Use This User's Manual

Thank you for purchasing a GU Eagle fiber laser cutting system coming with the CypCut CAD/CAM software. CypCut has been designed to be easy to use, but you will utilize it to its fullest potential by taking some time to read this user's manual prior to use. You will be ready to use the software as soon as you read the first few sections. Then you can refer to topics in the remaining sections, as you work.

## Notes Used in This Manual

Look for these kinds of notes to help you find valuable information throughout the text:

### **NOTE**

Helpful notes to keep in mind while running the laser!

### **IMPORTANT**

Important instructions you should always follow.

### **WARNING**

Warnings and cautions to keep in mind while running the laser.

# Safety

## Laser Safety

Lasers use intense beams of light to create heat and fire as a normal part of their operation, and depending on the laser, the light might not be visible to you. If the proper safety measures are ignored, you could burn or blind yourself or someone else, or start a fire that could damage or destroy the building in which the laser system is housed.

### IMPORTANT

**ALWAYS** wear protecting glasses while doing laser processing.

### WARNING

**DO NOT** aim and fire laser on anything but the workpieces you want to process.

### WARNING

**DO NOT** leave a running laser unattended.

### IMPORTANT

**ALWAYS** follow the laser safety regulations while operating a laser directly in CypCut.

The visible output beam of the Laser Diode Pointer (Red Dot Pointer) is accessible to the operator. While this device employs the same technology as the familiar laser pen-pointers, like them it is potentially hazardous if its beam is directed into the eye.

### WARNING

**DO NOT** view directly into the beam of the Laser Diode Pointer (Red Dot Pointer).

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# Parts in CypCut

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In this chapter, you will learn how to import or construct parts, how to use the part library, and how to nest parts in CypCut.

- [Operation](#)
- [Hints for Programming Parts](#)
- [Import Parts](#)
- [Construct Parts](#)
- [Part Library](#)
- [Nest Parts](#)

# Operation

## Running a Function

A function is a sequence of commands executed by CypCut. The following options are available for running a function.

Running	Description	Example
Menu command	Run a function by selecting the function from a menu by using the mouse, or via the keyboard with the <b>Alt</b> key plus the underlined letter in the menu (Hot key).	
Click on button	Select the function required by clicking on the corresponding button with mouse.	
Command	Run a function by entering a <b>letter sequence</b> in the <b>Draw command window</b> . Close the command with the <b>Enter</b> key or with the right mouse button.	rect

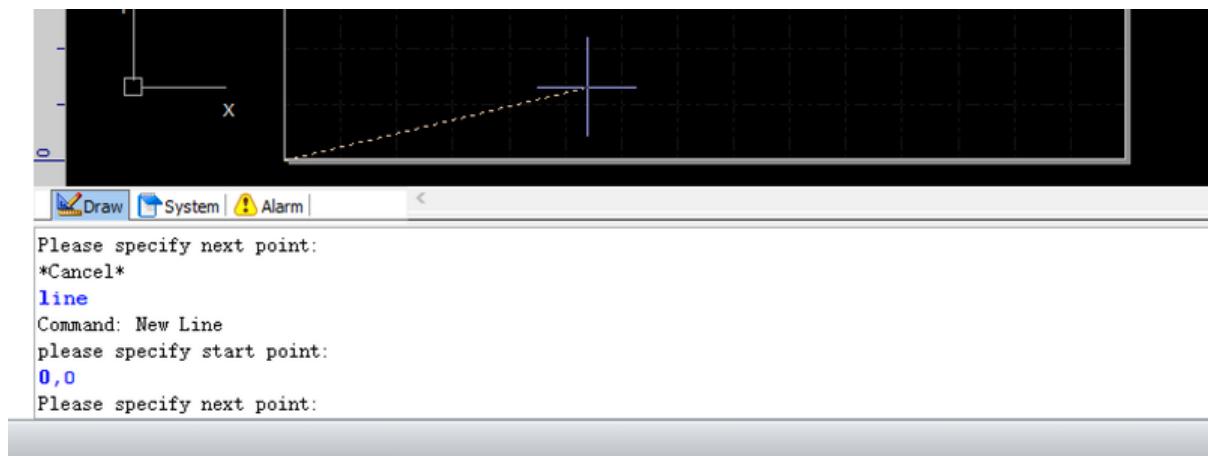
## Cancel

Press the **Esc** key to stop functions that you have run by mistake. The following message is displayed in the **Draw command window**: **\*Cancel\***.

# Hints for Programming Parts

This manual does not describe any drawing functions in detail. However, the following information will give you an overview of basic programming procedures.

## Cursor



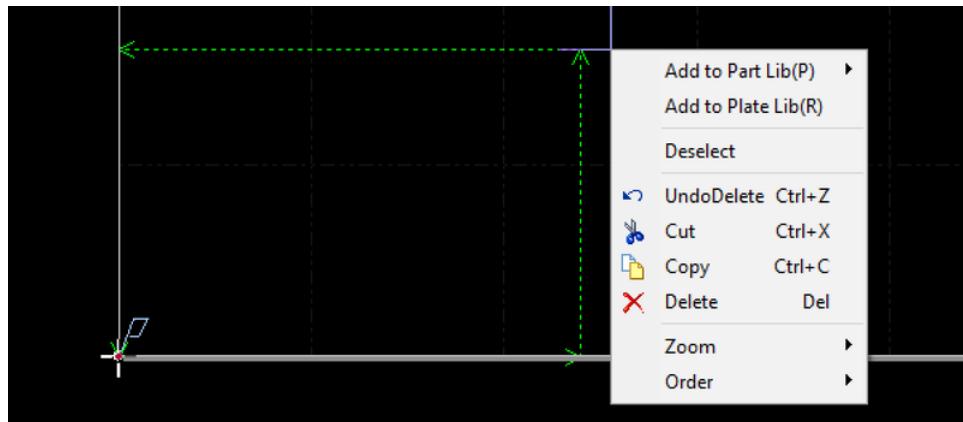
With the mouse you move the cursor over the screen. Depending on the actual position of the mouse and on the command which has been chosen, the cursor will appear in different shape, either as a white arrow, as an I-beam or as a purple crosshair, etc.

Cursor	Description
<b>White arrow</b>	The cursor is on the menu bars, the tool bars, or the other docking panels.
<b>I-Beam</b>	The cursor is on the <b>Draw command window</b> .
<b>Purple crosshair</b>	The cursor is on the drawing window, no special functions are active.
<b>Purple crosshair with object snap box</b>	The cursor is on the drawing window and has been activated by an object snap function.
<b>Drag</b>	The cursor is on the drawing window and has been activated by the drag function.
<b>Hand</b>	The cursor is on the drawing window and has been activated by the zoom dynamically function.

## Mouse Buttons

The left mouse button is for clicking on icons, choosing drawing elements, for setting points in the drawing window, etc.

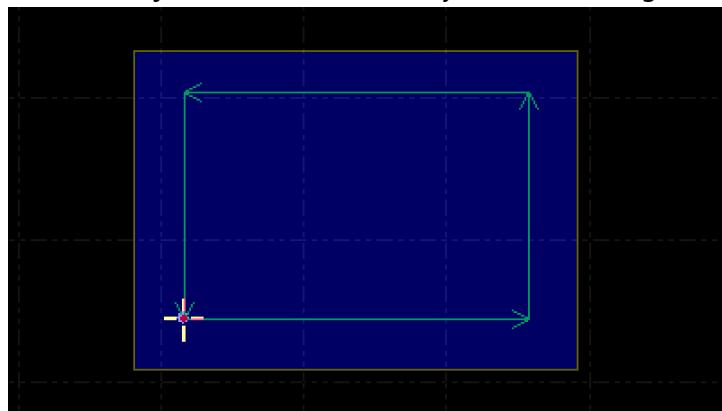
The right mouse button will bring up the context menu associated with the window or the objects being selected.



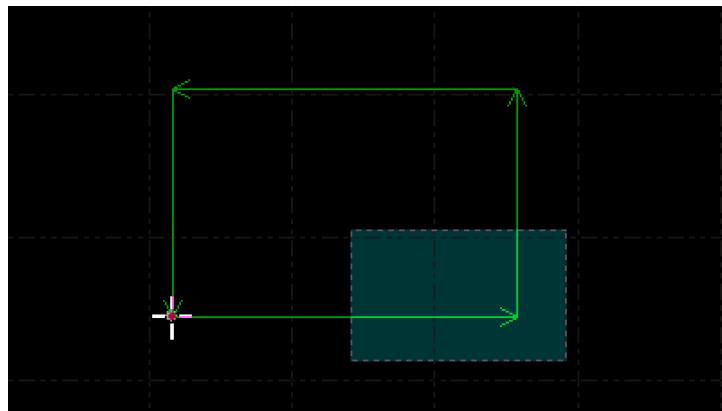
## Object Selection Functions

The object selection functions allow you to choose objects by clicking the left mouse button on a drawing element or by clicking and dragging a selection window.

If you click and drag the selection window to the right, the window will be framed by solid lines and filled with blue; the object will be selected only if all its drawing elements fall within the window, as shown below.

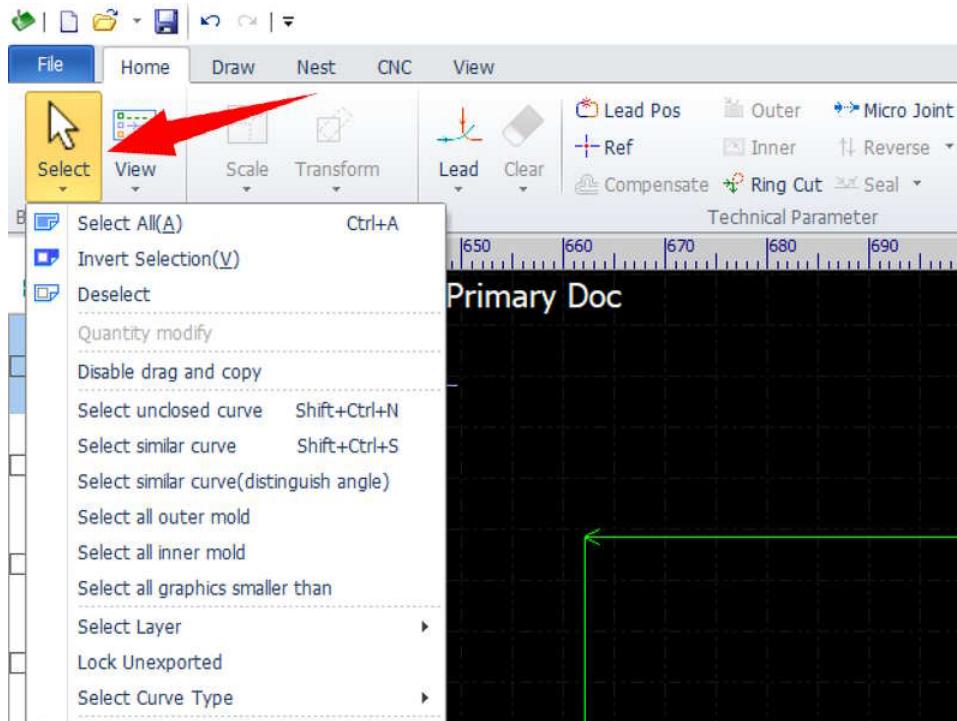


Alternately, if you click and drag the selection window to the left, the window will be framed by dash lines and filled with green; the object will be selected if any part of its drawing elements fall within the window, as shown below.



The choice can either contain a single or several drawing elements. With the **Shift** key held, you can increase the selection by selecting more objects, or decrease the selection by selecting the objects which are already selected. Selected objects are displayed with dashed lines.

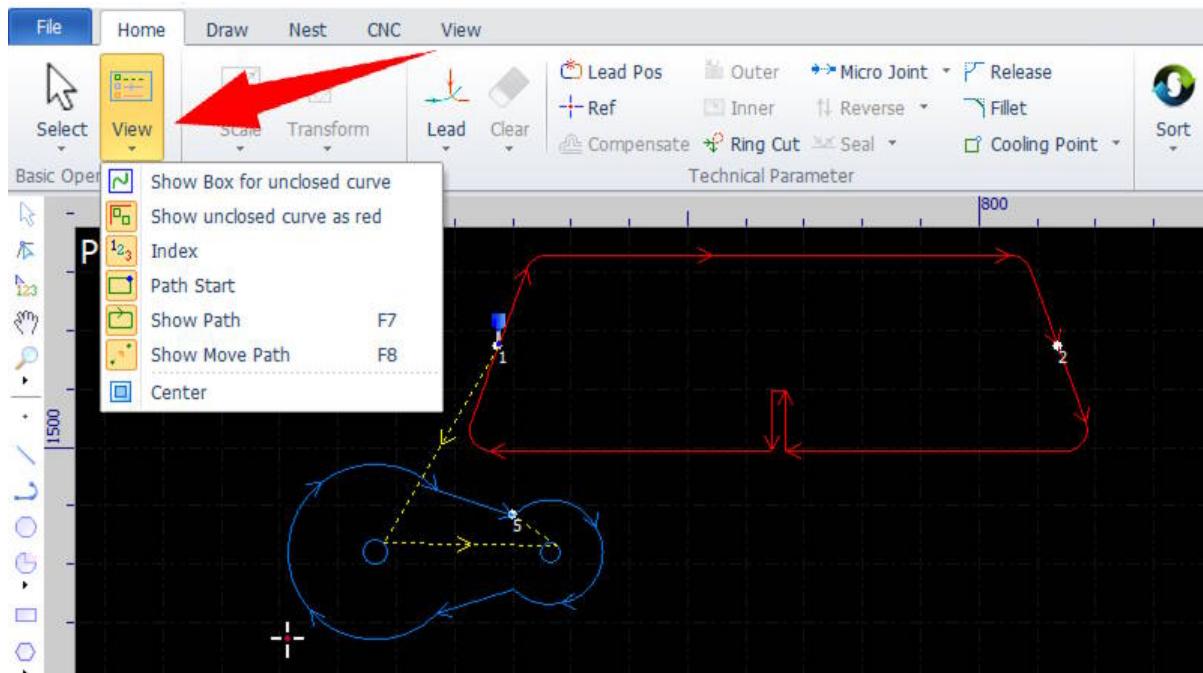
You can also select objects by the object selection functions other than drawing a selection window with the mouse.



Button	Label	Function
	<b>Select All</b>	Select all the objects.
	<b>Invert Selection</b>	Select the objects other than the objects which are already selected.
	<b>Deselect</b>	Deselect the objects which are already selected.
	<b>Select unclosed curve</b>	Select the objects which are not closed in geometry.
	<b>Select similar curve</b>	Select the objects which are similar with the selected object.
	<b>Select all outer mold</b>	
	<b>Select all inner mold</b>	
	<b>Select all graphics smaller than</b>	Select the objects which are smaller than a specified dimension.
	<b>Select Layer</b>	Select all the objects which belong to a specific layer.
	<b>Lock Unexported</b>	Lock down all the objects in the unexported layer.
	<b>Select Curve Type</b>	Select all the objects which belong to a specific geometry type, such as lines, circles, curves.

## Object View Functions

The object view functions help you get more information from your drawing, i.e. if the contours are closed or not, the start points of the cutting path, the processing sequence, etc.



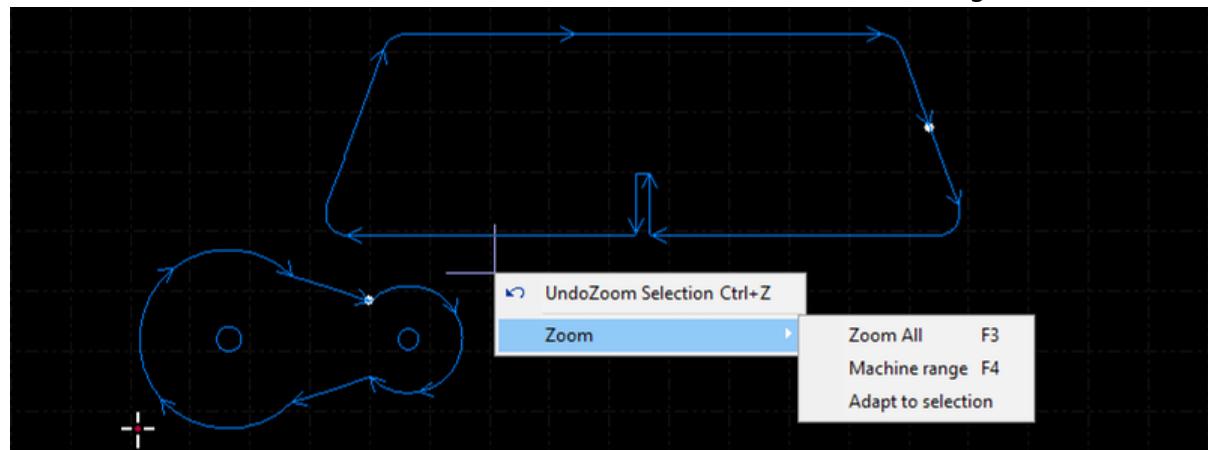
Icon	Label	Function
	<b>Show Box for unclosed curve</b>	To display surrounding boxes around unclosed contours.
	<b>Show unclosed curve as red</b>	To display unclosed contours in red.
	<b>Index</b>	To display processing sequence.
	<b>Path Start</b>	To display the start points of the cutting path.
	<b>Show Path</b>	To display the direction of the cutting path.
	<b>Show Move Path</b>	To display the traveling path.
	<b>Center</b>	Set the machine range to accommodate the drawing in the center.

## Zoom Functions

Zoom functions will move, enlarge or minimize extracts from your drawing. Click on the button  or press down the arrow keys on the keyboard when the drawing window is active, to move the drawing around inside the drawing window. Scroll the mouse wheel when the drawing windows is active, or click on the button  and select the corresponding function, to enlarge or minimize the extract.

Button	Label	Function	Hot Key
	<b>Adapt to the window</b>	Adapt a window of extract to the drawing window.	
	<b>Zoom All</b>	Adapt all the drawing elements to the drawing window.	<b>F3</b>
	<b>Machine range</b>	Adapt the whole machining range to the drawing window.	<b>F4</b>
	<b>Adapt to selection</b>	Adapt the selected drawing element(s) to the drawing window.	
	<b>Zoom Dynamically</b>	Enlarge or minimize the extract when pressing down the left mouse button and moving in the drawing window.	

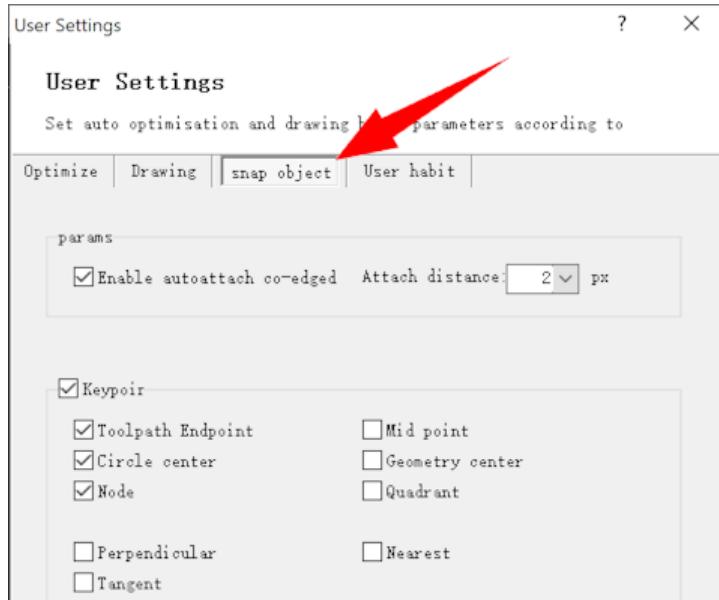
You can also select the zoom commands from the context menu in the drawing window.



## Object Snap Functions

Use the object snap functions in order to choose geometry points precisely while drawing and constructing. For example: for catching endpoints within lines, centres of circles, tangent points of circles.

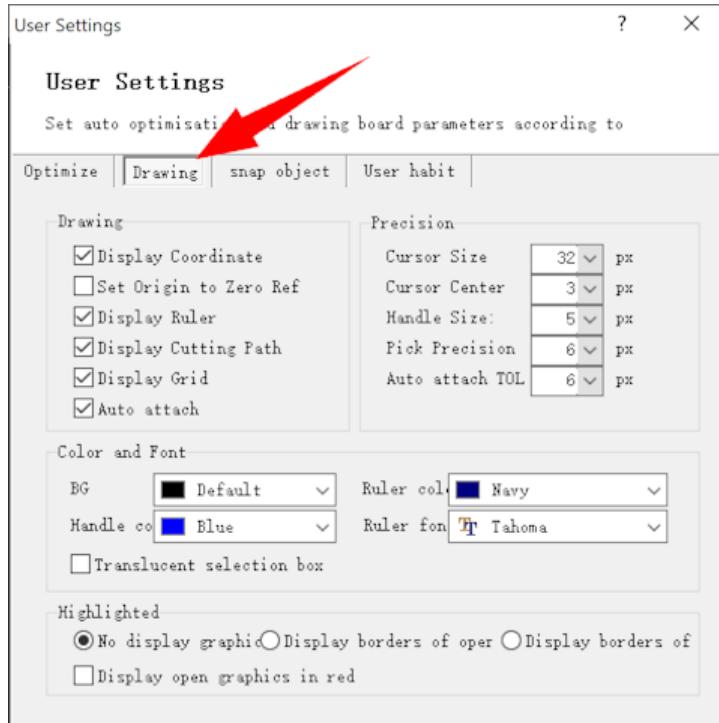
Object snaps can be enabled or disabled through the pulldown-menu **File>User Setting>User Settings**. In the pop-up dialog, open up the **snap object** page, you can change the settings for the object snap functions.



When the functions are active, the assisting lines and tool tips will be displayed around the snapped geometry points.

## Drawing Settings

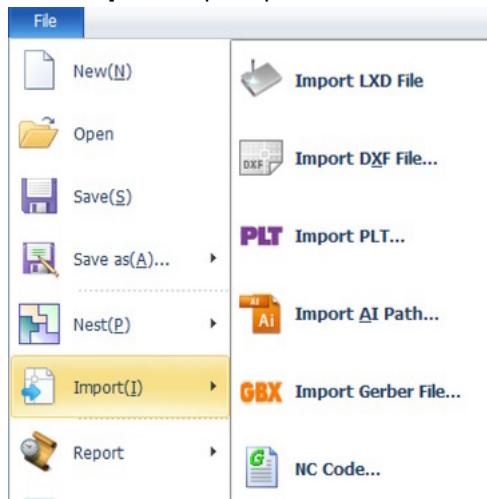
Select the menu **User Settings** in **File>User Setting**, or click on the button  in the **Basic Operation** section in **Home**, you will see the drawing settings.



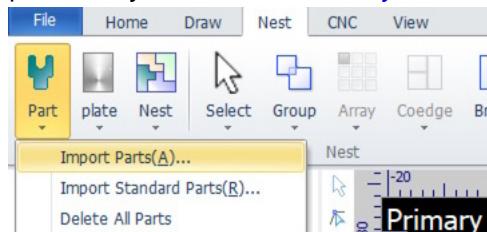
Here you can set which elements to display in the drawing window, set size of cursor, set background color of the drawing window, set color and font of the ruler, set highlighting of drawing elements, and others according to your preferences.

## Import Parts

You can import different file formats to CypCut. The import functions launched from the pulldown-menu **File>Import** import parts into the drawing window.



On the other hand, the import functions launched from the menu **Nest>Part** import parts directly into the part library, refer to [Part Library](#) for more information.



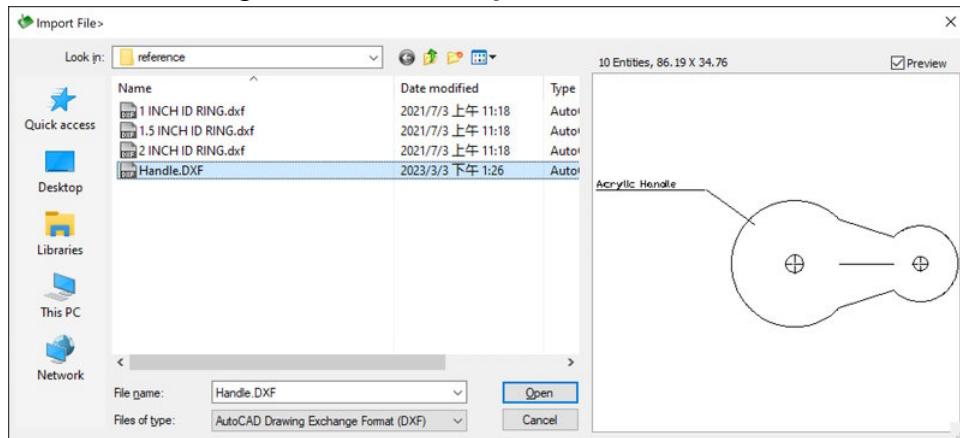
Here is a list of the supported file formats:

- LXD (CypCut)
- DXF (AutoCAD)
- PLT
- AI (Adobe Illustrator)
- Gerber
- G Code

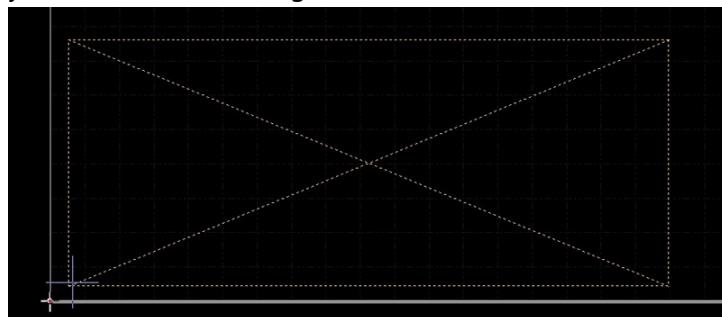
## Import into the Drawing Window

Let's go through the steps for importing a DXF file into the drawing window. Importing other files works just like this one.

Select the command **Import** from the pulldown-menu **File**, then **Import DXF File**. Search for the DXF file in the Windows dialog box and click on **Open**.



The placement of the drawing will be shown as a placeholder which sticks to the mouse cursor, set it to where you want in the drawing window.

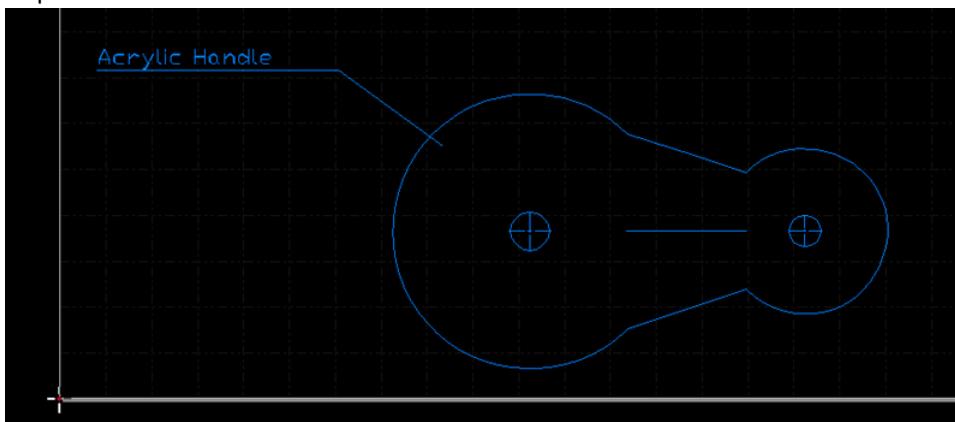


Now the software executes various activities, which you have to define or check first. Open **User Settings** from the pulldown-menu **File>User Setting**.

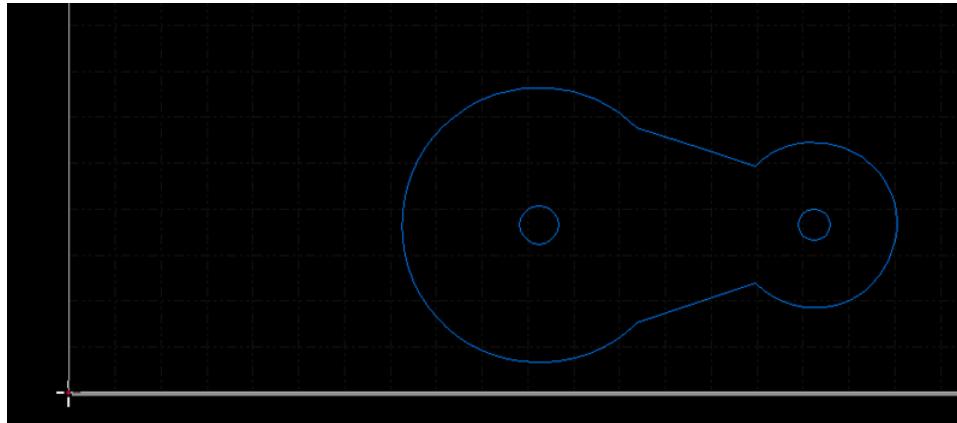


These settings will be executed on the file when importing, i.e. removing tiny elements, deleting duplicated elements, etc.

And then the optimized drawing of the DXF file is displayed in the drawing window. Apart from the contours you might also see construction and dimensioning lines plus drawing information which you do not want to import.



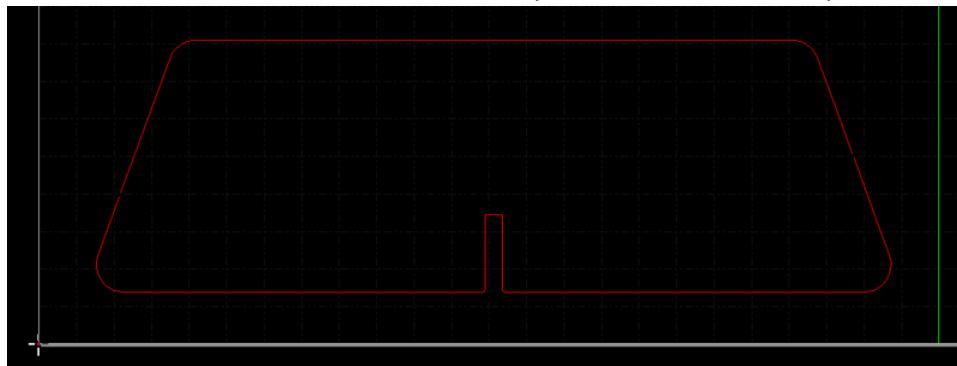
Select and remove those unwanted elements to "isolate" the contours.



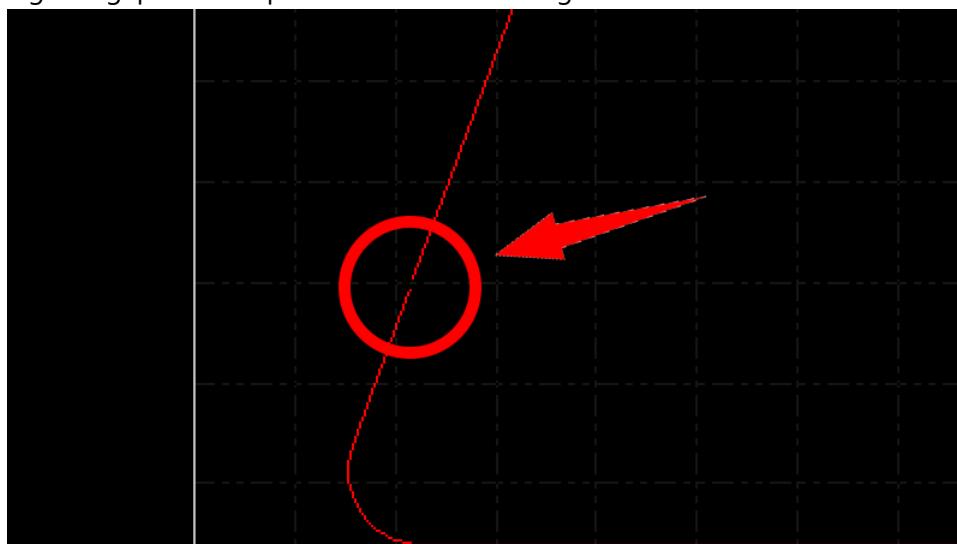
Finally, check the parts for open contours and correct any mistakes if necessary.

## Drawing Optimizations

Sometimes, there are still open contours (shown in red if the view function **Show unclosed curve as red** is active) and other kinds of issues left in the parts after the default optimizations executed when importing.



That is due to the drawing issues exceed the range of the corrections that the default optimizations can make, e.g. the gaps in the open contours are too big to close.

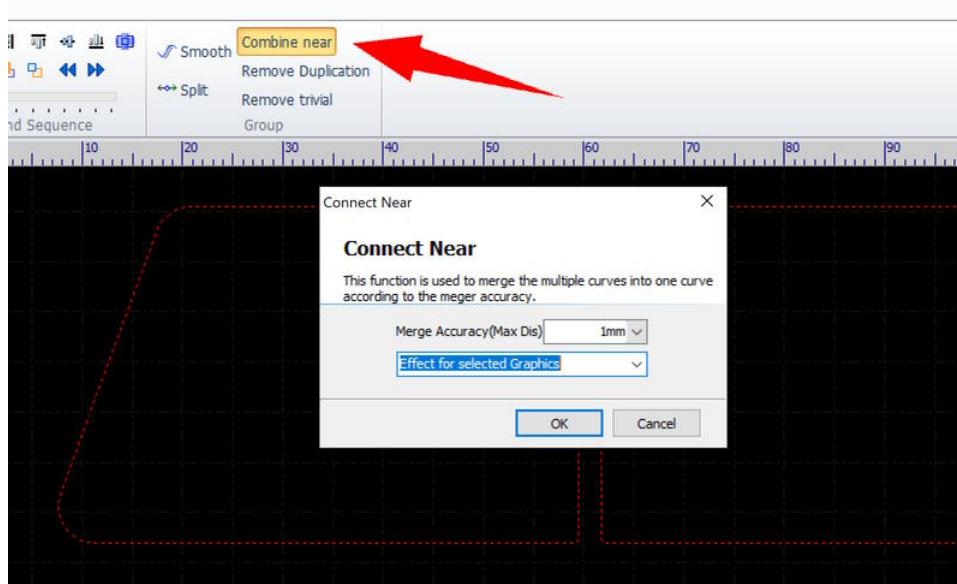


In these cases, we need to correct the issues manually by ourselves. Here is a list of the drawing optimization functions in CypCut:

Icon	Label	Function
	<b>Smooth</b>	To reduce jagged edges in polylines.
	<b>Split</b>	To split curves or polylines into segments, for further treatment.
	<b>Remove Duplication</b>	To remove duplicated drawing elements which are overlapping on or too close to each other.
	<b>Remove trivial</b>	To remove drawing elements which are too small.
	<b>Combine near</b>	To close opening contours.
	<b>Chop</b>	To split scraps into smaller pieces, help them fit through the strip cutting bed, avoiding interference with the laser head.
	<b>Plate</b>	
	<b>Separate</b>	

Let's go through the steps for closing opening contours. The other optimization functions work just like this one.

Select the opening contours which are going to be closed. Then select the command **Combine near** in the menu **Home>Optimize** or in the menu **Draw**.



Set a value there bigger than the dimension of the gap and click on **OK**, then the opening contours will be closed.

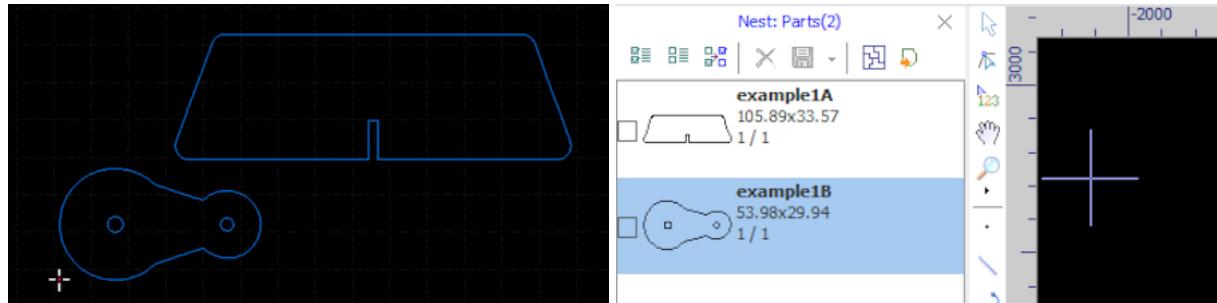
You can select the command **Measure** in the menu **Home** to measure the gap if you have no idea about the dimension. Just follow the prompts in the **Draw command window** to complete the command.



## Import into the Part Library

The software will also execute the default optimizations when importing parts directly into the part library. Unlike importing into the drawing window, this function will not display anything in the drawing window and will split drawing elements which are apart from each other into separate parts automatically.

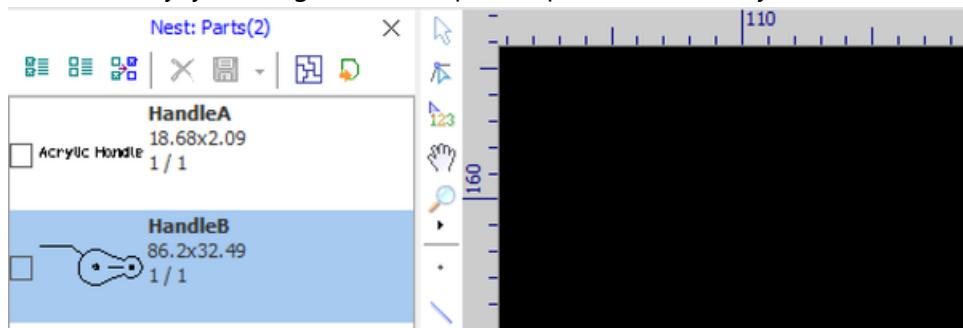
For example, the drawing below will be imported as the two parts on the right side.



Here we will focus on discussing the possible issues you may encountered.

Let's try to import the handle (being used as an example in [Import into the Drawing Window](#)).

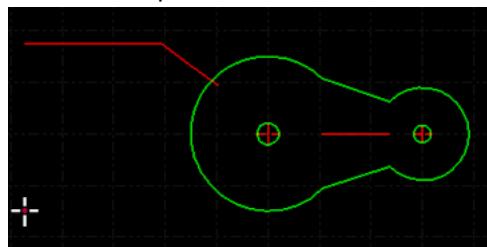
Unfortunately, you will get two unexpected parts in the library.



