Preface

I would like to express my most sincere thanks to all programmers, machinists, operators, engineers, students and many other readers and users who made my two previous books - also CNC oriented - such a great success. Both were published by *Industrial Press, Inc.* (New York, NY, USA):

✒ **CNC Programming Handbook, Second Edition with CD-ROM**
   A Comprehensive Guide to CNC Programming
   ISBN: (0-8311-) 3158-6

   and

✒ **Fanuc CNC Custom Macros, with CD-ROM**
   Practical Resources for Fanuc Custom Macro B Users
   ISBN: (0-8311-) 3157-8

This third handbook also relates to the subject of CNC programming, this time from a somewhat different angle. First, there several programming subjects that are virtually impossible to find anywhere else, for example, how to program cams or tapered end mills. Other, more common, subjects are covered in a great depth, such as the coverage of cutter radius offset or thread milling.

As in my previous publications, I have included many overall and detailed drawings, to help visualize the subject or procedures covered. Where applicable, a complete programming example is provided, or - at least the most significant part is shown.

In view of the recent, and rather significant, emergence of metric system in many North American industries, particularly in the USA, I have focused on more examples presented in metric units than those in imperial units. Working on the premise that a professional CNC programmer should have no problem working with either units selection (after all, number are numbers), many examples in this handbook emphasize the metric system. For balance, a significant number of examples using imperial units are also included. Speaking of *imperial* units - in my previous books, I had used the term *English* units instead. It may seems frivolous, but the fact is that modern Great Britain is now a metric country and the so called *English units* are the thing of the past - of the *imperial* era in British history.

I also feel that I should mention the relationship of this book to the *CNC Programming Handbook*. In terms of focus, these are very different publications. *CNC Programming Techniques* is a book that does not replace my previous books, but complements them in a special way. In terms of subjects covered, there are minor similarities in some chapters, but the coverage of each subject is fresh, and with much more detail provided. At the end of the book, I had included references to subjects covered in the *CNC Programming Handbook*. My feeling was that those readers who may need some additional background will benefit from these references. On the other hand, those, who do not need the background can safely ignore those few pages and explore the subjects covered in this book only.

I sincerely hope that this book will help you become even a better CNC programmer (or even a better CNC Operator) by understanding not just the 'hows' but also the 'whys' of many programming techniques. Thanks you for your continuing interest.

Peter Smid
November 2005