Solidworks:
Given CAD model
In Solidworks (any CAD should work)

- Right click desired face
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- Select “Export to DXF/DWG”
- (Relocate origin?)
- Save as desired file name and type (DXF for Mach 3)

Open Mach3

- Under “File” click “LazyCam”

Open LazyCam

- Use “Open DXF” to open desired file with foam mode
- (Add step to allow for lead in/out)
- Select “Post Code”
- Save as Mach 3 file (.tap)

In Mach 3

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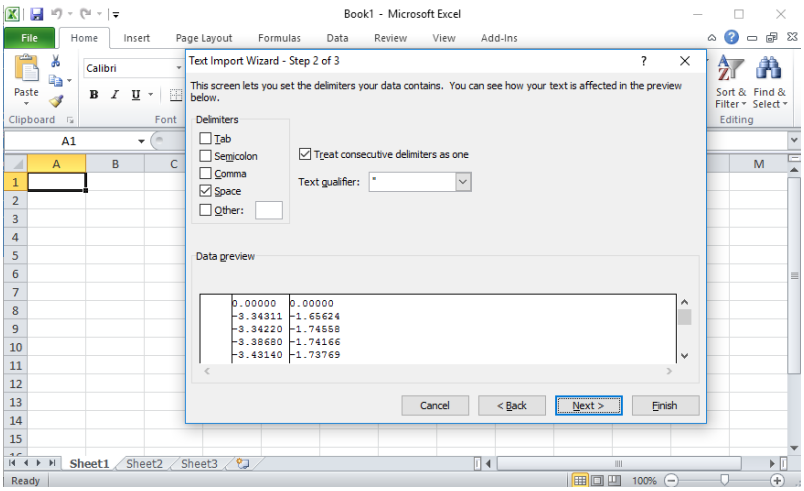
- “Load G-Code
- Open desired .tap file
- Select “Tool Path” to double checkwire path
- Select “Program Run”

.DAT Files
Given .dat file
Open .dat file

- “Select all”
- “Copy”

Open Microsoft Excel

- Click the arrow below “Paste”
- Under “Paste Options:” Click “Use Text Import Wizard…”
- Under “Original data type” make sure “Delimited” is selected
- Click “Next”
- Under “Data preview” you want to see two separate columns with a vertical line between. One will be your X coordinates, the other your Y coordinates. Depending on the .dat file this may already be the format as “Space” is the default delimiter. If it is not two separate columns, select “tab” or whatever was used in the .dat file to separate the columns.
- Once you have two separate columns of data, click “Finish”

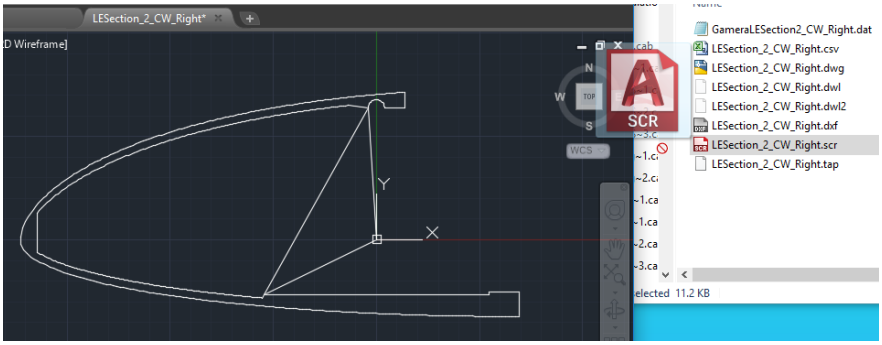
- 

- If there is an empty column before you data, delete it
- Go to “File”, “Save As” and save as a “CSV (MS-DOS)(*.csv)” file with the name of your choice
- Find and open the folder containing the .csv file you just saved
- “Copy” and “Paste” the file in the same folder to duplicate it
- Rename the duplicated file to end in .scr (Ex: “SampleFile.scr”)