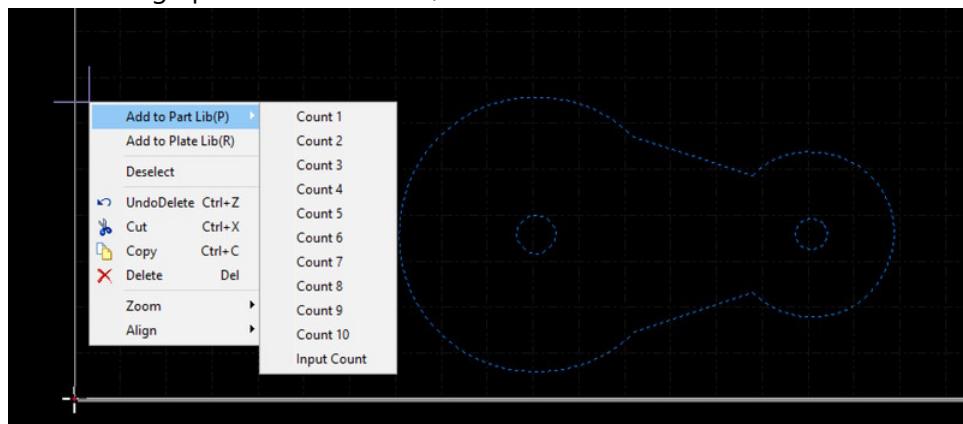
The first part is the annotate in the DXF file.



The second part includes the construction lines.

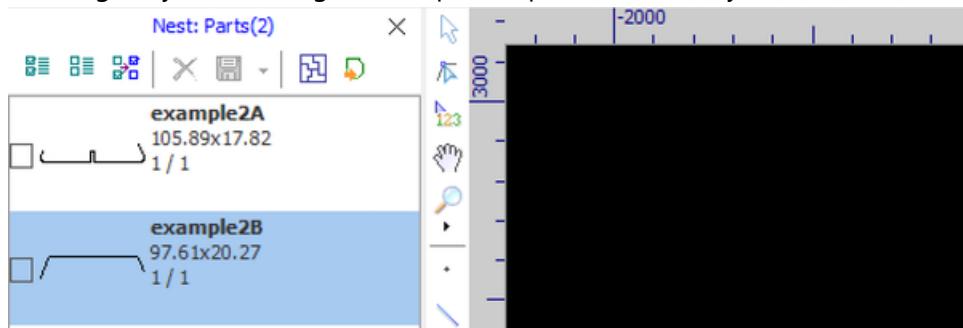


In this case, there are elements which you do not want to import. You should follow the steps in [Import into the Drawing Window](#) to complete the importing, select the contours you want to put in the library, and right-click to bring up the context menu, then select the command **Add to Part Lib**.



Let's have another try on importing the part (being used as an example in [Drawing Optimizations](#)).

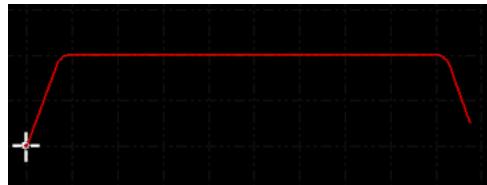
Once again, you will not get the expected part in the library.



The first part is the lower half of the whole part.



The second part is the upper half of the whole part.



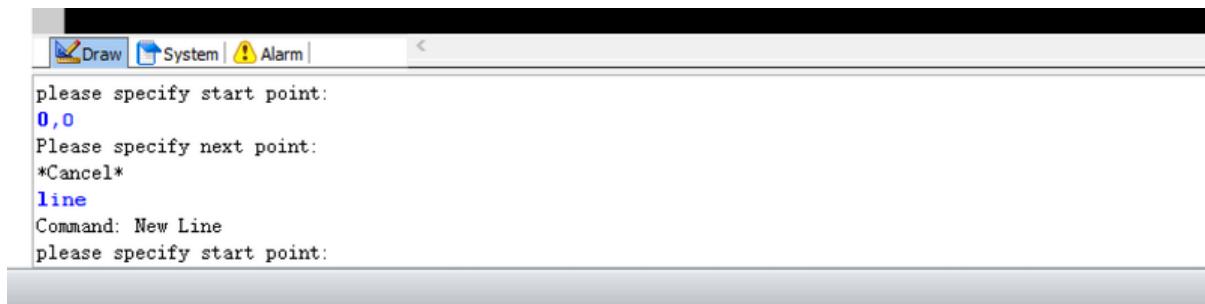
In this case, the default optimizations do not close the opening contour successfully, and the software split it into two separate parts. In the same way, you should follow the steps in [Import into the Drawing Window](#) to complete the importing, close the contour manually (refer to [Drawing Optimizations](#) for more information), and then add it to the part library just as before.

Similarly, if the default optimizations do not remove duplicated or tiny drawing elements successfully, the software will import them as separate parts as well. Then you should follow the same process to solve the issues.

## Construct Parts

Instead of importing parts file, you can construct parts directly in CypCut, especially for simple ones.

### Draw Command Window



The **Draw command window** is the most important communication platform between you and the PC while programming parts. The PC tells you which insertions it expects you to enter for the chosen command.

For example, when you enter **line** in the **Draw command window**, or run the function by selecting the function **Line** in the menu or clicking on the button **Line**, you will see the message below.

```
Command: New Line  
please specify start point:
```

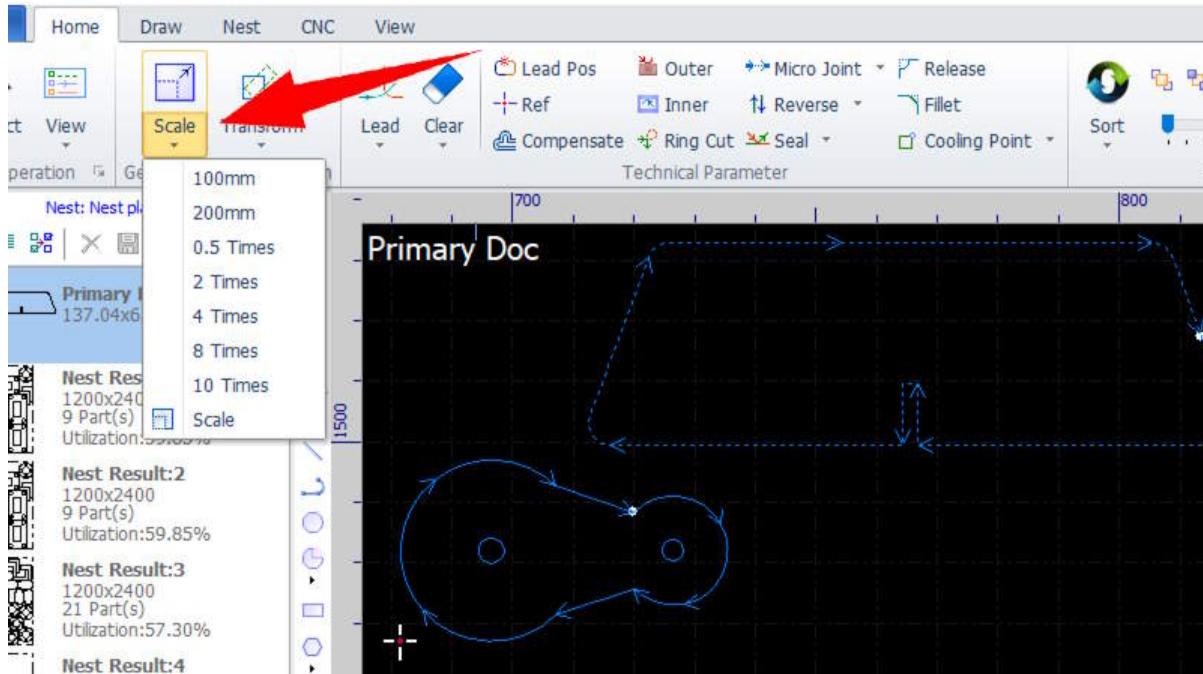
The PC is waiting for an insertion in the form of a coordinate. Insert an X and Y coordinate and separate the two values with a comma (do not use the decimal point of the number block. It is only needed for entering decimal values). Confirm your entry with **Enter**. If the message **Unknown param** appears, you have either forgotten to enter a second value or have not separated the X and Y coordinates properly.

```
30.5,15.85
```

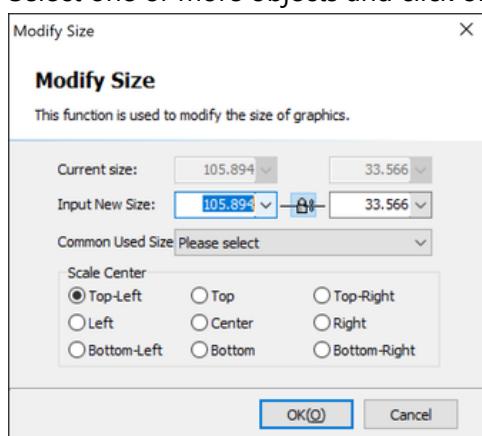
## Object Transformation Functions

The object transformation functions will scale, move, align or rotate the selected objects.

The scale functions will change the size of the selected objects, and are grouped in the menu **Scale** in **Home**.

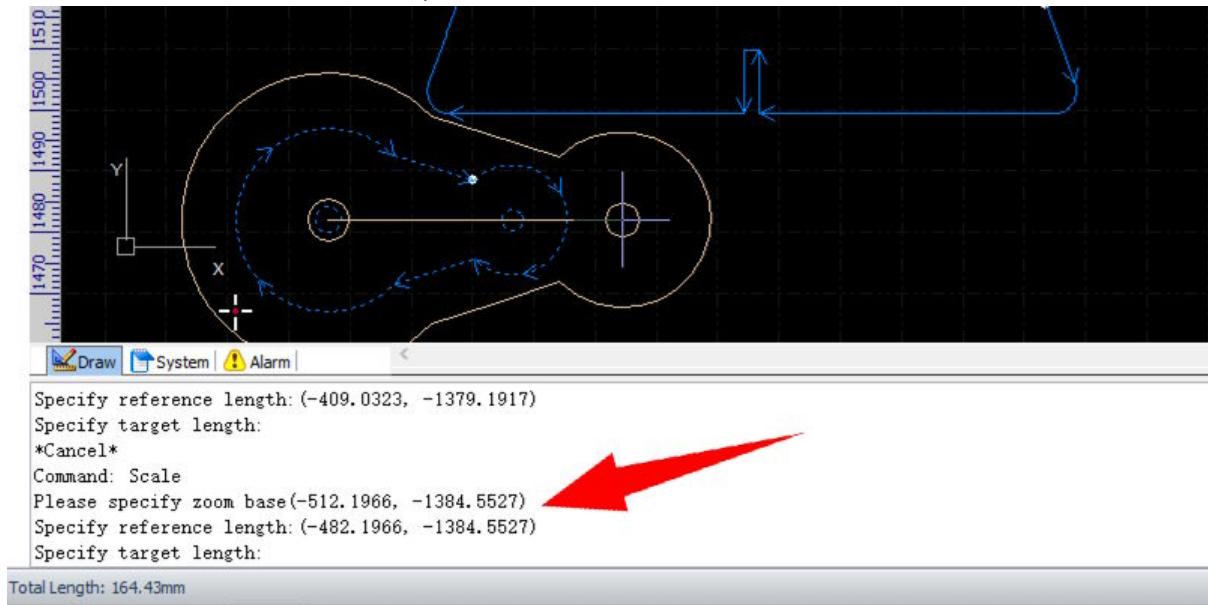


Select one or more objects and click on the menu icon to open the dialog **Modify Size**.

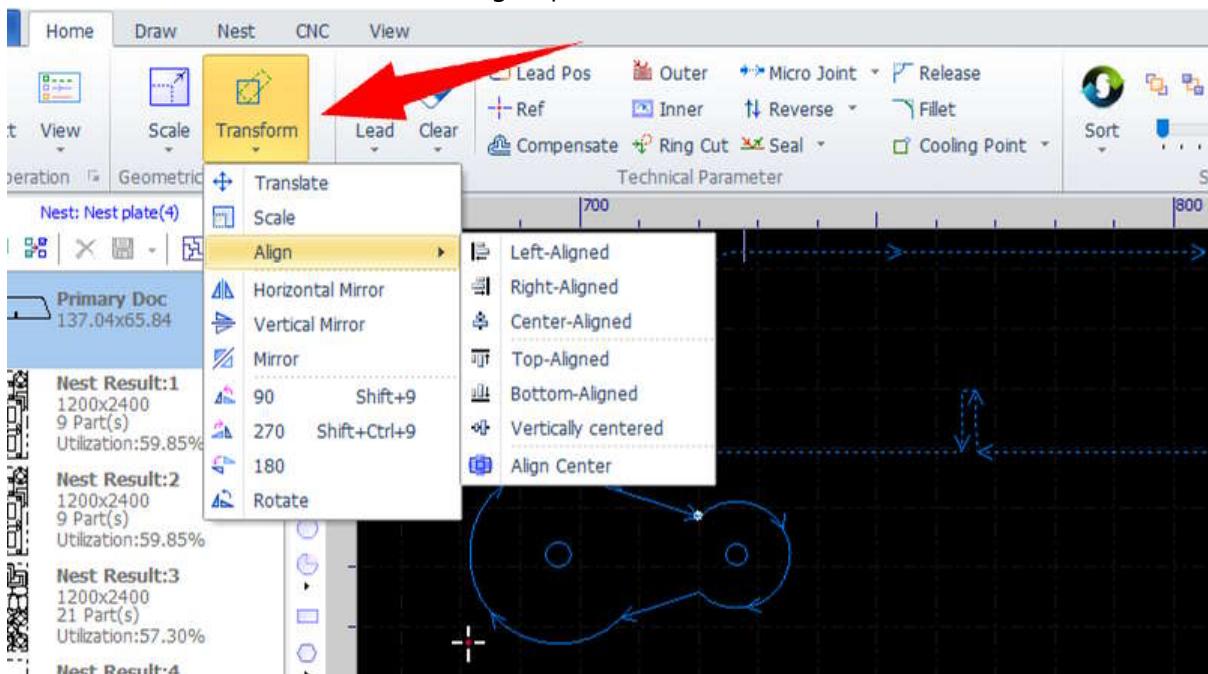


Set a new size and click on **OK** to scale the selected objects. If the button is checked, the ratio of the objects will be kept when scaling. And the point of the bounding frame being set as the **Scale Center** will be kept there when scaling.

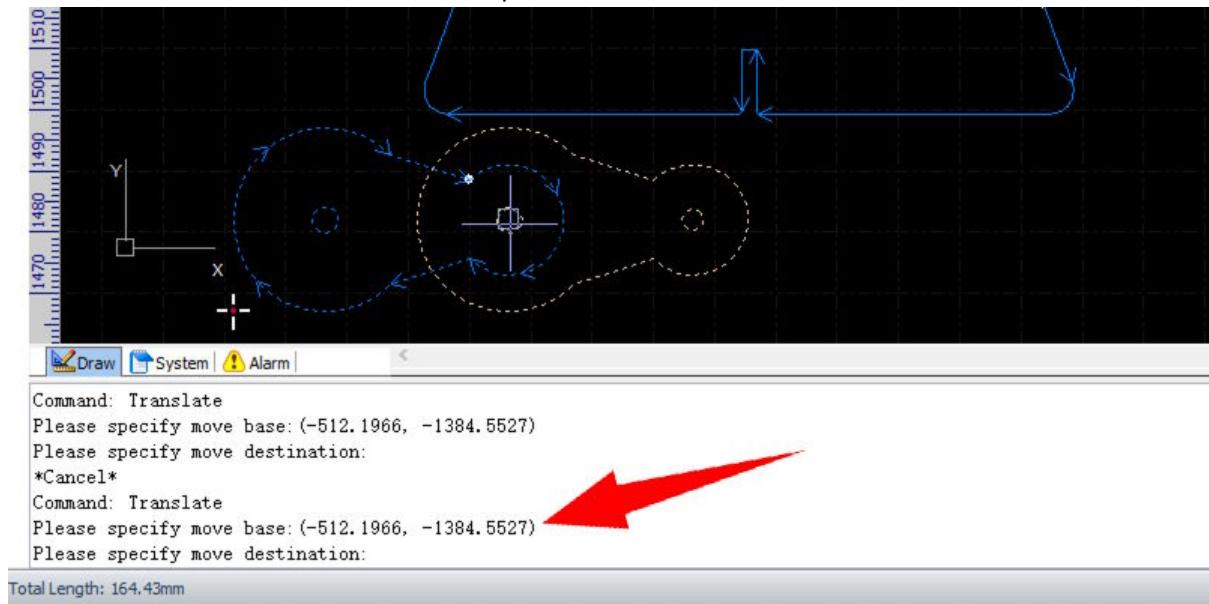
You can also choose the other commands in the pulldown-menu **Scale** to change the size of the selected objects by a fixed width, i.e. 100mm or 200mm, or to a size times of the current size. If you want to scale the objects in the way of dragging and setting, select the command  **Scale**, and follow the prompts in the **Draw command window** to complete the command.



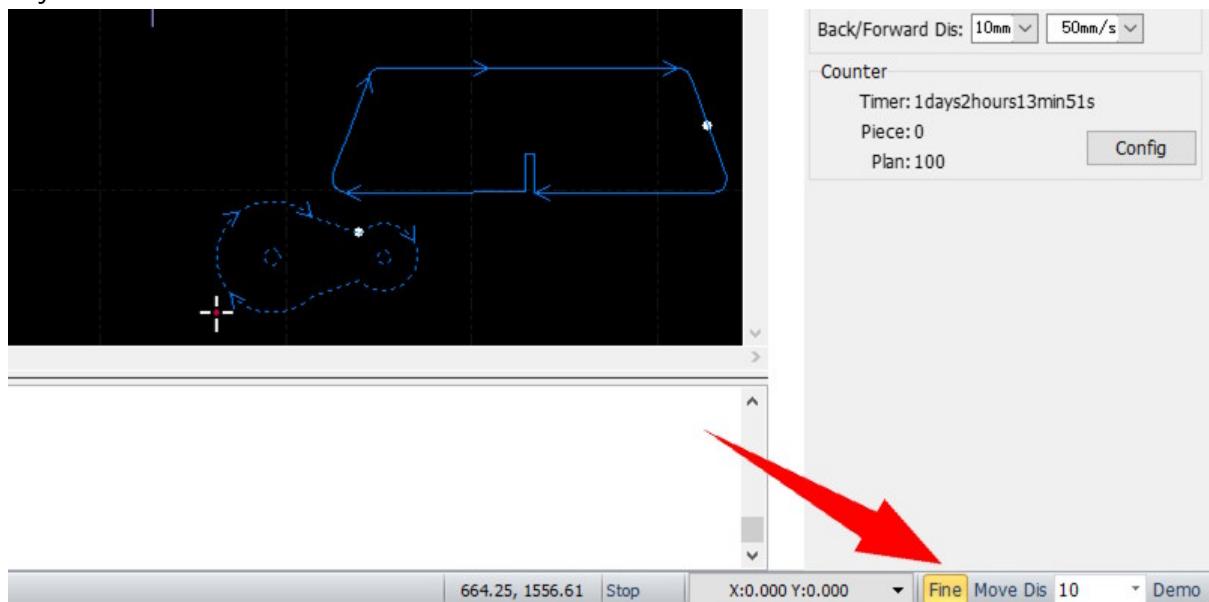
The other transformation functions are grouped in the menu **Transform** in **Home**.



Select the command  **Translate** to move the selected objects by dragging and setting, follow the prompts in the **Draw command window** to complete the command.



In this way, you can move the objects precisely by choosing an appropriate reference point and moving it to, for example, a snapped key geometry point. There is another way to move the objects in a specific step. Click on the button **Fine** on the bottom right to enable the fine translating function. The selected objects will be moved in the specified step when the arrow keys on the keyboard are pressed down. Or there will be a new copy created at the target location if the **Ctrl** key is held at the same time, instead of moving the original objects.



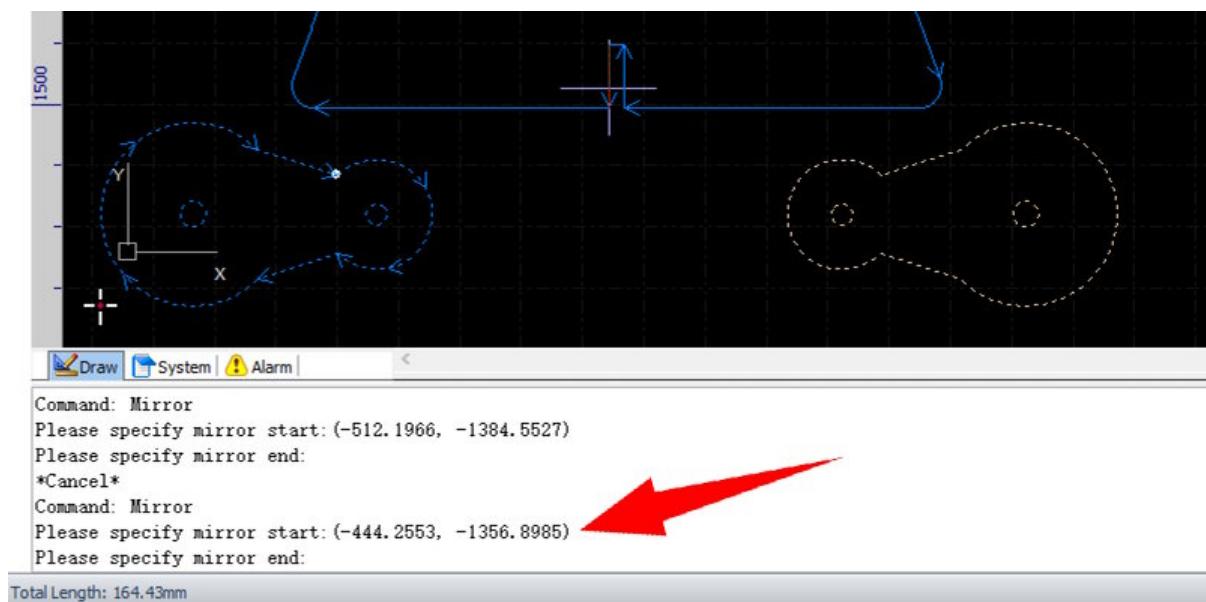
For quick move, just press down the left mouse button on a drawing element of the selected objects, and then drag the objects to where you want. And you can create a new copy with the **Ctrl** key held, same as above.

Check the menu command **Disable drag and copy** in **Home>Select** will disable the fine translating and the quick move functions, only the **Translate** function left effective.

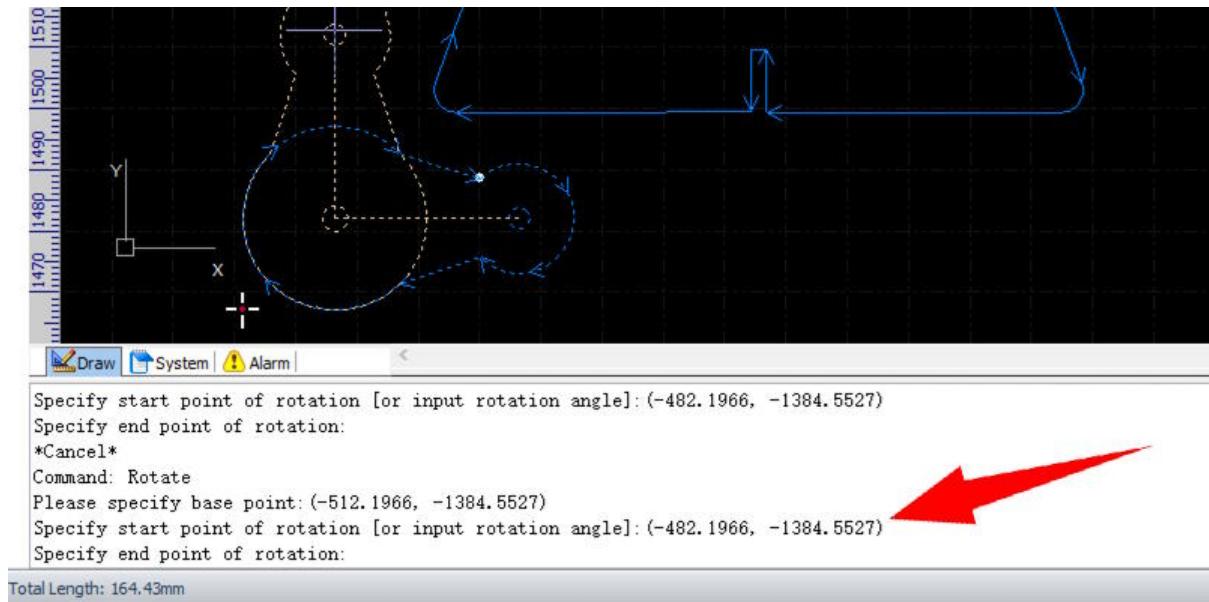
The align functions are grouped in the menu **Align** in **Transform**, will align the selected objects.

Icon	Label	Function
	<b>Left-Aligned</b>	Align the left side of the objects to the left-most one.
	<b>Right-Aligned</b>	Align the right side of the objects to the right-most one.
	<b>Center-Aligned</b>	Align the center of the objects to the center of the bounding frame horizontally.
	<b>Top-Aligned</b>	Align the top of the objects to the top-most one.
	<b>Bottom-Aligned</b>	Align the bottom of the objects to the bottom-most one.
	<b>Vertically centered</b>	Align the center of the objects to the center of the bounding frame vertically.
	<b>Align Center</b>	Align the center of the objects to the center of the bounding frame.

Select the command  **Horizontal Mirror** or the command  **Vertical Mirror** to mirror the selected objects horizontally or vertically. If you want to mirror the objects by a self-defined axis of symmetry, select the command  **Mirror**, and follow the prompts in the **Draw command window** to complete the command.



Select the command  90, the command  270 or the command  180 to rotate the selected objects 90°, 270° or 180° counter clockwise. If you want to rotate the objects with a self-defined rotation center and angle, select the command  Rotate, and follow the prompts in the **Draw command window** to complete the command.



## Drawing Functions

We will not cover too much details but general procedures about drawing functions in this section.

You can find all the drawing functions on the drawing toolbar or in the menu **Draw**, i.e. **Line**, **Rectangle**, **Circle**, **Polyline**, **Text**, etc.

If you are familiar with some other CAD systems, e.g. AutoCAD, and get used to enter commands for drawing parts, you can still do that in the **Draw command window** in CypCut, refer to [Draw Command Window](#) for more information.

Here is a list of the drawing commands.

Button	Menu Command	Command	Function
	<b>Line</b>	<code>line</code>	Draw line segments.
	<b>Rectangle</b>	<code>rect</code>	Draw a rectangle.
	<b>RoundRect</b>	<code>rrect</code>	Draw a round rectangle.
	<b>Round</b>	<code>round</code>	Draw a special round rectangle with its sides replaced with half rounds.
	<b>Circle</b>	<code>circle</code>	Draw a circle.
	<b>Point Arc</b>		Draw an arc by specifying three points.

Button	Menu Command	Command	Function
	<b>Scan Arc</b>	<code>arc</code>	Draw an arc by specifying the center, the radius, the start and the end points.
	<b>Ellipse</b>	<code>ellipse</code>	Draw an ellipse.
	<b>Polyline</b>		Draw a polyline.
	<b>Polygon</b>	<code>polygon</code>	Draw a polygon.
	<b>Star</b>		Draw a star.
+	<b>Point</b>	<code>point</code>	Draw a point.

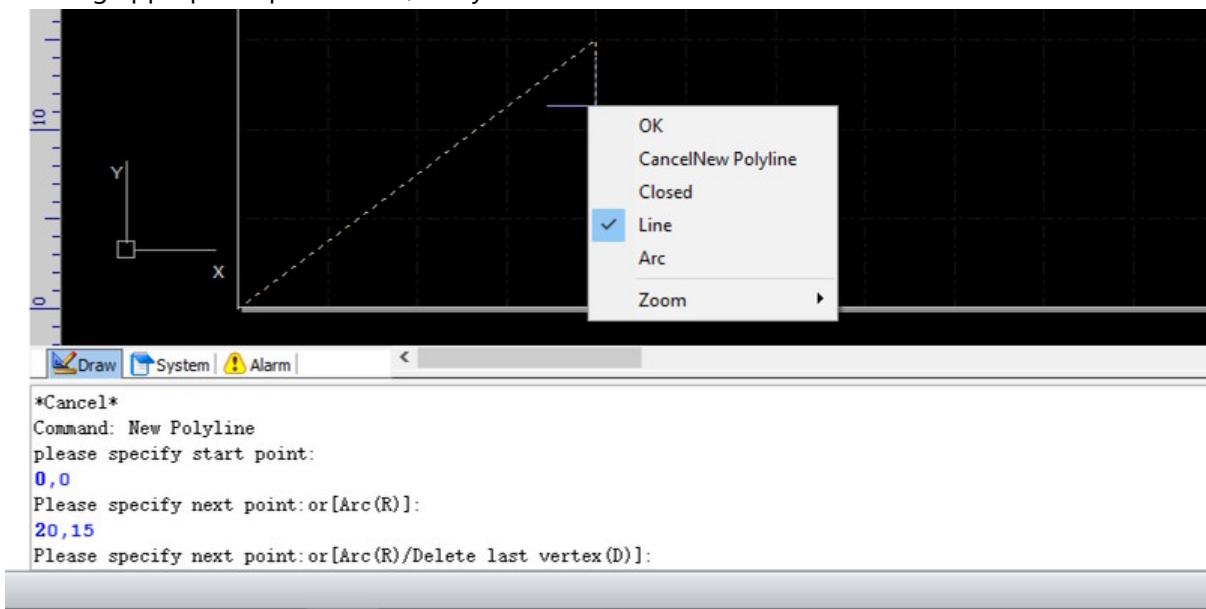
**T**

**Text**

`text`

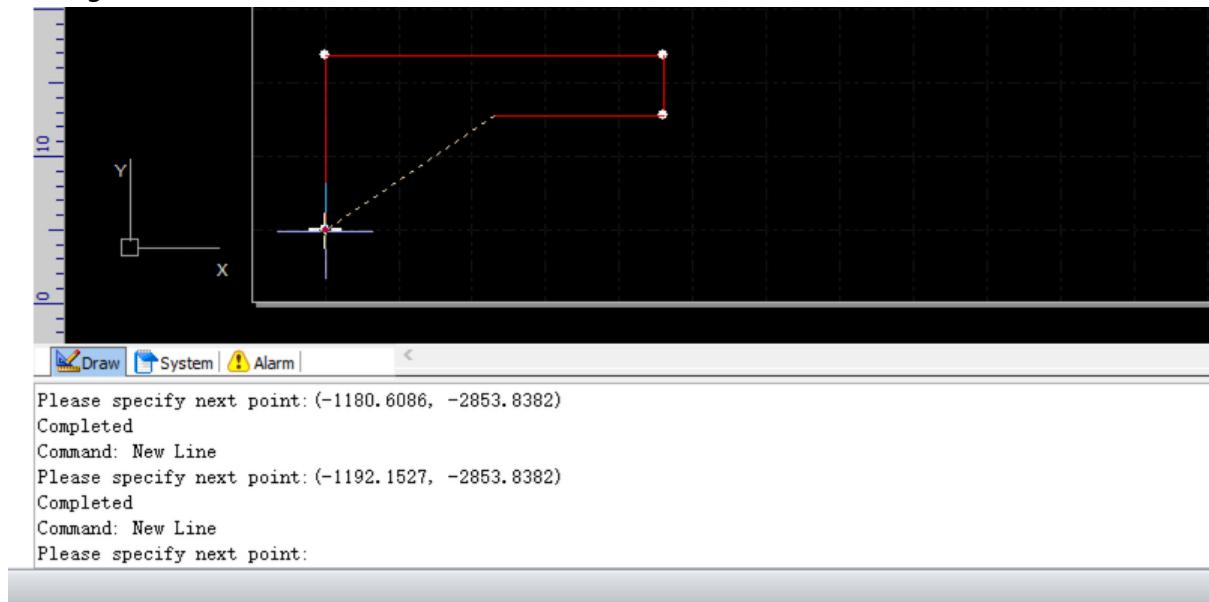
Draw a letter sequence.

The command prompts will be shown in the **Draw command window** no matter how you select the command, and you can get hints there on how to complete the command. Complete the drawing command by left-click for setting points in the drawing window, by right-click for bring up the context menu, by entering appropriate parameters, or by a combination of them.

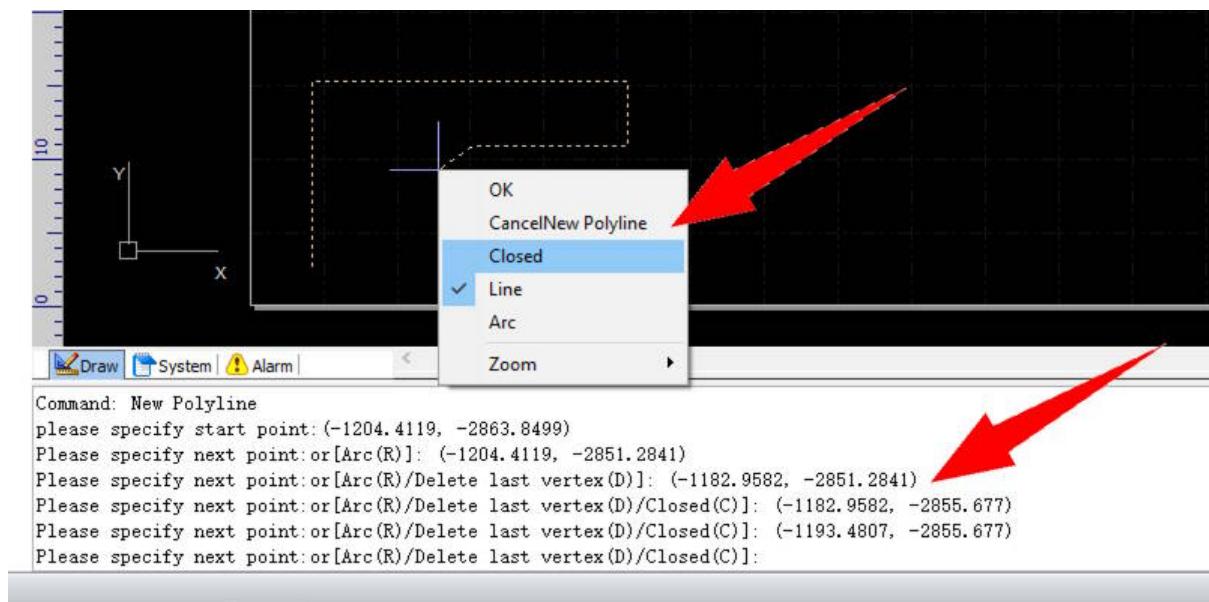


The **Rectangle**, **Circle**, **Polygon** command and the commands similar with them will automatically create closed contours which are ready for setting technology.

The **Line** command will create a line segment immediately when the start and the end points are specified, and can be chained up to create line segments. Each line segment is separated with others and can be selected separately. Set the end point of the last line segment to the start point of the first one, choose all the line segments, and then select the command **Combine near** to make them a closed contour.

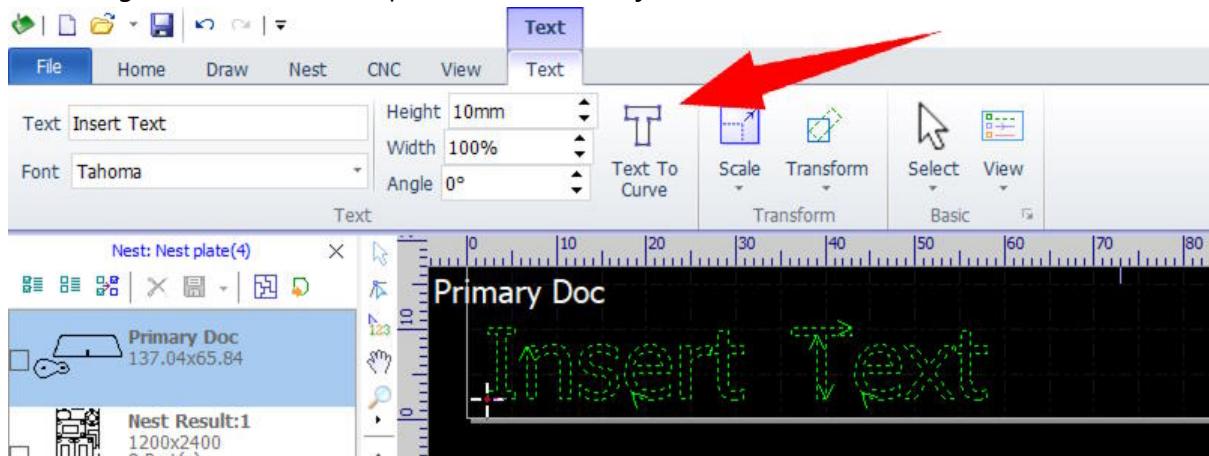


On the other hand, the **Polyline** command will not create the polyline (composed by line or arc segments) until you complete the command by selecting commands in the context menu or entering commands in the **Draw command window**. Select the command **OK** in the context menu, the polyline will be closed automatically if the end point is set to the start point, otherwise, the segments in the polyline are connected with each other but the polyline itself will be treated as an open contour. Or, select or enter the command **Close** in the context menu or in the **Draw command window**, and the software will close the polyline automatically by connecting the end and the start points by a line or an arc segment according to the current choice of the command.

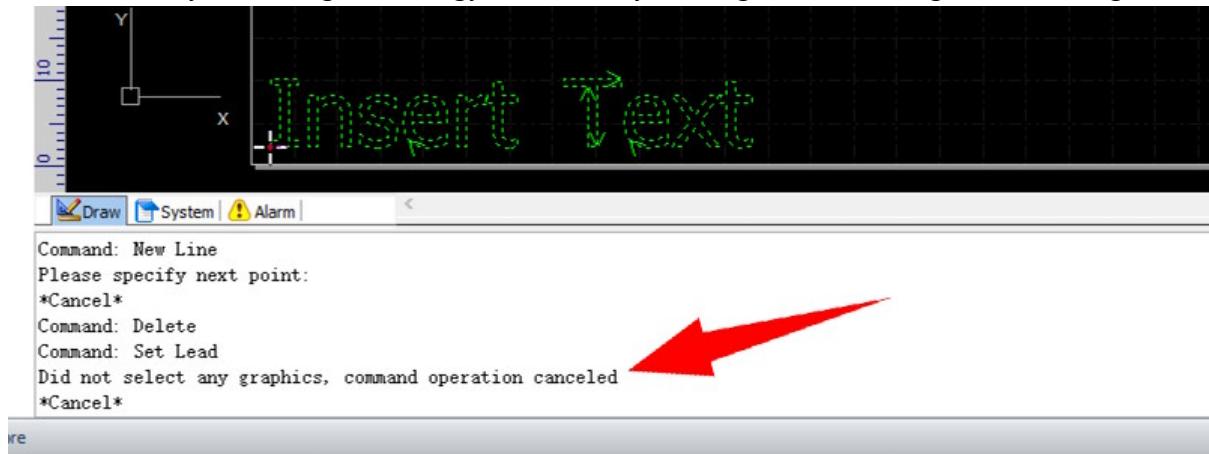


In general, we recommend using the **Polyline** function, other than a combination of the **Line** and the **Arc** function, to construct parts because it usually expresses human intent better and need fewer post procedures to finish the job.

The **Text** command will create a text object and activate the menu **Text** after you confirm the creation. You can change text, font, size and placement of the object in the menu.



