



Fashion-Incubator

Lessons from the Sustainable Factory Floor



I'm an old school pattern maker, 35 years in the trade.

Although I'm technologically adept, I never made patterns with CAD until I bought StyleCAD.

Deciding to get it was tough; I'd never heard of the program (so it must not have been any good), and most of us old timers really dislike CAD programs because they are not designed for how we prefer to work.

Once I relaxed enough to learn the program (and then trust it), using it has made a **dramatic impact on my career** -one I never expected.

Sure, I've used CAD since the early 90's but its use was limited to grading and marking -that's what traditional CAD programs excelled at, or I should say, those programs were great as far as we knew as there was little to compare with.

Having used StyleCAD for the past four years has **reinvigorated my career and given me advantages** over my highly experienced cohorts who still make patterns by hand. Speaking of, the dirty secret that no one will tell customers is that pattern services that advertise CAD services, most of them still make patterns by hand. They make them by hand and then digitize them into their systems.

Now, there is nothing wrong with making patterns by hand -in fact, that is one of the things I like most about StyleCAD because it is designed to work the way I do. I can still use my preferred hand drafting method with the software, the only difference is that my drafting tool is a computer instead of a pencil.

The most obvious advantage of StyleCAD over strictly manual methods, is **time**.

What I like is being able to **make pieces easily and quickly** that require no brain cells (fusibles etc). Manually, it is insult to injury to have to cut all of those out.

As far as using StyleCAD versus other programs (I've used Gerber and Optitex previously), only a demo will explain because colleagues who use other programs will not understand how StyleCAD could be **faster** or **better** since they bought what they think is the best brand on the market.

StyleCAD is easiest to learn and it is fun! I never expected FUN. And accuracy? Mine is set for 1/64". I'm in heaven.

As far as cost, there is **no annual licensing fee and most tech support is low cost or free**. I wish I'd bought it before that other leading program; it was useless because it required me to change how I've drafted patterns to suit it (and even then, it wasn't so great no matter how great their marketing is).

I call that program, the \$10,000 electronic door stop; that was the most expensive mistake I've ever made in my business.

Like a buddy of mine says (former Gerber user that I turned on to StyleCAD), **just make your life easier and get StyleCAD**.

And if you need help with it, there is a free forum for users (<http://www.stylecadforum.com>), started by users, that's how much they love the program.

You don't need to own the software to join; you can learn about it first to see how using it will change your career.

And if you own another program, it is possible that StyleCAD will give you a refugee discount but you'll have to surrender your other software and dongle.

This is the skinny: I have 4 times the number of customers I've ever had but spend fewer hours making patterns than I ever did and make at least twice as much money.