Open .scr file

- Add “PLINE” as the first line in the file

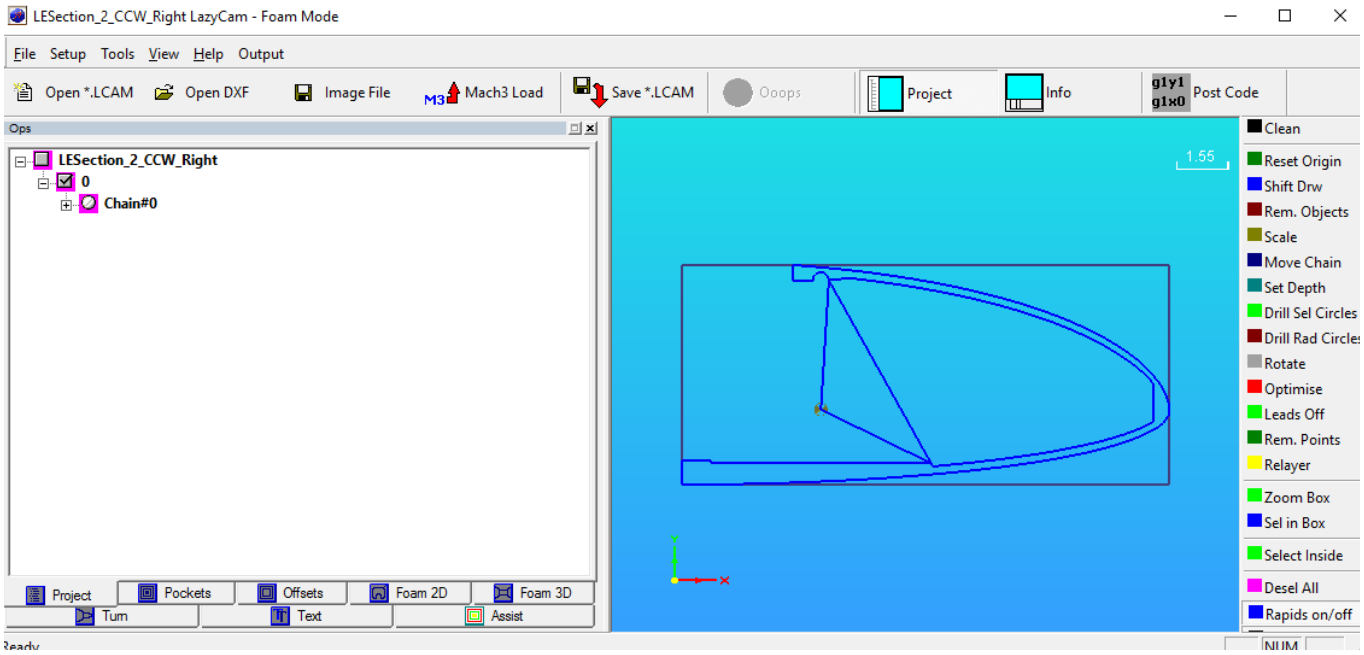
Open AutoCad

- Open a new drawing file
- Drag the .scr file into the drawing window. This should create a drawing that should look like the part you are trying to make.
- Type “c” to close the shape if your .scr file does not end at the same value that it begins
- 

- Under “File” click “Save As” and save your drawing as a .dxf file (I used “AutoCad R12/LT2 DXF (*.dxf)” but do not know if there is a difference between .dxf formats)
- Close your drawing, if it prompts you to save as a drawing, you may save as a .dwg to backup
- LazyCam will not load your .dxf if it is open in AutoCad.

Open LazyCam

- Use “Open DXF” to open desired file. When prompted, select “Foam Mode”
- An image should be displayed as what you intend to cut
- Select “Post Code”
- Save as Mach 3 file (.tap)



In Mach 3

- “Load G-Code
- Open desired .tap file
- Select “Tool Path” to double-check wire path
- Select “Program Run”