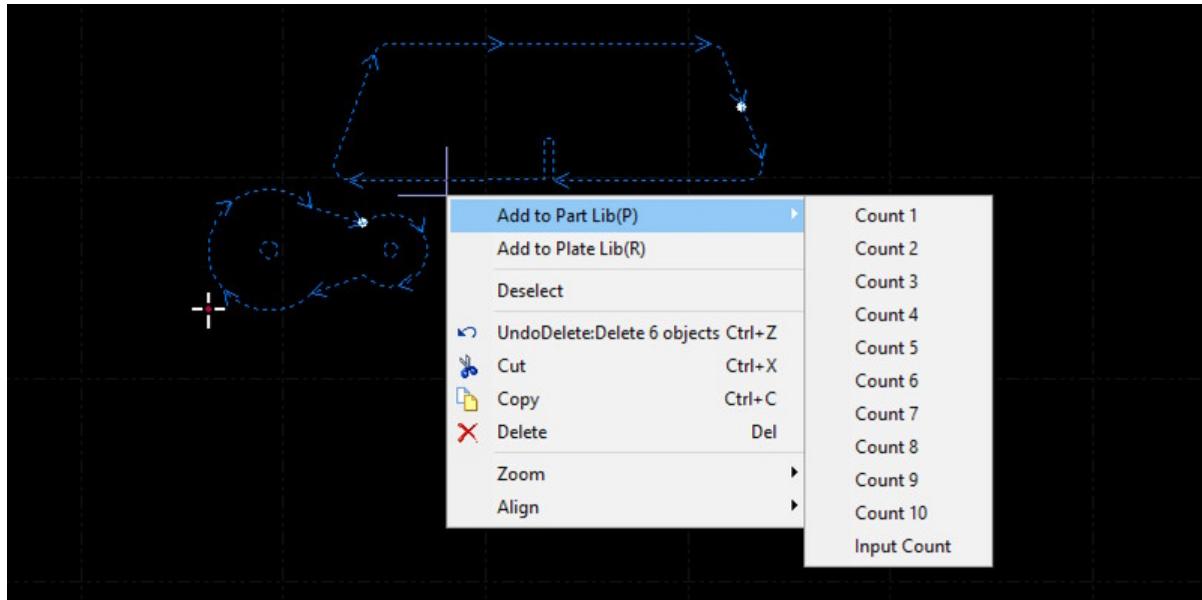
After creation, you need to select the command **Text to Curve** to convert the text object to normal contours which are ready for setting technology. Otherwise, you will get error messages when doing that.



## Part Library

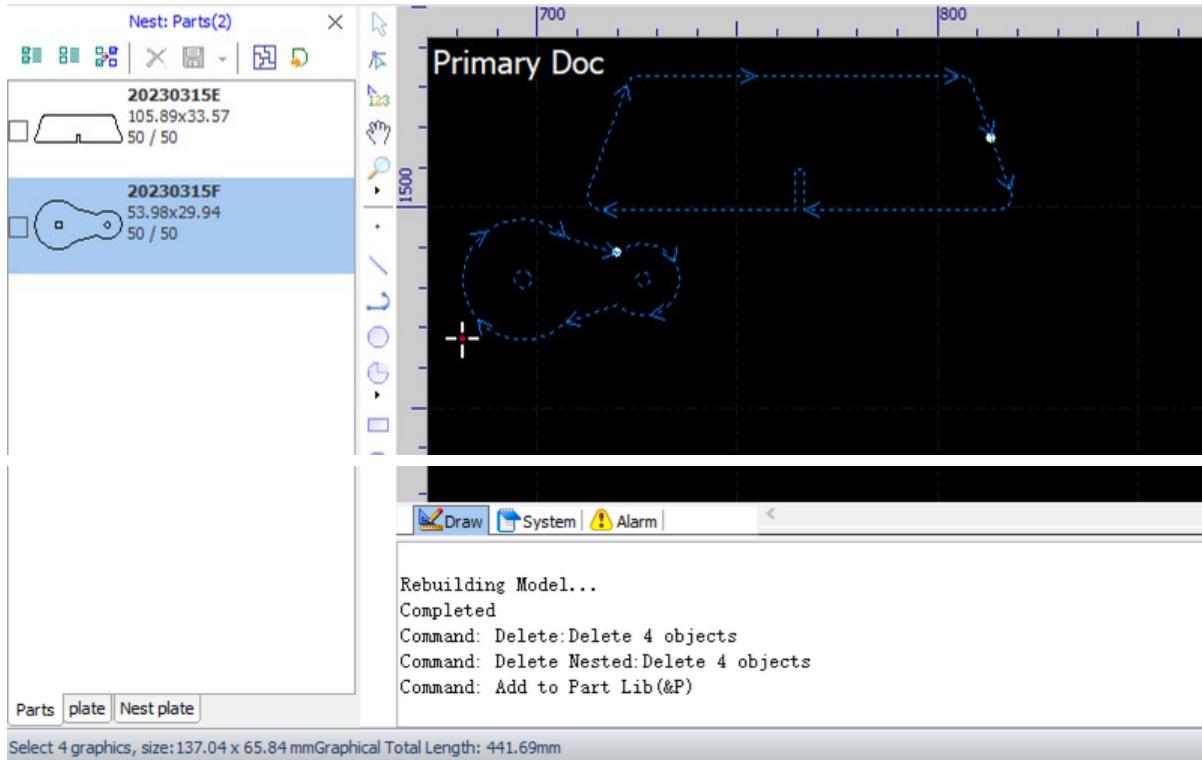
For machining a demo, a single part, or a small amount of different parts, you can just go ahead for setting and checking technology, and then machining after preparing the parts in the drawing window. But for machining a large amount or a batch of parts, you should add them to and plan them in the part library for nesting first.

Select all the parts you plan for nesting in the drawing window, right-click to bring up the context menu, select the menu command **Add to Part Lib**, and then select or input the count of the parts to be produced.

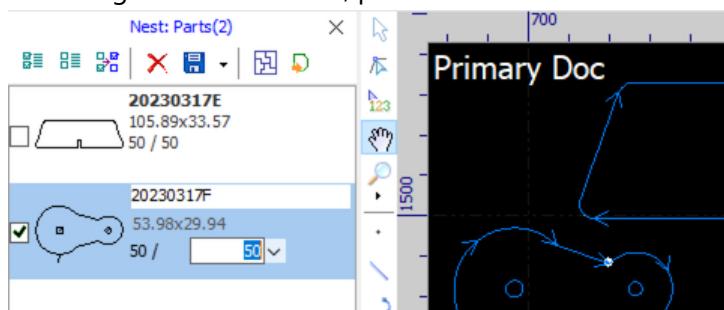


We have already talked about this topic and the issues you may encountered, refer to [Import into the Part Library](#) for more information.

After adding or importing parts to the part library, you will see a parts list in the tab **Parts** of the **Nest Panel**. There are three tabs in the **Nest Panel**, we will cover the other two in the next section.



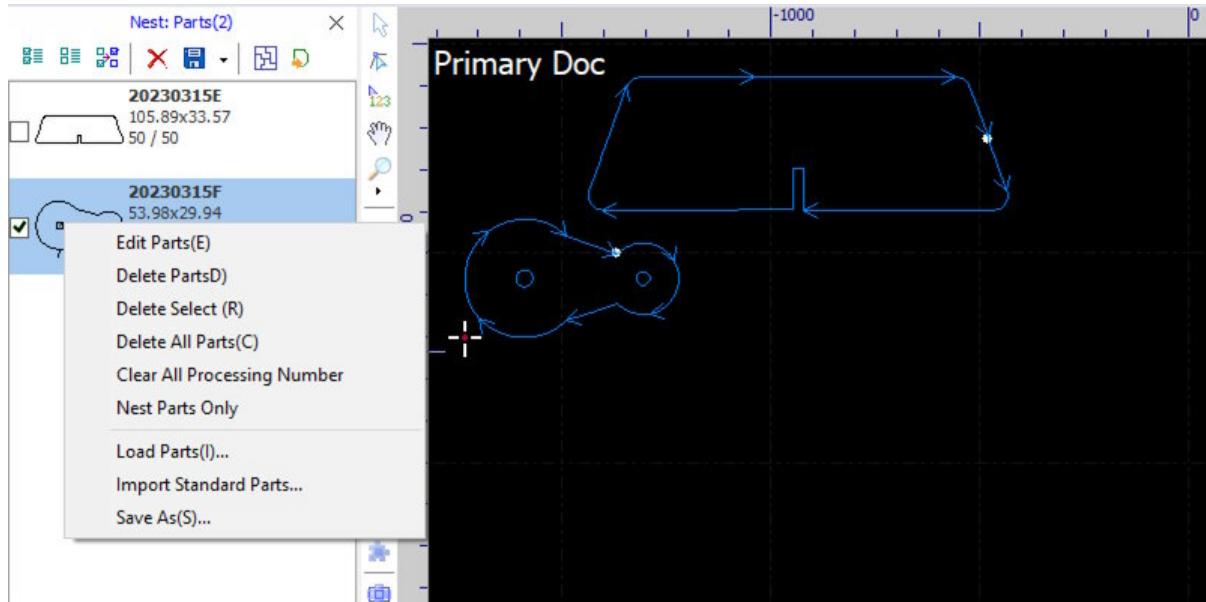
In the parts list, you can get a summary of every single part, i.e. geometry, code (generated automatically), bounding frame dimension, plans and remains. Click on a part to change the code or the plans.



There is a toolbar in the panel to help you manage the parts and do nesting.

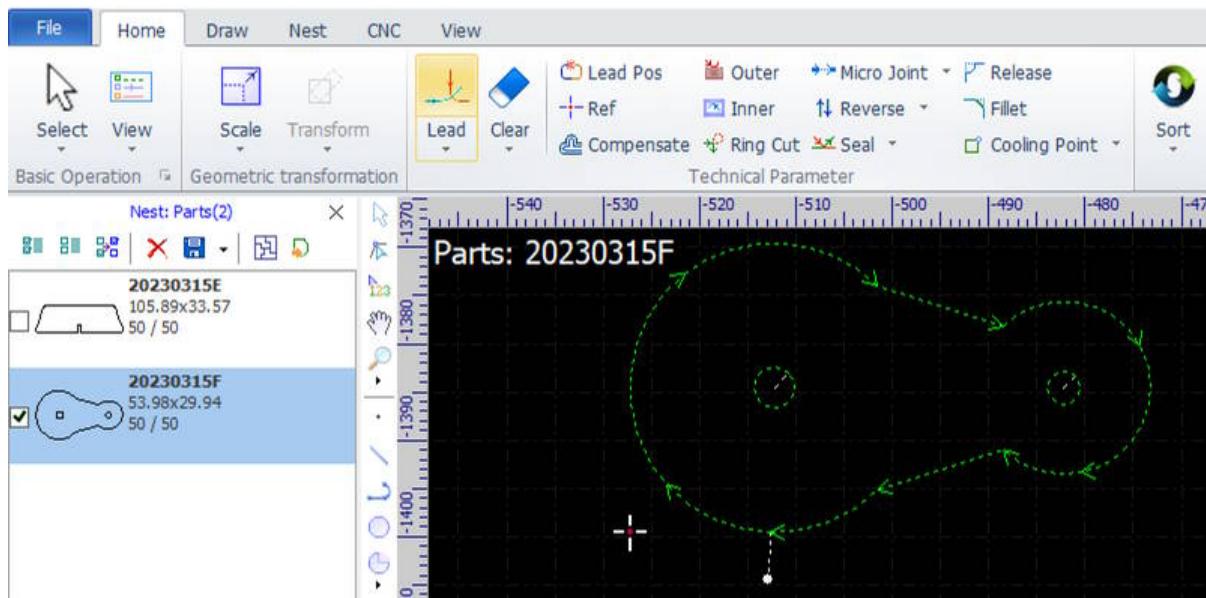
Icon	Command	Function
	<b>Select All</b>	Select all parts in the library.
	<b>Select None</b>	Select none in the library.
	<b>Invert Selection</b>	Invert selection.
	<b>Delete</b>	Delete the selected parts from the library.
	<b>Save</b>	Save the selected parts in separated files, which are named in the format of <b>Part[part code].[ext]</b> automatically.
	<b>Nest</b>	Do nesting.
	<b>Go to the Draft</b>	Switch to the draft (primary document).

Right-click on a part will bring up the context menu, you can import parts, delete parts, do nesting on the part, or save the part to an external file.



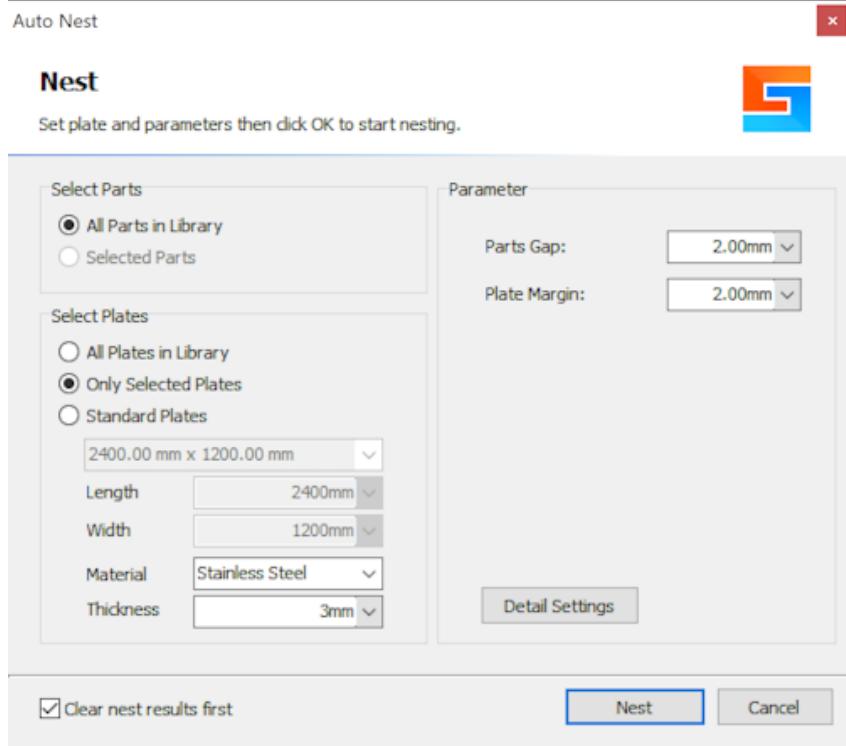
You can also import parts or delete all parts from the pulldown-menu **Part** in **Nest**.

Sometimes, you need to set a special technology on a specific part. Double-click on the part, the software will display it in the drawing window with its code showing at the top-left corner. You cannot do any edits on the part but set technology, e.g. change its cutting technology, set tool correction, refer to [Technology in CypCut](#) for more information.



## Nest Parts

After planning parts in the part library, you can do nesting. Click on the button  or on the menu icon , you will see the dialog **Nest**, where you can set parts, sheets and technology for nesting.

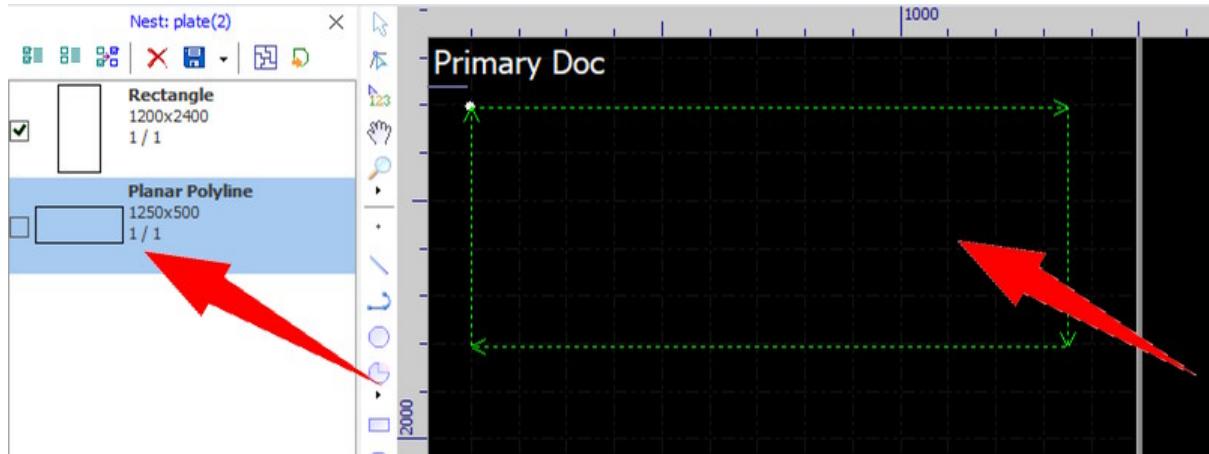


If there are parts selected in the library, the option **Selected Parts** will be enabled, you can check it to do nesting on only the selected parts.

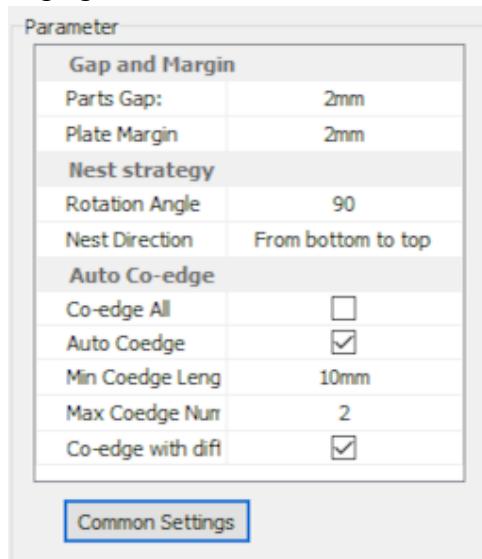
If there is no sheet in the library, only the option **Standard plates** will be enabled and checked, and you can choose one from the standard sheets list. Otherwise, check the option **All plates in Library** to do nesting on the sheets which fit the job best, or check the option **Only Selected plates** to do nesting on only the selected sheets.



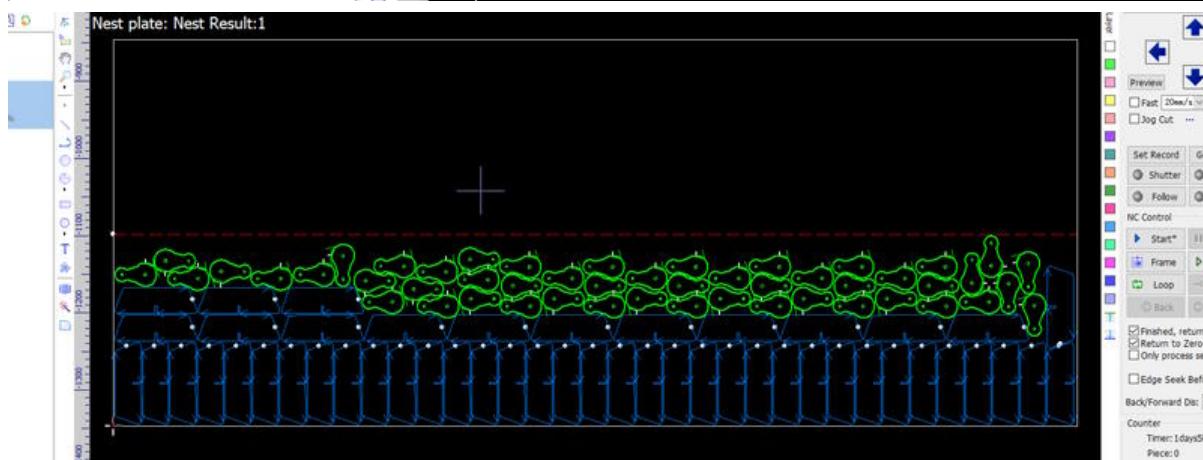
If the sheets you have are not listed in the standard sheets list, you need to construct them up in the drawing window, and select the pulldown-menu **Set as plate** in **Nest>Plate** to make the sheets.



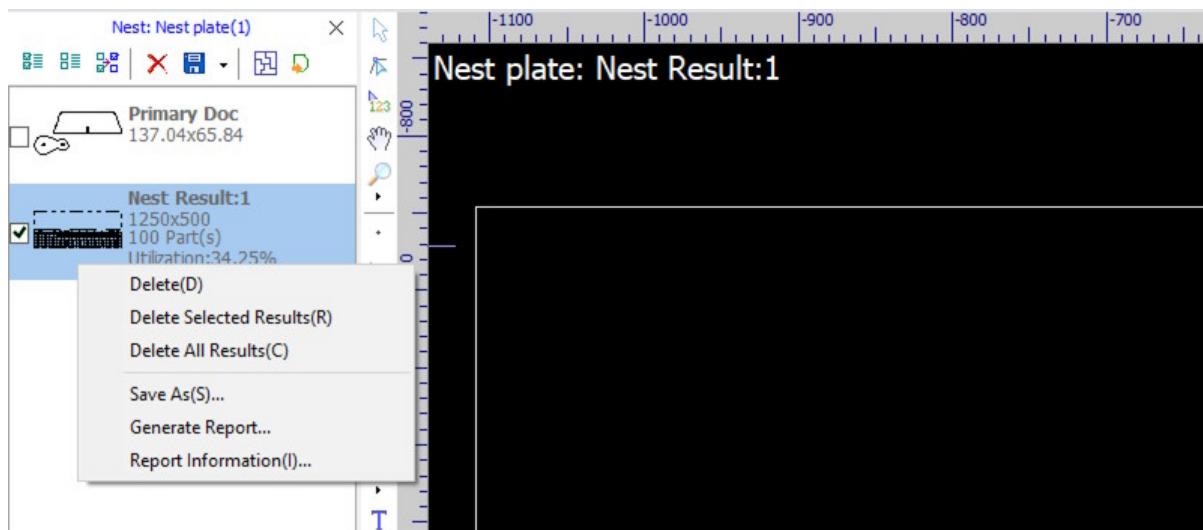
Technology for nesting are controlled by a group of parameters, to set gap between parts, set margin on sheets, etc. Click on the button **Detail Settings** to expand more settings, to choose nesting strategy, set co-edging, etc.



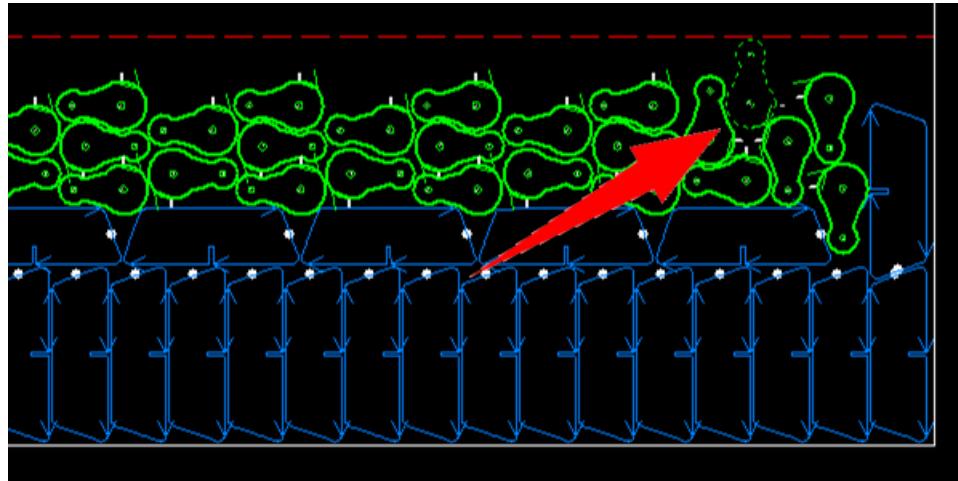
Click on the button **OK**, the software will calculate nesting layouts according to the settings, then list the results in the tab **Nest plate** of the **Nest Panel**, and display the first result in the drawing window.



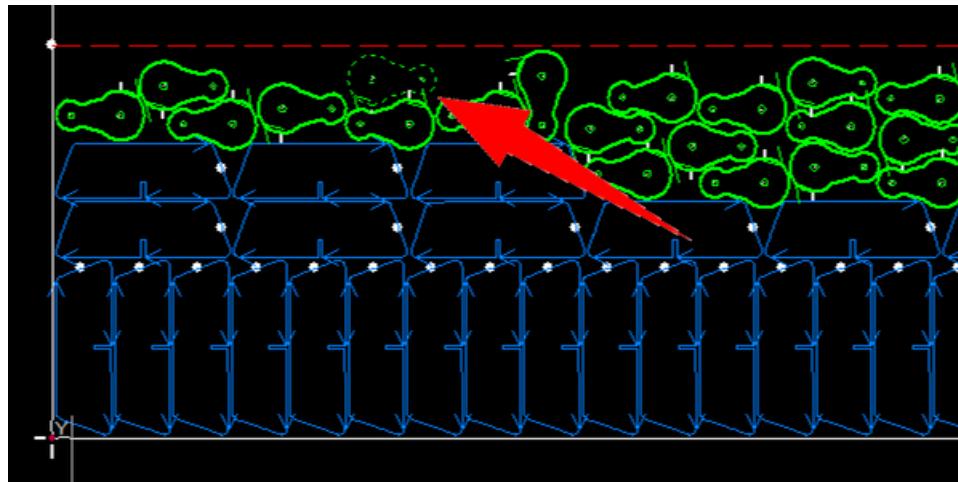
In the results list, you can get a summary of every single result, i.e. geometry, sequence number, sheet dimension, parts count and utilization rate. Click on a result, the software will display it in the drawing window with its code showing at the top-left corner. Click on buttons on the toolbar to manage the results, i.e. select all results, delete the selected results, etc, refer [here](#) for more information. Right-click on a result to bring up the context menu, you can delete results, save the result to an external file, or generate a production report on the result.



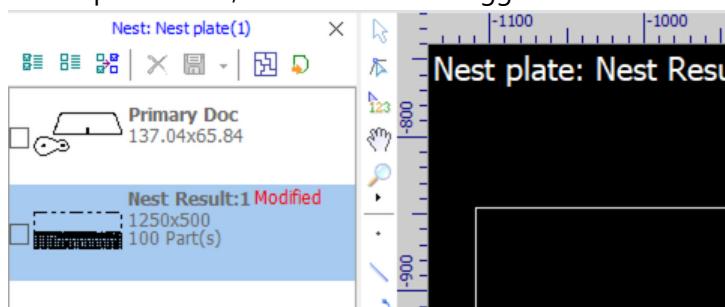
In the drawing window, you can review the current result, and optimize the layout by hand if necessary. For example, in the result shown above, there is a part in the upper right area which sticks out than the others apparently.



We can fit it in the upper left area to make the result more compact.



After optimization, the result will be tagged with a red label **Modified** in the summary.

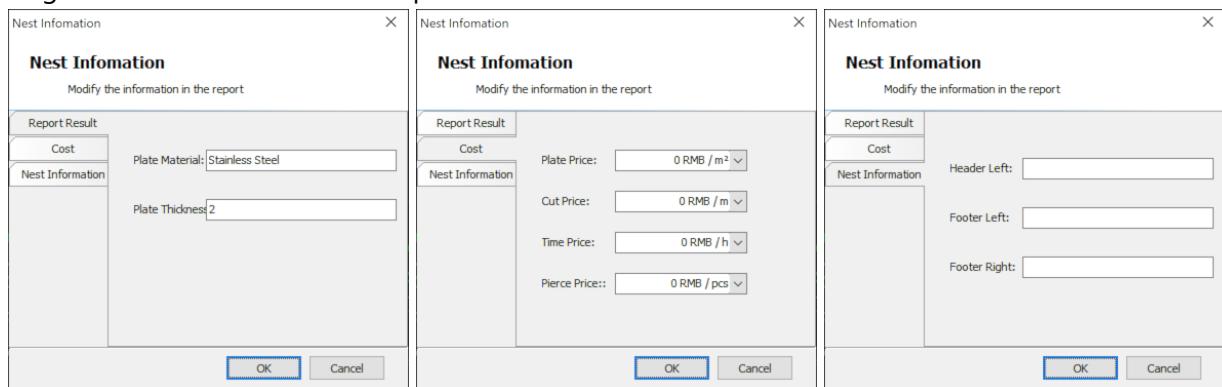


### IMPORTANT

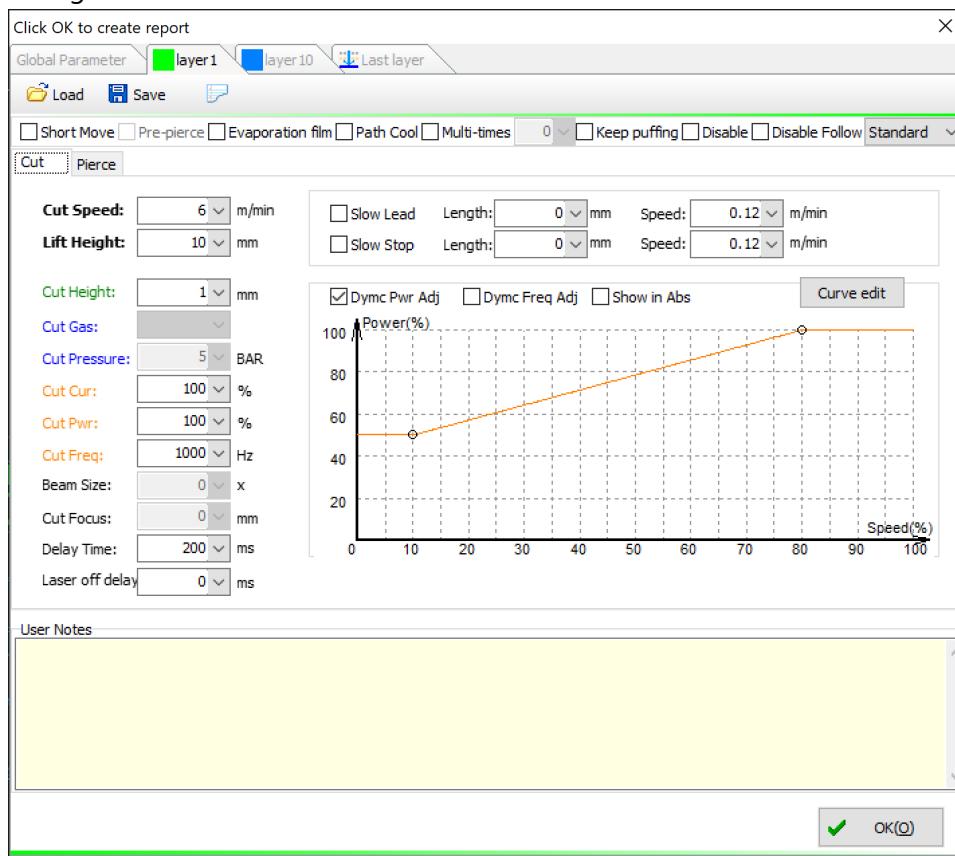
Actually, you can do all kinds of edits on the nesting result, e.g. move and rotate parts, scale parts, delete or make a new copy of parts, even construct a different new part. But we recommend do **ONLY MOVING OR ROTATING** when necessary. The software cannot track and reflect other kinds of modifications in the part library and nest reports.

After reviewing, you can set technology and get a result prepared for machining, refer to [Technology in CypCut](#) for more information.

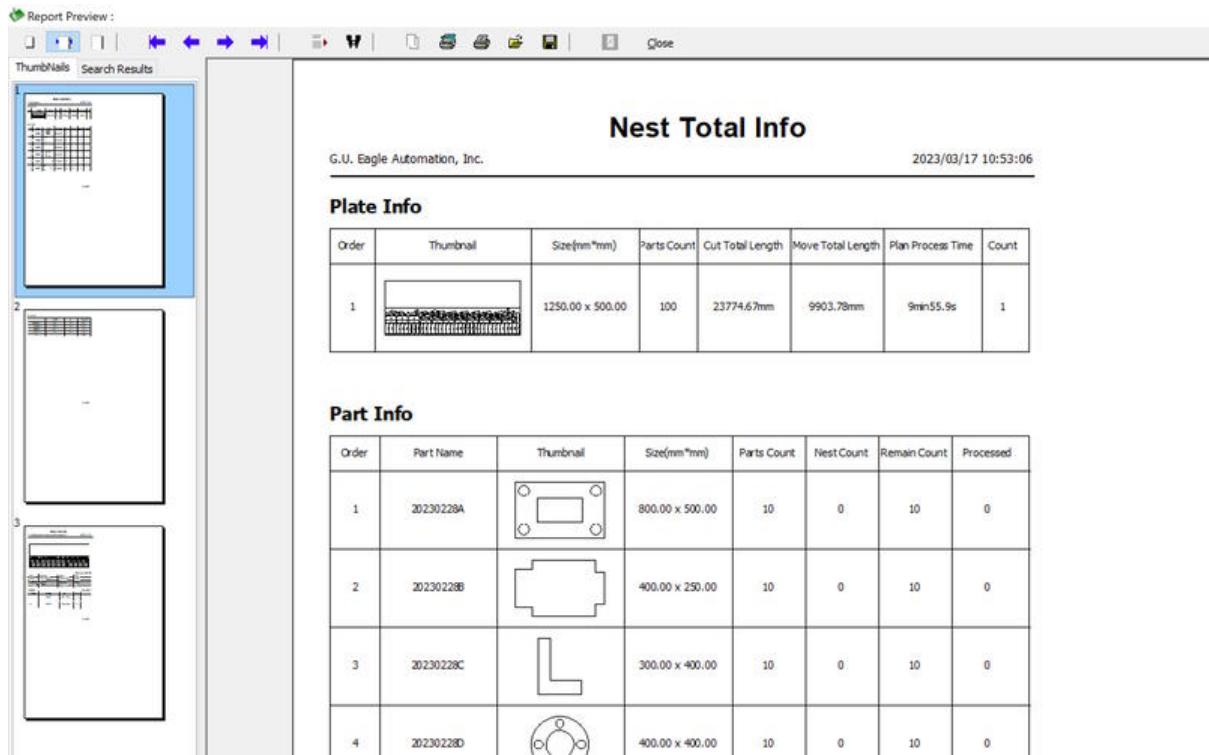
To generate a report on a prepared result, select the command **Report Information** from the context menu and complete sheet, unit price and additional information in the pop-up dialog **Nest Information** if you want to get extra information in the report.



Then select the command **Generate Report** from the context menu, set cutting technology in the pop-up dialog and click on the button **OK**.



The software will display the report in a preview window, with page thumbnails in the left pane, and a toolbar on the top. You can walk through pages, zoom a page, print the report, or save the report to a PDF file.



The screenshot shows a software interface for report preview. On the left, there is a vertical pane titled 'ThumbNails' containing three thumbnails labeled 1, 2, and 3. The main area is titled 'Nest Total Info' and includes a header with 'G.U. Eagle Automation, Inc.' and the date '2023/03/17 10:53:06'. Below the header are two tables: 'Plate Info' and 'Part Info'.

**Plate Info**

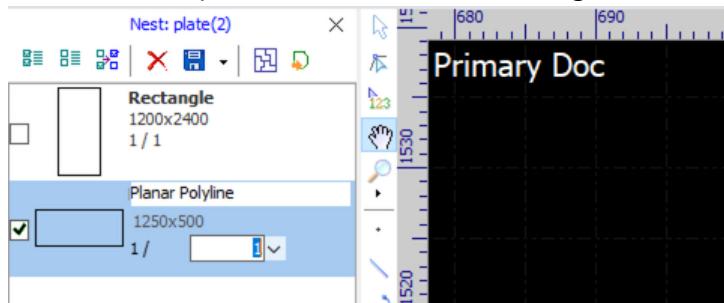
Order	Thumbnail	Size(mm*mm)	Parts Count	Cut Total Length	Move Total Length	Plan Process Time	Count
1		1250.00 x 500.00	100	23774.67mm	9903.78mm	9min55.9s	1

**Part Info**

Order	Part Name	Thumbnail	Size(mm*mm)	Parts Count	Nest Count	Remain Count	Processed
1	20230228A		800.00 x 500.00	10	0	10	0
2	20230228B		400.00 x 250.00	10	0	10	0
3	20230228C		300.00 x 400.00	10	0	10	0
4	20230228D		400.00 x 400.00	10	0	10	0

At last, let's have a recap on the sheets management for nesting. There is no material and thickness information included in sheets listing in the tab **Plate** of the **Nest Panel**, you need to specify them when do nesting or generating reports.

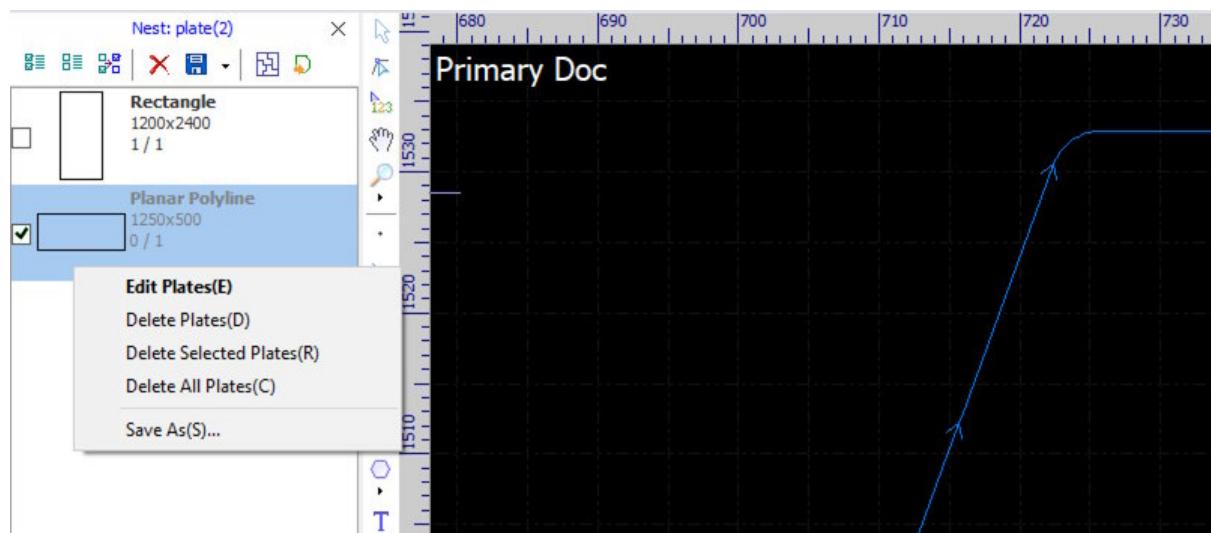
In the sheets list, you can get a summary of every single sheet, i.e. geometry, code (generated automatically), dimension and plans. Click on a sheet to change the code or the plans.



The screenshot shows the 'Nest: plate(2)' panel. On the left, there is a list of sheets with their dimensions and counts. On the right, there is a preview area titled 'Primary Doc' showing a grid layout with dimensions 1680, 1690, 1530, and 1520.

Sheet	Geometry	Dimensions	Count
1	Rectangle	1200x2400	1 / 1
2	Planar Polyline	1250x500	1 /

Click on buttons on the toolbar to manage the sheets, i.e. select all sheets, delete the selected sheets, etc, refer [here](#) for more information. Right-click on a sheet to bring up the context menu, you can delete sheets, save the sheet to an external file.



