

Each month MSC's product section features items from all areas of the steel construction industry.

In general, these products have been introduced within the past six months. If you're looking for a specific product, visit MSC's online product directory at www.modernsteel.com/products. You can browse by product category or search on any term to help find the products you need, fast.

A Productive Ten Minutes

The PythonX Structural Fabrication System from Burlington Automation is designed to use *all* the features available from detailing software—not just some of the data. This includes coping data, bevel angles, layout marks, bolt hole positions, reference points, and part marking. A timed demonstration of the complete fabrication of an 8-ft W16x31 structural beam, using the PythonX CNC system, was recently videotaped and released to the public. The video can be streamed from the "Economics" page of the PythonX web site, www.pythonx.com. In the video, PythonX fabricates the following features in a single pass:

- Front trim miter cut ¼ in.
- 6 bolt hole angled cluster on web
- 2 bolt holes on bottom flange
- Piece mark—2 Lines—9 letters total
- 2 copes on the front of the beam
- 4 layout marks on web
- 3 slots on web at rear of beam
- Notch cut on flange
- 3 bolt holes at front of beam
- 2 bolt holes on top flange
- Cope on rear of beam
- Flange notch cut flush with web (both sides)



Total processing time: 10 minutes, 13 seconds.

No programming of the cuts was required. Structural steel fabricators who examined the beam design suggested that performing this fabrication using traditional manual methods would take roughly 120 minutes. Using a CNC drill line and bandsaw, plus manual torch for the copes and flange flush cuts, would typically take approximately 82 minutes (this does not include time for moving the beam between operations). Therefore, PythonX completed the beam fabrication in less than 12% of the time expected for a shop using conventional automated equipment.

For more information, please visit www.pythonx.com or call 905.689.7771.

Take a Test Drive

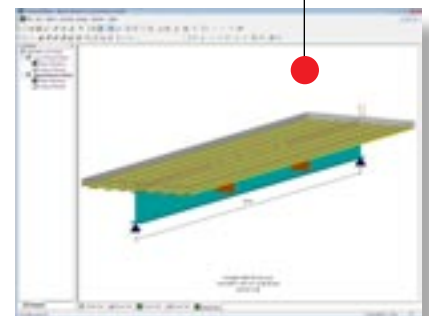
FASTRAK Building Designer, available from CSC, Inc. equips structural engineers with a tool to model and design buildings quickly and simply within a user interface suitable for any building geometry. As an introduction to this software, CSC is offering the FASTRAK composite beam module to every U.S. structural engineer completely free and without obligation. Key benefits of the module include:

- No cost, unlimited licenses per company
- Free access to training videos
- Tutorials, worked-examples, and sample beam files included

Key capabilities of the software include:

- Composite/non-composite beam design
- Comprehensive and customizable output
- Optimization of beam based on user-criteria
- 2005 Steel Specification (ASD/LRFD)

For more information please visit www.cscworld.com or call 877.710.2053.



All products submitted are considered for publication, and we encourage submittals related to all segments of the steel industry: engineering, detailing, fabrication, and erection. Submit product information via e-mail to Geoff Weisenberger (weisenberger@modernsteel.com). To be included in MSC's online products directory, contact Louis Gurthet (gurthet@modernsteel.com).