

Customer Profile



Cases by design

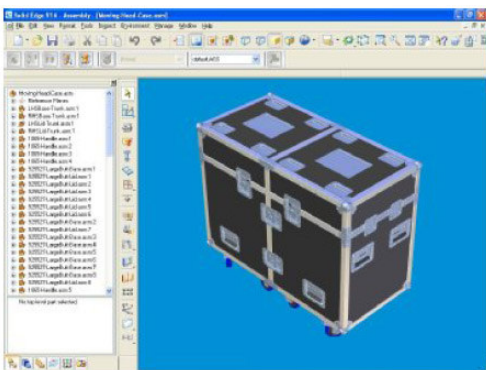
5 Star choose Solid Edge to produce 'virtual cases'

5 Star Cases Limited is a leading manufacturer of specialist cases to a wide variety of applications and industries. Its core industry sectors are Entertainment and A.V. 5 Star has also supplied specialist cases to a large range of other industries. These have included clients such as Smith & Nephew, Alstom Power, Rolls Royce and Pratt & Whitney.

5 Star had been using 2D CAD for a number of years to produce geometry for its CNC machining system. In early 2005, the company made further investment into CNC facilities and acquired its second Thermwood model 40 routing system. With this additional machining capability, 5 Star chose Solid Edge for 3D visualisation and CNC geometry production. Within approximately 6 months of purchasing Solid Edge from Cutting Edge Solutions Ltd, all case hardware and library fittings had been produced from scratch by 5 Star's technical department.



During this period, many of the company's case templates were reproduced in the Solid Edge Assembly environment and are linked to existing Microsoft Excel documents which 'drive' various parameters of the 3D model.



Using Excel to 'drive' the assemblies enables 5 Star to continue using existing facilities while implementing the new 3D capabilities. Solid Edge's XpressReview is available to clients to enable view and mark-up of proposed and existing projects. "This interaction between 5 Star and its clients gives the company a competitive edge", explains Works Director Keith Sykes. "The vast suite of functions in Solid Edge available to the design team is very impressive and this, along with the excellent pre and post sales service from Cutting Edge Solutions, were the main reasons for choosing the system".

The majority of case manufacturers use 2D CAD systems but 5 Star's approach has always been to innovate. The move to 3D visualisation and realtime rendering enabled the company to stay one step ahead, in an industry renowned for extremely tight deadlines.