Double-click on a sheet, the software will display it in the drawing window with its code showing at the top-left corner. You cannot do anything on the sheet but review.

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# Technology in CypCut

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As soon as the parts are ready, you can set and then check technology, get the job ready for machining.

- [Hints for Setting Technology](#)
- [Cutting Parameters](#)
- [Lead Lines](#)
- [Kerf Compensation](#)
- [Micro Joints](#)
- [Technologies for Getting Good Corners](#)
- [Automatically Applied Technologies When Nesting](#)
- [Auxiliary Technologies](#)
- [Check Technology](#)

# Hints for Setting Technology

## When and Where to Set Technology

In general, different parts need different technology. So it is the best time to set technology after planning parts in the part library. You can set technology on parts separately in the part library before they are nested onto sheets together.

If there is just a single kind of parts, or a few different kinds of parts and they are intended to be applied with a same group of technologies, then you can do that in nest results after nesting.

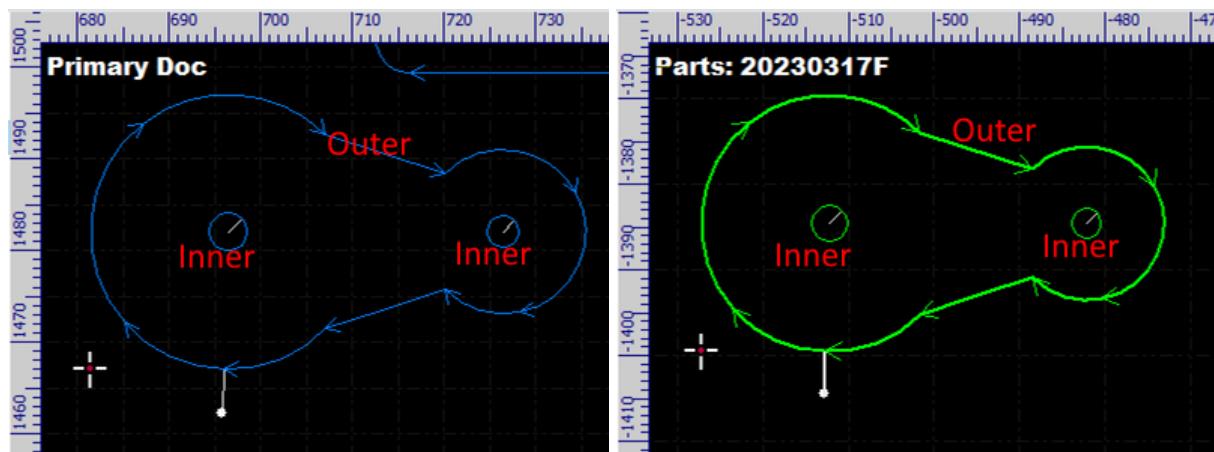
On the other hand, some technologies, which will change the original drawing elements, can only be set in the drawing window before the parts are added to the part library.

## Contour Type

A part is generally composed of a bunch of closed contours, the largest contour found counts as the outer contour, all the others are inner contours. Contour type is an attribute of a contour identifying if it is an outer contour or an inner contour. Some technologies, i.e. lead-ins and lead-outs, kerf compensation, are set on parts according to contour types.

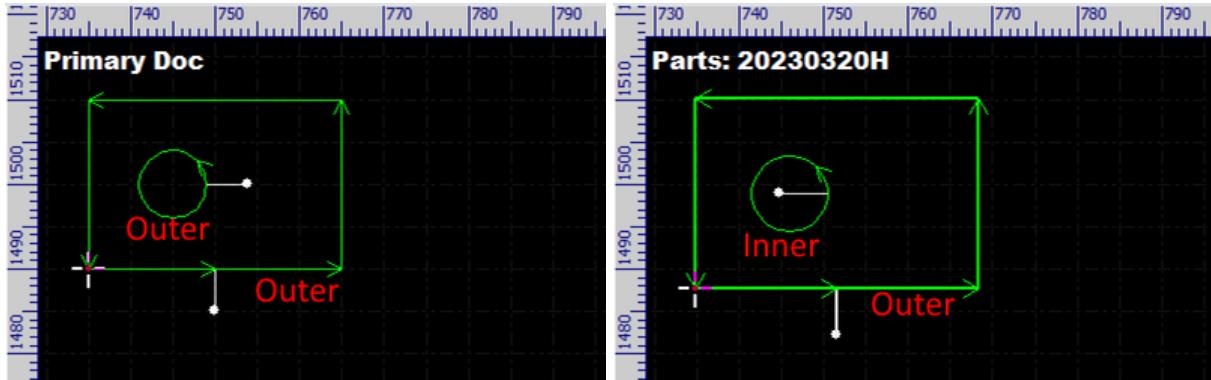
The software automatically recognizes outer and inner contours when importing a parts file.

The picture on the left shows importing a part into the drawing window (we set lead-ins, shown in white, on the part for presenting the contour types clearly). The outer contour starts cutting from the outside, the inner contours start from the inside. The picture on the right shows importing a part directly into the part library, same results.

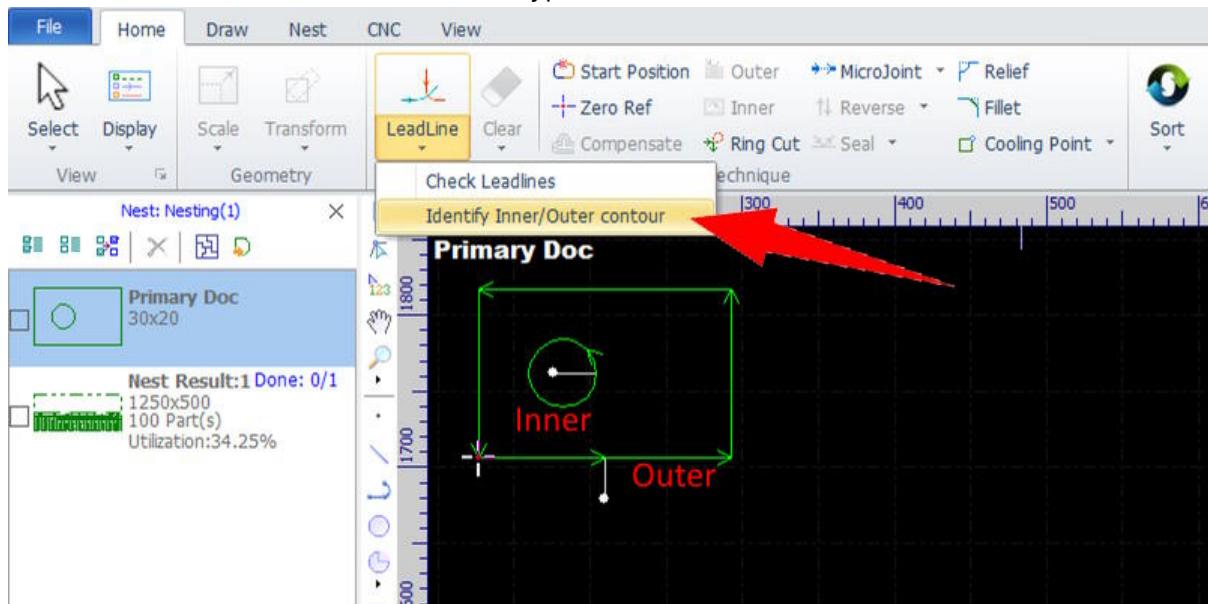


While constructing a part, the software treats all contours as separate ones. By default, all closed contours count as outer contours no matter one contour is included in another or not, and all open contours count as inner contours. The software reconsiders their contour types when they are added to the part library as a whole, a part.

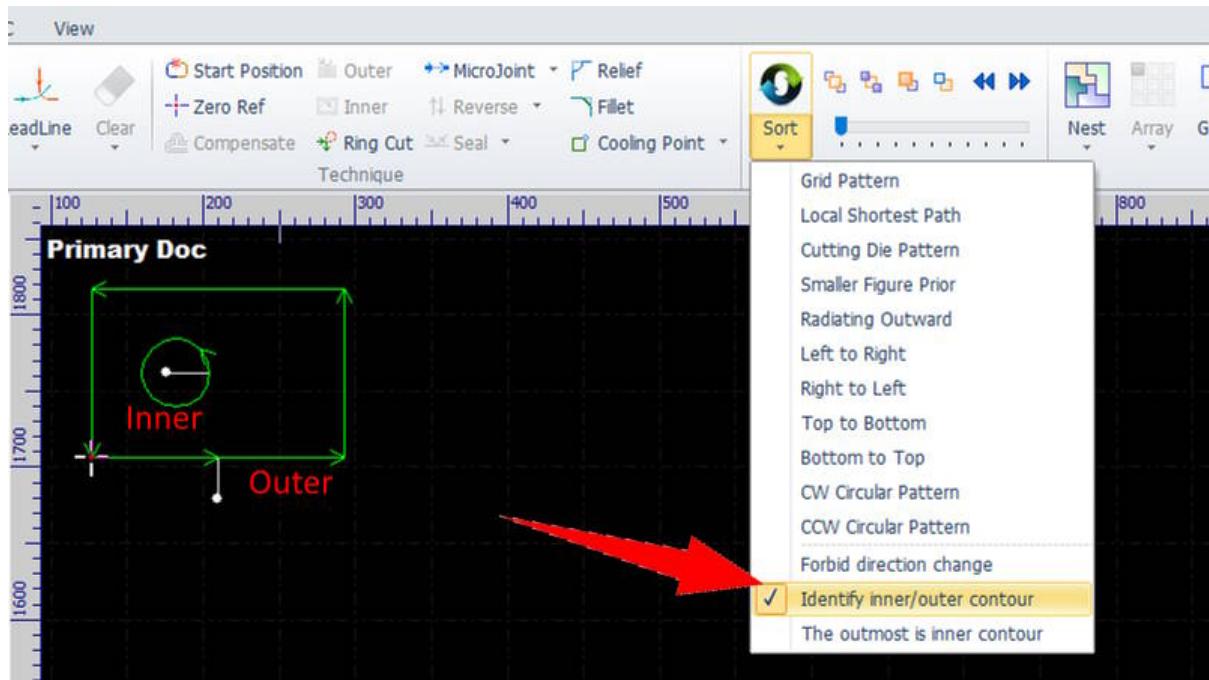
The picture on the left shows constructing a part in the drawing window (we set lead-ins as above). All of the two contours count as outer contours. The picture on the right shows that the small circle counts as an inner contour after they are added to the part library.



If you want to go machining directly from the drawing window after constructing, e.g. in the case of machining a demo or a single part, select the command **Identify Inner/Outer contour** in **Home>LeadLine** to tell the software to reconsider contour types.



For a complex part, you can select the command **Sort** in **Home** to set processing sequence and tell the software to reconsider contour types with the option **Identify inner/outer contour** checked at the same time.



Alternately, if you want to set contour types in a reversed way, you can select the command **Sort** in **Home** with the option **The outmost is inner contour** checked.

And, you can select the contours first and then select the command **Outer** or **Inner** if you want to set contour types mandatorily in some special cases.

# Cutting Parameters

A set of appropriate cutting parameters is one of the most important technology for getting good machining results. You can set a large group of parameters, e.g. laser power, cut speed, focus position, assist gas, etc, which can control almost every single detail of a cutting process.

## Layers

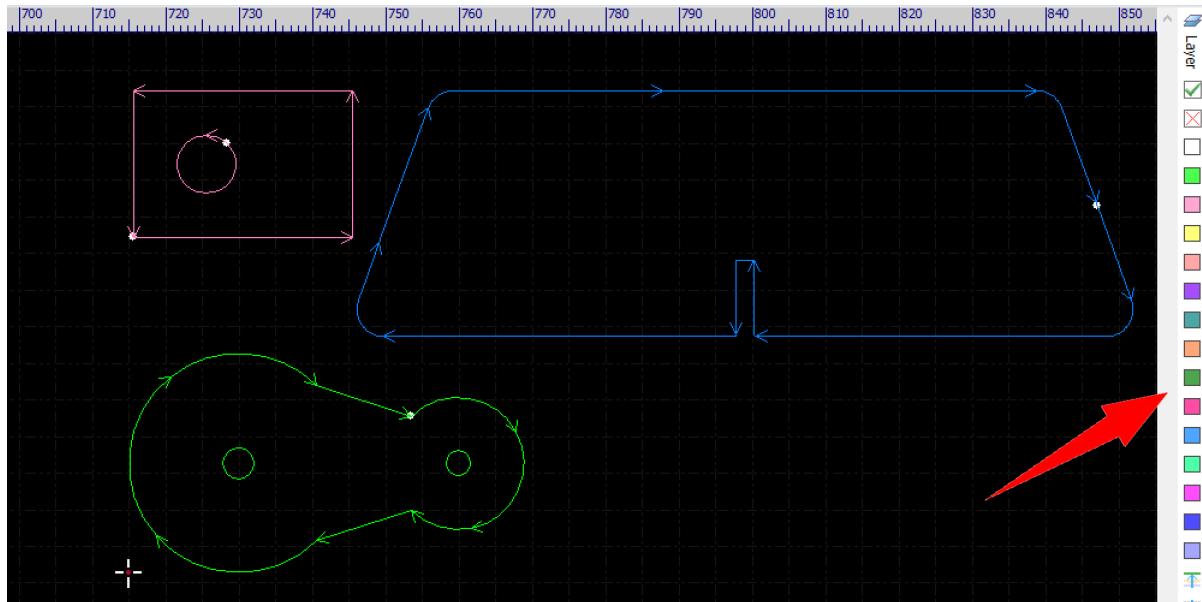
A set of cutting parameters, associated with a layer, will be applied automatically to the parts which are assigned to the layer.



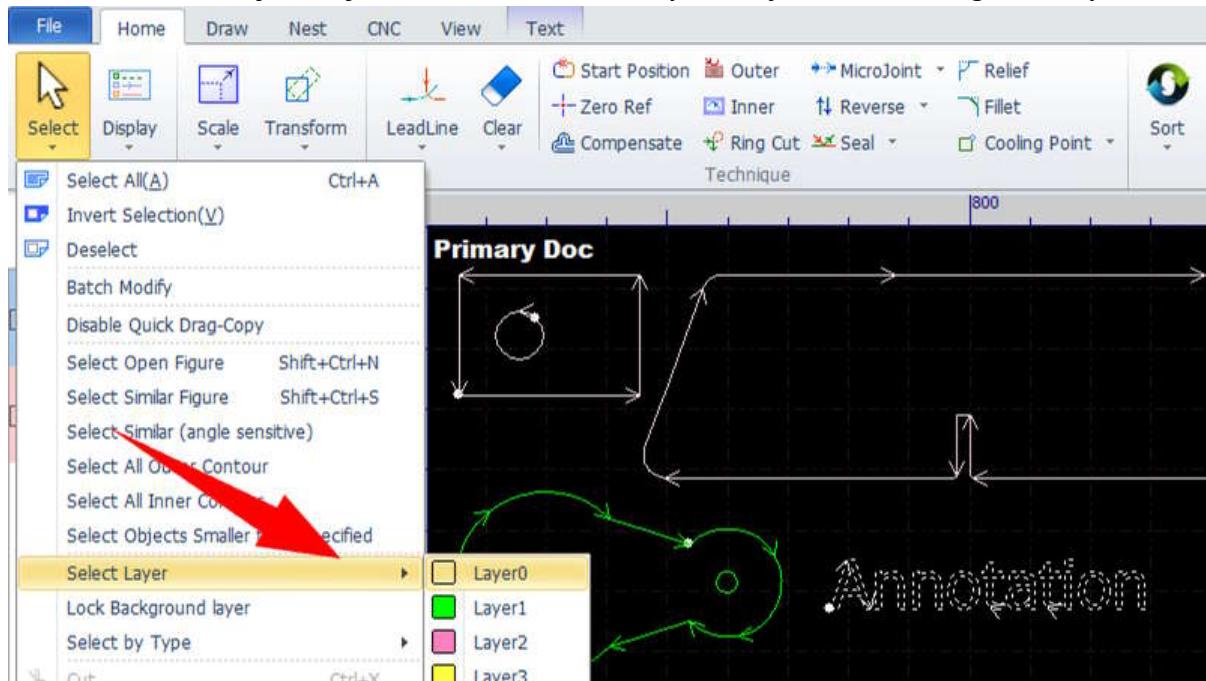
There are 17 layers in CypCut, the layer to are 14 normal layers which can be machined and have no effect on the processing sequence; the layer and are two special layers which can be machined and will be processed at the beginning and at the end of a job; and the layer is the background layer which would not be machined but for annotation.

In general, different materials with different thicknesses should be machined with different set of cutting parameters. In practice, we recommend creating a one-to-one mapping between the most commonly used materials and the first 10 layers, e.g. 1mm stainless steel to layer , 3mm stainless steel to layer , and temporarily assigning other materials to the 4 layers left when necessary. When setting technology, all you need to do is just assigning the parts of a material to the mapping layer.

To assign a part to a layer, select the part and then click on the button of the layer's color.

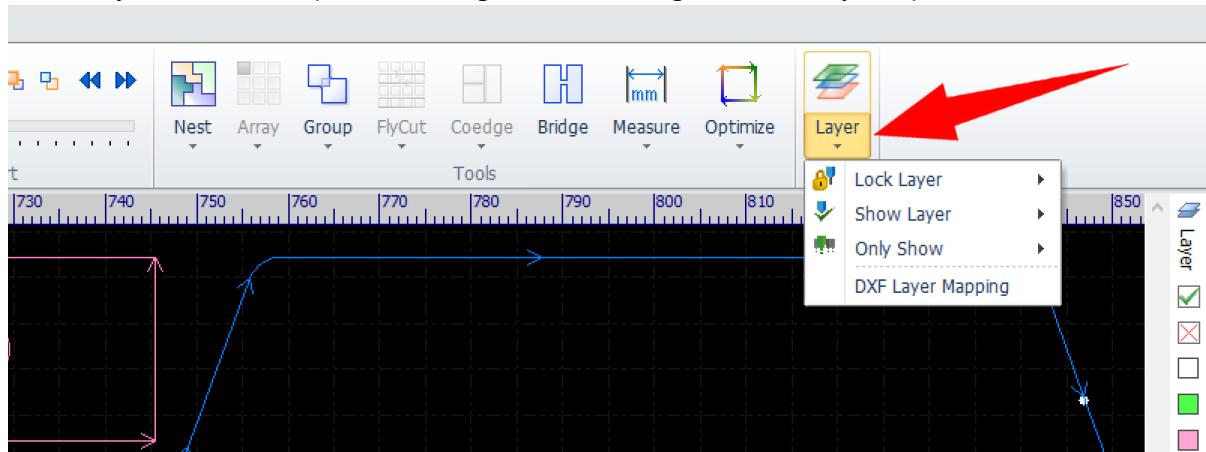


Sometimes, if you want to machine just a part of your design, select those parts that you want to ignore and then click on the button  to tell the software to ignore them while processing. The parts which are assigned to be not processing are shown in white, but are different with the objects in the background layer. Select the command **Select Layer>Layer0** in **Home>Select**, only the objects in the background layer will be selected.



Click on the button  will restore the parts which are assigned to be not processing temporarily.

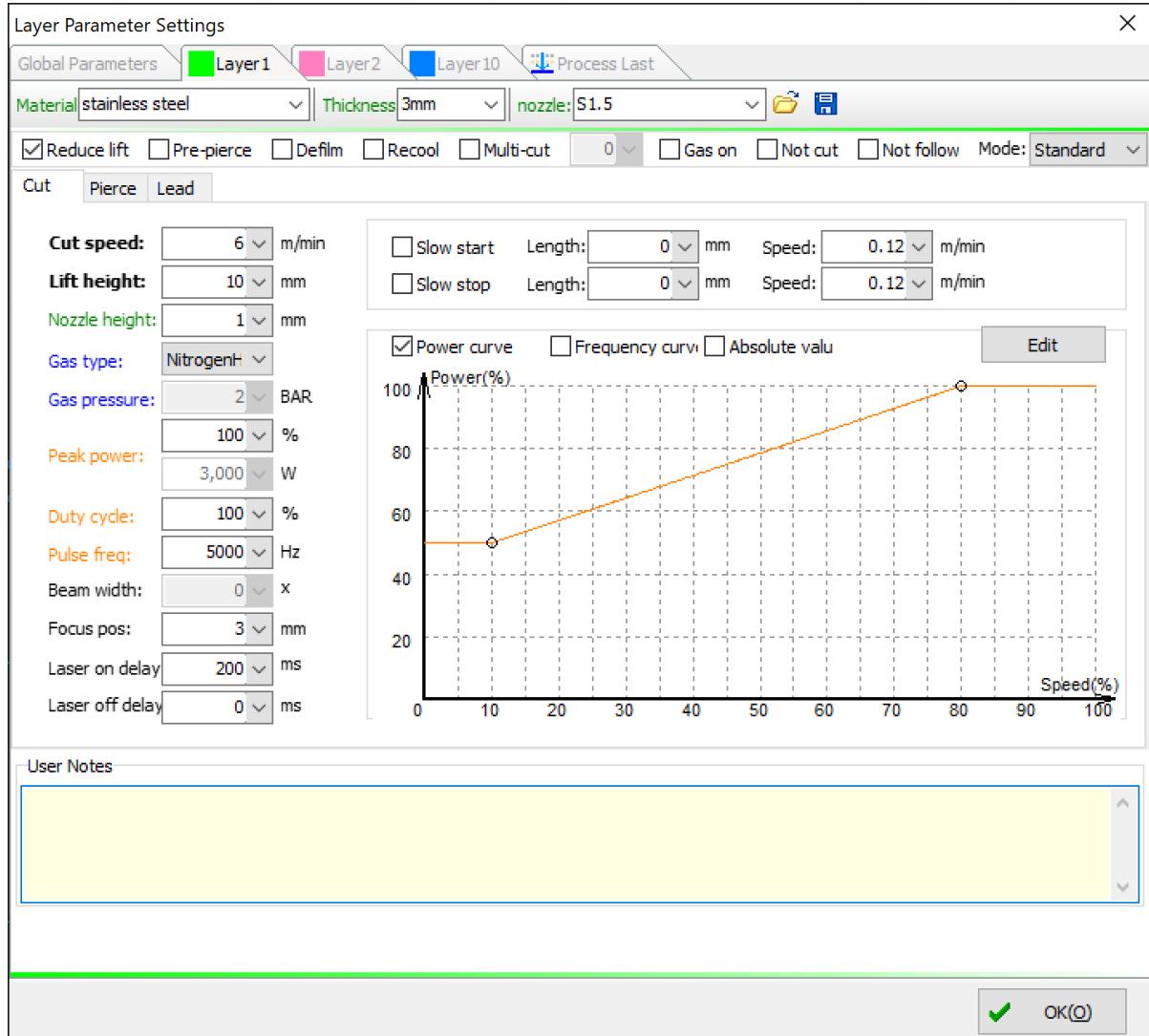
There are some layer helper functions to help you manage parts with ease while constructing. Select the command **Select Layer** in **Home>Select** to select all the parts in a specific layer, already mentioned above. Select the command **Lock Layer** in the pulldown-menu **Home>Layer** or in **View** to lock down the parts in a layer, helping you select and handle the parts in other layers more easily if they are all crowded tightly together. Select the command **Show Layer** or **Only Show** in the pulldown-menu **Home>Layer** or in **View** to show the parts in a specific group of layers, or show nothing but the parts in the selected layer. This is the other way to control the part of a design for machining because only the parts shown there will be processed.



## Layer Parameters

To set cutting parameters of a layer, there must be at least a drawing element in the drawing window, a part in the part library, or a drawing element in the nest results.

Click on the button  **Layer**, you will see tabs for different layers and parameters grouped in the tab **Cut**, **Pierce** and **Lead** for each layer in the pop-up dialog.



There are four layers in this example, i.e. layer #1, layer #2, layer #10 and layer #16 which is the special layer processed in the end. They have a same set of layer parameters, including general options, parameters for cutting, piercing and leads.

First, you can give a layer some annotations which help you get to know how to apply this set of cutting parameters, such as the material, the thickness, the nozzle type as well as other matters that need attention.

Then, you can find a group of general options which are placed on the top.

Option	Description
<b>Reduce lift</b>	The laser head will not lift up when traveling if the start position of the next cutting is nearby and within a pre-defined distance.

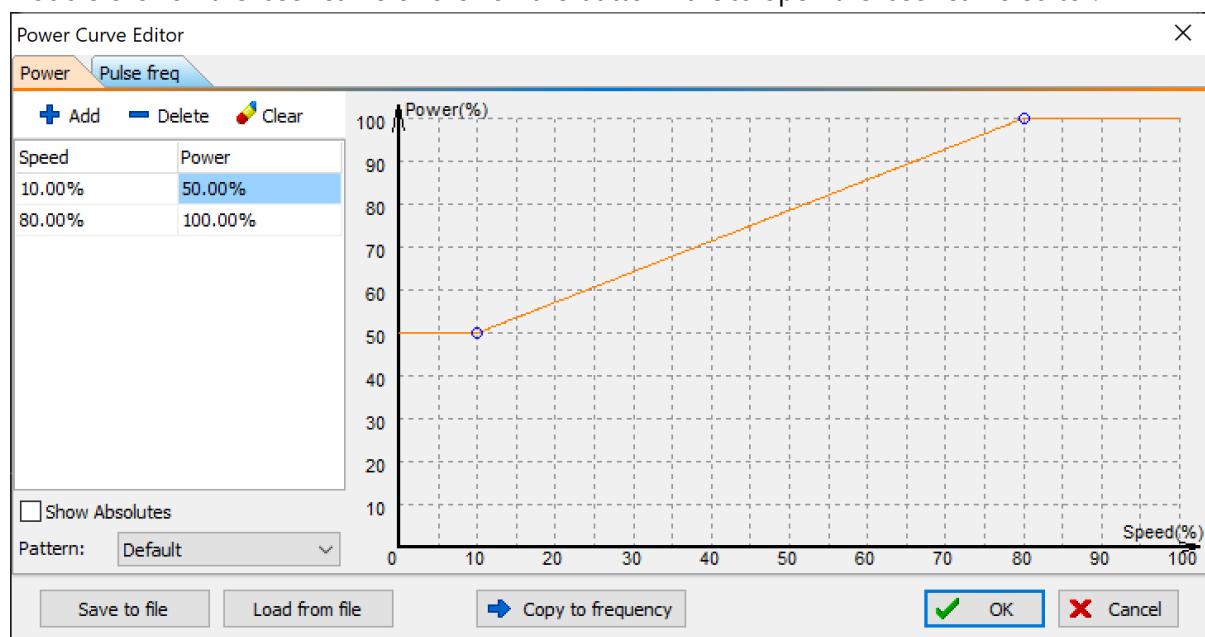
Option	Description
<b>Pre-pierce</b>	Finish piercing of all or some of the parts before cutting.
<b>Defilm</b>	Burn off the protective film on the sheet along the cutting path before cutting.
<b>Recool</b>	Blow the assist gas along the cutting path after cutting to get a better cooling effect.
<b>Multi-cut</b>	Cut multiple times.
<b>Gas on</b>	The assist gas will not be turned off in the whole process.
<b>Not cut</b>	The parts of this layer will not be cut.
<b>Not follow</b>	The sensor will be turned off and the laser head will not follow the sheet while cutting.
<b>Mode</b>	There are three cutting modes. With the <b>Fixed height</b> mode selected, the laser head will be kept at an user set height while cutting. With the <b>Out-plate</b> mode selected, the laser head will be kept at a pre-defined height and start following down to the sheet when it moves into the range of the sheet while cutting.
You can set cutting parameters in the <b>Cut</b> tab.	
Parameter	Description
<b>Cut speed</b>	The nominal cutting speed. The actual cutting speed is often lower than the nominal speed due to the presence of acceleration and deceleration at the beginning, the end and the corners of the cutting path.
<b>Lift height</b>	The space between the nozzle and the sheet while traveling.
<b>Nozzle height</b>	The space between the nozzle and the sheet while cutting.
<b>Gas type</b>	The assist gas for cutting.
<b>Gas pressure</b>	Pressure of the assist gas, valid only for gases controlled via electrical regulator, e.g. O <sub>2</sub> .
<b>Peak power</b>	The nominal laser power set in percentage. The actual laser power is often lower than the nominal power when the power curve function is enabled.
<b>Duty cycle</b>	Duty of the PWM control signal set in percentage.
<b>Pulse freq</b>	Frequency of the PWM control signal.
<b>Focus pos</b>	Position of the focus according to the tip of the nozzle.

Parameter	Description
<b>Laser on delay</b>	Time after turning on the laser and before the laser head start feeding when cutting, helping get a better cutting edge at the start positions.
<b>Laser off delay</b>	Time after the laser head stop feeding and before turning off the laser when cutting, helping get a better cutting edge at the end positions.

You can check the option **Slow start** and **Slow stop** to get a better cutting edge at the start and the end positions when cutting very thick sheets. Set the length of slow feeding in the option **Length**, set the feeding speed in the option **Speed**.

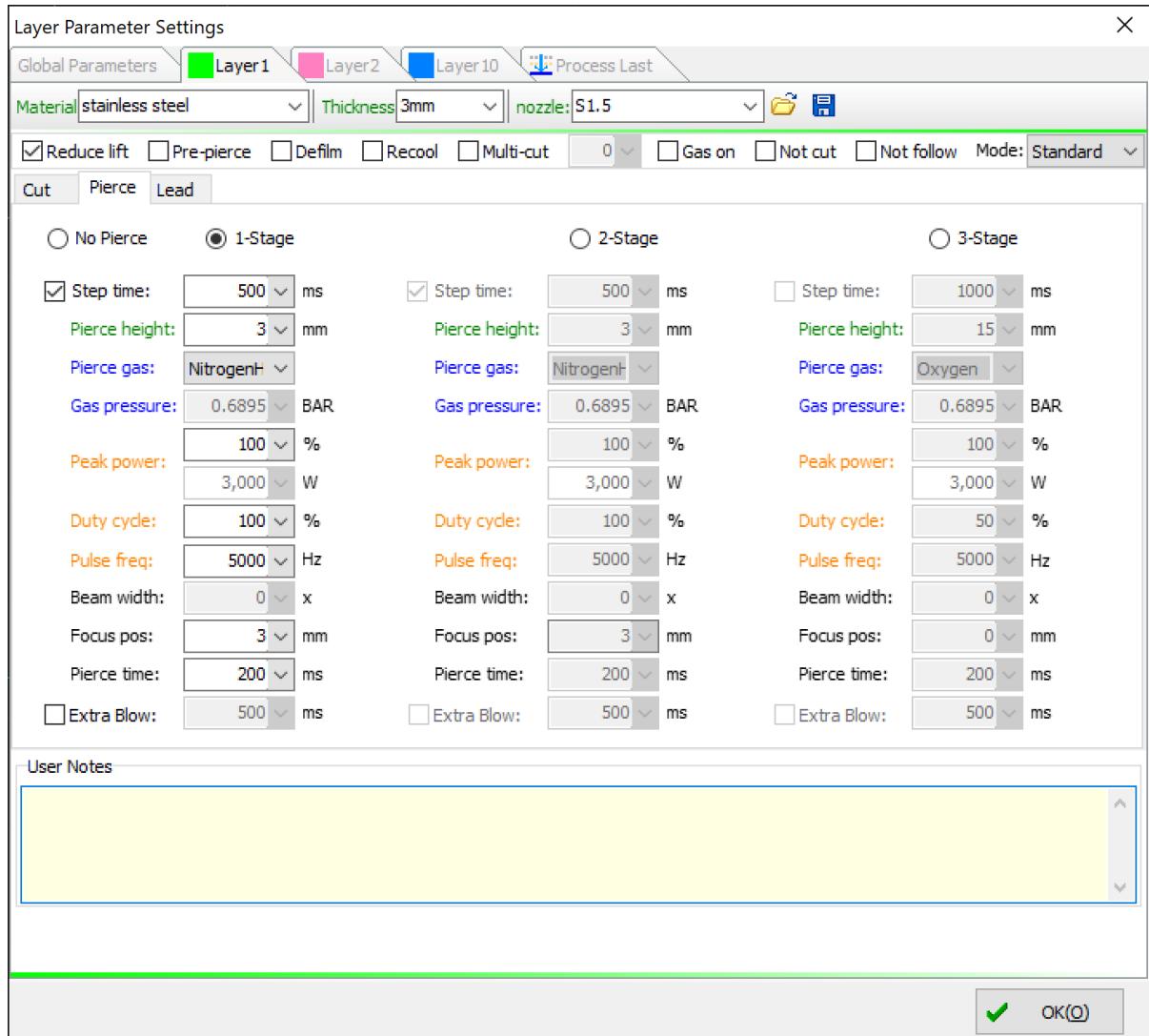
Sometimes, especially when cutting thin sheets with high cutting speed, the material will catch a lot more power at the start, the end and the sharp corners because of the low feeding speed at these positions and result in over burnt edges. In these cases, you should set variable laser power or set variable laser frequency if the material is more frequency sensitive according to feeding speed.

Double click on the laser curve or click on the button **Edit** to open the laser curve editor.



The power curve is shown in orange and the frequency curve is shown in blue. Here we walk through the power curve construction, you can construct the frequency curve in the same way. Click on **Add**, **Delete** or **Clear** to add, delete or clear key points on the curve. Choose different curve pattern from the option **Pattern**. And you can save the laser curve to or load it from an external file.

You can set piercing parameters in the **Pierce** tab.

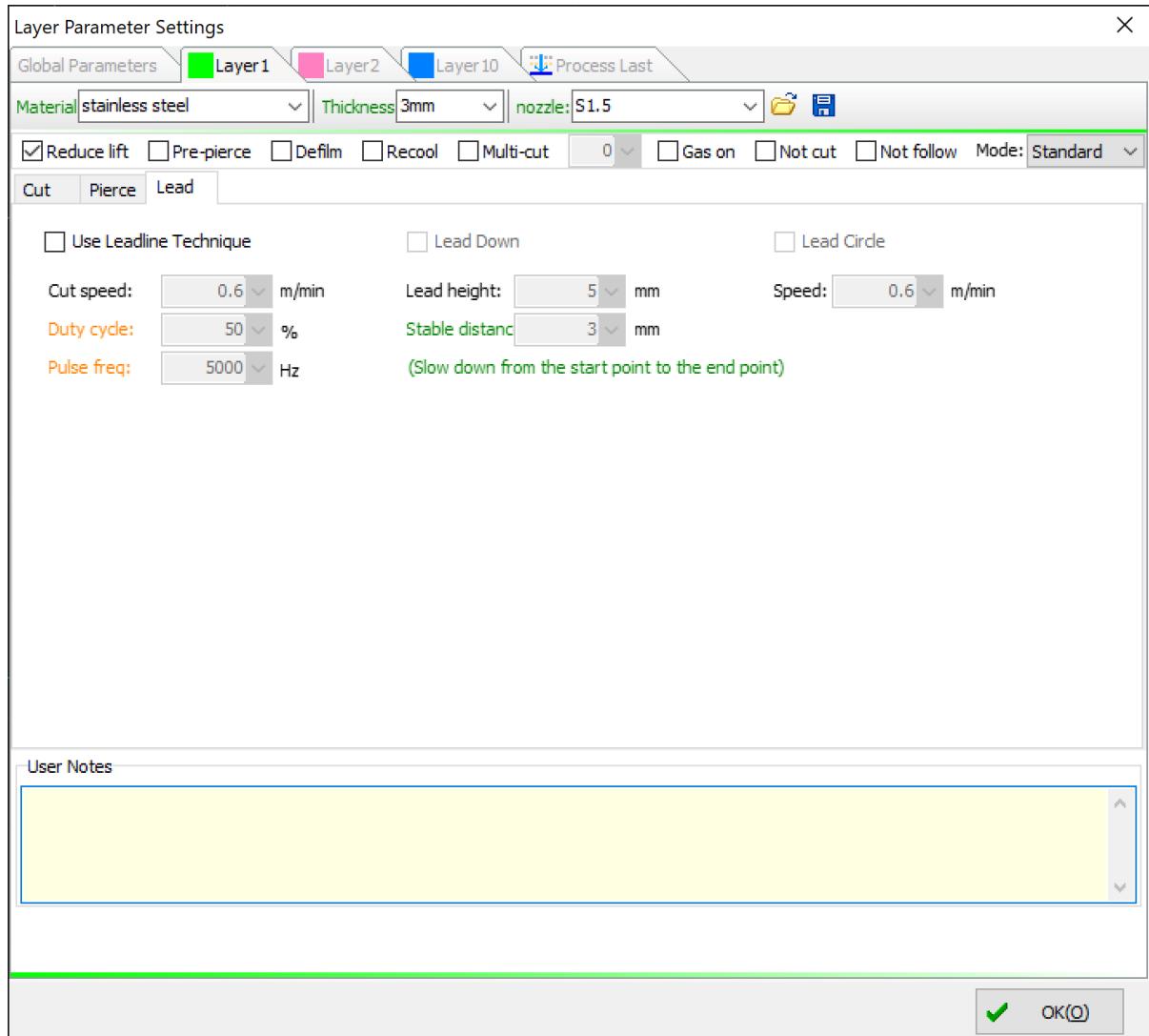


There are four piercing modes, no piercing, single stage, two stages and three stages piercing. Each piercing stage has a same set of parameters.

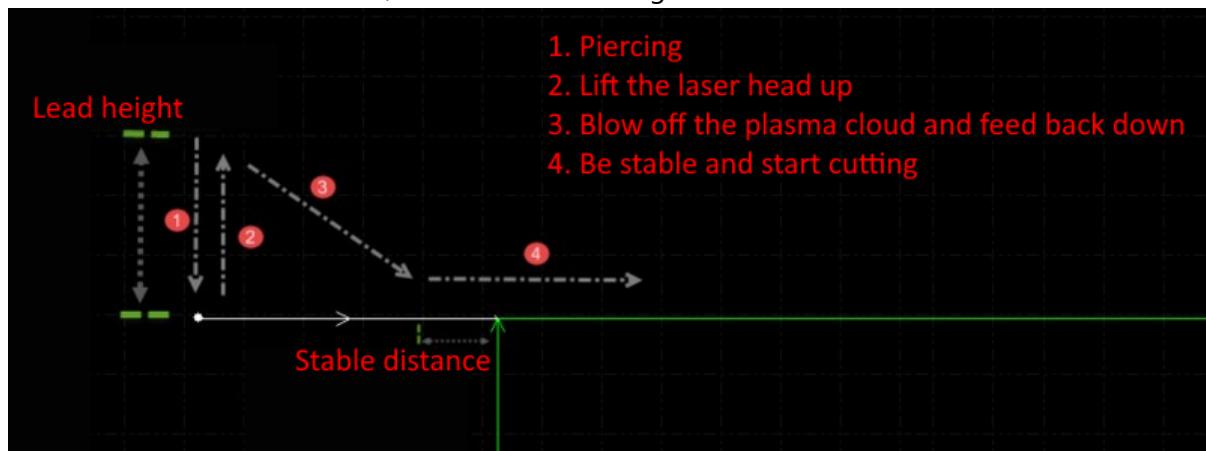
Parameter	Description
<b>Step time</b>	The feeding time from the piercing height of the current stage to the height of the next stage.
<b>Pierce height</b>	The initial space between the nozzle and the sheet in the current piercing stage.
<b>Pierce gas</b>	The assist gas for piercing.
<b>Gas pressure</b>	Pressure of the assist gas, valid only for gases controlled via electrical regulator, e.g. O <sub>2</sub> .
<b>Peak power</b>	The nominal laser power set in percentage.
<b>Duty cycle</b>	Duty of the PWM control signal set in percentage.

