

Swiss Machining End User FAQs

For CNC Programmers & Shop Floor Teams

CAMWorks 2026 is designed to Simplify Swiss Machining with fully integrated, multi-channel support for sliding headstock lathes.

General Questions

Q1: What's new in CAMWorks 2026 for Swiss-style machining?

A: CAMWorks 2026 introduces a dedicated Swiss-style CNC module for sliding headstock machines. It supports multi-channel programming, sub-spindles, live tooling, bar feeders, part transfers, and full synchronization of simultaneous operations. This functionality is available only in the **Turning Premium** and **Ultimate** packages.

Q2: What types of parts benefit from Swiss-style CNC support?

A: Precision parts with small diameters, tight tolerances, and complex geometries—especially in medical, aerospace, defense, watchmaking, and electronics—are ideal candidates.

Q3: Will this change how I program parts in CAMWorks?

A: If you're already familiar with CAMWorks, the interface will feel consistent. The Swiss module adds tools for multi-channel management and synchronized toolpaths,

while preserving the intuitive, feature-based workflow.

Q4: Which CAMWorks packages include Swiss-style machining?

A: Swiss-style CNC support is included **only in CAMWorks Turning Premium and CAMWorks Ultimate**. It is not available in Standard, Turning Standard, or Milling-only packages.

Q5: How do I upgrade to access Swiss-style machining?

A: Existing users can upgrade to Turning Premium or Ultimate by paying **only the difference** between their current package and the higher tier—making it a cost-effective way to access advanced Swiss capabilities.

Technical Functionality

Q6: How does CAMWorks handle multiple turrets and spindles?

A: CAMWorks features a Channel Synchronization Manager to assign operations to specific channels, control timing, and

simulate complex interactions—allowing you to maintain accuracy and reduce cycle time.

Q7: Can I simulate Swiss-style machining to check for collisions?

A: Yes. CAMWorks includes synchronized simulation that visually verifies toolpaths across multiple axes and spindles, helping prevent costly errors.

Q8: Does CAMWorks Swiss Machining support sub spindle part transfer and back-working?

A: Absolutely. CAMWorks supports full part transfers, cutoff operations, and back-working with precise control over operation sequencing and tooling.

Q9: Can I use automatic feature recognition and knowledge-based machining with Swiss machines?

A: Yes. CAMWorks integrates AFR and knowledge-based machining even in Swiss environments—helping you **Simplify Swiss Machining** through repeatable strategies and automation.

Compatibility & Setup

Q10: What machines are supported?

A: CAMWorks supports leading Swiss-style machines including Star, Citizen, Tugami, Tornos, Hanwha, and others. Machine-specific post processors may be required.

Q11: Do I need a new post processor for my Swiss lathe?

A: Often, yes. Swiss-style machines typically require specialized posts due to their synchronized channel formatting. CAMWorks provides post customization services to meet this need.

Q12: Will I need additional training to use this?

A: Basic training is recommended for multi-

channel management and part transfer. However, the learning curve is minimal for current CAMWorks users.

Q13: Can I use Swiss machining in my current version of CAMWorks?

A: Only in **CAMWorks 2026 or later** with the **Turning Premium** or **Ultimate** packages. It's not backward-compatible with earlier versions or included in lower-tier packages.

ROI & Benefits

Q14: What productivity improvements can I expect?

A: Early adopters have seen:

- Up to **30% reduction in programming time**
- **25–35% faster cycle times** through optimized programming
- Increased code reliability and fewer manual edits

Q15: Why should I switch from manual programming or another CAM system?

A: CAMWorks offers an integrated environment within SOLIDWORKS, reduces manual input, and automates repetitive tasks. With the new Swiss module, you can program faster, simulate more accurately, and **Simplify Swiss Machining** from start to finish.