

# FINITE PRECISION

gets quick start with CATIA V5



## Overview



### ■ Challenge

*Finite Precision needed to be quicker and more efficient than its larger competitors and able to handle large volumes of work effectively.*

### ■ Solution

*CATIA V5 gives Finite Precision's small shop the 3D design capabilities to think and deliver big for its automotive stamping clients.*

### ■ Benefits

*With CATIA V5, Finite Precision has tripled its initial sales projections in just three months and made its customers fast believers in its design capabilities.*

### Starting small, thinking big

Finite Precision, a new Michigan-based 3D die design and simulation business serving automotive stamping clients, is a small company that is thinking big – and hitting the mark early.

The company's three founding partners acknowledge that its competitors are all larger. They know that means they must be quicker, more efficient and able to handle large volumes of work effectively.

"We knew we needed software that was going to help us think big and act big, right from the start," says Chris Saylor, Sales and Operations at Finite Precision.

In its first three months, Finite Precision tripled its initial sales projections. And if you ask this trio how they've done it, they'll modestly tell you with rich experience, long hours and the advantages of their 3D design software – CATIA V5.

### Ease of use a key advantage

As part of a small start-up, the partners at Finite Precision are putting in long hours to meet their customers' design needs. But Jim Opatc, 3D Designer/Simulation Specialist for Finite Precision, says the long days do not feel that way.

"With CATIA V5, it's fun and easy," he says. "Time flies by and the fatigue level that you would expect just isn't there."

Mike Brower, 3D Designer/Simulation Specialist, says CATIA V5's history capabilities make engineering changes a breeze.

"It's easy to get new data, pull it into the design and make corrections," he says. "The history allows you to update things automatically and being able to reapply new data reduces errors."

But CATIA V5's surfacing tools are Brower's personal favorite.

"CATIA V5 allows us to be highly productive and gives us the high quality that we need to become efficient and compete in the market."

Jim Opatc, 3D Designer/Simulation Specialist, Finite Precision



“CATIA V5’s surfacing capabilities are the best I’ve ever used,” he says. “Communication between CATIA V5 and our simulation software is just awesome. There are hardly any flaws in the surfaces and it just makes my job in simulation so much easier.

“With other software, I always had to clean up geometry when bringing in a simulation,” Brower adds. “And with CATIA V5, I really don’t have to do that. The surfacing portion of CATIA V5 is just excellent – I can’t say enough good things about it.”

### Quick success

The partners say CATIA V5 allows them to be highly productive and gives the high quality they need to become efficient and compete in the market.

With the 3D tools of CATIA V5, Saylor says, the team can take a design from concept to visual form quicker and with higher quality than standard 2D techniques.

“We can have a good 50% review for the customer in a couple of weeks, which is huge for our industry,” he says.

The advantages of speed, precision and quality, Saylor says, are significant, especially during the quote process when customers need things turned around quickly and accurately.

“With any other 3D software we would not be able to achieve the level of production and quality we have now,” Saylor says. “We are making believers quickly and CATIA V5 is helping us accomplish this.”

### Getting it right the first time

Despite its short history, Finite Precision is a company with a vision for the future.

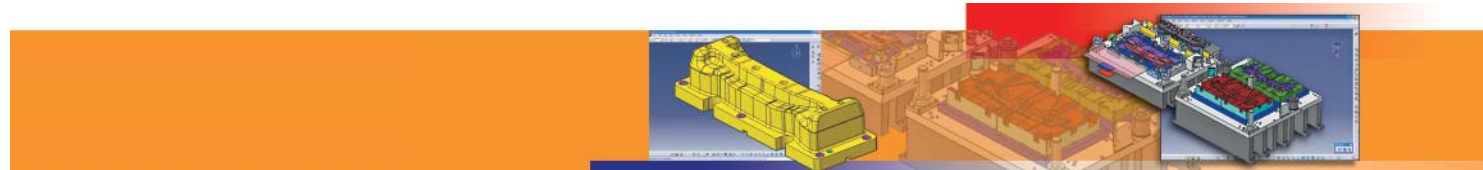
“We didn’t want to be a small company that just picks up the scraps,” says Saylor. “We wanted to be a player, so we chose CATIA V5 without hesitation. Think of us as the company that got it right the first time.”

And Finite Precision plans to keep getting it right. It is already looking at hiring a third designer and Saylor says it would like to begin working with other industries, including office furniture and biomedical.

“The Dassault Systèmes V5 PLM platform allows for growth and vision,” Saylor says. “It eliminates the boundaries of bringing life to ideas.”

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Chris Saylor, Sales and Operations,  
Finite Precision



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