Parameter	Description
<b>Pulse freq</b>	Frequency of the PWM control signal.
<b>Focus pos</b>	Position of the focus according to the tip of the nozzle.
<b>Pierce time</b>	Time after turning on the laser and before the laser head start feeding down when piercing.
<b>Extra</b>	Time after turning off the laser and before starting the next stage. Check this option if you
<b>Blow</b>	want to put an extra cooling on the material.

You can set leading parameters in the **Lead** tab.



Sometimes, e.g. when cutting thick stainless steel, the piercing process will create a massive cloud of plasma which will catch a lot of laser power and result in very bad cutting results. In these cases, you should enable the special technology for leading in to lift the laser head up after piercing, blow off the plasma cloud and feed the laser head back down, and then start cutting.



Parameter	Description
<b>Use Leadline Technique</b>	Enable the special technology for leading in.

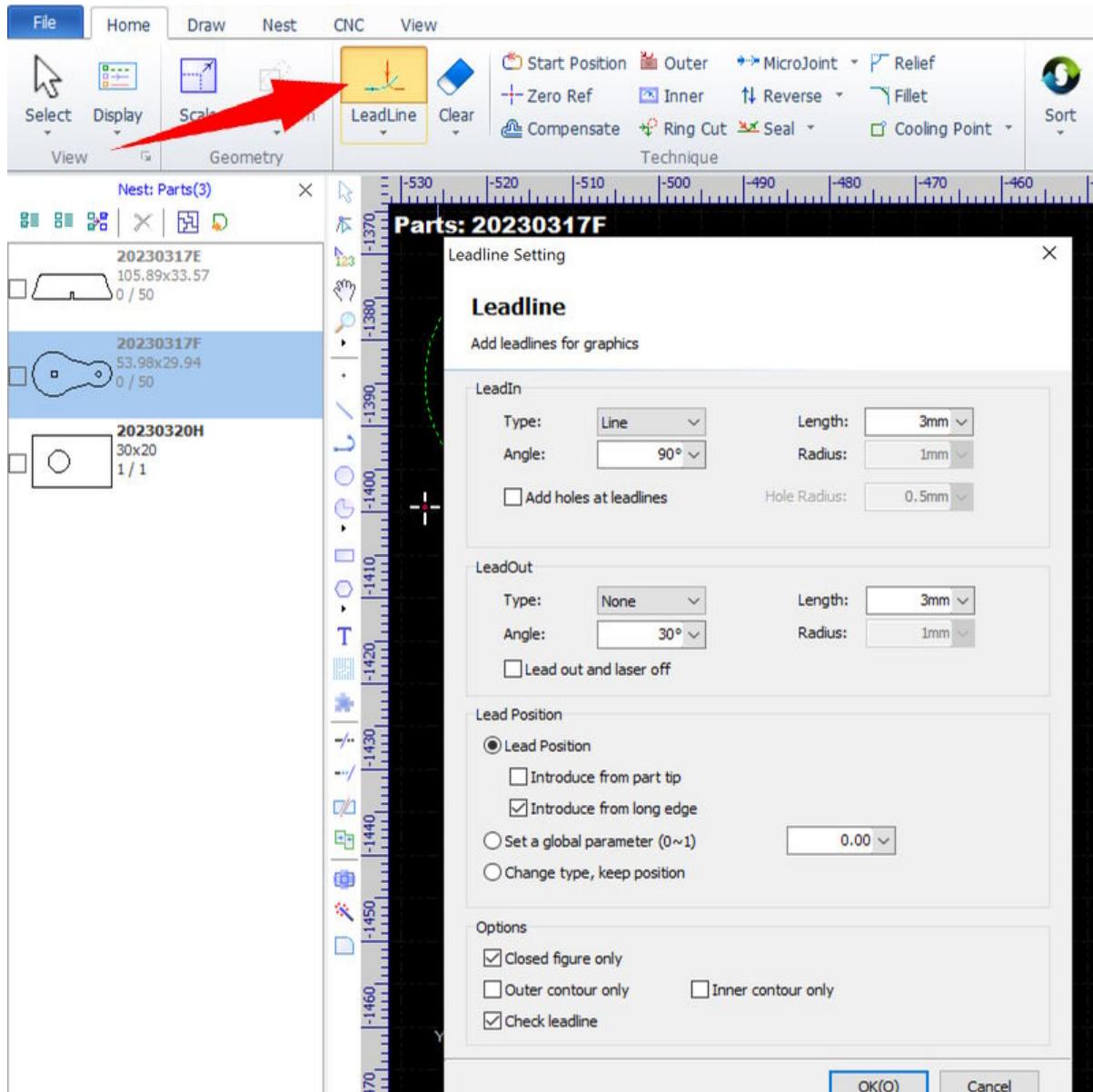
Parameter	Description
<b>Cut speed</b>	The nominal leading in speed, should be lower than the normal cutting speed because a part of laser power is caught by the plasma cloud.
<b>Duty cycle</b>	Duty of the PWM control signal set in percentage.
<b>Pulse freq</b>	Frequency of the PWM control signal.
<b>Lead Down</b>	Lift the laser head up after piercing.
<b>Lead height</b>	The initial space between the nozzle and the sheet, should be high enough to blow off the plasma cloud.
<b>Stable distance</b>	The distance between the start position of the contour and the position where the laser head should completely feeding down to the sheet.

# Lead Lines

For proper machining of a contour, the laser should pierce the material outside of the cutting path and join the contour as a lead-in. At the end of a contour the laser can be lead from the contour with a lead-out. The optimal lengths and radius of leads depend on material and thickness.

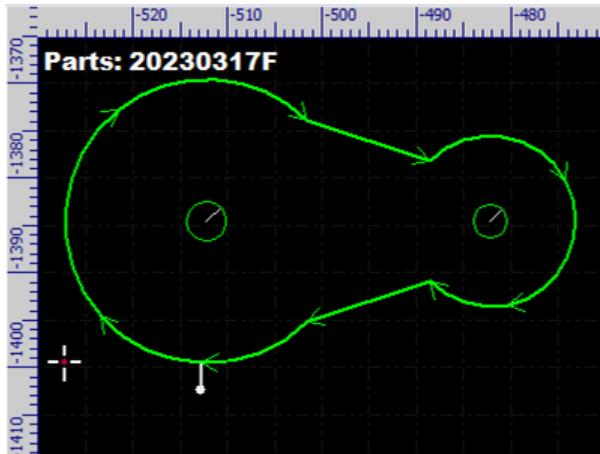
## Automatic Leads Function

Select the contours, and then select the command **LeadLine** in **Home**.

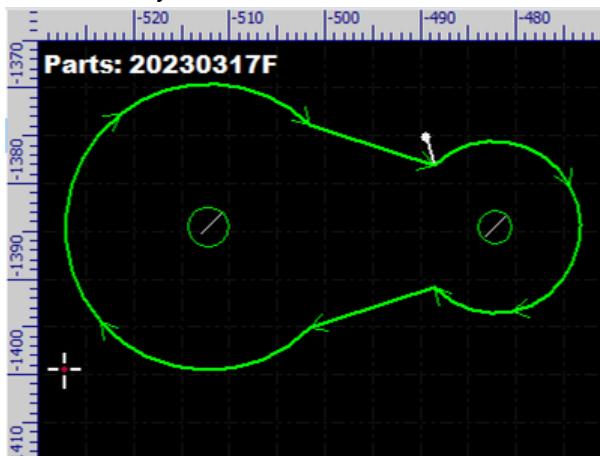


In the pop-up dialog, you can set geometry for lead-ins and lead-outs, set positions to place leads, set types of contours to place leads onto, and set whether to check and correct geometry of leads automatically. Click on **OK**, the software will place leads on contours according to the settings automatically.

Leads are shown in white, can be distinguished easily from the original contours, and can not be selected separately without the originals.



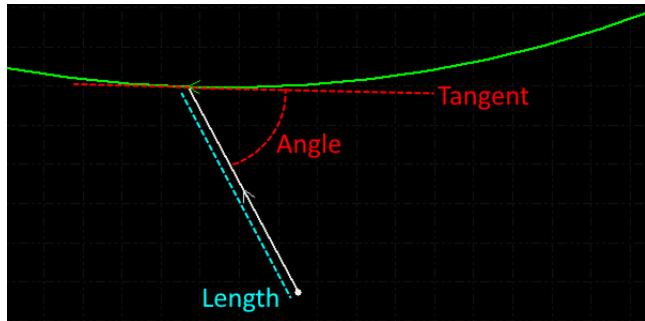
The picture below shows a different result on the same part with the option **Change type, keep position** selected and the option **Check leadline** unchecked. In this result, the lead-ins are placed to the original start positions of the contours and the lead-ins on the two small circles are longer than their radius, not corrected automatically.



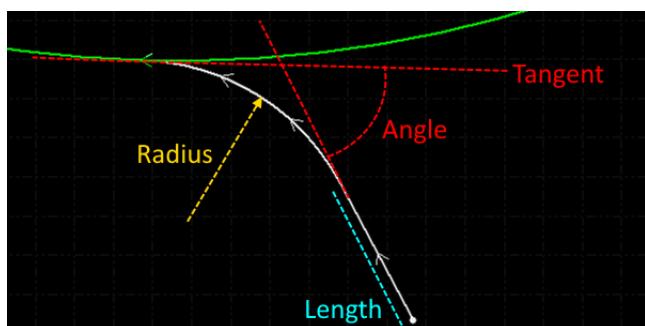
The option **Type**, **Angle**, **Length** and **Radius** specify the geometry of lead-ins and lead-outs.

Type	Geometry	Description
None		Machining begins or ends directly on the contour without lead-in or lead-out.
Line		A straight line leads in to or out from the contour.
Arc		An arc leads in to or out from the contour.
Line + Arc		A straight line and then an arc lead in to the contour, or an arc and then a straight line lead out from the contour.

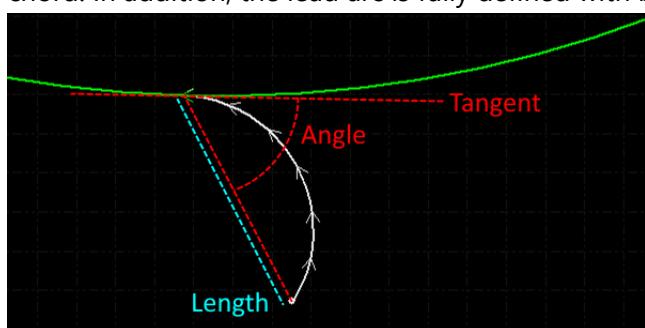
For the type **Line**, the option **Angle** specifies the angle between the lead line and the tangent of the contour at the lead position, the option **Length** specifies the length of the lead line.



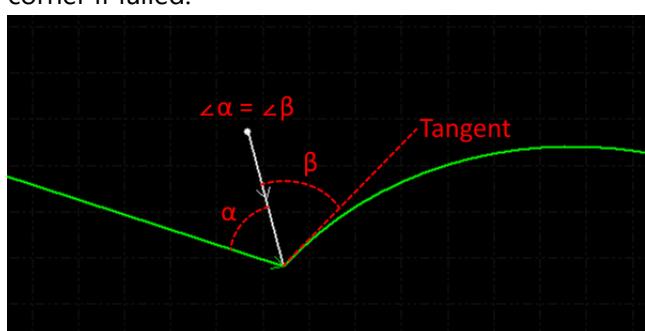
For the type **Line + Arc**, the option **Angle** and **Length** mean exact the same. And a lead arc is defined with its radius specified in the option **Radius**, and being tangential with both the lead line and the contour at the same time.



On the other hand, for the type **Arc**, the option **Angle** actually specifies the angle between the chord of the lead arc and the tangent of the contour at the lead position, the option **Length** specifies the length of the chord. In addition, the lead arc is fully defined with being tangential with the contour.

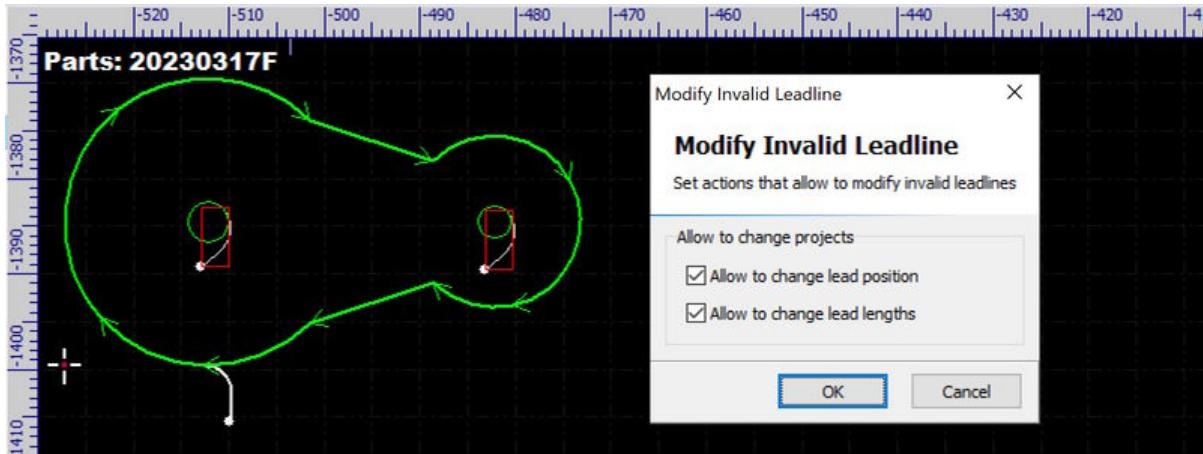


There is an exception, a lead-in to the start point of a drawing element (a line or a curve) which is not tangential with the one ahead of it will be set to the type **Line** regardless of the type you set. The software will try to set it to be tangential with the drawing element first, and then set it to be along with the midline of the corner if failed.



If you are not happy with the leads and want to make a change, just select the contours and select the command **LeadLine** again, and give it a try with different settings. If you want to delete the leads, select the contours and then select the command **Clear Leadline** in **Home>Clear**.

Sometimes, with the option **Check leadline** checked in the dialog, if the software finds something wrong with the leads but cannot correct them fully automatically, it will mark them with red frames and prompt you a dialog which asks for your opinions for correction. If the errors cannot be corrected in this way, then you need to rework on the leads with different settings or fully by hand.



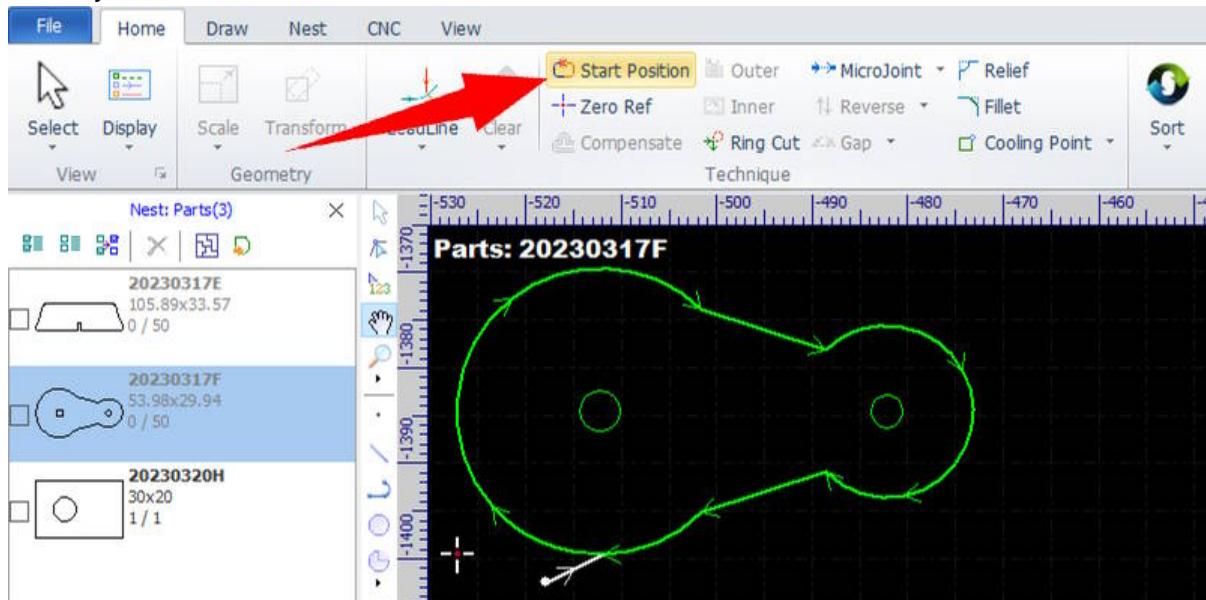
If the option **Check leadline** is not checked when setting leads, you can select the command **Check Leadlines** in the pulldown-menu **Home>LeadLine** to do the same thing and the software will react in exact the same way as above if it finds errors.

### Set Leads by Hand

Sometimes, the positions to lead in or lead out is not as you wish or the leads interfere with the contours. In these cases, you can move the leads by specifying the lead positions by hand.

Select the command **Start Position** in **Home** and then click on the contour to specify the new start position. In this way, the lead will keep its geometry except the lead position.

And, you can fully specify a new lead-in by this function. Select the command and click on a position out of the contour, then click on the contour to set a lead-in line there. You can only set lead-ins with type **Line** in this way.

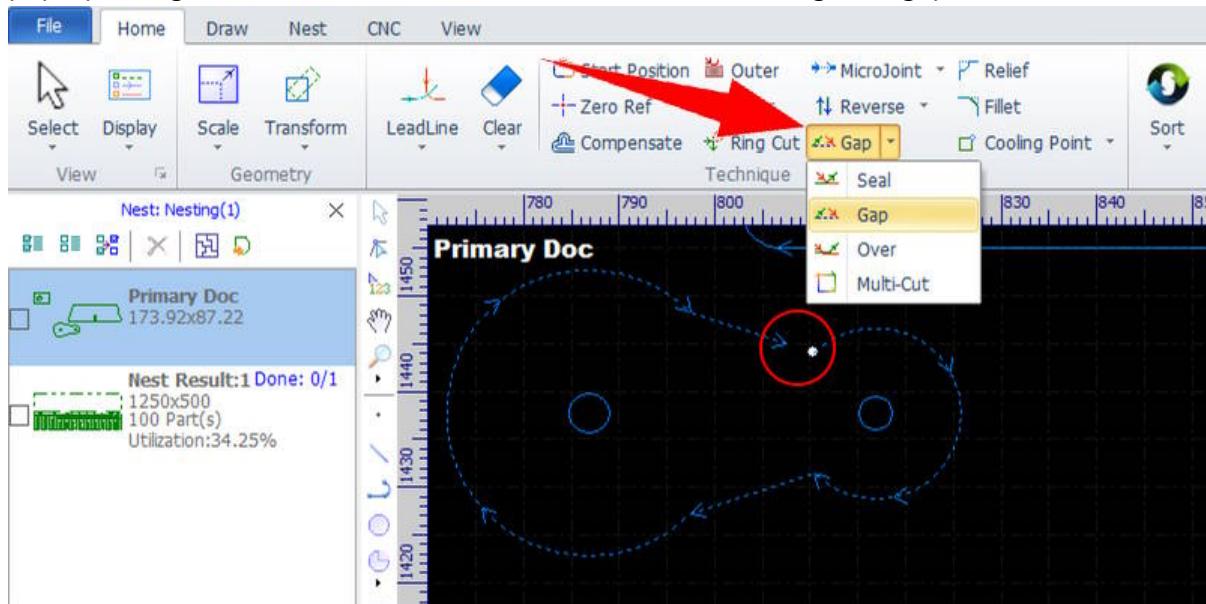


Here, we would like to mention a group of functions which are closely related to the start position of a contour.

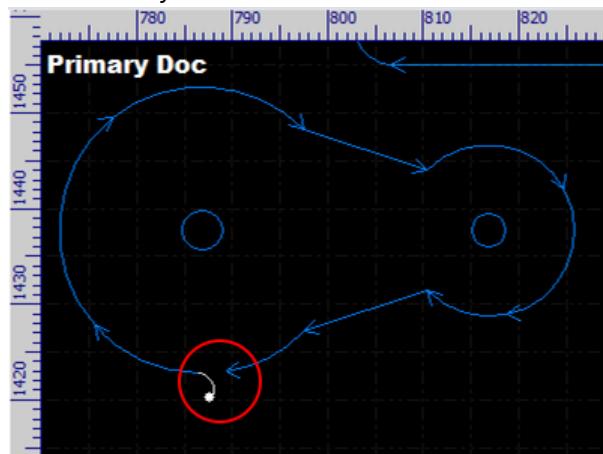
By default, the start and end points of a closed contour are at the same position, we call it "seal". Sometimes, it is good to add some small micro joints to prevent parts from falling out or hanging on while machining, refer to [Micro Joints](#) for more information.

If there is only a single micro joint to add, you can just set a gap at the start position instead of using the more complex micro joint function.

Select the contours and select the command **Gap** from the pulldown-menu in **Home**, then set gap size in the pop-up dialog. The contours are still considered closed after being set a gap on.



The gap will stick to the start position when a change made by the start position function or by setting a lead automatically.



The seal function is to remove the gaps which are set by the gap function. The over function is to set over-cuts which may result in more smooth edges. The multi-cut function is also for improving edges by cutting more than one times.

Finally, make sure to apply this group of functions in the drawing window, they are not supported in the part library and the nest results.

# Kerf Compensation

Laser kerf is the amount of material that is removed or lost in the cutting process, and, if not compensated for in the design plans, will result in loose fitting parts.

## Kerf Width

Kerf width can vary depending on a number of factors, including the material, the thickness of the material, the laser module, the beam width and the power, the assist gas, etc.

Follow the steps below to find the exact kerf of a specific material cut with a specific group of technologies, e.g. 3mm stainless steel cut with a 3kW fiber laser, power set to 85%, nitrogen used as the assist gas, etc.

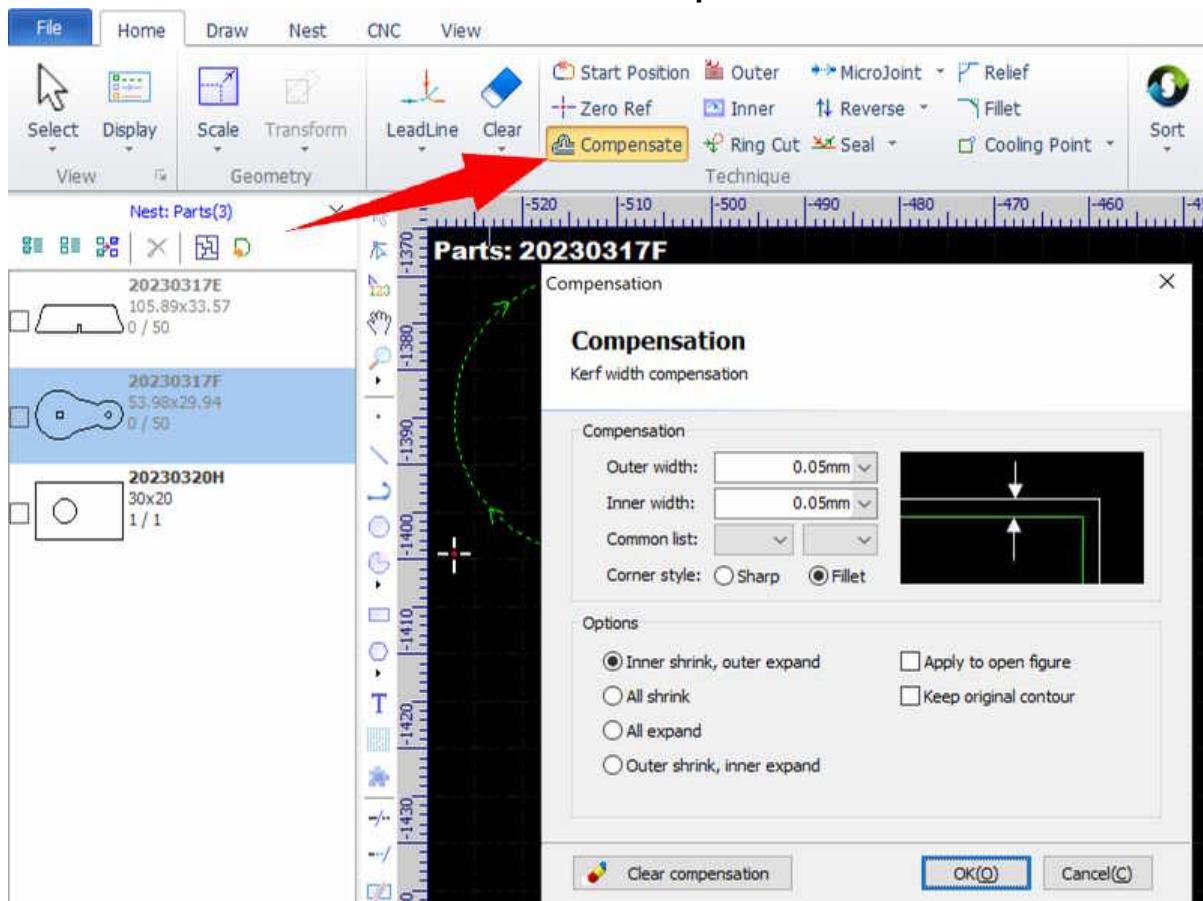
1. Prepare a sample of the material.
2. Find the cutting parameters.
3. Cut a 30mm x 30mm square.
4. Measure the square with a set of calipers.

The difference between the design and the actual size of the square is the kerf. For example, if the square measures 29.90mm, then the kerf is 0.10mm.

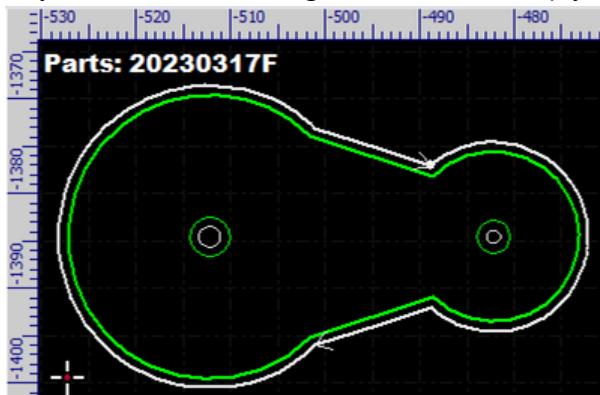
## Kerf Compensation

The kerf compensation function offsets the cutting path by exact half the width of the kerf, in order to maintain the integrity of the original part size.

Select the contours, and then select the command **Compensate** in **Home**.

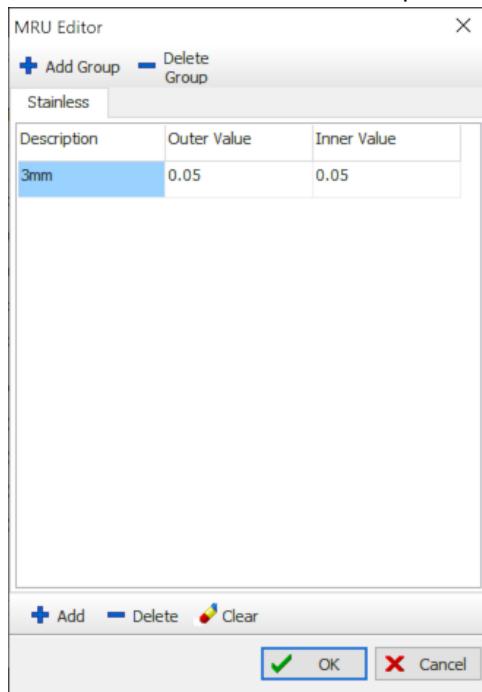


In the pop-up dialog, set both **Outer width** and **Inner width** to the exact half of the kerf width. Click **OK**, the software will create new cutting paths, shown in white, which are the same distance from the original all the way around (we set a large value here to help you easily distinguish the new cutting paths from the original).

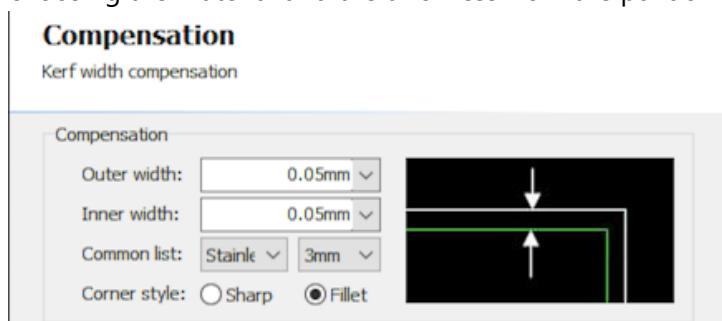


By default, outer contours are offset outwards and inner contours are offset inwards (refer to [Contour Type](#) for more information) as the option **Inner shrink, outer expand** selected in the dialog.

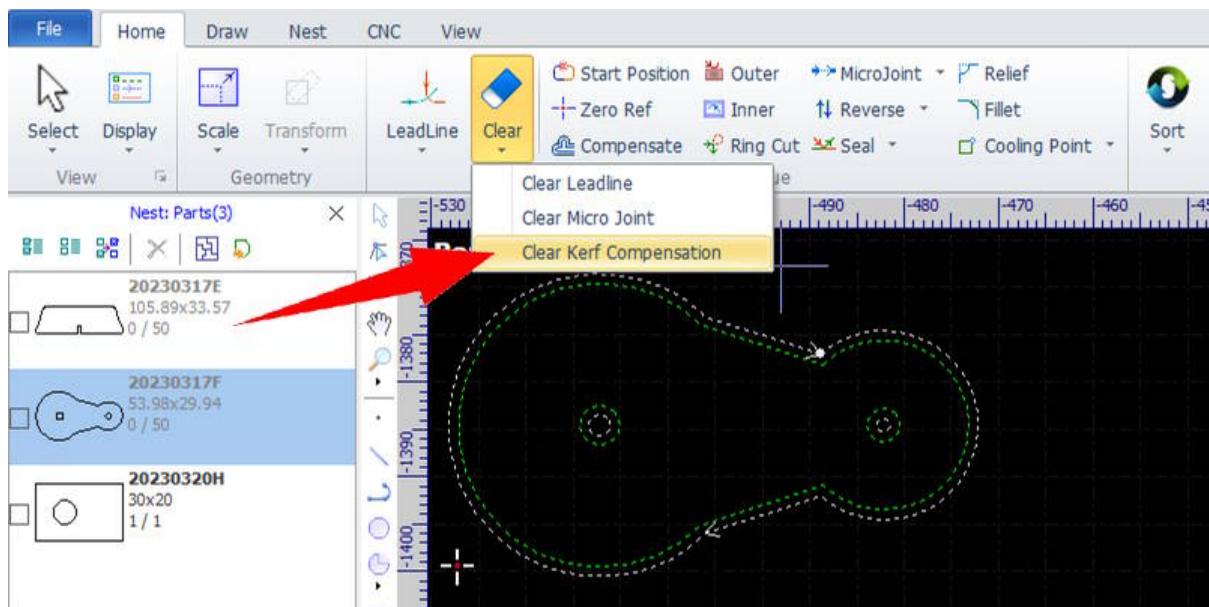
There is a library where you can save kerf compensation settings for different materials with different thicknesses. Click on one of the pulldown-lists of the option **Common list** and then select the item **Edit**.



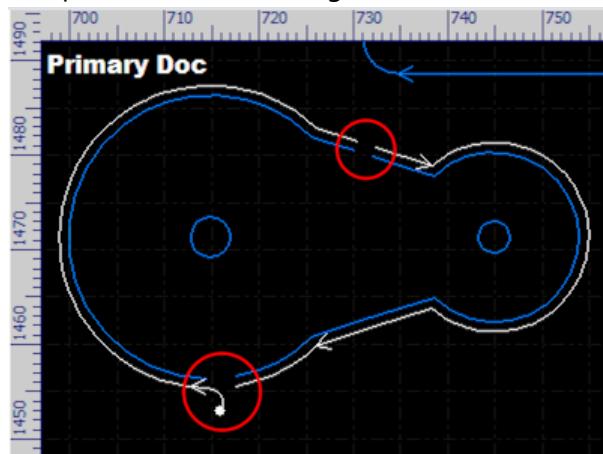
There is just a single setting for 3mm stainless steel in the library now. You can add a new setting for another thickness of stainless steel, e.g. 1mm, 5mm, 8mm, by clicking on **Add** at the bottom. And, you can add compensation settings for another kind of material, e.g. mild steel, aluminum, copper, by clicking on **Add Group** at the top. After setting up the library, you can select the corresponding compensation setting by choosing the material and the thickness from the pulldown-lists.



To remove the cutting paths created by the kerf compensation function, click on the button **Clear compensation** in the dialog or select the command **Clear Kerf Compensation** in **Home>Clear** when the contours are selected.



In addition, all the other technologies set on a contour will be applied to the cutting path created by the kerf compensation function, e.g. lead-ins and lead-outs, gaps, micro joints, etc.

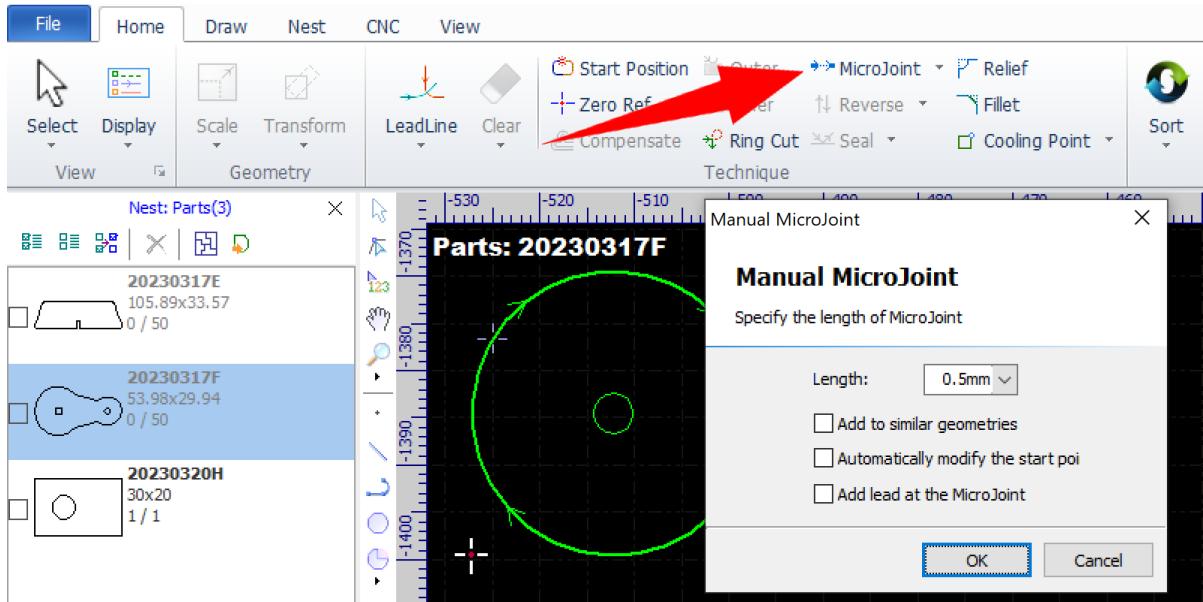


# Micro Joints

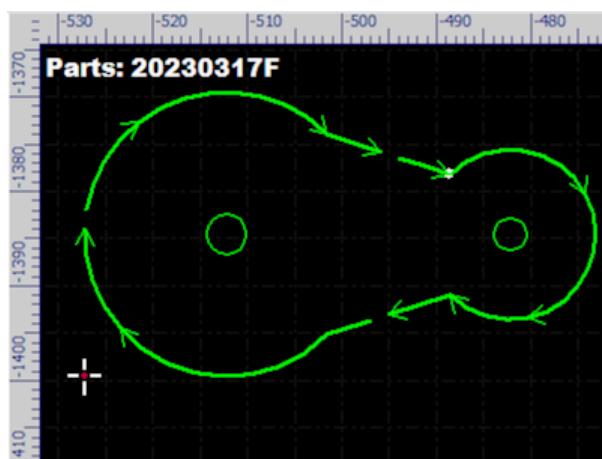
Sometimes, it is good to add some micro joints to prevent parts from falling out or hanging on while machining. The laser will be turned off automatically on micro joints which will not be cut.

## Set Micro Joints by Hand

Select the command **MicroJoint** in **Home** and then click on the contours to set micro joints.



There will be a dialog, where you can set the length of micro joints, popping up when adding the first micro joint. And you can add more micro joints on the contours until press the **Esc** key or select the command **Cancel MicroJoint** in the context menu.

