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hpgl engraving with cutter tool

When importing an HPGL file, the tool can be set to engraving or cutter.

If set to cutter, does that mean it cuts completely thru?

This is what I would expect, but there is an in-fill color option for the cutter tool that confuses me a bit.

>

Posted By: calvin stringer on Jul 30, 2008 05:15PM Category: Front Panel Designer

Reply

> If set to cutter, does that mean it cuts completely thru?

No, it doesn't cut through. All hpgl imports are engravings with the same depth of .016", no matter which tool was selected.

But there is an option to get it to cut through.

Add a note for us in the 'Remark Box' in 'Front Panel Properties'. We can reprogram the depth for a small additional fee (usually about $20). Please make sure you use at least the 1mm tool for your contour.

Posted By: Diane Haensel on Jul 31, 2008 01:14AM

Reply

Diane,

Does the option to have an HPGL engraving cut clear through still valid if a 1mm or larger cutting tool spec'ed? And if so, is it still an extra $20 per panel?

I have an enclosure project coming up that this would be ideal for.

Posted By: Michael St. Pierre on Jul 19, 2012 06:57PM

Reply

We made a couple of improvements in Front Panel Designer since I answered this in 2008.

You can now import dxf files in addition to hpgl files. The hpgl format is still valid for engravings and the newer dxf format can be used for cutouts and cavities. The latter offers 1mm as the smallest cutting tool.

No additional charges apply since we no longer need to modify the mill program. All machining information comes with your design file.

Posted By: Diane Haensel on Jul 24, 2012 01:58AM

Reply

Hi Diane,

Can I still use an HPGL instead of the DXF for cutting designs clear through as was done in 2008?

I have tried importing a DXF version and keep getting errors about my file. I think it is because my graphic is not composed of closed contours and instead is made up of a series of lines, many of which cross over each other.

Anyway I am quite happy with what the HPGL graphic looks like, and the cutter tool sizes available are perfectly good for what I need. So can I still use the HPGL method, and specify a clear through cut be made?

Posted By: Michael St. Pierre on Jul 26, 2012 01:07AM

Reply

Hi Michael,

The "old" hpgl way does of course still work. However, you got me now curious why the dxf doesn't work in Front Panel Designer. I would like to check out if the program caused the problem.

I am happy to have a look and clean up the dxf for you if needed. Can you please email me your fpd file with the hpgl to info@frontpanelexpress.com?

Thank you,

Diane

Posted By: Diane Haensel on Jul 27, 2012 01:38AM

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