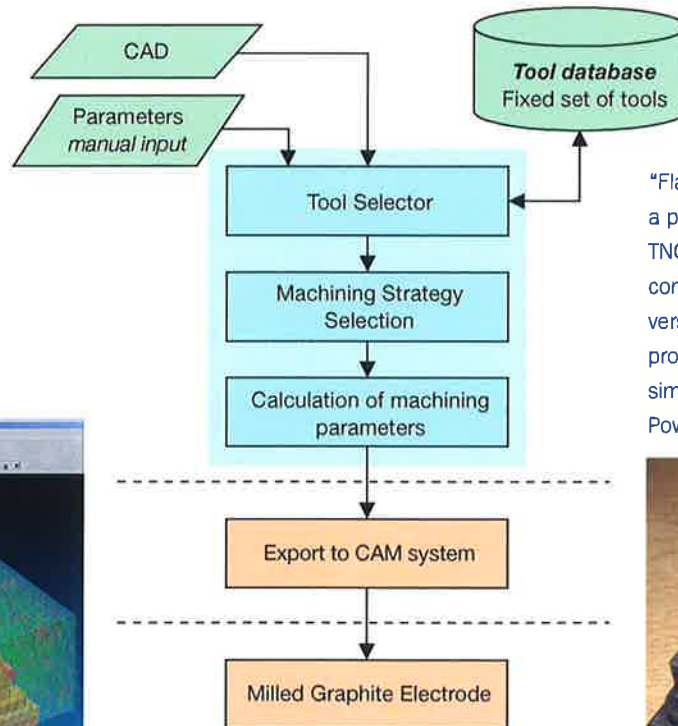
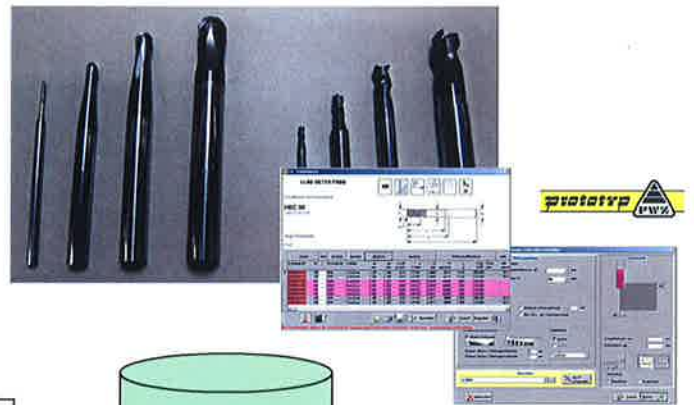
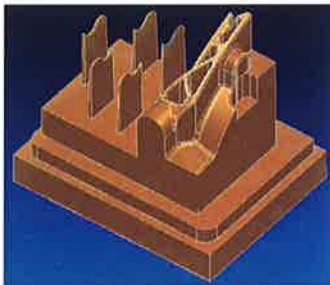


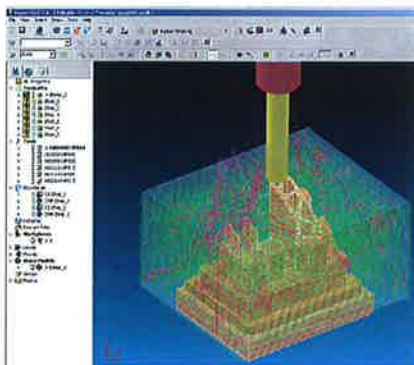


Automated NC Programming of Graphite Electrodes

Normal NC programming for graphite electrodes requires a lot of repetitive work, part of which can be automated by templates, but part of it required human decisions that can not be covered in templates or macro's. The developed knowledge based software module "FlashMILL for Graphite Electrodes" captures these decisions and is capable of selecting the right tools from the tool database, selecting the proper machining strategy and calculating all required parameters. All generated data is automatically exported to a CAM system where all the tool paths are automatically calculated, collision checked and post processed. Programming time is reduced to minutes, while the resulting NC program is comparable or faster than manually generated NC programs requiring fewer tools.



"FlashMILL for Graphite Electrodes" is a prototype system for internal use at TNO. Delcam as a partner of the Fastool consortium is developing a commercial version for the automatic NC programming of graphite electrodes, similar to the previously developed PowerMILL AutoCAM.



- CAM programming time reduced to minutes for each electrode.
- Standardization and minimization of required milling tools.
- Safe machining strategy results in first-time-right electrodes.



The development of the automated NC programming of graphite electrodes has been part of the EU sponsored Collective Research project Fastool.



More information can be found on www.Fastool.org