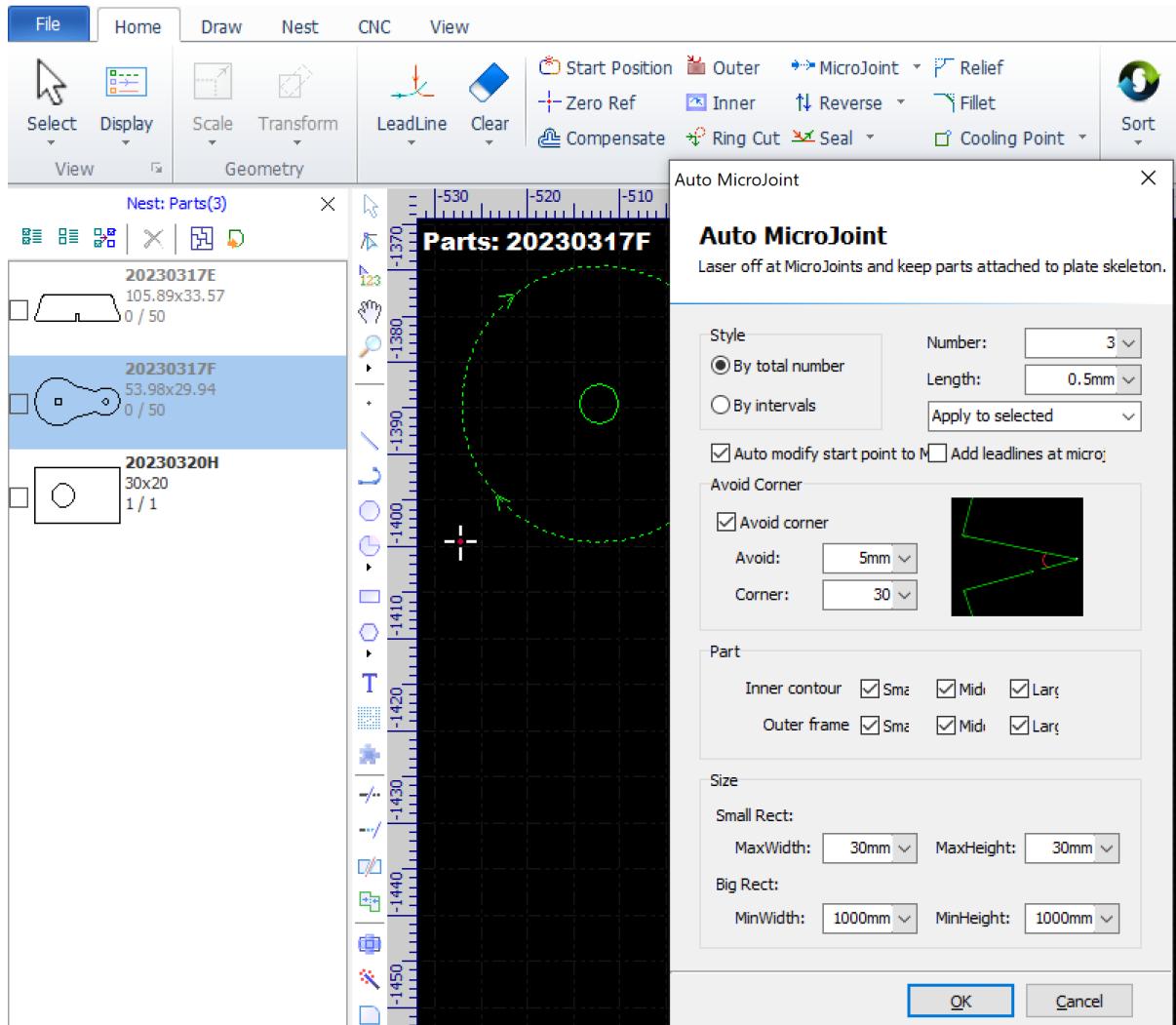


Micro joints appear as small gaps on contours which are still considered closed. If you are not happy with the micro joints and want to make a change or just delete them, select the contours and then select the command **Clear MicroJoint** in the pulldown-menu **Home>Clear**.

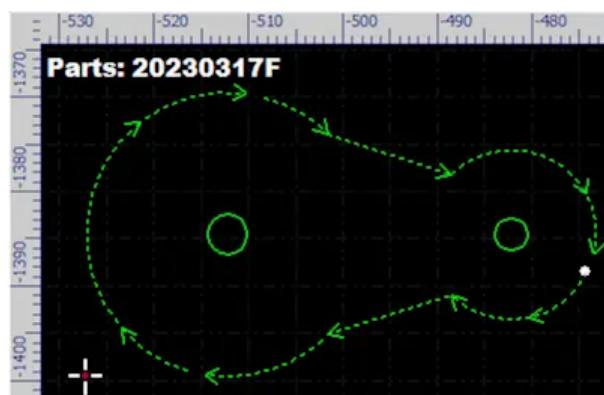
If there is only a single micro joint to add, you can just set a gap at the start position instead of using the more complex micro joint function, refer [here](#) for more information.

## Set Micro Joints Automatically

If you want to add several micro joints, especially on large contours, you can select the contours and then select the command **Auto MicroJoint** in the pulldown-menu **Home>MicroJoint**.



In the pop-up dialog, choose how to set micro joints. If you choose **By total number**, set the number of micro joints in the option **Number**; if you choose **By intervals**, then set the distance between each micro joint in the option **Interval**. Set the length of micro joints in the option **Length**. Choose to set micro joints on the selected contours or on all contours. Check the option **Auto modify start point to MicroJoint** if you want to change the start position to a micro joint.



In the example above, the software set three micro joints on the contour and change the start position to the micro joint on the right automatically.

# Technologies for Getting Good Corners

In general, you would get bad quality when cutting sharp corners on thin materials in high speed, and on thick materials in low speed, especially on mild steel with O<sub>2</sub> as the assist gas because too much heat accumulated up there in a very small area which results in over burnt.

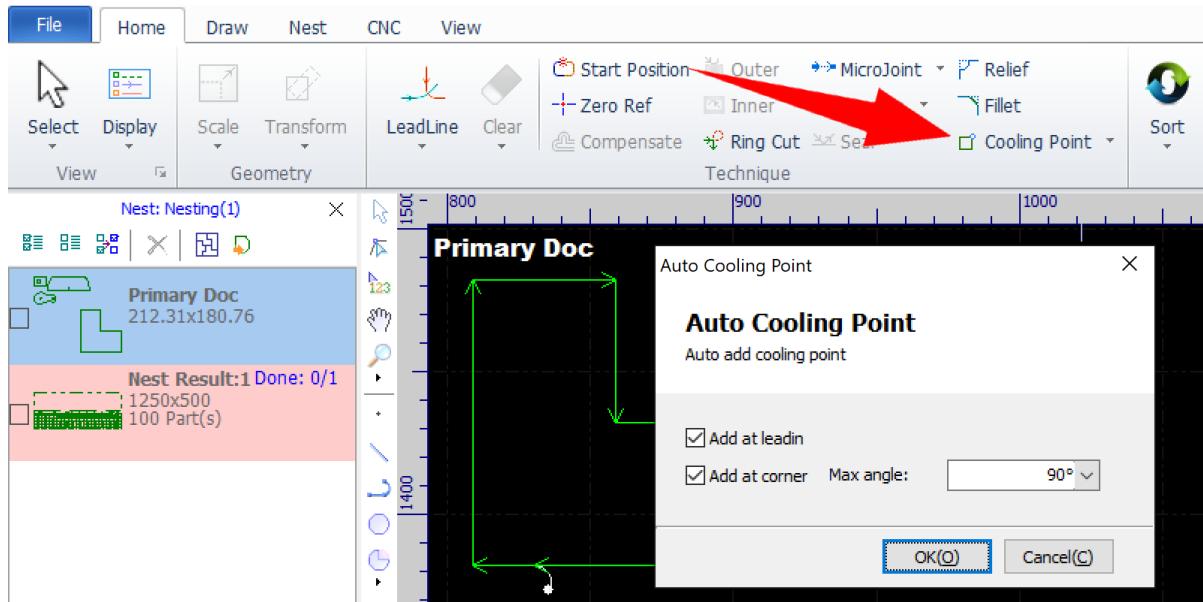
CyCut provides several functions to solve this problem from different points of view. If the geometry of a corner has to be kept precisely, you can use the cooling point or the ring cut functions; otherwise, you can use the fillet function, and incorporate the relief function if the part is prepared for bending.

## Cooling Point

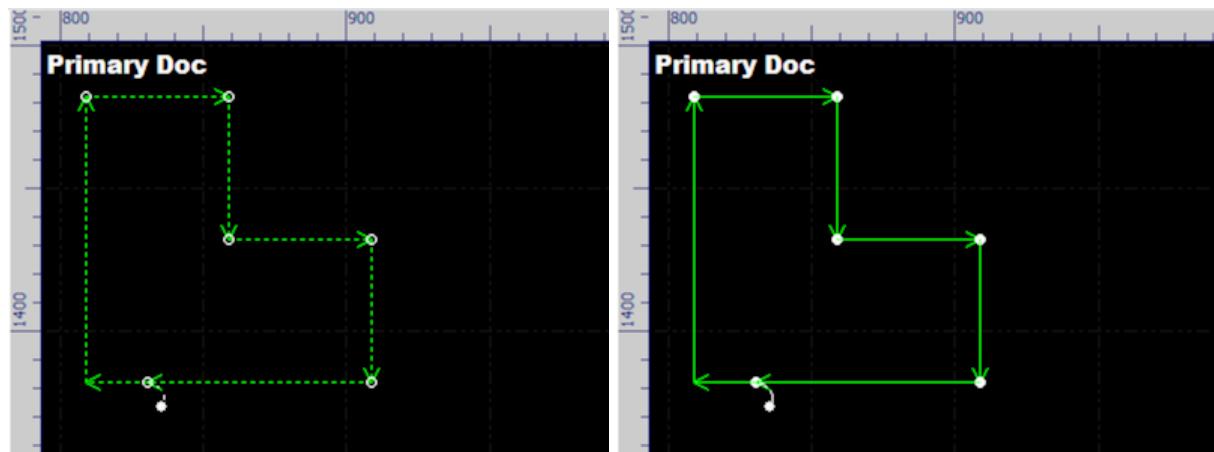
The cooling point function is to add stops in the cutting process and let the assist gas help cool the material down a little more.

Select the contours and then select the command **Auto Cooling Point** in the pulldown-menu

**Home>Cooling Point.**



In the pop-up dialog, check the option **Add at leadin** if you want to set a cooling point at the start position, check the option **Add at corner** if you want to set cooling points at sharp corners and set the angle range in the option **Max angle**.



Cooling points appear as small circles when the contours are selected, and as solid ones when not.

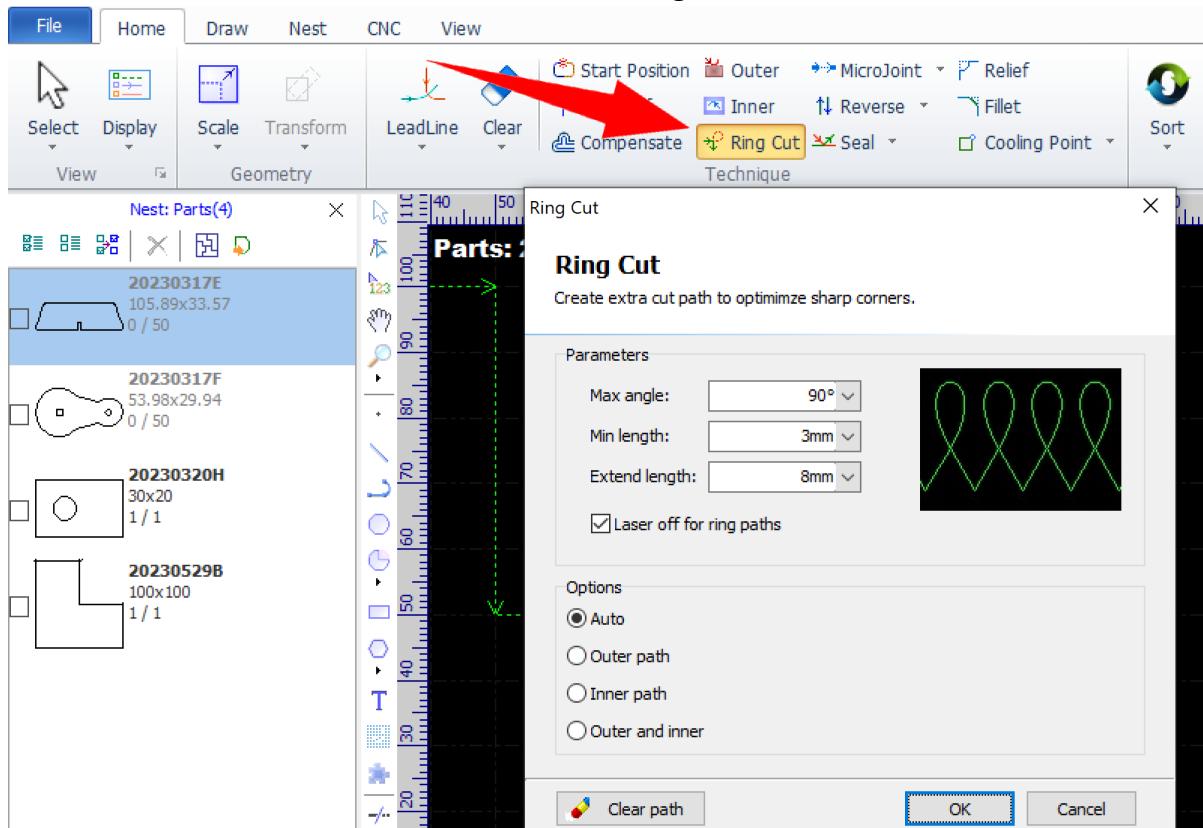
You can also set cooling points by hand. Select the command **Cooling Point** in **Home**, the cursor will appear in a small dashed circle, and click on the contours to set cooling points until press the **Esc** key or select the command **Cancel Cooling Point** in the context menu.

If you are not happy with the cooling points and want to make a change or just delete one or some of them, press the **Shift** key when running the cooling point function, the cursor will appear in a small square, and click on the cooling points you want to remove. And, you can select the command **Clear Cooling Point** in the pulldown-menu **Home>Cooling Point** to remove all cooling points.

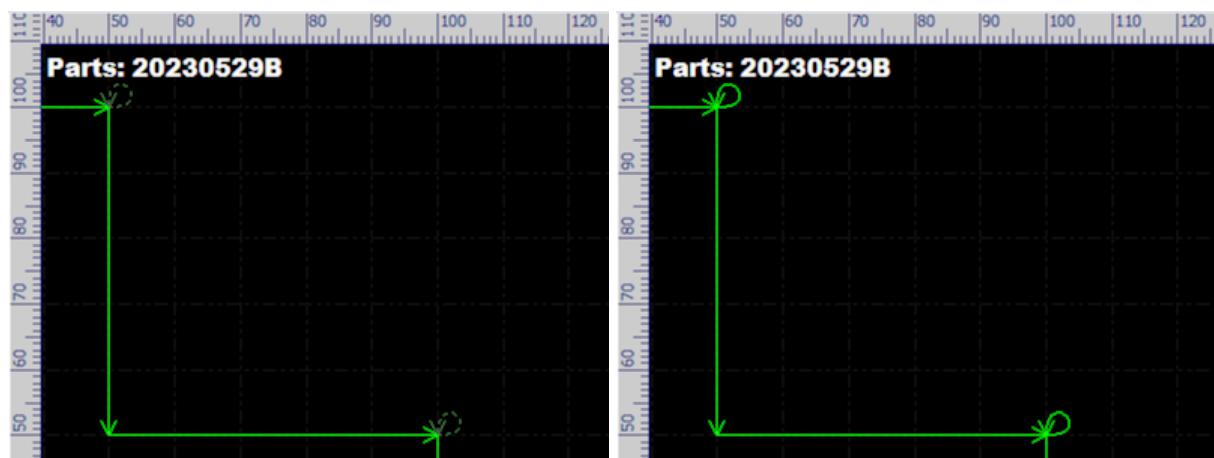
## Ring Cut

The ring cut function adds extra travel paths on corners and the laser head will slow down then speed up there out of corners, help improve the geometry precision and the quality of corners when cutting thin materials in high speed.

Select the contours and then select the command **Ring Cut** in **Home**.



In the pop-up dialog, set the angle range of corners in the option **Max angle**, set the size of extra travel paths in the option **Min length** and **Extend length**, check the option **Laser off for ring paths** if you want to turn off the laser on the paths.

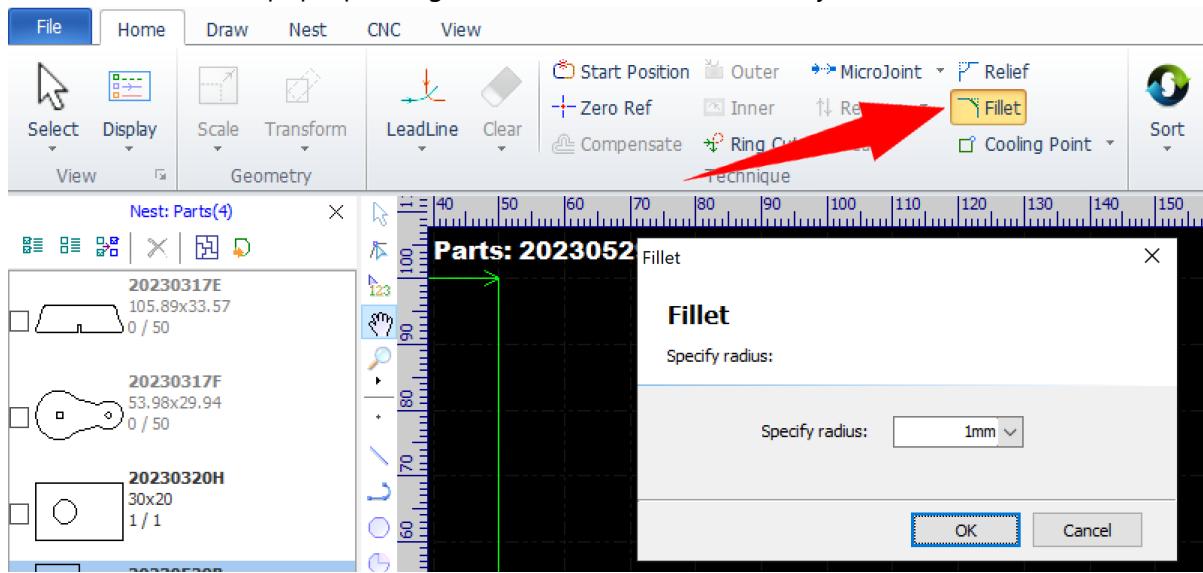


Ring cuts appear as dashed with laser off and as solid with laser on.

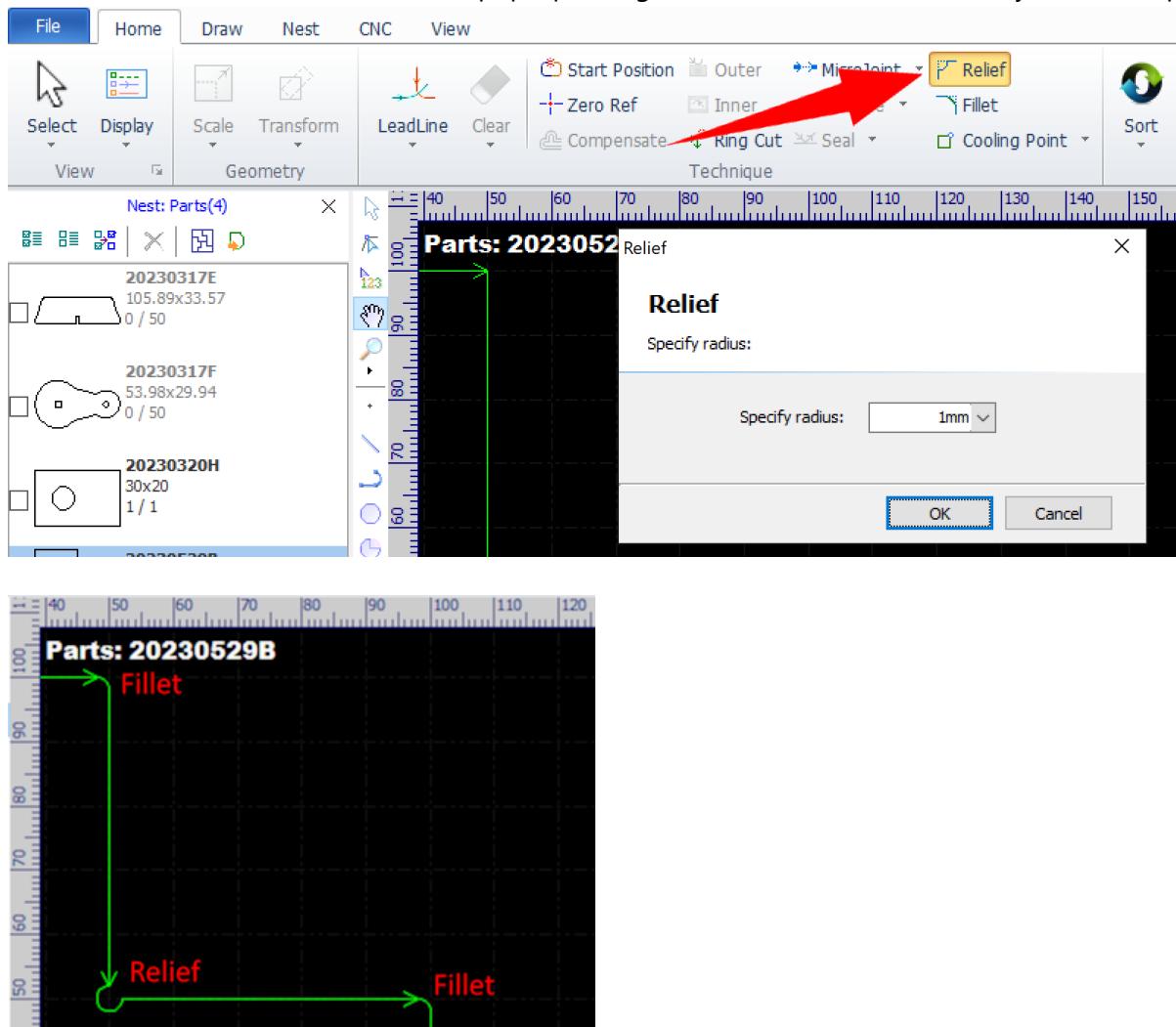
If you are not happy with the ring cuts and want to make a change, just select the contours and select the command **Ring Cut** again, and give it a try with different settings. If you want to delete the ring cuts, just click on the button **Clear path** in the dialog.

## Fillet and Relief

The fillet function converts sharp corners to round ones. Select the command **Fillet** in **Home**. Set the radius of round corners in the pop-up dialog and then click on the corners you want to convert.



The relief function adds relieves on corners, avoiding warping when bending. Select the command **Relief** in **Home**. Set the radius of relieves in the pop-up dialog and then click on the corners you want to process.



# Automatically Applied Technologies When Nesting

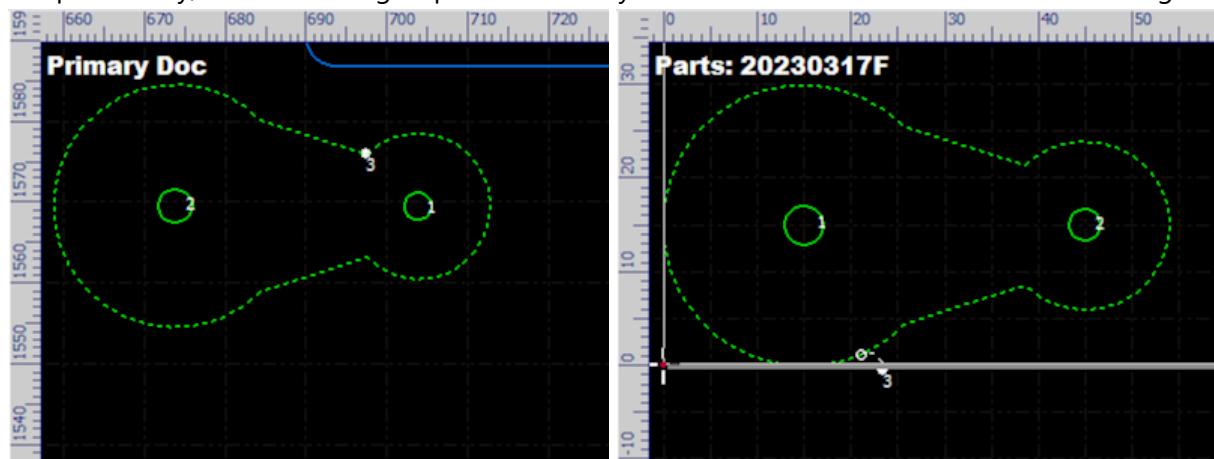
Now we are finished with the technologies for getting better results on a single part. Next, we will talk about some technologies useful for a group of parts.

Most of these technologies are applicable in the drawing window when nesting and constructing, and are disabled for every single part in the part library. In general, we do not recommend setting these technologies by hand because they will be applied automatically when nesting, in a more smart way.

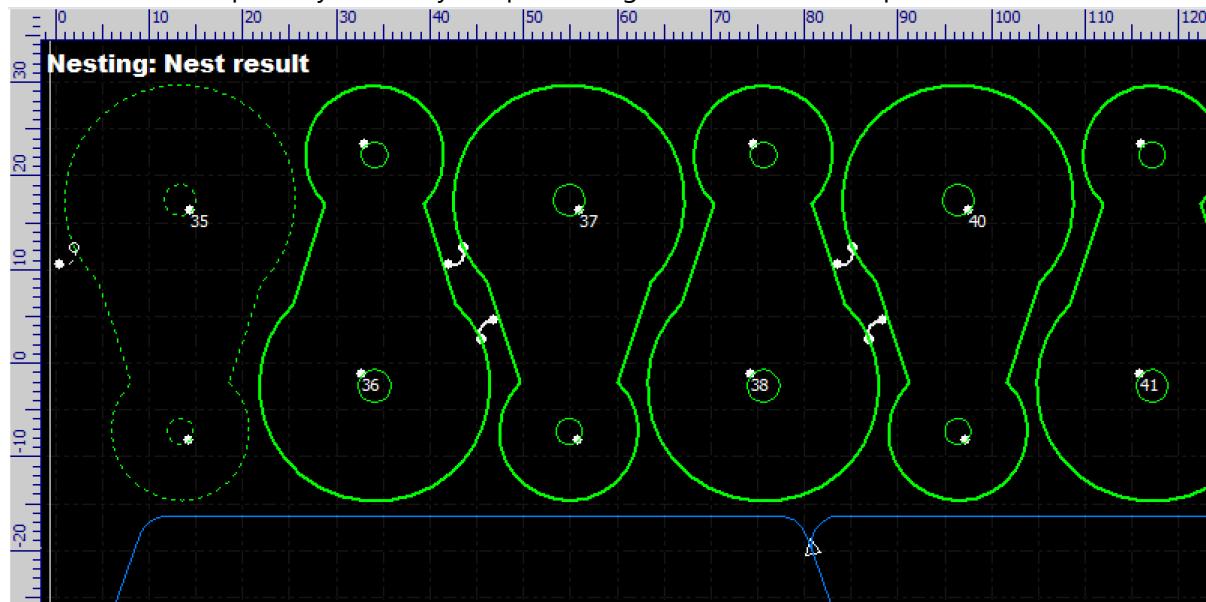
## Group

A part will always be managed as a group after nesting because the software thinks that the contours of a part are logically related and should not be apart. All the contours of a group will be selected at the same time; only the outmost contour will account for the processing sequence; and a group will be machined as a whole without break.

The picture on the left shows a part imported into the drawing window, you can select the outer contour separately, and every contour has its own processing order. The picture on the right shows the part added to the part library, it is still not a group because every contour can be set with different technologies.

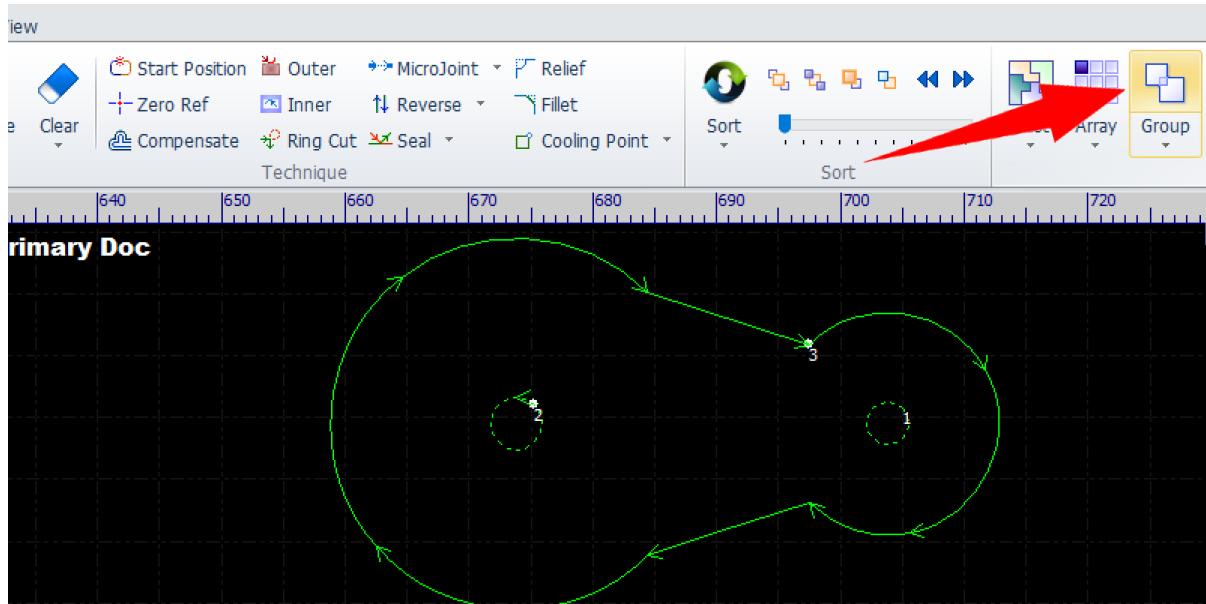


The software will manage all the contours of a part as a group when nesting. Then you can not select just one of the contours separately, and only the processing order of the whole part will be shown there.

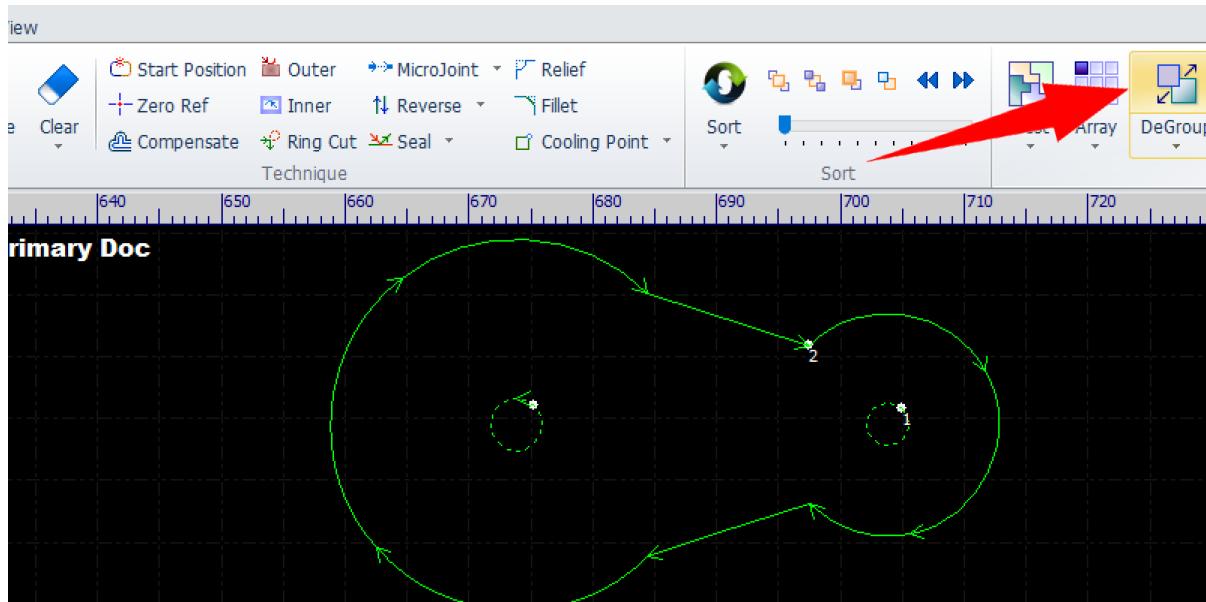


CyCut has a set of commands for the group function, i.e. **Group**, **DeGroup**, **Ungroup Selected**, **Ungroup All**, etc. Sometimes, you can use these commands when constructing a very complex part which has several logical subsets of contours, where you can set up groups and make the editing a bit easier.

Select the contours and then select the command **Group** in **Home**, the software will set them up as a group.



Then the group will be kept selected and the command **Group** will be changed to **DeGroup**. Select a group and then select the command **DeGroup** to break up the group.

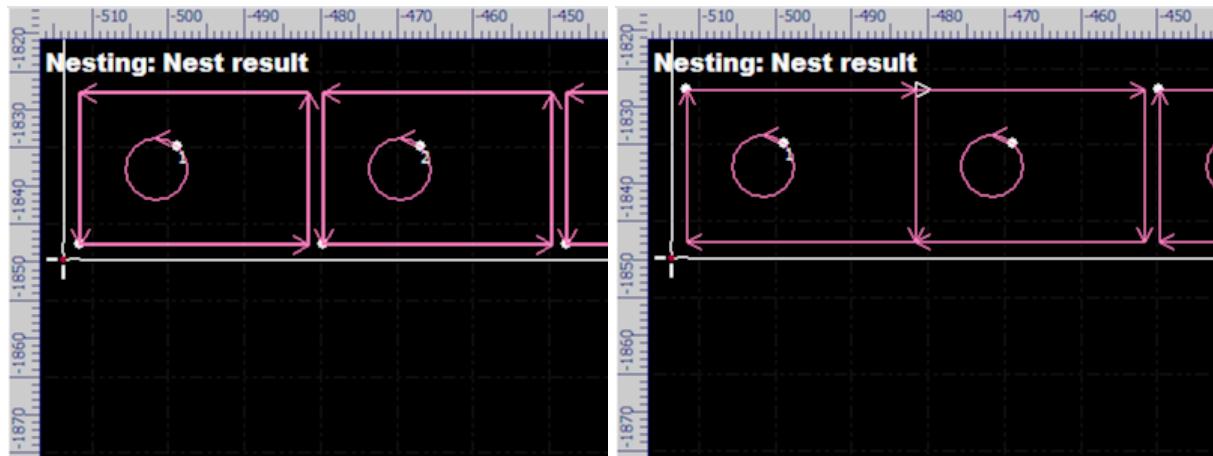


When selecting several groups, you can still select the command **Group** to set up a group of the groups; or, you can select the command **Ungroup Selected** in the pulldown-menu **Home>Group** to break up all the selected groups. If you want to break up all the groups in the drawing window, please select the command **Ungroup All** in the pulldown-menu **Home>Group**.

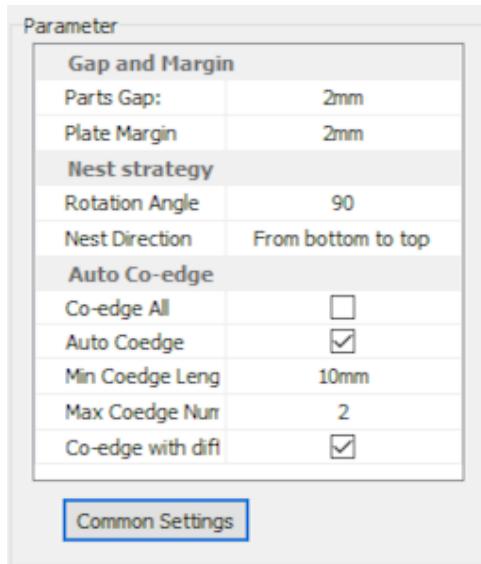
By the way, there is another command **Explode** in the pulldown-menu **Home>Group**, which is for breaking up polylines created in the software when you want to make a change, different with the command **DeGroup**.

## Co-edge

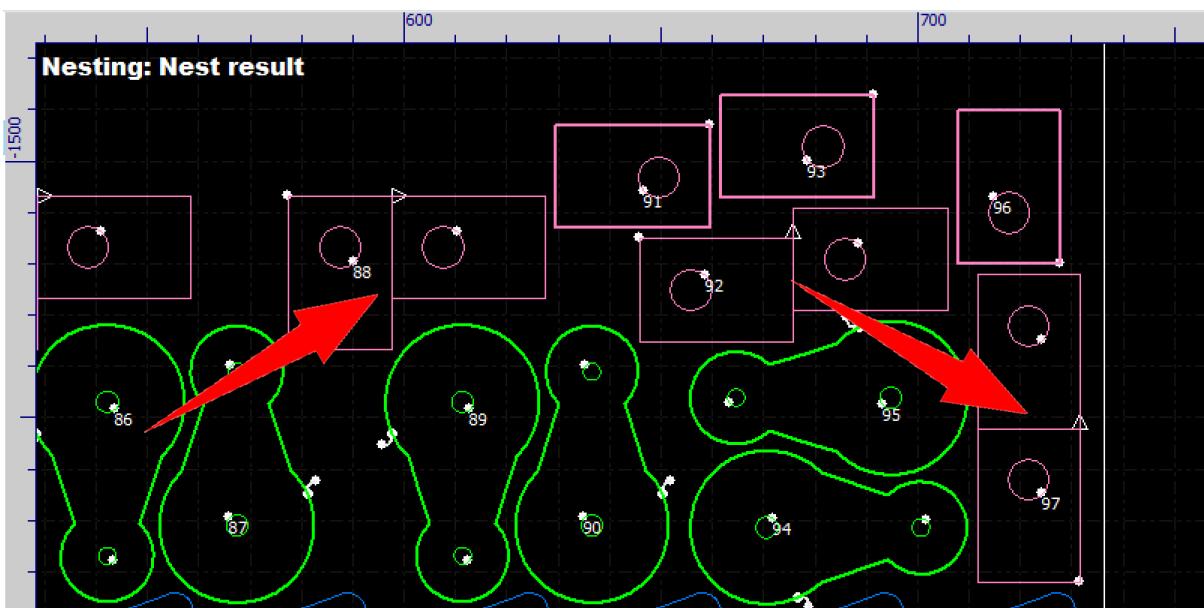
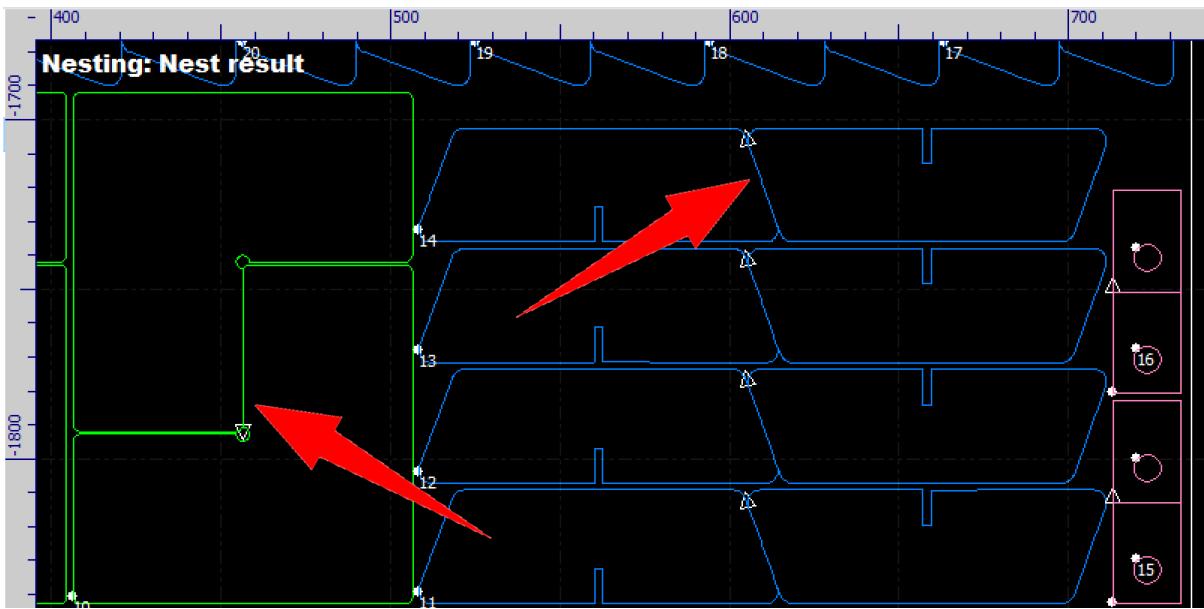
In some cases, the software can put parts side by side, resulting in overlapped outlines, and get optimized cutting paths by removing one pass of the overlap, save the laser-on time, make the cutting process more efficient.



