

## FAQs Controller

How are the FlexiCAM Machines controlled?

FlexiCAM systems run on the industry standard EIA 274-D G-Code standard (Electric Industries Alliance Standard). In addition to this HPGL can also be used for controlling machine motion for integration into software from the graphics arts industries. Post processors or drivers are available for all popular software packages. Because of the industry standard G-code that we use it is easy to create a post processor even for custom software solutions. With the ACS we are able to tie into items such as production lines, or assembly plant controls, so that the machine can be added inline for automation applications using communications via SERCOS and CANopen.

What type of control system would work best for me?

Depending upon the features, FlexiCAM offers 2 different control systems, each with its own advantage. The Standard Servo Control is a true Servo control system where the controller is actually receiving data from the motors for controlling them allowing for excellent speed, smoothness of motion and fast accelerations. As with all of our systems remote diagnostics and configuration are standard on the machine. The keypad interface is clearly lit, with a easy to use interface and lots of portability so you can walk around the table with it.

The ACS Controller has a graphical user interface with optional touch screen interface for rugged work environment and easy to use interface. This system offers amazing performance in 3D at extreme speeds. Advanced features such as rotary axis for aggregates and rotary tables are available with this system.

How are the FlexiCAM machines controlled?

FlexiCAM systems are GCode and HPGL compatible. Additional commands are implemented like setting cutting depth, speeds and for performing three axis motions in HPGL. For most signmaking programs such as CASmate, EnRoute, Signlab, FlexiSign, Type3, ArtCAM etc. special drivers are available. They are usually based on extended HPGL. It is also possible to use plain HPGL files with the machine. In this case the user has to enter the parameters (cutting depth, speeds etc.) at the keypad. With our ACS you are able to do many unique automation tasks with an integrated Program Logic Controller (PLC) so that your factory or process automation task can have custom integration into our system. For several CAM programs such as MasterCAM, AlphaCAM etc. special drivers are also available. They are mainly based on Gcode.

What is the advantage of a network connection?

As all of our systems have a standard ethernet connection, it is important that you understand the advantages involved with a network over a serial connection or RJ485. Multiple FlexiCAM systems have access to multiple PC workstations, this is different from systems which connect to one PC through a serial connection, the user has access to several workstations through the network via keypad. In larger companies with several FlexiCAM systems, it is possible to have access to one or multiple central workstation(s) from every system.