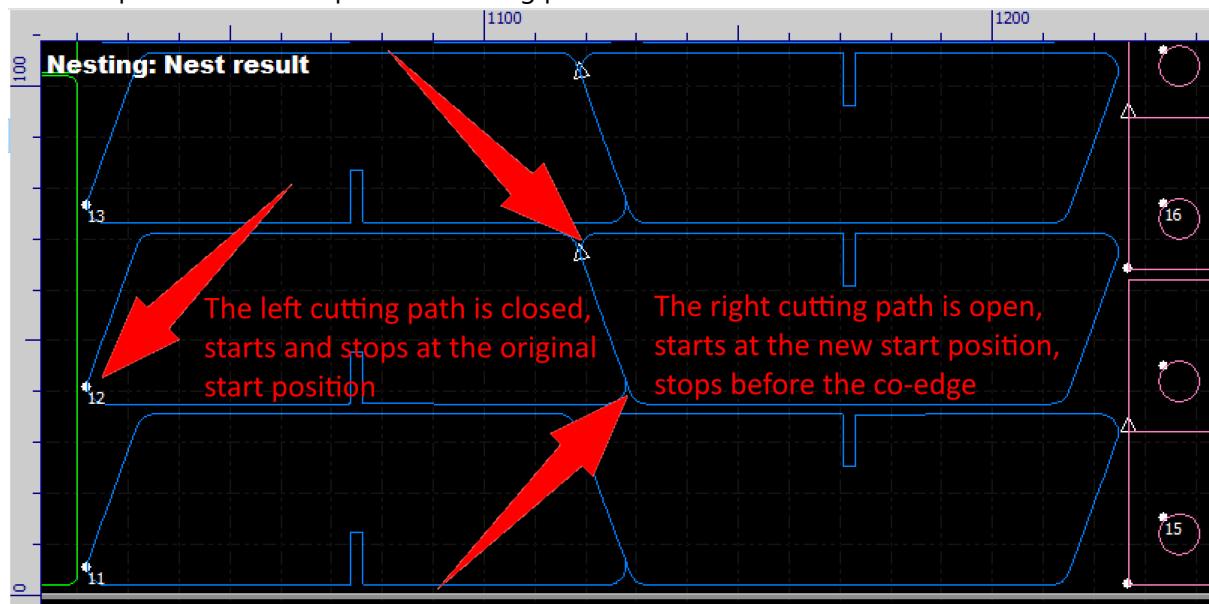
The software will manage to optimize the cutting paths when nesting if the automatic co-edge function is enabled in the technology settings.



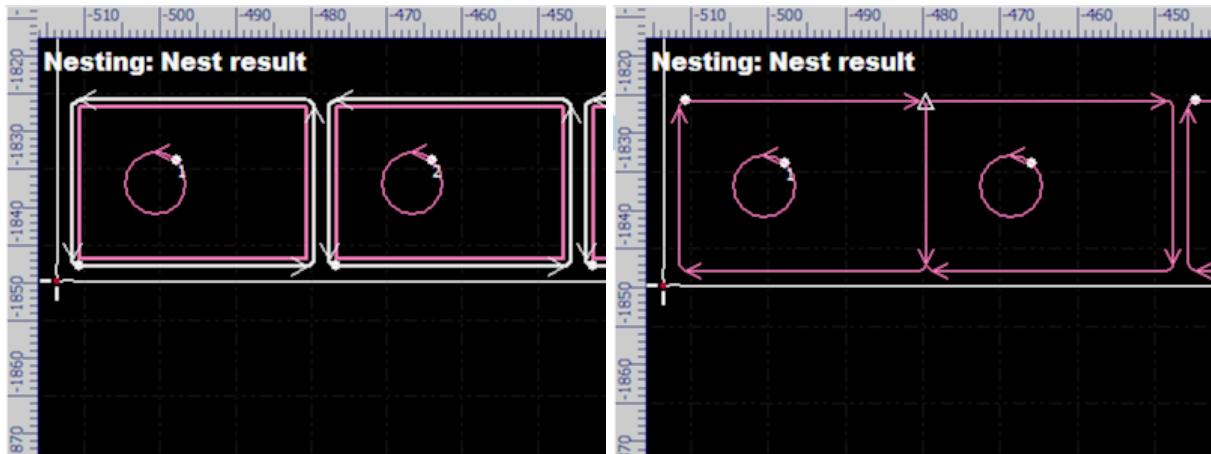
Check the option **Auto Coedge** to enable the function. Set the length range of the straight outlines of parts in the option **Min Coedge Length**. Check the option **Co-edge with different length** if you want the software to try to co-edge outlines in different length.



The co-edged contours are set up as groups automatically. The small triangles are co-edge indicators and are the start positions of the optimized cutting paths.

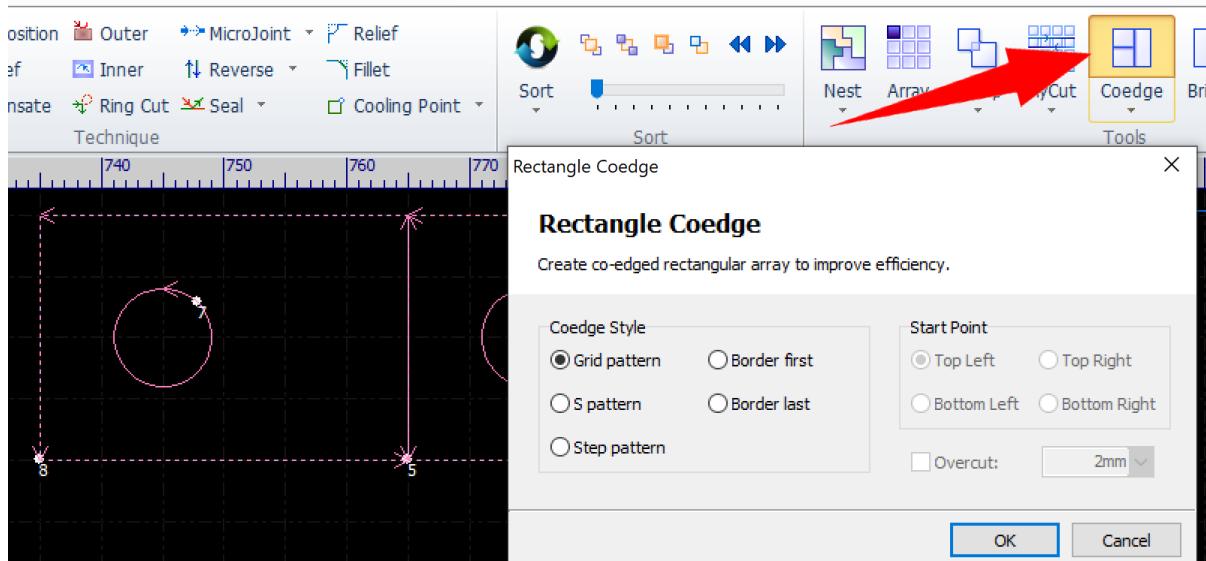


In case of co-edging the cutting paths generated by the kerf compensation function, the software will remove the original contours automatically, as shown below.



You can also use the co-edge function when constructing a few parts for machining directly.

First, move the parts side by side with overlapped outlines, the software will help you on that when the object snap functions are enabled, refer to [Object Snap Functions](#) for more information. Second, select the contours and then select the command **Coedge** in **Home**.



A dialog will pop up if two and only two exact same rectangles chosen for co-edging. Different co-edge styles result in different processing sequences. Otherwise, the operation will be completed silently.

After co-edging, there is no way to restore the original contours but rolling back the operation because they are replaced by the optimized cutting paths. The picture below shows the result of applying the command **DeGroup** on a co-edging cutting path.

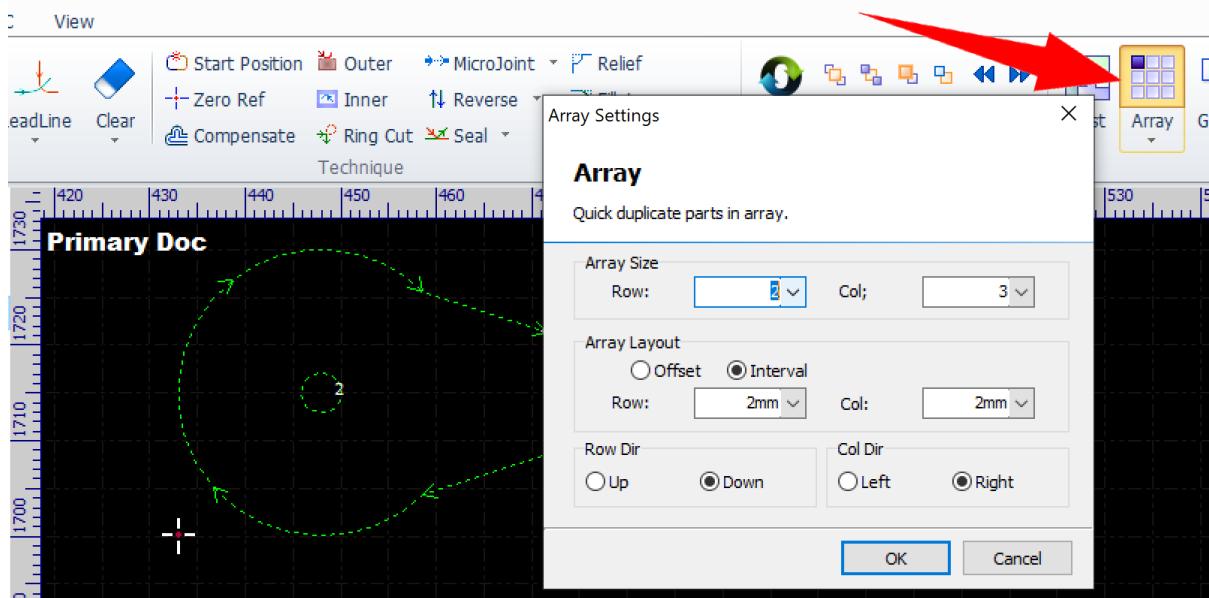


## Array

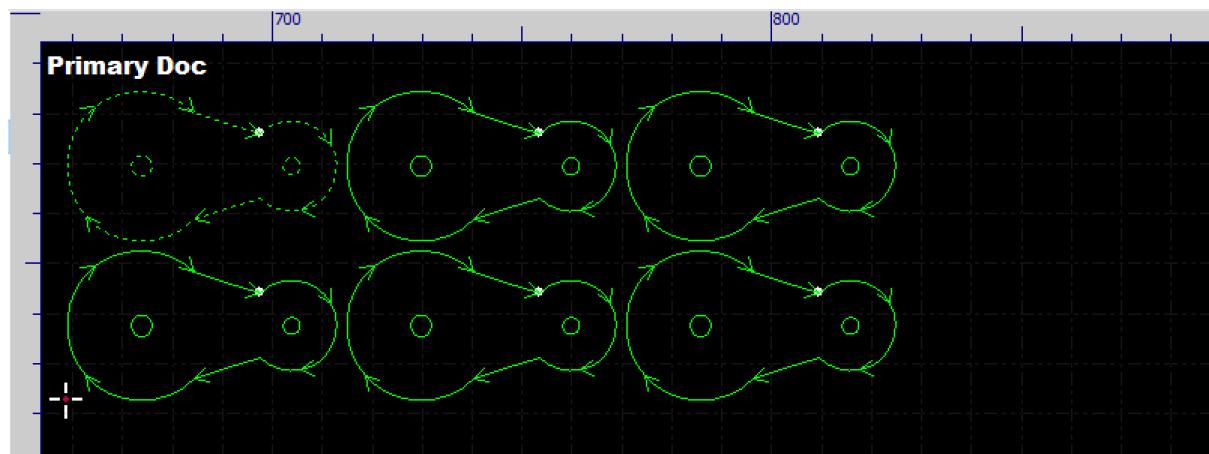
Laying out parts in arrays is the basic strategy of nesting. You can also use the array function when constructing complex parts, or when constructing a few parts for machining directly.

CyCut has a set of commands for the array function, i.e. **Rectangular Array**, **Dynamic Array**, **Circular Array** and **Fill**.

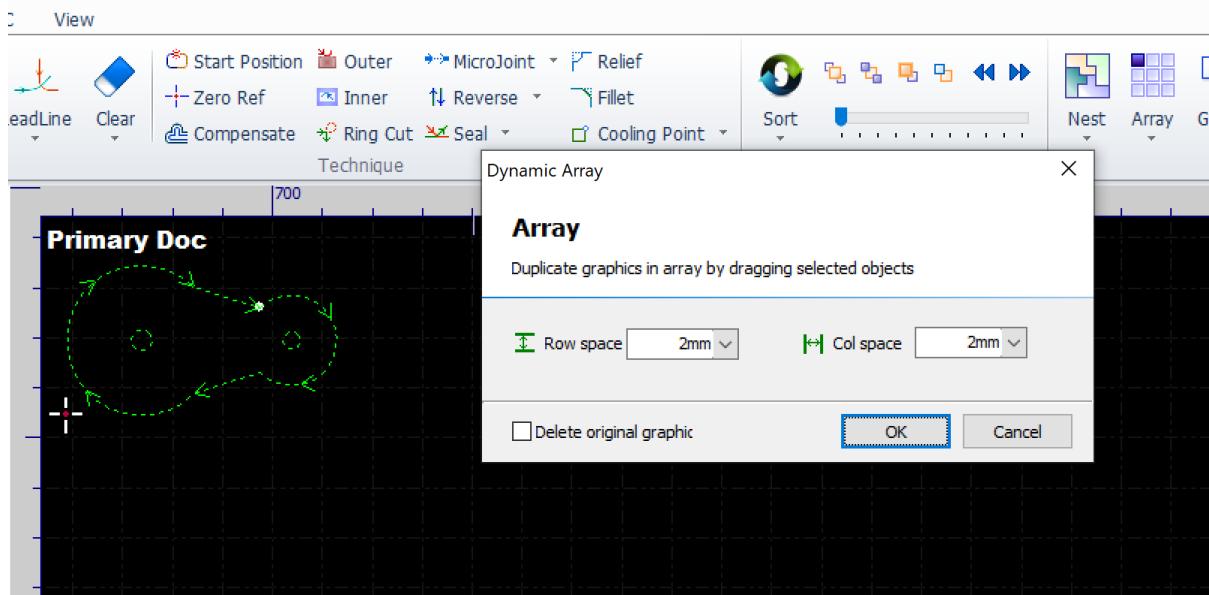
Select the contours and then select the command **Array** in **Home**, or select the command **Rectangular Array** in the pulldown-menu **Home>Array**.



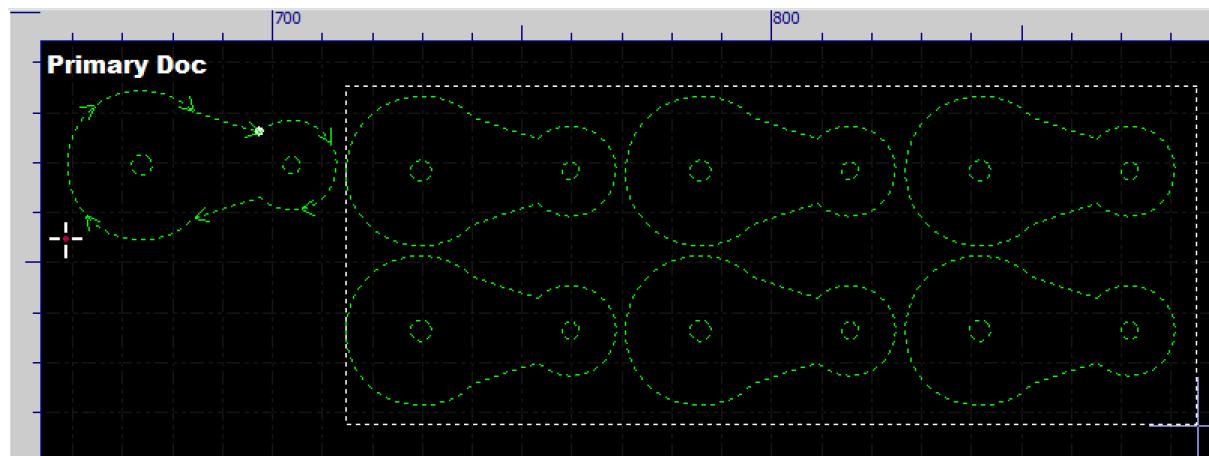
In the pop-up dialog, set the numbers of objects, the offsets or the spaces between adjacent objects, and the expanding directions in rows and columns, and click the button **OK** to complete the operation.



The dynamic array function is basically an interactive mode of the rectangular array function. Select the contours and then select the command **Dynamic Array** in the pulldown-menu **Home>Array**.

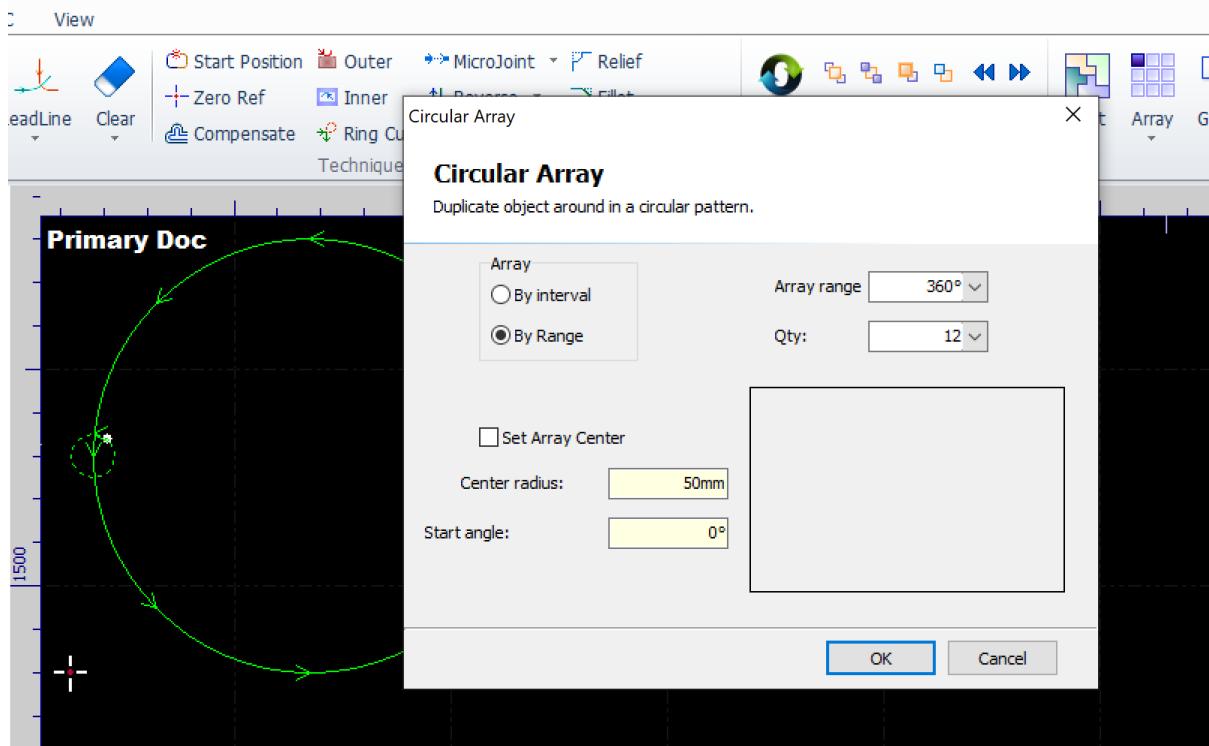


Set the spaces between adjacent objects in rows and columns and then click the button **OK** to start laying out.

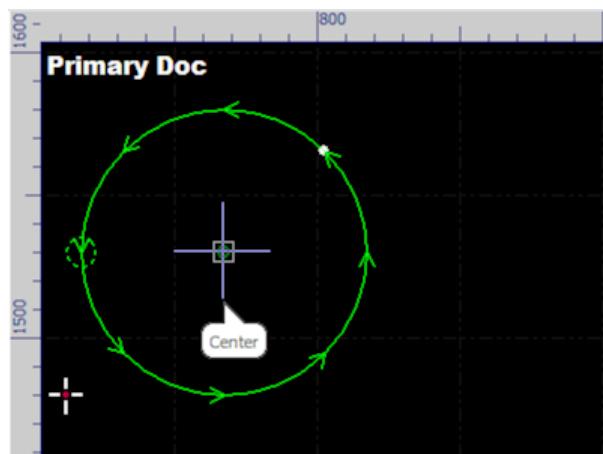


Left click and drag a window in the drawing window and the software will fill it with as many objects as possible. Left click again to confirm the generated array. And, the software will delete the original contours if the option **Delete original graphics** is checked.

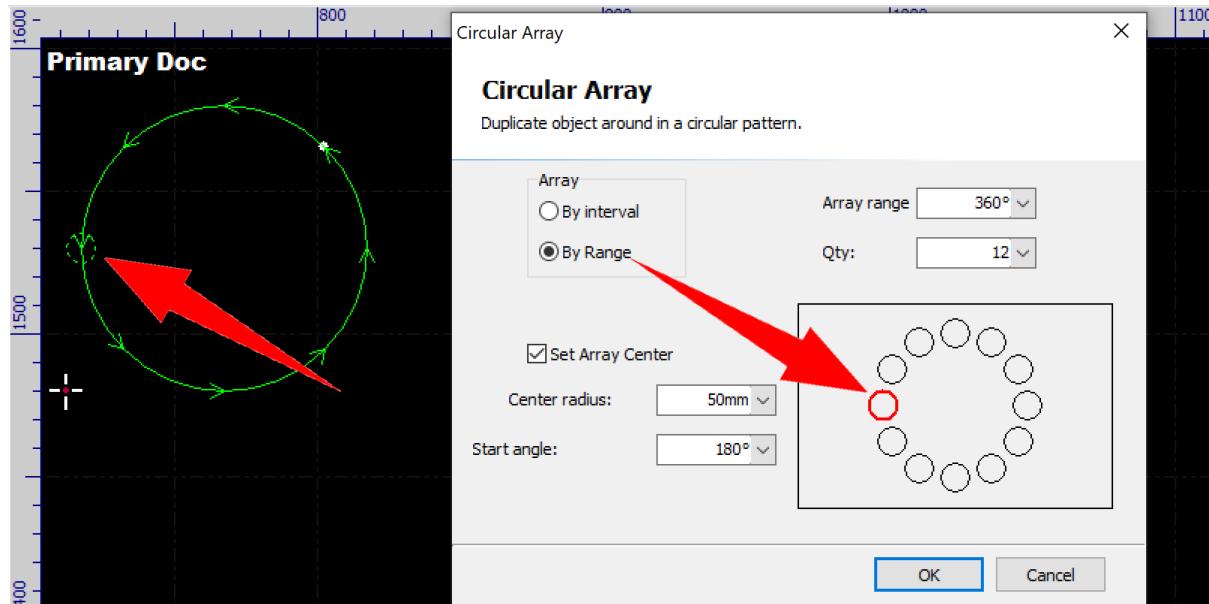
The circular array function is for laying out objects along with a circular path. Select the contours and then select the command **Circular Array** in the pulldown-menu **Home>Array**.



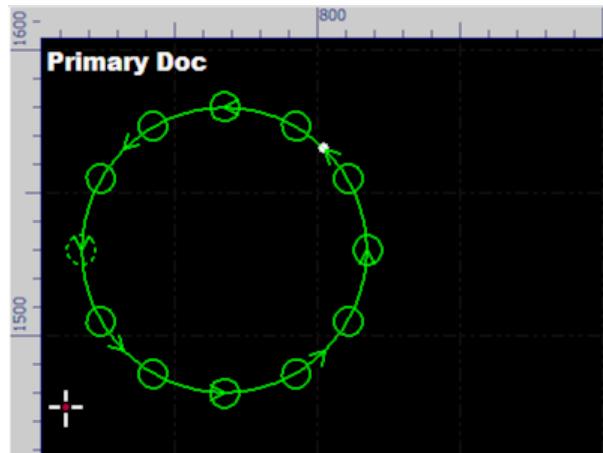
In the pop-up dialog, check the option **By Range** and set the angular range for laying out in the option **Array range**, or check the option **By Interval** and set the angular space between adjacent objects in the option **Degree**, set the number of objects in the option **Qty**, click the button **OK** and left click the center of the circular path you want to lay out the array on. The software will help you on that when the object snap functions are enabled, refer to [Object Snap Functions](#) for more information.



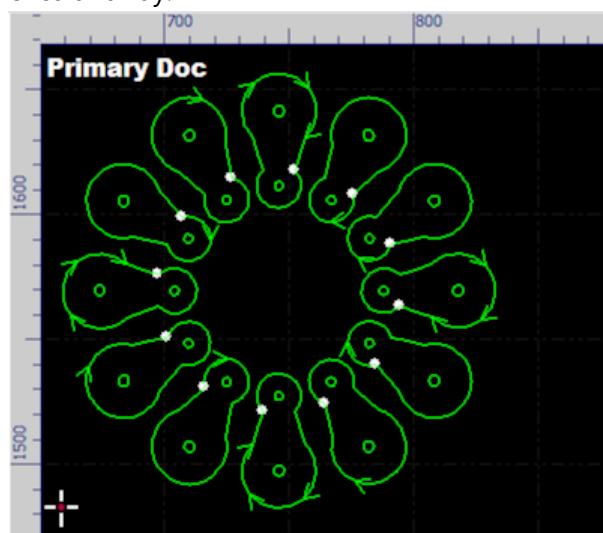
If there is no circular path to trace, you can just set up the layout in the dialog.



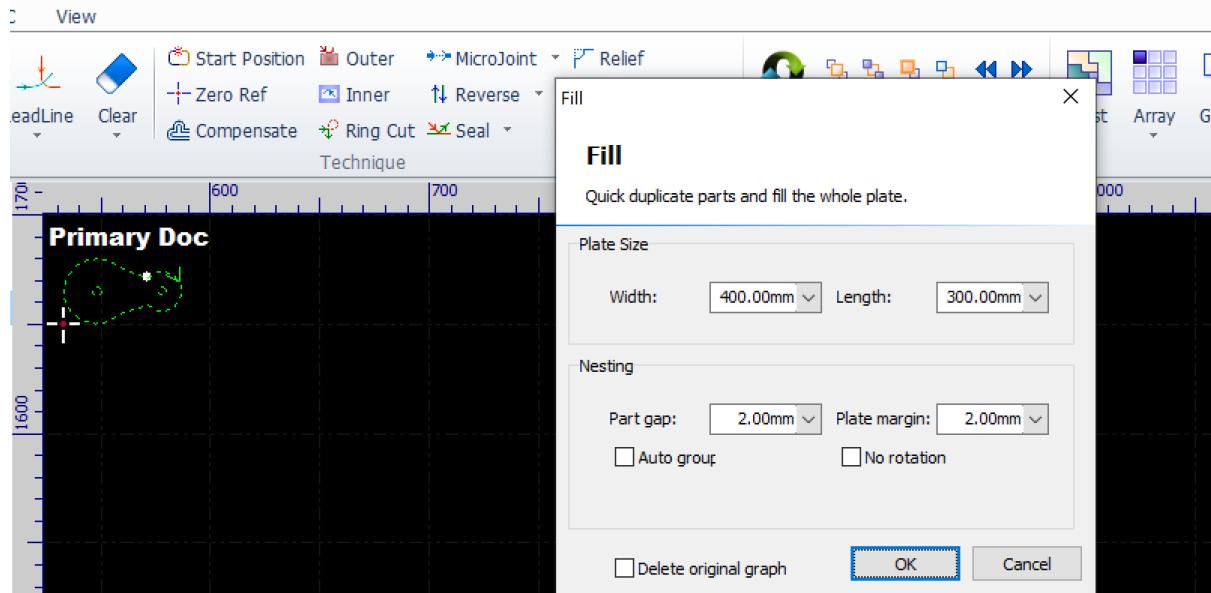
Check the option **Set Array Center**, there will be an array layout shown on the right, the red circle represents the position of the selected contours in the array which can be set in the option **Start angle**, set the radius in the option **Center radius**, and click the button **OK** to complete the operation.



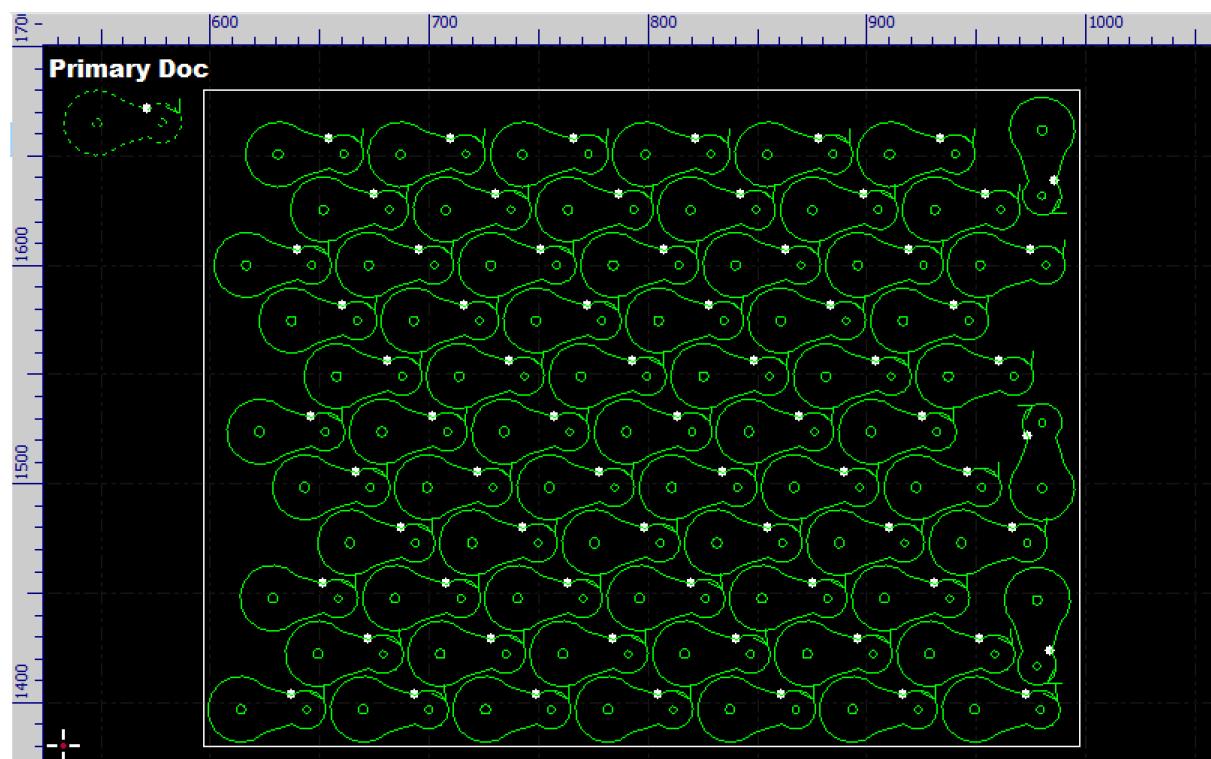
In addition, the software will rotate the contours in the same angular step at the same time when laying out circular array.



The array fill function is basically a simplified version of the nest function. Select the contours and then select the command **Fill** in the pulldown-menu **Home>Array**.



In the pop-up dialog, set the size and the margin of the plate, set the gap between adjacent parts, and click the button **OK** to complete the operation. And, the software will delete the original contours if the option **Delete original graphics** is checked.

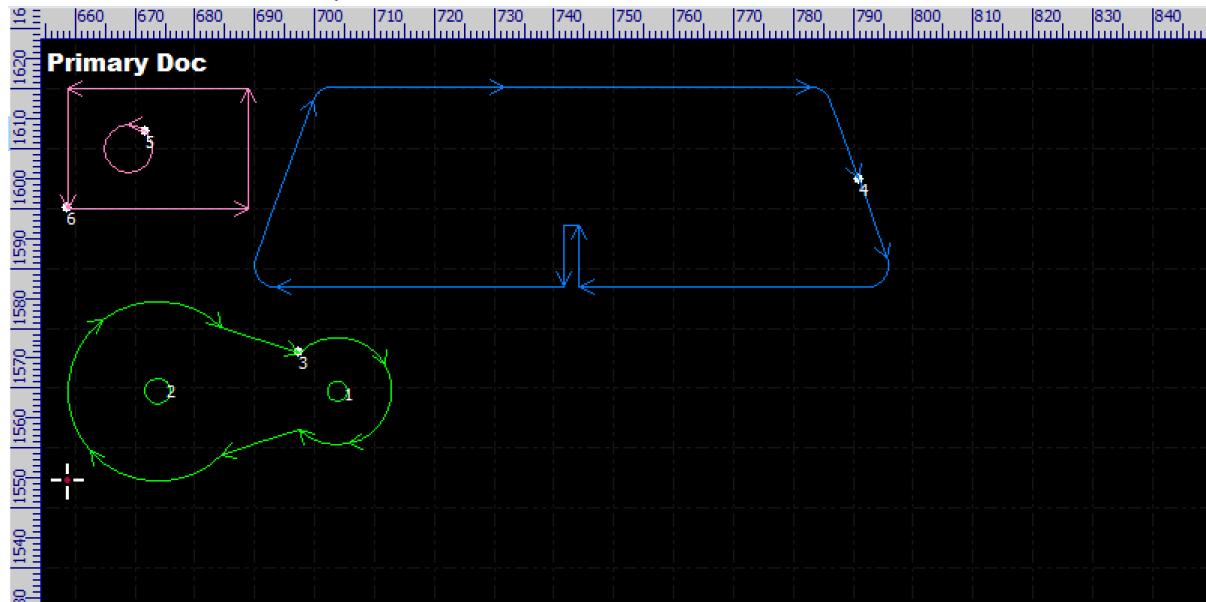


## Processing Sequence

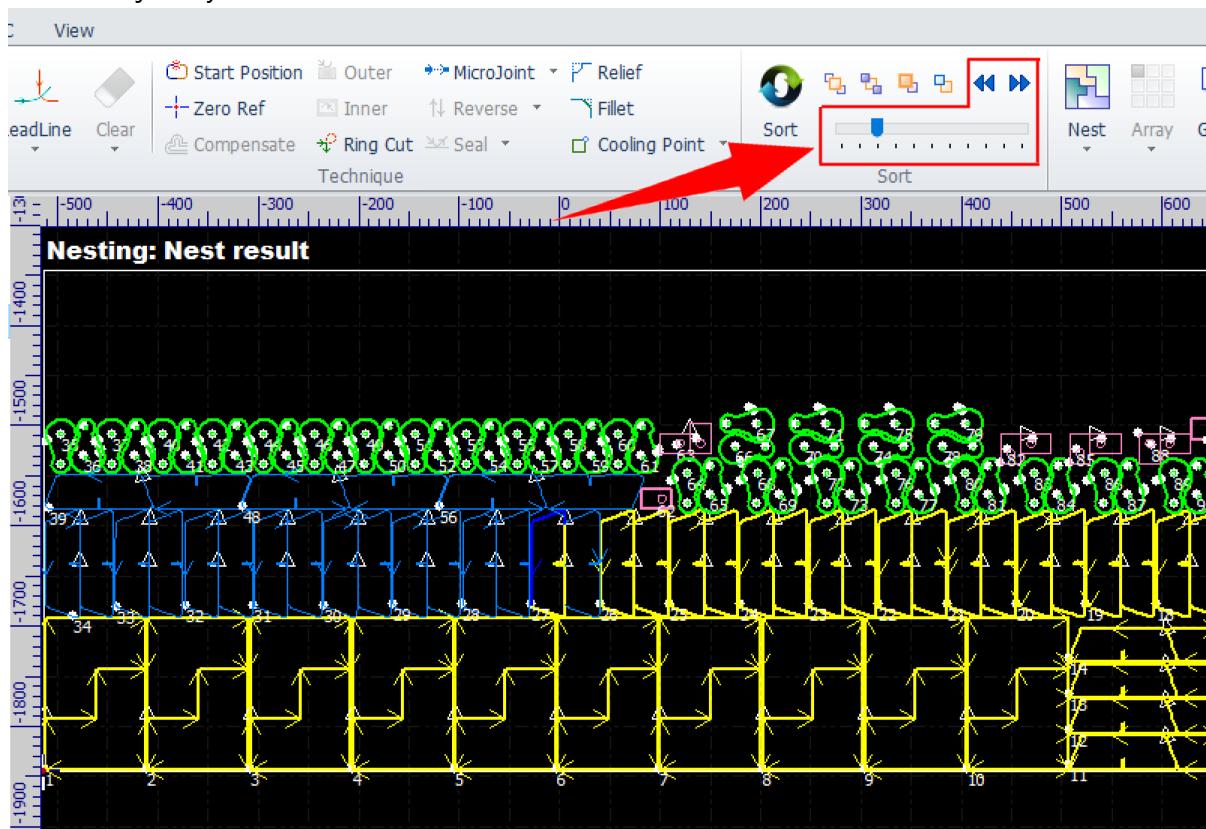
The software will sort parts in a optimized processing sequence when nesting. You can preview the sequence, change it by hand, or use the sort function when constructing a few parts for machining directly.

The most simple way to preview the processing sequence is to let the software show it around the parts.

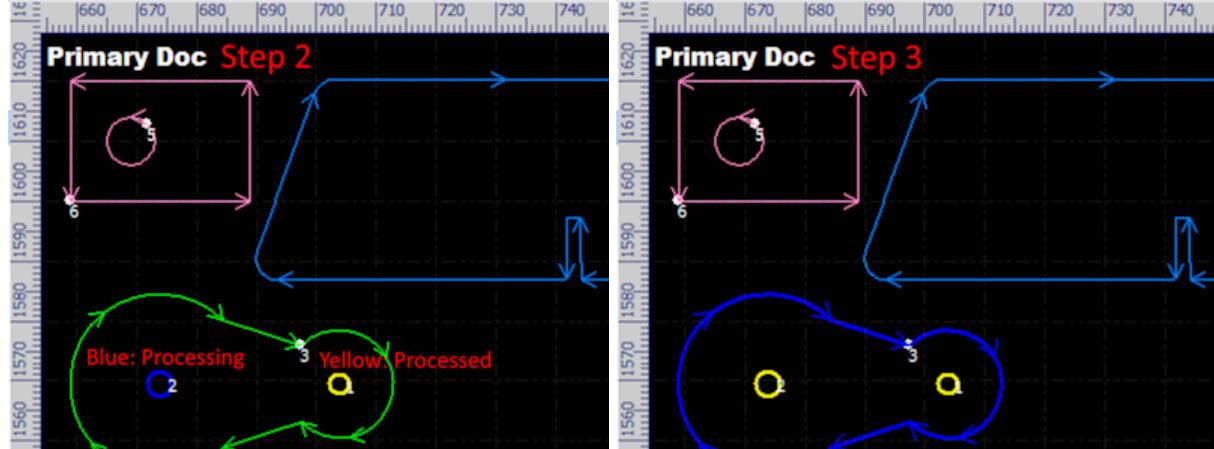
Select the command **Index** in the pulldown-menu **Home>View**, then you will see the sequence index number on the contours or on the parts.



You can use the interactive preview function to check the processing sequence of a complex nesting result instead of just by the index number.



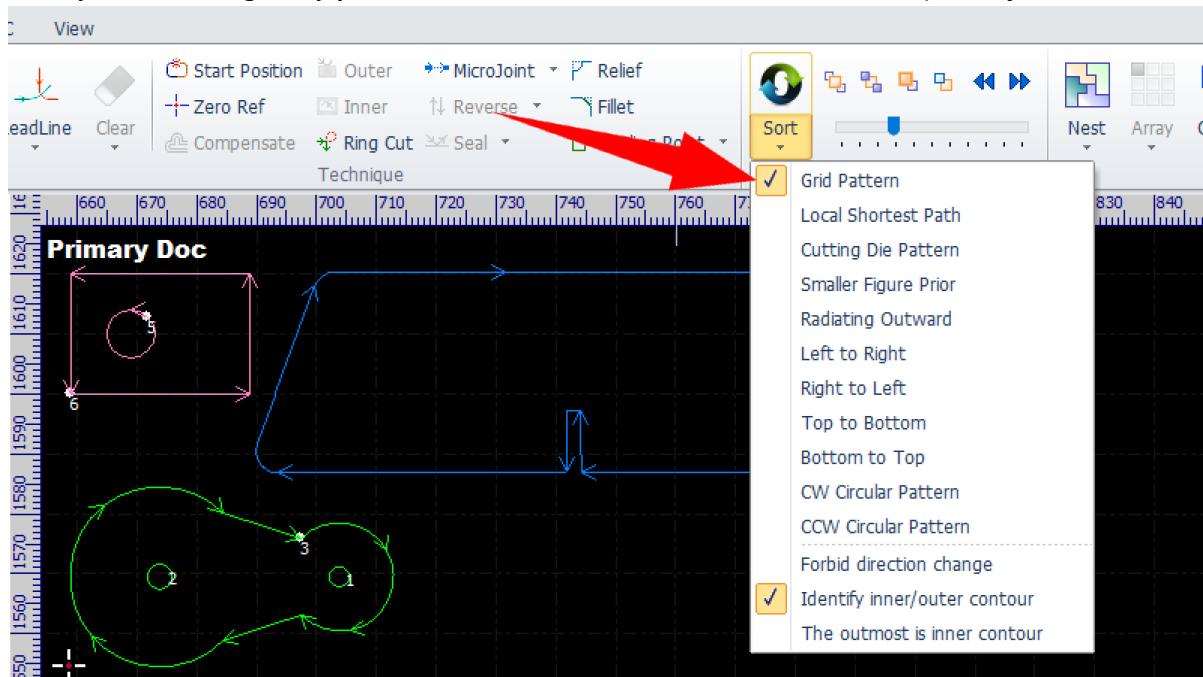
Click the button  to push the processing forward one step. The contours appear in bold yellow have been processed, the contour appears in bold blue is being processing, others are waiting. The picture on the left shows that the contour 1 has been processed and the contour 2 is being processing. The picture on the right shows that, after one step forward, the contour 1 and 2 have been processed, and the contour 3 is being processing.



Click the button  to pull the processing back one step, and you can drag the slider  back and forth to go through the processing quickly when there are many objects, e.g. in a nesting result.

In addition, you can use the simulation function to preview the processing sequence, refer to [Check Technology](#) for more information.

CypCut has a set of strategies for sorting the processing sequence automatically. In general, we recommend to use the grid pattern, the software will split a big area into an array of small areas, sort the parts in each small area in an optimized way, and then combine them back into a big picture in the "S" shaped order. You can try other strategies by yourself to check it out which one is best for a specific job.

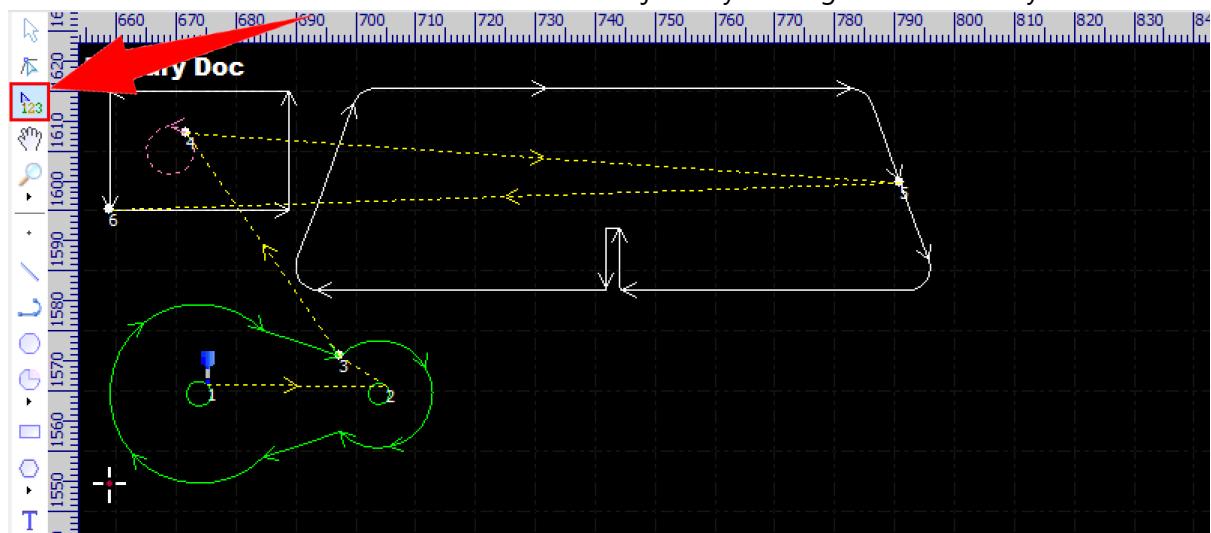


Sometimes, especially in case of some open cutting paths in the drawing, the software will try to change the direction of the cutting paths if the traveling paths can be cut down. You can check the option **Forbid direction change** to stop that. And refer [here](#) for more details on the option **Identify inner/outer contour** and **The outmost is inner contour**.

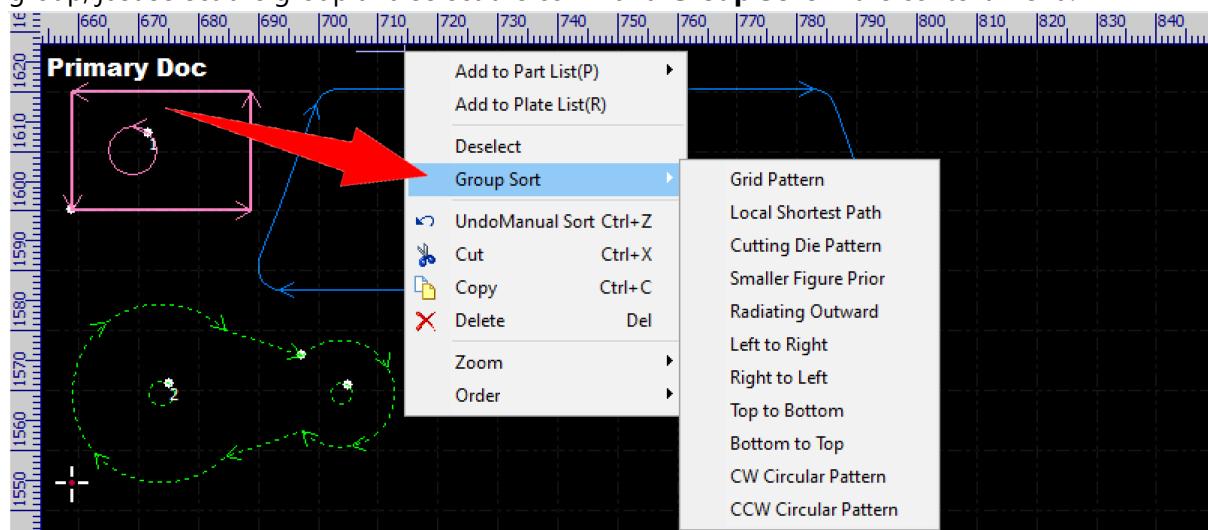
If you are not happy with the processing sequence automatically generated by the software, you can change it by hand. Select the object and then select the commands below to complete the operation.

Button	Function
	Move the object one step to the back.
	Move the object one step to the front.
	Move the object to the last.
	Move the object to the first.

You can also select the command to sort the objects by clicking on them one by one in order.



Sometimes, actually, you just want to change the processing sequence of the whole parts. In these cases, you should set up the parts as groups first, then complete sorting. And, if you want to change the sequence in a group, just select the group and select the command **Group Sort** in the context menu.

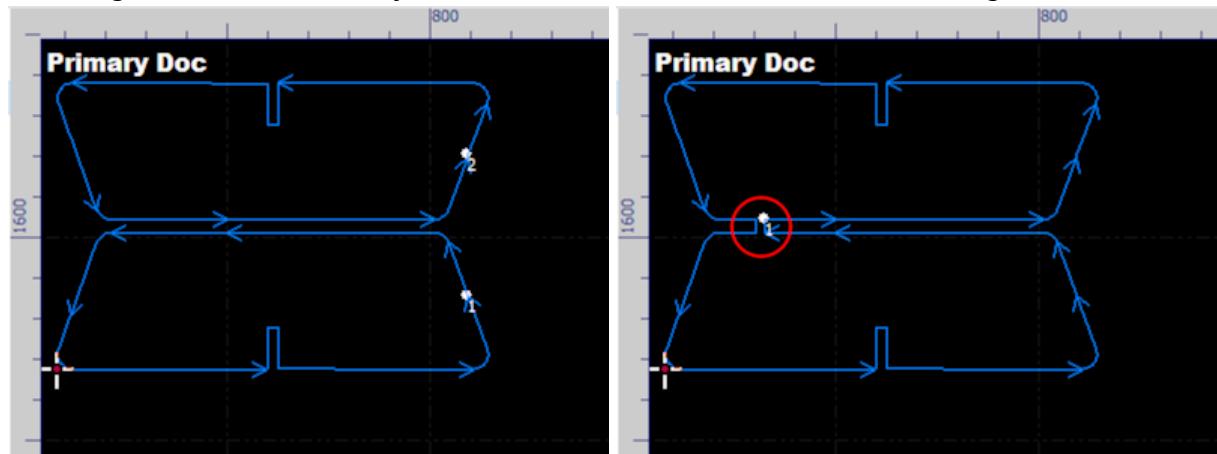


# Auxiliary Technologies

In some special cases, the bridge and the fly-cut functions help you complete your jobs easier, make cutting processes more efficient, and get better results.

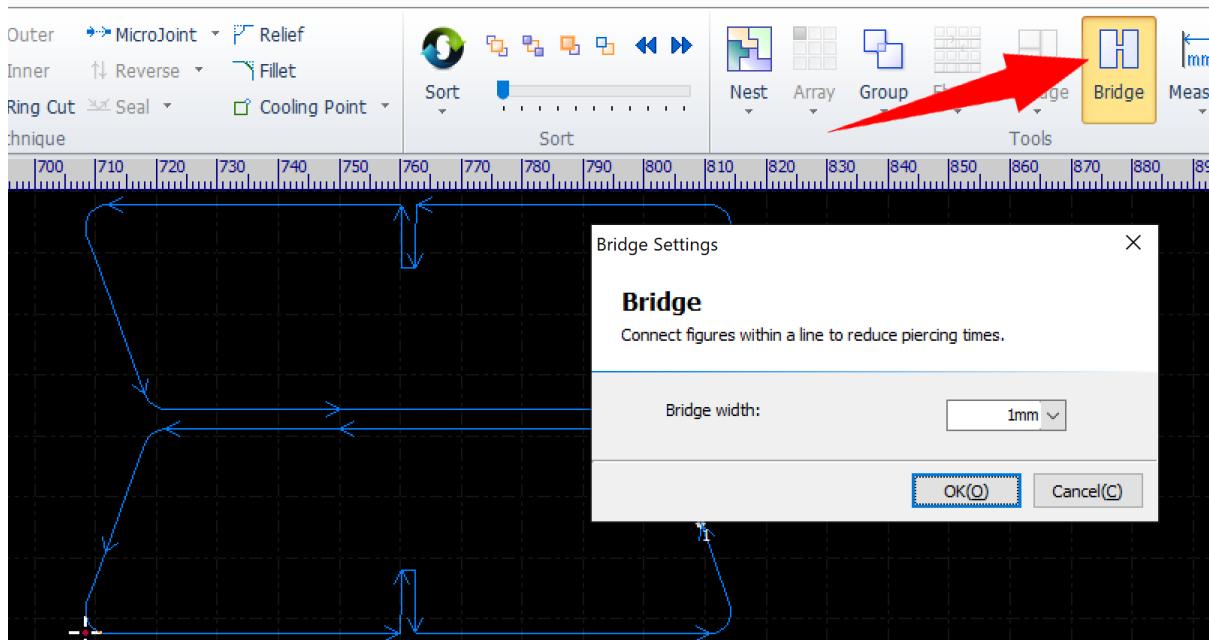
## Bridge

The bridge function adds small joints between contours, makes them connecting with each other.

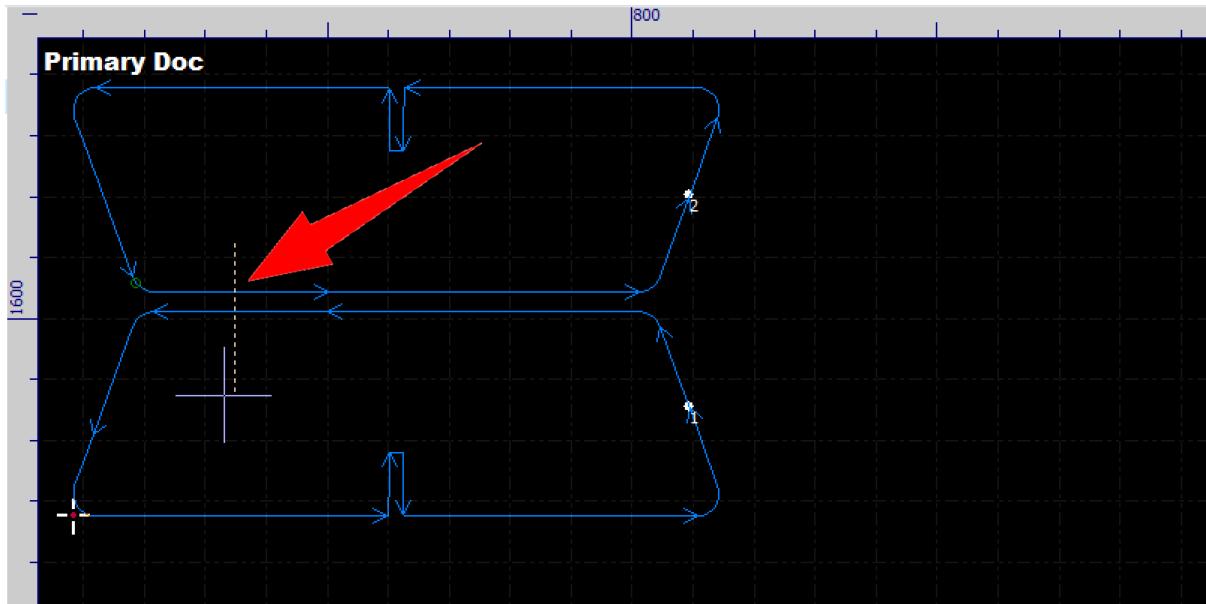


This function is often used in two situations. First, to collect several parts together after cutting. In this case, you make the parts which are related with each other and are in composition of a set. By adding bridges between them, they will be connected with each other after cutting and be easy to get in order.

Select the command **Bridge** in **Home**.

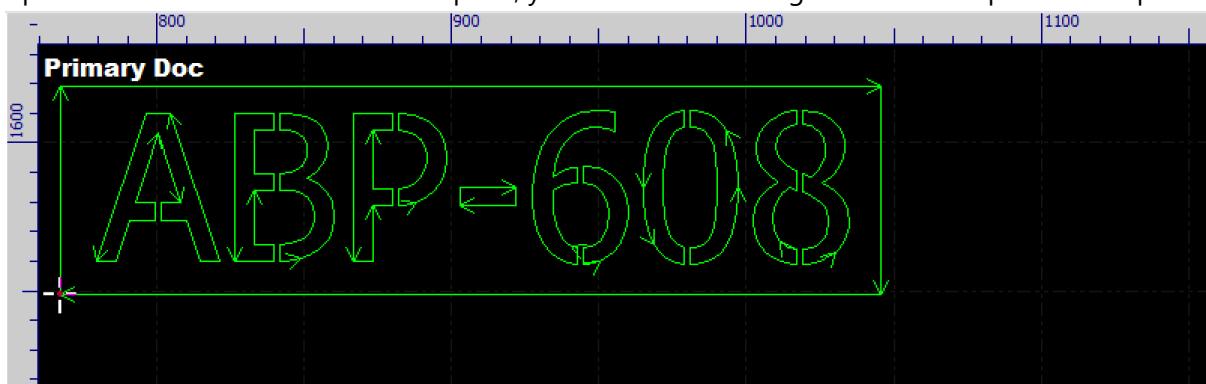


Set the bridge width in the pop-up dialog and click **OK** to start setting bridges.



Click and drag a line crossing both contours to set a bridge there. Press the **Esc** key or select the command **Cancel Bridge Joint** in the context menu to cancel the command.

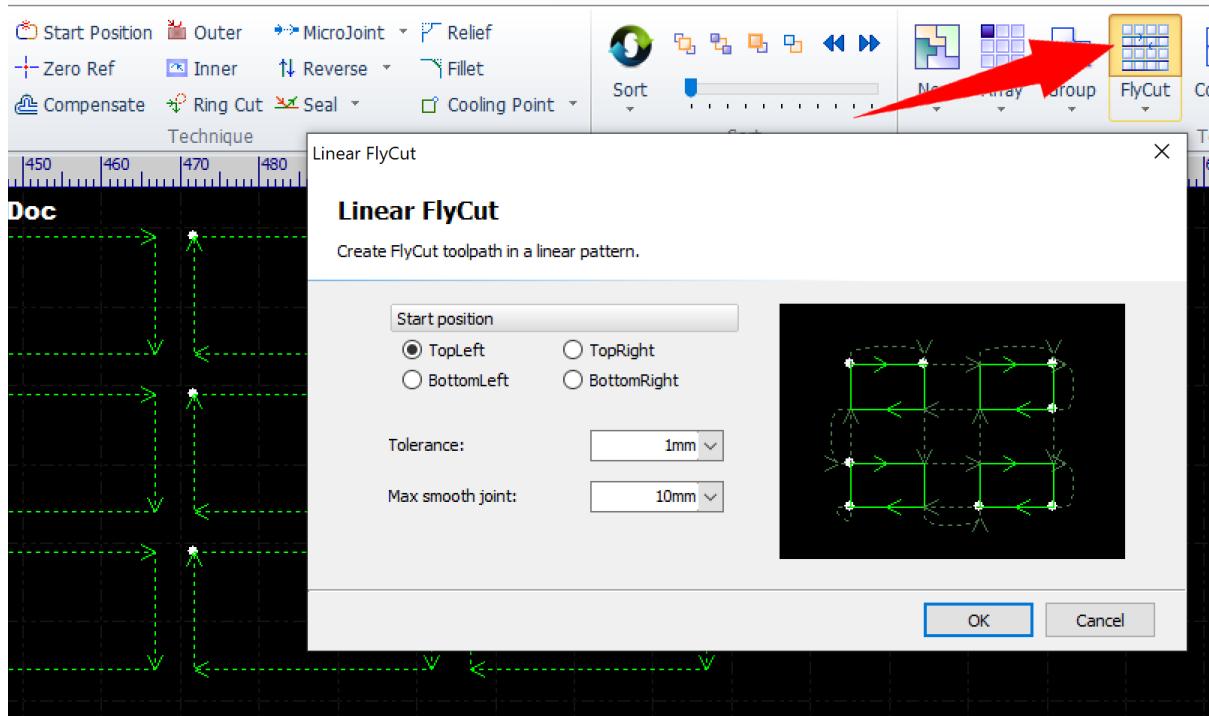
Second, to keep the inner pieces from being apart on openworks. For example, when cutting out some openwork letters and numbers on a plate, you need to add bridges there to keep them complete.



## Fly-cut

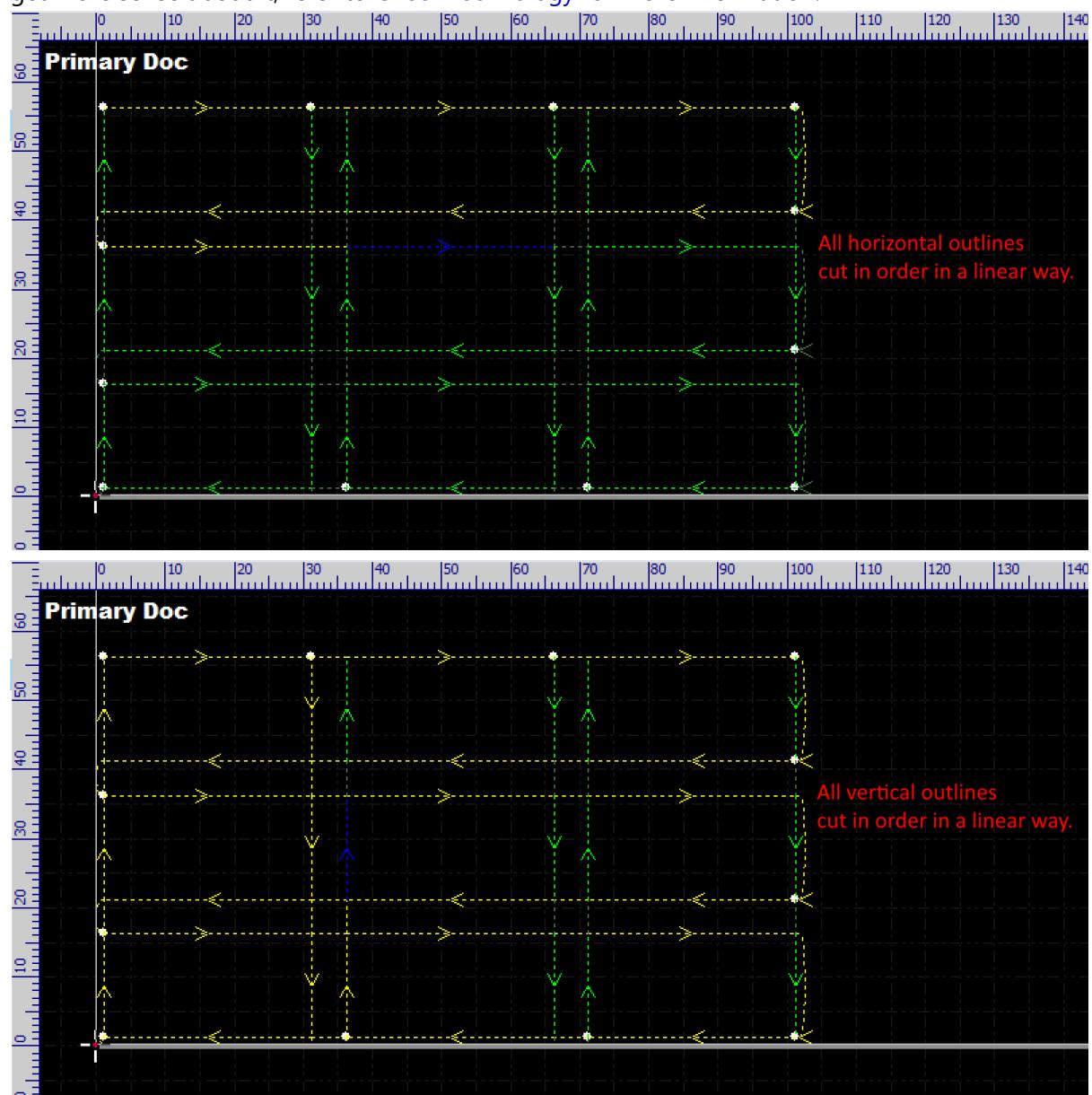
You can use the fly-cut function to get a much more efficient cutting process when cutting an array of rectangles or circles.

Select the array of rectangles and then select the command **FlyCut** in **Home** or select the command **Linear FlyCut** in the pulldown-menu **Home>FlyCut**.

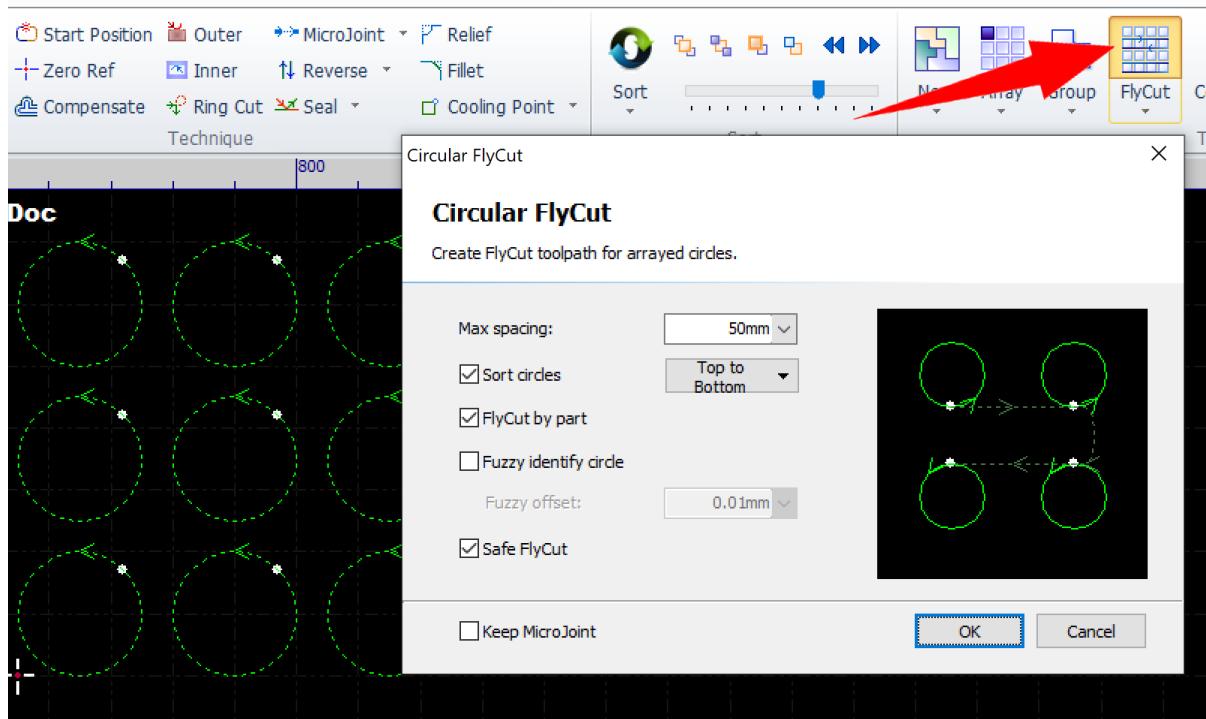


Set parameters in the pop-up dialog and click **OK** to complete the operation.

The outlines of the rectangles will be broken up and re-arranged, all the horizontal outlines will be cut in order in a linear way, same to all the vertical outlines. You can use the simulation function to check it out and get more sense about it, refer to [Check Technology](#) for more information.

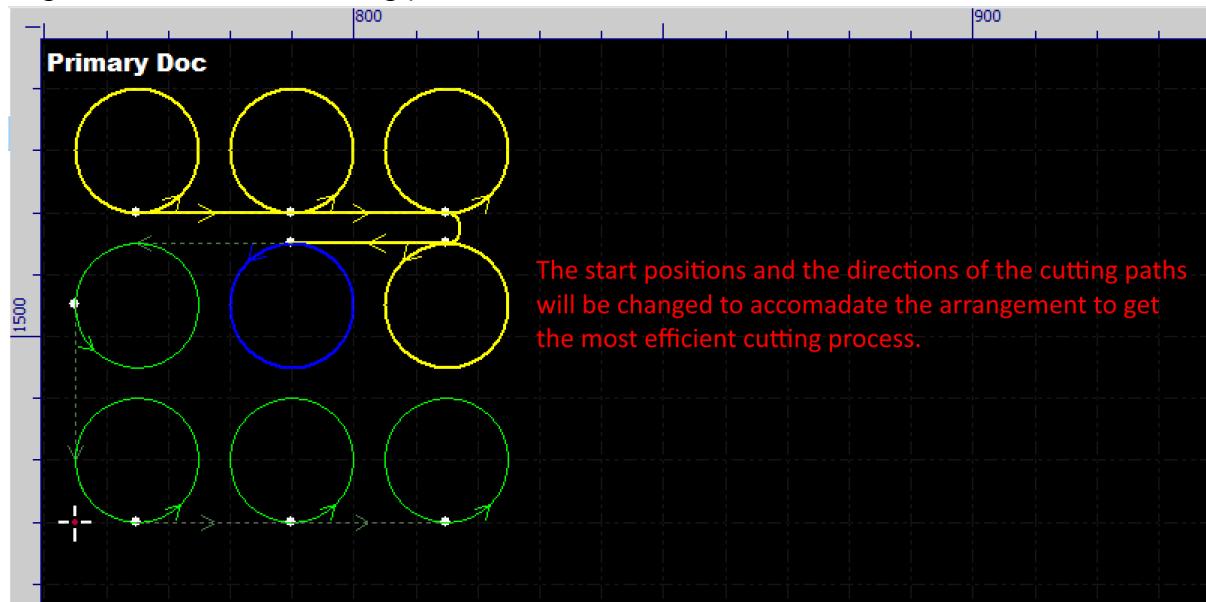


Select the array of circles and then select the command **FlyCut** in **Home** or select the command **Circle FlyCut** in the pulldown-menu **Home>FlyCut**.



Set parameters in the pop-up dialog and click **OK** to complete the operation.

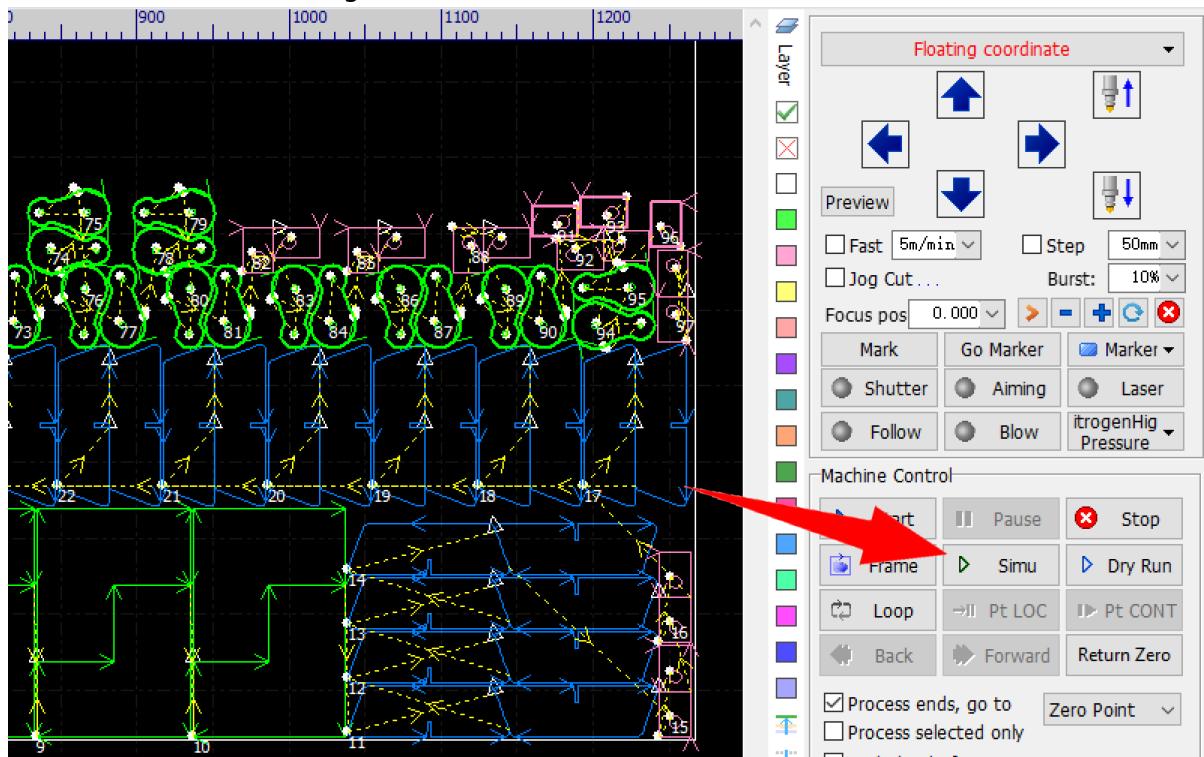
The start positions and the directions of the cutting paths will be changed to accommodate the arrangement to get the most efficient cutting process.



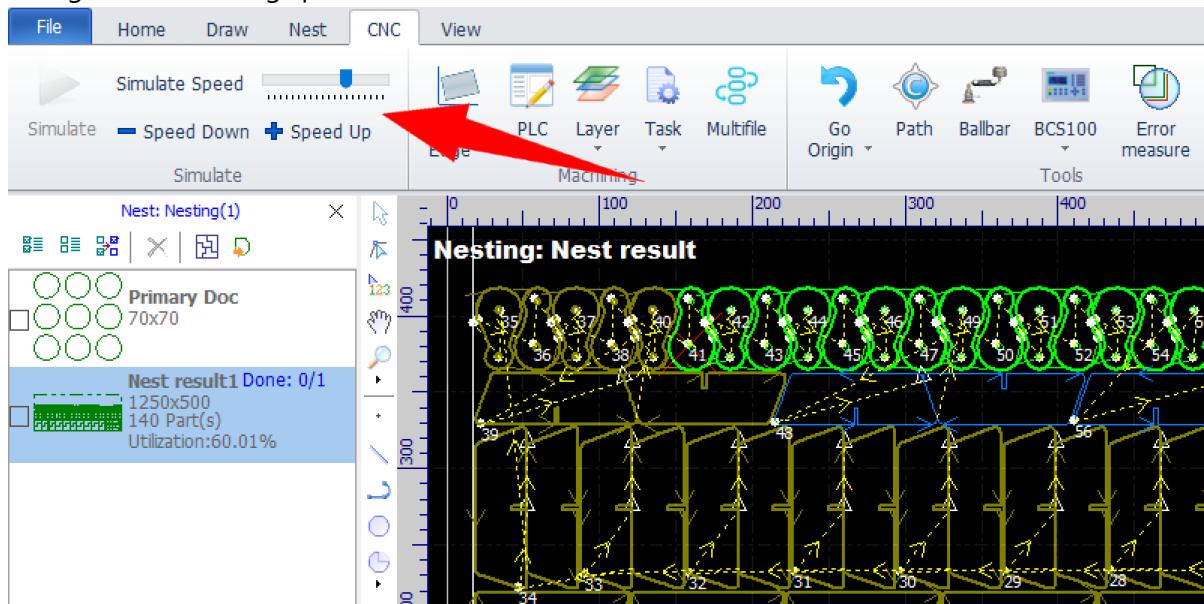
## Check Technology

After setting up technology, you'd better check the technology before starting machining, to confirm that all the technologies are applied in the right way, to get a brief summary of the machining progress, e.g. cutting length, traveling length, cutting time, traveling time, etc.

Click the button **Simu** in the machining panel or select the command **Simulate** in the menu **CNC**, the software will start simulating.

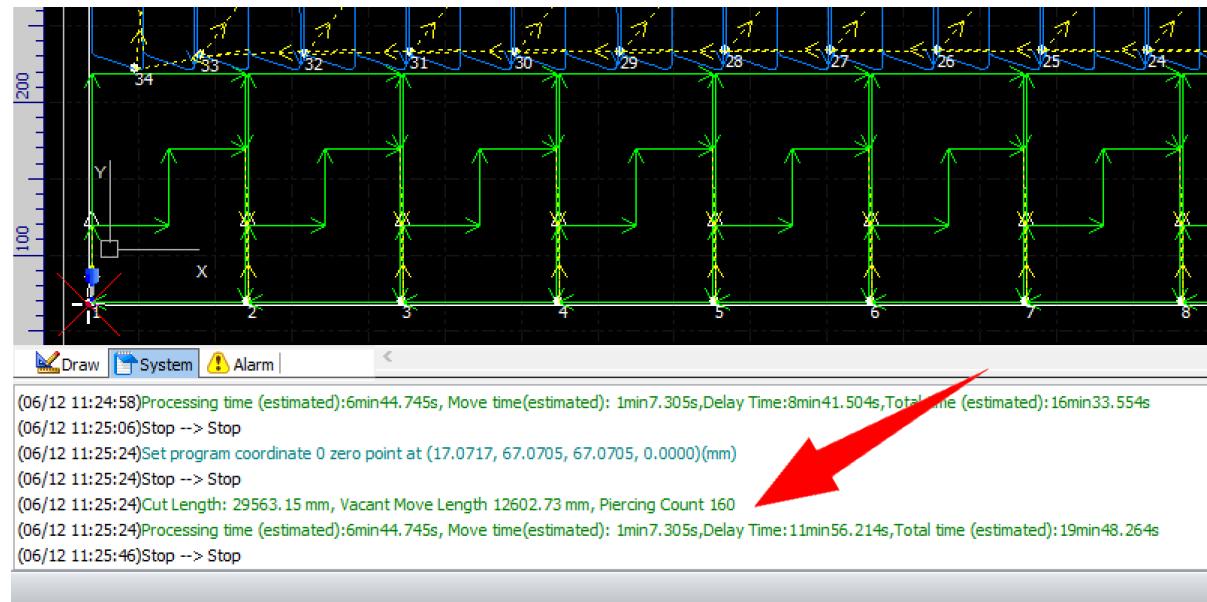


In the section **Simulate** in **CNC**, you can drag the slider or click the button **Speed Up** or **Speed Down** to change the simulating speed.



The simulation function is a kind of similar to the processing sequence preview function, refer [here](#) for more information, but you can get more sense of how the laser is tracing the cutting path in the simulation. The parts processed will be shown in dark yellow, the others are waiting for processing.

And, you can get a brief summary about the machining progress when simulating in the system information window.



Finally, if you want to stop simulating, just press the **Esc** key or click the button  **Stop** in the machining panel.